



# San Anselmo TOWN NEWS

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For further information about items on this page, call the Town of San Anselmo at 258-4600

## TOWN MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

Town Manager Debra Stutsman prepares a weekly newsletter to communicate with San Anselmo residents and business owners about what is happening in town. The newsletter is available on line at [www.townofsananselmo.org](http://www.townofsananselmo.org), by email subscription, in the Ross Valley Reporter and at Town Hall offices. The newsletter is a great way to stay in touch with what is happening in San Anselmo.

If you would like to be added to the email subscription list, send an email to [dstutsman@ci.san-anselmo.ca.us](mailto:dstutsman@ci.san-anselmo.ca.us) and you'll be added to the list.

## TOWN HALL HOURS

Town Hall hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and closed to the public on Friday.

Please note that the Public Works, Building and Planning counter is closed in the afternoons (open 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon only) to give the staff time to review plans, prepare staff reports, meet with applicants and return phone calls.

While the Town Hall offices are closed to the public on Fridays, staff members are in the office working. For further information, please call the Town Hall at 258-4600.



## VIAL OF LIFE

The "Vial of LIFE" (Lifesaving Information For Emergencies) program provides a reliable method to store medical information in the home.

The kit gives emergency responders (firefighters, police officers and paramedics) critical information about a patient's medical history. The Kit contains: a medical information form, a sticker for the front door or window of your home, a magnet for the refrigerator door and a small piece of Velcro for aluminum refrigerator doors.

By completing the medical information form and storing the vial correctly, participants provide vital life-saving information even if unable to speak in an emergency. The kits are available for free at all fire stations during normal business hours.

"Vial of L.I.F.E" is a collaborative effort by Sutter Health (Marin General Hospital and Novato Community Hospital), Kaiser Permanente, Marin County Fire Chief's Association and the County of Marin.

## MMWD PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Marin Municipal Water District will be replacing the pipeline on San Anselmo Avenue between San Rafael and Ross Avenues this spring.

While public inconvenience is always a factor when pipelines are being replaced, the District and the Town have worked together to address the impacts anticipated, as follows:

- ◆ Construction started in March 2009 and will finish in May 2009.
- ◆ Due to the heavy traffic levels in downtown San Anselmo during the day, the work will occur primarily at night, from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday. The night work will be mostly in March and April.
- ◆ San Anselmo Avenue will be closed in the work area during work hours.
- ◆ Some paving and other work will occur during the day.
- ◆ During non-work hours, all streets will be open and accessible with a temporary pavement.

Both the contractor and MMWD will make every effort to minimize traffic disruptions and noise during construction and to ensure public health and safety. More details will be provided about the construction schedule, work staging, traffic, noise and parking impacts as the project progresses.



## EARTHQUAKE RETROFITS

The San Anselmo Town Council wants to encourage property owners to perform earthquake retrofit work on their homes.

There are a lot of good reasons to ensure that your home is prepared to withstand a major earthquake. Retrofitting your home will reduce your chances of injury and death in an earthquake, as retrofitted structures stand up to the shaking much better. And, it is a lot cheaper to retrofit a house than it is to repair it after an earthquake.

In order to facilitate the retrofit process, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the California Building Officials (CALBO) have developed pre-engineered details for homeowners to use to brace their homes from the forces induced by earthquakes.

These standard plan sets consist of two sheets. The first sheet consists of instructions on how to brace your home. The second sheet is used to draw a plan of your house and to show which details on the two sheets you wish to use to brace different portions of your house.

An engineer isn't needed to draw these plans but some minimal knowledge in drawing is. The bracing applied would provide a major improvement in reducing the damages from an earthquake.

A Building Permit is needed before construction starts. Three sets of the drawings need to be submitted, along with a permit application to the Town.

Homeowners wishing to utilize the pre-engineered designs for earthquake bracing of their homes may obtain copies of the two sheets from the Town's Planning and Building Department or by downloading copies from the ABAG web site (<http://quake.abag.ca.gov/fixit/plansets.html>) or CALBO web site ([http://www.calbo.org/build\\_dept/resources/StandardPS.htm](http://www.calbo.org/build_dept/resources/StandardPS.htm)) The drawings need to be 24"x 36" in size.

Please note that for more complicated projects or if you desire an increased degree of protection, an engineer should be retained to evaluate your particular property.

For more information, call the Planning and Building Department at 258-1616.

## SORICH PARK VOLUNTEERS

Many, many thanks to a small group of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain and improve the Town's Sorich Park, located at the end of San Francisco Blvd. Sorich Park gives visitors a chance to experience the natural beauty of the hills of San Anselmo. It is a relatively undeveloped park with limited picnic benches and tables. Hiking trails lead off in many directions. Improvements such as the picnic area, trails, landscaping with native plants, and eradication of non-native

## AJ PETUYA: JUST ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

"My family has been in garbage forever," said AJ Petuya, a truck driver for Marin Sanitary Service (MSS) in San Anselmo.

Petuya's grandfather, an Italian immigrant, came to New York in the 1930s. His grandfather soon moved the family to San Francisco and began working with the Garbarinos as scavengers for Golden Gate Disposal. "There were about thirty of us working side by side with the Garbarinos during that time," Petuya said proudly.

"Anytime Senior [Joe Garbarino] introduces me he says, 'I used to collect garbage with this guy's grandfather.'" Petuya mused. "He still tells stories about my grandfather. It means a lot to me that my grandfather left such an impression."

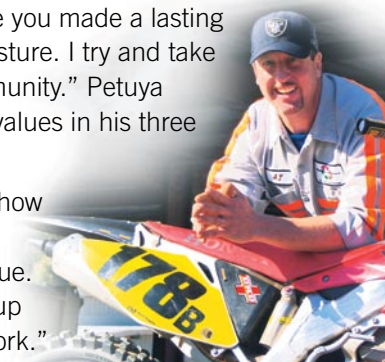
Petuya has worked for MSS for over seven years. His brother has been at MSS for over eighteen years.

"I managed a restaurant in Fisherman's Wharf for fifteen years before I made the choice to join the Marin Sanitary family. I just got burnt out," Petuya reflected. "I feel taken care of here. The restaurant business just didn't provide this kind of security."

Now, Petuya is running routes in San Anselmo. "I love being out in the community. You say, 'hi' and people respond with a smile and a wave. They know we're trying to keep the streets clean."

Petuya said that he was raised to be kind and say hello to anyone he met. "You never know," he said, "that person may come to your aid in the dead of night on the side of the road and it'll be because you made a lasting impression with a simple gesture. I try and take that mentality into the community." Petuya strives to instill those same values in his three children—18, 14 and 4.

"My wife asks me everyday how I liked work and I always respond, 'I loved it.' And it's true. After seven years, I still get up every day excited to go to work."



weeds are all projects of the Sorich Park volunteers.

Special thanks to Conn Rusche, Tom Peacock, Peter Hoch, Ellen Caldwell, Brian Crawford, Kathy Sanders, Jeff Curtis, Bret Morgan, Rosann Dal Bello, Rohana McLaughlin, Dick Miner, Jonathan Braun, Nancy Bennett, Tom Truchan, Nan Wieser, Bruce and Suzanne Degen, Peggy Nicholson and Ted Bakkila.

If you would like to help, please call Ted Bakkila at 456-5267.