

MUIR BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

ISSUE 301 • NOVEMBER 2025

BEACHCOMBER

SINCE 1946



HALLOWEEN 2025

Our party weekend started at the Community Center on Friday, October 31, with a Spooktacular Halloween party hosted by Danny, Jon, Kevin & Kasey.

It was a great night! About a dozen kids and maybe 25 adults. Food, fun and fashion show and then the parade to trick or treat on Sunset Way.

A big thank you to all the neighbors on Sunset who provided candy for the kids this year.

*Story and photo by
Danny Hobson*



Front row left to right, is Tommy Vallee, Charlie Groneman, Hadley Groneman, a friend of Hadley's, Finn Vallee, and the big girls in the back are Jessica Rauh and two of her friends.

Pelican Inn's First Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest *See story page 3*



Pelican Inn's First Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest

By Laurie Piel

Susan Cunningham, the owner of The Peli, told me that the original builder, Charles Felix, believed that a British town needed three things: a place to gather, a church and an inn with a tavern. We have the community center, The Zen Center's Green Gulch and in 1978 Charles provided the third leg of the stool with The Pelican Inn.

When Chelsea Swinea came to the Peli as the new Hospitality Manager, she was determined to make it a true partner of Muir Beach. She started Locals Night and now has added an annual Halloween pumpkin carving contest. The Inn was all decked out in full Halloween garb... strings of lights in dark blues and purples lit the scattered skeletons, spiders, webs and black tapers. And, of course, there was a cozy fire. To top it off there was warm mulled wine to warm your insides. MB'ers Lloyd & Carol Gross stopped in and presented Chelsea with a genuine British Metropolitan Police cap. Then on to the competition.

The carving contest had three categories: most scary, most British and most original. This being the first year, there was one pumpkin for each category (making it easy for the judges) and a teeny one that ended up being the poster child for "most adorable"... and a new category was born! The most scary & most original were awarded to our own Hans Piotter and his girlfriend Morgan Monahan. The most British was won by Chelsea's friend, Jessie Gonzalez, and most adorable was claimed by our own Karisma Wilson.

Just after the pumpkin judging ceremony had finished, a contingent of MB'ers in costume arrived to join the festivities. Brad & Lisa Eigsti came as a tiger & pink donkey including a pumpkin. Unfortunately, It was too late to be considered. Don & Barbara Piotter dressed as flowers, Denise Lamott Moore as an inflatable hamster and Aran Moore riding an inflatable chicken (the rest of us were not sure how they managed to get into their car). Promises were made for next year so it should be a hot competition. Plan on being part of it...see you next Halloween at the Pelican! *See photos on page 2.*

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).

Email: Submissions, request to subscribe, or questions to editor@muirbeachcomber.com

Mail: *Beachcomber*, 19 Seacape Dr. Muir Beach, CA 94965

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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.

Acquisitions and Circulation:

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Finance and Mailings: Beth Begault

Website: Julie Smith

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Distribution: Janice Kubota and

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ON THE COVER

Succulent

Photo taken in Greg's yard with iPhone 11, converted in Waterlogue, an app to create watercolor effects. Dr. Greg Ketchum

From Bonfires to Brunch: Celebrating the Season at The Pelican Inn

As the new manager of the Pelican Inn, I am delighted to be stepping into my first full season here, where tradition, music, and community gather as naturally as the fog along Muir Beach. It has been a joy to learn that the Inn is not only a place to rest and dine, but a home for shared memories, long held customs, and spirited celebration. I'm grateful to be here, and I look forward to being part of these traditions with all of you.

This fall has already been filled with memorable moments. On September 7th, we welcomed the Muir Beach Grass Band, who brought a lively "New Grass" sound to a beautiful day on the lawn. They delivered upbeat rock covers on traditional bluegrass instruments. Their lineup features Bryce Bowyer on drums, Paul Tollefson on mandolin and vocals, Garrett Lawrence on guitar and vocals, Mark Pandapas on bass, Renee Boeche on vocals, and Bob Bowyer on banjo and keyboards. It was an afternoon that reminded us why live music feels so good.

Later in the month, on September 20th, we had another outstanding performance from the Muir Beach Syndicate, who brought a soulful, instrumental blend of jam band improvisation and smooth jazz. One member even earned an Emmy nomination for composing the music for *Scrubs*, while another has built a growing following on Spotify. Their set was cosmic, creative, and captivating from start to finish.

We're also very excited to welcome Karsen to our team. She recently joined the Pelican after spending the

last four years studying in Scotland. Karsen is part of a trio called Give Me a Doller, along with bandmates Tennessee Hildebrand and Tommy Freiburger. Together they blend fiddle, guitar, and vocals into a sound that's both rooted and fresh. We're looking forward to having them perform at the Pelican Inn in the near future. I am excited to have another addition to the musical spirit that makes this place so special.

As the holidays approach, our Thanksgiving buffet will offer a feast of roasted whole turkey, cherry and port glazed ham, and Loch Duart salmon wellington, accompanied by traditional sides and desserts.

Continued on next page



Muir Beach Syndicate



On the lawn with the Muir Beach Grass Band

Photos by Chelsea Swinea, Muir Beach Grass Band

Continued from previous page

Christmas Eve dinner will be served from noon until seven, with reservations opening on November 24th. Later that night, neighbors are warmly invited to join us for caroling in the Snug, a tradition that fills the inn with laughter and harmony. New Year's Eve will feature a festive three course dinner, followed by a New Year's Day brunch buffet from eleven to three, a cheerful way to begin the year together.

On November 16th at 2:00 PM, we'll be hosting Savannah Blu, a Northern California bluegrass band known for their soulful vocals and high energy originals. Their music pushes bluegrass beyond its roots, rich with creativity and joy. It's sure to be a performance that leaves a lasting impression.

We're also thrilled to introduce our new Beach Experience, perfect for guests who want to make the most of our stunning coastal setting. It includes a

wicker picnic basket filled with wine, charcuterie, fruit, and cheese, along with a bundle of wood for a beach bonfire. It's a wonderful way to unwind and savor the beauty of Muir Beach, just steps from the inn.

And to carry the season into the new year, we'll celebrate Burns Night on January 24th with poetry, haggis, and all the warmth and humor that make that Scottish tradition so beloved.

It's a wonderful time to be at the Pelican Inn, fires crackling, music drifting through the pub, familiar faces returning, and new friends joining in. I look forward to meeting many of you as we share these celebrations together. Thank you for welcoming me into this community. I'm honored to be here.

Warmly,

Chelsea Swinea, Manager, The Pelican Inn

Bolinas Museum Event *By Lisa Eigsti and Danny Hobson, photos by Museum staff*



On the eve of Thursday, August 21st, I acted as the liaison between Muir Beach and the Bolinas Museum to put on a free and catered dinner event that was open to all Muir Beachers. The purpose of the event was to introduce Muir Beachers to the museum's new Executive Director, Jess Schaefer, to let our community know about upcoming events at the Bolinas museum (with the possibility to have a shuttle van to and from the Bolinas Museum!) and to create a spark between the immediate coastal communities in hopes of sharing and preserving oral histories.

It was wonderful to work with former Muir Beacher and friend, Leah Vermulen Lopez, who is the Bolinas Museum's Director of Operations to make the event happen. Lively conversations took place among the



community as we got the ball rolling on how to preserve the rich history of Muir Beach and surrounding areas. The delicious food was catered by chef Kate Sylvan.

If you'd like to contact the Bolinas Museum with your ideas about oral histories of Muir Beach or surrounding areas, please contact the museum at: info@bolinasmuseum.org or call Leah at 415.868.0330 ex 1004. And if you would like to join the Bolinas Museum mailing list, become a member, or learn about their current exhibits and events, please go to www.bolinasmuseum.org.

Special thanks to the Muir Beach Friends and Neighbors group and others, who helped with the set up and clean up.

Locals' Night and StayBox synergy

For this year's annual StayBox presentation, our MB Disaster Council's fearless leader Kerry Wynn teamed up with the new Pelican Inn manager Chelsea Swinea. It was a delightful evening of burgers, half-priced drinks, and lively discussions around the details of being prepared. A StayBox (as opposed to a GO-Bag) is designed to keep us secure should a large scale natural event (such as an earthquake) make it impossible for us to leave the community. While we wait for emergency responders, we may have to fend for ourselves for a few days without access to the outside world. So.... ReadyMarin recommends the following:



StayBox Contents

Water – 1 gallon per person per day
Non-perishable food
First aid kit and manual
Flashlight or head lamp, batteries
Fire extinguisher
Warm clothes and sturdy shoes
Portable toilet/bucket and trash bags
Hand sanitizer and baby wipes
Radio – battery, solar or hand crank
Sleeping bags, blankets
Tools – wrench, duck tape, hammer, gloves
Camping supplies, tent, cooking stove
Rope, bungee cords, scissors, tarp

The Muir Beach Disaster Council is made up of 15 liaisons, each of whom is responsible for a neighborhood 'pod'. Hopefully by now we are all on friendly terms with our neighborhood liaison. If not, please make a point of reaching out to kerrywynn2@gmail.com for their contact info.

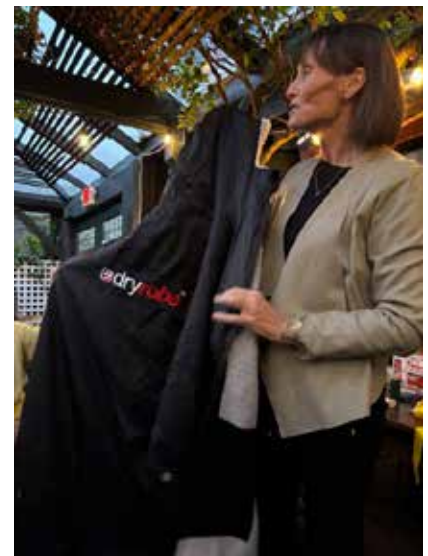
Liaisons:

Greenway/Shoreline: Danny
Pacific: Liz
Sunset: Alexis, Robin, Susannah,
Keith/Shoshana, Steve
Seacape: Sarah, Denise
Ahab/Charlotte's Way: Skip, Kerry
Starbuck: Nikola, Shawn/Rick, Nicki
(We are looking for one more liaison to fill a gap. If interested, contact Kerry)

More information on StayBoxes at
<https://readymarin.marincounty.gov/plan-prepare/gather-supplies>

Sign up for the AlertMarin Emergency Notification System at
<https://emergency.marincounty.gov/pages/alertmarin>

– Susannah Kennedy



Kerry shows her survival fleece coat as part of her StayBox

Photos by Susannah Kennedy



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Muir Beach Real Estate Update Oct. 2025

By Debra Allen

Of the 3 closed sales in Muir Beach so far this year (290 Sunset, 51 Starbuck and 1796 Shoreline), the average sold price per sq ft was \$1,577. That's higher than 2023, when the last MB sale recorded, but lower than 2022 and 2021. While house size is one way to consider value, value is actually based on what a buyer will pay for a particular home. The more buyers who know about a home for sale, the better for the seller, and the best way to get more buyers to know about a home for sale, continues to be letting your agent put the home on MLS and hosting public open houses. And if that MLS listing doesn't generate offers in the first couple of weeks, then quickly adjust the list price, to keep buyers interested. This is a busy fall market, with more buyers asking about Muir Beach homes than owners who are ready to sell. Higher interest rates and fewer insurance companies don't seem to be impacting potential Muir Beach buyers. So, staying put or considering selling, we're all lucky to live here!

— Debra Allen, Coldwell Banker,
DRE#01002768



*Photo of a cute wall sticker at 1796
Shoreline, taken by Debra Allen*

MBVFA Appreciation and Correction

*Note of Appreciation and Correction
from the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire
Association*

In our recent thank-you to the committee heads and sponsors of the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department BBQ, we mistakenly listed Sophie Conti and the Conti family only as sponsors and not as committee heads of the beloved Crêpe Booth.

Sophie and her family not only donated all the ingredients and supplies, but their wonderful team of volunteers also worked tirelessly leading up to and throughout the day to make the booth such a highlight of the event. Their efforts helped raise nearly \$5,000 to support our volunteer fire department — an incredible contribution!



*The Crêpe Booth and team
Photo by Denise Lamott*

We're so grateful to Sophie, the Conti family, and their crew for their hard work, generosity, and community spirit. The Crêpe Booth has quickly become a BBQ favorite, and it's thanks to their dedication that it continues to grow each year.

What's in a Name? The Power and Significance of Identity *By Mia Monroe*

What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. – William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet* (or maybe he just hadn't yet met our California or Redwood Rose!)

Shakespeare's iconic line from *Romeo and Juliet* touches on a timeless question: does the label we assign to something truly define its essence? Names are far more than simple identifiers; they can hold immense power, shape perceptions, and influence destinies. Let's explore the profound significance of names.

A look at our map from the top of the watershed brings to mind a famous name: **Tamalpais**. For many years (the sleeping maiden) name myth persisted but we now honor the original inhabitants and stewards, the Miwok peoples, by acknowledging the meaning is **coastal mountain**. Other names are nearly lost in the mists of time such as **Pantoll**, **Bootjack** but it is easy to see why the other name for **Highway One is Shoreline Highway**. When Panoramic Highway was built Windy Gap became Four Corners, a practical choice! And the Muir Beach parking lot again became **Big Lagoon**. Most know Camino del Canyon as **Druid Heights**.

Throughout history, the act of changing one's name has held profound significance. Here are some examples: recall the movement to rename the lower stretch of road **Frank Valley Road** even though no one recalls just who Frank was or did?! And it was very moving to receive the name **Ka'ashi Way** from FIGR, Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (after several iterations to make sure letters and punctuation helped us pronounce and Way seemed more suitable than road) so that as we walk we recall the watery way up for salmon (ka'ashi means salmon in Miwok).

William and Elizabeth Kent wished to honor the one who inspired their vision and generosity when their donation of Redwood Canyon was accepted and so we have **Muir Woods National Monument** (the monument is NPS parlance for a national park's origin as a presidential proclamation not congressional legislation) and probably Bello Beach became **Muir Beach** as part of branding to encourage early tourists and summer residents? The power of names is harnessed in the act of branding.

Other places with people names include Camp Alice Eastwood, Dias Ridge, Terwilliger Grove, Kent Canyon and Hope Cottage.

Heck, there's Wobbly Rock, Pirate's Cove and mee muku (thanks to the Miwok people for offering this name to the creek in Tennessee Valley or is it Elk Valley?!)

An important example is the acknowledgement of the Redwood Creek Watershed as a natural landscape influenced by the flow of waters down the SW slope of Mount Tamalpais rising above the various agencies (Marin Water, Mount Tam State Park, Muir Woods NM, GGNRA) and land managers (Muir Beach and Green Gulch-Zen Center) for comprehensive management, a unified vision and collaborative work. All who were there that day in early 1980s when, what we now call a series of atmospheric rivers, dumped so much rain that all flooded and the high tides, with storm surge showed us the watery interconnections!

We're just getting started! There's scientific AND common names for plants and animals (silver=coho=ka'ashi= *Oncorhynchus kisutch*). How about pronouns? Robin Wall Kimmerer, a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*, suggests that we stop referring to our more-than-human relatives, including plants, animals, even rocks as (it) and instead she proposes the use of the singular pronoun "*ki*" and the plural "*kin*". This change aims to recognize these entities as beings in their own existence and relationships rather than mere objects. Listen to her further: **Video Version:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhQKdJHLDcw>

Our names are woven into the fabric of our experiences and interactions, shaping how we see ourselves and are seen by others. Plus they help us feel friendly in the world, give shape to where we are and are connected to our memories! Let's honor names (we could have a lively discussion about all things named after John Muir!) especially when they help us celebrate something back from brink of extinction like raising a toast at the **Pelican Inn**!

Terwilliger Grove

Common name, scientific or first name

Robin Wall Kimmerer's pronouns

Solstice

Nalini and maslow plus role of nature for wellness, connection, deeper peace, impulses of generosity and volunteering

Note: Mia Monroe has retired!

THE FIRST BURGER AT THE PELICAN INN

By Laurie Piel

The Community Center is the heart of Muir Beach...the place where we gather to share friendship, celebrate the holidays & the passage of our lives. The Pelican, on the other hand, felt like it should be the “hearth” of the community... the place where we could gather to share a celebratory dinner or a burger and a beer with friends on a whim...no need to drive “over the hill”...just head down to our neighborhood pub. Unfortunately, there was no burger!

The Peli’s guiding principle is to be a traditional British pub here in the colonies. With that premise, fare like burgers had no place on their menu. Their bread and butter patrons are the San Franciscans and tourists who flock to see the beauty of Muir Beach, Muir Woods and points north. With that reality, there was no need to add a burger. Never the less, I have been badgering the past managers to add one since I arrived here almost 20 years ago.

Now times have changed and most pubs in England have a burger and the Peli has a new Hospitality Manager, Chelsea Swinea, who sees the possibility of the Pelican being that “hearth”. Unofficially, we also had the backing of Susan Cunningham, the owner of the Peli. Between the three of us we made a case to the business manager who gave Chelsea the greenlight to try creating a locals’ night. The very first one was a Meet the Manager event on April 9th. Muir Beachers had the opportunity to meet Chelsea and the Peli served everyone a buffet and drinks. Dubbed Muir Mates Nights, on Wednesdays they served a rotating special which ranged from salmon to chicken pot pie with buy beer or wine and get the second one for ½ off. That was a partial success, especially the chicken pot pie, which would be great to have on the menu full time, but was very time consuming for Chelsea. She had to come up with a new special each week, train the cooks and not every offering worked for everyone and that sense of just going down for a burger and a beer still wasn’t there. Muir Mates morphed into Locals’ Night and on August 20, 2025 the first cheeseburger and chips were served to a happy group of locals. Chelsea has added music and the event has grown from one table to multiple tables in the restaurant and a gathering in the pub. Even our firemen come in after their weekly training. It also lured one of our committees to hold their meeting there on a Wednesday night. A rotating group of regulars is to be found at the communal table in the conservatory. I admit to being thrilled with what turned into a fabulous burger... big, covered in grilled onions and cheese... what could be bad.

Here’s hoping to see you next Wednesday! PS You don’t have to have a burger - the entire menu is always available and buy one get one ½ off on beer & wine.



Burger night with Richard Kohn, Lynda Graber, Harvey Pearlman, Karisma Wilson, Michael Miller, David Piel, Laurie Piel, Beth Begault, Steve Shaffer, Durand Begault, Brenda Kohn.

Picture courtesy of Torre Carstensen, Pelican Server

Muir Beach Holiday Arts Fair 2025

December 6th and 7th, 2025 • Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm • Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm

By Laurie Piel

Once again preparations for our annual holiday arts fair (<https://www.muirbeachartsfair.com> held on December the 6th & 7th) are in full swing. Everyone had a great time last year thanks to the many Muir Beachers who offered their endeavors for sale and the tireless volunteers who made it all happen. We have lots of returning Muir Beachers some of whom we haven't seen in a long time and some amazing new artists. We have all generations represented ... from 94 years young to our junior artisans and everything from espresso & crêpes, cutting boards and clothing to ornaments for the tree and body ... some even made from corn... a must see!

As of this year, Sarah Marshank has fully taken over managing the kitchen and volunteers. Don't miss her accompanying article. I am so lucky to have her fresh ideas and energy. The SignUpGenius links are already up so let us know what you're planning on bringing for the kitchen and grab your favorite volunteer time slot. **See the EventsLetter email for the link to sign up.**

Volunteering to work a shift helps us immensely and offers the added opportunity to meet your neighbors... especially for our newcomers. It's amazing how many residents don't know their neighbors right around the corner or those living above or below the community center. It's a great way to bridge that gap!

Volunteering is almost as much fun as finding great gifts for friends (and yourself)... and we were a little short last year so head to the SignUpGenius link to volunteer. Please give a little of your time, as all of the profits from the fair go directly to the CSD as a line item *specifically* for community events. This money helps fund events like the summer and winter solstices, Day of the Dead, concerts, whale talks and other events all year long. There is a friendly rivalry between the kitchen and the beverage bar to bring in the most money so sign up. If you have any questions you can reach Sarah Marshank directly at 541-973-9397 or sarahmarshank@gmail.com or me at 415/595-74511 or muirbeachartsfair@gmail.com

We will be doing set up and some light decorating of the Center on Thursday, Dec., 4th and the artists arrive on the Friday 5th. If anyone would like to help decorate or lend a helping hand to the artists, please use the SignUpGenius link or contact me at 415/595-7411.

Compliments of Debra Allen, we have lots of flyers both letter size and quarter size and are looking for folks to

distribute them. We're hoping to get the larger ones out to your favorite restaurant or store front window, and the smaller one's to sit on the counter of your doctor or dentist's office or any other place with a front desk. If you can be of help please text me at 415/595-7411 or email me at muirbeachartsfair@gmail.com.

Without Denise Lamott and Laura Pandapas handling publicity we would be up the proverbial creek! They start early making sure our information is posted to the bay area publications. Please ask your friends around the bay to post on their local Nextdoor app. And we have another ace in the hole. Robin Terra has brought us into the 21st-century by doing our social media.... Instagram and Facebook. If anyone has any ideas of other platforms that we might add, please let Robin know.

Thanks to Harvey Pearlman who will be helming the beverage bar this year and Alexis Chase who is back in charge of the junior artisans. If you would like to talk to her about having your child participate or help out at the table you can reach her at alexis.lea.chase@gmail.com or 415/717-4901. **See the EventsLetter email for the link to sign up.**

If you cannot volunteer your time (or even if you can) a financial donation is always needed! The fair has expenses such as our domain name, Dropbox, publicity, as well as the specific needs for the annual event....anything to help defray those costs is so helpful. To donate funds please make a check out to me, Laurie Piel, and drop it in my mailbox at 9 Starbuck or hand it to me at the fair... cash is also accepted – LOL!. As always, I'll be turning to our stalwart regulars looking for help. I don't know what I'd do without them

The fair serves many purposes. As I mentioned, the profits are donated to the community coffers as a line item for community events. But equally important is the opportunity for our creative artisans, young and old, to sell their work and make some extra spending money for the holidays.... and it's a great way to get involved in the community and meet your neighbors. There are more surprises and artists not yet confirmed...so, c'mon down... you don't want to miss the fun of finding gifts for your friends and family as well as the treasure you never knew you needed. I look forward to seeing you there! With that, please meet your 2025 artists!

Continued on next page

BEACHCOMBER

MUIR BEACH Holiday Arts Fair

December 6th and 7th, 2025 • Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm • Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm

Muir Beach Community Center • 19 Seacape Drive, Muir Beach • Over 40 Artisans (see below)

RETURNING RESIDENTS & FAMILY



Corbits' crêpes and coffee. Come enjoy sweet and savory crepes made by local aspiring baker, 12-year old Belle Corbit. Sweet options will include Nutella with berries along with

a savory selection including ham & cheese, and, of course, a vegetarian option. Coffee, espresso, and cappuccino will be made to order by barista-in-training Kasey Corbit.



Florence Buchenroth, Leslie Riehl's sister, is a textile artist and painter. Textiles include a variety of quilts and bags. Her paintings are of the sea and her favorite hiking trails.



Jennifer Terra is back at the Holiday Fair and this year she's expanded her creative side to tie dye and stencil art clothing. She is also a mother, junior high school teacher, Master Reiki practitioner, and nationally recognized diversity training educator. She draws upon these diverse aspects when creating her designs.



Debra Allen, our local Realtor, is also a crafter. She works mostly with paper and driftwood. She'll be selling her sassy decoupage driftwood signs, paper garlands, beach & snow themed ornaments, driftwood photo frames (pictured) and her clever gift tags.



Craig Eichenbaum learned stone lithography from Kenji Nanao at Cal State Hayward from 1973-1980. In 1980 he acquired a litho press, litho stones and all materials and tools integral to the lithographic process. He along with his wife Pamela has been a resident of Muir Beach for the past 18 years.



Leslie Riehl, will be bringing her quilts and new creations made from mixed media.



Robin Terra is a Muir Beach artist and designer who will be featuring her ceramics at the fair this year.




Ellen Litwiller is a freelance illustrator whose work brings art and science together in imaginative ways. She loves using a variety of mediums to tell stories that are both visually striking and scientifically accurate. She'll have an assortment of matted original art mostly in ink and water color.



Skye Collier is a water color artist whose paintings mainly focus on Muir Beach and the surrounding natural areas, with many from the trails of Mount Tam. Her painting style is done in an impressionistic way, they are all plein air paintings.

www.muirbeachartsfair.com

 [@muirbeachartsfair](https://www.instagram.com/muirbeachartsfair)

 [@muirbeachartsfair](https://www.facebook.com/muirbeachartsfair)

Muir Beach Holiday Arts Fair 2025 Artisans *continued from page 11*

NEW /OLD RESIDENTS & FAMILY



Allison Pinto, resides in Maui with roots in Oregon and California (a former Muir Beacher), receives inspiration for her artwork through her world travels. She has lived in France, Japan and Brazil where she immersed herself in language and culture. Despite having a severe stroke in 2016, her artistic side has flourished and allowed her to express her love of humanity, nature and native cultures. 5% of all sales will be donated to Lahaina Fire Survivors.



Jo Kumery & Michael Lewellyn Smith (a former Muir Beach Resident) Decades before Biambu's kitchen in Vallejo became the heart of Black Bee Hot Sauce, it was home to hand-crafted gourmet meals made with organic herbs & vegetables from his garden and with love for friends & family. A lifelong musician, he approached each sauce's flavor profile like a composer, creating rich, layered & satisfying complexity. This unique range of mouthwatering, artisanal hot sauce blends, from mild to hot, infused with garden herbs & delicious fruits are for hot sauce lovers.



Nina Vincent learned to crochet in a mountain village in Guatemala in the mid 80's from a young Mayan boy. She turned crocheted hand bags into colorful hats and has been making them ever since. Recently Nina has been playing with clay and has enjoyed experimenting with marbling and other artsy imperfect styles.

RETURNING NON-RESIDENTS



Gillian Mai Shelley is a self-taught jewelry artist. After 3 years of slow experimentation through growing rainbow corn and turning the kernels into gems, Mama Maize was founded in 2023--so you can adorn living, garden-grown seeds and always keep the miracle of life close. Each piece is crafted by drying the kernels for months to years, coating them in non-toxic epoxy, and pairing them with 18k Gold artisan designs—offering the same sparkle and elegance as traditional gems—without mining's destructive impact. And, every purchase supports indigenous, women-led gardens. Through wearing Mama Maize, you are telling your story of appreciation, love, and care for our Earth.



Jennifer Morgan, lives in Mill Valley, graduated from RISD and after a career in graphic design she found her ultimate passion for glass blowing. She creates functional glass art that showcases the organic form of the glass itself.



Jie Lee Grady I first studied design in north China, where I was born. Then I spent seven years in Tokyo learning the language so I could attend the well-known Fashion Institute of Japan. After graduating, I worked for an international company that brought me to New York where I attended the Fashion Institute of Technology. For me, I discovered that bringing together bits of all of the cultures I've studied allows me to create a complete outfit that makes you ask... is this from Japan or France? But it's just from me. Designing clothes has been a passion all my life.



Johnny Sutter and Kelly Johnson, are the team behind William Tell leather Co., a small-batch leather goods shop based in Reno, Nevada. Our work is rooted in legacy, craftsmanship, and the belief that things should be made to last. We use traditional tools, minimal machines, and no shortcuts. Full-grain leather is strong, authentic, and made to age beautifully. Every mark, bend, and scuff tells a story — one that evolves with you. We build goods with soul, intention, and staying power. Our products wear in not out.



Lorna Newlin is thrilled to be back at the Muir Beach Holiday Arts Fair. She started her studio Sausalito Pottery in 2002 and is still going strong. Her newer works are of porcelain with real gold rims and sand colored clay pressed with seashells & sea life motifs. Also, she wouldn't come without the perennial favorites ... functional pottery and whimsical sculptures.



Nya Van Leuvan began her interest in the alchemical art of transforming raw materials into wearable works of art in college when I found art deeply calms my mind. Through my company, Opulent Ore, I make both jewelry for everyday wear and heirloom quality pieces to be passed on through generations.



Tom Soltesz is a resident of Marin for almost 40 years and has been painting the landscape for such organizations as Marinscapes, MALT, Ranches and Rolling hills, The Baywood Group

of environmental artists, the California Art Club, and Oil painters of America.



Susan E. Stanger is a painter and fiber artist. She is delighted by landscapes, architectural structures, shapes, cartoons and stylized design and strives to capture how she perceive the world, rather than how it looks on the surface.

NEW NON-RESIDENTS



Barbara W. Stanger at 94 (hard to believe) is a professional artist, jeweler and teacher (at the college level), with a BFA degree and an MA in Art Education. She started making brass ornaments in 1983, after receiving a commission from the Metropolitan Opera Guild in NYC, and has sold them in galleries and fine craft stores all across the USA



Claudia Dallendoerfer, herbalist and maker of plant-based medicine based in San Francisco, comes from a background in design culture. Her table will feature handcrafted, zero-waste lip balms,

beauty face creams, healing salves, throat sprays, and her daughter Ray's wish stones.



Estivido (Vido) Ramos is a recent furniture alumni of California College of the Arts. Born and raised in Alameda and now living in Sacramento, he is an aspiring wood turner seeking to honor the trees and the wood they provide for creative use.



Ray Luna, Claudia Dallendoerfer's daughter, began painting wish stones at the age of 10. Together, they love sharing their creations at small gallery spaces and pop-ups around the Bay Area.



Sean Alcalá is a contemporary glass artist living and working in Salda, California. As a Bay Area native and nature enthusiast, he has always been deeply connected to the environment, especially the beaches, rivers and lakes

of the West Coast. His handmade glass creations are based around the color, movement and energy of water. Since 2003, Sean has refined his craft to develop a signature style of glass making that blends glass fusing, kiln casting, with extensive stone-working techniques.

LEGACY ORGANIZATIONS



Muir Beach Garden Club. Their selection of evergreen, herbal and succulent wreaths are always a sell-out. Don't miss their beautiful kitchen garlands or their miniature succulent gardens which are a sure-fire addition to anyone's home.



Muir Beach Junior Artisans

The Muir Beach Community has always encouraged creativity in the young people who are lucky enough to grow up here. Be sure to see what they've been making recently!



Muir Beach Quilters have been having great fun stitching a whole new whimsical ornament collection. Besides the usual winter accessories for adults, we have a knitted kids/ babies section with garments, socks and hats. All wonderful for your gift giving.



Muir Beach Volunteer

Firemens Association Come by the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department (MBVFD) booth and support their goal of building a new firehouse while you holiday shop for your friends and family! The iconic

dog logo is featured on T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, baby wear, stainless steel drinkware & more and available for purchase.

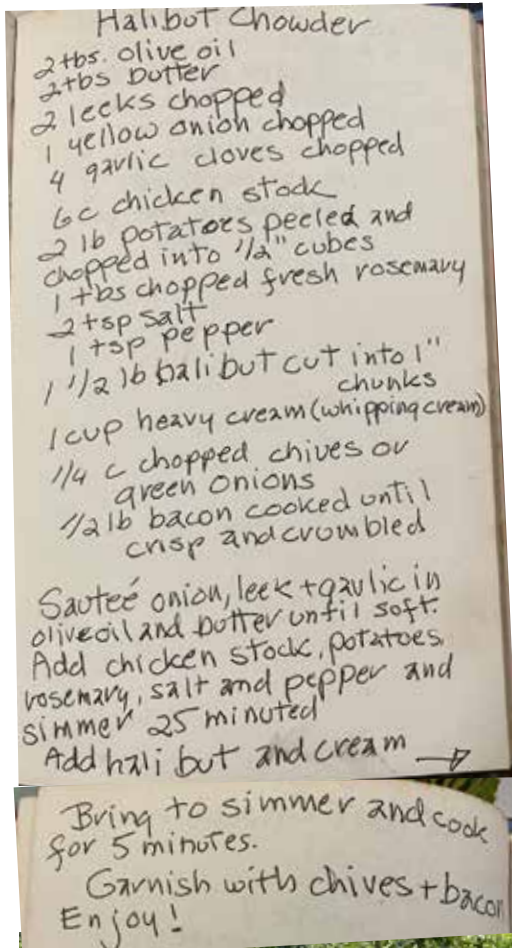
Come on down to meet and support your neighbors, find great gifts for the holidays and maybe volunteer for a couple of hours. Any questions give me a call or text me at 415.595.7411 or drop me a line at muirbeachartsfair@gmail.com.

I can't wait to see everyone... if we haven't met come find me – you can't miss me I'm the one with the Christmas Gifts fancier on my head! –*Laurie*

Outi's Halibut Chowder Recipe

My son Tony is a fantastic fisherman and we are lucky to get fresh fish from him most of the year. This is the halibut recipe we make the most. Almost better reheated the next day.

— Outi Onorato



Kody and Tony Onorato, photo by Outi

LOCAL HEROES

By David Taylor

This is the first in an occasional series of profiles of our local firefighters.

Jon "Fishboy" Rauh has been a Muir Beach volunteer firefighter for 29 years. He first moved here in 1996 and, as was the tradition in those days, automatically volunteered. He has never stopped. He is in fact not only the longest serving fireman but also the oldest member of our team. He has served under three chiefs and has lived in five locations in Muir Beach, one of which he built by himself from scratch.

Raised in Missouri, he was a champion racquetball player and water skier. When he moved to San Francisco in 1986 he had two shops selling scooters and then lawn equipment. To this day he can fix any gasoline powered device he encounters. After acquiring a duplex and learning to remodel and repair it he



John Rauh, self-photo October 2019

became a general contractor. He is so talented, cool and busy that he avoids any public indication that he is even in business -- so he functions as a stealth home building savant.

Jon has more hobbies and talents than pretty much anyone I've ever known. It almost requires a card catalogue system to keep track of all his interrelated interests. I am not even including

Continued on next page

Crabnado!

Kicking off the crab season on Jon Rauh's boat, Jon, Mike, Don and Alena Piotter, and Jeff Swarts pulled limits this year on Opening Day - Nov 1, 2025.

Hans Piotter also got limits that day from his kayak off the beach.

*Mike Moore with his catch,
Photo by Jon Rauh*



the accomplishments of his youth. He, of course, fishes for salmon, rockfish, and Dungeness crab. This means of course being expert in boat maintenance and repair and branching into various ways of preparing and storing his catch. He goes hunting sometimes but sadly seems less successful as a terrestrial predator. He is a remarkable forager collecting chanterelles and morelles from dozens of secret locations.

He keeps bees in SF and here at the beach and produces gallons of honey. He raises koi and for years

maintained sophisticated aquaria containing rare corals and fish. He plays in a street hockey league in the city. He is a longtime SF Giants superfan. I am not sure that he in fact is ever not doing something.

His problem solving skills as a firefighter and contractor are legendary. He never stops thinking (or talking). Once I overheard him discuss with Chief Gove that when cutting eucalyptus he likes to “dip” his chainsaw in a piece of pine to keep it from getting gummed up. He has been instrumental in helping design and implement the firehouse project over many years. His most

memorable call was the 2019 Muir Fire north of Slide Ranch and the worst was an overdose death. His first call (which he called in himself) was downed power lines behind Wendy and Peter’s house!

All of the above is secondary to his primary love and focus which is his wife Danny and their two daughters Anna and Jessica (and Ivy their sweet yellow lab). Anna joined the fire department as a junior firefighter last year and you could swiftly see that she was her father’s daughter as a quick thinker and team player. I can imagine that one day he will finally be known as “Fishgrandpa”.

FIREHOUSE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: October 26, 2025

The firehouse project has begun with the removal of the old water tank pad. The finalization of a contract with Murray Building, our general contractor, has been slower than we had hoped. While frustrating to all of us the committee believes it is in the community’s interest to have a well drafted construction contract.

The funding for the project has not changed and is outlined at every CSD meeting by the District Manager. We have summarized it here:

Total estimated cost to get remaining earthwork, retaining walls and foundation, septic holding tanks, metal structure erected and enclosed including plumbing and electrical, with oversight management, through final inspection: \$900,000

It is anticipated that the community will need to raise more funds to finish and equip the firehouse. The VFA is working on this fundraising project.

Grants to-date:

MBVFA:	\$340,000
County of Marin:	\$100,000

Spending to-date:

Soft costs, planning, permitting and demolition of old water tank cement pad:	\$127,582.48
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Current Funds available:

MBVFA remaining grant funds available:	\$212,417
County of Marin Grant available:	\$100,000
MBVFA Additional Funds Pledged to be available:	\$175,000
Non-dedicated Fire Reserves available:	<u>\$475,844</u>
Total Funds available:	\$963,261

Big Lagoon Mutual Aid

May we enjoy and practice with the emptiness of the three wheels – giver, receiver, and gift: big lagoon mutual aid is our new neighborhood loop of freely-offered care. Mutual aid is “cooperation for the common good”. A network for asking for and providing things we have to offer each other, whether a ride to a medical appointment or Manzanita, a recommendation for a dentist or a dowser, or a place to ask for or let go of a kayak or commode. Nothing for sale. Everyone is encouraged to join the list serve to receive requests as they arise. Who knows what-might-when...let’s be available as we are able, and find it is easy to ask for help when we need it. Green Gulch and Slide Ranch residents are welcome. Email the group secretary Hendl Mirra at hmmirra@posteo.net to join the network.



MBVFD OCTOBER 25, 2025 CALL LOG BY DAVID TAYLOR

Since our last report in August we have run 13 calls. Two of these calls were for medical emergencies 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.

08/15/25 17:45 Fall on Fern Creek Trail in Muir Woods
– Chris Gove

08/16/25 12:08 Trail rescue Deer Park Fire Rd (cancelled)
-- Chris Gove

08/24/25 16:48 Older female fall/knee injury in Muir Woods
– Chris Gove, David Taylor

08/28/25 06:45 85 y/o male fainted at Green Gulch
– Brad Eigsti, Chris Gove, David Taylor

08/30/25 17:03 Wasp sting possible anaphylaxis at Pelican Inn
– Chris Gove, David Taylor

09/10/25 22:40 Tree down Hwy 1 – Chris Gove, David Taylor

09/13/25 07:15 Cyclist w insect bite on Coastal Fire Rd.
– Chris Gove

09/14/25 11:15 False Fire alarm – no merit – Jon Rauh

09/17/25 15:40 Bicycle v. Car accident no injury – Jon Rauh

09/26/25 18:04 Infant not breathing on Big Beach revived by mother w back blows – Maurice Conti, Chris Gove

10/6/25 19:20 24 y/o male near drowning after seizure on Big Beach – Brad Eigsti, Chris Gove, David Taylor, Chris Vallee [this occurred during federal shutdown and beach access was more complicated]

Volunteering for the MBVFD

By David Taylor

Our venerable company of firefighters is open for new volunteers.

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.

Open Studio and Fall Plant Sale

Story and Photos by Danny Hobson

Wendy Johnson and I warmly invite everyone in the Muir Beach community to come to our Open Studio and Fall Plant Sale on November 29 & 30 from 11am – 4pm each day. This festive event at two locations offers a chance to explore Wendy’s garden and my art studio and find treasures for your own home and garden. Come by for a cup of lemon verbena tea, some rosemary shortbread and other treats and say hello!

Wendy and her husband Peter run the Dragon Coast Nursery, which has a wide selection of garden-ready California Native plants, including pollinator-friendly perennials and annuals. Plus there will be a rich array of seasonal coastal vegetable starts, hardy flowering perennials, and fruit, tea, herbal & medicinal shrubs. This is a particularly good time of year to be planting native plants, as Wendy explains:

“Coastal California has its own special seasonal native plant rhythms, my cherished friend and teacher, California-based botanist and author, Glenn Keator, reminds us. In Autumn shortened day length and the promise of winter rain helps California native plants awaken and strengthen their underground root systems. So although the above-ground landscape appears to be dormant, new roots are spreading and growing underground. This is an ideal time to be planting California native perennials so that they will be well rooted in order to support their flourish of established growth in early February. Please join us on Thanksgiving weekend in our ten-year old Muir Beach Dragon Coast Nursery to choose from our array



Mary Daniel Hobson, Art Studio



Dragon Coast Nursery, and bulbs



of coastal perennial plants for your home garden. We will also be offering homemade apple and plum butter for sale as well as an assortment of herbal crafts and flowering winter bulbs for indoor enjoyment.”

As an artist, what I love most about Open Studios is the chance to connect with people and share my life as a working artist. I began as an analog photographer, but along the way became deeply inspired by the expressive potential of mixed media. At the studio this time, I will have a rich assortment of my layered collages, fine art prints and bottle sculptures. There will also be honey for sale – freshly harvested by my husband Jon a few weeks ago. And I will have notecards, books,

handmade pendants, local lavender sachets and other gift-able items.

Wendy and I truly hope to see you Thanksgiving Weekend!

OPEN STUDIO AND FALL PLANT SALE

Thanksgiving Weekend: Saturday and Sunday, November 29 & 30 from 11-4 each day

Mary Daniel Hobson’s Art Studio
@ 84 Seacape Dr.
www.marydanielhobson.com

Wendy Johnson & Peter Rudnick’s
Dragon Coast Nursery @ 1795
Shoreline Hwy
www.gardeningatthedragonsgate.com

Questions? Contact
marydaniel.hobson@gmail.com

We Did It! Muir Beach Cleans Up for Fire Season

By Pamela Tom Swarts

Once again, Muir Beachers made the Fire Safe Marin's Top 5 Firewise list for activity this year. As of the end of September, the Chipper Days program conducted 106 pickups from Muir Beach/Green Gulch sites and chipped 590 cubic yards of vegetation.

"Muir Beach came in 3rd out of 80 communities in terms of total volume (cubic yards) removed," said Don Piotter, Muir Beach Firewise Lead. "Not bad, given that Tam Valley came in second with 753 cubic yards of fuel, but it is a much larger area with more houses."

Furthermore, Muir Beach/Green Gulch Firewise reached \$65,477 in "investment dollars"—a term for the collective value of community action to reduce wildfire risk.

We have many Muir Beach homeowners to thank, including Lloyd Gross and Bernard Halliwell. Both Seacape Drive residents decided to make their homes fire safe by clearing vegetation, removing or trimming trees on their properties, and creating defensible space around their homes.

Q&A

How concerned are you about fire safety?

Halliwell: The thought of a fire passing through Muir Beach is terrifying. The loss, the devastation, the disruption to life is not something we ever want to experience. From the beginning my brother David and I have taken the words and admonitions of the fire department and Firewise Marin seriously. There is so much that can be done, and the work is ongoing.

Gross: We are always trying to create a fire-defensible space around our home despite essentially living in a forest. Our goal is to remove any dead trees or tree branches that extend to within about 30 feet of the house. It might also be a good idea for our Fire Dept. to have a check of in-home fire extinguishers. I think we had that program going a few years ago but I am not sure that it still exists.

"Fire extinguishers have dates on them and they should be renewed before they expire," said Muir Beach Fire Chief Chris Gove. "We will try to launch another fire extinguisher refill program next spring."



Halliwell - Swapping plants for pebbles
Photo: Bernard Halliwell

What type of fire mitigation work have you done?

Halliwell: We decided to begin by removing all plantings from within 5 feet of the house, limbing up trees, and removing unnecessary substory shrubs. All of this has required us to rethink the aesthetic of the garden. Initially, the garden here was envisioned as a wild garden that would blend into the surrounding landscape. Clumps of colors and textures and as many native plants as possible.

Some people may be hesitant to change their landscaping. How did you combine safety with aesthetics?

Halliwell: To make the land more fire safe, we have wanted to shift our emphasis to create an open park-like feel and to remove all plants from within 5 feet of the house. Removing plantings from near the house was emotionally difficult for me. I love the borders that exist in English gardens, and if we did not achieve that effect exactly, there were some lovely specimens against the house, and I was reluctant to replace them with pebbles.

I could not get out of my mind visions of the houses one sees where people have put down gravel or pebbles and pink flamingoes in front gardens because there is a desire to avoid garden work in that particular household. But then I thought back to visiting Ryoan-ji Temple in Kyoto which is famous for its walled garden that consists of rocks and pebbles and a few bits of moss. It is exquisitely beautiful, and people come from all over the world to sit quietly on a

Continued on next page

BEACHCOMBER



Lloyd Gross - Creating defensible space
Photo: Pamela Swarts

veranda and admire this beautiful garden devoid of plants. I began to imagine the pebble fire skirt as a place around the house where we could place large boulders or garden sculptures. There is much one can do with space, form and texture.

Re-landscaping sounds overwhelming. What advice do you have to get started?

Halliwell: I set to removing beloved plants, one at a time. One plant in particular tugged at my heart. I had planted a Western Azalea (*Rhododendron occidentale*) which had flourished with neglect and each spring was covered with white, pink, and yellow fragrant flowers. The plant grows on Mt. Tamalpais—there is a beautiful stand at Rifle Camp—in Big Basin and at Prairie Creek on the North Coast and elsewhere in California. My specimen stood ten feet tall, a source of joy every spring. This plant does not grow easily in gardens, I had been lucky in the place where I planted it, and I had to turn away as David took a chain saw to the base of the plant.

Where did you “go crazy” in your yard?

Halliwell: I did decide to remove all of the Pride of Madera (*Echium candicans*) on our land, both because the plant is invasive in Muir Beach and because they are short lived, leaving dead plants that I believe would be fodder for fires. I also removed, roots and all, quite a lot of the Coyote Bush (*Baccharis pilularis*) because I wanted to clear space under the trees. This plant is native here and grows all over the surrounding hills, and I did not feel badly by taking out plants in our effort to create a park-like setting.

Did you hire a crew or do the work yourself?

Gross: Some of this work I can do myself but I also have access to several professionals for the heavy work. Major tree work can be very expensive. I wonder if the community could develop an ongoing relationship with a company perhaps for an annual fee or consider a fee for a designated month each year for tree trimming or removal similar to the Chipper Days arrangement.

Residents: Ask your neighbors if they can recommend a tree/brush trimmer.

Halliwell: David and I have done the work ourselves. We come from an English family where plants and gardens were cherished. I have a love of the botanical world and an aesthetic sense—dare I say?—useful in tree pruning. And David as a strapping young lad in West Virginia became adroit and careful in the use of a chainsaw. We do not view working in a Muir Beach garden to be a hassle. To get a work-out in a hillside garden overlooking the Pacific! What could be better? We have not worried about privacy. I think that could be dealt with if one has a little imagination. Think life in Japan or in Holland.

How long did the transformation take and how did Chipper Days help?

Gross: Our last chipping sessions took place in September. Chipper Days are a great benefit to us.

Halliwell: Working one hour a day, or a day a week, we have gradually made progress. The Chipper Days have been a godsend and have made the work feasible. We have a deadline and we work toward it. We have utilized all of the Chipper Days, except the last one after I had injured my leg. One time we had a pile 30 feet long and 10 feet high, and the chipping people graciously took it. It is amazing how much one can thin and remove limbs from trees. And there is still plenty of beauty left.

Join the Firewise Team!

Looking to get involved? The Firewise Team is seeking new members. To learn more, feel free to contact one of us. Thank you for keeping Muir Beach fire safe and fire wise!

– *The Muir Beach Firewise Team*

*Don Piotter, Klaus Poppensieker, David Taylor,
 Chris Gove, and Pamela Tom Swarts*

Back in the 70s, before Muir Beachers had food or vegie box delivery options, there was a COMMUNITY FOOD CO-OP.
Reprinted from Beachcomber, Issue 44, June 1978, page 16. Submitted by Charlene Modena

FOOD CO-OP

The Muir Beach Community Cooperative has held 3 meetings where the core group worked on purpose, policy and planning.

Attending the meetings were Jan Lovett Keen, Hank Maiden, Jane Vennard, Charlene Modena, Nina White, Ann Hope, Gary Friedman and Trish McCall.

The first meeting was full of many diverse and wonderful ideas around food that the community might sustain - like numerous small intensive gardens modelled on Alan Chadwick's work which could meet the entire community's produce needs. Other ideas ranged from having our own goats and chickens for milk, cheese and eggs to utilizing our seaweed supply. Even our own fishing boat!

Yet, though our enthusiasm and thinking were high we realized that we had come together because we were concerned basically about the cost of food and our lack of control over it and we believe that a small community buying club would be the first step in meeting those concerns. Our statement of purpose is included in this issue.

At the 2nd meeting we focused on establishing policy such as requiring members to pay a \$10 fee and volunteer a small amount of time monthly to work on the coop.

At the 3rd meeting Jerry Kresy of Associated Coops spoke to us about the services of his organization and emphasized that with a coop "you don't get anything free, but thru the output of human energy you can save up to 25% on your monthly food bills." Nina White has offered to put her energy into the demanding job of treasurer for which we're very grateful.

Some basic equipment is needed for the coop. Tom Rawlins has donated a large refrigerator-freezer. The Levins as they moved from the community gave us their mailbox. Does anyone have a scales? Even an old and accurate baby scales would be fine. We also need a duplicating source.

In this issue of the Beachcomber we've included a list of product categories that we would like interested people to fill out and put in our mailbox or give directly to Nina White or Trish McCall.

We plan to make our first order the first week of July.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 6/26 at 8:00 p.m. at the Friedman-McCall house, 175 Sunset Way.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE M.B. COMMUNITY COOP

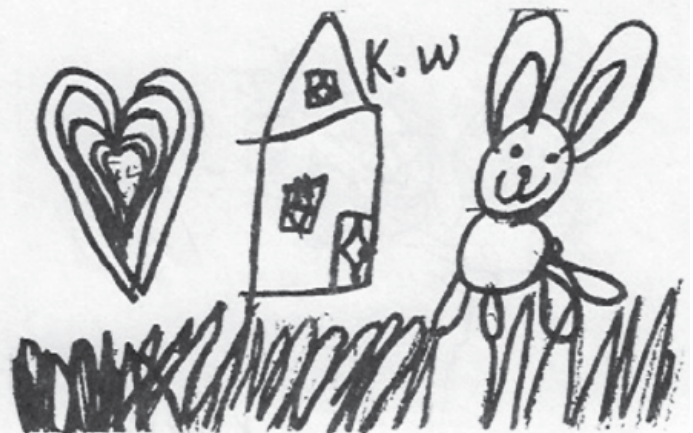
In these times of economic havoc we as consumers become increasingly powerless as the complexities of competitive capital distance us ever further from the farmers who grow our food. This marketing system which is more concerned with its profit than our welfare fosters alienation rather than community. It is our desire to break out of this system, to gain autonomy over our food consumption, to save money, to provide quality food and to develop a controllable economic structure around food which will buy for us rather than sell to us. Therefore we are starting a Muir Beach Community Cooperative

As residents of Muir Beach we value the natural environment that surrounds us and the diversity of people among us. As a community our independence in spirit and natural surrounding is our community. It is compatibility of community and environment that leads us to view a food coop as a natural extension and expression of why we are here.

Beginning with a buying club through which we can purchase low cost high quality nutritional food, we envision the possibility of our growing our own produce through the utilization of new ecological forms of gardening thus deepening our relationship to each other and the land.

The formation of a community food coop is an action which expresses the philosophy of our life styles thru simplicity, cooperation, mutuality and trust.

Trish McCall



Continued on next page

If you are interested in purchasing items in the following categories, please circle the appropriate number.

Return this form to the Co-op mailbox, so that we will have a general idea of community interest.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. bags, paper, plastic, foil | 26. dried fruit |
| 2. canned goods | 27. nuts |
| 3. laundry products | 28. organic grain products |
| 4. household cleaning products | 29. rice |
| 5. condiments | 30. cheese and dairy products |
| 6. flour | 31. fresh produce |
| 7. cake, cookie mix, etc. | |
| 8. sugar | |
| 9. salt | |
| 10. breakfast cereals | |
| 11. coffee/tea | |
| 12. honey, syrup | |
| 13. cookies, crackers | |
| 14. oil | |
| 15. vinegar | |
| 16. spices | |
| 17. pasta, macaroni products | |
| 18. jams, jellies, peanut butter | |
| 19. jello, puddings | |
| 20. sodas | |
| 21. Perrier water | |
| 22. baby food | |
| 23. Pampers | |
| 24. soy sauce | |
| 25. pet food | |

NAME-

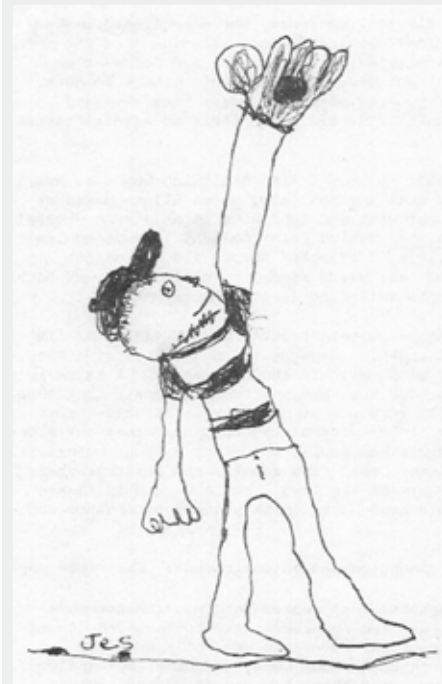
ADDRESS-

PHONE NUMBER-

NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD-

CHECK ENCLOSED+ yes ☐ no ☐

BLAST FROM THE PAST...



1978 drawing by Jes Sward, reprinted from Beachcomber, Issue 44, June 1978, page 11. Submitted by Charlene Modena

Random thoughts ...

By Michael Miller

Now that Chuck McDowell has helped you get rid of your timeshare, maybe he can help you get rid of all those TV apps you didn't even know you had ... life has become much more casual over the years, but is it really ok to wear a t-shirt when you go out to dinner ... I like and have always liked dogs but do they need to be in stores and restaurants ... Is there a genetic reason why men can't fold laundry ... the nice thing about checking your horoscope to get the day off to a good start is you can keep searching until you find one you like ... I finally canceled the yesterday's news tomorrow SF Chronicle ... is Los Angeles anything more than a big parking lot where you stop for a cheeseburger on the way to San Francisco ... I can't disagree with everything Trump has done but I fear we are sleepwalking toward authoritarianism ... orange lies matter ... every empty bottle is your private crystal ball ... every storm runs out of rain eventually but if you want rainbows you have to put up with a little rain ... the nicest thing about living near the ocean is it smells like freedom ... bad luck is being offered free soup when you only have a fork.

Announcing ...

Muir Beach Dog of the Month



Oscar, shown here coveting the 6.58 pound zucchini that was grown in Muir Beach under his watchful eye at 51 Seacape. Oscar is the Grandpup to Mike and Janet Tumpich-Moore.

Four Fun Apps for Life at Muir Beach – and they’re free.

By Christian Riehl

It’s a Bird! It’s a Plane! It’s a Ship! Oh, and the bird dropped some seeds. I’m referring to four of my favorite apps for enjoying the unique perspective on the world that Muir Beach affords us. And for killing time in an enjoyable way.



Ever wonder what those ships are coming and going out the Golden Gate? Where are they coming from? Where are they going? What kind of ship are they? With the **Marine Traffic – Ship Tracking** app you can: identify the ship you see (along with other vessels nearby); see what kind of vessel it is (tanker, vehicle carrier, bulk carrier, container ship, military vessel... and so forth); see where it is heading; and a few other fun facts. The free version of the app allows you three “unlocks” a month to see additional details like when it was built, gross tonnage, and from where it’s coming. Like most free apps, there is the occasional advert that pops up for a short period. And there are options to pay for ad-free versions that also give you more information: the Starter Plan costs \$9.99 *per year* and opens up a vast amount of information about vessels, ports, past tracks, route forecasts, popular destinations and origins of ships in our area, and more than even I have the time to kill.



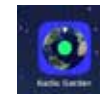
I’m sure you’ve noticed Muir Beach is adjacent to a number of the major flight paths. Do you ever wonder where those airplanes are going or where they’re coming from? Or what that helicopter is doing? With the **Flightradar24** app you can know those things and more. Open the map, click on a plane, and it shows you all the details: airline, flight number, where it’s coming from and going to, how far it’s gone, how many miles and how much time it has left to go, the route it took/is taking, speed, altitude, etc. You can even point your

phone (or tablet) at a plane you see in the sky and it will tell you all about it. The free version is a lot of fun, but if you want to get into even more detail and features-like, how old that airplane is and how fast it is descending – you can get a “Silver” version for \$17.99 a year, or a “Gold” version for \$39.99 a year. Whichever you use, this is a really fun way to avoid doing anything resembling work. Heck, you might get so far into it that before you know it you’ll be hanging around the local airfreight terminal, talking to your buddies about all the big planes that are all the time flyin’ in, and talking about all the crazy places you never been...like Cincinnati. (Bruce B: please extend my apologies to Blackie Ferrell for the crib.)



Muir Beach isn’t on a flight path just for airplanes; it’s also on the Pacific Flyway for many of our feathered aviator friends. Of course, some of them like to hang around all the time. The upshot is that there are a whole lot of birds of different feathers that live or visit Muir Beach. Who are these characters? Probably the most popular app for identifying birds is Cornell University’s **Merlin Bird ID**. This app is dead-simple to use, self-explanatory really, so I won’t describe what the app itself explains better. It’s free and easy! One thing I will mention is that I’m not very good at seeing birds - being color blind doesn’t help, but I suspect I’m like most people in that it’s easier for me to *hear* birds rather than *see* them. What I love about this app is that you can have your phone “listen” to the sound of birds and up pops a list (with pictures!) of the birds the app hears. Interestingly, I found that once I saw a picture of a bird I was hearing, suddenly it became a lot easier to see the actual bird! Such fun. By the way, one of the best places to hear/see birds

is the alder grove between the Pacific Way bridge and the Pelican Inn. In spring and summer, you hear more languages there than you would racing through the Frankfurt airport to catch that connecting flight. I mean, you’re probably not going to run into a long-tailed grackle in an airport!



The last app I’ll mention is one that lets you see what’s going on *away* from Muir Beach -well, hear what’s going on. I still like to listen to radio, and I’d normally recommend a streaming subscription to KPIG (or a move to Freedom, CA), but let’s stick with what’s *free*. Yes, you could turn on any station here or anywhere in western/eastern/southern/northern civilization and hear The Fate of Ophelia - which is great; no complaints- but wouldn’t you want to discover something a little more...**out there**? That’s where the **RadioGarden** app comes in. When you open the app, a picture of the globe appears, and radio “seeds” start spreading. Each “seed” is a city (or location). As you center the garden circle over a seed, a radio station from that location begins playing. But that’s just the start: the size of the seed represents how many stations are available in that garden. For example, the garden in Kumasi, Ghana has 29 radio stations you can listen to. Or Almaty, Kazakhstan offers 14 stations. There are about 40,000 radio stations from all over the world available for listening. This is just the thing for those late sleepless nights, or Sunday afternoons when the guests at the football party are talking about the future Mrs. Kelce’s possible choices for a wedding dress and you want to be *anywhere* else. Oh wait, what *is* this on 89.8 FM from Komsomolsk-on-Amur, eastern Russia. Is that really ...Olivia Rodrigo? God, it’s brutal out here!



Muir Beach Garden Club

Rummage Sale 2025

Our annual Muir Beach Garden Club Community Rummage Sale was held on Sunday, August 31.

Setup started at 8:30am, as the tables and chairs were en route and the sun was shining bright. Joey, Janice, Mike and other garden clubbers

contributed to running the sale and cleanup.

We managed to raise \$310 from table rentals and miscellaneous donations. The bounty was donated to the MBVFA to help fund the new MBVFD firehouse.

Thank you to all the sellers and rummagers for making this donation possible, and for braving the heat that day. A special thanks to Jim White and his Pacific Way neighbors for the event space.

— Janet Tumpich



Photos by Deb Allen and Joey Groneman

Welcome to Rose Katherine Knapp



It is with great delight that the Johnson-Rudnick family of Muir Beach announces the birth of our second grandchild, Rose Katherine Knapp, born on May 23, 2025, to her parents, Alisa and Howard Knapp.

Baby Rose's big brother Westley was born three years ago in the same hospital as his little sister: Marin Health Medical Center in Greenbrae, California. And their mama Alisa was also born there, in the protective embrace of Mount Tamalpais, more than thirty years ago.

Our extended family is celebrating the birth of baby Rose, auspiciously born on the weekend of the Muir Beach Fireman's Barbeque. We all look forward to celebrating together over the years ahead here in Muir Beach.

– Wendy Johnson

Bistro Holiday Hiatus: 11/20-1/8

By Harvey Pearlman

The, not so new anymore, Thursday morning Bistro has been gaining members as the word spreads that it is the place to be on Thursday mornings. Tessa has been replaced by Tennessee but we still have our coffee, tea, bagels, lox and croissants. There's nothing better than a fully loaded bagel & lox or a warm croissant with friends. But holiday season is upon us and they all fall on Thursdays this year, including set up for our fair the weekend of Dec. 6th & 7th. So, we are taking some time off. Our last bistro in 2025 will be Nov. 20th and we'll be back Jan. 8th. Come join us in January for a warm something in front of a cozy fire...unless it's 65 degrees.



Ruth Beckenbauer (Klaus' friend), Lisa Eigsti, Klaus Poppensieker, Liz Salin, Rick Bernard, Tennessee Chapman, Jon Rauh, Nina Vincent, Diane Collier (Liz's sister), Harvey Pearlman, Ralph Rogers. Photo by Laurie Piel

Day of the Dead 2025



Many thanks to Harvey and Lisa who hosted our annual Day of the Dead Celebration again this year. With a beautifully decorated community center, delicious foods, face painting and music our community came alive to celebrate the dead. Stories of loved ones filled the room, a song from Beth and Tennessee and entertainment by Susan Z's band. A good time was had by all.

– Janet Tumpich, photo by Danny Hobson