

# CVRA Newsletter

Spring 2012



## CVRA's First Annual Garage Sale

By Darcy Horton



Lew Feinman, Gina Velez, Darcy Horton, James Garcia, Linda Hanson, Ed Bottorff and Linda Wadley

A small but hardy group of CVRA members stumbled over to Gina Velez's house in the wee hours of the morning on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to participate in Capitola's city-wide garage sale and raise money for charity. They hadn't finished setting up when the crowds began to appear. Word on the street was that the CVRA garage sale was one of the best in the city.

Gina Velez and her son James Garcia generously let the CVRA use their front yard and half circle driveway to display wares and allow parking for customers. Ed Bottorff was in charge of logistics, strategically placing signs and providing delivery service for large items, including an enormous solid wood desk everyone feared wouldn't sell. He also carted off everything that didn't sell. Darcy "the negotiator" Horton used her experience as a Discovery Shop volunteer to set the ruthless pricing.

Linda Hanson made sure that every penny was accurately counted. Lew Feinman photographed the event. Linda Wadley provided much needed sustenance, coffee and cookies, and handled membership. Judith Feinman helped display the items. Finally, Molly Ording worked as the liaison between the CVRA and the Human Care Alliance.



Judith Feinman, Darcy Horton, Gina Velez and James Garcia

After the dust settled and the remaining goods were boxed up as donations for various charities, the cash was counted. To the surprise and delight of everyone, the CVRA raised an impressive \$745 for the Human Care Alliance.

### SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>

It's time for our 5<sup>th</sup> annual summer party! Linda Hanson and Margaret Kinster/Rich Diddy have generously offered their creekside gardens at 325-327 Riverview Avenue as the venue. Time is 3-6pm. Details to follow.

## **General Plan Update Community Workshop #4 and Pacific Cove/City Hall Special Study Area**

**By Margaret Kinstler**

On Saturday, May 12, 2012, a community workshop was held to allow for public input on the above two subjects. Attendance was only about 15 members of the general public, plus members of the GPAC, city staff and some of the consultants hired to assist with preparing the General Plan. We broke into three groups to discuss how we'd like to see the Pacific Cove site utilized and what to do about the fact that City Hall and the police department are located in a 100 year flood zone. There is some grant money available to mitigate local hazards.

The general consensus was that more parking was the chief concern. More parking is needed in the village to hopefully reduce the traffic congestion in the village, reduce the amount of tourist parking in the neighborhoods and allow any expansion for businesses because the Coastal Commission will not allow any expansion without more public parking.

As for the lower Pacific Cove site, the general consensus seemed to be to use possibly all or part of it as temporary parking while the funding for the parking structure is secured and the parking structure constructed. Also most felt that once the parking structure is completed, the Pacific Cove site should be devoted to recreational use, possibly day lighting the Noble Gulch Creek or part of it.

Most participants seemed to feel that moving City Hall was not a priority. One suggestion was to add a third floor to get the offices out of the flood plain and possibly using the first floor for retail space.

## **Another Neighbors' Night in Paradise**

**By Darcy Horton**

Gary and Leslie Wetsel of Paradise Beach Grille got together with CVRA's Molly Ording to host yet another successful Neighbors' Night on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. The restaurant was packed with patrons chatting, laughing and enjoying great food.



Stephanie Harlan, Zach Friend, Ed Bottorff and Jennifer Cosgrove at Paradise Beach Grille



Molly Ording and Peggy Mount at Paradise



Linda and Tim Wadley at Paradise

If you are interested in learning more about this or in participating in City Council hearings, you should monitor Council agendas at [www.ci.capitola.ca.us](http://www.ci.capitola.ca.us) as well as the extensive study of Pac Cove uses as part of the General Plan update at <http://www.plancapitola.com/index.htm>.



## Riverview Terrace Traffic and Safety

By Nels Westman

Terrace residents petitioned the Council and are now meeting with Chief Escalante to explore ways to improve safety for pedestrians, drivers and pets in their neighborhood. Riverview Terrace has narrow streets and many cars parked on the street. Proposed measures are a 15 MPH zone throughout the Terrace, additional stop signs on Beverley and increased enforcement of traffic laws including speed, full stops, cars parked in driveways blocking sidewalks and long term parking of oversized vehicles such as boats, construction trailers, etc. The Police Dept. is using its radar trailer to accumulate data on vehicle counts and speeds.

Another neighborhood meeting is scheduled before a recommendation comes back to the Council.

## Capitola Summer Events

By Janet Russell

### Twilight Concerts, Esplanade. Beach party !

Wednesdays 6-8pm June 20-Aug 29<sup>th</sup> Free  
Bring beach chairs and munchies and sit either on the sand or in the park. Dancing shoes are optional.

### Movies at the Beach, Esplanade Park

Fridays Seating 6:30, Movie 7:30pm or dusk Free  
Aug 24 "Soul Surfer," Sept 7 "Up," Sept 14 "School of Rock" Free popcorn 7pm

## Traffic and Parking Commission

By Nels Westman

With the pending closure of Pacific Cove Mobile Home Park in late July there is renewed public discussion about developing additional parking supplies and other uses on that 3.5 acres. The land was purchased in the early 1980s expressly to provide parking for Capitola Village. Parking meters were installed to pay for the purchase, and millions of dollars in meter revenues have gone into the City treasury. But the best parking solutions are expensive in a time of tight city budgets. Furthermore, passionate voices want to devote some of this land to uses other than parking cars. For CVRA members it is important to note that 300 or more NEW parking spaces in Pacific Cove should give us tremendous relief from the Village parking burden that has been pushed into our neighborhoods. Perhaps the answer will be a sequence of uses including temporary surface parking, a permanent parking structure and finally a change to open space and recreational uses. The debate continues.

## Art & Jazz at Capitola Beach Esplanade

Sundays 11-5, June 3&17, July 1&17, August 5&19  
Enjoy local artists and music by the sand. Free.

## Wharf to Wharf Race

Sunday July 22 8-noon Fun to watch, Registration is sold out.

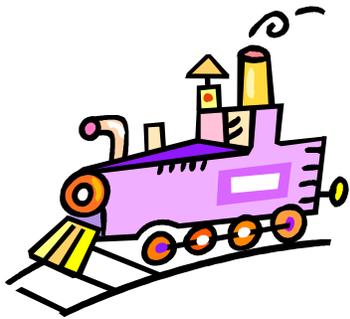
## Capitola Mall Farmers' Market, 41<sup>st</sup> Ave/Mall

Thursdays 9am to 1pm through November 15<sup>th</sup>  
Music, kid's corner, organics, baked goodies, flowers

## Begonia Festival August 31 to September 3

Theme: My Favorite Year - A Retrospective  
Sand sculpture contest, horseshoe tournament  
begonia float parade, fishing derby and rowboat  
races. Info: <http://www.begoniafestival.com>.

Visit <http://www.ci.capitola.ca.us> for event details.



Capitola and the Depot co-evolved. The depot brought the outside world to Capitola, both physically and informatively. The telegraph at the depot let one person at a time send text about the size of tweets down the line to be repeated until arriving at a Western Union office where the text was transcribed and hand delivered. Another round of promotion happened in the early 1900s when the lovely new depot was built (the building to the right of the engine).

Southern Pacific stopped passenger service in 1950, and the depot was abandoned in 1956. It was sold for \$1 and eventually turned by 90 degrees to become the Inn at Depot Hill. (Thanks to Carolyn Swift and the Capitola Museum for vintage photo and help with content.)



## History of Capitola Neighborhoods: Depot Hill

By Rich Didday

The pattern of streets we recognize in Depot Hill today was defined in subdivisions starting in the 1880s, minus the loss of a road or two to the erosion of the cliff. The Santa Cruz Railroad stop was on the Santa Cruz side of Soquel Creek until the railroad was rebuilt as standard gauge in 1883, and at that time, the existing small depot was moved to the Watsonville side (just visible to the left of the steam engine in the top picture right). Money was in the air, and a world-class hotel was building, and customers no longer wanted to get off the train on the wrong side of the Creek and have to walk to the beach and across the sand to get to the hot side of town.



#### Central Village Reps

- Margaret Kinstler (mmkinstler@aol.com)
- Linda Hanson (llhsf@sbcglobal.net)
- Linda Wadley (tim.linda.123@gmail.com)
- Ed Bottorff (ebottorff167@yahoo.com)

#### Upper Village Reps

- Gina Velez (ldygdvr@sbcglobal.net)
- Bob Lilley (bobitola@gmail.com)

#### Riverview Terrace Reps

- Nels Westman (nels@bestwestman.com)
- Lewis Feinman (lewfeinman@sbcglobal.net)
- Janet Russell (jrussell@davidlyng.com)
- Alt: Judith Feinman (judithfeinman@sbcglobal.net)

#### Depot Hill Reps

- Molly Ording (mollyording@yahoo.com)
- Laura Macleod (laura@familiamacleod.com)

#### Jewel Box Reps

- Margaret Dixon (margaretd0595@aol.com)

#### **Capitola Village Residents Association**

Website: [www.capitolaCVRA.org](http://www.capitolaCVRA.org)

Email: [capitolaCVRA@gmail.com](mailto:capitolaCVRA@gmail.com)

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Vice President: Gina Velez

Secretary: Margaret Dixon/Janet Russell

Treasurer: Linda Hanson

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