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September 27, 2012

A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



The Vexing Problem of Peninsula Traffic

I'd like to thank our intrepid residents who came to the traffic forum last Thursday evening, September 20, at the Reed School campus. We appreciate their willingness to help address this challenge that affects the quality of life for virtually everyone on

the peninsula.

The meeting offered a presentation from "CART" - Community Action to Reduce Traffic (so dubbed largely to have a pronounceable acronym!). CART is comprised of elected officials from Tiburon and Belvedere, the town and city managers and police chiefs, Reed and St. Hilary school representatives including the PTA, transportation specialists and more. They have been coming together twice monthly for some time now to better understand the traffic problem on the boulevard and to devise ways to tackle it. The purpose of the forum last Thursday was for CART to share information it has developed to date, and to create an opportunity for members of the public to tell CART about their experiences, observations and ideas.

The [CART presentation](#) illustrated the challenging nature of the problem. Simply put, traffic on the boulevard exceeds capacity when school is in session and commuters, contractors and parents driving kids are all on the road simultaneously, especially in the morning between 7:45 and 8:30. Mid to late afternoons present another traffic "peak" as the situation reverses itself. Interestingly, there is substantial traffic in both directions during heavy congestion times - unlike, say, the Golden Gate Bridge where there is a very heavy and predictable flow in only one direction during peak hours. The presentation provided baseline information on many congestion-related elements including vehicle counts, the significant jump in school enrollment (7% just this past year, and 37% over the past eight) current modes of travel to school (walk, bike, bus, etc.) and much more.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Voter Registration
Closes on
October 22nd



Monday, October 22 is the last day to register to vote for the November 6 election.

If you have not yet received your sample ballot and notification of your polling place, your registration may not be current. If you have moved since the last election, or if you have changed your name or mailing address, you need to contact the Marin County Registrar of Voters to update your voter registration.

There are several ways to do this: contact the Registrar at 473-6456, obtain a registration form

Many traffic-reducing ideas were floated at the forum. They included the installation of traffic circles, particularly one at Trestle Glen, better synchronization and calibration of traffic signals (they are currently set to maximum green time on the boulevard), a tram running along the multi-use path, more school buses and more emphasis on kids getting to school on foot or bike (the schools are already work hard at this, and bike ridership is up). Another suggestion was the construction of pedestrian and bicycle underpasses (or flyovers) at Tiburon Boulevard intersections to improve traffic flow by eliminating these traffic-stopping crossings; safer crossing under or over the boulevard might also encourage more parents to let their kids get to school on bike or foot using the multi-use path. Avenida Miraflores and Trestle Glen were both identified as possible candidates for this approach.

So what's next? CART has a lot of information and many ideas to sort, analyze and prioritize. Many of the concepts (like more transit of any variety, underpasses or physical changes to the Boulevard, etc.) need to be evaluated carefully for their feasibility and cost, and will require more public discussion, including on how they might be funded. Any physical changes within the Caltrans right-of-way, which includes all of Tiburon Boulevard, will require Caltrans approval.

My expectation is that CART will undertake this next step over the ensuing months and return to a public forum early in the New Year with more information and firm recommendations for consideration. From the CART effort to date it is painfully clear that there is no silver bullet to banish the traffic problem. But, there is hope that some of the ideas that have emerged, especially if adopted in combination, could make a meaningful dent. Despite the magnitude of the challenge, CART remains committed to making recommendations for action. What the community decides after that will emerge from the public process yet to come.

Neighborhood Association/HOA Annual Summit

Every year the Town Council gathers in a circle in the Council Chambers and has a conversation with representatives from the various neighborhoods. The meeting this year is at *6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 23*. This is your opportunity to speak with your elected officials in a relaxed setting unfettered by the limitations that govern most public meetings. Come with comments, ideas, problems, criticisms or compliments - it's all fair game. Or come to hear what others have to say. We'll have cookies and coffee and promise to have you out of there by 8:30 p.m. Not part of a neighborhood association? Not to worry - everyone is welcome.

on-line at the County website, or pick up an application at Town Hall and mail it in before the deadline.

NEW - Once you are registered, your voter information pamphlet and sample ballot can be scanned onto your android or iphone. Get the mobile app [here](#).

Diane Crane
Iacopi
Tiburon Town
Clerk

One final note on neighborhood associations: many of you have been kind enough to invite me to your annual meetings over the past few years. Sometimes it's driven by a particular issue, and sometimes it is just for the connection or to get a recap of current Town affairs. Either way, I am always pleased to be invited and will make every effort to attend if I can. It is certainly useful for me, as I always learn something new, and I hope it is equally valuable for your group. So, at the risk of being a self-invited guest, if you would like me to attend your neighborhood meeting just let me know; if I can make it, I will.

Sincerely,



Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

Richardson Bay Sanctuary Waters Closed to Boat Traffic Starting October 1



Fall Bird Migration Underway

Annual closure from October 1 through March 31 protects important migrating bird species that use the Bay for over-wintering.

Staff at the Richardson Bay Audubon Center & Sanctuary remind the community that Sanctuary waters **are closed to all boat traffic and in-water activities (including**

kayaks & paddleboards) from October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013. The closure protects tens of thousands of migratory ducks, geese, and shorebirds that use the Bay for refueling on their southward travels, or while they over-winter right here in on Richardson Bay.

"We are grateful for the community support and understanding regarding the importance of protecting this habitat," said Kerry Wilcox, the Center's Sanctuary Manager. "As the summer winds down and migratory birds start to make their way into the Bay Area, we want to spread the word that the closure is just around the corner. With the herring spawn successes of the last couple years, the number of birds in the Sanctuary is expected to be high, and it is especially important to avoid disturbing them while they feed and rest." Over-winter health can be an especially important factor in determining reproductive success for these birds during the following summer.

The annual closure is mandated by an ordinance of the Richardson Bay Regional Agency. Approximately 900 acres of Bay waters are covered by the ordinance, extending south from the edge of the Cove housing complex to the tip of Strawberry Point, east to Belvedere and north to Blackie's Pasture. Audubon manages this area as a wildlife sanctuary, focused on the waterbirds using the Bay. The Sanctuary boundaries are designated by buoys and permanent, marked pilings.

About the Sanctuary

Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Sanctuary provides sanctuary habitat for migratory waterbirds and other wildlife. It also involves the community through education, conservation and restoration programs. Click [here](#) for more information.

Sincerely,

Kerry Wilcox, Sanctuary Manager
Richardson Bay Audubon Center & Sanctuary
415-388-2524, x101

COMMUNITY EVENTS

BLACKIE'S HAY DAY

Saturday, September 29
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.
Blackie's Pasture



Blackie's Hay Day is Saturday. It is reminiscent of an old-fashioned country fair with pony rides, relay races, hay rides for tots, a petting zoo, giant slide, carnival games, train ride, a climbing wall, live entertainment and food trucks.

Admission is \$10 for adults; children under the age of 2 get in free. Tickets for activities are \$1. Proceeds benefit the Children's Room and programs at the Belvedere-Tiburon Library.

Bring the family and enjoy a beautiful Fall day at Blackie's Pasture. Parking is limited so walking and carpools are encouraged.

For more information visit the [website](#).

MAD HATTER TEA PARTY

Friday, October 5 at 6 p.m.
Art & Garden Center
841 Tiburon Boulevard

Enjoy a Wonderland of Fun at the upcoming Mad Hatter Tea Party and support the Landmarks Society. Participants can dress up in Wonderland garden cocktail attire and your own unique Mad Hat.

Dinner, drinks and entertainment begin at 6 p.m. A special pre-party "Croquet with the Queen" reception begins at 5 p.m. with appetizers, cocktails, and of course, croquet.



To make a reservation, call the Landmarks office at 435-1853 or visit the [website](#).

Tiburon Artist Laureate

Hello, as you may already know, I am Mary Musalo's successor. I would like to invite you to the next Artist Laureate Workshop.

When: Sunday, October 21, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Where: Art and Garden Center, 841 Tiburon Boulevard

Purpose: Getting to know each other and have fun sketching

What to bring: a small sketch pad and pen, bag lunch and plenty of sunshine.

I will provide water and soft drinks and there is plenty of parking.

Thank you, and see you there!
Jaleh Etemad

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



JOINT RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Belvedere-Tiburon Joint Recreation Committee is looking for a Tiburon representative to serve on the Committee. This is an exciting time to join the Committee, as it will move into a new facility (under construction right now) in the new year, and there will be opportunities to create and offer new programs.

The Joint Recreation Committee was formed under a joint powers agreement with Belvedere and Tiburon. It is comprised of an equal number of residents from both communities, along with a member of each city or town council.

The purpose of the Committee, which functions as a Board of Directors, is to oversee the provision of quality recreational and educational programs that inspire and enrich the lives of children and adults in the community, while maintaining a self-supporting agency.

The Committee meets monthly. For more information, contact Joint Recreation Director [Cathleen Andreucci](#).

2012 PHOTO CONTEST



The 11th annual Belvedere Community Foundation online photo contest is underway.

Whether you are looking back on Belvedere from your sailboat on the bay or looking down on the Tiburon Peninsula from atop Old St. Hilary's open space, there is no denying we live in one of the most beautiful and photogenic places on earth.

For the past decade, the Belvedere Community Foundation has invited professional and amateur photographers alike to share their most captivating images of our home in their annual photography contest.

There are six categories to submit photos under:

1. Architecture of the Tiburon Peninsula
2. Events on the Tiburon Peninsula
3. Wildlife on the Peninsula
4. Views of Belvedere and the Tiburon Peninsula
5. People of the Tiburon Peninsula
6. Life in Tiburon and Belvedere (Entrants aged 5-18)

Contest Rules

The contest is open to everyone. Photographs must reflect some aspect of the Tiburon Peninsula in color or black and white.

All visitors to the photo contest must register to submit photos. After users are approved, they will be able to upload

their photos.

Any photos uploaded will be previewed to ensure they are in the spirit of the contest.

There is no fee to enter. There is a limit of 5 photographs per entrant. Photos should not be larger than 3MB in size.

All submissions must be received by October 31, 2012.

For more information, please visit the foundation's [website](#).

Sincerely,

James Campbell
Belvedere Community Foundation

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](#).



Council and Commission Meetings



Town Council: First and third Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (October 3 and October 17).

Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. (October 4 and October 18).

Planning Commission: Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (October 10 and October 24).

Heritage & Arts Commission: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room (October 23).

Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission: Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m. (next meeting is November 20).

Unless stated otherwise, all meetings are held in the Town Council Chambers located at 1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon CA 94920.

Sincerely,

Town Staff
Town of Tiburon
435-7373

Editor: Diane Crane Iacopi

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