



1600 Floribunda Ave.  
Hillsborough, CA 94010

**2012**  
MEMORIAL DAY  
Hillsborough  
**3RD ANNUAL**  
MEMORIAL  
DAY PARADE  
Details on page 2.

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CA 94010  
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# HILLSBOROUGH

2ND QUARTER 2012



## HILLSBOROUGH'S 'HOT,' AWARD-WINNING FIRE ENGINE HAS LONG HISTORY

The story of Hillsborough's antique American LaFrance fire engine is as long as the engine's squirrel tail firehose itself – and it just keeps growing. Most recently, the Town's handsome, shiny, red engine acquired the perpetual trophy for "Most Outstanding Fire Apparatus," awarded at the 16th annual Car Crazy Promotions event in San Mateo this year. The trophy, which features a fun-loving toy engine mounted on a stand, was presented at the May City Council meeting where council members thanked Firefighter/Engineer Drew Johnson for his decade and a half of loving care of the old engine. Johnson, who has a knack for fixing up cars, inherited care of the truck almost the day he was hired by the Hillsborough Fire Department 15 years ago. He has had to rewire the vehicle and rebuild the engine, and he takes pride in polishing it up for each of its community showings, the next of which will be the Town's Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28.

The history of the engine dates all the way back to 1936 when the Town decided to purchase its second fire engine. The American LaFrance was built in New York and journeyed by boat around Cape Horn to San Francisco. It sped around the Town on emergency calls until 1952. That year the engine was sold to Simpson Lumber Company of Korb, California. It was in service there until 1982 when it was sold to the Fickle Hill Fire Department (near Eureka). They rebuilt the engine and used it daily until their service area was taken over by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection about a dozen years later. Fickle Hill contacted Hillsborough to give them the first option to re-purchase the engine, and former

Hillsborough Fire Chief Kenneth Newman recommended that it be purchased.

The 1930s rig piqued the interest of a few residents in Town who perhaps had played with a red engine or two in childhood. A fundraising committee was formed with Jim Boyar as general chairman, Gregory Hampton as restoration chairman and Kevin O'Connell as acquisition chairman, with Assistant Fire Chief Joe Quadt serving as the advisor to the committee. More than 125 residents, including some Hillsborough school children, and the Hillsborough Firefighters Association donated approximately \$38,500 to purchase the engine and restore it to its former gleaming self. The restoration became a five-year labor of love on the part of Peninsula residents and mechanical wizards Jim Crank, Bill Egan and Gil Americh, in addition to Firefighter Johnson. With its insignia in gold foil, the truck made its parade debut in the Redwood City Fourth of July parade in 2000, with former Chief Phil Constantino at the wheel and former Councilmember Kitty Mullooly in the passenger seat.

The engine is now stored at Central County Fire Department's Rollins Road station and is the pet project of Johnson who has kept it running since the restoration effort. He spruces it up for use on special occasions, like bringing Santa to the "Light Up the Town" event in December and the Memorial Day parades. Last year he entered it in the Car Crazy Promotions, a hot rod and classic car event that raises money for children with special needs.

Johnson is cleaning and polishing the American LaFrance for this Memorial Day Parade and the next Car Crazy Promotions on August 11, 2012, hoping to keep the perpetual trophy for "Most Outstanding Fire Apparatus" at Town Hall for another year.

### TOWN INFORMATION

**HILLSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**  
(650) 375-7400  
council@hillsborough.net

Mayor Thomas M. Kasten  
Vice Mayor Jess "Jay" Benton  
Marie Chuang  
Christine Krolik  
Laurence M. May

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
2nd Mondays  
6 p.m. at Town Hall, 1600 Floribunda Avenue

**TOWN HALL**  
Anthony Constantouros, City Manager  
aconstantouros@hillsborough.net  
Administration: (650) 375-7400  
Town Hall & Water Department Hours:  
Monday – Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Building and Planning: (650) 375-7411  
Finance Department: (650) 375-7400  
Public Works and City Engineer: (650) 375-7444  
After-hours, Urgent Service (650) 375-7470  
Water (service and billing): (650) 375-7402

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Mark O'Connor, Chief  
Non-emergency/24 hours (650) 375-7470  
Alarm Specialists: (650) 375-7472

**CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
Don Dornell, Chief (650) 558-7600

**CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE BOARD**  
Marie Chuang, Commissioner  
Vice Mayor Jess "Jay" Benton

**ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN REVIEW BOARD (ADRB)**  
Board Meeting 1st and/or 3rd Mondays  
4 p.m. – Town Hall  
Laurence M. May, Commissioner  
Mark Heine, Chair  
Christian Huebner, Eric Nyhus,  
Julie Tenenbaum, Jerry Wings  
Nan Ryan, Alternate

**FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Vice Mayor Jess "Jay" Benton, Commissioner  
Al Roys, Chair  
David Brooks, Kathy Ceremsak,  
Josh Cooperman, Maryellie Johnson,  
Richard Kuersteiner, David Steirman  
Paul Regan, Emeritus Advisor

**CITIZENS COMMUNICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Christine Krolik, Commissioner  
Julie Borden, Chair  
Suzanne Boutin, Vice Chair  
Donna Abrahamson, Paul Saffo, Lia Turk  
Diana Witzel, Advisor

**HILLSBOROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK (HNN) EMERGENCY PREP**  
hnn@hillsborough.net

Christine Krolik and Marie Chuang,  
Co-chairs  
Lia Turk, Coordinator  
Sue Johnston, Steven Gans, Terri Cruce,  
Diane Kounalakis, Matt Ken, Area Chairs

**HILLSBOROUGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
(650) 342-5193  
Anthony Ranii, Superintendent

**HILLSBOROUGH RECREATION**  
(650) 342-5439  
Tony Giacomazzi, Director  
tgiacomazzi@hcsd.k12.ca.us  
Christine Krolik, Town Commissioner  
Laurence M. May, Town Commissioner  
Lynne Esselstein, HCSO Commissioner  
Steven Koury, HCSO Commissioner  
Michele Bosschart, Member at Large

**UTILITIES**  
COMCAST (800) 945-2288

PG&E (24 hours) (800) 743-5000  
PG&E Outage Info: (800) 743-5002

RECOLOGY (650) 595-3900  
Hazardous Material: (800) 449-7587

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 • Photography: LeAnn Thornton



Hillsborough's antique fire engine, left, is ready to roll in the upcoming Memorial Day Parade. The engine made its parade debut in the 2000 July Fourth Parade, above, with members of the Fire Department on board. Photo on left, compliments of Drew Johnson; photo above, compliments of Paul Saffo.

## SCOUTS JOIN TOWN'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TROOPS

A Girl Scout learns to "Be Prepared." Girls in Troop #31175 in Hillsborough are taking the motto a step further, by helping the community to be prepared.

Working in conjunction with the Hillsborough Neighborhood Network (HNN), the Scouts are focusing on integrating the Town's senior population into the Network's emergency preparation efforts. They are working to recruit more seniors into the Network and to help these seniors become better prepared in case of an emergency. Additionally, they are working with younger Girl Scouts to teach them about emergency preparedness. In support of HNN's effort to educate residents, the Scouts are creating short videos to show on Hillsborough's television network (HTV)



to further the education effort.

The Scouts are in 7th grade at Crocker Middle School and, through this project, they are hoping to earn the highest honor for cadettes, the Silver award. One of the key aspects of this award is that the project must be ongoing, so these girls are developing a program that will continue long after they graduate from Crocker.

## TOWN ADVANCES PLAN TO ELIMINATE SEWER OVERFLOWS

In late April 2012, the Town held two community meetings to share more information on its plan to reduce sewer system overflows that pose health and safety risks and contribute to pollution in San Francisco Bay. A key component of the plan is a proposed Private Sewer Lateral Inspection Ordinance that calls for financial relief for property owners who voluntarily repair or replace defective sewer laterals – the pipes that connect individual properties to the public sewer system. As the Town repairs a public sewer main, properties with connecting sewer laterals could be eligible for financial assistance under the Ordinance. The Town plans to implement sewer main repairs in phases, with priority given to the most critical areas (called "Priority Basins").

Wet weather conditions have frequently overwhelmed the Town's sewer system. Over a five-year period ending in 2009, they caused 89 public sewer system overflows totaling approximately three million gallons of raw sewage. Such occurrences result in raw sewage overflowing onto streets, down storm drains and directly into the San Francisco Bay. As a result, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board issued the Town a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) in late 2009, requiring the Town to develop a comprehensive plan to eliminate public sewer system overflows.

In 2010, the Town proposed a plan to require private property owners to replace defective sewer laterals. Based on community input, the Town reevaluated the proposal and spent more time studying and identifying the causes of the overflows. Investigations revealed the following:

- Many of the Town's aging sewer pipelines are defective and must be replaced.
- The capacity of the sewer pipelines and systems must be increased wherever possible to accommodate greater volumes of sewer flow that occur during wet weather.
- Many of the pipes that connect individual properties to the main sewer system are cracked, have been punctured by tree roots, and/or are otherwise degrading. These pipes, known as sewer laterals, allow excess water to flow into the system during wet weather conditions, and allow raw sewage to leak out and contaminate the surrounding ground. Blockages can also cause sewer backups in homes.

Based on these findings and in order to maintain compliance with the CDO, the Town is recommending an initial five-year, \$25.5 million program to repair or replace defective sewer pipelines, while at the same time encouraging the repair or replacement of faulty sewer laterals by private property owners.

On May 14, 2012, the City Council will hear the first reading of the proposed Private Sewer Lateral Inspection Ordinance. In short, the proposed ordinance calls for the inspection of private sewer laterals at the Town's cost, and financial relief for property owners who voluntarily repair defective private sewer laterals. Under the proposed ordinance, if private property owners authorize sewer lateral repairs in conjunction with work on the main sewer system, their cost will be significantly reduced. The Town will waive permit fees and is also considering providing low-interest loans for the property owner's remaining share of the cost.

The Town will reach out to affected property owners before beginning work in their areas, so they are aware of the opportunity to fix defective laterals with assistance from the Town.

Additional information is available online at [www.hillsborough.net](http://www.hillsborough.net) (Sewer System link), by calling 650-375-7444, or by emailing [pw@hillsborough.net](mailto:pw@hillsborough.net).

## TOWN CONTINUES TO MONITOR PG&E LINES

PG&E officials at the March City Council meeting updated councilmembers on the testing of the two gas transmission lines that run under Hillsborough.

When the explosion occurred in San Bruno in 2010, PG&E immediately inspected and performed a leak survey on lines #132 and #109 and found no leaks. The two lines run under a portion of the Town from Crystal Springs Road north to Windemere Road.

Since that initial testing, city officials have stayed on top of the issue and have had several meetings to discuss and review the system, test procedures and the overall safety of the lines, realizing that line #132 in Hillsborough is the same age and size and shares similar construction characteristics as the failed line segment in San Bruno.

In late 2011, PG&E purged and performed a hydrostatic pressure test on #132 in Hillsborough and San Mateo County. The line passed both the peak and duration load testing, which subjects the line to considerably higher than the normal operating line pressure. Some upgrade work was performed on #109.

Work continues. In the summer of 2012, PG&E will be installing automated valves on both lines near Hillsborough, in addition to line segments south of Hillsborough near Redwood City. The valves were recently installed on the lines north of Hillsborough near Millbrae. More improvements that allow for extended testing are scheduled for 2012 and 2013.

## EMPLOYEES HELP CITY BALANCE BUDGET

Employees and their contracts are very important factors in the ability of cities to balance their budgets. Hillsborough employees have been "fantastic," according to the Town's human resources specialist, Kristin Armbruster. "That's not to say that there have not been some difficult discussions, but overall this has been a very collaborative effort. We have a very dedicated group of employees."

During the past year, employees have signed (or are about to finalize) contracts that allow the city to balance the budget, avoid layoffs and establish fiscally responsible, long-term policies.

Each of the four different employee groups (Police, Public Works Supervisors, Public Works and Clerical Employees, and Management) has agreed to reductions in leave time. When the contracts are finalized, each of the groups will also have agreed to pay an extra one percent into their pensions. As of 2012, all the groups will have agreed to two years of salary freezes (some of the freezes took place before 2012).

Individually, the Management group has suspended the annual program that allows employees to collect cash for unused accrued leave and they also suspended the merit pay program. The Public Works Supervisors, when they formed their own union in 2011, agreed as part of that move to phase out overtime pay for being on standby call. Newly employed non-sworn Town personnel will be hired with a lower cost retirement plan. In addition to working with the contracts for current employees, the Town has left some positions unfilled that were open due to attrition.

Hillsborough is not alone in asking its employees to accept concessions. "All cities, in an effort to balance their budgets, have been in concession bargaining since about 2009," Armbruster said, "but other cities have had furloughs and layoffs. We haven't had to do that. We have tried to educate everyone about the budget; we have tried to be very transparent and explain City Council strategies; and, we've asked everyone to sit down and work together. The employees have responded so well."

**2012**  
MEMORIAL DAY  
Hillsborough

## 3RD ANNUAL HILLSBOROUGH MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Celebrating Country & Community

Monday, May 28, 10:30 a.m.

Route starts at Hillsborough Town Hall, winds up Floribunda to Sharon, Brookvale, and Eucalyptus and ends at North Hillsborough School

Adopt-A Unit – bring an item to donate on Parade Day

Tribute to Veterans

Classic Cars, Horses, Bands, & Community Groups

Food Trucks include Sam's Chowder House, Speedy Panini, Ice Cream & More  
Bring Your Picnic Blanket

Hometown Carnival

Community Musical Showcase

Rain or Shine

No Dogs Allowed on the Field

For more information, call 650-288 5820 or go to [www.hillsboroughparade.com](http://www.hillsboroughparade.com)

## SAVE THE DATES!

### Hillsborough's 3rd Annual

### Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 28, 10:30 a.m., begins at Town Hall, ends at North School field.  
[www.hillsboroughparade.com](http://www.hillsboroughparade.com)

### Hillsborough Schools Foundation 19th Annual Fun Run!

Sunday, June 3, 7 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
For more information, go to [www.hsf.org](http://www.hsf.org) or call the HSF office at 650-344-6685

### 56th Annual Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance

Sunday, August 26, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Crystal Springs Golf Course.

### Hillsborough Reads

August 29 at 11 a.m. - noon  
Hillsborough Town Hall  
Kathy Garver, author of "The Family Affair Cookbook," and "Cissy" on the hit television show.  
RSVP to [hweir@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hweir@sbcglobal.net)

### Outdoor Movie Night

Friday, August 31, 7 p.m., live music and "Chicken Run" with special guest Katherine Sarafian, producer of Pixar's summer release "Brave."

### Hillsborough Recreation Programs

Yoga, Bridge, Mah Jong and Zumba classes at Town Hall [for details check [www.hillsboroughrecreation.org](http://www.hillsboroughrecreation.org) or call 650-342-5439].

## POLICE BLOTTER

For the first quarter of 2012, The Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) responded to 3,008 calls for service. In those three months, HPD arrested nine adults and two juveniles, responded to and investigated nine non-injury and five injury vehicle collisions, and completed 124 police reports. Some of the calls for service that occurred during this period are:

- On April 11, at approximately 10:05 a.m., HPD received a 9-1-1 call from a resident on the 500 block of Pullman Road. The caller was reporting a suspicious male in her backyard and a suspicious female knocking on her front door. While police were responding, the caller reported that the male had forced open a rear sliding door and had entered the residence. When confronted by the homeowner, the male suspect ran away from the home through the backyard and up the driveway of the property. The description of both suspects was broadcasted to responding officers. At 10:08 a.m., an officer observed two suspects in a vehicle leaving the area that matched the description given by the homeowner. An enforcement stop was initiated and the two suspects were immediately detained. Further investigation was conducted and both suspects were arrested.
- A report came in from a senior citizen that she had been the victim of a scam. She had responded to an email that claimed that she had won the Australian Lottery. She was tricked into sending a large sum of money overseas in order to receive the winnings. Fortunately, this fraud was discovered early enough that some of the suspect's account was frozen and it is hopeful that some of the funds can be recovered. Recovering funds in these cases is extremely rare and the HPD reminds residents to be very skeptical of all email and telephone solicitations. Call the HPD anytime to be sure.
- One evening, HPD received a report of a black Mercedes driving recklessly and screeching its tires. A responding officer noted a vehicle matching that description with a flat tire and poor wheel alignment leaving the area. A traffic stop was conducted and further investigation revealed that the driver had crashed onto a residential property in the area and was attempting to flee the scene. The juvenile driver was arrested and released to his parents.
- While investigating recent burglaries, an adult who was on probation was searched by the HPD Investigations unit. Items that were confirmed to have been stolen in Hillsborough were located and the adult was arrested for possession of stolen property and booked into the San Mateo County Jail. As a result of information obtained in this search, the location of another known and wanted burglar was obtained. Hillsborough investigators located the wanted subject outside of an apartment building in San Mateo where he was observed unloading property from his vehicle. The adult was arrested on the warrant for burglary and his connection to any Hillsborough burglaries is being investigated.
- Hillsborough officers conducted a warrant service at a residence in Hillsborough. An adult male who was living at the residence had an outstanding arrest warrant for failing to appear on a resisting arrest charge. He was arrested and booked into the San Mateo County Jail.
- One evening a Hillsborough officer noted that a vehicle ran the stop sign of Hayne and Black Mountain road near I280. A traffic stop was conducted and an investigation revealed that the driver was intoxicated. The driver was arrested and taken to "First Chance," where he was released with a promise to appear.
- Hillsborough officers responded to the area of Bromfield and Chester on a report of a vehicle accident. Responding officers found that the driver of one vehicle had crashed into a parked vehicle at a high rate of speed. The driver was heavily intoxicated and did not cooperate with the investigation. The driver was arrested at Stanford Hospital after he cleared medical examination. Charges are pending in this case.
- One evening, a Hillsborough corporal was on patrol and noted a suspicious vehicle parked on the side of the road. After the occupants were contacted, one adult was found to have a warrant for possession of hypodermic syringes. The adult was arrested and booked into the San Mateo County Jail.

*Police Blotter prepared by Sgt. Nelson T. Corteway.  
Send comments to [ncorteway@hillsborough.net](mailto:ncorteway@hillsborough.net)*

### *What's new in the Police Department*

Corporal Rob Chinca and K9 "Orin" have been on patrol for more than two years. Orin has recently been trained in narcotic detection. K9 Orin is now a triple threat – in addition to the drug work, he can be used for passive tracking, as well as open area searching.

The HPD has realized some significant successes in its informational outreach connections with social networking through "SMILE" (Social Media In Law Enforcement), along with SMCAAlert, Reverse911, Twitter and Facebook. The HPD is recognized as having the highest number of subscribers of any law enforcement agency in San Mateo County and continues to use these tools to improve its outreach.

Corporal Peter Gould was again asked to accompany the Crocker Middle School staff to help chaperone the Sugar Bowl ski trip. The trip affords him and the Department an invaluable opportunity to network with students and parents, which is an important part of the HPD's goal of community outreach.

With sensitivity to fiscal limitations, the HPD has suspended the hot-dog lunch barbecue again this year, although the Department has rekindled the School Lunch Program which promotes officers having lunch with the students in their respective cafeterias. This has been another tremendously successful outreach program.

The Carolands Gatehouse has been fully operational as a HPD Substation since June of 2010. The Gatehouse continues to be utilized as a room for report writing and training, as an emergency dispatch center and as an emergency command post.

## POLICE ADAPT TO CUTS

During the next year, you will see police patrol cars in the neighborhoods like usual, and when you call the police for help, the response time will be the same.

However, behind the scenes, new Police Chief Mark O'Connor has made some changes in an effort to save money during these difficult economic times.

"We are not filling all the positions we are allotted," O'Connor said, "but residents will not notice anything different. Protecting our residents is the most important aspect of our duties and we are committed to public service."

The Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) is authorized to have 27 sworn officers and nine non-sworn, administrative personnel. For 2012-2013, the Department is not funding two non-sworn positions and four sworn positions. O'Connor pointed out that similar measures were taken in 2002 when the economy dictated that less money be spent.

"We were successful in 2002 and we will be again," O'Connor said.

Specifically, HPD is not filling a lieutenant position and three officer positions. Savings will be in both salary and benefits. Additionally, O'Connor is reclassifying two Police Service Technician positions as non-sworn community service officers and

will be bringing in volunteer help from the Administration of Justice Department at the College of San Mateo. "These will be adults who have a basic understanding of law enforcement and they will go through extensive background checks," O'Connor said.

In making the changes, the Department was fortunate that several vacancies occurred as a result of attrition.

While there will be no reduction in service to the community, budget cuts mean that police personnel will have fewer opportunities to participate in extra training such as gang intelligence. "We will remain very cognizant of overtime costs," O'Connor said.

The promotion of Captain Mark O'Connor to chief initiated a chain of additional promotions:

- Sergeant Doug Davis was promoted to captain.
- Corporal Dave Young was promoted to sergeant.
- Inspector Peter Gould was promoted to corporal
- Officer Melissa Colla was appointed to inspector.

And, after several retirements, two new officers, Robert Kalkbrenner and Jose Ortiz, joined the Department.

## WHY RESIDENTS SHOULD OBTAIN BUILDING PERMITS

A resident should obtain a building permit primarily because permits are mandated by state and local laws to promote orderly development in a town through zoning and building codes. They are designed to create safe living conditions and to protect the homeowner, family, guests, future owners, and the community from safety hazards.

Permits are based on state code requirements that protect the structural integrity of a building and the safe installation of all electrical, plumbing, and heating systems. These codes also specify safe emergency exits in a building and contain requirements for energy conservation.

A person should obtain a permit when building and for most remodeling projects because:

- Permits ensure that a certified inspector will inspect a project and make sure work is done safely and to code. During inspections, a homeowner can get questions answered and know that the work has been checked for any safety violations. This is especially valuable to those brave do-it-yourselfers. Keep in mind that incorrect installations can result in house fires, flooding damage, and/or structural problems, not to mention life safety concerns.
- Permits ensure that the contractor is licensed by the State Contractors Licensing Board. Permits are issued only to properly licensed and bonded contractors or to the property owner/agent for the owner.
- When it comes to selling a home, prospective buyers will want to know if proper permits were obtained for all improvements. Realtors and lenders will want to be assured that the home is safe for future occupants. If the necessary permits were not obtained, it could cause delays and difficulties in closing. Often, the Building Department receives calls on how to get approval for work done without the benefit of permits and inspections. The response is that a building permit must be obtained and the non-permitted work must pass required inspections. If deficiencies are observed, the required corrections must be made to ensure compliance with current codes and must address any life-safety issues.

To protect themselves, homeowners can:

- Insist on permits! It simply doesn't pay for homeowners to cut corners when it comes to their biggest financial asset, their home.
- Check a prospective contractor's California State License to ensure that the contractor is legally licensed and bonded to work in California.
- Always beware of contractors willing to work without permits. Chances are there is a reason.
- Use or insist that the contractor hired uses only licensed sub-contractors.
- When in doubt, don't hesitate to contact the Building /Planning Department, which is happy to help with any questions or concerns.

### REMEMBER...

Always keep in mind that work done on a homeowner's property without the benefit of permits and inspections can be unsafe, no matter how great it looks. Building and planning provisions are adopted by the Town to protect and promote public health, safety, comfort, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of residents in the Town of Hillsborough.

Work done without a permit carries a penalty.

The City Council and Town staff believe so strongly that work done without a permit can be dangerous, that they recently amended the municipal code to allow the Town to levy a penalty for work begun without the proper permits.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

If you're planning a fundraising event in Hillsborough, the Town requires that an Application for Fundraising Event Permit be completed and submitted to the City Clerk's office for review due to the possible impact imposed on neighborhoods and the safety concerns of the Police, Fire and Building Departments. For more information, please contact City Clerk Miyuki Yokoyama at 375-7412 or [myokoyama@hillsborough.net](mailto:myokoyama@hillsborough.net).



While there have been no recent reports of aggressive coyotes in Hillsborough, the bushy-tailed animal can be found in and around the Town.

## COYOTES IN HILLSBOROUGH

Recently, there has been an increase in reported coyote sightings in and around Hillsborough. Akin in looks to a medium-sized collie with a bushy tail, coyotes are recognized as part of the canine species. They have lived harmoniously within the community for many years.

Generally scavengers, they also serve an important role within the environment by helping to control the rodent population. Coyotes are by nature fearful of humans, and negative interactions are extremely rare.

There have been no recent reports of aggressive coyotes in Hillsborough.

Here are some tips from the California Department of Fish and Game to help minimize contact with coyotes:

- Do not feed coyotes.
- Eliminate sources of water, particularly in dry climates.
- Bird feeders should be positioned so that coyotes can't get the feed. Coyotes are attracted by bread, table scraps, and even seed. They may also be attracted by birds and rodents that come to the feeders.
- Do not discard edible garbage where coyotes can get to it.
- Secure garbage containers and eliminate garbage odors.
- Feed pets indoors whenever possible. Pick up any leftovers if feeding outdoors. Store pet and livestock feed

where it is inaccessible to wildlife.

- Trim and clean, near ground level, any shrubbery that provides hiding cover for coyotes or prey.
- Fencing your yard could deter coyotes. The fence should be at least six feet high with the bottom extending at least six inches below ground level for best results.
- Don't leave small children unattended outside if coyotes have been frequenting the area.
- Don't allow pets to run free. Keep them safely confined and provide secure nighttime housing for them. Walk your dog on a leash and accompany your pet outside, especially at night. Provide secure shelters for poultry, rabbits, and other vulnerable animals.

Discourage coyotes from frequenting your area. If you start seeing coyotes around your home or property, chase them away by shouting, making loud noises or throwing rocks.

In the event you observe a coyote that seems aggressive or appears to be sick or injured, contact the Hillsborough Police Department at 650-375-7470. Any coyote-related questions can be directed to Corporal Peter Scatena at [pscatena@hillsborough.net](mailto:pscatena@hillsborough.net) or 650-375-7598.

For more information regarding coyotes, visit: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/news/issues/coyote.html>.

## GIACOMAZZI AND RECREATION – A GOOD FIT

Mah Jong lessons? Yes, here in Hillsborough. Yoga? Right at Town Hall. Boot Camp to help you carry through with your New Year's resolutions? You will find it at North School. Hillsborough Recreation is flourishing, offering ways to stimulate your body, mind and spirit, and those of your children, too.

The new person in charge is Tony Giacomazzi, who took up the post of Recreation Director on September 1, 2011. Giacomazzi was a popular teacher at West School for eight years. He earned his master's degree in school administration at San Francisco State in hopes of becoming a principal. But along the way to pursuing that career, he found another that he could not pass up – it was simply a perfect

fit. Giacomazzi has been a summer school counselor, a summer school teacher, a regular school teacher, a coach and even a groundskeeper for the San Francisco Giants. Being in charge of programs and sports fields was right up his alley.

"I think this job just fits my personality," he said, adding that he is extremely excited about developing recreational programs for Hillsborough's residents.

Hillsborough Recreation was created by a joint powers agreement between the Town and school district. Over the years, it has grown to encompass programs for all ages from preschool to adult.

"My job is to keep that going and improve upon it," Giacomazzi said. Recently, he expanded the adult program to include Mah Jong, Boot Camp and Zumba classes. At the elementary school level, he has started "Smartly You," a class in leadership and public speaking. Future classes will be developed as he listens to residents and parents and attempts to improve what is offered.

The programs are constantly being adapted to meet the needs of the Hillsborough residents. For a full listing of classes, plus registration forms, check [www.hillsboroughrecreation.org](http://www.hillsboroughrecreation.org). Or call Giacomazzi with questions or concerns at 650-342-5439.



Tony Giacomazzi

## CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

A General Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, for the purpose of filling three Hillsborough City Council seats. The term of office will be four years beginning December 2012. Candidates must be registered voters within the limits of the Town at the time the nomination papers are issued. The nomination period is July 16, 2012, to August 10, 2012. For more information, contact City Clerk Miyuki Yokoyama at 375-7412 or [myokoyama@hillsborough.net](mailto:myokoyama@hillsborough.net).

## TOWN BRIEFS

During the last quarter, the City Council:

- Amended an ordinance making it possible for the Town to levy a penalty for construction work begun without the proper permits.
- Authorized the purchase of 27 Taser X2 electronic control devices for \$32,000 for the Police Department. The newer units have a built-in safety feature that must be manually reset after a five-second application, which ensures proper application of the unit and therefore reduces third party liability. The cost of the Taser devices will be reimbursed with Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund and grant funds from the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). Electronic Control Devices have been used by the Hillsborough Police Department since 2005 and have been deployed numerous times to subdue or otherwise control dangerous or combative subjects in a manner that is safer for the subject as well as the police officer.
- Approved the purchase of three Public Works vehicles for \$65,000. The three new trucks are smaller than the ones they are replacing, allowing the Department to stay under the capital budget allocation for vehicle replacement.
- Recommended having a personal meeting with officials of ABAG who are determining a sustainability strategy for the future that is currently based on false assumptions for the Town. ABAG's growth projections remain unrealistic for Hillsborough and have the potential to present a change to the Town's "essential character" as a unique single-family residential community.
- Resolved to comply with a "reimbursement resolution" as a stipulation for application for a \$12 million Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan for the sewer line replacement project that is expedited as a result of the Cease and Desist Order issued by the Water Quality Control Board.

### People

- Finance Director Edna Masbad has received, for the eleventh time, the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award issued by the Government Finance Officers Association.
- City Council recognized Joyce Love for her service on the Citizens Communication Advisory Committee from January 2011 through December 2011.

## FIRE BLOTTER

For the first quarter of 2012, Central County Fire Department responded to the following calls:

- Fire Calls: 34
- Explosions: 2
- EMS/Rescue: 608
- Hazardous Condition: 95
- Public Assistance: 237
- False Alarms: 96

### Fire Safety Tips CHILDREN AND FIRE: PREVENT YOUTH FIRESSETTING

By Julie Parenti,

Central County Fire Department

A question sometimes presented to Julie Parenti, fire inspector at the Central County Fire Department (CCFD), is "What should I do if I catch my child playing with fire/matches?" The quick answer, if the fire is active or spreading, is to immediately call 911. If the Fire Department is called, necessary mandates could require that the family enroll in a fire prevention program. In any situation where there may not be an active fire, parents are strongly encouraged to contact CCFD's Fire Prevention Bureau to set up a meeting with the child.

If there is no need to call 911, remove the child from the incident and/or take the matches away immediately and use the opportunity to educate. Although some curiosity is common, playing with fire and "experimentation" leads to unrealistic confidences which push a child into taking bigger chances and risks, some of which could be deadly. Children should learn that playing with fire involves severe consequences. Discuss those consequences such as loss of life, injury, destruction of property, legal action, and financial liability.

Assess the circumstances of the incident, your child's overall behavior, and the history and frequency of fire involvement. For example, if an injury or property damage occurred, ask if the child seems remorseful or if the child has previously played with fire. Use the incident as an opportunity to create firm rules about use of matches and playing with fire. Ensure these "tools" are kept out of reach.

CCFD has a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program for the community, which was developed to provide an opportunity for families to work with the Department and address any concerns with their children and fire. The program includes conversations with the child and/or family in order to assess risk level and provides an educational component.

Arson Awareness Week is in May. The theme is "Prevent Youth Firesetting." Between 2005 and 2009, fires started by children playing accounted for an average of 56,300 fires and an associated 110 civilian deaths, 880 civilian injuries and \$286 million in direct property damage per year. Statistics are showing that younger children are more likely to set fires in homes, while older children and teenagers are more likely to set fires outside. Lighters were the heat source in 50 percent of child-playing fires in homes.

There are also several websites that can help with fire safety education and provide more information on Arson Awareness Week:

[www.riskwatch.org](http://www.riskwatch.org)  
[www.homesafetycouncil.org](http://www.homesafetycouncil.org)  
[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)  
[www.firesafety.gov](http://www.firesafety.gov)  
[www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)

If you are interested in learning more about CCFD's Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program, contact us at (650) 558-7600.