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**BELMONT- REDWOOD SHORES
MAGNET SCHOOL TASK FORCE**

Public Forum

The Belmont-Redwood Shores School District is exploring the feasibility of creating a District-wide Magnet School at one of the elementary schools. Magnet Schools are schools that adhere to all the District Content Standards, while focusing on a distinct curriculum (i.e. Science, Technology, Visual and Performing Arts...). A magnet school is open to students throughout the District rather than being limited to the school's attendance zone. Student enrollment is based on interest and or talent in the particular focus area. The first meeting took place on December 4th, 2003.

If you are interested in attending **FUTURE MEETINGS:**

Thursday, January 15, 2004
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a. m.
Belmont-Redwood Shores School District Office

Monday, January 26, 2004
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Nesbit School

Saturday, February 28, 2004
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Fox School

**BELMONT-REDWOOD SHORES
SCHOOL BOARD ANNOUNCES
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT**

At a special meeting last night, the School Board announced the appointment of John McIntosh as Superintendent of the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District. The announcement culminated a process begun by the Board in July and was facilitated by the Executive Search Services of the California School Boards Association. Mr. McIntosh will begin the position on January 1, 2004. Mr. McIntosh comes to the District after having served since September, 2001, as Associate Superintendent of the Ocean View School District (K-8) in Oxnard, CA. Previously, his career included experience as both a California Distinguished high school and middle school principal, assistant principal and teacher. His education includes an M.A. in Education and a B.A. in Social Science from CSU, Chico. He is currently completing his Ph.D. in Educational Leadership through UC Santa Barbara. "Mr. McIntosh was highly praised in his current district as a quick study and a collaborative leader who fit in comfortably with the already tight knit community in Ocean View", stated Belmont-Redwood Shores Board member Eric Shrader upon his return from a visit to the Ocean View School District. Mr. McIntosh brings to the District a history of school leadership which includes a commitment to academic excellence implementing state content and performance standards. He has experience establishing and communicating a shared vision of school district goals and has built programs underscored by the trust, commitment and support of the school community. His collaborative leadership style and visibility and accessibility to students, parents, teachers and staff will enhance and complement the District and Belmont-Redwood Shores community. Mr. McIntosh will be visiting the school community on December 18, 2003, and will be formally introduced at that evening's school board meeting at 7:00 p.m. Please join the board in welcoming Mr. McIntosh and helping him integrate his skills and knowledge into our School District.

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(LIBRARY GRANT - Continued from page 1)

“With this grant award, we now know that a new branch is feasible. Our job now is to keep the momentum going and make it a reality.”

The next step in the development of the branch library in Redwood Shores is to fully realize the architectural design of the facility, and develop a long-term strategy for construction and operation of this proposed facility, which was made a high priority by the City Council in early 2002. The Redwood Shores branch library proposal was one of 67 applications for grant funds statewide, and one of only 13 that were ranked “outstanding” by the California State Library Construction Board. It was an extremely competitive process, and Redwood City’s success points to the great effort and determination of the staff and community members involved.

For well over a year, the City and the Library have been diligently working with the community and with an architectural consultant to get to this point. The City coordinated nine focus group meetings, five community advisory committee meetings, and four community forums, has held four

Library staff meetings and countless City staff meetings, participated in three San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) meetings, conducted a “library needs assessment,” and brought the issue before the Architectural Review Committee, the Planning Commission, and the City Council. The Council approved the grant application early this year,

The Redwood City Public Library sponsors many free programs for children and adults, and helps our community to “understand the past, prepare for the future, and thrive in the present.” More information about library events and services is available on the library’s home page at www.redwoodcity.org/library or by calling 780-7026.

**If you have any ideas or suggestions for
the traffic or infrastructure in
Redwood Shores please contact
Pete Hughes at ginpete@aol.com**

FULLY ALIVE COMMUNITY CHURCH

By Lorene Campbell

The Christmas Show Dec. 20 - 22 Celebrates the Holiday's Best

The annual Christmas Show is coming to Sandpiper, bringing with it all the music, laughter, hope, and joy of the holidays. There'll be your favorite songs of the season presented by the Fully Alive band, singers, and players, with special surprise guests dancing and prancing their way down from the North Pole.

There will be six shows at the Sandpiper Community Center:

- Saturday, Dec. 20, 4pm and 7pm
- Sunday, Dec. 21, 10:30am, 2pm, and 7pm
- Monday, Dec. 22, 7pm

The show is Fully Alive's gift to the community, but reservations are requested. Call 650-631-9505 x 200, giving your name, the date, time, and number of seats needed, or make your reservations online at www.fullyalive.com. Make your reservations now, so you won't miss out on this Redwood Shores tradition.

And why do we have all these Christmas traditions? Mostly, it's because of those over-the-top Victorians who could never get enough of a good thing. While not the inventors of Christmas, they certainly knew how to embellish it with every card, song, gift, foodstuff, and roll of tinsel they could find. Happily supporting them were the merchants, suppliers, and distributors who knew a good deal when they saw it, and created ever more elaborate cards, decorations, and toys.

Our American traditions got a Puritan slant, helped along by thundering sermons that asked, "Can you in your Conscience think that our Holy Saviour is honored by Mirth, by long Eating, by hard Drinking, by lewd Gaming, by rude Reveling...?" With that sort of thing coming out of Boston (Cotton Mather, 1712) it's no wonder the Victorian traditions were subdued a bit when they crossed the Atlantic. By the time they made it all the way to California a lot more of the tinsel had fallen off and some Feliz Navidad was spicing up the Mirth and long Eating.

However and wherever Christmas is celebrated, though, the centerpiece is always the birth of Christ. Amid all the lights, tinsel, and laughter there's a quiet core that focuses on the scene in Bethlehem. It begins when Joseph and Mary travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the census. "And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2: 6-7



This seemingly small event ushers in a new relationship between God and His people, a personal relationship through His only son. The first announcement comes to some shepherds in a blaze of glory. "And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2: 9-11

This encounter between the angels and shepherds was the beginning of the first Christmas celebration. It continued with a burst of joy. "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2: 13-14.

May your Christmas in 2003 be filled with that same joy, peace, and good will.



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FIRE DEPARTMENT CREDITS SMOKE DETECTOR WITH SAVING FAMILY OF FIVE DURING HOME FIRE

An early-morning fire in Redwood City could easily have turned fatal, but instead illustrates the life-saving value of having functioning smoke detectors in the home.

At approximately 5:10 a.m. on (October 30th), Redwood City, Menlo Park, Woodside, and South County firefighters responded to a report of a structure fire in an apartment building on Wayne Court in Redwood City. Upon arrival, they found a significant fire in a ground floor apartment, with fire dangerously lapping up the side of the building.

The occupants reported that they had been awakened by a smoke detector in the apartment and as a result were able to quickly evacuate the building just prior to the bedroom bursting into flames. The fire then had traveled out of the bedroom window to the building's exterior wall, and also into the apartment's living room. Firefighters were able to contain the fire to the first floor unit, which suffered extensive fire damage, along with damage to the exterior of the building. The cause of the fire is under investigation, but it appeared to be accidental.

Because this apartment had a functioning smoke detector, this family of five escaped this terrifying disaster without injury. Without a working smoke alarm in the apartment, the result would unfortunately have been much worse, and likely fatal. In fact, a fire in the City of Concord this morning killed an occupant –there was no functioning smoke detector on the premises. The Wayne Court family also followed the fire safety theme of “Get Out and Stay Out!” Many fire fatalities occur because there is not a functioning smoke alarm, or once the family has evacuated, a family member re-enters the burning structure and is killed by the sudden growth of the fire. With appropriate fire safety measures in the home, such as smoke detectors, and the right action in the event of fire - “Get Out and Stay Out!” - injury and death due to a fire can be avoided.

More information on the use of smoke detectors in the home, and other fire-safety tips, can be found online at: www.redwoodcity.org/fire, and at: www.usfa.fema.gov/public/hfs/alarms.shtml

The Redwood City Fire Department has five fire stations housing five engines and one truck, and currently has over 70 staff members including firefighters, firefighter/paramedics, captains and battalion chiefs, fire prevention staff, training staff, and administrative staff.

REDWOOD CITY OFFERS FREE TREE CARE WORKSHOPS

Redwood City and City Trees Offer Free “Tree Care Workshops” to the Public



As part of a City-wide effort to maintain and preserve our urban forest, the Redwood City Public Works Services Department and the volunteer group City Trees are offering a series of free, public workshops on proper tree care, pruning, and maintenance. The new “Tree Care” program offers a series of free public workshops to provide instruction and hands-on training in tree pruning and care. The program is intended to raise resident awareness of the importance of proper tree maintenance, and to educate volunteers on practices that support the growth and preservation of young trees.

The first training session is planned for Saturday January 10, 2004 from 10 a.m. until noon, and any Redwood City resident is welcome to attend. The session is limited to 20 people and is expected to fill up fast - ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, so interested residents should contact Theresa Maluia at 650-780-7464 or by email at tmaluia@redwoodcity.org. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

The first training will consist of a one-hour class session followed by one hour of practice in the field, all supervised by tree care experts. Tree pruning guidelines will be given to attendees, and tools/safety equipment made available for the training sessions. Participants will learn and practice proper pruning techniques, preparing them to become tree maintenance captains in future City Trees tree pruning events, as well as to properly care for their own trees.

Through a collaboration of Redwood City and City Trees, over 1,000 trees have been planted in City neighborhoods in just the last three years. Many residents from Redwood City and neighboring communities have participated in the monthly planting events coordinated by City Trees. This volunteer-driven partnership is making great progress in helping the City achieve its goal of planting 7,500 trees throughout the City thereby enhancing our urban forest for the enjoyment of our residents today, and for the generations to come.

Founded in 2000, City Trees (www.citytrees.org) is involved in a broad spectrum of volunteer projects throughout the City. This organization is dedicated to improving the quality of life in Redwood City through a coordinated program of tree planting and maintenance, education, and advocacy. With these efforts, City Trees is preserving and extending the urban forest.

Redwood City's Public Works Services Department builds community by providing the essential services for daily life. The Department is responsible for water utility services, right-of-way maintenance, wastewater management, and fleet and municipal services center management.



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Are you afraid to smile because of teeth that have grown yellow or brown? We can help you regain that bright white smile. Please call us to schedule an appointment. Help is available through cosmetic dentistry. You will feel more confident when you can freely smile whenever you want. You'll find that our staff is knowledgeable, friendly and accommodating. We're confident that you will be pleased with our professionalism and high standards.

P. S. Dentist-supervised toothwhitening procedures carefully avoid harming the gums.

FROM THE MINUTES.....

REDWOOD SHORES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, November 20, 2003 - 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm
at Sandpiper Community Center



AGENDA

- A. Call to Order Rosanne Foust
- B. Member Comments - Open Forum for Comments
from RSCA Members and guests
- C. President's Report Rosanne Foust
—Next GID meeting 12/3 10 AM at City Hall
—Maureen Borland resignation, Manuel Sotomayor
interim resignation
- D. Correspondence
- E. Approval of Minutes 10/16/2003 John Adams
- F. Treasurer's Report Jeff Gee

G. Committee Reports

- Traffic and Infrastructure Pete Hughes
****Stop Sign at Shearwater/St. Lucia/Canvasback**
- The *Pilot* Carol Mertens/John Adams
 —Events Rosanne Foust
****Halloween Parade**
****Santa Comes to the Shores 12/20th 11am - 1 at Sandpiper**
****Light Up the Shores (Where and When and
 Who is organizing?)**

H. New Business

I. Old Business

- Lagoon Guidelines Proposed Adoption
****Rosanne Foust and Next Steps**
- J. Adjournment Rosanne Foust

Our next regularly scheduled Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18, 2003 at 7:30 pm at the Sandpiper Community Center.



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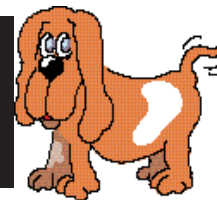
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REDWOOD CITY PAL, POLICE, AND FIRE SEEK HELP WITH 2003 TOY AND BOOK DRIVE

The holiday season should be a time of joy, happiness, family, and friendship. Unfortunately, there are local kids and families in need who often don't have the opportunity to share in the spirit of the holidays. And, with the economic situation today, donations and contributions to charitable causes are not at the levels of past years. So it's even more important than ever for people and businesses to help others enjoy the holiday season. For over 15 years, the Redwood City Police Activities League (PAL) Christmas Toy and Book Drive has brought the holiday spirit right to the doorstep of many needy families. In conjunction with the Police Officers Association and Firefighters Association, and with a great deal of help from the Fair Oaks Community Center and a corps of volunteers, this annual event has become a welcome tradition in Redwood City. It will continue to be successful, with the help of more volunteers, with donations of toys, books, and funds, and with the hard work of the dedicated coordinators of the program. Over the years, the program has grown dramatically and enjoyed great success—just last year, 50 local businesses filled 80 donation barrels with 11,000 toys, and provided them to about 500 needy families. Deliveries even take place with Santa Claus in a police car or a fire engine arriving at the home to hand out the presents, giving the kids a holiday thrill they'll long remember (they quickly get over the fact that Santa didn't come down the chimney!). One thing that makes this program special is the collection and distribution of new and gently used books as well as toys. Each child served receives two gifts, a book, a stuffed animal, and several stocking stuffers, all

SHOREDOGS

*Contributed from
Chris Keller, Nor Cal Poodle Rescue*



Assistance for Animals in Southern California

We've all seen the terrible destruction from the wildfires in Southern California. Perhaps you have wondered whether you can do something to help the many animals that have been displaced or worse yet, abandoned or lost by their families as they flee the fires. There are several organizations where you can make donations to help. As with most disasters, these organizations need money, not items, so that they can purchase the things they need locally. We are happy to report that all Petco stores are accepting donations, either at their stores or on their web site: www.petco.com/donation.

You can also make donations to Emergency Animal Rescue Service (EARS), which is part of United Animal Nations. The EARS team worked tirelessly for the past 36 hours providing support to over 300 evacuated animals at the Norton Animal Shelter in San Bernardino. Under the direction of EARS National Director Cheryl Connelly and EARS West Coast Regional Director Kay Mayfield, 15 EARS volunteers joined forces to feed, walk, bathe, medicate, calm, and comfort the 225+ dogs, 80+ cats, birds, snakes, and even a bearded dragon. Evacuated families continue to come to the shelter looking for a safe place for their companion animals. The URL for donating to EARS is:

<https://merchant.calweb.com/uan/secure/donateears.html>

of which bring that holiday sparkle to their eyes. It's the volunteers and donations that make this event happen each year. Businesses are asked to place donation barrels at their sites; individuals and families are encouraged to donate new, unwrapped toys and books; and volunteers are asked for their time and energy for 'wrapping parties' where everyone takes part in preparing the gifts for the kids, from gift wrapping, to 'quality control,' to helping with food and drinks. Two wrapping parties are scheduled: Thursday, December 11 and Monday, December 15, both at 6:00 pm, at 430 Broadway (The old Excite at Home building.) Drop-in volunteers are welcome. Volunteers are also needed to pick up food, toys, and books, put together family packages, load up Santa's 'sleigh,' actually help with home delivery, and more. This is a great opportunity to help bring a smile to a child's holiday season. Donations of toys and books may be made at any collection barrel, or at City Hall, the Police Department, the Main Library, or any fire station. Equally important are the volunteer efforts and contributions of people and businesses in our community. Individuals that would like to make a monetary donation, businesses that would like a collection barrel, or anyone wishing more information may contact Officer Rasmussen at the number above.



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REDWOOD CITY URGES RESIDENTS TO HELP PROTECT ENVIRONMENT AFTER FIRST RAINS

The first rain of the season has come to the Bay Area region, bringing more than just cloudy skies and traffic problems. Rain also generates an upsurge in water pollution as trash and other pollutants that accumulate during the dry season flow through Bay Area watersheds and into storm drains and waterways.

Runoff from our streets, sidewalks, parking lots, and other man-made surfaces goes into storm drains and waterways, sweeping up litter and debris in its path. During storms; trash, organic matter, and automotive pollutants are primary sources of pollution that threaten water quality and wildlife in our local watersheds. The City of Redwood City and the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies (BACWA) urge residents to learn more about their local watershed and to become active in reducing pollution.

Storms flush large amounts of pollutants down Bay Area watersheds causing erosion, destroying habitat, depleting oxygen levels, and poisoning fish. Most people don't realize that even leaves and grass clippings carried into creeks with rainy weather can disrupt the ecological health of our waterways. Our irreplaceable watersheds and waterways are necessary to support habitat for plants and animals, and they provide drinking water for people and wildlife. The good news is that reducing such runoff pollution during the rainy season is preventable. BACWA offers a list of 6 things residents can do to make a difference in their watershed.

1. Set an example for others by not littering; if you do see litter, pick it up and put it in a trash can.
2. Carry a litterbag in your car or bicycle.
3. Keep trash containers covered securely to prevent wind or animals from spreading litter.
4. Keep leaves and yard clippings picked up around your home and recycle as green waste.
5. Regularly maintain your vehicle to avoid auto fluid leaks that build-up on roadway surfaces.
6. Organize or join in the cleanup of a neighborhood, creek, estuary, or wetland. BACWA is a consortium of local government stormwater and wastewater treatment agencies working to reduce stormwater and wastewater pollution in the region. Visit BACWA's website at www.bacwa.org.

Letters and Articles are encouraged and welcomed to the Pilot at any time. The length of letters and articles are to be no more than 350 words, unless permission is given by the editor. The Editor of the *Pilot* retains the right to edit the letters and articles for brevity, clarity and disparagement of other people.

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