A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

What happened to Tib Talk? Well, as most of you are aware, the Town of Tiburon has recently experienced a transition in the Town Manager position, and during this transition, the production of Tib Talk was temporarily put on hold.

With Peggy Curran’s retirement announcement last Spring after serving as Town Manager for nine years, the six-month process to recruit and hire her successor began. This process culminated in my appointment by the Town Council on December 2, 2015. I am honored by the confidence the Town Council has shown in my abilities by selecting me as the next Town Manager of Tiburon. I look forward to collaborating with community members, fostering open, meaningful dialogue on a wide variety of issues, building on your many successes and supporting the community in creating and achieving its vision for the future.

Before coming to the Town of Tiburon, I worked in the General Services Department of Santa Barbara County, managing the Divisions of Facilities Maintenance, Real Estate Services, Capital Projects, Fleet Operations and Long Range Capital Facilities Planning. Prior to that, I spent 10 years working for Sullivan County, New Hampshire, first as the Director of Facilities and Operations and then as County Manager. Before joining County government, I enjoyed a 20-year career in Parks Management and Land Conservation, working for several governmental and non-profit entities.

My wife Polly Chandler and I relocated to Old Tiburon the weekend of December 19-20, and spent our first Christmas in Marin walking at...
On November 18, 2015, the Tiburon Town Council adopted an ordinance that prohibits vacation rentals in Tiburon. A vacation rental is defined as renting all or part of any residential dwelling unit for 30 consecutive calendar days or less. These rentals, often booked through websites such as AirBnB, VRBO.com or Homeaway.com, are no longer allowed in Tiburon for such short periods of time.

In future editions of Tib Talk, I look forward to providing updates on important projects and initiatives concerning the Town. In the meantime, if you see me at Town Hall or around Town, please stop and say hello.

Sincerely,

Greg Chanis
Town Manager

NEWS BRIEFS

AVOID TAX SCAMS!

It's tax season again, and again, criminals are taking advantage of it.

There have been several recent cases of people receiving phone calls from the "IRS" demanding a return call and threatening "immediate action" if you don't call back. This is a variation of a common scam where the call purportedly is from a government agency or a utility company (like PG&E) or even a law enforcement agency.

Unfortunately, some people call back and some turn over money. As of January 2016, the Internal Revenue Service had received reports of almost 900,000 calls in a little over two years and recorded losses totaling roughly 29.5 million dollars to about 5,000 victims.

Another "IRS" scam is a call or email telling you that you have an unclaimed tax refund and that if you'll provide certain private...
month) without any permit from the Town. This prohibition also does not apply to Town-approved hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts. Town staff will enforce these regulations and can impose a fine of $1,000 for each violation.

If you wish to report a suspected vacation rental, feel free to contact the Tiburon Planning Division at (415) 435-7390.

Information, like your social security number and a bank account number, the funds will be deposited into your account. What happens, of course, is that your identity is "stolen" and funds are withdrawn from your account.

A scam using a law enforcement nexus is also popular. Usually it's a phone call telling you that there is a warrant for your arrest, and you will be arrested shortly if you don't post cash bail. A number to call is provided and a very aggressive individual will tell you that your arrest is imminent unless you "post the bail".

Some of these calls are more convincing than others. In the case of PG&E, thieves have come up with a way of displaying "PG&E" followed by an 800 number on caller ID features; presumably, they can also display "IRS" or any other identification. This often convinces people that the calls are legitimate. Victims often protest, claiming they owe nothing or have made their payments on time only to be told that the records don't reflect that and they must make an immediate payment or serious consequences will ensue--your power will be turned off or your property seized, or even that you or a family member will be arrested.

In many of these cases, thieves often assure you that it'll get straightened out "in due course" and the money will be refunded, but to avoid immediate, serious consequences you must pay now. The idea here is to create panic and prevent you from taking a few minutes to seek advice or even think about it. Prepaid debit cards are the preferred form of payment by these thieves and they're widely available in local stores. Typically you'll be told to go to a local store, pay for the card and then provide the scammer with the card number making it possible for them to withdraw the funds.

If you receive a phone call or an email that you are the slightest bit suspicious about, take just a few minutes and call us. Don't give out any personal information! Simply say you'll call back and hang up. PG&E, the IRS and any government agency or legitimate business will have a website or a phone number where you can contact them to clear up any issues.

Again, call us first. Officers will recognize most of these scams immediately and if they don't, they'll know who to check with to protect you. **We can be reached at 415-789-2801 anytime** and we're always happy to help.

Some people feel foolish about calling us. Please don't; think about how foolish you'll feel if you get ripped off.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Cronin
Chief of Police
DO YOU NEED A BUSINESS LICENSE?

Greetings!

As Business License Administrator for the Town, I have been reviewing all the details of the Business License Program and have found that many fine citizens of Tiburon may not even be aware they need a business license and what the requirements are. So here are answers to some of your frequently-asked questions!

Who needs a Business License?

1. If you have a commercial business located in Tiburon, you will need a business license. In addition, the Planning Division will review the "type of use" for the premises to make sure it falls within the zoning and use regulations for the Town of Tiburon.

2. If your business is headquartered out of town, but you enter Tiburon to do business, you will need a license. This applies to delivery companies, gardeners, cleaning services, service companies and professionals, such as architects. If you are unsure about your category, please check with us.

3. If you own a residential long-term rental, such as a stand-alone house, apartment, additional permitted unit, duplex, or apartment building, you will need a license.

4. If you are a general contractor, you will be charged by the Tiburon Building Division for your Business License at the time your building permit is pulled. If you are a sub-contractor, you will be covered under the general permit in place for the general contractor.

5. If you have a home-based business, whether it is dealing directly with the public, producing goods, offering services, or handling your company finances out of your home, you will need a business license. Even if all of your business is online - if you use your home for a business activity, this rule will apply to you. In addition to a Business License, you will also need a Home Occupation Permit.

Who Needs a Home Occupation Permit?
A Home Occupation Permit is needed if you are running your business - in any capacity, including book-keeping only - out of your home. Even if your business mailing address is a PO Box, you still need a license for the physical address in Tiburon. At the time of filling out your business license application you will also fill out a Home Occupation Permit application. The Planning Division will review the
application and send you a letter of acceptance as well as notifying the business license department so the license can be issued. This process takes up to 48 hours.

A Business License does not replace the following: State Licenses, Petition of Fictitious Business Names, or Seller's Permit/Resale Numbers. Information on where to obtain these is found in the web link below.

**Download Your Forms**
The Business License Application, Home Occupation Permit Application, and General Information, including the costs associated with the different types of licenses shown above, are available online on the Town's website under the "Government" section, click on "Forms and Documents" and look under Administrative Services.

**When To Renew Your License**
Annual licenses are due in January, followed by a brief grace period. So here's a friendly reminder: Your annual business license renewal is due now, but no later than February 29, 2016. Contact me via email or telephone (415-435-7373) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Patti Pickett  
Business License Administrator

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**MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Doug Haight is the newest Building Inspector, replacing George Dailey who retired in 2015. You will most likely see him in the field performing inspections, or driving from one inspection to the next.

Doug has extensive construction experience and has been a licensed general contractor for over 33 years. He has built homes and numerous residential additions throughout Marin County, including Tiburon, as the owner/operator of a construction company. He comes to the job well equipped to provide excellent customer service and inspection skills for the Town.

Doug attended U.C. Davis as a wildlife biology major before entering the construction field. After 40 years in construction, Doug began a...
second career in building inspections, quickly amassing International Code Council certificates for building inspector (commercial and residential), plumbing, mechanical, electrical, and residential combination inspector.

In his spare time, among other pursuits, he is president and executive officer for the Northland Nautical Foundation, which promotes youth and adult maritime training, and is professor and head instructor at a martial arts institution. Doug is the father of grown children and lives with his wife in the East Bay.

Meet our second newest employee: Mike Vanderbilt.

Permit Clerk Michael Vanderbilt (aka Mike) took over for Tarun Sanghvi, who retired last July after over 20 years in the Building Division.

Mike grew up in Pleasanton and has pursued a diverse educational path. After graduating from the University of San Francisco with a business degree, he went on to graduate from the Police Academy.

Mike hails from a family of builders and architects, making the transition to building inspection services a natural one. He currently resides in Petaluma and enjoys outdoor activities including hiking, camping, and dirt biking. Another exciting hobby for Mike is scuba diving. He is an advanced scuba diver and through it has seen many different aspects of ocean and sea life close up.

Mike is highly motivated to provide excellent public service and to learn more about building services in Tiburon.

The next time you are near Town Hall, please drop in and say "Hi" to Mike and Doug. They look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,

Scott Anderson
Director of Community Development

COMMUNITY EVENTS
2nd Annual Chief Francis O'Neill Irish Music Festival
Downtown Tiburon

Friday, February 26 -
7 p.m. at Servino's

Presentation of the Life of Francis O'Neill --

The festival celebrates traditional Irish music and continues the tradition of Chief Francis O'Neill, 1848 - 1936, widely credited as "the man who saved Irish music" through his collecting, preserving and publishing books of the largest selection of Irish music still in use today.

Also on Friday Night--

"Irish Music Around the Town"

Various restaurants and bars throughout Tiburon will be hosting Irish music starting at 8 p.m.

People are encouraged to go from place to place to hear a variety of Irish music from 8 pm to 10:30 pm.

Here's the line-up:

Servino's Bar  - John Caulfield & Friends
Multi-instrument group playing the best of traditional Irish Music.

Caffe Acri  - Kyle Alden and Patrick Ball
Music to savor; traditional harp, Irish storytelling, and Irish classical guitar to the poetry of W.B. Yeats.

Sam's Anchor Cafe  - Lucia Comnes and Burke Trieschmann
Fiddle, guitar, harmonica and beautiful singing.

Tiburon Wine Shop  - Bruce Victor and Marla Fibish
Spectacular guitar and mandolin players.

Schoenberg Guitar Shop - Patrice Haan
Irish harp at its finest.

Saturday, February 27 - 7:30 p.m.
Irish Music Stage Show at Corinthian Yacht Club  Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The program is a multi-act musical stage show highlighting Irish music, poetry, oratory, humor and dance by internationally acclaimed artists, including a featured performance by renowned Irish band, TEADA.

Teada starts its 2016 US tour here in Tiburon with the show ReAwakening, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Spring Uprising that led to the formation of the Republic of Ireland in 1919.

Tickets are $40 for and $60 for premium seating.
Click here for more information and to purchase tickets.

Come enjoy the show!

Sincerely,
Tom O'Neill

Community Calendar

For the scoop on events and meetings sponsored by local nonprofit 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. - March 2 and March 16, 2016.

Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. - March 3 and March 17, 2016.

Planning Commission:  Second and fourth Wednesdays at
7:30 p.m. - March 9 and March 23, 2016.

**Heritage & Arts Commission**: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. (Town Hall Conference Room) - March 22, 2016.

**Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission**: Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m. - March 15, 2016  Cancelled; A Special Meeting to discuss the Town's draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan is scheduled for March 29, 2016.

**Disaster Advisory Council**: Quarterly meetings at 4 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2016.

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

**Tiburon Talk**
c/o Town of Tiburon
1505 Tiburon Boulevard
Tiburon, CA 94920

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