

# HILLSBOROUGH

## 1ST QUARTER 2008



## A MEMOIR OF SKY FARM

By Michael Svanevik & Shirley Burgett

Robert Leonardon, a retired industrialist of international repute and longtime Burlingame resident, reminisces about growing up in Hillsborough and a long association with Sky Farm, the William Willard Crocker estate, where his father was grounds superintendent for 30 years.

The connection dates from 1928 when the original Crocker home, a wood framed structure built in the 1890s, burned while the family was in Europe. Upon return, for reasons all his own, Crocker fired his entire servant staff, vowing to start anew. Angelo Gerald Leonardon, Bob's dad, was hired. Simultaneously, Crocker retained architect Arthur Brown, Jr., to "build me a castle." Therewith rose the 53-room steel-reinforced concrete structure, the building that today is Nueva School.

With construction underway, the Crockers resided at Uplands, home of a cousin, in lower Hillsborough. Meanwhile, the enterprising Angelo Leonardon, a former cement contractor, trained himself as a gardener, reading magazines and books. Growing flow-

ers was something he had never done. Thus began one of Hillsborough's most amazing horticultural wonders. Each week, Angelo delivered bunches of blooms to Ruth, Mrs. W.W. Crocker, at Uplands.

"We were poor but I didn't know it," says Bob. He, too, at the age of 12, worked for Crocker. Employment began with an application presented at the Crocker Bank in San Francisco. "I was terrified," Bob admits. But he was hired with a salary of 40 cents an hour, the beginning of a long-term commitment. He started painting fences. Then he assisted applying oil and gravel to the miles of roads on the 500-acre estate. Even as a boy, his job was to drive to Crystal Spring quarry where, with the help of dynamite, he filled the pick-up with gravel.

But the emphasis was horticulture. During summer, Bob drove to Sneath Dairy in San Bruno to clean out the cow barns, returning to Sky Farm with four truckloads of manure daily, fertilizer that transformed Sky Farm into a Hillsborough showplace.

Bob's dad studied catalogues, importing bulbs and flowering plants from Holland. Soon, not only was he decorating the house

but also winning ribbons for his blooms at the San Mateo Floral Fiesta. Visitors to Sky Farm looked across fields of flowers, while orchids and other exotics were grown in the greenhouse. The open air flower fields were surrounded by a 10-foot-high electrified fence to protect the posies from deer. But there was no fence around the apple orchard that Crocker regarded as belonging to the animals.

"A different era," Bob recalls, "even after the war, I'd help out on weekends." Roads had to be kept clear in case of fire; they constantly cut dead branches and trees. Throughout the year, debris was dumped in a pile, often creating a mound 75 yards long and 10 feet deep. "Then we'd soak the pile with gasoline and set it ablaze." Fires burned for days and, at night, flames could be seen in Oakland.

After going into business himself, Bob found it difficult to shed his Hillsborough antecedents. He worked the snack bar and waited tables at the Burlingame Country Club. For 23 consecutive New Year's Eves, he was in charge of parking cars at the Club. He chauffeured one Club member until becoming an executive in his own company. "Thereafter, I continued to drive (him), but as a friend, not an employee."

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ROBERT LEONARDON



Angelo Leonardon working in the glasshouse at Sky Farm. At right, Angelo Leonardon with son Bob at the family home in Burlingame.

# PRIZE DOG FOR DICKSON AND HPD

Corporal Anne Dickson can never set out her uniform early for work. When Vox, her 86-pound German Shepherd working companion sees those blues, he springs into action. Any other outfit phases him not at all. “But if I hang my uniform out too early, he gets way too excited, he nuzzles it, gets hair all over it, and then he sits right by the front door,” Dickson laughed.

But Dickson would not trade Vox’s exuberance and dedication for anything. That enthusiasm, read so clearly in Vox’s large brown eyes, alert straight ears and every twitching sinew of his muscular body, is one factor that helped earn Hillsborough’s K-9 team first place overall in the 24th Annual Witmer-Tyson K-9 trials this past October. Vox and Dickson out-performed 35 other K-9 teams from throughout Northern California.

Besides his determination and love of competition, Dickson said Vox excels because he is an extremely obedient dog – well, unless he spots a rubber ball on the school grounds – but when it counts, he minds. Vox obeys voice commands as well as hand signals and thus mastered the obedience phase of the competition on the morning of the first day of the trials. In the afternoon, he conquered an obstacle course, which included jumping through windows and over fences. On the second day, the protection phase, the hours spent training with blank gunfire paid off as Vox ignored the noise and successfully apprehended several staged suspects fleeing in opposite directions.

“He nailed that one,” Dickson said, almost executing a Tiger Woods’ fist-pump. “Then his search phase was fast and furious,” Dickson continued. “He found the guy, barked, looked me right in the eye and looked back at the suspect. It was a beautiful search. Scored 100.”

Dickson said she believed they had done well but was “utterly shocked” that they took first overall. Yet she admitted, “We



*At right, Corporal Anne Dickson proudly displays the trophies won by her and her K-9 companion Vox (above) in the 24th Annual Witmer-Tyson trials this October.*



worked hard for the last two months with our trainer from Witmer-Tyson.

“Also, this dog loves to compete,” Dickson said. “He loves to work, and he loves to spend the whole day with me.”

A San Francisco native and University of California at Davis graduate with a degree in animal physiology, Dickson began work as a paramedic but drifted, out of interest, to police work. She was hired in 1989 by Police Chief Bill Key as the first woman officer in the Hillsborough Police Department (HPD).

“After making the force, I acquired my first police dog, then a husband and then two boys, in that order,” she said. Because of her children, now ages 13 and 9, she works the 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift.

When Dickson’s first K-9, Cesar, died, she and her husband adopted Vox as a puppy to have as a family dog only, even though he was a strong German Shepherd from Witmer-Tyson. Two years later, the HPD was looking for a K-9 unit, and she volunteered herself and Vox.

“It was truly a dream come true,” Dickson said. “I raised and trained this dog

from a puppy, we developed a wonderful relationship, and now I get to work with him.”

Dickson reports that life with a K-9 is “interesting and active,” but Captain Mark O’Connor, a former K-9 officer, said, “People really have no idea of the time commitment.

“The stuff officers do off-hours that never gets counted; the sacrifice and personal investment is priceless for the Department,” he said. “There is the grooming, the feeding, the cleaning up, the vets, getting the dog in and out of the truck all day, shots, nail care, teeth, and so on. The result, memorialized in the records and awards Anne has achieved, demonstrate the perfect trust and cooperation between an officer and dog.”

“Vox is part of our family,” Dickson said. “He goes to work, he has to train and work out, and he comes home and rests, sleeps on the boys’ beds, curls up and helps them with their homework.”

Dickson said she expects Vox to work six or seven years and is hoping she and her companion can retire together.

## COST RECOVERY, RESTRUCTURE

During 2008, Chief Building Official John Mullins plans to propose a new, simplified and cost-recovery fee schedule, the first adjustment in building inspection fees in 10 years. The Council will consider simplifying and restructuring the current fee schedule for building permits. The new schedule will also streamline the current fee collection categories, from a cumbersome hundred-plus line items to a more manageable 30 to 40.

“New State mandates require communities to track and monitor construction sites more closely than ever before, ultimately creating additional work loads and increasing costs,” Mullins explained.

The new fees accompany the adoption of a building code amendment that brings local codes in line with State codes. The Hillsborough Building Department and the Central County Fire Department have worked with other local jurisdictions within San Mateo County and California to establish consistent standards. “It is only through high building standards and effective fire prevention and containment programs that citizens will receive appropriate protection,” Mullins said.

In one case, Hillsborough is taking advantage of the right to adopt more stringent rules than required by the State. The “good neighbor” construction policy (see 4th Quarter 2007 Newsletter) requires that construction sites and construction activities be well managed, maintained and kept in a safe manner. The code mandates such things as proper parking, dust and erosion control, sanitary facilities, elimination of open trenches, broken ware, empty cans and rubbish.

## TOWN BRIEFS

During the past quarter, City Council:

- Learned that due to a generous donation from George and Ana Hsu, enough money has been raised to meet the estimated goal to renovate the Carolands Gatehouse. Plans are to reconstruct the interior and exterior of the circa 1930 structure and provide a police substation. Hopes are to obtain needed permits, go out to bid in summer and complete the building in 6 to 8 months following the bidding. Council thanked Sally and Jim Meakin for spearheading the project.
- Awarded a contract for \$17,500 to R3 Consulting to study how much time is spent collecting garbage from side and/or rear yards as opposed to curbside and to evaluate the use of pup trucks needed to collect garbage from homes on long, steep driveways. The study will help City Council determine if different rate structures should be set for garbage collected from places other than the curb. Next year’s rate increase will need to generate about 10 percent more revenue than is currently collected.
- Approved work orders in the amount of \$247,100 to CSG (consultants for the Public Works Department) to perform design services for the Vista water tank improvements project, water tank cleaning and inspection project, Hillsborough Boulevard/San Raymundo intersection improvements, and an upgrade of the Town utility systems project. Approved a work order for \$39,000 for designs to replace guard rails at various locations throughout Town.
- Discussed moving forward to annex the Black Mountain/Hayne Road intersection. The Town requested adding turn lanes to improve traffic at the intersection, but San Mateo County, who owns the land, refused. The Town, in turn, suggested annexing the property and making the improvements. The County then suggested that the Town annex more property to clean up the boundary lines. The issue is under study.
- Approved extension of the contract between Peninsula cities and the County of San Mateo for animal control services with the Peninsula Humane Society and SPCA through June 30, 2011.
- Acknowledged participation in the San Mateo County Subregion for the Regional Housing Needs Allocation process and accepted the assigned housing share in accordance with the Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Advisory Committee. There is a need to plan for 15,738 new affordable housing units between 2009 and 2014 in the Subregion, of which 86 are in Hillsborough. The Town’s current Housing Element offered opportunities for 138 units from 1999-2006. During the planning period, the Town issued 98 new

unit permits, due to relaxation of second unit regulations, unimproved land opportunities and the Town’s dedication to housing programs.

- Kitty Mullooly was reelected Mayor for a second term at the December 2007 meeting. Christine Krolik was reelected Vice Mayor.

### Awards

- A “Tony Award” – City Manager Tony Constantouros and the Town of Hillsborough were presented with a Program Excellence Award for Community Partnership by the International City Management Association (ICMA). The ICMA, with 8,000 members, presented 20 awards in 2007. This year, six of the awards were given to cities in San Mateo County, Hillsborough being one of them.
- For the fifth time, the Town of Hillsborough has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, presented by the Government Finance Officers Association. From 17,000 municipalities, 1,000 awards are presented, based on the nature of the budget document, clearness of the plan and communication. The plan is designed and authored by Finance Director Edna Masbad and her staff.
- The Metropolitan Transportation Commission presented an award to Hillsborough for “Movin’ On Up the PCI Scale” – meaning making significant improvements to the Town’s streets. The rating on the index moved from 58 last year to 71 on a scale of 100 this year, due to City Council commitment to funding and the approach of the Public Works Department to make cost efficient improvements. Road repairs have increased from less than one mile per year to 7-8 miles per year.

### Reminders

Concours Events:

- HSF Dinner Dance, March 1, San Francisco City Hall
- Concours Day – May 4, Car Show & Carnival, Crocker and North School fields
- Hillsborough Family Fun Run, June 3, North School Field, 8 a.m.

For more information on these events, check hsf.org.

Clothes Washer Rebate:

Town residents can get a \$200 rebate on water and energy saving washers. Go to [www.waterenergysavings.com](http://www.waterenergysavings.com) for more information and an online application. Residents can also pick up an application packet at the Town Hall administration counter.

# PRIVILEGED TO HELP SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

One day last October, it was beautiful and clear in San Mateo County. Captain Charlie Steffen and Firefighters Steve Besozzi, Ron Hunt and Pat Murphy had reported to Central County Fire for their usual 48-hour shifts.

But a call for action came. They were to report as members of a strike team, drawn from five different county companies, to the raging blazes in the San Diego area.

“We drove all night,” Steffen said, “and while it was a gorgeous day here, it was completely black there—like something out of a movie.” And the normal 48-hour shift turned into 56 straight hours on duty.

“The first 24 hours were okay,” Steffen said. “The second 24 was tough, and it got worse. The temperature was 84 to 90 degrees.

“They told us to hold the fire here, but it kept jumping and jumping. Sometimes we were where the fire had already moved through and there was nothing left. What do you say to someone who has lost everything? We helped them pick up the pieces, sometimes digging down as deep as three feet to reach a dish or an heirloom; that’s all we could do, but that’s part of our work, too.”

The fires were both physically and emotionally draining. “But, on the human side,” Steffen said, “it felt good to be around people who are so thankful. We got lots of



CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT



Four firefighters from Central County Fire Department were called to battle the wildland fires in San Diego this past October. President George Bush and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger met with the firefighters, including the crew on Engine 32.

hugs—how wonderful that feels.” Speaking on behalf of Murphy, Hunt, Besozzi and himself at a City Council meet-

ing where they were being honored, Steffen said, “It was a privilege to go and help. As firefighters, we all want to help.”

# CREWS COMMENDED FOR JANUARY STORM BATTLE

It was no small task managing the torrents of water that rushed down the Town’s hills during the early January storm that dumped three inches of rain on San Mateo County in a 12-hour period. Public Works crews responded well to the challenges of a 20-year storm and were commended by City Council at the January meeting. The Town was in far better shape than it would have been five to 10 years ago, due not only to the hard work of the crews but also because of the large number of improvements undertaken by the Public Works Department during the past decade.

The recent storm hit the Town hardest on Friday, January 4, 2008. Hillsborough received more than 170 calls during the storm, including 48 reporting downed trees or branches and 58 for clogged storm drains. There were reports of at least 10

broken electric wires and 19 sewer backups or spills.

Damage to Town property included a crushed electrical panel for a water pump station, complete destruction of one of the 100-year-old New Place gates, toppled fences and fallen trees.

Between January 4 and January 5, Public Works crews put in about 400 hours of overtime. The normal crew of 14 was increased to 25 on January 4. Many crew members worked more than 13 hours straight.

“Firefighters train for years to fight a big fire and are excited and ready when called. This storm, for us, was our ‘fire,’” said Public Works Supervisor Craig West.

The newly-combined Burlingame-Hillsborough Emergency Operations Center was activated for the first time, and former Fire Chief Bill Reilly reported that

the center worked smoothly, achieving its goal of increased efficiency and clear communication.

Council members and the City Attorney expressed their dissatisfaction about poor communication with PG&E during the storm to the utility company’s representative present at the meeting. It is understandable that PG&E would have trouble restoring power quickly during such a large storm, they said, but if residents are going to be without power for more than 12 hours, they should be notified so that arrangements can be made, especially for the elderly, Council members stressed. Some residents were without power for more than 60 hours.

A reminder to residents: The Town provides sandbags. In the future, they will be available at Town Hall and at Fire Station 33.

# CONSIDER A COMMITTEE

Give back to your community

Hillsborough residents are encouraged to consider serving on a Town committee. Beginning in 2008, there will be openings on the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC), the Architecture & Design Review Board (ADRB) and the Citizens Communication Advisory Committee (CCAC).

The FAC meets quarterly and as needed during budget preparation time. The FAC committee assists the City Council and city staff in preparation of the annual Town budget, conducts quarterly and semi-annual budget reviews, monitors the Town’s investment program, assists in the development of capital expenditure projects, and monitors the enterprise funds. The committee assists in assuring conformity to laws regarding State spending limits, revenue and taxation, and audits.

The ADRB meets monthly. The purpose of the ADRB is to promote the orderly and harmonious development of the Town while preserving historic quality, maintaining aesthetic values that make the Town unique, and encouraging good design. The ADRB conducts public hearings to consider the design of new houses, additions, landscaping, fencing and gates along the street, and other exterior changes.

The CCAC meets monthly. The purpose of the CCAC is to assist the City Council and city staff in communicating with residents regarding Town news, programs and issues. The committee oversees the development of the quarterly Town newsletter and special notification cards and gives advice on major projects that affect the residents.

Anyone interested in serving on any of these committees is asked to send a letter of interest and a resume, if available, to Town Hall, attention of the mayor.

If you would like more information, you are encouraged to contact Edna Masbad for the FAC, Liz Cullinan for the ADRB, and Tony Constantouros for the CCAC. The length of service is flexible, but it is generally three years or longer.

# GREEN CORNER

## HILLSBOROUGH EXPANDS EFFORTS TO BE A MORE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

By Kathleen Gallagher

At the December 2007 City Council meeting, the Council approved a resolution to expand Hillsborough’s efforts to be a more sustainable community by authorizing a new green building program and to establish a Sustainable Hillsborough Task Force. The hope is that the combination of these efforts will help Hillsborough reduce energy consumption, reduce energy costs for residents, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce water consumption and reduce the use of other natural resources -- and provide a healthier community.

The Town already has a history of strong resource conservation programs. The Town was the first to approve a construction and demolition recycling policy. The Council recognizes the need to develop a comprehensive Sustainable Hillsborough Plan that will provide a good roadmap to prioritize new programs and policies. The Sustainable Hillsborough Task Force will be comprised of resident members, Town staff and other professionals. They will work to identify and prioritize programs that will focus on greenhouse gas reductions and other sustainable policies to be summarized in a Sustainable Hillsborough Plan for approval by Council.

Several cities have climate protection task forces underway. Menlo Park, Palo Alto and San Mateo already

have a climate protection plan developed and under implementation. Significant media attention, public and political concern has made climate protection a priority in many communities because climate change is the biggest challenge to sustainability today. Town staff applied for a climate protection grant to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District this fall and recently was awarded the grant funds to develop and implement these climate protection programs.

The Council also approved a new Green Building Program, designed to encourage green building techniques, to be incorporated into new construction and major remodeling projects. The Town will provide green building resources, guidelines and workshop opportunities for residents and building professionals. “New Home Construction Green Building Guidelines” and “Home Remodeling Green Building Guidelines” will be provided and a completed “GreenPoints Checklist” will be required in the future. Hillsborough encourages green building techniques but there are no minimum green building requirements at this time. Hillsborough is a member of Build It Green, a professional non-profit membership organization whose mission is to promote healthy, energy- and resource-efficient buildings in California.

For more information, please visit [builditgreen.org](http://builditgreen.org) and [Recycleworks.org](http://Recycleworks.org)

# YOUTH POST IDEAS

David Ho, a student at South School, won the Grand Prize in the annual Central County Fire Department’s Fire Safety Poster Contest. The theme of the contest this year was “Practice Your Escape Plan.” A room full of young contest winners (first, second and third place from each class level) were applauded by members of the Hillsborough City Council and Central County Fire Department in November, 2007.



David Ho

# FIRE BLOTTER

From January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, the Central County Fire Department responded to 4,244 calls for help. Approximately 59 percent of the calls were medical related. Those 2,516 medical emergency responses (EMR) and rescue calls encompassed emergency medical situations, vehicle accidents, lock-ins, and extrication rescues. There were also hundreds of additional fire calls involving building fires, vehicle fires, cooking fires, grass and trash fires, and hazardous conditions (power lines down, gas leaks, spills). There were more than 450 false alarms.

## DUO'S IDEA SAVES TOWN MONEY

Public Works Supervisor (Water Quality) Carlos Castro and Public Works Supervisor (Water Operations) Cary Dahl are responsible for Hillsborough's water flow. But several months ago, to the delight of city staff, especially the Finance Department, the duo devised a plan to also significantly reduce capital expenses.

They realized, if they streamlined the water distribution system, eliminated a couple of old tanks that need rebuilding, thus eliminating the need for one pump facility, the system would be more efficient. Plus, there would be a bonus – a savings to the Town of an estimated \$3 million. Not bad for a day's work.

This past fall, Castro and Dahl were awarded the Town's first dual Employee Excellence Award. Despite their enormous contribution, the two men take it all in stride, saying they were completely surprised by the award. Castro, a San Francisco native and Burlingame High School graduate, was hired by Hillsborough at age 19, worked in several departments and found his way to water, which he says he thoroughly enjoys. Dahl, also a Peninsula native, has spent the last 19 years in the Town's Public Works Department. His first day on the job, he recalls, he installed fire hydrants.

Promotions over the years raised Castro and Dahl to supervisor positions and they take pride in their work. They work as partners, doing everything from checking water quality in the field to supervising preconstruction work for pressure-reducing valve installations to attending capital improvement meetings.



Public Works Supervisors Cary Dahl (left) and Carlos Castro take care of Hillsborough's vital water operations. They are standing in front of equipment that dates back to the late 1800s.

"We collaborate a lot as we work," Dahl said. "We always talk, get input from one another and try to come up with ways to improve the system."

"This is OUR system," Castro said. "When we get bond money, we really need to think about how best to use it."

The capital improvement program is still active after removing \$3 million in projects. There is a lot of underground work to do. "We have to get it all set and tested before we start to turn things off," Castro said with a twinkle in his eye, knowing just how vital the system is to the city and how confident he and his partner are in handling the responsibility.

"We started at the bottom, both of us," Castro said, "and we would think of ideas to help the city. Now we're in a place where we can make a difference. It makes it fun to come to work."

## SUDDEN OAK DEATH FOUND

Hillsborough has started a spraying program to prevent the spread of Sudden Oak Death (SOD) in its open space. The disease has been found in trees in the Macadamia open space area. Early treatment of trees that are not yet infected can ensure the oaks remain healthy into the future.

Residents who suspect one of their trees is infected with the Phytophthora ramorum pathogen that causes SOD should contact the County of San Mateo, Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures by telephone at (650) 363-4700 or by email at smateoag@co.sanmateo.ca.us, and the

County can arrange for the physical collection of a specimen from the tree and laboratory testing. This is a free service. (The County's website is [www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/agwm](http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/agwm)).

SOD can only be diagnosed in a laboratory and cannot be identified visually. If SOD is found on or near your property, you may want to consider cost-effective preventative measures such as spraying of oaks, which generally costs \$20-\$50 per tree, depending on the size of the trunk. Additional information is available at [www.suddenoakdeath.org](http://www.suddenoakdeath.org).

## TO OUR SOLDIERS, WITH LOVE

Hillsborough Police Department personnel shipped dozens of boxes of items for members of the Town's adopted Army unit – Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault – in Iraq this past December. Boxes loaded with necessities and notes of gratitude, marked with the words, "Our thoughts are with you," were taken to the Burlingame Post Office to be shipped overseas.

Residents are reminded that the program continues. For a list of items needed, visit [www.asa-usa.org](http://www.asa-usa.org). Items or letters can be delivered to the Hillsborough Police Department 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To make a monetary donation (to be used for postage, boxes and purchase of more items), make a check payable to Hillsborough Adopt-a-Unit (Federal Tax ID # 94-6001433), c/o Captain Nicholas Gottuso, Hillsborough Police Department, 1600 Floribunda Ave., Hillsborough, CA 94010.



DIANA WITZEL



## POLICE BLOTTER

The end of 2007 shows the Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) responding to 7,256 calls for service for the year, 217 more than the year before. In 2007, police arrested 57 adults and 8 juveniles. During the year, there were 29 grand thefts, 17 petty thefts, 15 construction site burglaries and 15 automobile burglaries, contributing to a total of 187 property-related cases. Police recorded 32 fraud related cases in 2007. Among the 27 crime cases involving people, there were 11 child abuse cases, 10 elder abuse cases and 8 domestic violence cases. The year 2007 did not see a reduction in alarm calls. Police received 2,626 alarm calls during the year, up from 2,513 in 2006. Of the 2,626, there were 1,179 calls cancelled before units were dispatched. Police issued 193 citations for false alarms not cancelled.

During December, 2007, HPD arrested six adults – one for possession of methamphetamine and parole violation, three for possession of marijuana, one for driving under the influence of alcohol and one for driving with a suspended license. During December, HPD arrested two juveniles, both for possession of marijuana and alcohol.

During December, there were six cases of vandalism, five petty thefts, three grand thefts, three auto burglaries, and three check fraud cases, out of 52 total incident reports. There were 10 separate cases of items stolen from unlocked vehicles, ranging from a loss of \$80 to \$4,300.

Police detectives are working on an elder abuse/domestic violence case, a check fraud case involving checks stolen from a residence or mailbox, a construction burglary case where an arrest warrant has been issued for the suspects, and a mail theft investigation where an additional suspect in the thief ring has been identified. Investigators attended a conference on the problems of piracy in the video and computer game industry.

The following are taken from the December police log:

- Resident reports that his wife will not allow him to take the children for a court-approved visitation. Situation abated as one child stayed home and another went with the father.
- Jewelry taken from car of person attending event at Burlingame Country Club. One of many police reports regarding objects stolen from cars in Town.
- Mail theft and check fraud as result of checks stolen from mailbox and washed.
- Theft of locked tool box from job site. Items later located by investigator.
- Resident reports a domestic probably stole check and forged wife's name.
- Police unable to access property on duress alarm because of aggressive dog.
- Report of dog barking "all day." Owner said dog does not bark and neighbor calls if dog barks only once.
- Vehicle parks in front of home on Mountain Wood and occupants start yelling at house. Then car drove further down road and continued disturbance.
- Neighbor is on roof yelling obscenities at reporting person. Police asked the

neighbor to stop using obscenities.

- Resident reports receiving letter addressed to her home but with unknown name. Letter is from county assessor's office regarding lien put on residence.
- Car owner parks vehicle on street to avoid leaking oil in his driveway.
- Homeowner reports ongoing loud beeping noise in area. Proved to be old smoke detector in a pile of debris in neighboring driveway. Fire assisted in getting onto the property and destroying the malfunctioning detector.
- Woman in red baseball cap and shorts going door to door selling cleaning solutions. Subject advised of city code.
- Two men stop at home on Knightwood and pick up pottery pieces from bushes. Homeowner said gave no permission to place pottery on her property. Men said they placed pottery in bushes on previous day and were now picking up the pieces.
- Accident between car and bicycle on Bella Vista. Bicycle rider taken to Stanford Hospital.
- Argument between tree trimmers and homeowner about handling of debris from tree cutting. Company cited for lack of license.
- Report of suspect(s) dumping debris near homeowner's garbage and recycling bins left out on Sunday night for Monday pick-up. Ongoing for last month.
- Report of hearing numerous gunshot blasts for last 45 minutes. Found to be rebound from noise at Coyote Point Range.
- Resident on Chiltern objects to production company on property taking pictures in anticipation of filming movie on property. Stated did not want film made. County film commission notified.
- Mail from home on Melrose found in middle of roadway around corner from property.
- Two packages taken from front porch on Privet.
- Credit card used at Safeway after being stolen from unlocked truck parked at Summit/Privet.
- Wallet taken from car on Privet as car owner was cleaning pools.
- Man requests civil standby as he retrieves his belongings from home. Upon completion, has to call police back because he forgot his keys.
- Call for help as two-year-old having bad reaction to peanuts.
- Sixth alarm activation within 24 hours at home on Jacaranda.
- Woman seen burning clothes on roadway at Skyline/Black Mountain.
- Woman hears glass breaking and sees two males in driveway. Later discovered to be auto burglary. Purse taken.
- Report of loud party on Ridgeway. Parents notified.
- Daughter concerned about mother who is not answering phone. Mother contacted. Said busy catching up on things and did not want to answer phone.
- Request for check on validity of moving van on Homeplace/Barroilhet. Many neighbors out of town and wanted to make sure legitimate movers.
- Vehicle registration and owners manual located in port-a-potty block from home of vehicle owner.
- Subject at front door making verbal threats. Misunderstanding about pick up time of au pair.

## 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,  
Bruce Herman, George Jewett



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## COMMITTEES

### FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

D. Paul Regan, Commissioner  
Jess "Jay" Benton, Chairman  
Al Clark, Josh Cooperman,  
John Lockton, Al Royse, David Steirman

### 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

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