

[View this email in your browser](#)

Empowering older adults to be active,
connected and independent in the place they
call home



NOVATO VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020

PLEASE VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOV. 3

The Novato Village Steering Committee encourages our members and volunteers to vote in the upcoming federal and State election. Please read the information below about registering to vote, Vote-by-Mail (VBM), how to track your ballot once it is mailed, and the location of polling places in Novato. AND if you need assistance with getting your VBM ballot to a ballot box or polling place, ***our volunteers can help you.***

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

All of California's **registered voters** will be mailed a ballot no later than October 5. Early voting and in-person voting locations will be available to voters. In California, the deadline to register to vote for this election is **October 19, 2020**. Your registration must be postmarked or submitted electronically no later than October 19, 2020.

If you believe you are already registered, you can verify your registration online with our "[My Voter Status](#)" tool. If you are not

already registered, you can register online at RegisterToVote.ca.gov.

Vote by mail for 2020 only

All registered voters will be sent a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 3, 2020 general election. The procedure:

- Fill out your ballot.
- After you have voted, insert your ballot in the envelope provided, *making sure you complete all required information on the envelope.*
- You may return your voted ballot by mail, in person, or to a drop box.
- If you are returning your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by your county elections office no later than 17 days after Election Day.
- If you are returning your ballot in person or dropping it in a drop box, it must be delivered no later than the close of polls at 8:00pm on November 3rd.
- Anyone may return your ballot for you, as long as they do not get paid on a per-ballot basis. **In order for your ballot to be counted, you must fill out the authorization section found on the outside of your ballot envelope.**

When your vote-by-mail ballot is received by your [**county elections official**](#), your signature on the return envelope will be compared to the signature on your voter registration card to ensure they match. To preserve the secrecy of your ballot, the ballot will then be separated from the envelope and tallied.

The California Secretary of State is now offering “[**Where’s My Ballot?**](#)”—a new way for voters to track and receive notifications on the status of their vote-by-mail ballot. Powered by BallotTrax, “**Where’s My Ballot?**” lets voters know where their ballot is, and its status, every step of the way.

A voter who has signed up will receive notices via email, text, or voice message from the county elections official regarding the status of the voter's vote-by-mail ballot including:

- When the ballot has been delivered
- The date that the voter's ballot is expected to be delivered to the voter
- If the voter's ballot is returned as undeliverable to the county

- elections official by the USPS
- When the voter's completed ballot has been received by the county
- Whether the voter's completed ballot has been accepted or a reason why the ballot could not be accepted and instructions of steps the voter can take in order to have the ballot accepted
- The deadline for the voter to return his or her ballot if the county has not received a voter's completed ballot by specified dates as determined by the county elections official
- [Sign-up here](#) to receive automatic email, SMS (text), or voice call notifications about your ballot.

Marin County Registrar of Voters website

Lynda Roberts, Registrar of Voters, 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 121, San Rafael, CA 94903

Mailing Address: P.O. Box E, San Rafael, CA 94913-3904

Phone: (415) 473-6456 Fax (415) 473-6447

Hours: 8:00am – 4:30pm

E-Mail: elections@marincounty.org

You may put your ballot in the mail or you may go to the polling place near your residence. There will only be five polling places in Novato this election. Locations:

***Novato School District Offices**

1015 Seventh St, Novato, CA 94945

***Novato Library**

1720 Novato Blvd, Novato, CA 94947

***Novato City Hall**

901 Sherman Ave, Novato, CA 94945

***Nativity of Christ Greek Orthodox Church**

1110 Highland Dr (off San Jose), Novato, CA 94949

***Hamilton Community Center**

503 South Palm Drive, Novato, CA 94949

Your Voter Booklet from Marin County Registrar of Voters will tell you the location you should use if you choose to vote in-person. Look for the address on the back cover of the *County Voter Information Guide*. See information about [early in-person voting](#) and [ballot drop boxes](#).

Novato Village volunteers may assist member voters by picking up the completed vote-by-mail ballot. The ballot should be placed in the accompanying envelope and sealed, signed by BOTH the voter AND the volunteer in the designated sections on the back of the envelope.

Important! Sign your return envelope! If you do not, your ballot will not be counted.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Members: Nancy Peace and Bonnie Ryan

Volunteers: Mary Nelson and Erin Seavey

Thank you for giving your time and energy to our village! We look forward to seeing you at an event soon.

LOCAL VILLAGE EVENTS (open to all, unless noted)

Food & Drink

Zoom Coffee

Wednesday, October 14, 11:00am

Our coffee guest speaker will be **Kevin Colgate, ESCOM program** (Emeritus Students of the College of Marin). Kevin's background: MBA & teaching fellow George Washington University, 20 years (in parallel) adjunct faculty evening programs. He also has 40 years in leadership positions in new/emerging commercial software development companies.

ESCOM is the lifelong learning organization at College of Marin. Emeritus College was created in 1974 at the College of Marin for older adults. As a pioneer in the innovative use of the community colleges for adults, ESCOM was selected nationally as a model by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and helped many institutions initiate similar programs. Dedicated to the principle of lifelong learning, its initial program of seven courses for about 80 women and men now offers up to 50 classes with over 1,000 enrollments each quarter. There are no previous educational requirements for participation in ESCOM if you are 55 and over—only the desire to learn.

One popular feature is the clubs. Clubs are specially designed by and for the members including topics such as: adventuring, book, bridge, chess, current events, ethics, philosophy, film, opera, Scrabble, and writing. Currently there are more than 20 clubs. Join the coffee to find out more!

No need to RSVP, the Zoom link will be sent to everyone by email.

Zoom Happy Hour

Wednesday, October 28, 4:00 – 5:00pm

Join us with your favorite afternoon beverage and we'll play another round of the Facts in Five game. We enjoyed our travel memories at the last happy hour and we might have alternating months of travel memories & Facts in Five. We'll announce it right here in the newsletter!

No need to RSVP, the Zoom link will be sent to everyone by email.



Happy hour travel chat in September

Exercise

Levee Walk on “Ammo” Hill

Thursday, October 1, 9:30 – 11:00am

The October Levee Walk will be starting at "Ammo" Hill. This will be a slow walk with many stops to take a break as we climb the hill. We will start at 9:30am in the Ammo Hill parking lot. The parking lot is located on the left side of the Hamilton Parkway approximately 1 mile from the turnoff on Nave Dr. Unfortunately, the parking lot at the start of the walk is small. There are only five standard parking spaces and two

handicap spaces. **Additional parking** is located at the end of Ashland Dr. (take Hamilton Parkway, turn left on Sunny Cove Dr., then right on Ashland Dr). This parking lot is adjacent to and a little way up the hill of the Ammo Hill walking path. All are welcome.

Please RSVP so we know how many walkers. Call Pat Bailey (415) 652-9073 for reservations or any questions.

****Plan ahead to the walk on November 5:** if weather permits, the walk will take place at Rush Creek (Atherton Ave. exit off 101). Details will be in the November newsletter.



September's levee walk at Hamilton

Books

Book Lovers' Group – discuss the book by Zoom
Tuesday, October 13, 1:00pm

Marcia Sprinkle says: We are reading the first in a trilogy by Graeme Simsion: *The Rosie Project*. The library carries it and the group is passing around books to be sure everyone can get them. We've decided to stick with the meeting time of 1:00pm. It will be a Zoom get-together. At our last meeting, we had a great discussion of *Just Mercy*. It was also mentioned during the meeting that the library has two free streaming services, Hoopla and Kanopy, with books, music and movies that are worth checking out. Questions? Contact Marcia Sprinkle msprinkle1884@yahoo.com

Groups

Village Viewers – discuss the movie by Zoom

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 4:00 pm

Bring the popcorn and join us for the next Village Viewers Zoom movie group. It will always be the third Wednesday of the month. We will be discussing the Tony-winning musical *Hamilton*. You can now watch it on the Disney Channel. Looking forward to seeing you then!

No need to RSVP, the Zoom link will be sent to everyone by email.

Village Business**Novato Village Steering Committee Meeting on Zoom**

Tuesday, October 20, 1:30pm

Please contact Beth Livoti, llivoti@comcast.net or (415) 892-1043 for information.

MARIN VILLAGES EVENTS**Ignore Your Teeth and They'll Go Away – Dr. Earl Johnson**

Thursday, October 15, 3:00pm



Marin Villages member and volunteer Dr. Earl Johnson, retired dentist, orthodontist and professor, will speak and answer questions on why ignoring one's teeth and gums is really a bad idea and explain why, among other things, lying through one's teeth doesn't count as flossing. Please RSVP to the office to receive the Zoom link.

info@marinvillages.org or (415) 457-4633

COMMUNITY EVENTS**San Anselmo Library Speaker Series: Fire-Smarting an established Native Plant Garden**

Wednesday, October 7, 1:00pm

The UC Marin Master Gardeners have several presentations coming up to educate Marin residents on fire-smart landscaping. Find more details [at this link](#) or email sleyland@townofsananselmo.org to register and get the Zoom link.

Movies and Short Videos

Try the Lark's drive-in movies! If you are still driving and looking for a change of scenery and some entertainment that gets you out of the house pretty safely (since you will be staying in your own car), try the Lark Theater's new drive-in movie theater nights Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in the open lot near The Village Shopping Center—across from Nordstrom. \$30 per car. Use [this link](#) or call the Lark Theater (415) 924-5111.

NOVATO VILLAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

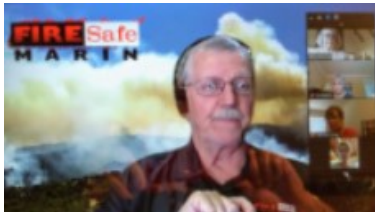
The Novato Steering Committee says ~**Thank you!**~ to the volunteers and members who helped deliver 67 emergency kits to our members. The mission was accomplished in one week at the end of August but it took many hours to develop the distribution lists for the drivers and add items to the emergency kits, which were underwritten by a generous donation from the **Kenneth Berg Living Trust**.



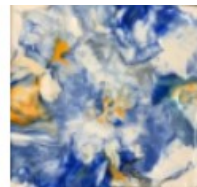
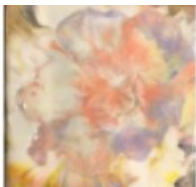
A Novato Village volunteer delivering an emergency kit

AND MORE...

Thank you **John Hansen** for your excellent talk in September: **Fire Evacuation—Can YOU Be Better Prepared?** Prepare yourself and your pets, too! Information at www.firesafemarin.org



Fun with floral poured paint. Thanks, **Sue Lyttle**, for your instruction and inspiration! Novato Village members' creations below... Wow!



HELP US HELP OTHERS

If you know someone who could use our services, is interested in volunteering, or would like to donate to an organization serving older adults in Marin, please have them call the office at (415) 457-4633, or visit our website (www.marinvillages.org) for application forms and online donations.

Copyright © 2020 Marin Villages, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



