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MVMCC Management Update

Retaining walls Park Management is in the process of grading retaining walls for replacement or repair. Do you have a deteriorated wall you would like us to view and determine if repair or replacement is necessary? Call or email me at the front desk.

Fire abatement We are paying close attention to fire safety and abatement issues here in the Park. We are working on the shaded fuel break. Defensible space of 50-100 feet surrounding MVMCC is being cut by the Novato Fire District. They also funded the goats this year.

Trees Tree assessment is also in progress for pruning or removal of Park-owned trees. Limited budget.

Pets Please keep all pets indoors unless on a leash out for a walk. Several cats are on report with the front desk as unattended and/or outside. Remember, the young quail are vulnerable to cats. Also remember, your dog barks when unattended, so please keep your dogs with you. Your neighbors will thank you for that.

Water is precious and we should conserve as much as possible. Please do not water your gardens between 8 am and 6 pm. Use water incrementally at night or very early in the morning. This gives your plants a chance to absorb as much as possible. If you need help with setting your timer for your sprinkler system, please contact the front desk. We will set your timer.

Carports Continue with all your efforts to remove stored items from your carports. Many residents still have items not permitted in a carport.

Rule 10.1: Please do not hang laundry in your yard to dry. Your neighbors may not appreciate this.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.



IN MEMORIAM
Edmund "Ted" Quarry
 December 10, 1930 - May 30, 2024

THE ECHO 2024

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SUBMITTING ARTICLES

Email articles with "ECHO" as the subject to
Anila Manning: anilahere99@gmail.com
 with a copy of the article in the body of the email.
 Images should be high resolution.

ECHO DEADLINE

The 8th of the month for the next month's issue.

Letter to Residents

Greetings from the Park Acquisition Corporation Board of Directors.

The New Board Now that the PAC Board election is behind us, we're all back to work – not that we ever really paused. While the composition of the board remains unchanged, directors' roles have been modified to best meet the challenges we have before us. **John Hansen** is the new President of the board. **Jay Shelfer** is now VP and Director of Park Operations, and **Mary Currie** is VP and Director of Communications. **Steve Plocher** remains as Treasurer, and **Carol-Joy Harris** remains as Secretary.

Ad Hoc Committee Following the long-awaited signing of the exclusive negotiation agreement (ENA) with the City of Novato (City) on May 1, 2024, a couple of items required by the ENA are in process now. For example, our new attorney, Karen Tiedemann, is reviewing the property title report and developing the clarifications for any issues she finds so that we can respond to the City by July 15. She is also looking at possible exemptions for us under the Surplus Land Act, as required under the ENA.

The first Ad Hoc Committee meeting was held on June 14, 2024. PAC Board representatives John Hansen and Jay Shelfer along with attorney Tiedemann are exploring with City representatives what information

from these meetings can and cannot be released publicly, among other matters.

The PAC Board will continue to email "Resident Updates" to the resident mailing list about developments that occur at our board and committee meetings. If you are not currently receiving these updates, be sure to contact PAC Board Secretary Carol-Joy Harris: caroljoyharris@comcast.net.

Novato Rent Control Program for Mobile Home Parks

The City has changed their Rent Control Ordinance very little. Most importantly for us, rents can only be increased annually at the rate predicated on the CPI index, but no more than 4%. As a Limited Equity Housing Cooperative (LEHC), this will not greatly concern us, as members of the co-op will not be renters, but rather owners who choose our own carrying charges. Rent control will only apply to those who do not choose to join the LEHC co-op.

Finances The DSCR (debt service coverage ratio) is currently well within acceptable range. We've been in dialogue with the City of Novato for several months now concerning billings that may not have been budgeted for the current year. We have requested more details to ensure that MVMCC benefits from these expenses.

Legal Counsel and Legal Expenses

We are closing out the final bill for legal services from Dana Dean in June. Monthly billings from attorney Karen Tiedemann will ensue for services undertaken on negotiations with the City, while billings for becoming a cooperative will be postponed until we are able to get a predevelopment loan from ROC USA. The PAC Board recently made the switch to Karen Tiedemann for several reasons, including her expertise in negotiating large real estate deals and in forming LEHCs.

We have arrived at a critical new starting point with the Ad Hoc Committee meetings resuming! We need to raise \$50,000 for Karen Tiedemann and her associate as soon as possible. These funds will be used to undertake the required steps in the ENA and for Karen Tiedemann to provide our legal representation at the Ad Hoc negotiation meetings with the City. A monthly contribution to the PAC legal fund is suggested. Let's all commit to raising these funds. Every dollar counts. Consider it an investment in your future at Marin Valley. To make a contribution, drop your check made out to "PAC Legal Fund" into the Legal Fund box at the clubhouse, or give it to PAC Board treasurer Steve Plocher.

Activities Management, PAC, ROD, MVEST, HOL, and Mar Val are all very active on your behalf, and their activities are reported in articles in each month's *Echo*. I urge you to investigate and participate. To take advantage of these worthwhile events, it is best to see the notices at the front desk and our homepage at marinvalley.net. By the time the *Echo* is published, some events have already passed.

We want to hear from you!

Participation by residents really does enrich the PAC Board meetings. Your suggestions and observations are always welcomed. The greater the attendance at the PAC Board meeting, the stronger our community. Come to the meetings or email us with your input, questions, comments, and suggestions.

PAC Board Meeting Agendas

Agendas and the Zoom link for future PAC Board meetings are posted 72 hours before the meetings, are on our marinvalley.net homepage, and are emailed to those on the mailing list. To be added to this list, contact PAC Secretary Carol-Joy Harris at caroljoyharris@comcast.net.

PAC Board Meetings

The regular monthly PAC Board meetings will resume on the first Monday of every month beginning in August. Due to the July 4th holiday, our next meeting will be held on Monday, July 8, at 5 pm.

Looking forward to a productive summer.




John Hansen
PAC PRESIDENT
johnhansen.emt@gmail.com
415-847-7155 cell

Did the City Adopt the MVMCC 2024/2025 Budget as Proposed?

by **STEPHEN PLOCHER** and **MARY CURRIE**

The City Council met on June 11 to receive public comment on the City's FY 2024/25 Preliminary Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets and provide any final direction to staff, including how to backfill the preliminary deficit. This budget also includes the MVMCC budget.

At the time of the July *Echo* deadline, all we know is that the City included several of our requested capital improvement projects. Following the June 25 City Council meeting, you will receive a Resident Update informing everyone of the outcome of the

budget discussion on June 11 and subsequent adoption June 25.

The MVMCC operating budget was proposed at \$2,443,412, which is slightly less than last year's budget to meet our required DSCR of 2.0. The increased budget items, including the capital improvement budget, are aimed at enhancing our community's facilities and services. These items may not have made it through the City Council approval process – look for the Resident Update for the outcome.

Here are the items the PAC Board asked to be included in the FY 2024/2025 capital budget:

1. Clubhouse roof and HVAC replacement – The \$350,000 requested last year remains in the budget for the coming year
2. Increased tree-trimming budget – Budget increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000
3. Replace main switch, testing transformer oil, electrical pedestal replacement – Budget increased from \$0 to \$350,000
4. Increased electrical repairs – Budget increased from \$0 to \$15,000
5. Clubhouse ADA phase 2: Design pool & clubhouse bathrooms – Budget increased from \$0 to \$75,000
6. Clubhouse ADA phase 2: Construct/renovate pool & clubhouse bathrooms – Budget increased from \$0 to \$300,000
7. Updated property assessment and associated on-site engineering – Budget increased from \$0 to \$105,000
8. Water main/lateral design and construction documentation – Budget increased from \$0 to \$100,000
9. Thermal panels to heat pool – Budget increased from \$0 to \$23,000.

Tuesday, June 25: City Council budget adoption

ROD Committee Update to Residents — June 15, 2024



Progress Toward Maintaining an Affordable Community of Senior Citizens at Marin Valley

The Resident Ownership Discovery (ROD) Committee (*Serena D'Arcy Fischer, Alan Gump, Dave Tetta, and only two PAC Board members – John Hansen and Mary Currie, with Jay Shelfer attending in place of Currie at times*) continues to work closely with ROC (Resident-Owned Communities) USA and its California affiliate, CCCD (California Center for Cooperative Development) to achieve our long-term goals. ROC USA has helped over 320 US communities achieve and maintain resident ownership.

The ROD Committee is proceeding with our new attorney, who is helping to sort out the timeline of next steps for us to undertake.

We hope to have another community workshop in July. ■

Message from Mar Val

Dear Friends,

Happy Birthday, America! Aren't we blessed to live in this grand nation? Let's all gather and celebrate on July 4th ... please see the flyer in this *Echo* for details.

As you all are aware, starting with the July dinner event, sales tax will be added, making the cost for one person \$16.30. Gracious, have we heard grumblings about that! ... NO, not about adding the tax, which does not seem to be the issue at all; rather, mutterings of why we didn't just round it up to \$17. Folks, we are trying to be fair and add just the tax amount, but if this bothers you, please feel free to round up and pay any amount you wish, as long as it is \$16.30 or more. The "rounded-up" funds will be used to help cover the taxes on drinks and Pub food that Mar Val is currently paying. We all manage our funds differently, so pick the best option for you.

I would like to thank Kathleen Dargie for so graciously being the emcee for Memorial Day; it was a real treat for all of us to see Kathleen back at the mic. Starting with the July 4th

event, Mar Val is going to offer "Get to Know the Mar Val Board Members." Different Board members will act as emcee for the night, starting with Vicki Waddell, Mar Val Treasurer, on July 4th. We are ever grateful to have a wonderful group of residents on our board, and they all work diligently, but many work totally behind the scenes. This will be an opportunity to get to see who they are in a little different scenario.

Thank you all for continuing to "move around" a bit at Pub and sit at different tables ... we have been so enjoying having the opportunity to chat with some new friends.

Looking forward to seeing you at Pub on July 4th, and at Pasta Pub July 26. Please remember that while you never need a reservation for Pub, you do need a reservation if you wish to enjoy Chef Larry's delicious pasta dinner.

Sincerely,





Mar Val presents

Independence Day!!

Thursday, July 4

Music by Brynda Foster!!

5 pm Cocktails • 6 pm Dinner

Try our Margaritas

Menu

Pulled Pork Sandwich *or* Egg Salad Sandwich

Green Salad & Macaroni Salad

Chef's Surprise Dessert

\$15 + sales tax = **\$16.30 per person**, make checks to Mar Val

Deadline for reservations: Monday, July 1, by 5 pm

(or when 120 reservations have been received)

For questions, call Susan Hoff, 707-365-9426

MAR VAL PASTA PUB NIGHT



Friday, July 26

Dinner will start at 5:30 pm

Pasta with choice of sauce (pesto or meat)

Salad and garlic bread

\$10 per person

(Mar Val absorbs the tax on Pub food and drinks)

Reservation deadline – July 23 by 5 pm or when 100 reservations have been received.

For questions, call Susan Hoff, 707-365-9426

Home Owners League Message



Greetings,

A month ago, we were hoping the rain would finally cease. Now, I would personally appreciate a couple of showers to bring some relief from the heat.

We recently celebrated our inaugural Pride parade and reception, which turned out to be a resounding success. The event drew a large crowd, with **Tom Weeden's** bagpipes adding to the festive atmosphere. The occasion was vibrant, joyful, and lively, complete with a potluck featuring delicious food and an array of beautifully decorated cupcakes provided by the skilled **Karen Muhly** and **Cherrie Dougherty**. Appreciation goes out to everyone who participated, with special recognition to the organizing committee led by **Kathryn McMudie**.

In July, Circle of Friends will be showing the last part of the poignant documentary *When We Die* trilogy. Last Monday Lectures will be taking a

break for the month, but save the date of Friday, August 2, when you can hear music and singing with **Maggie Siegfried** and **Frank Simpson** and friends in the Fireside Room after Pub. Be sure to sign up for a new A Matter of Balance Class July 1 through August 19.

The Newcomers Group, as indicated in last month's *Echo*, has formed an informal committee comprising seven individuals whose role it is to coordinate and arrange monthly gatherings. Residents who have relocated to the Park within the past year, as well as longtime community members, are welcome to become members of the group by getting in touch with me.

At press time, we are excitedly anticipating the arrival of both sheep and goats, which will help clear the overgrown grass and shrubs from the wet spring season. Matt and the Novato Fire District are coordinating the timing of their arrival. It is important to keep dogs away from

the grazers and their sheepdog companions. We appreciate your cooperation.

Last month, an article was penned about the Free Food initiative, mentioning an estimated weekly food collection worth around \$2,000. Recent findings indicate a significantly higher value, potentially three to four times greater. This translates to communal savings of over \$300,000 on residents' food expenses. Volunteer efforts have been instrumental in achieving this, although after over a year of continuous dedication, some helpers are looking to take a well-deserved break. Thus, we are in search of individuals willing to consistently volunteer one or two hours per week to work the tables and/or drive. The ideal candidates should commit to a specific time during our delivery schedule, have the ability to lift cartons exceeding 30 pounds, and work harmoniously with fellow volunteers and food recipients. Did

I mention we have a lot of fun? There is much laughter, and we have great pleasure doing this work. If you are interested in taking on this responsibility, please reach out to **Jill Boland** (text 415-827-3381) or me (johnmfeld@gmail.com).

Once in a while when arranging an event, meeting, memorial, or Mar Val's scheduled activities, food is placed in the steel kitchen fridge with clear "Do not take" labels. Unfortunately, individuals looking for food sometimes disregard the labels and take the food meant for a particular occasion. Kindly note labeled food meant for specific events and refrain from helping yourself to it.

Our HOL Board meeting typically scheduled for the first Thursday of every month will fall on July 4th. It is rescheduled for July 11 at 4 pm.

Best wishes,



John Feld
HOL PRESIDENT
johnmfeld@gmail.com
510-495-4138 cell

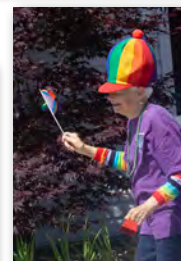
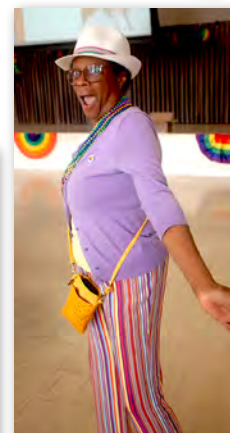


Marin Valley Pride Celebration

June 9, 2024

Smiling, laughing, dancing in the streets, hollering, yelling, letting go, making new friends, bridging old friendships, feeling a unity among us all, a togetherness for the support of human rights and respect for all. A wonderful feeling among us ...

Warmly,
Kathryn and the
Pride Committee





Circle of Friends

by **ANEESHA DILLON** and **TIMO NAVSKY**

Tuesday, July 23 • 4 pm • Fireside Room

Previously at Circle of Friends meetings we presented the first two parts of the documentary series *When You Die*, directed by Johanna Lunn. This month we will be screening the third and final segment, called *Architecture of Death: The Inner World of Dying*. Here's what the producers say about the film:

Director Lunn directs this third chapter in the When You Die trilogy, which continues to address our mortality head on. She guides viewers through fear and into honest conversations about what really happens at the end of a person's life. It seeks to answer: What happens as we are dying? What could the final months, weeks, and days of life look like for the person who is dying? And for the people who love them?

The film explores the physical aspect of dying, as well as the unseen felt experiences that can occur, such as: the changing roles within a family, the potential to heal old wounds, deathbed visions or dreams, messages to loved ones from the dying or recently passed, and a host of other phenomena.

With insight and humor, these topics are explored by leading clinicians who have spent their careers at the bedside, researchers studying the nature of consciousness, and personal stories of love and loss. Discussing what happens when we die with curiosity and compassion allows death to become a more accessible part of life.

We believe it's time for a death revolution. The best way to start that revolution is simply by talking."

Join us on July 23rd at 4 pm in the Fireside Room for the screening of this impactful film. All are welcome! ■

2nd A Matter of Balance Class

Vivalon, the program sponsor is accepting calls and emails for priority registration.

Contact Reina Garay Solis at 415-456-9062 ext. 122 or email at rgaraysolis@vivalon.org and indicate that you are calling from MVMCC for the second A Matter of Balance at MVMCC July 1 – August 19.

You can also sign up in the clubhouse! ■

Sure Cure for the Blues

Friday, August 2 • 7 pm
After Pub • Fireside Room

Maggie Siegfried and Frank Simpson are hosting singer/songwriters Merrily Weeber and John Barnard in concert, for an evening of original, eclectic, heartfelt, playful music. ■

LAST MONDAY LECTURES No July Talk

Last Monday Lectures series is taking a vacation for July but will continue in August with a speaker on the natural history of Marin Valley. ■

Call to Artists

by **SUZIE LAHR**

Guess what's coming next? On Sunday, August 4, a new exhibit by our Park artists will be installed in our gallery, along with our very first featured artists in the lobby – John Feld and Gail Camhi.

We still need to fill the walls in the Fireside Room; so artists, please step up to the plate and help us do just that. This exhibit will stay up over the winter holidays, aside from the lobby, which will switch to a new featured artist on October 4.

If you are a new artist in the Park, please give Suzie a call at 415-884-9611 to talk about your art and be added to the email list. ■

Dancing at Twilight

by **JANET BOGARDUS**

In July, dances will be held at 7 pm, when the air will be cooler. Dance on two Wednesdays on the deck. Janet Bogardus will DJ on the second Wednesday, July 10, and Dave Tetta will run the playlist on the fourth Wednesday, July 24.

Friday nights are open for anyone who wishes to have the thrill of getting us grooving on the meadow. Janet has a speaker anyone can borrow.

All Saturdays are Steve Plocher's creation in the meadow, unless he's out of town and asks for backup.

Join us for these mini-celebrations to move and talk in delightful and unexpected ways! Sometimes there are refreshments and, yes, even birthdays to be cheered for. ■

Get Me to the Church on Time

by **JANIE KLIMES CROCKER**

You might say it all began with Henry VIII, when he wanted an annulment in 1527 and the Catholic Church would not allow it.

Around that time the Church of England was established, setting the stage for all sorts of difficulties regarding personal rights – especially, as the years went on, with LGBTQI+ rights. For 500 years now, the Church of England has held rigid to its doctrines, mimicking the Catholic Church.

Although same-sex marriage has been legal in England and Wales since 2013, the Church of England bishops have refused to back it.

The Church of England is divided into 42 dioceses, but the one I'm going to talk about is the Oxford Diocese in Oxfordshire, with Christ Church Oxford in Oxford University as the religious seat. Apparently, each diocese holds some autonomy in making procedural-change decisions.

Nonetheless, despite both the Bishop of Oxford and the Archbishop of Canterbury expressing strong support for a gay marriage allowance, neither will carry out these unions due to their interpretation of “pastoral responsibility for communion.”

A new proposal made in the Church in November 2023 would allow gay couples to undergo a blessing in church after they have been married elsewhere. But a blessing of this type has yet to happen at Oxford, and the Archbishop and Bishop acknowledge that they have a long way to go in this arena.

Meanwhile, amid a scandal (over money and misconduct) with the previous dean, in July 2023 Professor Sarah Foot was chosen as the Dean of

Christ Church Cathedral – the first woman *ever* in Christ Church's 500-year history. The dean is a senior officer in the Church of England, and the Cathedral is her domain alongside the running of Oxford University. The dean also has the right to override all decisions relating to the running of the Cathedral.

So why do I care, and what is the relevance to me?



Ryan King, my son, on the left, with husband Alex Roth

In 2012 my youngest son, Ryan, moved to England to work and then go to London Business School for graduate work. When he graduated and was looking for a job, the school held a job fair with representatives from large companies looking to recruit. One firm, Bain & Company, sent Alex. The two met, and the rest is history.

Last summer, Alex and Ryan were planning their wedding and requested that

their ceremony be held and their union be blessed at Alex's alma mater, Christ Church, Oxford. They were told that the Church would not acknowledge their marriage but would bless their union, albeit not in the cathedral. They opted for a civil ceremony at another venue.

Then in May of this year, Alex received a call from Dean Sarah Foot inviting Alex and Ryan to be the first gay couple to have their marriage blessed at Oxford, at the Christ Church Cathedral. She stated that she herself would be honored to perform the ceremony. It will be held on September 21, 2024, during Evensong, with all the pomp and circumstance associated with the British. Look for me when you see it on television. I wouldn't miss it for the world. ■

ACLU of Northern California Honors Resident Marshall Krause with the Chief Justice Earl Warren Award

by **ERMA WHEATLEY**

On April 17, 2024, friends, family of several generations, and law partners, along with current and former staff and board of the ACLU of Northern California (NorCal), gathered on Zoom and in person at the ACLU San Francisco offices to celebrate and recognize Marshall Krause as a recipient of the Chief Justice Earl Warren Civil Liberties Award for a lifetime of dedication to civil liberties. Among the past recipients is Rosa Parks.

In her introduction of Marshall, Dorothy Erlich, ACLU NorCal's former executive director, said "There is no one I can think of who is more deserving of this honor. He was so much a part of shaping the history of civil liberties in this state. ... It's pretty remarkable what he did."

In preparation for her introduction, Erlich noted that in *the book on civil liberties in California, Wherever There's a Fight*, by Elaine Elinson and Stan Yogi, she found over 45 references to Marshall. And from the table of contents of a memoir Marshall is being urged to finish, she highlighted his arguing the first race discrimination case in housing in California, fighting to allow Malcolm X to speak at UC Berkeley, and helping to successfully litigate some of the first LGBTQ cases in California.



Marshall Krause receiving the Chief Justice Earl Warren Award from ACLU of Northern California Board Chair Adam Bailey.

Upon receiving his award, Marshall expressed gratitude to many people, including his boss, ACLU NorCal executive director for 50 years, Ernest Besig, "indomitable in his defense of civil liberties. He never backed down, never gave up, and he always had a good word to say for people who were in distress and needed help. And he made the ACLU of Northern California a viable, wonderful organization. His favorite expression when he was surprised by something was 'God's teeth!' So I say that to you, Ernie."

Marshall also thanked his secretary Lee Anderson, "who, in the early days when you filed something with the Supreme Court and you didn't have the money to print the brief,

you'd have to do 12 carbon copies. So she would type up 12 carbon copies of all the briefs, and then I would go through and make corrections, which meant she she had to do it on 12 copies."

Current Executive Director Abdi Soltani quipped, "Marshall argued before the Chief Justice a few times,¹ and the year after Marshall resigned from the ACLU, the Chief Justice must have thought, 'Hmm, I don't know that I want to be a Supreme Court Justice anymore' and quit that job a

year later, seeing no reason to stay if Marshall Krause wouldn't be coming from the ACLU anymore."

Soltani then queried Marshall about his life and career.

What was it that drew you to make the decision to get into this business that became the center of your life?

Marshall: I have to give my parents some credit. They were very controlling, and that made me into an anti-authority person. So I've always been going up against authority and I've also always had a sympathy for the underdog; the person who the odds were against, who seemed to be at a disadvantage.

Did you know you wanted to be a lawyer very early on?

Marshall: I have to confess that I became a lawyer because I wanted to stay out of the Army. If you wanted to get out of the Korean War, you had to stay in graduate school. So I didn't know what to do with my life, and I went to some vocational aptitude testing and they said, "Well, you seem to like the same things that lawyers like, so why don't you go to law school?" So I said "OK I'll go to law school." ... I didn't have any idea what a lawyer did as a matter of practice. But I turned out to like the law, and I did well, and I enjoyed it. So that's what happened.

How was it that you made your way from being a law student to making your way through the door to the ACLU?

Marshall: I was the clerk for a judge on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and I kept reading in the paper about this guy named Al Bendich who was winning wonderful cases for the [American] Civil Liberties Union². So I decided that I would call up Al Bendich and meet him, find out what he was about, and I did. [We] had lunch and, of course, before the lunch was over he had talked me into becoming a volunteer attorney for the ACLU. [When] Al told me he was leaving to go into teaching, I decided I would apply for the position, and I was lucky enough to get it.

It was such a gift to me to have Marshall Krauss and Al Bendich ... the thought partnership, the engagement ... I would have loved to be a fly on the wall.

Marshall: I was helped during those years by a number of volunteer attorneys, [who] are absolutely

essential to the work of the ACLU. The staff attorneys just don't have enough time to take care of everything.

What were one or two of the real highlights for you of your experience and time here?

Marshall: I would like to tell the story that might take a little while, but I think it'll be worth it. I'm sitting in my office [and] a guy is coming in to see me ... a typical denizen of the Tenderloin district, perhaps addled by some kind of substance or other, and he tells me that he has been charged with a crime because he refused to allow the housing inspectors to inspect his apartment. I asked, "Did they have a warrant?"

"No, they had no warrant."

"Did they tell you *why* they were inspecting your apartment?"

"They said there were rats in the neighborhood, and that health inspectors were inspecting *all* of the apartments in the whole area."

His name was Roland Camara. He was charged with the crime of refusing entry into his apartment to a health inspector. The inspector had no warrant, but at that time [they didn't need one] because there was a Supreme Court case called *Frank v. Maryland* decided in the 1940s where the Supreme Court held that the Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable searches and seizures only applied to criminal cases and not to anything else.

So this is the way the Supreme Court operates. It doesn't say anything like that in the Constitution. It doesn't say *only* in criminal cases are you protected

against unreasonable searches and seizures, but that's the way the Supreme Court read the Fourth Amendment at the time. I decided in my majesty as staff counselor of the ACLU [audience laughter] that the Supreme Court must be wrong. And I challenged the criminal complaint in Municipal Court, saying, "So what? So he refused permission of the health inspectors to inspect his apartment. That doesn't constitute a crime because he had the constitutional right to be protected against unreasonable searches and seizures."

Well, we lost all the way, of course, because *Frank v. Maryland* was there saying "Yes, you can." You can go into anyone's house, apartment, office, etc. if you claim you are a health inspector, or a building inspector, or any other kind of inspector, and the citizen must yield, and if the citizen does not yield, he/she is subject to criminal prosecution. ... I was lucky enough that the [US] Supreme Court decided to take a look at this case and grant what is called *certiorari*³. ... The case called *Camara v. Municipal Court* held that *Frank v. Maryland* was wrong and must be overruled. For me, this is an extremely significant move on behalf of the Supreme Court, because it opened up the whole area of privacy to constitutional protection. Previous to *Camara v. Municipal Court*, it was only against criminal prosecution that the protections of the Fourth Amendment and other aspects of privacy were available to us. After *Camara v. Municipal Court*, that rule was changed and we got cases like *Griswold v. Connecticut*, where Justice Douglas wrote for the Court that there is an aspect of personal

privacy and integrity protected by the Fourth Amendment. The privacy of a person is what's important now, not whether they're being prosecuted for a crime. So that area of privacy opened up, and it allowed the decisions we are so familiar with — making it unconstitutional to make abortion a crime, for instance, making it unconstitutional to make gay sex a crime, making it unconstitutional to forbid gay people from getting married, and opening up the whole area of constitutional rights to the idea of privacy, which I think stems from *Camara v. Municipal Court*.

So that's what the ACLU can do. That's why we're here. We're here for that very reason — to challenge what is accepted dogma about what the constitutional rights of the people are and to move ahead in a progressive way. [That's] what I would say was one of the most important things that I did.

What made you decide to leave [the ACLU] and then how did you pick up and continue your work after that?

Marshall: I left because I wanted to be a hippie. That was it, sorry. I wanted to be a hippie because one time there was a fellow who came into my office who had some kind of a problem or other and he was a hippie. He had long hair and at that time it was very strange, and I said, "Well, how come your hair is so long?" And he said "Oh, just because it feels good when I'm on my motorcycle." And I thought, that's really something — that you do something just because it feels good. I decided to find out what it was like to do something that felt good. (There *were* a few other things that felt good that I knew.)

So that was my ambition. But I had a wife and two young children, and it wasn't too easy to become a hippie, especially since my wife said NO! So I just retired and became a gentleman farmer. I had 12 acres in San Geronimo Valley that I farmed, and that was a lot of fun. And then the money ran out, and I had to become a lawyer again. I found Larry Baskin and formed a law firm, and together for some 25 years we handled a number of very, very significant cases. ... I had lots of cases involving criminal law and capital punishment and represented a lot of people who didn't get executed, thank goodness. The very idea that we human beings were smart enough to be able to take the life of another human being is abhorrent to me.

I'd like to hear a little bit of your perspective on what's happening in the Supreme Court now.

Marshall: Well, the very idea that the Constitution should be interpreted as it was understood in 1789 is so absurd to me. I've done a lot of reading and studying about the framers of the Constitution, and they were not people who were stuck in old ideas. [My] idea has always been that the Constitution grows or changes with the temperature of the times. We have what is called a "living Constitution." It's the only way that I think that the framers would have understood the Constitution; that their understanding was on a very abstract level and that it would be filled in, in the specifics, by what was actually happening, what was the truth. The Constitution I think is a marvelous, wonderful, genius construction because it leaves room for interpretation of

new ideas and new concepts. Of course, no one was thinking that gay people could get married in 1789. No, that wasn't the mores of the time, but it certainly has changed. And our Constitution, so far on that particular subject, has changed with it, and I think that the Constitution must continue to change, and I think it's flexible enough and able to change with the changing mores of our population. So it should.

A Free Speech Zone opened up for questions, stories, and reflections.

Law partner Larry Baskin:

Marshall left out a very wonderful part of his background after the ACLU. [He] was also the Legal Beagle reporter on Channel 9 Newsroom. It was a very forefront news show at the time, and Marshall appeared once or twice a week and commented on what was going on in the courts around the country and particularly the Supreme Court. So he had quite a reputation when we started our practice together, and it helped bring in clients, of course. Interestingly enough, he also wrote a book for the continuing education of the Bar on search and seizure law in California. It was very popular, and it produced a lot of sales and [the following] very interesting story for us.

Shortly after we opened our office without any clients, we were approached by a developer who was being sued by the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund and a host of other groups. We were just this little fledgling law firm. But we had Marshall. And we had hair. We looked more like the lawyers who were affiliated with the groups suing than the developers' very

high-powered lawyers from big firms in the City. So, they hired us. They really wanted us for political and appearance reasons. And we didn't get much respect from them. Fast forward to the first day of the trial, and the judge calls us into chambers. Marshall and I are there [along with] the other lawyers, all lined up in front of the judge's desk, who was busily working away writing a legal opinion on a motion in his case. And he looks up and everybody introduces themselves, and then he goes "KRAUSE!" He's using Marshall's book to write his opinion. It got us the right leg up going into the trial, which we won, and it turned out to be a great story.

Timo Navsky (Marshall's wife):

I asked Marshall after he retired, "Did they ever ask you to be a judge in Marin?" He said, "Oh yeah, they asked me, but I can't get anywhere at eight o'clock in the morning." Everyone who knows Marshall knows that that was the reason he didn't accept it. Marshall has retired four different times in his lifetime, so if you need some advice on how to retire or what to do in your retirement, he is definitely your man.

Marshall really loves learning. He's always reading, watching the news, staying current. After he retired, he went to the College of Marin and took all of their science, botany, and astronomy classes, and

everything like that, all for grades. I asked, "for grades?" "Yeah. I want to learn the stuff and I have to study it."

Marshall also taught current issues before the Supreme Court at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute for about 10 years in Marin and in Berkeley. His classes filled up first, and the same students kept coming for more and more. So he devised an advanced class in which they had to prepare and present briefs in front of the class. He wanted people to participate. Everybody loved having Marshall as their professor, and I always thought he could be a professor in just about anything; he loves learning so much.

The final speaker, **Elaine Elinson**,

former ACLU NorCal Communications Officer and author, noted that the Fourth Amendment case that Marshall argued not only "went all the way up and changed national policy, but that that also happened with one of his cases against race discrimination, *Burks v. Poppy Construction*, which was challenging race discrimination in housing in San Francisco." She asked Marshall to talk about this case, "one of the first cases under the Unruh Act⁴ that became the basis for the national 1964 Civil Rights Act."

Marshall: The people who were supporting racial discrimination in housing felt that they were

exercising *their* constitutional right to sell and rent to whom they wished, and they were very upset that the ACLU was interfering with their constitutional right to dispose of their property as they wished. And that was a very popular kind of concept of what constitutional rights consisted of – the right to dispose of your property any way you wanted to. We had to overcome that obstacle. ... We managed to win that case, and it was really a precedent setter for the rest of the country – that there was no constitutional right to dispose of your property the way you wanted to when it injured other people on the basis of race, or religion, or national origin.

Sotani: On behalf of the ACLU of Northern California I'm honored to have been part of this journey with you and to celebrate your work to protect and grow liberty. Concluding the award ceremony, he invited anyone who wanted further information to go online to Bancroft Library Oral History and search for Marshall Krause for the whole oral history of Marshall, and at the California Historical Society for archives of ACLU news with stories of Marshall's era. The Bancroft Library interviews with Marshall are also in Resident Stories on the Marin Valley website under Living Here at <https://marinvalley.net/marshall-krause/> ■

¹ Marshall Krause argued four cases before the US Supreme Court – won three and then won three additional cases by summary disposition, which is a decision made based on statements and evidence without going to trial.

² Al Bendich successfully defended the right to free speech in two landmark obscenity cases – Lenny Bruce's nightclub act, and Allen Ginsberg's poem "Howl" as well as Lawrence Ferlinghetti's right to publish and sell it in book form.

³ Certiorari – a writ or order by which a higher court reviews a decision of a lower court.

⁴ The Unruh Civil Rights Act provides protection from discrimination by any business establishment in California, including housing and public accommodations, based on age, ancestry, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation.



ILLUSTRATION: ERMA WHEATLEY

Acknowledging My Inner Witch

by **LORNA SASS**

In my online crones group, we've been putting aside any negative associations with the word "witchcraft" in favor of investigating its potential creative power for manifesting good.

While I had never previously thought of myself as a witch, in looking back on my life I'm realizing that I've actually been practicing forms of witchcraft intuitively since I was very young. The various spells I cast could be called survival tactics, but I prefer to think of them as ways I manifested the magical powers of my inner witch to survive and thrive in the situations that life offered.

For example, my mother frequently took me with her to visit my schizophrenic younger brother in a state mental institution, more accurately called a snake pit. I was only eight or so, and when the door locked behind us after we entered, I felt completely trapped inside a crazy house. The awful things I saw — adults in straitjackets, kids rocking back and forth banging their heads against the wall — and the revolting smell of that place just about did me in.

But before I knew what was happening, my inner witch instructed me to jump onto an invisible broomstick and leave my body to escape the horror. On the outside I looked like me, but on the inside no one was there. To this day, I wander in and out of my physical being, often not quite sure if I'm fully present and connected to the earth and other humans. But thanks to my fairy-tale witchcrafting, I survived the intense traumas of my childhood.

The next time I recall unconsciously calling upon my inner witch was at age 22. I hadn't gotten into the grad schools of my choice and felt quite depressed. Knowing of my distress, a California married couple I'd met crossing the Atlantic for Junior Year in Florence invited me to visit them for the summer, luring this devoted English lit major with the knowledge that London playwright David Mercer would be teaching a course on British theater at Humboldt State in Eureka. I was intrigued by this rescue plan and accepted their kind invitation.

Mercer had written the play *Morgan—A Suitable Case for Treatment*. After its run in London's West End theater district, *Morgan* became a movie starring David Warner. Knowing I'd soon be meeting the playwright himself, I sought out the movie and instantly fell in love with the brilliant mind that created this zany story of a failed artist who dons a gorilla suit and crashes the wedding of his ex-wife.

Before I knew it, some force told me to get on my broomstick and fly from Manhattan to Eureka, secure in knowing that I was going to manifest a love affair with this man about 25 years my senior. As soon as we met, I cast a spell on David and he immediately opened his arms to me, but with the caveat that his version of a British Twiggy would be arriving from England in three weeks. I didn't believe him since I had also cast a spell on myself, convincing my brain that once David got to know me, he would tell her not to come.

Mercer drank a lot and was a half-hearted lover, but none of that seemed to matter as he regaled me with exquisite stories of his London theater buddies Larry, John, and Peter (think Olivier, Gielgud, and O'Toole), and I was completely gaga. The year was 1967 and the Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's* album had just come out. Mercer sang wistfully about the Lonely Hearts Club Band, swaying with whiskey in hand, as I watched and listened in wonder.

When Twiggy arrived and I had to face the fact that my inner witch seemed to have temporarily lost her power, I threw myself onto the sandy Arcata beach surrounded by huge boulders and wailed. Then my unconscious suddenly remembered the broomstick and I climbed aboard and escaped to Mexico City, where I hung out for a few months licking my wounds. I quickly got *turista* and lay in bed with a high fever watching demons dancing on the ceiling.

Those damn demons once again stole my spell-casting power, leaving me quite depressed. Since they also made off with my witch's broom, I was forced to fly back to NYC on American Airlines. After a miserable summer in the dull, suburban Long Island home of my childhood, I did what many unhinged college grads do: I became a caseworker in the Manhattan welfare department.

I hated this job, especially since my field visits were in very dangerous sections of the South Bronx and Harlem. After my purse was snatched on a sunny afternoon on West 127th Street, I decided it was too risky to visit the welfare clients in their homes and invited them to be interviewed in the Manhattan office instead. This plan left me with two "free" days, and I got the idea to take classes in batik at The New School. I felt naughty cheating like this, but suddenly my broomstick reappeared, and instead of flying uptown to visit my welfare clients, I flew down to the village to take these marvelous classes. What fun!

Witchcraft is an ancient art, and I'm now seeing as I look back that it takes on many forms. When I was in my late thirties and had already written four historical cookbooks that brought me some acclaim but little income, my building in NYC was going co-op and I had to earn a real grown-up living. But how?

My mother had brought a pressure cooker back from India, and when I'd go to her house for dinner and tasted the delicious soups and curries that came out of that pot, I was very impressed. "Mom, how long did it take to make that split pea soup?" I'd ask. "Nine minutes," she'd reply nonchalantly. *Wow*, I thought, *why isn't everybody using a pressure cooker?*

So the next time I was on the phone chatting with a well-known cookbook editor and she asked me what I was up to, I pulled out my handy-dandy witchcraft ways and said proudly with assurance, "I'm writing a pressure cooker cookbook!" (Mind you, dear reader, I had never once cooked with one.) "You're on!" she said. I must have cast a spell on her because I never even had to write a book proposal and I got an impressive advance. Now that's witchcraft at its best!

For me, being a witch has been not only a survival strategy, but a brilliant way to thrive. Nowadays, I am exploring how to call my witchcraft forth at will to help me fly beyond procrastination and a newly developed fear of travel to foreign lands.

Do you have an inner witch who has helped you thrive? If you can't find your broomstick, you are welcome to borrow mine. ■

Tree Swallow

Text and Photography by **DAVID GRAY**

The tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) is one of three species of swallow that we see regularly in our Park. We are often visited by its brethren, the barn swallow and the violet-green swallow. The tree swallow's coloring of white belly and iridescent dark blue feathers on its head, wings, and back make it distinguishable from the barn swallow, which has a noticeable amount of rust/orange feathers, and the violet-green swallow for its obvious violet and green color differences. The coloration of the male tree swallow is more intense than that of the female.

I am always encouraged when I see them out flying because I know they are eating flying insects, especially mosquitos. They do some foraging for insects on the ground, but primarily they feed in midair.



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Tree swallows in flight

I photographed these tree swallows out at the Hamilton levee late in May. They are difficult to track. Their flight patterns are fairly random, and they can change direction quickly. I shot these all hand-held at 1,120 mm focal length. I've often referred to my attempts to photograph them in-flight as being a gateway to insanity, but practice and patience seem to be working.

Tree swallows traditionally nest in hollows in trees; this is where their name originates. A clutch of four to six eggs is typical. The nest is built from grasses woven into a cup shape and lined with feathers. The female incubates the eggs for about two weeks before they hatch. The nesting boxes out at the Hamilton levee provide homes for tree swallows and also western bluebirds.

The range of the tree swallow is quite broad and covers most of the Continental US, Canada, and



Tree swallow pair on nesting box, female aloft

Mexico. I have seen them nesting in trees as far east as Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. The Hamilton levee provides an ideal breeding environment for the tree swallow. They form loose colonies and are polygamous.

I am so happy when I hear the sweet call of the tree swallow; they are out there taking on the mosquito population! ■

	MONDAY 1	TUESDAY 2	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6	
	6AM Trash 7:30-9AM Taiji Deck/ David MacLam 10-11AM Water Aerobics Pool 10AM-12PM Balance Class Ballroom 1-4PM Bridge Private, Fireside Room 5PM Independence Day reservation deadline	7:30-9AM Taiji Deck/ David MacLam 10:30-11:30AM Craft & Chat Library	7:30-9AM Taiji Deck/ David MacLam 10-11AM Water Aerobics Pool	7:30-9AM Taiji Deck/ David MacLam 10-11AM Chair Yoga Bamboo Room  Mar Val Independence Day Dinner 5PM Cocktails 6PM Dinner	7:30-9AM Taiji Deck/ David MacLam 10-11AM Water Aerobics Pool 12PM Mahjong Fireside Room 5-7PM Pub	7PM Dancing Meadow	
SUNDAY	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	7:30-9AM Taiji Deck/David MacLam 10-10:30AM Meditation Zoom** 11:30AM-12:30PM Group Strength Training Bamboo Room Nan Watanabe	6AM Trash 7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 10AM-12PM Balance Class 1-4PM Bridge 6PM PAC BOARD Meeting Ballroom/Zoom* ECHO DEADLINE	7:30-9AM Taiji 10:30-11:30AM Craft & Chat	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 6PM Mar Val BOARD MEETING Fireside Room 7PM Dancing Deck	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Chair Yoga Fireside Room 11AM-12PM Rollin' Root 4PM HOL BOARD MEETING Fireside Room 8-10PM Game Night Fireside Room/ Ed Collins	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 11AM FIRESafe Marin Meeting 12PM Mahjong 5-7PM Pub	7PM Dancing
	14	15	16	17	18	19	
	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-10:30AM Meditation 11:30AM-12:30PM Group Strength Training	6AM Trash 7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 10AM-12PM Balance Class 1-4PM Bridge	7:30-9AM Taiji 10:30-11:30AM Craft & Chat	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 11AM Ladies Bridge Private, Fireside Room	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Chair Yoga 11AM-12PM Rollin' Root 	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 12PM Mahjong 5-7PM Pub	7PM Dancing
	21	22	23	24	25	26	
	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-10:30AM Meditation 11:30AM-12:30PM Group Strength Training	6AM Trash 7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 10AM-12PM Balance Class 1-4PM Bridge	7:30-9AM Taiji 10:30-11:30AM Craft & Chat 4-5:30PM Circle of Friends Fireside Room Aneesha Dillon, Timo Navsky	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 5PM Pasta Pub reservation deadline 7PM Dancing	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Chair Yoga 11AM-12PM Rollin' Root 	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 12PM Mahjong  5-7PM Pasta Pub	7PM Dancing
	28	29	30	31			
	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-10:30AM Meditation 11:30AM-12:30PM Group Strength Training	6AM Trash 7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 10AM-12PM Balance Class 1-4PM Bridge	7:30-9AM Taiji 10:30-11:30AM Craft & Chat	7:30-9AM Taiji 10-11AM Water Aerobics 4:30PM Book Club Carol-Joy Harris			

* Contact Carol-Joy Harris for link
 ** Contact Anila Manning for link

JULY 2024