



# Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## SUMMER BBQ HITS THE MARK AND THEN SOME

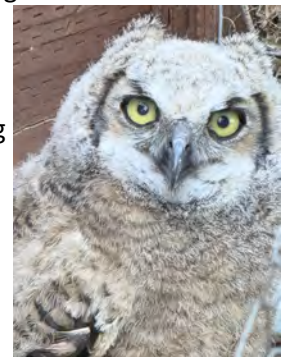
It was a beautiful afternoon for the Palomar Park BBQ on September 27th, with over 70 residents lining up for the "Best" Hot Dogs and Hamburgers this side of Alameda de las Pulgas. The venue was iconic Palomar Park, situated under the Oak trees of Hermosa Rd. An Americana type feel with a dozen or so kids attending, and making no qualms wanting their turns hitting the Pinatas. Special thanks to the Crow Family for allowing us to utilize their handsomely landscaped space and the Shoaffs and Martins who were so gracious about us blocking their driveways with BBQs. Jeff Garratt managed the grills masterfully with John Triska and John Charlebois assisting.



Pinatas and raffle prizes were managed by Denise Charlebois and Bob Bedbury. Lindy Sherwood was the official greeter and handled much of the logistics for the event. The Palomar Park BBQ is a long standing traditional event and free to current PPO members.

## WHO WHO.....ARE THE NIGHT OWLS by Nell Triplett

We hear them hooting regularly through the night, we occasionally see them flying at dusk, and this spring in Palomar Park, we ran into a juvenile Great Horned Owl (*bubo virginianus*) on the ground. The enormous yellow eyes and easily identifiable feather tufts, or "horns," on top of their head take your breath away. Until their wings enable them to take flight at 10-12 weeks, juvenile owls find themselves very vulnerable to a multitude of threats. In the case of the Palomar Park juvenile, it had fallen out of its' nest in a 100 ft. Eucalyptus tree. Its mother's calls could be heard high up in the home tree each evening. Thanks to Bay Raptor Rescue, which offers free services to raptors in distress, we learned that the juvenile was injury-free. Moreover, they confirmed the young owl was both fed and hydrated, by way of regurgitated food from its' mother who was flying down at night for feedings. The main issue was there was no way to place the young owl back in the nest. Owls are, however, great climbers and after three days, this juvenile climbed up to the top of a 10 ft. fence beneath its' home base. A few days later, it had climbed to the lowest branch, and was soon flying through the sky. Great horned owls are notable for their size, with a wing span that ranges from 35-59 inches. Their talons have incredible strength and allow them to dine on fellow raptors, rodents and small mammals. Since their eyes can't move in their sockets, they depend on the incredible rotation enabled by their uniquely flexible neck to spot prey. Their eyes have a reflective layer boosting light intake.



These owls are an indicator of healthy biodiversity in our local Palomar Park ecosystem, and we are fortunate to have them here in our community.

## WINTER IS ON HER WAY

Fall is here and it's time to pull out the list of winterization tasks.

1. *Clean out drainage swales & catch basins*
2. *Clean out roof gutters*
3. *Complete drainage systems (do not let drains discharge onto trees or your neighbors land)*
4. *Fertilize any ornamental evergreen plants*
5. *Fix any roof leaks/replace missing or lifting shingles*
6. *For blacktop driveways consider resealing & seal any cracks to prevent storm water damage*
7. *Change or clean furnace filters*
8. *Clean your chimney (utilize a professional chimney sweep)*
9. *Turn off or reduce irrigation timers*
10. *If needed put new tires on your car (slick roads and bald tires are not safe)*

## RECIPE CORNER by David Nieh .

### Grilled Old Bay Shrimp

Ingredients:

2 lbs. shrimp 11-15 per lb., shell on, heads off  
1/2 jar sweet honey mustard  
1/2 cup Italian dressing  
4-6 Tbl. Bay Seasoning  
1 lemon preferably Meyer

1. Pour Italian dressing into a bowl and whisk in sweet honey mustard and Bay Seasoning.
2. Pour this mixture into a large ziplock bag, add shrimp, seal, and coat generously.
3. Skewer shrimp to skewers and set aside.
4. Light grill to medium high and place the shrimp skewers evenly on the surface, sprinkling more Bay Seasoning as desired. After 3-5 minutes flip the shrimp and continue cooking until done.
5. Serve on a platter on skewers with lemon wedge.

Serves 4 people as an entree or 10 as an appetizer.



## OH RATS!

Has your home, car or garden been invaded by those unrelenting rodents? The rat problem on the Hill is a serious issue as these rodents can create a tremendous amount of damage. Rodents chew attic, basement, and car wiring, eat our prized vegetable garden plants, spread disease and leave our homes, attics and crawl spaces contaminated with feces and urine, which can require costly repairs. I know this is graphic and gross but we all are in this together. We have a few foxes on the Hill and they will do their part in reducing the rodent population. Owls are rodent eating machines and we are lucky to have them too. Here are some real measures that will work if you are diligent.

1. Remove Ivy & Pampas Grass from your property as rodents love to live here.
2. Do Not use poison as this will also kill the owls and foxes that kill and eat the rats.
3. Turn off outside lights at night so owls can hunt around your home. (they can't use their special vision if your lights are on).
4. Do not leave pet food outside.
5. Set traps where you see droppings and where it is safe for kids and pets. (You can put your trap in a shoe box with holes on either side for the rats to enter). Peanut butter or tomatoes are a sure thing.
6. If you feed bird seed use a Squirrel shroud so the rats cannot get to the feeder.
7. Close up small holes/cracks in your house with mortar. Remove branches that overhang your roof.

## SUDDEN OAK DEATH SPRAYING DISCOUNT EVENT

**KEEP YOUR OAK TREES HEALTHY** - The annual Sudden Oak Death, (SOD), spray event in Palomar Park is scheduled for November 19-21. Spraying your Oak trees with FOSPHITE is one of the best preventive measures property owners can do each year to help their Oak trees resist SOD and the pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*.

You need to sign up for this service if you want the special rate negotiated by the PPO. To be placed on this year's list email Trish Taylor at [Trish\\_taylor415@comcast.net](mailto:Trish_taylor415@comcast.net). We will need your address and approximate number of trees.

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

Is your mailbox looking tired or run down? How about the roadside name board on your street? Is your name missing or are you new to Palomar Park and would like your name listed?



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## SLOW & SAFE vs. FAST & CRASH

A couple of recent accidents on Palomar Dr. needed first responders to arrive and assist drivers. Luckily nobody was seriously injured. Palomar Dr., and some of the side streets have turned into race ways. It shouldn't be scary to walk in our neighborhood. If you are driving and see a pedestrian for goodness sake slow way down. When navigating our narrow roads please stay in your lane. If you don't and you hit another vehicle you will be at fault and your insurance company will likely raise your rates.



## GARDEN CLUB

The Palomar Park Garden Club invites interested residents to join them on December 9th at 10:30am for an outing to Filoli to view the holiday decorations. Please email Gillian Chao at [gillianchao@gmail.com](mailto:gillianchao@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending or becoming a member of the garden club.



## CONSIDER ADOPTION



Some of the best pets you can have are rescue animals. They might not be perfect in terms of size or shape, but what they lack in that department will be made up by their wonderful personalities and loyalty. Some rescue pets take longer than others to acclimate but with consistency, patience and some fun walks around the Hill they will get there in no time. Consider the following Non-profit rescue organizations:

**Underdog Rescue** <https://www.underdogca.com/>

**Muttville** <https://muttville.org/>

**Rocket Dog Rescue** [www.rocketdogrescue.org](http://www.rocketdogrescue.org)

*If you can't adopt consider giving a year end tax deductible donation to any of these deserving organizations.*

## GENERAL MEETING NOV 18th

Our General Meeting will be held November 18th at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Email [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

- ❖ 2026 Board Election
- ❖ Presentation by SMC Sheriff
- ❖ Financial Overview
- ❖ SOD Group Spray info
- ❖ General Updates & PPO Info
- ❖ Free Raffle with prizes



## LOCAL BEES AND SUMMER HONEY

The Palomar Park bees are done for the summer and have created a tasty crop of Summer Palomar Park honey. Plan your spring garden with lots of natives and help our local bees and all our pollinators thrive.

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:  
Denise Enea-Charlebois  
650 740-9883 or  
[decharlebois1@gmail.com](mailto:decharlebois1@gmail.com)



*\*Profits go to Animal Welfare organizations.*

## EVACUATION ....KNOW YOUR ZONE

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## CONSTRUCTION REGS= NO SUNDAYS

The LEGAL hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. **No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.** Also, there are hefty fines in SMC for not having a permit for your project. Permits are required for most improvements to your home including:

Fences, water heaters, replacing decks, replacing windows, driveway replacements, roofs, etc.

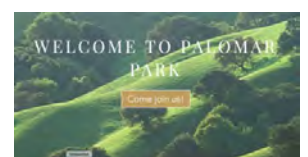
If you have a question for the Planning or Building Department, you can call: 650 599-7311 or email [cleung@smcgov.org](mailto:cleung@smcgov.org)



## PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

Help contribute to our Palomar Park website; [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org). Do you have a picture or something related to Palomar Park that would be great for the website? The Board manages the website and we try to have useful online forms and current information for our residents.

If you have something, please contact us at:  
[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



## JUNIPER, CYPRESS, PALMS ..... OH MY

Some of the most flammable vegetation that one can have around their home is Juniper, Cypress, and Palms. If you have any of these three types of plants within 50 ft of any structures you may want to consider removal. These vegetation types are well known for their rapid ignition from even the smallest embers. Some communities are even banning these species of plants to help protect their neighborhoods from spreading wildfire. Eucalyptus and Pine trees are also on the list as very susceptible to fire with quick ignitions and rapid fire spread. The current recommendation from Cal Fire is to remove vegetation a minimum of 5 ft. away from all structures. The Chipper Program comes by twice a year and this is the perfect opportunity to remove potential fire hazards from your property and play it safe rather than sorry.



*If you take out potentially flammable plants from your property and feel the need to replant try selecting low growing native plants that are also drought tolerant. Some examples are: CA Fuchsia, CA Poppy, Blue Eyed Grass, Milkweed & Creeping Thyme.*

## GOING TO THE DOGS

If you haven't already noticed, Palomar Park is a wonderful place for dogs. Walking your dog is a great way to meet and stay social with your neighbors. Doggy poop bags are an important part of every walk. To make it easier on our pet owners we have installed two more doggy poop bag stations on the Hill.



## BOARD ELECTIONS

It's PPO Board election time. All households will receive one ballot. Voting is easy, please mail or drop off your ballot to 419 Palomar Dr. by November 18th or cast your vote by email at [Palomarnews@gmail.com](mailto:Palomarnews@gmail.com) by 5:00pm, November 18th. Election results will be announced at the end of the General Meeting.



## FUN FACTS

"Palomar Park" was never an actual park, but dates to the mid-1920's when A.J. Harwood began to develop the mountainous area into a residential neighborhood. The first homeowners came from San Francisco proper who purchased the homes as summer properties.

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Please renew your annual 2026 Palomar Park Owner's membership. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, support the annual chipper program, fund the annual picnic and other beneficial projects for Palomar Park and our residents. Your \$75 dues check goes a long way. You can pay online at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) or just scan one of the QR codes on your neighborhood mailbox. PPO accepts: Venmo, Zelle, and Paypal

**419 Palomar Dr.  
Palomar Park  
CA 94062**

Mail or drop off  
checks to:



## SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from our residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park an even better place, please drop us a line.

**[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)**



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

## PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Palomar Park is a remarkable place for remarkable people. The PPO Board works hard to keep you informed, improve Palomar Park, be good stewards and maintain the rural attributes of our community. If you would like to serve please contact us at [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

**PRESIDENT - BOB BEDBURY**

**VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS**

**SECRETARY- LEXI BAILEY**

**TREASURER - LEXI BAILEY**

**BOARD MEMBER JEFF GARRATT**

**BOARD MEMBER - CHRIS CROW**

**BOARD MEMBER - LINDY SHERWOOD**

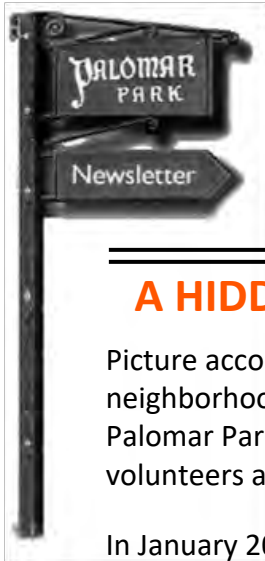
**BOARD MEMBER - DAVID NIEH**

**BOARD MEMBER - JOE ONORATO**

**CONTACT US AT:**

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for the Board or if you are interested in serving.

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## A HIDDEN PIECE OF HISTORY by Lindy Sherwood

Picture accordions playing, kids climbing aboard fire engines, BBQs sizzling, Fourth of July parties, neighborhood bazaars, raffles, a garden club, and spaghetti feeds that brought everyone together. Palomar Park was built on camaraderie—on people helping people. At the heart of it all? The volunteers and the fire station that sparked it to life.

In January 2025, after 28 years of living on Belle Roche Court, I unexpectedly found myself on the Palomar Park Board. I was told that meetings were held at the "fire station." Fire station? Who knew there was an old fire station in Palomar Park? Curious, I made my way up the winding road and found what looked like a large garage. Stepping inside, I felt like I had traveled back in time. The space was overflowing with historic photographs, antique fire helmets, old newspaper articles, relics, and general curios—enough to fill a museum. There was too much to take in all at once. I knew I had to return and learn more about this hidden gem and the stories it held.

### The People Who Built It

Rich Landi, a fellow board member and the building's owner, graciously agreed to meet and share the history. Joining us was Dan Petelin, the community's unofficial historian. Having lived in Palomar Park for 77 years, Dan more than earned that title. Rich, who moved here in 1976, was quickly swept up in community service and became a volunteer firefighter.

As Rich and Dan shared their memories, their deep pride and nostalgia were palpable. Listening to their stories and looking around the room, I was transported to a time when life felt simpler, and neighbors relied on each other in ways we don't see as often today.

### The Birth of the Volunteer Fire Department

The Palomar Park Volunteer Fire Department was formed in 1972 out of necessity—the closest station was in Belmont. The original force of 55 volunteers included about seven women, a testament to the community's spirit.

In 1983, Rich became the Fire Chief. That same year, the county agreed to provide the department with an updated fire engine—but there was a catch. The new truck needed an enclosed station. With no other options, Rich and the Palomar Park Volunteer Fire Department members came together to build the fire station on his property.

With the equipment and fire trucks centralized, the station quickly became more than just a safety hub. It was the heart of the community—a gathering place, a symbol of unity, and a reminder of what a close-knit neighborhood could achieve.

*continued on page 2*



## SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Now that mother nature has issued the onset of spring, it's your turn to spring into action and get your garden going. If you're tired of the same old garden, why not try some new designs, plants or installing some new garden features. It's always fun to have vegetables in your garden and it can be incredibly rewarding. Garden features, such as benches, bird baths and bird feeders provide lots of enjoyment. Creating a new design with hardscape and new planters is what gardening is all about.

*If you have gophers, think about using metal containers or pots to plant vegetables.*

*Start seedlings in a warm window and prepare soil in flower beds with amendments.*

*Create a compost pile, and use the soil and worms to keep your plants and flower beds well fertilized.*

*Add a bench under a tree or shady place in your yard.*

*Add a bright, tall, beautiful pot that creates a pop of color, but no maintenance in your garden.*

*Create a beautiful crushed rock or flagstone path that leads to a secret place in your landscape.*

*Add a bird bath, and utilize an existing sprinkler to keep it filled.*

*Add a hummingbird feeder or suet feeder for other birds.*

*If you have a strong helper, think about adding some large attractive rocks in unsprinkled areas.*

*Do not plant or add irrigation under Oak trees. Leave a natural area within your landscape.*

*Add native plants, especially varieties that pollinators like, or which form berries or tasty seed pods for birds.*

*Don't overplant, and use a few of the same plants in your flower beds for the most color impact.*

Most important, enjoy your garden. Pick up a garden magazine to spark some design ideas.

Ladera Garden Center in Portola Valley, Yerba Buena and Bongards Nurseries in Half Moon Bay are wonderful resources for healthy native plants, and beautiful pots. The Birder's Garden in San Carlos is a local favorite for many.



## FIRE STATION continued from page 1

### A Legacy That Lives On

After 28 years of service, the Palomar Park Volunteer Fire Department disbanded in 2000. Palomar Park however remains a special, home to people who cherish both their community and its rural charm.

What will happen to the fire station's collection of artifacts? Eventually, these treasures will likely be donated to the San Mateo County Historical Museum in downtown Redwood City. In the meantime, the Palomar Park Association is considering hosting open houses for longtime residents and newcomers eager to explore this hidden piece of local history.

Want to see more? Check out the YouTube video on the Palomar Park web site at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) "Palomar Park A Look Back" for a pictorial history of our unique neighborhood.



## DAY OF THE DOG

Join us on Sunday, April 26th to celebrate the wonderful dogs of Palomar Park with a group walk into Eaton Park. We will have light refreshments for the owners and a special treat and gift for the dogs. Please wear comfortable and appropriate shoes and bring a suitable leash for your dog. The hike should take approximately 45 minutes. We will all meet at Loma Ct. to start the hike.

**DATE: 4/27 Sun**  
**WHERE: Loma Ct.**  
**TIME: 10:00AM**



## NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING JUNE 10th

Once again we will have a free neighborhood chipping event. Please leave your brush, (cut ends facing the road), and a contractor will come by on the designated day and chip them. This program is to assist residents to create defensible space around their homes and property for wildfire prevention.

- Cut tree branches within 10ft. from your roof
- Remove dead wood from bushes around your property
- Remove brush directly adjacent to your home/windows
- Remove Cypress, Pampas Grass, Juniper, French Broom

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

Is your mailbox looking tired or run down? How about the roadside name board on your street? Is your name missing or are you new to Palomar Park and would like your name listed?



Contact us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request or go to [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)

## HEY MAN...STAY IN YOUR LANE!

Yes- our roads are narrow. Yes- our roads are winding, but that doesn't mean you don't need to stay in your lane. Contractors and service/delivery people are usually in oversized vehicles and need to take extra caution when navigating our roads. Getting run off the road because a driver is not in their lane and driving fast is dangerous! If you have contractors or service providers coming to your home, remind them to drive carefully. Confirm they are NOT bringing oversized vehicles that could break tree limbs or get stuck on our narrow and winding roads. A contractor who is careless while driving is likely not the kind of conscientious individual you want working on your house or property.



## GARDEN CLUB

The Palomar Park Garden Club invites interested residents to join them for their next adventure or potluck lunch. If interested in joining please email Gillian Chao at [gillianchao@gmail.com](mailto:gillianchao@gmail.com) with the subject line Palomar Garden Club to get on the mailing list.

## PETS IN NEED



The Redwood City location of Pets In Need is running low on pet food donations. This no kill shelter is critical in our area to assist with placing animals into their permanent homes. Please consider donating extra pet food and/or treats to this wonderful non-profit. Deliveries are accepted at 871 5th Ave. Redwood City. You can also check out their wish list on Amazon or even consider a tax deductible monetary donation.

## RECIPE CORNER by David Nieh

**Grilled Romaine** - makes 6 servings

Rinse and dry the romaine, cut in half long ways, brush with olive oil. Sprinkle with sea salt. Place directly on medium heat grill. Cook lightly until char marks are visible. Remove and allow to cool slightly. In a bowl, mix yogurt, olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar and mustard. Whisk until smooth. Drizzle dressing over the romaine hearts. Top with cherry heirloom tomatoes, lardons, pomegranate seeds, and freshly cracked pepper.

*3 Heads Romaine hearts*

*12 Grilled cherry heirloom tomatoes (halved)*

*2 Tablespoons Lardons & 2 Tablespoons Pomegranate*

*2 Tablespoons whole milk Greek yogurt*

*2 Tablespoons avocado oil*

*1 Tablespoon Lemon juice*

*Drizzle of Extra virgin Olive oil*

*1 Tablespoon red or white wine vinegar*

*1/4 teaspoon mustard*

*Sea salt and Pepper*

## LOCAL BEES AND SPRING HONEY

The Palomar Park bees are working on a wonderful spring honey crop this year. Keep planting those pollinator plants for our Palomar Park bees to enjoy. Send in to PPO your favorite honey recipe.

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

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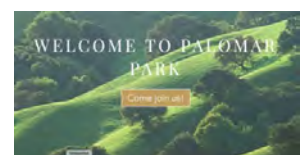
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## IT TAKES A THIEF

We are sorry to report that there has been some recent mail theft in Palomar Park. Some residents recently received a letter from the US Postal service stating an individual had been arrested, and had in their possession mail from a few Palomar Park residents. We are not sure what the status of the case is and if the individual arrested is being prosecuted or not. To be cautious, here are some tips to keep you safe from mail theft, and credit card fraud.

\*Remember, if you see something strange or out of place say something.

- *Don't use credit cards at gas pumps if it looks like the credit card pad was tampered with.*
- *Don't leave mail inside your mailbox in the evening.*
- *Utilize the blue US mail boxes for outgoing mail.*
- *Be cautious using debit cards as they are the #1 source of bank fraud.*
- *Double-check recipient information when conducting wire transfers. Talk to the recipient on the telephone to confirm all information.*
- *Don't use public wifi to conduct banking or financial transactions.*
- *Don't fall victim to telephone bank/credit card fraud. A reputable institution will send you a letter, provide a mailing address and telephone number for verification purposes.*

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Indulge in the fourth annual Palomar Park ice cream social hosted by Bob and Kat Bedbury.

**June 21st**

**1:00PM to 4:00PM**

**Clifford School upper parking lot**

In case you miss the postcard, please consider this your personal invitation. Come enjoy a scoop, (or two), of Mr. Softee's finest flavors and celebrate the spirit of Palomar Park.

Thanks Bob and Kat for hosting this special event.

*"I scream you scream we all scream for ice cream"*



## FUN FACTS

- Palomar Park was originally called Rattlesnake Hill (you can guess why).
- The neighborhood once had six underground bars, and people loved coming here to socialize!

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**VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS**

**SECRETARY- LEXI BAILEY**

**TREASURER - LEXI BAILEY**

**BOARD MEMBER HUGO LOURO**

**BOARD MEMBER - CHRIS CROW**

**BOARD MEMBER - RICH LANDI**

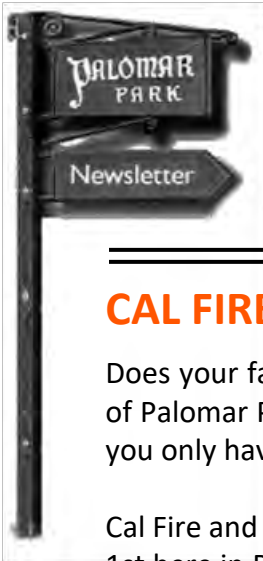
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**CONTACT US AT:**

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**[www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)**



# Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## CAL FIRE EVACUATION DRILL IN PALOMAR PARK JUNE 1st

Does your family have an emergency evacuation plan? Do you know your closest emergency exit out of Palomar Park? Have you ever driven through this exit? Do you know what you will take with you if you only have minutes to evacuate? The answer for many residents is NO.

Cal Fire and the SMC Sheriff's office will be conducting an evacuation drill on Saturday morning June 1st here in Palomar Park. The drill starts at 9:00am and residents are urged to participate. Residents, in their cars, will evacuate through our emergency exits and meet up at the drill's evacuation point; St. Mathias Church, at 1685 Cordilleras Rd. for a Cal Fire educational event and debriefing 9am-11am.

On the day of the drill notifications through SMC Alert and Genasys Protect will be sent out. Please make sure your SMC Alert and Genasys Protect subscription is up to date.

### Emergency Exits:

***Belle Roche upper gate at the end of Duggan (combo 0911)***

***Palomar/Pebble Dr. gate at the end of Palomar Dr. (combo 0911)***

***Cervantes gate off South Palomar & Edgewood (FOR FIRE DEPT INGRESS ONLY)***

***Loma Rd. at end of road (no vehicles only pedestrian access at this time)***

## ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Indulge your sweet tooth for a delightful afternoon of frozen treats at the third annual ice cream social hosted by Bob and Kat Bedbury.

***Saturday, June 1st***

***1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.***

***Clifford School upper parking lot***

In case you miss the postcard, please consider this your personal invitation. Come enjoy a scoop, (or two), of Mr. Softee's finest flavors while mingling with your neighbors and celebrate the spirit of Palomar Park.

Thanks Bob and Kat for hosting this special event..

*"I scream you scream we all scream for ice cream"*



## WHAT IS SMC ALERT ?

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management provides emergency notifications through SMC Alert. Once you subscribe you can choose to be notified by email, telephone or text of pending emergencies such as wildfires, evacuations, extended road closures and even police activity. The notifications are specific to the areas you have selected. Make sure each of your family members are signed up. Have a family plan and be prepared for any type of emergency.

The first step in preparedness is knowing what, when, and where the emergency is.

Sign Up Now !

[www.smcgov.org/cwo/smc-alert](http://www.smcgov.org/cwo/smc-alert)



## PESTICIDES ...WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Of the over 80,000 pesticides used today, many have never been tested for safety or efficacy. 76 million lbs. of pesticides are used by Americans. Children are especially vulnerable to pesticides and ages 6-11 have significantly higher levels of pesticides in their bodies than any other age group. Children are exposed to enormous amounts of pesticides via multiple routes; including, homes, gardens and schools. Like children, pets are particularly vulnerable to pesticide poisoning via lawns, baits set out for "pest" species, and toxic flea treatments. Dogs whose owners use pesticides on lawns are twice as likely to die of cancer. Pesticides used by homeowners kill 7 million birds annually as many common lawn-care pesticides are toxic to birds. One hundred percent of Americans tested have traces of pesticides in their body tissue.

### Health Effects of Pesticides

Links have been found between pesticide exposure in children and:

*Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder*  
*Childhood Brain Cancer*  
*Developmental Delays & Birth Defects*  
*Autism Spectrum Disorders*  
*Endocrine Disruptions*

Because children and pets have smaller body sizes, a tendency to play and roll on the ground, and frequently put things in their mouth, they have a greater risk of exposure to applied pesticides than adults do.



There are plenty of organic products available that do not contain Glyphosate. Many use vinegar as their active ingredient. They work so please give them a try.

Dr. Jacks Brew  
Pet-Safe Weed Killer  
Green Gobbler

## WELCOME TO THE HILL



Deepika Yelamanchi & Ravi Mantena 186 Montalvo  
Chris Carlson & Shannon Miller 18 S. Palomar Dr.  
James Lam 17 S. Palomar Dr.  
Tracy Sarkissian 180 S. Palomar Dr.



## FREE CHIPPING IS BACK IN JUNE

Take advantage of the free neighborhood chipping program and remove hazardous fuels from your property. Create "Defensible Space," free of overgrown/dead vegetation. Stack your pile at the curb and the chipping crew will take care of the rest. \*No poison oak, lumber or piles of leaves

**June 12th**  
**September 24th**

Create Defensible Space around your home and clear your driveway access for the firefighters. CA Fire Code requires 13'6" of vertical clear space along driveways.

## THE BABES AMONGST US

Spring is when all our wildlife have their young. There are vulnerable babies everywhere. Please watch out for our precious young wildlife when weed whacking, cutting branches, and driving on the road. Chicks need some time to fledge the nest so be careful when doing tree work. Fawns hide in the tall grass waiting for their moms so be careful when weed whacking. Do not use poison for rodents as hawks, owls and foxes feed their babies lots of rats and mice and if they consume a poisoned rodent they too can be effected and even die. When you see deer on the side of the road STOP and let them all cross. The fawns are usually a few steps behind their moms so use caution and keep your eyes peeled to the side of the road.



*photo by Andrei Lessiv- submitted by Daniel Petelin*

## BE CAREFUL WHO YOU HIRE

Unfortunately home robberies are increasing. If you see something out of the ordinary in the neighborhood please call the Sheriff's Office. Keep all doors and vehicles locked. Do not allow workers alone in your house and try and seek referrals for inside and outside construction projects. Let your neighbors know when you are going out of town and install cameras and a burglar alarm if you can. Do not tell workers if you are going out of town. If you leave to the airport think about having a friend or relative take you so strangers don't see you leave with your suitcase.

## CONTRACTOR SPOTLIGHT

A.M. Tree Service is owned by Adrian Hernandez. He operates a small licensed tree service company. He can tackle almost any type of tree work and has a 5 star customer rating. Give Adrian a call 510 862-9965.

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes are maintained with dues from our PPO members. Every year approximately \$1,500-2,500 is spent repairing mailboxes and roadside name boards.



Contact us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request or go to [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)

## STAY IN YOUR LANE

Most Palomar Park residents are good about driving careful on our precarious narrow roads, however some landscapers, contractors and other service vehicles do not provide the same driving courtesy. Getting run off the road because a driver is being careless or encountering a truck parked on a blind curve is dangerous. If you have service providers or contractors coming to your home remind them to drive carefully and make sure they are not bringing oversized vehicles that will break tree limbs or get stuck.



## GARDEN CLUB

The Palomar Park Garden Club invites interested residents to join us for our next adventure or potluck lunch. If you are interested in joining please email Gillian Chao [gillianchao@gmail.com](mailto:gillianchao@gmail.com) with the subject line Palomar Garden Club to get on the mailing list.

## LOST OR FOUND AN ANIMAL?

The Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA is dedicated to the welfare of all domestic and wild animals. The PHS/SPCA is one of the very few humane societies that also rehabilitates local wildlife. If you find a sick, injured or orphaned wild animal please safely contain it and bring it to the Burlingame Shelter 9am -6pm or the Coyote Point Shelter after hours. If you have found a lost domestic pet you can bring them to the Coyote Point Shelter and they will try and find their owner. Micro chipping your pet is one of the best ways to ensure your pet will be reunited with you if they get lost. You can get your pet micro chipped at PHS/SPCA for \$30. The PHS/SPCA also has low cost vaccination clinics and you can even schedule an appointment to have your pet spayed or neutered.

Maybe you are considering adopting a pet? PHS/SPCA has kittens, cats, dogs, rabbits, and more. Adopting is always a better option than buying from a breeder. Adopted pets can be wonderful and joyous additions to your family. The PHS/SPCA screens the animals and will help you find the perfect pet.

Vaccination & Micro chipping 650 340-7022 ext 332  
Spay & Neuter Clinic 650 340-7015  
San Mateo Coyote Point Shelter 12 Airport Blvd.  
Burlingame Adoption Center 1450 Rollins Rd.

The shelters are partially funded by donations. If you are feeling generous or have an annual giving quota please consider giving and help the needy animals of San Mateo County.

Contact:

Lisa Van Buskirk  
for more donation info  
650 340-7022 ext 327.



## LOCAL BEES & SPRING HONEY

The Palomar Park bees are working on a wonderful spring honey crop this year. Keep planting those pollinator plants for our Palomar Park bees to enjoy. Send in to PPO your favorite honey recipe.

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:  
Denise Enea-Charlebois  
650 740-9883 or  
[decharlebois1@gmail.com](mailto:decharlebois1@gmail.com)



*\*Profits go to Animal Welfare organizations.*

## EVACUATION.....KNOW YOUR ZONE

Residents can find an evacuation map showing all the exit routes out of Palomar Park on our website: [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org). It is your responsibility to know all the routes and become familiar with them. In the event of a wildfire, "Know your evacuation zone" Genasys Protect is the SMC evacuation system. The County is divided into different evacuation zones. Palomar Park's zone is **SC-E008**. To learn more go to: <https://protect.genasys.com/>

## CONSTRUCTION REGS= NO SUNDAYS

The LEGAL hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. **No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.** Also, there are hefty fines in SMC for not pulling a permit for your project. Permits are required for most improvements to your home including: fences, water heaters, replacing decks, replacing windows, driveway replacements, etc.

If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call: 650 599-7311 or email [cleung@smcgov.org](mailto:cleung@smcgov.org)



## PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

Help contribute to our Palomar Park website; [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org). Do you have a picture or something related to Palomar Park that would be great for the website? The Board manages the website and we try to have useful online forms and current information for our residents.

If you have something  
please contact us at:  
[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



## INVASIVE WEEDS SPREADING FAST ON OUR HILL

Dittrichia, aka stink weed and all sorts of Thistle is spreading amongst Palomar Park. These weeds like disturbed soils and are flammable. Neither are native and they crowd out native grasses that our wildlife utilize. If you have either of these on your property please eradicate and place directly into the green waste cart. Do not weed whack them if they are blooming as that can spread the seeds.



## IS YOUR HOME READY FOR A WILDFIRE ?

We live in a high fire severity zone and many of our homes and properties are not hardened to be ignition resistant. In the event of a wildfire, embers from burning vegetation or structures will send thousands of small burning embers throughout our neighborhoods. Your roofs are the most vulnerable and the area directly next to your house. This is called the 0-5 zone and it should be clear of combustible vegetation and combustible materials. Decks are also very vulnerable and you should not store combustible material under them. Once your deck ignites it's just a matter of minutes before your house ignites with it.

### **Defensible Space: Remove the most flammable plants from around your structure.**

- ❖ Cypress
- ❖ Pompass grass
- ❖ Fountain Grass
- ❖ Juniper
- ❖ French Broom

### **Harden your structure:**

- ❖ Replace wood shake roofs with something non-combustible, i.e. metal or composition.
- ❖ Retrofit your house with ember resistant vents.
- ❖ Replace wood decks with ignition resistant products, i.e. Timber Tech, or Hardie Board.
- ❖ Replace wood siding with Hardie Board, stucco, or rock veneer.

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Please renew your annual 2024 Palomar Park Owner's membership. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, support the annual chipper program, fund the annual picnic and other beneficial projects for Palomar Park and our residents. Your \$75 dues check goes a long way.

You can pay online:

[www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)

or mail a check to: **PPO**

**419 Palomar Dr.  
Palomar Park  
CA 94062**



## SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from our residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park an even better place, please drop us a line.

***PalomarNews@gmail.com***



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

## PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Palomar Park is a remarkable place for remarkable people. The PPO Board works hard to keep you informed, improve Palomar Park, be good stewards and maintain the rural attributes of our community. There is currently one vacant seat on the Board if you would like to serve.

**PRESIDENT - BOB BEDBURY**

**VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS**

**SECRETARY- LEXI BAILEY**

**TREASURER - ANDREA EVERETT**

**BOARD MEMBER HUGO LOURO**

**BOARD MEMBER - DAN PETELIN**

**BOARD MEMBER - RICH LANDI**

**BOARD MEMBER - DAVID NIEH**

**BOARD MEMBER - VACANT**

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SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## ROADS RUN AMOK

Due to the lack of road maintenance and an abundance of home construction projects many of our roads are in terrible shape. The San Mateo County Road Dept. hasn't repaved any of Palomar Park's roads in decades. Montalvo, Loma Rd. and upper Palomar Dr. (past Loma Ct.) are all considered private roads and San Mateo County Road Dept. will not touch them. San Mateo County collects road impact fees every time a large home construction permit is pulled. During home construction, large cement, lumber and other heavy construction trucks can do a lot of damage to a road, especially in the winter when the road base under the pavement is wet and soft. So why aren't these road impact fees being utilized in Palomar Park for our roads? Good question. The squeaky wheel gets the grease or maybe in this case gets the asphalt.

SMC District 3 Board of Supervisor - Ray Mueller [rmueller@smcgov.org](mailto:rmueller@smcgov.org)

SMC Road's Dept. - Diana Shu [dshu@smcgov.org](mailto:dshu@smcgov.org)

SMC Public Works Director - Ann Stillman [astillman@smcgov.org](mailto:astillman@smcgov.org)

SMC Road's Director - Khoa Vo [dvo1@smcgov.org](mailto:dvo1@smcgov.org)



## PALOMAR PARK AT OUR BEST ....PICNIC HIGHLIGHTS

A fun time was had by all during the 2023 Palomar Park Picnic held September 9th at Clifford School. Nearly a hundred hill residents, enjoyed glorious weather and delicious BBQ served up by grill masters Jeff Garatt and Danny Woerz. Special thanks to all the picnic volunteers and donors of the raffle items: The Canyon Inn, My Favorite Feet, Bob & Kat Bedbury and Denise Enea Charlebois.

*Rich, Danny, Bob, Jeff and Dan (from left to right)*



Tell us what you would like to see at next years' picnic as we aim to have something delightful and fun for all of our residents.



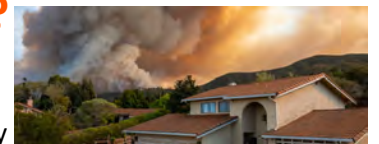
## BARKING DOGS....QUIET PLEASE

Yes, we get complaints of incessant barking dogs in Palomar Park. Did you know that nuisance barking is a San Mateo County violation? So how do you stop your dog from barking? Try the experts at [www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/how-to-stop-dog-barking/](http://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/how-to-stop-dog-barking/)

A tired dog who's had adequate physical and mental stimulation is less likely to bark inordinately. Why not have some fun and take Fido for a walk. It's great exercise and neighbors might appreciate your tired and quiet dog.

## ARE YOU READY?

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Services provides emergency notifications through SMC Alert. Once you subscribe you can choose to be notified by email, telephone or text of emergencies in various parts of the County. Don't you want to know if there is a wildfire, road closure or other potential life safety emergency near your home or office? Sign up now for SMC Alert at [www.smcgov.org/cwo/smc-alert](http://www.smcgov.org/cwo/smc-alert). Also check out the FEMA website on emergency preparedness at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)



## DO YOUR WINTER PREP!

Now is the time to start organizing for winter rain preparations around your home and property. Weather predictions point to an El Nino year and if this year is anything like the last we will have our hands full. Many residents suffered property damage from fallen trees, flooding and landslides.

- ✓ *Clean out gutters of all debris*
- ✓ *Clean out catch basins*
- ✓ *Make sure drainage swales are clear*
- ✓ *Remove debris from roof which can clog roof drains and downspouts.*
- ✓ *Make sure flexible drainage pipe is securely connected to down spouts and catch basins*
- ✓ *Clean culvert inlets and outlets*
- ✓ *Repair any roof leaks or missing shingles*

Some winter preparations are easy enough to do yourself. However some roof and gutter cleaning should be left up to the professionals. If you need help finding a responsible professional try asking some of your neighbors.

## BOARD ELECTION TIME

It is election time for the PPO Board. The ballots will be distributed to all PPO residents. Voting is easy! Please mail or drop off your ballot to the Palomar Park mailbox before or on October 24th at 5:00pm. You may also vote in person at our PPO General Meeting on Oct 24th at 7:00pm at the Clifford School Gym. Election results will be announced at the end of October 24th General Meeting.



## WELCOME TO THE HILL



Douglas Schnell 720 Palomar  
Gallet Family 275 Hubbard

Brenda & Lynn Davis 15 Belle Roche



## OCTOBER 24TH GENERAL MEETING

The Palomar Park Owners' Association will be having our annual General Meeting on October 24th at the Clifford School Gym at 7:00 pm.

- ❖ *2024 Board Election*
- ❖ *Presentation by SMC Vector Control (Rodent topic)*
- ❖ *Wildfire Prevention Grant information*
- ❖ *SOD Group Spray info*
- ❖ *General Updates & PPO Info*
- ❖ *Free Raffle with prizes*
- ❖ *Refreshments*



We hope you all will join us and support your Palomar Park Owner's Association.

## WILDLIFE SAFE ZONES

It's that time of year when food is scarce for our wildlife. Here are a few tips to help them out:

- ❖ A new bird feeder with suet
- ❖ New bird nesting boxes
- ❖ Bird nesting material (dog hair works great)
- ❖ Rake up acorns and leave them for the deer
- ❖ Leave a small opening in your fence for foxes
- ❖ Add an owl box or hawk perch (they eat rodents)

## SMC SHERIFF WARNS OF UPTICK IN HOME INVASIONS

Unfortunately home robberies are on the increase and have been for a while. Stolen vehicles, and even armed robberies in local hillside neighborhoods are increasing monthly. Some residents are even home during these robberies and confronted by the criminals. Credit cards, jewelry and electronics are usually the target. The Sheriff office wants residents to say something (by calling 911) if you see something out of the ordinary in your neighborhood. Keep all doors and vehicles locked. Do not allow workers alone in your house and try and get referrals for inside and outside construction projects. Let your neighbors know when you are going out of town and install cameras if you can.

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes are maintained using dues from our PPO members. Every year we spend approximately \$1,500-2,000 repairing mailboxes and roadside name boards.



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## GARDEN CLUB

The Palomar Park Garden Club invites interested residents to join us for our next adventure or potluck lunch. If you are interested in joining please email Gillian Chao [gillianchao@gmail.com](mailto:gillianchao@gmail.com) with the subject line Palomar Garden Club to get on the mailing list.

## ONE RESIDENT'S VISION TO HONOR ALL OF PALOMAR PARK

Palomar Park's history began in 1927, when wonderful people started experiencing what a special place Palomar Park was. If you've ever spoken to Dan Petelin, the PPO Historian, he has plenty of interesting stories of our past residents and Palomar Park. Many things have changed since 1927, however there are still wonderful people who do wonderful things to help keep Palomar Park special. Dan worked hard to raise the money and design the plaque with suggestions and assistance from friends and neighbors.

The community plaque is a "tribute to our residents who have made Palomar Park an oasis of tranquility".

The tribute plaque has a permanent place in Palomar Park and sits proudly on a stately boulder with an inviting bench at the Palomar/South Palomar Y. Over 40 residents attended the unveiling on June 10, 2023.



## BLOWERS AND YOUR HEALTH

Does your gardner walk around the yard with a gas blower raging, sending dust, debris, pollen and spores in a giant plume into the air, into your car, your house, your HVAC system, as well as your neighbors house? Allergies flair and off to the drug store you go. Think about your health and your family. Give your gardener a rake and have him keep the blower in the truck.

## LOCAL BEES & SUMMER HONEY

The Palomar Park bees have produced a wonderful honey crop this year. We have a bountiful amount and honey makes a great holiday gift.

Keep planting those pollinator plants for our Palomar Park bees to enjoy. Send in to PPO your favorite honey recipe..

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:

Denise Enea-Charlebois

650 740-9883 or

[decharlebois1@gmail.com](mailto:decharlebois1@gmail.com)



*\*Profits go to Red Cross and Animal Welfare charities.*

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[community.zonehaven.com](http://community.zonehaven.com) to find out critical

evacuation information. Palomar Park's zone is **SC-E008**

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## INVASIVE WEED SPREADING FAST ON OUR HILL

DITRICCHIA, aka stink weed, is spreading all over Palomar Park. This weed likes disturbed soils and is very flammable. It is sticky and stinky and not native to CA. If you have this on your property please pull it out and place directly into the green waste cart. Do not weed whack it as that will only spread the seeds.



## NEW FIRE SAFE SMC GRANT

The SMC FIRE SAFE COUNCIL is once again assisting Palomar Park with utilizing CA Grant funds to reduce hazard fuels along our roadways. Some of the grant funds have already been utilized in July of this year on the private portion of Palomar Dr. Removing dead trees, branches hanging over power lines, and dangerous brush build-up was included in the fuels treatment. More work is scheduled for later this year along lower Palomar Dr. and will include the removal of a few eucalyptus and pines overhanging power lines. Tree failures and branches falling onto power lines are one of the most frequent causes of wildfire. Fire Prevention is all about preventing an ignition.



The grant was made possible through a collaboration between Fire Safe San Mateo County and the PPO Board with the intent to keep the neighborhood clear of unnecessary and hazardous fuels while also ensuring safe neighborhood evacuation routes in the event of an emergency.

It is important for the safety of our community that all Palomar Park residents do their part to ensure their trees are maintained and their lots are free of hazardous fuels. To learn more or access resources, please visit <https://www.firesafesanmarateo.org>.

## SUDDEN OAK DEATH SPRAYING

SOD attacks our beloved oak trees. PPO has organized a discount group spray event on Nov 6 & 7 through Mayne Tree. The spraying of Agrifos/ pentrabark assists in the prevention of SOD.



If you would like to be included email Andrea Everett at [andreaeverett@gmail.com](mailto:andreaeverett@gmail.com)

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**SECRETARY- LEXI BAILEY**

**TREASURER - CHRISTINE TRISKA**

**BOARD MEMBER HUGO LOURO**

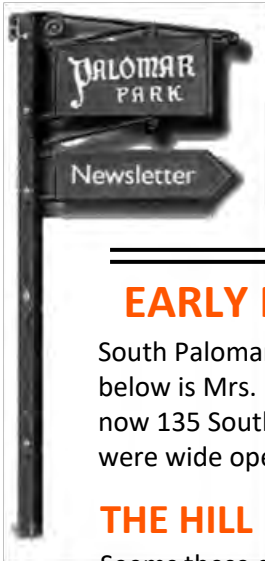
**BOARD MEMBER -BOB BEDBURY**

**BOARD MEMBER - DAN PETELIN**

**BOARD MEMBER - NELL TRIPLETT**

**CONTACT US AT:**

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SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## EARLY PALOMAR PARK by Daniel Petelin

South Palomar in the early 40's was a dirt road. There was only one house on upper Montalvo Rd. Pictured below is Mrs. Romandor, her mother and daughter Linda driving the loop. The jeep is parked in front of which is now 135 South Palomar, where the Louro family now live. Only 15 residents in the early 40's on the Hill. There were wide open spaces, no fences and plenty of expansive views.

## THE HILL HIT WITH ILLEGAL DUMPING

Seems these dumping bandits are all over SMC. You see piles of chips, garbage and dirt along the freeway, near the overpasses and other areas along the sides of roads. Clifford School received an unwelcome load of dirt and the Sheriff's office was notified. Also the empty parcel on the corner of upper Palomar and South Palomar was hit with a large pile of wood chips. If you see someone dumping on the side of our roads, or in an empty lot please stop and ask the person if they have authorization. Do they know the name of the owner, can they produce the telephone number. If not call the non emergency Sheriff telephone 650 363-4963 and ask for a deputy to respond. If you see something say something !



## PALOMAR PARK 2nd ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

To all PALOMAR PARK Residents: It's time to leave the cold, windy, and rainy winter weather behind us at last! To kick off the approaching Summer, Bob & Kat Bedbury, your neighbors at 1040 Palomar Drive, are reprising the ice cream social they sponsored last year.

If you attended last year's event, you remember how much fun it was to gather together with family and friends, enjoy some delicious refreshments, and celebrate the arrival of warmer weather. If you missed it last year, be sure to join us this time around. Mr. Softee will be there to offer up your favorite flavors. Personal invitations were sent in the mail, but if you overlooked yours, please consider this your special invitation. Looking forward to seeing you for an afternoon of fun and good treats on Saturday, May 20th, 1-4pm at the Clifford School upper parking lot.

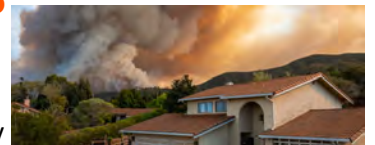


## WINTERS WRATH IN PALOMAR PARK

The winter of 2023 was one for the record books. Palomar Park sustained quite a bit of damage including numerous landslides, over saturated and failed septic systems, flooding and large tree failures. The fire department was called on several occasions to assist with flooding and emergency tree crews were out in force. These severe storms are a reminder of how fragile our hillside community is with our older and rural infrastructure.

## ARE YOU READY?

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Services provides emergency notifications through SMC Alert. Once you subscribe you can choose to be notified by email, telephone or text of emergencies in various parts of the County. Don't you want to know if there is a wildfire, road closure or other potential life safety emergency near your home or office? Sign up now for SMC Alert at [www.smcgov.org/cwo/smc-alert](http://www.smcgov.org/cwo/smc-alert). Also check out the FEMA website on emergency preparedness at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)



## DO YOUR DEFENSIBLE SPACE

We have all heard the saying "if you build it they will come". Well when it comes to wildfires the fire department will not be so eager to come and fight your house fire if your driveway is overgrown, your house has branches, dead vegetation and debris all around. It becomes a losing battle for the fire department with a house and property in that condition. If you want them to come you must do your defensible space. Defensible space is the law section 4291 of the Public Resources code. Also think about conducting some home hardening so your house is more ignition resistant.

- ✓ Clean out gutters of all debris
- ✓ Remove tree limbs within 10' of chimney or roof
- ✓ Remove tall bushes from under your windows
- ✓ Mow annual grass & dead vegetation within 100' of your structures
- ✓ Clear your driveway of overhanging vegetation. Clearance should be maintained at 13'6" vertical and a minimum of 12' horizontal or the entire paved width of the driveway
- ✓ Trim brush away from fire hydrant
- ✓ Remove firewood and combustible debris from under your deck
- ✓ Replace wood shake roofs with composition, metal or tile
- ✓ Replace old redwood decks with an ignition resistant decking material such as Timbertech AZEK
- ✓ Replace foundation & attic vents with ember resistant vents, i.e. Vulcan or Brandguard.
- ✓ Remove fire prone plants such as scotch broom, Pampas grass, acacia, diseased pine trees, cypress, palm trees.
- ✓ Do not allow vines or brush to grow on or underneath your trees. This vegetation can catch fire and travel into the tops of the trees

**DO YOUR PART AND BE WILDFIRE SMART!**

## WELCOME TO THE HILL



Margaret Lorber, 130 Cervantes



Jeremy & Jennifer Williams, 1021 Palomar

## SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG

What a winter we have endured. Now that it's over it is time to spring into action and get your yard and garden in tip top shape. Most of us here have selected Palomar Park as our home because we love nature, the outdoors and the rural native landscape. Make your property the perfect natural paradise. Here are some tips to help you decide what to do:

- > Plant only natives. Non native plants often need lots of water and will crowd out native plants that pollinators, birds and other wildlife depend on.
- > Dig out the soil and leaf debris that has accumulated around the base of the trunks of your oaks. Dig carefully until you can see the base of the trunk. Do not water, plant, or place rocks around your oaks. Make sure no drainage pipes or downspouts are directed to the base of your oaks.
- > Allow any bulbs you have planted, i.e. daffodils, tulips to turn brown and dry up. The bulb regains its nutrients from the leaves. When they are totally dry the leaves will come off easily, leaving the bulb safely in the ground for next year.
- > Wait to mow annual green grass until it starts to turn yellow. This is when you will know the grass is done growing and ready for mowing. Start on the south exposure sides of your property as the sun is more prevalent on that aspect and will be ready to cut sooner than north exposures. If you follow this rule you will only have to mow once this summer.
- > Add a nesting bird box in your yard and even a suet bar for the local birds. Bonnie at the Wildbird store in San Carlos has a great collection of feeders, seed and suet. If you have a dog, brush some hair off their coat and leave it on a tree branch and the birds will utilize it as nesting material.
- > Do not spray your trees for worms or bugs as all sorts of birds utilize this food source in the spring, especially to feed new born baby birds. The worms do not hurt the tree and they only emerge for a short period of time.

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes are maintained using dues from our PPO members. Every year we spend approximately \$1,500-2,000 repairing mailboxes and roadside name boards.



Contact us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request or go to [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)

## SAVE THE DATE PPO PICNIC

September 9th will be the date of our annual Palomar Park picnic and BBQ. All are welcome and admission is FREE if you are a paid PPO member. If you haven't paid your 2023 member dues yet now is the time. The picnic is a long standing tradition in Palomar Park and last year we had approximately 200 residents. Look for information this summer in your mailbox or subscribe to our email list now to receive special information and notifications.



## GARDEN CLUB by Phyllis Anderson

The long standing club is about a sense of place and neighborhood connections...not just about gardening! The Palomar Park Garden Club invites interested residents to join us for our next adventure and potluck lunch. We are currently meeting every other month. Since 1948, the Palomar Park Garden Club has expressed the interests of members and completed many community service projects such as:

- ❖ Redwood road signs and mailboxes
- ❖ Establishing red-barked madrones around Clifford School Library
- ❖ Clearing main exit routes of invasive and fire-prone weeds (brooms, pampas grass, eucalyptus)
- ❖ Guided tours: from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Forensic Lab, to our neighborhood's prohibition era secret-storage house, and the serpentine Andy Goldsworthy sculpture at Stanford
- ❖ Legendary Lunches: Herzen Russian Art History, Ewing labyrinth, and Margaret's Mardi Gras of February 2023

**WHAT'S NEXT?** Our next meeting will be a potluck lunch in May. Please email Gillian Chao [gillianchao@gmail.com](mailto:gillianchao@gmail.com) with the subject line Palomar Garden Club to get on the mailing list. Gillian and Carol Lashman have taken on the leadership roles.

We look forward to meeting you!

## LOCAL BEES & SPRING HONEY

The harsh winter has delayed our local Palomar Park bees from making honey. Did you know bees can't fly in the rain? Nor do they like to forage for pollen or nectar if it is below 50 degrees. We hope to harvest our first spring honey this month. Keep planting those pollinator plants for our Palomar Park bees to enjoy.

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:  
Denise Enea-Charlebois  
650 740-9883 or  
[decharlebois1@gmail.com](mailto:decharlebois1@gmail.com)



*\*Profits go to Red Cross and Animal Welfare charities.*

## EVACUATION.....KNOW YOUR ZONE

Residents can find an evacuation map showing all the exit routes out of Palomar Park on our website; [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org). It is your responsibility to know all the routes and become familiar with them. In the event of a wildfire, "Know your zone". This is the SMC evacuation system and you can go to: [community.zonehaven.com](http://community.zonehaven.com) to find out critical evacuation information. Palomar Park's zone is **SC-E008**

## CONSTRUCTION REGS= NO SUNDAYS

The LEGAL hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. **No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.** Also, there are hefty fines in SMC for not pulling a permit for your project. Permits are required for most improvements to your home including: fences, water heaters, replacing decks, replacing windows, driveway replacements, etc.

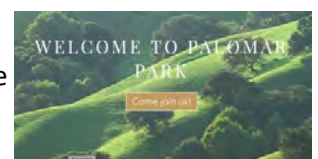
If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call: 650 599-7311 or email [cleung@smcgov.org](mailto:cleung@smcgov.org)



## PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

Help contribute to our Palomar Park website; [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org). Do you have a picture or something related to Palomar Park that would be great for the website? The Board manages the website and we try to have useful online forms and current information for our residents.

If you have something please contact us at:  
[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



## CHIPPER PROGRAM IS BACK

Let's talk DEFENSIBLE SPACE and how this free program can assist you in disposing of overgrown, dead or diseased vegetation around your home and property to keep it safe from wildfire. On June 5th the chipper crew will be making the rounds of Palomar Park and chip the piles you leave neatly stacked in front of your house. There are a few simple rules and specifications:

- ❖ Stack cut ends facing towards the street
- ❖ Leave up to 8" diameter branches
- ❖ Do not leave vines, poison oak, piles of leaves or stumps with dirt on root ball.
- ❖ Do not leave any lumber or firewood size pieces
- ❖ Make sure your pile is ready on the curb by 8:00am
- ❖ Piles should be no larger than 10' x 10' x 5'
- ❖ If you want your chips leave a note on your branches

## HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Our Palomar Park Historian is making his own history. Dan Petelin is working on a community bronze plaque dedicated to all the residents of Palomar Park. Dan is spearheading the project and also financially taking charge. He has received several donations and hopes to install the plaque at the lower U.S. mailbox Y on Palomar Dr. this summer. If you have questions about the project or want to offer assistance, please contact Dan directly at [dpetelin@pacbell.net](mailto:dpetelin@pacbell.net).

## SPOTLIGHT ON EDGEWOOD PARK EDUCATION CENTER

Nestled in neighboring Edgewood Park and Nature Preserve – treasured for its spectacular wildflower displays and serpentine grasslands – is a wonderful educational and research resource, the Bill and Jean Lane Education Center. If you missed it, it is likely because it just reopened last year and keeps the limited hours of 9:30 am-4:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays and 9:30 am-12:00 pm on Wednesdays.

A special treat for school age children, the ed center houses fun, interactive exhibits highlighting the unique soils and plant communities of Edgewood Park. An all-volunteer staff provides information on flowers in bloom and recently spotted birds and animals. Spring, and especially this spring with all the rain, is a stunning time to explore the natural beauty of the area surrounding Palomar Park. Information on docent-led wildflower hikes across the park's 467 acres can be found at <https://www.smcgov.org/parks/edgewood-park-activities>.

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Please renew your annual 2023 Palomar Park Owner's membership. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, host community events, fund the annual chipper program and other beneficial projects and functions for Palomar Park and our residents. Your \$50 donation goes a long way. You can pay online:

[www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)

or mail a check to: **PPO**

**419 Palomar Dr.  
Palomar Park  
CA 94062**



## SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from our residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park an even better place, please drop us a line.

**[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)**



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

## PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Palomar Park is a remarkable place for remarkable people. The PPO Board works hard to keep you informed, improve Palomar Park, be good stewards of our environment and maintain the rural attributes of our community.

**PRESIDENT - RICH LANDI**

**VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS**

**SECRETARY - LEXI BAILEY**

**TREASURER - CHRISTINE TRISKA**

**BOARD MEMBER - HUGO LOURO**

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**BOARD MEMBER - DAN PETELIN**

**BOARD MEMBER - NELL TRIPLETT**

**CONTACT US AT:**

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interested in serving. [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)



# Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## Palomar Park in 1940 by Daniel Petlin

Palomar Park's developer, A.J. Harwood, envisioned our Hill as another "Hillsborough". Our Hill was known as "Rattlesnake Hill" in the early part of the century. The first summer cottages were built in the early 1920s as vacation homes for residents escaping the cold summers in San Francisco. During World War II, residents gathered at a farm (now part of Belle Roches Estates) to support the troops making blankets and other items to support the U.S. military. From 1942 to 1945, Palomar Park residents covered their windows in black cloth and a warden went around the Hill to make sure there was a "blackout" as an air raid precaution. The Palomar Park



Garden Club was founded in 1948 and has been involved in many projects, including signs, mailboxes, social events, cookbooks, and even Christmas bazaars. In 1956 the formation of the Palomar Park Property Owners association was incorporated and affixed with the Great Seal of the State of California. There was a horse ranch situated on the site that is now Clifford School. The Palomar Park Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1972, with a rescue truck, a fire engine and station on 178 South Palomar Dr. The department was retired in 2000. At one time Cervantes Rd. had a private entry gate and a woman sat beside the gate with a rifle.

After tremendous rainfall in the 50's and again in the 70' and 80's and as recent as 2018 there were large landslides, some which destroyed homes and making the front page news of the SF Chronicle.

## PALOMAR PARK PICNIC RETURNS WITH RECORD ATTENDANCE

After a two-year hiatus, Palomar Park's annual summer picnic tradition returned on September 19th at Clifford Elementary School with nearly a third of the Hill's residents in attendance. Following the BBQ and potluck, the PPO Board raffled off Palomar Park items such as the Palomar Park Cookbook and history DVD. The youngest attendees met new friends during games on the field, veteran residents reconnected, and the newest Palomar Park members met their neighbors. All enjoyed live music by accordion virtuoso Rich Landi. A 2023 summer picnic is in the works and watch for a save the date notice. The picnic is free to all paid members of the PPO. Renew your dues now if you want free admission to this year's event.



A special thanks to BBQ masters Jeff Garratt and Danny Woerz for grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for the large crowd and a broader thank you to the community for ensuring the connections that make Palomar Park more than just a beautiful place to live.

If you would like to help volunteer please contact the PPO Board at [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

We truly live up to our motto; *An exceptional place with exceptional people.*

## DIY OR CONTRACTORS YOU CAN TRUST

For many of us finding a good contractor is an overwhelming task. Homeowners need to be very careful when hiring contractors. Always verify a contractor's license with the CA License Board

License Board: [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov)

DIY projects are becoming more popular with homeowners. Why not try your hand at doing a few simple projects on your own? Start out easy and focus on maintenance type projects, i.e. fixing sprinklers, replacing your furnace filters, replacing weather stripping or door sweeps, replacing decking boards, or repairing your fence. YouTube is a wonderful source for videos on how to do just about everything.

Save \$ and DIY !

## STAY INFORMED DURING EMERGENCIES

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Services provides emergency alerts through a notification system, SMC ALERT, which sends emails and texts to you during an emergency, i.e. wildfire, evacuations, road closures, flooding, police activity, etc. Please subscribe to SMC ALERT so that you and your family can stay informed and safe during an emergency. SUBSCRIBE TODAY

<https://www.smcgov.org/cmo/smc-alert#>



## WELCOME TO THE HILL



Neda Pakdaman, 720 Palomar

Tom Zachystal and Lindsay Verity,  
18 Estrada Place

Seph and April Zdarko, 14 Estrada Place

Eric and Pam Cheng, 175 Montalvo

Chris and Miro Crow, 15 Hermosa



## RECORD RAIN SATURATES HILLSIDES

Landslides are a familiar thing in Palomar Park. We have had our share over the years, some of them being extremely destructive. These type of torrential and long lasting rains can play havoc on our hillsides. Most of us try and ensure preventive measures are in place for proper drainage. Here are some reminders and tips:

### DO:

- \*Maintain roof gutters & downspouts
- \*Consider installing gutter guard to protect your gutters from being clogged with debris
- \*Clean your catch basins
- \*Make sure your sprinklers are off
- \*Test sump pumps & even have a spare
- \*Clean culverts near your home (don't rely on SMC)
- \*Install flexible drain pipe to transport storm water from downspouts to drainage swales or creeks
- \*Check on your septic and leachfield to make sure it's working properly and not overwhelmed
- \*If you have a landslide think about placing a tarp over it to temporarily control it



### DON'T

- \*Don't allow your storm water to be directed onto your neighbor's property
- \*Don't direct storm water to the base of your trees
- \*Don't direct storm water onto your leachfield
- \*Don't dig up hillsides or allow them to be bare of vegetation during the rainy season. (Think about seeding your hillside & creating a wildflower, clover or native grass meadow)



## SMC RAIN BARREL REBATE PROGRAM

Even with the large quantity of December & January rainfall, conserving water is important. Did you know rain barrels are one of the best ways to save money and conserve water by cutting back potable water used for irrigation? You can capture about 312 gallons of water for every half-inch of rain that falls on a 1,000 square foot roof, an amount that can be then used to water plants.

Learn about the benefits of owning a rain barrel and how to receive up to \$200 from San Mateo County by visiting; [www.flowstobay.org](http://www.flowstobay.org)



## WHO WHO...OWLS THAT'S WHO

Winter is the time of year that our Palomar Park owls look for their mates. You will hear them calling back and forth to one another. After dark, you may be lucky enough to hear their mesmerizing call. It



**Barn owl**

If you hate rats and moles around your home then think about making it a little easier and more attractive for owls to hunt in your backyard.

sometimes can sooth you to sleep (for the insomniacs of Palomar Park). Owls play a large role in our rodent control here on the Hill.

- ❖ Think about adding an owl house to your property (There are many online sources for owl houses)
- ❖ Keep flood and other lights off that shine into your backyard hunting ground. Owls need it dark for their eyes to be able to see the movement of rodents. Unlike humans, owls can see in the dark.
- ❖ Do not use rat poison. If an owl eats a poisoned rat they can absorb the poison from the dead rodent.
- ❖ There are several types of owls in Palomar Park; Great Horned, Screech and sometimes Barn owls (these are the white ones)

## 2023 BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

During the November 2022 General PPO zoom meeting we announced the results of the 2023 PPO Board election. Only incumbents were on the ballot and if your'e interested in potentially running for a seat on the PPO Board for next year please contact President Rich Landi for an official nomination. The Board meets once a month and has several committees that we are always looking for volunteer help with. **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Rich Landi 2023/2025 term  
Nell Triplett 2023/2025 term  
Dan Petelin 2023/2025 term



## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes and sign boards will soon be receiving thier annual maintenance.

Contact us at:  
[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request.



## LOCAL BEES & SPRING HONEY

Local honey will soon be for sale; Pure, raw honey from Palomar Park's early spring blooming trees and flowers. Bees are crucial to the environment and honey is a super food that has amazing health properties.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/drugs-supplements-honey/art-20363819>

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:  
Denise Enea-Charlebois  
650 740-9883 or  
decharlebois1@gmail.com



*\*Profits go to Red Cross and Animal Welfare charities.*

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## PALOMAR PARK IS CHANGING

Lets talk about the good, the bad and the ugly. Palomar Park is a nostalgic community. A small enclave, almost lost in time, amongst the lush hills of semi-rural San Mateo County. We aren't perfect and we have some short comings, like our various non-maintained roads. Long ago, the County of San Mateo did not accept some of our roads as public roads they would maintain. All the reasons why they weren't accepted remains somewhat of a mystery. For those residents living on these roads it can be frustrating and bumpy to say the least. Some of these roads are literally falling apart. New home remodels and new construction in our community has put tremendous pressure on our roads as well as our patience, as large construction vehicles barrel through our neighborhoods. These heavy, oversized vehicles put a large amount of wear and tear on our roads, creating pot holes and eroding pavement. SMC Public works has not addressed the Palomar Park roads in quite a while and many of the supposedly maintained roads are not in good shape either. Every time a building permit is issued the applicant is required to pay "Road Impact Fees" Why are we experiencing so much construction in Palomar Park and yet not benefiting from our community generated Road Impact fees which are suppose to pay for road repair and maintenance?

The PPO Board has lobbied Public Works to do more maintenance, however we need your help. If you live on a road that needs maintenance, contact the SMC Public Works and request road maintenance. Sending pictures and the exact location is always helpful.

**Anne Stillman Public Works Director - [astillman@smcgov.org](mailto:astillman@smcgov.org)**

**Khoa Vo Roads Director - [dvo1@smcgov.org](mailto:dvo1@smcgov.org)**

**Dist. 3 Supervisor Ray Mueller - [rmueller@smcgov.org](mailto:rmueller@smcgov.org)**



A few of the unmaintained roads have residents living on them who have banded together to seal and maintain their roads, i.e. Palomar Dr., Cervantes, and Belle Roche. If interested in getting something organized on your road contact Board member Bob Bedbury for further information on how they did it.

### UNMAINTAINED ROADS IN PALOMAR PARK

Loma Rd.

End of Los Cerros

Montalvo

Palomar Dr. to Pebble Dr. (After Loma Ct.)

Belle Roche

Cervantes

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**419 Palomar Dr.**

**Palomar Park**

**CA 94062**



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SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## Palomar Park in 1940 by Irene England courtesy of Dan Petelin

We arrived on "The Hill" in February of 1940 at 324 Palomar Drive. (Helen and Doug Gottschlich current residence). We considered ourselves way out in the country in those days. There were only 25 houses up here. Where Clifford School is now there was a cow pasture and we often went down there to pick blackberries for pies and jams. We had a Property Owner's Picnic in the 40's at Searsville Lake (now Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve) and we played games and ran races. I remember my husband Art and I won the three-legged sack race. We had a lovely tranquil year but then World War II was upon us and we all felt compelled to do something for the war effort. The men all organized to be Air Raid Wardens and Fire Wardens. We were most concerned about incendiary bombs being dropped on our dry hills by the enemy. The Fire Wardens burned off the hills systematically and carefully with very controlled burning. We all had a place to go in our homes where the lights wouldn't show through at night during an air raid signal. All lights were intentionally out in Redwood City throughout the war. The women on the Hill also organized the AWVS (American Women's Voluntary Services) and we met once a week at Mrs. Crowley's home (currently the Taylor home at 415 Palomar) to sew, knit and make quilts, whatever was needed for our "boys" in the war. Late on it was changed into the Red Cross and then we had to sterilize everything. We fashioned a little hospital on the Franchesi Ranch (20 acre ranch with cattle and horses, now the Belle Roche Estates). It was just a little shack, but we painted and scrubbed everything and collected beds, mattresses and emergency supplies. We sterilized everything and had it all ready for any disaster. With all our war activities and Property Owners meetings and the Garden Club, we all got to know one another not only as neighbors, but as real friends too! There is no place like Palomar Park. *(Irene England passed away in the Spring of 1998. Irene was one of the founding members of the Palomar Park Garden Club and known for her huge collection of begonias.)*

## NOT EVERY DAY IS TRASH DAY

Every community has its own rules and regulations regarding the issue of trash bins and when they should be placed on the street for pickup and when they should be removed from the street. So here is the Palomar Park skinny:

- Trash, Recycle & Yard Waste bins should be placed on the curb by 6:00 a.m. on Thursdays.
- All bins should be put back inside your yard by 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

Why is this necessary ? Well a few reasons:

- > Trash bins are a traffic hazard on our narrow and winding roads. Vehicles often need to veer into the oncoming traffic lane to avoid trash bins when they are out on our Palomar Park roadways for pickup.
- > Unauthorized use by neighborhood workers, utility works and contractors (other people other than you and your family filling up your trash bins.)



> Unsightly and a real eye sore (have pride on how the front entrance to your home looks.)

> Trash bins left outside are a signal to burglars that you are not home.

Obviously, it's not always possible to retrieve your bins by 6:00 p.m. if your traveling or you return home in the wee hours of the evening. Given these type of cumstances, having a neighbor act in your stead to retrieve the bins is a good idea.

Be a champion of Palomar Park and follow this criteria to maintain our community to the best of our ability.

## CONTRACTORS YOU CAN TRUST

For many of us finding a good contractor is a very hard task. Homeowners need to be very careful when hiring contractors and here are some must do's:

- \* Verify contractor's license with Contractors State License Board: [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov)
- \* Check insurance & workers comp policy
- \* Do not prepay for work
- \* Check references

### Preferred Palomar Park Contractors:



**Fences** - Julio Cerna 650 704-4198

**Roofs** - R&G Roofing 650 759-0614

**Raingutters** - BK Raingutters 650 271-2573

**Tree trim/removal** - AM Tree Service 510 862-9965

**Fire Prevention/Home Hardening** - Ember Defense 415 573-24000

*Handyman jobs do not require a contractors license but be sure to check references.*

## STAY INFORMED DURING EMERGENCIES

The San Mateo County Department of Emergency Services provides emergency alerts through a notification system, SMC ALERT, which sends emails and texts to you during an emergency, i.e. wildfire, evacuations, road closures, flooding, police activity, etc. Please subscribe to SMC ALERT so that you and your family can stay informed and safe during an emergency. **SUBSCRIBE TODAY**

<https://www.smcgov.org/cmo/smc-alert#>

**SMC Alert**  
San Mateo County Alert System



## 2022 APPROVED PPO BUDGET

### REVENUE

Estimated Member Dues - \$6,700.00

### EXPENSES

Mailbox & Sign board repairs \$2,500.00

Doggie bags/Fire hydrant blue dot markers - \$300.00

Printing/Banners/Flyers (incl. 2 newsletters) \$900.00

Summer Picnic - \$1500.00

Website/Postage/Admin/Tax Filings - \$325.00

Roadside hazardous fire fuel reduction - \$1,000.00

## SPRING INTO ACTION

Spring is here and it's always a busy time of year. How should you prioritize home and garden maintenance?

Here are some tips to ensure your house and garden stay in tip top shape.

- \* **Test** all sprinklers to make sure there are no leaks or clogged sprinkler heads. (Yes, it is time to turn on sprinklers.)
- \* **Trim** back bushes and trees especially overhanging your house. Be sure to remove anything dead.
- \* **Weed whack** annual grass when it starts to turn yellow.
- \* **Add fresh soil/fertilizer** around your important plants. (Water after fertilization to prevent burning your plants.)
- \* **Add mulch** to help with water retention. (do not place wood mulch next to your house as mulch is combustible.)
- \* **Use weed and feed** on your lawn (be sure to water afterward or you could burn your lawn)
- \* **Mulch** around any sensitive plants or bushes. Do not mulch your entire yard. This only adds combustible material to your property. Keep combustible mulch away from your house.
- \* **Roof evaluation** - is it time for a new roof?
- \* **Exterior Paint** - does your house need a new coat of paint?
- \* **Wood Decking** - is it time to replace it? If so think about ignition resistant material like TimberTech Azek.
- \* **Gutters/Gutter Guard** - do you need to replace or repair gutters or add gutter guard to prevent debris buildup?

## NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPER DAY

June 7th and September 20th

will be the Palomar Park chipper days. Please have your materials out on the street the day before.

It is important that all the following requirements are met:



- \* Stack branches with cut ends facing out to the street
- \* Vines and leaves are not chippable (place in your greenwaste bin)
- \* No root balls with dirt are allowed
- \* Do not allow your pile to block the roadway
- \* No lumber or branches with nails
- \* No vines or piles of leaves
- \* No short firewood size wood or wood cut into rounds
- \* No branches larger than 8 inches
- \* Limit your pile to 10'L x 10'W x 6'H

*If you have questions re: the Palomar Park Chipping program please contact Denise Enea-Charlebois @ [denea@woodsidefire.org](mailto:denea@woodsidefire.org)*

## IT'S TIME FOR THE BABIES

Spring means baby everything; Baby birds, owlettes, hawks, fawns, foxes, racoons, possums and even skunkettes. Our wildlife plays an important roll here in



Palomar Park. Owls and foxes are critical for rodent control. Birds, racoons, possums and skunks eat insects of all sorts. Our deer population are beautiful, endearing and provide such a tranquil ambiance to Palomar Park:

Here are some reminders and tips to help our wildlife flourish and maintain our natural environment:

- ❖ Before weed whacking walk your areas to make sure there are no ground nests or fawns.
- ❖ Do not use pesticides or herbicides on a broadcast scale. Spot spray individual weeds and use organic insecticides like soap & water or neem oil.
- ❖ If trimming bushes or trees look closely for active nests. Give them a wide birth until the baby birds fledge the nest.
- ❖ Refrain from spraying your trees for moths or worms; the trees can handle the insects and the birds depend on the protein for their young.
- ❖ Do not use poison which can kill foxes, hawks and owls when they eat a poisoned rodent. Instead use mouse and rat traps in safe areas. Remove ivy and wood piles which only harbor rodents.
- ❖ Create small water features in your yard, i.e. shallow fountains or dishes of water.
- ❖ Plant native pollinator plants to attract bees, butterflies and other beneficial insects.
- ❖ Reduce the amount of tall fencing in your yard or lower portions of fencing so wildlife can safely utilize the natural corridors to get off the road and travel to other open areas to reach food, water and safe havens.
- ❖ Drive slow and be on the look out as their will soon be fawns and other very young wildlife out and about who are likely not road savvy.
- ❖ Keep dogs on leashes when in open wildlife areas as chasing young wildlife often ends up as a deadly encounter for the babies.

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes and sign boards are receiving their annual maintenance.

Contact us at:  
[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request.



## LOCAL BEES & SPRING HONEY

Local honey for sale; Pure, raw honey from Palomar Park's spring blooming trees and flowers. Bees are crucial to the environment and honey is a super food that has amazing health properties.

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/drugs-supplements-honey/art-20363819>

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:  
Denise Enea-Charlebois  
650 740-9883 or  
[decharlebois1@gmail.com](mailto:decharlebois1@gmail.com)



*\*Pofits go to Red Cross and Animal Welfare charities.*

## EVACUATION.....KNOW YOUR ZONE

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If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call:  
650 599-7311



## PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

Help contribute to our Palomar Park website; [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org). Do you have a great picture or something related to Palomar Park that would be great for the web site? The Board manages the website and we try to have useful online forms and current information for our residents.

If you have something please contact us at:  
[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



## NO BETTER TIME TO GO NATIVE

by Nell Triplett and Denise Enea-Charlebois

Living in Palomar Park, we are so privileged to experience an abundance of different plants and trees. Non-native plant species, many of which were introduced to Palomar Park during its development, do not support our native wildlife or provide the array of benefits such as water savings, low maintenance and fire resistant properties. The natives make California a biodiversity hot spot and we as stewards of the land should consider some of the negative effects non-native plants have on our local ecosystem.

As you're thinking about your garden this spring consider removing non-natives and invasive specimens. Find and plant natives that will flourish and be of benefit to the pollinators, birds and mammals that live here with us.

### Non-native invasives which are fire prone:

Pampas Grass

Juniper

Palms



pampas grass

Italian cypress

Scotch broom

Acacia & Eucalyptus



scotch broom



italian cypress

### CA native pollinators with fire resistant properties:



creeping manzanita



coffee berry



ceanothus



CA fuchsia



red bud

### Local nurseries with a variety of natives:

\*Wegmans, RWC

\*Yerba Buena Nursery, HMB

\*Summer Winds Nursery, Palo Alto

\*CNPS Nursery, Los Altos



### \*Native Gardening Resources:

Learn more by visiting our local chapter of the California Native Plant Society: <http://cnps-scv.org/gardening>  
Search this database to see what grows naturally in our area: <https://calscape.org>  
To order native seeds: [lernerseeds.com](http://lernerseeds.com) or [pcseed.com](http://pcseed.com)  
Doug Tallamy video on *Natures Best Hope* and why we should plant natives: <https://bit.ly/TallamyCNPS2020>

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

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**PPO**

**419 Palomar Dr.  
Palomar Park  
CA 94062**



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The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from it's residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park an even better place, please drop us a line.

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## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

## PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Palomar Park is a remarkable place for remarkable people. The PPO Board works hard to keep you informed, improve Palomar Park, be good stewards of our environment and maintain the rural attributes of our community.

**PRESIDENT - RICH LANDI**

**VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS**

**SECRETARY- LEXI BAILEY**

**TREASURER - CHRISTINE TRISKA**

**BOARD MEMBER HUGO LOURO**

**BOARD MEMBER -BOB BEDBERRY**

**BOARD MEMBER - DAN PETELIN**

**BOARD MEMBER - NELL TRIPLETT**

CONTACT US AT:

[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) If you have a question for the Board or if you are interested in serving. [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)



# Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## Palomar Park in 1956 by Daniel Petelin

There were only 55 residents on the Hill, today there are over 320 residents. Twenty-one of these residents had horses in 1956. Marge was the school bus driver for Clifford School around the Hill. Toyon Creamery delivered milk and the Colonial Bread man (in a yellow truck) delivered fresh baked bread and pastries. The Garden Club installed log benches around the Hill and constructed the road signs for residents that still exist today. Duggan Rd. was named after Mr. Duggan, who was the Assistant Secretary of the Navy during World War I. Dr. Renstschle on Hermosa Rd. had peacocks and two llamas, Martin and McCoy). Palomar Park kids swam at the Laucci pool, (11 South Palomar Dr. the log cabin house). The first pool on the hill installed in the 1930's and was a holding tank from a logging company. The 500 acres, (what is now Brittan Heights), was a paradise for horse riders and resident hikers who would meet at the natural spring area for fresh mountain water. July 13, 1956, nine residents signed a document (the Articles of Inc.) with the State of CA and the Palomar Park Owners' Association was born. The Palomar Park Owners' Association has operated for over 65 years, governed by residents of the Hill to keep Palomar Park a special place.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Vaccinate, mask up and distance yourself seems to be ingrained into 75 -80% of the population and our new way of life here in CA. Of course people have found a way to attack each other over masks and vaccination status. It sure would be nice if we had a reason as to; why individuals who have recently had Covid-19 and have antibodies also need to be vaccinated? Aren't their natural antibodies as good if not better than the ones you're body makes when your vaccinated? According to the Stanford School of Medicine natural immunity (your body producing its' own antibodies), confers a longer lasting and stronger protection against disease, including the Delta strain of Covid-19. Remember the chicken pox; once you got it and recovered, you were good to go. If you are mandated to get the Covid-19 vaccine will there also be a mandate for certain flu vaccines? According to the CDC, in 2018-19, there were more than 380,000 flu-related hospitalizations and 28,000 flu deaths. After four years of nursing school the decision was easy for me and I will be getting my flu shot this month and received my Covid-19 vaccine in March. One positive trend in Palomar Park, that maybe some have noticed, is how much friendlier people are to each other after the lockdown. Palomar Park is an even more neighborly place than it use to be. The dogs on the Hill are much happier too, as the numbers of walks since COVID-19 is way up. *The old proverb holds true.*

*"If you want people to be friendly, you need to show yourself friendly".*

## YOUR VOTE COUNTS

November 8th, 2021 at 5:00 pm is the due date for your Palomar Park Owners Board ballot to be received. This year we have three individuals on the ballot for our Board. You can also write in candidates. Anyone who is a paid member can be elected as a write in candidate, if they receive enough votes. Please take the time to fill out your ballot and mail, drop off or email your ballot to: [palomarnews@gmail.com](mailto:palomarnews@gmail.com).

Paper ballots have been distributed to all resident mailboxes. Your vote is confidential and the Board Secretary is in charge of counting votes. One vote per household please.



## Hear ye Hear ye

### GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 9, 2021

All residents are invited to our PPO Association General Meeting to be held via Zoom from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We'll have a guest speaker from Ember Defense and we'll be reviewing our financial report, projects underway and future projects and programs the PPO Board is developing. Results of the Board election will also be announced. Have a comment or concern? Voice your opinion at our meeting. All are welcome to attend and participate. **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8119100623>

## OH DEAR....THERE'S A DEER

It's that time of year when the bucks come down from the hills and swoon the does. This romance ritual unfortunately means that deer are crossing our local roadways much more frequently. Use extra caution and scan the sides of the roadway as you drive, especially on high speed roads like Edgewood. Hitting a deer can do quite a bit of damage to your car and you have the potential of getting hurt. Keep our wildlife safe as well as you and your family.



## WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

With two Fire Safe SMC chipping days under our belt, Palomar Park is a more resilient place. Wildfire Resiliency is a community issue and everyone needs to do their part. When creating your defensible space within your property, focus on the three zones: 0-5'

Clear Zone, which is adjacent to your house, then 30' away and finally, the 100' zone. Listen to Smokey and make sure your defensible space is in good shape. You will thank him in the event we have a wildfire. Sign up for emergency alerts here: [www.cmo.smcgov.org/smc-alert](http://www.cmo.smcgov.org/smc-alert).



## YOU DIRTY RAT

For many of us rodents, (rats and mice), are a real problem. It's very expensive to have professionals clear your attic or basement of rodents and seal up every nook and cranny rodents have chewed, dug or clawed their way into. Rodents can do thousands of dollars in damage and can compromise your electric wiring when they chew on wires or destroy your HVAC, making nests in insulation or ducts. These potential fire hazards and health hazards are detrimental and need to be addressed. There are many good rodent proofing companies out there that fix the problem by rodent proofing your house and then trap any rodents remaining within the structure.



A shout out to William Dahl (650)248-4004 who worked miracles for 3-4 homes along Loma Ct.

## WINTER WOES

The colder weather seems to always sneak up on us fast. We procrastinate and enjoy every last bit of summer we can and then wham! It's a real shock those first few nights and early mornings when you're fumbling to get the heater working or the first big rain creates a flood near the front door because the gutter is full.

Here are some tips to ensure your property is ready for winter

- \* **Clean needles, vegetative debris from your gutters. Make sure downspouts are clear and directed into appropriate areas for rain water. Never direct downspout runoff onto your neighbors' property or towards a steep dirt bank or hillside as this will cause erosion.**
- \* **Clear drainage swales, channel drains and catch basins**
- \* **Have your fireplace cleaned by a professional**
- \* **Make sure sump pumps are working properly**
- \* **Clean or replace out furnace filters**
- \* **Replace burned out bulbs along any path or entry lighting**
- \* **Finish any last-minute roof repairs**
- \* **Mulch around any sensitive plants or bushes. Do not mulch your entire yard. This only adds combustibe material to your property.**
- \* **Fertilize citrus, azaelas, and rhodedrendrans after the first or second significant rain.**
- \* **Prepare to overseed lawns and aerate if you can.**

## A TIME TO REMEMBER 9/11

September 11, 2021 was the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001. This was one of the most traumatic days of U.S. modern history. It's one of those days that everyone remembers where they were and what they were doing when they heard and saw the news coverage of planes flying into the World Trade Center Buildings, a plane going down in PA and the plane hitting the Pentagon. This year's commemoration included families of the victims gathering to hear the names of their loved ones read aloud. The names of nearly 3,000 people killed that terrible day were called out in solemn ceremonies. Firefighters from across the country paused and took a moment to remember their fallen brothers. The site of the World Trade Center buildings and two of the terrorists' attacks is now a museum and place of remembrance. More than 43 million people have visited the memorial since it opened in 2014. We will "NEVER FORGET" that awful day or the people who lost their lives.



## THE BIRDS, BEES, AND TREES

Our quaint Palomar Park is so special not only because of the wonderful people who live here, but also because of our surroundings. Our hills are very much alive. This year there was an abundance of bumble bees on flowers and this was really quite extraordinary. The finches, woodpeckers, and chickadees seem to be flourishing. We



all see the hawks and hear the owls and are happy they are here assisting with the rodent population. Of course our deer population seems to be healthy and there are skunk, turkey and coyote sightings often. The quail, racoon, possum, bobcat and fox population seems however to have declined. We also love our trees and it's nice to see residents taking care of our heritage oaks and quirky buckeyes.

Here are some reminders and tips to help our wildlife and maintain our natural environment:

- \* **Do not use poison which can kill foxes, hawks and owls when they eat a posioned rodent. Instead use mouse and rat traps in safe areas.**
- \* **Reduce the amount of fencing in your yard or lower portions of fencing so wildlife can safely utilize the natural cooridors to get off the road and travel to other open areas to reach food, water and safe havens.**
- \* **Remove non-native vegetation, i.e. scotch broom, juniper, and plant large clusters of natives which provide food and habitat for our wildlife; i.e. coffeeberry, manzanita, toyon, elderberry, CA fuchsia, CA lilac, brown twig dogwood, salvia, and monkey flower. CA natives are drought tolerant too.**
- \* **Refrain from using pesticides in your garden as it kills pollinators.**
- \* **Create small water features in your yard, i.e. shallow fountains or dishes of water.**
- \* **Remove ivy and posion oak from around the base of your trees. These plants suck up water needed by our trees and sometimes harbor rodents.**
- \* **Refrain from spraying your trees for moths or worms; the trees can handle the inects and the birds depend on them for protein for their young.**

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes and sign boards are receiving their annual maintenance. Special thanks to Jeff Garratt and Adam Mittleman for all their work on both the mailboxes and signboards.

Contact us at:

[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request.



## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We officially welcome the following residents to the hill:

24 S. Palomar Dr.  
Mary Alice Davis &  
Kishore Sundara-Rajan

1021 Palomar Dr.  
Forever Home Properties LLC

404 Palomar Dr.      632 Palomar Dr.  
Neil & Christine Joseph      Joshua Miller & Carla Pederson



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## PALOMAR PARK WEBSITE

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## WALK SOFTLY...YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Your carbon footprint is more than just carbon. It includes all your other green house gas, (GHS )emissions, like methane, and nitrous oxide. By lowering your personal carbon footprint you will be contributing to not only a healthier planet, but to a positive ripple effect, normalizing a more economical and sustainable way of living. Okay, yes we are using \$ cost savings to get your attention. Here are some valuable ideas if you're keen on saving some bucks and helping the planet at the same time.



1. **Cut Back on gas guzzling** - \$\$\$ Transportation is the largest U.S. source of CO2. Trade in your combustion engine for an electric or hybrid vehicle. Need a big vehicle? There are an abundance of electric/hybrid SUV's available.
2. **Donate, upcycle and repurpose** - \$\$ If you can't resell your gently-used items there are plenty of donation centers out there. How about trying to repurpose some household items? Everyone loves a deal, so try shopping vintage or used. These sites are perfect for fast growing kids; Etsy, Depop, or ThredUp.
3. **Reduce electric & natural gas use in the home** - \$\$ An American home uses 49% of energy on heating/cooling components. Investing in solar, utilizing LEDs, and checking your settings (a little warmer AC setting and a little cooler heater setting) goes a long way on saving energy.
4. **More bean burritos, fewer beef burgers** - \$ Sorry carnivores, but an extremely effective way to reduce your carbon footprint is to cut back on the amount of animal products you eat, especially beef and lamb. I won't get into the smelly details of methane but I think you get the idea.
5. **Cultivate your green thumb** - \$ Growing your own vegetables, herbs and fruit is fun, healthy and an effective way to reduce your carbon foot print. Also, instead of throwing out excess food, try turning your leftovers into terrific meals, (cook some rice and add already cooked chicken and a combination of any vegetables, and season with your choice) and voila, a one pot masterpiece with minimal energy usage.
6. **Unplug the unused** - \$ Keeping unused electrical devices plugged in can be a real energy drain. If you want to save energy and save money at the same time unplug unused devices such as: phone & computer charges, unused extension cords, cable and game boxes

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or mail a check to: **PPO**  
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**CO-VICE PRESIDENT** - CHRISTINE TRISKA  
**CO-VICE PRESIDENT** - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS  
**SECRETARY**- LEXI BAILEY  
**TREASURER** - HUGO LOURO  
**BOARD MEMBER** - JEFF GARRATT (term expiring 2021)  
**BOARD MEMBER** - ANDREA EVERETT  
**BOARD MEMBER** - BOB BEDBURY  
**BOARD MEMBER** - DAN PETELIN  
**BOARD MEMBER** - NELL TRIPLETT

CONTACT US AT:

[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) If you have a question for the Board or if you are interested in serving. [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org)



# Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## SOLAR PANELS, GENERATORS, EV VEHICLES... OH MY

New energy technology is fast upon us, but don't give up your natural gas appliances just yet. Solar is great but unless you have a power wall, during the evening hours you may be left with only candle power if we have a PG&E PSPS or just an old fashioned power outage. Electric vehicles are amazing, fast, sleek and no stopping at the pumps, But if it's 100 degrees and we have a rolling outage, you may be riding your bike to work because your Tesla didn't get enough juice the night before. Before you make that \$\$ investment for solar panels, really research if your roof aspect, design and tree canopy is going to allow for the most productive power creation. Remember solar companies are for-profit companies and they have sales people who like to sell. Natural gas for home appliances is safe, clean and very cost efficient. It's good to have a mix of electric and gas appliances. A gas stove is every chef's dream, but electric radiant floor heating is the cat's meow. Also, let's not forget about conserving energy. Turn off extra lights, use LEDs, hang dry clothes when possible, only wash full loads of clothes and dishes, lower the temperature on your water heater and set your A/C a few degrees higher. You likely will see results on your monthly bill that are well worth the effort.

## SEPT. 21st 2nd CHIPPING DATE

Palomar Park will have a second free neighborhood chipping day. This is the perfect opportunity to conduct those large landscape-size defensible space projects and have your material chipped for free. If you have never participated before, the program is easy. Just leave your cut brush or tree branches on the curbside prior to 8:00 am the morning of Sept 21st. Make sure the cut ends are pointing towards the street. Do not impede the roadway.

- > Piles are limited to 10W x 10L x 5H
- > Vines and poison oak can not be chipped
- > No lumber or fence material
- > No dirt or root balls

***Juniper, cypress, acacia, monterey pine and eucalyptus are all extremely flammable types of vegetation. If you have any of these on your property consider removing them to make your home and property more wildfire resilient.***

For more info email call Denise Enea at 650 740-9883 or go to [www.firesafesanteo.org](http://www.firesafesanteo.org)



## HONEY 4 SALE

Local honey for sale with profits going to Peninsula Humane Society. Pure, raw, delicious honey from a Palomar Park apiary. This honey is a mix of all the blooming flowers and trees within Palomar Park.

***Makes a great holiday gift or just a special treat for you and your family.***

**\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)**

To place an order contact:

Denise Enea  
650 740-9883 or  
[decharlebois1@gmail.com](mailto:decharlebois1@gmail.com)



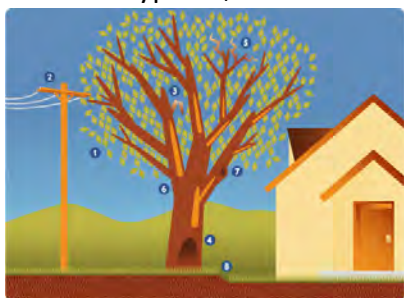
## THE LONG AND RISKY ROAD

It seems our roads here in Palomar Park are very busy these days. Many contractors and gardeners busy getting to their jobs here on the hill. Large trucks and narrow winding roads do not always mix well and driving can be a little dicey at times, especially on blind corners. We have many pedestrians in Palomar Park so please be careful and try and stay on your side of the road when navigating our hillside roadways. Better Safe Than Sorry!



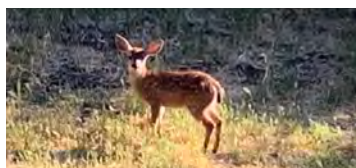
## SMC HAZARD TREE REMOVAL

Unincorporated San Mateo County property owners just received the green light to remove certain flammable trees within the high fire areas of the County. Property owners in unincorporated areas will no longer need permits to remove certain highly flammable, large trees situated within 100 feet of homes or 30 feet of an escape route on public or private property, per County officials. Starting July 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022, the County is waiving the tree-removal permit, saving qualifying property owners the typical \$350 fee.



## SPRING FAWNS HAVE ARRIVED

One of my favorite things about spring is seeing the newborn fawns emerge with all their spots and their wobbly prance trying to stay in step with their moms. Be very careful on the roads where you know the deer like to cross. The fawns are often a few steps behind and are small and hard to see.



## DEFENSIBLE SPACE

It's that time of year when "FIRE SEASON" becomes the most extreme. This year the lack of rainfall really dried our native vegetation out early.

Some tips to ensure your property is ready for Fire Season:

- \* **Trim tree branches away from your house and deck and separate tree canopies.**
- \* **Clean needles, vegetative debris from your roof and gutters, decks and near combustible siding.**
- \* **Mow all annual dead grass and weeds.**
- \* **Prune dead branches out of trees and bushes.**
- \* **Remove combustible material from under your deck, i.e. old wood, firewood, combustible wood furniture, etc.**
- \* **Add a gutter guard to your gutters to prevent debris build up.**
- \* **Add a gravel or rock path in the 0-5 foot zone around your house.**
- \* **Rake excessive mulches, bark and gorilla hair away from decks, your wood siding and stairways.**
- \* **Keep your driveway trees and shrubs cut back so fire apparatus can easily make it in to your driveway.**
- \* **Keep large shrubs away from windows where if ignited the heat can break the glass and the fire penetrate your home. Check out Living with Fire for more wildfire resiliency ideas and tips at the Fire Safe SMC website.**

[www.firesafesanmarateo.org](http://www.firesafesanmarateo.org)



## FLORA AND FAUNA OF PALOMAR



Our wildlife is what makes Palomar Park so special. All these creatures serve an important purpose in the ecology of the land. Owls for example prey on mice

and rats and keep the populations down. Snakes and lizards eat insects, moles and gophers. Deer clean up the buckeye leaves and browse on the grasses.

Racoons, skunks and opossums eat grubs, insects, and frogs. Foxes eat moles, rats and rabbits. The cycle of life is important so please consider being thoughtful about our wildlife.

Here are some tips to help our wildlife thrive:

- \* **Add shallow saucers of water for smaller animals in your yard and clean and fill them often.**
- \* **Do not use poison which can kill foxes, hawks and owls. Use mouse and rat traps in a safe area so as not to accidentally trap small birds.**
- \* **Think about fencing only your garden area and not your entire yard so deer can eat the acorns under oaks and browse on grasses.**
- \* **Leave some small areas of living brush in your landscape and away from your house and trees so rabbits and quail have some cover.**
- \* **Do not spray for oak moths as birds need the protein. Plant only native trees in your yard.**

## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes are receiving their annual maintenance. Thank you to those who have contacted us to request either maintenance or a change in their mailbox name or roadside sign board. Contact us at [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you have an issue or maintenance request.



## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We officially welcome the following residents to the hill:

1190 Palomar  
Elizabeth Kelley

43 Loma Rd.  
Charlotte Pera/David Neih

323 Palomar  
Praveen Gulaka

1021 Palomar  
Investor/Flip and Sell

955 Palomar  
Nell Triplett/M. Jacobsen

119 Scenic  
Ruminsky Family Trust

24 S. Palomar  
Kishore Sundara Rajan/  
Mary Davis



## CONSTRUCTION REGS

Just a friendly reminder that the hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.

Permits are required for most improvements to your home including: fences, water heaters, replacing decks, replacing windows, driveway replacements, etc.

If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call 650 599-7311.



## PALOMAR PARK IS HOME

*by Charlotte Olstead*

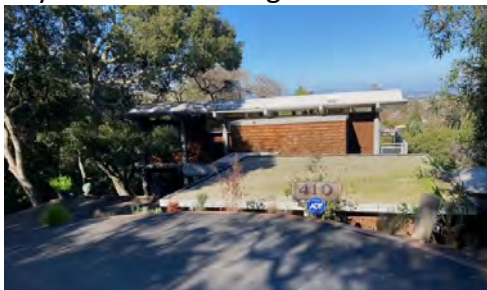
From the moment my parents first saw the house at 401 Palomar Dr., they knew it was what they had been looking for. In October of 1941, our family moved into the home for the next 20 years.

Living on "the Hill" 81 years ago there was a real feeling of "neighborhood" because there were so few residents. We all became instant friends. There were several children my age: Art England, Jr., Jan Wellhausen, Olga and Barbara Bullard, and Jamie Musser. We would play in the vacant lot next to our house (now Tom Waterfall's home). In the summertime we'd take cardboard boxes to slide down the grassy banks of the lot. We all attended Lincoln Elementary on Whipple Ave., which was torn down in the 1960's.

I recall other joys of living in "the country." Our driveway (now Cortez Rd.) was just a large open space perfect for exploring. My fondest wish, to own a BB gun, was granted and I would go on hunting expeditions taking potshots at birds, none of which I ever hit. I did, however, end up with several cases of poison oak. The start of WW II changed all our lives. Gasoline rationing affected our trips downtown. Like other families, we had a "Victory" garden and raised many of our own vegetables. Eggs were difficult to come by, so we had chickens to keep us supplied. I recall a few nighttime air raids, which meant having the house in complete darkness until the "all clear" was sounded. My dad was one of the wardens going around the Hill to make sure all the lights were out in the homes.

In 1963, my husband, Lyndy, built a unique house on 12 pressure-treated telephone poles at 410 Palomar Dr., just around the corner from my old home. We had many sightseers come by during the building phase. At one point someone stopped and asked us why we were building a church.

Palomar Park was then, as it is now, a special place. I am now the longest living resident on the Hill, 81 years.



## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Now is the time to renew your annual 2021 membership with the Palomar Park Property Owners. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, host the picnic, fund the annual chipper program and other beneficial projects and functions for Palomar Park residents. Your \$50 donation goes a long way. You can pay online at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) or mail a check to:

**PPO**  
**419 Palomar Dr.**  
**Palomar Park**  
**CA 94062**



"We have to move our teepees? And when did we join an H.O.A.?"

## SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from its residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park even a better place, please drop us a line.

**[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)**



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

### PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT - RICH LANDI**

**CO-VICE PRESIDENT - CHRISTINE TRISKA**

**CO-VICE PRESIDENT - DENISE ENEA-CHARLEBOIS**

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CONTACT US AT: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) if you are interested in serving on the Board.



# Palomar Park Perspectives

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 13th via ZOOM

It's time for the Palomar Park Property Owners General Meeting. We will be holding our meeting via ZOOM and hope as many of you can attend from the comfort of your home computer.

The meeting will start at 7:00pm, but please log in a few minutes early to say hello to everyone attending virtually. We will be sending out an email meeting reminder which will include our meeting Zoom link. If you are not an email subscriber, please email us at [palomarnews@gmail.com](mailto:palomarnews@gmail.com) and we will send you the Zoom link.

### AGENDA:

Treasurer Report  
Special Speakers

Year in Review  
Results of Board Election

Questions  
Comments



## VOTER REGISTRATION Information provided by Andrea Everett

In advance of the November 3rd election, California residents may register to vote online, by mail, or in person. Monday, October 19th is the deadline for online registration or to postmark or hand-deliver your paper registration form. For online registration, go to [RegisterToVote.ca.gov](http://RegisterToVote.ca.gov). For a paper registration form, print a copy from the website of the California Secretary of State [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/) or pick one up at the local library, post office, or DMV. San Mateo County residents should send their registration forms to the San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division at 40 Tower Rd, San Mateo, CA 94402. If you miss the October 19th deadline for voting registration you can still register and vote in person at a San Mateo County Voting Center up through election day.



For more information, visit the website of the County Elections Officer at:  
[www.smcacre.org/conditional-voter-registration](http://www.smcacre.org/conditional-voter-registration).

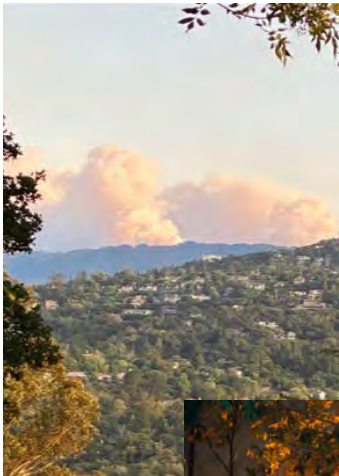
To verify your current voter registration information, you can use California's voter registration lookup tool [www.voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/](http://www.voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/)



Have a story for the newsletter? You are encouraged to submit your articles and photos to [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) or put them in the 419 Palomar Drive mailbox.

## CZU LIGHTNING FIRE

Aug 16, 2020 will be a day many of us remember as the smoked plumes filled our skyline and the sun was covered by thick smoke coming from the Butano Ridge and the western mountain communities of Big Basin, Scotts Valley, Ben Lomond, Boulder Creek and others. 89,500 acres burned and over 1400 structures lost.



Defensible Space around your home and property can make the difference if your home survives or succumbs to a large scale vegetation fire. Fire season is not over and Palomar Park is a very vulnerable area. Be extra cautious on red flag and high fire weather days.



## THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE CHIPPER PROGRAM

Palomar Park residents took full advantage of another chipper day early this summer. Crews worked for three days chipping all the material residents had left curb side. We hope to have two separate dates for free chipping in 2021.



## OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ROADS

When was the last time the County Roads Department was up in Palomar Park fixing or repaving any of our roads? This is the result of deferred maintenance.



Let the County know that our roads are in need of maintenance and repair. The more reports they get the more likely they will act.

Please Report needed road repairs to:

### SMC Roads

**Diana Shu**

752 Chestnut St

Redwood City, CA 94063

650-599-1414 (w)

dshu@smcgov.org

## TRAFFIC REACHES ALL TIME HIGH

DOORDASH, UBER, INSTACART, AMAZON and the list goes on. The traffic in Palomar Park has definitely increased and many of these non resident drivers have the "pedal to the metal" as they try and navigate our narrow roadways. Seems many are in a hurry to deliver their packages or dinner orders. Courtesy on our rural roads is a must and if you encounter someone driving too fast or not staying in their lane let them know nicely it is unsafe for everyone.



## COVID-19 Update

The COVID-19 virus continues to circulate in communities within San Mateo County causing severe illness, hospitalizations and deaths among our residents. Individuals can spread COVID-19 even without symptoms. While the primary means of spread involves droplets created by coughing, sneezing and talking, aerosols caused by normal breathing and virus particles on hard surfaces can also spread COVID-19.

This ongoing risk requires everyone to follow necessary precautions. Reducing close contact with individuals outside your household, wearing face coverings, practicing hand hygiene, and staying home when not feeling well are all important measures to slow the spread.



## HALLOWEEN & COVID-19

### SAFER ALTERNATIVES FOR HALLOWEEN

The safest way to celebrate Halloween is to spend time with people in the same household or to celebrate virtually. Some specific alternatives that are low risk but still capture the holiday fun include:

- ***Creating a haunted house or candy scavenger hunt in your home for members of your household, rather than going house-to-house.***
- ***Having a scary movie night or Halloween-themed activities (pumpkin carving, face painting) at home.***
- ***Participating in online parties or contests (e.g., costume or pumpkin carving).***
- ***Dressing up homes and yards with Halloween-themed decorations.***



## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We officially welcome the following residents to the "Hill":

26 Loma Rd.  
Nicholas Rochard & Leigh Birch



## CAL WATER TO REPLACE MAIN

October 1, 2020, Cal Water is starting a 12-15 week water main replacement. The work starts at the intersection of Palomar Dr. and Hermosa and extends down Palomar to the Y near the US Postal Mailbox at S. Palomar. Be prepared for some water interruptions and some detours. (ugh) The main replacement is well overdue and the PPO Board has requested several new fire hydrants to be installed along the new main and Cal Water has agreed.



## CONSTRUCTION REGS

Just a friendly reminder that the hours of construction as well as tree work in Palomar Park are Mon- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm.

No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.

If you have a question for the Planning or Building department, you can call 650 599-7311.



## Public Palomar EV Charging by

### Christine Triska

My husband and I both drive EV's (electric vehicles), so we were particularly interested to see the charging stations recently installed in the parking lot at Clifford. Like us, you may have wondered if the lot is open to the public for charging. It is! The Clifford Greenlots station has 26 chargers available for use between 5 p.m. & 7 a.m. weekdays, and all hours on weekends. If you have an electric vehicle and want to know more about this, read on.

Redwood City School District used Title T funds, grant funding from PG&E's Electric Vehicle Charge Network (EVCN) and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, to install the ports. The Greenlots station at 225 Clifford Avenue, Station 112409U to be precise, is a Level 2 Station. Level 2 is in between the less expensive, slower paced charging Level 1 (120 volts, which many folks use at home) and the more expensive DC Faster Charging stations (that operate at 480 volts--like the Tesla Superchargers). According to Greenlots, the ones at Clifford charge at 7.0 kW. Experts tell us that on average, Level 2 charging is much more efficient than Level 1. Level 2, at 30 amps, is what we went with, when we decided to go solar and install a charger at our home. When we switched from Level 1 to Level 2, we cut our charging times by more than half.

If you are interested in using these ports you need to sign up at [www.charge.greenlots.com](http://www.charge.greenlots.com). You'll want their Greenlots app for your phone. Some of the Greenlots are free-- the Clifford station is not. You will need to attach a credit or debit card to your account, in order to use any of their for-fee stations.

The easiest way to get started is to download the Greenlots app on your smartphone and order their card to swipe for future use. There is a \$5.00 charge to get started and no monthly fees. Your personal "RFID" (radio frequency identification) card will contain your credit or debit card information. Or, you can simply download the app, enter your card information for billing, and scan the QR code on the charger base, each time you charge at one of the Greenlots stations.

If you want to learn more, I recommend you go to [www.charge.greenlots.com](http://www.charge.greenlots.com). If you prefer, you may call 855-900-7584 to speak with a representative.

## PPO BOARD ELECTION

It is election time for the PPO Board. The ballots will be distributed to all PPO residents. Voting is easy! Please mail or drop off your ballot to the Palomar Park mailbox before October 13th. Election results will be announced at the October 13th General Meeting.

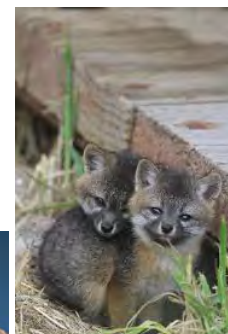


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**Palomar Park,**  
**CA 94062**



## DO NOT USE RODENTICIDES

Be careful with rodenticides! Leaving poison outside where rodents eat it and die only threatens poisoning our native rodent predators who hunt and eat rats and mice for a living. Utilize traps that are inside a cardboard box with a hole or a semi enclosure so birds and small beneficial mammals can't get injured. AB 1788 signed by the CA Governor is a big step in these safeguards.



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our resident's email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas, as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



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**VICE PRESIDENT** - Denise Enea- Charlebois  
**SECRETARY**- Lexi Bailey  
**TREASURER** - Hugo Louro  
**BOARD MEMBER** - Christine Triska  
**BOARD MEMBER** - Rich Landi  
**BOARD MEMBER** - Andrea Everett  
**BOARD MEMBER** - Bob Bedbury  
**BOARD MEMBER** - Vacant

CONTACT US AT: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)  
if you are interested in serving on the Board.



# Palomar Park Perspectives

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## FLAGS FLYING HIGH IN PALOMAR PARK

A special thank you to Bob & Kat Bedbury for purchasing all the American flags for distribution around Palomar Park. In honor of all the health care workers and first responders who are caring for the sick and risking their own health in doing so, the flags are a symbol of our community's unified respect and gratitude. We have several doctors and nurses and first responders who live on the "Hill" and we are so appreciative for all they do in trying times such as these.

THANK YOU AND STAY SAFE



## SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER EXTENDED TO MAY 31st

Many of the prior orders remain in place but some restrictions are being eased. The new order will take effect on Monday, May 4, 2020. It is important to note that all individuals currently living within San Mateo County are still ordered to shelter at their place of residence and can only leave for "essential activities". Certain "outdoor businesses" can begin operating again, and people can visit those businesses to perform work or obtain goods, services, or supplies. This includes wholesale and retail nurseries, landscapers, gardeners, and other businesses that primarily provide outdoor services as set forth in the order. To be clear, starting on May 4, gardeners will be allowed to operate but they must strictly adhere to the social distancing requirements, i.e., work with face coverings, maintain six-foot social distancing from individuals. "Outdoor businesses" do not include restaurants, cafes, or bars, regardless of whether they have outdoor seating. Construction projects will be allowed to resume as long as the project complies with safety protocols included with the order. All real estate transactions will also now be able to resume, but with restrictions on open houses and limitations on in-person viewings. Shared outdoor recreational facilities, such as golf courses, skate parks, tennis courts, and athletic fields may be used but they must first be in compliance with social distancing and health/safety protocols. Non-residential playgrounds, pools, gyms, and other facilities with high-touch equipment are still closed. Beach parking is still closed. Outdoor recreation activity must take place within 10 miles of a person's residence. For clarity, this restriction applies not only to San Mateo County residents, but equally to residents of other counties who wish to travel to San Mateo County for outdoor recreation.



Have a story for the newsletter? You are encouraged to submit your articles and photos to [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com) or put them in the 419 Palomar Drive mailbox.

## WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

Spring is that special time when many young wildlife are scampering around our backyards and even often on our roads. Be extra cautious while driving and if you come across any babies in your yard give them extra space so that they may flourish. Baby birds are all around so be careful about cutting trees with nests. These baby birds will fledge in just a couple weeks and you can resume your activity at that time.



Sharing our space with these lovely creatures is what makes Palomar Park a special place. Take the opportunity to teach you children the art of peaceful observation. A backyard bench and a small bird bath is a fun backyard focal point and is sure to bring enjoyment.

## GOATS BACK AT EATON PARK

The annual goat brigade will be coming to Eaton Park and other San Carlos parks starting early May. The steep hillsides of Eaton Park make it extremely difficult to conduct fire fuels management. The goats are a more natural mechanism to reduce the hazardous fuels in our community in a quiet and environmentally friendly manner. The goats are enclosed with electrified plastic fencing and have a full time shepherd and herding dog to monitor them and keep them safe. The PPO Board maintains communications with San Carlos Parks Dept. to make sure they continue this important fuel mitigation. We appreciate San Carlos being a good neighbor.



## WEEDS TO SEEDS

It's that time of year when all the weeds in and around our yards start to really try and take over. Invasive and exotic weeds crowd out the native vegetation which is so important to our wildlife, including beneficial insects and pollinators, as well as our wildfire resiliency. Native vegetation is almost always more fire resistant than these invasive weeds. Herbicide is expensive and not great for you or the environment. Try pulling or using a hoe to up root the weed or cut it off at the base of the plant before it blooms or goes to seed. You can lay some mulch down over the weeds to block out the sunlight to suppress their growth.

**Here are some of the most invasive weeds here in Palomar Park. If left unchecked the seeds from these weeds will ensure even more of these problematic plants will be present next season.**



**French Broom**



**Yellow Star Thistle**



**Bull Thistle**



**Fennel**



**Pampas Grass**



**Rumex**

## THE CHIPPER PROGRAM IS BACK

Back by popular demand, on June 9th, crews will be making the rounds of Palomar Park chipping brush left curbside by residents. This is a FREE program organized collaboratively by the PPO Board and Fire Safe San Mateo County. Please take advantage of this opportunity to create defensible space around your home and help make your property wildfire resilient. Fire Safe San Mateo County has an excellent website with plenty of easy to understand information to assist you in determining what you can do to make your property more wildfire resilient. [www.firesafesanmarateo.org](http://www.firesafesanmarateo.org).

To participate in the chipper program, simply leave your cut brush roadside with cut ends facing the street. Material can be up to 8 inch diameter. Do not include piles of leaves, vines, poison oak or any lumber. If you would like the chips to remain on your property in a pile simply leave a note stating "LEAVE CHIPS", otherwise the chips will be taken away.



### TIPS TO MAKE YOUR HOME IGNITION RESISTANT

1. Cut all annual dry grass.
2. Clear roof & gutters of all debris and leaf litter.
3. Remove vegetation touching your structures or hanging over your roof.
4. Keep your driveway vegetation cut back to provide a minimum width of 12ft and vertical height of 13ft so fire apparatus can easily make it down your driveway.
5. Remove all combustible debris and stored items from under decks, i.e. lumber piles, wood ladders, firewood piles.
6. Replace ornamental vegetation under windows with low growing vegetation such as ground cover. Consider using medium size boulders to break up the continuity of vegetation and reduce potential flame height under windows and near wood siding.
7. Consider replacing wood shake roofs with noncombustible roofing material i.e. metal, composition or tile.
8. Consider replacing redwood decks with something non-combustible, i.e. composite decking, natural stone, pavers or even light weight concrete for raised decks.

## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We officially welcome the following residents to the "Hill":

1031 Palomar Dr.  
Shan Rao & Varsha Rao

132 Duggan Rd.  
Theodore & Angela Dunning

50 Palomar Oaks Ln Walter Wu

8 Belle Roche  
Ming Chen Wu & Lan Ling

35 Palomar Oaks Ln  
Philip Blower & Cynthia Winslow



## CONSTRUCTION REGS

Just a friendly reminder that the hours of construction in Palomar Park are Mon- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm.

No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.

If you have a question for the Planning or Building department, you can call 650 599-7311.



## OAKSWOLD *by Sue Proctor*

There is a small cornerstone at "Oakswold" which reads "erected by Paul and Sue Proctor, June 1952-1955." It was the beginning of our dream house that we decided to build shortly after our marriage. On July 25, 1955, the completed house was opened to my friends and neighbors who watched the building process and had come to see our finished project, our dream home at 250 Montalvo Rd.



This unusual and attractive house is constructed of heavy timbers spaced at 48 inches instead of the usual 2 x 4's spaced at 16 inches wide. The spaces between the timbers are filled with solid brick. Three grooves are cut in each of the timbers to provide a mortar key for the bricks and plywood panels. Timber and brick construction was considered "modern" at about the 14th century in Northern Europe and has become one of the classics of architecture. Houses of this construction were 100 years old when Columbus discovered America and is still in use and continues to appreciate like an old masterpiece. A husband and wife working together in teamwork --- it was the indispensable factor in completing the house after 3 years of hard work. Over 40,000 used bricks were laid, a roof of hand split redwood shingles, roundels of imported art glass, hand-crafted tiles, antique copper utensils in the "Peasant Kitchen", walk-in fireplace with andirons that came around the horn. The Dutch doors and interior doors of hand hewn redwood with hand crafted old English "thong locks", a carved stairway along with unusual wooden detail. Some 5000 plus cobblestones and grapestakes form a fence surrounding the property. The stones were picked up when San Francisco replaced its cobblestone streets with paving. Inmates of San Quentin Prison made these old cobblestones. Some stones were used as ballast in many early sailing ships.

The house remains today as one of Palomar Park's most interesting and admired houses, but to the Proctor's it is their special "home" on the Hill.

*(The Proctor's home has been featured in several magazines from Sunset to House and Garden).*

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

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**PPO**  
**419 Palomar Dr.**  
**Palomar Park,**  
**CA 94062**



## SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from its' residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park even a better place, please drop us a line.

***PalomarNews@gmail.com***



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our resident's email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas, as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

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**BOARD MEMBER** - VACANT  
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Winter 2020

# Palomar Park Perspectives

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## PG&E AND LIVING WITH PSPS

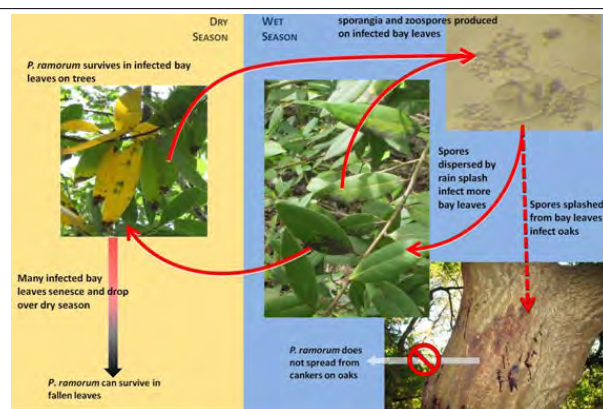
Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) are here to stay. With changing climate cycles, CA is experiencing lower relative humidity, more intense offshore winds and warmer days. These three weather characteristics, coupled with an overgrown landscape of vegetation and homes built with combustible construction (i.e. wood shake roofs and wood siding) and placed in high fire severity areas, has no doubt become a recipe for disaster for some communities. PG&E has taken the brunt of the blame for causing many of the largest wildfires in CA history. Now in bankruptcy, their last resort has been to shut down the power to hundreds of thousands during inclement fire weather. Palomar Park was among those communities that experienced the total black out. Prepare your family for the likelihood of more PSPS this summer. Only have licensed electricians wire emergency generators and place them away from windows and never inside your garage or home. Battery operated candles are a safe lighting option and LED flashlights are very bright and last a long time. Sign up for PG&E alerts as well as SMC ALERT to receive imminent power shutdowns and other emergency or wildfire alerts.

## SUDDEN OAK DEATH (SOD)

The disease that kills coast oaks, tan oaks, and black oaks has taken many victims here in Palomar Park. *P. ramorum* is the pathogen that attacks the oak and cuts off its ability to absorb water to its upper limbs. The lack of water is why the trees suddenly die and have full canopies of dead leaves. The pathogen lives in the bay laurel trees, often found near oaks. The bays are considered a host and can contaminate nearby oaks (just like spreading the flu).

Our beautiful oak trees contribute to the magical essence of Palomar Park. These majestic trees, some over 200 years old, are naturally fire resistant, increase our property values and provide wonderful erosion control for our hillsides.

A visual sign that a bay is infected can be identified by a partial brown spot near the point of the bay leaf. There are preventive measures that can be taken. Annual winter spraying of Agri-fos with the surfactant Pentra-Bark can assist your oaks from contracting SOD.



**Annual spraying with Agri-fos helps immunize oaks from SOD. Contract a tree spraying company to spray your most beloved oak trees during the cold winter months. Removing or trimming bay laurels that are near or under your oaks is also a defense.**



***Phytophthora ramorum canker at the base of a coast live oak.***

Have a story for the newsletter? You are encouraged to submit your articles and photos to [PalomarNews@Gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@Gmail.com) or put them in the 419 Palomar Drive mailbox.

## COURTESY ON THE ROAD

Speeding on our narrow Palomar Park roads can become a dangerous endeavor for pedestrians, wildlife and of course other drivers. The blind winding curves make it difficult to know when another car is coming. When an oncoming car, speeding around a turn, is partially in your lane it can be almost impossible to get out of the way. Please also remind contractors, gardeners and your other residential vendors that speeding is not ok in Palomar Park. Tickets and accidents are costly and the safety of everyone in Palomar Park is paramount.



## SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING

Burglaries are on the rise all over the Bay Area. Many CA laws have changed and some crimes, like residential or auto thefts, are no longer punishable with prison or extended jail time under many circumstances. Career criminals are working many nearby neighborhoods, i.e. Crestview and Emerald Hills. If you see someone or maybe a car that seems out of place or lingering do not hesitate to contact the Sheriff's Office.

- > Lock all doors even if you are home.
- > Lock cars and don't leave valuables inside them.
- > If you are out of town, have your neighbor bring in your newspaper or your mail.
- > Keep a light and/or radio on when you are going out at night to give the appearance that someone is home.
- > Ask for identification if someone comes to your door and wants to look around your property.
- > Invest in a home security system.
- > Get to know your neighbor and let them know if you are going out of town.
- > Do not announce to vendors that you are going on vacation and your house is going to be empty.

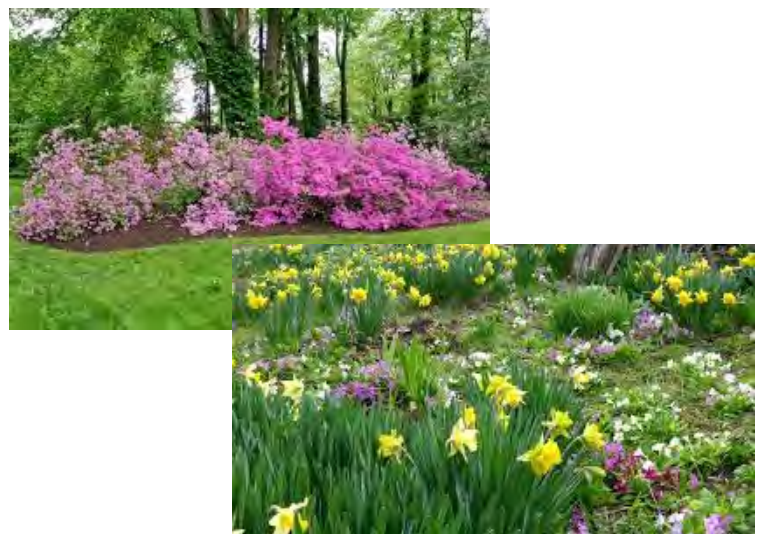
## WINTER GARDEN TIPS

It's that time of year when all the plants in your yard are conserving energy and not in their growth mode. Providing a little care and nutrient rich resources now to many of your garden plants will ensure bountiful blooms and healthy new growth during the spring.

**Some tips to ensure your garden will be ready for spring:**

- \* **Prune away dead and damaged branches on trees and woody shrubs.**
- \* **Clean up rotting debris and finished plants. For perennials - if it is brown cut it to the ground.**
- \* **Remove weeds that have taken over during the fall.**
- \* **Prune appropriate plants such as roses.**
- \* **Fertilize bulbs, azaleas and rhododendrons with bloom food.**
- \* **Think about a load of organic mulch for ornamental trees, perennials and bushes to feed and maintain root moisture.**
- \* **Plant bare root fruit trees in January or early February.**
- \* **Make sure standing water is not accumulating at the base of any trees or plants.**
- \* **Winter is a good time to plant larger specimens, i.e. small trees and bushes. Think about CA natives and check out the comprehensive list of fire resistant plants on the Fire Safe SMC website.**

[www.firesafesanmarco.org/resources](http://www.firesafesanmarco.org/resources)



## THE BIRDS AND THE BEES



**Birds** only nest during spring and summer. During the rest of the year, cavity-nesting birds often use these same boxes for shelter during winter nights. Sometimes more than a

dozen birds will pile into a single box to conserve heat. But nest boxes are far from ideal for overnight roosting. They are usually too small for a group. Plus most birds need to perch or cling while roosting, but nest boxes have no perching surfaces inside.

You can help your backyard birds keep warm overnight with a specially designed roost box. Bluebirds, chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, and small woodpeckers may seek refuge in it.

Roosting boxes differ from nest boxes in several ways. A good roost box is designed to prevent the birds' body heat from escaping, unlike a nest box, it has fewer ventilation holes. Also, its entrance hole is near the bottom of the box so the rising warmth doesn't escape. Inside a roost box there may be several perches made from small wooden dowels at different levels. The inside front and rear walls may be roughened, scored, or covered with wire so that woodpeckers can cling to them.

An entrance hole of about 2 inches in diameter will admit most small birds, but to exclude aggressive starlings reduce openings to about 1 1/2 inches. Larger woodland birds, such as screech-owls, need a 3-inch entrance hole. Place the box in a sheltered spot, out of prevailing winds. South facing boxes receive the most warmth from winter sun. Roost boxes can be purchased from various manufacturers. Look for them anywhere nest boxes or feeders are sold.

**Bees** swarm in the spring, for several different reasons, e.g., to acquire more space for their hive.

Swarming bees are not usually aggressive because they have no young or food to protect. If you have a swarm here are the do's and don't's.

**Bees are on the decline so let's do our part to help them pollinate the planet.**



1. **Don't** spray with water, pesticide or hit with a stick.
2. **Do** call a bee keeper ASAP who will relocate them.

[www.sanmateobeeguild.org](http://www.sanmateobeeguild.org)

## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We officially welcome the following residents to the hill:

140 Brecon Ct.  
Emily/Lain Becker

10 Belle Roche  
Buss McCormick Trust

15 Hermosa - Laura  
Roberts/Eric Termuehlen

105 Scenic Dr.- John Allington

1438 Edgewood Rd.  
Jayna Whit Trust

133 Cervantes Rd.  
Sarah Lorber and Korgan Feliks

1226 Edgewood Rd.  
Lynn Conners/David Fork

1400 Edgewood Rd.  
Navjot Brar/Navdeep Hayer

185 Cervantes Rd.  
Johathan Armstrong/  
Samiye Mahmoudia



## CONSTRUCTION REGS

Just a friendly reminder that the hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.

If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call 650 599-7311.



## FINDING PALOMAR PARK

by Zoya Petelin

My husband George and I lived in San Francisco and for years we wanted to live in the country. Often on weekends we drove down to the Peninsula and looked at hillside homes in Belmont, San Carlos, Woodside and Redwood City. Quite by accident, in the spring of 1940, we were driving on Edgewood Rd. and turned on Scenic towards Palomar Park. We drove around the hill, where there were only about 25 homes and we noticed one home for sale, but I really liked the brick home at 347 Palomar Dr. Unfortunately, there was no "For Sale" sign on it. However, a few months later I contacted a realtor and asked if any homes were for sale in Palomar Park. By coincidence, he mentioned a house was just listed today and it was 347 Palomar Drive. It was a miracle, the home I wished for a few weeks ago was now for sale. The realtor arranged for us to meet the owners, Mr. and Mrs. North, who invited us for lunch. Another coincidence, Mrs.



North was of Russian descent, just like my husband, George and I. We became instant friends and Mrs. North wanted us to have the house. In a few weeks, I would have my dream home. We paid \$7,000.00 for the house and in the summer of 1940 we moved in. Mrs. North left some furniture, kitchen dishes and utensils and the refrigerator was full of goodies, including a bottle of French champagne on the table and dinner ready for our first night in Palomar Park. The next day, Mrs. Virginia Wellhausen and Mrs. Theo Sherwood (our immediate neighbors) brought dinner over to us. Mrs. Irene England and Mrs. Margaret Muth became my new best neighbors. Mr. Muth, Mr. England and my husband commuted together on the train, for the long trip to work in San Francisco. All of the husbands worked on the water system and the roads. There was definitely a sense of community on the Hill. Fifty-eight (58) years on the hill, such a wonderful area, great neighbors and I wouldn't live anywhere else.

*Told to her son, Daniel Petelin, on April 17, 1998. Zoya passed away the summer of 2001. She was a founding member of the Garden Club. Her son inherited the home and has the distinction of being the second longest living resident of 70 years on the hill.*

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**[PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)**



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**TREASURER - CAROL BENNETT**

**BOARD MEMBER/HISTORIAN - DAN PETELIN**

**BOARD MEMBER - HUGO LOURO**

**BOARD MEMBER - JOE HOWARD**

**BOARD MEMBER - VACANT**

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# Palomar Park Perspectives

PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE

The PPO Board has been working diligently to update our website and we are happy to say its finally live. Special thanks to Board member Kim Essen for taking on the challenge and working with the other members on this project. You will find new online functions to assist you with notifying the Board about mailbox issues, name sign changes, and other requests or questions you may have. Please sign up by email so we can deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates, agendas, social function invites, as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. We welcome your suggestions!

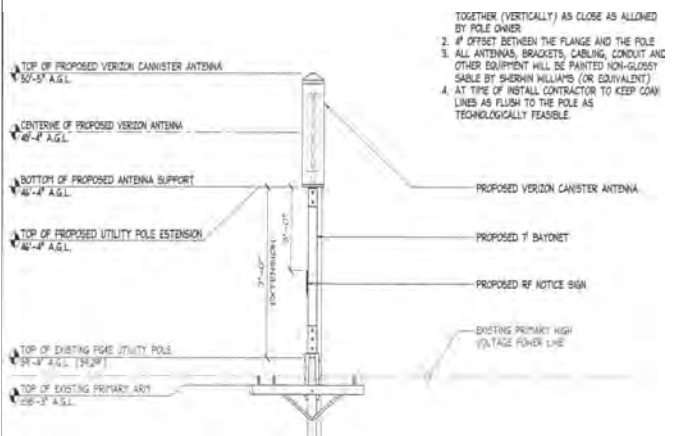
<https://www.palomarpark.org>



## MORE CELL ANTENNAS PROPOSED

The San Mateo County Planning Department has advised PPO that Verizon has submitted a permit application for a cellular antenna installation at 165 South Palomar Dr. Verizon is applying to erect a seven foot extension, in height, to the power pole in the right of way. In anticipation of the hearing with the zoning officer, PPO and residents along South Palomar Dr. have for some months raised a number of concerns and questions with the County. For example, PPO expressed concern about the proposed height given that it would exceed the maximum limit set by the County ordinance. We also stated concern over the radio wave production and long term effect this could have on the residents, especially children living within 100ft of this device. We further argued that allowing such an abrupt force solution in residential communities would set an unacceptable precedent County-wide. We all understand the aesthetics of this device will be unsightly and possibly have an effect on resale of properties in direct sight of it. The County has attempted to address these and other concerns and questions with varying degrees of success.

The application will be heard at a zoning hearing that will be scheduled some time in the next couple of months. A large turnout by residents at the hearing will demonstrate that Palomar Park is engaged and ready to be heard about what goes on in our neighborhoods. As soon as we receive a firm date we will let residents know the when and where of the hearing and how best to help prior and during the actual meeting.



*Proposed antenna will be over 50ft tall and be less than 100ft away from homes on S. Palomar.*

## OUR OWN SPECIAL LABYRINTH

by Jeff Garratt

On top of the hill in Eaton Park is a large flat area where a brick Labyrinth exists. What is it and how did it get there?

### About Labyrinths

Labyrinths date back thousands of years and are found all over the world from Ancient Greece to Native America. They flourished in Europe in the Middle Ages and in recent years have experienced a renaissance. Labyrinths take many forms. Some Christian churches, such as San Francisco's Grace Cathedral, have a labyrinth patterned after Chartres in France. The form at Eaton Park is one dating back to ancient times.

### How to walk a Labyrinth

Unlike a maze with different routes, a labyrinth has a single path to the center and back again. Simply follow the path and it will guide you. Standing at the entrance, you may wish to bring to mind a concern or intention. As you walk the path, invite intuition or sacred connection. Entering the center circle, stand still and surrender your concern. Open your heart and mind to inspiration and hope. Walking back to the start, you may feel a growing sense of inner strength and peace. If you encounter someone, simply stop and step to one side to let them pass.



The Eaton Park Labyrinth was built collaboratively involving Lynn and Gail Ewing and Hillary Borison. There was a lot of thought and care in the design and a huge amount of effort carrying and placing bricks. Thank you to these individuals (and others) whose hard work made this happen.

Now that you know of this special place we hope you will enjoy the spiritual experience.

## OWL CAN I HELP

This caption might be a play on words but there is no playing around with the mighty appetite for rodents that owls have.

Here in Palomar Park we all struggle to rid our properties of unwanted and destructive rodents. Most poisons have a residual effect and just don't kill their primary target the "rat" they also kill anything that eats the dead rat like your cat, a fox or an owl.

Owls eat their weight in rodents every day so why would we jeopardize harming our greatest partner in the war on rodents? How about partnering up with these majestic creatures and help reduce the gopher, mole, rat and mouse population.

Erecting owl boxes on your property can be a great way to attract owls. Great Horned owls, the ones that go "hoo hoo" live in open nests so boxes aren't their style. However, Screech owls and Barn owls look for box like openings to nest. We mostly have Screech and Great Horned owls in Palomar Park.

If you want assistance erecting an owl box contact Austin of Amador Barn Owl Box Co. 209.245.6090. He will come to your property and not only recommend a location that he thinks an owl will like. He will erect the box for you too.  
[www.amadorbarnowlbox.com](http://www.amadorbarnowlbox.com)



### Locate your box in an area with the following characteristics:

1. Box opening should be south or southeast facing at a high point on your property.
2. Tree line should be behind the box leaving a clear flight path down to an open meadow or lawn area.
3. Place box away from exterior lights or overflow from interior lighting.
4. Height of box should be approximately 10 -15ft.
5. Use a pole to attach your box so squirrels don't take it over.

## LEAVE IT AND THEY WILL COME

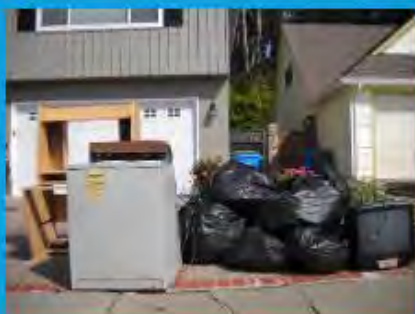
Do you have extra junk lying around your home or property that you would love to be rid of. Well if it's not donatable then just call Recology. Palomar Park residents are entitled to two pick ups a year. They will take appliances and anything bundled in 3 x 3 ft pieces.

**Call Recology and schedule a pick up today !**

**650 595-3900**

### Example of Accepted Bulky Items:

- 12 garbage bags (32 gallon size) of garbage, recyclables or compost (loose items must be bagged, boxed, or bundled). This is equivalent to 2 cubic yards (3ft. x 3ft. x 6ft.) of materials and must be under 60 lbs.
- 1 large appliance (washing machine, clothes dryer, household refrigerator)
- 1 bulky item (mattress and box spring, furniture, 4 tires without rims)
- 1 e-waste item (computer monitor, microwave, television)



Don't want to throw it away? Call **Habitat for Humanity**. This local charity will pick up your items.

650 847-4000  
1411 Industrial Rd.  
San Carlos

<https://sancarlosrestore.habitatgsf.org>



## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We would like to officially welcome the following families to the hill:

29 Hidden Way - Letha and Michael Mcleren

760 Loma Ct.- Merel Witteveen/Andrew MacPherson

815 Palomar - Maureen Fan/Samuel Christiansen

1175 Palomar Dr - Sandhu Jasbir



## GOATS LEAD THE CHARGE IN FIRE SAFETY

The potential for a wildland fire here in Palomar Park is high. Fire Season now has a year round timeline rather than just the summer months. All residents should do their part to follow the three **R's**:

**REMOVE** - any dead grass, brush or trees, **REDUCE** - overgrown plants near your home and driveway, **REPLANT** - with native and fire resistant plants.

The PPO Board has been working the past few years to incorporate fire safety activities into our meeting conversations and budget. We are encouraging San Carlos Parks department to incorporate annual fuel mitigation in Eaton Park which is adjacent and so close to many of our homes.

This October San Carlos Parks Dept. utilized 300 goats to reduce the hazardous fuel load in Eaton and Big Canyon Parks. The work doesn't



stop there. After the goats have finished, a chipper will be utilized to chip the dead woody debris. All this work takes months of planning and a complete biological and environmental review was conducted. Fire Safe SMC is also providing financial assistance for this work.

## HAVE A DEAD TREE ?

One of the few negatives about living in such a wonderful place filled with all sort of flora and fauna is that once in a while something dies. Big or small we hate to see any of our precious oak trees perish. It sometimes feel like we have lost an old friend. So what do we do ? Whose responsibility is it for removing trees along the side of the road? Do I need to remove it if it's on my property ? How about my neighbor ? Well, death can be complicated so lets try and sort it out.

Trees on your property are your responsibility, even if they are close to the road. Play it safe and for fire safety reasons if a tree or other vegetation such as bushes die then have them appropriately removed.

If a tree dies on your neighbors property then they are responsible for the removal. Sometimes residents, with larger properties, don't always know that a tree has died on their property so politely let them know.

Dead trees and other dead vegetation on vacant parcels is a bit trickier because the owner is absentee. If you know who the owner is then by all means send them a polite email or give them a call. If you are unaware of the owner you can contact the County Fire Dept 650 366-7416 or if all else fails possibly the PPO Board can assist. Some dead or failing trees, overhanging power lines, qualify for removal by PG&E. Colby Peterson is the PG&E vegetation clearance specialist Cjpk@pge.com.



Latest "SOD" victim on Palomar Dr.

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**419 Palomar Dr.**

**Palomar Dr. Palomar Park, CA 94062**

## HOLIDAY GATHERING/GENERAL MEETING



PPO will be hosting a Holiday Gathering in conjunction with our General Meeting. Bring your favorite appetizer to share and a beverage if you like. Please RSVP to [Palomarnew@gmail.com](mailto:Palomarnew@gmail.com). Parking will be scarce so think about walking or carpooling over.

**Date:** Nov 29th

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 pm

**Place:** 1125 Palomar Dr.



## BOARD ELECTIONS

It's election time. The following Board members are up for re-election: **Denise Enea Charlebois**  
**Nikki Depold**



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**SECRETARY**- ADAM MITTLEMAN

**TREASURER** - NIKKI DEPOLD

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER** - INDY Di BONA

**BOARD MEMBER** - KIM ESSEN

**BOARD MEMBER** - LEXI BAILEY

**BOARD MEMBER** - Vacant

**BOARD MEMBER** - Vacant

*Are you  
interested in  
being a PPO  
Board member?  
We are looking  
for two new  
members for our  
Board..*

**CONTACT US AT** [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



Spring 2018

# Palomar Park Perspectives

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## ENJOY WHAT OUR AREA HAS TO OFFER

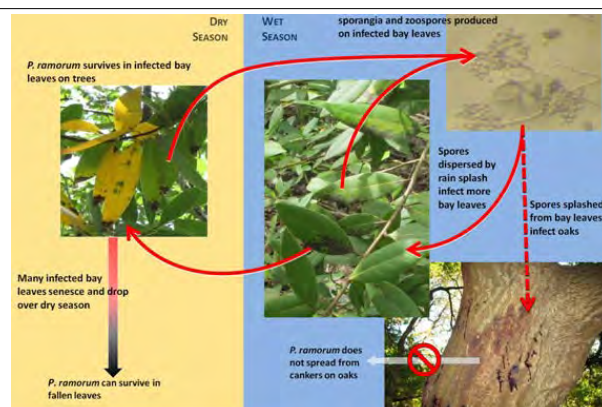
### *New Mid-Peninsula Open Space Trail*

Offering magnificent views of the coast, colorful wildflower displays in the spring, and immersion into a historic ranchland, La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve is an ideal spot to escape the pressures of everyday life. The more than 6,100-acre Preserve, considered by many as the gateway to the San Mateo Coast, features forests and redwood to the north, open rolling grasslands to the south, and spectacular panoramic views of the coast and ridgelines throughout. Get out and do it! [www.openspace.org/preserves](http://www.openspace.org/preserves)



## SUDDEN OAK DEATH or SOD

The beautiful oak trees in Palomar Park are partly what make this such a special place. These majestic trees, some of which have been around for 200 years, provide a bounty of acorns for wildlife. Their pollen a favorite for honey bees and the large cavities in their branches provide wonderful high and protected nest sites for owls and squirrels. These trees are fire resistant and provide wonderful erosion control for our hillsides. What kid doesn't dream of having a rope swing off a high sturdy branch of a mighty oak. However, over the last 15 years our beloved oaks have been under attack from Sudden Oak Death "SOD". *P. ramorum* is the pathogen that attacks the oak from the inside and cuts off its ability to absorb water to its upper limbs. The pathogen lives in the bay laurel trees which are often found near oaks. The bays are considered a host and can contaminate nearby oaks (just like spreading the flu). A visual sign that a bay is infected can be identified by a partial brown spot near the point of the bay leaf.



**Annual spraying with Agri-fos helps immunize oaks from SOD. Contract a tree spraying company to spray your most beloved oak trees during the cold winter months. Removing bay laurels that are touching or under your oaks is also a defense.**



***Phytophthora ramorum canker at the base of a coast live oak.***

Have a story for the newsletter? You are encouraged to submit your articles and photos to [PalomarNews@Gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@Gmail.com) or put them in the 419 Palomar Drive mailbox.

## THE BENEFITS OF RECYCLING CAN ADD UP!



Educators have created interesting and innovative curriculum to teach today's school-aged children about the importance of waste prevention and recycling. If you don't have a kid handy to remind you about how important it is to conserve natural resources and extend the life of our existing landfills by participating in community recycling programs, then consider the following:

- Using one ton of post-consumer paper to make new paper products saves approximately 7,000 gallons of water and conserves 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space.
- Recycling 300 lbs. of paper saves roughly one tree.
- For every ton of glass that is recycled we eliminate 384 lbs. of mining waste.
- Using post-consumer aluminum cans to make new cans produces about 95% less air pollution as compared to the process of manufacturing aluminum cans from virgin materials.
- Paper recycling reduces pollution by about 50%.
- Recycling a 36-in stack of newspaper saves about 73 kilowatt hours of electricity and about 14% of a typical residential electric utility bill.
- Recycling one pound of aluminum saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for 290 hours.
- It takes 64% less energy to make paper products from post-consumer paper, saving an equivalent of three barrels of oil for each ton of paper that is recycled.

Here in Palomar Park please do not put the following in your recycle bin: ***Plastic bags, styrofoam, garden hoses, PVC or other piping, coat hangers, scrap metal, fuel tanks, propane tanks, mirrors, light bulbs, vases, window panes, dishware, drinking glasses or mugs, hardback books, photographs, carbon paper, facial or toilet tissues, plastic or foil lining from cereal boxes, thermal fax paper or paper and cardboard contaminated by food.***

[www.recology.com](http://www.recology.com)

## SPRING IS IN THE AIR

It's that time of year when all the plants in your yard are ready to start their magnificent budding, blooming and leafing out season.

- \* **Prune away dead and damaged branches.**
- \* **Clean up leaves and debris around plants.**
- \* **Prep damaged lawn areas for Spring seeding.**
- \* **Rake escaped gravel back into walkways and patios.**
- \* **Start to check drip irrigation lines that may have been damaged during the winter.**
- \* **Think about obtaining a load of organic mulch for ornamental trees, perennials and bushes to feed and maintain root moisture.**



Standing water is the number one breeding spot for mosquitoes. Sometimes, it is nearly impossible to find all the bodies of standing water and drain them. However, there are a few precautions you can take to prevent water from building up.

**Here are some tips to get you started:**

- \* Get rid of unused pots or bins or turn them upside down, so they don't collect water.
- \* Keep trash and recycling bins covered.
- \* Keep a fine-mesh screen over rain barrels/water tanks.
- \* Take a look at your plants. Are any of them collecting water in between the leaves and the stems? If so, consider poking a tiny hole with a pin into those areas to allow for proper drainage.
- \* Clear rain gutters of debris that may be trapping water.



## TIPS FOR A MORE SECURE HOME



Your home is your castle. Most modern homes are sadly absent a moat and drawbridge to keep that castle safe and secure. It's important to think of home security as an onion of many different security measures acting together to prevent an unauthorized individual from entering your home.

**Here are 5 simple tips to keep your home, your property, and your peace of mind secure:**

### TIP 1

The easiest step is to use any security measures you may already have installed. Check that all doors and windows are locked, security systems are armed, and your garage door is secured when not in use.

### TIP 2

Trim trees and shrubs so that they cannot be used as a hiding place or as concealment for an intruder. It also makes your home look occupied and well-maintained showing any potential intruder that someone is responsible for the property and cares about it.

### TIP 3

Secure any sliding doors or windows with a bar or fixture to supplement the lock installed on the opening itself. A simple aluminum rod dropped in the track will prevent someone from overcoming the lock and gaining entry to the opening.

### TIP 4

Add some visible deterrents, such as signs advertising that a security system protects your home, even if you do not have one. While installing a high-quality camera or alarm system is always recommended, adding signs creates a greater deterrent against crime.

### TIP 5

Avoid leaving keys in 'secret' hiding spots. If absolutely necessary, leave it with a close relative or other trusted person - intruders know to search for hidden access keys. If you use an auxiliary key regularly, consider a smart lock controlled by a cell phone with RFID "digital" keys.

## NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We would like to officially welcome the following families to the hill:

1001 Palomar: Michael Kiedel and Kathleen Surman

18 Los Cerros: Victor Lee

563 Palomar: Moghadam Saeid & Forozandeh Trust

75 El Vanada: Shelby Windler and Mary Schmidt



Hi Palomar Park Neighbors,

As you've hopefully seen and heard, the PPO board has made an effort to repair the mailbox houses in our neighborhood. The reality is that most of them need some sort of attention, but we will be prioritizing the ones in the worst shape first and over the next few years we hope to upgrade all of them. The board has set aside 1/3 of our annual dues towards these repairs, which doesn't get us very far.

If you would like to help us get more bang for our buck and repair more mailboxes, or if you have an interest in carpentry and giving back to your neighborhood, please contact Adam Mittleman ([adam.mittleman@gmail.com](mailto:adam.mittleman@gmail.com)) or Jeff Garratt ([jgarratt@g-c.com](mailto:jgarratt@g-c.com)) to join our mailbox repair team!

## CONSTRUCTION REGS

Just a friendly reminder that the hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are mon - fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays.

If you have a question for the Planning or Building department, you can call 650-599-7311.



## UNWANTED GUESTS

### Ticks.... why we need to protect ourselves

Deer Tick



If you spend time outdoors or have pets that go outdoors, you need to beware of ticks. Ticks are small bloodsucking parasites. Many species transmit disease to people and pets.

#### Common tick-borne diseases include:

- Lyme disease
- Rocky Mountain spotted fever
- Tularemia
- Ehrlichiosis
- Relapsing fever
- Colorado tick fever
- Babesiosis

Some ticks are so small that they can be difficult to see. Ticks may get on you if you walk through areas where they live, such as tall grass, leaf litter or shrubs.

#### Here are some simple landscaping techniques that can help reduce tick populations:

- Remove leaf litter.
- Clear tall grasses and brush around homes and at the edge of lawns.
- Place a 3-ft wide barrier of wood chips or gravel between lawns and wooded areas to restrict tick migration into recreational areas.

#### If you walk on trails or are outside gardening try the following to keep you, your family and pets safe:

- Use a repellent with DEET, permethrin or picaridin.
- Wear light-colored protective clothing.
- Tuck pant legs into socks.
- Avoid tick-infested areas.
- Check yourself, your children and your pets daily for ticks and carefully remove any ticks you find.



Bay Area Lyme Foundation [www.bayarealyme.org](http://www.bayarealyme.org)

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Now is the time to renew your annual membership with the Palomar Park Property Owners. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, host the picnic, fund the annual chipper program and other beneficial projects and functions for Palomar Park residents.

Your \$50 donation goes a long way. You can pay online at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) or mail a check to:

**PPO**

**419 Palomar Dr.**

**Palomar Dr. Palomar Park, CA 94062**

## GENERAL MEETING

*Date: April 24th*

*Time: 7:00 pm*

*Place: Canyon Inn*

*587 Canyon Rd*



## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our resident's email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter.

Please send us a note at: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

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**TREASURER - NIKKI DEPOLD**

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER - INDY DI BONA**

**BOARD MEMBER - KIM ESSEN**

**BOARD MEMBER - LEXI BAILEY**

**BOARD MEMBER - Vacant**

**BOARD MEMBER - Vacant**

**Are you interested in being a PPO Board member?  
We are looking for two new Board members.**

CONTACT US AT [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



Fall 2017

# Palomar Park Perspectives

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

**A LOOK BACK...1956** There were only 55 residents on the Hill and 21 of these residents had horses. Marge was the school bus driver who drove around Palomar Park picking up school kids. *Toyon Creamery* delivered milk and the *Colonial Bread* man (in a yellow truck) delivered fresh baked bread and pastries. The Palomar Park Garden Club installed log benches around the Hill and constructed the road signs for residents that still exist today. The Quarry was in operation along Edgewood Rd. and its equipment could be heard daily in upper Palomar Park. Duggan Rd. was named after Mr. Duggan who lived on Cervantes Rd. He was Assistant Secretary of the Navy during World War I. Mr. Helsel led the Palomar Park Equestrian Riders during the 4th of July Parade in Redwood City. Dr. Rentschle on Hermosa Rd. had two unusual animals on the Hill (Martin and McCoy) two pet llamas. He also had peacocks. On July 13, 1956, nine residents signed a document (the Article of Incorporation) affixed with the Great Seal of the State of CA by the Secretary of State. Thus the Palomar Property Owners association was born. Next year we celebrate a 61st Anniversary.

## SURVIVING WILDFIRE

by Denise Enea

Most of us know someone who has been affected by the catastrophic fires in Northern California. The thick smoke that hovered in our neighborhood is a sobering reminder that 8000+ firefighters, 25+ aircraft and 50+ bulldozers were not enough to protect the 8,000+ structures lost in this raging wildfire. The human, animal and environmental loss breaks our hearts. Will this catastrophic event open our thinking to how vulnerable we are here in Palomar Park and promote change based on the tragedy inflicted by our neighbors to the north?

Many parcels in our community (some owned by absentee owners) remain un-mowed or overgrown with hazardous dry vegetation. Fire hydrants are covered by bushes, driveways are overgrown with vegetation and tree branches overhang roof tops. Many of our homes are older construction with wood siding and kiln dry wood decks. For the most part our houses were built to burn and they will if we do not take preventive action. If you have a parcel next to you that is overgrown or un-mowed and seems like a fire hazard, contact the San Mateo County Fire Marshal's office and ask them to come out and do an inspection (650)573-3846.

Many homes burned from the inside out in the Northern CA fires. Burning embers, that are wind

driven, enter attic, roof and even crawl space vents through the 1/8 mesh screens. The embers ignite wood framing, insulation or whatever they land on inside these spaces resulting in the entire house being consumed by fire, ignited by small embers. There is a fix for this and they are ember resistant vents that can replace the old 1/8 mesh screen types that many of our homes have.

**Vulcan** [www.vulcantechnologies.com](http://www.vulcantechnologies.com)  
**Brandguard** [www.brandguardvents.com](http://www.brandguardvents.com)

These products are listed on the CA State Fire Marshal website and meet current building wildfire code. There are many other techniques that homeowners should consider when upgrading or maintaining your home. Visit <http://firecenter.berkeley.edu/bwmg/vents-2.html> to learn more on how you can increase the survivability of your home during a wildfire.



Have a story for the newsletter? You are encouraged to submit your articles and photos to [PalomarNews@Gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@Gmail.com) or put them in the 419 Palomar Drive mailbox.

## AIRPLANE NOISE POLLUTION Update.....

A new flight path that would reduce noise over the Peninsula is being developed by the Federal Aviation Administration, according to a recently released report, <https://eshoo.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/FAA-Initiative-Phase-Two-07252017-2.pdf>



The change from the so-called **SERFR** flight path, which goes from S.F.Int'l Airport over the Santa Cruz Mountains was one of the 104 responses the FAA

addressed following recommendations made by two airplane-noise committees: the *Select Committee on South Bay Arrivals* and the *San Francisco International Airport/Community Roundtable*.

U.S. Reps. Anna Eshoo, Jackie Speier and Sam Farr convened the 12-member Select Committee, which held public hearings and developed a report of needed changes. The report was sent to the FAA in October 2016 along with a separate report from the SFO Roundtable, which represents cities in San Mateo and San Francisco counties.

Thousands of residents, particularly in Palo Alto and Portola Valley, were in an uproar after the FAA implemented NextGen in 2015. It was designed to overhaul the air-traffic system and free up airspace by putting planes in narrow corridors. Unfortunately, it created increased noise levels by lowering altitudes, narrowing travel bands and increased the frequency of aircraft flying over specific areas (like Palomar Park).

The Select Committee has recommended noise-measurement modifications to more accurately consider the noise experienced by people on the ground. The U.S. Congress would require the FAA to adopt the new measurements under the committees recommendations. View Reports <https://eshoo.house.gov/constituent-services/airplane-noise-in-the-18th-congressional-district/>

If your unhappy with increased airplane noise call: SFO Noise Abatement Office and your congresswomen.

(650) 821-4736, or  
email [sfo.noise@flysfso.com](mailto:sfo.noise@flysfso.com)

Spier: (650) 342-0300  
Eshoo: (650) 323-2984



## WINTER CHECK LIST

It's that time of year when leaves are falling and the house is a little chilly in the morning. This means time to prepare your home and property for the upcoming winter.

- \* **Have professional chimney sweep clean out your chimney flue.**
- \* **Clean gutters and downspouts of leaf litter.**
- \* **Direct downspout water away from house foundations and slopes.**



gutter not clean



flooding foundation

- \* **Stock some sand bags for those extreme rain storms to help re-direct storm water.**
- \* **Clean out catch basins throughout your property.**
- \* **Install erosion control barriers( straw wattles) on steep slopes.**
- \* **Clean out drainage swales along the perimeter of your property. ( dont wait for the County road crew) !**
- \* **Replace or install weatherstripping on doors.**
- \* **Check sump pumps.**
- \* **Replace furnace filters.**



## OUR FURRY & FEATHERED FRIENDS

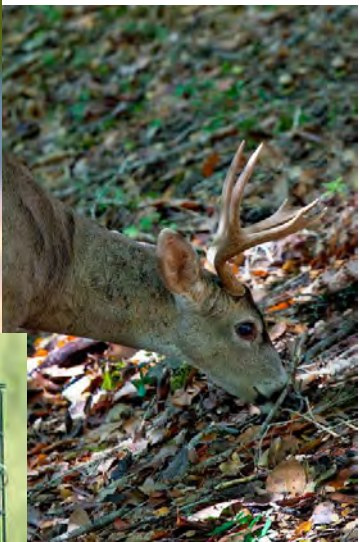
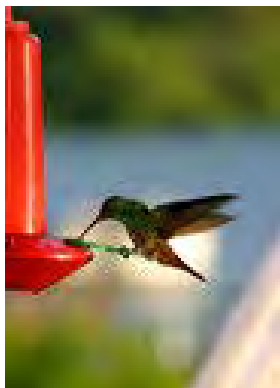


Winter can be a hard time for wildlife. They use more calories trying to stay warm and this means they need to eat more. Here are a few tips that might help them out.

**Birds** - If you have bird feeders keep high energy food in them like crushed peanuts and hulled sunflower seeds. Suet is very high in calories and the birds flock to it in the winter. Humingbirds rely on those feeders you had up all summer so please keep them filled during the colder months too.

**Deer/Squirrels** - Acorns are plentiful this year. When sweeping them up from your driveway or patio instead of throwing them in the yard waste bin try placing them in an area that is appropriate for the deer and squirrels to find them. (Like open areas around other oak trees)

*Who knows you might end up helping plant the next generation of oaks by scattering acorns.*



## NEW NEIGHBORS

Seems there are more for sale signs in Palomar Park than ever before. This means new neighbors. We would like to officially welcome our new neighbors to Palomar Park.

**30 Palomar Oaks** - Sean & Tiffini Hiss

**41 Hidden Way** - Crystal Dahlen & Wallace Chane

**135 S. Palomar** - Hugo De La Cruz & Urszula Wojdakowska

**150 Montalvo Rd.** - Heather Sutherland & Michael Stewart

**401 Palomar** - Michael & Ruth Bondy

**742 Palomar** - Ben & Allyson Fisch

**1030 Palomar** - Holger Willenbring & Alexis Bailey



## KEEP THE ROADS SAFE

Just a friendly reminder that the speed limit is 25 MPH or less on our narrow, windy roads. If you have construction workers coming to your home let them know its not ok to drive over the speed limit. We have all been run off the road ( so to speak) by speeding cars/trucks that aren't on their side of the roadway. Those instances are not fun and down right dangerous. Better that you hear it in the newsletter than from the deputy that pulls you over !



## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD



What makes a neighborhood great? That's easy- it's the neighbors! In Palomar Park we are fortunate, we have them in spades. More than anything this constitutes why we are so lucky to live here. With 306 houses

and countless neighbors from many different countries and every walk of life, we are truly a special place in this area we call home. One benefit we have over many other neighborhoods is our close knit group we maintain. We are commonly out and talking, and watching people and cars with a fairly good sense of what's going on around us. Neighbors keep each other informed and that benefits us all. The saying, "If you see something, say something" fits well. We look out after each other and let each other know when something just doesn't seem normal. We've had a couple of instances over the last ten years where someone has rifled through cars or our mailboxes and our discussions bring us closer together and encourages awareness which helps us watch out for each other.

Keeping good neighborhood communications also helps if there is a special concern or conflict. Most times, people react better to a friendly conversation rather than dealing with the County or Sheriff because someone has made an anonymous complaint.

Knowing our neighbors allows us to have relationships with people close to us and have a better sense of what is going on around our homes. They say you can choose your house, your car and your friends, but you can't choose your neighbors. We are very fortunate to have the best of both worlds and one of the big reasons why many of us won't move is because of the special friendships we have developed.

When you get a dog, trainers encourage socializing your dog with 100 other dogs, people, etc. in the first three months. Pediatricians say the same about socializing babies and children. Is there any doubt that neighbors should do the same? Get out and say hello or introduce yourself to your neighbors. You may be surprised to find out how interesting the people who live right next door are.

by Jeff Garratt

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

If you haven't had the opportunity to renew your annual membership with the Palomar Park Property Owners please consider doing so before the end of the year. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, host the picnic, fund the annual chipper program and this year we are hosting a Holiday wine tasting.

Your \$50 donation goes a long way. You can pay online at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) or mail a check to:

**PPO**

**419 Palomar Dr.**

**Palomar Dr. Palomar Park, CA 94062**

## HOLIDAY PARTY & GENERAL MEETING



November 16th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at 1125 Palomar Dr. PPO will be hosting a Holiday Wine tasting in conjunction with our General Meeting. Bring your favorite bottle of wine and appetizer to the event and enjoy tasting other neighborhood favorites. Please RSVP to [palomarnews@gmail.com](mailto:palomarnews@gmail.com). Parking will be scarce so think about walking or carpooling over.

***Date:*** 11/16/17

***Time:*** 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

***Place:*** 1125 Palomar Dr.



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**BOARD MEMBER** - AMY DONOVAN FAASSE

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CONTACT US AT [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)



# Palomar Park Perspectives

PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## WATER CONSERVATION TO SAVE \$\$

If you haven't seen your water bill lately .....prepare yourself for a little shock. Mandatory rationing has been discontinued however prices per gallon are on the rise.

### Tips for Minimizing Plant Water Use:

- Choose native and low water use plants in your garden.
- Select smaller plants rather than larger ones.
- Reduce fertilizer use to the lowest level possible to maintain plant health.
- Use surface mulches around plants and in bare soil areas.
- Water intermittently on slopes to reduce run off
- Adjust sprinklers so they don't over spray onto concrete paths and roads.



Cal Water offers numerous rebates & resources for water conservation go to [www.calwater.com/conservation](http://www.calwater.com/conservation) for more valuable info

## NEW NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY

### Take a Book, Leave a Book

Have you ever seen those small colorful boxes full of books the sidewalks down on the flats? Those are Little Free Libraries and we are excited to announce that we now have one here in Palomar Park!

Looking for a book to read? Take one! Have a book you love that you'd like others to enjoy? Leave one!

The Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org). Adam Mittleman and Ailey Crow felt that these goals align well with the spirit of Palomar Park and decided to build and install one in front of their house at 166 S. Palomar. They hope that neighbors of all ages will enjoy discovering new books to read and sharing some of their favorites with others.

Thanks Adam and Ailey !



## HOME FIRE SAFETY QUIZ

**WILDFIRE.....**A potential issue that lingers in the back of our minds. Here in Palomar Park we should all take the possibility of wildfire very seriously and prepare our properties the best we can. However are we all preparing correctly? As the summer fire season quickly approaches we should all consider improving our homes ignition resistance. Take the **"Save My House from Wildfire"** quiz and see if you know how to best prepare your home.

**1. What part of a home has the biggest risk for ignition?**

- A. Trees
- B. Wood roof
- C. Wood siding
- D. Front door

**2. Fire embers during a wildfire are often blown?**

- A. Into windows
- B. Into chimneys
- C. Under wood decks
- D. Into outdoor light fixtures

**3. Radiant heat from a fire can?**

- A. Crack non tempered windows
- B. Ignite vegetation next to homes
- C. Ignite combustible patio furniture
- D. All the above

**4. What type of siding is the MOST ignition proof?**

- A. Treated cedar shingles
- B. Hardie board composite shingles
- C. Vinyl siding
- D. T1 -T11 Plywood

**5. What house accessories assist with preventing embers from entering houses?**

- A. Rain gutters
- B. Door mats.
- C. Specialized attic vents
- D. None of the above

When it comes to neighborhoods like ours it's not a matter of **IF** a wildfire will ever happen in Palomar Park it's a matter of **WHEN**.

1. B 2. C 3. D 4. B 5. C

## SUMMER PICNIC

The annual Palomar Park Picnic is Saturday, Aug 5th from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm. Danny and Eleni Woerz at 48 South Palomar Drive have once again graciously volunteered their beautiful yard for the residents of Palomar Park.



**Please RSVP by July 31st to: [palomarnews@gmail.com](mailto:palomarnews@gmail.com) if you and your family are attending, so we can plan food quantities accordingly.**

As in years past PPO will BBQ the mains (pork, chicken, hamburgers, and hot dogs) and would like residents to bring sides (appetizers, salads, vegetables, or desserts). We had some really delicious items brought by everyone last year -- many thanks to those who contributed. There will be plenty of chairs, tables, umbrellas, and parking.

Hope to see you there!  
The Board

The picnic is free for PPO members and for Non-PPO members there is a \$10 contribution for individuals or \$20 for families.

If you aren't yet a member of PPO or haven't gotten around to renewing your membership, now is the time to send in your \$50 membership dues and enjoy a free BBQ on us.



## CHIPPER PROGRAM UPDATE

FIRE SEASON IS HERE...what better way than FREE to make a difference in your yard. Remove that flammable/hazardous brush and help protect your property.

This years chipper day will be August 22. Please leave your cut vegetation at the curb in a neat pile with cut ends facing towards the street.

## THE REAL .....ON REAL ESTATE

### Homes Values in Palomar Park Are Increasing Fast !

The median price of homes sold in San Mateo County between March and April of 2017 jumped an incredible \$175,000. What cost a buyer \$1,350,000 only two months ago escalated to \$1,525,000 in May.

We are not sure what lies ahead for July and August however the lack of inventory is largely responsible for the astounding increase. With monthly inventory levels at only 0.7 of an average month, we might say, hypothetically, that if no more properties came onto the market during the next twenty-one days, there

would be nothing for sale in the county....at all. While supply and demand plays a large role in current prices, the swift influx of high paying jobs is also semi-responsible for home value increases.



If you're still unsure about these real estate trends, have a specific question about a recent Palomar Park sale or need help deciding what remodel project would be most beneficial to your homes value or resale I am happy to help.

I am Kat Bedbury and live right here in Palomar Park. Give me a call anytime and let's chat about any real estate question you may have.

**Contact Bedbury Realtors  
in association with  
Today Sotheby's  
International Realty at  
650-740-4494 or  
Team@BedburyRealtors.com**



## WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

### Woodpeckers, Rats and Skunks ...Oh My !

Yes we have lots of critters on the hill and sometimes they can seem to be a small nuisance to our comfortable life style. Rats in particular can be very destructive and we are forced to deal with them regularly. Removal of our native open space forces wildlife into what we feel is our domain.

How should we best deal with rodents in particular? We all know snakes eat alot of rodents, but what happens when we see a snake on our proerty? Do we remove it, dispose of it ? Owls and hawks are also both great rodent predators and so anything we can do to promote their well being is a plus. However posions and sometimes traps can reduce the population of our native predators.

Be especially careful about glue traps which often catch the wrong critter.



Traditional spring loaded rodent traps are likely your best bet. Place them along the edge of foundations where you know rodents like to travel and specifiy where you have seen them or can recognize a worn path of travel. Peanut butter is a great bait. Make sure the trap is semi protected so children or family pets won't find it. Do not let exterminator companies leave posion boxes on your property. Rodents eat the posion and die, then are eaten by owls, hawks and foxes which in turn die from eating the posioned rodent.

This cycle of posion only reduces the preadotr population having the reverse effect we are intending. Mother nature has a delicate balance. It is our environment and as a community we should be concerned about protectng it.



## MAILBOX REPAIRS

One of the quaintest things about Palomar Park is our road side wooden mailboxes and name signs. Recently you may have noticed that many of our mailboxes received major repairs and are looking fabulous again. These repairs are made possible because of annual member dues. PPO spent approximately \$1,800 on material and labor to fix over 8 group mailboxes and one large name sign. If you have a mailbox that you feel needs some repairs please contact PPO at [Palomarnews@gmail.com](mailto:Palomarnews@gmail.com)



## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Please renew or become a new member of the Palomar Park Property Owners. Your \$50.00 a year dues assist in keeping Palomar Park the best it can be.

Pay online at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) or mail a check to: PPO at 419 Palomar Dr.

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**BOARD MEMBER** - AMY FAASSE

CONTACT US AT: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

## JET NOISE UPDATE

On May 17, Rep. Jackie Speier, Anna Eshoo and Jimmy Panetta issued a joint press release providing an update on the FAA's response to jet noise from air traffic in their Congressional Districts.

"In early December 2016, the final reports by the Select Committee on South Bay Arrivals and the S.F. Int'l Airport/Community Roundtable were sent to the FAA for review and action. Our offices have been engaged with the new Western-Pacific Regional Administrator of the FAA since early this year. We have continued to relay the public's interest in a response to the noise mitigation as soon as possible. Each of us has spoken directly with FAA Administrator, Michael Huerta regarding the status of the FAA's response to the 109 recommendations in these reports to address the ongoing issue of aircraft noise in our Congressional Districts." Administrator Huerta confirmed he has received a draft response from his Western-Pacific team who have completed extensive technical work and his team in Washington D.C. is conducting a final review of the document at this time. Administrator Huerta told us that the FAA is committed to this Initiative and continuing to work on a recommended response.

The FAA will send their completed document to the Department of Transportation within a month for final review and authorization. We will continue to follow up and will release the response as soon as we receive it."

**You can find more information** on Congresswoman Speier's Airport Noise page: <https://speier.house.gov/issues/legislative-issues/airport-noise>.

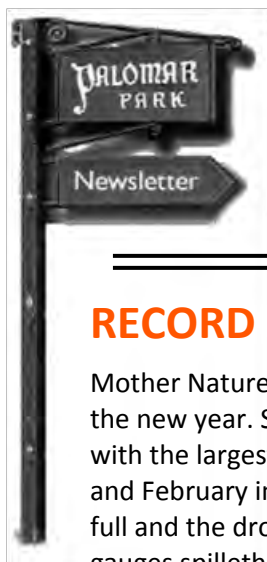


**What can you do?** Contact Jackie Speier's Office at: (650) 342-0300 or (202) 225-3531 and let her know you support her and other Representatives' efforts. Also, continue to report jet noise to the SFO contact hotline.

For more info: ([www.flyquietsfo.com](http://www.flyquietsfo.com))

**Noise Complaint Hotline: 650-821-4736**

**Noise Complaint Email: [sfo.noise@flysfo.com](mailto:sfo.noise@flysfo.com)**



# Palomar Park Perspectives

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

## RECORD RAINFALL

Mother Nature sure does know how to bring in the new year. San Mateo County is saturated, with the largest accumulative rainfall for January and February in two decades. Our reservoirs are full and the drought is on standby while the rain gauges spillover. However, with the good news of drought relief, Palomar Park has suffered some casualties. Some of us have lost some significant trees and there are two hillsides which have suffered major slippage on Palomar & Los Cerros.



## PULL YOUR BROOM

European brooms, particularly Scotch broom and French broom are two invasive species of plants that have invaded California's oak woodlands. French broom foliage and seeds are toxic, containing a variety of quinolizidine alkaloids, especially in young leaves. The plants grow large and upright, developing thick trunks at the base. After its relatively short life span - "7 to 8" years, 15 at the most – they die and become tinder-dry woody skeletons that can burn high and hot. Their fire prone and invasive characteristics make them one of the most undesirable plants in California.

Native wildlife do not like the taste of broom leaves and even though it presents a flower in the spring and summer its not a butterfly or bee food source.

(Ever hear of broom honey ?)

Please take advantage of the rain and soft ground and pull any broom you see on your property or the roadway near your home. Pulling this time of year is easy and why spend money on herbicides which we know can be harmful to our sensitive habitat.

Think about planting some California poppies, lupine or other flowering native seed when you pull your broom to crowd out any volunteer broom seedlings that may reappear. Within a few years of repeating this cycle your property will be on auto pilot as a native paradise.



## FIDO HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

We all know that dogs bark for a reason.....the UPS driver disturbs their nap, deer in the back yard that linger too long, maybe even hearing another dog bark will get them going. However, when dogs bark for long periods of time it usually means they are unhappy or lonely.

Many of us work during the day or need to be gone during the evening hours, and often Fido stays home and waits for us to return. This waiting can sometimes be more than eight hours. Many residents on the hill are recognizing a significant increase in nuisance dog barking.

Is Fido trying to tell someone.....anyone that he/she is lonely or unhappy, hungry or maybe needs a potty break ?

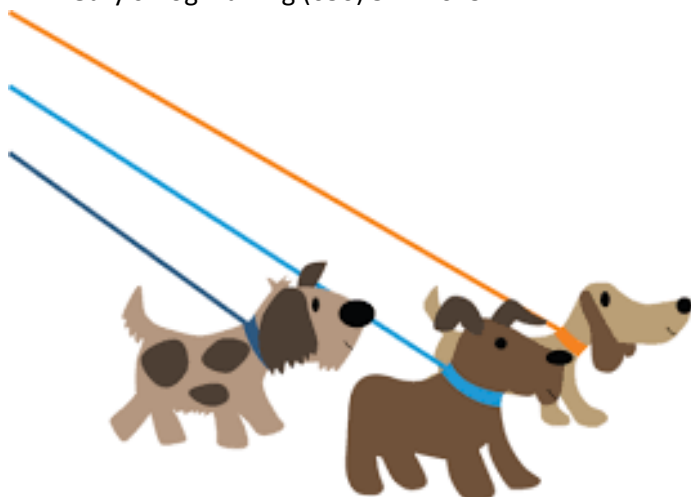
How does a dog owner know if their perfect little Fido is barking while they are away? One way is to ask your neighbors if your dog barks while you are gone from the house. There are quite a few dog walking services which are already serving pets in Palomar Park. Dogs love to walk, and you will find they are happier and healthier if we afford them their daily walks. Why not try it and see if you notice a change in Fido....we know your neighbors will thank you !

### PROFESSIONAL DOG WALKERS:

Dog Gone Walking: Margot King (650)

241-8556 Smilin Dogs (650) 592-3997

Gary's Dog walking (650) 544-1079



## IT'S ALL FOR THE BIRDS

Encouraging bird feeding in your yard requires more than just providing seed. You must create an environment that is not only nourishing, but one that will attract and retain bird activity without being destroyed by other creatures. Below are a few tips to help you to keep your birds coming back each year.



Squirrels are quite a nuisance around bird feeders and can make it difficult for your birds to feed properly. The easiest way to keep them from wreaking havoc is to eliminate their access to the feeder, which is done through placement. Set your feeder at least a good 10 feet away from trees, fences or anything that a squirrel can jump from. Also keep the feeder 5 feet off the ground.

Another strategy is to purchase a squirrel baffle for your bird feeder. This cone-shaped cover attaches above or below the feeder causing squirrels to slip away when they approach the feeder. Different models are available to work with different feeder types.

Be sure to clean out feeders regularly and throw out any moldy or wet food.

Birds are hungriest in cold weather, when they use lots of energy to stay warm. Keep those feeders full even on the coldest day of winter.

Placing an assortment of feeders such as suet feeders or hummingbird feeders will ensure you see an assortment of feathered friends in your yard.

## FURRY FRIENDS of PALOMAR PARK

Last September 2016, a gray fox was found dead at a residence in Marin County with no signs of trauma. Since the residence was adjacent to the Point Reyes National Seashore, the National Park Service investigated. The gray fox was sent to their lab and found to have unexplained hemorrhaging in the brain and lungs with no signs of trauma. These are classic signs of anticoagulant rodenticide poisoning. The liver contained a toxic combination of three different second generation anticoagulant rodenticides. These rodenticides – brodifacoum, bromadiolone, and difethialone – are only legally used by pest control/exterminator professionals for rodent control in and around man-made structures. After eating these baits, rodents remain mobile for several days and can be eaten by wildlife or pets. Members of the public cannot obtain these materials over the counter. Due to their harmful impacts to wildlife second generation anticoagulant rodenticides became restricted in California in 2014. Now only licensed professionals can use these poisons.

Unfortunately for local wildlife, residents hire these professionals to place these bait stations around their homes on a regular basis. Monitoring in California has found that the majority of predators and scavengers, such as foxes, bobcats, coyotes, and raptors are still being exposed to these poisons.

One family of owls will consume up to 3000 rodents annually. Foxes love to hunt rodents and on some occasions I have seen them in my yard at night sniffing the ground looking for gophers and moles. I even witnessed my cat in the same field with the fox, who paid no attention to the feline as this is not on their dinner menu.

Be a good neighbor to your local wildlife who keep our rodent population down. Help spread the word about the ramifications of poison in bait stations.

To learn more, please visit  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov/Living-with-Wildlife/Rodenticides](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Living-with-Wildlife/Rodenticides).



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

For the last 59+ years, Gloria Peuker has lived at 135 South Palomar Drive. She was born in Kenmore, NY and lived there with her family until she was 12 years old. At that time her family moved to Detroit where she lived until 1948, attending MacKinsey H.S. and Wayne University.

That same year (1948), she came to visit her sister and her husband (in Burlingame) and decided she wanted to live in California. She met Jim Seitz and they were married in 1950. Gloria worked at the Stanford High Energy Physics Laboratory in the late 1950's through the early 1960's as a secretary to 10 Physicists who all conducted highly classified work. While at Stanford she worked closely with her team and was regularly in the company of people like Robert Oppenheimer, Wernher Von Braun and other Aerospace Engineers.

Gloria and her husband Jim built their house in Palomar Park in 1957. When they moved in there were only a few people living up here at that time, one couple being across the street (Charlie and Helen Hoffman, Leslie's Mom and Dad) and a WWI veteran who lived in Danny and Eleni Woerz's current property.

Photos of our neighborhood back then show very few trees; that was before septic systems and the planting of trees and gardens.

Gloria divorced Jim in 1962 and married Paul Peuker in July 1967. Paul was from the Bronx, NY. He was a Sergeant in the Army and based in Alaska. He moved to the bay Area in 1962. Paul was an engineer who worked for 30 years at Lockheed Missiles and Space in Sunnyvale. He worked on numerous projects for the space program including the tiles for the space shuttle. He was out most nights watching the night sky. Paul passed in October of 2015. She and Paul would have celebrated their 50th Anniversary this July. They went on 37 cruises and 20 tours throughout the US and Europe together.

In March, Gloria will be moving to an Independent Living home in Morgan Hill. She has lived a full life and greatly added to the lives of those around her including the community in which she has lived. We have been lucky to have her as our neighbor and she will be greatly missed. The people in Morgan Hill don't know it yet, but they are about to have a very special lady come join them.

Thank you Gloria for what you've added to our lives and neighborhood.

## IN MEMORIUM

### "Betty Lou" Taylor

Long time resident of Palomar Park, Betty Lou Taylor died at the age of 101 on February 22, 2017.

Betty Lou was one of Palomar Park's longest living residents (49 years), a member of the Palomar Property organization and the Garden Club. For years during her daily walks, she made sure that Palomar Park stayed clean and beautiful by gathering roadside litter and took special pleasure in meeting fellow neighbors. Additionally, she was very active in numerous civic and social organizations and volunteered during the early years of Clifford School.

Betty Lou is survived by her daughter and son, Trish Taylor and Michael Taylor, and several family members and grandchildren.

Ever-practical, Betty Lou would prefer that residents commit to perform acts of kindness for those less fortunate, for example, donations may be made to your favorite charitable cause. A Memorial Service will be held later this year.

## PPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CONTACT US AT: [PalomarNews@gmail.com](mailto:PalomarNews@gmail.com)

## INCREASE IN JET NOISE

As many Palomar Park residents have been reporting, air traffic over Palomar Park has changed dramatically for the worse in recent months. While there has only been a modest increase in the total number of flights into SFO, the routing of aircraft and manner in which they approach SFO has drastically increased the level of jet noise in our community.

Changes in flight patterns, result in low flying jets over Palomar Park, which is highly disruptive to many Palomar Park residences. At the extremely low altitudes these jets are flying residents are even being awoken from sleep at night. One resident reports, "I am awoken at 12:30 am and again by 5:30 am almost every morning by the thunderous sound of planes flying over my house...vibrating the walls and windows."

Another says: "I used to say this as a joke, but now it is true. It seems on most days every time I open my door and step outside, there is a jet overhead to greet me and another one or two before I even have time to collect my mail and be back in the house where I can't see them but continue to hear them all day and night."

SFO maintains a special reporting system for jet noise complaints and has a dedicated office for noise abatement.

Visit the website ([www.flyquietsfo.com](http://www.flyquietsfo.com)) for more info or use one of the following to contact SFO's noise abatement:

**Noise Complaint Hotline: 650-821-4736**

**Noise Complaint Email: [sfo.noise@flysfo.com](mailto:sfo.noise@flysfo.com)**

**Aircraft Noise Abatement  
San Francisco International  
Airport P.O. Box 8097  
San Francisco, CA 94128**

Follow up articles will be provided. In the meantime, please log flights and notify SFO and our **SMC District Supervisor [dhorsley@smcgov.org](mailto:dhorsley@smcgov.org)** 650-363-4569 and representatives in Congress and the Senate.

## PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

It's that time of year again to renew your annual membership with the Palomar Park Property Owners. Your \$50.00 a year dues assist in keeping Palomar Park the best it can be. Please renew or join TODAY. Pay online at [www.palomarpark.org](http://www.palomarpark.org) or mail a check to: PPO at 419 Palomar Dr.