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### In This Issue

[Blackie's Parking Lot and Street Closure](#)

[Be Safe; Be Prepared - Summer Travel Tips](#)

[Building Code Corner](#)

["Community Block Party" Planning Underway](#)

[Summer Events Downtown](#)

[Artist Laureate Programs](#)

[Bel-Tib Community Calendar](#)

[Council and Committee Meetings](#)

### Quick Links

[Town of Tiburon](#)

[Get Ready 94920](#)

[Bel-Tib Library](#)

[Reed School District](#)

[Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks](#)

[Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Bel-Tib Recreation Department](#)

[County of Marin, 3rd](#)

May 26, 2011

## A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



### Downtown Report Released

The March edition of Tiburon Talk contained an update on the Downtown Vibrancy Project which recapped the community process to date and noted that a draft Report and plan was due out in May. The Report was completed on schedule and was discussed by the Town

Council at its May 18 meeting. The Report, along with its enlightening exhibits, can be found at [www.ci.tiburon.ca.us](http://www.ci.tiburon.ca.us). If this topic interests you, I urge you to give them a read.

One of the challenges in revving up the vibrancy of downtown is the sobering reality that there is really very little there that the Town directly controls or owns. Unlike with many other downtowns, Tiburon is not a significant landowner and it does not control any off-street parking. That means that any plan to improve downtown will only be successful if everyone involved gets constructively engaged in developing or supporting it: the private property owners, the business proprietors, the Town and residents. The Downtown Report tries to recognize these realities and weave together a plan that, in particular, calls upon private property owners and the Town to work together to achieve better outcomes for everyone.

Two short-term recommendations of the Report are particularly noteworthy. One proposes that the Town engage a firm to conduct a downtown parking and circulation analysis. The Report found that while there are ample parking resources in the downtown, the perception is often quite different. We heard repeatedly throughout the process that both residents and visitors believe parking to be unavailable or not well located or priced.

There are two elements to downtown parking: the

District

Facts About Marin  
Clean Energy

DID YOU KNOW?



"Community Block Party" Planning Underway

Want to have a block party in your neighborhood but can't find the right location?

Want to be part of a Town-wide "block party"?

Come to a "Community Block Party" brainstorming meeting on Friday, June 3 at 4:30 p.m. at Town Hall. HOA reps or other interested parties are invited. A follow-up meeting is planned, as well.

RSVP to [askalicenow@usa.net](mailto:askalicenow@usa.net)

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Keep your questions coming!

Send them to [Diane Crane Jacopi](#), Town Clerk.

Town's public street parking and the many private lots. The two-hour free street spaces get filled up rapidly, and are sometimes "gamed" by people who remove enforcement chalk marks or employ other techniques to park all day long. With the guidance of some parking experts, the Town wants to rethink how to make its street parking more available for short-term users (possibly longer than two hours to allow diners and shoppers to linger) but still avoid all-day commuter and worker parking.

We also want to explore opportunities with private lot owners. For instance, perhaps there can be a resident parking program offering three- or four-hour parking passes at a fixed price. If we can develop a system that delivers the same or better economic performance as exists now for the private lots (that is, increased usage coupled with funding for any shortfall from users, restaurants, merchants and possibly even the Town), we might be able to create a whole new incentive for locals to become regulars in their own downtown. Bottom line: we believe some creative thinking and expertise can improve the parking situation for all concerned without in any way unfairly expecting the private lot owners to subsidize the effort.

The other recommendation I wish to highlight calls for the creation of a Marketing and Communications Task Force. It was noted many times during the downtown process that Tiburon lacks a coherent strategy to attract visitors, especially if they can arrive via ferry. Residents want a vibrant downtown with great restaurants and shops, but local clientele alone is not enough to sustain most of our downtown businesses, so visitors are an important part of the mix.

The goal of the Task Force, explained in more detail in Exhibit B to the Report, is to tap into our own citizenry for marketing expertise. Tiburon and Belvedere have many highly skilled and experienced residents with relevant professional backgrounds. The Report recommends soliciting applications from all interested citizens from which the Town Council can draw to appoint its Task Force. The group would be tasked with developing a branding message and communication strategy, for approval by the Town Council, to enable the Town to increase its visibility and presence using key communications channels such as the internet, the San Francisco Visitors Bureau and so forth. The objective would be to employ Tiburon's unique history, heritage, water orientation, beauty and other assets so that the marketing effort authentically reflects the Town and its culture and values. The Task Force would be expected to complete its mission in no more than one year.

There are many other recommendations contained in the Report related to items such as signage, beautification, minor facility upgrades and, over time, redevelopment of various private properties. If you read it and have comments or questions, please don't hesitate to send them along. The Report is still a draft, but even once it gets firmed up, it is expected to remain a flexible guideline to help us improve the downtown, so good ideas will always be welcome.

Sincerely,



Peggy Curran

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Blackie's Parking Lot and Road Closure



The Town of Tiburon will begin resurfacing the Blackie's Pasture area parking lot and access road (Blackie's Pasture Road) in June. Signs will be posted at Blackie's Pasture Road, as well as on Greenwood Beach Road, notifying residents of the temporary street and parking lot closure.

On **Monday, June 13**, Blackie's Pasture Road will be completely closed from **8 a.m. until 5 p.m.** for resurfacing. There will be extremely limited or no access by car into Blackie's Pasture on this day. However, the park areas will be open to the public, as usual.

On **Tuesday, June 14**, the paved parking area and back portions of the access road will be closed for additional resurfacing activities. However, the front portion of the access road off of Tiburon Boulevard will be open for access to the overflow parking lot.

Please plan your visit to Blackie's Pasture area accordingly. Thank you for your cooperation.

Joel Brewer, Superintendent  
Tiburon Public Works Department

## Summer Travel Tips - Be Safe; Be Prepared



As vacation time quickly approaches, the Tiburon Police Department would like to remind you of a few safety tips for you and your family.

Unfortunately, injuries can happen on vacation because we sometimes don't take the precautions we normally take at home. So be prepared!

Create your own travel first aid kit and take it with you on your day trips or weekend get-aways. Here are a few items that can easily be included in a Travel First Aid Kit:

- Acetaminophen (such as Tylenol) or ibuprofen (such as Advil) for mild aches pains and fever
- Non-stick bandages, gauze, tape and antibiotic ointment for cuts and blisters
- Eye wash for dust and other irritations in the eye, and ear wash for swimmer's ear
- Antihistamines for airborne allergies and itchy rashes
- First aid tools such as tweezers and a small pair of scissors
- Your family's prescription medications
- Sunblock of at least SPF 15
- Drinking water

There are a few other precautions you can take to ensure your family's summer vacation is a safe one. For example, if summer vacation includes a trip to an amusement park, ball park, or any area with a large crowd, extra steps should be taken to make sure a child doesn't get separated from his or her family. Parents should carry current photos and descriptions of their child, such as height and weight. A child should also know the full names of his parents and that he or she should go to the nearest park employee if they get lost. Finally, parents should designate a common meeting place if anyone gets separated from the group.

Your local automobile club is an excellent vacation resource and will provide you with traveling assistance to

make sure you have a safe trip. Following the steps listed above will help to reduce hassles and increase the likelihood of a worry-free trip.

In next month's issue of Tiburon Talk, we will provide you with some safety tips and precautionary advice for families who are planning longer vacations that involve airline travel.

Finally, do not forget that the Tiburon Police Department still conducts Vacation House Checks for our residents where officers will check your home for you while you are away. Simply call the business office of the Department at 789-2801, or stop by during business hours, and we would be happy to assist you with this process.

Captain Dave Hutton  
Tiburon Police Department

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## Building Code Corner: What Kinds of Home Improvement Do NOT Require a Building Permit?

Generally, all construction activity, from initial grading of a site to interior improvements, alterations and most repairs require a building permit unless the work is specifically exempted by the California Residential Code Chapter 1, and by Chapter 13 of the Tiburon Municipal Code (TMC).



The following is a list of work than may be performed without a building permit. If your project does not appear on this list of exempt work, you should assume that a building permit is required. Note: Although some work is exempt from a building permit, additional permits or review may be required from other Town or County Departments, such as Planning, Public Works, or Environmental Health.

1. Detached accessory structures used as playhouse or play structures, providing the floor area does not exceed 120 square feet, the structure does not exceed twelve feet in height as defined by Section 16 of the TMC, and the structure contains no plumbing, electrical, or heating appliances.
2. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, countertops, which do not involve the removal or replacement of plumbing fixtures or electrical outlets, and similar work.

3. Prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches deep.
4. Swings and other playground equipment (accessory to one- and two-family dwellings only).
5. Cord and plug connected decorative lighting, replacement of plug receptacles, repair or replacement of circuit breakers, and the installation of communication wiring and devices.
6. The clearing of stoppages, including the removal and reinstallation of water closets, or the repairing of leaks in pipes, valves, or fixtures, provided such repairs do not involve or require the replacement or rearrangement of valves, pipes, or fixtures.

There are other less common building permit exceptions that are not listed above, so please contact the Tiburon Building Division at 435-7380 if you have any questions.

Fred Lustenberger  
Tiburon Building Official

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### "Community Block Party" Planning Underway

In years past, the Town held annual picnics, sometimes featuring volleyball or softball challenges between the City of Belvedere and Town of Tiburon. These picnics were held on Angel Island and were known as "Ayala Day" celebrations. Later, the picnics moved to South of the Knoll Park, or other locations.

If an end of summer picnic sounds good to you, or if you would like your neighborhood association to join with other HOAs and neighborhoods for a Town-wide "block party", please come to a brainstorming session at Town Hall on Friday, June 3, at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Councilmember Alice Fredericks at [askalicenow@usa.net](mailto:askalicenow@usa.net).

## Summer Events Downtown

**Friday Nights on Main - 6 until 9 p.m.  
June 17 & 24; July 1, 8, 25, 22 & 29;  
and September 2, 9 16, 23, and 30  
Main Street, Downtown**

The popular closure of Main Street on Friday nights is returning on June 17. Join your friends and neighbors and bring a picnic or dine al fresco at one of your favorite restaurants.

For more information, contact the Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce at 435-5633 or e-mail [tibcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tibcc@sbcglobal.net).

**Classic Car Show**  
**Saturday, June 18 - 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.**  
**Shoreline Park**



Another summer favorite returns on Father's Day weekend. Bring your Dad and all the car aficionados you know for a fun stroll along the waterfront.

For more information, [click here](#), or call Tom O'Neill at 332-7800.

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## **Artist Laureate Programs**

**Artalk**  
**Tuesday, June 21, 7 p.m.**  
**Town Hall Lobby**  
**Free to the public**

Back by popular demand! Joan Palmero will lead us once again in an interactive discussion of three Latin American artists, their work, and lives. Joan brings the artists to life through her extensive knowledge and understanding of people. Joan was a docent at the Mexican Museum in San Francisco for eight years, and has lived and travelled extensively in Mexico. She will bring some examples of artwork for us to enjoy.

This is truly a discussion you will not want to miss. So mark your calendars and come on down to the Tiburon Town Hall Lobby to be a part of a community of friends and neighbors who enlighten each other--bring a friend!!

For more information on this and other programs, contact Tiburon Artist Laureate, Mary Musalo, at [marymusalo@aol.com](mailto:marymusalo@aol.com)



The "collage" workshop with guest artist Jaleh Etemad on May 21 was a great success, as demonstrated by the happy participants in the photo. Come join the next workshop. (Stay tuned to Tiburon Talk for details.)

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## 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](#).



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## Council and Commission Meetings



**Town Council:** First and third Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. - (June 1 cancelled); June 7 special meeting; June 15 regular meeting.

**Design Review Board:** First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. - (June 2 and June 16).

**Planning Commission:** Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. - (June 8 and June 22).

***Heritage & Arts Commission:*** Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room (June 28).

***Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission:*** Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room (the next meeting is July 19).

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings listed above are in the Council Chambers at Tiburon Town Hall, 1505 Tiburon Boulevard.

**Sincerely,**

Town Staff  
Town of Tiburon  
435-7373

Editor: Diane Crane Iacopi

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