

The Highlands lowdown

May 2010

The Highlands Community Association Newsletter

Volume 56, Number 5

www.highlandscommunity.org

Around the World Everyone Loves a Parade

by Dorothy Greene

In this year's 4th of July parade, the Highlands enters the electronic age, with webcam coverage streaming to the Internet. (See page 8 for details.) That's even more reason to join the marchers. The theme, *Around the World*, offers a bonanza of opportunities for creative ideas. We are a very diverse community, with residents hailing from many corners of the world. On our *lowdown* mailing crew alone, there are neighbors born in France, Germany, Holland, and Hungary! And many of our residents have traveled far and wide, gaining appreciation of the variety of cultures they've encountered.

Whether you want to tap into a country that has some direct connection to your family or celebrate a country, region, or area you've explored or admire, or you just want to pick one at random, there are many ways to represent the theme. Wearing a country's traditional dress is one obvious one. Attaching your country's flag or a variety of flags to bikes, strollers, or even dogs is another.

►Parade: to page 7

Join a Great Tradition



Display your community spirit! Your family or company sponsorship contribution supports the fireworks display and the entire July 3rd and 4th celebration!

Your banner with your name or company logo will be mounted on the Sponsor Board and published in the *lowdown*

SPONSOR LEVELS

\$500 Golden Brigade - \$300 Red, White, and Blue
\$200 Silver Jubilee - \$100 Patriot

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Laura Woodworth

(650) 578-8603 email: lawood@pacbell.net

4th of July - Volunteer for an Easy Shift!

We can really use help with the food booth, fireworks, midway, or parade.

Meet some neighbors while you give back to the community.

To sign up for an open shift, go to www.lhkang.netj4

Supervisors Approve Eleven Lots and Conservation Easement

by Sam Naifeh, HCA Land Committee Chair



Supervisor Church

On April 27, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Chamberlain subdivision application for 11 lots. As a result, a conservation easement will be placed on the remaining land (more than 93 acres), protecting the open space in perpetuity. Area community representatives

worked with County staff and the applicant during the past

six months to create conditions of approval that tightly control the development of the 11 new residences, and to create a conservation easement that protects the land from development while allowing appropriate management of the land.

The Board of Supervisor action brings this 23-year proposal to conclusion. Area community representatives are grateful to our District Supervisor, Mark Church, for his

►Supervisors Vote: to page 10

HRD Meeting

Tuesday, June 8, 7 p.m.
Rec Center Social Room

lowdown Deadline

Friday, June 4

HCA Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 p.m.
Rec Center Social Room

FROM THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Rick Priola
HCA President

The detailed negotiations between community representatives, Chamberlain representatives, and the County are over. On April 27, the Board of Supervisors voted to approve the building of 11 homes and a perpetual conservation easement on the remainder of the Highlands open space. See Sam Naifeh's article on page 1 for more

details. When Chamberlain began planning his development, he proposed building 250 homes. We owe Sam; our neighbors across Polhemus, Cathy and Alan Palter; Highlands friend Lennie Roberts; Cary Wiest; Pam Merkadeau; and Marc Joseph enormous thanks for the hundreds of hours they spent during the last ten years to reach this desired conclusion.

Fire Safety: With our rainy season continuing into early May, we have been able to hold off turning on our sprinklers. But before long, the fields surrounding the Highlands will be drying out. Cal Fire crews will be conducting planned burns in the areas of Laurel Hill and behind Brandywine. As the dry season begins, we are reminded to keep our own yards clear of high, dry grasses and other flammable materials.

Sewer Rates: The Highlands is part of the Crystal Springs County Sanitation District, which serves us and nearby neighborhoods. At the May 4 meeting at Highlands School, we learned that our sewer district's sewer fees will be raised from \$900 to \$1,003 next year. The County originally wanted an increase to \$1,200, but the working group of community representatives pushed back because so many issues that have been under discussion for more than a year have not been resolved.

Be Alert: There have been recent burglaries in the Highlands. It's important that we keep our eyes open for any activity that seems out of order on our streets. Don't confront someone on your own, but if you suspect something, take down a license plate number and

call 363-4911 to reach the Sheriff Deputies. Don't leave valuables or electronic equipment in your car, and don't leave doors or windows open when you leave home.

4th of July: I look forward to how our marchers will carry out the theme of *Around the World*. See pages 5, 7, and 8 for articles about some new and returning parade features that will add a lot of fun to the day.

Volunteers are still needed for all elements of the July 3rd and 4th activities. **For the Highlands to continue this great tradition, we need to bring new participants into the effort. You can work on one of the teams that organize the fireworks night, parade, food booth, midway, sponsorships, tickets, etc. and begin to learn the ropes. These are short-term obligations and crucial to the future of our celebration.**

I look forward to meeting you and seeing you at the HCA meetings. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at hcapres@gmail.com.

HCA Meeting Tuesday, May 25, 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. Treasurer's Report
- V. 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
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business/Announcements
- VIII. Adjournment

HCA Board Officers for 2010

President:	Rick Priola	574-8313
First VP:	Jean-Pierre Bernard	357-7644
Second VP:	Gene McKenna	346-7348
Treasurer:	David Krakower	(415) 398-1100
Secretary:	Denise Haas	372-0373
lowdown Editor:	Dorothy Greene	341-1752
lowdown Co-Editor:	James Nemschoff	570-5023

HCA Committee Chairs for 2010

Land:	Sam Naifeh	572-8787
Public Utilities:	Wil Pinney	345-2546
Emergency Services:	Pam Merkadeau	280-9046
Membership:	Liesje Nicolas	773-7805
Technology:	Beverley Madden	574-1593

HCA MINUTES

by Denise Haas, Secretary

HCA Board of Directors Meeting, Tuesday, April, 27, 2010

I. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 7:44 p.m. by President Rick Priola.

II. Review & Approval of the Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes of March 23, 2010, was made by Wil Pinney, seconded by David Krakower, and carried unanimously.

III. Sheriff’s Department/ California Highway Patrol/CDF
No report

IV. Reports

A. First Vice-President – Margaret Glomstad reported that Cal Fire crews plan to conduct planned burns in the areas of Laurel Hill and behind Brandywine.

B. 2nd Vice-President – Organizers of the 4th of July are looking for a co-chair for the parade and welcome volunteers. Please call Gene McKenna, 346-7348.

C. Treasurer – David Krakower presented the proposed budget with a view for the finalized budget to be presented at the next meeting. Discussion followed.

D. Membership – Liesje Nicolas remarked that our membership drive is going well, and we are almost halfway to our membership goal. Residents are reminded to send in their membership dues and any donation to the 3rd and 4th of July festivities are appreciated.



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E. Lowdown – Dorothy Greene announced the deadline for *lowdown* submission as May 6.

F. Public Utilities Committee – Wil Pinney announced that a community meeting is planned at the Highlands School on May 4, 2010, by the County of San Mateo, Department of Public Works to provide information to residents on the sewer system operation, mainten-

ance, and proposed sewer service rate increase.

G. Emergency Services Committee – no report

H. Land Committee – Sam Naifeh spoke about the final hearing held on April 27 concerning the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report for the Chamberlain Project. The Board of Supervisors voted 5 – 0 to approve the current proposal and allow development of 11 residential lots and the creation of a conservation easement for the remainder.

President Rick Priola expressed the gratitude of the HCA for Sam’s diligence and dedication to finding a solution to this often-trying project that has been in planning since 1976.

V. Old Business – none

VI. New Business/ Announcements – none

VII. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



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Help Wanted

HIRING REC OFFICE STAFF

The HRC is looking for a part-time substitute to work in the office answering phones, processing registrations, and performing general office duties as needed. Hours are flexible between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call Jeff Schwartz at 341-4251 for more information and the application process.

Baseball Camp

**Tu 6/15-7/13 3:30-5 p.m. \$75/80
Highlands School**

Join college baseball player Tommy Evans as he will help you excel in the game of baseball. Kids will learn how to properly: stretch and warm up, field the ball at every position, and slide both head and feet first. While enjoying an afternoon in the sun, they will also learn situational hitting, the proper mechanics of pitching from a mound, and defensive strategy. You will see great improvement from start to finish.

Youth Tennis Lessons

**MW 6/14-7/16 1:30-2 p.m.
\$80/85 Court 4**

This is an introductory tennis class (for children ages 3-6) that teaches balanced movement, foot-work skills, and eye-hand coordination.

**MWF 6/14-7/16 2-3 p.m.
\$168/173 Court 4**

This class is for youth with little previous experience or instruction. They will be instructed in the basic fundamentals of proper grip, forehand, backhand, serve, and volley. Although age is flexible, Youth

Tennis I students typically range from 6-10 years old.

**MWF 6/14-7/16 3-4 p.m.
\$168/173 Court 4**

This class improves upon what was learned in Youth Tennis I and introduces tennis strategy to the students. Youth Tennis II students typically range from 8-13 years old.

Volleyball Prep Camp

**W 6/16-7/14 3:30-4:30 p.m.
\$50/55 Rec Gym**

Volleyball Prep Camp is a 5-week camp that teaches coordination, interaction skills with children of a similar age, and positions on a volleyball court, as well as proper serving, digging, spiking, bumping, and positional rotation during each set play. Ages 8-14.

Soccer & Smiles Summer Camp

**M-F 8/16-8/20 9 a.m.-Noon
\$225 Highlands School**

Soccer and Smiles strives to teach the fundamentals of soccer in a fun, positive, noncompetitive, and safe environment. Our half-

day camp includes teaching soccer basics, skill-building games, non-competitive scrimmages, and soccer crafts. Each participant will receive a T-shirt and soccer ball. Ages 4 – 5.

Intro to Stained Glass

M 5/24 6-10 p.m. \$99 off-site

Students will make a stained glass art project at Aanraku Glass. They will learn to cut, grind, fit stained glass, assemble, and solder the piece. Finished art will be ready for hanging. Choose from six patterned kits with 12 pieces of glass. There is a \$25 kit fee paid to Aanraku.

Teen and Adult Fencing Camp

Session 1: 7/17-7/18 \$325

Off-site

Session 2: 7/31-8/1

In addition to learning this fun sport, you'll get a great workout as we introduce you to the fitness regimen of fencers. The two-day session will introduce campers to the basics common to all three weapons: foil, saber, and epee;

►**Rec Programs:** to page 10



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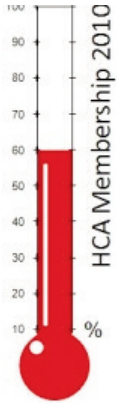
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Membership Grows!

by Liesje Nicolas, HCA Membership Chair

Membership in the HCA has grown to 60% of our goal! Thank you all for continuing to support the



HCA, and a great big “thank you” to our volunteer Area Representatives for all their work collecting dues checks and delivering membership cards to those who have paid their dues!

Your annual Highlands Community Association membership is payable at the beginning of each calendar year. The dues are only \$30, whether you rent or own your home. There is still time to join or renew your membership for this year. Mail your check, hand it to your Area Rep, or ask the postmaster at the Crystal Springs Post Office (behind Safeway) to drop your addressed envelope into our mail box and save the stamp.

Please mail your dues and 4th of July donations to: HCA, 205 De Anza Blvd. #49, San Mateo, 94402.

Red Wagons Needed

by Larry Kang

The 4th of July parade is just around the corner, and it's going to be another fun one. There will even be live streaming webcam coverage at various points along the parade route. The dignitaries are going to walk again rather than ride, and we're looking to borrow red wagons for escorts to pull alongside the dignitaries. If we can borrow your wagon this year, I can arrange to pick it up and drop it off at your house after the parade. Call me at 650-464-9797. Thanks in advance.

Music Makes People Happy

by Mark Finnern

Music self-played is happiness self-made. How cool, when you can do it with some old and new friends from our Highlands “hood”. The absolute icing on the cake is then to walk down Lexington Avenue and see the smiling faces on the side of the road when playing and marching at the 4th of July parade.

Please join the 4th of July Highlands Marching Band. We play really basic tunes. We will practice a couple of times on the weeks before.

Join the facebook group:
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/group.php?g>



id=99728413721&ref=ts.

(Search for Highlands Marching Band on Facebook), or contact me at mark@finnern.com.

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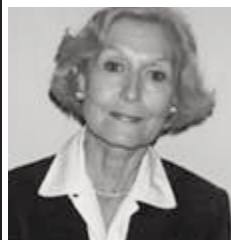
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Senior Network News

by Cliff Donley



As this *low-down* is being prepared, the Senior Network is planning a trip down memory

lane. Most of us who plan to visit the Disney Family Museum on May 20 can remember when “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” and “Fantasia” first hit the silver screen. On the drive up we will see who will be able to remember the names of all seven dwarfs. (Can you?) The museum is divided into ten sections,

each focusing on different facets of the Walt Disney era. It is well worth the trip, especially if you are as old as Mickey Mouse.

There is only one Highlands Senior Network event scheduled for June, but we shall be doing it with class. On Tuesday, June 22, starting at 12:30 p.m., we plan to have lunch at the fabled Moss Beach Distillery, just north of Half Moon Bay. This time-honored restaurant, complete with a ghost, boasts a magnificent view of the ocean, which we can enjoy from a private dining room.

Email highlands-senior-network@googlegroups.com or call me at 349-5290 for more information.

A booklet recently arrived in the mail, entitled the *Diamond Certified Directory*, which may be of interest to some of you. It lists a number of home maintenance and other types of services recommended by the American Ratings Corporation. I’ll try to get some additional copies to hand out. We also have our own list, and requests for suggestions made on our senior network email group are often fulfilled.



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Highlands Artists



The Highlands Art Group will hold its next meeting at the home of Deb Rumer, on June 11 at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

For information and to RSVP, email debrumer@gmail.com

#1 Highlands Agent



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Highlands Book Group

by Jo Nassutti



The Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month, at 10:15 a.m., in the Exercise Room

at the Rec Center.

On June 1 we will discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout, who also wrote *Abide With Me*. Olive, a retired schoolteacher, deplores the changes in her hometown of Crosby, Maine, and in the world at large. The book is a collection of short stories all linked by this central character, Olive, who is a compelling life force--a red-blooded original. Because of her, the book is a compelling page-turner.

For July 6 we will read *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, by Stieg Larsson and Reg Keeland. At its core, this is a fascinating character study of a young woman who easily masters computer code but who has trouble with human interaction, and of a lazy investigative reporter who in the end digs deep to uncover the true story of the young woman as well as of other involved characters.

Questions? call Jo Nassutti at 650-345-8915.

Curious? come by and observe.

June 8 is Election Day.

Don't Forget to Vote!

Parade on the Web

by Larry Kang

This year's July 4th Parade will go online with at least six live webcams streaming the event over the Internet at <http://www.lhkang.net/j4>. We're planning to cover the starting line, the judging area, and other points in between. But wait, since this is the age of social media, you can also post your own video feed of the parade. There are two ways to join if you live along the parade route:

1. If you already have a webcam, we can upload your feed into the parade central website.
2. If you have a high speed connection, we can supply you with a computer and a webcam.

We're also experimenting with taking mobile video from an iPhone, so you might be able to become a roving feed. Please contact me if you want to help bring this cool new feature to our annual event!

Larry Kang 650-464-9797.
lkang@sbcglobal.net

►Parade: from page 1

You can use maps or musical instruments from a country or region as a starting point. Food, artifacts, products, or automobiles can also generate ideas for costumes or floats.

The sky's the limit. Start planning now with your block, cul-de-sac, and friends. Time is getting short!

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HIGHLANDS RESIDENT

COMMUNITY AND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

UMC News

by Stephen Schlichter



Vacation Bible School:
Our Vacation Bible School will be held again this summer.

The plans are to hold it at the end of July. We expect as in previous years to hold the school in the early evenings for about a week. Watch the *lowdown* in June for more details, or call the church office at 345-2381. All are welcome.

Choir Concert: Our annual choir concert to finish off the season before we leave for the summer will be held on June 13 at our regular service time of 10 a.m. All are welcome to hear a reprise of our favorites through the years.

**Help Wanted
4th of July Volunteers
Food and Beer Booth**

Two-hour shifts:
cook, serve,
chat, clean up,
have fun.



email
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HIGHLANDS 4th of JULY

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

**SKYWEST GOLF COURSE
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ENTRY FEE: \$72

**Green Fees, 19th Hole Party
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DEADLINE: SAT., JUNE 12

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San Mateo 94402**

Highlands lowdown

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HIGHLANDS SCHOOL NEWS

by Kaye Saxberg

Walk-a Jog: Congratulations to everyone who participated in the 2010 Walk-A-Jog and 5K Run! Whether you walked, jogged, skipped or ran, you are all Highlands Heroes. It was wonderful to see the community join in the event. Both kids and adults enjoyed the carnival games, the delicious food, and the beautiful Highlands weather. It was a perfect day. Now our participants will be busy collecting pledges from their sponsors. All donations are tax-deductible, and checks can be written to Highlands School PTA.

We are so proud of all the amazing runners. Our very first Highlands School 5k was a lot of fun, and we are looking forward to doing it again. Our 5k race heroes in all categories were: **Sam Sokolsky, Brittany Blocko, Joe Cutts, and Michelle Yeung.** Sam had the fastest time at 21 minutes and 25 seconds. Great job! Our Highlands students and Walk-A-Jog extreme super heroes were **Jake Pilgrim, Ben Solomon, Kelsey Dobbs, Neena Marsden, Casey Mulkerins, and Nicholas Dobbs.** Congratulations! Thank you to all of our Highlands students, teachers and staff who ran their hearts out. They Walk-A-Jogged around the course for one full hour.

Mrs. Majka completed two full hours!

A big SHOUT OUT goes to our almost 200 wonderful volunteers. These behind-the-scenes heroes made this day perfect. Community volunteers were everywhere, and made this a true "community" event. Aragon and Borel students were there in abundance. They helped at the carnival and race course and wherever they were needed.

Here are a few super hero volunteers who stayed most of the day, and many did a lot of prep work too. For the first half of the event, we were entertained by comedian/MC **Michael Riley.** Then his assistant, **David Leong,** took over as MC and kept us smiling. **Holly Mau** was our DJ and had us moving and grooving with lots of lively music. Special thanks go to **Quentin Bellon,** who was the fastest waiter in town. **Debbie Tobin, Nick Lansing, Rick Wilson, Larry Li, and Elizabeth Li** stayed and helped all day. **Noreen Hui, Nick Hui, and Jeff Peterson** were carnival carneys. The delicious sausages were donated by Aidells Sausage Company and were grilled up fresh by **Rodney Tong, Michael Jurado, Eddie Lansing, Liz Jurado and Liz Ruiz,** and their bakers made

wonderful shortcakes. **Chris Im** handled our website, and **Stanley Krzesniak** was our official photographer. We also thank **Bob Guitierrez** for his amazing sound system. It was incredible to see everyone pulling together and having such a great time. Many extended family members came to see the students run and to help at the event.

Our Walk-A-Jog and 5k Committee members were: **Linda Siquenza (5k), Dianne Peterson (carnival), Vicky Daniel (course), Karen Schmidt (volunteers), Karen Li (first aid), Perri Edel (food), Larissa Wilson (prize and assembly), Susie Solomon (publicity), Marilyn Wong (registration), Colleen Sullivan and Kim Crellin (treasurers), Laura Wratten (t-shirts), Johanna Anton, Jewel Drexler, and Lee Mau (co-chairs).** The committee members want to thank all who came, ran and, volunteered. **See you in 2012 for our next Walk-A-Jog and 5K event!**

Box Tops and Ink Cartridge Recycling: Please continue to bring in your box tops and your used ink cartridges to the school office. These are other ways that we receive money for our school.

Upcoming School Events

May 26 - Science Fair

May 31 -Memorial Day Holiday
No School

June 4 -Family Picnic Night

June 11 -Last Day of School
Report Cards go home

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COMMUNITY NEWS

► **Rec Programs:** from page 4

introduce the conditioning required, and explain the differences among the weapons. Ages: 13 - Adult.

Junior Lifeguarding M-F
9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$175/180/week
Field Trip Fee \$35/week

This American Red Cross program provides a strong foundation for future successful completion of the Red Cross Lifeguarding Course. Jr. Guards will work out daily to improve their physical fitness both on land and in the water. They will learn about causes of and ways to prevent drowning and diving accidents, how to supervise others around water, how to recognize when someone is in trouble, and basic first aid, CPR, and AED. Jr. Guards will develop leadership skills necessary to become successful lifeguards, including effective communication, how to make informed decisions, how to work as a team. They will also learn about customer service.

On Fridays the Junior Lifeguards will participate in staff trainings and then be taken on different aquatic-themed field trips throughout the Bay Area. On some of the longer field trip days, they will not be participating in trainings.

Pre-requisite: ability to swim front crawl 25 yards continuously using side breathing, tread water for 1 minute, and submerge and swim a distance of 10 feet. Age 11+. See brochures for weekly schedules or see www.highlandsrec.ca.gov.

Synchronized Swimming
Sampler Session
Saturdays: 6/5-6/19 5-6 p.m.
1 hour \$35
Summer Session
Mon & Wed 7/5-7/21
5-5:45 p.m. \$55

Kids will learn the basics of synchronized swimming techniques together with the teamwork and excitement of “water dancing.” Each class will incorporate stretching, lap conditioning, and technical instruction.

Highlands Masters Swimming
Morning Masters MWF 8- 9 a.m.

Session 1 6/14-7/16 \$75/80
Session 2 7/19-8/20 \$75/80

Evening Masters T/TH 8-9 p.m.

Session 1 6/15-7/15 \$50/55
Session 2 7/20-8/21 \$50/55

Summer Camp Registration in
Progress K-8th Grade
Vacation at the Rec

11 weeks of camp \$240/245/week
7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. 6/14-8/17

Summer Tutoring

This program is designed for children 1st – 6th grade who need extra help on their studies, review of the previous year’s curriculum and preview of the next year’s curriculum. Subject-based support for math, reading, writing, and spelling will be SMFC text book-based. Ratio 3:1. Laura Schwartz is currently substituting in Burlingame and has been working as a student teacher in grades 2-5. She believes that learning should be a fun process, getting students engaged in the subjects they are learning.

*Session 1 & 3: \$140/session if child is enrolled in Summer Fun Zone Camp.

Session 2: \$115 per child if child is enrolled in Summer Fun Zone Camp.
*\$50 off if child is enrolled in all three sessions.

1a 1st-3rd grades M-W 6/21-6/30
1-2 p.m. \$150/155

1b 4th-6th grades M-W 6/21-6/30
2-3 p.m. \$150/155
2a 1st-3rd grades M-W 7/6-7/16
1-2 p.m. \$125/130
2b 4th-6th grades M-W 7/6-7/16
2-3 p.m. \$125/130
3a 1st -3rd grades M-W 8/2-8/11
1-2 p.m. \$150/155
3b 4th-6th grades M-W 8/2-8/11
2-3 p.m. \$150/155

Junior Adventure Camp

Registration in Progress 2.5 yrs.-
Kindergarten 9 Weeks 6/21-8/20

► **Supervisors Vote:** from page 1

sponsorship of legislation approved by the Board of Supervisors that made Resource Management (RM) zoning consistent countywide, including provision for conservation easement in perpetuity on land remaining after subdivision. We are grateful to the entire Board of Supervisors for their continuous thoughtful attention to these issues in our neighborhood, as well as their unanimous support for upholding the current zoning on this parcel in 2004 and for making RM zoning consistent countywide in 2007.

Neighbors can find current updates on the Chamberlain application on the County Planning Department website by clicking on <http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/planning>. Then click on Check Your Permit Status and insert PLN2006-00357.

The next step will be the applicant’s fulfillment of the Conditions of Approval in order to receive building and grading permits from the County. We’ll continue to keep you informed.

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HANDYMAN, REMODELING, SIDING decks, fences, and painting. Reasonable rates. 25-years experience/15 years with Eichlers. Call Mike Kinsey, 591-5698.

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

PLUMBING/REMODELING/OPEN DRAINS, replace water heaters. All jobs welcome. Lic/bonded. Highlands resident. Call 650-921-9711.

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

MAUI - Vacation in beautiful Maalaea Bay - beach front condo, 2 bdms, 2 baths, fully equipped remodeled kitchen, washer/dryer. Perfect for family of 4, or 2 couples. \$135/day Apr. 15 to Dec. 15. \$150/day Dec. 15 to Apr. 15. plus tax. Call Enes or Bill Rice 341-1963.

HDTV WALL INSTALLATIONS - Wall fish cable and phone for concealed wiring. Audio/Visual specialist. Email joel-com@comcast.net or phone 650-759-6511.

BABYSITTING & PET SITTING Responsible Aragon senior with lots of babysitting and pet sitting experience. References available. Call or text Sally Shearer at 504-7914. Please call after 3 p.m.

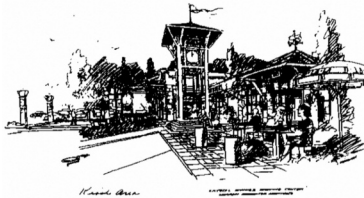
MAYRA'S HOUSE AND WINDOW CLEANING - Reliable, dependable, many Highlands references. Call 299-8985 for free consultation.

PET SITTER/ BABYSITTER Do you need a babysitter or pet care by a mature Highlands resident mother? Call Leslie for details and availability at 578-1087.

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.

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.



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Allstate Insurance: Bob O'Loughlin & Mike Munday	286-2140	Japanese Kitchen Wakuriya	286-0410
Alterations to Go	341-6360	Stephen R. John, D.D.S., Periodontics	571-1900
The Bar Method (Yoga, Pilates, Ballet)	573-3330	Little Hunan Restaurant (Home Delivery)	571-1575
California Cancer Care	341-9131	Merry Maids	572-8200
Crystal Springs Chiropractic	574-1456	Papagayo Mexican Grille (Catering)	578-1966
Dr. Joseph Musich (cell)	222-8650	Rainbow Pizza (Home Delivery)	571-1848
Dr. Helen Lee	574-1456	Realty World, Martinelli Properties	578-1300
Crystal Cleaning Center	342-6978	Renew Laser Clinic, Dr. Adele Makow, Laser Skin Care	341-3600
Crys. Spr. Dental Care - Dr. Cameron Dezham	524-4855	Renew Life Center, Dr. Julieta Gabiola Primary Care, Internal Medicine	341-3600
Crystal Springs Fish & Poultry	212-7921	Ritz Salon & Spa	570-5750
Crystal Springs Pet Hospital	341-3438	Safeway	341-4039
Citibank (West) FSB	525-9028	Shoe Repair	349-4209
CVS Pharmacy (572-2514, Drive Up)	572-2438	Starbucks Coffee	345-0483
Design Jewelry	345-7870	Tasty Treats-Italian Gelato	572-8228
Dianda's Italian Pastry	570-6260	U.S. Postal Services	570-5562
Esposito's Deli (Catering)	525-1970	Wireless Link-Verizon	577-9700

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A VIEW FROM THE HIGHLANDS

Challenges to our Local Government, San Mateo County

by Florence Beier

"The economic downturn has saddled San Mateo County with a growing budget deficit that threatens our ability to deliver services to the County's 730,000 residents. Declining tax revenues, state budget reductions, investment losses, increasing costs, and greater demand for County services are driving the projected deficit to nearly \$100 million this fiscal year. This amount will grow to \$150 million over the next five years unless we take action."

This summary, quoted from the County brochure, informs us of the size of the challenge we face here. Because the Highlands is unincorporated, the County is our local government. In its effort to offer residents the opportunity to comment on this issue, the County held six community forums. I was at the April 29 meeting in Belmont as one of the facilitators from the Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center.

At the forum we learned about what the County is already doing about the budget shortfall, and the participants expressed concerns about the impact. We also had a brisk discussion about ideas to save money or increase revenues. Suggestions included using volunteers, combining services, and raising taxes. The County has already gone through a two-year expense-cutting process that will reduce benefits for managers, work with labor organizations on savings, "green" County operations to reduce energy costs, and team county departments and other government agencies to coordinate services.

The main worries at the forum were about cuts in our services. Among the many services provided by the County, perhaps those that most affect the Highlands are: sheriff, firefighters, elections, disaster planning, Youth Services Center, San Mateo Medical Center, property

assessment/public records, and hazardous waste collection. Of course, County decisions and enforcement of zoning and building regulations are a huge concern.

It is too late for you to attend the public forums, but the County has a website that can inform us and keep us involved. To learn about the budget and add your comments go to www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/budget.

Last month apparently my task was to hear about the future of my "homeland." On April 20, I attended the League of Women Voters program on "Managing Water Resources in San Mateo County." Even if the County can be solvent, if we run out of water, we are in deep trouble. The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency represents our interests. No room here to share what I learned, but check out www.bawsca.org to see what's going on.