



Dominican Black Canyon Neighborhood Association

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

Message from the DBCNA President

I'm writing this on the eve of yet another atmospheric river heading to the Bay Area. After the numerous downed trees, properties affected, power outages, raging waters, we find ourselves welcoming the budding trees, the daffodils, the bees buzzing, and Spring arriving. It's hard to think we would ever have another "Fire Season", yet I hope many of you have heeded the advice from our lectures last Fall on home hardening and getting your properties ready for the upcoming fire season. The ground is soft and no better time to clear out greenery that borders your homes.

Since our last newsletter, we have had the Cocktail Party at the Elks Club. Many of you who came admitted some hesitation of the location outside the neighborhood but by the end of the most enjoyable evening, all who attended had a thoroughly fun time. Thanks for trusting. Due to changes beyond our control, the Marin Tennis Club will no longer be able to host these events. We are looking into options. We hope you all will accept the change, attend to meet your neighbors and enjoy some laughter.

Our Association was asked to help support the donation of 2.6 acres of privately held land. This land was then donated to Marin Open Space Trust (M.O.S.T.) who has turned it over to the City of San Rafael. For those of you who wrote letters of support, Thank you. This acquisition of land is now part of Barbier Park and Gold Hill Open Space, ~500 acres of contiguous land for all of us to enjoy.

We have heard from our Fire Chief Darin White regarding spotty cellular services in parts of our neighborhood. If you would like to read his detailed response, please email us at dbcna.info@gmail.com.

We are planning talks for our Semi-Annual meetings considering such topics as living in partnership with coyotes, learning about the owls we hear, and climate change. We are interested in doing another evacuation drill and an event for our youngsters living in our neighborhood.

We need your ideas. We need your enthusiasm. We need your membership.

We urge you to join and/or renew your membership. Participate in our social and educational offerings. Be a good citizen by driving slowly through our streets and throwing trash in the provided receptacles. And, lastly, volunteer to be a part of the Board or a volunteer for a specific task.

We are planning to deliver the Fall newsletter via email. Please provide your name and email so that you do not miss out on the informative newsletter. Look inside this newsletter to find out how to do so.

Kathy Burwell, DBCNA President



Firewise Art by Nathan

DBCNA Semi-Annual Meeting
Saturday May 13, 2023 @ 10:00am
Trinity Community Church 1675 Grand Ave



Urban Coyotes: How to keep pets safe, coyotes wild and rodents nervous.

Project Coyote will entertain, inform, and offer rare glimpses into the true nature of coyotes. Whether you love them or hate them, you will leave with practical, effective tips for reducing conflicts with coyotes and the other wild animals who live amongst us.

Presenter: Keli Hendricks lives and works on the Bar C R Ranch in Petaluma. A former professional horse trainer, Keli now devotes her time to helping wildlife as a volunteer with Sonoma County Wildlife Rescue, serves as Project Coyotes' Ranching Wildlife Coordinator, VP of the Little Trooper Ranch(a non-profit dog rescue), and she serves on the Sonoma County Fish and Wildlife Commission. Keli was named Sonoma County Volunteer of The Year for 2022 for her tireless work on behalf of people and animals.

Safety and Crime Committee

You know the old adage, no news is good news....well, that is what we are here to report. The neighborhood has been quiet over the winter months. We would like to applaud the actions of the neighborhood drivers for their continued support of the orange buckets/flags at dangerous crosswalks. Thank you – thank you!!

We will be conducting a refurbishment of the buckets as some have fallen into a bit of disrepair. We will also be installing new orange flags as most of our older flags seem to have migrated south for the winter or to other locations where they are performing other safety deeds. If there are any other crosswalks in your immediate area where you would like to have a bucket/flags installed, please send your request to DBCNA email DBCNA.info@gmail.com

We will respond promptly and get busy on making/installing an orange bucket/flags at the site you have specified.

Thank you again for your support!

“Report from San Rafael Police Lieutenant:

April was Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Officers conducted distracted driving enforcement as part of a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National

Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Distracted driving is not only very dangerous, it's also illegal. If you have an important phone call, text, email, or in a situation with other distractions, pull over.



WE ALWAYS WANT NEW VOICES & FRESH IDEAS!

Our neighborhood association, as far as we can tell, has been in existence since the 1950's. Ideas for gathering as neighbors have changed overtime. We are interested in your ideas!

- For our younger families, a Halloween Pumpkin decorating party or an Easter Egg Hunt?
- For our teens, would you like a Turkey Trot, a fun-run, a go-cart race?
- For the adults, would you like a cocktail party, a themed dinner/ dance party?

To get involved in the Dominican Black Canyon Neighborhood Association, contact us at DBCNA.info@gmail.com. For meeting information, upcoming events, and local area news, visit our website at www.dominicanareanews.com. We appreciate our volunteers who join the Board as well as help on a single event. What are your interests?

MESSAGE FROM DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

Dominican University is delighted to see so many neighbors enjoying our beautiful grounds and attending many of the events held in Angelico Concert Hall and the Conlan Center. Are you also aware of the transformative education we offer at this 135-year-old institution? In this issue of the DBCNA newsletter we will introduce you to some of our students, alumni, and faculty. Their diverse backgrounds add rich perspectives to our campus and neighborhood community.

Meet some of our “Penguin” alumni:

~**Jacquelyn Torres '21** realized how a career in higher education aligned with her commitment to educational equity. Now a master's student at the **University of Pennsylvania's** MS Ed program, Jacquelyn is drawing on her Dominican experiences while working as a graduate assistant at Civic House, Penn's hub for civic engagement and social justice education.

~**Melia Granath-Panelo MS '21**, equipped with exceptional research training gained in the MS in Biological Sciences offered in partnership with the **Buck Institute for Research on Aging**, is now enrolled as a PhD student at **Harvard University** while fellow student

~**Alejandro Lopez-Ramirez '14, MS '20** is studying for his PhD at the **University of Notre Dame**.

~**Cole Henderson '21** was studying abroad in Italy when his work was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This fall the business major returned to Europe, this time as a master's student studying bioeconomy at **The Technical University of Munich**.

~**Salma Abdulkader '20** enrolled in an introductory international relations course at Dominican At the time, she didn't realize this would be one of those life-changing moments at that lead to her further her studies at **The University of Chicago** in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

~**Chris DeMarco '09, MBA '11**, assistant coach for the **Golden State Warriors**, thinks any student or student-athlete would be naturally attracted to come to Dominican. “I love the whole Bay Area, but I tell anybody who will listen around here they are missing out if they don't spend time in Marin,” he says. “To be able to play a sport at Dominican in a location like San Rafael, it doesn't get any better than that.”

Submitted by DU administrative staff

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Semi-Annual DBCNA Meeting

May 13, 2023 @ 10:00 – Living in Partnership with Coyotes, Speaker Keli Hendricks from Project Coyote
Trinity Church- Main Meeting Room

Summer Scoop

Saturday September 9, 2023, 2-4pm

Disaster Drill – Conceptual, time and date TBD so stay-tuned!

Volunteers interested in assisting our Firewise Committee are welcome to join.

Family/Children Halloween Party - This has been proposed, we are looking for volunteers to spearhead!

October 28, 2023 (tentative)

Cocktail Party - IT'S COMING BACK - February 2024



DBCNA.Info@Gmail.com

Marin Ballet - Celebrates 60 years!

The history of Marin Ballet reflects the steady growth of Marin's arts culture, the blossoming of regional dance schools across the United States, and ever-demanding educational and extracurricular expectations facing today's youth. Marin Ballet remains vibrant and dynamic across decades of change due to its main assets: enthusiastic students of all ages, dance professionals dedicated to a standard of excellence, families and volunteers who value the arts, and ownership of a state-of-the-arts training and performance facility.

The Leona Norman School of Dance garnered community recognition in the 1950s and in 1963 was incorporated as the Marin Civic Ballet, a non-profit organization founded by Max and Phyllis Thelen. In 1972, a visionary board of directors acquired the 100 Elm Street property for the school, and shortly thereafter the new Marin Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium offered a sophisticated theater for Marin Ballet's annual Nutcracker performances.

In subsequent decades, the school's six studios and Phyllis Thelen Studio/Theater have filled to capacity under the guidance of devoted artistic directors, teachers, and choreographers. Some students became professional dancers, such as Cynthia Harvey of American Ballet Theatre, Cynthia Lucas of the National Ballet of Canada, Jane Greene of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Joanna Berman and Alexandra McCullagh Newman of San Francisco Ballet, and John Lam of Boston Ballet. Whether a professional dancer or lifelong student, all have become highly accomplished dancers by high school graduation, with deeply-embedded life skills and appreciation of the arts. Both Jane Greene and Cynthia Lucas have been Dominican area residents.

Marin Ballet has pioneered educational outreach and community partnerships, serving specific areas such as Marin City and San Rafael's Canal neighborhood, and custom-tailored dance programs for elementary and middle schools. A generous portion of its students study on scholarship, and hundreds of free Nutcracker tickets are given to underserved families. Currently, Marin Ballet partners with Dominican University by providing training and rehearsal space for the college's Dance Major.

To view Marin Ballet's current class offerings for students ages 3 – 73, please visit marinballet.org or drop by the ballet building at 100 Elm Street, San Rafael. For more information, call 415-453-6705.

Note- the photo is of the founder, Leona Norman, with two students



Spring Is Here – yippee!!

Finally, spring is here and summer is rapidly approaching! With our beautiful weather more people will be out walking in San Rafael, please be careful when you are driving around the neighborhood.

Our WEBSITE is down – boo, hoo, hoo.

Please pay your dues via PayPal or mail a check: PO Box 151702 San Rafael, 94915

LOCAL COLEMAN SCHOOL HISTORY

Did you know Coleman School once sat at the corner of Grand Avenue and Linden Lane?

Opened in 1910, it relocated in 1941 to Rafael Avenue. When it was rebuilt in 2005, it became the first entirely new school to be built in the county since the 1960's! Then Principal Ruth Reynolds and Coleman parent Alicia Klein took on leadership for this building project.

Our school is named for one of California's most famous pioneers, William Tell Coleman (1824-1893).

He came to San Rafael in the 1850's and was very successful in the shipping business and in the mining of borax. But these were wild and lawless days in San Francisco. It was our William Coleman who founded the Vigilantes to bring about law and order in the City.

Coleman was one of the earliest investors in San Rafael, helping to bring the railroad here and establish our water system. The magnificent Hotel Rafael, located approximately where Coleman sits today, was one of his projects. And he built himself a large mansion on the grounds as well! From vigilante to benefactor and investor, William T. Coleman left quite a legacy in California, and we are proud to have our school bear his name!

Researched and submitted by Coleman School



Happenings at Coleman School!

⇒ **Volunteer!** Would you like to find out how you can help support Coleman School? Volunteering on campus is one way. Claudia Alvarenga, our wonderful administrative assistant, can answer any questions you may have. (calvarenga@srcs.org) Sara Sonnet can always use helpers in the Library!

⇒ **Support our Coleman Tigers!** stop by the school office and pick up a scrip card for United Market. Then each time you shop you'll be donating to Coleman! Book Passage will also donate if you mention Coleman as you check out!

⇒ **Dine and Donate!** Announcements on Facebook for Coleman!

(colemanschoolpto@gmail.com)

⇒ **Coleman School Book Fair!** May 1-5. Come on by! And take a look around our wonderful Coleman School!

Thank You Dominican Neighbors!

Thank you, City of San Rafael, for passing bond measure C in November. The bond will be used to modernize our facilities, a much-welcomed project. One of the most exciting projects is the replacement of our portables with new buildings.

Please join us to provide input during our Coleman School Site Team meeting on April 19, at 5:30 pm in the library. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at apecck@srcs.org.

Alex Peck, Principal of Coleman Elementary School



More information found at
<https://www.srcs.org/>



Firewise in DBC Neighborhood

After a most welcome wet winter, we would all like to think drought and fire concerns are in the rear-view mirror. But another summer and fire season, subject to unrelenting climate change impacts, lie just ahead. The DBCNA Firewise Committee is one of the 74 Marin Firewise committees and part of the national Firewise USA organization. Our work focuses on assisting neighbors to prepare themselves, our homes, and our properties against the threat of wildfire.

Together with the San Rafael Fire Department, the DBCNA committee organizes informational and educational events on topics including evacuation, emergency alert notifications, "go-bags", vegetation removal, maintaining defensible space, grant availability and insurance issues. We also organize Chipper Days and evacuation drills. A neighborhood walk is planned to reassess hazards and note areas still needing improvement. As we move into summer and fire season, these are ongoing and important concerns for all of us.

To find out more or to sign up for the DBCNA Firewise Committee, contact Co--Chairs: Belle Cole (415-847-8479) or Greg Brockbank (415-717-7056) or email DBCNA.Info@gmail.com.



Firewise Art by Jade



STAY CONNECTED-DIGITIZE!

We want to make our bi-annual newsletter digitized at least once per year! This will save trees, money, and volunteer hours. We need your email address to send you the newsletter as well as Mail Chimp notifications of urgent messages which provides active links to City of San Rafael emergency resources, and notification of meetings and social events. We do not share or sell these addresses and they will only be used by the Association for related events or services. You do not need to be a paying member to receive these notifications.

The Fall 2023 Newsletter will come to you via Email!!

EMAIL to DBCNA.INFO@gmail.com We will add you to the list!



Spare Newspaper Bags?

Let's re-use them! Take a walk to the Dominican Campus (or Grand/ Belle) and add to the dog bag containers. Help encourage everyone to pick up after their pet.

Created and submitted by John Contini

PUZZLE TIME

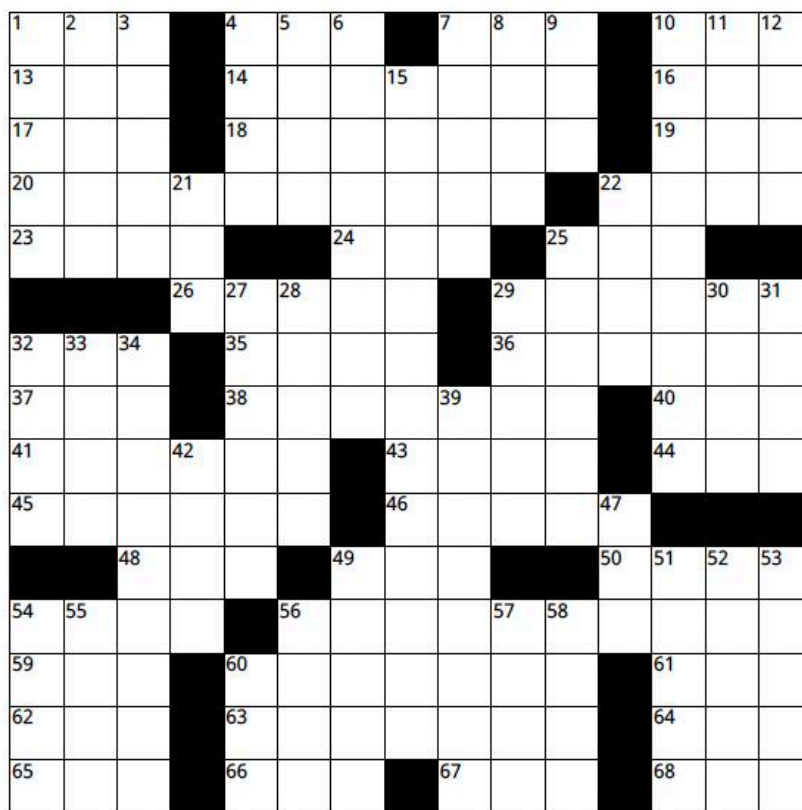
ACROSS

- 1 * What you might find waiting at the SMART train station
 4 Final: Abbr.
 7 Doctors' org.
 10 Soviet spy org.
 13 * ___ Hardware on Fourth Street
 14 Researched, in a way
 16 Latin 101 word
 17 Genetic letters
 18 Rapper-turned-act or in "NCIS: Los Angeles"
 19 Scotland's longest river
 20 * Rafael ____ : social and athletic center on Belle Ave
 22 Curve in the road
 23 Sailing
 24 Tack on
 25 Fond du __, Wisconsin
 26 * ___ Pottery in Sausalito
 29 * Street on the south side of United Market
 32 Consume
 35 Smoothie berry
 36 Simpson with the 2005 album "I Am Me"
 37 Bigger than med.
 38 Moves an appointment on the schedule
 40 Wrath
 41 Panda's skill, in a 2008 film
 43 Roman 57
 44 Neither's partner
 45 Parody
 46 * Permanent residents at the Civic Center Lagoon?
 48 Suffix with ether or arbor

- 49 What my wife says when I turn down the heat
 50 Suffixes with mountain and cannon
 54 On a tight schedule
 56 * Region of Marin County near the Dutra quarry (2 words)
 59 Double curve
 60 * Forest ____ Amphitheatre in Dominican University
 61 "Much __ About Nothing"
 62 Go out with
 63 Off Broadway's ____ Group
 64 The Divine, to da Vinci
 65 Mao __-Tung
 66 @ symbols
 67 Suffix with trick or witch
 68 * ___ Food : Puerto Rican restaurant on Lincoln Ave

DOWN

- 1 Magna ____
 2 Teen skin ailments
 3 "Moneyball" Oakland A baseball exec Billy ____
 4 Aptly named fruit
 5 Chuckles online
 6 Some compositions by #22D
 7 One way to think
 8 One of the Spice Girl
 9 Noun modifier: Abbr.
 10 * Mayor of San Rafael
 11 FBI agent



- 12 * ___ Gatehouse in San Rafael (on the National Register of Historic Places.)
 15 * The fire road leading up into Barbier Memorial Park (3 words)
 21 "Uh-uh"
 22 "The Well-Tempered Clavier" composer
 25 "___ more" part of the minimalist approach to artistic matters (2 words)
 27 Sharp scolding
 28 Have an __ one's sleeve (2 words)
 29 French composer Erik
 30 Fiddling emperor
 31 * Permanent residents in our neighborhood

- 32 * ___ Lodge: Site of the last DBCNA cocktail party
 33 Chills and fever
 34 * ___ Valley in the Marin Headlands
 39 Tab, for one
 42 Aussie greeting
 47 "A mouse!"
 49 Boyfriends
 51 "Holy smokes!"
 52 * "___ Shack" in Corte Madera Town Center
 53 Sewing kit item
 54 * ___ Burgers in Montecito Plaza
 55 Functions
 56 Animal hide
 57 Horse of the Century "Man ____"
 58 Quartet that covered "Woodstock," initially
 60 CEO's degree

Dominican Sisters- Building Remodel Project and Respond to Pope's Challenge

Hello neighbors and Happy Spring! With weather delays hopefully behind us, our building project on our Grand Avenue property is getting back on track. While the delays have affected our overall timeline, the plan and purpose remain the same. We are continuing our efforts to facilitate the care needs of our senior Sisters with both dignity and appropriate accommodations and so we are in the process of a remodel of Dominican Convent (located at 1540 Grand Avenue) which includes an extension into the existing back parking lot. Since completing the permitting process through the City of San Rafael, work began in fall 2022. Any displaced sisters have been reassigned to Our Lady of Lourdes Convent, St. Margaret's Convent, and Jane d'Aza House, as well as our convents in San Francisco.

This project has helped us seize a tremendous opportunity to be the agents of change we endeavor to be. The Dominican Sisters are committed to the challenge of Pope Francis in his *Laudato Si'* letter which calls the global community to act in the name of climate justice. As preachers of truth, love, and justice, the Sisters are meeting this challenge by the addition of solar panels to the carports and the roof

of Dominican Convent which will meet the energy needs of three San Rafael convents.

- Jane D'Aza House already has solar panels and will add battery storage for night and power outage backup.
- St. Margaret's Convent electric power will come from the new solar panels.
- Dominican Convent renovation incorporates the use of electric heat pumps for a HVAC system, electric lights, and hot water, drawing power from the new solar panels and be equipped with battery backups.

The remodel and extension of Dominican Convent will provide for the needs of the Sisters into the future as Sisters retire and need to move to back San Rafael. R

As with any construction or building project, there are many things out of our control, however, we are planning a completion by late spring 2024. We ask for your prayers and patience and extend a fervent plea to "pardon our dust." Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Prioress Sr. Carla Kovack, OP at 415.453.8303

Eileen. M. Mize, Director of Communications and Advancement, Dominican Sisters

Lifesaving Skills Training...

In this free 3-hour training course, you will learn Hands-Only CPR, Automated External Defibrillator, Stop the Bleed, and Narcan administration. This course replaces the FADR training that was previously offered.

The Marin Medical Reserve Corp (MMRC) has scheduled Lifesaving Skills Training classes for the following dates:

Tuesday, May 23, at 2 PM at the Marin Health & Wellness Campus in San Rafael

Tuesday May 31 at 5:30 PM at the Lagunitas Elementary School

Tuesday, July 11 at 6:00 PM at Hamilton Community Center, Novato,



Tuesday, July 18 at 2 PM at Marin Health & Wellness Campus in San Rafael

Monday, August 7 at 6:00 PM at Inverness Volunteer Fire Department

Tuesday, September 19 at 2:00 PM at Marin Health & Wellness Campus in San Rafael

Thursday, October 19 at 7:00 PM at Corte Madera Community Center

Tuesday, November 14 at 2:00 PM at Marin Health & Wellness Campus in San Rafael

You can register for Lifesaving Skills Training classes

[MMRC Eventbrite sign-up website -
https://www.eventbrite.com/o/marin-medical-reserve-corps-10692501218](https://www.eventbrite.com/o/marin-medical-reserve-corps-10692501218)