

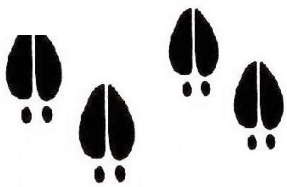
The Highlands lowdown

April 2013

The Highlands Community Association Newsletter

Volume 59, Number 4

www.highlandscommunity.org



July 4th Celebrations Promise Wild Times

by Karen Teys

When was the last time you took a walk on the wild side? If you are thinking back to high school or college, it has been too long! Good News! This year the 4th of July celebrations are going to give you the opportunity to expose your wild side since the theme is **“Take a Walk on the Wild Side.”**

It is not too early to start planning your parade entries! It’s also time to sign up to help out for the events. How can you help? We have a place for all of the Highlands Wild Life. All you need is a half-hour!

- **Are you a night owl?** You could help out with the bake sale on the night of the 3rd—and you could secure a great seat for the fireworks show.

- **Maybe you’re an early bird?** You could help with the pre-parade set up. All it takes is the ability to set up a folding chair or put toys out for the midway games.

- **Crazy like a fox?** You could help sign up parade participants before the parade. A pen and a clip board are provided—all you need to do is help fill out the forms.

- **Calling all hound dogs . . .** or anyone who likes to be around food! The food booth would let you flip the burgers and serve up beer and sodas!

- **If you are a deer,** helping out with the kids’ games would be a great way to play alongside our little bunnies!

- **And, if you are a raccoon,** cleaning up after the

events would be a great opportunity for you to join in with the other raccoons—no skunks please!

- **Also, we need convertibles and flatbed trucks for the parade.** Do you have a convertible that can be used to drive a dignitary in the parade, or maybe a truck that can be used for a float. If so, please contact Karen Teys at 650-703-5733 or karenteys@gmail.com.

- **Finally, the search for red-wagons, or blue or any other color is on!** If you have a wagon that you would like to lend, call Karen at 650-703-5733, or send an email to karenteys@gmail.com.

To volunteer, simply go to the Highlands Community website, www.highlandscommunity.org and click on the 4th of July tab.

ATTENTION HIGH-SCHOOLERS AND THEIR PARENTS: There are opportunities for high-school students to take a co-chairman role for one of the 4th of July subcommittees: 3rd of July Fireworks, Parade Organization (two co-chairs needed), Food Booth, Midway, and Dunk Tank. This is a great opportunity to learn leadership skills, and it looks good on college applications and resumes! If you are interested in signing up for a co-chairman role, contact Karen Teys at 650-703-5733 or at karenteys@gmail.com. If you would like to get even more involved, we welcome your participation.

HRD Meeting

Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m.
Multipurpose Room

lowdown Deadline

Friday, May 3

HCA Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room

FROM THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Rick Priola
HCA President

As this is being written, the 2013 baseball season has just begun, and the Giants have started out well, beating the Dodgers in their opening series two games to one and beating the Cardinals 1-0 in the San Francisco home opener. So far, the pitching is looking very good.

Eggstravaganza: The spring holidays, Passover and Easter, came earlier than usual this year and the Rec again hosted its annual Eggstravaganza. As usual it featured a Pancake Breakfast, the arrival of the Easter Bunny and Easter Egg Hunts both on land and in the water. The pancake breakfast was delicious, and the big crowd enjoyed watching their kids and their neighbors' kids having a wonderful time. Thanks to the Rec for another great event.

Burglaries and Public Safety: As you know, there have been a number of burglaries and break-ins in the Highlands and nearby neighborhoods and cities during recent months. We're all concerned about this, and the Sheriff's Department is too. They have increased their patrols in the Highlands and continue to give us information on the best ways to protect ourselves and prevent these kinds of crimes and how to respond when a crime has been committed. Look for an article by Lieutenant Edmund Barberini in this *lowdown's* View. It has a check list of things we can do to discourage burglars and make it harder for someone to break in to our homes and has some ideas that haven't been on previous lists.

There's also an article by Pam Merkadeau that explains the Neighborhood Watch program. People have raised questions about it. Be sure to attend the April HCA meeting, because we will be discussing all these concerns and ideas to protect the neighborhood. Also, there are always members of the Sheriff's

Department, Highway Patrol, and the Fire Department at HCA meetings, and they are available to answer your questions and give you information about their services. They have been very supportive of and responsive to our neighborhood for many years.

Sewer Committee: We have formed a new committee with the other neighborhoods in CSA1 to get answers to our questions and work our way through the many issues related to our sewer system that have been going on for a very long time. We'll keep the Highlands informed about what we find out and what we can expect to find out.

Agenda: If you have something you'd like to have discussed at the HCA meeting, please call or email me before the meeting so I can put it on the agenda.

As always, I look forward to meeting you and seeing you at the HCA meetings. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch with me at HCApres@gmail.com

HCA Meeting April 23, 2013, 7:30 p.m.

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review and Approval of the Minutes
- III. Sheriff's Dept/CHP/CDR Cal Fire
- IV. Reports
 - A. First Vice President
 - B. Second Vice President
 - C. Treasurer
 - D. Membership
 - E. *lowdown*
 - F. Public Utilities Committee
 - G. Emergency Services Committee
 - H. Land Committee
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business/Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

HCA Board Officers for 2013

President:	Rick Priola	574-8313
Co-First VPs:	Beverley Madden	574-1593
	Liesje Nicolas	773-7805
Second VP:	Jean-Pierre Bernard	357-7644
Treasurer:	David Krakower	415-398-1100
Secretary:	Denise Haas	372-0373
<i>lowdown</i> Editor:	Dorothy Greene	341-1752

HCA Committee Chairs for 2013

Land:	Sam Naifeh	572-8787
Public Utilities Co-Chairs:	James Goodman	372-0986
	Wil Pinney	345-2546
Emergency Services:	Pam Merkadeau	280-9046
Membership Co-Chairs:	Kim Nations	415-505-3866
	Colin Dasanjh	

HCA MINUTES

HCA Meeting March 26, 2013

by Denise Haas, Secretary

I. Call to Order—The meeting was called to order by President Rick Priola at 7:38 p.m.

II. Review and Approval of the Minutes— A motion to approve the minutes of Feb 26, 2013, was moved by Wil Pinney, seconded by James Goodman, and carried unanimously.

III. Sheriff’s Department/ California Highway Patrol/CDF – Officer Stephanie Josephson spoke to the group about the recent burglaries in the area, most occurring in neighborhoods with access to Highway 280. Many of the crimes happen between 2 and 4 p.m., and jewelry seems to be targeted.

Residents are encouraged to call the Sheriff’s office if something suspicious is seen, install a security camera or “dummy” camera, leave a radio on when leaving the home empty, pick up newspapers, and take in rubbish bins, install a second lock on sliding doors, or insert a wooden dowel in the track.

CalFire reported that Station 17 had 49 calls in the last month. They consisted of 1 structure fire, 7 “other” fires, 26 medical aids, 3 hazmat incidents, and 12 public assists.

Active Energy Corporation

Radiant Heat Specialist

- ★ High Efficiency Boilers
- ★ Corrosion Control
- ★ System Tune Ups
- ★ Leak Repair
- ★ Inspections
- ★ Design and Installation

650-787-6286

www.activeradiant.com

activeenergy@rocketmail.com

"Your feet will thank you"

Thank you Yeah, thanks!



There were also 29 instances of coverage, of which 18 were to the coast. It was also announced that the Easter Bunny would arrive on the fire engine for the HRD Easter Eggstravaganza.

IV. Reports

A. First Vice President – Liesje

►Minutes: to page 8

Nicolas invited JP Bernard to report on the LAFCo meeting held on March 20. JP Bernard reported that two letters were presented to the LAFCo panel—one from the HCA, the other from CSA1. Both letters stated that the areas did not want any of the CSA1 District’s services (police, fire, HRD and sanitation district) annexed. County Supervisor Dave Pine also stated that his constituents did not want annexation. Questions from the group arose about the lack of the resident’s letters being included in the LAFCo report to the president of the LAFCo committee. Brigitte Shearer announced that the HRD is extremely grateful and appreciates the support from the community.

B. Second Vice President – JP Bernard reported that Rob Voice is handling the July 4th festivities.



The Erica Damelio Team

REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST

TOP 5% OF AGENTS USA

Office: 650.571.8000

Web: www.ericadamelio.com

Email: edamelio@apr.com



PRIOLA
BODY SHOP



Free Estimates * Free pick-up & delivery * Free rental car

Two generations of Highlanders providing their neighbors with personal service and top quality auto body repair.

CALL THOM AT 341-1100.
2107 Palm Avenue, San Mateo

Shear Design

AT LAURELWOOD SHOPPING CENTER

FOR ALL YOUR HAIRSTYLING
NEEDS. MEN & WOMEN

1240 W.HILLSDALE BLVD.

LISA
650.218.8808

JOAQUIN
650.341.2705

HIGHLANDS RECREATION CENTER NEWS



Check out our new classes and activities for summer. Grab your activity guide or go to www.highlandsrec.ca.gov. Be sure to register for summer camp ASAP! The LAFCo review of the Rec District has been completed much to our satisfaction. Thank you to all who supported us in this effort! Remaining independent will allow us to continue to serve you in the best way possible.

Kids Nite Out

Pre-Registration required. Call the Rec for details. K-8th Grades. Pizza Dinner & Movie Provided
\$30 per child - \$5 sibling discount
Fri. 5/10 6-10 p.m. Social Room

Summer Fun Zone 2013**Cartoon Craze**

Summer's right around the corner and we're thinking fun, fun, fun! The Rec is excited to host a 10-week Summer Camp jam packed with amazing games and activities, such as arts, science, cooking, hiking, sports, and swimming. Each themed week will include a field trip to different spectacular locations throughout the Bay Area. Reserve your spot now, as these weeks fill quickly.

7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

(10.5 hours of care)

Weekly Fee \$260/275

\$5 sibling discount

Week 3 (Closed 7/4) \$215/230

Week 1 (6/17-6/21) Boomers

Week 2 (6/24-6/28) Marine World

Week 3 (7/1-7/5) Video Game Truck

Week 4 (7/8-7/12) Cull Canyon

Swim Lake

Week 5 (7/15-7/19) Golfland

Week 6 (7/22-7/26) Blackberry Farm

Week 7 (7/29-8/2) Sea Bowl/Beach

Week 8 (8/5-8/9) Raging Waters

Week 9 (8/12-8/16) Huddart Park

Week 10 (8/19-8/23) Tanforan Mall

Movie Theatre

Children's Drawing

Springtime Fun with Young Rembrandts

F 4/26-6/7 3:30-4:30 p.m. \$100/105

No class 5/24 Ages: 5-12 years

Location: Rec Center MPR.

Instructor: Debbie Maine (Highlands Teacher – remember the bone song and the scat song?) See the Activity Guide or the website for more info.

Pre-Engineering with Lego

4/24-6/12 1:30-3 p.m. \$200/\$205

K-8 Grades \$30 per child

\$5 sibling discount

Play with 100,000 Legos in the Gym. Play-Well Engineering instructors will help you build your Lego dreams! Location: Social Room

Babysitting Training

W 4/10-6/12 9:30-10:15 a.m.

\$158/163

W 4/10-6/12 10:30-11:15 a.m.

\$158/163

W 4/10-6/12 4:30-5:15 p.m.

\$158/163

You will learn fire and earthquake safety skills, nutrition, childcare, CPR and First Aid Skills. **You must attend all classes, be on time, and do the homework.** Sign up today to start earning \$\$\$ \$8 lab fee paid to instructor. Location: Multipurpose Room.

Youth Tennis

Pre-T Ages 3-6 M/W 4/22-5/22

3:30-4 p.m. \$80/85 Court 1

Youth I Ages 6-10 M/W 4/22-5/22

4-5 p.m. \$120/125 Court 1

Lifeguard Training

Gym Age 16 and over

This program will certify the passing student in CPR for the Professional Rescuer, First Aid, and Lifeguard Training. Must be 15 years old or older (proof of age must be shown at the first meeting), and pass a water skills test to be admitted into the class. Bring class material, swim suit, towel and comfortable clothing. **Must attend all classes per session!**

M-Th 6/3-6/6 8 am-5 pm \$215/225

M-Th 7/15-7/18 8 am-5pm \$215/225

M-Th 8/12-8/15 8am-5pm \$215/225

Junior Lifeguarding

Junior Guards will work out daily and learn about causes and ways to prevent drowning and diving accidents, basic first aid, CPR, and AED, and leadership. Fridays they'll take Aquatic-themed field trips throughout the Bay Area. Pre-requisite: Ability to swim front crawl for 25 yards continuously using side breathing, tread water for one minute, submerge and swim a distance of 10 feet. Ages 11+ (flexible if on swim team).

M-Th from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friday field trip 9:30 a.m-4 p.m.

► Rec: to page 10

Next Generation, Same Commitment to Excellence

Demand for homes in the Highlands remains high, I'd be happy to answer any real estate questions you may have



PAMELA MERKAEAU, Esq.

cell 650.280.9046

pmerkaeau@yahoo.com

Planning for the July 4th celebration is underway. It's even more fun when you volunteer. Call and offer your support!



DRE#01919883

Expect the Best™

COMMUNITY NEWS

What is a Neighborhood Watch Program?

by Pam Merkadeau

There has been a fair amount of conversation lately around organizing a patrol of our neighborhood or maybe getting a group together like the Guardian Angels. This has also led to some apprehension from people who have told me that they don't want to put themselves in harm's way. There also appears to be some confusion about what a Neighborhood Watch program is and is not.

A Neighborhood Watch program raises awareness and can help to reduce crime without placing its participants in danger. It focuses on informing the community about how to discourage, deter, and prevent crimes such as burglary, auto theft, car break-ins, and personal crimes, which often occur in or near homes. It is not a vigilante organization. Rather, it asks its members to commit

to being informed about the neighborhood and to keep an eye out for suspected criminal activities. When they think something like that is occurring, then members are encouraged to contact authorities and are advised specifically not to intervene themselves.

Over a decade ago, there was resurging interest in the Highlands Neighborhood Watch program, and then it decreased. A Neighborhood Watch program only really works when a super majority of the neighborhood participates. The idea of reinvigorating our Neighborhood Watch program has come up again. It is an excellent and proven effective program, however widespread neighborhood interest in the commitment is essential to its creation. We'll be discussing this at the next HCA meeting.



Equitera Realty
Real Estate Sales | Leasing | Management

Highlands Rental Special!

Full service property management:

- custom leases, rent collection
- tenant screening
- maintenance & more

... Make it **WORRY-FREE.**

Make your rental easy & cost-effective with our turn-key services.

Call now
(650) 240-5883

www.equitera.com



Joseph Stein
DRE# 01337170

520 Peninsula Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94401 | (650) 375-1596 office

Changes without notice. No tax, legal, or investment advice given. No liabilities for errors & omissions. Not a solicitation for listed properties. Equal Housing Opportunity.

© 2013 Equitera Realty, Broker CA DRE# 01337170.



Come to the Plant Sale

Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

San Mateo Garden Center

605 Parkside Way, San Mateo

650-574-1506



119 De Anza Blvd
Crystal Springs Shopping Village
San Mateo, California 94402

www.absolutevisionopticians.com

Tel: (650) 525-9150
Fax: (650) 432-6105



Clara Csicsman, Owner

Your Trusted Partner
on Eichler Remodeling Market



- Window & Door Replacement
- Entry Doors
- Siding Replacement
- Kitchen Remodeling
- Exterior Painting
- Interior Design

(650) 440-1577
www.EichlerSolutions.com

BBB **We also offer foam-roof restoration and re-coats** **CRRCL**

Abiril Roofing *stands behind...*

30 years of combined Eichler roofing experience

Roofing system that seals all leaks and Reduces Ponding

ABRIL
ABRIL ROOFING, INC.

Lightweight, Durable and Walkable Construction

Full transferable 15 year warranty

Call for a FREE evaluation of your present roof-and a FREE estimate

866-630-ROOF (7663)

Visit Our Brand New Web Site @ www.abrilroofing.com

CA License # 841849



COMMUNITY NEWS

Highlands Book Club

by Jo Nassutti



We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:15 in Multipurpose Room B in the child care center, south of the main Rec Center building. Visitors are always welcome.

On **May 7** we will discuss *Following Atticus: Forty-Eight High Peaks, One Little Dog, and an Extraordinary Friendship* by **Tom Ryan**. This book is for dog lovers and those who enjoy the great outdoors as well as anyone who appreciates reading a good story.

The book for **June 2** is *Henry and Clara* by **Thomas Mallon**. Henry and Clara were with President and Mrs. Lincoln at the theater on the night the president was shot. The author shows remarkable skill at letting us understand the effect of events of the day on these young people.

Questions, call **Betty O'Connor** at 345-9764. Curious, come observe.

Senior Network News

by Barbra Cohn



No fooling—April is here and with it our “Planning for Medical Treatment” seminar. Eva Voisin has very kindly offered to help us do some work on medical directives and other such important stuff. You know--the kind we keep putting off. Join us at 10 a.m. on April 24, in the lobby of the office building at 2000 Alameda de las Pulgas. You know you’ll be glad you did. And afterward, your reward is lunch with the bunch at Celia’s in Laurelwood

We had such a good time at the last Game Day that we decided another was in order. So come along for food (\$5 lunch, yum) and fun. Pick your game (bridge, scrab-

ble, 3 card Monte (?), whatever) and get set for an afternoon free of anything serious. It will be on Tuesday, May 14, at 11:30 a.m.

Now in June, prepare yourself (and some food) for another of our famous pot lucks, this time at the Beier’s home. June 20 is the day, noon is the time, and delicious is the event.

For all of these, please let Cliff know whether you are coming and whether you need transportation. Just call 349-5290.

And then there is July ---The 4th of course . . . and SUMMER!

#1 Highlands Agent

Glenn Sennett
Coldwell Banker
Cell: (650)208-7355
DRE # 00809271

*Let a Proven
Professional
Manage Your
Largest
Investment!*

Visit www.glennsennett.com to view virtual tours.

COMING SOON!!

1279 Laurel Hill Drive
3 BD 2.5 Remodeled Baths plus
Family Room, Views of the
Reservoir! Available early May
Call Glenn for pricing.

As of April 1st there are no homes for sale in the Highlands. The area is in high demand with an abundance of buyers wanting to purchase in this wonderful neighborhood!

If you’ve been thinking of selling, now is the perfect time to put your house on the market and get top dollar!

Contact Glenn to talk about the current value of your home and how much you can benefit in this seller’s market!!

**AESTHETICS AND
ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY**

TONY PHILIP VERTONGEN, D.D.S.

Experience does make a difference and we are celebrating 25 years of excellence.

Some of our services:

- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Dental Implants
- Invisalign Preferred Provider
- Zoom! Bleaching
- Laser Dentistry
- Cerec One Visit Dentistry



Call Today! 650-345-8455

730 Polhemus Rd., San Mateo, CA 94402
Visit our web site at www.drvertongen.com

HEALTHY SMILES
FOR EVERYONE



COMMUNITY NEWS

Upcoming CSM Events and Activities

by Valerie Anderson
President's Office Coordinator

These are open to the public, and most are free

CSM's Semester in London Fall 2013

Study Abroad Information Meetings
Thursday, April 18, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
3401 CSM Drive, San Mateo
collegeofsanmateo.edu/studyabroadlondon2013

Art & Science Presentation Shouldn't Art Be Beautiful?

Friday, April 19, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
CSM Theatre
collegeofsanmateo.edu/calendar/events

Jazz Under the Stars Observatory Star Party

Saturday, April 20, 8 – 10 p.m.
CSM Science Bldg. 36
Rooftop Observatory
collegeofsanmateo.edu/astronomy/jazz

Get Linked Career & Internship Fair

Wednesday, April 24
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
College Center, Bayview
Dining Room
collegeofsanmateo.edu/calendar/events

Jazz on the Hill & CSM Open House

Saturday, June 1
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Highlands School Highlights

by Etienne Vick



Highlands Neighbors--are you handy? Yes, you are because you live in the Highlands! We need your help with displaying ART TILES!

We are in the process of displaying the beautiful tiles that were created by students and staff two years ago. (The original tiles had to be replaced due to weather damage.) If you are a carpenter and willing to share your time and skill for this project, or if you have any questions, please contact Lucy M. at lucy200104@gmail.com. Thank you!

Attention Highlands Parent Volunteers Please don't forget to record your monthly volunteer hours for all months through February at highlands.smfc.k12.ca.us/volunteer-tracking. If you have any questions about recording your hours, contact PTA Historian Mary Tsao at mary.tsao@gmail.com. The online

form allows us to record volunteer hours that we will report to the District PTA. When volunteering on campus, don't forget to sign in/out at the office and wear a volunteer badge.

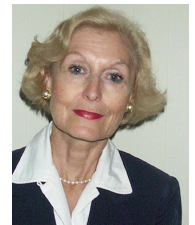
PTA Thank You on Behalf of the Highlands Theater Group:

The PTA would like to thank the following businesses for their donations to the Highlands Theater Group's production of *The Little Mermaid Jr.* **Gateway Management & Realty, J.J.'s Ice Cream & Yogurt, Harmonic Piano & Music Center, and Jimmy Realty.** In addition, we would like to thank **Toto's Pizza** for their pizza donations and the **Crystal Springs Produce Market** for their generous discount on fresh fruit. Lastly, we would like to thank **Tricia Schroeter** for her talented assistance in producing the many mermaid costumes. We are truly grateful to our wonderful and supportive community!



222 De Anza Blvd.
San Mateo, CA 94402
Bus. 650.573.7351
Fax: 650.587.1331 Cell: 650.440.0095
evoisin@ix.netcom.com
www.martinelliproperties.com
Each office independently owned and operated.

Eva E. Voisin, Esq.
Realtor, DRE # 01741015
Senior Real Estate Specialist



Judy's Homes for the Elderly, Inc.

Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (Lic#415600586)

We provide personalized care of the highest quality

- 5 locations in San Mateo
- Private rooms with half baths
- Assistance with daily needs for all levels of care, including Hospice

Call Judy at (650) 346-9410 for a tour or more information.

COMMUNITY AND UMC NEWS

► **Minutes:** from page 3

C. Treasurer – Rick Priola presented the final 2013 budget for David. Krakower, who was unable to attend the meeting.

D. Membership – Kim Nations announced that the membership drive is on track, with 25% of the neighborhood paid.

E. lowdown – the March lowdown deadline is Friday, March 29

F. Public Utilities Committee – Wil Pinney questioned the formation of the HCA Sanitation Task Force charged with bringing resolution to problems with current and past overbilling and ensuring that sewer fees are based on accurate meter readings. Discussion ensued with regard to monies owed and general lack of clarity of the Public Works meetings.

G. Emergency Services Committee – No report

H. Land Committee – No report

V. Old Business – None.

VI. New Business/Announcements – None

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m..

United Methodist Church Activities

by Steve Schlichter

Meditation Classes

Rev. Hee-Soon Kwon

Monday Evenings 7 - 8 p.m.

Wednesday

Mornings 9 -10 a.m.

New Workshop 4/14 - 4/28

(Three Sundays), 7 - 8: 30 p.m.

Wesley Academy

Rev. Hon Ki Kim, Ph.D

A study of John Wesley and his message. May 24 and Jun 28 at 7 p.m.

Learning to Use My Bible Class

3rd Graders and older children

Sundays 3/3 to 4/14, 10:15 to 11 a.m.

Vacation Bible School

Please put the dates for VBS for your kids on your calendar. This year it will be held from June 24 to 28, from 5:45 to 8 p.m. Call 345-2381 for more information.

Young Adult Bible Study

A young adult Bible Study will continue on Friday evenings at 7 p.m. The time may change, so please check with the office at 345-2381 to confirm.



Services offered include training reinforcement, exercise, and overnight care for your loving critters.

Highlands lowdown

Editor and Business Manager

Dorothy Greene

phone: 650-341-1752

email: lowdowneditor@gmail.com

mailing address: 1879 Lexington Ave., San Mateo, CA 94402

The lowdown is published monthly except August and December by the Highlands Community Association (HCA), 1851 Lexington Ave, San Mateo, CA 94402. Entire contents copyright 2010 by The Highlands Community Association, except where noted. All rights reserved.

Opinions expressed are those of the contributors. Acceptance of advertising does not constitute endorsement of any products by the HCA. Editor reserves the right to accept or reject and/or edit any material submitted for publication.

Articles, Letters, and Photos must include your name, address and phone number. Any material accepted may be edited to fit space or lowdown standards. Items may be submitted through any of the following means, in order of preference: email lowdowneditor@gmail.com, or typed double spaced, or legibly handwritten. Photos can be color or black/white and can be delivered to the email or postal address. Mail or drop off contributions to lowdown, 1879 Lexington Ave., SM 94402.

Ads should be submitted in electronic format, preferably Microsoft Word or Quark. Display ad rates are \$12.50 per column inch. Ask about inserts. Classified ads must be paid for in advance. Cost: \$3 up to 15 words, \$1 for each additional five words. Classified ads are free for anyone giving away or swapping Eichler fixtures or providing repair tips.

Neither the lowdown nor the HCA is responsible for the accuracy of any information in the display or want ads. Readers are encouraged to check that licenses are current and to get references.

Subscriptions for non-residents of the Highlands, \$25 per year.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LAFCo Commission Accepts Review Reports

by Jean Pierre Bernard

The San Mateo County LAFCo Commission’s March 20 meeting began with LAFCo Executive Director Martha Poyatos’ presentation of the latest version of her review reports:

- Municipal Service Review And Sphere of Influence Update - Highlands Recreation District March 13, 2013
- LAFCo Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update City of San Mateo, Crystal Springs County Sanitation District County Service Area 1 And Other Related County-Governed Districts March 13, 2013

Both reports can be found on the commission’s website: <http://www.cottpp//www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/portal/site/lafco>. Jointly, the reports review all public services provided to residents of County Service Area 1 (CSA1), which is composed of unincorporated areas of the Highlands, Baywood Plaza, Baywood Park, Polhemus Heights, and San Mateo Oaks. The services cover police, fire, recreation, sanitation, and lighting. Key conclusions of the reports include:

- a recommendation of “status quo” for the Highlands Recreation District (HRD), which means that some form of its autonomy would be preserved even if CSA1 was to be annexed into the City of San Mateo.
- a variety of statements that annexation to the City of San Mateo, or merger of CSA1 districts/services with corresponding departments of the City of San Mateo would result in cost savings. Where the statement is most affirmative is with regards to the Crystal

Springs Sanitation District, which provides sewer services to CSA1 residents.

HCA 1st Vice President Liesje Nicolas and HCA 2nd Vice President JP Bernard subsequently presented the contents of two letters dated March 16 that had been addressed to Don Horsley, President of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and Chair of the county LAFCo Commission, and signed respectively by the HCA President and jointly, by the presidents of the five community associations of CSA1. Both presentations expressed that:

- CSA1 community associations

request that the LAFCo Commission make no recommendation for annexation to the City of San Mateo of any of our district services. That applies namely to Fire, Police/ Sheriff, Crystal Springs Sanitation District, and the Highlands Recreation District.

• Over the years, our communities have established proactive relationships with all departments involved in providing our services, which contribute to their effectiveness.

In several places, the LAFCo review reports mention that annexation would reduce the cost of service-

►LAFCo: to page 10

I've joined the #1 Real Estate office in the country, Keller Williams!

Coming Soon!
Traditional Westwood Knolls 4br/2bth.
Call for more info.

Just SOLD!
www.19MissLane.com

Just LISTED!
www.456Southhill.com



stacy clark
REAL ESTATE

Keller Williams Peninsula Estates
1430 Howard Ave. Burlingame, CA 94010

Stacy Clark

Phone	650.270.9993
Email	stacy@stacyclark.com
Web	www.stacyclark.com
Blog	www.littlemissrechat.com

WE'VE WORKED WITH 10 OF YOUR HIGHLANDS NEIGHBORS, AND WOULD LOVE TO WORK WITH YOU.



KLOPF ARCHITECTURE

415-287-4225
HIGHLANDS GREAT ROOM REMODEL WWW.KLOPFARCHITECTURE.COM

COMMUNITY NEWS

►Rec: from page 4

**Youth II Ages 8-13 M/W 4/22-5/22
5-6 p.m. \$120/125 Court 1**

Pilates Mat Class

M 5/6-6/24 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$70/75

Springboard Diving

Students will learn the hurdle, basic dives such as the swan and jackknife, and proper hand position for entry into the water. The classes include games and fun activities that teach safety and skill development. Pre-requisites: 8 years of age. Must pass the swim test and perform a standing dive on the diving board. Private lessons and birthday parties can be arranged. Max 8 students. No Class: 7/4.- Instructor: Kelly Winterbottom

Mixed level

**TTh 6/18-7/2 11-11:45 a.m.
\$73/80**

**TTh 7/9-7/25 11-11:45 a.m.
\$87/92**

**TTh 7/30-8/15 11-11:45 a.m.
\$87/92**

Beginner

**Th 6/20-7/18 5-5:45 p.m.
\$58/63**

**Th 7/25-8/15 5-5:45 p.m.
\$58/63**

Intermediate

**Th 6/20-7/18 5:45-6:30 p.m.
\$58/63**

**Th 7/25-8/15 5:45-6:30 p.m.
\$58/63**

Heartsaver CPR and First Aid

First Aid W 4/18 6-9 p.m.

Free Cal Fire

CPR Wed. 5/22 6-8 p.m.

Free Cal Fire

.Each student receives the highest quality course materials to supplement their learning CPR/ First Aid Course completion card issued after class. Must pre-register with HRC prior to class. Location: 320 Paul Scannell Drtve, San Mateo

►LAFCo: from page 9

es, but they provide no evidence of such savings.

• With regards to the Sanitation District, the report includes no mention of overcharge issues that have been acknowledged by all parties involved and are still unresolved. A list of over 12 pending items was confirmed with the County Department of Public Works last month. Some have been ongoing since 2010. The LAFCo report should have referenced these issues, which provide evidence that any consideration of annexation of the Sanitation District is premature. President Horsley acknowledged he'd received both letters, and that they'd been communicated to all Commission members. Following their presentation, President Horsley asked that representatives of San Mateo County Department of Public Works provide information about the past sewer service overcharges to our residents. The Department representatives' response didn't give

such information but focused on financing needs to cover the costs of upcoming sewer line upgrades. After hearing all speakers, the Commission moved to accept the reports as presented, as well as their "determinations." Potential next steps in the Review/Reporting process are unclear. We recommend that all residents monitor all communications with regards to LAFCo on the County's and the LAFCo Commission's websites.



**Join the HCA
and
help our
numbers
rise.
It's
membership
time!**

Eichler Remodeling Specialist
It's a great time to start planning your projects for the New Year!



Serving the San Mateo area since 1987

- Contemporary interior remodeling
- Modern kitchen and bath updating
- Single-story room extentions and additions
- Original siding replacement and beam repair
- Large fixed glass, sliding glass door & window replacement

A HIGHLANDS RESIDENT SINCE 1992

Henry J. Calvert 650-578-1972
Email: calven@sbcglobal.net ■ CA license #521442

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

IMPROVE YOUR GRADES NOW! All subjects for students in grades K to 8. Math groups a specialty. Lessons based on student's skill level and learning style. Credentials: Special Education and Professional, Clear Multisubject. Call Cindy at 533-8913 or e-mail cindystutorial@yahoo.com

MASSAGE THERAPY - here in your neighborhood. Certified and 10 years experience. Only \$55/hr. \$25 extra at your house. Call Marisa at 483-7395.

MAYRA'S HOUSE AND WINDOW CLEANING. Reliable, dependable, many Highlands references. Call 299-8985 for free consultation.

ROBERT'S HANDYMAN SERVICE Remodeling, bathrooms, fences, stucco, small jobs. Highlands references available. Call 650-771-6952.

PLUMBING, HEATING AND REMODELING. 25 years of experience. Eichler home expert. Highlands resident. Lic. and bonded. All jobs welcome!! 650-921-9711.

GLADYS MEDINA CLEANS HOUSES AND WINDOWS in the Highlands. Many satisfied customers here. Call 408-607-9325.

HDTV WALL INSTALLATIONS - Wall fish cable, phone & CAT5/6 home network. Audio/Visual specialist. E-mail joelcom@comcast.net or phone 650-759-6511.

LOCAL DEBRIS BOX SERVICE Good for construction, household, or yard cleanups. Competitive rates Oliver Frank/LANDSCAPIA 650-345-4546

MAUI - VACATION IN BEAUTIFUL MAALACA BAY - beachfront condo- 2 bdrms, 2 baths, fully equipped remodeled kitchen, washer/dryer. Perfect for family of 4 or 2 couples. \$135/day Apr15 to Dec.15. \$150/day Dec. 15-Apr. 15 plus tax. Call Enes or Bill Rice, 341-1963.

MATH / SCIENCE TUTORING - HIGHLANDS RESIDENT Dr. David Kristofferson is a CA certificated teacher who tutors high school and community college students in math up through calculus, physics, chemistry, and biology. Please see www.kristutoring.com for details or call 650-490-0423.

HIDALGO'S GARDENING SERVICE Landscape Contractor. Gardens, Renovations, and New Installations & Maintenance. Phone 650-704-2683. LIC. 979269. Highlands references. email landscapinghidalgo@yahoo.com

COMPUTER GURU FOR HIRE Need help setting up a MAC or PC? Want to go wireless in your Eichler or learn how to use that new iPod? Technical handyman ranging from computers to home audio/video – no job too small. Local IT professional. Call Uy at 773-6356.

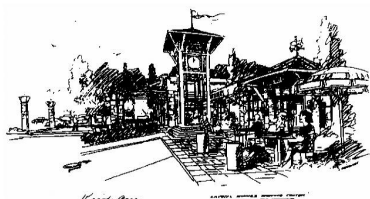
LOCAL HIGHLANDS HONEY New, from our site on the slopes – “Bunker Hill Blend.” Other local flavors available. Raw, no chemicals or medications. odfrank@earthlink.net, 650-345-2008.

FRANK'S WINDOW CLEANING Windows so clean, you'll think they're open!! Local and Highlands references. Call anytime 650-787-8017.

RETIRED BUILDING CONTRACTOR looking for smaller jobs, including dry rot repair, tile work, windows, crown molding, and roof skylights. References about license available. Call 650-637-7748.

WHAT A GREAT GIFT IDEA - YOUR precious pet's portrait painted by Tom Rice, former Highlands resident. 415-990-7938

TRANSPORTATION AND HANDYMAN ASSISTANCE. Seniors, husband and wife, Eichler residents over 50 years, need help in order to continue living here, rather than in a nursing home. If interested, have the time and a car, please call regarding availability and salary. 650-571-5155.



CRYSTAL SPRINGS VILLAGE

Hwy 280 or 101 to Hwy 92 • De Anza Blvd., Polhemus Road • San Mateo, CA

Absolute Vision	Opticians: Clara Csicsman	525-9150	Japanese Kitchen Wakuriya	286-0410
Allstate Insurance:	Bob O'Loughlin	286-2140	Stephen R. John, D.D.S., Periodontics	571-1900
	& Mike Munday	286-2141	Kids Smile Center	377-0161
Alterations to Go		341-6360	Lily's Crêperie	312-1579
The Bar Method (Yoga, Pilates, Ballet)		573-3330	Little Hunan Restaurant (Home Delivery)	571-1575
California Cancer Care		341-9131	Neal's Coffee Shop	581-1085
Crystal Springs Chiropractic, Dr. Jordan Savara		574-1456	Rainbow Pizza (Home Delivery)	571-1848
Crystal Cleaning Center		342-6978	Realty World, Martinelli Properties	578-1300
Crystal Springs Fish & Poultry		212-7921	Renew Laser Clinic, Dr. Adele Makow,	341-3600
Crystal Springs Pet Hospital		341-3438	Laser Skin Care	
Citibank (West) FSB		525-9028	Les Amis Salon et Spa	570-5750
CVS Pharmacy	(572-2514, Drive Up)	572-2438	Safeway	341-4039
Design Jewelry		345-7870	Shoe Repair	349-4209
Dianda's Italian Pastry		570-6260	Starbucks Coffee	345-0483
Esposito's Deli (Catering)		525-1970	U.S. Postal Services	570-5562
			Wireless Link-Verizon	357-9000

The Feeling of a Country Village  San Mateo's Own Quality Shopping Village

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Sheriff:
Fire:
Medical:

911

From Cell Phone	363-4911
PG&E	800 743-5000
Cal Water	343-1808
Fire Prevention	573-3846
Fire Station	573-3842
(non-emergencies)	
Sheriff's Office	363-4763

Highlands Community Association
205 De Anza Blvd. #49
San Mateo, CA 94402

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage Paid
San Mateo CA
Permit #189



Printed on recycled paper

A VIEW FROM THE HIGHLANDS

Help the Sheriff's Office Combat Residential Burglaries!

by Lieutenant Edmund Barberini

The Sheriff's Office has increased patrols and used other investigative techniques to prevent and solve burglaries in the Highlands. Our community is not alone in continually combating this type of criminal activity. Criminals continue to look for opportunities when committing burglaries and other related crimes.

While there is no simple or sure solution to the problem of residential burglaries, it is possible to make the burglar's task more difficult, and in some cases, to discourage the burglar altogether.

* **Lock all doors and windows** before leaving your home. Even when leaving for a short time, it is important to secure your home.



* **Leave lights on** when you are gone or have them on automatic timers for the evening, both on the interior and exterior of the home.

* **Always make sure your garage door is closed** when leaving the house.

* **Install deadbolt locks** on all exterior doors of your home. Sliding glass doors are more vulnerable, but special locks and strong door stops provide enhanced security.

* **Change locks immediately** if your keys are lost or stolen.

* **Maintain an inventory** of all valuables, including serial numbers. Take photos or videos of these

* **If you leave your car out** at night, make sure all the doors are locked and remove all valuables.

* **Develop a rapport with your neighbors.** They can keep an eye on your home when you are away.. Neighbors provide some of the best protection when they look out for each other.