

The Highlands lowdown

May 2013

The Highlands Community Association Newsletter

Volume 59, Number 5

www.highlandscommunity.org

New Categories Added to July 4th Parade! Get Involved and Join the Fun

by Karen Keys

This year, in addition to the traditional categories, the parade will have categories that go along with our theme, "Take a Walk on the Wild Side." The traditional categories are:

Trikes & Bikes with Training Wheels & Wagons, Bikes & Blades & Boards, Individuals (with & without pets), Organizations, Family & Multi-Family Groups, and Marching Bands.

The SPECIAL categories for this



year are: **Tarzans & Janes** – Like to carry a big club? Are you ready to strut your stuff? Then swing on over and join the parade. You can be a Tarzan and/or a Jane or a whole group! A prize will be given to the best parade entry for Tarzans and Janes.

Critters – Get creative! This can be any type of creatures or critters. There are two grand prizes in this category – the most creative and the largest group

► **Parade:** to page 7

Public Works Commits Sewer District Funds—CSA1 Taxpayers are Left Out

- Report from CSA1 Community Associations

County Service Area Number One (CSA1) is an area of ratepayers and taxpayers that includes the Highlands. It is part of San Mateo County Supervisory District One. CSA1 homeowners associations were informed after the fact by letter on Saturday, April 27, that the Board of Supervisors and County Department of Public Works (DPW) have formalized an agreement between the County, Crystal Springs County Sanitation District (CSCSD), Hillsborough, and the City of San Mateo that addresses past monies due, percentages of future liabilities, and an amendment to the governing Four Party Agreement, which outlines relation-

ships for sewer system operations between the CSCSD, County of San Mateo, Hillsborough, and City of San Mateo

We have had a documented, multi-year agreement that Cary Wiest and Gerard Ozanne as CSA1 area community association representatives of the largest component of CSCSD in the Four Party Agreement would participate at a meaningful level in negotiations among the other parties. CSA1 homeowners have significant pending issues concerning improper levies upon us. When representatives met San Mateo County Public Works staff on February 11,

► **Public Works:** to page 9

HRD Meeting

Tuesday, June 11, 7 p.m.
Multipurpose Room

lowdown Deadline

Saturday, June 1

HCA Meeting

Tuesday, May 28, 7:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room

FROM THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Rick Priola
HCA President

Our Neighborhood Event: The 4th of July is getting closer, and our celebration is very important to the Highlands. It's a tradition that goes back over 50 years. I've been told that our celebration developed because someone in the neighborhood got hurt in an auto crash on the way to a July 4th activity, and people decided to start a local event to keep people safe in the neighborhood. Through the decades the event has evolved and responded to changing technologies and values and interests of Highlands residents. But it continues to be an event that includes fun for all generations and brings former residents back to party and reminisce with old friends. It works because so many people pitch in to plan, and put together, and carry out all the parts that make up the whole celebration.

Things have changed a lot through the years. Highlands old timers remember the beauty contests of the 60's, and the bathing beauties with their sashes designating "Miss Ticonderoga" or "Miss Allegheny" or whatever area they represented being driven in convertibles in the parade. Today, we still ask to use convertibles, but the passengers are our community leaders and government representatives. Old timers also remember the clowns, Mary Alvord, Teddy Burch, and Carol Horan, who paraded in their outlandish outfits every year. Maybe it's time to revive that tradition.

Some things have remained the same for decades: the foot race, the golf tournament, the midway games, the dunk tank, the steak sandwiches and the hot dogs, the tennis tournament finale, and the races in the swimming pool. One addition to the scene in recent years is the cell phone, with folks taking photos at the parade, the midway and even the fireworks. Cell phones also come in very handy when people want to locate their friends or family members in the mob at the fireworks or midway.

We know that people who grew up in the Highlands not only come back for the 4th of July fun, but through the years some decide to return to live here. Two of them, new residents with memories of the Highlands 4th, have volunteered to help put together recent celebrations. Bruce Heiman, who coordinated the July 3rd fireworks last year, grew up in the Highlands, as did Rob Voice, who is coordinating part of the July 4th activities this year. We appreciate their work.

The Highlands 4th of July is not a fundraiser; it is an event that brings the community together because many volunteers gave their time, energy and skills to make it possible. Please join them and continue the old and create new traditions in 2013.

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 May 28, 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
lowdown 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 April 23, 2013

by Denise Haas, Secretary

I. Call to Order –The meeting was called to order by President Rick Priola at 7:34 p.m.

II. Review and Approval of the Minutes –A motion to approve the minutes of March 26, 2013, was moved by JP Bernard, seconded by Dorothy Greene, and carried unanimously.

III. Sheriff’s Department/ California Highway Patrol/CDF – Lieutenant Ed Barberini, Chief of San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office, Millbrae Police Bureau, along with Detective Stephanie Josephson and Officer Dan Young of the San Mateo Sheriff’s Office, addressed the group with updates on recent neighborhood burglaries (6 during this year). The Sheriff encourages residents to call the Sheriff’s office if they see anything suspicious, or something that doesn’t look normal. Anything residents can contribute is helpful, even if it is just a partial license plate. A phone call report gives the officers probable cause to pull over the suspected party.

It was reported that last year there were 13 home burglaries. This year, as of March 25, 6 burglaries have occurred in CSA1--of these 5 were in the Highlands.

Cal Fire reported that there were 91 calls run out of station 17, 20 of

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those calls were to the Highlands. Briefly, of the 91 calls, 13 were medical, 12 were to cover the Coastside, and 11 were to cover other San Mateo County stations.

IV. Reports

A. First Vice President – Liesje Nicolas reported good news from the HRD meeting – the Eagle Scouts

fence project has been completed. The Eagle Scouts are looking for more projects and would welcome requests from residents.

B. Second Vice President – JP Bernard reported on the progress for the 2013 July 3rd fireworks and July 4th festivities. He is looking for volunteers for the cleanup team and the safety team who help manage crowd flow at the fireworks. The position for sound/PA/music for the event is still available.

Dianne Weitzel reported that the parade planning is going well. JP Bernard also reported that the Sewer Task Force met with James Goodman to review sewer district history and clarify what may be owed to CSA1 residents. It was noted that in 2007 the sewer tax was raised from \$500 to \$900 and is now at \$1,300/year. The Sewer Task Force is planning to meet with County Supervisor Dave Pine and

►Minutes: to page 8



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HIGHLANDS RECREATION CENTER NEWS



Remember the Book-mobile?

It's coming to the Rec a few times this summer. The first monthly visit will be Saturday, June 22, from 9-10 a.m. in the Rec Center parking lot. As always, please WALK to the Rec if you can! You can use your city library card to check out, order, or return any books, DVDs, etc. Come see 4,000 titles on wheels! This event is FREE. All ages are welcome.

The Rec Center is looking for an after-school volunteer to help with office assignments which include: posting fliers, creating signboards, organizing files, helping answer phones, and other miscellaneous tasks. Please email Jeff Schwartz, jeffs@highlandsrec.ca.gov, if you have a middle school or high school student who is looking for hours and would be available from 3-5 p.m.

Summer Zone 2013

The Rec is excited to host a weekly Summer Camp jam-packed with amazing games and activities. Each themed week will include a field trip to a different spectacular Bay Area location. Spots are still available in weeks 1-7.

7:30 a.m.- 6 p.m. (10.5 hrs. of care)

Weekly Fee \$260/275

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

\$5 sibling discount

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

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

Fundamental Hoops

FUNDamental HOOPS is an

instructional co-ed basketball class that emphasizes proper basketball technique through FUN drills and games to establish good basketball playing habits. Children are grouped by age. Coach Tony and Coach Mike have more than 40 years of coaching experience combined and want to share their love of the game with your children.

Sa 6/1-7/20 9:15 a.m.-1:10 p.m.

\$100/105

No Class 7/13 Ages 4 to 12 years

Location: HRC Gym

Youth Tennis

Pre-T Ages 3-6 M/W 6/17-7/17

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

Youth I Ages 6-10 M/W 6/17-7/17

4:5 p.m. \$120/125

Youth II Ages 8-13 M/W 6/17-7/17

5-6 p.m. \$120/125

This is an introductory tennis class for children ages 3-13 that teaches balanced movement, footwork skills and eye-hand coordination.

Planet Granite Camps

Th 5/16-6/13 4-6 p.m. \$150/155

F 5/17-6/14 4-6 p.m. \$150/155

This exciting program introduces kids to the sport of indoor rock climbing. We will challenge them both mentally and physically in

a safe team environment. Please arrive at the first class 15 minutes early to fill out a liability waiver. Parents must bring photo ID for liability waiver verification. PG T-shirt included!

Ages: 5-13 years old

Location: 100 El Camino Real, Belmont, CA

Instructor: Planet Granite Staff

Horseback Riding Summer Camp Giddy Up Your Summer by

learning to ride at Glenoaks Stables. Campers spend the day riding, vaulting, learning horsemanship, arts and crafts, and overall horse care. Small groups ensure that students learn with others of their age and experience level. After-hour care is available with prior arrangement and for an additional charge. For more info go to www.glenoaksequestrian.com

Ages: 6-14 years old

Location: Glenoaks Equestrian Center, 3639 Alpine Rd,

Portola Valley, 94028

Instructor: Glenoaks Equestrian Staff

All classes: 8:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. \$550
M-F 6/17-6/21

► Rec: to page 10

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Demand for homes in the Highlands remains high, if you've been thinking about selling now is the ideal time. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.



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The July 4th celebration is even more fun when you volunteer. Call now and offer your support.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

CyberSafety/Internet Safety for Kids

by Lieutenant Ed Barberini

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office wants all children to have a safe and enjoyable summer vacation while getting energized for the following school year. Child safety starts with the parents/guardians. In today's world, safety is not only of concern when children are outside the home enjoying the warm weather. While educational and fun, the use of the Internet can make our children vulnerable inside our own residences. Please review the suggestions and tips below and discuss them with your children.

PARENTAL GUIDELINES

- Place the computer in an area that is accessible by the whole family.
- Subscribe to an online service that offers parental control features.
- Purchase blocking software that utilizes passwords and parental controls.
- Spend time with your child exploring the Internet.
- Tell your child that he/she can confide in you without the fear of being punished.
- Talk openly with your child about your suspicions and about online dangers.



- Review all content on your child's computer, including email, browser, history, etc.
- Use caller ID services to monitor who is calling.
- Monitor your child's access to the Internet, including email, chat rooms, instant messengers, etc.

INSTRUCT YOUR CHILDREN TO:

- Always let you know immediately if they find something scary or threatening on the Internet.

- Never give out their name, address, telephone number, password, school name, parent's name, or any other personal information.
- Never meet face to face with someone they met online.
- Never respond to messages that have bad words or seem scary or weird.
- Never enter an area that charges for services without asking first.
- Never send their picture to anyone without your permission.

Should you have questions regarding Internet safety or any other safety concerns, please call the Sheriff's Office, 650-259-2300.

Always call 911 in an emergency.



Clara Csicsman, Owner



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Highlands Book Club

by Jo Nassutti



We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:15 a.m. in Multipurpose Room B in the child care center. Visitors are always welcome.

The book for **June 4** (not 2 as we said last month) 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 affect of events of the day on these young people.

On July 2 we discuss *The Language of Flowers* by **Vanessa Diffenbaugh**. This thought-provoking book portrays the United States Foster Care System. It begins as 18-year-old Victoria ages out of the system on her 18th birthday. The talk of flowers is a good antidote to the harsh realities of Victoria's life.

Questions? call Betty O'Connor at 650-345-9764. **Curious?** come by and observe.

Our Sewer Fees

by J.P. Bernard

Current CSA1 discussions with the Crystal Springs Sanitation District (see page 1 article) and the LAFCo report identifying annexation of the District by the City of San Mateo, create an urgent need to get clarity about what the District has done with our sewer fees. Over the last 6-7 years, our fees have been progressively increased from the \$600/year level to the current

\$1350/year, with the premise that funds needed to be accumulated to handle upcoming line upgrades. At the same time, erroneous meter reading (not in our favor) got corrected and the City of San Mateo has progressively adjusted (reduced) what it charges for processing flows from CSA1.

In any commercial activity, the

► **Sewer Fees:** to page 8

Senior Network News

by Barbra Cohn



...And summer is almost upon us. June will be busting out all over, and with it the promise of good

times in seniorland (aka the Highlands). On June 20, at noon, we gather for a potluck at the Beiers. If past performances are any guarantee, it will be a delightful time to chat and eat and generally enjoy. Make your reservation, (and let us know what

you are cooking up by calling Pat at 349-5290.

After which comes July and the July 4th celebration, which is quite enough for one month. And finally, by August, we'll be ready to take some time off and go out to lunch.....maybe Half Moon Bay? Or Oakland by ferry? Or if you have a great idea, please call Cliff (at 349-5290) and pass it along.

See you all at the Potluck.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

►Parade: from page 1

truck. Any of these would be perfect to drive one of our honored guests. You can show up at 9:15 for coffee and breakfast treats, and you will be done by 11 a.m. If you would like to cruise, please contact Dianne Weitzel at 650-867-7298.

Calling all Runners: It's a good time to start training for the July 4 Highlands foot race. The 4 kilometer fun run begins at 8:30 a.m., starting and finishing at the Rec Center. Entry forms will be included in the June *lowdown* and are available at the Rec Center. All entries receive T-shirts, and all category winners receive trophies. Pre-race-day entries receive a discount. Race day helpers can volunteer by calling Dave Robertson at 650-574-1386.

For additional volunteer opportunities, go to the Highlands Community Association 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's role for one of the 4th of July subcommittees: 3rd of July Fireworks, Parade Organization (two co-chairs needed), Food Booth, Midway & 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, call Karen Teys at 650-703-5733 or email karenteys@gmail.com.**

Rec Board Election

by *Brigitte Shearer*

The Highlands Recreation District has two 4-year Board Member terms ending this November. Any candidate interested in participating in the election must file nomination papers and declarations of candidacy by early August at the County Elections Office on Tower Road. The candidate filing period will automatically be extended for five calendar days for any office where an eligible incumbent does not file to run for reelection.

Exact deadlines are not yet available from the County. A non-refundable filing fee, financial disclosure form, and optional candidate statement are due at the time of filing. Please contact Brigitte Shearer at the Rec Center, 341-4251, with any questions. More information will be available shortly at the county election department's website, www.shapethefuture.org.

Upcoming CSM Events and Activities

by *Valerie Anderson*

President's Office Coordinator

These are open to the public, and most are free

Fall & Summer Schedules are Now Available

Summer Session begins June 17

Fall Semester begins August 19

Registration for summer and fall started on May 8

See collegeofsanmateo.edu/schedule

Jazz on the Hill & CSM Open House

Saturday, June 1, 2013

Concert: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Open House: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Free Community Event

See collegeofsanmateo.edu/calendar/events

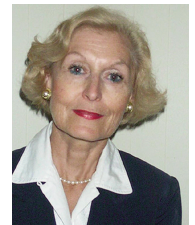
CSM Presents at the San Mateo County Fair, June 12 & 15

See collegeofsanmateo.edu/calendar/events



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COMMUNITY AND UMC NEWS

► **Minutes:** from page 3

the Crystal Springs County Sanitation District in the next month.

C. Treasurer – David Krakower reported that the invoices for the 3rd and 4th of July expenses should be sent to him.

D. Membership – Liesje Nicolas reported for Kim Nations that our membership is at 32%. Area Representatives will be going door to door to collect membership dues.

E. lowdown – the May *lowdown* deadline is May 3.

F. Public Utilities Committee – JP Bernard report above.

G. Emergency Services Committee – No report

H. Land Committee – No report

V. Old Business – The Highlands Recreation District is aware of the parking burden to neighboring homes and will be moving some HRD vehicles to the Highlands School, and a new drop-off systems will be implemented for summer camps to ease parking.

VI. Guests Ilana Gauss and Mark Smith from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission presented the progress of the Crystal Springs Dam Project.

VI. New Business/Announcements – None

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

► **Sewer Fees:** from page 6

past overcharges would most probably have led to a refund and, at a minimum, to clear financial explanation from the service provider. Yet we still haven't been provided clarity by the District regarding the magnitude of the credit it is expecting to receive from the City of San Mateo.

We have requested information from the District to establish that minimum of clarity, given the magnitude of the sewer fee hikes that have been imposed on us. In the unwanted scenario that our service would be transferred to a third party (e.g. San Mateo), it becomes even more critical that we fully understand what has happened with our fees over the recent years.

United Methodist Church Activities

by Steve Schlichter

Vacation Bible School, at the: **Crystal Springs UMC at 2145 Bunker Hill Road, June 24-June 28, 5:45 to 8 p.m.** Dinner will be provided. The school welcomes all kids, ages 3 years through grade 12

Registration deadline: Saturday, June 1. FREE. Call 650-345-2381 for more information or to register your child

Choir Concert, Sunday, June 9, during the 10 a.m. service. The choir will sing several favorite anthems from the past year.



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

Highlands lowdown

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

►Public Works: from page 1

2013, we were told that the City of San Mateo was conducting an analysis to determine its position on flow analyses, capital improvements, costs, and monies due, with respect to the Four Party Agreement. No information was provided about CSCSD having to take on part of City of San Mateo cost overruns. The February 20 LAFCo hearing for CSA1 communities provided no information about the insufficiency of the Sanitation District agreement or change in it. In a follow-up email on March 4, 2013, the Director of Public Works stated, "A change to the operations or responsibility of the District's sewer system in the very short term has not been identified... . As discussed at the meeting, the District cannot qualify for a State Revolving Fund loan for their share of the downstream capital improvements on their own without increasing sewer service rates. Increasing sewer rates is not desirable to the property owners or the District."

The Sanitation District taxpayers are intensely interested in avoiding further increases in our sewer rates. We have received general briefings, some over two years ago. We have been waiting for the completion of the City of San Mateo analyses and for further information leading to the negotiations. We were taken completely by surprise by the amendment to the Four Party Agreement. The County informed us that the added cost amendment is only a follow-up on the CSCSD agreement, but details on the added costs are yet to emerge. The County Department of Public Works and Supervisor Pine have acknowledged that we should have been informed. The Director of Public Works asked CSCSD residents to continue our good faith effort with the County saying, "It's water under the bridge." CSA1 representatives will continue. However, we made it

clear that area communities are very concerned that we are going to be told "It's water under the bridge" in regard to properly calculating monies owed CSCSD taxpayers and the fact that we were not consulted on the Four Party Agreement Amendment determination of 32% dry and 37% wet season water flows in comparison to the Hillsborough and City of San Mateo with greater populations using the sanitation services. Community members Wiest and Ozanne, not the County, had previously discovered that we were being charged over 55% water flows for years, identifying specific problems with the meters used to calculate our rates.

Significant changes in conditions and specific arrangements should involve all area community associa-

tions. Local involvement in all aspects of the District has become essential to protect the best interests of our area communities. Because the District representatives have been excluded from the extensive activities conducted by the County since our meeting with DPW on Feb 11, we are unable to convey any meaningful information to our CSA1 homeowners. San Mateo County has not adequately informed district taxpayers. Consequently, CSA1 now has even more serious concerns about taxation issues in our area of San Mateo County Supervisory District One. We are told that DPW will meet with area communities to provide us more than the general information we have thus far received.

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HIGHLANDS GREAT ROOM REMODEL WWW.KLOPFARCHITECTURE.COM

COMMUNITY NEWS

►Rec: from page 4

M-F 6/24-6/28
 M-F 7/8-7/12
 M-F 7/15-7/19
 M-F 8/5-8/9
 M-F 8/12-8/16

Babysitters Training**Sa 6/1-6/15 9 a.m.-noon \$60/65**

Would you like a rewarding job this summer? If so, enroll today and become a babysitter! You will learn fire and earthquake safety skills, nutrition, baby care, CPR, and First Aid Skills. You must ATTEND ALL CLASSES, BE ON TIME, AND DO THE HOMEWORK. Sign up today to start earning \$\$\$'s! \$8 lab fee paid to instructor.

Location: Rec Center Social Room

Lifeguard Training

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 8am-5pm \$215/225
 M-Th 7/15-7/18 8am-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 1 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.

\$180/190 per week. *Sign up for 5 weeks and get 15% off the 6th week.

Wk 1 6/17-6/21 So you want to be a lifeguard? Field Trip: Jones Gulch Ropes Course

Wk 2 6/24-6/28 Junior Guard Olympics Field Trip: Parkside Aquatic Park

Wk 3 7/8-7/12 Reach, Throw and Go Field Trip: San Gregorio State Beach

Wk 4 7/15-7/19 Be Kind, C-Spine! Field Trip: Coyote Point

Wk 5 7/22-7/26 If it bleeds, bandage it. If it breaks, splint it.

Field Trip: Cowell State Beach

Wk 6 7/29-8/2 Breath of Life

Field Trip: Shoreline Aquatic Center

Wk 7* 8/5-8/9 Save a life, Shock

'Em! Field Trip: Raging Waters

*Participants of this week will receive American Red Cross

Certifications in basic First Aid, CPR and AED

HIGHLANDS 4th of JULY GOLF TOURNAMENT**SUNDAY, June 30**

**Chuck Corica Golf Complex
 Alameda**

ENTRY FEE: \$75

**Green Fee/Cart
 19th Hole Party & Prizes**

DEADLINE: Saturday, June 15

**CONTACT: Brenda Sell
 349-7698**

brendaleesell@yahoo.com

CHECKS: HCA 4th of July**Mail or deliver to:**

**Lars Fuller
 60 Hoods Point Way
 San Mateo, CA 94402**

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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.

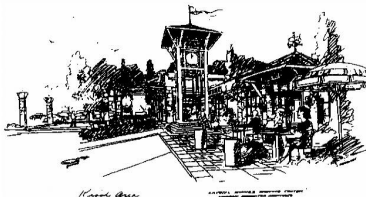
LOCAL HIGHLANDS HONEY New, from our site on the slopes - "Bunker Hill Blend." Other local flavors available. Raw, no chemicals or medications. odfrank@earthlink.net, 650-345-2008.

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

HANDYMAN, REMODELING, SIDING, decks, fences and painting. Reasonable rates. 25-years experience/15 years with Eichlers. Call Mike Kinsey, 650-5181656



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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 Cr�erie	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

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A VIEW FROM THE HIGHLANDS

Here are Destinations to Savor

by Florence Beier

I guess we won't go to Bali or Antarctica, although we considered these exotic destinations. Instead, we went to Oakland. It sounds dorkey, but we felt as if we had a week's vacation in one day. Unless you are a regular commuter across the Bay, here's how to do it:

Pick a perfect spring day, with brilliant blue sky, no wind, and temperature between 65 and 70 degrees. Leave the Highlands about 8:45 a.m. and drive north on 280 to the San Bruno exit, straight down Sneath Lane, past the national cemetery, directly into the San Bruno BART station parking structure. Find a nice parking spot on the third floor and don't forget to note its number. Elevator to the ground floor and short stroll to station, where you put two dollar bills into the "pay for parking here" machine – that's why you need to know your number.

Take the next BART car to the Embarcadero station. From there it is two blocks to the Ferry Building. Near the main entrance to the Ferry Building buy a round-trip ferry ticket to Oakland. Because you have extra time, you can browse the stores or have a second breakfast. Take the 10:40 ferry from the terminal just south of the Ferry Building to Jack London Square. It's about a half-hour of stunning views and fascinating activity. First, San Francisco behind you. Then the huge cranes stacking giant red, yellow, and green boxes onto ships whose names cover the globe. After a short stop in Alameda, you

are in Oakland.

This is not the Oakland you read about in the papers, with its challenges of poverty and violence. Sadly, most of Jack London Square is a dream yet to be realized. On Friday morning in March, the empty store fronts and bare promenade were discouraging. It's a lovely area, with small boats parked along the shore. The light posts were adorned with balls of blooming flowers. The brick walkways were immaculate. Just no people!

After we walked over to the train tracks, where at least half a dozen Amtrak trains went hooting by every hour, and we chose one of the four restaurants clustered near the center of the developed area. Our lunch outdoors at Bocanova was delicious.

Then just do the reverse trip on the 3:40 p.m. ferry to BART on home. No icebergs or coral reefs, but a fine break from the daily grind.

Or switch gears and go the other direction – south to Edgewood Park. With a guided hike, you can identify up to 50 different wild flowers and plants. If that's too much serious botany, right now you can see the goldfields, Indian warriors, and lupine at their most colorful. This does involve some slightly steep trails, so if you'd rather be more sedate and level, go to Filoli to see the manicured gardens filled with gorgeous blooms.

Gratitude, gratitude, gratitude for where we live!