

## Mid Coast Council Notes 11/29/23

### **Don Horsley, Former San Mateo County Sheriff, Supervisor, Dies at 80**

- A former teacher and beat cop whose ideas for reform propelled him to San Mateo County Sheriff and the Board of Supervisors, Horsley passed away last Friday.
- Horsley served 14 years as sheriff and 12 years as a member of the Board of Supervisors. His impact was tremendous and our office is grateful for all the community members who have reached out offering well wishes for his family.
- Information about services is pending.

### **Gun Buyback Set for Dec. 9 in Belmont**

- The County and partners are holding an anonymous gun buyback on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 400 Harbor Blvd., Belmont ([Google map link.](#))
- From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., law enforcement officers will accept all guns, no questions asked, in exchanged for cash: \$50 for nonfunctioning firearms; \$100 for handguns, shotguns or rifles; \$200 for assault weapons as classified by the state of California.
- To those planning to attend, transport firearms unloaded and in the trunk of your vehicle.

### How to Prepare for the Winter Storm Season

- The [National Weather Service has forecast above-normal precipitation](#) in the Bay Area this winter, a reminder to check (or build) your emergency kit and review (or create) your evacuation plan.
- To help residents prepare, the County has [prepared a simple step-by-step guide](#) to get started.
- Look for additional helpful tips in the coming weeks.

### **Sawyer Camp Segment Now Open; Ralston Bike Trail Reopens Dec. 1**

- The 6-mile-long Sawyer Camp segment of the [Crystal Springs Regional Trail](#) reopened Friday, Nov. 24, after the months-long closure due to storm damage earlier this year.
  - o Repairs that have been ongoing for several months concluded with the restoration of a 25-foot-wide collapsed portion of the trail.
- [Ralston Bike Trail](#), a connector trail to Crystal Springs Regional Trail, is scheduled to reopen Friday, Dec. 1, when PG&E concludes work on the natural gas line in the area.

**Apply for the Assessment Appeals Board • The [Assessment Appeals Board](#) hears appeals of property tax assessments.**

- Applicants must have five years of professional experience in California as a certified public accountant, public accountant, licensed real estate broker or attorney.
- [Apply now](#) or call 650-363-4573 for more information.

**Flu, COVID-19 and RSV** With respiratory virus season upon us, County Health and the Association of Bay Area Health Officials encourages everyone to take steps to prevent flu, RSV and COVID-19.

- Stay up to date on vaccines. Vaccines are the best defense against severe illness and death — and you can get all at the same time. Visit [MyTurn](#) to schedule vaccines or contact your health care provider.
- Flu and COVID-19 vaccines are available for everyone 6 months and older and have been updated to protect against new variants.
- RSV immunizations are now available for infants and young children, pregnant people and adults 60 years and older.
- Stay home if you're sick. Staying home when you're sick slows the spread of flu, COVID-19, RSV and even the common cold.
- Test and treat. Test for COVID-19 and flu if you have symptoms. If you test positive, contact your health care provider and ask about prescription treatments.
- Consider wearing a mask. Masks can slow the spread of respiratory viruses. If you or your family member are at high risk for severe illness, consider wearing a mask, especially in public indoor or crowded spaces. • See more from the [California Department of Public Health](#).

**Don't Pack a Pest During the Holidays**

- The San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures asks residents to not transport fresh fruits and vegetables from the following [fruit fly](#) quarantine zone counties: Los Angeles, Ventura, Sacramento, Riverside, San Bernardino, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara.
- Personal travel is one of the primary avenues for the spread of damaging invasive species and all residents are urged to adopt the principles of "[Don't Pack a Pest](#)" to help prevent future introductions of invasive pests and diseases.
- Maps, quarantine restrictions and other information are [available here](#).
- If you have questions about a fruit fly quarantine/eradication, or if you think you have fruits and vegetables infested with fruit fly larvae, call the CDFA Exotic Pest Hotline at 1-800-491-1899 or the San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office at 650-363-4700.