

The Lookout

muir woods park community association

40 RIDGE AVENUE OFF PANORAMIC HIGHWAY

MILL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94941

May 1993 Issue

Let's Get Fired Up Quick— **Before We Lose Our Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station!**

MAY 9, 1993

SUNDAY

For home deli

Navin Independent Jours

WEATHER: Sunny and w...rmer. Highs, 60s to mid-70s near the coast to about 90 well inland. Details, A2

Cuts called public safety crisis

County warned by police, fire

By Paul Peterzell

Independent Journal reporter

Asked if the public would be safe if the Board of Supervisors adopts the budget, County Fire Marshall Jack Rosevear said, "No."

"It definitely jeopardizes some public safety," said Sheriff Charles Prandi.

The warnings by the two top officials came as their departments issued their first

■ DANGER: Fire-threat warning/B1 CUTBACKS: Effect on services/A7

lion proposed by County Administrator Thomas Campanella in his \$157 million budget for the fiscal year beginning in July. The cuts "are a direct result of the state balancing its budget on the backs of county

posed elimination of one-third of the sher-iff's patrol force, one of every 10 county em-ployees, \$2 million in health and human services, half of local bus service and of transportation for the elderly and disabled, operation of three fire stations except in fire season, all money for the homeless, and half of West Marin's paramedic service

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S CUTS TO CLOSE LOCAL FIRE STATION WHILE ADMINISTRATOR GETS NEW CAR AND \$60,000 ASSISTANT

May 21 General Meeting is to get input and assistance from Muir Woods Area residents. We need to develop fire, police and paramedic alternatives for our area if our present services, which are about 50% of what they should be, are cut.

Do we need a volunteer fire fighting group like we used to have? Do we have enough people who want to serve as volunteer firefighters?

Can we get State and Federal Agencies to pay their fair share? The cost of servicing the millions of tourists to our area is far more than the Burton Act funds contribute.

What kinds of local action can we take to protect ourselves if a fire or other disaster hits us?

We need to hear your voice and we need your voice to be heard by our politicians.

We have another crisis like the highway one emergency and we have to respond similarly.

Please contribute your ideas and efforts to save our present level of safety services. If you can't get to the meeting and want to help, please call Del Goetz (388-8493) or Jim Campbell (381-8430).

FIRE & SAFETY EMERGENCY MEETING

May 21 8 pm—Friday

MWPCA Clubhouse 40 Ridge Avenue

WHAT CAN WE DO TO KEEP OUR FIRE & SAFETY SERVICES AT PRESENT LEVELS?

HOW CAN WE PROTECT OURSELVES IF **OUR SERVICES ARE CUT?**

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

For information: Del Goetz, 388-8493

Fire Safety Report

The development of the emergency AM-radio system is proceeding, albeit at a slower pace than what we would like. The current schedule calls for more testing in mid-May, with the installation and activation of the system by mid-July.

During last week's Fire Safe Marin meeting I was pleased to find a couple of our recommendations have been considered and implemented. For example, the closure of Mt. Tamalpais State Park due to extreme fire conditions has been and will continue to be determined by projected weather conditions; readings are taken at the weather station on the mountain and the conditions for the following day are projected based upon a formula and referred to as "the index".

In the past, this system lacked the ability to take weather readings on the actual day in question and didn't provide the authority to take immediate action and close the park. The new system not only provides for a "second" reading of weather conditions at 10 A.M. on the day in question, it also reduces the index limit which determines the necessity of closing the park.

The Marin County Fire Department will participate in the Red Flag Program: specific geographical areas are identified in times of critical fire danger (based upon weather and other conditions). Red Flag warning signs will be posted in the identified areas. We have been assured that enough signs will be available for our community should the need arise.

Roy Pike of the California Department of Forestry has provided us with a sample of the Wildland Fire Educational Packet for Homeowners Associations. The packet contains two videotapes, including a 20-minute special presentation on the Oakland Hills Fire. I'll be sending the packet around the neighborhoods soon and would appreciate some feedback. If you're interested in viewing the tapes, please call me at 381-8430.

Three fire-related events are scheduled for the month of May:

FIREWATCH '93: at the Marin County Civic Center Fairgrounds on May 15 from 10 am to 4 pm. This yearly event provides a wealth of information for homeowners and business owners. Vendors will show off new products including alarm systems, tree services, sprinkler systems, roof designs, etc. Demonstrations and participation events will be held throughout the day. I have attended one previous FIREWATCH and found it interesting and enlightening. Activities are planned for the kids, so bring them along.

FIRE DRILL: If you see a large number of fire trucks and other emergency equipment in our community on May 22, don't run for cover. A combined Marin-Sonoma County Multi-Agency Wildland Fire Drill will be held all that day which will simulate the response to a major wildland fire in the Mill Valley area. Expect some interesting activity in our community as well as in Mill Valley, which hopes to have all their outdoor sirens activated for the drill.

FIRESCAPE: Lastly, for those of you involved in land management, development, structural or landscape design, construction, landscaping, gardening, arborists and treemen, a special program titled FIRESCAPE '93 has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 25 at the San Rafael Fire Department, 1400 Fifth Ave., San Rafael. Registration will be from 8:00 to 8:30 am. If you're interested, I have several applications with additional information.

And now for the rest of the story...

The word is out that there is a proposal to severely reduce emergency agency services due to the budget crisis (See Press Release from Marin County Fire Dept in this issue). Those few of our members who attended the recent general meeting got the news directly from representatives of both the Marin County Fire Department and the Sheriff's Department.

The proposal includes closing Throckmorton Ridge Fire Station from October 15 through May 15. Additionally, six paramedic positions and ten firefighter positions will be eliminated. This is all due to an estimated \$1.4 million dollar cut in the Marin County Fire Department operating budget.

The Save Mt. Tam Committee will be actively challenging this proposal and undertaking formidable, high profile efforts to prevent the closure of our fire station. I personally urge all who read this article to contact one of the officers or directors of this association and GET INVOLVED!!! This threat is greater than the closure of a single highway. IT IS A LIFE OR DEATH ISSUE FOR THIS COMMUNITY.

—Jim Campbell, Public Safety Committee

hokanson construction

49 ridge avenue mill valley, ca 94941 ca lic. #554891

john hokanson 388-7189



CAL. LIC. NO. 8341482

Barney Lenheim

GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR REPAIRS, ADDITIONS, NEW CONSTRUCTION

MWPCA 1993 Clubhouse Calendar

Eugene Coyle-Hannah Creighton (wedding) MAY 15

- Tourist Club Fest 16
- Kid's Play Group 10:00 1:00 19
- 21 General Meeting
- 22 Max Janoff Memorial
- 23 M. V. Babysitting Coop
- Kid's Play Group 10:00 1:00 26
- 29 Aria Rose

2 **Board Meeting** JUNE Kid's Play Group 10:00 - 1:00

- 5 Chipping Day Genine Winslow (wedding)
- 9 Kid's Play Group 10:00 - 1:00
- 16 Kid's Play Group 10:00 - 1:00
- Maybeth Terezkiewiez (wedding) 18
- 20 Pancake Breakfast
- 2.3 Kid's Play Group 10:00 - 1:00
- 30 Kid's Play Group 10:00 - 1:00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Longtime mountain resident Louse Shaddock turns 85 on May 22. Why not give her a call at 388-4499 or send her a card. She lives at 19 Monte Cimas. I'm sure she would appreciate hearing from you.



THE KIDS PLAY GROUP that meets on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 am. to 1:00 pm. is looking for donations of outdoor activity toys appropriate for children one year to ten years (push toys, sandbox toys, bicycles, or whatever...) Call Erika Teahan at 388-1122 or Beth Popson at 388-1135.

memorial gathering for MAX JANOFF

Friends and acquaintances of Max are invited to attend a special gathering in his honor

on Saturday, May 22 at 3.00 pm at the MWPCA Clubhouse.

He was association president in 1981.

Anyone who would like to help with refreshments please contact:

> Dee Ansel-388-8367 Stella Winn —388-3394

Mailboxes Changing at Panoramic & Washington Park

Because of the overwhelming support of residents, the funky, picturesque mailboxes will be torn down-and replaced with new secure ones.

Thanks to Randy Barrow for his coordination with the U.S. Post Office and also to Barney Lenheim who will prepare the space for installation.

Randy is still waiting to hear from Steve Berman, Mrs. Chase, the Heimanns, and the residents at 61 Washington Park to make their \$12 contributions. Randy would appreciate hearing from you if you haven't paid yet. All mailboxes run the risk of being torn down (since they're all connected).

Residents are invited to a special "ceremony" on Saturday, May 22 at 12:00 noon. Photographs will be taken and new keys distributed. (Lila Daniels will hold keys for those unable to attend. She lives at 604 Panoramic and works out of her garage. You can drop by anytime for your key or call ahead at 383-8422 (h) or 388-6651 (w).) After that the dismantling will take place in coordination with the Post Office — so no one's service is interrupted.

For more information contact Randy Barrow at 381-6634.



MARIN COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

33 CASTLE ROCK - P.O. BOX 518 - WOODACRE, CALIFORNIA 94973

TELEPHONE (415) 499-6717

PRESS RELEASE

CHIEF HAROLO "STAN" ROWAN

CONTACT PERSON:

JACK ROSEVEAR- FIRE MARSHAL

PH# 415-499-6566

APRIL 26, 1993

TOPIC:

DATE:

PROPOSED FIRE DEPARTMENT REDUCTIONS *UPDATE*

The Marin County Fire Department is currently faced with a \$1.4 million dollar cut in it's operating budget. This includes a combination of closing and reducing operating periods of all six fire stations. In addition, paramedic staffing levels would be reduced The reductions are specified as follows:

Elimination of 28 positions (Current Staff- 75):

- a. 8 open and unfilled positions (4 paramedic 4 firefighter)
- b. 6 paramedics
- 10 firefighters (also known as "Fire Apparatus Engineers")
- d. Emergency Medical Officer (staff position)
- Training Officer
- f. 1 Battalion Chief (Shift Commander-3 existing positions)
- g. Fire Services Assistant

Closure of Stations:

- a. Throckmorton Ridge (Mill Valley) Closed-October 15-May 15
- b. Hicks Valley (West Marin) Closed October 15- May 15 c. Tomales (West Marin) Closed October 15-May 15
- d. Marin City To be contracted to another fire service agency

Modification of Staffing Systems:

- a. Paramedic Ambulances (Woodacre & Point Reyes) Replacement of one paramedic per shift with a non-safety classified "Ambulance Driver" The ambulance driver would not have firefighting responsibilities or duties. The Woodacre ambulance would be placed out of service.
- b. Fire station staffing at the Woodacre and Point Reyes fire stations would each lose a minimum of three firefighters.
- c. Fire station staffing at the Throckmorton, Hicks Valley and Tomales fire stations from 5/15-10/15 would be one station officer and one seasonal firefighter (24 hrs. per day). Two additional seasonal firefighters will supplement during the day time- peak fire occurrence hours.

Further information will be released as the funding situation develops.

Welcome New Members

Tina Leonard 166 Bayview Dr.

Joseph B. Van Hise 15 Washington Park Ave.

Jeanne & Keith C. Klaver 332 Panoramic Hwy.

Arch H. & Claudia Rowan 3 Ridge Ave.

Tyrone Cashman, Ph.D. 5 Kent Way

Lonnie Barbash, Ph.D. 70 Palm Way

Else M. Jenson Chester M. Valdes 465 Edgewood Ave.

Aria Rose 1090 W. California Ave.

April 20, 1993

Muir Woods Park Community Association 40 Ridge Ave.

Member Urges Parking Lot Defense

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Dear Members:

I recently learned that the MMWD plans to close off public parking on the dirt lot just below Throckmorton Ridge fire station, and to move the present location of their fireroad gate to the head of the approach road. The trailhead parking dates back many decades, and accommodates 15-20 vehicles in weekends. It has provided a desperately needed supplement to the State parking lot across from the Mountain Home Inn.

The purpose of the intended closure appears to be an accommodation to developers of the housing tract just northeast of the lnn and the fire station.

I have drafted the attached petition opposing such closure for transmittal to Joan Boessenecker, our district representative. Scores of residents in our neighborhood use the parking facility, as do vast numbers of hikers and bikers from elsewhere. Rather than closing it, I believe it should be expanded, and that the approach road which is now severely deteriorated should be kept in better repair.

I am enclosing a small check to enable the Club to duplicate copies of the petition for enclosure with the next newsletter, and to provide extra copies for general public distribution at the trailhead.

Thank you,

Marge Priest 12 St. Jude Rd. Mill Valley, CA 94941

Welcome Committee

The Welcome Committee has put together a packet of information for newcomers to the neighborhood. If you are a newcomer or know of someone who is, please contact Kathleen Delehanty to receive a copy. She can be reached at (w) 383-6350 or (h) 388-4516.

CLASSIFIED ADS

QUIET, CONSCIENTIOUS WOMAN—non-smoker, no pets, seeking cabin or apt. on the mountain. To \$700. Excellent local references. Call 381-0737.

JULY HOUSESITTING—Two close friends from Toronto will be in the Mill Valley area during July. They are reliable, will take care of your house, pets, plants. Phone us for information and local references. Ruth & Jim Bramell, 388-6176.

HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU WANT TO LOSE THE SAME 10 LBS?

New tech natural weight loss formula of 21 herbs from China & rain forests' boosts well-being, takes away food cravings, & gives you tremendous energy. Inexpensive & 100% guaranteed!

Call 383-4566 'a portion of proceeds donated to rain forests

FOR RENT FROM THE ASSOCIATION

WEED WRENCHES: Rates: \$5 first day; \$2.50 each additional day; \$15/week; maximum rental period: 2 weeks. Call Virginia Soper at 383-1941.

FIELD METER TO MEASURE EMF \$10/day. Contact Jim Bramell at 388-6176. Not a bad price when you consider the 2-week plus wait list to go through PG&E.

New Team Tackles MWPCA Newsletter

To assist in this fascinating but time-consuming task, I have found two new volunteers to help Del Goetz and me:

Lisa Zenker is generously doing basic data entry. Then Gari Thompson works her desktop publishing magic by taking Lisa's work and arranging it on the page. (This is Gari's profession and she is extremely competent.) She works out of her home, too, so she is easily available for your graphics projects.

The newsletter has grown larger and more important as a means of communicating what's happening in our neighborhood. I desperately needed help to keep it moving along.

I offer Del, Lisa and Gari my special thanks on behalf of all of us in the neighborhood.

Marin Independent Journal

Cuts called public safety crisis

County warned Board of by police, fire

By Paul Peterzeil

FIRE & SAFETY **EMERGENCY**

MEETING

8 PM - FRI., MAY 21 MWPCA CLUBHOUSE 40 RIDGE AVE.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO KEEP OUR FIRE & SAFETY SERVICES AT PRESENT LEVELS

HOW CAN WE PROTECT OURSELVES IF **OUR SERVICES ARE CUT**

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

For Information:

Del Goetz, 388-8493

PETITION

To:

Joan Boessenecker Member, Board of Directors Marin Municipal Water District 220 Nellen Avenue Corte Madera, CA 94925-1169

I am opposed to any restriction on public parking access to the MMWD trailhead parking lot located below the Throckmorton Ridge fire station. I urge the department to expand the lot and to improve the badly deteriorated approach road. The lot accommodates as many as 15 to 20 vehicles, and supplements the very limited parking available on the state park facility opposite the Mountain Home Inn.

Thank you.		

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To:

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IJ	nank you.			

Current Real Estate Listings

Thanks to Kathleen Delehanty of Prudential California Realty (recently merged with TRI Realty) for this update of listings on the mountain. For more details just call Kathleen at 388-4516. For current interest rates, call Keith Papulias at 388-9219.

2br

2ba

New Listings

16 St. Jude

10 Ridge Ave.	Lot/ac	cre	235,000	Directors		
6 Walsh Drive	5br	4.2ba	1,495,000		Jim Campbell	381-9320
Pending					Kathleen Delehanty	388-4516
rending					Les Draper	383-6594
766 Panoramic	2br	1ba	295,000		Keith Papulias	388-9219
4 Walsh Drive	4br	3ba	1,295,000		Bob Rydjord	388-3621
Active Listings					Erika Teahan	388-1122
600 & 602 Edgewood	2br	2ba	309,000		•	

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Record. Sec.

Corresp. Sec.

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Dick Popson

Clif Davenport

Peter Hindley

Lila Daniels

Del Goetz

388-1135

388-8493

383-3892

388-7252

383-8422

			•		
1 Brighton	3br	2ba	394,500	Clubhouse Maintenance	Peter Hindley
98 Washington Park	3br	2ba	420,000	Public Safety	Bob Scheibach/Dick Popson
130 Marin View	4br	2.5ba	439,000	Environmental Health	Del Goetz
569 Edgewood	3br	2.5ba	449,000	Newsletter	Lila Daniels
645 Sequoia Valley	4br	2ba	482,000	Social	Keith Papulias/Stella Winn
430 Panoramic	4br	3ba	549,000	Parents Network	Beth Popson/Erika Teahan
572 Panoramic	4br	3ba	569,000	Cancer Cluster Study	Jim Bramell
280 Edgewood	3br	2ba	589,000	Mountain Workers Network	Peter Spear
1 Sunnycrest	4br	3.5ba	862,000	Membership	Kathleen Delehanty
2 Sunnycrest	4br	3.5ba	862,000	Community Affairs	Bob Rydjord
151 Bayview	4br	3.5ba	950,000	Sergeant-at-Arms	Barney Lenheim
Lots				Disaster Registry	Virginia Soper

30 Redwood

140 Redwood

120 Redwood 000 Edgewood	99,800 200,000	CLUBHOUSE	RENTAL RA	TES
600 Edgewood	309,000		Weekday	Weekend
720 Edgewood	450,000	Member	\$ 50	\$ 75
0000 Edgewood	350,000	Non-Members	100	300
Sold		Non-Profit	75	175

50,000

85,000

545 Edgewood	2br	2ba	378,000	The new contract form stresses fire/smoking, park-
628 Amaranth	2br	2ba	410,000	ing, noise and maintenance regulations.

MOUNTAIN CLEAN-UP DAY Saturday, June 5th

Bring saws, cutters. gloves and muscle!

If you have a particular area you want to work on, call Del at 388-8493 to discuss and get the permit number... or, show up at the MWPCA Clubhouse at 9 am Saturday for assignments

SPECIAL THANKS to Ken Bovaro & Marin Arborists for their help with Chipper Day

Once again, Ken Bovaro and his company, Marin Arborists, have donated equipment and manpower to help our fire prevention activities.

Their generosity is much appreciated!

-Richard Popson, President

ANNUAL MARIN COUNTY CHIPPER DAY

June 5 (Saturday), 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM MWPCA Clubhouse

Materials must be chippable--branches, shrubs, etc.

Nothing more than 3" in diameter.

NO DIRT, STONES, OR TRASH will be accepted.

The price is right: IT'S FREE!

Pigs On The Mountain

Two weeks ago several neighbors and friends cleaned up the mess of garbage on the corner of Panoramic and Ridge Avenue. The trash left by various "neighbors" was a shame.

It was obvious by the debris that the dumpers took major advantage of the area. Our group found boxes of plastic irrigation pipe; cartons of roofing material pieces; plastic bags full of books and magazines; boxes of plastic packing material; and an entire steel car door—and this partial list was only really ridiculous stuff.

Also left there were the dumped branches—not cut to manageable size or bundled in any systematic manner, just dumped.

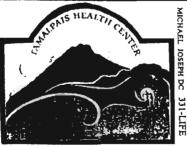
"Pigs did this," complained a neighbor lady involved in the clean up. "There's a faction that lives on the mountain or passes over it that just doesn't give a damn," she added.

Several of us were approached by individuals that vowed they knew of several of the "dumpers" and gave us specific addresses—one on Ridge Avenue and another address on Panoramic. We thought about making our dump run to their front yards, but instead took the stuff for chipping and to the official dump. (Many of us now probably have second thoughts about our decision). The cleaning brigade spent about 6 hours of a Saturday hauling away somebody else's mess.

We'll soon post "NO DUMPING" signs in the area to help the situation, and we're looking for suitable places to post our "NO PIGS ALLOWED" signs.

Keep the faith.

-R. Popson, President



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MICHAEL JOSEPH DC 331-LIFE



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The Lookout

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