



MAYOR JIM FRASER - VICE MAYOR EMMETT O'DONNELL - COUNCILMEMBER RICHARD COLLINS  
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November 30, 2012

## A WORD FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



It's late November, making this the last Tiburon Talk of 2012. I've enjoyed having this opportunity to keep you updated about our many (many!) capital projects, balancing our budget and expanding pension reforms, the expansive downtown revitalization efforts and so many other items we have tackled in the last, very busy year. Thanks, too, for the feedback I so often receive from these missives. Whether question, complaint or compliment, it is all welcome and useful. I really do enjoy hearing from you.

In 2013, I look forward to the grand opening of "Dairy Knoll", the new recreation center on Ned's Way, completing the parking lot along Tiburon Boulevard, and for the successful conclusion of the Del Mar undergrounding and paving. I also anticipate great strides in implementing the Marketing and Communications Task Force's recommendations for enlivening the downtown, including new way-finding signage on the peninsula and the launch of a completely new Town website for residents and visitors. We have dozens of irons in the fire both big and small to improve the Town physically and improve the quality of services we offer to the public from Town Hall. I look forward to working on these initiatives as well as reporting out on them to you through Tiburon Talk.

I also want to offer a year-end thanks to our outgoing Mayor, Jim Fraser, for his extraordinary efforts on the Town's behalf this past year, and the whole Town Council for its support and leadership. We are truly fortunate to have such dedicated and capable people volunteering their time in public service. A smoothly functioning, thoughtful and hard-working Council is less common than many might realize, a fact which makes me particularly grateful that it exists here.

One small note: you may have noticed some new streetlight banners adorning the downtown (one of the four examples is

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shown here).

They replace the generic holiday banners formerly found in those locations (pop quiz: does anyone remember what those looked like? Hmm. I thought not...). We hope you enjoy these new banners that celebrate the very special place that is Tiburon.

\*\*\*

In closing, I wish you and your loved ones a wondrous and joyful holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous 2013. It certainly portends to be a full and productive year for us here in Town government. I hope it is a great year for us all in every respect.

Sincerely,



Peggy Curran



## NEWS BRIEFS

### TIBURON WINTER FESTIVAL UPDATE

Friday, November 30

- **Tree Lighting Cancelled Tonight; New Date is next Saturday, December 8 at 6 p.m. in Fountain Plaza**
- **Ice Skating will be Scheduled after the New Year**
- **Gingerbread House Decorating - YES! see below**

Due to the forecast of heavy storms this weekend, **Ice Skating on Main** and the **Tree Lighting Ceremony** scheduled for Friday, November 30, **are cancelled**. If you made reservations for Ice Skating, please call the Tiburon Chamber of Commerce for a refund or to RSVP for the new date.

**The good news is that the Gingerbread House Decorating will still take place on Friday, November**

**30, rain or shine, for the delight of kids young and old.**



**WHERE: Sam's Anchor Cafe, 27 Main Street, Tiburon**

**WHEN: Friday, November 30 at 4:30, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.**

**PRICE: \$35 per house**

This event is sold out but do put it on your schedule for next year. All proceeds from this event benefit Kids Believe Achieve, a non-profit created by local children with the mission of fundraising for kid-focused non-profit organizations.

For more information, please contact the [Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce](#) at 435-5633.

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### **"LOCALS" SHOPPING DAY & HOLIDAY WINDOW COMPETITION**

**Saturday, December 8**

**11 a.m. - 8 p.m.**

**Main Street and Ark Row**

Come "sip, savor and shop" in downtown Tiburon.

Merchants on Main Street and Ark Row will be serving cider and goodies and offering raffle prizes to local customers. There will be holiday carolers and other festivities. An announcement and prize for best window decoration will take place at Fountain Plaza at 1 p.m.

Come do some holiday shopping, enjoy the festivities, and support your local merchants.

The event is sponsored by Zelinsky Properties.

Contact the [Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce](#) at 435-5633 for more information.

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### **10-Year Anniversary of Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ban**

The issue of continuing use of gas-powered leaf blowers arose at a recent Neighborhood Association Summit with the Town Council. We promised to put an update in our Town newsletter to keep residents informed.



Gas-powered leaf blowers and hedge trimmers have been banned in residential areas of Tiburon since 2002. The Council later updated its ordinance to add gas-powered leaf vacuums to this list. The Town's ordinance does **not** regulate gas-powered lawn mowers or

weed whackers.

### **Ordinance Summary**

Here's a recap of what is allowed under the Town's ordinance:

1. Electric leaf blowers and hedge trimmers can be used in residential areas every day of the week between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on holidays.\*
2. Gas-powered leaf blowers and hedge trimmers are restricted to commercial areas between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. No use is allowed on holidays.\*

*\* Holidays are defined as New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.*

### **Get the Word Out**

The Town has prepared a bilingual brochure on this subject ([available here](#)). Feel free to download it or contact the Public Works Department for copies.

### **Enforcement of Ordinance**

Both landscapers/gardeners and the property owners who employ them are subject to citations. Call the Tiburon Police Department at 789-2801 to report a violation.

Keep your questions coming!

Diane Crane Iacopi  
Town Clerk

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## **Holiday Light Swap**

### **Trade in your old holiday lights for new ones!**

Do you have old holiday string lights? Did you know that you can swap them for brand new, energy-efficient LED holiday lights (both color and white) at no charge?



Marin Energy Watch, in partnership with the California Youth Energy Services program, is hosting holiday light string swaps again this year. Last year's events had huge turnouts.

This is a great way to get those old incandescent light strings out of circulation.

**When and Where:**

Saturday, December 1, 12 noon until 5 p.m. at Northgate Mall

- Saturday, December 8, 8 a.m. until 12 noon at San Rafael Community Center, 618 B Street, San Rafael

You must be a resident of Marin and bring a copy of your PG&E bill to participate (PG&E and Marin Clean Energy customers are eligible).

For more information, contact [Travers McNeice](#) at 510-665-1501, ext. 23. California Youth Energy Services is a program of the [Marin Energy Watch Partnership](#).

Laurie Tyler,  
Associate Planner  
(in conjunction with the Sustainability Team of the Marin County Community Development Agency)

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## **BUILDING CODE CORNER: Holiday Lighting Safety Tips**

Article 590 of the California Electrical Code addresses temporary electrical installations, including holiday decorative lighting. Although only about two pages in length, it offers some common sense precautions for those planning to decorate their homes with holiday lighting. It also limits these installations to 90 days, so don't forget to take down your holiday lighting within this time frame.



When shopping for lighting products or other electrically powered decorations, always remember to check for the product listing on the box or package. Although they may possess

sentimental value, "vintage" decorations may not have UL listings (approvals by Underwriters Laboratories) or be safe for consumer use. Consult a licensed electrician if you are unsure of the safety or usability of your holiday lighting and decorations.

Don't overload! Even though most commercially available holiday lighting products use much less power than they used to, it's still possible to exceed the rating of the branch circuit by powering too many strings of lights from it, so check the packaging and follow the manufacturer's recommendations regarding the maximum number of light strings on one receptacle outlet. And although not required by code, it is highly recommended that all holiday lighting be attached only to receptacles that have ground fault circuit interrupter protection (GFCI). If you have an older home that does not have GFCI protected exterior outlets, now is a good time to have them installed. (No permit required.)

Be careful when running flexible cords and cables and avoid sharp corners and projections whenever possible. If you have to run cords through doorways or other pinch points, remember to provide some form of protection (such as wrapping with multiply layers of electrical tape or plastic sheathing) so that the wiring does not get damaged. It is OK to splice cords and cables without a splice box provided that the grounding conductor (ground wire) continuity is maintained. If you're not sure how to properly splice conductors, consult a licensed electrician. Ensure that the wiring is supported adequately (per manufacturer's recommendations) and allow for proper strain relief when running lights on trees and other vegetation.

While you've got the ladders out, remember to check the batteries and test the operation of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, as well.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Sincerely,

Fred Lustenberger  
Building Official

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### **BROOM BUSTERS WORK DAY**

**Open Space Workday, Lunch and Nature Talk  
Rescheduled from Saturday, December 1 to  
January 5, 2013**

The Broom Busters of Old St. Hilary's Open Space will host their biggest workday of the year on Saturday, Jan. 5 from 9



a.m. to 1 p.m. The event was originally scheduled for Dec. 1 but has been postponed because of winter storms.

Our first significant rain of the season means we'll soon be seeing a flush of yellow French broom blossoms on local hillsides, and the wet soil will create excellent conditions for removing this invasive plant. Volunteers will be rewarded with a good workout, a naturalist talk and a hearty lunch.

Participants of all ages are invited to meet in the parking lot of the Tiburon Peninsula Club (1600 Mar West St.) at 9 a.m. Marin County Parks rangers will provide tools and direct the group in pulling broom on the open space behind the club.

The Broom Busters have been battling broom, bull thistle and other non-native plants since 1997, and they welcome new volunteers. Workdays are usually the first Saturday morning each month. The requirements are simple: "Come when you can; leave when you must". No experience is needed.

To volunteer or to receive e-mail announcements of future workdays contact [Faith Brown](#) at 435-5320.

## LANDMARKS SOCIETY



### **Holiday Crafts Sale**

Saturday, December 1 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Art & Garden Center  
841 Tiburon Boulevard

## **Divine Feminine: Women in Holiday Song**

Friday, December 14 at 8 p.m.

Old St. Hilary Church

The 14-voice women's vocal ensemble Musae explores the power of all-female holiday music. Austere medieval carols, pointillistic contemporary compositions, raw and passionate Russian polyphony, and lush Romanticism are sure to recharge your spirit.



This concert is presented jointly by the Belvedere-Tiburon Landmarks Society and the Tiburon Heritage & Arts Commission.

Buy your tickets soon since this ALWAYS sells out! Tickets \$15 & \$20, available at the Landmarks Office, Tiburon Town Hall, and [Brown Paper Tickets](#).

There is no parking at Old St. Hilary's. Please park at the Boardwalk Shopping Center and take a shuttle to the concert. Shuttle service begins at 7:30 p.m.

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## **HERITAGE & ARTS COMMISSION**

### **Art Shows at Town Hall**

**Jesper C. Strangaard**



### **Landmarks Historic Multi-Media Display**

Annual Town Hall lobby show  
through January 1, 2013.

Proceeds from sales benefit the programs of the Heritage & Arts Commission whose mission it is to preserve and advance the Town's unique historic and cultural character and to advance the arts in the community.

Town Hall shows are available for viewing Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Please note that Town Hall will be closed starting Friday, December 21 until January 2, 2013.

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### **Community Calendar**

For the scoop on events and meetings sponsored by local non-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.  
(December 5; December 19 cancelled).



**Design Review Board:** First and third Thursdays at 7 p.m. (December 6; December 20 cancelled).

**Planning Commission:** Second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (December 12; December 26 cancelled).

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

**Parks, Open Space and Trails Commission:** Third Tuesday every other month at 6 p.m. (next meeting is January 15, 2013).

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

*Please note: Town Hall is closed from December 21, 2012 until January 2, 2013. Happy Holidays!*

Sincerely,

Town Staff  
Town of Tiburon  
435-7373

Editor: Diane Crane Iacopi

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