INVERNESS RIDGE ASSOCIATION

February 2020 Update

Dear Neighbors,

Happy new year! I hope 2020 is treating all of you well and that you are enjoying this gorgeous, if strange and too dry winter season.

The **IRA Annual Meeting**, held in January, was well attended and included an update on Marin County affairs from Supervisor Dennis Rodoni and an excellent presentation on the cultural and critically important informational role of our local radio station **KWMR** from manager Amanda Eichstaedt. (Be sure to tune in at 90.5 FM.) **DVD Re-Paving Task Force** chair Ken Drexler provided an update on the group’s planning with our engineering firm and County officials. A second community-wide meeting with specific recommendations, costs of the project and its timeline will be announced soon.

Two new Board members were nominated and elected to the Board: Chris Eckert (50 Douglas) and Marcus Thygeson (55 Douglas). Welcome to Chris and Marcus! Board members Jennifer Howard, David Wilson and Mike Ongerth were re-elected to new terms. As usual, the food provided by PRE residents attending was excellent. Many thanks to all the chefs, the set-up and clean-up crew, and to Barbara Jay for hosting us once again. The meeting’s minutes will be posted next week at <http://www.invernessridgeassoc.com/board-meeting-minutes>.

**Fire Prevention and Safety:**

With spring seemingly upon us the fire season will be here perhaps sooner than normally expected. Therefore it’s time for all of us to attend to ensuring that we have undertaken required **Defensible Space** vegetation management on our properties. Please see <http://invernessridge.info/homeowner-information> for requirements and further information. Taking these fire safety steps protects you and all of the rest of us, a critically important community role everyone must play.

As announced at the Annual Meeting, the IRA will again conduct a **Defensible Space Chipping Program** this summer. This service, available to all PRE residents, supports your efforts to clear your property and reduce fire risk while sharing the chipping costs with your neighbors and the IRA. As we did last summer, there will be two rounds of chipping of roadside piles – one in July and one in September. **For details** please download and save the attached “IRA Chipping Program Flyer – 2020” and follow the steps outlined. Note that payment deadlines will be strictly enforced.

**Landscaping for Fire Safety Community Conference,** Saturday, March 14, 2:45 PM - 5:00 PM at the Dance Palace

Save the date for this free event offered by The Inverness Garden Club of West Marin, Inverness Foundation, FireSafe Marin, and the University of California Marin Master Gardeners with support from the Dance Palace and Marin Fire. There will be displays and speakers on: • How to plan and maintain gardens that are as attractive as they are fire-smart. • The all-important 0’-5’ perimeter space around your home • Pruning and mulching guidelines • Non-combustible hardscape materials that enliven paths and patios • Hardening your home to fire danger • Evacuation routes.

**North Marin Water District will begin replacement construction of tank 4** at the top of Drake’s View Drive this spring. Necessary tree work will take place the week of March 16th with construction estimated to begin soon after April 15th and be completed in the fall. There will be a few days during this period when large flat bed and cement trucks will use the road. Residents will be alerted to these times in advance and provided with information on necessary detours.

**Pulsepoint,** a new application for mobile devices in Marin County, can be added to your registrations for **Nixle** and **MarinAlert** (see “More Marin County Alerts” at http://invernessridge.info/emergency-contacts). It is designed to provide real-time fire agency incident information and locate CPR-trained people near someone in cardiac arrest. Available at the App Store and Google Play, **Pulsepoint** will provide Marin residents with access to real-time fire incident information. Local bystanders can be alerted to administer cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if needed. When pre-selected, alerts are sent to participating residents only when an emergency occurs in a public place. The app was adopted for use by all Marin fire agencies, the Marin County Emergency Medical Services Agency (Marin EMS), and the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Users can preselect which types of incidents to follow instantly when fire engine or ambulance sirens are sounding in their neighborhood. The app is available in English, Spanish, French and Japanese.

Finally, if you haven't yet paid your Inverness Ridge Association dues for 2019, please do so now. Send $25 to IRA, P.O. Box 342, Inverness, CA 94937. The cost will most probably rise soon.

Thank you,

Tim Stanton

IRA Board president