



Hello Summer, Hello Neighbors!

Summer is here, and so is your latest neighborhood newsletter – packed with updates, community highlights, and a few surprises to make you smile!

First off, **a huge thank you** to everyone who responded to our move toward an annual neighborhood contribution. Thanks to your response, we hosted a fantastic Winter Soiree **without touching our reserves** – a true community win! If you haven't had a chance to contribute yet, it's not too late. Visit our website [Dominican Area News](#) for a quick PayPal link or check the end of this newsletter for mailing instructions. We will send out the annual contribution notices at the end of the year with the hope of having many responses by the beginning of the year.

We've also been thrilled to receive your thoughtful suggestions for events and ways to bring more connection to our neighborhood. Keep them coming. Your ideas help shape the community we all love.

Inside this issue, you'll find:

-  Neighborhood Update – progress reports, upcoming projects, and your feedback in action
-  Photo Highlights – beautiful snapshots from around our streets and gardens
-  Fun Features – puzzles, recipes, and stories to enjoy with your morning coffee

And don't forget – we're always looking for new contributions! Whether it's a photo, a recipe, a short story, sharing of information, or a neighborhood tip, we'd love to include your voice in the next newsletter edition. Just email us at DBCNA.info@gmail.com

We're looking for new voices and fresh energy to volunteer on one of the DBCNA Committees or join the Board of Directors. If you've ever thought, I'd love to help make our community even better, this is your moment. Come meet the current board, ask questions, and see how you can get involved – no pressure, just possibilities. Just email DBCNA.info@gmail.com and let's chat.

Warmly,

Your Dominican Black Canyon Neighborhood Association Board of Directors.



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Summer Events

It's Summer and time for fun!!!

There are lots of neighborhood and local activities planned for you and your family this Summer. Hopefully you will find them fun and memorable.

We are bringing back the DBCNA **Summer Ice Cream Social**. Get ready for a sweet summer afternoon on Saturday, July 13th from 2:00-4:00, Meadowlands Lawn, Dominican University. We'll be serving ice cream, sunshine, and good vibes for the whole family. Bring your kids, bring a neighbor, bring furry friends. This is a casual, fun way to connect with the people who make our community so special. We will have a variety of games and fun activities. We will have face painting for the young and old; and for our four-legged guests, a watering station provided by Woodlands Pet Food and Treats.

The DBCNA Board of Directors is excited to share the news of the **Terrapin Roadshow** is coming to the DU Forest Meadow Amphitheater on July 18, 19, and 20. The summer concerts will be performed at three sites around California with the DU campus being the 2nd in the series. The DBCNA Board also met with the Taylor Street Production Company and a representative from Terrapin to discuss the event thus are fully confident this will be a huge success. Hopefully future events like this will be coming to our neighborhood. For more information and ticket to any of concerts in the series, please visit their website <https://www.sundaydaydream.com>.

San Rafael Parks and Recreation have put together a summer line-up of free outdoor – **Movies in the Park**. Paddington in Peru on Friday, September 12th in Peacock Gap Park; Wild Robot on Friday, September 26th in Gerstle Park; Mufasa (in Spanish) Friday October 10th in Pickleweed Park; and Lilo & Stitch on Friday, October 24th in Terra Linda Park. Movies begin 10 minutes after sunset and they ask that you remember to bring low chairs, blankets, picnic/snacks and a flashlight.



Save the Date – August 6th for **National Night Out**. More information to come!

Enjoy!!

Rose Plants Maintenance

We are fortunate to have **Lydia Truce, Marin Rose Society, Master Rosarian** on your neighborhood board. Lydia has offered to provide us with her insight into Rose plant maintenance. We've added photos of her lovely garden.



Perhaps by now, the roses in your garden are beginning to reach the end of their cycle. Since blooming beautifully from early April to May, they are now ready to be dead-headed in order to give room for the next cycle.

Just a quick lesson on rose maintenance starting now. The first on the "to do" list is: dead-head on the stem, locate the set of five leaves and diagonally, cut just above the second set of 5 leaves. Some are easy to find while at other times, you may need to go further down the stem. The basic reason to dead-head aside from getting rid of dead or spent blooms is to allow the plant the chance to re-bloom. In four to six weeks, you will see the next set of blooms.

As we get into summer, weeding, watering, removing yellowing leaves and going after pests, and fertilizing is the next order of business. Assuming you have applied mulch, which as you know is an excellent garden practice. Applying mulch not only conserves soil moisture as it reduces evaporation, but also it controls weeds.



According to Linda Chalker-Scott, a horticulture professor at Washington State University, organic mulches include wood, straw, hay, grass clippings, shredded leaves, compost, cocoa and rice hulls as well as living mulches and ground covers.



Wood mulch is far superior to inorganic mulch. The use of bark mulch is to be discouraged as it has natural waxes and chemicals which repel water thus causing the soil underneath to dry out. It is also flammable and can float or wash away easily in heavy downpour.

Next is removing yellow leaves caused by many different reasons. Most of the causes are abiotic disorders, meaning environmental and weather related. Examples of abiotic disorders are nutrient deficiencies such as lack of nitrogen, nutrient excesses because of overfertilizing, herbicide damage as shown on cupped, curled or chlorotic leaves, small leaves or necrosis of the entire plant. Sunburn appears as blackened areas, leaf scorch when leaves turn yellow or have brown leaf edges.



Other common rose disorders are the 3 fungal diseases of roses – powdery mildew, black spot and rust. Both black spots and rust require water to reproduce as during rainy weather or overhead watering, but mildew does not. Avoid overhead watering in the early or late evening.

Here in Marin, powdery mildew is the most common disease.

What to do – here are some general comments to control these diseases:

- Buy and plant disease-free plants
- Plant roses in areas with good drainage and ventilation
- Remove and discard infected leaves and canes
- Avoid overhead watering unless there is plenty of time for leaves to dry
- If you choose to use spray – use horticultural oil, anti-Transpirants botanical such as Neem oil.

Lastly, practice good sanitation near and around the rose plants. Get rid of all deceased and damaged plants. Remove all yellow and dead foliage and deadhead the blooms. Blooms can become deceased by botrytis blight. Cut back to about 50% any rose that has grown way too tall since strong wind will break off the canes or worse uproot the entire plant.

Do minor rose pruning by cutting off stems or canes that are as skinny as a pencil. Cut off skinny stems growing towards the inside to get air circulation. Remember the idea is to keep the plant in a vase-like appearance.

One final note – feed the rose twice a month to insure blooms all the way to November. I recommend the website of our Society – www.marinrose.org for further info.



Refugia Marin Native Habitat Preservation

Strength in Numbers: Stewardship Grows at Daniel Stralka Memorial Garden

We're thrilled to re-introduce the memorial pollinator garden on the campus of Dominican University of California, which is a living reminder that nature thrives through collaboration. Just as bees, butterflies, and other pollinators work together to keep ecosystems healthy, this garden is a testament to the power of community and biodiversity. The diverse array of native and water-wise plants has created a habitat that supports not just one species, but many, because there is truly strength in numbers. This garden not only enhances local biodiversity but also offers a place to observe and learn about the relationships between plants and the creatures that depend on them.

Planted in 2022 in memory of beloved local beekeeper Daniel Stralka, the pollinator garden was designed by Bonnie Morse and students from Dominican University of California to support biodiversity through organic practices and the use of low water, Firewise plants. Local nonprofit Refugia Marin has now joined the effort to maintain and steward the garden forward. Their Memorial Day work party brought in two dozen eager gardeners from the surrounding community—including original founders—to weed, prune, and tend this special place.



Exciting updates are forthcoming, including new signage and seating to enjoy the blooms and pollinators. In future newsletters, we'll share photos of the garden's growth, notify neighbors of ways to get involved, offer tips on supporting pollinators in your own space, and highlight featured flora and fauna. During last month's work party, we were particularly smitten with the family of California Quail watching our progress, as well as a female Pipevine Swallowtail laying eggs on host plant Dutchman's Pipevine!



Refugia Marin transforms public spaces into vibrant native plant habitats. Their projects boost biodiversity and foster environmental stewardship through community education and involvement.

Want to get involved? Join a Refugia Marin Work Party to meet neighbors, learn about pollinator gardening, and restore habitat. To volunteer or learn more, email helen@refugiamarin.org or visit www.refugiamarin.org You can also follow us on Instagram!

Marin Shakespeare Company – 2025 Summer Season



Marin Shakespeare Company will present two magical Shakespeare plays this summer at the Forest Meadows Amphitheatre on the campus of Dominican University of California. **Playing June 13 through July 13 is "A Midsummer Night's Dream"**, adapted, directed and choreographed by Bridgette Loriaux. In an imagined Art Nouveau meets Futuristic Athens, Titania and Oberon's cosmic feud spills into the lives of mortals, tangling four young lovers in a whirlwind of mistaken identities and shifting affections, while a mischievous changeling child ventures through a universe where worlds collide and reality bends. In a magical forest alive with mythical creatures, romantic disasters, and chaotic comedy, love and courage face their ultimate test. Brought to life with electrifying movement and choreography, this Shakespearean adventure dares to ask: will harmony be restored, or will this fantastical future unravel completely? Come and see how present-day artists honor a legacy of great storytelling in a whirlwind of laughter, wonder, and heart.

Playing August 15 - September 14 is "The Tempest," adapted and directed by M. Graham Smith. *The Tempest* is a powerful exploration of second chances and the choices that shape new beginnings. On a mysterious island where magic and humanity intertwine, Prospero conjures a storm that shipwrecks old enemies, compelling everyone to confront past resentments and reimagine their futures. The story weaves themes of forgiveness, redemption, and the delicate balance of power, daring us to consider: can we truly make amends with the past and embrace the promise of transformation? Featuring Bay Area favorite Stacy Ross as Prospero, this bold reimagining breathes fresh life into Shakespeare's timeless meditation on what it means to forgive and be forgiven.

Each Saturday night from 5 - 6 pm, Marin Shakespeare offers Mosaic Workshops at their downtown theatre at 514 Fourth Street, San Rafael. Audiences have the opportunity to do a deep dive into the plays' language and themes. Also, at the downtown theatre this summer is Seeds of Time, a three-week festival of new plays in development July 19 through August 3.

Ticket prices up to \$49 vary depending on performance and ticket type — check out Pay What You Will, Family Days, and Senior discount days. Tickets are also available at the door one hour prior to outdoor performances, and one-half hour prior to indoor performances. For more ticket information visit www.marinshakespeare.org/tickets.

For more information, visit www.marinshakespeare.org

Marin History Museum by Greg Brockbank

Many or most communities have a historical society of some sort. We in Marin are blessed not only to have the Marin History Museum, but a wide variety of other historical groups which may offer free lectures, tours, and often sell books.

The Marin History Museum was founded in 1935. It has gone through several iterations of board members and executive directors, each with grand plans which would require fundraising. Unfortunately, those plans didn't all work out. Personally, I appreciate all those attempts, even though they have had their ups and downs. In recent years, they've had a good run, with a board chaired by immediate past San Rafael Mayors Al Boro and Gary Phillips.

I hope in writing this article more people will visit this valuable resource of Marin History Museum in the Boyd Gatehouse at Mission and B Streets. This location was originally the gatehouse of Maple Lawn and the estate of Louise Arner Boyd. Ms. Boyd donated the gatehouse to the city. While they've had a good number of impressive exhibits in recent years, my favorite was on Boyd herself. Ms. Boyd was probably Marin's top socialite as well as a world-famous polar explorer and photographer. During these explorations, Ms. Boyd assisted National Geographic and even the US Navy during WWII. Ms. Boyd received deserved acclaim for her service. But inexplicably, few people in Marin today know of her and the huge impact she had on Marin and the world. Hers is a fascinating story of being an ignored girl with two older brothers who suddenly died as teenagers, followed shortly thereafter by their parents. This left a young woman who was not raised to run one of Marin's largest estates. She did this despite being unable to open a business, write a check, or charter a ship which she did as the unofficially the captain.

I love attending their lectures and tours as well as reading their newspaper articles. They have had a number of history walks right here in the Dominican neighborhood, including one last year. They focused on some late 19th Century homes on Palm Avenue. Longtime tour leader Marcie Miller has led these informal tours of several dozen people and is a natural entertainer. Marcie gives insight into the events and foibles of the past prominent homes and the residents which have had huge impacts on Marin. Mainly, she's incredibly funny and should be videotaped telling these stories!

Marin History Museum isn't the only historical society in Marin. I've also attended lectures, which I've really enjoyed, by the Ross Historical Society. Ross Historical Society lectures are generally on Thursdays, with a Society also in Tiburon, Sausalito, and even Tomales, among others. So even though I wasn't much of a fan of history class in school, I've started to appreciate it in my retirement, especially local San Rafael History and the Marin History Museum. The Boyd Gatehouse has a tiny gift shop which sells a few books. I particularly love the ones showing maps of the earliest homes in San Rafael, with names we still see on schools, street signs, etc.

It makes me chuckle, appreciate the past, appreciate the present, and reflect enjoyably about how far we've come! Check out marinhistory.org and maybe become a member. Go by and check out this marvelous resource and maybe attend a lecture, take a tour, or just stop by the Boyd Gatehouse!

Chipper Day – Sign Up!

The 2025 season of Marin Wildfire's Chipper Program is currently open for early signups! Pre-season signups for upcoming events in your area go to the noted website below. The program provides for the curbside pickup, chipping, and disposal of vegetation material from residential properties.

You must make a reservation to secure your pickup. It is encouraged that you secure your reservation PRIOR TO constructing your pile. Signups must be made NO LATER THAN the Friday before an upcoming event to guarantee a spot on the pickup list.

Please note the program rules and guidelines as follows. Material in excess of 8" in diameter cannot be chipped. Your pile must not exceed 20 feet x 4 feet x 4 feet. Piles with un-permitted items or any portion of a pile greater than 20x4x4 feet may be left behind and will become the resident's responsibility to remove. Your pile must be within 5' of a place where the truck can access the pile and turn around on a road. Do not place piles where they are blocking a roadway, driveway, or pedestrian path or within 10 feet of a utility pole or fire hydrant.

Please do not bag or tie up your vegetation. Lay all vegetation in your pile the same way with the base of the branch or plant facing toward the street (so that it can be easily picked up and placed in the chipper) at the curb by 8am Monday morning or 8am Wednesday morning depending on what half of the week your event is scheduled for. Preferably piles should be on the uphill side of the drive or road if there is a slope. Piles may not be placed behind fences, closed gates or other similar objects.

For further information and reservation for a pick-up date, go to the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority at: <https://reserve.chipperday.com/marin>



Travel Corner – Send in your experiences

Let's explore the vast interests of our neighborhood residents. When traveling around Marin give some thought to:

1. What is my ideal day in Marin?
2. Where to go?
3. What to see?
4. What to eat?
5. Best memory there?

Please send our ideas and pictures and we will print as many as we are able in our next Newsletter.



Ember Stomp – Save the Date



Save Dominican Valley



An Update from Save Dominican Valley

Go to the SDV website (<https://savedominicanvalley.com/>) for the latest developments. The SDV site is updated regularly and shares valuable information. If you would like to receive timely communications directly, please register your email address on SDV website.

Coleman Elementary School Petition

We, the residents of the Dominican neighborhood, are requesting that the City of San Rafael and San Rafael City Schools consider opening the Coleman Elementary School playground for community use on weekends.

Our neighborhood currently lacks access to a public park or open play space—especially one that’s safe and appropriate for toddlers and young children. As a result, families are left without a nearby option for outdoor recreation, which is essential for healthy childhood development and community well-being.

Coleman Elementary, a public school supported by our tax dollars, sits at the center of our neighborhood. Yet on weekends, its gates remain locked, leaving an otherwise ideal play space unused. We fully understand concerns about maintenance and cleanliness but believe there are realistic solutions we can agree on to provide an open, safe space for our children. We hope to work together to create a more inclusive and livable community for all.

California actively supports shared use of school facilities and funds projects to expand equitable access to recreational spaces. If the school site cannot be made available, then we respectfully urge the City to prioritize building a public park in the Dominican neighborhood.

We believe it's time to invest in solutions that reflect the needs of local families and provide our children with safe, accessible spaces to play and grow. We're ready and willing to be part of that conversation and help identify a path forward.

Thank you for considering this request. We hope to work together to create a more inclusive and livable community for all.

Please go to the link below to sign the Petition. We need all the neighborhood residents' support.

Change.org Petition Link: <https://chnng.it/sRWSWb75Md>

Summer Puzzle

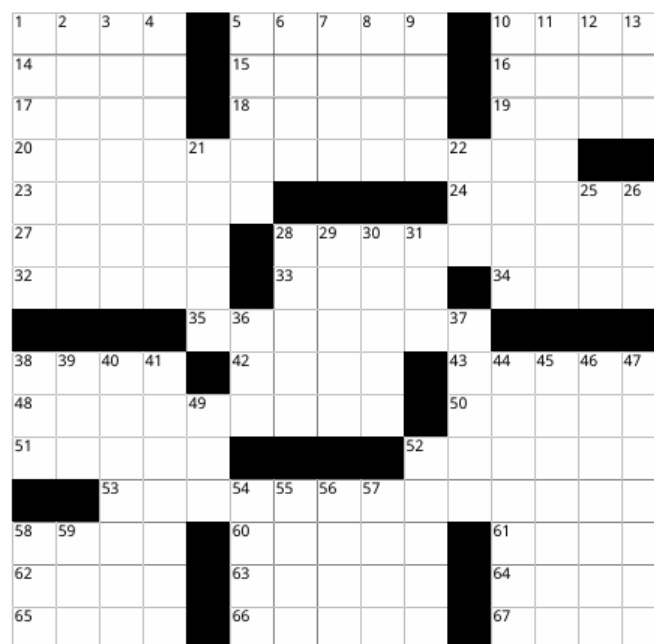
ACROSS

- 1 Liquidate a check
- 5 "___ your mother"
- 10 Sibilant aside
- 14 Disney's "___ & Stitch"
- 15 Tante's husband
- 16 Cubbyhole?
- 17 Ireland's ___ Islands
- 18 A preempted tv show perhaps
- 19 Role in "Young Frankenstein"
- 20 With #35A & #53A, an inspirational quote by #28A
- 23 Elephantine
- 24 Copy command
- 27 Poetically elephantine
- 28 Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
- 32 Proprioception (a seldom mentioned example)
- 33 "I ___ on his very absence.": Portia
- 34 "Marat/___": 1963 play
- 35 See #20A
- 38 Dick's true sweetheart Trueheart
- 42 Former host of "Last Comic Standing"
- 43 A good kind of fibre to have
- 48 Descriptive title for #28A
- 50 Slangy business suffix
- 51 Units of distance
- 52 Duke of the Dodgers

- 53 See #20A
- 58 "A Boy Named Sue" songwriter Silverstein
- 60 The "Nevermore" poet, for short
- 61 Stow in a hold
- 62 McKinnon of "S.N.L."
- 63 Space pioneer
- 64 L'autumnes preceders
- 65 The defunct (?) Red Menace
- 66 "Thou ___ I have more flesh than another man": Falstaff
- 67 Spanish muralist

DOWN

- 1 Actresses Foy and Danes
- 2 Verizon's former in-flight communicator
- 3 A follower of #63A
- 4 The King can bestow these
- 5 Reproduction factory?
- 6 ___ around (close to)
- 7 Several of these can make up le drame
- 8 Trudge
- 9 Game of chance
- 10 Supporting casts?
- 11 Type of wine drink that literally translates as "bloodletting"
- 12 ___ Sauer handguns
- 13 ___-la-la
- 21 Strangers in the night?
- 22 Former railroad regulatory agcy.
- 25 Deg. for a jurist
- 26 The Cavaliers, on the scoreboard
- 28 Data storage location
- 29 Row
- 30 Reversal
- 31 Short bylaw
- 36 Royal navy letters
- 37 Ethnic group of Southeast Asia
- 38 Culinary meas.
- 39 ___ Gamma Delta: Puerto Rican College Sorority
- 40 Potpourri Pots?
- 41 Mean Joe Greene, for example
- 44 Bluejay rivals
- 45 Electromagnetic waves do this
- 46 An editor at times
- 47 Most humongous
- 49 Clase de ingles como segunda lengua (abbrev)
- 52 Depleted
- 54 Charley horses can run amok there
- 55 Leaf cabbage promoted as a superfood
- 56 Fencing option
- 57 Loooooong time
- 58 Product identifier similar to UPC
- 59 "Olympus ___ Fallen" (2013 film)





Favorite Recipes:

Gee's Famous Carrot Cake and Cream Cheese Frosting

Cake:

3 cups grated carrots
 1 ½ cups chopped walnuts
 2 cups white sugar or honey
 1 ½ cups salad oil
 3 teaspoons cinnamon (cloves & nutmeg)
 1 teaspoon salt
 2 teaspoon baking soda
 2 cups cake flour

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
 Shift together dry ingredients
 Mix together wet ingredients
 Combine dry and wet well then mix in walnuts and carrots.
 Bake in well buttered 15'x10' pan for 40-45 mins

Frosting:

8 oz cream cheese – at room temp (softened)
 1 stick butter (1/2 cup) – at room temp (softened)
 1 teaspoon vanilla
 ½ to 1 box powdered sugar

Mix cream cheese and butter well.
 Add vanilla and powdered sugar until smooth
 Use milk for thinning to desired stiffness

Neighborhood Update:

Community Firewise Certification

Be sure to visit our website [Dominican Neighborhood News](https://www.dominicanneighborhoodnews.com) to obtain a copy of the Firewise certificate for 2025 to share with your fire insurance company. We are a Firewise community, and with that many insurance companies offer a discount on your fire insurance policy.



Dominican University Campus Venue Rentals

Looking for space to host a gathering? Consider the beautiful Dominican University of California campus for your next business or personal event. Dominican offers year round venue rental space that is appropriate for any occasion, and rental fees are reasonable in comparison to the bay area average.

To learn more, please visit <https://www.dominican.edu/directory/campus-and-venue-rental> or email events@dominican.edu.

DBCNA Committee: Disaster Emergency Preparedness

It became clear with the recent earthquakes, tsunami warnings, floods, as well as wildfires, we needed to change our focus to include all forms of disaster. In past years, we have conducted evacuation drills in coordination with San Rafael Fire Department and have added to our website huge amounts of information for our residents to pull what they need to prepare themselves and their loved ones. This information is not exclusively for fire but for all disasters.

Our newly appointed Chairperson for the Disaster Emergency Preparedness Committee has attended the Emergency Preparedness Committee meetings of the Point San Pedro Road Coalition. While DBCNA is not an official member, the Coalition kindly allowed various members of the DBCNA BOD to attend their lectures.

Please visit our website [Dominican Area News](#) for more information on the Committee activities.

With our focus widened, the Firewise group has become part of the Disaster Emergency Preparedness Committee. The Firewise group has provided us with an update on the latest information surrounding “Zone 0” which we have added to the information on our website. With the immense losses from the LA fires, California’s Governor is working on leading the “5 feet of defensible space around our homes” cause. We in DBCNA have been practicing and have been given information on this subject in years past. While the new Zone 0 information is not expected to be available until December, you can read the group’s update on our website. Additionally, there is a huge amount of information from SFRD and leading experts on our website for you to draw on as you prepare your home and property.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of the Emergency Disaster Preparedness Committee, please reach out to us on our email DBCNA.info@gmail.com and our chairperson will contact you.

Night Wildfire Surveillance and Detection

A concerned neighbor recently reached out to the Association with some valuable information on nighttime surveillance for wildfires.

There is a long-standing concern about wind-blown fires going undetected in the wee hours of the night. How are we being protected as we sleep? One of our Board members offers a historical look at what has been done and continues to be done by Marin Fire. They have made a concentrated effort and suggestions that homeowners do the same to protect their property. The Fire Department has been clearing the underbrush, using goats, clearing along access roads and having foot patrols to help with unhoused encampments in the wooded areas in and around San Rafael.

The San Rafael Fire Department responded to our neighbor’s inquiry and our neighbor shares that information with you.

“Good afternoon and thank you for your patience with my response to your question. I appreciate your long-standing concern regarding nighttime wildfire detection, and I want to assure you that this issue is a priority for us.

Since your previous discussions with SFRD, significant advancements have been made in fire detection technology. Marin County is now leveraging the **ALERTCalifornia** system, a partnership between the University of California, San Diego, and CAL FIRE. This system consists of over 1,000 cameras statewide, including more than 20 positioned within and adjacent to Marin County. These cameras provide 24/7/365 monitoring, completing a full 360-degree sweep every two minutes, day and night.

Most importantly, the system uses artificial intelligence to detect anomalies that could indicate fire. If an anomaly is identified in Marin County, an immediate alert is sent to the Emergency Communications Center (ECC), where dispatchers and Fire Duty Officers review the footage in real time. If there is any indication of smoke or fire, a response is initiated immediately—even if confirmation is uncertain. Additionally, every verified detection helps improve the AI's ability to differentiate between fire and false alarms.

While community reports via 911 remain the main notification fire detection, AI-driven system greatly enhances our ability to detect fires, particularly at night. In fact, **ALERTCalifornia** has already proven effective in early detections across the state, sometimes identifying smoke even before the first 911 call comes in.

Systems like **ALERTCalifornia** provide valuable tools, but there is currently no widely deployed or proven remote sensing system that can reliably detect wildfires in real time without significant human involvement.

We recognize that wildfire preparedness requires a multi-faceted approach—from vegetation management to emergency alerts and evacuations. Nighttime fire detection is now a key part of that strategy, and we are actively working to integrate it with our overall wildfire response system.

There are three **ALERTWildfire** cameras—Mt. Tam, San Pedro, and San Rafael Hill—that have visibility into the Dominican Black Canyon area. The map models visibility is based on a 50-foot-tall smoke column, which is more conservative than the state standard of 100 feet. This approach to better reflects true ground-level coverage. As you'll see, the area benefits from strong overall coverage, with only a few small gaps."



Dominican Sisters Property



Last month we brought you an article about the addition of new signage on the front lawn of the Dominican Sisters Convent property. The Sisters have since added picnic tables and benches to help welcome neighbors to enjoy their lovely front lawn area. When we were informed by the Sisters, we thanked them for their contribution to the neighborhood.

Since that time, the Sisters have seen an influx of dog poop bags dropped on their property and a couple of weeks ago we noticed this sign posted on the corner of the Sisters' property. The Sisters have found poop bags in their bushes, in their gardens, and on their lawn. They have taken measures to reduce the ability to hide the bags under their fence by cutting back the plants. Please, please whoever is doing this – stop! We are so fortunate to have this small patch of lawn to use for picnicking and run our dogs. Please do not ruin it for the rest of the neighborhood.

Thank you for stepping up and taking your trash with you when you leave the Sisters' property.



Santa Sabina Building Renovations

The Hoffman Institute Foundation is honored and excited to be part of this historic and beautiful neighborhood! As many of you know, HIF purchased the Santa Sabina Retreat Center from the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael June 2024.



We will begin renovations with construction beginning the first part of June. For everyone's safety, we'll be closing off the parking lot to prevent pedestrian access near the building during construction. We look forward to offering our programs at Santa Sabina Retreat Center starting early 2026.

Who we are: The Hoffman Institute Foundation is a non-profit organization providing transformative adult education programs based on emotional healing and spiritual growth. The Hoffman Quadrinity Process® - the main program offered - founded in 1967, is a week-long residential and personal growth retreat that helps individuals identify negative behaviors, moods, and ways of thinking that developed unconsciously and were conditioned in childhood.

As a recognized leader in this field, we welcome over 2,000 students annually to our week-long residential retreats offered in California, Connecticut and Alberta. With affiliated Hoffman Centers in 14 countries, we have over 135,000 graduates worldwide.

For more information: www.hoffmaninstitute.org.



Orange Safety Flags

The Safety Committee recently spent a Saturday morning refreshing the orange pedestrian alert crosswalk buckets and flags. We replaced the signage, added flags for those who didn't return from their flight south for the winter, and cleaned out the buckets of the trash. One bucket appears to have been smashed and was replaced. If there is an intersection in your area which could use safety flags/bucket, please write to DBCNA.info@gmail.com and a committee member will respond.

Looking for Volunteers and Participants

We're looking for new voices and fresh energy to volunteer on one of the DBCNA Committees or join the Board of Directors. If you've ever thought, I'd love to help make our community even better, this is your moment. Come meet the current board, ask questions, and see how you can get involved – no pressure, just possibilities. Just email DBCNA.info@gmail.com or attend our Board meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (no December meeting) in the DU Edgehill Mansion, Legacy Room. We meet from 7:00p to 8:30p. We look forward to seeing you.

Answers to the Summer Newsletter Puzzle

1	C	A	S	H		5	G	O	A	S	K		10	P	S	12	13
14	L	I	L	O		15	O	N	C	L	E		16	L	A	I	R
17	A	R	A	N		18	N	O	T	O	N		19	I	N	G	A
20	I	F	Y	O		21	U	A	R	E	G	O		22	I	N	G
23	R	O	T	U	N	D							24	C	T	R	L
27	E	N	O	R	M								28	C	H	I	L
32	S	E	N	S	E								33	D	O	T	E
						35	T	H	R	O	U	G		37			
38	T	E	S			42	M	O	H	R			43	M	O	R	A
48	S	T	A	T	E		49	S	M	A	N		50	O	R	A	M
51	P	A	C	E	S							52	S	N	I	D	E
						53	H	E	L	L			54	L	K	E	
58	S	H	E	L								60	E	A	P	O	E
62	K	A	T	E								63	G	L	E	N	N
65	U	S	S	R								66	S	F	E	S	T
												67	S	C	R	E	T

DBCNA Membership Form:

Date: _____

Please complete this registration form. (One form per household)

If renewing, kindly indicate any changes – otherwise provide only **mobile and landline telephone numbers**.☐ **NEW MEMBERSHIP** ☐ **RENEWAL** ☐ **Check if any changes to email/phone****SECTION 1: MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION**

NAME			
Additional Name			
ADDRESS		LANDLINE PHONE	
TOWN/CITY	San Rafael	MOBILE PHONE	
ZIP CODE	94901	PRIMARY EMAIL	
		Additional EMAIL	

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP AND PAYMENT DETAILS

	DESCRIPTION	MEMBERSHIP DUES (Annual)
Membership Optional Donation	Household Membership	\$40
	Optional Donation	
	Total	
PAYMENT METHOD	☐ Personal Check ☐ Cash ☐ Online Payment	

To pay online with PayPal: Go to <https://dominicanareanews.com/>**To pay by check:** Send this form with a check made payable to: DBCNA, P.O. Box 151702, San Rafael, CA 94915-1702**SECTION 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please indicate if you would be willing to help with any of the activities listed below:

☐ Social Events ☐ Deliver Newsletters ☐ Write newsletter or web articles ☐ Disaster Preparedness ☐ Crime & Safety Committee ☐ Web Postings
☐ Membership Committee ☐ Serve on the Board ☐ Other _____

Thank you for being a member!