



The Town of Corte Madera's Newsletter for August 24, 2018

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Message from the Town Manager

Dear Corte Madera Residents:

You may be aware that over the years, the Town Council and staff have received occasional comments regarding the Town's noise ordinance. The comments range from the public calling for a ban or restriction of leaf blower use, barking dog complaints, and concerns regarding the overall subjectivity and enforcement of the ordinance.



At the direction of Council, the Town Manager asked the Town Attorney to research and recommend changes to the Town's existing noise ordinance, which is set forth in the [Corte Madera Municipal Code at Sections 9.36.010 - 9.36.080](#). Based on concerns raised by staff regarding the effectiveness and enforceability of Corte Madera's current noise ordinance, and a review of best practices from other jurisdictions, the Town Attorney identified five ways in which the Town Council might consider improving the Town's existing noise ordinance.

At the December 19, 2017 Town Council Regular Meeting, the Town Council, staff and members of the community discussed the areas recommended by the Town Attorney to improve the existing noise ordinance and provide direction to staff as appropriate. The recommendations are listed below. Additionally, you can view the entire staff report published for the December 19, 2017 Town Council meeting by [clicking here](#).

- (1) Establish objective enforcement standards
- (2) Improve ease of enforceability
- (3) Expand the sources of noise that are subject to local noise regulations
- (4) Modify the current leaf blower restrictions
- (5) Modify the penalty provisions to provide greater consistency and clarity

Following a discussion of the recommendations and the subject matter, staff was directed to conduct a survey for the community to participate in and to also provide an analysis on the results of the survey. The Town received 121 responses to the survey and we would like to share the results with you.

To view the overall results of the survey, [please click here](#).

To view the anonymous individual responses, [please click here](#).

Please note that we will continue to update the information available on our [noise ordinance page](#) once we have more information to provide. Stay tuned.

Sincerely,

Todd Cusimano
Town Manager



Budget Inn Rebuild - Informational Study Session

On Tuesday, August 28, 2018 at 7:00pm at Corte Madera Town Hall, the Corte Madera Planning Commission will hold an Informational Study Session for a preliminary review of the proposed rebuild of the Budget Inn at 706 Meadowsweet Drive.

The applicant, Samonsky+Pometta Architects, on behalf of property owner Marin Hotels LLC, is requesting a Planning Commission study session for a new motel ("The Evergreen") to replace the Budget Inn located at 706 Meadowsweet Drive. The proposed development requires a Conditional Use Permit, Major Design Review, and Sign Permit approval. The project would demolish all existing buildings and construct three new buildings, with a total of 22 rooms, a manager's office, and outdoor patio. The site plan includes 22 parking spaces with pedestrian access connecting all three buildings and associated landscaped areas. The new design would include vehicular access from Meadowsweet Drive instead of Casa Buena Drive and the site will be elevated to meet the requirements for building in the floodplain. The proposed changes comply with all development standards for the C-3 Highway Commercial Zoning District.

The study session provides the Planning Commission and interested members of the community with an opportunity to gain an understanding of the applicant's proposal and provide preliminary feedback on issues of building location and orientation, architecture, access and circulation and landscaping early in the applicant's plan development process. The Planning Commission will not take any actions or make any final decisions at this meeting. Comments provided to the applicant at the hearing are intended to serve as guidance only, based on information available at this time.

Additional information is available on the Town's project webpage at <https://www.townofcortemadera.org/670/4797/Budget-Inn-Rebuild> and a staff report will be available by Friday, August 24 at 5:00pm. If you have any questions about the information contained in this notice, please contact the Planning Department at (415) 927-5064.



Coyote Awareness Reminders

Late last year, a "Coexisting with Coyotes" forum was held where we discussed the partnership between Project Coyote, Marin Humane, and Marin County Parks. These agencies came together and created the Marin Coyote Coalition to help coordinate the ways in which all of our local agencies respond to concerns about coyotes.

Concerns about the presence of coyotes have been brought up within the community. For this reason, we believe it is very important to remind everyone that our website contains very important information that will help you become aware of coyotes.

[Click here to visit our Coyote Awareness webpage.](#)

Additional links also available on our webpage and are also hyperlinked below. **Please remember that state law limits the options of local government. For this reason, it is very important for residents to educate themselves on this subject matter.** For questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[Coyote Awareness Facts and Safety Tips](#)

[Project Coyote](#)

[Coyote Coexistence Information](#)

[WildCare Wildlife Resources - Living With Coyotes](#)

[Marin County Livestock and Wildlife Protection Program](#)

[Marin County Animal Services Website](#)

[Urban Coyote Ecology and Management](#) (The Cook County, Illinois, Coyote Project)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Coyote information: [Coyotes in California](#)
Click [here](#) to submit a wildlife incident report to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Coyote Hazing Techniques

[Please click here to view video demonstration of effective coyote hazing techniques.](#)

***If you are interested in acquiring an [informational door hanger](#) for yourself and/or your neighbors, feel free to contact Project Coyote by calling 415-945-3232

**The Corte Madera Parks and Recreation
Fall/Winter catalog is now available and
registration is open.**

Want to get your kids involved in activities this Fall and Winter? Have you been looking for things to participate in with your significant other or with the entire family? Or maybe you have spare time throughout the day and want



to find something to do. In any case, the Corte Madera Parks and Recreation Department is here to help. Their Fall/Winter catalog is now available and registration is open. To register for activities and programs, please [click here](#). You can also use that link to register or you can [click here](#).

You can also call 415-927-5072 and select option 1 for questions or to register over the phone.



ROSS STEIN in Corte Madera

USGS Scientist Emeritus and Stanford Adjunct Professor of Geophysics Ross Stein is known worldwide for his research, teaching, lectures and writings on earthquakes and how they interact. His Corte Madera presentation will include three demos, several stories, and the reading of an evocative excerpt by Oakland's Jack London on the great 1906 earthquake.

Ross has appeared in many documentary films, including the award-winning IMAX film, 'Forces of Nature.' Ross is a frequent presenter, including a TEDx talk, 'Defeating Earthquakes,' and the MPSF Speaker Series. He is the 2018 Thompson International Distinguished Lecturer of the Geological Society of America, speaking in eight countries.

Ross received a Sc.B. from Brown University magna cum laude with honors and a Ph.D. from Stanford University. He was a visiting professor at Institut de Physique du Globe and Ecole Normale Supérieure. A Fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and the Geological Society of America, Ross has been editor of the Journal of Geophysical Research and is President of the Tectonophysics section of AGU. He has received multiple awards for his work.

Stein is CEO and co-founder of temblor.net, a blog and mobile and web app that enables everyone to learn their seismic risk and to inspire them to reduce it. Temblor is free to everyone. Stein also co-founded the Global Earthquake Model Foundation, a public-private partnership building a seismic risk model for the world, and chaired its Science Board.

We are honored that Ross accepted our invitation to speak, he is engaging and fun to listen to. Arrive early for this enlightening and very special event.

The event will take place on Wednesday, October 17th from 7-8:30PM at the Corte Madera Community Center, 498 Tamalpais Drive. For more information, please contact Suzi Beatie, MCNA NRG at suzbeatie@gmail.com or 415-924-1699. To view the event flyer, [please click here](#).

Hosted by Mariner Cove NRG, CM Lions Club, and Corte Madera Community Foundation



A Visit from the Roving Ranger

The Corte Madera Library invites you to a free event with One TAM.

Roving Ranger Marie Baeta brings the Tam Van to the Corte Madera Library at Story Time! Come see an animal super-power-spinner wheel,

animal skulls, tattoos, a 3D map of Mount Tam, and more! This event is for children ages three and up.

This event will be held on Wednesday, August 29th from 11AM -12PM at the Corte Madera Library, 707 Meadowsweet Drive.



The Corte Madera Community Foundation's Summer Sundays

The Concerts at Piccolo Pavilion starting at 5PM

FREE concerts remaining in series:

August 26: Danny Click and the Heck Yeahs (Americana/Folk) [Click here to learn about them](#)



Dennis Rodoni, Marin County Supervisor for District 4 Announces Corte Madera Office Hours

4th District Supervisor Dennis Rodoni invites you to attend his Corte Madera Office Hours on Friday, September 7th, 2018 from 2:00 to 4:00pm at the Corte Madera Community Center, located at 498 Tamalpais Drive.

Please join Supervisor Rodoni for a causal one-on-one conversation about issues important to you. For more information, please contact Rhonda Kutter via email, rkutter@marincounty.org or 415-473-3246.



Tips for a Sustainable School Year: A Message from Zero Waste Marin

Summer break is over, and it's time to head back to school! Follow these simple tips from Zero Waste Marin for a sustainable school year.

- Pack a zero waste lunch! Reusable lunch boxes, washable containers and cloth napkins are great alternatives to single use plastic and paper bags, plastic wrap, and other wasteful forms of food storage. Visit our [How to Pack a Zero Waste Lunch](#) page for more tips and ideas!
- Avoid single-use juice boxes, milk cartons, and soda cans. Instead, send your child to school with a reusable water bottle, or purchase beverages in bulk and store



them in a reusable thermos.

- Purchase snacks like nuts and fruits that are sold in bulk bins. Then, toss a handful into a reusable container, and you'll have your own trail mix to go.
- Donate old crayons to schools or repurpose them into a fun art project with your family. Follow this [simple tutorial](#) on how to make crayon art!
- Save money and reduce waste by purchasing refillable writing utensils, such as mechanical pencils or refillable ink pens.
- If possible, opt out of using traditional notebooks and take notes on a laptop or tablet instead. This will save space in your backpack and reduce your paper trail!

For more school tips and resources, or to learn about the Zero Waste Schools Program, visit their [School Resources](#) page.

Zero Waste Marin works with cities and towns throughout Marin County to educate residents, families, and students about waste prevention, reuse, and repair.

Bay Area PIGNIC

Marin Humane invites you to join them for the 8th annual Bay Area Pignic - a fun-filled gathering for guinea pigs and their owners. Grab some lunch, pack up your guinea pigs, and join in the fun.

The Pignic will take place on Saturday, August 25th from 10AM to 2PM at Marin Humane, 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd, Novato.

There will be a Cavy Costume Contest, Vegetable Eating Contest, Raffle, Bake Sale, Health Checks, Grooming and more.

Tickets are \$5 and include one raffle ticket. You may also purchase additional raffle tickets - 2 for \$5 or 5 for \$10. To purchase tickets, [please click here](#).

All proceeds benefit North Star Rescue and Marin Humane. For more information, please contact Kyle Dunlop at 415-506-6253 or via email at kdunlop@marinhumane.org



Annual Sand Sculpture Contest

Point Reyes National Seashore invites you to the Thirty-Seventh Annual Sand Sculpture Contest at Drakes Beach Sunday, August 26, 2018 from 9AM to 3:30PM.



Prizes awarded in each of several age and group categories. Free to participants and spectators. Registration begins at 9AM at the Ken Patrick Visitor Center. Judging begins at noon. Prizes awarded at 3:30PM. For more information on this event, [please click here](#).

Town Manager and Council Reports

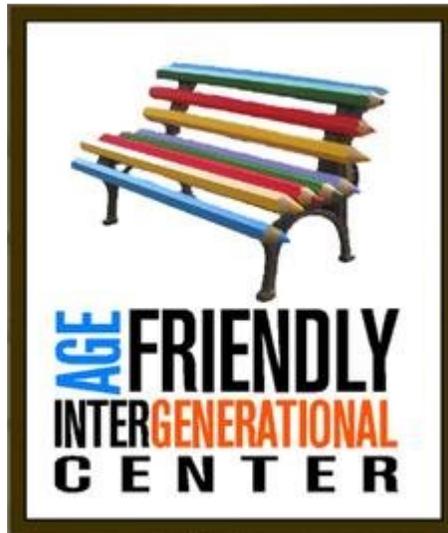


Town Manager Todd Cusimano: He mentioned he was unable to attend the chili cook-off but he was informed it was well attended and a very successful event. Additionally, he stated the tennis courts have been resurfaced and are now available for use. Cusimano also reported that there was an irrigation problem at Cove School that Town staff was able to find and resolve. He added that the Town has also been struggling with an ongoing issue regarding noise around Town Hall due to the growth, presence in a residential area and large deliveries taking place at three in the morning of the United States Postal Service's (USPS) Corte Madera post office. Cusimano has taken an aggressive approach at addressing this matter. He contacted Congressman Huffman's office and asked for assistance, and was able to have a meeting scheduled with the appropriate parties. Cusimano will be asking the Mayor or Councilmembers to join him at the meeting along with representatives of the neighborhood. He also added that the small parking isn't enough for all of the vehicles of the post office and employees are forced to take up parking on the street which means they are taking away parking from residents. Overall, Cusimano is looking forward to participating in this meeting and having something to report on so that Council can then provide staff with direction on how to proceed with this matter. Lastly, Cusimano stated that staff is involved with a lot of neighborhood issues and he has noticed that our neighbors are not communicating with one another and instead, are coming to staff to have their issues resolved. Staff has been working to address this discretion and enforcing the processes they use by staying consistent. This new way of approaching these neighborhood issues will lead to appeals and force the council to make decisions on the quality of life for our Town.

Public Works Director Peter Brown: He mentioned that the Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) Ordinance implementation has continued. Public Works will also be announcing dates for some public workshops to continue to discuss the PSL ordinance with the community. Brown mentioned that the Town is almost done with the trellis project and a ribbon cutting will be scheduled to celebrate the support of this project. Lastly, the shade structure by the child playground has been stalled due to the builder being unable to meet some of the Town construction standards. However, those inabilities are being addressed through the Department of Public Works.

Councilmember David Kunhardt: He mentioned that no meetings are scheduled for August for the Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) or Safe Routes to School. Lastly, he invites anyone who is interested to attend an event from the Time to Lead on Climate Coalition that will be taking place on September 15th beginning at 5:30PM at the College of Marin. To reserve a spot, you can get a ticket at leadonclimate.org

Mayor Ravasio: Age-Friendly Corte Madera will be celebrating and recognizing individuals who are age 90 or more on Sunday at the Corte Madera Community Center. Vice Mayor Andrews will be handing out certificates to the individuals being recognized.



Intergenerational Center

For information on the August program schedule, please click on the following link: <https://agefriendlycenter.org> or call 415-991-4040



Work Week of Monday, August 27, 2018 - Friday, August 31, 2018

- [Monday, August 27th: Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting](#) is CANCELLED
- [Tuesday, August 28th: Planning Commission Meeting](#) begins at 7PM at Town Hall



Stay Informed

Remember that you can subscribe to receive notifications on everything happening in Town. Whether it's meeting agendas or community events, we want you to stay informed. Please visit the [Notify Me](#) page and select the topics that interest you!

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