

HILLSBOROUGH

3RD QUARTER 2009



THE CAROLAND'S GATEHOUSE — THEN AND NOW

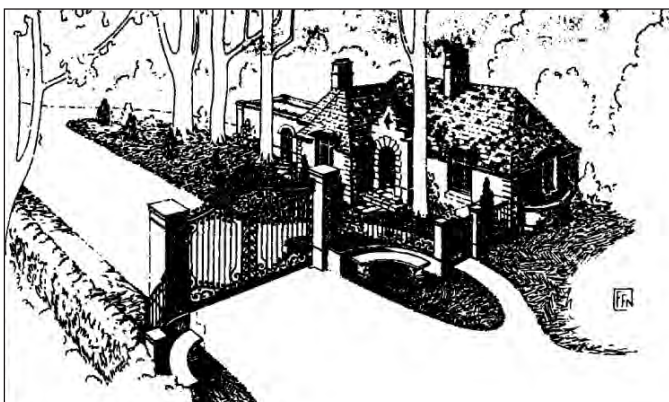
By Julie Cain

When Harriett Pullman Carolan built her magnificent Beaux-Arts Classical-style mansion between 1913 and 1917, a gatehouse was part of the original design. It was never built, however, and when she decided to subdivide the 554-acre property in 1929, she formed a partnership with the Lang Realty Company. Company President W.O. Lang petitioned the Hillsborough Board of Trustees on August 5, 1930, for permission to remove five trees from the intersection of Eucalyptus Avenue and Ralston Avenue, "in front of the property recently acquired by deed from William H. Crocker, on which we are ready to commence a gate and gatehouse at the entrance to Carolands."

Lang's promotional idea was to create "regal seclusion" for homeowners that would be controlled by the gatekeeper allowing only owners and their friends into the Carolands tract. According to the brochure: "Once inside its gates you are home." Lang hired noted Bay Area architect Harold G. Stoner to design a gatehouse of picturesque charm that echoed the French Classical style of Carolands.

Crocker, who lived adjacent to Carolands, specified in the deed that the gatehouse could not be used for any other purpose than as a gate-keeper's lodge, otherwise the property reverted to his ownership. The gatekeeper's role probably ceased in 1940, when Lang Realty made their final sale. The Town of Hillsborough respected Crocker's clause up through the 1950s, refusing to allow any additions to be made or for the gatehouse to be sold as a private residence. Although some have speculated that the gatehouse was used as a real estate office, the Carolands Tract office was actually located at 3525 Ralston Avenue.

By 1961 the gatehouse had severely deteriorated through lack of use and the City Council was besieged by complaints. When plans to turn it over to the Hillsborough School District fell through, the gatehouse



Left is a picture of an original sketch for the gatehouse, designed to be an entrance into the Carolands exclusive tract. Above is the gatehouse, as designed by architect Harold G. Stoner, which is now scheduled to be reconstructed.

was donated to the Town in 1963. Determined to restore the gatehouses's quaint appeal, local resident Earl Zwingle raised \$5,000 towards its rehabilitation. He also managed to persuade San Francisco architect Angus McSweeney to repair the original gates. McSweeney, who had drawn up home designs for the Lang Realty subdivision during the 1930s, restored the gates to their original color of powder blue with gold rosettes. He also drew up the design for the gate column, which was executed by local contractor Jack Burrows.

History has repeated itself today with

Sally and Jim Meakin following in Earl Zwingle's civic-minded footsteps. The Meakins and the Save the Gatehouse Committee raised \$453,000 for a gatehouse reconstruction that will be used for a Hillsborough Police Department communications substation. Construction will begin shortly. Knowing William H. Crocker's generosity towards the Town of Hillsborough, one can safely assume he would heartily approve of the gatehouse's new lease on life.

Julie Cain is an historian at Heritage Services at Stanford University.

Employee Excellence Award

ACCOUNTING FOR SUCCESS IN HILLSBOROUGH

For Accounting Clerk Catherine Hobbs, the numbers all add up. Her job in Hillsborough suits her perfectly. “Accounting is my life,” she said.

“Every finance department needs someone like Catherine,” said Assistant Finance Director Marie Bernardo. Hobbs said she probably received the Town’s most recent Employee Excellence Award because, since she started work in Hillsborough in 2000, she has stepped into a number of accounting



Catherine Hobbs

jobs, learned each and every one, and uses her variety of skills in making the Finance Department run smoothly. “I had three jobs at one point,” she said, “and the work just kept growing in volume. I kept moving from one desk to another and now the Department will function even if someone is missing because of all the cross-training.”

Bernardo agrees. “I can always count

on Catherine’s willingness to participate in our ever-increasing and changing responsibilities, whether acquiring new accounting systems, database programs, custom reporting or just simply modification of policies and procedures,” she said. Hobbs, according to Bernardo, gets the job done on time, is dedicated to the Department and her co-workers and has unyielding resourcefulness. “We’ve been so lucky to have her on our team.”

Hobbs immigrated to the United States from the Philippines in 1992 with a degree in accounting and a CPA certificate. “I like working with numbers,” she said. “Analyzing is probably my strong point.” She worked in the banking industry before landing her job in Hillsborough.

Hobbs has a 12-year-old daughter and lives in Daly City; her parents live with her and help her raise her daughter. Hobbs’ husband died six years ago and she is thankful to the Town for supporting her through the tough time.

When she is not working with numbers, Hobbs is learning to swim or ice skate. “My daughter has what I didn’t have growing up, so we are learning together,” she said.

	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10
Operating	\$27,200,158	\$29,033,747	\$30,280,939	\$30,800,447
Capital	6,000,533	6,617,746	4,144,297	5,953,130
Debt	2,211,958	1,961,312	2,401,885	2,453,637
Total	\$35,412,649	\$37,612,805	\$36,827,121	\$39,207,214
	2%	6%	-2%	6%

Four-year history of Hillsborough budget.

BUDGET: BALANCED BUT PRECARIOUS

On May 11, 2009, City Council adopted a \$39 million balanced budget. To balance the budget, the city had to reach back into the reserves for \$418,000 as well as cut \$1.2 million in costs. The budget balancing for this year included short-term solutions and does not address the on-going deficit. Anticipated retirement costs continue to threaten the future structural balance of the budget in the next several years.

“Even with some improvement in the economy, without additional revenue sources and further reduction of operational costs, the Town will be forced in the near future to cut the level of services it now offers to the residents,” said Financial Director Edna Masbad.

The Town’s budget consists of \$30.8 million in operating expenses, \$6 million in capital improvements, plus debt service of \$2.5 million, for a total of \$39.3 million, a six percent increase over last year. Revenue is projected at \$38.8 million. The difference is made up by reserve funds.

The Town’s major revenue sources (primarily property taxes and other real estate-related revenues) began to slip in fiscal year (FY) 2008/09. They are expected to decrease or only slightly increase in the near future.

On the expenditure side, approximately 65 percent of the Town’s operating budget goes to personnel costs. Management continues to meet with employees and representatives of various labor groups in an effort to earn concessions but so far have been only somewhat successful. Therefore, the budget was balanced via cuts, savings and reserves.

To achieve the \$1.2 million cut in expenditures for FY 2009/10, the Town will not fill a vacancy when a police officer retires, will leave one firefighter position unfilled, will reduce Fire Department overtime costs, will transfer street maintenance workers to sewer maintenance for a large, court-ordered sewer project, will reduce workers compensation premiums, will reduce professional services and will eliminate staff development training. As a result of the cuts, residents could experience slightly slower police and fire response time, and they will notice less street maintenance and response to only emergency situations, such as pothole, sign and guardrail replacement.

New expenditures for the 2009/10 budget include \$94,500 for disaster preparedness programs, \$225,000 for an environmental program for the court-ordered sewer project, \$180,000 for fire and police equipment, \$208,000 in matching funds for a FEMA grant for fire abatement, \$149,000 to replace eight city vehicles, \$300,000 for a new system to recapture water from flushing activities, \$102,000 for sewer inspection equipment, and \$4.2 million for six water and sewer projects.

The water and sewer enterprise funds, a portion of the total operating budget, anticipates \$18.8 million in revenues and about \$1 million more in expenditures. To maintain a stable revenue stream, Council made changes to the water system and increased water and sewer rates.

Looking at expenditures in the near future, the Town is facing several major challenges. A new state requirement forces the Town to recognize liability for post-retirement benefits and strongly suggests funding the liability. The reserve fund for this will be depleted in two years. Secondly,

the financial blow to the California Public Employees Retirement System will result in higher retirement costs. Finally, a court order issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board requires the Town to complete certain water and sewer projects in a short period of time.

The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) and Town staff are studying ways to tackle future financial problems related to employee costs and benefits, which could amount to a gap of \$2.5 million in FY 2011/12 and increase in following years. According to officials, there is little room to cut costs other than labor costs. Management is trying to establish a tiered retirement program, offering a less costly program to new hires. They are also exploring ways to share health insurance costs with employees. Barring reduction of these costs, management will need to look at cutting positions that could subsequently affect the level of service now provided to the Town. The FAC will also be looking at the Police Department organization and will consider consolidation of some city functions with other agencies.

Officials are also looking at increasing revenues, which could include a utility user’s tax or requesting voter approval to increase the special public safety tax.

GET FIT AT TOWN HALL

The common perception is that the building at 1600 Floribunda is Hillsborough’s Town Hall. The true name is “Hillsborough Community Center.” Furthermore, most people believe that the room where the City Council meets is the Council Chambers. Look at the plaque outside the room. It reads “Community Room.” “Time to involve the community in its buildings,” says Mayor Christine Kroklik.

Beginning in September, there will be two adult Hillsborough Recreation Department classes and a monthly movie matinee offered at the Community Center, i.e. Town Hall.

On Tuesday mornings, residents can avail themselves of a yoga class.

Plans are to use the room on Tuesday afternoon for playing bridge, a card game that is as much a workout for the brain as yoga is for the body.

The first Wednesdays of the autumn months – September 2, October 7 and November 4 – at 12:30 p.m. will debut the movie matinee program. Brown bag your lunch, if you like, and enjoy a film with your Hillsborough neighbors. The titles are to be announced; check www.hillsborough.net and click on “Town News,” then “Community Center Activities,” or just come along knowing you will enjoy whatever is shown. There is no charge for the movie and no registration is necessary. This will be for adults only, due to the Town Hall work environment.

A newly formed Activities Committee is trying out this new series of Community Center classes and events. Terre Baldwin is the chair. Other members are Lori Bard and Heather Weir.

Contact Hillsborough Recreation at 650.342.5439 or e-mail gelmore@hcsd.k12.ca.us to reregister for yoga or bridge or for more information.

WANT TIMELY INFORMATION? TRY NEW E-ANNOUNCEMENTS

In September, the Town of Hillsborough will begin e-mailing brief “e-announcements” to those residents who have signed up to receive them. These e-announcements will include timely notices of Town meetings, programs and other Town events of interest; reminders of upcoming Town deadlines; tips from our Town departments; and other alerts. The e-announcements will be sent out once a month and will be in addition to, not a substitute for, the current quarterly Newsletter, which is sent to all residents by

regular mail and is also available online.

Signing up is easy! Just fill out the form on the back of the payment stub of your water bill and mail it with your payment, or sign up at Town Hall or on-line via the Town’s website (www.hillsborough.net). Your contact information will not be shared with any other entity or person. Questions: please contact Marie Bernardo, Assistant Finance Director of the Town of Hillsborough, at 650.375.7406 or mbernardo@hillsborough.net

GREEN CORNER BEGIN EARLY TO LIVE GREEN

On Earth Day, students at West School wrote letters to the mayor stating their ideas for making the earth more green. Following are unedited excerpts from some of the letters, written by children of all ages.

“I think the town of Hillsborough should put solar panels on every house in Hillsborough.”

Dorian

“Recycle please!! Recycle because our world is getting to be a real mess. I want to save Mother Earth.”

Georgia

“I would like it to send a note to everyone to turn off their lights more often. Me and my mom would like to see more people walking to school if they are close enough. Rather then using paper bag we should use fabric bags.”

Andy

“Some ways we can help the Earth is to have at least 2 CFLs (compact fluorescent light bulbs) in our homes and get high efficiency washers, dryers, and tankless water heaters. All appliances should be Energy Star rated which shows they use less energy.”

Stephanie

“The earth is so important because the polar bears are so important to our planet and other arctic animals. I think we should have a community activity and we should have a person

come and shows us at the convention and they should show how much pain the Earth is in and how we can help.”

Ashley

“If we don’t conserve and recycle our resources than we will run out in the near future and than we can’t live on earth anymore.”

Sophia

“I think it is so important to conserve earth’s resources so earth looks beautiful.”

Kensy

“Hillsborough can help make the world better by conserving water, reuse and recycle things that we don’t want as well as compost leftover food. I hope that everyone living on this planet is helping out, so that’s why we should get started right away.”

Justine

“I hope you can tell Hillsborough that Earth needs them to do their part in saving Earth. Hillsborough is a great town, and I know they can do their part.”

Jackie

IF IT’S BROKE, FIX IT

Residents are responsible for their own laterals – the water/sewer pipes that run from their home to the Town’s main lines. If they are cracked or broken, it is imperative that they be repaired or replaced.

How does one know if a lateral is broken? If a resident is using a rooter ser-

FREE SEWER LATERAL PROGRAM

Find out, for free, if your sewer lateral is in good shape or about to overflow or back up. The Town has launched a free video inspection program, available on a first-come, first-served basis. Camera inspections of your sewer lateral will be performed by Town-approved contractors. If the inspection shows lateral damage, you will have up to one year to replace the pipe, and the Town has set up a partial reimbursement plan to assist.

The Town is also offering a sewer lateral rehabilitation program. Residents who replace the full length of their lateral with HDPE pipe or epoxy liner will be reimbursed \$500. Residents should select a plumber after obtaining two or more bids from plumbers with a Hillsborough business permit. Upon completion of the work, the resident will receive the \$500 reimbursement.

Residents can participate in the video inspection or reimbursement program or both. There are separate applications for each program, and for each lateral on the property, should there be more than one. Applications are available at Town Hall or on the Town’s website, www.hillsborough.net.

vice on an annual or semi-annual basis, that is a strong indication of a problem. But a video inspection of the lateral is the only way to tell with certainty if there is a crack or break. Video inspections are required at the time of sale, but residents are strongly encouraged to do it now. To assist, the Town has begun offering a free video inspection program and a partial reimbursement for replacement. See related story and check the Town’s website for more information.

What happens when a lateral is cracked or broken? Broken laterals cause sewer backups and overflows, in the home and outside the home. They are a major contributor to sewer-related pollution during wet weather. Tree roots enter cracks in pipes and break the pipes, allowing storm water to enter the sewer system through the broken pipe. As a result, the San Mateo and Burlingame treatment plants will receive three to five times as much water in wet weather as in dry weather, which can result in discharges of partially treated sewage into the Bay.

Why do the pipes break and what can be done about it? Older laterals are vitrified clay pipes. These terra cotta-looking pipes often fail within 30 to 40 years of installation. There may be no above-ground sign of failure. New seamless high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes can last for up to 100 years and prevent root intrusion. Trenchless technologies allow the new HDPE pipes to be installed using a method called pipe-bursting. This places the new pipe within the existing alignment, prevents damage to landscaping and is far less expensive than the former trenching method.

If your lateral has defects or contributes to an overflow, the City Engineer can require you to replace your pipe. Having a solid pipe is in the interest of your home, your Town and the Bay.

NOT YOUR FORMER RATIONING PLAN

While Hillsborough managed to dodge the rationing bullet this year, a water conservation policy of a 10 percent reduction in use is still in place. The 10 percent cut was requested by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), the agency that allocates water for Hillsborough and 28 agencies in the Bay Area. If this year’s precipitation is as low as last year’s, mandatory rationing will again be on the horizon. However, the Hillsborough rationing formula is different, and imminently more fair, than in the past.

The new city water ordinance, passed shortly after the last drought, bases residential rationing on two factors only – the number of inhabitants of a residence during the past six months and the number of acres upon which the residence sits. Gone are the days when rationing was based on a percentage of water use, which favored those who used large amounts of water and punished those who conserved.

“The ordinance today does not look at past water use; in fact, it prohibits looking at past use,” said Ed Cooney, senior program analyst for Hillsborough.

The ordinance goes one step beyond the two factors, acreage and number of residents. The formula is “stepped down” for acreage, meaning that the more acres one occupies, the less water will be allocated per acre. The ordinance calls for more regulation of rationing for landscaping because roughly three-quarters of the water used in Hillsborough is for landscaping. In fact, Cooney pointed out, Hillsborough’s water use per capita is far above the norm for Peninsula cities because of the large

“The ordinance today does not look at past water use; in fact, it prohibits looking at past use.”
Ed Cooney

lots and extensive landscaping.

Because landscaping uses so much water, changes made to landscaping help most in adjusting to rationing. The two most important steps to take are:

- Check your irrigation system. Look for leaky heads, leaks in the line or excess water flowing from a drip system.
- Change to drought-tolerant plants. Check www.bawsca.water-savingplants.com/bawsca.php.

Cooney also suggests contracting for a professional irrigation system survey. The Town offers the service, but has a limited number of spots based on personnel time. The Town also maintains a list of companies that perform the service.

If a home has a pool, a pool cover is essential for water conservation.

There are numerous ways to decrease water use inside a home. Cooney offers several simple checks:

- Drop a dye tablet in the toilet tank. If the toilet has a leak, the water in the bowl will change color immediately. If there is a leak, have the toilet repaired.
- Put low-flow heads on the showers.
- Have an efficient clothes washer and dishwasher.

Professionals can also be hired to perform water use surveys for the inside of a residence, as well as the outside.

Hillsborough’s water allocation from the SFPUC is frozen through 2018. There is only so much water – whether as determined by the PUC or the planet in general. “Whatever we can do to reduce usage is good,” Cooney said.

TOWN BRIEFS

- During the past quarter, City Council:
- Set the public safety tax for fiscal year 2009/10 at the maximum of 15 percent over original fees of \$496 for each residence. The tax generates annual revenues of \$2.2 million for emergency services.
 - Awarded a contract in the amount of \$12,000 for weed abatement for 2009. The project consists of services to maintain fire breaks, abate weeds and remove debris in eight designated public-owned open space areas and easement roads.
 - Approved engineering work for \$44,000 to investigate, evaluate and make recommendations to mitigate the apparent developing landslide that threatens the stability of Lookout Road and Town facilities, evaluate alternative improvements, and prepare a conceptual plan.
 - Approved a contract for \$127,000 for the wastewater collection system master plan for data collection and flow monitoring and analysis. This is part of a project mandated by the Regional Water Quality Board’s Cease and Desist Order.
 - Awarded a contract for chemical root control services that are used by Public Works to manage approximately 13 miles of sewer mains. The chemical process used is referred to as “foaming” and involves the use of specialized equipment that fills sewer mains with a thick herbicide coating that expands as it is dispensed, killing the tree roots on contact. The roots then decay and naturally slough off.
 - Approved the water supply agreement and sales contract with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). The 25-year contract was negotiated over a two-year period. Councilmember John Fannon, who is chair of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, was instrumental in the negotiations. The purpose of the contract is to provide the Town with a reliable supply of high quality water at a fair price.
 - Awarded a contract for \$830,000 for street pavement and rehabilitation in 2009. The scope of the work, trimmed down from a larger project due to lack of funds, includes construction of right-turn lanes at the intersection of Black Mountain Road, Hayne Road and Skyline Boulevard.
 - Approved the grading permit to replace the existing athletic field at Crystal Springs Uplands School with a new synthetic turf material and landscaping. In response to a concern from the Uplands Homeowners Association president regarding truck traffic, the city engineer said that the city would be monitoring both traffic and street damage.
 - Agreed to establish a contract with Richard Wogisch for professional contract landscape architectural services in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the year. Wogisch has been providing his services and serving as the Town’s con-

- sulting landscape architect for approximately nine years. His responsibilities have included providing landscape architectural recommendations on administrative and Architecture and Design Review Board applications, which are incorporated into conditions of approval.
- Committed to the financial and legal obligations associated with receiving a challenge grant for the Town’s Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system upgrade project. This funding opportunity is part of the Recovery Act of 2009 Water Marketing and Efficiency Grants. If the grant is approved, it will reduce the Town’s cost for the project by \$440,000.
 - Approved spending \$10,000 for an emergency light tower for the Public Works Department. The equipment will provide overhead light (up to 30 feet) to assist crews when having to work at night on emergency water main breaks and storm related emergencies. Currently, crews rely on headlights of vehicles and flashlights.
 - Awarded a bid for vegetation removal from private vacant lots. Property owners who do not abate a fire hazard of high weeds, grasses and low-lying trees on their property are placed on an enforcement case list for abatement by a Town-hired contractor. The residents are required to pay for this service.
 - Noted that home construction and remodeling have decreased in recent months. The last ADRB meeting was cancelled because there were no new homes to review. Remodeling is down approximately 50 percent.

People

- For the seventh time, Finance Director Edna Masbad and the Town of Hillsborough have been presented a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the government Finance Officers Association. This is the highest award in government accounting.
- Gary Francis, Public Works supervisor, received a “Professional Award” at the Hillsborough Beautification Foundation’s “Celebrate May” reception at the Carolands.
- City Council formally recognized Hillsborough City School District Superintendent Marilyn Loushin-Miller for her 34 years of distinguished service. She was presented a Resolution of Appreciation and applauded for her work on behalf of the children of Hillsborough. Councilmember Paul Regan proclaimed Friday, June 12, 2009, as Marilyn Loushin-Miller Day.
- City Council welcomed Anthony Ranii in June as the new superintendent of the Hillsborough City School District. Ranii was Teacher of the Year in Sunnyvale in 2001 and most recently was principal at West School.



Anthony Ranii

HILLSBOROUGH'S MERRY MONTH OF MAY 2010

Mark your calendars! There is a very special birthday next May – your Town's 100th. Hillsborough was incorporated on May 5, 1910. To celebrate the momentous occasion, the Town's Centennial Committee is planning a formal recognition ceremony, a tour of historic homes, a good ol' fashioned, down-home parade, and a commemorative publication.

"We would like everyone in to be included in the celebration of our Town's anniversary," said Mayor Christine Krolik.

The first date to mark for next year's merry month of May is Wednesday, May 5. Plans are to hold a recognition event in conjunction with the Hillsborough Beautification Committee, which will be conducting a ribbon cutting for the new Town garden being planted across from Town Hall. A time capsule will be buried during that time with some of the items collected by the Town's children.

The second date to mark is Friday, May 13, when the Committee is planning a tour of several historic Hillsborough homes.

"One of our goals is to celebrate in a

way that will help to educate us about the history of our Town," explains Krolik.

Lastly, the parade is scheduled for Memorial Day, Monday, May 31. "We want to involve the schools, Scouts, children with bikes, the old fire engine, vintage cars. It will be a day for down-home Americana," Krolik said.

In addition to the events, the committee plans to print a commemorative booklet with the Town history, including items such as old photos and old documents. Should you have any such items that you are willing to share for the occasion, contact Assistant City Manager Kathy Leroux at 375-7407.

The Centennial Committee is being co-chaired by Hillsborough residents Letty Callinan, Vicky Lowdon and Lilli Rey. They are charged with carrying out the events that were recommended by the Centennial Exploratory Committee who met from January through March researching and discussing what other communities have done and what they felt would best commemorate the occasion. Council voted to approve their recommendations at the April meeting. Members of the Exploratory Committee were Frank Kappler, Christine Krolik, Peggy McLaughlin, Sally Meakin, Julie Tenenbaum, Kathryn Toms, Ruth Wisnom, and Diana Witzel. If anyone is interested in helping with the festivities, contact Kathy Leroux at 375-7407.

NEW JOURNEY FOR CONCOURS

Hillsborough's car show is looking for a new driver. The Hillsborough Schools Foundation (HSF) Board of Directors announced in June that they have decided to no longer sponsor the show because of decreasing revenues and lack of volunteers. An informational meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2009 to rally support for the long-standing community event. Residents interested in maintaining the tradition of the Concours d'Elegance are invited to not only attend the meeting but to send ideas to feed-back@hsf.org or directly to Margi Power, HSF president, at margi.power@sbc-global.net.



"We understand that it is no longer a sustainable event for HSF, but after 53 years, we would certainly like to see the Concours continue as a community tradition in Hillsborough," said Mayor Christine Krolik.

"This needs to be preserved," said Ted Dobos, one of the Town residents working to keep support of the show revved up. "Concours creates community spirit—it's a time for residents, family, friends and nearby town residents, too, to get together on a Sunday in May. There is a real heritage here. Concours is a sophisticated, elegant, well-run event that is synonymous with the etiquette and tradition of the Town."

According to Power, the decision to drop Concours as a school fundraiser was extremely difficult. "The reality is that this event is not being supported at the necessary levels by our parent community," she said. Additionally, revenues from the event have dropped each of the last three years.

"This is in no way a reflection on the talented and committed individuals who have worked so passionately over the years," Power said.

HSF, with Town support, is working to establish an independent board to run the event. Hopes are that with community involvement, Concours will soon be back on the road again soon.

The 54th Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance is scheduled for Sunday, May 2, 2010.



Hillsborough has two roundabouts. When entering a roundabout, yield to traffic in the circle.



HOW TO DO A ROUNDABOUT

Every once in awhile, driving through Hillsborough, you come upon a lovely, manicured traffic circle – in the middle of the street. There is one at the intersection of Hayne and Darrell roads as well as Forest View and Sharon avenues. Aside from appreciating the beauty, what do you do?

The circle is known as a "roundabout." Roundabouts are a type of circular intersection used in place of signals and signs. They slow speed and improve traffic flow, thus reducing vehicle delays, fuel consumption and air pollution.

When you approach a roundabout, you should:

- Slow down.
- Look to the left.
- Yield to cars, pedestrians and bicyclists close enough to represent a hazard.
- **The vehicle already in the traffic circle has the right-of-way.**
- Enter the flow to the right, in a counterclockwise direction, when

safe to do so.

- Keep your speed slow and stay in your lane within the roundabout.
- Put on your right signal when exiting and exit carefully at your designation.

Modern roundabouts were developed in the United Kingdom in the 1960s and now are widely used in many countries. Cars need to slow to enter a roundabout, which aids in the smooth movement of vehicles into, around and out of the circle.

The roundabout at Darrell and Hayne was installed many years ago as a traffic calming strategy. The original roundabout at the intersection of Sharon and Forest View was removed during the mid-1970s and replaced by a three-way stop. In 2008, a roundabout was again added to the intersection, as the dimensions and physical characteristics supported the project and goals toward greater traffic safety.

Negotiate the circles safely and enjoy the ride.

POLICE BLOTTER

The Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) responded to approximately 3,293 calls for service in the second quarter of 2009. During that time period, HPD arrested 26 adults and six juveniles, and responded to and investigated 14 non-injury and one injury vehicle collision. A sample of some calls for service that occurred during this time period are listed below:

- Received a call from a motorist at 2 a.m. who reported that a female was walking on Hayne Road and appeared to be crying and in need of assistance. Responding officers located her and discovered that she was intoxicated and got lost after walking away from a party.
- Received a call from an elderly resident who reported that a hired caretaker had stolen her jewelry and firearms. The caretaker was arrested later that day in Walnut Creek.
- Investigated a suspicious car parked at night, in a handicap zone, in the South School parking lot. Both occupants were arrested for possession of cocaine.
- Received a report of a live-in nanny who had received death threats via telephone from an ex-husband. HPD located the ex-husband in Racine, Wisconsin and he was served an emergency protective restraining order with the assistance of the Racine Police Department.
- Received a 9-1-1 call from a resident who was reporting that his Mercedes had just been stolen. Responding officers located the Mercedes, along with a REPO man, and determined that the vehicle was being legally repossessed.
- Located a cat in distress in the Town parking lot. The officer reunited the cat with its family. The family had just moved to Hillsborough from another city, and the cat was not satisfied with his new living conditions.
- An elderly resident reported that she had been defrauded out of approximately \$450K. The investigation into this matter is ongoing.

Summer warning

Even if the weather is warm, don't leave your house with windows and/or doors open. A few weeks ago, Hillsborough officers apprehended a couple who were attempting to burglarize homes by entering through open windows. The couple would ring the doorbell. If someone answered, they offered an excuse for ringing, such as picking up an item purchased online. If no one answered, they circled the house until they found an open window or door. HPD officers tracked down the suspects and caught them, but others could be on the prowl.

Hillsborough Police Department is on Twitter.com

In an effort to share as much information with the public as quickly as possible regarding public safety news and events that impact the Town of Hillsborough, the Hillsborough Police Department is utilizing Twitter.

You can view our updates at any time with or without a Twitter account by checking the website www.twitter.com/hillsboroughpd.

If you do have a twitter account, you may receive our updates via the delivery system of your choice (email, sms, or mobile device). The HPD encourages residents to "follow" HPD on Twitter. If you have any questions regarding this program, contact Sergeant Nelson Corteway at ncorteway@hillsborough.net or Lt. Caroline Serrato at cserrato@hillsborough.net.

GET CERT-IFIED

The Central County Fire Department (CCFD) is offering a new series of emergency preparedness classes beginning in September. CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. Classes teach residents the skills needed in case of a major disaster and how to organize the neighborhood for such an incident. If a disaster strikes, local emergency personnel will be involved in multiple tasks and may not be able to readily respond.

"Once CERT-trained, residents can respond to fire and police about what is needed and help the city triage. It would be so helpful to have that," said former Fire Chief Bill Reilly, who organizes the series.

Classes cover all aspects of disaster response, from immediate home response to fire safety, medical care, some search and rescue, disaster psychology and management systems that will help residents help their neighbors.

Classes take place at the Hillsborough School District Board Room, 300 El Cerrito Avenue, from 8:30 a.m. to noon on September 21, 23, 28 and 30, and the final hands-on skills day is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you cannot make a class one or more days, there are make-up opportunities. The classes are free and each participant receives a backpack containing supplies and a handbook. To register or for more information, contact Lisa Bartolo of the CCFD at 650-558-7600 or lbartolo@centralcountfyfd.org.

FIRE BLOTTER

During the past quarter, the Central County Fire Department responded to 1019 calls, as follows:

- Fire calls: 39
- Explosions: 3
- EMS/Rescue: 671
- Hazardous conditions: 23 (wires or trees down, unidentified spills)
- Public Assistance: 94 (lock-out, water problem, smoke or odor investigation)
- False Alarms: 189



1600 Floribunda Ave.
Hillsborough, CA 94010

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/or 3rd Monday
4 p.m. - Town Hall



DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONERS

John Fannon, Community Services
D. Paul Regan, Administration
Jess "Jay" Benton, Fire Department
Thomas M. Kasten, Police Department
Christine Krolik, Public Works

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

John Fannon, Commissioner
Mark Heine, Chair
Carl Goldstone, Lin Ho,
George Jewett, Jennifer Werbe
Eric Nyhus, Alternate



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Jess "Jay" Benton, 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

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.
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