

# HILLSBOROUGH

2ND QUARTER

2007



## CREEKS ARE CRUCIAL, NEED CARE

Whether quietly trickling or raging with water, Hillsborough's eight creeks are performing jobs integral to drainage and water quality as well as erosion control and habitat protection.

Having witnessed increasing abuse of the important waterways, the Town has drafted a creek protection policy to be incorporated into the Municipal Code. The ordinance, which comes before City Council for preview this month, affects every resident in Town, some far more than others.

Creeks are part of the storm drain system. Storm drains exist on every street. Whatever slides into a storm drain flows into a creek and eventually to the Bay. Therefore, the ordinance prohibits the disposal of garbage, refuse, harmful chemicals, abandoned objects, etc. on

any street, sidewalk, drain, catch basin or other drainage conduit, except in lawfully established garbage containers.

Residents have complained about debris in the creeks and have witnessed gardeners disposing of green waste by tossing it over a fence into a creek or leaving it curbside. Yard waste should be collected and disposed of in a trash container designated for green waste so the waste management company can collect and recycle it. All residents must be cognizant of keeping creeks or other bodies of water free of debris and pollutants by properly disposing of refuse and yard waste.

There are about 474 properties that are considered creek-side properties – properties that touch on Easton, **continued inside**



PHOTO BY DAVE BISHOP

*Council has passed an ordinance to protect the Town's eight creeks, which often fall victim to dumping of debris and garbage.*

## BE ON THE ALERT

Now is the time to sign on to SMCAAlert. San Mateo County's new alert system is "hot," active and in service, according to Hillsborough Police Chief Matt O'Connor. The internet-based, wireless text notification service is designed to reach out to residents, via cell phone, pager or email, to warn them of any emergency that affects health, safety or well-being. Chief O'Connor encourages all residents to register by going to [www.SMCAAlert.info](http://www.SMCAAlert.info) and following the simple directions.

One asks, "If you sign on to the system, will you be inundated with notices about Town or community events?" No. It is a rare event that activates a notice, but it will be a notice of great enough importance that you will want to know about it as soon as possible. Examples are hazardous material conditions, utility outages, winter storm warnings, flash floods, tsunamis, road closures, earthquakes, Amber alerts and crime alerts.

Why would you want to know about an earthquake in Monterey or a crime alert on the opposite side of Town? You won't know – unless you want the information. SMCAAlert allows you to specify the city or cities and area(s) of interest. You may want to request information for your residential area and business area only, or just your home. You are given the ability to pinpoint your

own areas of interest.

SMCAAlert grew out of action taken by the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Association following 9/11. The \$500,000 cost is covered by Homeland Security funds. (Chief O'Connor sat on the voting authority to determine funding). San Mateo County is the first county in the Bay Area to roll out the new notification system.

The resident notification system is actually part of a larger Bay Area and county notification program begun several years ago. The larger program is designed to filter emergency information from as high as the California Attorney General's Office to the county's

4,079 "first responders," i.e. local police and fire personnel, city managers, public works and health officials. Information for emergency personnel would only be sent to the public, however, if the information affected that person. For instance, a call for a SWAT team in San Mateo would not be a text message received by a resident, unless the SWAT action was near the residence.

SMCAAlert is geared to get vital information to you when you need to know. Join the Hillsborough residents who have already signed on to the program. Log on to [www.SMCAAlert.info](http://www.SMCAAlert.info) today.



**SMCAAlert.info**

San Mateo County's Community Alert System

# GATEWAY TO THE PAST

## Residents begin restoration pledge drive

While the gatehouse to the Carolands stands literally at the intersection of Ralston Avenue and Eucalyptus Avenue, it finds itself figuratively at a crossroads in life. The charming, French-style structure is in an extreme state of disrepair and a choice needs to be made – demolition or restoration.

A group of residents, spearheaded by Sally and Jim Meakin, is interested in bringing the gatehouse back to life. The gatehouse is not an official historical landmark but it does have historical value. It was built 77 years ago by Lang Real Estate Company of Burlingame and was used as a sales and promotion office as Harriet Pullman Carolan began to sell off parcels of the Carolands estate. As people entered the estate grounds, they checked in with the gatekeeper. As such, “it may be representative of the West’s first gated community,” Sally Meakin said. In the 1960s, a Town employee lived at the gatehouse for several years.

Nostalgia prompted the Meakins to initiate the restoration project. Both Sally and Jim were raised from childhood in Hillsborough. In the early 1950s, Jim could see the gatehouse from the football field at North School and was struck by its charm. Sally said she used to walk up the hot, dusty road to the Jennie Crocker Henderson estate, past the gatehouse, during the late



A group of residents is studying ways to not only restore but make use of the Carolands gatehouse, a Hillsborough landmark at the corner of Ralston Avenue and Eucalyptus Avenue.

1950’s air raid drills. “People have asked about the gatehouse,” Sally said, “and no one was doing anything, so we thought we should.”

The Meakins feel that with an estimated restoration cost of \$250,000, the gatehouse could not only stand as a tribute to the gracefulness of Hillsborough, but serve a purpose for the Town as well. The Hillsborough Police Department plans to convert the building’s interior into a back-up communications substation and will be receiving technology grants to help foot the cost of restoring the interior, according to Police Chief Matt O’Connor. A 650-square-foot portion of the building would serve as a work room, giving police a location close to our schools and the geographic center of Town. It would also serve as a convenient command post for important Town activities such as the Concours d’Elegance. “It would also provide officers with a work sta-

tion in the field,” said Chief O’Connor.

The Meakins and a group of interested friends launched a pledge drive last October to collect the \$250,000 needed for restoration. If they are successful in obtaining the pledges, they can present the project to City Council. If City Council approves the project, they can collect the pledges and proceed. Interested people may contact the Meakins or check [www.carolandsgatehouse.com](http://www.carolandsgatehouse.com).

“We have such hectic lives,” Sally said. “To drive past something charming and evocative of the true elegance of Hillsborough is such a nice, ‘ahhh’ moment -- something 6,000 cars a day could experience.”

Giving the gatehouse a new life and purpose would go a long way toward assuring that the quaint building that pleases so many residents would remain a part of the Town.

## MORTON ‘PLANS’ HER RETIREMENT

When Maureen Morton accepted the job as planning director of Hillsborough, she had a strategy.

“I promised myself I would stay just three years,” she said. “In that amount of time, I figured I would have accomplished all that there was to be done in a small town of only single family residences.”

However, on June 1, 2007, the Planning Director will be officially retired, having remained 11 years past her prediction. “I was amazed. There were always new and challenging things, so I stayed,” Morton said.

The challenge became obvious with her first words on the job. “Oh, gee, I think we need some order here,” Morton said as she walked into her new office and found the floor strewn with design review plans. The Town had never had a full-time planning director. Morton was recruited from South San Francisco and had previously worked in Lodi and Stockton.

Order is one of a litany of improvements Morton brought to the Planning Department, culminating in what Morton feels was the highlight of her career – garnering state certification of Hillsborough’s Housing Element. “For Hillsborough to have that is a remarkable accomplishment and I’m very proud of that,” she said, adding that former Mayor Tom Kasten and a valuable citizen’s committee added to the effort.

Morton launched her career in Hillsborough by setting up procedures, application forms and details needed to establish a fair and equitable planning process. She spearheaded a movement to legalize the Town’s formerly unrecognized home businesses, which had sprouted with the growth of technology.

Over the course of years, she led the development of the Town’s Residential Design Guidelines, prepared the General Plan and, in conjunction with former Assistant City Attorney Penny Greenberg, rewrote the city codes. She developed rules for second units, which were instrumental in implementing the Housing Element. The Stonebridge Subdivision at the south end of Town, the Nueva School Master Plan and the new gymnasium at Crystal Springs Uplands School were also developed under Morton’s jurisdiction.

Morton worked quietly and creatively behind the Planning Department counter. She would devote hours to creating a solution to a problem that would adhere to the Town’s firm regulations and guidelines yet solve the frustrations of architects and homeowners.

During her tenure, Morton saw a much higher degree of interplay between the community and the regulatory process. “The ADRB (Architecture and Design Review Board) developed guidelines so decisions are not arbitrary, there is an information flow via the Web site so there is less waiting at the counter, and overall there is less mystery in the process; it’s more community-based,” she said.

Morton added that the tremendous skills of Hillsborough’s volunteers and the high regard she holds for City Council members were important factors in her extended stay in Hillsborough.

But, after 32 years in public service, the time came to retire. In retirement, she wants to spend more time with friends and family, including husband Gary Adams, who also works for the Town. In addition, she wants to do some contract planning. “That’s who I am – a planner,” Morton said.



Maureen Morton

### PICKUP PROBLEMS ?

If you are having problems with garbage pickup or recycling, call Allied Waste at 650-592-2411. If the response is unsatisfactory, call Public Works at 650-375-7444.

### STAY IN TOUCH

Keep informed on what’s happening in your Town. Check the Town’s Web site – [www.hillsborough.net](http://www.hillsborough.net).

## GREEN CORNER

### PARK CARE AND WATER CONSERVATION

#### Taking care of the Town’s parks

With warmer weather approaching, it is important to know the rules regarding use of the Town’s parks and open space. Parks in Town include Vista Park, Crossroads Park and the Town Hall Water Conservation Park. At the March meeting, City Council approved a new ordinance covering use of parks and open space.

Parks are open to the public every day between sunrise and sunset unless a party has obtained a permit for the use of the park. Open space is closed to public access at all times except as permitted for special purposes.

When using a public park, do not:

- Remove turf, soil, grass, rock, sand, gravel, tree, shrub, wood or any portion thereof.
- Make or kindle a barbecue or other fire for any purpose.
- Play or practice golf or archery.
- Fly a motorized airborne device of any kind.
- Cut, break, injure, disturb or write or mark upon or otherwise deface any tree, shrub, plant, rock, building, cage, pen, monument, fence, bench or other structure, apparatus or property.
- Practice, carry on, conduct or solicit for any charity, occupation, business or profession.
- Sell or offer for sale any merchandise, article, thing or service without a permit.
- Place litter or debris elsewhere than in containers designed to receive such litter or debris or in containers that the person, group or organization removes from the park upon leaving.
- Operate a motorized scooter, motorized skateboard or other unlicensed vehicle in the park.
- Smoke cigarettes, cigars or pipes or use other tobacco products.

In order to regulate the time, place and manner of activity

in the park for the safety and convenience of the general public, the Public Works director may issue permits, on a first come, first served basis, for the exclusive use of all or a portion of a park for an organized event or informal gathering.

#### Conserve water

Following the fourth driest winter on record and concerned about possible first year drought conditions, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is urging its customers to curtail water consumption in the coming months to help avert possible mandatory rationing and deeper water consumption limits later this year.

It is easy for most of us to reduce our water use by adjusting a few daily habits. Take heed of the following water-saving tips:

- Turn off the faucet when you are brushing your teeth or doing the dishes.
- Take shorter showers. Each minute you cut saves 2.5 gallons.
- Use a broom to clean sidewalks, driveways and pavement instead of using a hose.
- Water only what your plants need: Water your lawn once a week and only at night.
- This spring plant drought tolerant plants.
- Operate your clothes and dishwashers with full loads only, even if the machine has an adjustable load setting.
- Stop leaks. To check for leaks, turn off all water taps inside and outside your home. If the meter dial is moving, you may have a leak.
- Install faucet aerators in your kitchen and bathroom.
- Replace your old toilet, the largest water user inside your home.
- Replace your clothes washer, the second largest water user in your home.

## BEHIND THE LINES SUPPORT FOR FRONT-LINE TROOPS

### Fire Chief Don Dornell leads local committee

Central County Fire Department is at the ready 24-7 to help Hillsborough and Burlingame residents with any fire or medical emergency. But what the local populace may not know is that, on a voluntary basis, many firefighters and residents also lend invaluable support to the soldiers of the historic U.S. Army's 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, Bravo Company 1/327 INF.

Central County Fire Chief Don Dornell chairs an Adopt-a-Unit committee that sends care packages and letters to the 140-member, all-male, front-line infantry unit while the soldiers are fighting wars on foreign soil. The boys of Bravo Company returned home from their second deployment in Iraq in September 2006 and are facing redeployment in the next few months.

"These are real heroes," Dornell said. "They are making such a sacrifice and they are doing it because it's expected of them. It's very little sacrifice on my part to help."

Dornell became involved in the mission in 2004 when the city of Burlingame formally adopted Bravo company. Approximately 40 to 50 members of the community have been involved in the voluntary effort over the past three years. The chief said his personal interest is based on the bad feelings he experienced when soldiers returning from Viet Nam were treated poorly.

The Adopt-a-Unit committee collects items such as chewing gum, magazines, snacks, soft drinks and toothpaste to send to the soldiers. Dornell encourages individuals, schools, scout troops, and various organizations to contribute items and letters.

"Many people want to support the

troops and don't know how. This is a way," Dornell said. He holds more than 35 letters of thanks from the troops as a positive testimonial to the effort.

"It's a great experience," he said, "a real outpouring of community support."

The history of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne dates back to 1917. In World War II, the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne, 1/327 INF, led the way on D-Day in northern France in the night drop prior to the full invasion.

"This is not about politics," Dornell said. Supporting cities expend no funds. "This is all about supporting our people."

Anyone wishing to become involved can contact Chief Dornell at 558-7600 or learn more about the program on the America Supporting Americans Web site, asa-usa.org, or the city of Burlingame Web site, burlingame.org.

### BARNETT JOINS ADRB

When Charlie Barnett moved to Hillsborough five years ago, he decided he wanted to do "a little garden project" at his new home. So Barnett, an architect, drew up plans and went to the Planning Department. He came away with a permit—and in addition, he left with an application from former Planning Director Maureen Morton to place his name in contention for the Architecture Design Review Board (ADRB). Charlie was appointed as an alternate in July 2006 and later stepped up to a full Board position.

He is contributing his expertise to

raise the quality of design and quality of materials incorporated in projects brought before the ADRB.

As an architect, Barnett said he has interacted with numerous city planning departments and feels Hillsborough's is "incredibly professional." On the ADRB, he is aided by the Town's design guidelines, which he said are exceptionally well done and provide



Charlie Barnett

solid criteria for judging applications. For that reason, he is pleased to be on the Board and adds that the ADRB provides "wonderful insight into how people relate to each other in the community."

Charlie was a political economics major at the University of California, Berkeley, and a commercial real estate broker. When he built a house in Inverness that landed on the pages of Sunset magazine, he launched his new career in architecture. He attended Harvard Graduate School of Design, graduated at age 31 and started his own firm. He has been designing new and remodeling old residences from his San Francisco office for 15 years.

### WARN FIREFIGHTERS ABOUT SOLAR SYSTEMS OR GENERATORS

Solar energy systems and back-up generators are utilities that are becoming very common for houses to have as an alternative source of power. However, they can present a problem. One of the first priorities for a firefighter when responding to a rescue operation is to shut down all power. If the home has an alternative source of energy, such as solar panels or a generator, then those sources could still be energizing the home. Since water is used for fighting fires and water is a conductor of electricity, energized wires are hazardous.

"We are concerned with knowing all power sources in use and where their shut-off switches are located," said Central County Fire Department Battalion Chief Drew Flinders. "Ideally, all shut-off power switches would be at the same accessible location close to the house."

The California Electrical Code states, "A sign or directory, denoting all electrical power sources on or in the premises, shall be installed at each service equipment location." This statement is being strictly enforced concurrently by the Hillsborough Building Department and Central County Fire Department. There have been some instances in which location maps are being required to take extra safety precautions.

"The safety of our citizens and firefighters is a top priority for the Central County Fire Department," said Fire Chief Don Dornell.

## TOWN BRIEFS

### City Council

During the past quarter, City Council:

- Authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Neal Martin & Associates for interim planning services, upon the retirement of Planning Director Maureen Morton. The cost of the agreement will be approximately \$70,000 and last six months.
- Adopted a proposal from Mission Bell Manufacturing for \$45,000 for the custom construction of an upgraded five-seat dais, an upgraded four-seat staff desk and an expandable document table for Council Chambers.
- Authorized execution of an agreement with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services for a part-time emergency preparedness services coordinator. The part-time position will improve the Town's readiness to cope with disasters. Responsibilities will include updating the Town's emergency plan, providing training for Town employees, developing disaster plans and providing information and training to the community.
- Passed a resolution supporting Virgin America's attempt to receive Department of Transportation approval to fly out of SFO.
- Adopted an ordinance that allows the mayor to extend the term of a member of the Architecture and Design Review Board.
- Adopted a resolution approving the Association of Bay Area Governments report "Taming Natural Disasters" as Hillsborough's local hazard mitigation plan. Federal law requires all cities to have local hazard mitigation plans to receive disaster mitigation funding from FEMA.
- Adopted a resolution awarding a contract for the 2007 Storm Drain Rehabilitation Project to Fermin Sierra Construction, Inc. for \$70,560 to improve storm drains at 510 Eucalyptus Avenue, 2200 Ralston Avenue, Chiltern at Arden and West Santa Inez at Brentwood. The improvements will help prevent flooding, increase pedestrian safety and decrease the annual maintenance of the storm drain system in these areas.
- Approved design services of \$118,040 for the following projects: replacement of water mains, construction of a 200-foot wall along Vista Park, construction of a fire pump house at the Skyfarm tank site, elimination of the Hayne Road sewage pump station and construction of a water tank at El Arroyo.
- Approved a garbage collection fee hike of 15.5 percent to cover the rising cost of labor. The increase translates to \$2.56 per month per 32-gallon can per household. The Town is in the process of negotiating a new franchise agreement to replace the one with Allied Waste which expires in 2010. The Town received 29 letters of protest but required 2006 letters to block the increase. Residents experiencing problems with Allied Waste collection are encouraged to call the company at 650-592-2411. **If the results are not satisfactory, residents should call the Public Works Department at 650-375-7444.**
- Awarded a contract to JF Pacific Liners, Inc. for \$1.9 million to clean, repair, remove roots and videotape 34,546 linear feet of sanitary sewer mains on Rowan Tree, Skyfarm, Geri, Edgewart, Silk Tree, Butternut, Eugenia, Hills-

borough, Endfield/Bowhill and Marlborough. In order to achieve economy of scale, the projects for 2007, 2008 and 2009 were combined.

- Awarded a contract to Duke's Root Control, Inc. for \$105,280 for the chemical root control of 13 miles of sanitary sewer mains. The company will use a process called "foaming" that coats the mains with a thick herbicide that expands and kills roots on both the inside and outside of the pipe walls, but does not harm trees or other above-ground vegetation.

### People

- Public Works Director Martha DeBry was presented with the Hillsborough Beautification Foundation's Professional Volunteer Award at the March Council meeting. DeBry has helped the Foundation usher their projects, designed for some of the Town's public properties, through the Town and construction process. She was very instrumental in helping the Foundation with Vista Park.
- Lanette Alt is a new dispatcher (Communications Officer) with the Police Department. Previously she worked as a dispatcher for San Bruno for more than 10 years and has been serving as a per diem dispatcher for Hillsborough for more than six years.
- In order to provide continued quality city planning services after the retirement of Planning Director Maureen Morton, the Town has hired an interim city planner, Elizabeth Cullinan, AICP, on a part-time basis until a new city planner is recruited and hired. Cullinan serves as president of Neal Martin & Associates, a small, local urban and regional planning firm. She has been with the firm for 19 years and has worked with a variety of San Mateo County jurisdictions as well as having represented private development interests. Cullinan also serves as planning director in San Carlos. She holds a masters degree in Public Administration/Government studies and is certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners.
- Mark Ladas has been promoted from a division chief for the Central County Fire Department to deputy fire chief.
- In the Hillsborough Police Department, Patrick Barrett has been promoted from corporal to sergeant, and Patrick Ahern has been promoted from officer to corporal.

### Reminders

- Town Hall provides a recycling receptacle for cell phones and batteries. The Hillsborough Police Department has a receptacle for disposal of prescription drugs.
- Update your emergency information at the Police Department.
- Residents who expressed interest in having a cell phone antenna in their yard are on a waiting list. Several hundred people expressed interest, according to Public Works Director Martha DeBry, but to date only one cell phone company has inquired about possible locations.
- Larry May and Angela Nomellini announced that they will not be running for reelection for their positions on the Hillsborough City School District Board of Trustees in November. Terms are for four years. The filing period typically runs through July and August. For more information, contact Marilyn Miller, any of the School Board members or visit the San Mateo County election Web site, [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org).

## CHINCA HITS TARGET OF EXCELLENCE

Thanks to Hillsborough Police Inspector Rob Chinca, the police officers of San Mateo County and beyond who carry rifles are proficient in their jobs. In 2005 Chinca co-founded the Peninsula Rangemasters Group (PRG), which provides comprehensive, uniform firearms training to the law enforcement community.

"Before this new program, training was left to the individual police department," Chinca said. "We have established a more universal training, which is good because we work together, have many joint task forces (gang, narcotics, SWAT) and respond to incidents together."

Since the founding of PRG in 2005, more than 100 local, state and even federal officers have participated in the three-day firearms classes held at Coyote Point shooting range. The course, accredited by the California Commission of Police Officer Standards and Training (POST), enables officers to take back to their respective agencies a thorough understanding of the capabilities of the patrol rifle, its limitations, deployment tactics, liability issues and usage skills required to enhance the safety and protection of the officers and the public.

For his ingenuity and dedication, Chinca was recently named a recipient of the Town's Employee Excellence Award. In addition, Chinca received the Peninsula Council of Lions Clubs Officer Service Award for 2007. The Department of Homeland Security/Immigration & Customs Enforcement, whose agents were greatly impressed with the professionalism and quality of teaching provided by Chinca and his staff of PRG instructors, sent a letter of commendation.

Chinca has been with the Hillsborough Police Department since April 1996. He was a K-9 officer from 1998 to 2004, the Hillsborough School District resource officer for two and a half years and was named inspector in August 2004. He is also the senior firearms instructor at the station. In his day-to-day job as inspector, Chinca works with fellow Inspector Dave Agee to solve the crimes that occur in Town, such as ID theft, credit card fraud, burglaries and thefts.

A native of Pacifica, Chinca became involved in the Police Explorer program as a teen and decided to pursue a career in law

enforcement. He achieved his AA degree at the College of San Mateo and was hired as a deputy sheriff in San Francisco at the age of 21. After three years, he applied for a patrol position in Hillsborough.

"In San Francisco, I felt like only a badgenumber," he said. "In Hillsborough I feel like part of a team. It's a family type of atmosphere. I really enjoy my job."

Chinca is married, has a 7-year-old son and lives in San Mateo.



Rob Chinca

PHOTO BY LEANN THORNTON

## CREEKS

continued from front page

Sanchez, Terrace, Ralston, West Santa Inez, Burlingame, San Mateo or Borel creek. Residents who have creek-side properties are responsible for maintaining their portion of the creek. They need to remove non-organic debris, break up dams created by debris, and clean excessive vegetation that blocks water flow. Vegetation, however, should not be removed to the point that it increases vulnerability to erosion. Additionally, nothing should be placed so close to a creek that it could be carried away by storm waters.

The ordinance also prohibits unpermitted connections to storm drains or waterways, modifying the natural flow of a waterway or removing material from a waterway except for required maintenance.

A substantial portion of the ordinance pertains to construction near a creek, the resulting rules for contractors and the permits needed for the work.

Violation of the ordinance carries costs and legal consequences.

"All properties affect the storm drain system, and all residents need to be mindful of caring for the system," said Public Works Director Martha DeBry.

guard. Taking advantage of that situation and acting to help and verify the mistake, the scammer asks for your Social Security number, date of birth and sometimes even for credit card numbers and other private information – exactly what he needs to commit identity theft.

NEVER give out your Social Security number, credit card numbers or other personal information when you receive a telephone call.

ern California, on Wednesday, June 6. They will take the Torch from the San Mateo Police Department runners at the corner of El Camino Real and Peninsula Avenue at about 11:20 a.m. and run to Broadway Avenue in Burlingame. If you want to donate to the Special Olympics, call Susan Mitchell at the Hillsborough Police Department, 375-7460.

**Adult CPR classes** Central County Fire Department is holding adult CPR classes on three upcoming dates – Wednesday, May 30; Tuesday, June 26; and Monday, July 23. Classes take place from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Station 34, 799 California Drive, Burlingame. The cost is \$40 for residents of Burlingame and Hillsborough and \$50 for non-residents. To register, stop by the Fire Department administrative offices, 1399 Rollins Road in Burlingame. Registration is required to take the class. For more information, call Rubina at 558-7605.

## POLICE BLOTTER

A sampling of police activity during the past quarter finds Hillsborough inspectors working on several fraud and identity theft cases. Inspectors traced a purchase of stolen tires to a suspect in Los Banos. Working with the Los Banos Police Department and Merced County Probation Department, Hillsborough inspectors called on the suspect and found incriminating evidence in his home. They also discovered that the San Jose police were investigating an ID theft ring believed to have some association with the suspect. Evidence was being collected and sent to the Merced County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Another fraud case involved suspects obtaining credit card numbers of residents and using them to open UPS shipping accounts to facilitate the sending of counterfeit money orders. Recipients of the money orders, selected based on their responses to spam emails, were asked to cash the money orders and wire a percentage to two accounts in Nigeria. Inspectors are working with the US Postal Inspector's Office on this case. Reportedly, the Nigerian government is outraged by this type of activity, feeling that it detracts from the image of their country.

Inspectors are also working on an unusual theft. A flooring company in South San Francisco received an order for \$6,000 worth of flooring to be delivered to an address on Oak Rim. Upon delivery, they were met by two men who accepted the delivery and paid by check. The check was not good. As it turns out, the address was of a house for sale. The suspects apparently used a counterfeit check to purchase the materials and had them delivered to an address of a home they knew was vacant.

A typical monthly report for the HPD shows 427 calls for service, 191 of which were false alarms. There were three adult misdemeanor arrests, two juvenile felony arrests and one juvenile misdemeanor arrest. There were 14 acts of vandalism and 57 vehicle related citations. Police checked 1019 homes.

Excerpts from the monthly police log are as follows:

- Construction worker calls to report that a BMW X5 side-swiped him while he was placing a cone in the street, that the mirror struck his arm and the cone was shoved into his leg. Several minutes later police receive a call from a driver who said a construction worker threw a cone at her vehicle causing minor damage to the bumper.
- Mother reports her baby daughter just drank some laundry detergent. Referred to poison control.
- Woman reports husband left early in morning and has not returned home and is not returning cell phone calls. Reached brother who said husband left cell phone in office.
- Reports of unlawful use of gas-operated equipment (leaf blower and tree trimmer) on Saturday.
- Construction site burglarized, power tools taken.
- Resident called concerned about elderly neighbor. Called son in another state who gave permission to check on mother. Found woman had fallen. Taken to hospital.
- Resident calls to complain about neighbor using fireplace and smoke making it hard for her to breathe. No crime.
- Fire responds to call that propane tank is leaking.
- Man reports that his 9-year-old daughter is missing. He told her to go into the bathroom and take a bath and now cannot find her. Police find her asleep in her bed.
- Teacher in vicinity of North and Crocker schools reports seeing two juveniles in area, hears breaking glass and notes picnic table upside down. Police find damage to several windows done by glass bottles. Police find one adult and two juvenile suspects.
- Several carloads of juveniles in area of Uplands, Stonehedge and El Cerrito. Police cite for violation of provisional license and call parents.
- Resident on San Raymundo discovers mailbox missing at 6:30 a.m. At 9:36 a.m., another person reports finding a mailbox in the landscape, belonging to San Raymundo address.
- Pickup with American flag stopping citizens in area of Darrell and trying to sell steaks. Contact made on Hayne. Great American Steak Co. admonished.
- Faulty furnace motor produces smoke at residence on New Place.
- Juveniles released to parents after they were found stealing construction truck and using it to damage property in area of El Arroyo.
- Altercation between homeowner, house sitter and owner of rug company who said he is trying to pick up \$120,000 worth of rugs resident wants to return, but house sitter will not let rug employee in. Later resolved by parties involved.
- Woman calls to say she is bleeding but language barrier prevents accurate flow of information. Fire, ambulance dispatched. Woman had fallen from ladder.
- Woman tries to retrieve piano she had stored at Brett's Piano Storage in San Mateo, for which she had been paying every six months. Discovered company no longer in existence. Referred to San Mateo Police.
- Resident on Redington reports person inside her car. Subject found sleeping in car, transported to First Chance.
- Person reports checks delivered to his home by DHL missing. Account closed immediately.
- Money and drivers license taken from unlocked car in driveway of home on Forest View Avenue.
- Driveway light fixtures at home on Eucalyptus smashed.
- Roofer falls from roof on Endfield approximately 20 feet and hits dirt. Conscious and breathing with possible back injury. Transported to Stanford.

## JURY DUTY SCAM

The Hillsborough Police Department's Crime Prevention Division reports one of the newest scams. Take note.

The scammer calls claiming to work for the local court and says you have failed to report for jury duty and that a warrant has been issued for your arrest. You rightly claim you never received the jury duty notification, but you are put off-

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Pancake Breakfast** Central County Fire Department is hosting its annual Pancake Breakfast to raise funds for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation on Saturday, June 16, from 8 a.m. to noon at Fire Station 34, 799 California Drive, Burlingame. The cost is \$5 per person. T-shirts will be available for sale and there will be a raffle with multiple gifts, including a dinner prepared by Central County Firefighters at Fire Station 34. If you cannot attend the breakfast but want to donate to the Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to burn prevention and survivor assistance, call 650-558-7600. Call the same number if you need more information.

**Torch Run** Come see your Hillsborough Police Department members participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, North-

## CALENDAR

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING

2nd Monday  
6 p.m. - Town Hall



### CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

Study Sessions are held as needed at Town Hall.



### ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN REVIEW

#### BOARD MEETING

1st and 3rd Monday  
4 p.m. - Town Hall



### DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONERS

John Fannon, Community Services  
D. Paul Regan, Administration  
Catherine U. Mullooly, Fire Department  
Thomas M. Kasten, Police Department  
Christine Krolik, Public Works

### ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

John Fannon, Commissioner  
Jennifer Werbe, Chairwoman  
Charlie Barnett, Mark Heine,  
Walter Heyman, George Jewett  
Bruce Herman, Alternate



## COMMITTEES

### FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

D. Paul Regan, Commissioner  
Jess "Jay" Benton, Chairman  
Al Clark, Josh Cooperman,  
John Lockton, Larree Renda, Al Roysse

### CITIZENS COMMUNICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Catherine U. Mullooly, Commissioner  
Diana Witzel, Chairwoman  
Marie Chuang, Candace Lyche,  
Janet MacGregor, BeBe Trinkner



### CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE BOARD

Catherine U. Mullooly, Chairman, D. Paul Regan

### HILLSBOROUGH RECREATION

342-5439

D. Paul Regan, Commissioner  
Christine Krolik, Commissioner

### HILLSBOROUGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Marilyn Loushin Miller, Superintendent: 342-5193

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Business: 375-7470  
Alarm Specialists: 375-7472

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Business: 558-7600

## NUMBERS

### TOWN HALL

Administration: (650) 375-7400  
Website: [www.hillsborough.net](http://www.hillsborough.net)

### Town Hall Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Emergency after hours and weekends: 375-7470

City Council: 375-7400

Main and Finance Department: 375-7400

Water (service and billing):

Mon. - Thurs. 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Fri. 7:30 - 12:30 p.m. 375-7402

Building and Planning: 375-7411

Public Works and City Engineer: 375-7444

### CITY MANAGER

Anthony Constantouros: 375-7400

### Comcast

Customer Service: 1-800-945-2288

### PG&E (24 hrs.)

Outage Information: 1-800-743-5002

Customer Service: 1-800-743-5000

### Allied Waste

Main Number: (650) 592-2411

Hazardous Material: (650) 363-4718

*The Hillsborough Newsletter is published on a regular basis by the Town of Hillsborough to keep residents informed of local and Town news.  
Editor: Barbara Backer • Design: Larry Zientarski*



1600 Floribunda Ave.  
Hillsborough, CA 94010

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Hillsborough,  
CA 94010  
Permit No. 34