



Palomar Park Perspectives

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE PALOMAR PROPERTY OWNERS

SOLAR PANELS, GENERATORS, EV VEHICLES... OH MY

New energy technology is fast upon us, but don't give up your natural gas appliances just yet. Solar is great but unless you have a power wall, during the evening hours you may be left with only candle power if we have a PG&E PSPS or just an old fashioned power outage. Electric vehicles are amazing, fast, sleek and no stopping at the pumps, But if it's 100 degrees and we have a rolling outage, you may be riding your bike to work because your Tesla didn't get enough juice the night before. Before you make that \$\$ investment for solar panels, really research if your roof aspect, design and tree canopy is going to allow for the most productive power creation. Remember solar companies are for-profit companies and they have sales people who like to sell. Natural gas for home appliances is safe, clean and very cost efficient. It's good to have a mix of electric and gas appliances. A gas stove is every chef's dream, but electric radiant floor heating is the cat's meow. Also, let's not forget about conserving energy. Turn off extra lights, use LEDs, hang dry clothes when possible, only wash full loads of clothes and dishes, lower the temperature on your water heater and set your A/C a few degrees higher. You likely will see results on your monthly bill that are well worth the effort.

SEPT. 21st 2nd CHIPPING DATE

Palomar Park will have a second free neighborhood chipping day. This is the perfect opportunity to conduct those large landscape-size defensible space projects and have your material chipped for free. If you have never participated before, the program is easy. Just leave your cut brush or tree branches on the curbside prior to 8:00 am the morning of Sept 21st. Make sure the cut ends are pointing towards the street. Do not impede the roadway.

- > Piles are limited to 10W x 10L x 5H
- > Vines and poison oak can not be chipped
- > No lumber or fence material
- > No dirt or root balls

Juniper, cypress, acacia, monterey pine and eucalyptus are all extremely flammable types of vegetation. If you have any of these on your property consider removing them to make your home and property more wildfire resilient.

Fore more info email call Denise Enea at 650 740-9883 or go to www.firesafesanmateo.org



HONEY 4 SALE

Local honey for sale with profits going to Peninsula Humane Society. Pure, raw, delicious honey from a Palomar Park apiary. This honey is a mix of all the blooming flowers and trees within Palomar Park.

Makes a great holiday gift or just a special treat for you and your family.

\$12 for 1lb (plastic or glass jar)

To place an order contact:

Denise Enea
650 740-9883 or
decharlebois1@gmail.com



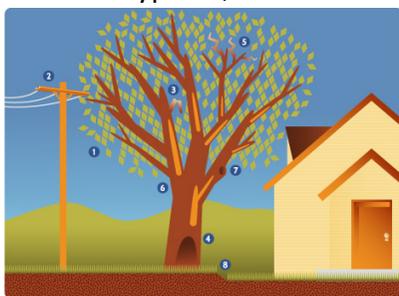
THE LONG AND RISKY ROAD

It seems our roads here in Palomar Park are very busy these days. Many contractors and gardeners busy getting to their jobs here on the hill. Large trucks and narrow winding roads do not always mix well and driving can be a little dicey at times, especially on blind corners. We have many pedestrians in Palomar Park so please be careful and try and stay on your side of the road when navigating our hillside roadways. Better Safe Than Sorry!



SMC HAZARD TREE REMOVAL

Unincorporated San Mateo County property owners just received the green light to remove certain flammable trees within the high fire areas of the County. Property owners in unincorporated areas will no longer need permits to remove certain highly flammable, large trees situated within 100 feet of homes or 30 feet of an escape route on public or private property, per County officials. Starting July 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022, the County is waiving the tree-removal permit, saving qualifying property owners the typical \$350 fee.



SPRING FAWNS HAVE ARRIVED

One of my favorite things about spring is seeing the newborn fawns emerge with all their spots and their wobbly prance trying to stay in step with their moms. Be very careful on the roads where you know the deer like to cross. The fawns are often a few steps behind and are small and hard to see.



DEFENSIBLE SPACE

It's that time of year when "FIRE SEASON" becomes the most extreme. This year the lack of rainfall really dried our native vegetation out early.

Some tips to ensure your property is ready for Fire Season:

- * **Trim tree branches away from your house and deck and separate tree canopies.**
- * **Clean needles, vegetative debris from your roof and gutters, decks and near combustible siding.**
- * **Mow all annual dead grass and weeds.**
- * **Prune dead branches out of trees and bushes.**
- * **Remove combustible material from under your deck, i.e. old wood, firewood, combustible wood furniture, etc.**
- * **Add a gutter guard to your gutters to prevent debris build up.**
- * **Add a gravel or rock path in the 0-5 foot zone around your house.**
- * **Rake excessive mulches, bark and gorilla hair away from decks, your wood siding and stairways.**
- * **Keep your driveway trees and shrubs cut back so fire apparatus can easily make it in to your driveway.**
- * **Keep large shrubs away from windows where if ignited the heat can break the glass and the fire penetrate your home. Check out Living with Fire for more wildfire resiliency ideas and tips at the Fire Safe SMC website.**

www.firesafesanmarateo.org



FLORA AND FAWNA OF PALOMAR



Our wildlife is what makes Palomar Park so special. All these creatures serve an important purpose in the ecology of the land. Owls for example prey on mice

and rats and keep the populations down. Snakes and lizards eat insects, moles and gophers. Deer clean up the buckeye leaves and browse on the grasses.

Racoons, skunks and opossums eat grubs, insects, and frogs. Foxes eat moles, rats and rabbits. The cycle of life is important so please consider being thoughtful about our wildlife.

Here are some tips to help our wildlife thrive:

- * **Add shallow saucers of water for smaller animals in your yard and clean and fill them often.**
- * **Do not use poison which can kill foxes, hawks and owls. Use mouse and rat traps in a safe area so as not to accidentally trap small birds.**
- * **Think about fencing only your garden area and not your entire yard so deer can eat the acorns under oaks and browse on grasses.**
- * **Leave some small areas of living brush in your landscape and away from your house and trees so rabbits and quail have some cover.**
- * **Do not spray for oak moths as birds need the protein. Plant only native trees in your yard.**

MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Palomar Park mailboxes are receiving their annual maintenance. Thank you to those who have contacted us to request either maintenance or a change in their mailbox name or roadside sign board. Contact us at PalomarNews@gmail.com if you have an issue or maintenance request.



NEW NEIGHBORS



We have new neighbors in Palomar Park. We officially welcome the following residents to the hill:

1190 Palomar
Elizabeth Kelley

43 Loma Rd.
Charlotte Pera/David Neih

323 Palomar
Praveen Gulaka

1021 Palomar
Investor/Flip and Sell

955 Palomar
Nell Triplett/M. Jacobsen

119 Scenic
Ruminsky Family Trust

24 S. Palomar
Kishore Sundara Rajan/
Mary Davis



CONSTRUCTION REGS

Just a friendly reminder that the hours of construction in Unincorporated San Mateo County are Mon.- Fri 7:00am - 6:00pm and Sat 9:00am - 5:00pm. No contractor construction is allowed on Sundays or holidays.

Permits are required for most improvements to your home including: fences, water heaters, replacing decks, replacing windows, driveway replacements, etc.

If you have a questions for the Planning or Building department, you can call 650 599-7311.



PALOMAR PARK IS HOME

by Charlotte Olstead

From the moment my parents first saw the house at 401 Palomar Dr., they knew it was what they had been looking for. In October of 1941, our family moved into the home for the next 20 years.

Living on "the Hill" 81 years ago there was a real feeling of "neighborhood" because there were so few residents. We all became instant friends. There were several children my age: Art England, Jr., Jan Wellhausen, Olga and Barbara Bullard, and Jamie Musser. We would play in the vacant lot next to our house (now Tom Waterfall's home). In the summertime we'd take cardboard boxes to slide down the grassy banks of the lot. We all attended Lincoln Elementary on Whipple Ave., which was torn down in the 1960's.

I recall other joys of living in "the country." Our driveway (now Cortez Rd.) was just a large open space perfect for exploring. My fondest wish, to own a BB gun, was granted and I would go on hunting expeditions taking potshots at birds, none of which I ever hit. I did, however, end up with several cases of poison oak. The start of WW II changed all our lives. Gasoline rationing affected our trips downtown. Like other families, we had a "Victory" garden and raised many of our own vegetables. Eggs were difficult to come by, so we had chickens to keep us supplied. I recall a few nighttime air raids, which meant having the house in complete darkness until the "all clear" was sounded. My dad was one of the wardens going around the Hill to make sure all the lights were out in the homes.

In 1963, my husband, Lyndy, built a unique house on 12 pressure-treated telephone poles at 410 Palomar Dr., just around the corner from my old home. We had many sightseers come by during the building phase. At one point someone stopped and asked us why we were building a church.

Palomar Park was then, as it is now, a special place. I am now the longest living resident on the Hill, 81 years.



PPO ANNUAL MEMBER DUES

Now is the time to renew your annual 2021 membership with the Palomar Park Property Owners. We depend on member dues to repair our community mailboxes, host the picnic, fund the annual chipper program and other beneficial projects and functions for Palomar Park residents. Your \$50 donation goes a long way. You can pay online at www.palomarpark.org or mail a check to:

PPO
419 Palomar Dr.
Palomar Park
CA 94062



"We have to move our teepees? And when did we join an H.O.A.?"

SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The PPO Board is always looking for suggestions from its residents. If you have an idea or suggestion you think the Board can help with to make Palomar Park even a better place, please drop us a line.

PalomarNews@gmail.com



WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

PPO would like to have all of our residents' email addresses so that we may deliver important emergency notifications, meeting dates and agendas as well as a digital copy of our newsletter. You can be assured that your email address will be kept confidential. Email us at: PalomarNews@gmail.com

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CONTACT US AT: PalomarNews@gmail.com if you are interested in serving on the Board.