



ATHERTONIAN

SPRING
2014

A Quarterly Newsletter for Atherton Residents

Committee and Commission Recruitment

The following is a list of scheduled Committee and Commission vacancies for calendar year 2014:
(A complete description of each Committee and Commission can be viewed on the Towns website)

Audit/Finance Committee

Greg Conlon	Term expires June 30, 2014	2 years
Jim Massey	Term expires June 30, 2014	2 years
Bob Polito	Term expires June 30, 2014	2 years

Environmental Programs Committee

One (1) Vacancy	No expiration	4 years
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Park & Recreation Commission

Frank Merrill (HPP Foundation Rep)	Term Expires June 30, 2014	4 Years
Christina Isenberg (Dames Rep)	Term Expires June 30, 2014	4 Years
Naomi Ramsdenn	Term Expires June 30, 2017	unexpected vacancy

The HPP Foundation and Dames representative must be replaced with members from those organizations

Rail Committee

1 Vacancy	No expiration
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The Town is now accepting applications until Friday, May 9, 2014 for the Audit/Finance Committee, Environmental Programs Committee (EPC), Park & Recreation Commission, and the Rail Committee.

To fill out an application you can visit the Towns website at www.atherton.ca.us and click on Town Government – Committees and Commissions. Or you can contact Judi Herren at jherren@ci.atherton.ca.us or 650-752-0500.



Council Reviews Civic Center

Master Plan

At the March 19 City Council meeting, the City Council accepted the Civic Center Master Plan and initiated the next steps toward the future of the Town's Civic Center. The Civic Center Master Plan features a new Civic Center building that will serve the functions of City Administration, the Police Department, and the Community Development|Permit Center. Located across a new Town Green, the project also includes the development of a new Town Library.



The Civic Center Master Plan is the result of resident input from numerous Town-wide and neighborhood meetings. The Master Plan addresses numerous issues within the existing Town center and improves circulation, parking, space and program needs, access, and accessibility. The Civic Center Advisory Committee (CCAC) has met monthly over the last two years to review and critique concepts prepared by a planning team led by HMC Architects. The Master Plan envisions a two-story main building, a single story library, convenient parking and generous landscaping which retains most of the site's heritage trees. Now that the City Council has taken the important step of accepting the Master Plan, the Town is moving forward with environmental review and selection of a design team to prepare conceptual designs and verify the project's cost estimates. The bulk of the project will be funded through private donations; however, the Town will also be able to use Library funds to build the Library components and Building Department fees to build the Community Development|Permit Center.

More project information can be found at <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=290>.

Get Ready to Walk and Roll

Atherton's first Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan was presented to the City Council at the Council's Study Session on April 2. The draft Plan, prepared by Alta Planning and Design, includes proposed routes for both pedestrian paths and bicycle routes. Locations were identified by Alta and refined with input from a Stakeholder Advisory Group representing Atherton residents and user groups. The draft Plan was reviewed by the Transportation Committee at its March 11 meeting. Prior to scheduled adoption by the City Council later in the year, staff will conduct an environmental review. As the Plan and its component projects move forward, funding, engineering design and implementation schedules will be proposed for City Council review as part of the Town's Capital Improvement Program.

The Stakeholder Advisory Group focused on improving safety, especially for two groups of users: school-age children and residents 60+ years old. These two groups have larger representation in Atherton than in the County as a whole. For students, the Group recommended taking steps to install "easy-to-implement" improvements on bicycle routes. For seniors, the Group focused on improvements in parkways, the landscaped area between property lines and the edge of pavement. The Stakeholder Advisory Group reviewed alternative parkway designs which respect Atherton's rural environment and extensive tree planting while also improving walkability along Town streets. Alternative design concepts proposed by Alta are shown in the attached drawing and will be considered for adoption as Town standards as the Plan moves forward.

More project information can be found at <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=298>.

APD NEWEST OFFICERS



The Atherton Police Department is proud to introduce our newest Officer, T.J. Boyle. T.J. started his employment with APD on January 6, 2014. Officer

Boyle is our newest Motor Officer assigned to the Traffic Unit where he comes with many years of law enforcement experience.

T.J. served as a Patrolman, a Motorcycle Officer, a S.W.A.T. Officer, and as a detective during his 26 year career with the San Jose Police Department.

T.J. attended San Jose State University as an Aeronautical Engineering Major where he was also a pitcher on San Jose State's baseball team.

He is extremely excited about the opportunity of resuming a career in law enforcement for a great community like Atherton and we are pleased to have his expertise, humor and work ethic in our organization.



The Atherton Police Department welcomes its newest K-9 member, Zorro with handler Officer Krystal Haselbach. Thanks to the generous

donation from an Atherton resident who wishes to remain anonymous, Zorro was purchased thru Witmer-Tyson.

Officer Haselbach and Zorro will be attending the basic K-9 handler school which is 160 hours of hands on training. Zorro is a 17 month old German Shepherd where he came from a small town in the Czech Republic. Officer Haselbach will be learning Czech commands in order to speak to Zorro in his native language.

Zorro will also be training in basic and advanced tracking classes so he can assist the agency with rescues and perimeter searches. Zorro replaces K-9 Rex who passed away several months ago from cancer.

We welcome Zorro to the Atherton Police Department family where he and our other K-9 Karli along with handler Officer David Gomez currently working the night shift.

Traffic Question

The Atherton Police Department encourages everyone to bicycle safely and always follow all traffic laws. With this in mind, see if you know the answer to the below question:

TRUE or FALSE: You must ride your bicycle with the flow of traffic?

Answer: TRUE

Under California Vehicle Code section 21650.1: "A bicycle operated on a roadway, or the shoulder of a highway, shall be operated in the same direction as vehicles are required to be driven upon the roadway." This means that you cannot ride your bicycle on the wrong side of the road facing oncoming traffic. If you are riding your bicycle against the flow of traffic, you are more likely to be involved in a vehicle vs. bicycle collision because motorists are not expecting you to be riding the wrong way. Plus, you would most likely be considered "at-fault" in a collision if you were riding against the flow of traffic.

Did you also know that all persons under the age of 18 must wear a bicycle helmet while riding a bicycle? That's correct, but this law does not only apply to bicycles. Under California Vehicle Code section 21212(a), a person under the age of 18 must wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet while operating or riding upon a bicycle, a non-motorized scooter, or a skateboard, or who are wearing in-line or regular roller skates.



This requirement also extends to those who ride upon a bicycle while in a restraining seat that is attached to the bicycle or in a trailer towed by the bicycle.

And parents, if you take your children out for a bike ride, make sure and set a good example by also wearing a bike helmet.

If you have a traffic question you would like answered, send your question to Sgt. Anthony Kockler at akockler@ci.atherton.ca.us. He will try to answer as many questions as possible. Also, look for more traffic questions and answers in upcoming issues of The Athertonian.

Atherton Dames Annual Egg Hunt (and More)

Mark your calendars and come to the Atherton Dames Annual Egg Hunt that will be held on Saturday, April 19 at Holbrook-Palmer Park. The Egg Hunt commences at 10:00 am sharp, so get there early.

The event includes:

- Breakfast treats & beverages
- Gerald the Magician
- Picture taking opportunities with the Easter Bunny
- Face painting by Gigi and Joanna Sachs
- Atherton Police Car and Menlo Park Firemen and Trucks



Tickets (payable at the door) cost \$10 per person, cash or check only. There is no charge for children 12 months and younger.

This year's event is the work of many dedicated volunteers in the community including the Atherton Dames, the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation and M-A Little League. Proceeds benefit the Park.

Future Atherton Dames events include:

- May 1 Yoga with Katherine MacFarquhar 10:00 am - noon
- May 15 Spring General Meeting 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
- June 5 President's Party

Many of the park improvements we all enjoy today were made possible by the Atherton Dames together with the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation and generous members of our community. Join them in their continued efforts to make Atherton's park a vital and beautiful place for us all to play, run, walk and enjoy the outdoors. For information, see their website at www.athertondames.org or contact Angelina Pineda-Dropmann, at angelinapineda1@sbcglobal.net.

Atherton Creek

Where is the creek located?

Atherton Creek is located in Atherton, Redwood City, Menlo Park, Woodside, and unincorporated parts of San Mateo County.

Where does the creek flow?

The creek flows west of I-280 to Alameda de las Pulgas, through a concrete channel, and into the San Francisco Bay.

Interesting Facts:

- Atherton Creek is one of the two largest creeks in San Mateo County
- Native stickleback and large carp call this creek home
- A 2008 study concluded that there were 8 creek crossings like roads, bridges, and private driveways, but none of these interfered with fish passage
- Two restoration projects have been completed in the creek within the last 10 years
- A majority of the creek is located within private properties
- The creek is home to Red-legged frogs and Dusky Footed Wood Rats

For More Information:

Read about Atherton's storm drainage master plan at:
<http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=324>

Storm drains lead to your local Atherton creek!
Find out about Atherton's Environmental Committee at:
<http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=141>



2014 Spring Patching- Slurry Seal Project

In late May through July 2014, the Town plans to perform street maintenance along various streets in Atherton. The project entails full depth asphalt replacement of areas of pavement failure followed by an application of a micro-surfacing treatment. Areas in Town where this work is performed will also receive replacement striping and pavement markings.

Phase I of the street maintenance consists of grinding and replacing asphalt to a six inch depth to remediate local pavement failures (potholes). This work includes all necessary traffic control and will involve grinding, sweeping, tack coating, replacing asphalt and finish rolling per Town's standard specifications and special provisions. The contractor will notify each residence that is affected by their construction operation.

Phase II will consist of a micro-surface seal. A micro-surface (oil and sand mixture) is applied over the top of the existing pavement and is rolled into place with rubber tire rollers. Upon curing, the result is a street that is impervious to water as well as having about ¼ inch of new wearing surface added to the top. This surface will remain flexible for years, and as cracks, if any, work their way up from the sub-base of the road they are filled with the pliable material. Micro-surface seals last approximately five years depending on the preventative maintenance treatment and the traffic impact on each street. The street drainage pattern will not change by this micro-surface seal application; storm-water runoff will continue to flow from the crown of the road to the edge of pavement and from there flow downstream.



Please do not attempt to drive through the protected job sites, as the paving material used can damage your vehicles, and you may be liable for damages to the roadway.

As the micro-surface project date gets closer, the Town will post on the Town's website (www.ci.atherton.ca.us) a list of street closure dates. The Town will have the contractor post a seven day Notice and a 48-hour Notice on resident's doors/front gates/mailboxes that are impacted by the project, along with a construction sign on each end of a street segment that states the day, time of the road closure, and contractor's contact information. Also, barricades will be lining the streets with "NO PARKING" signs and explanatory "WORK NOTIFICATION" signs as well.

More information, including maps and affected street lists, can be found on the Town's website at www.ci.atherton.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=289 or contact Public Works directly with any additional questions (650) 752-0555.

Spring Tennis Camps

Ages 4 to 6, Tuesdays - April 1st – 29th

Ages 6 to 14, Thursdays - April 3rd – May 1st

Alan Margot Tennis programs provide an enjoyable way for your child to begin learning the game of tennis or to continue developing existing skills. Building self-esteem and confidence through enjoyment on the tennis court is a wonderful gift a child can keep forever! Our approach is to create lots of fun with positive feedback and reinforcement in a nurturing tennis environment. For more information and registration please go to: www.alanmargot-tennis.net.

Holbrook-Palmer Park's NEW Event Coordinator

The Town of Atherton has selected Catering by Dana and the Absolute Barbecue Company to take on the management of the beautiful venues at Holbrook-Palmer Park.

Catering by Dana and The Absolute Barbecue Company established in 1989 and since then have become well known throughout the Silicon Valley for their fine dining and impeccable event planning. They know all things food and event related. In addition to the endless menu options they offer to their current companies they are now embarking on a new adventure, The Absolute BBQ Express Bus. This is not your ordinary food truck. The BBQ Express bus is a stylish 1955 flexible bus that has been converted into a rolling state of the art commercial kitchen with a wood burning pizza oven inside.

Julie Simonin has been selected as the new on site venue manager. She has over 30+ years in the hospitality/event planning industry. Julie will be assisting all prospective clients with reserving and planning their events at the park.

Next time you are looking for a sensational venue for your wedding, birthday party, bar/bat mitzvah, baby shower or a beautiful memorial service we hope your choice will be one of the picturesque venues at Holbrook-Palmer Park.



To reach Julie call: 650-752-0534
Or email: jsimonin@ci.atherton.ca.us
Check our website at: www.ci.atherton.ca.us



Spring Events at the Atherton Library

CHILDREN'S STORY TIMES:

Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time
Tuesdays at 11:30 am
For children ages 0 to 18 months
Year Round

Toddler Time
Tuesdays at 10:30 am
For children ages 18 mo to 36 mo
Ongoing through April 29,

Musical Story time
2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
February-April at 4 pm
Family story time for all ages

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Monday, March 31 at 7 pm
Western Ballet presents "La Fille
Mal Gardee" For ages 4 and up.

Thursday, April 3 at 3:30 pm
Origami
For 3 and up

Monday, April 14 at 4 pm Charlie
Hope in concert. For all ages.

Thursday, April 17 at 4 pm-
Craft Time
Drop in craft for ages 3 and up

Saturday, April 19 from 1-3 pm-
Block Party!

Thursday, May 8 at 4 pm-
Craft Time
Drop in craft for ages 3 and up

Monday, May 12 at 4 pm – Magic
Dan
For ages 5 and up.

Tuesday, June 3 at 10:30 am
Toddler Dance Party
Recommended for children ages 18
months to age 3.

Thursday, June 19 at 3 pm-
Craft Time
Drop in craft for ages 3 and up

PAWS FOR TALES- 4th Saturday
of each month from 11 am –12pm
Children ages 5 and older
April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26,
August 23

FINAL FRIDAY FLICKS @ 7 pm
Family friendly films are shown the
last Friday of the month:

4/25 Despicable Me 2 (98 min, PG)
5/30 The Jungle Book (78 min, G)
Film titles are subject to change.

**** The Mondays at 4:00 PM**
programs, Final Friday Flicks,
and Ice Cream Socials are
sponsored by the Friends of the
Atherton Library. If you wish to
sponsor a special children's
program, contact the librarian for
details at 328-2422, ext. 225.

ADULT AND TEEN PROGRAMS:

Tuesday, April 15th at 6:30 pm-
"The Next Big Earthquake"
Join Tom Brocher, Director of the
U.S. Geological Survey Earthquake
Science Center

COMPUTER COACH

Every Monday from 12pm -1pm.
Sign up in advance for personal
one on one computer or Internet
instruction.

KNIT TOGETHER

An informal gathering of knitters
meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of
each month from 2 to 4 PM. Please
note there is no instruction at this
event. Please bring your own
supplies.

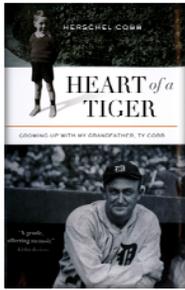
Check our website for details on our
Summer Learning events, coming in
June!

Library events are posted on the
library web site at www.smcl.org

Atherton History

Baseball great Ty Cobb (1886 – 1961) lived in Atherton for many years. His grandson, Herschel Cobb (resident of Menlo Park) has recently written a book about their relationship. **Heart of a Tiger** gives a look into the private life of one of our famous residents and what life was like in the 1950s.

~ Atherton Heritage Association.



DOG TRAINING CLASSES

DOG DAYS – Offerings include a puppy class featuring obstacles and agility, a beginners' class, and an intermediate class with “canine good citizen” certification. Classes offered quarterly. Minimum dog age is 3 months.

Mondays
6:30PM & 7:30PM
Bari Halperin
650-851-5500
dog.days@comcast.net



TOP DOG – TopDog Dog Training offers customized group dog obedience training. All breeds and levels welcome. Experienced trainers – satisfied clients – proven results. Private lessons are available.

Tuesday & Thursday afternoons
Freddie Jackson
650-619-8114
freddietopdog@gmail.com



Atherton Arts Foundation

Mark your calendar for a special event which will be held at the Main House in Holbrook-Palmer Park on Friday, June 6 (4pm-7:30pm) and Saturday, June 7 (1pm- 4pm). Four talented local artists will participate, and a limited number of attendees will have the opportunity to take a free class on iPad painting to be offered by Caroline Mustard, a UK born traditional painter and teacher.

The 10th Annual Art Show & Reception will be held at Jennings Pavilion on Friday, Sept. 5th. More information will be forthcoming.



Atherton Tennis Court Keys

**NEW KEYS MAY BE PURCHASED AT
ATHERTON TOWN HALL
91 ASHFIELD ROAD
8:00-12:00 pm and 1:00-5:00 pm
(Monday – Friday)**

**\$50 ATHERTON RESIDENTS
\$200 NON-RESIDENTS
(Valid ID Required)**



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
STEVE TYLER, PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT
650-752-0541 OR EMAIL styler@ci.atherton.ca.us



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**Atherton Resident
Atherton, CA 94027**

Town Directory

TOWN OFFICE'S

Administration	650-752-0500	jherren@ci.atherton.ca.us
Building Department	650-752-0560	bhale@ci.atherton.ca.us
City Attorney	831-601-1100	wconners@ci.atherton.ca.us
City Clerk/Human Resources	650-752-0529	tdellasanata@ci.atherton.ca.us
City Manager	650-752-0504	grodericks@ci.atherton.ca.us
Finance Department	650-752-0552	rbarron@ci.atherton.ca.us
Heritage Room	650-688-6540	meo@rjoster.com
Holbrook-Palmer Park Events	650-752-0534	jsimonin@ci.atherton.ca.us
Planning Department	650-752-0544	amardesich@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Administration	650-752-0503	jfrew@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Non-Emergency	650-323-8471	
Police Emergency	911	
Police Investigation	650-752-0565	aguarducci@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Support Services	650-752-0506	jwade@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Records	650-688-6500	
Public Works Department	650-752-0541	krbertson@ci.atherton.ca.us

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Cary Wiest	650-357-7122	cwiest@ci.atherton.ca.us
Vice Mayor Rick DeGolia	650-793-2800	rdegolia@ci.atherton.ca.us
Councilmember Bill Widmer	650-530-0078	bwidmer@ci.atherton.ca.us
Councilmember Elizabeth Lewis	650-533-8830	elewis@ci.atherton.ca.us