

Hello, Sunset Beach Neighbors!!



Save the date – Sunday, September 3, 2023

Our SBIA Annual Meeting this year will be held Sunday, September 3, 2023, starting at 9 AM with the SBMWC, followed by the SBIA. Please remember to BYOC (bring your own chairs).

Among other agenda items for the SBIA, there is a proposal to change the SBIA Bylaws to reflect that the SBIA board wants to reduce the current 7 board members to 5 board members, as well as some other potential minor By-Laws changes. There needs to be a vote yea or nay by the majority of the current active members to approve any SBIA By-Laws changes.

Following the morning's water board and SBIA meeting, there will be an SBIA-sponsored community BBQ and potluck at 3 pm to celebrate the completion of the improvements to the path to the stairs and to thank you for your support! The SBIA will be providing a couple of BBQ's (with charcoal briquets), hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers with buns, tables, plastic cutlery, glasses, and plates plus at least two grill masters! If you want something other than a hamburger, veggie burger, or hot dog to grill, feel free to bring it and we'll cook it! The potluck is always fun, and we've got some good cooks in the neighborhood! Also, please bring whatever you'd like to drink, and maybe something to share!

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO
CONTRIBUTED TO THE
REPAIR OF OUR PATH TO
THE BEACH!!**



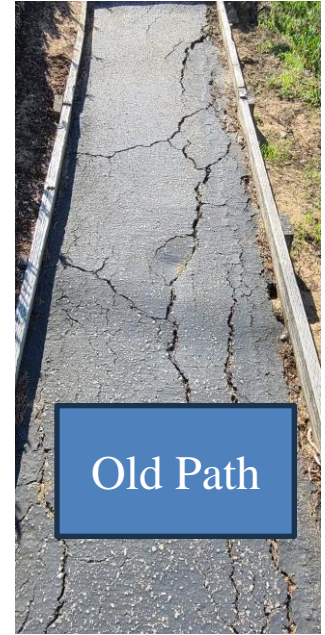
Our New Path to the Beach!

Did you know that – in addition to all the other wonderful history here at Sunset Beach, there's a story about the path to the beach? Formerly just a steep sand path that led to the stairs, the current path was initially built over the weekend of September 3-4, 1955, under the leadership of Hank Williams, assisted by many of his able-bodied Sunset Beach neighbors and friends. All involved in the project chipped in to buy gravel, blacktop, and concrete blocks. The men (30 in all) – were helped by a horse Hank owned at his property in Fresno which was brought to Sunset Beach specifically for this job. Everyone worked all weekend to build a terraced path down to the stairs. Not to be left out, the women cooked spaghetti to feed the hungry crew. It's unknown what the hardworking horse ate, but what is known is that – at the end of the project – the path was aptly named "Patricia Lane" in honor of - you guessed it – Patricia the horse! This and other Sunset Beach history can be found on the SBIA website, within the now electronic pages of the Blue Book, which contains a history of Sunset Beach.

SBIA Board members:

Patty Kaiser, Mark Elliott, Sam Singer, Suzie Yost, Chris Vanni, Chris Frazier, Karl Simmons

It is rare to have a recognized path to the beach, and ours has historically received little maintenance beyond trimming the ice plant and repairing an occasional patch of blacktop (see old path at right). In 1965 – 1966, another prior resident of Sunset Beach whom some will remember – George Bobek – poured concrete barriers across the path near the stairs to deflect runoff water down the slope, instead of having it undermine the path and steps. Thank you, George and Hank (and Patricia the horse), and all who contributed!



If you haven't been down the path lately, we invite you to do so! New sideboards, a gravel barrier on both sides, and an entirely new path of compacted asphalt make the walk up and down much easier and safer. Thank you again from the SBIA to all those who contributed to upgrading this wonderful asset and caring for this special piece of Sunset Beach history! We had an unprecedented percentage of support for the project, with 97% of the community pitching in to pay for it. Thank you to one and all who did!

FREE MULCH!!

We have a new pile of mulch near the emergency road from pine trees that were recently trimmed. If you would like some, help yourself!

ROAD RESURFACING

We have a date for the road slurry seal and crack fill in the neighborhood!

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 6.

The entire road will be closed from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. No one will be able to drive or walk (including walking your dog) or bicycle on the road while the work is going on and until the slurry seal cures, so please plan your day accordingly.



If you must leave the neighborhood that day, you can pay for day parking at the State Park (\$10 vehicle day use fee). If you are using the park, make sure your car is there by 7:30 am on September 6. You will need to find a way to get down there without walking on the roadway, however. No cars can be parked on the roadway during the slurry!

If you rent your property either to full-time renters or to vacation renters, it is critical that you advise your tenants there will be no driving or walking on the road all that day, including walking dogs, riding bikes, scooters, etc.

The road will open for cars, pedestrians, and cyclists at approximately 6 pm.

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Please make a quick tour of your property as it abuts the roadway as the roadway needs to be clear of vegetation prior to the slurry. It's surprising how quickly plants grow! If there is ice plant or other plants or containers that overhang the road either at your house or garage lot, please arrange to have vegetation trimmed back from the roadway in advance of our September 6 slurry date. Betz Works will not be doing any yardwork and it will impede progress if there is vegetation spilling out onto or over the roadway.

In the early morning, Betz Works will sweep the entire roadway. The slurry will begin in the south end of the neighborhood, with the project ending as they slurry down the entrance road.

If you would like your personal parking area or driveway slurried or sealed, you can schedule this directly with the contractor, Allan Betz of Betz Works, at your own cost. It is more economical to have this work done at the same time as the roadwork is getting done.

There are two options for this:

1. Your driveway or parking pad can be treated with Type II slurry, the same material that will be used on our road, at a cost of \$0.48 per square foot, OR
2. You can have your driveway or parking pad seal coated at a cost of \$0.30 per square foot

Which to choose? Allan Betz advises that sealing at \$0.30 per square foot is a better choice in many instances. Type II slurry is not ideal for driveways or parking pads but would be good for narrower parking areas that directly abut the road, as is the case for many homes here. On larger parking pads or driveways, Type II slurry can get scuffed from power steering and the scuffs do not blend well. The difference in appearance between Type II slurry and sealing is minimal and sealing will still blend well with the regular roadway slurry. Allan Betz could give you an opinion for your area when you contact him.

To schedule your driveway or parking area (done on the same day), please contact Allan Betz by phone or email in advance of the September 6 date. His contact information is:

Allan Betz
Betz Works
831-421-1302
allan@betzworks.us

Welcome New Neighbors!

Please join your SBIA in welcoming 2 wonderful new neighbors into our neighborhood - Suzi Kyriakides and her partner, Bill Grissom, who are living at 57 Sunset. Welcome to Sunset Beach, Suzi and Bill!

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Local (Haunted) Interest

One of your SBIA Board members recently had occasion to meet a long-ago resident of Sunset Beach who told a strange tale, a strange tale indeed: a tale of spectral things that “go bump in the night”. We will omit the specific house he referred to, and in which he lived for 2 full years, but we can tell you that his tale was replete with all manner of unexplainable “goings-on”. Almost exactly as reported, the house had – at some long-ago point in a past shrouded in mystery – been the residence of an old sea captain, a veteran of long days before the mast; a grizzled mariner who met an untimely end right here in Sunset Beach. That’s right – and – according to this reporter who lived in the very same house where the sea captain had met his end, the house was full of his presence. Particularly on foggy nights when a kind of dense mist had risen from the sea and enveloped the house in a ghostly embrace, that was when the old sea captain would make his re-appearance. Brrrrrr ...

A little research turns up these spots in the area that are reputed to be haunted as well. Read on at your own risk!

Hecker Pass - The ghost of a young woman in a red dress has been seen walking along the beginning of Hecker Pass for generations. She is known to hitch rides, mostly from taxi drivers. They pick her up and then claim that she vanishes suddenly.

Mt Madonna - Sarah Miller’s spirit has been seen around Mount Madonna since her death in 1879. The land was owned by her father, Henry Miller “The Cattle King,” one of Gilroy’s founders who had bought the property only months before his daughter died. One hot summer day in June, eight-year-old Sarah was riding her ‘trusty steed’ back to their property when suddenly, her horse tripped, causing Sarah to fall and break her neck and die instantly.

Lee Road - Surrounded by a large fence, ancient Costanoan-Ohlone burial grounds sit in a large 7-acre knoll on Lee Road, in Watsonville.

Pinto Lake - Several ghost stories haunt Pinto Lake, which was established in 1844. Its history dates back to when Ohlone Indians (The Awaswas Tribe) had a small village off the banks.

The Redman House - The once beautiful, now run-down Queen Anne Victorian called “The Redman House” resides on Lee Road in the middle of a strawberry field in Watsonville, California. This stately home was designed for James Redman by renowned architect William H. Weeks.

Sunset State Beach - According to backpackerverse.com, “if you’re camping at Sunset Beach State Park with children, remind them not to talk to any strangers after midnight. Especially if they’re named ‘Steve’.”

CERT UPDATE

Sunset Beach CERT recommends you register for the new Santa Cruz County Emergency Alert System, **CruzAware**:

CruzAware is an upgrade over the previous notification system (CodeRED) with enhanced features to ensure effective communication during both emergency and non-emergency situations. In addition to providing vital information during emergencies, CruzAware includes a robust messaging platform for residents in unincorporated areas that goes beyond emergency alerts and gives those residents the option to receive non-emergency notifications regarding roadwork and other neighborhood-level disruptions and information. When registering, each user can select their preferred language and communication channels, including phone calls, text messages and/or email. CruzAware also includes a free mobile app, available across all platforms. **More information and links to the registration process can be found here:** <https://www.santacruzcounty.us/OR3/Response/PlanandPrepare/AlertNotificationApplication.aspx>

AED Update

Sunset Beach has an Automated External Defibrillator. Do you know where it is and how to use it?

Sunset Beach CERT purchased an automated external defibrillator (AED) called Philips Smart Heart. This emergency device has been installed on the back of the little library on Mesa Way so that it is available to the neighborhood.

An AED is a device that checks a person's heart and delivers an electric shock if the heart has stopped beating normally. If a person suddenly collapses, they may be suffering from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) and SCA is serious. If this happens, your first step is to **call 911**, the second is to start CPR and the third is to get the AED. To learn how an AED is used, please watch the following video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9kBRi3D27s>



AED Precautions

- Do Not touch the victim while defibrillating.
- Do Not use alcohol to wipe the victim's chest dry.
- Do Not use an AED in a moving vehicle.
- Do Not use an AED on a victim who is in contact with water.
- Do Not use an AED on a victim lying on a conductive surface (Metals like copper, iron, gold, aluminum, and silver).

If you have questions about the AED or about CERT, please contact Jennifer Carr at gojencarr@gmail.com.

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