

# THE MORNING AFTER

## TOWN OF ROSS NEWSLETTER

Volume 16 | Issue 7 | July 2022

### Mayor's Corner



P. Beach Kuhl  
Mayor

In this first message of my term as Mayor, I want to start with thanks to my predecessor, Elizabeth Robbins, for her leadership during a difficult pandemic year, keeping things going and even getting us back to in-person meetings

while maintaining a virtual option for those who needed it. I hope we can continue to expand in person participation, as I strongly believe that face to face discussion of issues really produces better decisions.

Unfortunately, the reported nationwide difficulties with attracting suitable employees are being seen in Ross. Our Police Department is down three officers and our Chief is doing patrol duty while

*Continued on Page 2*

### IN THIS ISSUE

2. 4th of July Highlights
3. Planning
3. Evacuation Drill July 30
3. Housing Element Update
3. Final Election Results
4. MAGC Now on National Register
4. Recreation
5. Calendar

### Council News and Updates

At the end of last month's Council meeting, the Council appointed Beach Kuhl to serve as Mayor, and Elizabeth Brekhus to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. Each year, the Council appoints one of its members to serve in these positions for a one-year term. This will be Council Member Kuhl's third term as Mayor and Council Member Brekhus' third term as Mayor Pro Tempore. The current Council Members and their terms are:

Elizabeth Brekhus (2012-2024) 3rd Term  
William "Bill" Kircher, Jr. (2020-2024) 1st Term  
P. Beach Kuhl (2012-2024) 3rd Term  
Julie McMillan (2017-2026) 2nd Term  
Elizabeth Robbins (2014-2026) 3rd Term



P. Beach Kuhl



Elizabeth Brekhus

### Council Member Robbins Recognized



Former Mayor Elizabeth Robbins was recognized for her service as Mayor and was presented with a commemorative gift. This was her second term serving as Mayor having previously served in 2017-2018. Most of her term as Mayor was spent during the pandemic holding virtual Council meetings which were challenging and unprecedented. We thank her for her dedicated service during this time.

### Swearing in of New Council

With the June election results certified by the County Registrar, Council Members Julie McMillan and Elizabeth Robbins were sworn into office to begin their new four-year term as Town Council members. This is Council Member McMillan's second term in office and Council Member Robbins' third term in office. As the Council elections follow the same schedule as the Statewide elections, the next Council election will be held in March 2024.



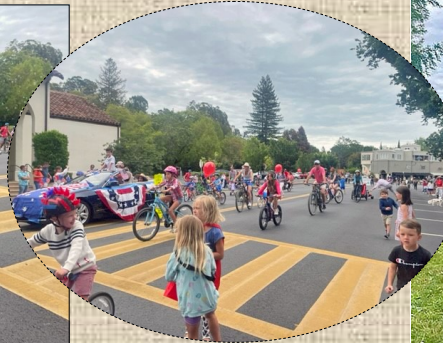


## Mayor's Corner - *continued from Page 1*

the search for qualified candidates drags on. In our Planning Department, a search for a qualified planner continues while a part-time temporary contract employee fills the gap. In the meantime, we apologize for any delays in service. We hope to be back at full strength in the near future.

And finally, I'd like to hear what you think: please drop by in front of the post office from ten until twelve am on the day of our Council meetings starting on August 11 to tell the Mayor! ■

**4th of July Highlights -** The Ross 4th of July celebration returned this year and was a great success. Thank you to all who contributed, volunteered, and helped coordinate this beloved Town event. Special thanks go to Recreation Department staff Gretchens Castets and Jeneane Wagner, and Chief Pata and the Ross Police Department for overseeing an excellent event.





## PLANNING RESULTS

The Town Council took the following action on planning applications at the July 14, 2022 Council meeting. Staff reports and video for the meetings can be found on the Town's [July 14th](#) website page. The minutes for the meeting will be posted on this page after adoption by the Council.

**Address: 18 Madrona Avenue**  
**Applicant: Sean Bailey**  
**Council Action: Approved**  
**Vote (for/against/abstain): 5-0-0**

## Evacuation Drill - July 30



On Saturday July 30, 2022, at 9:00 AM, the Town of Ross will hold an Evacuation Drill. This is an *optional* opportunity for the community to practice leaving their home and going to a safe location, or a potential reunification point for their families after an emergency. This is the first evacuation drill in over 3 years. This drill and your participation will make our response and Town, better prepared for a real emergency. Evacuating in a safe and orderly manner is the goal. Providing clear and concise direction and providing our community with opportunities to join [ALERT MARIN](#) or [Nixle](#) for emergency notification is also a goal of this drill.

### Timeline of Event on July 30th

- The event will start after the siren is sounded at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning.
- Participants are encouraged to drive normally from their homes to Parking Lot 15 at the College of Marin. Lot 15 is located on Kent Avenue between Hillside Avenue and Stadium Way. Look for signs to guide you to the parking lot.
- Once you arrive at Parking Lot 15 you will receive some additional disaster preparation information material and are free to park and greet our Town team and ask questions.
- In the event of a real evacuation, Ross Police, Ross Valley Fire and our other partners would encourage a safe route out of town, away from the threat. This information would be provided on [ALERT MARIN](#).

We hope you will participate!

## Housing Element Update



The first Housing Element Community Workshop held on July 12th was a success! In all, we had more than 50 community members in attendance, and lots of great questions and information were given out. Yesterday we also launched an online survey to provide the community an opportunity to share your thoughts to help us craft solutions that work for Ross. The survey will be open until August 11th and is available online and at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V7FSXGG>. Also, the materials presented at the July 12 Community Workshop are available online at <https://www.townofross.org/planning/page/community-workshop-materials>.



Our next community meeting will be in the fall, when the review of the Draft Housing Element becomes available.

## June 7, 2022 Final Election Results

The Marin County Registrar of Voters certified the June 7, 2022 election on July 1st. Here are the final results for the Town of Ross Council seats and the Paramedic Services Tax Measure (Measure I), which passed.

### Town Council

Julie McMillan - 548 (37.08%)  
Elizabeth Robbins - 509 (34.44%)  
Nicholas Skewes-Cox - 421 (28.48%)

### Measure I

Yes - 776 (87.00%)  
No - 116 (13.00%)



## Summer Concerts in the Garden!

Enjoy live music every Thursday in July from 5:00-7:00 pm at the Marin Art and Garden Center. There will be food, libations, dancing, activities for the kids, access to Pixie Park Co-op, and fun for the whole family!

For more information visit:

<https://maringarden.org/summer-concerts-2022/>



## MAGC Now Listed As Historic Place

The Marin Art and Garden Center (MAGC) has been awarded a prestigious listing on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The decision is based on the Center's cultural significance since it was founded 75 years ago. The National Register is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of recognition and preservation. As a result of being placed on the National Register, the Center has also been listed on the California Register of Historical Resources. The designation results from extensive historical research into the founding of the Center in 1945 by a group of passionate advocates for conservation of open space in Marin, who wished to save this 11-acre former estate property and create a center for the community to gather and celebrate the arts and gardens.



MAGC will celebrate the National Register listing on the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding, August 3, 2022, with a morning gathering on the site for neighbors, local officials, and the press. Congratulations MAGC!

## AGE FRIENDLY CORNER

*Tips to live long and well in Ross*

**Dehydration:** Warm weather is definitely here so be sure to drink plenty of fluids when you are out and about even if you don't feel thirsty. Dehydration happens when you don't drink enough water and is dangerous no matter what your age, but older adults are at a greater risk for dehydration than other age groups. As you age, your body's thirst signal diminishes. When your body needs water, you may not even realize it because you don't feel thirsty like you once did.

For more information about dehydration in older adults check out these websites:

<https://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/what-to-know-about-dehydration-in-older-adults> and <https://health.clevelandclinic.org/drink-up-dehydration-is-an-often-overlooked-health-risk-for-seniors/>

## RECREATION NEWS

Summer is in full swing here at Ross Rec and we have been having such a blast! We are just over halfway through our programs and do have a few openings in the following programs, Gone Fishin'; 7/18 week, taught by Sandrick Jackson and Ross Kinder Bear Camp the week of 7/25, taught by Ross School's very own Kinder teachers! Also, if you see an upcoming camp that is full, make sure to add your name to the waitlist, as we do have cancellations, etc.



We are currently in the process of getting all of our fall after school programs live for registration for both Ross School and Bacich. We have the preview up on the website at [rossrecreation.org](http://rossrecreation.org), so please

go check that out to see what we will be offering and reach out with any questions to [rossrec@rossrecreation.org](mailto:rossrec@rossrecreation.org). We have many of the programs we have had in the past years, but also a few new ones that we are excited to introduce and expand our offerings. We will go LIVE this week or next!! Classes can fill very quickly, so make sure to jump on registering ASAP.



Lastly, I wanted to extend a huge thank you to the Ross Town community for coming out for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. It was so nice to be able to gather after two years of having to cancel the event. Forrest Fire BBQ was serving up delicious food, we had the bubble lady bringing the magic for the kids, and sweet tunes from Jimbo Trout. The police union was so generous to serve watermelon popsicles and water. The community really all came together to take care of one another and celebrate this very special town we get to be part of.



# ROSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## JULY 2022

- Jul 14 6:00 pm Town Council Meeting (Town Hall & Zoom)
- Jul 30 9:00 am Ross Evacuation Drill *(see Page 3 for details)*

## AUGUST 2022

- Aug 2 5-7:00 pm National Night Out, Ross Common
- Aug 11 6:00 pm Town Council Meeting (Town Hall & Zoom)
- Aug 16 7:00 pm Advisory Design Review Group Meeting (Town Hall & Zoom)
- Aug 26 4:30-8 pm Live on the Common

## SEPTEMBER 2022

- Sep 5 -- -- Town Hall offices closed for Labor Day
- Sep 8 6:00 pm Town Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Sep 20 9:30-11:30 am Age Friendly Breakfast (location TBD)
- Sep 20 7:00 pm Advisory Design Review Group Meeting (Town Hall & Zoom)
- Sep 30 5:30 pm Annual Ross Town Dinner, Ross Common

## RECURRING EVENT

Thursdays in July, 5-7:00 pm Marin Art & Garden Center Summer Concerts *(see Page 3 for details)*

## CONTACT US

Administration Office - <a href="mailto:llopez@townofross.org">llopez@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453 x105	Police Department - <a href="mailto:rpata@townofross.org">rpata@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453, Opt. 2
Building Department - <a href="mailto:breher@townofross.org">breher@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453 x106	Public Works Director - <a href="mailto:rsimonitch@townofross.org">rsimonitch@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453 x115
Bldg Inspection Hotline - <a href="mailto:erobbe@townofross.org">erobbe@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453 x170	Recreation Department - <a href="mailto:rossrec@rossrecreation.org">rossrec@rossrecreation.org</a>	415-453-6020
Planning/Building Director - <a href="mailto:rmarkwick@townofross.org">rmarkwick@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453 x121	Ross Valley Fire Dept Town Manager	415-258-4686 415-453-1453 x107
Planner - <a href="mailto:nseoni@townofross.org">nseoni@townofross.org</a>	415-453-1453 x116	- <a href="mailto:cjohnson@townofross.org">cjohnson@townofross.org</a>	

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 320, Ross, CA 94957  
Street Address: 31 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Ross, CA 94957

Visit us at [www.townofross.org](http://www.townofross.org)



Email

We welcome suggestions for future issues. Email

[llopez@townofross.org](mailto:llopez@townofross.org)

The Morning After is published by the Town of Ross. No portion of this newsletter may be copied, reproduced or reprinted without advance written permission from the Town of Ross. For questions, please contact Linda Lopez at [llopez@townofross.org](mailto:llopez@townofross.org).