



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

2010 U. S. CENSUS

April 1st is census day. Ensuring an accurate census count of residents is an urgent priority for local officials from now through April 1, Census Day. If California's population is undercounted cities and counties could lose between \$3 billion and \$5 billion in federal funding.

It is estimated that the state loses \$1,300 every year for each person who is not counted.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Types of funding that are determined using census data include community development block grants and social services. Census information also helps drive decisions about the locations of school, roads, hospitals, senior centers and other vital infrastructure.

The information collected by the census is confidential. By law, the census bureau cannot share an individual's answers with anyone, including welfare and immigration agencies. Census workers take an oath to protect the confidentiality of census responses.

The 2010 census has only 10 questions, unlike the 2000 census which used a long questionnaire. The 2010 form should take just a few minutes to complete.

Key Census Dates

Feb. – March 2010:	Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.
April 1, 2010:	Census Day.
April – July 2010:	Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.
Dec. 2010:	By law, U.S. Census Bureau delivers population counts to President Obama for apportionment.
March 2011:	By law, U.S. Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

For more information regarding the U.S. Census go to www.californiacompletecount.org.



FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Flood Control District continues to make progress mapping out a long range plan to reduce flood damages in the Ross Valley. Although the flood fee is being collected, the money is not being used due to the ongoing litigation that has now reached the state supreme court. That process is expected to take at least two years.

The ongoing work includes the following:

- A share of the \$1.3 million, 2-year budget approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2008 is funding the study that is looking at the feasibility of using large detention basins in the upper watershed to contain runoff during large rain storms; ways of maximizing flow in the creek channel; and finding practical and sustainable methods of removing sediment from the Kentfield/Larkspur reaches of the creek. The first technical memo by Stetson Engineers, giving a comprehensive overview of the problem and possible solutions can be found at www.rossvalleywatersheds.org. Look for the *Ross Valley Flood Damage Reduction Feasibility Study*. The next technical memo is expected in Spring 2010. A summary of that memo will be presented at a future meeting of the Flood Zone 9 Advisory Board.
- The hydraulic model of the watershed, an expensive and indispensable tool for engineers, has been extended to a larger area of the watershed and up to Olema Rd. in Fairfax. The model can now be used to test possible solutions for reducing flood damage reduction.
- The same budget has also brought in more funds to the Ross Valley. The funds allocated to the Stetson contract also serve as part of the matching funds for a grant of \$650,000 given to the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) to study how tidal marshlands can mitigate the effects of sea level rise. BCDC is conducting this research project in the Corte Madera Creek estuary. The research is meant to develop guidance for the entire Bay Area. The findings of this research are being coordinated with the Stetson study of sediment management in the tidal reaches of Corte Madera Creek as part of the *Ross Valley Flood Damage Reduction Feasibility Study*.
- Another grant was awarded to the Urban Creeks Council based on the limited-funding effort we're making in Ross

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Continued

Valley. Our budget is funding a contract with the Urban Creeks Council, which is conducting a one-year program to assist private property owners with creek bank erosion problems. Mailers were sent to over 2,000 property owners who own creekside property in the Ross Valley. To date, the UCC has met with over 75 of the approximately 130 homeowners who responded to the mailing. In San Anselmo, 45 property owners responded and the UCC intends to contact all of them.

The original contract called for 50 consultations but this program has brought in additional funding to the Ross Valley via a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the San Francisco Estuary Project. This additional funding has allowed UCC to increase the number of consultations and can also be used as a partial monetary match for homeowners who elect to undertake the remedies suggested by the experts from the Urban Creeks Council. The District is hoping to continue this program next year if the budget will allow. The work designed and proposed by the UCC is being coordinated with the *Ross Valley Flood Damage Reduction Feasibility Study*.

- The District continues to work with the Friends of Corte Madera Creek in developing fish passage projects at Lansdale Ave. and Saunders Ave. that have benefits for both flood control and steelhead and coho salmon by restoring access to extensive habitat in the upper watershed. In most cases, redesign and reconstruction of fish ladders and/or fish passage barriers also reduce the water levels during large storms. Although funding for these projects is hard to come by in the current fiscal environment, the closer plans are developed to “shovel ready” status, the better chance there is of obtaining funds when they do become available.
- Based on the work we are doing and the research by BCDC, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has been awarded funding to install a sediment monitoring station in the Town of Ross. This sophisticated monitoring station is expected to go “live” any day. This instrument will assist the USGS, BCDC, and Stetson Engineers to determine how much sediment comes from the watershed and how much comes in with the tides. This will be very helpful in creating a sediment management program for the lower reaches of Corte Madera Creek.

Marin Sanitary Service

CONSERVATION – OUR EARTH, OUR MISSION, OUR JOB

BILL HALBERT: THE INDEPENDENT FAMILY MAN

Bill Halbert has only been at Marin Sanitary Service (MSS) for three and a half years but he is the master of recycling on his routes through the town of San Anselmo.

“I like being on my own,” said Bill. “Dave Garbarino [Vice President of MSS] likes to tell the drivers that we are all route managers. These streets are my responsibility and it feels good to get things done.”

Bill’s eyes brighten as he talks about being assigned to the innovative dual sort truck. “These trucks are great – there is a lot less contamination, and it keeps me on my feet.” Smiling, and tightening his belt, he added, “Running laps around the truck, I’ve lost a lot of weight.”

Working previously for his family’s construction scaffolding business, Bill said he felt “too involved.” That’s not to say that he isn’t involved in his family. Bill is proud to say that he’s been married to his wife for 22 years and has two kids, ages 15 and 6.

As the conversation turned to experiences from his route some were happy, like the story of the man who, every morning, asks Bill, “How are you, how’s the family?” And some were somber.

Bill spoke about Jose Silva, a fellow driver, who was recently hit by a car while on his route, “We’re all aware of the dangers of working on the street. We all have families that we want to go home to at the end of the day.”

“I was raised to treat others as I would like to be treated,” said Bill as he thought about the pressure of the early morning rush.

“I try to understand that some drivers may be in a hurry, but I want them to know that we also have a job to do and we want to do it well.”



NIXLE

Don’t forget to sign up for Nixle and get all the latest updates on traffic and other community notifications from the Police Department.

To register:

- Go to www.nixle.com
- Click “Register Now”
- Create an account by choosing a User Name and password
- Enter an email address and/or cell phone number where you would like to receive messages
- Enter your address (or a nearby intersection)
- Click “Sign Me Up”

For additional information, please contact the San Anselmo Police Department at 258-4610.