A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Tiburon Turns 50!

The month of May has arrived and with it Tiburon's 50th anniversary celebration. At 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 30, please plan on joining the extravaganza in Shoreline Park and on Main Street. Both areas will be closed to traffic to accommodate a truly grand party. No fewer than four bands will entertain during the evening: Wonder Bread 5, Overbite, the Redwood High School Band and Bautista. At nightfall, around 9:30 - FIREWORKS! A spectacular 20-minute show will be launched into the air from a barge 1,000 feet from shore.

In addition to live music, there will be food trucks and local food and drink purveyors along Shoreline Park and on Main Street, along with the al fresco dining on Main Street we love from Friday Nights on Main. There will be inflatable jumpies for kids, and the Railroad and Ferry Museum will be open, too. It is a real delight for young and old and particularly appropriate for this anniversary as it tells the story of the Town's early history as a railroad town before the advent of the Golden Gate Bridge.

After the fireworks, plan to regroup on Main Street and swing to Bautista, a great dance band, which will play until 11:00 p.m.
Traffic on the Boulevard is unavoidable for a big party downtown, so plan around that if you can: consider walking or biking to the event. The Marin County Bicycle Coalition is providing a secure "bike corral" at no cost, so you can park your bike worry-free. Plan to beat the crowd by sticking around for music, dancing and food after the fireworks.

Tiburon has come a long way since its early days and incorporation in 1964. It has matured into a strong and wonderful community that boasts lovely neighborhoods, first rate schools, sound infrastructure, fiscal stability and a long history of good governance and stewardship by our elected officials. That's a lot to celebrate, so plan on joining this special occasion. It promises to be a very memorable evening for us all.

Sincerely,

Peggy Curran

NEWS BRIEFS

Circulation Element Update Underway

Tiburon is embarking on the first comprehensive update of its General Plan Circulation Element since 2005. The Circulation Element is one of seven state-mandated elements that form a community's General Plan (sometimes called a Master Plan). Other required elements are: Land Use, Housing, Safety, Noise, Open Space and Conservation. The Circulation Element is an infrastructure plan addressing the circulation of people, goods, energy, water, sewage, storm drainage and communications. The Element analyzes car, bicycle, pedestrian, bus, ferry and other modes of circulation on the Tiburon peninsula. The transportation consulting firm of Nelson/Nygaard has been retained to perform the technical and public outreach work on
The Tiburon Talk Newsletter, April 30, 2014

the Element update. Traffic counts took place earlier this week at numerous intersections along Tiburon Boulevard and on Paradise Drive. More counts may follow.

For decades, Tiburon Boulevard traffic increases were primarily associated with new development on the peninsula, primarily residential subdivisions. In the period from 1985 and 2005, approximately 600 residential units were constructed in Tiburon; in the eight years from 2006 through 2013, only a total of about 15 "new" homes were constructed in Tiburon.

The deluge of residential development in the 1980s led to a development moratorium in 1985 and a new General Plan in 1989 that greatly reduced densities on the large undeveloped parcels remaining on the peninsula, effectively eliminating the potential for hundreds of additional housing units on the Town's hillsides and ridges. But the horse had already left the barn (so to speak) and hundreds of single family lots had been created from those earlier subdivisions, which provided a large inventory of developable lots that lasted until about 2002. These projects paid substantial sums to improve Tiburon Boulevard, including traffic signal installations at Trestle Glen Boulevard, Lyford Drive, San Rafael Avenue, Beach Road and Rock Hill Road.

While owned by the State of California and maintained by Caltrans, Tiburon Boulevard (State Highway 131) traffic improvements such as signals have been funded almost exclusively by the Town of Tiburon and (for intersections west of Reed Ranch Road) by the County of Marin, based on jurisdictional lines. For instance, virtually all the four-lane portion of Tiburon Boulevard west of Reed Ranch Road is located in the unincorporated portion of Marin County. The most recently installed traffic signal on Tiburon Boulevard was done 25 years ago at Rock Hill Road. Since that time, less grandiose improvements such as merge/acceleration lanes and right-turn signal overlap arrows have been installed.

Since 2006, construction of "new" homes (as opposed to tear-downs or rebuilds) has nearly flatlined and the revenue generated by traffic mitigation fees and developer exactions has consequently dwindled to a small amount each year. New development now accounts for a tiny percentage of new trips added to Tiburon Boulevard each year.

Probably the largest contributor of new trips during the past several years has been school-related. In the excellent Reed Union School District, enrollment has increased by over 50% since 2006. Unlike most work commute trips, which are typically one-way outbound trips in the morning and one-way
inbound trips in the afternoon or evening, many school-related trips are two-way trips made within the same hour, and these "double-trips" can happen twice per day. As a result, during the morning peak hour commute period, which coincides with school drop-off times, Tiburon Boulevard becomes highly congested. The mid-afternoon school release time, which does not coincide with the work commute peak hour, also results in severe Tiburon Boulevard congestion. The volume of traffic simply exceeds the carrying capacity of Tiburon Boulevard, leading to sustained congestion and "traffic crawl" on many afternoons, yet widening of Tiburon Boulevard is largely infeasible. Of course, no "developer fees" can be collected for having school-age children, so there is no built-in funding mechanism to off-set school-related traffic increases in the community, as there was when new home construction was the primary cause of increased traffic on Tiburon Boulevard and the developers paid for the capacity improvements.

From 2011 to 2013, the Community Action to Reduce Traffic (CART) group met to investigate and tackle the seemingly intractable problem of traffic congestion on Tiburon Boulevard. The group’s conclusion was that there is no "silver bullet" to make the problem disappear, but that incremental relief could be achieved from a number of methods that cumulatively could improve traffic conditions on Tiburon Boulevard.

The Town and its consultants preparing the Circulation Element update will be exploring these incremental relief measures and looking for other sources of traffic relief as well. Of course there is a lot more to a Circulation Element than addressing Tiburon Boulevard traffic issues, and the Element update will give those areas their due attention. The Town will establish a section on its website under "Resident News" to keep interested persons abreast of progress and opportunities to participate in the update process.

A community workshop has been scheduled for the evening of Monday, June 9 at Tiburon Town Hall. Stay tuned for details. Please join us with your ideas and suggestions, or send them in by e-mail to or by mail to Scott Anderson, Director of Community Development, 1505 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon, CA 94920.

We look forward to your participation!

Sincerely,

Scott Anderson
Director of Community Development

Here are some related documents on the Town's website:
Town of Tiburon Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
Downtown Tiburon Circulation and Parking Analysis
CART Summary Report

MORE COMMUNITY EVENTS
Heritage Preservation Award

Wednesday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.
Tiburon Town Hall
1505 Tiburon Boulevard

The recipient of the 2014 Heritage & Arts Historic Preservation Award is Phil Cassou. Phil has been a volunteer docent of the Landmarks Society Railroad and Ferry Museum, currently acting as Curator of the Museum and manager of volunteer docents.

Phil took an active role in the creation of the Railroad and Ferry Museum, and was instrumental in creating the model of the Tiburon railyard that so vividly depicts the Town's railroad past. (He is pictured above at the museum, talking with a third-grade class.)

On May 7, please join the Heritage & Arts Commission at 5:30 p.m. for an informal open house in the Community Room at Town Hall to honor Phil for his important historic work on the peninsula. The formal presentation will take place at the Council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Heritage & Arts staff liaison Joan Palmero at 435-7373.

Concerts at Old St. Hilary Church

Musae - Women Who Changed History

Friday, May 9 - 8:00 p.m.
Old St. Hilary's Landmark
201 Esperanza
Please walk or take the shuttle from the Boardwalk Shopping Center 30 minutes before showtime. There is no parking at Old St. Hilary's Landmark.

The vocal ensemble Musae is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year with a special program by women composers and works written for elite female groups from many eras. The repertoire will range from Renaissance madrigals to contemporary pieces.

The concert is presented by the Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society and the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission. Tickets are $15 and $20. You can purchase them in advance at the Landmarks Office, Tiburon Town Hall, and Brown Paper Bag.

If not sold out in advance, tickets will also be sold at the door, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the Landmarks Society at 435-1853.

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Tiburon Wine Festival

Saturday, May 17
1 until 4 p.m.
Pt. Tiburon Plaza
1701 Tiburon Boulevard
(at Main Street)

Sponsored by the Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, the Tiburon Wine Festival features 55 of the area's finest wineries and 20 of the area's most popular restaurants to create a unique wine and food event that sells out each year.

Tickets are $75 for unlimited wine and food tasting. To purchase tickets, visit the Chamber's website or call 435-5633.

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Tiburon Peninsula Village Meeting
Tuesday, May 20 - 10 a.m.
St. Stephens Church
3 Bayview Drive, Belvedere

--Do you want to remain in your own home as you get older?

--Do you enjoy meeting new people and participating in your community?

--Are you interested in building an intergenerational community where the talents, wisdom and skills of seniors are counted?

Tiburon Peninsula Village (TPV) is part of a growing national movement whose mission is to create a community in which members and volunteers work together to help seniors remain in their own homes, aging with grace, confidence and peace of mind.

We combine old-fashioned neighborliness with modern know-how to meet our members' needs. Our volunteers offer a range of assistance, from minor home tasks to providing rides for errands, medical appointments or events. We plan luncheons, events and classes to keep our members active and engaged. A simple phone call to our parent organization, Marin Villages, will help connect you with various third-party service providers, from plumbers to home care assistants.

There are also volunteer opportunities for all ages with no fixed hours or time commitments. This is a great way to help people in your community!

If you would like to learn more about TPV and meet some of our members and volunteers, please come to an informational meeting at St. Stephens Church in Belvedere on Tuesday, May 20 at 10 a.m. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, check out our website, or call 457-4633.
Stay at Home
Stay Active
Stay Connected

Sincerely,

Tiburon Peninsula Village
Serving Strawberry, Tiburon and Belvedere

Council and Commission Meetings

Town Council: First and third Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (May 7 and May 21).

Design Review Board: First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. (May 1 and May 15).

Planning Commission: Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (May 14 and May 28).

Heritage & Arts Commission: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room (May 27).

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

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

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.

Sincerely,

Town Staff
Town of Tiburon
435-7373

Editor: Diane Crane Iacopi