Women gathered to patch jeans, mend underwear, smooth frayed buttonholes, rip out seams and share sewing advice and the latest news during a new weekly mending circle attended by expert stitcher Sherry Baty, center, at the Inverness Library on Monday.
In brief

**Tagged shorebirds may help scientists understand Tomales Bay decline**

By Ayla Barnett

Scientists aren't sure why Tomales Bay has seen a 65 percent decline in wintering shorebirds over the last 30 years, and a 70 percent decline in dunlins, a common brown wader with a long, drooping bill. They say it’s likely due to a host of human-induced factors, but to aid in further research, the Board of Supervisors last week allotted $3,000 for dunlin monitoring by scientists with Audubon Canyon Ranch. “We’ve lost billions of birds [nationally] since 1970, and shorebird populations specifically have declined by over 30 percent,” said Nils Warnock, the director of conservation science at ACR. “As our human population is growing, we whittle away at their habitat and that just has a cumulative negative effect.”

Mr. Warnock noted that despite declines, dunlins are still the most abundant shorebirds over the last 30 years, and a 65 percent decline in wintering habitat in the Central Valley declines, causing more birds to move to Tomales Bay. Blake Barbaree, a senior waterbird ecologist with Point Blue, said development has also likely played a role in species loss. “Their wintering habitat has really been focused on the West Coast of British Columbia down to Baja and western Mexico,” Mr. Barbaree said. “Those are also, on a broad scale, some of the most impacted regions as far as habitat and wetland development over the last 50 years.”

Aquaculture may also be a contributing factor, as areas where shellfish are cultivated tend to also be key habitat areas for dunlin and other shorebirds. Past research at the Walker Creek delta in Tomales Bay has shown that dunlin may avoid structures used for oyster farming due to disturbances. The newly allotted money will fund 20 new radio tags to track migration patterns and movements. This November, scientists will begin tagging dunlins at the Walker Creek delta. The tags, which weigh about a gram and are attached either with glue or a leg harness, are linked to automated receiving stations called Motus stations. The stations listen for signals and record if a bird comes within range; there are two stations in Tomales Bay and one at the Bolinas Lagoon. Scientists from Point Blue and a consortium of nonprofits and public agencies are using Motus stations to track dunlin and other shorebirds from Canada to Mexico. The technology allows scientists to view data from the entire network to compare research and draw conclusions. Considering the abundance of dunlin in Marin, Mr. Warnock said there’s good reason to pay attention to their movements and changes. “I think we should obviously care if we have a species in our backyard that’s very, very common,” he said. “The fact that they’re declining, you know, that’s alarming.”
Sheriff’s calls

Sunday, July 17

INVERNESS: At 7:57 a.m. someone called for medics.

DILLON BEACH: At 10:02 a.m. a deputy patrolled the village.

STINSON BEACH: At 10:12 a.m. a power pole was broken.

NICASIO: At 10:27 a.m. someone smelled smoke.

POINT REYES STATION: At 10:48 a.m. a school principal wished to speak to deputies.

SAN GERONIMO: At 11:51 a.m. a deputy patrolled the campus.

WOODACRE: At 12:08 p.m. medics transported someone.

SAMUEL P. TAYLOR: At 12:38 p.m. a motorcyclist crashed.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 12:47 p.m. some motorcyclists were speeding east and others were speeding west.

STINSON BEACH: At 1:55 p.m. a bicyclist crashed.

STINSON BEACH: At 2:17 p.m. a woman had been hit in the head by a surfboard.

WOODACRE: At 3:35 p.m. a man was smoking in dry leaves.

MOUNT TAM: At 4:29 p.m. a woman crashed her mountain bike.

STINSON BEACH: At 4:56 p.m. medics transported someone.

BOLINAS: At 10:15 p.m. someone complained about a man who runs a coffee stand and sleeps in a no-parking zone.

Monday, July 18

POINT REYES STATION: At 8:59 a.m. someone said there was video footage of two suspects spray painting smiley faces on the school.

POINT REYES STATION: At 12:01 p.m. a deputy followed up.

BOLINAS: At 12:26 p.m. someone wondered how it was legal that people were living in vehicles parked in a pullout on Olema-Bolinas Road for the past month.

BOLINAS: At 1:46 p.m. someone said cars were illegally parked near a construction site and a porta-potty was blocking views.

BOLINAS: At 1:54 p.m. someone said a man had set up an illegal coffee stand and customers in cars were pulling over, creating a traffic hazard.

WOODACRE: At 2:02 p.m. a man said his caregiver got mad when he asked for something to eat.

WOODACRE: At 2:27 p.m. a man was sitting on a corner with a large number of candles.

STINSON BEACH: At 2:56 p.m. someone reported a burglary.

BOLINAS: At 3:27 p.m. someone reported the theft of a string trimmer.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 7:17 p.m. a woman was worried about a homeless friend.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 9:35 p.m. a neighbor reported a barking dog.

Tuesday, July 19

POINT REYES STATION: At 8:56 a.m. someone said people had spray painted smiley faces and the words “trash kid” and “your trash kid” at a market.

POINT REYES STATION: At 9:15 a.m. a deputy followed up.

WOODACRE: At 11:04 a.m. someone reported finding a bike and a suitcase in the creek.

TOMALES: At 11:17 a.m. a black cow had escaped.

INVERNESS: At 11:50 a.m. someone called about getting a liquor license for the upcoming fair.

SAMUEL P. TAYLOR: At 2:05 p.m. someone asked for a welfare check on a man whose dog was standing in the middle of the road.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 6:22 p.m. a man had parked too close to someone’s driveway.

STINSON BEACH: At 11:44 a.m. a woman reported an explosion followed by an outage.

Wednesday, July 20

SAN GERONIMO: At 12:35 p.m. the owner of a pullout said a graffitied box truck had parked there for a week and he was worried the occupants may start a fire.

STINSON BEACH: At 10:40 a.m. a deputy patrolled Seadrift, noting that power was still out from last night’s transformer explosion.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 12:49 a.m. someone wondered if the person who was running a loud chipper on Montezuma Avenue had a permit to do so.

BOLINAS: At 12:32 p.m. someone reported a nude hiker between Bass Lake and Alamere Falls.

WOODACRE: At 2:18 p.m. a man said someone had come onto his property and cut down two redwoods, and he had an idea of who had done it.

MOUNT TAM: At 2:24 p.m. two cars crashed on Panoramic.

POINT REYES STATION: At 4:07 p.m. someone turned in a cell phone.

WOODACRE: At 4:57 p.m. an equestrian center employee reported the theft of credit cards.

WOODACRE: At 7:29 p.m. bus riders threatened a driver and yelled at passersby when they dismounted.

POINT REYES STATION: At 8:45 p.m. a man said a former friend and employee had compromised his accounts after moving out of the state.

HICKS VALLEY: At 9:30 p.m. a car was parked outside the school.

SAN GERONIMO: At 10:56 p.m. a car was spinning donuts near the school.

STINSON BEACH: At 11:12 p.m. two callers reported an emergency horn.

Thursday, July 21

POINT REYES STATION: At 8:47 a.m. a landmark asked for a welfare check on a tenant.

BOLINAS: At 9:31 a.m. someone complained about something PG&E tree workers had parked.

INVERNESS PARK: At 12:44 p.m. a man reported receiving a threatening message from an unknown person who said he was sending friends to assault him. Deputies told him it was scammers.

BOLINAS: At 2:26 p.m. someone called about getting a liquor permit for the community center.

SAN GERONIMO: At 6:32 p.m. someone reported suspicious people living in a box truck.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 8:13 p.m. someone said two men had entered a vacant building attached to the post office and threatened to beat each other up.

Friday, July 22

POINT REYES STATION: At 5:07 a.m. a car went off the highway.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 6:25 a.m. a woman needed help ascending stairs.

BOLINAS: At 9:20 a.m. someone said a local registered sex offender had been seen touching himself while watching women dance at the community center. Deputies found no witnesses.

WOODACRE: At 9:37 a.m. someone reported paying $1,500 for tools that the seller was now preventing the caller from picking up by refusing to move a machine that was blocking them.

STINSON BEACH: At 9:52 a.m. a man wanted to know how to appeal a citation.

WOODACRE: At 10:13 a.m. a woman reported finding a real estate agent on her property who said the land was not hers, and it was for sale.

WOODACRE: At 1:16 p.m. a man was howling and moaning.

INVERNESS PARK: At 1:54 p.m. medics transported someone.

WOODACRE: At 2:37 p.m. a man was worried about a homeless man near his cattle ranch.

BOLINAS: At 2:41 p.m. a woman said she felt in the dark about a case involving herself, a man and a van they were traveling in.

OLEMA: At 4:29 p.m. a car was stalled.

SAN GERONIMO: At 5:26 p.m. a car was swerving and then drove into grass.

NICASIO: At 7:19 p.m. another driver was swerving.

FOREST KNOLLS: At 7:46 p.m. someone complained about loud and illegal outdoor music.

BOLINAS: At 9:02 p.m. a man was setting up for the night in a pop-up camper. Deputies said it was unclear if he was parked in the zone with overnight restrictions.

LAGUNITAS: At 9:26 p.m. a woman reported a small herd of goats on her property.

Saturday, July 23

BOLINAS: At 9:02 a.m. someone believed a man was squatting in the Waterhouse building.

POINT REYES STATION: At 9:49 a.m. a motorcyclist crashed and was not moving.

POINT REYES STATION: At 10:36 a.m. a motorcyclist crashed and went down a hill.

NICASIO: At 11:48 a.m. an oak tree fell onto a Subaru parked on the square.

STINSON BEACH: At 11:21 a.m. a man’s lost wallet was found.

DOGTOWN: At 11:59 a.m. an older woman tried to climb into a rolling rental car and the vehicle ran over her foot.

TOMALES: At 1:44 p.m. a water truck ran off the road.

MOUNT TAM: At 3:10 p.m. a woman had a broken collarbone.

TOMALES: At 3:44 p.m. a woman said her ex had called her father.

STINSON BEACH: At 4:08 p.m. a man called about picking up his wallet.

LAGUNITAS: At 4:23 p.m. someone heard a single shot.

SEASHORE: At 4:46 p.m. a hiker said a woman was walking a small dog close to tule elk, though there was a sign that said no dogs.

DILLON BEACH: At 5:05 p.m. a youth who had ingested an unknown white powder on the beach was flown to a hospital.

NICASIO: At 6:23 p.m. a tree fell into a road.

POINT REYES STATION: At 6:54 p.m. a man, yelling, said he could not get into his house.

STINSON BEACH: At 7:24 p.m. women and girls were lost on a trail.

BOLINAS: At 8:49 p.m. someone called about being served papers with the wrong name.

TOMALES: At 9:06 p.m. someone had heard that there were cows in the road.
Mischief with stats

A good friend recently explained to me his take on why professional soccer hasn’t caught on big-time in the U.S.

“Stats!” he declared. “Unlike basketball, football and baseball, soccer does not have much in the way of stats.” I think he’s on to something.

Major sports teams and broadcasters employ statisticians who keep track of team and league statistics ranging from the basics to the most mundane and even the ridiculous. The best of these devoted wonks can instantly drag up on their laptops any possible stat and whisper it into the announcer’s earbud so it can be repeated to the listening audience as if it were the announcer’s own knowledge.

For example, here’s an instance of stats run amok from a recent Los Angeles Dodgers game. This year, the Dodgers have two players with the last name of Turner: Justin and Trea. During the game in question, both Turners hit a homerun in the same inning. Quick as a flick, the announcer observed, “Last time two teammates with the same last name homered in the same inning was...,” and he filled in the date, “...75 years ago.”

The N.B.A. just finished what’s called the summer league, which is played in Las Vegas midway between the regular seasons. It’s an opportunity for teams to assess possible recruits by playing them in a sort-of-real N.B.A. environment. This year, the Warriors gave a 23-year-old named Mac McClung an opportunity to show his stuff with some game time in Vegas. The sportswriters were modestly impressed by his stats: He averaged 19.5 points, 57.1 percent shooting (75 percent from three-point range), and 1.5 assists.

For one more sports stat, this one I plucked from the aftermath of the root-tootering parade down San Francisco's Market Street on June 20 honoring the Warriors for their unexpected fourth N.B.A. championship in eight years. A day later, the city’s public works department lamented that the close-to-a-million parade-goers left behind 38 tons of trash. To be honest, I thought that stat paled a bit when it was noted that San Francisco’s daily litter average citywide is a monumental 90 tons!

If you watched the parade, perhaps you were as awed as I was by the confetti cannons all along the route that for two hours launched cascades of blue-and-gold flecks. By the end of the day, Market Street was blanketed in what looked like tinselly snow drifts. I’ll bet someone has a stat on how much this stuff contributed to the 38 tons.

Turning to some disturbing stats closer to home, I found a bevy of interesting numbers provided by the county’s Community Development Agency to the Board of Supervisors for their recent action placing a two-year moratorium on issuing permits for short-term rentals in West Marin. The C.D.A. reported that there are 5,250 developed residences in West Marin. Of West Marin’s 5,250 residences, fewer than half, just 2,252, or 43 percent, claim the HOPTR exemption, a state program that exempts the homeowner property tax (it saves the homeowner $70 a year in taxes). The key is “principal residence,” so you cannot claim HOPTR on a second home or on a rental property that is not also your home.

The data also included a telling fact about homeowner occupancy. HOPTR stands for Home Owner Property Tax Relief, a state program that exempts the first $7,000 of the assessed value of your principal residence from the basic property tax (it saves the homeowner $70 a year in taxes). The key is “principal residence,” so you cannot claim HOPTR on a second home or on a rental property that is not also your home.

Of West Marin’s 5,250 residences, fewer than half, just 2,252, or 43 percent, claim the HOPTR exemption, which means that almost six of every 10 residences are (presumptively) not owner-occupied. We already knew that to be true in Inverness, but I am surprised that it holds throughout West Marin. We hear frequently about the “hollowing out” of West Marin, so it’s useful, if depressing, to have the numbers that validate the concern.

Here’s a final stat: Over the next two weeks, 73 percent of the Light’s readers who reach the end of this column will repeat one of its stats in a social setting. Although I made up that stat, it is a stat in print, so it must be valid, right?

Wade Holland of Inverness gets his stats correct 97 percent of the time.
Letters

Support fire readiness

Like nearly everyone in Inverness, I live in a forest. There are trees all around my house in Second Valley, some on my property, most on neighboring properties. All of them are getting drier each year of this extended drought. And all of them are fuel. The fire season is starting earlier and ending later, causing high anxiety in each neighborhood. To prepare for a fire fight, we need water. Probably more water than we currently have in our IPUD storage tanks. There is a ballot measure in Inverness this November that will allocate monies to pay for conservation measures and increased water supply. Please join me in voting for the measure.

William Barrett
Inverness

Missing key details

In response to the July 21 article “Valley sewer plan revived,” Eric Morey of the San Geronimo Valley Planning Group is to be applauded for his support for adding Forest Knolls to the San Geronimo Valley sewer system endorsed by valley residents and the County of Marin. I suggest adding Lagunitas as well.

The Romans figured sewage out 2,000 years ago and it’s time to bring it to our valley. In a time of misinformation, however, there are a few points that need to be corrected. Mr. Morey mentions that the one water test conducted in Forest Knolls indicated high fecal coliform levels, and that’s true. But he fails to mention that the test also indicated very high levels for ruminants (cows and deer.) It was also very high for dogs. So, unless the cows, deer and dogs were having an ongoing party in Forest Knolls, that test and one other test was faulty. The planning group should look more closely at their study and consider hiring a qualified expert to analyze the data.

The group has also seemingly forgotten that the regulations over the sewage system did not permit housing growth in the service area, as badly as it is needed in West Marin. Also, under the stream ordinance, current homeowners can only expand their home’s footprint by 300 square feet. Thankfully, valley residents can build desperately needed, state-supported accessory dwelling units up to 800 square feet regardless of the planning group’s beliefs. Endangered species deserve clean water and the San Geronimo Valley planning Group needs to get out of the muck and help our neighbors achieve that aim.

Steve Tognini
Forest Knolls

Who will do stream work

After numerous successful lawsuits seeking only to have Marin County enforce existing watershed regulations, the Board of Supervisors has finally agreed to comply by rezoning sensitive habitats. Despite the false arguments being bandied about, the new regulations will only apply to new substantial projects within the creek setbacks.

What the new zoning overlay does is identify specific properties that are within the specified creek setbacks where proposed improvements may have impacts on the riparian corridor and endangered species. Adding more than 500 square feet, building new and large parking or patio areas, removing heritage trees, and undertaking major new landscaping projects within 100 feet of a creek are all typical triggers for the new regulations.

Future restorations of the riparian corridor will involve months of planning and the extensive involvement of consultant, and will be overseen by Trout Unlimited, not the Salmon Protection and Watershed Network. The next major creek restoration project will be on the back nine area of old golf course, behind the school. The Trust for Public Land is still interested in converting the salmon habitat near the school and transferring some land to the fire department for a new fire station.

Because of the adversarial relationship between the county and SPAWN, it is highly unlikely that the nonprofit will be directly involved in future creek projects, so the concerns expressed by some that SPAWN would both file complaints and receive restoration contracts is unfounded. Actually, SPAWN states that they only respond to complaints they receive and don’t actively search for violators. The entity that traverses the creeks regularly is the Marin Municipal Water District.

The simple truth is that homeowners who are not looking for a quick profit won’t be impacted by these new regulations and will be able to do typical maintenance as they please. Don’t believe the lies: The new zoning is good for the homeowners via increased property values and more modest community character changes, it is good for the fish, and it will set a reasonable precedent that can be replicated elsewhere.

Brian Staley
Woodacre

West Marin’s Past

by Dewey Livingston

TAKING A SUMMERTIME SWIM IN THE BAY. One of things drawing people to West Marin through the years has been the many places to take a refreshing swim. The area has been especially enticing for people escaping Central Valley heat. Stinson Beach and Muir Beach, called Willow Camp and Big Lagoon in the early days, have been popular for well over a century. In the early days at Inverness, people went swimming off the downtown area and at Brock Schreiber’s boathouse. In the 1920s and ’30s, Point Reyes Station locals had a swimming hole up Paper Mill Creek by the railroad trestle, and many today remember Waldo’s dam as a popular gathering place. Fifty years ago, kids jumped off the Green Bridge for a thrill, a dangerous and illegal activity then and now. When Drakes Beach was turned into a county park in the 1940s, visitors paid 25 cents to drive down to the beach for a day of sunbathing and swimming. Locals used to regularly swim in Abbott’s Lagoon and at isolated cow ponds in the 1970s. The Inkwell adjacent to Bottini’s Resort outside of Lagunitas became a popular place decades ago, and many summer dippers enjoyed the swimming hole under the steel bridge in Samuel P. Taylor State Park. In most of these places, water quality was rarely thought about, and it wasn’t particularly good in the days when dairy ranches washed out their barns into local creeks and raw sewage went into the bays and waterways. In the photograph above, a happy woman dressed in typical swimwear takes a dip off Brock’s pier in Inverness around 1910. Photograph courtesy of the late Dian Carpenter, Jack Mason Museum of West Marin History.
most. “I really hope it passes,” she added.

Voters will decide in November whether to renew the parcel tax, which the Board of Supervisors agreed to bump up last week to $98 per parcel from around $58 this year. Marin first levied the tax in 2010, and the public reiterated its support in 2014, when a $49 version passed by a 78 percent margin. Set to expire in 2024, the tax must be renewed in November's general election with more than two thirds of the vote. Last week, supervisors approved the nearly 70-percent rate hike, relying on polls that showed widespread support for improving library programs.

“Our community survey speaks to the need for more from the library system,” libraries director Lana Adlawan told the supervisors. “Without the passage of the parcel tax measure and an increase, we will not be able to keep the status quo. We are stretching as much as we can with our existing budget to provide excellent service.”

The tax currently brings in $2.8 million annually and accounts for 13 percent of the library’s budget, but the bulk of which is funded by state and federal taxes, the new increase, it would bring in about $4.7 million every year, a little over 20 percent of the budget.

The proceeds are earmarked to maintain and restore hours, enhance programs for teens, adults and seniors, increase book and digital collections and upgrade facilities. The tax is assessed on parcels in the library district, which encompasses all unincorporated Marin along with Novato, Fairfax and Corte Madera, but residents over 65 will continue to be exempt, since many are on a fixed income.

In a survey commissioned by Friends of the Marin County Free Library, three quarters of likely voters in the library district indicated support for increasing the tax to $98 and renewing it in November. The top-ranking priority for the 600 survey respondents was keeping library branches from closing.

In 2009, the year before the parcel tax first passed, the county shut down the 80-year-old San Geronimo library branch, on the Lagunitas School campus, amid recession-era budget cutbacks. The library system is still running a deficit: $2.4 million in the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and a projected $2.9 million for the current year. The four West Marin branches are holding on, but still recovering from the pandemic.

“We’re almost fully back up to normal,” said Ms. Adlawan, who took over from former library director Sara Jones last year. Three out of the four coastal branches have restored their pre-Covid hours, which have always been spotty: the Stinson Beach branch is closed Tuesday mornings, Wednesdays and Thursdays; Bolinas is closed Tuesdays, Thursday mornings and Fridays; and Point Reyes is closed Tuesday mornings, Wednesdays and Thursday mornings. All are closed on Sundays.

The Inverness branch has yet to restore its former hours, as the library has not hired a second part-time librarian to work when Ms. Porrata can’t. The county expects to hire the new librarian by September, when the branch hours will be lengthened on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Monday evenings. It will remain closed on Thursdays.

The Inverness branch, with its senior gatherings and free internet, is as much of a public community space as any in the village. “They’re not just a place to check out books,” said Madeline Bryant, who took over as the branch manager for West Marin’s four libraries last year. “They’re really a vital place in the community.”

Ms. Bryant said she’s looking forward to facilities upgrades paid for by the parcel tax. The four West Marin branches are leased by the library, so they won’t get exterior renovations like the county-owned facilities in East Marin, but they could get fresh paint, new carpets and new book drops. “All of our facilities, as beautiful and wonderful as they are, could use some upgrades,” Ms. Bryant said.

With a school essay, West Marin School eighth grader Prairie Press helped the Inverness Association, which owns the library building, secure a $500 grant from the West Marin Fund to help clean up the children’s section. The woodwork was dinged, Ms. Press wrote, and the table needed organizing. Ms. Porrata made some improvements to the section, but said she’s working to match the grant. The money could also go toward a new reshelving cart, book purchases, or a storyline cart with organized drawing materials.

The first days of the pandemic forced West Marin library programs online, but many have reemerged in person. Children’s storytime has returned, open to the public at Point Reyes and Bolinas branches, and to school kids at Inverness. West Marin Literacy Services, a library program, offers English classes in person at the Point Reyes branch, now with a hybrid option online. In-person book clubs have met sporadically in the past year, and a few teen programs like henna workshops have returned.

Ms. Porrata hopes the increased parcel tax can pay for more laptops and internet hotspots for members to borrow, and more time available for tech support for seniors and kids. The Point Reyes branch offers dedicated tech support time from a librarian on Thursday evenings and Friday mornings, but Ms. Porrata is often interrupted by other tasks when assisting people in Inverness. Ms. Bryant said she hopes all four West Marin branches will offer the service once the new tax is passed.

“We really need more tech, and we saw that really clearly with the pandemic,” Ms. Porrata said. When school was remote, kids living on ranches or properties with unreliable internet showed up at the library to use its signal or borrow hotspots. “People were depending on the library then, and they’re continuing to depend,” she said.

James Noel

Gentle and kind James Noel, a civil engineer and builder, died due to renal failure on June 25 at his home in Point Reyes Station, surrounded by friends and family. He was 71.

James Noel was born on May 14, 1951 in Lexington, Kentucky to Audrey and Jesse Noel. Jennifer McFarland, his wife, noted that she was initially attracted to James “because he was one of the few people who said he had a happy childhood,” in Wichita, Kansas, swimming and playing golf, basketball, the trombone, guitar and chess. In the early ’70s, James spent six wild years in Ecuador, Chile, Peru and Brazil. His adventures included climbing the Andes solo to 17,000 feet, walking the altiplano, taking ayahuasca trips, and exploring wonderful markets in Cochabamba, and enjoying the warm and gentle Quechua and other Indigenous peoples.

One thwarted adventure of kayaking in Ecuador down to the source of the Amazon was due to border agents confiscating his kayak and asking for money. Another highpoint was living with 5-year-old red-haired Amber Watts on Easter Island for three months, venerated due to her hair color in the Rapa Nui culture. Fortunately, Amber was James’s marvelous caregiver for his last months; they recently reminisced about the cyclone that tore the roof off their Easter Island home.

In 1978, James moved to marvelous Marin, settling first in Inverness and later building a home in Point Reyes Station with Jennifer and a community of hands, completed in 1991. During the five years of construction, the family, including two dogs and two cats, lived in a trailer on-site with a piano. When Beowulf, their gentle 160-pound Malamute, walked inside, the whole trailer shook.

James experienced his mid-life crisis by returning to school, graduating in engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, fulfilling a dream and changing careers. John Ausoin, the first friend he met in Inverness, said, “We would assemble every Sunday full of bluff and bluster and bursting with ‘smack talk’ to compete in rounds of ping pong and bocce. Our camaraderie included slinging each other, hurling insults that would occasionally boil over into heated exchanges or the occasional shouting match. We would laugh and sometimes at each other and share jokes. James got together with us weekly for poker and outdoor games for around 40 years, so we knew each other’s temperaments and quirks. We gathered many times at James’s house, enjoying sports games and Jennifer’s chili and hospitality. I hope I see James down the trail. Maybe there is a circle in the sky, maybe we can hike, holler, sing, share tales and tell those dumbs jokes all over again...”

Longtime friend Larry Browne recalled his “beautiful golf swing and love of sports, including skiing with friends.” James’s recent life experience was the melancholy of living with Parkinson’s disease, including his physical diminishment. His daughter, Rachel, helped provide care during his last few days.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer McFarland; his daughter, Rachel Silva-Noel (Rene); his stepson Devon Smith; his sisters Nancy Parker and Marsha Borst; his granddaughters Caydra Noel and Clementine Silva; and his eight nieces and nephews.

POINT REYES LIGHT July 28, 2022

Higher library tax approved for ballot

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American Challenger budes on rocks

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Spill Prevention and Response. “We’ve applied the right pressure, so when the right tides come in, it moves a little.”

The Challenger had been en route from Washington to a scrapyard in Mexico last March when it broke free from its towline in choppy conditions, running aground on a rugged and isolated stretch of Bodega Bay coastline. With no help from the uninsured and cash-strapped owner, a coalition of public agencies was tasked with towing and destroying the vessel.

The unified command consisting of OSPR, the United States Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency and officials from the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary planned last summer to refloat the boat using buoy-ant foam, but during a series of winter meetings, they settled on a more straightforward winch system. Heavy cables unspooled from three hydraulic drums mounted at the top of the bluff were hooked onto the shipwreck. The cables can apply nearly constant pressure and crew can increase their force when conditions are favorable.

But conditions are not often favorable. “It’s very dependent on the tides,” said Benjamin Warthen, a public information officer with the Coast Guard. “It needs a substantial amount of water under and around it to be able to move, so we’ll see most of our progress when we’re at a king tide with heavy seas.” As a result, he said he could offer no time frame for the project’s completion.

After enough high tides, the boat will reach the shore—still around 190 feet away—where it can be inspected and dismantled and its parts airlifted to a scrapyard owned by the contractor, Global Diving and Salvage. The vessel’s armor-like steel hull is a mixed blessing, officials said. It protected the boat from immediately breaking apart on the rocks when it grounded, and it has maintained its structural integrity for 16 months. The hull appears to be staying intact even under the towlines’ pressure, but its substantial weight—nearly 200 tons—makes the boat all the more difficult to budge.

After the Challenger grounded, officials soon determined there was no immediate risk of a major spill, observing only a light sheen of oil that quickly dissipated. The boat had the capacity for 29,000 gallons of fuel, but many of its tanks were empty while it was being towed, and OSPR quickly drained 650 gallons of oil-contaminated water from the boat last year. But there are still unknowns. Several of the boat’s fuel tanks, totaling roughly 2,500 to 3,500 in capacity, haven’t been inspected for safety reasons. “They’re out there yanking on this thing, and they really need to get in there and look at that,” said Richard James, an Inverness resident who documents pollution in Tomales Bay. OSPR officials have absorbent boom staged at Miller Boat Launch in case of a larger spill, and Mr. Laughlin said observers are monitoring for any impacts to wildlife. The uneventful movement so far indicates that the fuel tanks likely have enough integrity to make it all the way to shore, he said.

“There is a potential threat, but a good sign is that with the 300 tons of pressure, the vessel is still holding up,” Mr. Laughlin said. “It’s not breaking apart.”

The Coast Guard’s pot of federal pollution cleanup monies, the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, is covering the winch system and tow operation because of the environmental threat posed by the boat. Once the vessel reaches land and the hazard abates, the Coast Guard loses federal jurisdiction, and the E.P.A. will fund the deconstruction.

Correction: A blurb in last week’s issue had a typo in the email address for the coordinator for the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, Jordan Gorostiza. If you’re interested in applying for an open seat on the marine sanctuaries’ advisory council, email him at jordan.gorostiza@noaa.gov.

Nature Notebook

By Loretta Farley

The Delta Aquarids meteor showers are at their peak night, seen at a rate of about 20 per hour after 9 p.m. in the eastern sky, toward Black Mountain.

As we head into late summer, we enter wasp season, a time when the over 100 species in California start nesting. Perhaps the best-known wasp is the brightly striped black and yellow wasp, commonly known as the yellowjacket. This carnivorous ground nester emits a scent when it perceives a threat to the nest. The scent draws other wasps to join the defense and they may cause painful stings. Yellowjackets use badger and fox holes to nest and may be preyed on by skunks. A related wasp species that is less colorful is the paper wasp, which builds football-sized nests of wood and plant particles mixed with saliva, which hang from tree branches and eaves. One nest may be seen in the pines at the Limantour end of Muddy Hollow Trail. These intricate structures are only used temporarily and usually fall in the wind.

It’s been a particularly good year for one of our summer visitors: brown pelicans. As food sources shift in the ocean, a plentiful supply of anchovies this year have provided a feast! Pelicans can be seen in Bolinas Lagoon and Drakes Bay, splashing and diving, taking advantage of schooling fish.
Celebrating 48 Years

THE POINT REYES FAMILY ALBUM© by Art Rogers
DEDICATED TO THE LIVES AND TIMES OF WEST MARIN

WEST MARIN DEPUTY SHERIFFS AT THE WESTERN DIVISION SUBSTATION AND JUSTICE COURT IN POINT REYES STATION — 1976

Today’s substation, named after Lt. Arthur Disterheft, who died at age 50 in 1991, stands at the site of the original justice court and substation on C Street.

Seen above are Mike Aitken, Russ Hunt, Robert “Gunny” Richmond, Bobby Strawther, Sgt. Ray Von Savoye, Norman Schuster, Lt. Art Disterheft-Esq., Joe Dentoni, Monty Martin, Steve Kane, Robert Guelfi, Wyman Tong, John Lundquist, Sgt. Norman Johnson and John Brunslik.

“He left us all too soon. A good friend, leader and top cop who advocated for ‘Don’t hide behind your badge, be true to yourself, your position and the public you serve.’ Art made us feel like his band of fearless deputies. Justice was served, life was good.” — Retired Sgt. Russ Hunt, Point Reyes Station. July 2022
Tomales Bay bulkheads aging as sea levels rise

Continued from page 1

along the five-mile section of shoreline from the Marconi Conference Center to Nick’s Cove.

George Clyde, a member of the East Shore Planning Group, said this was the first assessment of its kind. “I think it’s going to be just the starting point in figuring out how the business and homeowners are going to deal with sea-level rise,” he said.

The East Shore faces unique challenges due to the proximity of the shoreline to houses, businesses and Highway 1. A 2018 county adaptation report from Collaboration: Sea-level Marin Adaptation Response Team, or C-SMART, called for further investigation of the highway’s vulnerability along the East Shore to determine whether bulkheads below homes act as a secondary line of protection for the highway. The vulnerability assessment received $35,000 in funding from FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. (Marin has received over $10 million from the program).

According to the draft report, 23 percent of the bulkheads are in poor condition, 38 percent are in fair condition and 39 percent are in good condition. The barriers together span nearly 13,000 feet and 102 properties, roughly 75 of which are privately owned.

Mike Jewett, the lead author of the report, said he inspected the bulkheads over the course of two days. “We picked days when tides were at their lowest so we could see as much as possible. For areas I could not get to on foot, I resorted to a day on the kayak,” he said.

The report lays out conceptual strategies to accommodate rising seas, including floodable crawlspaces, bulkhead reinforcement and natural protection in the form of habitat reconstruction. The draft notes that a combination of all three strategies will likely be considered, but that each case will be highly dependent on the structure, landscape and other unique factors.

The report points out that, because Marshall’s bulkheads are built from a range of materials, their repair and reconstruction styles will differ. In part because of their proximity to the highway, each individual bulkhead will require its own professional evaluation, and because many bulkheads protect multiple properties, in some instances neighbors will need to work together to come to a solution, Mr. Jewett said. “It’s highly likely that there will be multiple sites that can be fitted with very similar or identical designs—that’s not out of the question,” he said.

Residents expressed concern over the potentially long and expensive process that obtaining the proper permits and evaluations could require. “If someone undertakes improvement to their house, will a required improvement to the bulkheads be triggered?” asked Helaine Kaplan-Price.

Mr. Jewett responded that such questions would be resolved by county planners.

Mr. Clyde said the assessment will serve as a basis for further studies, offering quantitative data that will help public agencies and private landowners address some of the challenges posed by sea-level rise.

The county still has not completed the hazards chapter of its updated Local Coastal Program, which addresses sea-level rise in the context of development in the coastal zone. Homeowners in West Marin have fought for the right to protect their homes with armoring strategies even as the California Coastal Commission has pushed back: The agency recently conditioned several permits for Seadrift projects on a ban of future armoring.

In the meantime, the county continues to plan for sea-level rise, said Kathleen Kilgariff, a long-range planning manager for the Community Development Agency. “The best available science will continue to evolve, as will adaptation methods, so it’s really important to be having these meetings,” she said.

Continued from page 1

Ranchlands key to coho efforts in Walker Creek

the lower, tidal-influenced reaches of the creek.

The resulting projects, scheduled to begin construction by March 2024, include expanding low-flow areas that provide shelter for fish during high-flow events, adding new spaces for sediment to settle, planting more vegetation and widening the floodplain. To design these, R.C.D.’s advisory committee members and contractors needed access to private property and cooperation from ranchers.

“Walker Creek is all about trusting relationships with the ranching community,” Ms. Scolari said. “You can’t just do that with one rancher.”

The creek is visible to the public mainly at two points: a quiet two-mile stretch of Marshall-Petaluma Road, and the channel where Highway 1 turns away from Tomales Bay toward Tomales and the creek’s wide estuary, known as Keys Creek, empties into the bay. For most of its run, the stream carves a lonely route through private cattle ranches, sometimes bare and uncovered, sometimes sheltered by a thick canopy of alders, oaks and laurels.
Ranchlands key to coho efforts in Walker Creek

Continued from page 1

“Walker Creek is a surprisingly beautiful stream,” said Jonathon Koehler, the fisheries program manager for Marin Water. “There are not too many places to get to it, but the places I’ve been to are healthy and there’s a lot of opportunity.”

Marin Water surveyed the Arroyo Sauvage, a tributary of Walker Creek that flows through the district’s Soujalice Reservoir, last winter, finding no salmonids in its tributary, and there’s a lot of opportunity.”

Collector, reseller, palm reader, would like to share your goods and talents with the Inverness masseur, or anything else and with the County Clerk of Marin CA 94947. This statement was filed by an individual: Carlos A Ramirez 94947. This business is conducted by a following person(s) is (are) doing business as: Rejuvative Therapy, 147 Lomita Dr, Mill Valley, CA 94945. This business is conducted by a individual: Laurie Higgins, 305 Cedar Rd, Bolinas, CA 94924. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Marin County on June 24, 2022, signed L. Vawter, Deputy. Published in the Point Reyes Light, July 14, 2022.

Fictitious Business Name Statement. File No. 153354. The follow- ing person(s) is (are) doing business as: JEM Marketing, 70 Millard Dr, Mill Valley, CA 94945. This business is conducted by an individual: Jill Mardell, 75 Millard Dr. Mill Valley, CA 94945. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Marin County on June 24, 2022, signed J. Gilardi, Deputy. Published in the Point Reyes Light, July 14, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Suprise Court of California County of Marin Case No. CV022002 TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES Lauren Tomoko Gohman filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Lauren Tomoko Gohman, to Proposed Name: Lauren Tomoko Hugh. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Suprise Court of California County of Marin Case No. CV022002 TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES Eva Rothlauf and Last Blum filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Eva Rothlauf, to Proposed Name: Eva Blum, and Present Name: Noga Blum, to Proposed Name: Noga Blum-Guthmann, to Proposed Name: Eva Blum-Guthmann.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Suprise Court of California County of Marin Case No. CV022002 TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES Lomita Spevak filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Yelena Spevak, to Proposed Name: Yelena Spakov.

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

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THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name change above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

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Coyuchi is seeking a part-time sales associate.

Box Truck Driver Wanted - San Rafael

Brickmaiden Breads is seeking an enthusiastic Sales Person and Barista. P/T - F/T. Experience preferred but not necessary. Please have a desire to engage positively with the public, enjoy high quality food and drink, maintain a clean work space, and organization. Pay starts @ $19 plus shared tips, some benefits available. Email info@brickmaidenbreads.com, call 415 - 663 - 8441, or stop by to fill out an application.

Toby's Feed Barn is a hiring a part-time and full-time employee. You will be required to load hay (100 lbs), we can train to operate a forklift. Please contact our manager Oscar or email for more info at toby@horizoncable.com.

Coyuchi is seeking a part-time Line Cooks - all positions tipped!

Email: omegastarroute@outlook.com

Coyuchi is seeking a part-time Line Cooks - all positions tipped!

Email: omegastarroute@outlook.com

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/ Ginseng Farming, Growers, Processors, and others!

Send resume and cover letter to bmclane@coyuchi.com if interested.

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Open Thurs-Sun

11-4

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mostlynatives.com

54 B St., Pt. Reyes Sta.

Help Wanted

Coyuchi is seeking a part-time sales associate.

Fridays and Saturdays to start with the option to add

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Send resume and cover letter to bclement@coyuchi.com if interested.

Line Cooks - all positions tipped!

Email: omegastarroute@outlook.com

Coyuchi is seeking a part-time Line Cooks - all positions tipped!

Email: omegastarroute@outlook.com

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Mostly Natives Nursery

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11-4

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Help Wanted

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Want to help, be involved, and learn about someone unique and special?

Join our team at Stockmill House, where the staff cares for eight fabulous elders of our community. Stockmill House staff is like family to each resident and the residents enrich the lives of each staff member.

And we can train you! Hours are flexible, with day and night shifts available. Salary based on experience. Please contact Pam Osborn 415-663-8441 x101 or email pam@wms.org.

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First, we're seeking for-full-time and part-time outgoing, professional Innkeepers to work at our front desk. Our ideal candidate has good knowledge of West Marin and the Point Reyes National Seashore. Beautiful, serene work environment with views of Tomales Bay plus an active onsite event venue, swimming pool, private beaches, and onsite Kayak rentals.

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Small professional office for rent in Point Reyes Station. Approx. 200 sf, second floor, radiant heat, solar electric, wi-fi and all utilities included. Available now. For more information, email: marshall@dream-farm.com.

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Help Wanted

Hallucinated.
**EVENTS CALENDAR**

**Send your local event listings to calendar@ptreyeslight.com**

**Thursday, July 28**

Tom Killion’s exhibit of large prints of California and Western landscapes shows from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through July 28 at Toby’s Feed Barn gallery, in Point Reyes Station.

Baby Gym, a free playgroup for children up to 3 years old and their caregivers, takes place in person today from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Dance Palace Community Center. Sponsored by Parent Services Project and the Dance Palace. Register with Kerry at (415) 246.4048 or kkacho@parentservices.org.

Indivisible West Marin writes postcards to get out the vote every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Bear Valley Visitor Center picnic area, in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Bring a cushion to sit on and postcard stamps. For information, email info@indivisiblewestmarin.org. Inclement weather cancels.

Free Covid-19 rapid take-home tests are available for pickup for people who live or work in West Marin from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays and upon request at the Bolinas Community Center, and from 2 to 3 p.m. on Thursdays at the Tomales Town Hall.

A Mending Bar Happy Hour takes place at 8 p.m. at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Full vaccination required.

Zumba with Gina Tanner and Chrissy Costello takes place from 6 to 7 p.m. on Thursdays at the Dance Palace Community Center. $12 drop-in fee; full vaccination required.

Free Covid-19 rapid take-home tests are available from 11 a.m. to noon on Fridays at the Point Reyes Library. Drop-in tech support is available from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Toby’s Feed Barn. $75. Registration required at www.fibershedmeadery.com/events.

The Tomales Bay Mudflats perform at 9:30 a.m. to noon in front of West Marin Community Services in Point Reyes Station, and from 1 to 3 p.m. in Bolinas, across from the museum. For information, call Rachelle at (415) 457.8182 ext. 102. Sponsored by the Ritter Center.

Drop-in tech support is available from 11 to noon on Fridays at the Point Reyes Library. Bring your laptop, tablet or smartphone.

**Friday, July 29**

The Tomales Bay Farmers Market takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Toby’s Feed Barn. The Tomales Bay Mudflats perform at 9:30 a.m. to noon.

A free mobile clinic offering basic medical services and referrals takes place from 9 a.m. to noon in front of West Marin Community Services in Point Reyes Station, and from 1 to 3 p.m. in Bolinas, across from the museum. For information, call Rachelle at (415) 457.8182 ext. 102. Sponsored by the Ritter Center.

**Saturday, July 30**

The Point Reyes Farmers Market takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Toby’s Feed Barn. The Tomales Bay Mudflats perform at 9:30 a.m. to noon.

“Playing the Music of Point Reyes,” a field seminar led by musician and composer David Boye, takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., meeting at the Red Barn classroom in Bear Valley in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Presented by the Point Reyes National Seashore Association. $70 for members, or $80 for others. Registration at www.ptreyes.org/programs-events/.

Little Wing Farm hosts a flower and strawberry U-pick from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Saturday on the Point Reyes-Petaluma Road, outside Point Reyes Station. Follow the signs. $5 per berry basket; flowers paid by bundle. Cash only.

“Site Specific: Local Color and the Artist’s Book,” a day of art and poetry with Judy Pettite, takes place from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Black Rock Ranch, in Stinson Beach. $150. Sponsored by the Fibershed Learning Center. Information and registration at www.fibershed.org.

A Tomales High School reunion potluck barbecue takes place from noon to 3 p.m. at the Tomales Community Park. All alumni and their families welcome; bring meat or seafood to throw on the grill or a side dish to share, and your own beverage. RSVP to Ben at (707) 449.0920 or to Alex at (707) 217.6019.


The West Marin Grateful Dead Appreciation Society plays at 6 p.m. outdoors at Smiley’s Schooner Saloon, in Bolinas. $10 tickets at www.smileyssaloon.com.

Soul Discipiz plays at 8:30 p.m. at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Full vaccination required.

**WEATHER HISTORY**

**Date** • **High** • **Low** • **Rainfall** • **Wind**
July 20 • 67 • 50 • 0.00 • 13 wsw
July 21 • 69 • 50 • 0.00 • 14 wsw
July 22 • 73 • 49 • 0.00 • 13 wsw
July 23 • 73 • 51 • 0.00 • 12 w
July 24 • 76 • 51 • 0.00 • 13 ssw
July 25 • 68 • 51 • 0.01 • 13 ssw
July 26 • 67 • 55 • 0.01 • 16 sw

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**TIDES**

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These tides are accurate for Marshall.

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Sunday, July 31

The Marin Tracking Club meets at 8:30 a.m. on the front porch of Toby’s Feed Barn, in Point Reyes Station. Come prepared to explore sites in the Point Reyes National Seashore or other nearby locations. Free.

“Historic School Houses,” a talk by Sonoma County Parks educator Ellie Muethral, takes place from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Tomales Regional History Center. Free.

Coast Miwok poet Yulu Ewis celebrates the release of “Opi” from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the San Geronimo Valley Community Center. Information at www.sgvcc.org.

Talley Up! plays swampedelic New Orleans funk at 3 p.m. outdoors at Smiley’s Schooner Saloon, in Bolinas. $10 tickets at www.smileyssaloon.com.

The Illegales plays at 4 p.m. for a Barbecue on the Lawn at Rancho Nicasio. $30. Reservations required at www.ranchonicasio.com.

The New Skye Band plays Americana, jazz and blues from 5 to 7 p.m. at Tony’s Seafood, in Marshall. No cover.

The Grateful Bluegrass Boys plays at 6 p.m. at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Full vaccination required.

Ping pong takes place from 6 to 9 p.m. every Sunday at the Laganitas Open Gym. $5 to $10 sliding-scale donations.

Monday, August 1

The Floating Island Sangha meets for meditation and discussion on every Monday at 8:30 a.m. led by Zen Buddhist priests Stuart and Carrie Kutchins. For information, email carrieninen@att.net.

Baby Gym, a free playgroup for children up to 3 years old and their caregivers, takes place in person today from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Tomales Regional Park Education Center. Sponsored by Parent Services Project and the Dance Palace. Register with Kerry at (415) 246.4048 or kbacho@parentservices.org.

A free mobile health clinic takes place from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the Bolinas Health Center with a variety of services: Covid-19 vaccines, Medi-Cal applications, information about CalFresh, vision and dental screenings, checkups, consultations and Covid rapid tests to take home. Sponsored by the Coastal Health Alliance and Marin Health and Human Services.

A mending circle meets from 5 to 7 p.m. every Monday in the Jack Mason Museum room of the Inverness Library, led by Lisa Donon. Bring your project and any bobbles and notions to share. Basic sewing tools and alteration guidance from Sherry Bay will be available.

Tuesday, August 2

West Marin Community Services distributes pre-bagged food from 1 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Indivisible West Marin meets online from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. Learn about our political landscape and actions that support our democracy. Email info@indivisiblewestmarin.org for the link.

The Marin County Sheriff’s Office hosts a national Night Out from 4 to 8 p.m. outside the Point Reyes substation, serving free barbecue and ice cream.

The North Marin Water District board meets virtually at 6 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Visit www.nnwdw.com/meetings for the agenda and link.

The West Marin Singers, a weekly drop-in song circle led by Marc Zauderer, meets from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays outdoors at the San Geronimo Valley Community Center. $20; full vaccination required. Information and registration at www.westmariansingers.com.

The West Marin Lions Club meets virtually from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. Email angelsacheli5@gmail.com for the link.

The Marin Municipal Water District board meets virtually at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Details at www.marinwater.org.

Wednesday, August 3

West Marin Community Services distributes pre-bagged food on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Michael Lerner and the co-creators of the new website CancerChoices.org, designed to help cancer patients and providers create personalized integrative treatment paths, walk through the site from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on-line. Presented by the New School at Commonweal. Sliding-scale donations welcome. Register at www.tns.commonweal.org.

A women’s collaborative dance group meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Dance Palace Church Space. $8 to $10 sliding-scale fee. Proof of vaccination required; all ages welcome.

Grateful Wednesdays start at 7 p.m. with host Danny Luehring at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Full vaccination required.

The Tomales Town Hall board meets upstairs in the hall from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. Vaccination required, and email mail@tomalesstownhall.org to confirm your attendance.

Thursday, August 4

Baby Gym, a free playgroup for children up to 3 years old and their caregivers, takes place in person today from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Dance Palace Community Center. Sponsored by Parent Services Project and the Dance Palace. Register with Kerry at (415) 246.4048 or kbacho@parentservices.org.

Indivisible West Marin writes postcards to get out the vote every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Bear Valley Visitor Center picnic area, in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Bring a cushion to sit on and postcard stamps. For information, email info@indivisiblewestmarin.org. Inclement weather cancels.


Indivisible West Marin joins a Zoom phone bank with the Center for Common Ground to make calls to voters in Arizona about early voting from 3 to 5 p.m. RSVP to Carol at whitman.carol@gmail.com.

Night Palace plays their psych-tinged pop debut album, “Diving Rings,” plus jazz and bossa nova standards at 6 p.m. at Smiley’s Schooner Saloon, in Bolinas. $10 tickets at www.smileyssaloon.com.

Friday, August 5


Musum hours are 1 to 5 p.m. today and from noon to 5 p.m. tomorrow. More information at www.bolinasmuseum.org.

“A Lily is a Poem,” an art exhibit by Sophie Wood Brinker celebrating local Calochor tus lilies, opens with a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Sinston Beach Library. Please wear a mask.

Kevin Russell and Friends plays Western swing and honky-tonk from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the William Tell House, in Tomales. No cover.

Michael Michael Motorcycle plays original rock n’ roll outdoors at 6 p.m. at Smiley’s Schooner Saloon, in Bolinas. $10 tickets at www.smileyssaloon.com.

Jeff Pherson and Matt Twain play original acoustic, harmony-driven songs at 7 p.m. outdoors at Rancho Nicasio. $15 suggested donation. Reservations required at www.ranchonicasio.com.

Calann’s Hounds plays traditional Irish music, rock and drinking songs at 8:30 p.m. at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Full vaccination required.

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Saturday, August 6

The Point Reyes Farmers Market takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Toby’s Feed Barn. The Phat Luv Band performs at 9:30 a.m.

The Stinson Beach Village Association meets virtually at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month. Email Leslie stinsonbeachvillage@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation.

A Point Reyes Station historical walking tour starts at 10 a.m. led by Dewey Livingston and Ruby Clarke. Limited to 12 attendees. $10 tickets available at www.PRSHWTours.org or, if not sold out, at the Point Reyes Farmers Market at 9 a.m. on the morning of the tour.

Little Wing Farm hosts a flower and strawberry U-pick from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Saturday on the Point Reyes-Petaluma Road, outside Point Reyes Station. $5 per berry basket; flowers paid by bundle. Cash only.

A workshop in making a fruit gathering basket takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fibershed Learning Center at Black Mountain Ranch near Point Reyes Station, led by Charlie Kennard. $150. Register at www.fibershed.org.

An outdoor Shabbat gathering and potluck takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the San Geronimo Valley, sponsored by Gan HaLev. Email suzanne@ganhalev.org for location.

The Tom Finch Trio plays blues, roots rock and world flavors outdoors at 6 p.m. at Smiley’s Schooner Saloon, in Bolinas. $10 tickets at www.smileyssaloon.com.

Styone and the PJLO play at 9 p.m. at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Full vaccination required.

Sunday, August 7

Deep flow yoga with Trishna Horvath takes place from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Dance Palace. By donation.

Chileno Valley Ranch opens for a drive-through pickup of prepaid orders for grass-fed beef between 9 and 11 a.m. at 5105 Chileno Valley Road. To place your order, email Mike at chilenobeef@gmail.com.

A West Marin contact improvisation jam takes place from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Dance Palace Community Center. $15 to $20 sliding-scale donations. For information, email Michelle Clein has been representing the real estate needs of buyers and sellers with premium service since 1995. She is a native of California and a Marin County resident since 1980. West Marin is home.

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The Black Excellence Band, an Oakland quartet, plays hip hop outdoors at 3 p.m. at Smiley’s Schooner Saloon, in Bolinas. $10 tickets at www.smileyssaloon.com.

Mumbo Jumbo plays mind-bending American at 4 p.m. for a Barbecue on the Lawn at Rancho Nicasio. $25. Reservations required at www.ranchonicasio.com.

Hooper and Sloss play country, rockabilly, blues and bluegrass from 5 to 7 p.m. at Tony’s Seafood, in Marshall. No cover.

Danny Montana and the Bar Association play honky-tonk at 6 p.m. at the Papermill Creek Saloon, in Forest Knolls. Vaccination required.
Guide to the Coast

Restaurants

1. NICK’S COVE RESTAURANT
Nick’s Cove Restaurant, Oyster Bar & Cottages is a beautiful waterfront destination featuring luxurious cottages and impressive California coastal cuisine that highlights homegrown produce and local agriculture, seafood and dairy from neighboring farms and waters. Seasonal craft cocktails and exciting wine list are not to be missed.
Open for indoor and outdoor counter service daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

2. THE MARSHALL STORE
Oyster bar and delicatessen on the shores of beautiful Tomales Bay.
Open for outdoor dining and takeout Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays, 11 am - 5 pm - Limited Menu
(415) 663-3139  themarshallstore.com
Just 15 minutes north of Point Reyes Station at 19225 State Route 1

3. TONY’S SEAFOOD - PART OF THE HOG ISLAND OYSTER FAMILY
Perched over Tomales Bay in Marshall, Tony’s Seafood offers a fresh, updated menu of seafood classics.
Open for Indoor and Outdoor Dining Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday, Saturday, Sunday 11 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. (closed Wednesdays)
Reservations at tonysseafoodrestaurant.com and walk-ins welcome.

4. SIR & STAR HOTEL OLEMA
West Marin’s ingredients can be spectacular. Our commitment is to put the best of them on your plate and in your glass. Michelin Bib Gourmand award.
Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner and room service.

5. TOMALES BAY OYSTER COMPANY
Specializes in fresh farmed oysters, mussels and clams from the cool, clean waters of Tomales Bay.
Open Fridays from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
If you need more than a few hundred oysters, please send an email to tomalesbayoysters.com to place an order and schedule a pickup appointment.
(415) 663-1243  tomalesbayoysters.com
Located in downtown Point Reyes Station

6. BOVINE BAKERY
“Udderly Divine” French pastries, country-fresh scones, bread, muffins, cookies, desserts and more. Pizza day.
Homemade vegetarian soup on weekdays, and baked bread and fresh-roasted organic Thanksgiving Coffee beans seven days a week.
Open weekdays from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Closed Sunday
(415) 663-9420  bovinebakeryptreyes.com
Located in downtown Point Reyes Station

7. RANCHO NICASIO
Weekend entrée specials and a popular all-day menu available at our fully vaccinated restaurant.
Open for indoor and outdoor dining and takeout.
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Weekends - 11:00 am to 11:30 pm
(415) 662-2219  ranchonicasio.com
On the town square, Nicasio, CA 94946

8. INVERNESS PARK MARKET
Scan for IP Market Deli Menu
Deli and market open Mondays through Saturdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Top Room open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 4 to 9 p.m.

9. TOMALES BAY FOODS: HOME OF COWGIRL CREAMERY
Choose farmstead and artisan cheeses at the creamery, and picnic fare from the cantina—everything you need for a day in West Marin.
Friday through Monday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Menu at cowgirlcreamery.com
(415) 663-3335  Located in the barn at Fourth and B Streets in downtown Point Reyes Station

10. NICASIO VALLEY CHEESE CO.
Watch and taste as we make our organic farmstead cheese. Enjoy our cheese and locally selected artisanal products while you picnic in the heart of the beautiful Nicasio valley. Free tasting from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(415) 662-6200  nicasiocheese.com
Located on Nicasio Valley Road

Guide to the Coast

Food

9. TOMALES BAY FOODS: HOME OF COWGIRL CREAMERY
Choose farmstead and artisan cheeses at the creamery, and picnic fare from the cantina—everything you need for a day in West Marin.
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Located on Nicasio Valley Road

A brazen raven attacking an osprey for her fish.