



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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 [facebook.com/  
SleepyHollowHomesAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/SleepyHollowHomesAssociation)

 [instagram.com/shhassociation](https://www.instagram.com/shhassociation)

 [twitter.com/SHHAssociation](https://twitter.com/SHHAssociation)

### SAVE THE DATE

Screenagers, Feb 29  
Keeping Our Kids Safe: One Pill  
Can Kill, Mar 10  
Presbyterian Church Tomato Sale,  
Apr 13  
Spring Gala, Saturday June 1

### Hello friends and neighbors!

Dave Baker here, incoming president of the SHHA. As I take the reins from Gina Singleton I do so with genuine thanks for her dedication. Serving on several boards and committees, Gina's efforts fan out into numerous aspects of community life here in the Hollow and, frankly, I'm not sure how she does it all. Thank you, Gina!

2024 is off to an exciting start in ways both planned and unplanned. The big "Unplanned" around here being storms the weekend of February 3rd and their attendant multi-day power outage.

Our all-volunteer board leapt to action, opening the clubhouse to give the community access to a warm, well-lit space with high-speed internet. That connectivity (and the ability to conduct wifi calls on most modern cell phones) is a mighty asset to this community.

We are aware that a couple of days into the outage, some users had difficulty accessing the internet after logging on. Just days prior to the outage, an entirely new network system was installed, and we are working closely with the provider to ensure that our access is robust in the face of high demand. At our busiest, we had roughly 500 unique devices connect to the network over the course of a single day, and we're in the process of implementing adjustments to ensure a trouble-free network going forward.

All that power and light was made possible by our onsite natural gas-powered generator. With this system supporting the community for multiple days, an early resilience goal from our renovation has been realized and we are grateful to all whose SHHA membership dues and contributions make this possible ongoing.

In the "Planned" column, changes and enhancements are coming to our membership offerings!

I'll first mention, if you like your SHHA membership as it is, those membership tiers and options remain essentially unchanged. That said, we know there is

a great deal of buzz around our expanded offerings, so here's a quick rundown of what's available:

**Lap Swim:** Over the past couple of years we've piloted a volunteer-monitored lap swim offering during Spring and Fall shoulder seasons. That program has cultivated a devoted following of swimmers who appreciate 3-season exercise at our beautiful pool; it has worked thanks to active coordination and signup of volunteer monitors. Going forward, that program will have reliable published hours, without a regular need for volunteer monitors!

**Fitness:** In addition to our popular weekday fitness classes, our new fitness room is set up and ready for use on your schedule (thanks in part to our new member access system rolling out this month - stay tuned!)

**Tennis:** We've partnered with the Sleepy Hollow Tennis Club to enable Tennis memberships to be bundled with your SHHA annual dues. The club plays on the courts at San Domenico - a setting that's hard to beat! As my wife Emily will attest, this is a fabulous resource for tennis players of all ages and abilities. Lessons with a pro are also available!

You'll find that each of these features is priced reasonably relative to similar offerings in neighboring communities - something the board has worked to ensure. Each option can be purchased ala carte or bundled.

### ONE OF A KIND!

For this intro letter, had there not been such hot topics to discuss, my intent was primarily to reflect on the one-of-a-kind nature of Sleepy Hollow. Platitudes abound when describing just about any geographically blessed California neighborhood, but I've traveled enough to recognize just how unique our community is.

From its beginnings, Sleepy Hollow was made special by a uniquely community minded ethos, reflected in both the



# News & Notes from Supervisor Katie Rice

SHHA February 2024

## To 2024!

Happy New Year! It is always exciting to turn the corner into a new year, and 2024 is no exception. As you may have heard, this will be my last year serving as County Supervisor and I intend to make the most of it! Working

with and for the residents and communities of Marin's District 2 and the county at-large has been the honor and privilege of a lifetime. Together, we have made major progress on projects large and small, and on today's critically important issues, as well as what our community may face in the future. I look forward to continuing to work closely with SHHA leadership, neighbors, and the community at large until the very last day of my term.

## SHORT TERM RENTALS

STRs have been a subject of discussion, study and regulation in communities across Marin. Over the past several years, multiple cities and towns have regulated their use, with rules ranging from a complete ban on STRs in Larkspur, to no restrictions in San Anselmo, to limits on the number of nights an STR can be rented out per year in Fairfax.

The Board of Supervisors has had STRs on its radar since 2018 when we adopted an initial set of rules addressing nuisance STRs, requiring business licenses and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) registration, etc. The board has also been concerned about the growing number of STRs in West Marin generally, and their impact on the availability and cost of community housing. In 2022, the Board adopted a moratorium on new STRs in West Marin to provide time for additional analysis, community outreach, and ultimately the potential development of STR regulations across coastal and unincorporated Marin.

On January 11, a draft STR ordinance was brought before the Board. Following a five hour public hearing, we approved a draft STR ordinance covering all of unincorporated Marin. The

regulation caps the number of STRs in our coastal West Marin communities (except for Seadrift and Dillon Beach) at the number of registered STRs as of May 2022). The ordinance also places an overall countywide cap of 1200 for unincorporated Marin. There are currently 604 licenses for properties in coastal/West Marin, and 302 STRs in eastern Marin. The new ordinance allows for roughly 120 additional STRs in unincorporated East Marin.

The updated ordinance is intended to help preserve existing long-term housing in West Marin, while maintaining opportunities for overnight visitor accommodations and supporting residents who depend on STR income. The new ordinance will not go into effect until it is reviewed by the Coastal Commission and then formally adopted by our board. Additional details, including a copy of the amended ordinance and other information is available on the county's short term rentals webpage at [marincounty.org/main/short-term-rentals](http://marincounty.org/main/short-term-rentals).

## FOX LANE TRAIL

In addition to annual wildfire prevention projects across the Sleepy Hollow/Terra Linda Divide, Marin County Parks will be making exciting improvements to the Fox Lane Trail. This .22 mile long trail connects the southern and northern Terra Linda Open Space Preserves between the end of Fox Lane and Mission Path. The project includes widening the trail to about 5 feet, improving sight lines by trimming vegetation, and installing new trail signage. The work will begin this spring and take about 3-4 weeks to complete. Parks will install informational signs at either end of the trail before beginning the trail improvements. Contact Jon Campo at Marin County Parks ([jon.campo@marincounty.gov](mailto:jon.campo@marincounty.gov)) for more information.

Please never hesitate to contact me or my staff with your questions, comments, concerns. You can reach me at [katie.rice@marincounty.gov](mailto:katie.rice@marincounty.gov). We are here to help.

Supervisor Katie Rice, who has represented the 2<sup>nd</sup> District which includes Sleepy Hollow, is not running for re-election on March 5. Four candidates are running to represent us.

As an unincorporated area the county is our most direct and local representative. The SHHA works closely with this office on issues such as cell service, pedestrian safety and fire protection. The SHHA does not take positions on candidates or campaigns, but we encourage you to inform yourself on this office which impacts all of our daily lives.

We appreciate your time and attention on this and remind you to make sure you are registered to vote at your current address. You can double check your registration status at: [voterstatus.sos.ca.gov](http://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov). Voters who receive ballots in the mail should receive them shortly and the Log Cabin is now our closest drop off location. California now allows same day voter registration. So if you have moved or need to register you can do so online up to Feb. 20 or in person. Please call the Marin County Elections Department with any questions: 415.499.6456.

Candidate websites: Brian Colbert ([colbertforsupervisor.com](http://colbertforsupervisor.com)), Heather McPhail Sridharan ([heatherformarin.com](http://heatherformarin.com)), Ryan O'Neil ([ryanmarin.com](http://ryanmarin.com)), Gabe Paulson ([gabeforsupervisor.org](http://gabeforsupervisor.org))

Additional resources: Marin IJ: [marinij.com/2024/01/28/ross-valley-supervisorial-candidates-outline-top-goals](http://marinij.com/2024/01/28/ross-valley-supervisorial-candidates-outline-top-goals). LWV Marin Candidate Forum: [marinlwv.org/candidate-forums-352024](http://marinlwv.org/candidate-forums-352024)

## Sleepy Hollow County Supervisor Race: Four Candidates Want Your Vote



Above, left to right: Brian Colbert, Heather McPhail Sridharan, Ryan O'Neil and Gabe Paulson

## WINTERTIME UPDATES FROM MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



Phoenix Lake

We are fortunate that 2023 came to a close with a good amount of rain, keeping our reservoirs healthy moving into the new year. Unfortunately, we cannot rely on this as history has repeatedly reminded us that uncertainty in the water cycle is more common than not. We are optimistic that the predicted El Niño weather pattern will at least provide an average amount of rain, allowing the district to focus on increasing our water supply and improving the resiliency of our delivery system (for updates on our water supply improvements: [marinwater.org/WaterSupplyResiliency](http://marinwater.org/WaterSupplyResiliency)). Hopefully everyone has remembered to shut down their outdoor irrigation for the winter months.

Increasing our water supply, while improving its resiliency, remains the top priority for the board. This is driving aggressive actions to move quickly on securing more water and reducing our exposure to water shortage emergencies like the one we faced in 2021. Using a phased in approach for new water, the district has identified short, medium, and long term solutions based on expected timelines for implementation. We expect to realize a ~5% increase in supply within the next four years from short term solutions that include implementation of technology to increase the accuracy of stream release requirements (mandated water releases to support endangered fish populations) in Lagunitas Creek, electrical infrastructure installation at Soulajule Reservoir, and new transmission infrastructure between Phoenix and Bon Tempe Reservoirs. These three projects are already underway and staff will continue to update the board and public on progress.

In parallel to the above-mentioned efforts, district staff has initiated work on both the medium and long term solutions approved as part of the water supply road map. They include: increasing our ability to obtain more water from Sonoma County, increasing our local storage capacity, regional desalination, and enhancing recycled water distribution. Combined, these options have the potential to produce more than 20,000 acre feet of new supply. All of these projects are more complex and require a lengthy planning process as they have environmental, engineering, and community impacts. Planning work has begun which includes further studies focused on feasibility and honing in on specific requirements for each project. Further studies are not ideal but something we cannot avoid. Based on the estimated cost of large infrastructure, the risk of not performing all the due diligence we can is too high. Our investments must be made responsibly as we don't get a second chance at these decisions. District staff is moving forward on desalination feasibility studies through new partnerships with surrounding water agencies, geotechnical studies of our current dams (for increased local storage by Sleepy Hollow Homes Association

increasing dam heights), and engineering studies on how to best increase water conveyance from Sonoma County into our reservoirs. To learn more about these efforts or to stay up-to-date on progress, please visit: [marinwater.org/WaterSupplyResiliency](http://marinwater.org/WaterSupplyResiliency).

Increasing our water supply will be expensive and require substantial investment to provide an additional two years of supply. I am committed to ensuring this becomes a reality in an environmentally and economically responsible way. This type of investment was not possible under the prior rate structure and only compounded our fiscal outlook when an overwhelming backlog of capital improvement projects were included. This backlog includes pipe replacement, tank maintenance and replacement, pump station maintenance and replacement, and watershed management with an emphasis on wildfire risk reduction. These fiscal impacts, coupled with inflation and the need to replenish reserve funds, drove our new rate structure that went into effect July 1.

In addition to concentrating on improving our water security, district staff have been busy monitoring for and restoring habit of the various animals that call the watershed home. Over the Fall months, watershed staff worked closely with Point Blue Scientists to better understand the health of one of our most beloved residents, the northern spotted owl (NSO). It was encouraging to hear that the NSO population is increasing and becoming healthier each year. We were also very encouraged to hear reports of Coho Salmon returning to Lagunitas Creek. If you have not done so, I highly recommend a visit to Leo Cronin Fish Viewing Area to see these amazing creatures in their natural habitat. For more information on our fisheries and wildlife: [marinwater.org/FisheriesWildlife](http://marinwater.org/FisheriesWildlife). While you are at the site, please sign up for our "Creek Notes" e-newsletter for the most current information on our creek restoration work.

I am very excited about our special watershed committee meeting scheduled for Thursday February 29th at 6:30 PM. The sole intent of this meeting is to release our draft Watershed Recreation Management Plan. This has been a long time in the making and I sincerely appreciate the patience shown while our staff work to get this plan ready for release. We are looking forward to sharing this new vision with the public in February.

As a reminder, our new rate structure is in place and MMWD continues to offer a very generous rate assistance program for low-income households. I strongly encourage anyone with limited income to please inquire about this program as it provides significant discounts to those who qualify.

If you haven't done so already, please sign up for our electronic newsletter for the most current updates. I am always available for questions and discuss all things MMWD at your request. My email address is [msamson@marinwater.org](mailto:msamson@marinwater.org).

Matt Samson, Division 1 Director, Marin Municipal Water District

## OUR TEAM NEEDS YOU!

SHHA is searching for an Event Manager.  
See page 9 for details.



## SHFPD Constructs "FireSmart" Public Demonstration Garden at Community Center

The Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District (SHFPD) will break ground this month on an innovative "FireSmart" Public Demonstration Garden at the Sleepy Hollow Community Center. The SHFPD's objective is to show residents how FireSmart landscaping can protect your home, strengthen your defensible space, and enhance our planet. When completed, the Garden will be one of four FireSmart public demonstration gardens in Marin.

Funded by the SHFPD following a public bid process, the Garden will include islands of low maintenance plants, shrubs distanced from structures and trees, a noncombustible zone around structures, no fuel ladders near trees, and adequate horizontal and vertical spacing. The plants were chosen for low water use and climate adaptation. Regular monthly maintenance will be performed and signage will explain the features and benefits.

The project represents an historic collaboration between the SHFPD, the Sleepy Hollow Charitable Foundation (SHCF), the Sleepy Hollow Homes Association (SHHA), and local landscape professionals. The Garden is designed by well-known landscape architect Ann Baker of Petaluma and is being constructed by Johnson's Tree & Garden Service LLC of Corte Madera.

The project coincides with the installation of play structures and other features at the Community Center by the SHCF and SHHA. It is anticipated to be completed within the month of February – weather permitting – in time for the annual start of swim practices by Sleepy Hollow Swim Team.

## SHFPD 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

February 28, 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the creation of the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District (SHFPD). The SHFPD is an autonomous "special district" of the State of California responsible for fire protection and emergency services in the unincorporated area and surrounding parcels of Sleepy Hollow. The SHFPD provides these services through its membership in the Ross Valley Fire Department (RVFD), a Joint Powers Authority operated by the Towns of San Anselmo, Fairfax, and Ross, and the SHFPD. The SHFPD is represented on the RVFD's eight-member Board of Directors by two of the SHFPD's Directors.

In recognition of the foresight, leadership, and outstanding contributions of the SHFPD's founders, past Board members, and resident-supporters, the SHFPD will host a commemorative event in the coming months to which all District resident are invited. **More information will follow.**

## Board Transition and 2024 Introduction from 2023 President Gina Singleton

### THANK YOU TO THE RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

A heartfelt thank you to our retiring SHHA whose multiyear contributions have been invaluable, shaping the growth of our community. Pete Mayer's dedication to the cell tower project and collaboration with Verizon and San Domenico has led us to the current plans to build at San Domenico. Spencer Adams served as a guiding pillar, preserving our history and fostering culture. Hayley Mullen warmly welcomed new residents and established an updated record keeping procedure for minutes. Thank you on behalf of all of our neighbors for your loyalty and commitment have kept our community thriving. Spencer and Pete will continue to serve on the Sleepy Hollow Charitable Foundation to carry on their devotion. When you see them, please express gratitude for their exceptional service.

### THANK YOU TO THE SIGNIFICANT OTHERS

A heartfelt thank you to the significant others and families of our dedicated board members. Your sacrifices and unwavering support have played a crucial role in enabling your loved ones to serve on the board. Your understanding, encouragement, and shared commitment to our community are deeply appreciated. Your support does not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for the strength and unity you bring to our extended community family.

### 2023 PRESIDENT FAREWELL

As I bid farewell as president, it's been an honor to lead our incredible community. Together, we've achieved so much – from a new fitness center to playgrounds, lap swim, festive events, and crucial infrastructural advancements. The real essence lies in all of you, our amazing families, the heartbeat of Sleepy Hollow. As we pass the baton to David Baker he will continue to lead with excellence just as those before have done. I will remain on the board for a fourth term and would like to extend a huge thank you to my husband Matt and daughters Zoe and Reese for their understanding, their positivity and support to allow me to devote our time to others. Let's remember: "Communities that grow together, glow together." Here's to our shared journey and the bright future ahead. Thank you for making Sleepy Hollow truly extraordinary.

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME



Introducing our four newest board members: Nick Mullen, Ashwin Cheriyan, Eric Wald, and the returning Chris Staskus. These neighbors have embraced the challenge of steering our community towards enduring growth and vitality. Together, we aim to enrich the vibrant tapestry of Sleepy Hollow. As we welcome them, let's remember: "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." Thank you for generously sharing your time and dedication to making our community even more exceptional. Learn more about all the board members here ([shha.org/The-Board](https://shha.org/The-Board)).

## 2024 Membership Upgrades Include Lap Swim, Keyless Entry, Fitness Room AND MORE!

Happy New Year! As we begin the new year we are excited to share with you all the new and exciting offerings in 2024.

- Lap Swim: Shoulder season lap swim in the beautifully maintained and heated pool
- Tennis Partnership with Sleepy Hollow Tennis Club: Enjoy the thrill of tennis on the meticulously maintained courts on the beautiful campus of San Domenico
- New Play Area: We now have 2 new play Areas, one for 2-4 year olds and one for 5+ year olds
- Keyless Remote Access: Entry to the Community Center and grounds during specified hours, all through an app on your phone
- A New Gym! Stay fit and healthy by joining the cozy gym, equipped with everything you need for a satisfying workout
- A dedicated bike lane extending the ENTIRE length of Butterfield
- The county is finalizing plans for a crosswalk across Butterfield from the community center to Irving Dr.
- Community Center open during power and internet outages

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

As a member, you'll gain access to a plethora of benefits, including free events, ~30% discounts on exercise classes, and exclusive discounts on various community events.

We believe that a strong community is built on shared experiences. By becoming a member, you are a valuable part of enhancing community life beyond 1317 Butterfield Road! As a member, you champion community growth, beautification, county representation, safety initiatives, and more, contributing to the increased value of our vibrant neighborhood. Your support fuels positive change, be a driving force in shaping a brighter future! Become a member today and make a lasting impact on our community's livelihood. Visit [shha.org/membership](https://shha.org/membership) to learn more and sign up.



Scan QR code for more info

We are better together, please join us.

The Sleepy Hollow Homes Association Membership Team



The Sleepy Hollow Charitable Foundation is proud to announce the return of the Sleepy Hollow Spring Gala and Auction to take place at the Community Center on the evening of June 1, 2024. Last year's Gala sold out and was a great success in both fun and fundraising, netting over \$60,000 to help pay for the playground elements and installation happening right now! See "Let's Go to the Park" on page 7.

This cocktail attire event will feature a hosted cocktail hour and seated dinner catered by a featured local chef. In addition, there will be silent and live auctions for items donated by the community and others, and an opportunity to dance the night away after dinner. Enjoy the party while supporting Sleepy Hollow.

Net proceeds from this year's event will allow the Foundation to continue to enhance the Community Center and work towards completing the Renovation Capital Campaign projects, including outdoor fire feature, entry gate and signage.

Interested in volunteering to help throw the best annual party in the Hollow? The Gala team is busy now recruiting auction items and planning the festivities, but also needs help with set up, registration and check out that evening (short shifts so you can enjoy the party). Email [shcfdonations@gmail.com](mailto:shcfdonations@gmail.com) to volunteer and with questions. Registration information and details of the evening will be coming in April.

**ITEM DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR JUNE 1 AUCTION**

First, a big thank you to last year's donors! We would love to receive your donations again if available. The Foundation is requesting auction item donations from the community and others to help make this event a success. If you are interested in making an auction donation, please fill out this form: [forms.gle/4xpf8HLcELKxtp867](https://forms.gle/4xpf8HLcELKxtp867) or email [shcfdonations@gmail.com](mailto:shcfdonations@gmail.com) so we may follow up with you. Most donations will be tax deductible. Confirm with your tax professional.

**POPULAR AUCTION ITEMS**

- Wine, Bourbon or Tequila
- Wine Tastings
- Golf Rounds at Private Courses
- Tickets to Sports Events
- Vacation Homes for a Weekend
- Sailing or Boat Cruising
- Restaurant Gift Cards or Experiences
- Cooking or Catering for a Party
- Fishing or Crabbing
- Shooting Clubs
- Hosting a Class or Lesson

Or offer new ideas, like your own creative art work, personal services such as tax preparation, decorating, counseling, or tutoring. All donations are welcome and appreciated!

**Holiday Event Recap**

**TURKEY TROT:** Over 100 trotters gathered on Thanksgiving Day for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 3 mile Turkey Trot. Our little trotters eight and under participated in the half mile Turkey Dash. All participants received a commemorative sticker and enjoyed refreshments at the Community Center after their trot.

**GIFT FAIR:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday "Sip n' Shop" Gift Fair was a success with twenty local vendors (including Conifer and six student vendors). Holiday shoppers found gems to check off their lists. Bites from the Lodge and happy hour refreshments kept shoppers fed and happy. A special appearance from Santa Claus and a magical lighting of the tree lifted spirits to kick off the holiday season.

**SLEEPY HOLLOW HOLIDAY PARTY:** The Annual Sleepy Hollow Holiday Party was a success with close to 200 attendees - one of the best attended holiday parties over the last couple of years! Following tradition, the Swim Team and Tennis Club contributed towards the main courses of prime rib, ham, pork loin and scalloped potatoes. In addition to a banquet of delicious sides and salads neighbors brought to share, a fun, interactive map of Sleepy Hollow was displayed where they could take a photo and pin it on their homes. It was a wonderful evening of catching up with old friends and meeting new neighbors who have lived in The Hollow from a few weeks to 50 years. If you are interested in planning more events for neighbors of all ages please email [shhaevents@gmail.com](mailto:shhaevents@gmail.com) to get involved.



Left: Turkey trotters flew down Butterfield on Thanksgiving morning.



Below, left & right: Over 20 vendors representing local artisans, shops and our own kids sold holiday gifts at the Holiday Fair.



Santa Claus visited the Clubhouse and helped light the tree in a magical evening for young and old fans.



Above & right: The under 5 play area has been completed and is a lovely wooden ship structure which will also include a sand feature for young ones to play.



**Let's Go to the Park!**

The Sleepy Hollow Charitable Foundation is pleased to update the community on the construction of two Community Center play areas, both underway now and with completion anticipated in February. They are made possible by the generosity of the Sleepy Hollow community at the 2023 Spring Gala. Thank you, donors and bidders!

The Cove is a nautical, shore themed spot for children 2 to 5, tucked off the courtyard along the south fence. It features a boat like play house and sand play area, and is surfaced by engineered wood fiber (EWF) for accessibility and impact Mitigation. The border between EWF and sand play area is a safe, bendable rubber. We see beach evoking murals in our future and invite anyone with an artistic bent to contribute their decorative concepts. This area will be beautifully framed by landscaping sponsored by the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District.

Children ages 5 – 12 can explore a challenge course, featuring a series of stepping, balancing, and traverse climbing structures. Adventurers can follow the challenge path or play on any structure. The fall zones between the play elements have been carefully planned to comply with all playground regulations (they exist!) and the ground surface is high-end artificial turf with a shock-absorbing pad underlayment. Artificial turf will replace the grass in the lawn area between the locker rooms and pool while the snack shack side of the lawn will be left as natural grass.

All structures are by Kompan, Inc, except the traverse climbing wall by Everlast Industries, and the Sleepy Hollow Charitable Foundation engaged Playgrounds Unlimited (PGU) of Santa Clara for installation and surfaces. Despite rains, underground surprises, and shipping mishaps, PGU is working hard for completion in February well before the time swim team practice starts. If you have come by in the past few weeks, you probably saw a muddy mess but that is rapidly transforming to a fantastic safe play area that all ages can enjoy. We can't wait for you to see the finished product and for the years of fun to come!



## Share Your History, Shape Our Future

The work of the newly developed Sleepy Hollow Historian's Group is underway. The goal of the group is to bring the history of Sleepy Hollow to life for our fellow residents. We will be collecting any and all items that you may have related to Sleepy Hollow and its history. This can be physical items, or even anecdotes or stories that you would be willing to share with the community. As we begin the collection, we will determine how best to share it out with all of you.

This group is led by two Butterfield residents – Tom Finn and Taylor DiDominicis. Tom has lived in Sleepy Hollow for 27 years and serves on the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District Board. Taylor moved with her young family 2 years ago and brings marketing and communications expertise to this project.

Please feel free to drop off any physical items you'd like to share to the Community Center at 1317 Butterfield.

It is generally open weekday mornings 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. and Tuesday & Thursday from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

To share a story or anecdote regarding Sleepy Hollow, and for any questions, please feel free to email [shhapresident@gmail.com](mailto:shhapresident@gmail.com).

Please enjoy reading up on the history of Sleepy Hollow on the SHHA website: [shha.org/page-18131](http://shha.org/page-18131). We look forward to adding to this work and appreciate your help in recording what is so special about Sleepy Hollow.

## Butterfield Bike Lane

Continued thanks to the Butterfield Corridor Committee for their unwavering dedication, meeting twice a month over several years to enhance the safety and well-being of our community.

Special gratitude goes to our phenomenal leader, Nancy Vernon, Supervisor Katie Rice's aide, who has led this tireless effort. We appreciate her efforts and wish her continued success in her next role.

Kudos to the entire committee, including Supervisor Katie Rice's Office, SHHA, County of Marin, City of San Anselmo, MCBC, San Domenico, Hidden Valley, Sleepy Hollow Swim Team, Sheriff's Department, Safe Routes to School and loyal residents for fostering a longstanding collaboration. Your commitment has made a lasting impact.

### BIKE LANE UPDATES

Striping needs to be done when street surface temperature is no lower than the 50's, which will most likely not happen until March.

Striping will take a day for 12,000 feet; signs to follow.

County agreed to stripe green at end of bike lane (Van Tassel/Butterfield area) given there is a clear conflict with vehicles. White bike stencils will be added along the length.

**BUTTERFIELD CORRIDOR SAFE PASSAGE PROJECT**  
Details are being worked out and will be shared this spring.

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL REMINDER**  
One of the greatest dangers to pedestrians and bicyclists is cars turning and not looking. This is especially true when cars are turning right. Most serious crashes between cars and bicyclists and pedestrians occur when a car turns quickly without watching for other road users. Over 200 people are injured from unsafe turns.

**Wendi Kallins, Task Force Coordinator, Marin Safe Routes to Schools**



## Book Drive for Child Literacy

Please consider contributing to our children and young adult book drive supporting The Book Exchange in Marin County. I want to thank all of you who contributed to the drive last Fall. We collected about 500 books!

The Book Exchange is a community service organization run entirely by volunteers who believe in the power of literacy to change lives. We promote child literacy, encourage a love of reading, and work to ensure that all children have access to books. Donations from our generous supporters fund classroom field trips from schools in Marin's most under-resourced communities to our facility, where we help each child choose a bag of free books to take home. We also provide books at little or no cost to teachers, families and to nonprofit organizations. Your donations of books and money help us fulfill our mission.



The Book Exchange  
852 Del Ganado Rd.  
San Rafael, CA 94903

If interested, please drop off VERY GENTLY USED or NEW childrens and young adult books. PLEASE DO NOT bring adult books, text books, or other books that do not fit the description.

Please drop off when not raining, under the awning, at the Sleepy Hollow Community Center. If you are unable to drop off books, please email me and I will pick up at your house.

I will keep a tally of the number of books with the goal being 2000!

Thank you in advance!

The Book Exchange  
Mia Mitchel  
[mitchel.ludlow@gmail.com](mailto:mitchel.ludlow@gmail.com)

## Join Our Team!

Sleepy Hollow Homes Association is seeking an enthusiastic and organized Event Manager to join our community-focused team.

This role involves planning, executing, and managing a variety of events, private rentals, activities, and exercise classes. The ideal candidate will coordinate with community volunteers, establish event procedures and protocols, and explore growth opportunities. With fair pay and flexible, part time hours, this position provides a chance to immerse yourself in the community, serving as the conductor of fun and engagement. If you're passionate about creating memorable experiences, join us in making Sleepy Hollow a vibrant and lively neighborhood!

If you're ready to roll your sleeves up and create fun, please email: [SHHApresident@gmail.com](mailto:SHHApresident@gmail.com).



President's Letter continued from page 1

founding charter of our Homes Association and on display physically in the form of our community center and other neighborhood attributes. Volunteerism and donations have made all of this possible over the years.

These days, we regularly discuss, "How do we get folks in this community to help out more?" From serving ice cream at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, to helping with setup and tear down at our holiday gatherings, much of our volunteer needs are centered around our "good time" events (the era of neighbors swinging hammers and sewing curtains to build the original community center has passed, for better or worse). But there are further and sometimes less obvious places where neighbors can help out. To that end we will be launching a column in this newsletter listing areas and items where your volunteer help would be valued.

In closing, having heard our board meeting refrain of "We need more volunteers!" so frequently, it was heartening to stumble on the 1957 Sunset Magazine article linked deep in the menus of the SHHA website. Reading that light-hearted take on the origin story of our clubhouse and pool, and learning of the relentless cajoling and campaigning needed to see those projects through to completion with donated funds, labor and materials, rings familiar to this 21<sup>st</sup> century board member today.

It's clear that the community work of keeping a place like this so profoundly special is never done. Enjoy that quick read at [shha.org/sunset](http://shha.org/sunset) and I look forward to serving, and cajoling, this community in 2024!

**Dave Baker, President, Sleepy Hollow Homes Association**



The Community Center is truly the heart of Sleepy Hollow and we are looking for the next manager to lead and execute events for all ages.



## Activities & Events

You can always find the latest upcoming events at: [shha.org/UpcomingEvents](https://shha.org/UpcomingEvents)



**American Style Mah Jong:** Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



**Modern Dance for Youth:** 7 week session, Ages 7-10. Wednesdays, 2:15 – 3:30 p.m. Class began in January, prorated pricing is available.

**Feb 29:** Screenagers, a Wellness Event Sponsored by Zamira Solari, Realtor

**Mar 1:** First Friday Social with Featured Nonprofit

**Mar 29:** Kids' Movie Night. Boy Scout Fundraiser

**Mar 10:** Keeping Our Kids Safe Conversation for Parents & Kids: One Pill Can Kill with Brian Six, DEA Division Counsel

**Apr 13:** Annual Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church Tomato Sale. Your neighbors have been busy raising over 1,200 tomato plants for the annual sale. Saturday, Apr 13, 10:00 a.m. at 100 Tarry Road. Selection includes over 20 fabulous heirloom varieties you won't find in nurseries that produce especially well in our area. Proceeds (\$5,400 last year) will again benefit hunger relief programs, such as the Marin Food Bank and World Central Kitchen.

**June 1:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sleepy Hollow Gala

Have an event idea? Put it on for your community at the Community Center. Email [shhaevents@gmail.com](mailto:shhaevents@gmail.com) to make it happen.

### GROUP FITNESS CLASSES\*

**Body Sculpting with Catherine:** Mondays 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**Cardio & Strength RIPPED & RUMBLE with Marin.FIT:** Tuesdays 8:35 – 9:35 a.m.

**Body Sculpting with Catherine:** Wednesdays 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

**Evening Yoga with Kari:** Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:40 p.m.

**Cardio & Weights BURN with Marin.FIT:** Thursdays 8:35 – 9:35 a.m.

**Gentle Yoga with Kari:** Thursdays 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**Body Sculpting with Catherine:** Fridays 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Contact Aya at [shhaevents@gmail.com](mailto:shhaevents@gmail.com) with questions/comments!

Check the schedule on SignUpGenius (SUG). Sign up at [signupgenius.com/go/10c0c44a9ad2aabfbc70-group#](https://signupgenius.com/go/10c0c44a9ad2aabfbc70-group#)

Visit [shha.org/fitness](https://shha.org/fitness) for registration information.

Purchase your 10 Class Pass here! [shha.org/Sys/Store/Products/249547](https://shha.org/Sys/Store/Products/249547)

**\*Classes subject to change.** Please refer to the SUG for the most up to date schedule.



### SLEEPY HOLLOW SITTERS IS READY TO RELAUNCH AND WE NEED YOU!

We've been working on some improvements to the Sleepy Hollow Sitters and are ready to relaunch out to our community! For any interested sitters, mother's helpers, pet walkers, or community center helpers, after you get your parent's permission, email Sandra Murtagh at [sandracmurtagh@gmail.com](mailto:sandracmurtagh@gmail.com) to request to be added to the secure Sleepy Hollow Sitter Contact List.

For families and parents looking for sitters, we will send out the link to request access to the Sitter Contact list in early March.

Thank you!  
Sandra, Sleepy Hollow Sitter Advisor

## Kudos & More

Welcome to the neighborhood, Harry! Matt & Ara Haligman's furry bundle of joy is spreading a whole lot of puppy love. Your presence has already made our community a happier place. Here's to paws-itively wonderful moments ahead!



Matt and Harry

A heartfelt thank you to Aya Andrews for her unwavering passion and commitment as our first Event Manager making Sleepy Hollow not so sleepy. Thanks to her, we have exercise classes, Bunko, Mah Jong, kid activities, socials, holiday gift fair, bands, corn hole and so much more. Aya, your incredible work has set a high standard, paving the way for others to follow. Many thanks for your outstanding contributions you've created for all to enjoy!



*Left: Aya Andrews brings her high kicking energy to everything she does for our community. Right: Aya gifted fitness class attendees with totes celebrating class attendance in 2023.*

WANT TO THANK YOUR NEIGHBOR? Email [carolinebruister@gmail.com](mailto:carolinebruister@gmail.com) your kudos for our next Bulletin. She thanks you in advance <3



## Friendsgiving? Marketing Meeting? Special Occasion? Rent the Clubhouse.

Discover our newly renovated, sophisticated oasis! The best-kept secret in Marin, for anything from weddings, birthdays, celebrations, corporate meetings and watching the big game in style with indoor, outdoor, and pool party areas. From a 5-year-old's birthday party that works rain or shine to cocktail reception – we have the venue for you!

The Community Center building can hold events for up to 150 people. We have a catering kitchen with refrigeration and a warming oven (no stove or oven available). We have 15 folding tables that will seat 6 people per table, two large tables that seat 10 people and 140 high quality chairs.

Your dreams, our space – where memories are made! Book now and let the good times roll! Please check our calendar for availability. If you are interested in renting the facility, or you have questions, please email us at [shharental@gmail.com](mailto:shharental@gmail.com) or visit [shha.org/rental](https://shha.org/rental) for more

## Pool News

There are lots of new developments at the pool. The Sleepy Hollow Homes Association has hired an Aquatics Manager. Make a point to meet Briggitte Kroetz at the pool. She will be on site 15 hours a week, managing the lifeguard and snack bar staff, teaching Aqua Fitness, and more.

On the facilities front, mechanical upgrades have been performed including new pool heaters and an automated chemical controller. This new controller allows us to dynamically control our heating system, yielding substantial reductions in natural gas consumption since installation last Spring.

Lap Swim is back better than ever. We have a dedicated monitor in place for most days. We will still need some volunteer help to make lap swim available 7 days a week. Check out the details at [shha.org/lapswim](https://shha.org/lapswim). See the pricing for Lap Swim on the Membership page [shha.org/page-18171](https://shha.org/page-18171).

The Sleepy Hollow Pool is now a Red Cross certified training facility. Look for emails announcing classes taught by Briggitte in Lifeguarding, Guard Recertification, Junior Lifeguard Camp, First Aid and Babysitting in the coming months.

The call will soon be going out for lifeguards for the summer swim season. Applications will be accepted starting in March. Snack Bar applications will be accepted in April: [shha.org/workpool](https://shha.org/workpool).

Family Swim begins Memorial Day and runs through Labor Day, with the exception of June 1. That's the day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sleepy Hollow Gala. Hope to see you there.



## The Sea Lions are Back in the Water!

Welcome to all of our new and returning Sleepy Hollow Sea Lions! Our first day of practice is Monday, February 26! Check our website at [sleepyhollowsealions.com](https://sleepyhollowsealions.com) for additional information on New Swimmer Assessments and practice times.

In partnership with SHHA, we are working to plan for traffic and parking changes, as a result of the bike lane extension along Butterfield Road. We encourage swimmers and families to carpool, bike, or walk to practices and meets. San Domenico has generously offered to allow parking in the gravel lot (previously horse stables) for SHST swim meets.

The Sleepy Hollow Swim Team will host our Practice Meet (just the Sea Lions) on April 20, and three Dual Meets this season on May 4, May 18, and June 22.

When afternoon swim practice begins, please be aware of increased pedestrian traffic around the Community Center and drive slowly and carefully. Swim team parents, use your common sense while biking and walking on and crossing Butterfield Road. Help teach our Sea Lions to be responsible pedestrians.

When picking up your swimmer at practice, do not park in the Drop Off Circle and wait. Parked cars should be along the fence line in actual parking spaces. The Drop Off Circle will be used for dropping off only. Please be courteous to our neighbors when parking – do not block driveways, gates or mailboxes.

We look forward to another great season this year – and will keep on kicking bootyakum!





**SLEEPY HOLLOW  
HOMES ASSOCIATION**

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WINTER PRINT ISSUE • Visit us online at [www.shha.org](http://www.shha.org) for more information about Sleepy Hollow Homes Association



The Community Center was open from Sunday through Thursday and many neighbors came in for internet, power and connection during the storm and its aftermath.

Thank you for your membership which enables this volunteer powered resource to benefit us all. SHHA is the only non-mandatory HOA in California (and probably the country!). Our founders envisioned a truly special model of community cooperation which continues in 2024.

