



Seacliff Improvement Association Summer 2015

Seacliff Gets a Park!

Over 15 years ago Seacliff dad, Rick Stoker, dreamed of a neighborhood park here in our village where his son could play. Rick gathered like-minded residents into SNAP (Seacliff Needs a Park) and worked diligently raising funds with the support of local businesses and working with county government to make it happen. Due to his efforts and those of the many Seacliff residents who knocked on every door, sold and purchased raffle tickets and t-shirts, researched grants and wrote letters, contributed ideas for park features and voted, the first phase of Seacliff Village County Park is now *under construction!*

Find our Park in your Heart
Aptos Seacliff Park

LOCATION: Seacliff Inn
DATE: Friday, February 15, 2002
TIME: 5:00-9:00 p.m.
EVENTS: Live Auction, Silent Auction
Music by Don McCaslin
REFRESHMENTS: Hors d'Oeuvres, No Host Bar
TICKETS: \$20 in Advance, \$25 at the Door
PAYABLE TO: SHARP

Your donation and support will help raise money for the purchase of the 3 acre parcel on the corner of McGregor and Searidge. This new Aptos park will be a multipurpose community recreation park.

SPONSORS INCLUDE:
Pacific Publishing
Seacliff Village Plan Committee
Seacliff Improvement Association
Aptos Chamber of Commerce

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Pepper Golish 662-0964
Rick Stoker 688-6948
Ron Franke 688-7018
www.cruzio.com/~seacliff



Groundbreaking for
Seacliff Village County Park
August 3, 2015!



Creating Stable Funding for our Parks

Zach Friend
Second District Supervisor
County of Santa Cruz

Over the last decade, the County Parks Department has undergone significant cuts and upheaval. In fact, the department itself was eliminated - becoming part of Public Works in order to save funding. Just recently, with the generous passage of Measure F by County voters last year that increased the parks parcel tax from \$6.58 per parcel to \$8.50 per parcel, County

Parks were able to immediately address park maintenance and start putting some funds toward capital improvements. In addition, the department again became a standalone department and hired a new full-time director, Jeff Gaffney. Soon after passage of the measure, the Board of Supervisors asked Fred Keeley to lead an effort to look at longer term solutions toward parks and open space funding in our county. After a year of Mr. Keeley's work, meeting with stakeholders in the community and providing regular reports back to our Board, we decided to use this information to formally guide the next stage of the process.

Joining with Supervisor McPherson to create a framework for the next stage of this work, we asked the Board of Supervisors to support a plan where the next phase would, overseen by Parks Director Jeff Gaffney, focus on these following priorities (in order):

1. Stable funding for County and City Parks
2. Strengthening of Measure J through the preservation of agricultural land/keeping this land in agricultural production - supporting working lands
3. Acquisition of new open space (including specifically looking at land acquisition for new parks throughout the county)

As part of this direction, supported unanimously by the Board of Supervisors, we emphasized the needs for improved parks in the south county and Watsonville in particular and that any proposals for future funding not have an eminent domain element. The Board asked the Parks Director to assemble, as a starting point, a group with representatives from the Land Trust, Farm Bureau, Sempervirens Fund, Resource Conservation District and City Parks Departments.

The groundbreaking of Seacliff Village Park, after two decades of work, is testament to what is possible with community partnership and funding. Our office was able to obtain funds through the last few budget cycles to put it over the top, but a stable funding process would have made the park a reality many years ago.

As always, your input is essential to having the best possible outcome for the parks, agricultural and open space discussion. Please feel free to call me at 454-2200 with your thoughts or reach out to Parks Director Jeff Gaffney at 454-7901. He will be hosting community dialogues to see what our priorities are in the coming months. The Board of Supervisors has asked for a report of his findings by the end of January and I look forward to continuing the dialogue in the new year.



Seacliff Village Park Art: *38 Mosaics created in 3 DAYS!*

Thank you to all the Seacliff Village Park neighbors and friends who attended concept meetings to brainstorm design ideas, voted for their favorite designs and attended our mosaic building days - we finished in record time!

Kathleen Crocetti's art project included the whole

Seacliff neighborhood designing and creating beautiful mosaics for our new park. The mosaic rounds will be attached to the tops of 38 stained-concrete pylons that will be cast in place along a park pathway, with installation planned

for late September as part of park construction.

Tax deductible donations to specifically supplement the phased installation of Seacliff Village Park playground amenities may be made online through the non-profit Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks' [FSCCoP] PayPal account: <http://fscop.weebly.com>.



Help with Seacliff's Disaster Preparedness

Mary Edmund

Help Team Seacliff CERT disaster preparedness by donating needed emergency items to be kept in our new storage unit space graciously supplied by Blue Pacific Mobile Home Park. This park's community center is the site for the CERT Command Center. Look around your home and contribute helpful CERT items:

Flashlights
Wrenches
Pliers 10" and 12"
Plastic Sheeting or Tarps
Duct Tape
Storage Tubs

D Batteries
Utility Knives and Blades
Crescent Wrenches 8" and 12"
Pipe Wrench 14"
Claw Hammers
Engineer Hammers

Sledge Hammers
Round and Square Point Shovels
Extension Cords 50-100 feet
Fire Extinguishers
Work Lights
D Rings



Please contact Mary Edmund at medmund4@gmail.com for a donation receipt and pick-up, questions and additional information. Thanks again for your support of the Seacliff community.

2015 Beautification Awards

Dennis Bailey and Mark Mauceri



548 Seacliff Drive

Christine Stracener's grandparents moved to the Seacliff area in 1949 and built the Blue House in 1957. Christine grew up on Santa Cruz Avenue on the east side of Seacliff and was fortunate to later inherit this house. After removing the lawn, she had some curvy hardscape installed, beautifully smooth rocks and a large variety of plants. Her new front yard is a flowery, colorful drought tolerant gem.

109 Seacliff Drive.

Bruce and Lynn never thought about living here in Aptos until they came across this gem on Seacliff Drive, where the price was right and they fell in love with it. Bruce and Lynn love living in Aptos, especially in Seacliff, where Bruce helps out the Aptos community by being a part of annual beach cleanups. Gary DeGorio, did the landscaping and Mark Gandolfi, built the wall and fence.



115 Valencia

Jan Olson and her son purchased this home in 2003. Her son and his family lived in the house until her son needed to be closer to work so Jan relocated from Ben Lomond and purchased the entire house. This is the second time she has landscaped this property and this version is perfect for our current drought. Duncan Design created the plan and Sole Landscaping did the installation.

245 Center

Ben Strock purchased this office building in 2014 and has completely renovated the property, inside and out. The landscaping is a beautiful display of drought tolerant plants and it is a welcoming entrance to our community.

Ben lives in Seacliff and also owns several commercial buildings on Center and he recently built the wall on the corner that is the site of our new Seacliff mural. Thanks to Ben for his commitment to improve Seacliff Village.

We appreciate the time and effort of the beautification committee members for seeking out our 2015 winners: Linda Campopiano, Kaari Chinello, Niki Derby, Coni Hendry, Kat Hsueh, Martha Johnson, Margaret Kotsi, Mark Mauceri, Dennis Bailey, Esther Maxey, Deb Murray, Patty Norton, Cathy Patton, Sharon Vaughn, Mary Watson, and Ellen Vogt.

See you in the garden next year!





Mary Chikis - 100 Years Young!

Rebecca Downing

This August we celebrate Seacliff pioneer, Mary Chikis as she strides through her 100th year.

Festivities began with a surprise pink limousine ride with her Seacliff posse to the Crow's Nest where she was roasted and toasted before she was whisked away on a coastal jaunt to Severino's for her favorite fish tacos. Cake and bubbly at The Med rounded out her limo ride as patrons sang and wished her many happy returns.

Mary recovered from her outing by taking a birthday cruise to Alaska.

Happy Birthday, Mary!

Passenger Rail Feasibility Study – Draft Report Online!



Community engagement on the Passenger Rail Feasibility Study was high as evidenced by the over 2600 online survey responses and over 430 comment forms, emails, and letters submitted on the draft during the comment period (May 21 to July 31, 2015). Comments ranged from strong support, to voicing concerns and suggestions, to opposition of any activity on the rail line.

The Passenger Rail Feasibility Study - Draft Report identifies sample rail transit options on the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line between Santa Cruz and Watsonville/Pajaro including cost, ridership, and funding forecasts. The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) will receive an overview of the public input received and suggested updates for the final Passenger Rail Study at its September 3rd meeting. Details: <http://www.sccrtc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/2015-09-03-FINAL-RTC-PACKET.pdf> The Final Report is expected to be available later this year.

Please visit the RTC website for more information about this and other transportation projects: www.sccrtc.org.

Save the Date for the Mural Launch!

The Seacliff Mural dedication is September 19th from 4:30-6pm. So many contributed to this project including our association so come join us to celebrate!



KURBSIDE AT THE KIRCHICK'S

Rebecca Downing

When Kym and Stu Kirchick moved to Seacliff last year, they had an open house to meet their neighbors. This year they invited the whole village!

Kids, dogs, parents and neighbors stopped by to say hi, meet other Seacliffians, catch up on the latest neighborhood news and enjoy a wonderful breakfast buffet lovingly prepared by the Kirchick Family.

Thanks Kym and Stu!



Mark your Calender:

SIA 2015 Annual Dinner - Saturday, October 24th.

Details with reservation form and membership renewal headed to your mailbox soon. Seating limited to 75 so send us your reservation early. Some of our favorite door prizes have come from our SIA members. If you wish to contribute a prize, email us: info@seacliffimprovement.org

Community Meetings in September to Discuss Proposal to Modernize the Santa Cruz County Zoning Ordinance

The Santa Cruz County Planning Department has been working for the past several years on updating land use regulations in the Santa Cruz County Code, and they want to meet with us to discuss proposals before beginning the Environmental Impact Report. Key proposed updates include: moving toward more standard and descriptive use permits and site development permits, allowing for focused reviews and reducing permit costs and review times for some smaller projects such as a new retail tenant moving into an existing commercial building; regulations to support local commercial agriculture and wineries; update uses allowed in zone districts; provide requirements for newer temporary structures such as "PODs" and cargo containers; other code changes including new regulations to limit commercial weddings in residential areas like Seacliff.

At the community meetings, planning staff will provide an overview of the code modernization, answer questions, and hear your ideas and comments. The closest meeting for Seacliff is on Monday, September 14 at the Aptos Grange Hall, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos 7:00 - 8:30 PM. For other meeting times and more information contact Annie Murphy, Planning Department: Annie.Murphy@santacruzcounty.us

Seacliff Improvement Association
Treasurer's Report July 2015

	YTD
Beginning Balance:	\$29,104.94
INCOME:	
Donations	\$275.20
Membership Dues	\$2,717.36
Fundraising: Human Race	\$777.42
Fundraising: Human Race Profit	\$1,771.82
Mural Donation	\$2,950.00
PayPal Reconciliation Jan-May 2015	\$33.24
TOTAL INCOME:	\$8,525.04
EXPENSES:	
Web Hosting	\$143.88
Web Administration	\$367.50
Newsletter Production	\$490.00
Newsletter Mailings	\$2,296.87
Membership Postage & Stationery	\$93.38
Aptos Chamber Membership	\$150.00
Liability Insurance	\$563.00
PayPal Reconciliation	\$38.98
Beautification Gift Certificates	\$200.00
Quarterly Meetings	\$427.31
Mulch for Mini Park	\$43.25
Seacliff Gardens Clean-up	\$769.31
Payment to Mural Artist	\$6,500.00
Human Race Registration Fee	\$25.00
Human Race cards/postage	\$39.38
Human Race Donations to Vol. Ctr.	\$777.42
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$12,925.28
ENDING CASH BALANCE:	\$24,704.70
Special Association Projects	
Monies in our account that are designated for:	
Project	Amount
Seacliff Park	\$816.00

Welcome New Members!

Linda Amoruso
Karin and Alan Bortoli
Janice DiCiuccio
Pam and Mike Hogan
Jeff and Pam Lorek
Lisa and Rodney Peck
Lisa Sousae and Alex Prescop
Stephanie Tran
Erin and John Velikoff

We thank all 344 member households and friends for your continued support!

Our board of directors meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Our meetings are held at the Aptos/ La Selva Fire station at 6:30 pm.

All are welcome.

To learn more or join the Seacliff Improvement Association visit:
<http://www.seacliffimprovement.org/>

If you have a suggestion for an improvement or a Seacliff Question write to us at:
info@seacliffimprovement.org



Nextdoor Seacliff

Many Seacliff neighbors have joined Nextdoor, a private social network for neighbors to build community connections. Aptos has several neighborhoods, including Seacliff, that have joined together to share information including:

- Neighborhood Events
- Babysitter recommendations
- Seacliff Coyote Sightings

To learn more visit: <https://nextdoor.com/>

Seacliff Improvement Association
PO Box 533
Aptos, CA 95001-0533



Screen Shots from Citizen Connect



Get the Citizen Connect App Today!

Santa Cruz County residents can now report potholes, trash and other quality-of-life issues to local officials and track the progress.

You can use this app to register to vote, view or pay property tax bills, and explore the County's parks system: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/santa-cruz-county-citizen/id1018932839?mt=8>

