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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## *Some Airport Answers*

Dear Editor:

This is in response to last month's letter from Ms. Margaret Rockwood about the San Carlos Airport's noise abatement procedures.

I am a pilot and own an airplane based at a flying club at San Carlos Airport. In over three years as an aircraft owner, only one renter has violated the noise abatement procedures, and his renting privileges were revoked by my flying club for doing so. This is common practice for all flying clubs at San Carlos. So to call the voluntary noise abatement procedures "a joke" is a joke in itself and a very uninformed opinion. When taking off from San Carlos, the tower advises the pilot "No turns until past the diamond-shaped waterway." The reason for this is to avoid turning over neighborhoods while still at a low altitude and full takeoff power. The three turnoffs from a departure over the Belmont Slough are typical patterns for aircraft either flying Southeast or those staying at San Carlos for practice. However, by the time an aircraft reaches that turn, called a "downwind leg", it is at the traffic pattern altitude prescribed by the airport to both be high enough to avoid flying too low over noise sensitive areas and to stay low enough so as not to enter San Francisco Airport's overlying airspace.

I should also mention that I live right under the takeoff path for Runway 30, so I, too, hear the airplanes a lot. Rather than thinking of it as a nuisance, Ms. Rockwood, why not be positive about it and think of it as more money for your county, your children's schools, your libraries, your roads, and other beneficial civic developments that come from county taxes. As a resident of San Mateo County, I not only pay taxes to live here, but I also, as does every aircraft owner with an airplane based at any of the county airports, pay property taxes on the airplane, a tie down fee to park the airplane, and taxes on fuel to fly the airplane. And let me tell you none of those taxes is cheap. So I'd say aircraft owners do our part to better our community, wouldn't you?

I am originally from New Orleans, and Ms. Rockwood's complaint reminds me of hearing residents of the famous French Quarter complain about the noise from the loud nightclubs. Just like those nightclubs, the San Carlos Airport was there long before you moved here, and I'm sure you knew it was there when you moved.

Furthermore, San Carlos Airport management goes out of its way to deal with noise complaints. I recently started taking helicopter lessons, and due to noise complaints coming from an industrial area on the East side of 101, the helicopter traffic pattern (the route flown when practicing takeoffs and landings) has been altered. Again, the airport was there long before this man moved to the area, and yet the airport continues to bend over backwards to prevent further complaints. Also, rather than being selfish about the noise and thinking only of the annoyance it causes you, think of how many dreams are fulfilled by that airport being there not only by the taxes and revenue it brings to the county but by also teaching people how to fly, flying organs needed for transplants, and bringing terminally ill patients on an enjoyable flight or taking them to receive treatment somewhere that is not serviced by the airlines. All this and more goes on at San Carlos Airport everyday. I'll close with something maybe a little closer to home for any of you reading this: if you have a young child who would like to go for a flight, call me anytime. When you see the look of wonder on that child's face, tell me then that the little bit of airplane noise isn't worth it.

*Erin Seidemann*

Dear Editor,

On September 27, 2007, my 8-year-old daughter was involved in a fairly serious bicycle accident. That afternoon, my daughter and I set out on a casual ride around the Shores. As we headed across the pedestrian bridge on Bridge Parkway, my daughter decided to ride her bike down the incline towards the bottom of the bridge. Unfortunately, she lost control of her bike and crashed. I knew immediately that, despite wearing a helmet, her injuries were serious.

After witnessing the accident, I was close to hysteria. I picked up my bloody and screaming child, placed her in my arms and began running towards our home at Peninsula Landing. Realizing it would take precious time to run home with my wounded child in my arms, I flagged down a passing motorist.

A wonderfully kind-hearted woman stopped and offered to take us home. Near total panic at this point, I barely had a chance to thank that kind woman for her generosity. Therefore, I would like to say thank you to that angel who stopped her car and drove us home that afternoon. I would also like her to know that, aside from a concussion and facial injuries, my daughter is fine and recovering nicely. The kindness that woman showed reminded me that there are still caring people in this world. From the bottom of my heart, thank you kind motorist for stopping your car and caring!

*Sincerely, Juli Weidner*



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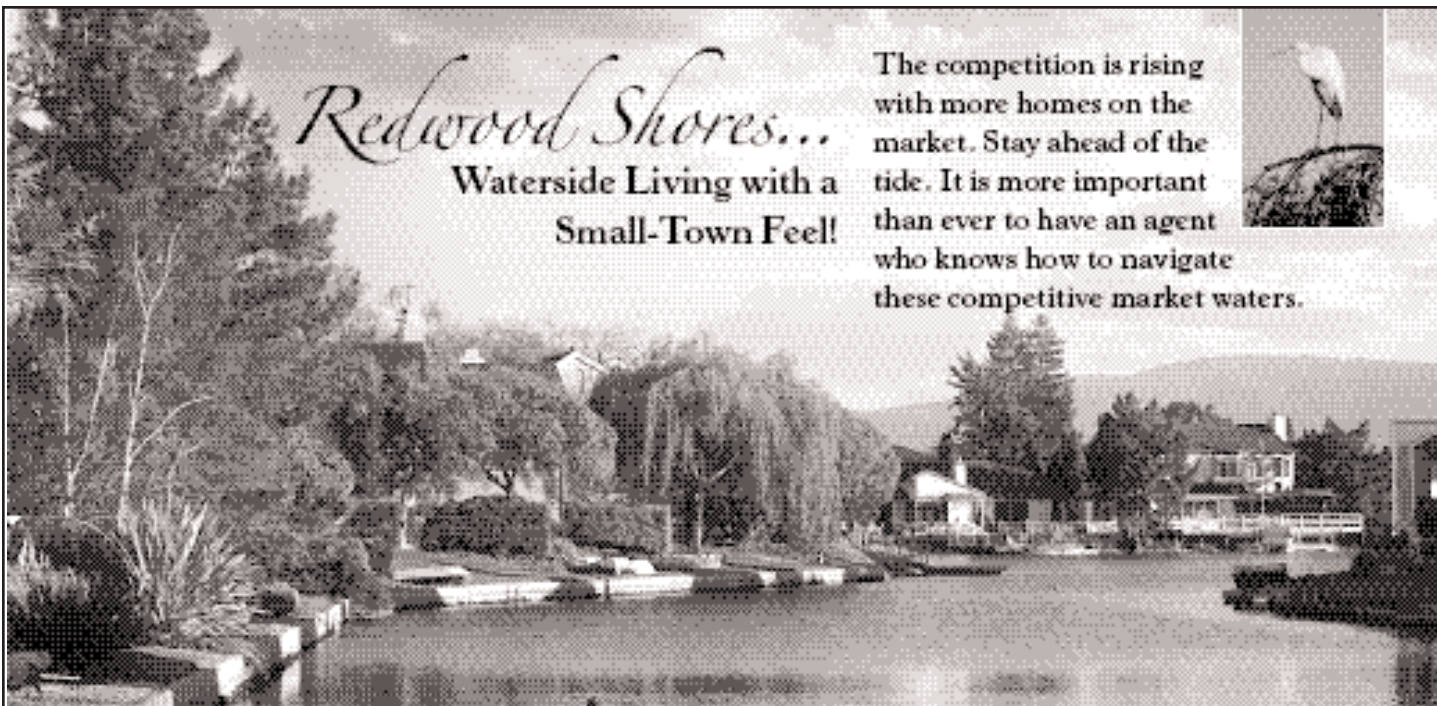
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# Presenting The



**November 14th - 16th, 2007**

- **14th: 12:30 - 6:00pm**
- **15th: 12:30 - 8:00pm**
- **16th: 12:30 - 5:00pm-Sandpiper School**

Studies show that children, who read, excel in school as well as in life. Reports also reveal that when parents are involved with their child's education, students earn better grades and have a more positive attitude about school.

Come join the fun at Sandpiper School as we host our annual Scholastic Book Fair. This year's theme is the icy chill of a "Blizzard" and begins November 14th-16th at the Sandpiper School Library.

The Book Fair Blizzard is one of our fundraisers for our PTA programs. The purpose is to make more books available to our children through their classroom libraries, the school library as well as learning materials for the media center.

Purchasing books at our Book Fair Blizzard, you will not only be putting books into the hands of our students but also on the shelves of our new Redwood Shores Community Library through the "One for Books" campaign. When you stop by the Book Fair, purchase a Book Slip for \$1. This slip will be displayed for the duration of our Book Fair and your \$1 (or any amount that you choose) will be donated directly to the new Redwood Shores Library to help fill those shelves for our community.

The fun doesn't stop there. Scholastic will match all donations made to One for Books and send them to one of three non-profit organizations they support to help kids and families in need. These organizations include Kids In Distressed Situations, Inc., National Center for Family Literacy and Toys for Tots.

The Book Fair Blizzard is a great way to support the PTA at Sandpiper School, the Redwood Shores' community as well as persons in need. There are lots of great books for kids of all ages as well as a great selection for adults. And we all know that BOOKS make great holiday gifts. What a fantastic way to jump-start the holiday giving season and make a little bit go a long way!

*Kim Bagby and Lori Seid, Book Fair Committee,  
Sandpiper PTA*



## BOY SCOUT TROOP 27 AND CUB SCOUT PACK 61 SCOUTING FOR FOOD DRIVE

*Submitted by Nancy Kelly*

Every year Troop 27 and Pack 61 participate in the community service project "Scouting for Food". We will be collecting canned goods and non-perishables such as pasta, rice and packaged goods. Your donations are brought to Second Harvest Food Bank in San Carlos and from there go to the Samaritan House in San Mateo. Volunteers organize and sort packages to be delivered to needy families in the San Mateo County area throughout the holidays. In 2006, Pacific Skyline Council's Scouts collected over 78,000 pounds of food. This equates to 52,000 meals, or the feeding of 17,333 three person families or 13,000 four person families

### THERE ARE TWO CONVENIENT WAYS YOU CAN DONATE:

• **Saturday November 10 at Nob Hill -**

Cub Scout Pack 61 will be set up in front of Nob Hill Supermarket from 10:00am to 4:00pm to collect your food. Your options include bringing food from home or pick up something extra while shopping for your groceries and leave with a cub scout on your way out.

• **Saturday, November 17 door to door -**Boy Scout Troop 27 will be going door to door on Saturday morning from 9am -12pm

You can leave the food out on your doorstep or give it to the scouts when they come by. Our goal is to reach every resident but that will depend on the number of volunteers.

If your cans have not been picked up by 2:00, please consider donating at another location.

Traditionally Troop 27 and Pack 61 have been among the top collectors and our territory is Redwood Shores Residents. We appreciate your support in the past and thank you for your continued support in making this year successful.

**WHAT :** San Carlos Children's Theater presents James and the Giant Peach Written by Ronald Dahl, dramatized by Richard R. George, Directed by Melody Cole. Produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, IL.



**WHEN:** November 11 & 16-18, 2007. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 and Sundays at 1:30.

**WHERE:** Heather Elementary School Auditorium, 2757 Melendy Drive, San Carlos, CA

Tickets: \$9. Available at Burton Park in San Carlos and at the door if still available. Seating is first come first serve.



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*Students in the photo from the left; Ashley Wen, (8 yrs), Alice Jiang, (6 yrs), Ryan Phung, (7 yrs), Dara Phung, (8 yrs)*

Submitted from Sumi Nagasawa,  
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## Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association

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Saturday November 3rd 10am-3pm and  
Monday November 12th 7pm-9pm  
Belmont Sports Complex Ages 5-14

Online registration available [www.Belmontsoftball.org](http://www.Belmontsoftball.org)