

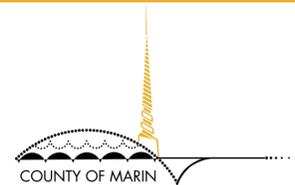


Happy New Year!

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we have wrapped up another year - 2016 proved to be a busy one! Looking back, together we have accomplished a lot. Thank you for your continued involvement, input and passion for the betterment of Marin. To highlight just a few of our 2016 accomplishments:

- Opened Phase 2 of Stafford Lake Bike Park in Novato, providing for expanded age and skill opportunities for visitors.
- Kicked off construction of an additional 3.2 miles of carpool lanes through the Marin-Sonoma Narrows, getting us one step closer to completing the carpool gap through this critical commute corridor.
- The Novato Theater broke ground in May and Phase 1 of construction is almost complete! With a projected 2017 grand opening, programming is underway and we are continuing to work diligently to open this extraordinary cultural venue.
- Launched the opening of a new Marin County Free Library South Novato location - doubling the size of the former South Novato branch! The new location is located in the Hamilton neighborhood near the Hamilton K-8 public school, the North Bay Children's Center, the Novato Charter School and the SMART Hamilton rail station.

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Medical Cannabis—Public Meetings

The Medical Cannabis Advisory Committee has scheduled a series of public meetings to review the medical cannabis dispensary applications submitted to the County (ten were received). At the meetings, applicants will make presentations and the public will have the opportunity to provide public comment on the applications and proposed locations. No decisions will be made at the meetings; however, the committee will provide feedback to the County Administrator who has the authority to grant up to four licenses in Unincorporated Marin.

A meeting addressing the North Marin sites, including Black Point in Novato and San Pablo Ave. in San Rafael, will be held:

February 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors Chambers (Room 330): 3501 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael

Please note, only one dispensary license may be granted for each geographic region (and it is possible that none are granted).

Public comments for the Advisory Committee may be given at the public meeting, submitted by email to llundegaard@marincounty.org, or via mail at Medical Cannabis Dispensary Advisory Committee, c/o: Inge Lundegaard, 3501 Civic Center Drive Suite 308, San Rafael CA 94903.

To review all of the applications, meeting notices for other geographic regions in Marin, and general Marin County medical cannabis information, visit:

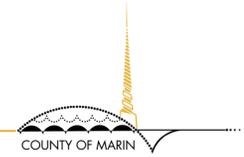
<http://www.marincounty.org/main/medicalcannabis>



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Happy New Year (continued from page 1)

- We made a lot of progress this year in preparation for SMART passenger service coming this spring: fare structures have been set; Clipper ticket machines have been ordered; an Eco-Pass program has been established for businesses, educational and nonprofit institutions – where passes can be purchased in bulk with discounts up to 50 percent for employees and patrons; a comprehensive Marin Quiet Zone has been applied for; and rigorous testing efforts continue.
- Adopted a Source of Income Protection ordinance which prohibits discrimination against renters based on third party rental assistance, including: Section 8 vouchers, Veteran’s Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers, Shelter Plus Care vouchers and Housing for People with AIDS. This ordinance is a meaningful step to expanding our fair housing goals.
- Working with the Pacheco Valle community, the Novato Fire Department and County Parks, we developed actions to provide additional fire mitigation measures to the Pacheco Valle neighborhood while balancing the need to protect natural resources. These actions include mowing a 50 foot buffer around the meadow, a larger buffer along Alameda del Prado on the opposite side of the road and a realignment of the trail through the preserve.
- Opened a Veterans Resource Center at the South Novato Library. This “one-stop shop” includes information on state and federal benefits for veterans including: housing, health care, education and employment; has a dedicated computer station, printer and phone available for free use by veterans; and drop-in hours for volunteer assistance.
- Improved Marin Transit bus service by increasing service levels by 19%, adding new express routes, establishing more direct connections to major destinations, adding service frequency and improving underperforming routes and scheduling efficiency.
- Adopted a Vegetation and Biodiversity Management Plan for County Open Space. This plan provides a decision-making framework aimed at reducing wildfire risks and saving indigenous wildlife from invasive species. The plan was developed to provide a science-based approach to our land management efforts.
- Completed needed safety improvements to the half-mile leg of Olive Avenue that connects downtown Novato to Highway 37, including: addition of a 4-foot-wide bike lane on both sides of the two-lane road, improved line-of-sight vision where the road curves at Club Drive, resurfacing of the road and drainage was improved at key points.
- Approved an implementation program to support the medical cannabis dispensary ordinance we passed in 2015 – which allows up to four medical dispensaries in unincorporated Marin County. The implementation program includes an internal review of applications (ten are currently under review), an external advisory committee review process allowing for public comment, and ultimately a recommendation from the County Administrator. The goal is to provide regulated professional operations that provide safe and accessible medicine for patients who need it.
- To improve creek capacity for winter storms, dredge work was completed in Novato Creek and tributaries – this included approximately 1.5 miles of creek bed from Diablo Avenue, near downtown Novato, to the railroad tracks off Rowland Way.

As we move into 2017, I look forward to continuing our work together and addressing items that are important to you. A few of my priorities this coming year include: completing construction and the reopening of the downtown Novato Theater; getting Phase 1 of SMART passenger rail service up and running as well as continuing efforts for Phase 2 service to Larkspur; and implementing a one-year pilot program for AB 1421, commonly referred to as Laura’s Law.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LAURA’S LAW...

Laura’s Law (AB1421) permits counties to provide the option of court-ordered Assisted Outpatient Treatment for individuals suffering with serious mental illness. Our County Health Department presented to our Board of Supervisors about the possibility of implementing Laura’s Law last February. At that time staff did not find sufficient evidence that involuntary outpatient programs are more effective than voluntary programs. Our Board accepted the recommendation and asked for quarterly updates on the expansion of the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. After a year of receiving updates on our enhanced mental health services, I am pleased and impressed with the work we’ve accomplished. While I know we’ve reached more residents with our voluntary, expanded services, I feel we owe it to the families to explore every option possible to assist those suffering from mental illness. I am suggesting a one year pilot implementation of the program because Laura’s Law has very strict eligibility criteria which an individual must meet to be served, and after one year I would like to evaluate if this involuntary program is effective in Marin. The Board of Supervisors will consider this matter later this winter.

Congratulations Jeanne MacLeamy—2016 Novato Citizen of the Year!



RESOLUTION
of
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARIN COUNTY

COMMENDING
JEANNE MACLEAMY
2016 NOVATO CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, each year a Novato resident, who is deeply involved in civic activities and dedicated to the welfare of the community, is selected to receive the Novato Citizen of the Year Award. Jeanne MacLeamy was selected as the very deserving recipient of this award for 2016; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne, along with her husband Patrick and their two children, moved to Novato in 1984. Jeanne was kept busy working as an architect, community volunteer, wife and mother; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne applied her professional knowledge to assist the Novato Rotary with the Nova Ro III affordable senior housing plans to create an appropriate project that complemented the neighborhood. Novato Rotary named her a Paul Harris Fellow in part for her tremendous assistance; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne is dedicated to the community of Novato. Her contributions to the city are demonstrated by the countless committees she has served on such as: Novato 4th of July Parade, Novato 50 Year Anniversary Campaign, Paint the Town Red, Holiday Tree lighting, City Hall Buy a Brick Campaign and the Spring Egg Hunt; and

WHEREAS, during her six years on the City of Novato's Design Review Committee she initiated the workshop process that engaged neighbors and developers early on in order to approve developments appropriate for their sites, their neighborhoods, and the character of the community; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne first ran successfully for the Novato City Council in 2003 and was reelected in 2007 and 2011 and served as Novato Mayor three times; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne was a driving force in bringing Novato City Hall and City Government back to our historic downtown. It is not an exaggeration to say that she changed Novato and did this for the betterment of the City. Her work will stand the test of time; and

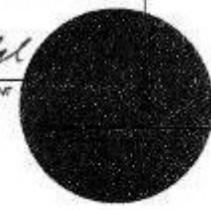
WHEREAS, Jeanne and Patrick led a successful community effort in 2014 to purchase 178 acres of Novato's pristine land and preserve it as permanent open space; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne is a true community servant who has served Novato with determination and grace, often working behind the scenes, never taking credit for her work. Her motivation was simple – the love she has for her cherished community.

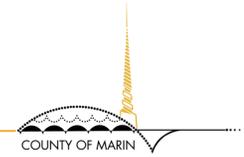
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marin County Board of Supervisors commends Jeanne MacLeamy for her dedication, goodwill and many selfless contributions, making the Novato community a better place, and congratulates her on being selected as the Novato 2016 Citizen of the Year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 10th day of January 2017.

Judy Arnold
JUDY ARNOLD - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 5 - PRESIDENT



Ann Hode
ANN HODE - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4



2016 Look Who's Getting It Done Award Goes to—Hank Barner



This past year Novato lost a great community advocate and volunteer, Hank Barner. He is the posthumous selection for my 2016 Look Who's Getting It Done Award.

I met Hank when I started my first term as your County Supervisor. He was the District 5 appointee on the Marin County Planning Commission, a position he studiously and thoughtfully held for eight years. While our relationship started off on a rough note, we soon became great friends and he proved to be a tremendous repository of information and knowledge on both Novato and County issues.

Hank lived in Novato's unincorporated area of Black Point and was very active in the neighborhood, serving for 30 years as President of the Black Point Improvement Club. His vast knowledge on County policies and codes, land-use processes, and environmental issues made him a force to be reckoned with during project proposals and permitting issues – while at the same time these qualities made him a tremendous asset to the community in helping maintain the character and quality of life in Black Point.

One of the most notable community efforts Hank was active in was the Stonetree Golf Course and residential development, which ultimately began construction in 2000-2001. Hank was not supportive of the original development proposal and was instrumental in garnering community pressure and in negotiations with the developer that led to a compromised end result that was acceptable to both the neighbors and the developer: the number of houses was reduced from 238 to 53, three trees were planted for every one removed, reclaimed water was required to be used on the golf course, only one housing unit per 2 acres, a 64-acre wildlife preserve was created, and all was done without bond or assessment districts and at no cost

to local taxpayers or residents. Once the compromises were agreed to, Hank became invaluable in helping get broad-based community support for the project.

In 2008, the 64-acre preserve that was created as part of the StoneTree development changed hands from a conservancy group to the County of Marin Parks Department. In 2009, Hank approached me to rename the preserve after Vince Mulroy, who was part of the StoneTree development team who worked closely with Hank to develop the above-mentioned compromise. This was a perfect example of the type of man Hank was. He did not let differences mar his relationships; he was a collaborator and a team builder.

If you find yourself in the Vince Mulroy Memorial Woodland and Wildlife Preserve, you will find a bench there with a plaque that reads: "Hank Barner's Bench, a special place to celebrate the land he helped save." A perfect tribute to remain in a community Hank loved.

I think all of those who have worked with Hank share an enormous respect for him. He was always impartial, fair, thoughtful, civil and intellectually honest.

Rest in Peace Hank. Your tireless commitment and effort to maintain the beautiful community of Black Point and that of greater Novato will not be forgotten.



LOOK WHO'S GETTING IT DONE AWARD

In 2007 I started the annual LOOK WHO'S GETTING IT DONE AWARD. I make this award every year in January.

The award recognizes someone in the 5th District who "got something done" for our community. The winner is featured in my County Connection article in the Novato Advance, in my newsletter and on my County webpage.

Past awardees include: Tracy Rivkin, June Haugen, Haley Pavone, Mary Jane Burke, Kenneth Harth, Elizabeth DeRuvo, Patty Bennett, Ken & Charlene Casey, and Rob Hart.

If you would like to nominate someone for the 2017 Look Who's Getting it Done award, please contact my aide Tanya Albert at: TAAlbert@marincounty.org.

Fun with Photos—Newsletter Photo Gallery

I had the privilege of participating in several great events since our last County Connection Newsletter published. I thought I would share a few photo highlights with you here...



Above: Celebrating the new Bartolini Gallery inside Marin Center's Exhibit Hall Building.



Above: Novato's Bay Shore & Creeks Cleanup- Thank you Sierra Club Marin and Friends of Novato Creek!



Above: Novato's Annual Community Tree Lighting with Eric Lucan, George and Denise Athas.



Above: The BOS proclaimed January 2017 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Pictured: Cecelia Zamora.



Above: Bidding farewell to Supervisor Kinsey at the last 2016 BOS meeting—we hope he is enjoying retirement!



Above: Your 2017 Board of Supervisors—Welcome Supervisor Dennis Rodoni, representing District 4!

Congratulations to Novato's 2016 Small and Large Businesses of the Year!



The Small Business of the Year goes to...

Valley Oak Wealth Management has grown in size over the years serving 250 households with their investment portfolios which in turn contribute to the economic stability of Novato. They have a track record of giving back to the community illustrated by their involvement and commitment to many charitable organizations serving youth and at-risk families in Novato. It was my honor to present Valley Oak Wealth Management with a Board of Supervisors resolution congratulating them on being the Novato Chamber of Commerce 2016 Small Business of the Year

The Large Business of the Year goes to...

Ultragenyx, a biopharmaceutical company located in Novato, is committed to delivering safe and effective therapies to patients suffering from rare diseases. Ultragenyx was founded in 2010 and has grown from a few dozen employees to hundreds who invest in the Novato economy. They are a community asset sponsoring local events and supporting charitable organizations in Novato. It was my honor to present Ultragenyx with a Board of Supervisors resolution congratulating them on being the Novato Chamber of Commerce 2016 Large Business of the Year.



County Library Offers Online Diploma Program

Credentialed high school diplomas (a full high school diploma, not a GED) and career certificates are now available through a new program of the Marin County Free Library (MCFL), Career Online High School.

The program is available to library card holders who are willing to dedicate approximately ten hours per week on coursework. Applicants need to have completed eighth grade and have basic English language, computer and internet skills. The average time needed to complete the high school diploma course is one year and the average cost is \$1,300.

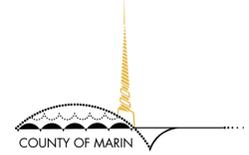
All courses are online and there are no textbooks. Students are assigned an academic coach who offers support and additional instructional help when needed.

The MCFL and State Library are offering a limited number of free scholarships to Marin adults. To qualify, applicants must complete a prerequisite course with a score of 70 percent or higher.

To apply for the program, visit: www.marinlibrary.org/diploma/

Once there, scroll down to "Get Started" and complete the self-assessment. The Library will contact all eligible applicants within one week, with instructions on enrolling in a prerequisite course.

For more information visit www.marinlibrary.org/diploma/ or email the MCFL at cohs@marincounty.org.



Judy Arnold, Marin County Supervisor

DISTRICT 5 COUNTY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

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February 2017

Calendar grid for February 2017 with days of the week and dates.

March 2017

Calendar grid for March 2017 with days of the week and dates.

April 2017

Calendar grid for April 2017 with days of the week and dates.

Upcoming Meetings

- Feb 7—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Feb 14—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Feb 15—1:30pm, SMART Board Meeting
Feb 20—County Holiday (offices closed)
Feb 23—7pm, TAM Meeting
Feb 27—10am, Transit District Meeting
Mar 1—1:30pm, SMART Board Meeting
Mar 7—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Mar 14—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Mar 15—1:30pm, SMART Board Meeting
Mar 20—10am, Transit District Meeting
Mar 21—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Mar 23—7pm, TAM Meeting
Apr 4—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Apr 5—1:30pm, SMART Board Meeting
Apr 11—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Apr 17—10am, Transit District Meeting
Apr 19—1:30pm, SMART Board Meeting
Apr 25—Board of Supervisors Meeting
Apr 27—7pm, TAM Meeting

Board of Supervisors, Transit District, and TAM Meetings are held in the BOS Chambers in the Marin Civic Center: 3501 Civic Center Dr., Suite 329.

SMART Board meetings are held on the First Floor at the SMART office in Petaluma: 5401 Old Redwood Highway, Petaluma.

Start times for BOS meetings can vary. For start times and agenda packet materials for upcoming as well as minutes of prior meetings:

=> Go to the County of Marin website at www.marincounty.org. In the "Board of Supervisors" section, click "Minutes/Agendas/Webcasts"

BOS meetings are also webcast live. To watch a meeting live or to replay at a later date:

=> Go to the County of Marin website at www.marincounty.org. In the "Board of Supervisors" section, click "Minutes/Agendas/Webcasts"

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