

THE MORNING AFTER

TOWN OF ROSS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Mayor's Corner



Katie Hoertkorn

As one walks or drives around Town, we are reminded of the unique characteristics of our charming, small town. Ross doesn't enjoy a major retail sale tax presence, nor do we realize lodging taxes from hotels, but, we have strived over the years to perpetuate the small town character that has attracted our devoted residents for generations. In order to provide the basic services expected by all, we depend upon significant additional annual contributions from our residents. Our annual budget is relatively simple; the single largest expenditures are for Public safety, both Fire and Police protection. We are all aware of the high cost of housing in Ross, therefore residents often confuse their real estate taxes with Town revenues, in actuality Ross only receives 18.6% of the

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The Big Night - Ross Town Dinner

Oh what a night! This year's annual Town Dinner held Friday, September 30th drew 600+ members of the Ross community to dine with their neighbors under the trees on the Common. The event returned to its original location on the Common and though the evening weather was unusually cold, it did not hamper the



fun, merriment and music enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who helped make this event possible. A very big thank you to Mike Armstrong and the Recreation Department staff (Sue Talmage, Audrey Hildebrand and Maya Zorn). Anyone who has worked on the Town Dinner knows that it is a huge undertaking - we greatly appreciate the Recreation Department overseeing this event and making it such a smashing success! Enjoy more photos on Page 2.





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real estate taxes paid, the balance goes to the county, state, and other government agencies. Measure K which is on the November 8th ballot is critical to funding our Ross community's police and fire services. This Measure supports maintaining the current level of services in providing public safety services to the community.

On October 24th at 7:00 p.m. there will be a special meeting for the Winship Bridge Project. Based on the input from neighbors, the project engineers and Moe Engineering will be presenting a new design. Please give us your feedback at the meeting (see page 3 for meeting details). The Bolinas/Sir Francis Drake intersection is nearing completion. With winter and the rainy season approaching, Town staff are checking the creek bed, ditches and catch basins. Please check your property, including the right of way, to clean out debris now or take down dead or diseased trees.

Discussions about Measure K have prompted conversations about the overall quality of life in Ross. Residents clearly value living in our small enchanting town, but concerns about noise are often raised. The Town has several ordinances that address noise, which generally prohibits gasoline powered leaf blowers and limits the use of power-driven yard maintenance machinery (see page 4 for ordinance details). Town Code section [9.20.035](#) limits construction companies to working 8:00-5:00 pm weekdays, except for work done inside a building that creates no noise. The Ross Police are available anytime to enforce these ordinances. The Ross Police can be reached at 415-453-2727. We want to make sure that everyone feels that our quality of life is indeed protected.

Finally, the recent Town Dinner had an excellent turnout of over 600 people, making it our largest dinner. Thank you to Mike Armstrong and Ross Recreation for organizing and putting on such a superb event, where we can be such a true community. ■

Ross Town Dinner Highlights



Photos courtesy of Linda Lopez

Special thanks to Ross Police Department, RPOA, Café Ross, Bob Scott All Stars, Town Council, Town Manager, and Anthony Alcozer.

PLANNING RESULTS

The Town Council took the following action on planning applications at the October Council meeting. Staff reports and audio for the meeting can be found on the [October 13th](#) meeting page. The minutes for this meeting will be available on this page after adoption by the Council at the November Council meeting.

Address: 187 Lagunitas Road
Applicant: James & Helen Hobbs
Council Action: Approved
Vote (for/against/abstain): 3-1-1 (Kuhl opposed, Hoertkorn recused)

Address: 147 Lagunitas Road
Applicant: Jurgen & Wendy Huck
Council Action: Approved
Vote (for/against/abstain): 5-0-0

Address: 10 Ames Avenue
Applicant: Nina Cohen
Council Action: Continued to Nov. Meeting
Vote (for/against/abstain): 4-0-1 (Robbins recused)



Winship Bridge Project Update Meeting



A public meeting will be held on Monday October 24, 2016, at 7:00 pm in Ross Town Hall, to provide an update and to elicit input from the Council and the public regarding a proposed alternative bridge alignment for the Winship Avenue Bridge Replacement Project. Also, project staff and engineers (John Moe and Quincy Engineering) will be on site at the Winship Bridge prior to the evening meeting **between 4:30-6:00 p.m. on Monday**, to provide an opportunity for the public to view the site and get an understanding of the proposed bridge project. Both Quincy Engineering and staff will be available to answer questions and discuss the bridge project.

Since the last public outreach meeting held on February 9, 2016, Quincy Engineering has continued to develop and refine the project details based in part on input received during the meeting. One concern was the construction impact to trees that are adjacent to the proposed bridge abutment and wing walls downstream of the bridge. After review of the site constraints, an alternative bridge alignment was investigated in order to reduce the impacts on these trees. This alignment alternative will be presented for discussion and input from the Council and public.

The next steps for the project would include implementing input received from this meeting, continuing to develop and refine project details, prepare environmental technical studies leading to an approved environmental document based on the selected alignment.



HALLOWEEN EVENTS



Friday, October 21, 2:45 pm to 5:00 pm

Annual Halloween Window Painting
in Downtown Ross

All paint and materials will be supplied. Just bring your creativity. For more information, contact Bonnie Bibas at (239) 287-1414, or Gaby Drake at (415) 256-1112.

Monday, October 31, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Halloween Night
Shady Lane Road Closure for Trick or Treaters



The Ross Recreation Youth soccer program began League play on Saturday, October 1 at the Ross Commons field. Soccer will continue through mid November.



Information for the Ross Recreation winter programs will be available online in mid-November. Registration will open in early December. Please visit the website for all program information and a PDF version of our brochure.

Register at www.rossrecreation.org

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Good Neighbor Reminder



Leaf Blowers

Are you Blowing it?

We continue to receive complaints of leaf blower noise on the weekends and after hours. Please follow the Town's Municipal Code (Section 9.20.030) for leaf blower use which states:

- Electric leaf blowers are permitted Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Only property owners may use leaf blowers on Saturdays between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 pm.
- No leaf blowers are allowed on Sundays and holidays.
- Gasoline powered leaf blowers are permitted only if the Public Works Department issues a special permit.
- Gardeners may use power mowers on Saturday between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., but may not use leaf blowers of any kind on the weekend.

To view the Town's Municipal Code on leaf blower use, see [Chapter 9.20 \(Unnecessary Noise\)](#) for further details. A copy of the leaf blower fact sheet is available (in both English & Spanish) on the Town's website at: <http://www.townofross.org/publicworks/page/leaf-blower-use>.



If you have a noise complaint, please report it to the Police Department at (415) 453-2727.

If you have any questions regarding the use of leaf blowers, please contact the Public Works Department at (415) 453-1453 option 4, or by email to publicworks@townofross.org.

We appreciate everyone doing their part to comply with this noise ordinance.

ROSS COMMUNITY TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The Ross Auxiliary is once again producing the Ross Community Telephone Directory for distribution in Spring 2017. The Directory Listing Order Form was mailed to all post office boxes in Ross with details on how to include your family in the directory and how to purchase copies of the directory.

To ensure timely delivery of your directory, please return the listing form as soon as possible but no later than **November 15, 2016**, to guarantee inclusion in the directory. Second, please note that advance purchase is required. They cannot otherwise guarantee availability.

Finally, if you would like to advertise your local business in the directory, or have any questions, please email rossauxdirectory@gmail.com.

ROSS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2016

Oct 10	7:00	pm	Special Council Meeting - Measure K Information, Town Hall
Oct 13	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
Oct 21	2:45	pm	Halloween Window Painting, Downtown Ross <i>(see Page 3 for details)</i>
Oct 24	7:00	pm	Special Council Meeting - Winship Bridge, Town Hall <i>(see Page 3 for details)</i>
Oct 25	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall
Oct 31	5-9:00	pm	Halloween Night Shady Lane Road Closure

NOVEMBER 2016

Nov 8	6:00	pm	Recreation Advisory Committee, Town Hall
Nov 10	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
Nov 11	--	--	Town Hall offices closed for Veterans Day
Nov 15	7:00	pm	Advisory Design Review Group Meeting, Town Hall
Nov 24-25	--	--	Town Offices closed for Thanksgiving holiday

DECEMBER 2016

Dec 8	6:00	pm	Council Meeting, Town Hall
Dec 23-30	--	--	Town Hall offices closed for Christmas holiday

RECURRING EVENTS

Thursdays, June - October Ross Farm Stand, 11:30 am - 7:00 pm, Ross Common

CONTACT US

Administration	415.453.1453 x105	Public Works	415.453.1453 x106
Building	415.453.1453 x106	Recreation	415.453.6020
Planning	415.453.1453 x121	Ross Valley Fire	415.258.4686
Police	415.453.1453, Option 2	Town Manager	415.453.1453 x107

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