



## **DISASTER RECOVERY NEWSLETTER 1**

Wednesday, January 4, 2006

Welcome to the first edition of the Town's daily Disaster Recovery Newsletter. We will be issuing the newsletter at the end of each day to update merchants and residents on the status of recovery efforts from the flood that occurred on Saturday, December 30, 2005. It is our hope that the newsletter will help to keep our communication channels open.

### **Special Town Council Meeting January 3, 2006**

At a special Town Council meeting on Tuesday, January 3, the Town Council heard comments from merchants and residents about the Town's response to the flood event. As a result of the input, this newsletter will be published each day with news of general interest to the residents and business people in San Anselmo in an effort to improve communications. In addition, the Town is working with the County to have a website with links to FEMA, the State Office of Emergency Services and the County Office of Emergency Services and any other websites that would be of assistance in navigating through the process. That website should be on line tomorrow and will be published in the Thursday newsletter.

Assemblyman Joe Nation attended the meeting and said the state is taking steps necessary to obtain FEMA assistance. Supervisor Hal Brown offered additional assistance to the Town as well.

### **County of Marin Efforts**

The County of Marin opened a Recovery Operations Center (ROC) yesterday to coordinate the disaster recovery and public information within the County. The ROC will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. throughout this week and will remain open later if necessary. The ROC will be staffed by County employees to assist with disaster recovery operations, planning, public information and finances. The ROC will also have a public hotline number (473-5614) to answer questions regarding the response to the winter storm.

As an aside, our own **Ian Roth**, newly-elected Councilmember, is a member of the ROC team in his professional capacity as a County employee.

### **Visit by Lynn Woolsey**

This afternoon Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey visited downtown San Anselmo. She visited a number of San Anselmo shops and saw the flood damage. Congresswoman Woolsey has offered her support and assistance to the Town as we work our way through this crisis. She was accompanied by Supervisor Cynthia Murray and San Anselmo Mayor Barbara Thornton. We all appreciate the fact that she took the time to personally see the damage caused by Saturday's flood.

### **Marin County Officially a Disaster**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger declared Marin County a State Disaster County yesterday. In the North Bay Marin joins Napa and Sonoma Counties.

## **Downtown San Anselmo Businesses**

An informal survey done by Town Councilmember Ted Freeman showed about 25% of the downtown businesses are already open. Coffee Roasters was bustling this morning with customers getting lattes and pastries. Comforts is back serving Chinese Chicken salads. Other businesses that are open include Sproos, Cucina, and The Ranch. Welcome back to all the businesses that have reopened.

## **San Anselmo Avenue Closure**

San Anselmo Avenue and adjacent side streets will be closed on Friday morning, January 6<sup>th</sup>, from 6 a.m. to approximately 1 p.m. so that Marin Sanitary Service and Ghilotti Bros. can do a final clean-up of flood debris. Merchants and residents are asked to place flood debris on the street, two feet from the curb by Friday morning. When the street is reopened it will be clean again! Many, many thanks to both Marin Sanitary and Ghilotti Bros. who came to town Saturday morning and have been working ever since!

## **Town News**

The **Library** will be closed through Monday, January 17, 2006. The Library basement had three feet of water in it and the entire area must be vacated, including the Historical Museum. The offices and working areas of the Library must be relocated to a trailer.

The **Police Department** has rented space at 400 Red Hill Avenue and will be moving in early February. In the meantime they are operating out of the second floor conference room at Town Hall.

The **Fire Department** offices are currently operating at Fairfax's Fire Station as the lower floor is not habitable. They are in the process of making arrangements for temporary quarters.

The **Council Chambers** is unusable as well; Town meetings will be held in alternate locations, probably at the Ross Valley School District offices at 110 Shaw Drive.

## **FEMA Information**

**Phone**            **1-800-621-3362**

**Website:**      [www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov)

## **Town Hall Information**

|                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Emergencies          | 911                              |
| Police non-emergency | 258-4610                         |
| Fire non-emergency   | 258-4686                         |
| Town Hall            | 258-4600 (during business hours) |

Good luck to everybody as we all navigate through the recovery process. Suggestions for items to be included in this newsletter should be sent to Debra Stutsman at Town Hall, 258-4600.