

# THE Athertonian

## What's New In Town

Municipal Elections

Post Office Hours Update  
Overview Services

National Night Out by  
Police Chief, Steve McCulley

Francesca Reyes, Office Specialist  
Officer Johnathan Massagli

Celebrating Police Volunteer  
Skip Mills

A Word from Atherton's  
Arborist, Sally Bentz

Safety First!

Right-Of-Way  
Maintenance



## Town of ATHERTON

**Save the Date! Join us for the Annual National Night Out**

**Tuesday, August 7**

**6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.**

**Enjoy Free Food!**

**Have Amazing Fun!**



**A Nation-Wide  
Stand Against Crime**

**Come Support  
Community Partnerships**

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Family Movie Night at  
Holbrook- Palmer Park,  
8 p.m.—10 p.m. June 29, 2018

National Night Out,  
6p.m.– 8 p.m. August 8, 2018

Town Hall Closed for  
Independence Day, July 4, 2018

Town Hall Closed for Labor Day,  
September 3, 2018



The Atherton Heritage Association is moving during the Civic Center construction to an office in the Main House at Holbrook Palmer Park. The association will still be open for research on Tuesdays from 10am until noon. Please visit us and continue to bring us information or to see what we have on the history of our wonderful Town. Volunteers are welcomed and we hope to see you this summer!

For more information, contact Marion E. Oster at [meo@rjoster.com](mailto:meo@rjoster.com) or (650)688-6540

# Municipal Election

The City Council adopted a Resolution calling the November 6, 2018 General Municipal Election. The Town will hold an election for the purpose of electing three (3) council members to four (4) year terms beginning in December, 2018 and expiring in December 2022.

The filing period for nomination papers, candidate statements and related documents will be available in the Office of the City Clerk, 91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, CA, beginning on Monday, July 16 at 8:00 a.m. Nomination papers must be submitted by Friday, August 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. except that in the event an incumbent for any such office does not file nomination papers by that date and time, the period is extended for five days to Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

The last day to register to vote in the election is October 22, 2018 and is open to all United States Citizens who will be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the time of the next election.

Check the Town's webpage for additional and future election information at  
[www.ci.atherton.ca.us/November6](http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/November6)



**UNITED STATES  
POSTAL SERVICE**

**Administration Building—Front Desk  
91 Ashfield Dr.**

***POST OFFICE HOURS***

**Monday—Friday**

**8:30 a.m —12: p.m. & 1 p.m. — 4p.m.**

## POSTAL SERVICES:

- Postage Stamp Sales
  - Domestic Package Services - First Class, Retail Ground (Standard Post), Priority, Media Mail, and complementary tracking
  - Domestic Letter Services – First Class, Priority, Media Mail, and Certified and Return Receipt
  - International Services - First Class Letters
- \*Cash and check only

## *From Chief of Police, Steve McCulley*

National Night Out is just a few weeks away. On Tuesday, August 7, 2018 from 6pm to 8pm, the Town of Atherton will host its 5th annual National Night Out in the Park at Holbrook-Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave. National Night Out is a nation-wide program designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support and participation in crime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community relations, and let criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



Spend the Evening with Us! Atherton residents are asked to turn on their outside lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police at Holbrook-Palmer Park. There will be handouts and giveaways, balloon makers and face painters, popcorn and cotton candy, music, jumpy houses, an appearance by Red E. Fox, landing of the CHP helicopter and a free BBQ.

For more information about the event please contact Francesca Reyes at [freyes@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:freyes@ci.atherton.ca.us)

National Night Out is a nice evening for families to meet their police department, talk about neighborhood concerns, and see some of the Atherton Police Department's equipment such as motorcycles and the D.A.R.E vehicle. This event sends a strong message that the police and community are united to make Atherton a safe community to live and raise a family. We hope to see you and your family at National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7th from 6pm to 8pm in Holbrook-Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave, Atherton.



Police Chief Steven McCulley (650)752-0508 [smcculley@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:smcculley@ci.atherton.ca.us)

## **Francesca Reyes**



Francesca has joined the Town of Atherton as the new Office Specialist. She previously came from the City Clerk's Office of Redwood City where she worked as an Administrative Assistant. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Human Service Management and has experience working with several non-profit agencies that provides therapeutic serves to children in need. Prior to her start in public services, Francesca worked for a finance company in the Probate Department.

Francesca came from Daly City and attended Oceana High School. She is pursuing her Master's Degree in Public Administration and will continue on her path in serving the Town of Atherton.

## Officer Johnathan Massagli

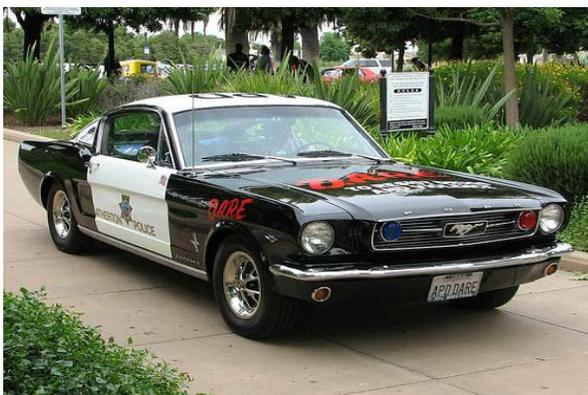


It is our pleasure to welcome Johnathan Massagli to the Atherton Police Department. Chief Steve McCulley swore Officer Massagli in after his graduation ceremony from the Police Academy, class SB #144.

Johnathan is a Mountain View native, graduating from Mountain View High School and continuing his education attending Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont where he is one class away from obtaining his Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology. In addition, he is a certified E.M.T. (Emergency Medical Technician).

He began working in law enforcement at the Mountain View Police Department where he was a Police Assistant supporting the Fleet Services Division ensuring that all police vehicles were maintained, serviced and outfitted with all required equipment. He then transferred to the Traffic Division where he was a downtown parking enforcement officer. Concurrently, he also coached soccer at Graham Middle School for 10 years. After more than 6 years at Mountain View Police Department, he was hired by Google where he worked for the past two years. In his spare time, he enjoys travelling, watching and supporting bay area sports teams, playing soccer and spending time with family and friends.

## Thank you, Skip Mills



On Wednesday, May 16, the Council commended the volunteer services of Skip Mills, who has worked for the last 20 years in the Atherton Police Department. For several years he spent restoring the 1966 Ford Mustang that was donated to the PD by former Council member Alan Carlson. Skip retired as a car mechanic and started working on restoring the DARE car where the vehicle was stripped to its frame and shell then re-assembled. He spent over 5 years refurbishing the car with now deceased Atherton Police volunteer Ken Bowers.



Skip takes the DARE car to charitable events and car shows, and works to incorporate the car into events at local schools in coordination with Atherton's School Resource Officer. Most recently, Skip and the DARE car visited Las Lomas School for career day with the students.

Skip's son Brad Mills, retired as a Sergeant from the Atherton Police Department in 2017. Many of the department (shown in photo) all honored Skip and his many hours of volunteer service.

Front Row, Right to left -Volunteer Skip Mills, Officer Chris Greene, Officer Johnathan Massagli, Officer Krystal Pronske Back Row, Right to left - Sgt. Dan Larsen, Commander Joe Wade, Chief Steve McCulley, Officer Harris Smiler, Officer Josh Gatto, Officer Dan Rojas



# Safety First!

Here is some information on Pedestrian Safety from the Atherton Police Department:

According to California Vehicle Code section 21956(a) and (b), under normal circumstances, when you are walking on a roadway, you must walk facing traffic, with the outside edge of the road on your left hand side. This allows you to see approaching vehicles and move out of the way if necessary. If you are walking the same direction as vehicles are traveling, you will not be able to see the vehicles approaching, and will not be able to react if needed.

If you walk at night or at times of low light, please realize that the Town of Atherton does not have many street lamps, the roads are dark and narrow, and pedestrians are difficult to see. Please do the following to increase your visibility to approaching drivers:

- 1) Wear light colored and / or reflective clothing
- 2) Carry a flashlight and keep it lit while walking
- 3) Stay on the shoulder of the road – do not walk in the middle of the roadway or in the middle of a traffic lane

Additionally, per California Vehicle Code section 21456, if you are crossing a street at a signal controlled intersection, do not enter the street on a solid red “Don’t Walk” or “Upraised Hand” symbol.

You may enter the street to cross the intersection if the signal is flashing a red “Don’t Walk” or

“Upraised Hand” symbol as long as a countdown timer is shown. However, you must complete your crossing before the signal reverts to a solid red “Don’t Walk” or “Upraised Hand” symbol.

If the signal is flashing a red “Don’t Walk” or “Upraised Hand” symbol, and no countdown timer is present, you may not enter the street to begin your crossing.

Finally, for driver’s approaching the new Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons on El Camino Real:

- 1) If the signal is dark (off) you may proceed through when safe.
- 2) A Flashing yellow light indicates a pedestrian has pushed the walk button – proceed with caution.
- 3) A solid yellow light indicates the signal is about to turn red – slow down and prepare to stop.
- 4) Solid red lights mean you must stop and remain stopped.
- 5) When the red lights start to flash, you must stop prior to the crosswalk, then you can proceed through the crosswalk when it is safe to do so – no further pedestrians crossing the street.

If you have a traffic question you would like answered, send your question to Sgt. Anthony Kockler at [akockler@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:akockler@ci.atherton.ca.us).





## Why Hire a Certified Arborist?

A Certified Arborist is an arborist by definition who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees. ISA arborist certification is a nongovernmental, voluntary process by which individuals can document their base of knowledge. Certified Arborists have achieved a level of knowledge in tree care through experience and by passing a comprehensive examination developed by some of the nation's leading experts on tree care. Proper tree care is an investment that can lead to substantial returns. Well cared-for trees are attractive and can add considerable value to your property. Poorly maintained trees can be a significant liability. Pruning or removing trees, especially large trees, can be dangerous work. Tree work should be done only by those trained and equipped to work safely in trees. In the Town of Atherton it is required to hire a qualified tree care specialist or certified tree worker to prune or remove trees.

### A Certified Arborist is required by the Town for:

- Arborist Report for Tree Removal
  - Tree Protection Plans
- Overseeing Construction activities near trees
- Removal of a heritage tree that may impact another heritage trees branches or roots
  - Tree Appraisal

Per the Atherton Municipal Code 8.10.020.C. "Damage to a heritage tree" means any action, in the judgment of the building official or town arborist, which will cause damage to its health including, by way of example, but not limited to, excess pruning, topping, cutting, girdling, poisoning, over-watering, unauthorized relocation or transportation of a tree, trenching, excavating, altering the grade, compaction or paving near the tree. (Ord. 533 § 1, 2002: Ord. 462 §1(B), 1991: Ord. 444 § 2, 1989). In most cases a Certified Arborist will be aware of the damage that occurs when excessive pruning or topping a tree causes and is not allowed per code or is a healthy option for your tree(s).

## Summer Tree Watering Tips

There have been many questions about watering in the summer and saving drought stressed trees. Additional water is recommended for most trees including mature trees, except Oaks, to help preserve your green investment.

In general, during the dry summer months it is recommended to apply a deep watering 1-2 times a month with soaker hoses at the dripline and away from trunk. Water in early morning or evening to avoid evaporation. It is best to put the soaker hose on a slow drip for 2-3 hours or until the top 12-18" or 18-24" depending on tree age are damp. Wood chips should be placed 4-6 inches around the tree out to dripline and 3' away from trunk.

The area under the dripline of a Native Oak should remain undisturbed and clear of any vegetation and irrigation this includes lawn and

ivy, this will reduce competition from other plants and help eliminate excess moisture. Do not water or allow water to collect around the root flare. Do not allow sprinklers to spray on the trunk. This is because if irrigation is applied near their trunk during the dry season, the Armillaria fungus will grow due to the combination of warmth and moisture. As the tree matures, continued watering around the trunk maintains the fungus infestation, which in turn will cause the tree to die, or tip over from too few roots to anchor its top weight. However, it has been found that under periods of prolonged drought, supplemental irrigation of established oak trees may prevent their decline and death. It is best to consult your private certified arborist to see if your Oaks should receive any summer irrigation.



Please contact the Town Arborist Sally Bentz at (650-752-0526) or at [sbentz@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:sbentz@ci.atherton.ca.us) for more information.

# Right-of-Way Maintenance

Though the Town regulates activities in the roadway right-of-way through its encroachment permit process, it is important to understand that maintenance of the frontage strip area of the right-of-way is the responsibility of adjoining property owners. This responsibility includes the ground surface, landscaping, trees, and any other approved improvements. Additionally, landscaping in the right-of-way (including trees) must be maintained in a healthy growing condition, so as not to create a safety hazard or a public nuisance. All lot frontage strip areas are to be maintained free of weeds, litter and debris.

To preserve the rural nature of the town, no pavement, poured concrete, asphalt or similar material shall be used in any right-of-way except for ingress and egress to the property. When any existing pavement, poured concrete, asphalt or other impervious material becomes materially damaged and/or unsafe it is to be removed and the area improved to current Town guidelines.

For more information, check out the Town's website at [www.ci.atherton.ca.us](http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us) or call Public Works at (650-752-0570)



## Find & Tame Your Home Energy Hogs

Your neighbors' average savings are over \$1,750/year.

Join over 75 others in Atherton who have already been using the HomeIntel energy savings program, offered now at no charge by Home Energy Analytics (HEA) on behalf of PG&E. Find the energy hog devices wasting money in your home and discover ways to save \$1000s/year. Athertonians who started with an earlier program six years ago are now saving on average over \$1,750/year! For neighbors who signed up between 3-9 months ago for HEA's latest, PG&E-funded program, the average savings are already up to \$600/year. Why not you?

The HomeIntel service consists of Smart Audit, HEA's online energy analysis and management software tool, and Energy Coach support. Get an analysis of your energy use based on your own smart meter data, covering all electric and gas usage in your home.

You can get a set of customized recommendations that usually includes many simple, low-cost fixes. And your Energy Coach and regular email reports help you carry out your savings plan and keep you on track.

"We signed up for the HomeIntel Smart Audit program and really didn't expect much. Boy, were we wrong! Chris from HomeIntel was smart and passionate about saving energy. He helped us find a few areas that were big energy drains and ways to overcome them. We would highly recommend this program!"

- Joan I., Atherton



**Eligibility:** Free to all customers of Peninsula Clean Energy and PG&E with at least 12 months of residency and no solar electric panels.

To learn more and to start saving, go to [www.hea.com/SMC](http://www.hea.com/SMC). For any questions, contact James Tuleya at [JamesT@hea.com](mailto:JamesT@hea.com).





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**