

HILLSBOROUGH

2ND QUARTER

2014



SILVER BADGE OPENS PAGES TO HOWARD, TOWN'S HISTORY

The Burlingame Historical Society recently received an ornate, star-shaped, silver badge that, more than 100 years ago, belonged to a police commissioner and early trustee of the Town, George Henry Howard. The badge is a symbol of Howard's civic contributions to Hillsborough, particularly his participation in the incorporation of Hillsborough. When his cousin, attorney Arthur H. Redington, led the charge in 1910 to incorporate the Town of Hillsborough – rather than allowing the Town to be annexed by the neighboring cities of San Mateo or Burlingame – Howard stepped forward to serve as a police commissioner and trustee of the new town.

Howard, an architect, was even better known for the beauty he brought to the Town and the Peninsula. The quail and oak leaves adorning the badge depict the gracious country living of Hillsborough residents in the early 1900s as well as Howard's elegant lifestyle and work.

Howard was born in 1864 to Agnes Poett and George H. Howard. (The baby was named after his father, but Jr. was never added to the name). As a bit of background, Agnes Poett and her first husband were the sole owners of Rancho San Mateo in 1850, which made them the “founders” of all of San Mateo, Hillsborough and Burlingame. After creating a fortune during the Gold Rush, the Howard family sought to create a genteel country life on the Peninsula. They financed the construction of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and invited John McLaren to come from Scotland to transform the barren, dusty grasslands around their home into beautiful gardens.

When the elder Howard died, Agnes remarried and spent a number of years in Europe with the younger Howard in tow. There, her son developed an appreciation for formal gardens like the ones at Versailles and for the neoclassical architecture then being taught at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris.

In 1888, at the age of 24, Howard married Antoinette (“Nettie”) Schmiedell who came from a wealthy San Francisco family. One thousand guests were invited to attend the prominent wedding at the Trinity Church in San Francisco. The church was covered with flowers and the mother of the groom wore “a low-cut cream-colored satin gown, with lace and a court train. In her hair she wore a reseda of egret feathers and carried a large fan of cream-colored ostrich feathers.” The young couple honeymooned for more than a year in Europe and returned to their new home on Gough Street in San Francisco. Young George began to build his career as an architect. When his

wife's father died a few years later, he left the couple an inheritance that allowed Howard to lead a life of architecture, travel, parties and public service. He built the couple's country home, Howard House, which sat at the top of today's Roehampton Road.

Howard is best known as the architect of the Burlingame Train Station, the earliest permanent example of California Mission Revival architecture. However, most of Howard's architectural projects were either Neoclassical or English Tudor in design, reflecting the Gilded Age preference for all things European. He designed approximately 75 homes on the Peninsula, mostly for wealthy friends or family members. In addition to the Kohl Mansion, he designed a clubhouse for the

Burlingame Country Club that was located near El Camino Real, and the clubhouse for the new San Mateo Polo Club, which today is the Hillsborough Racquet Club. He also designed the building that now serves as headquarters for the Hillsborough Police Department.

In 2012, eight homes designed by Howard were still standing in Hillsborough: 245 El Cerrito, built for the Shreve jewelry family, circa 1890; 120 W. Santa Inez, circa 1903; 1 Homs Court, circa 1905; 124 Stonehedge, circa 1906; 108 Stonehedge, circa 1910; 2155 Parkside, circa 1913; 355 Hillsborough Boulevard, built for Steward E. White, circa 1919; Treehaven at 816 Hayne Road, circa 1927, (all according to the “Historic Building Survey,” Town of Hillsborough, California, 1990). The Shreve jewelry family, for whom Howard built a home, created the silver Howard police commissioner badge, showing how connected the families were in the community.

By the mid-1920s, the Howards had moved to France with their two grown sons. The elder son, George Jr., died at age 41 in 1932 in Paris. Howard also died in Paris, in 1935 at age 71, and his wife died in 1942. Their sole surviving son, Henry Schmiedell Poett Howard, died in 1968. All three Howard men are buried at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

The executor of the estate of Henry's widow donated Howard's badge to the Historical Society, prompting curiosity about its famous owner.

To read more about the founding families of Burlingame and Hillsborough, visit www.burlingamefoundingfamilies.wordpress.com.

Thank you to Joanne Garrison, Burlingame Historical Society board member and author of “Burlingame Centennial: 1908-2008” for her contributions to this story.



George H. Howard, his home “Howard House” and Howard's Shreve-designed Police Commissioner's badge.



MANDATORY RATIONING AVOIDED FOR NOW BUT CONSERVATION CRITICAL

Thanks to some late winter and early spring spritzing, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) customers appear to have dodged the mandatory water budget bullet this year. However, that does not mean residents can celebrate by popping corks on faucets or hoses. Far from it. California is officially in a severe drought and water conservation is critical.

On January 28, 2014, SFPUC customers were asked to voluntarily cut back on water usage by 10 percent, based on 2012/13 water use. Hillsborough used 1.6 million units of water in 2012/13 (a unit equals 748 gallons). With the 10 percent cutback, Hillsborough's usage should drop to 1.45 million units. To achieve the 10 percent goal, the Town has looked at ways to reduce its own use and has asked residents to do the same.

The Town will continue to audit and improve conservation of its own water

use. Leak detection surveys of the Town's water delivery pipes have saved millions of gallons of water annually. Participation by residents in the Town's efficient washing machine rebate program has also led to increased savings. Additionally, the Town is investigating new water meter technology.

One of the Town's most powerful conservation tools may be its water use report program. This program provides individual water use reports for each Town residence. Homeowners can use the report to compare their actual water use to their ideal use and their 10 per cent reduction goal. The report also ranks individual residential water use against all Hillsborough residences. The closer a residence's ranking is to 100, the better. The Town's water use report website (www.waterfluence.com/hillsborough/tips) provides a host of helpful information, including water conservation tips. (See related story, page 3.)

Although it is counterintuitive, conserving water costs the Town money, due to the loss of water revenue and increased administrative expenses. Program and operational costs have been budgeted for a 10 percent voluntary cutback in water, and revenues will be sufficient to meet expenses.

Should the skies have stayed sunny all of February and March, the SFPUC would have called for mandatory water rationing, which would have triggered a public hearing and adoption of water use restrictions based on public input, followed by overuse fees and penalties, water banking provisions, rate adjustments, and programs for monitoring use and enforcement.

Fortunately this did not occur, and the SFPUC has not called for mandatory rationing. However, they can require mandatory rationing at any time during the coming year if they feel that the water supply is not sufficient to meet demand. It is for this reason that it is so important for Hillsborough residents to conserve water today.

It is also important to note that in the event of a mandatory rationing event, Hillsborough's rationing ordinance is not based on prior or current usage. The Town's ordinance determines each parcel's water allotment based on the number of people in the household and the size of the property. It does not consider historical water use. In a mandatory rationing, water allotment reduction would be aimed at outdoor use. Since the rationing formula is not based on historical water use, there is absolutely no benefit gained by increasing water use in the hope of increasing future water allotments in the event of mandatory rationing.

Ed Cooney, analyst for the Town of Hillsborough, explained that the water rationing ordinance is 20 years old and may need some revision. For instance, indoor plumbing fixtures have become more efficient, so indoor allotments may need to be appropriately reduced.

Off the hook for mandatory rationing, but still at the mercy of a severe drought, the Town will continue its conservation efforts, as should residents. City Council will consider forming a committee on water rationing to prepare for future drought conditions, and Town staff will prepare revisions to update the rationing ordinance.

Days of sun are delightful, but all sun can bring clouds of a different nature to the Town. Severe rationing would result in less water revenues, rate increases from the SFPUC and increased administrative costs to the Town. "Severe rationing could cost the Town more than \$1 million in lost revenue and increased operating costs," Cooney said.

Be thankful for the pre-spring spritz, but take shorter showers anyway.



The Hetch Hetchy watershed supplies water to 2.6 million customers in the Bay Area.

A SYSTEM TO RESPECT AND PROTECT

The next time you pour a glass of water, take a moment to contemplate. Most of that water started out as snow that fell in the Sierra Nevada mountains, melted, ran down the Tuolumne River and flowed into the Hetch Hetchy watershed located near Yosemite National Park. It traveled through 160 miles of pipelines to the Peninsula. It is unique in two ways. The water is among the purest in the world, requiring only treatment but no filtering. The delivery system is almost entirely gravity fed, requiring almost no fossil fuel consumption to move it from the mountains to the tap.

The Hetch Hetchy provides 85 percent of San Francisco's total water needs. The remaining 15 percent is produced by the Alameda and Peninsula watersheds. The Peninsula watershed, which occupies 23,000 acres of the San Francisco Peninsula, contributes surface water that is captured and stored in the lower and upper Crystal Springs and San Andreas reservoirs and in two smaller reservoirs, Pilarcitos and Stone Dam. The reservoirs capture rain and local runoff, and some also store Hetch Hetchy water for use by San Francisco's water customers.

The Hetch Hetchy system is complex, stretching for 160 miles from the Sierra mountains and featuring a complicated series of reservoirs, tunnels, pipelines and treatment systems. It took 24 years to build through the time of the Great Depression and cost \$102 million. The Hetch Hetchy can store up to 117 billion gallons of drinking water. It is a publicly owned and operated system built with local funds, not state or federal, and is maintained with local financing to benefit 2.6 million public customers.

On October 28, 1934, a crowd gathered at the Pulgas Water Temple to hear the gush of the Hetch Hetchy water as it roared to the Peninsula. The Temple, located a half mile south of the Cañada Road trailhead in Redwood City, was built as a monument to the engineering marvel that brought Hetch Hetchy water 160 miles across California to the Bay Area. It was designed in Beaux-Arts style by William Merchant, who was trained by Bernard Maybeck. It features fluted columns and Corinthian capitals to reflect the architecture of the ancient Greeks and Romans, whose methods were used to build the awe-inspiring system.

DOES DROUGHT = FIRE DANGER?

We have all heard the news — "Severe drought conditions in California will make this year one of the worst fire seasons in history!" But remember hearing this? "Heavy winter rains have caused a significant increase in vegetative growth, increasing fire fuels which could result in one of the worst fire seasons in history!" Which is it?

Whether in a drought year or a high rainfall year, for Hillsborough residents the approach should always be the same:

- Design your landscaping with fire resistant plants.
- In natural settings, remove all combustible vegetation and dry brush within 100 feet of your home or to your property line.
- Trim trees so the tips of the lowest limbs

are at least six feet from the ground.

- Ensure your irrigation system is maintained and operating efficiently and don't water beyond your landscaping.
- Never use lawn mowers in dry vegetation. Spark arresters are required in wildland areas on all portable gasoline powered equipment.
- Have an emergency plan in place in case of fire.

If you are planning on landscaping your home, have your designer or landscaper refer to "Living with Fire in San Mateo County," which is available online. This document is an excellent guide to creating a fire-resistant vegetation management plan. If you have any questions, contact the Central County Fire Department, 650-558-7600.

SAVE THE DATES!

Hillsborough's 5th Annual Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 26

The Parade will begin at Town Hall at 10:30 a.m. and end at North School Field where the festivities will continue with a carnival and music festival from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Details at www.hillsborough.net/about/parade.asp.

Hillsborough Schools Foundation Annual Fun Run

HSF invites you to participate in the Hillsborough Fun Run (10K, 5K, 2K) on Sunday, June 1, at North School. For more information, go to www.hsf.org or call the HSF office at 650-344-2272.

2014 Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance

Don't miss this year's Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, July 20, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Crystal Springs Golf Course. For more information, go to www.hillsboroughconcours.org.

Hillsborough Harvest Garden Workshops

Hillsborough Beautification Foundation invites volunteers of all ages to attend the upcoming Harvest Garden Sunday workshops, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., on May 11 and June 1. HBF asks that students planning to volunteer respond to wendi@thevandermeers.com.

Hillsborough Recreation

For information about summer class offerings, call 650-342-5439 or go to www.hillsboroughrecreation.com.

CONSERVE NOW TO HELP AVOID MANDATORY RATIONING LATER

The Town has recently received news from its water supplier, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), that our region is not meeting its 10 percent voluntary water use reduction goal. It is very important that we all do our part to meet this goal. If we are unable to meet the 10 percent voluntary reduction goal, it greatly improves the chances of mandatory rationing being implemented in 2014. This would result in a nearly 40 percent reduction in water allocation.

Hillsborough residents can best meet their 10 percent reduction goal by reducing outdoor water use. Here are some easy ways to immediately reduce outdoor water use:

- Reduce how often you water your lawn and plants while still maintaining plant health.
- Allow water to soak into the soil by watering in intervals. (If you normally water for 10 minutes switch to watering for five minutes, wait for 15 minutes, then water for five more minutes.)
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks and broken nozzles.
- Check the aim of your sprinklers. Watering the sidewalk doesn't help your plants.
- Water dry spots by hand instead of turning up the sprinkler.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk.
- Take your car to a carwash instead of washing it at home. (Carwashes use water more efficiently.)

Here are some ways to reduce outdoor water use for years to come:

- Replace lawn with native and/or low water using plants.
- Install drip irrigation for shrubs and flowers.
- Install a smart irrigation controller with a rain shut off sensor.

Every Hillsborough residence recently should have received by mail a water use report. The report provides residents with the information that they need to understand their water use and reduction goals. Residents will also learn how to sign up to receive this report sent by email on a regular basis. Call 650-375-7444 if you have questions about the report.

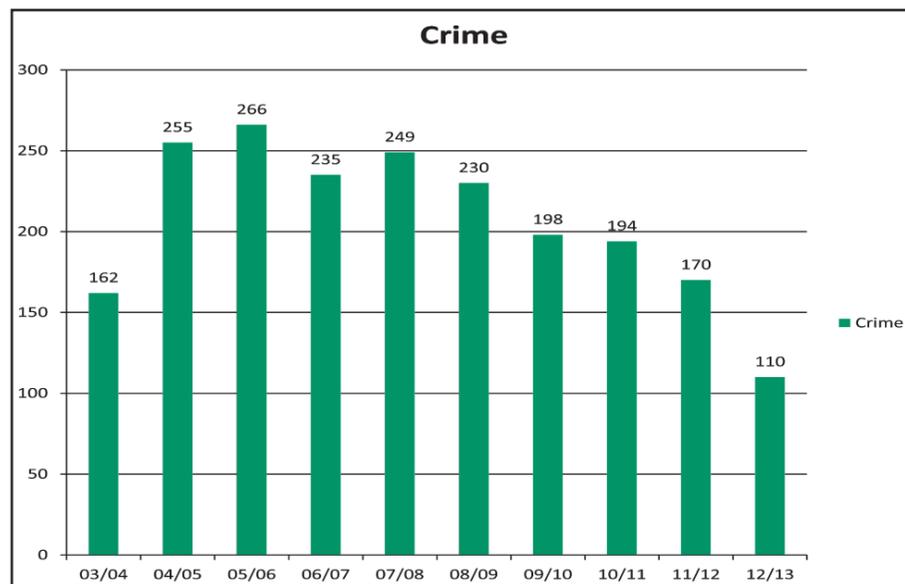
SOCIAL MEDIA, SOCIETY PUSH DOWN CRIME STATS

A few months ago, the Hillsborough Police Department presented a graph that reassured Town residents. The graph showed a significant decrease in crime during the past few years. In fiscal year 2005/06, there were 266 crimes in Town. In 2012/13, there were 110 crimes, less than half of the 2005/06 figure. The drop started in about 2009/10 when the number was 198. From 2011 to 2012, there was a big drop, from 170 to 110.

Instead of taking a blue-uniformed bow, however, police officers are attributing the drop to social media and local society. "Before social media, about the only people who knew when a crime had taken place were the victims and the neighbors," Sergeant Nelson Corteway said. Now, because of social media, news of a possible crime, a crime taking place, a crime that has just occurred, or a crime trend reaches people in Town and even beyond. Certainly, the police play an important part, but the interconnectivity of the community creates a strong safety net.

With mobile phones and applications ("apps"), plus crime and safety notifications, people are more aware than ever before of criminal activity and police response in the community. That awareness gives the Police Department many more eyes, ears and sensors. People are on alert, they call the police and the police respond.

"Just recently we received a call (from a resident) about a car that (appeared to be) 'casing' the neighborhood," Corteway said. The police found the car, stopped the



vehicle on a vehicle code violation, and found that two of the persons in the car were on probation and the trio had committed burglaries in Marin County. Once stopped, they moved out of Town. Burglary avoided, crime stats down. "That's what's happening," Corteway said.

Corteway urges residents not to hesitate to make calls when they see something suspicious. "We get more calls than ever before, and that is a good thing," he said. "Don't think you are 'bothering us.' Push through that paranoia. YOU know when something is not right."

Corteway also warned residents not to become complacent with lower crime statistics. "This may be a safer time but

there is no magical force field that keeps criminals away," he said. "You have to make yourself safe, regardless."

During one week in February, some cars were burglarized because they were left unlocked all night. Burglars simply opened the door and took tech items, purses, etc. "If you want to see your stuff tomorrow, lock it up today or, better yet, don't leave it in your car," Corteway said.

Residents need to be vigilant about their own safety and not hesitate to keep an eye out for unusual happenings in the neighborhood. To state a much-used phrase, "it takes a village" to fight crime, and the police graph shows that this particular village is doing quite well.

FIRE BLOTTER

During the first quarter of 2014, Central County Fire Department responded to 1087 calls, as follows:

- Fire calls: 32
- Explosions: 1
- EMS/rescue: 621
- Hazardous conditions: 107
- Public assistance: 203
- False alarms: 123

NEW EASY-TO-NAVIGATE WEBSITE COMING TO HILLSBOROUGH

Very soon Hillsborough residents will be able to enjoy a new, easy-to-navigate website. The website is scheduled to launch May 16, 2014.

The new website will provide simple access to all the city departments and news that is currently on the old website. It will have modules that will allow easy accessibility to News Flash, Community Links, Notify Me, Events Calendar and Citizen

Request Tracker. It will also have direct links to the public libraries, school district and recreation department.

The new design was chosen by a Web Team consisting of key members of the Communications Committee and Town staff, who unanimously approved the new look.

With the new website and availability of a mobile app, the Town will be able to increase its community engagement and enhance the communication between residents and the Town. Find the new site the same way you found the old: www.hillsborough.net. Happy browsing!

POLICE BLOTTER

During the first quarter of 2014, the Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) responded to 3,131 calls for service. In those three months, HPD arrested seven adults and five juveniles, responded to and investigated 18 non-injury and two injury vehicle collisions, and completed 111 police reports. HPD also conducted 889 vehicle checks, 167 traffic stops, checked on 3,035 watch list homes, performed 751 security checks at the schools and other facilities, and investigated 87 suspicious persons and vehicles.

A sample of some of the notable calls for service that occurred during this period is listed below:

- During routine patrol on day shift, an officer ran a license plate of a suspicious vehicle parked at a construction site. The license check revealed that the driver had a warrant for indecent exposure. The officer waited for the driver to return to his vehicle. Once the driver returned, he was arrested and transported to the San Mateo County Jail.
- Night shift officers responded to a juvenile party where alcohol was being served. One juvenile challenged the officer's lawful right to be on the premises. The juvenile was arrested for alcohol related charges and released to a responsible adult.
- Night shift officers responded to a solo vehicle crash. The driver was intoxicated and was not cooperative with investigating officers. He was arrested for driving under the influence and transported to First Chance.
- Night shift officers responded to a vehicle crash and noted that a passenger had sustained minor injuries. The driver was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.
- During a day shift patrol, an officer noted a suspicious vehicle in the western part of town. An enforcement stop was conducted on the vehicle for a mechanical violation and it was discovered that the driver had an outstanding warrant for driving on a suspended license for DUI. He was booked into the San Mateo County Jail.
- A number of juveniles have been arrested this quarter for being a minor in possession of alcohol. All were released to a responsible adult with a promise to appear in court.

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

The Town of Hillsborough, at the request of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, has asked its residents to cut back on water use by 10 percent. Adhering to a voluntary cutback now could help prevent rationing in the future. Below are some tips on how to use less water.

Two-thirds of water use in Hillsborough is for outdoor use. Therefore, the best place to reduce usage is outside your home.

Outdoor water saving tips:

- Plant a water-wise landscape. You don't need to do it all at once; every plant helps. Check out the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Association's (BAWSCA's) Water Wise Gardening website for ideas (bawasca.org/water-conservation/residential-water-conservation-programs).
 - Adjust your irrigation controller, especially during the winter months. Install a rain shut-off gauge on your controller. The gauges are available at the hardware store.
 - Update the clocks on your irrigation and water at night or early morning.
 - Request your water use report from the Town. The report helps you gauge and adjust your individual water use. Send an email to pw@hillsborough.net and include your name, Hillsborough address, water bill account number and telephone number. Or call 650-375-7444.
 - Check your irrigation system annually for leaks or loose heads.
 - Buy a "smart" irrigation controller which monitors and adjusts to the current weather.
 - Cover your swimming pool. It saves lives as well as water through evaporation.
- ### Indoor water saving tips:
- Replace inefficient plumbing fixtures and appliances.
 - Check for toilet leaks, or replace your toilet with a water-efficient toilet.
 - Shorten your showers. A shower uses 2.5 gallons a minute. One minute less, per day, adds up to a lot of water. Buy a low-flow shower head.

MESSAGE FROM HPD: ALARM STICKERS ARE HERE!

For some time, the Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) has offered alarm monitoring, which is a direct connection between residences and the police station. Now, new HPD alarm monitoring stickers are available to let potential thieves know.

Captain Caroline Serrato of HPD says statistics show homes with alarms are less likely to be targeted by thieves. Furthermore, should thieves enter an alarmed home, they will likely stay a shorter period of time for fear of being caught. While having any alarm is the best deterrent against burglaries, there are advantages to having an alarm directly connected to HPD.

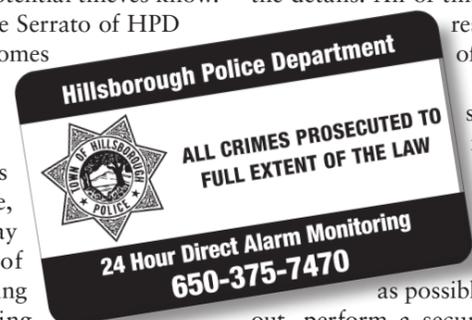
"The response time is quicker," Serrato said, "plus we have an enhanced level of information on residents, such as if the home has a disabled resident or pets." For instance, when a call comes in from an HPD monitored home, dispatch receives the call, instead of the call being relayed from an

outside firm to dispatch. When a call comes in from an HPD monitored home, dispatch immediately pulls up the file of information. From an outside alarm company, dispatch relays the information as the company relates the details. All of this takes time and can result in delayed patrol officer response.

It is fairly simple to switch from an alarm monitoring company to the HPD. Just call the station and ask.

HPD wants all homes to be as safe as possible. Officers will come out, perform a security check, test your 9-1-1 line, and check your alarm if you are connected to the HPD dispatch and alarm monitoring center.

"Our goal is to protect people and property," Serrato said. In order for residents to obtain the new alarm stickers, just call dispatch at 650-375-7470 or stop by the station anytime. You must be monitored by HPD and there is a limit of 5 HPD alarm monitoring stickers per residence.



APPRECIATE BALANCE OF NATURE DURING DROUGHT

While the drought affects our lifestyles and landscaping, it is also having an impact on the wildlife in the area. The best advice from wildlife authorities is: Don't provide supplemental food and water for backyard critters.

Providing supplemental food or water upsets the balance of nature. Supplementing the normal food and water in your yard attracts more animals than an area can naturally support. It puts animals in conflict with each other. When animals are in close contact, the spread of disease and parasites increases. Providing extra food and water also brings animals in closer contact with humans. They lose their fear of humans and can become aggressive or can exhibit strange behavior, which often leads to humans killing or poisoning the animals. A supply of food and water in a yard can create a "watering hole" effect where disease is rampant because the animals are eating, drinking and defecating in the same small area, and animals are more susceptible to disease because they are stressed due to the drought. A "watering hole" is where predators come to prey on the smaller animals.

Wildlife experts list a number of steps that can be taken to help wildlife during this drought:

- Conserve water so there is more for everyone.
- Wildlife-proof your home against the increased number of animals seeking food and water in your backyard.
- Drive carefully and watch for wildlife. During a drought, animals are more active in their search for food and water.
- Keep dogs and cats inside to protect them from hungry predators and to protect birds looking for water.
- Provide moist, cool housing for amphibians. Put a pot upside down and cut a hole or door in it so the amphibians can hide inside.
- Use grey water (not soapy) to water

- shrubs and plants.
- Cover pools so they don't attract animals.
- Plant native plants which are both drought-resistant and preferred by native and migratory species.
- Use mulch. It holds water, protects the garden and provides homes for insects and worms, which animals feed upon. Should you feel a compelling need to put out water and food for animals, the containers must be clean. A bowl should be emptied and scrubbed daily. It should be disinfected weekly — use one part bleach to nine parts water and scrub and rinse thoroughly. Do not use bleach on a hummingbird feeder. Remove a bowl completely at the first sign of a sick animal.

There is a delicate balance to nature. One might think that a drought will kill off rodents, which it will. But a lack of rodents will kill off the good predators, like hawks. When the predators are gone, the rodent population can come back with a vengeance. Don't put out rat poison because it can also kill the good predators. A drought will also result in fewer insects. Sounds good, but fewer insects means the birds (who eat insects) will continue on their migration and, like the rodent/predator example, allow the insect population to boom.

Do your best to help retain the balance.

RALSTON TREE PRESERVATION PLAN

The grove of primarily eucalyptus trees that stretches from the Carolands Gatehouse to Crocker School is beautiful, old and much-loved. However, some of the trees are not in good shape. The Town and Hillsborough City School District, therefore, have collaborated on a plan to take care of the aging trees and replace them slowly and thoughtfully, as needed, with the grove's next generation of greenery, all designed to maintain the forestation of Ralston Avenue.

Work deemed necessary for the health of the trees and safety of residents will begin soon. All trees in the area will be trimmed, some of the large and heavy lateral limbs will be cut back and nine trees will be removed because an arborist has determined they are dangerous to pedestrians and motorists. No tree will be removed without being replaced. The nine trees are not next to each other and are only a small percentage of the grove's 60 trees.

The tree trimming and removal plan was jointly developed by representatives of both the Town and school district, based upon the recommendations of an independent, licensed and certified arborist.

In addition to the immediate maintenance work, a committee of two City Council members and two school board members is developing a long-term plan to keep the Town well forested. Working with the Hillsborough Beautification Foundation, the committee will develop a reasonable succession plan to determine the best trimming, timing and type of trees for the gradual metamorphosis of the area.

The City Council and school board are aware of the importance of the trees to the residents. When the reforestation plan is ready for approval, there will be opportunities for public input. Signage will be placed on Ralston to let residents know about the maintenance work, and residents will receive information about future plans from the Town and school district.

GOOD PLANTING, PLUMBING HELP SAVE PRECIOUS DROPS

To conserve water, you can turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving and you can run less water in the kitchen when doing dishes, but you really need your home and garden to pitch in and help too. This is where Hillsborough's Building and Planning Department comes in. To help you conserve water, there are laws that regulate water use in Hillsborough — one dealing with landscaping and one dealing with water fixtures inside the home.

Landscaping regulations

The Town's landscaping ordinance (www.hillsborough.net/depts/pw/water/conservation/residential.asp) has been on the books for several years. It spells out rules and guidelines for landscaping for new homes and homes that are being remodeled. In brief, for new or remodeled homes, no more than 25 percent of the landscape can consist of turf, and 80 percent of plantings in the non-turf area must be plants that require little or no water. An alternative to this is to plant what you wish, but agree to a water budget.

The ordinance specifies that similar plants, requiring like amounts of water, should be grouped together. Planting on steep slopes is not allowed. Mulch should be spread on exposed soil surfaces, and areas of a larger size may require irrigation meters and sensors.

Not every home is new or remodeled, so the ordinance also addresses older, more established landscapes. When landscaping covers more than an acre, audits, analysis and an irrigation meter may be required. In no case should there ever be irrigation runoff from a yard or garden.

Outdoor water use is high in Hillsborough due to the large outdoor areas. Landscaping wisely, with water conservation in mind, and using controlled irrigation can go a long way toward saving water.

Indoor plumbing regulations

A new state law took effect on January 1, 2014 requiring homes to have water-conserving plumbing fixtures. The updated fixtures need to be installed when a home is being built or remodeled. The second phase of the law requires that all plumbing fixtures in a home, new, old or remodeled, have water-conserving plumbing fixtures (from faucets and shower heads to toilets) by January 1, 2017. The goal is to have fixtures in the home use as little water as possible.

Most fixtures installed after 1994 are compliant with the new law. Older faucets can be made compliant by installing water flow reducers, or toilets can be made compliant by using the old trick of placing a brick in the tank. Water conservation is strongly encouraged even before state law deadlines.

TOWN BRIEFS

During the past quarter, January through April 2014, City Council:

- Awarded a contract for \$121,000 for the Oak Grove Sanitary Sewer Crossing Project. Recently it was discovered that when San Francisco installed a pipeline, they cut through the Town's existing 15-inch sewer main crossing at Oak Grove Avenue, reducing its capacity by more than 50 percent and subjecting the exterior of the water pipeline to sewage contact. San Francisco Water Power and Sewer agreed to contribute \$100,000 towards the cost for design and construction of a newly aligned 15-inch sewer main below the San Francisco pipeline. The new pipeline will carry sewer flows from Floribunda Avenue and the Town Hall sewer basin and will relieve the flow constriction caused by the San Francisco line. The new line also will improve capacity and reduce future sanitary sewer overflows in the Town Hall sewer basin.
- Authorized the upgrade of the Town's data network and replacement of the current telephone and voicemail system. The Town initially purchased its current digital telephone system more than 20 years ago and upgraded the voicemail system more than 16 years ago. The cost of the project will be \$134,000, which includes maintenance and upgrades for five years.
- Considered a report from the Financial Advisory Committee that the Town:
 - Is studying the possibility of charging local non-profit schools a fee to cover costs incurred by the city as a result of their reliance on and use of Town services but exemption from property taxes.
 - Must determine how to fund replacement of the Town's storm drains.
 - Is "right on track" fiscally, according to the mid-year budget review. Revenues are up as a result of recovering property tax values.
- Proclaimed March 2014 as American Red Cross Month and learned that the local Red Cross responded to 40 incidents in San Mateo County during the past year, including five major fires. The Red Cross Heroes Breakfast will be held May 29 to honor those who performed "above and beyond," including a Hillsborough Girl Scout troop. (Tickets are available online at www.redcrossbayarea.org).
- Adopted at their April meeting a new ordinance which sets standards and restrictions for installation of and modifications to wireless communications facilities. After numerous public hearings and meetings with wireless carriers, the Town developed an ordinance that balances compliance with state and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules with guidelines to protect the Town's character and aesthetics. "Paramount (in writing this ordinance) has been the protection of our community," said a council member who served on the Wireless Communications Facilities subcommittee. Additional information is available on the Town website (www.hillsborough.net).
- Voted to support AB418 which would give the City/Council Association of Governments (C/CAG) of San Mateo County the authority to pursue local funding on behalf of the Town and its other member agencies for stormwater pollution prevention programs.
- Adopted revisions to the Town's Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) which documents how an agency operates and maintains its sewer system to ensure proper management of the collection system, documents the agency's spill response and establishes standard procedures for immediate response to a sanitary sewer overflow. Changes call for more proactive management of the system, breaking down the system into small areas to maintain and advance rather than reactive planning.

BAXTER "MERGES" WITH FAC

Jeffrey Baxter, a partner with Deloitte serving merger and acquisition clients, is the latest resident to volunteer to add his financial expertise to the Town's Financial Advisory Committee (FAC).

"I have a strong interest in contributing to our community," Baxter said. "I am leveraging my financial skills to help our



Jeffrey Baxter

Town preserve the financial stability it has had in the past while providing the necessary functions our community expects."

Baxter, who moved to Hillsborough in 1994 and has two children who attended the Hillsborough schools, says he is as interested in helping the community as his wife, Diane Kounalakis, has been. While Diane has served on numerous school and Town committees and was named Citizen of the Year last year, Jeff has also been an active volunteer. He chaired the Hillsborough School District Parcel Tax Committee during the past two cycles.

With his experience at Deloitte, the FAC seems like a perfect fit. "It is a very stable committee with outstanding volunteers who have similar interests in our community," Baxter said.



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Hillsborough, CA 94010

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Memorial Day
2014
Hillsborough
PARADE * CARNIVAL
* MUSIC FESTIVAL *

*The parade
is coming to Town again!*

*For details, see
Save the Dates, page 2.*

TOWN INFORMATION

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

Mayor Jess "Jay" Benton
Vice Mayor Laurence M. May
Marie Chuang
Shawn Christianson
Alvin Royse

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

TOWN HALL
Randy A. Schwartz, City Manager
rschwartz@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
Water (service and billing): (650) 375-7402
After-hours, Urgent Service (650) 375-7470

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Mark O'Connor, Chief
Non-emergency/24 hours (650) 375-7470
Code Enforcement Hotline: (650) 375-7572

CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
Mark Ladas, Chief (650) 558-7600

CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE BOARD
Marie Chuang, Commissioner
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
Eric Nyhus, Chair
Lionel Foster, Christian Huebner, Julie Tenenbaum,
Jerry Wings, Nan Ryan, Alternate

CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARING PANEL
Wallace Baldwin, Catherine Lee,
Leonard Mezhvinsky

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Alvin Royse, Commissioner
David Steirman, Chair
Jeffrey Baxter, David Brooks, Kathy Ceremsak,
Josh Cooperman, Maryellie Johnson
Richard Kuersteiner, Paul Regan, Emeritus Advisor

**CITIZENS COMMUNICATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Shawn Christianson, Commissioner
Julie Borden, Chair
Suzanne Boutin, Vice Chair
Paul Saffo, Lia Turk, Ann Malouf
Diana Witzel, Advisor

**HILLSBOROUGH
NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK (HNN)
EMERGENCY PREP**
hnn@hillsborough.net
Marie Chuang and
Shawn Christianson,
Co-chairs

HILLSBOROUGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
(650) 342-5193
Anthony Rani, Superintendent
Lynne Esselstein, School Board President

HILLSBOROUGH RECREATION
(650) 342-5439
Tony Giacomazzi, Director
tgiacomazzi@hcsd.k12.ca.us
Jess "Jay" Benton, Town Commissioner
Laurence M. May, Town Commissioner
Lynne Esselstein, HCS D 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.
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www.hillsborough.net