



ATHERTONIAN

Quarterly Newsletter for Atherton Residents

Fall 2001

Public Safety Meetings

The Atherton Crime Prevention Task Force and the Atherton Police Department invite all residents to attend one of two upcoming Town Meetings to discuss programs and services available to Atherton residents.

Agenda items include:

- Atherton Disaster Program
- Preparing and surviving a major, disruptive and catastrophic event
- Critical Incident Intervention
- Dealing with the aftermath of critical incidents
- Police response to school violence
- How the police are working with schools to safeguard our children
- Burglary prevention
- The months of November and December traditionally bring significant increases in residential burglaries.

Meeting Dates

October 23, 2001, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Encinal School, 195 Encinal Avenue
Multi-purpose room

October 25, 2001, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Las Lomas School, 299 Alameda
Multi-purpose room

We urge you to attend one of these Town meetings. Task Force members, Police Chief Bob Brennan and City Manager Jim Robinson will be present to answer questions.

A Message from the Menlo Park Fire Protection District:



Local Rescue Team Returns Home

California Task Force #3 Urban Search and Rescue Team (CA-TF3 USAR) arrived home on Sunday, September 30 after spending 12 days in New York City following the terrorist

attacks on September 11, 2001. The CA-TF3 USAR's primary mission is to perform lifesaving extrication of victims trapped by structural col-

lapse during earthquakes, hurricanes, tornados, floods, acts of terrorism and other disasters. Approximately one-third of the team members are from Menlo Park Fire Protection District, which serves the residents of Atherton. Team members were very proud to represent CA-TF3 and State of California in this endeavor, and all were very glad to come home safe and sound to their families and friends.

Both the CA-TF3 team members and the Menlo Park Fire Protection District express their heartfelt sympathy to the victims of the attacks of September 11, 2001. The Fire Department of New York lost several hundred firefighters during these attacks, and it will take many years for their Department to replace the experience they lost. The loss of their Chief, Ray Downing, will also be felt for many years. Ray was very instrumental in the Development of the USAR Task Force Concept which ultimately lead to the formation of the team CA-TF3.

During the next six months the District Firefighters will be wearing new uniform shirts. When you see firefighters wearing their uniform work shirts, you will see the FDNY logo on the sleeve. The members are proudly wearing the logo to honor their fellow firefighters of New York.

“Both the CA-TF3 team members and the Menlo Park Fire Protection District express their heartfelt sympathy to the victims of the attacks of September 11, 2001.”



Inside...

Directories	Page 3
Atherton Dames Events	Page 4
Craft workshops for kids	Page 6
Calendar	Page 8

Tree Committee Names Winners in Tree Awards



The Atherton Tree Committee is pleased to announce the winners in the 2001 Tree Awards program.

Trees nominated by residents were judged based on the following criteria: condition; size; age; unique species; historical significance; or a grove of mature trees native to this area. The Town congratulates the following residents and their outstanding trees: Jan Zones, Chinese Elm; Tom & Mimi

Howarth, Redwoods; Robert & Barbara Huber, Japanese Maple; Darlene & George Shaheen, Valley Oak; Geoff & Andrea Ralston, Redwood; Chris Brosterhous, Valley Oak; Rita & Amedeo Gado, Blenheim Apricot; Esther Eitel, Redwood grove and Magnolia; Max Stilton, Blue Oak; Mary H. Ford, Valley Oak. A presentation will be made at the November 6, 2001 City Council meeting at which time the winners will receive their awards. The Tree Committee would like to thank the property owners for nominating their special trees and for maintaining the heritage trees that make Atherton a unique community.

Atherton Police Provides a valuable service to our Residents called TeleMinder-CARE.

The TeleMinder-CARE voice messaging system addresses five areas of public safety community services:

- 1) Emergency Alerts
- 2) Post-disaster assessment and response coordination
- 3) Long term recovery services
- 4) Routine staff, community telephone bulletin boards, and notifications
- 5) Routine check up services

This service addresses significant problems such as: communicating with large numbers of people in times of emergencies, disasters and Public Service Announcements (such as the burglary alert we sent out last October when our community was experiencing an increased number of home burglaries and robberies), and monitoring the well-being of elders and the homebound on a routine basis.

The TeleMinder has a routine checkup call capability. Once the elder has been added to the database and has indicated when the checkup calls should occur, the TeleMinder-CARE system will automatically make the checkup calls everyday. If an elder does not answer their checkup call or indicate they need help, the TeleMinder-CARE system will declare an alert to Atherton Police who will dispatch police to welfare check the elder.

For more information on this service, contact Priscella O'Shea, Police Communications Supervisor, at 752-0509.

Celebrate D.A.R.E. Red Ribbon Week!

The week of October 23 through October 31, 2001 will be celebrated in communities throughout the country as Annual "Red Ribbon Week." This event began in 1988 to commemorate the life of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Agent who died in the fight against drugs. All schools in Atherton are celebrating this event. During this week, young people and adults are asked to wear or display a red ribbon to show their commitment to a healthy, drug-free life.

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

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

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

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

James R. Janz, Councilmember 325-8666
term expires 11/2004 e-mail: jjanz@ci.atherton.ca.us

Kathleen McKeithen, Councilmember..... 321-3633
term expires 11/2004 e-mail: kmckethen@ci.atherton.ca.us



Helpful Phone Numbers

(All area codes are 650)

AT&T Broadband Cable856-8181
California Water Service.....367-6800

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

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,
Senior Planner 802-4207

Finance

Bill Yeomans,
Interim Director 752-0531
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
Frank Agamau,
Interim Superintendent 752-0541
Information/Permits 752-0570
Jean Cardona,
Park Program Mgr. 752-0534
Kathy Hughes Anderson,
Town Arborist 752-0526

Montalvo and the Atherton Arts Committee

The Atherton Arts Committee has joined with Montalvo and the newly-restored Fox Theatre in Redwood City to make reserved seating available to Atherton residents for the next three outstanding stage productions.

Forty reserved seats will be available on a "first come, first served" basis for "Aladdin" (Sunday, November 18 at 1:00 p.m.) and "A Christmas Carol" (Sunday, December 9 at 1:00 p.m.). Ticket prices for these productions are \$19.00 for adults and \$11.00 for children under 12. Prices include a \$3.00 donation to the Atherton Arts Committee.

Reservations may be held through payment by checks or cash. Both shows are produced by the American Family Theatre.

Comedians Tim Conway and Harvey Korman will visit the Fox to start the New Year season, with a performance on Sunday, February 3 at 4:00 p.m. The Atherton Arts Committee will have tickets for this sell-out as well. The ticket price will be \$68.00.

A flyer announcing these shows was mailed to all Atherton residents. Interested theatre-goers should act promptly using the coupon attached to the flyer.

In addition, the Smuin Ballet Company presents its Christmas ballet on December 14, 2001. Reservations and tickets for this event are available by calling the Committee at 482-9824.

The Arts Committee supports a variety of arts-related functions from the after-school "Art in the Park" program for children, a summer dance camp, concerts, art exhibits, a photo contest, and guest speakers.

The Arts Committee supports a variety of arts-related functions from the after-school "Art in the Park" program for children, a summer dance camp, concerts, art exhibits, a photo contest, and guest speakers. Visit the Arts Committee on the Town's website at www.ci.atherton.ca.us, click on "Arts Committee" on the left-hand side of the home page.

Update on Alarm Fee

As reported in the last issue of the *Athertonian*, in July of this year the City Council decided to institute a new fee structure for false alarms. The hook-up fee was eliminated, with no charge for the first false alarm, and a \$100 charge per false alarm thereafter. Under the former policy, a \$300 hook-up fee was in place, with the first three false alarms free, and \$50 for each false alarm thereafter. The actual ordinance to implement the new fee structure will become effective later this year, with resident billings starting in January 2002. Residents with questions regarding alarms should contact Priscella O'Shea, Police Communications Supervisor, at 752-0509.

Atherton Dames Upcoming Events at Holbrook-Palmer Park



Return of the Haunted House

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Holbrook-Palmer Park

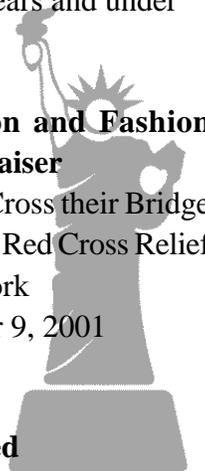
For children 10 years and under
\$5.00 donation

Bridge Luncheon and Fashion Show - A Fund-raiser

Atherton Dames Cross their Bridge with the American Red Cross Relief Effort for New York

Friday, November 9, 2001

\$50.00



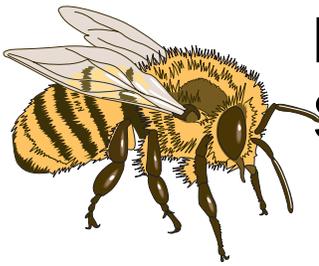
An Old Fashioned Christmas Tea

A Children's Event

Sunday, December 16, 2001



For more information on these events and registration, contact Pattie DeWalt at the Park Office at 752-0536.



Mosquito Abatement Services Available

The San Mateo County Mosquito Abatement District (SMCMAD) provides the following services for Atherton residents:

Mosquitoes - Inspection and control for mosquitoes, including free mosquitofish for backyard fishponds.

Yellowjackets - Control of nests on residential property, information on prevention, biology and ecology.

Insect and Tick Identification - Information on identification, biology, ecology and control.

Disease Surveillance - Surveillance for vector-borne diseases such as mosquito-borne encephalitis, canine heartworm, malaria, plague, hantavirus and Lyme disease.

Community Education - Presentations, materials and workshops for schools, fairs and civic groups.

Africanized Honeybee Swarm Removal Don't worry! We don't have Africanized Honeybees in San Mateo County. If we ever do, you can call us for swarm information and removal services.

If you are experiencing problems with mosquitoes or yellowjackets in your area, would like to receive mosquitofish, would like to have your property surveyed for mosquito breeding sources, or need an insect specimen identified, please call SMCMAD at 344-8592 and have the following information ready:

- Name
- Daytime phone number
- Street address and cross street
- Nature of the call (mosquitoes, mosquitofish, yellowjackets, insect identification)

In addition, it would be helpful to provide the following information:

Mosquitoes:

- Time of day you are bitten
- Location you are bitten
- Sample of the mosquito (dead or alive) in a small container

You need not be home in order to have your property surveyed or treated for mosquitoes. If there is street access to your yard, please indicate this as well as any obstacles (gates, dogs, etc.).

Mosquitofish:

- Size of your fishpond
- Street access to the fishpond (If you don't need your mosquitofish anymore, please don't release the fish into creeks.)

Yellowjackets:

- Exact location of the nest entrance (must be located by the caller)
- Accessibility to the nest

If you cannot be present to show the location of the nest to the technician, and street access is available, a map of your property with the nest entrance indicated on it will suffice. It would also be helpful to place an obvious object near the nest to mark its location. SMCMAD does not control nests located inside of structures. Do not throw objects, cover, or spray the nest with water.

More questions?

Call SMCMAD at 344-8592.

Celebrate the Holidays without Filling up the Landfill

Imagine 38,000 miles worth of ribbon tied into a festive holiday bow around Earth. That is how much ribbon Americans throw out each holiday season.

Plan now to use less "stuff" this holiday season with these waste-reduction tips provided by the Town's waste hauler, **Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI)**:

- Send an on-line electronic greeting card, or use cards or postcards made from recycled paper.
- Creative wrapping paper substitutes include scarves, tins, baskets, and old maps or used blueprint paper. The Sunday comics, or even the sports section for a sports enthusiast make great creative wrapping paper.
- If you purchase a tree, consider a live tree or a reusable tree.
- Buy or make decorations that can be used year after year.
- If you like holiday plates or cups, invest in reusable ones and store them from holiday season to holiday season.

Source: BFI Quarterly Customer Newsletter, Fall 2001.

Celebrate Responsibly!



Crime Warning

Most residents remember the two home invasion robberies we experienced in December 1999 and November 2000. Last year, a suspect was arrested in San Diego County that we believe to be one of the suspects involved. He is still in custody on robbery charges in San Diego; however, other suspects were still at large and unidentified. Our Police Department has received information that the other suspects have begun where they left off. To date, two robberies have occurred in Southern California cities previously victimized, the most recent on September 30 in Los Angeles County.

Make sure all doors and windows are locked. Use exterior lights during the evening hours. Be sure to turn on your home alarms, and call the police if you see anything suspicious.

We urge all residents to be extra careful in their home security. Make sure all doors and windows are locked. Use exterior lights during the evening hours. Be sure to turn on your home alarms, and call the police if you see anything suspicious. Our patrol officers have been notified of this information and will be briefed about what to look for.

We hope to have additional information available for residents at our community meetings on October 23 at Encinal School and October 25 at Las Lomitas School; both meetings are at 6:00 PM. (See related article on front page of this *Athertonian*). Be there for the updates and other valuable information regarding crime and emergency/disaster planning.

Atherton Police Department Annual Report Available Online

The Annual Report 2000-2001 for the Atherton Police Department can be accessed on the internet. To read about the department's accomplishments, a message from the Chief, and specific organizational objectives, please log on to: www.ci.atherton.ca.us and click on the link "Annual Report - Police."

Many thanks to Marion Oster, Town Historian, for providing and maintaining many of the photos shown throughout the report. If you should have any problems in downloading this information, please contact Jennifer Frew at 752-0503.

Holiday Craft Workshops for Kids Sponsored by the Atherton Arts Committee

For students Pre-K to 6th Grade

All sessions are held on Fridays from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Arts Committee Room at Holbrook-Palmer Park.

Session 1 - (fee:\$85; includes all classes):

Halloween: Spider Ornaments - Friday, October 26, 2001

Thanksgiving: Painted Box - Friday, November 16, 2001

Chanukkah: 3-D Menorah - Friday, December 7, 2001

Christmas: Painted Ball Ornaments - Friday, December 14, 2001

New Year: Hanging Stars - Friday, December 21, 2001

Session 2 begins in February, 2002, and will be announced in the Winter issue of the *Athertonian*.

For more information and sign-up, call the Arts Committee at 482-9824 or e-mail atherton_arts@hotmail.com.

Vote November 6th!

On November 6th, registered voters in Atherton will have the opportunity to vote on several Special District measures and District Board candidates. Your polling place location will appear on your sample ballot, which will be mailed from the County approximately three weeks prior to the election.

Voters wishing to vote absentee may use the application which comes with their sample ballot, obtain an absentee ballot application at the Town Hall, or download an application from the County's website at www.shapethefuture.org. Voted absentee ballots may be dropped off in the absentee ballot box at Town Hall.

October 30th is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot. Questions regarding the election should be directed to the County Registrar at 312-5222.

Town Meets Waste Reduction Goals

Congratulations Athertonians!

The Atherton Waste Reduction Committee is proud to announce that Atherton was one of four cities out of ten cities that are part of the South Bayside Waste Management Authority in San Mateo County, to meet the state mandated 50% diversion rate for the year 2000. In the report submitted to the California Integrated Waste Management Board due September 1, 2001, the Town was able to declare a 54% diversion rate. Part of the Town's success is due to the implementation of the Construction and Demolition Ordinance. The Waste Reduction Committee worked with Kathleen Gallagher, Recycling



Manager for the county authority, the CIWMB and the County's consulting firm, Environmental Science Associates to generate our 2000 report. Unlike other cities, the Town used actual counted diversion numbers rather than the CIWMB's calculation method, which factors in sales tax revenue. The Town was able to increase our diversion rate from 43% using the Board's formula, to 54% using actual counted diversion. The CIWMB requires jurisdictions to sustain 50% for 2001 and subsequent years and report annually on diversion rates and diversion programs status. To learn how you can increase your participation in recycling programs, call Kathy Hughes Anderson at 752-0526.

Please, keep up the good work!

Council Adopts Budget for Fiscal Year 2001-2002

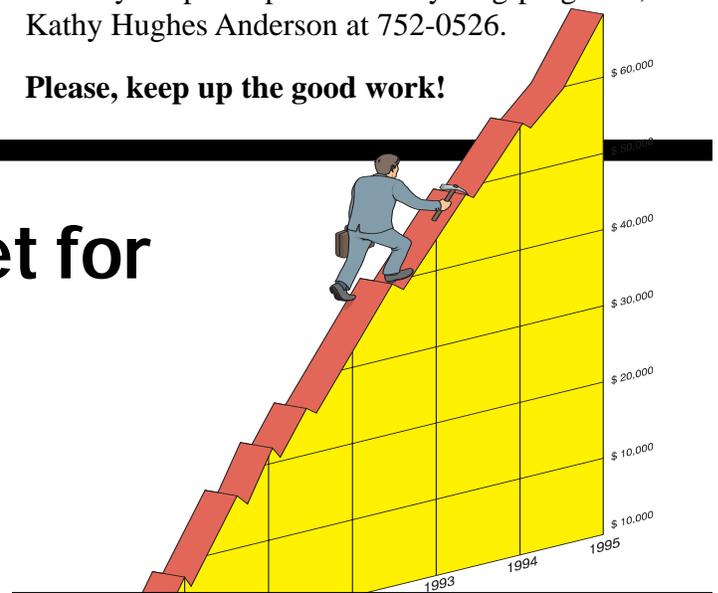
With the voter approval of the Parcel Tax in early June, the City Council proceeded to adopt the Fiscal Year 2001-2002 Budget.

Revenues

The Parcel Tax will be allocated primarily to Capital Improvements (\$1,250,000) with the remaining \$350,000 used for General Fund operations. General Fund revenues at \$6,535,096 are up only 1.1% from fiscal year 2000-2001, even after adding the \$350,000. Property Taxes are still growing, while Property Transfer Taxes, Building Permits and Alarm Fees are estimated to decline. The Council replaced the across-the-board Alarm Fee with a False Alarm Fee of \$100 which is triggered on the second false alarm. (See related article on Page 4.)

Expenditures

General Fund expenditures were reduced by 0.5% to \$6,613,079. This level reflects the re-building of staffing through a recruitment and retention program undertaken last year. The total number of employees is



almost the same as the prior year budget, except for two police officers funded by a State grant.

Capital Improvements

The Middlefield Road street and drainage improvement project is budgeted for \$1,810,700, which will be funded from several sources, including federal grants, road impact fees, and restricted street and drainage funds.

The \$1,250,000 from the Parcel Tax will be programmed during the new fiscal year. In addition, the Playground at Holbrook-Palmer Park is currently under construction, funded by donations of \$325,000.

The total budget for all funds is \$11,147,461 or 33.6% higher than last fiscal year, reflecting the increase in Capital Improvement Projects made available by the passage of the parcel tax.

CALENDAR

Call 752-0529 for information on changes and special meetings

October

17	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
24	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
26	Arts Committee	11:00 a.m.	Admin. Offices Mtg. Rm.

November

Planning Commission Meeting Cancelled

6	Waste Reduction Comm.	2:00 p.m.	Admin. Offices Mtg. Rm.
6*	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Pavilion, H-P Park
7	Park & Rec Comm.	6:30 p.m.	H-P Park, Main House

12 Veterans' Day, Town Offices Closed

22, 23 Thanksgiving Holidays, Town Offices Closed

30	Arts Committee	11:00 a.m.	Admin. Offices Mtg. Rm.
----	----------------	------------	-------------------------

December

5	Planning Commission	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
5	Park & Rec Comm.	6:30 p.m.	H-P Park, Main House
6	General Plan Comm.	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
19	City Council	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers

25 Christmas Holiday, Town Offices Closed

TBD Arts Committee

* Note change in meeting date and location.

Council Clarifies Noise Ordinance

In September, the City Council adopted an ordinance which clarifies the Town's existing law related to the transport of construction materials.

Under the existing ordinance, vehicles engaged in the *delivery* of supplies, equipment and materials to construction sites in the Town are prohibited between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., Monday through Friday, and prohibited all day Saturday, Sunday and holidays. The revision to the ordinance clarifies that *pickup* or retrieval of materials is also prohibited during these same days and hours. This change was made to ensure that the Town's noise restrictions are observed, regardless of whether construction related vehicles are engaged in delivery and/or pickup. The complete text of the Ordinance, which is Ordinance No. 526, is available for viewing on the Town's website at www.ci.atherton.ca.us, click on "Municipal Code" then "View the Newly Adopted Ordinances."

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