



Wandering & Wondering

John Maybury

HOUSING ELEMENT & HIGHWAY WIDENING

The City of Pacifica is required to develop a “housing element” that explains where new housing might be developed, and it has been circulating a proposed new “housing element.” Pacificans for Highway 1 Alternatives (PHIA) is concerned about several references to the Calera Parkway Project (CPP) that speak of the highway widening as if it were a good thing and a done deal (pages 62 and 66-67 in the city proposal). PHIA asks Pacificans to write to the city and/or come to the hearings below to say two things: The “housing element” should not include the Calera Parkway Project. The Calera Parkway Project is not consistent with the General Plan. Write to Christian Murdock, Planning Department, 1800 Francisco Boulevard, Pacifica, CA 94044 (email murdockc@ci.pacifica.ca.us) by Friday, April 10, at 1:30 p.m.

Hearings: Planning Commission, Monday, April 20, at 7 p.m.; City Council, Monday, May 11, at 7 p.m.

FRESH & EASY CLOSING

The Fresh & Easy grocery store in Pedro Point Shopping Center is gone April 1. Bargain hunters are stripping the shelves of everything left, at steep discount prices. Coast-siders from Pacifica to Pescadero are begging Trader Joe's (traderjoes.com) to take over the market space.

COASTAL WILDFLOWER DAY

Coastside State Parks Association (coastsidestateparks.org) and California State Parks sponsor Coastal Wildflower Day at Half Moon Bay State Beach on Saturday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities for all ages include games and crafts for young people, guided plant walks, native plant restoration, and opportunities to learn how to grow native plants in your own garden and to take home native plants (for a donation to the plant nursery).

MAILBOX

Last week I wrote that Scott McKellar lives on Linda Mar Heights. I just made that up because I don't know what to call the hill north and west of Terra Nova Boulevard. But sharp-eyed reader Art Eggen of “Pedro Valley” wonders with tongue in cheek: “Where is Linda Mar Heights? Is it near Linda Mar Creek? Is it adjacent to Linda Mar Beach? Is it located above Linda Mar Point? I'm curious.” In related news, McKellar says he is pollinating his lemon tree using a Q-Tip until the master pollinators (honeybees) return to duty.

WOOD-BURNING FIREPLACE BAN

Pollution control officials at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District plan to end Spare The Air Days and instead permanently ban wood-burning fireplaces starting in November 2015. After the ban goes into effect, to rent or sell homes, homeowners would have to replace their wood-burning fireplaces with gas logs. The ban would also extend to fireplaces in all new homes. Conversion could cost as much as \$3,000 per fireplace. (Source: freelance newshound Gary Hanauer)

SITSEER

- Bay Area resource for model railroaders: just-trains.com
- Chai Jing documentary “Under the Dome”: youtube.com
- Lawsuit on arsenic in low-cost wine: taintedwine.com

SWAMI SEZ

“Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.”

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