



G · C · H · N · A

Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association

Annual
Picnic
on
Sunday
September
16

SUMMER 2007 NEWSLETTER

for PDF file copies of our newsletters go to www.gchna.com

16th Annual Neighborhood Family Picnic

Sunday,
Sept. 16th
3pm to Dusk

Chris Owen's
"Terra Sol"
13620 Bodie Ridge Rd.
at the far west end
of Cement Hill Rd.



**"The
Prez
Sez"...**

The Proposed Changes To The Nevada County Fire Plan... Excellent!

by Marty Pezzaglia

Last year our Summer GCHNA Newsletter contained the FONA Position Paper on the then proposed County Fire Plan. FONA had analyzed the Fire Plan, submitted a critique, and made many recommendations. The newly released *Proposed Changes To The Fire Plan* is a complete rewrite of the 2006 Fire Plan.

The confusing structure and convoluted design of the document is gone, replaced by a very well organized presentation that is both a plan and a public guide on Wildfire. Evacuation Planning is addressed quite well, but still needs additional community input to identify

Prez Sez, continued on page 2

You're Invited on Sunday, Sept. 16th

Everyone is invited to join in our annual celebration of family and neighborhood. Join us to visit old friends and make new friends at the Chris Owen Estate on Bodie Ridge Road, as we enjoy a wonderful afternoon together.

Harvest potluck

Please bring a favorite main dish to share, and your own chair. Vegetarian dishes are most welcome. GCHNA will provide tea, soda, beer, wine, plates and place settings and dessert.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 FEMA Emergency Kit
- 4 Maidu People / DSL is Here
- 6 Mt. Lion and Turkey Vulture

Schedule

- 3:00 – 5:00 PM
Happy Hour and socializing.
- 5:00 PM Dinner and
Special Guest Speakers ■

GCHNA MISSION

To protect and preserve the rural qualities of our neighborhood by providing a forum for group action as needed.

Prez Sez, from page 2

specific county areas that may need special consideration, such as the Cement Hill region. The Plan does not yet plan for worst case scenarios relative to evacuations.

The Nevada County Planning Department and CDF's Kathleen Edwards are to be complimented for the Proposed Changes which are based on public comments and findings identified in the Initial Study of the Nevada County Fire plan.

All information regarding the Nevada County Fire Plan, the Initial Study of the Fire Plan, and the Proposed Changes to the Nevada County Fire Plan are available on the county website <http://new.mynevadacounty.com/fireplan/>. The document is available for review at the local libraries, and is available for purchase at the Community Development Agency in the Rood Center for a cost of \$14.60. ■

FEMA Emergency Disaster Kit

FEMA advises that families prepare a kit of essential items that they will need to survive for up to 72 hours after an emergency or disaster. The following items are recommended for your kit:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert, and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First Aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt, to help filter the air
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Unique family needs, such as daily prescription medications, infant formula or diapers, and

important family documents

- Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
 - Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or a print out of this information
 - Rain gear
 - Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils
 - Cash or traveler's checks, change
 - Paper towels
 - Fire Extinguisher
 - Tent
 - Compass
 - Matches in a waterproof container
 - Signal flare
 - Paper, pencil
 - Medicine dropper
 - Feminine supplies
 - Personal hygiene items
 - Disinfectant
 - Household chlorine bleach
- You should learn where to turn off your home's gas, electric and water service. If this requires tools, attach them to the service box, or place them in your kit. ■

Primary Goals of the Fire Plan

1. Reduce Fire Severity and Intensity through Fuels Management
2. Enhance Public Safety and Improve Emergency Services Effectiveness Through Infrastructure Improvements
3. Reduce Risk to Life and Property through New and Revised Codes, Ordinances and Compliance Programs
4. Increase Community Awareness and Involvement Through Education and Support Programs to Promote Participation and Voluntary Compliance
5. Involve All Stakeholders, Both Public and Private, in Collaborating on County-Wide Goals and Plans to Consistently and Efficiently Implement Mitigation Measures ■



Mass Escape from Wildfire... A Burning Issue for Our County

by *Howie Muir*

Wildfire has long been our county's greatest danger, intimates the Nevada County General Plan.

Before the Angora Fire was ignited, I tried to find out what I could expect to happen in the event of a wildfire that might defy the best efforts of fire defense: How would a mass evacuation be managed? How would I find out? Where would my family go? How would I know what routes to follow? So I picked up the phone book and the phone.

1. I started with the county sheriff's office (265-2472) and was told to contact the fire department. (OK, though I wondered why the agency charged by the Safety Element of the County General Plan with traffic control in the event of an emergency didn't have more to tell me.)

2. I opened the county pages to "Fire Department," where there is just one listing: The CDF Emergency Command Center. To my chagrin, the telephone cascade dumped me into the busy lap of a 911 dispatcher who hurriedly, but politely, told me to contact the U.S. Fire Division or Consolidated Fire or the local fire service with my question.

3. I called CDF as listed in the white pages (273-3158) and was told that there was no printed information available about mass evacuations (none?!), but that I could go to firesafecouncilnevco.com to find general information. The receptionist also noted that evacuation warnings and directions would be announced on the radio (without offering a hint of which station I should listen to).

4. At the Fire Safe Council's Web site, I learned that the Board of Supervisors had formed a Fire Safe Council in 2003 and "charged it with developing the Nevada County Fire Plan (NCFP) that would reduce the risk from wild-land fires in the County." While "mass evacuation" does not figure expressly in the primary goals of the Fire Plan, "evacuation" finally appears in Recommendation 31 (out of a total of 42) with the intent to develop "community specific fire safe plans" that will "address evacuation planning." It is not clear what communities have these, although I know of some in the making. But, I worry that if there is not a county plan in which the individual community plans fit, no community plan will be adequate for the task of managing a mass evacuation satisfactorily. Fleeing residents will require continued help outside of their community to find escape routes, shelters, medical treatment and so forth that only the county's mobilization of resources can complete. There was no sign on the Web site of a completed evacuation plan.

5. Stymied, I called the Board of Supervisors (265-1489). The receptionist hesitated ... and then referred me to the Office of Emergency Services.

6. My call was courteously transferred to the Office of Emergency Services (265-1489), where it was my pleasure to be greeted by an answering machine suggesting I leave a message. (I realize that everyone

needs to take a break, but an unattended Emergency Services Office on a business day is not auspicious.)

I am not convinced that Nevada County actually has a real nuts-and-bolts plan for mass evacuation in the event of a major wildfire. If it exists, it appears to be unknown to the authorities responsible for carrying it out, and a citizen can't find out about it.

I appreciate the often unsung heroism and dedication of firefighters and other emergency personnel. Yet, it appears that elected representatives have not paid enough attention to the fuller notion of public safety, health and welfare - a concept largely unmentioned in the general plan, general code, administrative code and zoning code, but nevertheless central to the purpose of government. Fire safety must include the ability to escape.

Where are the zoning standards that correlate the cumulative impacts of population density with road capacity? Mass evacuations need planning and preparation. Where's the preparation for warning, for managing panicked flight along jammed, smoke-filled roads and for coping with the distraught or injured refugees that an uncontrollable firestorm will create?

This is literally a burning issue. ■

Howie Muir is on the Board of Citizens Concerned About Traffic, and is a member representative of the Federation of Neighborhood Associations.



DSL Router on Cement Hill Road

AT&T is now offering DSL down Cement Hill Road ...

You can check for availability and pricing by calling AT&T at 1-877-827-5288

For most people "Residential" accounts with dynamic IP's are fine. However, if you require static IP's you may want to consider "Business" accounts.

Static IP's mean the Internet address you have never changes. Dynamic IP's mean the Internet address you are assigned changes periodically.

If you were serving web pages, or need secure access with a company then static IP's may be desirable or required.

Download speed is the rate at which data comes from the Internet to your computer. Upload speed is the rate at which data goes from your computer to the Internet. So in general, DSL would let you receive large photos to your computer or into your email program faster than sending out the same files to a web site or in an email.

When calling AT&T directly, we received different price quotes, just within five days apart. They are currently reporting about 3 days for new service installation.

All pricing is from AT&T. DSL services are also available from other local Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Please check the AT&T Yellow Pages under "Internet Access".

DSL Residential Accounts

Dynamic IP's

Express – 384 Kbps to 1.5 MB down, 128Kbps up, \$20/mo

Pro – 1.5 to 3 MB down, 384Kbps up, \$25/mo

Elite – 3 to 6 MB down, 512Kbps up, \$35/mo

Static IP's

Symmetric – 384Kbps to 512Kbps up and down, \$80/mo

DSL Business Accounts

Dynamic IP's

Express – 384Kbps to 1.4MB down, 128K to 384Kbps up, \$35/mo

Pro – 1.5 to 3.0 MB down, 384 to 512Kbps up, \$40/mo

Elite – 3 to 6 MB down, 512 to 768Kbps up, \$55/mo

Static IP's

Express – 384Kbps to 1.4MB down, 128K to 384Kbps up, \$55/mo

Pro – 1.5 to 3.0 MB down, 384 to 512Kbps up, \$60/mo

Elite – 3 to 6 MB down, 512 to 768Kbps up, \$85/mo

Installation Fees

All static IP installs require a \$250 installation fee.

Promotions

Promotions can waive the \$250 installation fee. For example:

Voice and Data package: \$70/mo., or

Custom Business Saver:

Unlimited local/toll/long distance, and Wirepro, \$30/mo with one year commitment. ■

Maidu People Today

by Donna Uran

Come and meet the Tsi-Akim Maidu and Todd's Valley-Colfax Maidu peoples during the Indigenous Peoples Days ceremonies and events October 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th. Other Native American tribes and international indigenous people are also involved in these activities.

You can learn about the people who inhabited this ridge prior to the Gold Rush. This year will be the second year that the "Calling Back the Salmon" ceremony will occur due to hard work, cooperation and support of a special committee of community and tribal members.

Community members are allowed into both the sunrise ceremony prior to the hunt and the ceremony to celebrate the first salmon on Saturday if they follow tribal guidelines of preparation for ceremony. Other community members can chose to participate by watching the ceremonial circle.

All the ceremonies and events of Indigenous Peoples Days are performed on a voluntary basis by numerous community and tribal members. The tribes have hosted these events for more than seven years as a way of sharing their perspective, traditions, and most importantly creating a focus on healing between the tribes and the community. The tribes do request donations for the wild salmon dinners.

Maidu, continued on page 8



Keeping Marty

by Chip Carman

Marty Pezzaglia might have died some weeks ago (due to Congestive Heart Failure requiring a seven bypass surgery).

It would have been sad. Not for Marty, but for us still living here, because we wouldn't have had the opportunity to watch and engage with a changed man.

Marty is one of those rare individuals with good "street-sense", intelligence, and bravado mixed with principle. And what a wonderful gift Marty was given, as characterized by this paraphrased story told by Dr. Wayne Dyer:

"A man had captured a parrot during one of his journeys to Africa and brought it home. The parrot was smart and talked to the man all the time. One day, the man told the parrot he was going back to Africa and asked if there was anything the parrot wanted to tell his friends in Africa. The parrot said, 'Just say hello for me.' When the man arrived in Africa he told the parrot's friends 'Hello.' One of the parrots got teary-eyed, and then collapsed. The man just thought the parrot was so overwhelmed – with grief for his missed friend and the joy of hearing from his friend – that he died. When the man arrived back home, he told his parrot what had happened. His parrot got teary-eyed and also collapsed. The man thought his parrot was also so overwhelmed – with grief for his dead friend and the joy of hearing from his friends – that he too died. Sadly, the man took the parrot and threw him outside along with the garbage. Then all of a sudden the

Tea and Tour at Indian Hill Ranch

by Eileen Jorgensen

On a perfect Saturday morning in late April, thirty neighbors descended on Tom Manual and Lin Donald's magnificent hilltop flower farm for a neighborhood sponsored Tea and Tour. Situated on the Yuba River canyon, Indian Hill Ranch is a community treasure. On a tour one can choose flower arrangements while also enjoying them growing in their environment.



Lin is not only a hard working gardener, but she is also a gifted teacher. For three hours she ushered us throughout this fully landscaped ranch pointing to each plant and sharing trade secrets that nurture their success. She demystified the use of compost, fertilizers, and mulch to feed the soil; and encouraged small windmills within the garden to deter moles and gophers.

We delighted in her success and hard work as we meandered under a Cecil Bruner rose arch and sat among gems of larkspur, red valerian, cape fuchsia, lavender, and blooming clematis. Our tour

brought us past the donkey barn complete with 2 donkeys, and past Lin's craft barn where she has ongoing classes in gourd painting. Once finished, the gourds become unique bird feeders. Lin and Tom have gourds as well as many other feeders nestled around the ranch, as bird habitat is another of Lin's expertise's.

The morning came to a perfect closure as Lin invited us to a high tea on her patio. She had prepared herbed scones, Indian Hill jellies, candied rose petals, and herbed tea, as we socialized under perfusions of flowers and singing birds. Lisa Stein, a neighbor and GCHNA member, played the harp. We were in Indian Hill Heaven... thanks to Tom and Lin! ■

Contact Indian Hill Ranch at 265-3334.

parrot got up and flew onto a tree. The man said, 'Hey, you tricked me. Why did you do that?.' The parrot replied, 'My friend showed me that sometimes you have to die while you are living to actually live.'"

As Marty himself said with his

positive humor and spirit, "the seven bypasses surely must have something to do with the seven chakras, right! Damn, if I am bypassing the seven chakras as pure white light... I guess I will return to community service – when the time is right – as a blaze of pure energy!" ■



Nevada Irrigation District Cement Hill CFD Formation Schedule

August 8, 2007

- Board Meeting
- Board considers Resolution of Intention, which includes Boundary Map and Special Tax Formula

August 24, 2007

File map of proposed CFD boundaries with County Recorder

September 12, 2007

Notice of Public Hearing published

September 12, 2007

- Board Meeting
- Public Hearing
- Board considers Resolution of Formation
- Board considers Resolution to Incur Debt

October 5, 2007

Mail Special Tax Election material to Registered Voters

December 12, 2007

- Board Meeting
- Special Tax Election
- 1st Reading of Ordinance Authorizing Special Tax Levy

January 9, 2008

- Board Meeting
- 2nd Reading of Ordinance Authorizing Special Tax Levy

January 11, 2008

File Notice of Special Tax Lien with County Recorder

- Deadline to Form Cement Hill CFD for State Revolving Fund Loan

July 20, 2008

Special Tax Levy forwarded to County for 2008/09 tax rolls

The Mountain Lion and the Turkey Vulture

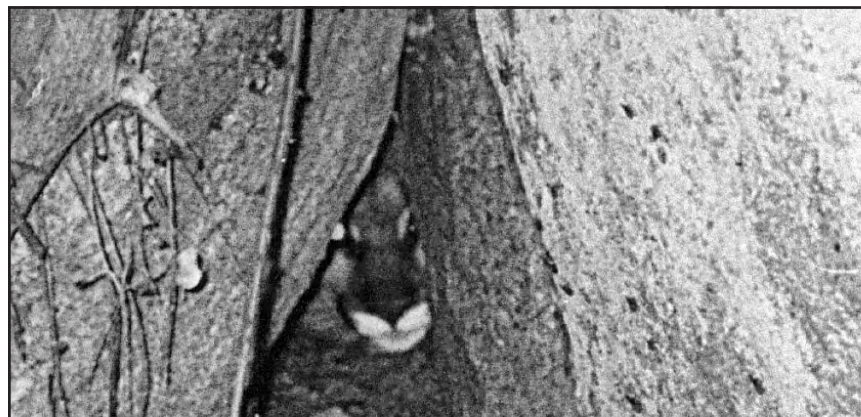
by Glen Cooley

We spent several months of home-site searching after our arrival in Nevada County in 1965. We finally found property that appealed to all four of us; so we purchased it, (even though we weren't particularly impressed that 1,000 feet down the hill we now owned a large canyon). As the years rolled by, even though we very seldom visited the canyon, we knew that an interesting variety of wild birds and animals called the canyon their home: jack rabbits, porcupines, foxes, coyotes, a family of bobcats, a variety of hawks and owls, gray squirrels, flying squirrels, California quail, and mountain (plumed) quail.

The property adjoining ours was developed about 25 years later; two families with dogs, cats, and small children. I had known the first family for some time and met the second family after receiving a phone call. Both families had seen a mountain lion walking along the canyon rim about a hundred yards away. One of the residents informed me that he had seen the mountain lion and hiked down into the canyon to take a picture of it. When the lion growled at him, he decided it would be a good idea to get out of the canyon. I suggested that nobody go down into the canyon, particularly the children and pets, and I would check with the Department of Fish and Game and the local game warden.

My first call was to my son in Sebastopol (who is a game warden with the D.F.G in 7 coastal counties). Then I called the local game warden who gave me the same advice that my son did, "Tell them all to stay out of the canyon. Mountain lions are an endangered species so they can't be shot unless they are attacking a person, pet, or livestock and D.F.G policy prohibits relocating lions."

Several years have passed now with no further Mountain lion problems. However, we have recently visited the canyon and found evidence that a Turkey Vulture has raised a chick in the lion's former lair. Information from our bird book indicates that turkey vultures lay their eggs on the ground in caves. And in this case, a cave set up by our former resident Mountain lion! ■



Join GCHNA or Renew Your Membership *(check your membership status at www.gchna.com/membership)*

If you haven't joined or renewed your membership to GCHNA, we hope you will do so now.
Here's my \$20 GCHNA membership fee for 2007. Enclosed is a check made out to GCHNA.

NAME(s) _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL _____



Mail check & form to: GCHNA, PO Box 1343, Nevada City, CA 95959 E-mailed (PDF) newsletter preferred

GCHNA NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

West End Cement Hill

West end of Cement Hill Road, including Sunshadow Circle, Cedar Song Road, and Garesio Ranch Road.

Tim Hagan, (timhagan@infostations.com) 265-9746

Applewood Lane

Applewood Lane, including Indian Shack Road.

Larry Cook, (cooks@theunion.net) 265-3088

Gochine Drive

Gochine, including Mr. Auburn Circle.

(open)

Upper Cement Hill

Upper Cement Hill Road, including Pine Tree Place, Diamond Oak Drive, Bodie Ridge Road, Skyranch Road, and Elysian Way.

Willie Brusin, (brusin@inreach.com) 265-4018

Sunrock Road

Sunrock Road.

Donna Uran, (uran@alum.mit.edu) 478-1656

Augustine Road / Excelsior Ditch Camp Road

Augustine Road, including Daisy Blue Mine, Leisure Lane, Lazy Oaks Drive, and Excelsior Ditch.

Marty Pezzaglia, (martypezzaglia@hughes.net) 265-3288

Crystal View Heights

Crystal View, including Golden Oaks.

Andy Oliver, (ajoliver@sbcglobal.net) 265-0269

Central Cement Hill Road

Central Cement Hill Road, including Whispering Oaks, Merryhill Way, Gold Court, Spanish Quartz, Ragon Road, and Fox Hill Road.

Jeanette Clark, (cementhill@aol.com) 265-2680

Lower Cement Hill Road

Lower Cement Hill Road, including West Piper, Deer Crest, Rancheria Court, Red Hill Road, Foster Driveway, Picton, Picton Way, and Foster Road.

Glen Cooley 265-4025

Indian Flat Road

Indian Flat Road, including Country Circle and Robinson King Road.

Eileen Jorgensen, (eileen@themagiccarpet.biz) 265-6415

Southside Cement Hill

Highway 49, including Columbine Court, Delphine Lane, Shoshoni Trail, Old Faithful Court, Carli Way, Crooked Arrow Lane, John Barleycorn Rd., Frost Court and Cavanaugh Lane.

Lin Donald 265-3334

Wet Hill Road

Wet Hill Road, including Sierra Springs Circle, Lower North Bloomfield Road, and Elliot Way.

Nancy Lakoduk, (smlduck@nccn.net) 265-5919

Airport Road

Airport Road, including Tower Hill Road, West Airport Road, East Piper Lane, and Sheriff Road.

Pat Gregor, (pgregor@sbcglobal.net) 478-0207

At Large

Julie Cobden, ([jacobden@gv.net](mailto:jcobden@gv.net)) 265-5987

Eve Collins, (collins@theunion.net) 265-6540

Tom Stone, (tastone@pacbell.net) 478-1295





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**Greater Cement Hill
 Neighborhood Association**

Member of Non-Profit . Federation of Neighborhood Associations
 228 Commercial Street, #227, Nevada City, CA 95959

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SUMMER 2007 NEWSLETTER

Who to Contact...

Membership Information

Eve Collins – 265-6540

Ferrellgas Information

Customer Service – 265-5896

Neighborhood Ferrellgas Contact

Tom Stone – 478-1295

The Fire Safe Council

Brush Chipping

Joanne Drummond – 272-1122

Bear or Mountain Lion Problems

USDA Trapper Larry Lane
 (916) 239-8978

Newsletter Contributors

Editors: Eve Collins & Eileen Jorgensen

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Coordinator: Chip Carman

And a big thanks to all our writers and photographers.

GCHNA Mission Statement

The Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood Association is chartered to:

- Protect and preserve the rural qualities of our neighborhood by providing a forum for group action as needed.
- Communicate information quickly and efficiently about matters of neighborhood interest to its members and associates.
- Raise funds and supply volunteer labor for projects that enhance or improve our neighborhood.
- Be an organization through which our neighbors can meet and get to know each other in meetings and social gatherings.

Maidu, from page 4

If you're not able to attend any of the ceremonies or activities, you may want to tune in to KVMR radio for some of the broadcast on Monday, October 8th. The City of Nevada City declared the first Monday in October to be "Indigenous Peoples Day," and a great way to celebrate is to join us! ■

