



SCHOOL'S PILOT FOOD COMPOSTING PROGRAM

Last year, after Marin Sanitary Service (MSS) introduced its residential curbside food scraps composting program, Ross School students asked a question, "Why couldn't we put our lunch food scraps in the green cart at school, the way we do at home?"

The question eventually made it to MSS' President, Patty Garbarino, who expanded the residential food scraps program to include only one "commercial" site — Ross School.

"It's the simple questions that sometimes have the most inspiring answers," said Lynn Langford, owner of Lean Green Solutions, and passionate Ross parent who secured approval for the pilot program.

In one year the students diverted 18,612 pounds of food scraps from the landfill - enough to fill a 40' tractor-trailer.

This year, the students asked another question, "Can we get green carts for Ross Grocery and Café on the Common, and help them keep their food scraps out of our landfill?" And, happily, MSS agreed to a second weeklong pilot program.

The students started work right away collecting and weighing food scraps from the eateries, making sure to keep the scraps contaminant free. Jessica Lopic and Fritz Dern - inspiring teachers at Ross School - supervised the project.

"It was amazing to watch all the different elements in our community come together to do something really good," said Debbie Jones, manager at Ross Grocery. "And to have it be led by the youth in our community? It gives me great hope for the future."

In only one week the students collected almost 500 pounds of food scraps. And, because the scraps from these sites received the highest quality grade from MSS, President Garbarino decided to keep the two programs alive indefinitely.

MSS composted all the food scraps into a rich soil amendment called "Marin's Own!" that was used by the students to grow Ross School's first Edible Schoolyard and mini-orchard.

We are proud of our blossoming stewards of our planet!

Digging the benefits of composting

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MISSION
The Ross Property Owners Association (RPOA) has represented Ross Residents since 1961. Our mission is "to provide funds

and services for the benefit of the general community of the Town of Ross." Through the financial support of its members, the RPOA has worked to inform residents of important issues and to contribute to the continual improvement of the community.

The Association holds monthly meetings at 7:15 pm at the Town Hall on the Monday immediately preceding the Town Council meeting. RPOA members are encouraged to participate in our monthly meetings. Issues pertaining to Town matters are discussed, particularly those currently before the Council.

FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

Fire Chief, Tom Vallee

After nearly two years in the making, beginning on July 1st 2012, pending the approval of a satisfactory Joint Powers Agreement, the Ross Fire Department will become a member of the Ross Valley Fire Department. This merger of agencies will provide the Town of Ross with a higher level of fire service.

Residents will be provided with the same level of trained professional personnel, equipment, and response capabilities from the Ross Fire Station. In addition, the Town will gain the full time service of additional Chief Officers, administration, more available fire personnel and equipment and the services of a full time Fire Prevention Officer, with an expected savings of \$110,000 in the first year.

All the additional programs that we have provided to the residents will remain in place: disaster preparedness, CERT, Get Ready Marin, property inspections, public education, and guest tours of the fire house to name just a few.

Our Disaster Council will remain in the capable hands of Patti Shimek with the assistance of fire department personnel and our very capable Block Captains. As always, we are continually looking for additional residents to become Block Captains of their neighborhoods. In the event of a major disaster event, everyone should be prepared to help themselves and their neighbors.

"On July 2nd, after thirty seven years of service to the Town of Ross, I will be retiring. I am leaving knowing the Town and its residents will be served by Chief Roger Meagor and the Ross Valley Fire Department at the level that residents of the Ross Community deserve and expect. It has been an honor and pleasure to have served the Town and its great residents." — Tom



**TOWN OF ROSS
JULY 4TH CELEBRATION**

Liz Welsh and her committee are in the midst of preparations for this year's July 4th celebration from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on Ross Common. Watch the parade, pack a picnic lunch, bring a blanket and enjoy the music of the Goat Island Griddle Poppers from the beautiful new school stage. Look for food and beverage tents and bring the children for old-fashion games and races. It will be another memorable holiday in our community and we hope to see you there!! Contact Liz at lizwelsh@comcast.net if you can lend a helping hand.

**TOWN CODE:
UNNECESSARY NOISE**

9.20 of Town Code states: No persons shall make, cause, suffer or permit to be made or caused, upon any premises owned, occupied or controlled by such person, or upon any public roadway, sidewalk, path or public right-of-way, any unnecessary noises or sounds which are annoying to persons of ordinary sensitiveness, which are loud and raucous or which are so harsh or so prolonged, or unnatural, or unusual in their intensity, time or place of occurrence as to occasion discomfort to the inhabitants of this town or any number thereof.

Any violation constitutes a public nuisance and such nuisance may be abated as provided by law. Any person violating the provisions of this shall be guilty of an infraction or misdemeanor. Violations which are of a continuing nature shall constitute a separate offense for each and every day of such continuing violation.



**TEENAGE
HUMANITARIAN**

Grace Goldberg

“One who knows how to show kindness will be a better person than any possession.” (Sophocles)

The daughter of Joy and Bruce Goldberg, Grace attended Ross School and Redwood High School. She availed herself of the leadership and AP classes there. Loving history, world politics and media classes, Grace has expanded her understanding of the needs and influences of the world, as well as the theories and perspectives upon which leaders make decisions that address these needs.

Yet, Grace is aware that she can “make a difference” every day as an individual. Like other bright and kind young adults in our town, Grace Goldberg uses her free time to help others who are not as fortunate as our residents. Completing her freshman year at American University, Grace Goldberg started her first week of school by participating in a program called “Freshmen Service Experience”. Grace chose to volunteer with a seniors’ retirement center called “The Iona Recreation Center”. After the four required days were completed, Grace chose to continue volunteering at the center. One unique and special event she “choreographed” was a Prom for members who have dementia.

Despite a demanding academic load, Grace will continue giving her free time to this program. In fact, she has been named as a leader for next year’s freshmen participants. “This means I will be leading a group of 15 incoming freshmen. I hope to give the American University class of 2016 just as great an experience as I had. The Freshmen Service Experience excels in orienting new students to volunteer opportunities in the D.C. area; hopefully, many will get as hooked as I was and continue helping those in need.”

“Although my volunteer work is in Washington, D.C., the gratification I’ve felt is one that can be experienced by teenagers here in Ross. There are many volunteer opportunities in the Bay Area.”

Living on the East Coast now, Grace misses our charming and beautiful town; she especially misses Café on the Common’s Frosty Ross-ties. “Ross has been a great place to grow up. I hope I can continue to return as I get older.”





ROSS GARDEN TOUR

BEYOND THE GARDEN GATE
THE SECRET GARDENS OF ROSS

Held annually in May since 1996, the Ross Garden Tour has been a delightful and significant event in our town. Meandering through each of this year's five gardens, all were lush and tranquil, yet each was different from the others. The first was a salubrious sculpture garden set in a vast and verdant milieu. A rose garden and a luminous glass conservatory were the features of Garden Two. The third's array of captivating flowers and foliage formed a painting-like composition. Four verdant acres that included lawn and pool showcased the fourth. Lastly, the elements of the fifth complemented the architecture of its home, a French Provincial estate.

Beyond the Garden Gate is a valuable fundraiser for our school's Fine Arts program. Our school's students are able to experience opportunities in the visual arts, music and theatre classes because of The Tour's financial success. Open to the public, attendees become annual participants who await this renown enterprise. Attendance has risen from its inception sixteen years ago.

The Market Place, a mercantury for distinctive jewelry, books, dinnerware, and food, is another component of the tour that attendees appreciate and look forward to. This year, for the first time, the market and lunch area were set up in the courtyard of the school.

Witnessing the smiles on the faces of the delighted and enriched customers, we wish the Ross School continued success in this generous and advantageous endeavor.

ROSS CHIEF OF PROTOCOL

The Town Council has appointed Liz Welsh as our new Chief of Protocol. She follows in the footsteps of Roseanna Lordeaux who was honored for her service and contribution to the Town of Ross at the April Town Council meeting. Liz brings a depth of experience having served as President of the Ross School PTA board, co-chaired the Town's 2005 and 2006 Independence Day celebrations as well as fundraising activities for St. John's Church.



MERCHANTS' HIGHLIGHTS LEADERSHIP STYLE CENTER

Diane Parente

23 Ross Common, Suite 7

Having owned her business, "Leadership Style Center", for 32 years, our Ross resident, Diane Parente, has enabled thousands of women to maximize their "Visual Presence". As a national consultant for major

corporations, Diane helps women attain top leadership positions by enhancing their appearance, thereby framing their credibility. As a merchant here in town, she's available to teach women how to develop a sustainable wardrobe that optimizes what they already own or to create a skeleton wardrobe that works for business, travel or daily life. The new or re-purposed wardrobe is based on one's physical features: hair color, eye color, skin tone (aspects that change as we age).

"Business owners and executives' success is often enhanced by their communication skills, appearance, style, and grooming." Working with experts in the field of communication, Diane is the expert for the appearance evaluation and optimization. "Realistically, a company's clients judge a manager or executive's competencies by how they present themselves."

Diane is an asset in teaching how to optimize what we already have. "Stop buying, buying, buying. Learn what colors and styles work best for you. Keep those in your wardrobe. Use or acquire a few quality pieces that you switch around to form many outfits." Diane will make home visits to objectively analyze your closet and give a highly professional and expert opinion.

With a degree in Art History, Diane comes to her profession with a knowledge of color, composition and dimension. She worked as a model, fashion consultant and personal stylist before starting her own business in 1980. Thus, our neighbor, Diane, is a superb asset for both male and female residents who wish to have a maximally-enhancing and sustainable wardrobe.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

FARMERS MARKET

THURSDAYS - IN PARKING LOT BETWEEN 3 ROSS COMMON AND POST OFFICE - OPENS MAY 31ST, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

ROSS SCHOOL GRADUATION

JUNE 14TH - 2:00 PM

MAGC SUMMER CONCERT

JUNE 4TH - SEPT 27TH - EVERY THURS
5:30 - 7:30 PM (JUNE - AUG) 5:30 - 7:30 PM (SEPT)

ROSS VALLEY PLAYERS

Thurs - Sun MAY 17TH - JUNE 17TH **Night of the Iguana**
JULY 12TH - AUG 12TH **Greater Tuna**

TOWN OF ROSS

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

MAGC MUSIC FESTIVAL

AUG 4TH, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

MOYA LIBRARY

SEPT 21ST - ANNUAL MEETING

MOYA LIBRARY

OCT 5TH - MOYA LIBRARY: MATT CERKEL, MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT RANGER, CENTENNIAL EVENTS AND HISTORY

MOYA LIBRARY

NOV 2ND - MOYA LIBRARY : AUTHORS JOCELYN MOSS AND MICHELLE KAUFMAN - *MODERN SAN RAFAEL: 1940-2000*



ROSS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 747

ROSS, CA 94957

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we learned of the death of Lee Hinnenberg on April 17th, 2012. Lee started with the Ross Police Department in 1965 and retired in 2001 as Chief of Police and faithfully served the Town of Ross for 36 years. Upon retirement, he moved to Westwood CA. He is survived by his wife Julie, and two sons, Daryl and Chip.

ROSS PROPERTY OWNER'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to ALL RESIDENTS of the Ross community, including those living in Kentfield within the Ross School border. We encourage all to attend the once-a-month meeting to voice your opinion on town matters.

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS
Held the 2ND Thursday of the month in the Town Hall

RPOA MEETINGS
Held at 7:15 PM on the Monday preceding the
Town Council Meeting in the Town Hall

TOWN'S E-MAIL
To join the Town's email list and receive Town notices,
contact Linda Lopez: llopez@townofross.org

RPOA NEWS Briefs

- The Board would like to thank Council Member SCOT HUNTER for attending our monthly Board meetings. It has enabled the Board to maintain an open dialogue with the Town Council, and provided our members an opportunity to have their concerns considered. Thank you again Scot for your dedication and service to the Town of Ross!!
- Total membership as of June 1 is 203 families. The total number of Bear memberships (those who have joined with a contribution of \$100 or more) is 86. Thank you for your continued support!!
- We are seeking an additional member to serve as Member-at-Large. Please contact any Board member if you might be interested.



Please visit RPOA's website to view this newsletter and for more information about our organization:
www.RPOAross.org



ROSS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012

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