



## San Anselmo News

Debra Stutsman, Town Manager  
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June 6, 2008

### Volunteers Needed

The following Town Boards, Commission and Committees have openings for volunteers:

Commission on Aging – The Commission acts as an advocacy group for the interests and needs of the County’s older population, and serves as an advisory council to the County Board of Supervisors. The 21-member Commission is comprised on representatives from cities and unincorporated areas of the County. The Commission meets the second Thursday of the months from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. San Anselmo has one seat.

Tax Equity Board – The Board is charged with hearing applications for tax rebates from San Anselmo property owners claiming inability to pay the Town’s Municipal Services Tax and Pension Override Tax. The Board meets once a year in the spring. There is one opening.

Historical Commission – The Commission was created to preserve the history of San Anselmo by means of research and the collection and organization of information, photographs and artifacts concerning the Town’s development. The Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month in the Historical Museum, located on the first floor of the Library. The Commission has two openings.

Library Advisory Board – The Board is charged with considering, proposing and recommending guidelines with respect to programs and facilities to meet the library needs of the community, in conjunction with the Town Librarian. The Board meets on the third Thursday of every other month in the Library. There are four openings.

Parks & Recreation Commission – The Commission advises the Council and the Parks & Recreation staff on the planning of recreation activities, the development of Town parks and the management of public lands. The Commission meets regularly on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. There is one seat available.

Measure G Monitoring Committee – The Committee is responsible to monitor the implementation of the program for improvements to San Anselmo’s streets and storm drains. The Measure G Committee is composed of two Councilmembers and six members of the public, with a range of skills, knowledge, and experience in finance (preferably public finance), engineering and/or construction (preferably road or storm drainage projects), public relations and communication, and familiarity with various aspects of the San Anselmo community. The committee meets as needed, but no less than annually. There is one seat available.

Arts Commission – The Commission provides a structure to facilitate the creation of art in all disciplines in the community, promoting and exhibiting art and cultural works produced by Ross Valley artists, and promoting art education in the community and the schools. The Commission meets on the second Thursday of the months at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall conference room. There are four seats available. Persons from the Ross Valley are encouraged to apply.

## **Drains to the Bay**

Did you know that all of San Anselmo's storm drains discharge directly into the creek? Storm drains are pathways for pollution, traveling directly from streets, gutters, and other paved surfaces to the creek and on into the bay.

Wash water from surface cleaning activities, like car washing, often carries pollutants that can harm the numerous wildlife species that depend on healthy creeks for their survival. Washing polluting substances, like soap, into storm drains is prohibited in California.

Tips on proper cleaning and disposal methods can be found at the following link to the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association:

<http://www.basmaa.org/recognition/resources/files/documents/Pollution%20from%20Surface%20Cleaning.pdf>

## **Congratulations Sophia!**

The San Anselmo Quality of Life Commission recently presented its Silver Award to long-time Town resident Sophia Spencer. Sophia has been an active volunteer in the Town for many years, including service on the Volunteer Advisory Board, the Library Advisory Board and in the Recreation Department. She is well known and much loved by many Wade Thomas school children as the loving school secretary who always had crackers to give to hungry kids!

Thank you, Sophia, for your love and care for the San Anselmo community!

## **Creek Park Parking Lot**

The time limit for the metered parking in the Creek Park Parking Lot is now four hours. The time limits were extended in order to give shoppers more time in the downtown area without having to worry about their parking place.

Staff has found that increasing the timing in the Creek Park lot to 4 hours provides convenient longer term parking location for customers of downtown businesses.

As an added note, we have noticed that the Creek Park parking lot is underutilized much of the time. So, if you have trouble finding parking for your downtown errands, keep the Creek Park parking lot in mind.

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June 13, 2008

### Recreation Department News

The San Anselmo Recreation Department is looking for individuals who are interested in starting a **drop-in program** for basketball, volleyball, badminton, soccer, dodgeball, etc., at the Fairfax Pavilion starting in the fall. The drop-in day (or days) would take place in the early evenings Sunday through Thursday between 7 and 10 pm. If interested, call Greg at 258-4680.

**Camp Kinder Kool**, the kindergarten preparedness program for children in the Ross Valley School District, has limited openings remaining at the Wade Thomas and Manor campuses. The play-based program running June 23<sup>rd</sup> through July 11<sup>th</sup> is designed to get your child acclimated to a new campus, to get acquainted with teachers, and to help them get to know their classmates before kindergarten begins in the fall. The 3 week session runs from 9am-1pm and costs \$450, or \$8 an hour. If you have any questions about this wonderful program, call Andrea at 258-4670.

**Summer Shorts** camp for 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be starting the first of two sessions at White Hill Middle School on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Campers can design their day by choosing between classes like guitar, mixed media art, cooking, gardening, volleyball, basketball and more. Cost varies based on the number and type of classes taken, allowing kids to have fun and stay within your budget. San Anselmo Recreation is able to answer all your questions and help you register when you call 258-4640.

### Summer Library Programs for Kids

Sign ups begin Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, for the San Anselmo Summer Reading Program.

“Catch the Reading Bug @ the San Anselmo Library” events will be held at the San Anselmo Town Council Chambers on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. The schedule is:

|          |                      |                   |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| July 9   | Bonnie Lockhart      | Stories and Songs |
| July 16  | Carnival of Chaos    | Jugglers/Acrobats |
| July 23  | Insect Discovery Lab | Creepy Crawlies!  |
| July 30  | Phil Ackerly         | Magician          |
| August 6 | Puppet Art Theater   | Party and Prizes  |

For children of all ages up through 4th grade. For more information go to [sananselmolibrary.org](http://sananselmolibrary.org) or call 258-4656.

## Summer Library Programs for Tweens and Teens

The Summer program for tweens and teens is getting started as well. Just read as many books as you want. Then fill out and turn in a Teen Book Review. One book review equals one price ticket. The grand prize is an iPod! There are more prizes from the Teapod organic tea bar, Barton's bagels and San Anselmo Gelato.

The drawing will be held on August 6, 2008 at 3 p.m.

***Both summer reading programs are presented by the Rotary Club of Ross Valley in memory of Surjit Singh. Thank you!***

## Universal Waste

As of February 9, 2006, it became illegal to dispose of Universal Waste in the garbage, down storm drains or onto the ground. Universal wastes include batteries, fluorescent tubes, electronic devices (cell phones, computers, pda's), computer monitors, televisions, mercury containing wastes (like thermometers) and non-empty aerosol cans.

To find out where to dispose of Universal Wastes visit [www.marinrecycles.org](http://www.marinrecycles.org) or contact:

- Marin County Waste Management Division (415) 499-6647
- Marin Household Hazardous Waste Facility (415) 485-6806

Other hazardous wastes that are illegal to dispose of in the trash:

- Antifreeze
- Asbestos
- Compressed Gas Cylinders
- Flammables and Poisons
- Motor Oil and Filters
- Needles and Sharps
- PCB-containing Materials
- Pesticides and Herbicides
- Treated Woods

## Elders Garden Work Party

Work parties continue to be held in the Elders Garden, located next to Millennium Playground. The next work party is scheduled for Saturday, June 21, from 9 a.m. to noon. All volunteers are welcomed!

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June 20, 2008

### Town Council Meeting Notes

On Tuesday, June 17, the Town Council held a special meeting to hear the appeal of the Planning Commission approval of the proposed Red Hill Community Park. The proposed park includes a fenced dog area, a sports court, soccer/baseball field, a restroom, concession area, and storage building. New storm drainage, landscaping and irrigation improvements are included in the proposal.

The Town Council voted to uphold the approval of the park and deny the appeal.

### Arts Commission

The San Anselmo Arts Commission is charged with providing a structure to facilitate the creation of art in all disciplines in the community to provide enrichment and enjoyment to the public.

The Arts Commission has scheduled a number of events over the summer:

**Community Art Pavilion** – A special exhibit at the Art & Wine Festival is scheduled for June 28 and 29. There will be an exhibit of twenty of the best artists from Marin. Included in the events will be a pottery wheel demonstration for adults and children Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Jonathan Braun and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. with Miss Deli.

**San Anselmo Salutes the Beatles** – Twist & Shout Dance contest and sing-a-long scheduled for Saturday, July 12, from 7 to 9 p.m. Come early for the best spot. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids.

**Music in the Park** – Music, family fun and the summer spirit on Sundays in Creek Park, July 20, 27 and August 3, 10, 17 and 24.

Many thanks to Art Commissioners Ellen French, Arnie Cicchetti, Nancy Curvino, Deborah Todd, Sylvie Reynolds, as well as Community Services Director Doug Long, for their hard work.

### More Summer Events

The San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the annual **Art & Wine Festival** on Saturday and Sunday, June 28 and 29, in downtown San Anselmo. San Anselmo Avenue will be closed from Tamalpais Avenue to Bolinas Avenue for two days of viewing original artwork by 200 celebrated artisans; sample gourmet wine and food; attend performances by acclaimed entertainers; and visit the childrens' art activities and rides. For more information, call the Chamber at 454-2510.

The third Annual San Anselmo Merchants Association's Classic Car Show, **Hot August/Cool Cars** is coming on Sunday, August 17! San Anselmo Avenue closes for this fantastic show featuring micro brewed beer from the finest Marin County has to offer, a BBQ all day long, live music and cars! cars! cars! The show is from 11:00 am-5:00pm and is free to attend. Classic Car entry fee is \$35.00 and includes a T-shirt and dash plaque; all cars must be registered by August 5th. With over 50 trophies awarded this show is not to be missed! The car show will be followed by a screening of American Graffiti in Creek Park at 8:00 pm.

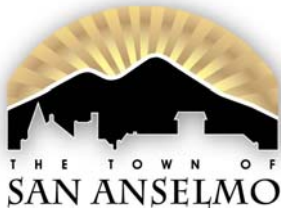
**Film Night in the Park** kicks off in Creek Park on Friday, July 11 and continues through Saturday, September 27. Showtime is at 8 p.m. The suggested donation is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. The schedule is as follows:

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday, July 11        | Across the Universe                 |
| Friday, July 18        | Chariots of Fire                    |
| Saturday, July 19      | Surf's Up                           |
| Friday, August 8       | Whatever Happened to Baby Jane      |
| Saturday August 9      | The Goonies                         |
| Friday, August 15      | Touch of Evil                       |
| Saturday, August 16    | Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire |
| Sunday, August 17      | American Graffiti                   |
| Friday, August 29      | Shaolin Soccer                      |
| Saturday, August 30    | Mary Poppins                        |
| Sunday, August 31      | Juno                                |
| Friday, September 26   | Amelie                              |
| Saturday, September 27 | Bridge Over the River Kwai          |

### **Creek Cleanup – *SAVE THE DATE***

On Saturday, July 12, the community is invited to participate in a community-wide creek cleanup event. Volunteer cleaners in both San Anselmo and Fairfax will be spending the morning removing debris in an effort to ensure that winter rains can flow unimpeded in the creek. San Anselmo creek cleaners will meet at the **Isabel Cook Community Center, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., in the kitchen at 9 a.m.** and get their cleaning assignments. Volunteers should wear long pants, long sleeves, plastic or gardening gloves and waterproof boots. For more information, call 258-4600.

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June 27, 2008

### Town Council Meeting Notes

At the meeting of Tuesday, June 24, the Town Council took the following actions:

- Approved the Town's response to the Marin County Civil Grand Jury on the report entitled "Tails of Marin: Marin County Animal Control Services & the Marin Humane Society."
- Appointed Michael Brown to the Planning Commission.
- Approved cost of living increases of 3.2% for Town employees.
- Awarded the contract for the installation of solar panels on the downtown Fire Station to Borrego Solar systems in the amount of \$80,807.
- Directed staff to conduct a field poll on the possibility of a ballot measure for dedicated Library funding.
- Approved recommendation to transfer up to \$120,000 from the General Fund to the Recreation Fund and to budget an additional \$50,000 for Recreation in the 2008-09 budget.

### Town Property

The Town of San Anselmo is the owner of 11 acres of undeveloped land located off Butterfield Road. The property is located in the middle of a residential area that is accessed at the ends of Idlewood Drive, Carlson Avenue, Cherne Lane and Oak Springs Drive.

The property itself is very steep at the upper end of the property, near the end of Oak Springs Drive. It becomes almost level at the lower end of the property, near the end of Carlson Avenue and Idlewood Drive.

The Town acquired this property in connection with the settlement of landslide litigation approximately five years ago. The global settlement agreement required that the Town pay \$500,000, take ownership of the property, and repair the slide. The slide repair was completed by the Town at a cost of \$750,000.

The Town's insurance pool denied coverage to the Town for the landslide; however, it advanced \$500,000 to the Town to do the slide repair, with the agreement that it would be repaid.

With the landslide repair complete, the Town has \$1.2 million invested in this property. The Town must repay \$500,000 to the insurance pool. The Town's agreement with the insurance pool requires that the Town market and sell the property to generate these funds.

The Council will be discussing this issue at the meeting of **July 8, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall Council Chambers. The Council is interested in hearing ideas about the Town's options from interested residents.

## **Trees on Private Property**

The Town has an ordinance covering trees on private property. The purpose of the ordinance is to maintain San Anselmo's scenic beauty and to ensure that removal of trees does not contribute to erosion, increase flood hazards, reduce property values, or increase the costs of the construction and maintenance of drainage systems through increased flow and diversion of water.

San Anselmo Municipal Code Title 4, Chapter 13 covers the rules about Private Trees. The Municipal Code is available on the Town's website at [www.townofsananselmo.org](http://www.townofsananselmo.org). More information about trees is available on the website in the **Public Works** and **Forms and Permits** sections of the website.

If you have further questions about how the rules affect trees on your property, please call the Public Works Department at 258-4616.

And, as a reminder, please be a good neighbor and respect neighbors' private property rights. It is not permissible for anyone except the property owner to remove trees from private or public property.

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San Anselmo creek cleaners will meet at the **Isabel Cook Community Center, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., in the kitchen at 9 a.m.** and get their creek cleaning assignments. Volunteers should wear long pants, long sleeves, plastic or gardening gloves and waterproof boots. For more information, call 258-4600.

Many volunteers are needed for this important task!

## **Faudé Park Neighbors**

Many thanks to the neighbors of Faudé Park, who have been working to clear additional weeds and brush from the park in an effort to reduce fire fuel. Faudé is an open space park located off Oakland Avenue and Alice Way. A special thanks to Alan Almquist who has coordinated this effort.

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