June 25, 2009

A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Tib Talk Mailer

We recently sent a letter to all Tiburon households encouraging residents to sign up to receive Tiburon Talk electronically or, alternatively, to provide their mailing addresses so that we can mail them a hard copy every month. The response has been overwhelming! Our subscription list has increased over 60% through this outreach. We are excited about this jump in readership; it greatly aids our ability to communicate with residents on a regular basis about Town business and, more importantly, when emergencies strike it will allow us to convey timely news to those receiving the electronic version. To those of you who are new subscribers with this issue - welcome and thank you! For all our subscribers, we promise to strive to keep these newsletters useful and succinct. Your feedback is always welcome.

New Businesses in Tiburon

There is some new business activity to report, and by doing so I'm hoping to revitalize your interest in checking out local businesses of both the new and tried-and-true variety. The prominent corner location on Main Street, by the fountain plaza, has reopened as May Madison, a kitchen store named after the owner's daughters. The venerable Sweden House is no more, but Bistro 35 and Patisserie will open at that location soon. The new proprietors, one of which was a baker for The Caprice, also own and manage the Gourmet Deli in Strawberry. The Pure Elegance clothing shop didn't disappear; it has re-emerged on Ark Row. Prima Palate is now in full swing, purveying fine wines and specialty foods on Ark Row, and Elixir, which offers acupuncture, is now located there as well. Guaymas is under new ownership, always a reason to check out a long-standing restaurant, as is Ming's at the Boardwalk Shopping Center. Other Boardwalk newcomers include the Tiburon Mail Center, Indigo Wellness for alternative healing and the fun (and temporary) White Elephant sales. Kozé, on Main Street, has expanded its clothing shop with Kozé Beginnings for infants. Foodniks, sellers of food and locally produced
GET IN SHAPE THIS SUMMER WITH CARDIO TENNIS

The Belvedere-Tiburon Recreation Department in conjunction with Higgins Tennis features a 10-week Summer Cardio Tennis class, running from June 17 until August 26.

You can register for a five-week series or on a drop-in rate.

Cardio Tennis is a great workout for all levels of players.

To sign up for this and other exciting classes, call 435-4355, or visit the Jt. Recreation website at btrecreation.org.

products at the Cove Shopping Center, is expanding as well.

It is very encouraging to see this new business activity despite the rough economy. Still, these remain perilous times for every small enterprise, so please SHOP LOCALLY whenever you can. And while you're checking out the new kids on the block, please don't forget our long-standing favorites. They continue to rely on locals to stay afloat and we rely upon them to lend vitality to the community. I hope you'll agree that it is always a good practice to keep our dollars circulating in the local economy instead of sending them off to other communities or internet businesses.

Angel Island
Regarding business in town, I also want to touch on the issue of Angel Island State Park. Some 220 state parks have been threatened with closure in the Governor’s proposed budget, and Angel Island is on the list. Our downtown is fueled in part by visitors coming and going to AI. Losing this foot traffic would deal a harsh blow to already challenged local businesses. Consequently, we have let the Governor and our local legislators know how important AI is to Tiburon. Our Chamber of Commerce has also jumped into action, urging the California Chamber of Commerce, a pro-business organization that has the ear of many legislators, to support proposed measures to keep the island open. While we hope the threat of closure is not real (it is hard to believe such a short-sighted measure would make sense even to desperate lawmakers in Sacramento) we will continue to press that Angel Island be spared the axe.

Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Finally, I’d like to thank our Chamber for their many community-oriented activities. Friday Nights on Main, which continues through mid-August, is a vibrant celebration offering something for all ages. The Chamber, in a partnership with the Belvedere-Tiburon Joint Recreation folks, is busy working on the third annual Tiburon Art Festival, coming up August 22 and 23 on Ark Row. Last month they sponsored yet another successful Wine Festival, and come late September they’ll stage the annual Oktoberfest. Many towns simply lack a chamber that can pull off these kinds of events. We are lucky that ours has become quite proficient at them, as they enrich the experience of living in our small town. Thank you, Chamber!

The Last Word
Please don't forget that nighttime work by Caltrans on Tiburon Boulevard is about to commence. Click here for more information on our website.
Sincerely,
Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

MEANS: Marin Emergency Automated Notification System

The Tiburon Peninsula Office of Emergency Services recently gained access to a new emergency notification system called the Marin Emergency Automated Notification System, or MEANS. MEANS will be used by the Tiburon Peninsula Office of Emergency services in the event of an emergency to provide you with important information.

MEANS allows one to sign up multiple phone numbers and e-mails to receive emergency information. Messages can be sent by voice, text to voice, and e-mail. This is a supplement to the existing Telephone Electronic Notification System (TENS) that calls home phone numbers selected by geographic location.

We urge you to sign up! Please click here or call the Office of Emergency Services at 435-7386 to register your information.

If you provided us with your contact information in response to the recent mailer, we have already entered your telephone numbers into MEANS.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Laurie Nilsen, Coordinator
Tiburon Peninsula Office of Emergency Services

Vegetation Management on Your Property

The Public Works Department has a diverse set of roles and responsibilities with the Town, including vegetation management in various locations. This month, we want to highlight the need for property owners to manage the landscaping and vegetation around their homes for several important reasons: traffic safety, fire safety, and resource protection.

Private Property Owners' Responsibility
It's not uncommon for landscaping to encroach onto the road right-of-way. Private landscaping improvements may have been installed long before you even purchased your home. Typically, they serve to beautify your home, enhance the neighborhood, and/or establish privacy screening. However, over time some of these private improvements have grown far beyond their intended purposes or are not maintained. Sometimes, owners don't even realize it's theirs to maintain. As a result, the vegetation becomes overgrown to a point where it obstructs sight lines for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists.

Take note of the vegetation around your home. If it blocks or obstructs lines of sight, please take the initiative to have it trimmed back or down. Particularly on corner lots, if your plants are not set back from the road far enough or are higher than 30 inches, they are likely to be in violation of Town ordinances (Section 16-5.6.6 of the Town Code) and are a public nuisance. In certain instances, through our door-hanger noticing process, the Police Department or the Public Works Department will ask you to take necessary action. Your actions will help us maintain a safe environment for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists.

Some Non-Native Plants are Fire Hazards
With the hot summer months upon us, we would like to remind residents that overgrown vegetation, non-native weeds and trees may be posing an unnecessary fire hazard. Non-natives and invasive species such as Scotch Broom, Pampas Grass, and Blue Gum Eucalyptus are rampant in town and can present a potentially formidable fire fuel load challenge. Although they may seem to have aesthetic value, we urge you to abate this risk by aggressively removing these plants altogether or trimming them appropriately. It is also very important to follow the Fire Protection District guidelines of clearing a 100-foot buffer between your home and dense vegetation. If you need to encroach onto the Town's open space to achieve this buffer, please contact the Town and we will facilitate the process for you. The Fire District is happy to advise homeowners about appropriate steps to reduce risk. Call 435-7200, or send an e-mail to iipower@tiburonfire.org.

Protect our Native Species
Finally, it's good to remind ourselves of how lucky we are to be living in an area of such unique natural beauty. Did you know that the Tiburon Peninsula has a rare and endangered plant that grows nowhere else in the world? It is called the Tiburon Jewelflower, and is found on the rocky serpentine outcroppings of our peninsula. Another endangered plant species is the Tiburon Paintbrush. The habitat for these plants is very limited and its preservation
is important. However, these plants must compete with highly invasive plants that either have been planted in backyards or otherwise settled here.

Please help us preserve our natural resources by removing non-native invasive vegetation (particularly broom and Pampas Grass) and consider only native plants for your yard which harmonize with the local ecology and are drought-tolerant and non-seeding, as well.

By doing your part with vegetation management, you will help preserve the beautiful natural resources of our peninsula and make it a safer place for all of us.

Thank you.

Nicholas Nguyen
Public Works Director/Town Engineer

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**Summer is Mosquito Season!**

According to the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District, which serves all of the communities of Marin and Sonoma County, the No. 1 source for mosquito breeding is your own backyard.

Anything that can hold water for more than five to seven days has the ability to produce mosquitoes. Maintain, manage, or eliminate all types of standing water on a regular basis.

The District also advises you to protect yourself from mosquitoes in the following ways:

--Apply an effective insect repellent when outdoors
--Dress in long sleeves and pants when in areas where mosquitoes are present
--Limit outdoor activities during peak "mosquito hours" (dawn and dusk)
--Place an oscillating fan on your deck or patio for relief from bothersome mosquitoes

For more information, call 1-800-231-3235, or visit [www.msmosquito.com](http://www.msmosquito.com).

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**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Friday, June 26**

Friday Nights on Main continues through August 14.
Come join your friends and neighbors for a relaxing evening in downtown Tiburon. It’s a great opportunity to enjoy dining outdoors, browse around, sip a libation or kick up your heels.

For more information on this and other Chamber of Commerce events, click on the "quick link" listed on our sidebar above, or call 435-5633.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, August 22 through Sunday, August 23**  
Tiburon Art Festival  
Ark Row, 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.  
Visit [www.tiburon-artfestival.com](http://www.tiburon-artfestival.com) for more information.

**Sunday, September 6 -  1:00 p.m.**  
Belvedere-Tiburon Labor Day Parade  

*Showcase your organization or special entry!* If your organization would like to join the parade, or if you have an antique car or truck that you want to show off, please go online to [www.btcrecreation.org](http://www.btcrecreation.org) or call 435-4355.

*Volunteers needed!* Teen and adult volunteers are needed to be parade marshals, assist in decorating floats and to help organize parade activities. If you’d like to volunteer, call Sherry Burchert, volunteer coordinator, at 435-4355 or e-mail her at youthprograms@btcrecreation.org.

BEL-TIB LIBRARY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For the scoop on events and meetings sponsored by local not-for-profit community and government organizations on the Tiburon Peninsula, visit the Belvedere-Tiburon Library’s excellent [community calendar](http://www.btcrecreation.org).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

COUNCIL AND COMMISSION MEETINGS

**Town Council**: Wednesday, July 1 and 15, at 7:30 p.m.

**Design Review Board**: Thursday, July 2 and 16, at 7 p.m.
**Planning Commission**: Wednesday, July 8 and 22, at 7:30 p.m.

All meetings listed are in the Council Chambers at Tiburon Town Hall, 1505 Tiburon Boulevard.

*Sincerely,*

Town Staff
Town of Tiburon

Editor: Diane Crane Iacopi