

THE MORNING AFTER

TOWN OF ROSS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 13 | Issue 3 | March 2019

Mayor's Corner



Beach Kuhl
Mayor

At last, it's beginning to look like Spring is coming. We'll soon see lacrosse sticks and baseball mitts on the Common. We've had to endure a lot of wet weather, but we shouldn't hear talk of drought for a while.

We can, though, expect construction to get into full swing, including a continuation of the installation of the sewer line from the Ross Common down Poplar Avenue. This work probably will not start until July. In addition, Ross Valley Sanitary will be starting work on the Shady Lane sewer line in the next two months. In the meantime, the drainage project and repaving on Bolinas Avenue near the Sir Francis Drake intersection, jointly financed by Ross and San Anselmo, will soon get underway. And the refurbishing

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The History of Natalie Coffin Greene Park



Three Bear Hut

Have you ever wondered what that stone and timber structure is at Natalie Coffin Greene Park at the base of Phoenix Lake? Well, that structure is locally known as the Three Bear Hut, and was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) during the Great Depression circa 1935-1936 when the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD)

owned the land. The CCC was a work relief program that gave millions of young unmarried men employment on environmental projects during the Great Depression. Considered by many to be one of the most successful of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs, the CCC helped to shape the modern national and state park systems we enjoy today.

When the Three Bear Hut was originally constructed, it was known as the Phoenix Lake Picnic Ground, one of three picnic grounds constructed by the CCC on MMWD land. The Rustic Park "rock-type" shelter prototype was developed by the National Park Service for CCC projects nationwide. The Three Bear Hut is one of the two remaining CCC related structures in Marin County and the only "rock-type" shelter in Marin County. The other CCC structure is larger, is a different prototype than the Three Bear Hut, and is located at Lake Lagunitas. For a more in depth history of the historically significant Three Bear Hut prepared by architectural historian Christopher VerPlanck, please click on the following link: [Three Bear Hut Historic Evaluation](#).

In 1967, using a bequest from Town resident A. Crawford Greene, the Town of Ross purchased the Phoenix Lake Picnic Ground, approximately 25-acres, from the MMWD. As a result of being in the elements for approximately 80 years, with little to no maintenance, the Three Bear Hut was deteriorating and in desperate need of repair. The Town has initiated the rehabilitation of the Three Bear Hut with construction to be completed in late Spring 2019.

Do you have a memory or story you'd like to share on Three Bear Hut or Natalie Coffin Greene Park? If so, the Town would love to hear from you. Please share your memory or story by emailing Heidi Scoble, Planning and Building Director, at hscoble@townofross.org. Thank you!



of the Three Bear Hut in Natalie Coffin Greene Park, will probably be done in time for a re-opening during the Spring.

A report on a major change in the planning and financing of our Corte Madera Creek Flood Control project was presented to the Council by Chris Martin, the Town's representative to the Flood Zone 9 Advisory Board, at last night's Council meeting. As I write this report, I do not know the exact nature of these changes, but I understand that essentially the Army Corps of Engineers will be withdrawing from the planning and financing of the Ross project, resulting in substantial delays and likely reductions in the scope of the project. The Flood Zone 9 Advisory Board will be meeting on Tuesday, March 19th at Ross Town Hall to discuss the status of the flood project, and the public is welcome to attend. More on this next month.



On Friday, April 5th, I have the pleasure of interviewing Ross' very own Supreme Court Justice Kathryn Werdegar, at the Ross Historical Society/ Moya Library's annual fundraiser event at MAGC (see details below). Everyone is invited to attend as it should be an interesting event.

Finally, we will be having a workshop on our design guidelines project at Town Hall on March 26 from 7 to 9 pm. Please attend and give us your thoughts on developing these guidelines. And enjoy the sunshine. ■

Ross Historical Society Annual Fundraiser & Luncheon

THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT: INSIDE AND OUT

Friday, April 5, 2019, 11:00 AM
Marin Art & Garden Center
Livermore Pavilion

Ross resident and recently retired California Supreme Court Justice [Kathryn Mickle Werdegar](#) was the third woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court. Hear about her experiences under three Chief Justices and four governors in a live interview moderated by Ross Mayor Beach Kuhl.

Luncheon tickets: \$45 per person
Reservation deadline April 1. Mail checks to Moya-RHS, PO Box 437, Ross, CA 94957, or [Pay Online](#)

Presentation only: \$10 at the door

For further information, contact Ruth Barton at (415) 461-1972
www.moya-rhs.org

Bolinas Avenue Storm Drain Improvement Project



Bolinas Avenue December 15, 2016 Storm

The Town Council approved the design for the Bolinas Avenue Storm Drain Improvement Project and entered into an agreement with the Town of San Anselmo for sharing all costs for the design and construction of the

storm drain and pavement resurfacing project. The design is based on hydrologic studies of the Bolinas watershed performed in 2010-2011, and observations made during periods of intense rainfall.

Bolinas Avenue lies within the jurisdiction of both the Towns of San Anselmo and Ross and has a history of being inundated with flood waters during high-intensity storms more than any other road segment within the Town of Ross. The pavement surface is also in a very serious state of failure and the entire street width from San Anselmo Avenue to Glenwood will be reconstructed and repaved after the construction of the storm drain.

PLANNING RESULTS

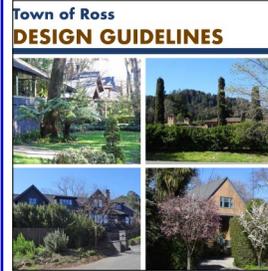
The Town Council took the following action on planning applications at the March Council meeting. Staff reports and audio for the meeting can be found on the Town's website [March 14th](#) meeting page. The minutes for this meeting will be posted after adoption by the Council at the April 4, 2019 Council meeting.

Address: 190 Lagunitas Road
Applicant: Monica Duflock
Council Action: Approved
Vote (for/against/abstain): 5-0-0

Address: 14 Lagunitas Road
Applicant: The Ross Preschool
Council Action: Continued to May Meeting
Vote (for/against/abstain): 5-0-0



Design Guidelines Community Workshop March 26th



Please join us March 26th, 7:00 - 9:00 PM at Ross Town Hall to help shape the character of Ross. Your participation is important!

The purpose of the workshop is to allow an opportunity to provide input on the Draft Design Guidelines that have been developed and to clarify the community's design expectations relative to the treatment of residential properties in Town.

The Draft Design Guidelines are available to review on the Town's website at the following link: [Draft Design Guidelines](#).

Ross School Third Graders Visit Town Hall

Ross School third grade classes visited Town Hall on March 11th. The students met with staff and received a history and civics lesson followed by a visit with Police and Ross Valley Fire Department.





Corte Madera Creek Flood Project Update

Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) staff recently provided an update regarding the status of the Corte Madera Creek Flood Risk Management Project (Project) and to discuss anticipated changes to the US Army Corp of Engineers' current project development role.



The US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) on October 12, 2018 and comments were received through the end of the public comment period on November 27, 2018. Since the closing of the public comment period in November 2018 and review of public comments, several contributing factors now require the Zone 9 Advisory Board to reconsider the current path of the Project and the role USACE plays in the Project's development.

The USACE recently notified the District of administrative constraints and a funding gap within the existing Project feasibility phase budget that exceeds the current congressional authorization and is out of compliance with the existing cost share agreement between USACE and the District. Funding cannot be expended above the 50%/50% cost share agreement. In addition to financial and contractual constraints, the District has concerns that the Draft EIS/EIR may not provide sufficient analysis to fully meet the regulatory requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act per input received from the District's legal counsel, environmental consultant and in review of multiple public comments received on the Draft EIS/EIR.

District staff will present the status of the Project and the circumstances mentioned above at a Special Flood Zone 9 Advisory Board (AB) Meeting on March 19th at 6:30 pm at Ross Town Hall. The AB may consider recommending a path forward that could provide an opportunity to repurpose the Draft EIS/EIR content and define a locally-managed project in the Corte Madera Creek downstream of the Lagunitas Bridge. Chris Martin provided a brief update on the project to the community at the March 14 Council meeting.

RECREATION NEWS

The Ross Recreation youth basketball 1 program conducted playoffs at Ross Gym on Saturday, March 2. Four championship games were held for girls and boys in grades 2 through 4. Parents friends and family were treated to exciting playoff action in throughout the day.



Boys 2nd grade champions, Raptors



Girls 2nd grade champions, Spark



Boys 2nd grade championship game

Congratulations to the Ross Recreation Green Dot junior tennis team on their USTA Fall Section Championship. The team, coached by Tom Sadzek, is comprised of boys ages 9 to 12. The team practiced once a week and played matches on Fridays versus other Marin County teams.



The fields at Ross Common opened on Monday March 11. The field is home to Ross Valley Little League, Ross School, Ross Grizzlies Youth Lacrosse and Ross Recreation programs. Opening Day for

Ross Valley Little League has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 16 as rain cancelled the parade and games originally scheduled for Saturday, March 9.

Summer program registration opens in late March. The summer program includes the popular Top Gun and Adventure camps, and Marin Explorers, Sporty Girls, Kinder Camp and Camp Safari are also back this year. Put a little fun in your summer and sign up for a Ross Recreation Summer Camp! Register at www.rossrecreation.org.

ROSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2019

Mar 11	7:15	pm	Ross Property Owners Association Meeting, Town Hall
Mar 14	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
Mar 19	6:30	pm	Special Flood Zone 9 Advisory Board Meeting, Town Hall
Mar 26	6:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall
Mar 26	7:00	pm	Design Guidelines Community Workshop, Town Hall (<i>see page 3</i>)

APRIL 2019

Apr 4*	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall (<i>*on special date</i>)
Apr 5	11:00	am	RHS/Moya Library Annual Fundraiser, MAGC Livermore Rm (<i>see page 2</i>)
Apr 20	10-12	pm	Spring Fling Easter Egg Hunt, Ross Common
Apr 23	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall
Apr 24	9:00	am	Special Council Meeting Annual Budget Workshop, Town Hall

MAY 2019

May 6	7:15	pm	Ross Property Owners Association Meeting, Town Hall
May 9	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
May 27	--	--	Town Hall offices closed for Memorial Day
May 28	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall

RECURRING EVENT

Thursdays, May - October Ross Farm Stand, 11:30 am - 7:30 pm, Ross Common

CONTACT US

Administration	415.453.1453 x105	Public Works Director	415.453.1453 x115
Building & Public Works	415.453.1453 x106	Recreation	415.453.6020
Bldg Inspection Hotline:	415.453.1453 x170	Ross Valley Fire Dept	415.258.4686
Planning	415.453.1453 x121	Town Manager	415.453.1453 x107
Police	415.453.1453, Option 2		

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Visit us at www.townofross.org



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