

BEACHCOMBER

SINCE 1946



Breaking ground on the new Firehouse

See story on page 2

New Firehouse

By David Taylor

After three decades of planning, Muir Beach is finally breaking ground on a firehouse. For those of you who may have been living under a rock (or in Mill Valley) we have been operating out of a 19th century barn on National Park Service land without running water, heat or room for two engines. We share this space with some of the largest rats and raccoons seen in Northern California. Needless to say the conditions have been unsuitable.

The ability to use the bathroom, wash our hands after medical calls and the option to launder our gear after exposure to carcinogenic byproducts of combustion makes this a major victory for our small department.

The building project, at the site of the upper water tank near the Overlook was designed by our own Laura Van Amburgh. The process has most recently been overseen by a committee (Rob Allen, Brad Eigsti, Chris Gove, Leighton Hills,

Brent Smith, David Taylor, and Laura Van Amburgh). It has been supported indefatigably by the Muir Beach Volunteer Firefighters Association (VFA) and all of the thousands of volunteer hours you have contributed at the annual BBQ.

In addition to reserve fire department funds, we have received \$475,000 from the VFA and \$100,000 from Marin County.

We are finalizing contract details right now and have funding to complete the initial construction phase – to have a complete building envelope. We will embark on additional fundraising to complete the outfitting of the new firehouse. In the meantime, if you would like to donate to the building of the firehouse, please reach out to Denise Lamott at denise@deniselamottpr.com.



Photo by Rick Bernard



Photo by David Taylor



Rendering by Laura Van Amburgh

Volunteering for the MBVFD

By David Taylor

Our venerable company of firefighters is open for new volunteers. This band of brothers is mostly boomers who soon will all have mild cognitive impairment.

The ideal candidate is a Muir Beach resident under the age of 60 who is familiar with automotive repair and cardiac arrests. It would be great if we could have a more diverse department too. We offer the excitement and danger of firefighting and rescue operations with absolutely no salary or retirement plan.

Now passing fifty years of operation the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department is poised to move out of our 130 year old barn and into a new garage in the coming year.

Our engines are nearly as old as we are at this point but are a pair of trusty, if terribly slow, steeds.

Compared to the other amazing departments on the coast we are the least well groomed and staffed.

We train three times a month on a wide range of skills such as wildland firefighting, structural firefighting, and emergency medical response. We respond to calls in the community and in the adjacent parks and highways.

It is very rewarding to be able to help people on their worst day ever and to train to protect our community. The skill set is unbelievable and an endless challenge. Plus we have some cool clothing options. If you are interested in a tour or would like to join for some drills to observe please let Chief Gove know at chris@muirbeachfire.com.

The *Beachcomber*, our neighborhood news, is published quarterly by and for residents, friends, family and former residents of Muir Beach. Published since 1946 (on and off), circulation 180 (more or less).

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PAYPAL
Beth Begault

Contribute your essays, poems, stories, photos, artwork, announcements, reviews – anything that celebrates Muir Beachers and our community. Everything printed should be considered solely the opinion of the writer and printed in the form and condition as submitted. *Beachcomber* exercises no editorial control over content except for readability and general appearance.

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ON THE COVER

Breaking Ground

Photo by David Taylor

Passing the Reins

By Kate Somers

With this issue, I am passing the Beachcomber's editorial reins to Leslie and Christian Riehl. When Anne Jeschke wanted to pass me the reins several years ago, I asked myself: how can I do this job? I am a Muir Beach newbie and will need a lifetime here to understand this very unusual village life. I am not qualified! Yada, yada, yada. But for those of you who know Anne, she is very persuasive and I am grateful to her now for giving me such a unique opportunity to connect with the community. So while I am going to miss it, I am thrilled that Leslie and Christian, long time Muir Beachers, are happy to join the team. They will bring fresh ideas and energy to the publication. And fortunately for them, they inherit the best fellow volunteers with whom to work: Janet Tumpich, Julie Smith, Beth Begault, Charlene Modena and Janice Kubota. The Beachcomber is a treasure trove of history, and as it passes from one volunteer hand to another, it's a living thread of devotion to our special community.

Accepting the Reins

By Leslie and Christian Riehl

We are very pleased to be joining the Beachcomber staff. The Beachcomber is a publication that represents such a unique community and we will do our best to follow in Kate's footsteps. In this vein, at the latest staff meeting, ideas for new sections in the Beachcomber sprang up. We would love to have submissions of your favorite recipe, family milestones, travel stories, historical notes related to the community, children submissions, community activity updates and of course your thoughts and writings.

The Joys of Extra Virgin Olive Oil

By Dave and Claudia Sadoff

Have you noticed that the new Pelican Inn menu offers 'Bread and Nomad Olive Oil'? Well, we're the 'Nomads', we're Dave and Claudia Sadoff, producers of Nomad Groves Extra Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO) and proud Muir Beach residents since the summer of 2020.

We chose the name Nomad Groves because it reflected both our 'nomadic' life to date – we raised our three children (now all in their 20s) and pursued our pre-olive oil careers as a lawyer and an economist while living in the US, Switzerland, Nepal, Thailand, Italy and Sri Lanka – as well as the rooted 'groves' we are now enjoying as we have settled into beautiful Northern California.

For decades we had been visiting Claudia's mother in Mendocino, loving the climate, landscape, and vibes of Marin, Sonoma and Mendocino counties. When we discovered Muir Beach, this unique community surrounded by ocean and protected lands, one that feels isolated but actually isn't, we knew this was where we wanted to be.

And then we became accidental olive farmers. Exploring the rolling, vineyard-laden landscapes that reminded us of our time in Italy, we fell in love with a property in Healdsburg that has a well-established olive grove. We quickly threw ourselves into olive farming (we tend to throw ourselves into things) and are now artisanal EVOO producers.

We follow a process that is virtually the same one that has been used to produce olive oil since ancient times. Olive oil is essentially the pressed 'juice' of the olive. Olives are harvested, cleaned, and crushed whole. The crushed olives create a paste that is malaxed (or kneaded) to release and coalesce the oil, which is then separated from the water and solids (the olive flesh, pit, and skin).

Virgin olive oil is never processed with heat or chemicals, nor blended with any other oils or flavors. The difference between Virgin and Extra Virgin olive oil is that Extra Virgin must also meet specific chemical standards (e.g., for acidity) and pass a unique sensory assessment by an expert panel of olive oil sommeliers. EVOO is the only food in the world that requires a human sensory assessment for certification.

EVOO is also especially healthful, packed with anti-inflammatory polyphenols that create a peppery finish that tickles the back of the throat. It is integral to the Mediterranean Diet, which extensive medical research has shown to reduce risks of a range of diseases and ailments. Above all, we think it's delicious.

At Nomad Groves we have had just two harvest seasons to date, so we were delighted that our December 2024 harvest earned a Silver Medal at the Cal Expo. Our oil can be found in grocery stores in such towns as Calistoga, Tiburon, and Kentfield. Our 2024 harvest has sold out, but when our 2025 is ready, it will again be offered to our MB neighbors with free home delivery online and through Laurie Piel's newsletter.

Paul Smith Concerts, July 20th and 27th



BIG little ORCHESTRA, July 20, 2025

By Laurie Piel

Once again we were lucky to have Paul Smith bring us Music from Marin Summer Festival. This year's first concert on July 20th, dubbed the BIG little ORCHESTRA, consisted of Tara Flandreau on violin, Steven Machtinger on viola, Louella Habun on violincello and Paul Smith on piano. They performed two orchestral masterpieces arranged for piano and three accompanying instruments by Johann Nepomuk Hummel. As always, Paul was our guide through the history and general information about what we were about to hear. His narration and fun facts make all of his concerts something special.

The first piece was Piano Concerto in d minor K466 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in three movements and the second piece, Beethoven's Symphony no. 5 in c minor opus 67 was in 4 movements. They filled the community center with the most beautiful music. The audience was engulfed with the exquisite sounds of beautiful music played beautifully.

The second concert Sunday, July 27th was Contemporary Opera Marin's Triple Bill. First was "GabFest" - music for the spoken word and piano. It was 5 separate pieces including contemporary works by Judith Weir

and Roxanna Panufnik and a classical one from Franz Schubert. Each piece had a spoken component designed to go with a piano accompaniment. From classic to comedic, they were fun to watch and hear. The second piece was Cowgirls Sing: A diary of Calamity Jane. Dressed in full cowgirl regalia, soprano Morgan Harrington was the lead diarist with a nine person ensemble. To finish the evening off, the last presentation was Dimitri Shostakovich's satirical cantata "Rayok". The cast of 15 satirized the conferences that resulted from a communist decree formalizing Soviet arts. The object of this satirical piece is the relationship between art and power...a very timely offering.

As always, at the end of each evening, the Muir Beach Quilters invited everyone to share chocolate, fruit and wine as our thank you to Paul and his performers.

That's all from Paul this year and he and his talented group are off to The Red Hedgehog pub in England where they will be performing for the next few weeks. We are thrilled that Paul always puts Muir Beach on his performance calendar and look forward to many more opportunities to gather and enjoy incredible music next year.

Summer Solstice 2025

By Laurie Piel

The first big community gathering of the year was our Summer Solstice Celebration at the Community Center. It was our first opportunity to gather, enjoy each other's company, welcome the longest day of the year and shake off the winter blues... although the fog has certainly put a damper on the summer so far this year. It's August and we have barely seen the sun. ... and the community was clearly ready. We had the biggest turnout we've ever had.

This year I turned to our resident restaurateur, Gabriel Leis owner of Joe's Taco Lounge, for our feast. Gabe has always been a stalwart benefactor of Muir Beach. Not only does he support all of the many events here, but anyone who was here during the pandemic will remember his kindness in delivering food to the community when no one wanted to leave the beach. We enjoyed enchiladas along with a full complement of a build your own taco station... chicken, pork, beef, rice, beans, cheese, guacamole, chips, salsa and horchata to drink. Desserts were donated by the community and, once again, there was no shortage of sugar highs to be had including Chris Gove's famous chocolate cake and homemade whipped cream.

Steve Shaffer and his Freddie & the Freeloaders were back with our own Steve Utstein at the keyboards. The music was great and everyone enjoyed dancing 'til the end of the night.

My thanks to everyone who stayed and helped clean up. Our Summer Solstice Celebration is a fun tradition and I hope to see you all back at the Community Center Saturday, June 20th 2026!

Mandylion Press

Submitted by David Taylor

I am so proud and excited to share the most recent Mandylion Press releases (<https://www.mandylionpress.com/>).

Mabel and Madeline have done it again with two extraordinary lost classics lovingly introduced, designed, edited and annotated with novel and striking visual glossaries. I have just finished reading both books -- they are gems and impossible to put down.

Please read all about these new titles in the Mandylion newsletter forwarded here. These are the kind

Dear friends,

Today is the day! We are thrilled to announce that our new books are officially out!

As a reminder, Mandylion Press unearths forgotten novels written by women and weirdos in the long nineteenth century. We republish these lost treasures in new, design-forward editions complete with added introductions and visual references. Our first books, published in 2024, were *The Gadfly* (1897) and *Other Things Being Equal* (1892)—one an incendiary tale of revolution and uncertain paternity, and the other, a stormy romance between a Jewish girl and her Christian doctor.

We are back with *The Morgesons* (1862), a caustic bildungsroman about the life of an under-stimulated and overly passionate girl living in coastal Massachusetts, and *One or Two* (1907), a metaphysical thriller about a woman who seeks weight loss at a seance. These novels, written by Elizabeth Stoddard and H.D. Everett, have been overlooked

for too long. Astonishing, hilarious, spooky and sad—*The Morgesons* and *One or Two* will catapult you to forgotten territories of the nineteenth century, populated by frenemies, dissipated eldest sons, and slenderizing spirits. To enhance the visual, material, and affective quality of your reading experience, both books feature a completely original visual glossary, compendiums of dozens of period images illustrating the world of the novel. Order your copies now on our website or at your local bookstore! We are now proudly distributed by Artbook | D.A.P., so you can find our books at dozens of bookstores around the world!!

— Mabel and Madeline

of books that would be absolute bestsellers if written today and I can imagine them as Netflix series soon.

These volumes are available online or in the best independent bookstore near you (if they're not there please request them).



Mandylion Press publishes obscure novels from the (very) long nineteenth century. Our newsletter is a venue for Madeline and Mabel to scream into the void about fun, flirty things from the nineteenth century and beyond.



Random thoughts ...

By Michael Miller

Today's plan is to do nothing. If I finish early I'll take a nap ... That huge sigh of relief you heard a couple of weeks ago was the collected mothers of Marin teens upon hearing electric bikes with throttles can only be ridden by kids 16 or older ... A gentleman is someone who can play the accordion but doesn't ... When a clown moves into the palace he doesn't become King, the palace instead becomes a circus ... Peace is the natural effect of trade ... Old people complain too much. We're not circling the drain, go out and create an adventure ... But if at first you don't succeed, skydiving is probably not for you ... Lots of talk among the old guard about leaving the beach for new social connections, peace of mind, or just a change of pace. I'm staying and going to call P. Diddy to ask him to send me out a Nanny. Or two ... Overheard at the BBQ "the sex was so good even the neighbors lit a cigarette" ... If Katy Perry wants to take another trip into space I know an old hippie who has a great recipe for brownies ... why do you think they call it dope ... and finally, if someone hasn't been in your shoes don't let them tell you how to tie your laces.

I Don't Want

By Nina Vincent

I don't want
to write about the flowers
and the full moon
I want to address the demise of democracy
and the loss of
civility
civil rights
what's right
in the Divided States of America.

I don't want
to write about cease fire
and the ceasing
of cease fire
I want to speak of the desperation and hunger
that gnaws in the bellies of children in Gaza
who find hope in the arrival of aid
and are met with bullets
to feed their hunger.

I don't want
to write about who's right and who's wrong
I want to shake the righteous
out of the right wing
and tie their tongues
to stop the lies
that promise great again
when America
was never Great
because equity decency inclusion
and freedom
have never been
for all.



MBVFD JULY 27, 2025 CALL LOG BY DAVID TAYLOR

Since our last report in April we have run 15 calls. None of these were for a medical emergency in our community. We do not describe community medical calls in any way in the Beachcomber given the small size of our community and our professional and legal obligations regarding confidentiality.

05/01/25 14:00 Fall in Muir Woods – Jon Rauh

05/02/25 15:38 Leaking propane tank in community
– Jon Rauh

05/04/25 10:40 13 y/o insect sting reaction at Slide Ranch
– Jon Rauh

05/10/25 11:30 Fall in Muir Woods (response cancelled)
-- Chris Gove, Jon Rauh, David Taylor

05/18/25 08:42 79 y/o male w stroke at Green Gulch Zen Center -- Chris Vallee

06/08/25 19:00 Vehicle jump start on Frank Valley Road
– David Taylor

06/09/25 18:00 Keys locked in running car in community
– Chris Gove

06/13/25 22:52 Vehicle Accident UTL (unable to locate)
– Brad Eigsti, Chris Gove, David Taylor

06/15/25 21:42 Vehicle Fire HWY 1 – Brad Eigsti,
Chris Gove, David Taylor

06/24/25 19:00 Insect sting reaction at Muir Woods
– Chris Gove, David Taylor

07/06/25 14:15 Motorist in diabetic shock – Brad Eigsti,
Chris Gove

07/12/25 12:00 Cyclist with a facial laceration on Coastal Trail
– Chris Gove

07/12/25 12:45 Toddler choking/not breathing in Muir Woods
– Chris Gove

07/22/25 11:30 77 y/o male shoulder injury in Muir Woods
– Jon Rauh

07/26/25 12:30 Motorcycle accident HWY 1 UTL
– Jon Rauh

07/27/25 12:39 42 y/o male abdominal pain Big Beach
– Chris Gove, David Taylor

Muir Beach Holiday Arts Fair 2025 *By Laurie Piel*

It's hard to believe that the summer is rushing by and people have already started emailing me with requests to participate in our 2025 Holiday Arts Fair. This is a community event that gives back financially to the community for events like Bistro, the Solstices, Day of the Dead and the MB Friends & Neighbors events. Specific information for those wanting to participate as artists is below. Registration for residents opened August 4th and will close on August 24th. It is open to all Muir Beach residents. All residents are entitled to one table and it will open up to non-residents after all residents have been accommodated. Below is all of the information to register...call, text or write me with any questions.

Fair Dates:

Set up: Fri., Dec. 5th (9-7)

Fair: Sat., Dec. 6th (10-5),

Sun., Dec. 7th (10-4 and then break down)

Entrants: Open to all Muir Beachers. Family members will be considered residents.

Entrance Rules: The work must be your creation although you do

not have to manufacture it yourself. For example, if you make a piece of pottery you do not have to fire it yourself. You can use found objects in your art and can design the sweater but do not have to knit it yourself. This is a curated event. Please do not make something edible that will reduce the money made by the kitchen... for questions please call me.

Cost: \$75/table. Registration is for both days - please let me know if you only want to participate on one day. Two people can share a table if they don't think they have enough items to sell on their own.

Registration: By email **ONLY** to muirbeachartsfair@gmail.com **Monday, August 4th through Sunday, August 24th.** Please include your name, contact information (phone number, MB address & email address) and your medium along with a blurb and some pictures in the same format as the website. Please go to our website <https://www.muirbeachartsfair.com> to look at the blurbs and pictures for examples. Please send the pictures as JPGs in native format or as large as you can.

Acceptance: All MB'ers are automatically accepted. Space assignments are based on the range of artists' genres, types of space needed and availability. Currently there is only 1 table/space available for each Muir Beach applicant. Acceptance letters will go out via email by September 15th, so if you don't get one please contact me to make sure your registration went through.

MB Organizations: Legacy organizations that support Muir Beach such as the MBVFA, the Quilters and the Garden Club are exempted from the fee but please register.

I hope that even if you don't want to participate as an artist, you'll volunteer to help make this annual community event a success. Sarah Marshank, who helms our kitchen, will have information for volunteering closer to the event. Thanks everybody!

Laurie 415/595-7411, muirbeachartsfair@gmail.com



Who Am I ?

By Leslie Riehl

I was designed and built in 1973/74 by local architect, Tom Murphy down by the entrance to the beach. This was their family home for several years. My design is fairly basic: ranch style, but the interior design is unlike any other.

I was built by local residents: John John Sward, Jim White, Terry Onorato, David Gillespie and Dennis Williams. (I know this because there is a tile stating so in the living room.) The walls in the living room and dining room are lined with barn wood from the midwest. The teak counters in the bathrooms and kitchen are from ships in Sausalito and the floors are Mexican tile. But my crowning glory is the chimney. Standing roughly 30 feet high, it is a magnificent structure and the cornerstone of the house. John John Sward designed and built the chimney and the three attached fireplaces: one in the living room, one in the dining room and one in the master bedroom. On top of the chimney is the letter M formed in brick. It helps to be a drone to see it.

Tom and Dee Murphy sold me to Bruce and Kathleen (Happy) Palmer in 1977. The Palmers made several changes to my design: added a wine room, eliminated a bedroom, added many stained glass windows throughout the house and extended the family room to hold a bar and pool table. (More on the pool table in a minute.) The Palmers did extensive landscaping throughout the property, including adding a playground. The patio, designed and constructed by John John Sward, consists of smoothed ballast stones

Continued on next page

Who am I ? continued

pulled out of the bay off Crissy Field from ships arriving for the gold rush.

Some long term residents of Muir Beach will recall the numerous parties held here, which are just best described as wild and crazy and we will leave it at that.

Bruce and Happy sold me in 1984. It was love at first sight despite my condition being dilapidated.

For the next 42 years I have been loved and cared for by a family whose children were born, raised and married here and have since left for all parts of the world. After the kids left, I began to fill up with rescue rabbits. Over 25 bunnies have passed through my doors. Mainly very ill rabbits that healed and remained to play and live throughout the house. They still remain here (only 4). As I have aged, more and more time is required to keep me looking young and fit, and since all of us in the house are growing older it is an uphill battle. I am feeling a bit like an old tired house. That is my story.



Who am I ?

Answer: 190 Pacific Way, owned by Leslie and Christian Riehl

Note: The large table in the Muir Beach Community Center was built for Tom Murphy and resided in 190 Pacific Way until their departure. You will notice the large carving of TOM in the middle of the table. And second, the pool table was moved from 190 Pacific Way to the Fire Station when Bruce and Happy moved. The table has since moved to the Piotters or beyond.

If any other houses wish to tell their story feel free to contact me.

– *Leslie Riehl*

WE STILL HAVE EACH OTHER

By Beth Nelson

Every Saturday from 10 - 11 A.M. Muir Beachers gather at the entrance to the parking lot to express their thoughts and feelings about the current political climate, as is our tradition at the beach. The name “We Still Have Each Other” (which is what I christened the protest), comes from a sign I made in 2017 for the Women’s March in San Francisco. We had gathered at the Community Center the night before for sign making. The sentiment seemed appropriate for Muir Beach. We *always* still have each other. What a gift.

Eighteen protests later we are still going strong every Saturday. Sometimes there are two of us, sometimes there are forty of us, sometimes Green Gulch comes, sometimes people from over the hill come. Once, Robin protested alone! The parking lot attendants have become our friends. We know their histories now. We talk, we gossip a little, we exchange information about what we

can do, what we’ve done, and what we would like to do in the future. We empower ourselves and overcome our despair by being together. We always go away feeling better because we “Still Have Each Other.”

We often come up with ideas for Muir Beach - things that have nothing to do with politics. We laugh. Our kids sometimes come, our signs change, even our health changes. (Jess had to drive me the 200 yards for our first protest due to my new knee!). My grandmother would have called this *fellowship*, an old fashioned sort of word we rarely hear these days.

People toot their horns, give the peace sign, wave and sometimes give us the finger. That is the freedom called America that we are actively participating in.

Every Saturday, rain or shine, Muir Beach parking lot entrance - 10-11. “We Still Have Each Other.”

All welcome.



Original sign from Jan 2017 Women’s March

Photos by Beth Nelson

Ranch School Returns!

By Nika Peganoff and Olivia Lowe

Ranch School returns to Muir Beach this fall with new leadership and an expanded vision. Building on the thoughtful foundation created by Jessica Pinto and Stephanie Holdenried, we, its new facilitators, are reintroducing the program with a renewed commitment to hands-on learning, ecological awareness, and interspecies connection.

We first met while earning our graduate degrees in sustainability and regenerative systems. Our professional paths have since spanned impact consulting, climate advocacy, community development, and youth education. Yet, over time, we found ourselves returning to a shared belief: that some of the most meaningful transformation happens not in formal institutions, but in embodied experiences in the soil, in the barn, in relationship with land and animals. Ranch School represents a return to that belief, and an opportunity to offer young people a different kind of education, one rooted in responsibility, presence, and connection.

At Ranch School, horses are teachers. Working alongside them, students learn to lead through listening, to collaborate with empathy, and to understand the importance of nonverbal communication and relational trust. Every session brings practical lessons: mucking stalls, observing equine behavior, preparing feed, noticing changes in weather, and attuning to the needs of the herd.

This season, we are partnering with Green Gulch Farm Zen Center to enrich the curriculum through deeper engagement with local food systems and ecological cycles. Participants



will walk from the barn to the farm, where they will contribute to composting efforts, harvest seasonal produce, and explore the full arc of regeneration, from horse manure to nutrient-rich soil to the food that nourishes us. This cross-site learning highlights a core theme of the program: interdependence. It also offers a direct, tangible experience of ecological stewardship.

We are going to continue developing Ranch School as a space where young people can grow their sense of agency, learn through doing, and develop a deeper relationship to the land and each other. Our goal is to integrate equine-assisted learning, regenerative agriculture, and youth mentorship into a cohesive, values-driven program that feels both expansive and grounded.

As facilitators, we are committed to maintaining the strong culture of care that has always been a hallmark of Ranch School, care for the horses, the land, the young people we serve, and the broader Muir Beach community. We see this work not only as educational, but as part of a broader movement to reimagine what learning can look like in today's world: relational, place-based, and rooted in mutual respect.

We're grateful to be stepping into this role, and we look forward to welcoming a new cohort of students this fall.



To learn more or enroll for the fall season, visit marinranchschool.com/2025-ranch-school.

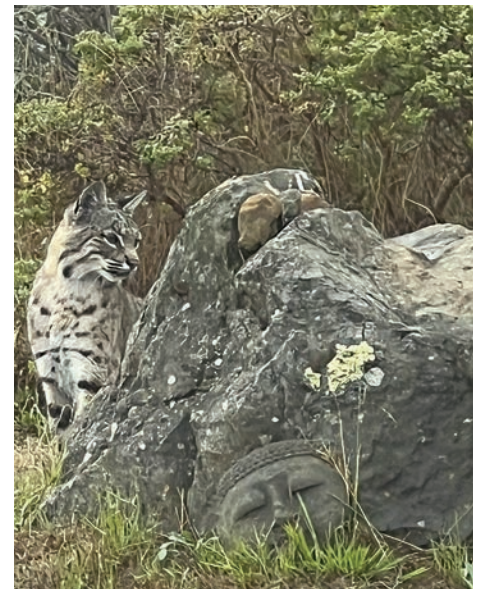
Starbuck family

Photo by Rick Bernard



Starbuck resident

Photo by Rick Bernard



Muir Beachers Rally for 51st Annual Muir Beach Volunteer Firefighters' Barbecue, Raising \$50,000

The spirit of our wonderful Muir Beach community was alive and well at the **51st Annual Muir Beach Volunteer Firefighters' Barbecue** on **Sunday, May 25**, over Memorial Day Weekend in Santos Meadow. One of Marin's favorite local traditions, the event brought together a lively crowd of neighbors and supporters for a great cause, raising **\$50,000** for the **Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department (MBVFD)** and our new firehouse project near the Muir Beach Overlook - ensuring the department can continue to serve the community for decades to come.

For those who could not attend but wish to contribute, donations can be made at muirbeachfire.net or by contacting denise@deniselamottpr.com.

Huge thanks to the Muir Beachers who stepped up in every way to help make this a big success. From prepping the site, baking, making signs, organizing raffle prizes, coordinating food, parking cars, slinging beers, serving wine and chicken, selling merch, and more, your dedication, hard work, and spirit are truly appreciated!

Opening band **Lumanation** set the tone for the day with their reggae stylings and messages of love, followed by everybody's favorite MBVFD BBQ band, **Andre's All-Stars**.

Huge thanks to the many hands that made this possible, including the MBVFD firefighters and **Chief Chris Gove**, and the MBVFA Board: **Paul Brannan** (treasurer), **Brenda Kohn**, **Nina Vincent** (volunteer coordinator), **Lisa Eigsti** (merchandise), **Ellen Littwiller** (secretary, BBQ sauce and beans), and **Eli Pearlman** (Kid Zone).

Special thanks to our generous sponsors: **Lagunitas Beer**, **Good Earth** (dessert ingredients), **Gabe Leis and Joe's Taco Lounge** (Saturday work party burritos and veggie salsa), **the Conti family** (crepes), **Recology**, **Greg Kidd** (chicken), **Green Gulch** (baking space and ingredients), **East Brother Beer**, **Black Bee Hot Sauce Co**, **Starbucks** in Strawberry Village, **Stefano's Pizza** in Mill Valley (wrap up party pizza), and the many businesses and individuals who contributed to the raffle and wine booth.

A shout-out to our committee heads and their incredible volunteer crews: **Deb Allen** (raffle); **Jesse Rudnick**, **Frank Piazza**, **Graham Groneman** (beer booth); **Sarah Nesbitt**, **Norbert Schnadt** (wine); **Jesse De Voss**, **Matt Silva** (chicken); **April Randle and Alexis Chase** (desserts); **Barbara Piotter** (veggie meals); **Laura Van Amburgh** (kitchen); **Joey Groneman** (decorations); **David Taylor** (first aid tent); **Brad Eigsti** (handmade signs & poster); **Brett Sibley** (supplies); **Paul Brannan** (all things

financial), **Frank Schoenfeld** (tickets); **Ana Rauh** (non-alcoholic drinks); **Laurie Piel** (paparazzi); **Renee Boeche** (security); **Steve & Kate Somers** (back bridge patrol); **Jon Rauh** (portapotties); **Don Piotter** (garbage); **Chris Gove** (Saturday work parties, ice, parking); **Deborah McDonald** (Sunday volunteer breakfast); **Aran Moore** (charcoal); **Cuco & Consuela Acala**, and a generous Muir Beach benefactor for Saturday night tacos; **Kerry Wynn** (Kid Zone supervisor); **Keith Buckingham** who helped me with permits; and **Laura Pandapas** who helped me with publicity. Huge thanks to everyone who showed up for the Saturday work parties and those who found a way to help at the BBQ!! It truly takes a village—and Muir Beach showed up big!

Save the date – next year's BBQ: Sunday, May 24, 2026.

Want to volunteer or sponsor?

Contact me at denise@deniselamottpr.com.

Thank you!

– *Denise Lamott, President*

Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Association





Baking desserts for the BBQ, photos by Linda Grose and the bakers



Upper photos by Todd DeVore, Brad Eigsti, Lisa Eigsti, Denise Lamott, Aran Moore, Liz Muller, John Paul, April Randle & Laurie Piel.

Lower row photos by Mike and Janet Moore



Wildfire Season is Coming - BE PREPARED!

It's been a cool and foggy/overcast summer. You might think "there's no way we can have a wildfire in Muir Beach this year." Think again. In the fall and winter, the weather pattern can suddenly switch to very dry northeast winds that can last for several days or weeks. In just a few days, this weather can make the wildlands near Muir Beach tinder dry. They thought it could never happen in urban Los Angeles or at the beach in Maui - but it did. It can happen in Muir Beach.



Pacific Palisades 2025, Jae C. Hong /AP file



Lahaina 2023, Patrick T. Fallon / Afp / Getty Images

*In the past few years **Muir Beach has made great strides in wildfire preparation.*** Muir Beach residents have worked to make their homes resilient to fire and have removed vegetation from their property. Muir Beach Fire, Marin County agencies, and PG&E have successfully implemented several fuel reduction and evacuation clearance projects in and near Muir Beach.

But there is more to do. ***Every year before fire season we need to be vigilant*** - residents need to take action to prepare their property. What are the most important things to do between now and the fall fire season?

1. **Clear all vegetation, wood piles, lumber, and anything flammable from "Zone 0"** - Zone 0 is the area from the exterior walls of your house to five (5) feet outward. (See the below graphic depicting fire zones.)
2. **Clean your gutters, decks, driveways and walkways of accumulated plant debris** like leaves, pine needles, and dead branches. Piles that accumulate on their own are usually right where burning embers will swirl in a firestorm. The embers will light the debris, and the burning debris will light your house. Sweep it up now and put it in your greenwaste bin!
3. **Be prepared to evacuate.** While you may never have to evacuate, being prepared is pretty easy, and it may save your life! A) Sign up for Alert Marin. It will text you evacuation information in the event of a wildfire or other natural disaster. Just search for "Alert Marin" to sign-up. Every person in your household with a mobile phone should sign up. B) Have a "go bag." C) Keep your vehicle(s) mostly full of fuel. D) In an evacuation, follow the driving and other directions of fire/police authorities. Do NOT exit your vehicle and evacuate on foot. You are by far safest in your car. If you have any further questions on how to prepare for evacuation, ask your Muir Beach Disaster Team liaison.

The above are just the three most important things to do now - before fire season. There are several other things you should do over the long-term to protect your life and property and manage your home's insurance coverage and cost. For comprehensive

Continued on next page

Wildfire Season, continued

information on how to “harden” your home and create “defensible space” in “Zones 0, 1, and 2” of your yard, go to the Fire Safe Marin website.

Prior to fire season, it is most important to focus on Zone 0.



Request for New Firewise Team Members

The Firewise Team would like to add two team members. We are a fun group that takes pride in enabling Muir Beach residents to protect their own lives and property and collectively make our community highly resilient to wildfire. We organize and deliver events like movie nights and guest speakers on wildfire topics. We communicate to the community to encourage residents to harden their homes and create defensible space. We support the Muir Beach Disaster Council in their delivery of evacuation drills. If you'd like to make Muir Beach even safer - join our team! Just contact any one of us to express your interest.

All the best to you as you make your property and our beloved community more resilient.

Regards,
Your Muir Beach Firewise Team

- Don Piotter
- Klaus Poppensieker
- David Taylor
- Pamela Tom
- Fire Department Advisor: Chris Gove; Muir Beach Fire Chief

Other Firewise News

Below are brief updates on Chipper Days, Home Inspections and Grants, and Ember Stomp.

Chipper Days

Muir Beach is doing great with Chipper Days in 2025. So far, in the first three chipper days events we have removed 98 loads and 465 cubic yards of vegetation. That is more than we removed in all of 2024 - and we still have three Chipper Days events upcoming in 2025. Take advantage of this great program to have your trimmed vegetation removed for FREE!!! The remaining Chipper events are in the weeks of 8/25, 9/29, and 11/3. You must sign-up in advance Sign-up here now! chipperday.com.

Home Inspections and Homeowner Grants

By the time you read this article your house and property may have already been evaluated by county fire officials. It is in your best interest to implement the changes recommended in your home hardening and defensible space evaluation report. You may be eligible for grant money to implement the recommendations but you have to apply for the grant(s) through your evaluation report within 30 days of receiving the report. Grants can be up to \$1,500. Find the “Grants” tab within your defensible space report and take advantage of grant opportunities!!!

Ember Stomp

A great way to learn about how you can harden your home and create defensible space is to talk to the experts at Ember Stomp, a wildfire safety festival sponsored by Fire Safe Marin and held at Marin County Fairgrounds on September 6th, 2025. There are exhibits, demonstrations, and activities on almost any wildfire safety topic. For more information about the event just search for Ember Stomp 2025. We'll see you there!



Muir Beach Women's Gathering *By Susannah Kennedy*

For their July meeting, the Muir Beach Women's Gathering (smaller group than normal due to summer) created and decorated 40 bags of toiletry gifts for Canal Alliance in San Rafael. Shampoo, sunscreen, pads, tampons, diapers, toothbrushes and toothpaste, gift cards, deodorant, sanitizer, soap, lip balm, and conditioner transformed the big wooden table into a bountiful assembly line.

We decorated brown bags with messages of support, stickers and ribbons, and filled 20 reusable zippered pouches with the leftovers. We intended these gifts to be not only useful for strained monthly budgets, but also to provide a moment of connection from our hands to the

hands of women in need. Many of us have worked or still work in immigrant communities and know many adults are increasingly afraid to go to work or even to send their children to school because of rising inhumane and unpredictable ICE practices.

Canal Alliance is a well-known non-profit based in San Rafael. It offers a wide range of legal and social services.



The Muir Beach

Women's Gathering was formed in the spring by Yeshi, Karen, Nina and Sarah, with the intention of bringing together all generations of Muir Beach women and strengthening our sense of belonging. Each month has embodied a different theme, allowing us to explore varied interests and ways of solidifying local community. So far the group has explored Internal Family Systems therapy, Tibetan Yoga, artistic visual expression on paper and canvas, therapeutic movement, simple sharing in a circle, and July's making something of service for communities in need.

No August meeting - summer break.

Next meeting is Thursday, September 4, 6:30pm, at the Community Center. Hope to see you there.

Continued on next page



Pictured: Leah Kennedy, Susannah Kennedy, Robin Terra, Cori Valentine, Sarah Marshank, Kate Somers, Beth Begault, Shawn Roberts. Photo: Leah Kennedy. Other photos: Susannah Kennedy

SOME WAYS TO DONATE IN MARIN...

*...to those who may be out of sight
but are never out of mind
By Beth Begault*

CANAL ALLIANCE (canalalliance.org)

711 Grand Avenue, Marina Building, Suite 200
San Rafael, CA 94901

Note: The Canal Alliance does not accept food donations, but they do accept checks, gift cards, toiletries, school supplies, and accessories like backpacks, winter gloves, warm hats, and umbrellas. They are open from **8am-6pm Monday-Thursday, closed on Friday and weekends.**

RITTER CENTER (rittercenter.org)

PO Box 3517
16 Ritter Street
San Rafael, CA 94912
(415) 457-8182

Clothing, food, and toiletries can be dropped off
Mon-Fri from 9am-3pm:

High-need items include **shelf-stable foods** like canned tuna, peanut butter, canned beans/soups, pasta/pasta sauce, and **clothing** (new or clean/used socks, coats, and other items) also **cash** and **toiletries** including toothpaste, shampoos/conditioner, deodorant, sunscreen, and soap.

FOOD PANTRY (resource.center@westmarincs.org)

11431 CA-1, Suite 10. (note: door is on Mesa Road)
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
(415) 663-8361

Accepting cash and food donations (including home garden offerings) during weekday business hours:

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9am-noon and 1pm-4pm
Thursday from 12:00-5:00**

Donations are tax deductible!

For our next issue, please feel free to submit any additions/corrections/other donation ideas to:
editor@muirbeachcomber.com

Foraging

By Mia Monroe

Mary Oliver inspired me to appreciate and succumb to one of the joys of summer in her poem *August*:

*When the blackberries hang
swollen in the woods, in the brambles
nobody owns, I spend
all day among the high
branches, reaching
my ripped arms, thinking
of nothing....*

Another writer, Rick Bass, notes berry picking puts you into the trance of the hunter-gatherer: day dreaming, very focused on the treasures of your small leafy world, occasionally scanning around, quietly sharing space with others, sampling the picked fruit, the joy of being afloat in the moment, usually thinking of nothing but often I do think of much: the joy of wild fruit, the fun of the search, sharing with other critters (seeing scat/poop on nearby trail stained purple), my baking plans, other fruit I enjoy from nearby watershed lands such as thimbleberry and huckleberry but not elderberry (yet!) or elk clover (still can't call it spikenard after learning that's a weapon of war, torture).

Plus I admit to relaxing my "wipe out weeds" when the non-native Himalayan blackberry is heavy with Oliver's "*blackbells*" but do giggle how we often plant the CA blackberry (or poison oak) to help keep people on the trail as nature's fence!

I also savor such phrases as "blackberrying becomes a verb" and realize that my year is marked by the joy of July's pink farewell to spring blooms, the low tides, the autumn leaf colors already.

Do you also love to see people picking along roadside? How wonderful park regulations permit such foraging and also ok to gather mussels and mushrooms! What an immediate and nourishing way to connect to the earth, to nature! Just keep this folk saying in mind: "Leaves of three, let it be. If it's shiny, watch your heiny. If it's hairy, it's a berry."

Bistro

By Laurie Piel

Bistro has been a special feature of Muir Beach for many years as a gathering place for the community to sit back with a morning cup of coffee or tea, something to eat and good conversation. It was a chance to catch up with community news and meet your neighbors, old and new. By the time I arrived in May of 2007, bistro attendees were mostly women... new mothers like Lisa Eigsti with her kids, some of the tai chi students, longtime residents like Tayeko Kaufman and Kathy Sward and a few stalwart men like Harvey Pearlman, Bryce Browning and Steve Shaffer. Our barista was Lonna Richmond



Harvey, Tessa, and Laurie

who handled our limited menu of Nancy Knox's scones and coffee with aplomb. It was an all cash event with a written IOU attached to a clipboard available for the occasional cash free patron. Over time we had dwindled down to a few attendees and then covid dealt the final blow. This was the posting on Sunday, March 15, 2020 in the MB EventsLetter:

MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR MUIR BEACH

Marin County Health and Human Services recommends limiting all indoor gatherings to 100 people or less. However, if the attendees are 60+ years old, there should be a maximum of only 10 people. Therefore, all of the community events scheduled to be held at the MBCC will be cancelled or postponed until further notice. This does include bistro and tai chi. Information on the CSD meeting will be forthcoming. Dennis Rodoni's office hours are still scheduled although they might take place on the deck. Look for an email from Mary Halley for information on both the CSD meeting and Dennis Rodoni's hours. Also, all classes at David Taylor's Zendo are cancelled at least until the end of the month.

Then almost 4 years later, this was the posting in the EventsLetter of Sunday, April 28th 2024:

THE BISTRO CAFÉ IS BACK! TOMORROW!!!!
MONDAY, APRIL 29th 10:00AM @THE MBCC
MB Friends & Neighbors says: The Bistro Café is back with a bang! We start with coffee and espresso. This week we will have scones (two varieties this week),

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

doughnuts, bagels, whitefish salad and lox (and all the other accouterments for a perfect lox and bagel). We accept cash, check and Venmo. There is free WIFI at the Center, so grab your computer if you have to do some work, maybe play a game of cards or if you have a game you'd like to play bring it on down... or just hang out and talk. We'll be staffed until noon. Any questions contact Laurie Piel at clarkpiel1@gmail.com or 415/595-7411.

With Harvey Pearlman and Laurie Piel spearheading the desire to bring back Bistro, Muir Beach Friends and Neighbors took Bistro under its wing and opened the doors on Monday morning, April 29th for the relaunch of Bistro 2024! It started small but attendance has grown to over a dozen happy munchers every Monday with a mostly even mix of men and women. Hopefully, some of the newer members of the community will join us when we're back. As you can see from the posting, the offerings had expanded to include both savory and sweet. It started with Harvey and Laurie as the baristas. Once a month that expanded to Susannah Kennedy, Robin Terra, Shawn Roberts & Rick Bernard. Ralph Rogers chipped in and eventually Tessa Pares was brought on to ease the work schedule for all of the volunteers. Tessa brought back Nancy Knox's famous ginger scones and Beth Begault would often bring homemade egg bites and a mix of pastries. It was quite the spread and quite delicious. We celebrated Tessa's last day in June as she will be headed south to San Diego after a summer of traveling. In the last year we joined the 21st century with a Venmo option and added chair yoga taught by Lil Merrill...a half an hour class at the end of the morning for a donation.

It was just over a year later (June 21st 2025) when the headline read:

LAST BISTRO CAFÉ & BRUNCH FOR THE SUMMER – IT'S BEEN OVER A YEAR THAT BISTRO HAS BEEN BACK SO COME CELEBRATE AND SEND OFF TESSA TO SAN DIEGO WITH A BIG BLOW OUT BRUNCH - EVERYTHING IS FREE ...WE'LL BE BACK IN SEPTEMBER

MONDAY, JUNE 23rd 10AM - 12NOON @THE MBCC
MB Friends & Neighbors says: Come meet your neighbors for the last bistro cup of coffee and a little something to eat while Bistro goes on hiatus until SEPTEMBER 8th. If you need to work or are expecting a call, there is free WIFI at the Center, so grab your computer or phone and c'mon down, gather around a table and join in the conversation. Join us for a gentle chair yoga flow offering, led by Lilja (Lil) Merrill at approximately 11:30a. Mellow guided

movements in the comfort of your chair... donation requested. We'll be staffed until noon. Any questions contact Harvey Pearlman at pearlmanharvey@yahoo.com or 415/342-3736

Bistro has been filled with fun, food and yoga. Hopefully these pictures will entice some new folks to join us for coffee, food and conversation with the neighbors you know and the ones you will soon know. I'm looking forward to the next posting announcing the return in September and to seeing the old gang and meeting some new people.



**Muir Beach
Garden Club**

Community Rummage Sale

Benefits the MBVFA and the new firehouse

Sunday, August 31, 2025 (Labor Day Weekend)

160 Pacific Way, 10am – 4pm (Set up starts at 8:30am)

SECURE A SPACE: \$25 donation for a provided table and two chairs, or \$10 donation if you bring your own table. We accept cash and checks which should be made out to the MBVFA.

EACH VENDOR will be responsible for their own items, cash box, setting up, and removing all unsold items. Please price your items in advance. Vendors can also donate a % of their sales to MBVFA after the sale.

REGISTER: Because there are only so many tables and spaces available, it is on a first come first served basis.. so please register ASAP. **To register contact Joey Groneman at joeygroneman@gmail.com or call her at 415/388-0234.**

Payment in advance is appreciated. Send to the Groneman mailbox (181 Sunset Way) or pay on the day of the sale.

Again, this is a donation to the MBVFA for the new firehouse.

Debra Allen would like to thank her day-of helpers this year: Thomas, Laura and Robert Allen for helping in the raffle booth, Laurie Piel for announcing the raffle prize winners, Jessica Rauh for running the winning tickets from the stage to the booth and Ani for pulling the winning tickets from the spinner!

WINNERS - MBVFD 2025 Raffle Prizes - WINNERS

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 4778
Hobson | 1. Quokka 80 Silicone Headlamp in lime green from Knog, Melbourne, Australia, \$25. |
| 3569
Rebecca F. | 2. Mini Dopp Bag (made from upcycled bike/truck tubes) from Alchemy Goods, CO, \$35. |
| 5729
J. P. Davis | 3. Muir Beach Pocket Hat from Bart Bridge, Northern CA, \$35. |
| 5340
John Murray | 4. A Trio of Organic Teas from the Mendocino Tea Company, \$36. |
| 6776
Hamrick | 5. Large Muir Beach Candle from North Bay Candleworks, San Rafael, \$37. |
| 1617
B. Fohn | 6. <i>Know We Are Here & Gold Rush Stories</i> Books from Heyday Publishers, Berkeley, \$39. |
| 6806
Scanlon
Noell | 7. Six Fine Art Note Cards by Mary Daniel Hobson + <i>The Wolf Who Ate The Sky</i> book by Mary Daniel Hobson & Anna Isabel Rauh, Muir Beach, \$40. |
| 6334
K. Wynn | 8. <i>Becoming Story & The Forgetters</i> Books from Heyday Publishers, Berkeley, \$40. |
| 6552
Eric S. | 9. <i>The Magic Years & Dream State</i> Books from Heyday Publishers, \$47. |
| 850
C. Pares | 10. Two Gift Certificates (\$25. each) to Shop at Games People Play or Sausalito Ferry Co, \$50. |
| 5411
Laura Mon. | 11. Gift Card from Sloat Garden Center, \$50. |
| 5014
Beihany V. | 12. Bandicoot 250 Silicone Headlamp in black from Knog, Melbourne, Australia, \$50. |
| 4148
K. High | 13. Gift Card from Tivoli (home décor + clothing consignment store), Sausalito, \$50. |
| 6481
G. Lehman | 14. A Living Succulent Wreath by Joey Groneman of Muir Beach, \$50. |
| 284
M. Moore | 15. Grocery Store Gift Card from Drivers Market, Sausalito, \$50. |
| 4157
E. P. O'Leary | 16. <i>The Curious World of Seaweed</i> Book & Box of Greeting Cards from Heyday Publishers, \$57. |
| 1748
Beckwith | 17. Meal Card to Eat at Joes Taco Lounge, Mill Valley, thanks to MB'r Gabe, \$60. |
| 2762
Kelly M. Peltier | 18. Guest Passes for Two People to SFMOMA, \$60. |
| 5152
Sonja in Sunset | 19. A Grocery Bag Filled with Food Items for Italian Dinner from Trader Joes, Larkspur, \$60. |
| 4705
G. Ketchum | 20. Four Gift Certificates for Self Serve Pet Washes at Woodlands Pet in Marin, \$68. |
| 3048
M. Silva | 21. Two pairs of Sunglasses (<i>Pacific Palisades & Fort Knocks</i>) from Knockaround, San Diego, \$70. |
| 7340
G. K. J. | 22. <i>Pt. Reyes, Karl the Fog</i> and <i>Mt. Tam</i> Candles from North Bay Candleworks, San Rafael, \$72. |
| 3330
Susan K. | 23. Original gold Bike Bell and <i>Must Go Hard</i> Water Bottle from Spurcycle, Oregon, \$72. |
| 6989
Noreen... | 24. Holden Haddock Door Mat (recycled crab pot rope) from Seaside Weavers, Humboldt, CA, \$75. |
| 5878
Michelle Fitzg. | 25. Dark, Light & Swiss Water Decaf Bags of Roasted Coffee from Graffeo Coffee, SF, \$75. |
| 1604
B. Fohn | 26. Mabel Blue Whale Door Mat (recycled crab pot rope) from Seaside Weavers, Humboldt, CA \$75. |
| 7371
J. Calderon | 27. <i>The Deserts of California</i> Book & Sketchbook from Heyday Publishers, Berkeley, \$77. |
| 6005
J. Smith | 28. Kids' Fire Truck Puzzle, Store Gift Card & Tote Bag from Tantrum, Mill Valley/SF, \$78, |
| 6327
K. Wynn | 29. Pomona black Sunglasses (for firemen/police/1 st responders) from Frontline Optics, CA, \$80. |
| 5459
Lindhardt | 30. Saturday NASCAR Race for 2 people (July 12) from Sonoma Raceway, \$80. |
| 5303
John Murray | 31. Pomona blue Sunglasses (made for firemen, police, etc.) from Frontline Optics, CA, \$80. |
| 6077
C. J. V. | 32. Farm Fresh Cheese Gift Pack (on-line) Card from Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Co., \$80. |
| 5478
Lindhardt | 33. Original black Bike Bell & <i>Catch Up</i> Water Bottle from Spurcycle, Oregon, \$82. |

- 5040
Bethany 34. Original Bike Bell and *Relish Your Ride* Water Bottle from Spurcycle, Oregon, \$82.
- 6476
Caren Lehman 35. One-Year Family/Dual Membership for Free Admission to Conservatory of Flowers, Japanese Tea Garden and SF Botanical Garden, from Gardens of Golden Gate Park, SF, \$85.
- 1766
John Murray 36. A Trio of Nomad Groves EV Olive Oils in Healdsburg, from the Sadoff's of Muir Beach \$100.
- 6703
K. Blewer 37. Two Tickets to a Concert at Sweetwater Music Hall, Mill Valley, \$100.
- 3394
Lozano 38. Bowling Party Certificate (1 lane, 1 hour, up to six w/rental shoes), Presidio Bowl, SF, \$129.
- 2118
Lozano 39. Twelve Handmade Muir Beach Themed Photo Cards by Laurie Piel, Muir Beach & An Autographed Photo of Brandon Belt, SF Giants, donated by Laurie Piel, \$136.
- 5980
E. Spitznagel 40. Gift Voucher for Two People to Ride on the Skunk Train, Willits, CA \$148.+
- 7050
E. Spitznagel 41. A Bay Sail for Two People from Adventure Cat Sailing Charters, Pier 39, SF, \$150.
- 7795
Janet Hughes 42. *Morning Routine Kit* (Skin Products) & *Hydrating Hand Wash Duo* from Oars + Alps, IL, \$151.
- 2356
Brenda Clark 43. Two Tickets to an American Conservatory Theater Preview Performance, SF, \$160.
- 7305
G. E. 44. The *Overnighter* Backpack from Tania Rodrigues of Walter+Ray, \$175.
- 2007
Sally Li 45. Another *Overnighter* Backpack from Tania Rodrigues of Walter+Ray, \$175.
- 6281
Amy Toranzo 46. Skate Deck, Ball Cap and \$100. Store Certificate from Proof Lab, Mill Valley, \$180.
- 4688
G. Keichum 47. Tour & Tasting for Four People at Heidrun Meadery, Pt. Reyes, \$180.
- 2284
Ingersoll 48. Admission Passes for 4 people to Cal Academy of Sciences, SF, thanks to Scott S. of MB, \$196.
- 4564
Francis Mary McCall 49. More Admission Passes for 4 people to Calif. Academy of Sciences from Scot S. of MB, \$196.
- 5215
H. Salvia 50. And still more Admission Passes for 4 people to CA Academy of Sciences, thanks Scott!, \$196.
- 2605
A. Benucci 51. Store certificate from Sausalito Picture Framing & Printing, \$200.
- 2720
Chelene Reilly 52. An Auction Pack and 10 Valued Guest Meal Cards from In-N-Out Burger, \$205.
- 5267
John Murray 53. One Night Stay for Two People (breakfast inclusive) at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, CA, \$250.
- 2086
Chris Hank 54. A Gift Basket and \$100. Gift Card from the Palace Market in Point Reyes, \$250.
- 6719
C. Hankinson 55. An Overnight at Sandpiper Lodging, Stinson Beach, \$250.
- 6717
Virginia 56. A Night at The Pelican Inn (Sun-Thurs), Muir Beach, \$400.+
- 5774
E. Spitznagel 57. An Overnight at The Inn Above Tide, Sausalito, \$725.
- 5650
Naama 58. One Night Stay + Breakfast For Two People at Cavallo Point Lodge, Sausalito, \$750.+
- 1037
Amelia Benedetti 59. Framed Oil Painting by Tom Soltesz, Pt. Reyes, \$800.
- 5794
Christine Murray 60. 2-Night Stay at Straus Home Ranch (up to 8 people), Tomales Bay, CA, \$3,000.



(Thank you to all of you who donated raffle prizes and who purchased raffle tickets! Congratulations to this year's winners. You've all helped the MBVFD--Debra Allen, Volunteer Raffle Coordinator)

Quilter's Celebrate With The Community



Can you name names?

10

Submitted by Lonna: "It was in the 2003 Beachcomber, when the quilters got a cash award and threw a party at the Community Center."

Announcing ... Muir Beach Dog of the Month



Shugie

By Laura Pandapas

Our standard poodle Shugie will be 15 in October! He came to us in April of 2013 when he was 2 1/2 years old, from Nor Cal Poodle Rescue. We had just lost our beloved silver standard boy, Harley, only a few weeks prior, and were heartbroken and devastated. I signed up on Nor Cal's waitlist for a standard and figured it would take some time for them to have one for adoption. The next day the phone rang and Shugie came to us before we were really ready for another dog. Our hearts were still tender, and he was traumatized from his surrender and the separation from his brother who he was bonded tightly with. We were quite the team. Shugie had terrible separation anxiety and insecurity. He was afraid of men and loud noises. It only took about a year for him to allow Mark to touch him, which was a rough start for our broken hearts. Unconditional love was the mission.

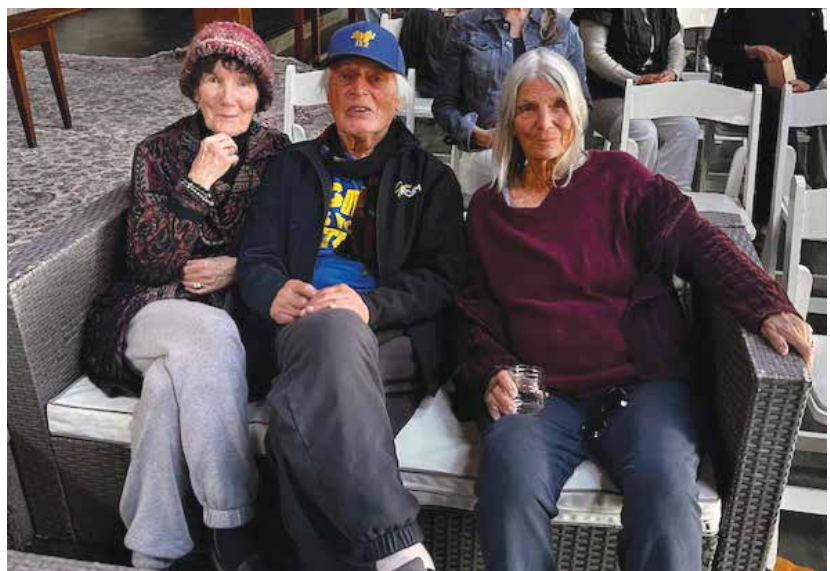
We persevered, and so did Shugie. He turned in to the BEST and most loving dog. He is a first rate companion and family member! And he and Mark

are tight buds! You would never know—unless you know lol—how maladjusted Shugie was when we got him. The transformation has been pretty astounding! He's a poster dog for adoption, and for the power of love and consistency.

We are in the tender twilight of his life now. He's wobbly and can't see or hear very well. He has enjoyed a lifetime of the doggie heaven that is

Muir Beach, where he used to run like the wind, and sometimes run off! He would dig big rows of holes in the sand on Little Beach. He would run in to the ocean and leap high in the air to bite at the bull kelp! Those days are long gone, but he is still as sweet as ever. If you see us walking on Sunset Way, come say hello and give Shug a little neck scratch and let him bury his head between your legs.

The Strength



Martha, Gerry, and Gail, at the 2025 film screening of early Muir Beach and the building of the Muir Beach community center, photo by Beth Nelson.

Congratulations to Ryan and Zoey

Ryan Thomas Wynn, son of former Muir Beach residents Steve and Joanie Wynn, was married on July 23rd to longtime sweetheart Zoey Gray. The garden wedding took place at Briarwood Estate in Mt. Vernon, Washington. The Wynn family lived in Muir Beach from 2006 until 2017 and, notably, Steve was the Fire Chief of the Muir Beach Fire Department. Now, Steve and Joanie reside in Hawaii, and Ryan is headed to the US Coast Guard this October.

— Joanie and Steve Wynn



Congratulations to Thomas and Laura Allen

Married in Sonoma, May 2025, photo by Debra Allen



The Big One at MBCC



Clark Elliott celebrated his first birthday at the community center, aka “Clark’s Surf Club,” surrounded by loved ones. Younger party guests enjoyed racing around in a toy Volkswagen surf wagon with Beach Boys’ classics playing in the background. Clark smiled and clapped his hands when everyone sang happy birthday and ate way too much frosting on an oversized smash cake. It was a righteous afternoon for our little guy.

— Natalee Elliott, photos by Grammie Kris

