



# Network Success

Business to Business News from San Anselmo

Issue 2

2nd Quarter 2013

## Help the Park, You Can...Join the Force of Those Making the New Park a Reality

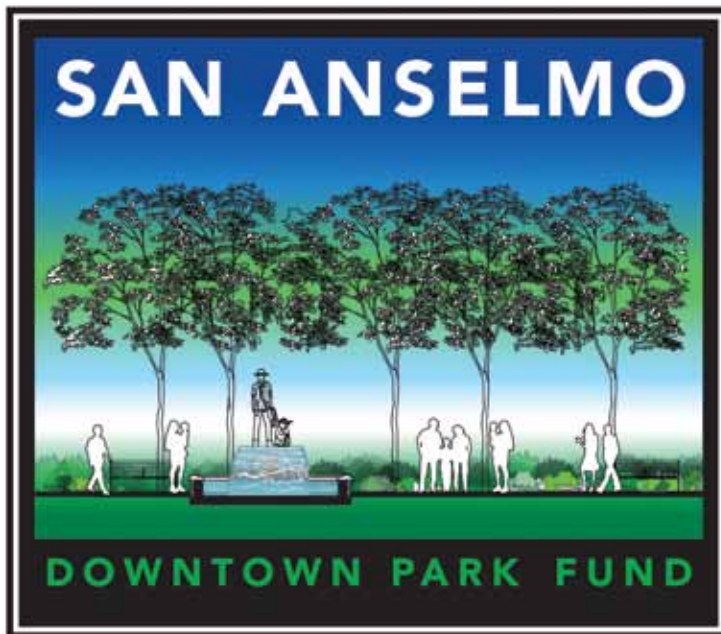
DONATE to Receive Recognition and Enter the Naming Contest

The construction of Indiana Jones and Yoda's permanent new home, the downtown San Anselmo Park, is well underway. The life-size statues of these beloved, iconic film characters—commissioned by George Lucas and crafted by sculptor Lawrence Noble—will be just two of the many allures in the park, including a fountain and many spots for the community to gather.

Want to be a part of it? Now's your chance to join the force

**Park**

Continued on page 3



### Many Ways to Sponsor the New Downtown Park

Visit [www.sananselmopark.org](http://www.sananselmopark.org) for all options listed below. All donations are tax deductible.

San Anselmo Community Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) Charitable Foundation (Tax ID 31-1742764).

#### • NAME THE PARK CONTEST

The park will not be named after Yoda, Indiana Jones, George Lucas or any of the Star Wars characters. To suggest a name, think inspiration, imagination, creativity. Then make a \$25 donation to submit a name

to the contest (one name entry per \$25 donation). The SACF board will judge the names submitted and the selection will be final.

#### • DONATE!

You care and want to help us build and preserve the new park. Make a donation in any amount and be a part of the park legacy. No gift is too small!

#### • GRATITUDE GIFT

Donate \$100 or more, and your name will be displayed and receive recognition in the park!

#### • NAMING RIGHTS - SPONSOR LEVEL

- Yoda side of water fountain – \$25,000 (1 sponsorship available)
- Indiana Jones side of water fountain – \$25,000 (sold/no longer available!)
- Park Bench – \$10,000 (1 sold, 6 available)
- Drinking Fountain – \$5,000 (sold/no longer available!)
- Bike Racks – \$5,000 (6 sponsorships available)
- Lamp Post – \$5,000 (1 sold, 1 available)
- Tree – \$5,000 (12 available)
- Bollard Lights – \$2,500 (8 available)

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**San Anselmo Art & Wine Festival—San Anselmo's Premier Summer Event!**

**Batter Up for Two Evenings with the San Rafael Pacifics!**

**See back page**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



# Network Success

Business to Business News from San Anselmo

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info@sananselmochamber.org • www.sananselmochamber.org

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## Members in the News



### Gorgeous Local Gardens Featured in New Book by Downtown Park Landscapers

Don't miss the opportunity to purchase *Living Land: The Gardens of Blasen Landscape Architecture*, a new book by the landscape architects designing the new downtown park—Eric Blasen, Silvina Blasen, and Hazel White! Listening to clients' dreams about how they want to live on their land, Blasen Landscape Architecture has won top awards in the US for creating gardens—near the beach, in valleys, on mountain ridges, and in cities—that are sustainable, contemporary, and provide pristine, deeply felt encounters with the outdoors. The book is available at Book Passage, 51 Tamal Vista Blvd in Corte Madera.

*Blasen Landscape Architecture,*  
500 Red Hill Avenue, San  
Anselmo, CA 94960, 415-  
485-3885;  
info@blasengardens.com;  
www.blasengardens.com

### Kids Hobby Camp Kicks Off at Dauth Hobbies

Kids Hobby Camp starts June 24th and continues through September 6th every week Monday to Friday with morning (10 a.m.-1 p.m.) and afternoon (2 p.m.-5 p.m.) sessions available. In addition to receiving a model kit (car or plane), paints and glue, campers will:

- learn plastic modeling skills
  - get introduced to air-brushing and painting techniques
  - meet new friends through model building
  - take home your model and share the fun
- Dauth Hobbies,*  
224 Greenfield Avenue,  
San Anselmo, 415-454-3087;  
www.dauthhobbies.com.



### New Gluten-Free Bakery's Sweet Success

"Flour Craft Bakery in San Anselmo is Marin's first gluten-free bakery," *Northbay biz* reported in the "Only In Marin" section last May. Following their March opening, Flour Craft became an in-

stant hit, especially for those looking for a delicacy without wheat. Bakery goods are also organic and corn- and soy-free. See page 4 for more on Flour Craft Bakery.

*Flour Craft Bakery,*  
702 San Anselmo Avenue,  
San Anselmo; 415-453-3100;  
www.flourcraftbakery.com.



### Georgi & Willow Praised in Press

*Pacific Sun* noted that "Georgi & Willow, has a fabulous assortment of contemporary dresses." We couldn't agree more!

*Georgi & Willow,* 649 San  
Anselmo Avenue, San Anselmo,  
415-721-7917;  
www.georgiandwillow.org.



### L'Appart Resto's Owners Open 3<sup>rd</sup> Restaurant

Owners of Le Garage and San Anselmo's L'Appart Resto, Bruno Denis and Olivier and Susannah Souvestre, just opened their third restaurant in Sausalito: Fast Food Fran-

## Members in the News

Continued on page 3

## Submission Deadlines

All chamber members can submit business news and promotions for inclusion on our Facebook and Twitter pages and in our two publications, *Network Success* and "Member News" e-blasts. Mail all submissions to info@sananselmochamber.org. Submission deadlines are as follows:

- **Network Success: Q3 Issue: August 1**  
Free quarterly publication mailed to 5,500 residents, businesses & chamber members in the San Anselmo community.
- **"Member News": Send at least 2 weeks prior to when you want news published.**
- **Facebook and Twitter: E-mail the chamber any time!**

# Members in the News

cais. *Pacific Sun* reported in their issue "All in Good Taste" that the specialty is light casual food at reasonable prices (most dishes are \$15 or less). Items on the menu include burgers from duck confit, and comfort foods like truffled boudin blanc (sausages) and cheesy beer soup with croutons.

*L'Appart Resto*,  
636 San Anselmo Ave.,  
San Anselmo; 415-256-9884;  
lappartresto@gmail.com;  
www.lappartresto.com.

## Golf to Give Back at San Geronimo

San Geronimo Golf Course will host three new fund raising events this year:

- **The Marin Million Dollar Fantasy Golf Vacation Shootout on July 19:** Benefiting the San Francisco chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, every hole will offer players an opportunity to win an exciting golf vacation, and one player will earn the chance to win one million dollars.
- **The Collegiate Alumni Golf Challenge and Clambake on August 9:** This event will draw teams from University alumni groups in the Bay Area. The top three teams will select the recipients of the funds raised.

- **Swords to Plowshares Benefit on November 8:** This Veterans Day weekend event will benefit this not-for-profit veteran service organization that provides wrap-around care to more than 2,000 veterans in the San Francisco Bay Area each year.

For more info, contact Willie Anderson, Fund Raiser-in-Chief at 415-488-8180, ext. 231, or the Pro Shop at 415-488-8180, ext. 222. San Geronimo Golf Course, 5800 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Geronimo; 415-488-4030; info@golfsangeronimo.com; www.golfsangeronimo.com.

## Two Awesome Advertising Opportunities!

### 1. Get in the Guide!

#### *Destination San Anselmo*

Don't miss out on this year's *Destination San Anselmo* guide, a special publication that gives an in-depth look into our charming town with an outline of event information for the year, an activity guide, dining information as well as an extensive business directory. It's a great resource guide for our community and a perfect marketing opportunity for our local businesses.

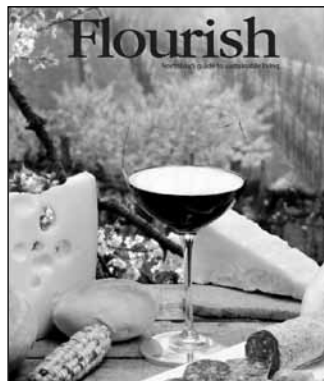
It will be produced only once a year but distributed twice a year via the *Pacific Sun* (August & January issues) as well as at local businesses, real estate offices, the Chamber of Commerce as well as the Marin Convention & Visitors Bureau.

**To advertise:** Space Reservation Deadline is June 24, 2013. Contact Katarina Martin at the *Pacific Sun* (415-485-6700, ext. 311 or kmartin@pacificsun.com).

### 2. Marin IJ's New Sustainable Living Magazine

The *Marin Independent Journal* is introducing a new quarterly magazine to Marin and the greater North Bay called *Flourish* with its premiere issue debuting on June 22, 2013. The magazine will focus on green living, organic and local foods and healthy, local activities and getaways. Look for features on local, organic food purveyors, chefs and local green businesses to find out what drives their passion. Filled with stunning local photography and clean design, the magazine intends to paint a picture of the sustainable North Bay lifestyle.

*Flourish* will have a print/digital distribution model. Hard copies will be delivered to 15,000 selected households throughout Marin with a specific interest in green living and organic foods. A digital edition will be emailed to an additional



50,000 selected inboxes in Napa and Sonoma counties with similar green and organic food interests. Additional distribution at local grocery stores is in the works and subscriptions will soon be available.

**To advertise:** Affordable advertising opportunities are available to any business that would like to reach an audience of green living/organic food lovers. Contact Dianne Provenzano (415-382-7254; dprovenzano@marinij.com) or call 415-382-7275 for information. Or email FlourishMarin@gmail.com.

## Park Continued from page 1

### of organizations leading the project!

Filmmaker George Lucas generously donated the prime real estate and some resources to pay for and create the park, but more is needed to complete it. Help us make this downtown dream a reality. As a partner in this collaboration, the **San Anselmo Community Foundation (SACF)** committed to raise a minimum of \$150,000-\$300,000.

### Your help will ensure:

- A downtown venue for schools, businesses, and non-profits to hold community events
- A place for the library to hold outdoor book readings
- A place for children to hold outdoor art classes
- A local community gathering place
- A San Anselmo identity
- Increased property values
- Increased foot traffic benefiting struggling downtown businesses
- Increased tax revenues from businesses near a community park
- The building of a Bay Area landmark
- The creation of a San Anselmo legacy

Follow the park's progress on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/SanAnselmoDowntownPark](http://www.facebook.com/SanAnselmoDowntownPark)) and at [www.sananselmopark.org](http://www.sananselmopark.org).



## Thank you to our current donors

The adults and children from our community who visit the park will truly benefit from your gifts!

David Anderman	Thomas McInerney Family
David & Christine Anderson	Teresa McLean
Debra Birrell	Marek & Stefanie Michejda
Matthew Brasler	Gregg Olsson
Delia Brinton	Joan Olsson
Anonymous**	Toby Pearson**
Joan Capurro	Neal Polachek
Patti Cocciolo	Devon & Fraser Preston**
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Erin Fleming & Pete Lavaroni	
Laurie & George Lewis	
Charles Maher**	
Chantal Maher-Rajilich	

**And again, we extend our sincerest thanks to George Lucas for his generosity, creative vision, and devotion to San Anselmo.**

\*\* Indicates Naming Sponsors

## Welcome New Members

### Alma del Tango

THE SOUL of TANGO in MARIN

#### Alma del Tango Debbie Goodwin

167 Tunstead Avenue  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 250-3593  
debbie@almadeltango.org  
www.almadeltango.org

Alma del Tango, a Marin-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization is dedicated to encouraging artistic expression and the development of community through Argentine Tango. Started by Debbie Goodwin and John Campbell in 1996 and incorporated as a non-profit in 2000, it is the umbrella organization for several worthy projects:

- **Alma del Tango** offers a full program of beginning to advanced tango dance classes, a weekly práctica, monthly milonga and annual student dance production.
- **Alma Video Productions** documents dance productions that would otherwise disappear.
- **Debbie Goodwin Dance** supports the choreography and direction of Alma del Tango's student and professional productions as well as taking on artistic projects on a freelance basis.

- **Tango, a Romantic Ritual**, the professional theater production, serves to educate, entertain, and capture the imagination.
- **Tango Con\*Fusión**, the all-women professional dance company, explores gender roles and interpersonal relationships through performance of modern dance pieces informed by the themes of Argentine Tango.
- **Seth Asarnow y su Sexteto Tipico** capture the sound and style of the popular orchestras from the Golden Age of Tango. They are dedicated to preserving this amazing style of music in its original form.

#### Auryn Thai Cuisine Nell Treesuwan

810 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 455-8300  
nellmt@yahoo.com

Auryn Thai Cuisine, formerly Lanna Thai, opened in February by new owner, Katchakorn (Nell) Treesuwan. The new menu features "less fusion and more authentic Thai," according to Nell. Nell got her start in the restaurant business while in Thailand.

"My mother loved to cook, and so did I," she said. "We opened a restaurant there, and

I've been cooking ever since."

When Nell moved to the United States she opened Muang Thai Cuisine restaurant on Taylor Street in San Francisco. After 10 years in the city she decided to close Muang and relocate to San Anselmo.

By this summer Nell plans to do some remodeling, like adding a new awning and a fresh coat of paint and rejuvenating the rose garden.



#### Marin Therapy Partners Kate Brennan LMFT

558 San Anselmo Avenue  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 453-1402  
kate@kebrennan.com  
www.marintherapypartners.com

Kate Brennan is a licensed marriage and family therapist, and Somatic Experiencing practitioner (SE is a naturalistic approach in the treatment of trauma). She specializes in anxiety and stress-related issues including depression, post partum depression, developmental and family trauma, and attachment. Since 1994, Brennan has been working with children, adults and families.

Brennan received her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California Berkeley and her master's degree in counseling from University of Southern California. Her training is in family systems therapy, attachment parenting, humanistic psychology and somatic therapy. She also uses her training in mindful-based relaxation techniques to help clients with anxiety and stress.

Kate has also worked for Kaiser Permanente as a temperament specialist and parenting educator, has lectured and taught throughout the Bay Area on family health and

wellness, and has developed a program to help mothers who feel tapped out and depleted.

#### Bubba's Fine Diner Marc Hand

566 San Anselmo Avenue  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 459-6862  
bubbasdiner@gmail.com  
www.bubbafinediner.com

Bubba's has been a San Anselmo institution for nearly 30 years. Owner Marc Hand continues Bubba's commitment to serve organic and locally sourced foods in a family-friendly and fun dining atmosphere.

Hand's dining room manager, Debbie Omiela, recharged the dining area with nostalgia, and friendly and polite service. Bubba's added southern influenced foods to the menu and has started focusing on special diets, like vegan and gluten free.



#### Mary Ann Maggiore Consultant to Young People & Their Families

*Launching Teens and Young Adults into Lives of Success*  
79 Willow Avenue,  
Fairfax, CA 94930  
(415) 577-6627  
maryannmaggiore@gmail.com  
www.maryannmaggiore.com

"The steps into adulthood are crucial," says Mary Ann Maggiore, who has been working with youth for over 20 years. "I help young people create a path into a successful future. Then I help the adults in their families plan ways to support them on that path."

The former Mayor of Fairfax

is the president of Five 4 Five, which has helped over 70 young people finish high school, complete college or a training program, and continue on to find meaningful work. Maggiore is also founding director of the Service Learning Department at Dominican University and has been featured on local and regional television and other media. A graduate of Swarthmore College and the Starr King School for Unitarian ministry, Maggiore has much practice working with people of all backgrounds and talents. She speaks frequently on the topic of her book, *Raising a Sane and Successful Teen*.

"What is success?" asks Maggiore. "It is a dream of childhood achieved in adulthood." She offers a free 15-minute consultation for those interested in knowing more about her work. Call her and find out how she can help your young person succeed: 415-577-6627.

#### Flour Craft Bakery Heather Hardcastle

702 San Anselmo Avenue  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 289-2110  
info@flourcraftbakery.com  
www.flourcraftbakery.com

Marin County got its first entirely gluten-free bakery when Flour Craft opened last March at 702 San Anselmo Avenue. The Culinary Institute of America-trained pastry chef Heather Hardcastle started Flour Craft in 2009, and has developed a loyal following for her gluten-free goods at the Marin County Farmer's Markets. Her line of signature granolas is also distributed to natural foods and gourmet markets throughout the Bay Area and Northern California.

**New Members**  
Continued on page 8

## Need Free Professional Advice? The SBDC is Here to Help

The San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce continues to partner with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to provide our members with an on-site consultant for one-on-one, no-cost confidential counseling. Contact the chamber to set up a meeting! We also sponsor chamber workshops from time to time to give you access to these consultants.

**SBDC at Venture Greenhouse**  
30 Castro Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94901

# Business Citizen of the Year Honoree Joan Capurro, Bank of Marin

Our fabulous “hat lady” inspires all with her boundless capacity to help others

Few can compete with Joan Capurro’s community spirit or commitment to Marin—she logs more than 500 hours a year volunteering as Director of Community Relations for Bank of Marin. She truly lives and breathes charity every day, inspiring all who know her.

We typically award the San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce “Business Citizen of the Year” to a business or person demonstrating outstanding leadership and support in one or two areas: civic, business, charitable, community, professional support, and contributions. Yet Capurro showed extraordinary service in all of the above!

The Chamber is immensely honored that Capurro accepted our “Business Citizen of the Year” and “Spirit of Marin Award.”

Capurro uses her network of nonprofit affiliations to connect and strengthen local organizations, believing the key to success for anyone

in business is community involvement. Over 18 years ago, Capurro was a founding member of the Workforce Investment Board and is still a member of its board. She held or currently holds positions on the board or advisory board for the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, United Way-Community Investment Council, WLPC Women in Leadership & Philanthropy Council-Dominican University, Sunny Hills Children’s Center, Rotary Club of Ross Valley, Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership and, of course, Legal Aid of Marin, the San Anselmo & San Rafael Chambers of Commerce Board of Directors and Marin City Community Development Corp.

Rightly so, Capurro has received numerous awards and recognition over the years for her outstanding leadership and community investments, including the Community Leader Image for Success, Woman of the



Joan Capurro

Year, Marin Women’s Hall of Fame, Salvation Army Community Champion, and the Pamela Levine Arts Education Leadership Award.

We have all benefitted from Capurro’s boundless altruism and her selfless commitment to making our community a better place.

As Joseph Campbell said, “A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.” Thank you, Joan Capurro, for being a hero to our community!

## SAN ANSELMO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



- Creating a Strong Local Economy
- Promoting the Community
- Providing Networking Opportunities
- Representing the Interest of Business to Government
- Political Action

**SHOP LOCAL! DINE LOCAL! STAY LOCAL!**

## 2013 Chamber Calendar

**Saturday & Sunday, June 22 & 23 • 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.**  
**San Anselmo Art & Wine Festival**  
On San Anselmo Avenue, San Anselmo

**Wednesday, July 31 • 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**  
**Marin Council of Chambers Countywide Mixer**  
Hosted by Inn Marin in Novato,  
Rickey’s Restaurant and C.P.A. Valet  
At 250 Entrada Drive, Novato  
**\$5 members / \$20 non-members**

**Saturday, August 2 • 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**Just for Kids Park Party!**  
Face painting, popcorn, bubbles, special thank you from kids to George Lucas, spin-to-win wheel.  
At San Anselmo’s New Downtown Park **FREE**.

**Saturday, August 24 • 6 p.m.**  
**Dinner Under the Stars for New Downtown Park Inauguration & Business of the Year Dinner**  
Taste of San Anselmo dinner brought to you by local restaurants & wine bars with performances by Drake High Jazz Band and Marin Baroque.  
At San Anselmo’s New Downtown Park.  
Registration required. [www.sananselmochamber.org](http://www.sananselmochamber.org)

**Friday, August 30 • 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**Picnics on the Plaza (POP) sponsored by Pacific Sun & San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce**  
On Lawn at Town Hall • Live music & activities for kids

**Friday, September 27 • 12 p.m.**  
**Spirit of Marin Luncheon**  
At St. Vincent’s, 1 Saint Vincent’s Dr, San Rafael  
RSVP required to 415-884-5360

**Sunday, September 29 • 7 a.m.**  
**Pancake Breakfast at the Ross Valley Fire Dept, Country Fair Day**  
In Downtown San Anselmo, Sponsored by Town of San Anselmo Recreation Dept., 415-258-4640

**Thursday, October 2 • 7 p.m.**  
**Candidate Debate – San Anselmo Town Council**  
At Sir Francis Drake High School, Little Theatre

**Thursday, October 10 • 11 a.m.**  
**San Anselmo & Corte Madera Chambers Golf Tournament**  
At San Geronimo Golf Course  
5800 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Geronimo

**Thursday, October 17 • 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.**  
**Red Hill Shopping Center Parking Lot Chamber Mixer**  
On 800-900 Block of Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

**Thursday, November 21 • 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.**  
**Union Bank Chamber Mixer**  
At 100 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

**Saturday, December 7 • 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**  
**Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony**  
At Downtown Park, 535 San Anselmo Avenue

**Thursday, December 12 • 12 p.m.**  
**Holiday Luncheon**  
At San Domenico School, 1500 Butterfield Rd.

# CHAMBER EVENTS PHOTO GALLERY

## San Anselmo Chamber Ambassadors Attend Northern California Ambassador Rally



**Above:** One of the Rally's fabulous raffle baskets, beautifully assembled by Patti's Personalized Baskets from donations collected by our Chamber Ambassadors



**Right:** Chamber Ambassadors at Rally

## Georgi & Willow Mixer • February 21



**Above:** Julian Lopez presents spring styles and colors at the Georgi & Willow mixer



Mark (top) and Fernand (right) proudly displaying the Georgi & Willow gift cards they won in the raffle

## Chase Bank Breakfast Mixer • March 21



Mixer attendees included Twin Cities Police Chief Todd Cusimano; San Anselmo Building Official Keith Angerman; San Anselmo Public Works Director Sean Condry; and San Anselmo Planning Director Diane Henderson



Guests are updated on San Anselmo

## Bank of Marin Mixer • April 18



Thomas Jordan from the Marin Sheriff's Department and Renee Rymer, Bank of Marin Manager



Bank of Marin was packed with guests for its April mixer

## Assemblymember Levine Holds California Business Advisory Council • April 19



**Above:** Assemblymember Marc Levine and San Anselmo Chamber President Connie Rodgers

On April 19, Assemblymember Marc Levine met with business owners to discuss California's economic climate, the impact of state laws and regulations on small businesses, and the Assemblymember's commitment to small business success.

Organized by the California Small Business Association (CSBA), the group that met with the lawmaker included a collection of Chamber of Commerce leaders and small business owners from across Sonoma and Marin counties. The businesses represented at the meeting included a hardware store, restaurant, market, bakery, and auto body shop.

Some of the issues brought up by the attendees as critical to their success in doing business in the state included access to capital, worker's compensation, employee health insurance, and workforce development.

"I am very pleased with the fruitful conversation that came about during the meeting," said Levine. "I look forward to similar meetings in the future that will continue the dialogue with the business community in my district."



## How's the Real Estate Market? A Snapshot of Q1 2013

A "perfect storm" of **low interest rates, motivated buyers, consumer confidence, and lack of inventory** has created an exciting market right now, particularly for sellers. Both the average price and the number of homes sold in Marin continue to support widespread reports of a recovery. Experts are saying that the depressed market is finally over. Last month, Leslie Appleton-Young, chief economist for the California Association of Realtors, described 2012 as "the year of recovery." She added, "Marin home sales and prices will continue to flourish this year" after they "turned on a dime" in 2012.

Lack of inventory is critical. Buyers clamoring to buy find themselves bidding against multiple offers, many without contingencies and often all cash. We recently helped a buyer purchase a \$1.8M Kent Woodlands property against six other offers. Their extremely strong and clean offer with absolutely no contingencies prevailed. Additionally, we just received 43 offers on an inexpensive condo unit, and two thirds of the offers were all cash.

Currently, Marin County has approximately 1.3 months of inventory available (Sonoma County 1.7%). Traditionally 4-6 months of inventory indicates a balanced market and over six months is clearly a buyer's market. In addition, of the 825 residences available in Marin County, 440 (53%) are in contract (Sonoma 50%). Based on the following formula, we're

seeing more evidence of a strong seller's market.

- Seller's Market = Above 40% in contract
- Neutral Market = 30-40% in contract
- Buyer's Market = Below 30% in contract

Needless to say, with several buyers vying for the same property, some hopeful buyers are disappointed. Buyers participating in this market need to be well-prepared and pre-qualified by a reputable lender or broker to prevail in a competitive situation. They also need to be poised to move quickly.

With buyers clamoring to buy, why aren't more people selling their homes? Some sellers are "fence sitting" hoping that this market will skyrocket and "*if I wait a little longer...who knows what my home will be worth?*" We suggest that another question to consider is "*how long before interest rates rise?*" None of us know what the future holds, just that the situation is a good one for sellers right now, and that the median price for Marin homes jumped 28% year-over-year (Sonoma County 22%).

And, just like our Micro-Climates, all Marin Real Estate is local. Each town, neighborhood, even street, is different. For more in depth details town by town for Marin and Sonoma Counties, visit the Frank Howard Allen website.

*Vance & Anna Frost, Frank Howard Allen; 415-459-5901; www.liveinmarin.com.*

### New Members Continued from page 4

The light-filled, 1,200 square foot space in downtown San Anselmo features an open kitchen and food for carry-out, as well as single-origin coffee from San Francisco's Sightglass Coffee and loose-leaf teas from Oakland's Sky-Tea. The store is entirely gluten free, and all products are baked fresh daily on site—including a variety of breakfast pastries, desserts, fresh breads, cookies, cupcakes, seasonal pies and custom special occasion cakes.

Flour Craft Bakery specialties can also be found at Woodland's Market, Good Earth and Whole Foods in Marin. In Sonoma and Napa the tasty treats are available at Sunshine Foods in St Helena, Cal Mart in Calistoga and Whole Foods in Petaluma and Santa Rosa.

#### Marin Baroque

1330 Lincoln Avenue, Ste. 103  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
(415) 497-6634  
marinbaroque@gmail.com  
www.marinbaroque.org

Marin Baroque Chamber Choir and Period Instrument Ensemble is a new, exciting 18-voice choral group based in Marin County under the direction of Daniel Canosa. Since their critically acclaimed debut concert in June 2012, the ensemble has presented five enthusiastically received concerts, performing works by Bach, Buxtehude, Handel, Monteverdi, Rossi, and Vivaldi. Argentina-born Maestro Canosa, with a repertoire of symphonic and choral masterworks of all periods, has led orchestras and choruses in Argentina, Europe and the US.

The 2013-2014 Marin Baroque concert season includes:

- **Nov 16:** Handel/Italian Journey
- **Jan 18, 2014:** Chamber Music Concert

- **Feb 14, 2014:** A Valentines' Day Concert | Shira Kammen & Friends
- **Mar 15 & 16, 2014:** Jewish Baroque Music | Marin County
- **Mar 17, 2014:** Temple Emmanuel | San Francisco
- **Jun 2014 - Blow/ Venus & Adonis**

All concerts will be presented at First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, 72 Kensington Rd. unless otherwise noted. Marin Baroque will provide its first summer internship through the San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce the internship program. Starting in fall, we will be presenting Baroque music workshops and classes in several local high schools.



#### Redwood Credit Union Mark L. Chapman

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(707) 576-5276  
mchapman@redwoodcu.org  
www.redwoodcu.org

Redwood Credit Union (RCU) is a local not-for-profit financial cooperative committed to the financial wellbeing of its members and communities. RCU offers full-service banking at exceptional value, as well as free financial education, budget and credit counseling, and a host of other tools to assist people and small businesses with improving their financial picture.

RCU's full-service banking includes checking, savings, auto and home loans, credit cards, youth accounts, investment services, financial planning, free online and mobile banking, and more. RCU also offers

a full suite of small business banking services, including SBA and commercial loans; comprehensive insurance through RCU Insurance Services; new and used auto purchasing through RCU Auto Services. Deposits in the Credit Union are federally insured through the National Credit Union Association (NCUA), and backed by the full faith and credit of the US Government. Anyone living or working in eight local counties, including Marin and San Francisco can bank with RCU.

RCU has two Marin branches, San Rafael (located in the Montecito Center) and Novato (downtown on Grant Ave), as well as two San Francisco branches in the Financial District and on Market Street at Fox Plaza. RCU has 14 additional branches throughout Northern California and a network 30,000 fee-free ATMs nationwide via the CO-OP Network.

To learn more, visit [www.redwoodcu.org](http://www.redwoodcu.org) or call 1-800-479-7928.



#### Jennifer Chiu Sears Design

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jennifersears@att.net  
www.jennifersears.com

Jennifer Chiu is an experienced graphic designer who has done work in print, packaging, illustration and the web. Conceptualizing new company images or revitalizing old graphics is a favorite mission. Services include: Web Design, Graphic Designer, Illustration, Package Designer

Promote your business with a new look today!

**New Members**  
Continued on page 9

# The Benefits of Legal Immigration and the Need to Improve a Flawed System

## A First-Hand Account of the Immigration Process

Kathryn Hood, Centre for Structural Re-Integration

Immigration is a subject that prompts emotions and opinions from almost everyone. Yet what we see in the press barely skims the surface of this multifaceted topic.

We hear about border security, illegal immigrants risking life and limb to discover what they hope will be a better life, and immigrants who are deported because they have overstayed their visa. What we rarely hear are stories of those people who undertook the stringent, rigorous process to become legal immigrants.

I am one such person. My name is Kathryn Hood and I run a business in San Anselmo. I yearned to live in the United States. After years of visiting my sister, a United States citizen, and falling in love with the Bay Area, I finally decided to research how to obtain a visa.

There was a long list of possibilities. At first, a sibling visa showed promise. I filled out forms and read websites. I even began to think that living in the US might be a possibility and not so out of reach after all. Then I discovered that the sibling visa is deemed the lowest on the priority level and can take up to 13 years to process. I perused the rest of the list. Marrying my American boyfriend was out of the question. If I was going to make the move, I preferred to be autonomous and independent.

Apparently, it is far easier to become a US citizen or legal immigrant if you happen to be an outstanding scientist, an elite athlete or an actor. I was



Dr. Boyer Cole and Kathryn Hood at her grand opening celebration.

none of these things. I am, however, a businessperson. I had a successful Structural Integration (Rolfing) manual therapy practice in Australia and previously ran a small marketing company. I began to explore the opportunity of obtaining a business visa. A sole proprietor who needs nothing more than a room, a wide massage table, and sheets and pillows, I had to throw caution to the wind and develop my dream business plan.

After concluding that the E-2 Investment Treaty Visa was the only type of business visa available to me, I called a handful of attorneys who offered varying levels of advice. I often received conflicting information, but the underlying message was that I would be required to make a “substantial investment” and create job opportunities for Americans.

In May of 2011, I decided to pursue obtaining an E-2 visa. I'd considered the pros and

cons and heard the warnings: This particular visa was not for the fainthearted. I understood that only a full commitment, unwavering believe in my business plan, and enduring faith could pull me through.

I placed my property in Australia on the rental market, sold or stored my possessions, obtained a temporary business visa (allowing me to conduct business meetings and establish elements of a business, but not earn revenue), and finally flew to the US with my dog. While organizing my departure from my Australian life, I developed a business plan based on my Structural Integrator practice and my love and admiration of the human body. My business plan grew and expanded until it fit my dream to help people find a healthy, joyful relationship with their bodies through a variety of manual and physical therapies.

Once in the US, I began searching for the ideal business

### Immigration

Continued on page 10

New Members Continued from page 8



### Powerhouse Security Peter M. Alford CEO

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San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 906-5400  
www.powerhousesecurity.biz  
palford@powerhousesecurity.biz

These days, people are looking for ways to connect with their home or business while they are away. They want to know when their kids got home from school, if their business was opened on time, if someone is going into areas of their home or business they should not, what time the dog walker arrived, if they remembered to change the thermostat and turn off the lights before leaving for vacation.

A system from Powerhouse Security can give you peace of mind about all these concerns and more. It starts with a state of the art system that monitors your home or business 24 hours a day. You can get an email or text if your office is not opened on time. Your home can alert you by emailing you a picture if your valuables are unsafe or liquor cabinet is opened—even if your system is not currently armed. And it will do this while

saving you money on your homeowners insurance and your energy bill.

Your Powerhouse security system will secure your possessions, protect your family, and connect your life. Services include: Security and Connection Systems, Automation for Home or Business, Remote Access via smartphone and computer, and Video Surveillance Solutions.



### Walgreens

#### Nash Grey, Manager

820 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
San Anselmo, CA 94960  
(415) 482-0191  
www.walgreens.com

Nestled at the corner of Happy and Healthy (also known as Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and Shaw) sits your friendly San Anselmo Walgreens! It is Walgreens' goal to provide the ultimate service experience and to help you and your family get, stay, and live well. Stop by to learn about their Balance Rewards savings program, digital photo lab, and wealth of pharmacy services such as Prescription Savings Club, blood pressure screenings, and Daily Med by Walgreens. Our Store Manager Nash Grey and Pharmacy Manager John Ngo look forward to meeting you!

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- Help San Anselmo retain its special charm. Spending your dollars locally will **help our businesses keep their doors open.**
- There's so much to choose from!
- **Save on gas!** Why drive out of town, spending more than four dollars per gallon to save a dollar or two?
- Local shopping dollars **support our police, firefighters, roads and parks.**
- Help support worthy causes. **Local businesses statistically give more to local** non-profits, charities and schools than big box stores headquartered elsewhere.
- **Keep jobs here.**
- **Shop where everyone knows your name.** Become a regular, valued customer and that business is sure to show you their appreciation.

space. After several months, I found my location in San Anselmo and my boyfriend and I set about transforming an ordinary space into a place of spectacular beauty and tranquility.

By the time my attorney was ready to file the visa, more than six months had already elapsed and I had to obtain an extension on my temporary visa. The space was decorated, the Pilates equipment was in place, the treatment rooms were ready, and I'd made a substantial investment. Unbeknownst to me, though, there were more stressful months of waiting ahead.

The backlogged attorney took almost two months to file my case, which landed in the lap of an unknown immigration officer, who returned the paperwork with a request for further evidence. Having paid for premium processing, this request appeared to be a stalling tactic. The information requested was already in the documents submitted, but the attorney had to resubmit in a slightly different order. Of course, the attorney's additional work came at a price.

It was a nail-biting time. The business stood complete but empty for several months. Rent was being paid ... money drifted out while none drifted in.

Finally, in early July of 2012, I received the good news: My

visa had been granted for two years! I was overwhelmed with relief and the promise of fulfilling my dream could begin.

Mine is a success story in terms of obtaining my visa—and my business, The Centre for Structural Re-Integration, is developing well. My immigration story, however, does not end there. After this arduous application process, I will have to undergo it all again when I renew the visa in 2014. And then again two years after that, each time providing new information, documentation and proof that I am committed to employing Americans and investing money into the US economy. And each time paying an attorney to help me win my case.

It is obvious that the government needs a rigorous system to sift the wheat from the chaff. Immigrants interested in a business visa should prove that they are wholly committed. But there is little in this particular visa that actively encourages businesspeople to invest in the US. For people so drawn to invest and conduct business here, would this not be an opportune time to review, refine and redress the process?

*Kathryn Hood, Centre for Structural Re-Integration,  
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www.structuralreintegration.com.*



## Drake High Seniors Pursue Interests Post-Internships

Collette Goode, San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce Intern

For Sir Francis Drake High School Seniors Sophie Trouw, Samantha Johnson, and Andrew Greenfield, they not only gained experience during their internships but also had insight into a possible career path.

Now, these students are planning their futures and finalizing their plans for next year.



Sophie Trouw

Last year, Sophie Trouw interned at the Sheriff's Academy in which she gained understanding of written law, the rules of the criminal justice system, self-defense, and marine and coast guard patrol. This year Trouw decided to pursue another interest of hers by becoming a development intern at the California Film Institute.

Through this internship, she has had the opportunity to be involved in projects across all departments, especially in marketing and education.

"Working in an office environment six hours a week, I get to help with behind the scenes event planning and development work for events at film festivals," Trouw said. This includes compiling information into Excel and keeping track of publicity for the Mill Valley Film Festival.

Trouw also helped organize the Oscar night at the Rafael Theatre.

"We got all the official programs and stuff sent straight from the real Oscars in Hollywood so that was exciting! It was a lot of working but definitely an experience," Trouw said.

Next year, Trouw will be attending Western Washington University. Trouw enjoyed both her internship and she will either continue with the experience she had at the Sheriff's Academy by majoring in Sociology, or pursue film by majoring in Visual Journalism and Film studies.

"My internships completely helped me decide what I will be studying next year. I am sure I will end up studying one or the other in college, and now I'm torn between the two," Trouw said.



Samantha Johnson

Samantha Johnson also intends to pursue the medical field after her positive experience interning at Marin General Hospital.

"I gained insight into what working in a medical field was like. Even if I didn't plan on working in the medical field, completing my internship showed me what having a real 'adult' job was like," Johnson said.

Although Johnson isn't interested nursing in particular, working in a hospital encouraged her to enter the healthcare field, possibly as a physical therapist. She will be attending University of Montana in the fall.



Andrew Greenfield

Andrew Greenfield was an actuarial intern at Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, where he gained insight on basic office skills from database to working with fellow colleagues. Next year, Greenfield will be attending Duke University, where he will be pursuing an economics degree.

"My internship was a starting point for me to research what kind of company I want to work for," said Greenfield, "I really enjoyed my time at Fireman's Fund and am starting to narrow down what I like about different companies."

The internship program enabled these seniors to pursue their interests in a professional setting that gave them insight into possible career paths.

"I feel more prepared and confident heading into careers in these fields," Trouw said.

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## Legal Lectern: Pregnant With Meaning

Jay W. Luther, Attorney at Law  
Law Offices of Jay W. Luther  
415-456-6197 • jluther@lutherlaw.com

I haven't talked much about disability discrimination in this column because, frankly, it's a hard subject to even approach in a thousand words. Since we have some recent caselaw on pregnancy, however, this may be a good place to start.

Pregnancy is a condition that always has to do with the sex of the worker, usually gives rise to a request for leave, and is always disabling for at least some period of time. As a result, several statutes come into play. Let's just detail them in broad brush strokes, remembering that there are always more technicalities and subtleties that must be considered than are mentioned here.

First, there are the general leave laws. If you have 50 or more employees, pregnancy is covered by the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and the California Family Rights Act (CFRA). Under these statutes, employees with a year or more seniority may take unpaid leave of up to 12 workweeks a year while enjoying job protection. Child-based reasons justifying the leave are to care for a child, or to cover the birth, adoption or placement of a child. If the employee wants to return at the end of the leave, she's entitled to the same position she left, or a comparable one. These rights are in addition to the rights that might exist under specific pregnancy disability statutes.

If you have less than 50 employees, FMLA and CFRA

fall out of the picture. But if you have five or more employees, the Pregnancy Disability Leave Law (PDLL) and the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA)—California's primary anti-discrimination law—fill the gap.

PDLL provides some bright line rules. An employee is entitled to up to four month's leave, in a single or broken period, when she is physically unable to work because of pregnancy or a pregnancy-related condition. As with FMLA/CFRA, if the employee returns at the end of the leave, she's entitled to the same position, unless the position has been eliminated. In that case, she's entitled to a fully comparable position. This right to a leave and to reinstatement is pretty much absolute. Even if the doctrine of business hardship would otherwise allow the employee to be discharged and permanently replaced in other areas of the law, forget about it here.

Some side issues under PDLL: During the leave, the employee's existing health benefits must be continued. Moreover, she may use her accrued vacation benefits and sick pay during the otherwise unpaid leave. The employer may require her to use available sick pay, but not vacation credits. Also, if the employer maintains a more generous leave policy in areas not involving pregnancy, they're automatically applicable to pregnancy. For example, if the employer allows a year's leave of absence for other

### *What should an employer do? First, look at your employee handbook or policies.*

medical leaves, a pregnant employee is likewise entitled.

There's one more significant right under PFL. An employer must allow a pregnant worker a transfer "to a less strenuous or hazardous position for the duration of her pregnancy if she so requests, with the advice of her physician, where that transfer can be reasonably accommodated."

To recap, the employee is entitled to up to 12 workweeks' leave under FMLA/CFRA (with the 49+ employee company), plus an additional four months under PFL (for the 4+ employee company). After that's all used up, are we done?

Well, no, and here's where the recent case of *Sanchez v. Swissport, Inc.* comes into play. In it, the lines were nicely drawn. Swissport had given plaintiff all the leave contemplated by both CFRA and PFL even before the time of delivery had arrived. That leave was not sufficient for Plaintiff's high risk pregnancy, and she asked for additional leave, up to the time of delivery, as a "reasonable accommodation" under FEHA, California's general anti-discrimination law.

"Whoa!" said Swissport. FEHA is not a leave statute like CFRA or PFL. Rather, it is a general anti-discrimination law prohibiting sex and disability discrimination,

among others. Where it is a leave statute is with respect to PFL itself, since, technically speaking, PFL is a part of FEHA. And, the PFL part of FEHA allows an employee "to take a leave for a reasonable period of time not to exceed four months and thereafter return to work." Hey, "not to exceed" is strong language, and the usual rule of statutory construction is that specific language in a statute controls over general language like "thou shalt not discriminate!"

Still, PDLL states that it "shall not be construed to affect any other provision of law relating to sex discrimination or pregnancy, or in any way to diminish the coverage of pregnancy, childbirth, or a medical condition related to pregnancy or childbirth"—and that's pretty specific language, too. Given this, the Second District Court of Appeal noted that FEHA, by prohibiting employers from discrimination against disabled employees, requires them to "to make reasonable accommodation for the known physical or mental disability of an applicant or employee" unless that "accommodation ... is demonstrated by the employer or other covered entity to produce undue hardship to its operation." It held that pregnancy is a disability that fits within this rubric: "[A] woman disabled by preg-

nancy is entitled to the protections afforded any other disabled employee—a reasonable accommodation that does not impose an undue hardship on her employer. As the caselaw makes clear, disability leave may in some circumstances exceed four months..."

On this core issue of whether the reasonable accommodation doctrine—and its undue hardship exception—apply after leave under PDLL is exhausted, the decision seems sound. Moreover, since regulations of the Division of Fair Employment and Housing are in agreement, I would not expect that the case is going to be reversed in its core holding on appeal.

What should an employer do? First, look at your employee handbook or policies. If they limit pregnancy leaves to 12 workweeks/four months and exclude or suggest that other leaves are excluded, they need revision. Beyond this, if you lack a clear policy and a clean practice, you really need to consult with your employment advisor. Otherwise, you may be unable to establish that the employee used up all her available leave, and that undue hardship made it impossible to grant more. Then you may find yourself on the hook for a larger than expected baby gift.

## Batter Up for Two Evenings with the San Rafael Pacifics!

Albert Park | 98 Albert Park Lane, San Rafael

### At both events, you'll get to:

- Enjoy a BBQ in center field prior to the game
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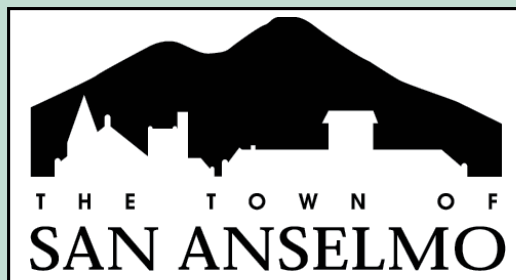


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**June 29, 3 p.m.**

### A Night for the Salvation Army

Join us for a fund raiser to help send less fortunate children to a week-long summer camp or on a back-to-school shopping spree for clothes and school supplies. Online Auction: Bid for a chance to win an Xbox or batting practice with the Pacifics for three children prior to the BBQ on June 29. Submit your bids and register at [www.sananselmochamber.org](http://www.sananselmochamber.org) (click "Register for Events") no later than June 28, 5 p.m.



**July 24, 5 p.m.**

### San Anselmo Night with the Pacifics


Come cheer on Drake High School student Audrey Recollon as she sings the National Anthem and Mayor Kay Coleman who will be tossing out the first pitch!

**\$25. Register at [www.sananselmochamber.org](http://www.sananselmochamber.org)**

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