



# ATHERTONIAN

Quarterly Newsletter for Atherton Residents

Fall 2002

## New City Council Members Appointed

Atherton City Council nominee Charles E. Marsala, along with incumbents Alan B. Carlson and William R. Conwell, will be sworn into office at the December 18, 2002 City Council meeting. The City Council, at its regular meeting in August, adopted a resolution appointing the three City Council candidates to office and canceling the regular Municipal Election previously scheduled for November 5, 2002. State law allows for the appointment of the nominees to office, and the cancellation of the election, when there is an equal number of candidates for offices to be elected.

Dianne M. "Didi" Fisher, whose term expires in November, declined to run for another term. Council Member Fisher was first elected to the Council in 1990, after serving on the Planning Commission for two years. Mr. Marsala has been a member of the Atherton Arts Committee since July 1999, the Park and Recreation Commission since June 2000, and has also served on the Town's Waste Reduction Committee.

All residents are welcome to witness the oath of office ceremony for the three City Council Members, to take place at the December 18th City Council meeting, which begins at 7:00 p.m.

## Another Day's Work...

Atherton Public Works crew Bill Butler and Eddie Lopez install signs at the Oak Grove and Middlefield Road intersection advising motorists making a left turn to "yield on green." This is a safety measure to decrease the number of accidents in the area. Workers not pictured but helping in the effort: Troy Henderson and Javier Andrade.



## Fall Planting

The Atherton Tree Committee has received a grant from California ReLeaf to plant trees on Middlefield Road to replace more Elms which have been lost to Dutch Elm disease. Volunteers are needed to help plant the trees on Saturday, November 2nd. Meet at the corner of Middlefield Road and Lane Place (across from the James gates) at 10:00 a.m. Please bring your own shovel and gloves. To reward you for your hard work, we will be having a BBQ lunch following the planting at Holbrook-Palmer Park in the North Meadow. Please come join us to help beautify Middlefield Road and have fun too!

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Carriage House

Holbrook-Palmer Park

\$5 per child (Ages 2 – 12)

Parents and Kids under 2 free

Sponsored by the Atherton Dames

See Page 4 for more Dames-sponsored events

## Inside...

New Town Construction Regulations.. 2

Residential Alarm Systems.....5

Know Your Neighborhood.....6

## Park Strategic Plan

Residents will recall that earlier this year, a special survey was conducted asking for residents' opinions on Holbrook-Palmer Park and its many uses and value to the community. This survey was the first step in developing the Park's new five-year Strategic Plan. The Atherton Park and Recreation Commission is currently working on the Park Strategic Plan, and expects to have a final draft available for public review at Town Hall on November 12, 2002. The Plan will be discussed at a Joint Meeting with the City Council, which has been set for November 19, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. in the Holbrook-Palmer Park Pavilion. The Park Strategic Plan is a document which sets policy and guides future uses of the Park. All interested residents are encouraged to participate in this important meeting.



## Transportation Committee Opportunity

**The Atherton Transportation Committee is currently accepting applications for consideration of appointment of Resident Advisors.**

The Resident Advisor will serve as a non-voting member of the Transportation Committee. The status of Resident Advisor was authorized by the City Council as a means of including on Council sub-committees, citizen members who will provide resident knowledge on certain issues.

If you are an Atherton resident and are interested in serving on the Transportation Committee in an advisory capacity, please submit a letter to Sharon Barker, City Clerk, Town of Atherton, 91 Ashfield Road, CA 94027, or e-mail sbarker@ci.atherton.ca.us. **For more information, please call 752-0529.**

## Keep Our Channel Clean

You can help prevent pollution of the Bay and Pacific Ocean! Did you know that the Atherton Channel, or creek, eventually discharges into the San Francisco Bay, untreated? Unlike a sewer system, the water--along with any pollutants from runoff or deliberate dumping into the Channel--ends up as part of the San Francisco Bay. Pollutants include common items such as lawn clippings, weed killers and chemical fertilizers, car wash detergents and animal waste. Please remember to tell your gardeners, contractors, or anyone who is working on your home not to discharge anything into the Atherton Channel.



## New Town Construction Regulations

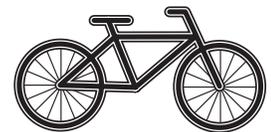
**I**n September, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 535 to further clarify the Town of Atherton's regulations relating to construction.

Contractors and builders working in the Town are now required to post a sign on their worksites which states the hours of construction and delivery and pick-up of materials and machinery, which is limited to the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. No construction or pick-up/delivery is allowed on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

The ordinance also clarifies the definition of "construction" to include the "the demolition and/or removal of materials including landscaping plantings, by any means including 'demolition sales' or invitations to the public to retrieve and remove any material from the demolition site." In addition, the ordinance specifies that vehicles are not to arrive at a construction site before 8:00 a.m. and must depart the site not later than 5:00 p.m. Furthermore, the ordinance explicitly states the consequences of a violation of the ordinance.

The purpose of the ordinance revisions, including the new sign regulations, is to remind contractors, sub-contractors, and delivery personnel of the restricted hours and activities in order to maintain the Town's peaceful and quiet atmosphere for its residents during mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays. Questions related to the ordinance may be directed to Mike Hood, Building Official, at 752-0560.

## Recycle Your Bike!



The County of San Mateo RecycleWorks is looking for your unwanted bicycles. Used bicycles can be donated on Saturday, October 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 35 Tower Road, near the junction of Hwy 92 and 280. Bikes will be repaired at the event and then distributed in the community through several non-profit organizations, including Samaritan House and The Children's Fund. Donations are tax-deductible.

**Questions prior to October 19 may be directed to RecycleWorks at 599-1468. On the web, visit [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) for more information.**

# TOWN OF ATHERTON

91 Ashfield Road • Atherton, CA 94027

## City Council

Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm  
Town Council Chambers • 94 Ashfield Road

**Alan B. Carlson, Mayor**..... 408-998-4150 (wk)  
term expires 11/2002 ..... e-mail: acarlson@ci.atherton.ca.us

**James R. Janz, Vice Mayor**..... 325-8666 (wk)  
term expires 11/2004 ..... e-mail: jjanz@ci.atherton.ca.us

**William R. Conwell, Council Member**..... 368-0994 (wk)  
term expires 11/2002 ..... e-mail: wconwell@ci.atherton.ca.us

**Dianne M. Fisher, Council Member** ..... 329-8290  
term expires 11/2002 ..... e-mail: dfisher@ci.atherton.ca.us

**Kathleen McKeithen, Council Member**..... 321-3633  
term expires 11/2004 ..... e-mail: kmckeithen@ci.atherton.ca.us



## Helpful Phone Numbers

(All area codes are 650 unless otherwise noted)

AT&T Broadband Cable .....(800) 945-2288  
California Water Service.....367-6800  
Pacific Gas & Electric .....(800)743-5000

### County Services

Animal Control.....363-4840  
Assessor.....363-4500  
Library.....328-2422  
Supervisor, Richard Gordon, 3rd Dist.....363-4569  
Voter Registration.....312-5222

### Menlo Park Fire District

Business/Administration Office.....688-8400  
Emergency.....323-2404 or 911

### Waste/Recycling

Browning Ferris Industries (BFI) Garbage.....592-2411  
Recycling.....637-1411  
Fair Oaks Sanitation District.....363-4100  
West Bay Sanitation District.....321-0384



**PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.**

## DIRECTORY

Contacts & Telephone Numbers

### TOWN SERVICES

**Main Number** **752-0500**  
Fax Number 688-6528  
e-mail atherton@ci.atherton.ca.us

**Animal Control** 363-4840

### Building

Mike Hood, Bldg. Official 752-0523  
Information/Inspections 752-0560  
Daily Inspection Schedule 752-0561

### City Attorney

Marc Hynes, City Attorney 967-6941

### City Manager

Jim Robinson, City Manager 752-0504  
Sharon Barker, City Clerk 752-0529  
Linda Kelly,  
Assistant to City Manager 752-0546

### City Planner

Neal Martin, City Planner 593-1685  
Lisa Costa Sanders,  
Deputy Town Planner 593-1685

### Finance

John Johns, Director 752-0531  
Kim Salera, Asst. Director 752-0538  
Paula Pierce, Finance Asst. 752-0519

### Library

328-2422

### Police

Robert Brennan, Chief 752-0506  
General Information 688-6500  
Emergency 911

### Post Office

General Information 752-0500

### Public Works

Cliff Temps, Director 752-0532  
Steve Tyler, PW Superintendent 752-0541  
Information/Permits 752-0570  
Jean Cardona,  
Park Program Mgr. 752-0534  
Kathy Hughes Anderson,  
Town Arborist 752-0526

# Housing Element Update

A General Plan of a city or town is a long-term policy document, which is composed of stated goals as well as general direction to guide a local government's course of action. The **Housing Element** is just one of several "Elements," which are the components that make up a General Plan; each Element is a separate and independent guiding document.

All cities within the State of California are required to update the Housing Element of their General Plan. The contents of this Housing Element update include an analysis of housing needs, statements of goals and policies, a schedule of programs and actions and an estimate of the number of housing units the Town expects to be developed, improved and maintained in the local housing stock. Programs and policies included in the existing Housing Element are evaluated and modified where necessary to reflect changing market conditions and policy priorities.

For the Town of Atherton, it has been determined that the required new above moderate housing production can be achieved with existing residential parcels that are of sufficient size to be further subdivided according to the existing zoning lot size limits (one acre minimum).

The very low, low and moderate income housing is proposed to be provided at the private school campuses of Menlo College and Menlo School. Menlo College would like to rehabilitate some existing units and construct some new faculty housing as well as construct some new student housing units. Menlo School would also like to rehabilitate existing units and construct a few additional teacher-housing units.

The Town is also updating the **General Plan**. This update, along with the Housing Element, has been reviewed by the Atherton General Plan Committee at several meetings. In order to ensure a significant and inclusive public process, citizen committees, the public, and elected officials are being asked to review and consider the Housing Element and General Plan updates. Residents are invited to attend the Planning Commission meeting on October 23, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. and the City Council Meeting on November 20, 2002 at 7:00 p.m., where these issues are scheduled to be discussed and considered. A draft copy of the proposed Housing Element is available for public review at the Town Administrative Offices. **For further information, contact Deputy Town Planner Lisa Costa Sanders of Neal Martin and Associates at 593-1685.**

---

## News from the Atherton Dames

The Atherton Dames has planned an exciting year of events! Their fundraiser for this year is "Save the Water Tower." The Water Tower, circa 1860-70, is the oldest remaining historical structure in Holbrook-Palmer Park, and has been experiencing problems with mold due to water leakage. The structure's catwalk is also in need of replacement. The Holbrook-Palmer Recreation Park Foundation, the Town of Atherton, and the Dames have starter funds budgeted for the exterior of the structure, but much more is needed to restore the interior to its original interpretation. Plans are underway to reach out to historical and other organizations to assist in this endeavor.

As you can see below, the Dames have an ambitious schedule of fundraising events planned.

### ■ Christmas Tea

Sunday, December 15, 2002  
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Pavilion, Holbrook-Palmer Park

### ■ Bridge Luncheon

Friday, January 10, 2003  
10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Pavilion, Holbrook-Palmer Park

### ■ New Residents' Cocktail Party

Saturday, February 22, 2003  
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Designated Home, to be announced

### ■ Kitchen Tour of Distinguished Atherton Homes

Friday and Saturday, April 4-5, 2003

### ■ Speakers' Forum

Wednesday, March 19, 2003  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Pavilion, Holbrook-Palmer Park

### ■ Luncheon/Fashion Show

Friday, May 9, 2003  
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Pavilion, Holbrook-Palmer Park

*The Atherton Dames is "an organization of women working together to make a difference in our community" and was formed in 1968 for the purpose of being the fund-raising arm of the Holbrook-Palmer Recreation Park Foundation. **For more information regarding the Dames, please contact Dames President Nancy Greenbach at 323-3610.***

## Residential Alarm Systems

Residential burglar alarm systems can be a very effective deterrent against property crime. Residents may not be aware that Atherton is one of the few communities in the Bay Area that offers a no-cost hook-up (direct connect) to their Police Department.



Last year, the Town's previous \$300 hook-up fee was eliminated and replaced with a new procedure of charging only for false alarms. Each resident is allowed one free false alarm, and thereafter each false alarm incurs a \$100 charge. The purpose of not charging for the first alarm is to provide residents with an opportunity to learn more about their alarm systems in order to prevent accidental tripping of alarms, and to encourage residents to service their alarm systems to prevent malfunctions. A false alarm is defined as an activation of the alarm system, and a police officer is dispatched to the residence and makes contact with someone at the residence who has authorization to be on the premises. In essence, the alarm was accidentally tripped.

***A false alarm is defined as an activation of the alarm system, and a police officer is dispatched to the residence and makes contact with someone at the residence who has authorization to be on the premises.***

All alarms are treated by the Atherton Police Department as a Priority 1 call. Even when alarm systems are accidentally tripped or are subject to malfunction, the responding Police Officer must treat the call as a Priority 1 call, making him or her unavailable to respond to other critical resident calls. If an alarm system is accidentally tripped, a call may be placed to Atherton Police Dispatch, 688-6500, notifying of the accidental activation and canceling the officer response. A police officer may still proceed with a welfare check; however, the residence will not be charged with a false alarm.

The Town is now sending out monthly billings to residents who have exhausted their free false alarm. The bills indicate the date of the free false alarm incident and list the subsequent false alarms for which they are being billed.

**Residents with questions regarding alarms should contact Priscella O'Shea, Police Communications Supervisor, at 752-0509. And, as always, if there is an emergency, please call 911, or the Atherton Police Dispatch directly at 688-6500.**

## Educational Forum

**Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m.  
at the Pavilion at Holbrook-Palmer Park**

The Atherton Civic Interest League (ACIL) is sponsoring a discussion forum for all residents interested in Selby Lane School, its test scores, and turnaround status. The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pavilion at Holbrook-Palmer Park. Forum speakers will include Williamson Evers, Hoover Institute Fellow, specialist

in education policy and member of the K-12 Education Task Force; Christopher Bohl, Supervisor, Redwood City School Board and education activist; Francisco Lopez, new Selby Lane School Principal and school improvement specialist; Hugh Cornish, real estate professional who grew up and was educated in Atherton; Robert Brennan, Atherton Police Chief; and Pilar Buckley, Atherton Police Officer assigned to Selby Lane School. **For more information regarding the forum, contact Bob Jenkins, ACIL President, at 529-2461.**

## Atherton Library Storytime Programs ■ Fall 2002

### Itsy-Bitsy Storytime

(Infants to 2 years)

**Wednesday Mornings at 10:30 a.m.**

Now through November 13

### Pajama Storytime

(Ages 3 to 6)

**Tuesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.**

Now through November 12

Wear your pajamas and bring your teddy bear, if you like!

### Preschool Storytime

(Ages 3 to 6)

**Wednesday afternoons at 3:30 p.m.**

Now through November 13

**Atherton Library  
2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane  
328-2422**

***Ages are guidelines  
only. All children  
are welcomed.***



# Know your Neighborhood

## Lloyden Park

Did you know that there is a "hidden oasis" in Atherton? At least that is how it has been described by some of its



residents. Lloyden Park has also been fondly called the "perfect trick-or-treat neighborhood." Bounded by El Camino Real, Wilburn Avenue, Lloyden Drive and the railroad tracks, Lloyden Park sits in the North end of Atherton, near the train

station. The area is named for Lloyden Drive, and is made up of land once owned by Joseph B. Coryell, who purchased a home on the property in 1902 for \$30,000. Mr. Coryell's wife's maiden name was Mabel Lloyd Jessup, from which the name Lloyden Drive was chosen. The Coryell Estate was subdivided into Lloyden Park in 1927, yet the original carriage house still remains. It is believed that the pillars, or columns, which grace Lloyden Drive to the northwest of the train station, and maybe those at Lloyden Drive at El Camino Real, originated with the Coryell Estate.

This "oasis" has the makings of a wonderful neighborhood. Lloyden Park consists of 86 custom-built homes, mostly single-story, which sit on one-third acre lots. Lloyden Park also has the distinction of being the only area of Atherton with the combination of sidewalks, curbs and gutters as well as underground utilities. Most homes were originally built in the 1940s.

Lloyden Park has a reputation of being a very friendly neighborhood representing a balanced mixture of generations. For many years, the area was noted for its annual 4th of July Potluck, Fall Cocktail Party, and Christmas Caroling. In 1990, this "American as apple pie" neighborhood organized the Homeowners Association of Lloyden Park, which still exists today, although not as active, according to Association President John Sisson. The Association has rallied around neighborhood preservation causes such as landscaping, traffic concerns and discouraging vehicles from cutting through to El Camino Real. Mr. Sisson invites everyone in the Lloyden Park neighborhood to join the group. He may be contacted at 366-9464.

*Many thanks to **John Sisson**, President of the Homeowners Association of Lloyden Park, and **Marion Oster**, President of the Atherton Heritage Association, for providing information for this article.*

## Art in the Garden

*Trace the contour of harvest fruits or capture autumn's turning leaves in the Atherton Arts Committee's new adult course "Art in the Garden."*

This Fall, Bill Cheney, former Art Director of Sunset Magazine and Nature Docent at Filoli Center, will lead a series of five classes in some of Atherton's finest secret gardens. Each class will begin with a short materials/technique demonstration and a brief discussion of formal consideration that will accommodate the interests of beginning and advanced artists. Students will explore a range of media to create a focused body of work. Class size will be limited in order to foster an intimate, supportive group dynamic that will encourage each student to develop their own aesthetic and creative practice.

**Fridays 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**October 18 - November 15, 2002**

**\$100 (\$80 for Seniors)**

For registration for this course, or if you would like to inquire about special holiday events or studio art classes, contact the Atherton Arts Committee at 482-9824 or e-mail: [atherton\\_art@hotmail.com](mailto:atherton_art@hotmail.com).

## Community Calendar

*Many thanks to those community organizations and interested residents who attended the City Council's Community Organization Roundtable meeting on September 12.*

One of the outcomes of the meeting was the consensus of those present that a "community calendar" would be a useful tool for avoiding conflicting event dates and for getting the word out to the residents regarding upcoming community events in the Town. For now, the community calendar is "paper-based" at the Town Administrative Offices; however, plans are underway to migrate the calendar to the Town's website in the future for easy resident access.

If your organization has planned upcoming events that are of interest to Town residents, please send the date, time and place of the event, plus any other pertinent information to Linda Kelly, Assistant to the City Manager, via fax to **614-1212**, e-mail to [lkelly@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:lkelly@ci.atherton.ca.us) or phone her at **752-0546**, for placement of your events on the community calendar.

## Welcome New Employees



Two new employees joined the Atherton Police Department this Summer. **Police Officer Clark Du** comes to the Town from the City of Palo Alto, where he served as an Officer for a year and a half. Clark graduated from U.C. Davis with degrees in Psychology and Sociology. In his free time, he enjoys basketball, volleyball,

biking, camping and snowboarding.

### Police Officer Trainee Sherman Hall

may already be familiar to some residents, as he spent four years as an Atherton Reserve Officer and he also grew up in Atherton, attending Laurel, Encinal and Menlo Schools. Sherman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamilton College and spent 13 years in the information technology industry. In his spare time, Sherman enjoys swimming and spending time with his wife Donna and son Quinten.



In August, the Town said goodbye to seven-year veteran Police Officer Rush Jackson, who was assigned to patrol as a police dog handler. His K-9 partner Niko, a five-year-old German Shepherd, also left the Town to live with Rush and his family in El Sobrante. Rush has accepted employment as a Deputy Sheriff with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office, with a more reasonable commute luring him away from Atherton.

## Help Preserve Atherton's Heritage

The Atherton Heritage Association, along with The Friends of the Atherton Library, recently sponsored a very successful 79th "Birthday Party" for the Town of Atherton. Held on the anniversary of the Town's incorporation date, September 12, the event featured a lively talk by local historian Michael Svanevik on the origins of Atherton.

If you have an interest in helping organize such events, or if you are curious about our local history, the Atherton Heritage Association could use your help! The group has a great time researching, filing, organizing and preserving Atherton's colorful and fascinating history. The Association is always looking for individuals who can help out for a couple of hours once a month, or for anyone with old photos or any information about the history of our Town. The Atherton Heritage Room is located adjacent to the old Town Hall (City Council Chambers) at 94 Ashfield Road and is open to the public every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

**For more information about volunteer opportunities with the Atherton Heritage Association, contact Marion Oster, President, at 688-6540.**



## Employee of the Quarter

**The Town of Atherton has instituted an employee recognition program.**

Part of that program is an "Employee of the Quarter" recognition, which is a merit-based means by which employees can nominate other employees to be recognized for outstanding service to the Town. The nominations will take place

each quarter, for a total of 4 employees to be recognized throughout the year. The first employee to be recognized

under this program is **Bill Butler**, Public Works Maintenance Worker II. Bill has been with the Town for three years.

Bill was nominated by two of his fellow employees who cited his "excellent public relations skills with residents, great work ethics, positive attitude," and "relentless willingness to do the job quickly with the least disruption to anyone."

Bill was honored by Jim Robinson, City Manager, and Town employees with a pizza luncheon for all staff, a certificate of recognition, and a gift certificate to Fry's Electronics.

# CALENDAR

Call 752-0529 for information on changes and special meetings

## October

14	<b>Columbus Day, Town Offices Closed</b>		
16	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
23	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
25	Arts Committee	11:00 a.m.	Admin. Offices Mtg. Rm.

## November

6	Park & Rec Comm.	6:30 p.m.	H-P Park, Main House
11	<b>Veterans' Day, Town Offices Closed</b>		
19	Joint City Council / Park & Rec.	6:30 p.m.	H-P Park, Pavillion
20	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
22	Arts Committee	1:00 p.m.	Admin. Offices Mtg. Rm.
28	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday, Town Offices Closed</b>		
29	<b>Day After Thanksgiving Holiday, Town Offices Closed</b>		
	Planning Commission	Canceled	

## December

4	Park & Rec Comm.	6:30 p.m.	H-P Park, Main House
4	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
18	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
25	<b>Christmas Holiday, Town Offices Closed</b>		
TBD	Arts Committee	11:00 a.m.	Admin. Offices Mtg. Rm.

## January

1	<b>New Year's Holiday, Town Offices Closed</b>		
TBD	Park & Rec Comm.	6:30 p.m.	H-P Park, Main House
14	Transportation Committee	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
15	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers

TBD: Date to be determined

## REGISTER TO VOTE!

**The deadline to register to vote in the November 5, 2002 Gubernatorial General Election is Monday, October 21, 2002.** Remember, you must re-register to vote if you have moved since the last election, changed your name, or changed your political party affiliation. All registered voters are eligible to vote by absentee ballot. The dates to apply for an absentee ballot are October 7, 2002 to October 29, 2002. For more information, contact the County Elections Department at (650) 312-5222, or visit the Elections website [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org). You may also obtain an absentee ballot application at the Atherton Town Administrative Offices.



## The Town of Atherton



91 Ashfield Road  
Atherton, CA 94027

PRESORTED  
STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MENLO PARK, CA  
PERMIT NO. 26

**Atherton Resident  
Atherton, CA 94027**