

MARINER COVE

Neighborhood Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello Mariner Cove,

Happy Winter! I hope you are all staying warm and healthy.

Your MCNA Board has been hard at work budgeting, streamlining programs and communications and planning fun events to bring us all together and keep our neighborhood thriving.

Some highlights include:

- 3/12 Neighborhood Drill
- 4/02 @ 9am Spring Egg Hunt at Cove School
- 4/20 @ 7pm Men's Night Out at The Junction
- 4/27 @ 7pm Ladies Night Out at Perry's

We are still accepting volunteers for two coveted spots on the board. Keep in mind you can share these roles with a friend or two if that makes it more doable!

- Newsletter Chair(s): whether you're a creative at heart or just looking for a way to get involved, our beloved vehicle for all of the happenings in the hood needs a new owner.
- Welcome Chair(s): this special position is in charge of welcoming new neighbors to the hood. A fun and social job!

If you're interested or want to learn more, please email me at kristenwheeler1122@gmail.com.

UPCOMING MCNA EVENTS

- 3/12 Neighborhood Drill
- 3/18 10am Parents Group Playdate at at Skunk Hollow
- 4/02 9am Spring Egg Hunt at Cove School
- 4/20 7pm Men's Night Out at The Junction
- 4/27 7pm Ladies Night Out at Perry's
- 5/13 10am Parents Group Playdate at Dark Park
- 7/15 10am Parents Group Playdate at Old Mill

The MCNA board is here to bring safety and connection to our neighborhood. We hope you'll join us in our efforts to welcome new families, beautify our streets and gather in the spirit of community and inclusivity.

I look forward to seeing you around!

Kristen Wheeler,
MCNA President

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MARINER COVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Serving July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Office	Board Member	Email	Phone
President	Kristen Wheeler	kristenwheeler1122@gmail.com	415-547-9491
Vice President	Sara Brooks	saraebrooks@gmail.com	415-613-4244
Communications	Marissa Azevedo	familiaaloha30@gmail.com	415-690-3773
Treasurer	Kate Castonguay	ccastonguay@nmgovlaw.com	415-891-8304
Neighborhood Response Group (NRG)	Suzi Beatie	suzbeatie@gmail.com	415-924-1699
	Lee and John Howard	leejohn7@gmail.com	415-891-8406
Infrastructure	Bob Bundy	bundyworld@comcast.net	415-924-8186
Membership	Ashley Mirkovich	ashmirkovich@gmail.com	415-310-8093
Website/Digital	Dave Goodspeed	davejgoodspeed@gmail.com	415-218-9110
Welcome	OPEN		
Social	Karen Ruppanner	kruppanner@gmail.com	415-730-1142
Newsletter	OPEN		
School Liaison	Catherine Wold	catherine@wold.com	415-722-2257
Beautification	Kimberly Adams	king@hotmail.com	415-272-4147
Parent's Group	Katherine Herriman	katherine.harriman@gmail.com	415-320-3808

The Mariner Cove Neighborhood Association is a voluntary association available to 450 homes.

Our mission statement is:

- 1. To build collective strength so that Mariner Cove's interests will be represented to the Town of Corte Madera and its governing bodies.*
- 2. To promote organized social activities and recreational programs for its members and their families.*
- 3. To communicate to residents of Mariner Cove the issues which may affect their quality of life.*
- 4. To ensure the overall maintenance and appearance of our shared areas.*
- 5. To assist residents of Mariner Cove in disaster preparedness.*

WELCOME

If you see new faces around town, please be sure to say hello and send a note to our committee so we can properly welcome them with a gift and important community info. Just a street address and we will take care of the rest.

To join the Welcome Committee or alert us of new neighbors, please email MCNA.Membership@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

We invite you to support the Mariner Cove Neighborhood Association by making sure to pay your annual membership dues. Your contribution helps fund all of the events and safety efforts that make our hood so special.

The annual membership term is January 1st through December 31st and dues should be paid no later than March 31st.

Household Membership: \$40

Senior (62+) Membership: \$20

Ways to pay:

- **Check:** Mail to Mariner Cove Neighborhood Association:
PO Box 496
Corte Madera, CA 94976
- **PayPal:** Visit mcnamarin.com/membership, send your PayPal payment to mcna.membership@gmail.com, or scan the code below:



SANTA ON THE FIRE TRUCK RECAP

On December 18, 2022, MCNA held its annual Santa on the Fire Truck event. The neighborhood kids made holiday crafts, sipped hot cocoa, and enjoyed cookies while waiting for Santa to arrive on the fire truck. Not only did everyone have tons of fun, but the families of Mariner Cove also donated gift cards to local children's charities and the kids made holiday cards for the seniors at Aegis. Big thanks to the Goodspeed family for hosting in their driveway again this year!



SPRING EGG HUNT + COFFEE SOCIAL

Please join us on Sunday, April 2 at 9:00 (sharp!) at Cove Park for the Spring Egg Hunt and Coffee Social. The egg hunt is usually over quickly, so please be sure to be on time! Families should plan to meet at the picnic tables near the sand volleyball court and the adjacent field. Rumor has it that the Easter Bunny is planning to stop by the park for photo ops with the neighborhood kids. Hope to see you there!

SUMMER BBQ

Save the date for MCNA's Summer BBQ and Potluck on Saturday, August 19 from 3:00-6:00 at Cove Park! Your MCNA board will provide the burgers, hot dogs, and condiments. Families are encouraged to bring a side potluck dish to share. Children will have tons of fun participating in relay games and art activities. Be sure to check mcnamarin.com over the summer for updates about this event.

JOIN THE TEAM

Please email kruppanner@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the MCNA Social Committee. New members and ideas are always welcome. It takes a village!

PARENT GROUP

Meet the New Team

We're excited to introduce you to our new Parents' Group leaders!

- Abigail Thompson (Flora 5, Sunny 3)
- Julia Jordan (Harold 1)
- Lia Garvin (Maya 4)
- Katherine Bourke (Elsa 15, Xander 11, Luke 2)

Men's Night Recap

Last Fall the men of Mariner Cove met up at Proof Lab for pints and mingling. All attendees reported back that the event was a success - a great chance for friends old and new to connect. Join us at the next one! Details below.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Playdates for kids of all ages

- March 18th at 10am, Skunk Hollow
- May 13th at 10am, Dark Park
- July 15th at 10am, Old Mill

Ladies' Night Out: Thursday, April 27th
at 7pm, Perry's

Men's Night Out: Thursday, April 20th
at The Junction

Spread the Word

If you would like to be included on a distribution list for the Parent's Group, please send your phone number and email address to Katherine at katherine.harriman@gmail.com. If you have questions, ideas, or want to get involved please contact Katherine as well. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

BEAUTIFICATION

2023 Yard Sale

It's back! Our beloved annual neighborhood-wide yard sale will be taking place on **Sunday, May 21st from 10am-2pm**. (It's never too early to start spring cleaning!) Stay tuned for more details.



Neighborhood Cleanup

Like walking, but hate trash? Me too! If you're interested in joining a quarterly neighborhood walk where we pick up trash along our sidewalks and streets while getting to know each other (kids welcome!), send me a note.

New & Noteworthy

- We're introducing an annual MCNA tradition: the day after our Halloween Parade, we'll lead a group walk through the neighborhood to pick up candy wrappers and trash left behind from the parade, including contests for kids to make it fun.
- Borrow MCNA Water Jugs for your parties + gatherings instead of using plastic bottles! Contact suzbeatie@gmail.com to reserve.



Have ideas on how to beautify Mariner Cove? I'd love to hear them! Please email me at kimberly.adams@compass.com.

COVE SCHOOL LIAISON

Important Dates: NO SCHOOL

March 10: Teacher Work Day

April 10 - 14: Spring Break

May 29: Memorial Day

School Events

March 17: Variety Show

April 20: Art + Recess Night
Earth Day Theme

May 1-5: Teacher Appreciation Week

June 2: Field Day

June 9: Last Day of School

August 23: First Day of School

Readathon Thank You!

A huge shout out to the entire Cove Community for reaching our fundraising goal during the annual Readathon last month. We appreciate all those in MCNA that contributed to help their neighborhood school. Keep an eye out for exciting enhancements around school, including a resurfaced blacktop!

Friendly Reminders

- Please pick up after your dogs around the school. It makes for a rough start to the school week when you have to go with poop on your shoe!
- Children need to be supervised on the blacktop before school and parents should not leave before the first bell at 8:10am.
- Our kids are back in school and the neighborhood is hopping. Be sure to slow down and keep an eye out for bikers, walkers and strollers in the morning.

Volunteer Opportunities

The school is always looking for volunteers during lunch and recess – parents, grandparents, community members. We would love to see some new faces around campus!

If there are any community members with a green thumb, come help us revive the Cove Garden and spruce up the front of the school. We are looking for cost effective ways to keep the school beautiful and fire safe. If interested, please reach out to kristenwheeler1122@gmail.com.

GO COYOTES!

TOWN LIAISON

The Town of Corte Madera continues to move forward on a variety of projects of interest to the residents of Mariner Cove.

New Town Manager

Adam Wolf, the Town's former Planning/Building Director, is now serving as Interim Town Manager. Prior to joining the Town, Adam spent almost 15 years in New York City, where he obtained a Master's degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University and began his career as a City Planner, eventually serving as Deputy Director of New York City's Manhattan Office at the Department of City Planning. Adam was raised in Mill Valley and is a graduate of Tam High. He currently lives in Petaluma with his wife, Alicia, and three sons. Congratulations, Adam!



Paradise Drive Improvements

In late January, the Marin Transportation Commission approved a grant of \$2.05 million for the Town's planned improvements to Paradise Drive near the Ring Mountain Trailhead, Marin Country Day School, and Marin Montessori School. This section of the Paradise Drive corridor currently has a one vehicle lane in each direction with no pedestrian or bike lanes. The roadway tends to flood during heavy rains. In 2021, the Town initiated design studies for improvements in the form of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities along the approximately 1,700-foot-long section of Paradise Drive from Westward Drive to Robin Drive.

The project is expected to include updated sidewalks, a shared use path on the southside of Paradise Drive, shared lane markings on the roadway, crossing improvements at Upland Circle, and an elevated road to protect against sea level rise. The new path would also connect to the existing Class I bike path at Westward Drive.

With the new funding in hand, the Town staff will now move into the final design phase for the project, which will require environmental compliance and permitting as well as approval for utility pole relocation. Construction is now expected to begin in the summer of 2025.

Caltrans Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing Project

In June 2022, Caltrans published a study for the Highway 101 Tamalpais Drive Overcrossing Project in Corte Madera, a study which offered six separate project alternatives for the overcrossing. The purpose of the project is to upgrade the existing pedestrian facilities to provide Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant access across U.S. Highway 101 at the overcrossing, seismic improvements and repairs, and maintenance of the existing structure. This project is needed because the existing pedestrian infrastructure is not compliant with current ADA regulations and because the structure is at risk of seismic failure. The public comment period on the project has now closed.

Town officials urged Caltrans to include a multi-use path for bicycles and pedestrians in the project despite a budget shortfall for this alternative. To ensure that the project includes the desired multi-use path, the Town recently announced that it will provide \$3 million to help close the funding gap for the project. The Town's funding, including \$500,000 for landscaping, lighting, and aesthetic amenities, should help secure final state and federal funding for the estimated \$28 million project. If all goes well, construction is anticipated to begin in 2025 and is currently estimated to take approximately 360 to 480 working days.

Town Adopts Affordable Housing Ordinance

In January, the Town Council unanimously adopted an ordinance to implement the rezoning of ten housing opportunity sites to allow for greater housing density and larger buildings to comply with California's Regional Housing Needs Allocation. The ordinance establishes the development standards for the identified housing opportunity sites, including residential density, maximum building height, required setbacks, parking standards, and landscaping requirements. While Corte Madera was required to zone for this new housing, market conditions will determine its eventual construction.

Some members of the community expressed initial concern about the inclusion of the site at 5651 Paradise Drive, currently Five Points Fitness, a gym in the shopping center anchored by Nugget Market. However, the Town staff revised the proposed rezoning ordinance to satisfy those concerns, requiring dedicated residential parking, adjusting the commercial-use square footage, and requiring construction tactics to mitigate disruption to parking for any project that may be built there.

Town Hall Construction

Corte Madera's new Town Hall Project has been underway since late last year. Construction in January was limited due to our torrential rain and inclement weather. In the upcoming weeks, and as weather conditions allow, contractors will continue to pour the concrete foundations for the new building. Looking ahead to February and March, once the concrete foundations have had a chance to cure, the forms will be stripped, and waterproofing and drainage measures will be installed on the backside of each of them. In February and March, steel columns and horizontal beams will be erected on the site. Conduits and plumbing for the first-floor slab will be prepped in March in preparation of the concrete deck pour.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Updates

- The Paradise Complete Streets project will be coming before the council soon. The goal is to create a safe bike and pedestrian path from Westward to Robin Drive just east of the Marin Country Day School.
- There is also a potential plan to protect Paradise Drive from tidal and rainfall flooding as we plan for some degree of sea level rise.
- The town is also looking at a way to prevent queuing for drop off and pick up at the schools.

Flooding Updates

Our heavy winter rains with high tides produced the flooding we see in all the usual places. Of particular concern is the stretch of Golden Hind Passage from a few houses north of the sanitary pump station and catch basin at Ebbitide to the storm drain pump station across from the Cove School. This will be discussed at the February meeting of the Flood Board as we look for possible solutions to the flooding. This is a very complex problem related to some level of subsidence especially at the sanitary pump station and the possibility of sea level rise making this worse in the future.

The Flood Board has reached out to the neighbors to understand their level of concern and commitment to doing something locally. Many of the homes have been raised so the homes are not at risk but the road is flooded on a frequent basis. Two new Flood Board members live in the impacted area, Manny Albano and Sachi Itagaki. They are great additions to the board as they experience the direct effects of street flooding. MCNA neighbor Stephanie Bennett has stepped down from the board after serving for over ten years.

Many of the storm drains have check valves to prevent tides from backing up into the street. These usually work well when it is not raining but occasionally debris will clog them and if you see tidal flooding from the storm drains that should be reported to our Department of Public Works. Of course if there is a high tide and heavy rains, the rainwater will back up in the street and stay there until the tide recedes.



NRG (NEIGHBORHOOD RESPONSE GROUP)

November '22 Drill Recap

Our fall Disaster Drill last November brought out more participants than ever before. THANK YOU for placing your OK signs in your windows and having incident notices on your door!



Upcoming Drill: March 12

Please do your part on Sunday March 12, Daylight Savings time!

1. Put your OK Sign in a window facing the street
2. Say YES if asked to tape up an incident on your door
3. Respond to your Block Captain to update your family emergency information
4. Come see us in action at Cove School during the drill

Your Emergency Info

Per Step 3 above, your Block Captain will be going door to door to confirm & update your data. **Please always answer the door or any communication from your Block Captain** so we can complete this yearly project. It takes a long time as there are hundreds of changes, the sooner you help us the sooner we can get it done. Accurate information could be life -saving in the event of a serious disaster.

Disaster Alerts for Earthquake, Fire and Flood

Good information and advance notice will save lives, so please make sure everyone in your family is signed up to receive both Nixle and Alert Marin

Here's how:

To sign up for Nixle:

- <https://local.nixle.com/register/>
- Or to receive Nixle notifications, text your zip code to 888-777

NIXLE is informational and usually within your zip code, i.e., road closures, police & safety info, post disaster info on shelters, transportation & supplies.

To sign up for Alert Marin:

- www.alertmarin.org
- Or <https://www.marinsheriff.org/services/emergency-services/alert-marin>

ALERT MARIN brings you imminent warnings-when action is needed with life safety implications or during an event- info about evacuation routes, shelters, transportation, or other incidents when lives may be at risk.

DOWNLOAD THE READY FOR WILDFIRE APP:

<http://www.readyforwildfire.org>

LEARN MORE ABOUT EARTHQUAKE PREP:

www.readymarin.org/plan-prepare

Interested in promoting your local small business?

We plan to start offering small paid ads, so neighbors can support other neighbors' businesses. For more information, reach out to kristenwheeler1122@gmail.com.