



Sleepy Hollow Bulletin

APRIL 2021 PRESIDENT'S LETTER



SHOW UP FOR SLEEPY HOLLOW

Sleepy Hollow volunteers needed.

July 4th: shhajuly4th@gmail.com

President - Spencer Adams,
shhapresident@gmail.com

Vice President - Pete Mayer

Membership - Hayley Mullen

Bulletin Editor - Norma Novy:
normanovy@comcast.net,
415-499-9409



Tennis Club -

Chris Staskus: www.sleepy
hollowtennis.org



Swim Team -

Anne-Marie Kostecki
presidentshst@gmail.com



Legend Club -

Ronda Lundbaek
lundbaek@comcast.net

Clubhouse Scheduling Manager -

Marin County Supervisor
Katie Rice: 415-473-7825
krice@marincounty.org

Marin County Sheriff: 415-479-2311
(9-1-1 if crime in progress)

California Highway Patrol:
415-924-1100

CHPMarin@chp.ca.gov
trafficconcern@centralmarinpolice.org

www.shha.org

Prepare for Summer

As we welcome in Spring, it's imperative to also prepare for the summer ahead. It's been a dry winter all over Northern California, and Marin County is already in drought conditions. It's important to start preparing for a dry and hot summer and the potential for wild fires and public safety power shutoffs.

Personal preparedness is the key to safe evacuation during a wild fire or other disaster. All families should know and monitor alert systems, pay particular attention on Red Flag days, and have a family evacuation plan prepared based on the FIRESafe MARIN evacuation plan checklist.

The Sleepy Hollow Homes Association, in partnership with the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District (SHFPD), has developed this FAQ and list of links to important emergency preparedness documents, including the checklist mentioned above.

Read the FAQ here

<https://shha.org/EmergencyFAQ>

The SHFPD funds many projects that Sleepy Hollow residents can take advantage of to prepare their homes and land for wildfires.

• **Chipper Days** – SHFPD will offer three curbside chipper services. The first will be held the week of June 28th and another pickup will be held the week of September 27th. SHFPD plans to have another pickup in August, but have not set a date. You must sign up at chipperday.com/marin. A final chipper event that requires material to be dropped off at the end of Butterfield will be held in October to coincide with creek cleanup.

• **Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grant Program** – SHFPD will again sponsor a grant program for the eradication of highly flammable plant species. 61 families in Sleepy Hollow received funds from the program last year and SHFPD is working with the Ross Valley Fire Department to develop updated grant guidelines. It is expected that the eradication efforts will again focus on juniper, bamboo, and several species of cypress. The exact amount of the individual grants is yet to be determined, but we expect to announce the program guidelines in May and hope that residents will take advantage of the free chipper days to dispose of

the material.

Other programs SHFPD is sponsoring to help reduce wildfires and ability to communicate during a PSPS or other disaster.

• **Fuel reduction grant** – SHFPD has received a fuel reduction grant of approximately \$40,000 from Cal Fire through the Marin County Fire Department. These funds will be used to remove dead trees, forest clutter, and hazardous fuels along the ridge between Oak Manor and Triple C Ranch. Work will start in early April.

• **The goats will be back** (with some sheep). Grazing will be done on Marin County Open Space land at the top of the ridge between Sleepy Hollow and Terra Linda and behind homes in that area where practical. Herds will maintain shaded fuel breaks and defensible space on the San Domenico campus and the Triple C ranch. The Rocking H Ranch above San Domenico will continue to maintain their shaded fuel break at the top of the ridge. Additional grazing will be done along the ridges separating Sleepy Hollow and Fairfax.

• **An evacuation exercise** – SHFPD will conduct an evacuation exercise this summer with the date to be determined. There is great demand throughout Marin for evacuation exercises and it is not possible for local fire departments to commit the time needed to be present at every exercise. COVID restrictions also make it difficult to assemble at evacuation sites. FIRESafe MARIN has created a training program and templates that empower Firewise communities to conduct their own exercises. The purpose of these exercises is not to test traffic flow which is not practical because the level of participation is a mere fraction of what would be expected during a real wildfire evacuation. Instead the focus is on alert and warning, personal preparedness, and education. We will be working with our local block captains to organize the exercise.

• **Satellite Phones** – SHFPD has purchased 30 satellite phones to improve com-

Continued on page 2



News & Notes from Supervisor Katie Rice

Courtesy & Common Sense

It is spring, and the blue skies and warmer weather has just that many more of us heading out-of-doors to enjoy the open space in our own Sleepy Hollow backyard and elsewhere throughout the county. The increased use brings not only more people, but also traffic as some folks need to drive to our neighborhood trailheads if too far to walk. So, a friendly reminder to outdoor enthusiasts – please, in addition to being courteous on the trails, keeping our distance, and respecting use rules, asking that you follow these good neighbor guidelines:

If you must drive to access open space, please make sure you park safely. Avoid parking on a blind curve, make sure you're not blocking any neighbor's driveway or walkways, and park to ensure at least 12ft of clear roadway to allow emergency vehicles clear passage. That means a minimum of 6-ft from your parked car to center of roadway. Also, for those early morning or night-owl recreationists, be respectful of homes/residents in the

area, and keep the chatter at low volume. Please pay special attention when parking at the Mission Pass trailhead on Fawn Drive which has been particularly impacted by increased use. The County is assessing whether more parking restrictions are needed to keep that immediate area clear for emergency vehicle access and safe for neighbors and trail enthusiasts alike. Any changes will be made this summer and will address safety in the area for all users.

Our open space is a gift – preserved in perpetuity by community members decades ago, working with neighbors close to trailheads who, while they benefit from easy access to open space, also bear the brunt of visitor impacts. As with all things being a good neighbor and community member – practice courtesy and common sense as you enjoy our beautiful “backyard”.

Safe Streets

A big concern in our community has been and continues to be the safety of Butterfield road for all users – walkers, bikers, and drivers. Seven years ago, my office convened what became known as the But-

terfield Corridor Safe Streets Committee (a collaboration of community members, SHHA, schools, law enforcement, Safe Routes, representatives from County and Town of San Anselmo) to provide a forum for discussion, creation and collaboration supporting safety improvements and education along the Butterfield Corridor. The committee just had their spring meeting and there was renewed energy around tackling some of the larger safety concerns on the corridor due to recent incident of biker being hit in the Green Valley Court crosswalk and potential opportunities around the renovation of the clubhouse. Since that time, another biker was hit where Butterfield road meets Sir Francis Drake. Thankfully both bikers were OK but both events were traumatic.

At the April meeting, the committee decided to convene two subcommittees: Eyes Up and Transportation/Safety. The Eyes Up subcommittee will relook at last year's effort and plan for a reinvigorated campaign in the late summer/fall, with the purpose of reminding residents to slow down and keep

Continued on page 4

APRIL 2021 PRESIDENT'S LETTER *Continued from page 1*

munications during power safety shutoffs. These phones will be strategically placed throughout Sleepy Hollow in the care of block captains. The location of these phones will be published and maintained on the Sleepy Hollow Homes Association website and the SHFPD website. Block captains will place door hangers explaining the program in their neighborhoods. If the power is out, residents experiencing a 911 emergency will be able to go a residence that has a satellite phone and make a call to the 911 emergency operations center. Locations that have a satellite phone will place a sign at their entry during power shutoffs alerting residents that a phone is available. This program is just getting started, more information and details will be available as it ramps up.

SHHA Membership: Currently we are 72% of our membership goal with 301 homes participating out of our goal of 420 homes. There are 833 homes in Sleepy hol-

low so we have 36% homes participating. For those of you who have joined, thank you and for those of you who haven't, there is no time like the present to support your community and enable the SHHA to deliver the enrichment and social activities, not to mention the advocacy (e.g., cell tower and fire safety work) that is planned for this upcoming year and beyond! We need your support so please go to shha.org and JOIN TODAY!

Friends of Sleepy Hollow: Currently we have capped our “Friends of Sleepy Hollow” membership to 50 for pool use due to COVID restrictions. As Marin moves into the yellow tier and eases COVID restrictions we are hoping to approve more pool applications for the summer. We do have a waitlist of friends waiting for our approval and we are hoping to have an update on Marin's yellow tier status by the beginning of May and approve those who are waitlisted.

Pool: We are excited to announce that the Sleepy Hollow Community Pool will be

open in accordance with state and county Covid guidelines for reservation lap and family swim beginning Memorial Day weekend! The pool will be open weekends only (including the Monday Memorial Day holiday) until June 13th when it will open 7 days/week until September.

Please see the link below for additional pool information for the beginning of summer-Memorial Day – June 13th. We are hoping to ease any swimming restrictions as Marin moves into the yellow tier and guidelines around Covid change.

<https://www.shha.org/The-Pool>

Sleepy Hollow Homes Association - Pool Info

Please read our rules and guidelines during COVID here. Located behind the Sleepy Hollow Clubhouse, the 25-yard pool is heated and runs from a depth of 3 ½ feet to 8 feet.

www.shha.org

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the pool!

SHHA Board Meeting Minutes, March 31, 2021

The SHHA Board met on March 31st, instead of April 1st, which was the first Thursday of the month. This was a onetime move of the meeting due to personal schedules.

Attendees: Spencer Adams, Jan Blackford, Gina Singleton, Annie Winship, Kai Broms, Erik Ruud, Lauren Thornhill, David Baker, Hayley Mullen, Pete Mayer, Reinhard Ludke, Stephen McGee

Satellite Phones: SHFPD has purchased 30 satellite phones to be used during PSPS or other emergencies. These are being distributed to block captains in April. Each block captain will also have a sign they can hang in front of their house alerting neighbors that they have a satellite phone and they are home. These signs and phones will only be used during an emergency. SHFPD will distribute the addresses of all satellite phones to residents. Addresses will also be posted on the website.

Cell Tower Update: No agreement between San Domenico and Verizon has been reached but they are still in discussions. Pete Mayer has reached out to AT&T to gauge interest in putting a cell tower somewhere in Sleepy Hollow. AT&T will be doing a study to see if it's a viable project for them. In conjunction with Steve McGee and Reinhard Ludke, we are reaching out to our Jared Huffman, US Congressman, and Mike McGuire, State Senator, to enlist their help with bringing cell service to Sleepy Hollow.

Butterfield Safety: Pete, Gina, David, Kai and Annie are exploring ways to make Butterfield safer for all residents. They are exploring roundabouts and other calming measures. They are reaching out to traffic engineers and Transportation Planner for Marin County.

Membership: Hayley updated the Board on our membership drive. Our goal is to have 420 families join the SHHA. As of March 31st, we are at 65% of this goal. We have more families signed up than we did in 2019 and 2020 memberships. We discussed creating a package of information on our community for Real Estate agents to give to new home buyers.

Pool: Marin has moved into the Orange tier and we are waiting for new capacity guidelines from Marin County. We have capped "Friends of Sleepy Hollow" membership at 50 families for now. We hope to open this up to more families but need the new capacity information before raising the number of memberships.

Security Cameras: David Baker has two free security cameras that we will test out at the entrance to Sleepy Hollow. These cameras will be placed on private property and only accessible to the Sheriff in case of emergency. We are looking into any possible privacy issues and coordinating with the Sheriff's office.

Plant Sale: Aya organized the plant sale and raised \$1,300 for the Charitable Foundation.

Time Capsule: Kai Broms has purchased the 6"x24" capsule. This will be sealed inside of the Community Center walls. We are encouraging residents to donate small items that can be placed inside the capsule.

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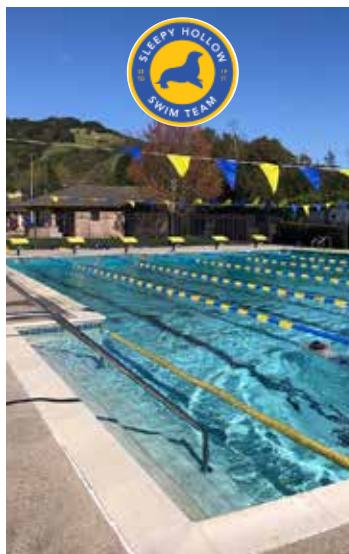
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Sea Lions Are Back in the Pool!

It is wonderful to see our Sea Lions back in the pool. Due to Covid-19 regulations our team is divided in set groups and unfortunately no parents are allowed inside the gates at the moment. According to coach Mark, the swimmers are working hard and improving despite only being able to swim 2 practices a week. We will see the results this week during Intra Cohort Time Trials which will be held during the swimmers own practice times. The first week of swim we celebrated the Sleepy Hollow Swim Team 50th Anniversary with a special treat handed out to each swimmer. Last week our Fun committee organized a social distanced hula hoop competition within each cohort and next week we will have our annual event 'bark buddies' where our new swimmers learn the cheer from the older kids but 'pandemic style' and Covid safe. It is not the same as a normal season but the Sleepy Hollow Swim Team is back in action!

Katie Rice: Courtesy & Common Sense *Continued from page 2*

eyes on the road. Additionally, a sub-committee is forming to discuss some larger safety concerns (e.g., parking on shoulder, improvements at clubhouse) and will be working with staff from County as well as San Anselmo. It's key that education goes hand in hand with any discussions around infrastructure solutions/improvements.

For more information, to volunteer or to attend the next meeting, please visit the Safe Streets webpage at <https://www.shha.org/page-18189>.

COVID Update

Marin County continues to lead the state in percentage of population vaccinated. As of April 27, 80% of adults 16+ have received at least one dose, and of those 60% are fully vaccinated. County public health will keep a full court press on getting vaccine to everyone who is eligible. If you know anyone who has yet to receive a vaccine, please let them know appointments are available for anyone 16+ who lives or works in Marin County, and walk-ins are also accepted. Appointments can be made online at <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/vaccine/status> or by calling (833) 641-1988. Walk-ins (no appointment needed) are being accepted at Marin Public Health sites including: the Marin County Fair Grounds/ Marin Center, Tuesday–Saturday 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.;

Health and Wellness Campus, San Rafael, Wednesday – Friday 4:00–8 p.m., and 1:00–5:00 p.m. on Saturday;

Larkspur Ferry (drive thru), 11:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Sunday –Thursday.

Barring an uptick in infections, Marin County will move into the Yellow Tier – <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/> – least restrictive of the state's reopening stages—next week. The County's status with regards to vaccination rates, and our overall response working to contain the virus, prevent infections and deaths, while far from

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perfect has been a model. As a county, our health care providers, government, community-based organizations, and community members have been working together, learning together, and keeping laser focused on ensuring a science informed, equity focused public health response that recognizes the risk, vulnerability of everyone in our community and tailored our response to it.

Among our many partners in the pandemic response was Dominican University of California. Marin County Public Health and the University teamed up to train Dominican students to work as contact tracers as part of the county's containment effort. They became an invaluable part of the COVID response, and in addition to gaining real-world experience in public health, earned credit towards their university degrees.

Last week, in recognition of this partnership and the leaders behind the County's pandemic response, Dominican University of California bestowed honorary doctorate degrees to Marin County Public Health Officer, Dr. Matt Willis and his Deputy

officer, Dr. Lisa Santora. In the words of University president, Mary Marcy —

“These degrees are our way of publicly recognizing exceptional evidence of commitment to public service and the advancement of health and knowledge in the lives of outstanding individuals. Their work has positively affected not only Dominican University of California, but also countless lives throughout our county and region.”

NEWS FROM SAN DOMENICO



In order to best protect our Resident Faculty, Boarding Students, and communal health during this novel coronavirus pandemic, San Domenico's facilities are currently closed to community use. This includes the fields, pathways, road, playgrounds, gym, tennis courts, and pool. Thank you for your cooperation, understanding, and support during this uncharted time.

Questions? Contact us at contactus@sandomenico.org www.sandomenico.org

Year end and graduation ceremonies will occur in limited capacity on May 27 and 28.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SHHA BOARD MEETING
 May 6, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom teleconference

SAN DOMENICO YEAR END AND GRADUATION CEREMONIES May 27 & 28

3 CURBSIDE CHIPPER SERVICES
 Weeks of June 28, September 27, and August TBA.
 Sign up at chipperday.com/marin

MMWD: Drought Emergency

Jack Gibson, MMWD Board Member
April 25, 2021



On April 20, the Marin Municipal Water Board voted unanimously to declare a Water Shortage Emergency. That action implemented Ordinance 449 to our Water Code, adopting additional water conservation and enforcement measures.

Drought is not new to Marin. We have experienced severe droughts in 1924, 1931, 1939, 1976-77, 1990, and 2014. Those of us who lived in Marin in 1976-77 have come to refer to that drought sentimentally as “The Big One.” The term no longer applies, because we are now in a new drought of record.

But, this is not 1976-77. Much has been learned from the previous droughts, and especially the 76-77 drought. With that catastrophic event attitudes in Marin changed. In the years following that drought the district added many tools to help with the inevitable droughts to come. The direct pipeline to the Sonoma Water system and it’s Russian River source was constructed, a successful partnership with Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District provides recycled water to a portion of our district, Soulajule Reservoir was added to our system as a seventh reservoir, a state of the art water leak detection team has been put in place, and, most important of all, a comprehensive water conservation program has been developed.

With the ever-changing patterns of climate conditions the frequency of drought appears to be accelerating, and the periods of drought expanding. These changes diminish the value of our traditional guidelines. “Average Rainfall”, and “Normal Reservoir Level.” As measuring guidelines these metrics have become much less valuable. If we knew that our coming rainy season would be traditional, the management of our system would be more certain. But we can’t rely on that.

This makes water conservation our best tool to manage water supply. When called upon to conserve water Marin families have traditionally stepped up to the challenge. The district is in the process of setting out new conservation mandates and guidelines to carry us through this crisis. The goal set for the community is to achieve a 40% reduction of our water use. Of course that does not mean every family must achieve a 40% reduction. Some families have regularly been in water conservation modes, and can not be expected to achieve another 40% reduction. But we are all called upon to do what we can to achieve a 40% reduction in the system as a whole. Information and tips on how you can conserve water will be inserted in your water bills, and you can visit our website to learn more at www.MarinWater.org/Conserve.

Please Drive Carefully! Watch Out for Bikers and Walkers on the Road!

All our local schools are back in person – meaning more kids walking and biking on Butterfield road and other Sleepy Hollow streets. Please drive carefully during this busy time as everyone gets settled into their new routines and more cars are on the road. Stay alert and slow down!!!

Thank you for making our community a safer place for all!

Butterfield Corridor Safe Streets Committee



Sleepy Hollow Is Truly The Most Amazing Community!

I feel incredibly grateful to be part of our community on a personal and professional level. It is with sincere gratitude that I make a \$5,000 donation to the Community Clubhouse Rebuild.

Thank you Sleepy Hollow! May we continue to grow and support our community together!



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COMPASS

Our Spring Garden Sale Was a Success!

Thanks to everyone who supported us.



It was so great to see everyone in a safe and fun way!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who started from seed and fostered the young plants for the sale! We couldn’t have done it without you. Here are the gardeners who grew our plant starts:

Abigail Rose, Becca Hintergardt, Caroline Bruister, Catherine Clune, Edgar Celis, Emily Baker, Jenna Soares, Jodi Yandle, Karen Baigrie, Kathy, Easley Kit, Argilla Kiyomi Hutchings, Lorraine Ferrarese, Meredith Arsenio, Mo Blechen, Nance Rosencranz, Rebecca Diefenbach, Rebecca Seligman, Sandra Murt, Soo-Ah Landa, Sylvia Gardin.

Thank you to the Justice Garden for your generous contribution of beautiful tomato plants!

A Big Shout Out to the Marin Garden Club for assisting at the sale! Ashley Roosevelt, Christy Alsop, Gina Singleton, Hayley Mullen, Jenn Adams, Nilli Hapuarachchi
As always, a big thank you to Jan Blackford!

1317 Butterfield Feels Like SFO



Subcontractors, stacked up like airplanes circling over SFO pre-pandemic, are landing continuously to make the Sleepy Hollow Community Center ready for you by July 4th. Scheduling is as important as the quality of the finish work that is underway now. There is safe access to the pool, now, through the safety corridor along the

south fence, and after resurfacing is complete through the main courtyard. Delays to this point have been due mostly to COVID, late shipment of windows and glazed doors, and smaller delays in



skylights, interior doors, and now resolving resurfacing requirements and costs. But we are hopeful to be able to meet our goal to enjoy the building by July 4th. It is reachable thanks to volunteers,

weekend work by Schlich Brothers and some subcontractors, and generally aggressive air traffic control.

Landing on Runway 1, exterior, are: two layers of stucco and final acrylic layer for best match to existing walls that remain; the complete fire flow water line and what is surely the world's largest back flow preventer; lay out and forms for accessible parking and access to SHFPD and Library doors, walkway, garden areas, and drive through. The 1,400 pound generator is taxiing to its gate.



Still circling are: the iron trellis above the tall folding glass doors of the Legends Room, demolition of old surfaces, relocation of the iron gate, and resurfacing the site as needed. The resurfacing is planned to include some concrete closest to the building, asphalt drive through, and some areas of permeable granitcrete and gravel pave. Gravel pave for about 1250 square feet of outdoor dining space may be a community install project. More on that later. The SHFPD FireSafe demonstration gardens will most likely land this fall.

Landing on Runway 2, interior, are: interior doors and interior trim, final clean up before completing the priming, then painting, preparing the redwood for paneling the Legends Room, tile, countertops, then electrical, plumbing, HVAC and fire sprinkler finish work. Cabinets landed yesterday. The stained and polished concrete floors will be



uncovered after the ceilings are painted, and a third coat will be added if needed. Audio visual equipment will begin to go in mid-May; ADT security, ATT cable and Direct TV after electrical finish.

Special projects underway by community volunteers include preparation of the redwood paneling (Steve Knox), converting the old glass sliders to hang as barn door sliders at the Founders Room / Library wall (Mike Murtagh and Pete Mayer), activities and operations planning (led by Aya Andrews). Volunteer planning is coming for a community message board. Still needed are volunteers for aspects of installation of the trim around the Founders Room fireplace, sourcing and installation of a new chimney cap.

Phase Two prioritizes renovation of the: locker rooms/ bathrooms and installation of the outdoor showers, play area, CERT storage building, and acoustic glass partition between Founders and Legends rooms; and should also include the outdoor fireplace, new outdoor furniture, additional furnishings inside. Most of the "infrastructure" for this work has been completed as part of Phase One.

Infrastructure completed for Phase One and Phase Two: New and repaired framing and roof, all new exterior siding; all new windows, skylights, wiring; architectural and engineering design, documentation, and permit expenses; New front and rear sewer laterals, all new storm water drainage system, fire sprinkler system, fire life safety system.

MARIN OPEN STUDIOS MAY 1 & 2, 11:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Artist **Sherrill Miller** will host Marin Open Studios at 3 Whiteplains Court in Sleepy Hollow. I am a longtime local landscape and still life painter. I have been in many gallery shows both in the Bay Area and California. I also teach beginning adult oil painting. I will have numerous original framed and unframed oil paintings for sale. Some of my work can be viewed at sherrillmiller.com.

Contact me for further information by text 415-517-0713, or email sherrillmiller@comcast.net

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-Dance/Movement (musical theatre, jazz, hip hop, physical theatre)

-Industry/Biz (entrepreneurship, navigating big cities, career next steps)

Class is taught online via Zoom or outdoors. Our studio in San Rafael is also open for private coaching following CDC guidelines. For more information, please visit www.merakiperformancestudio.com, @merakiperformancestudio,

or email info@merakiperformancestudio.com

SMART, RELIABLE HANDYMAN

Les Ditson specializes in repair, restoration, and/or installation for people who want solutions more than remedies. A Sleepy Hollow resident himself, he has dozens of local clients and outstanding references. "My house works because of Les' work, and I have come to rely on his intelligence, honesty, problem-solving ability, and expertise as a craftsman. His results are beautiful, nothing slipshod or flimsy, and he has saved me money on more than one occasion, making suggestions that are cheaper, simpler, and ultimately better looking than what I had envisioned. He is a gem." M.M., Fairfax. **Les Ditson** 415-497-0523

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Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church

Home of the Justice Garden, Feeding the Hungry and Helping Those in Need

Sunday Service of Worship Outdoors at the Church and by Zoom at 9:30 a.m. Celebrating Mothers on May 9.

Joyful Live Music with Sharon Hamilton, Stephen Iversen, Alex Walker, and Jon Weller to uplift your spirits!

Join the Justice Garden team to grow food for hunger relief and be part of a caring community making a positive difference.

Children's Program teaches and practices our four values: respect, kindness, sharing, and planet care.

Let Pastor Bev know if you would like to get together for a visit, or for a zoom invite: beverlybrewster@comcast.net



Above: Long time SH resident Peg Maclise and friend Linda planting tomatoes in the church Justice Garden feed the hungry.



Right: Friends of the Church of all ages turn out for our Annual Tomato Plant Planting Day.

The Rev. Bev Brewster, Pastor, 415-453-8221, 415-446-8267 cell
100 Tarry Road, San Anselmo, CA 94960 www.sleepyhollowchurch.org • shpchurch@comcast.net



SLEEPY HOLLOW

HOMES ASSOCIATION

1317 Butterfield Road
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Return Service Requested



APRIL 2021 DIGITAL ISSUE • Info about the Sleepy Hollow Homes Association at www.shha.org

Do You Know Where Your Pool Water Goes When It Leaves Home?

Follow best management practices for swimming pool, spa or fountain water to help keep pollutants out of our waterways, protect water in our creeks and comply with local, state, and federal laws. It's illegal to discharge water from pools, spas and fountains – including filter rinse water and backwash – to streets, storm drains or creeks! And remember that we as homeowners are responsible for making sure pool services follow all discharge requirements.

In Marin County, all storm drains flow directly to creeks and other waterways with no treatment. Many chemicals used in pool maintenance (e.g. chlorine, bromine, copper, silver) are extremely toxic to aquatic life. Discharge can cause pooling that breeds disease

bearing mosquitos, or flooding that disrupts mosquito abatement or causes erosion.

For best practices, view the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program brochure at <https://tinyurl.com/yd449l2b> and website at www.mcstoppp.org to learn more about how you can help reduce stormwater pollution. Call your stormwater coordinator at 415-473-3748 with any questions. For any assistance with mosquito problems and other pests, visit www.msosquito.org.

Please take note of the following:

- Saltwater pools cannot be discharged to a sanitary sewer system or a storm drain! The preferred method is to

discharge pool, spa, or fountain water (other than salt water) onto land surfaces provided the water is dechlorinated/debrominated, the pH is between 6.5 and 8.5, and the land area is sufficient to prevent erosion and runoff into a ditch, creek, or other stormwater conveyance.

- If landscaping is not a viable option, the next best choice is to discharge pool, spa, or fountain water to the sanitary system. Contact your local sanitary sewer agency to make sure the discharge will not create a problem in the sewer system or wastewater treatment plant downstream of your property.

As a last resort, discharge to a storm drain only if:

- no other disposal methods (e.g. sanitary sewer, landscaping) are possible.

- the pool, spa, or fountain water is completely dechlorinated/debrominated.
- concentrations of copper and silver are not harmful to fish or other aquatic life.
- the pH is between 6.5 and 8.5.
- the water is free of any unusual coloration, dirt, suds, or algae.
- there is no discharge of filter media.
- there is no discharge of acid cleaning wastes.
- the water is at ambient temperature. (Heated water should be allowed to cool.)

Thanks to you all for being a good neighbor and Sleepy Hollow resident!