



- Police Beat
- SAC Report
- Book & Soup Sale
- December Calendar



## Why Do Leaves Change Colors in the Fall?

I lived in the Midwest and the East for 20 years and have been blessed to see some of the most beautiful fall tree color displays. While we don't have the variety of trees such as sugar and red maples that really light up the landscape, we do have some

color from the dogwoods and oaks that brighten up our autumn.

But what causes trees to change colors in the fall? It's not the oncoming of cold weather as many imagine. It all has to do with day length. In fact cold weather has very little to do with color change. It can spoil the fall tree color display, because an early freeze may kill the leaves, causing them to turn brown and fall without a spectacular color change.

Here's what really happens: In late summer, as daylight hours

shorten and temperatures cool, the veins that carry fluids into and out of the leaf are gradually closed off as a layer of special cork cells forms at the base of each leaf. As this cork layer develops, water and mineral intake into the leaf is reduced, slowly at first, and then more rapidly. It is during this time that the green chlorophyll in the leaf begins to decrease.

A leaf is green because of the presence of a pigment known as chlorophyll. Chlorophyll is abundant in the leaf's cells during the growing season and its green color dominates and masks out the colors of any other pigments that may be present in the leaf. As the chlorophyll degrades, the hidden pigments of yellow and orange that were present in the leaves during the summer are revealed.

There are additional pigments in the leaves during the summer that contribute to other colors when chlorophyll goes away such as (careful, two big botanical words follow) carotenoids, which give carrots their orange color and provides yellow, brown, orange color to the leaves, and anthocyanins, which provide the reds and the purples. Anthocyanins' pigments often combine with the carotenoids' colors to create the deeper orange, fiery reds, and bronzes typical of many hardwood species you find in the maples of the Midwest and East.

Can there be better fall color displays in some years than others? You bet. The brightest colorations usually develop when the sunlight in autumn is bright and the days are cool, but the nights are chilly and above freezing.

Report by Bob Tate



### 2009—2010 Officers

President - Jill Stewart - 898-8197  
Vice President - Linda Hartsong - 891-8337  
Sec. - Lara Conkey-Wiebelhaus - 899-3929  
Treasurer - Mayeve Tate - 342-2494

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Maggie Krehbiel - 342-6547

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Mike DuFloth - 898-1871  
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Janice Lee - 892-1937  
Mike Bierman - 892-9553

### Membership

Janice Lee - 892-1937  
Linda Hartsong - 891-8337

### Newsletter

Mike & Rhonda - 898-1871

[www.CohassetCommunity.org](http://www.CohassetCommunity.org)

Mike, Rhonda & Daniel

*The CCA Newsletter is published as a community service once a month by the Cohasset Community Association, Inc., a non-profit California corporation dedicated in part to enriching, educating and informing the residents of Cohasset, CA. Printed at Ed's Printing, Chico, CA.*

*The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the CCA. Email short submissions to [newsletter@cohassetcommunity.org](mailto:newsletter@cohassetcommunity.org). The CCA reserves rights to edit all submissions or not to publish. Copyright 2010-11*

### **CCA Newsletter**

**11 Maple Creek Ranch Road  
Cohasset, CA 95973**

**<http://CohassetCommunity.org>**

**Feb. 2011 Deadline - Jan. 12th, 2011**

### **CCA Building Rental Reservations**

The Cohasset Community Center is available to rent for private functions. The rate is \$125 per day, and \$60 for a half-day (5 hours).

For more information, call 893-1616, email [info@cohassetcommunity.org](mailto:info@cohassetcommunity.org), or view the CCA rental agreement at:

**<http://cohassetcommunity.org>**



# CCA Home Page

## Here Comes 2011

It seems like just yesterday I was writing this column welcoming in 2010 and the new decade. Like last year, I want to first thank all the dedicated community-minded members of the CCA for their contributions of time and money this last year toward making the Cohasset Ridge foothill community a better place to live and love.

2010 was a challenging year for the CCA, and fortunately there were many folks who stepped up to help us meet our commitments. A lot of old business was completed in 2010, including the old firehouse demolition and all the electrical work that came with that task to make our community center ready to serve as an emergency shelter if necessary this winter. Our ancient septic system was replaced, and extensive work on our very old building was an ongoing task all year in an effort to update and meet new code standards.

The Annual Bazaar was a huge success, as was the Bazaar Diamond sponsorship fund-raising effort. Special thanks go out to all the Diamond Bazaar sponsors who donated \$100 each to help us pay for the costly expenses. Kudos are also due to all of you who chipped in to make the 40th Annual Bazaar a memorable and historic event. Thank you!

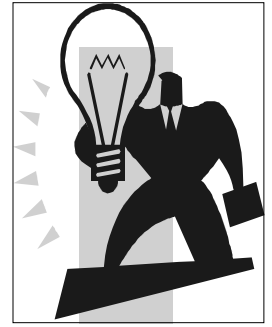
In 2010 the CCA School Acquisition Committee, against all odds, has made significant headway toward possibly acquiring the abandoned school site from CUSD for our future community use. It's one of the cliffhanger endings to 2010, as is our bid for the coveted 501(c)3 non-profit status. While we are already approved by the State, we will not overcome our bump in the road with the IRS in the coming weeks, but are confident of completing this three-year long task in 2011.

The stressful but necessary 2010 modifications of our life memberships toward sustaining Life Memberships succeeded beyond our greatest expectations. More than half of our Life Members have now opted to sustain their Life Memberships over and above their initial \$100 donation by generously committing to additional yearly gifts. This has added much needed revenue to our skimpy community coffers. Kudos to our Sustaining Life Members and to all the nice folks who joined and renewed their CCA memberships in 2010.

As your newsletter editor, and theoretically one who would naturally have their finger on the pulse of the community, I believe the prognosis for the CCA in 2011 is: "More of the same relaxed progress."

I leave you all with blessings for a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year!

*Ho-Ho-Ho! Mike DuFloth, Editor*



## Renew your Membership or Join the CCA Today

**Check one:**  Basic \$20  Pine \$25  Oak \$50  Lifetime \$100

For existing Lifetime Membership sustaining renewals check one:

Silver \$25  Gold \$50  Diamond \$100

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: 11 Maple Creek Ranch Road, Cohasset, CA 95973**

**Checks payable to CCA or call Janice at 343-1754**

# Government & Police

## Supervisor News



by Maureen Kirk,  
Butte County Supervisor, District 3

Thanksgiving has just passed. We have been blessed with some wonderful November weather, nice for leaf raking and cleaning up the yard for winter. When you receive this, Christmas will be on the horizon. I love both of the holidays because they are family centered. Our son will be here for Christmas, and I will need to get used to shopping for large quantities of food.

I took Paul Hahn, our new CAO, on a tour of my district. We spent time in Cohasset. He was impressed with the beauty of the drive and of the area. It was nice to see firebreaks and very little roadside trash. We stopped by the school and the Community Association Building. They also looked very clean. By the way, the County will be forgiving the fees for the new septic retrofit.

We still do not have a Designated Deputy to replace Doug Patterson. (In my eyes, he is irreplaceable, but Sheriff Smith promises to find someone with the diplomacy and empathy of Deputy Patterson.) There will be a replacement in the near future. I will let you know as soon as I know.

I have received some inquiries about the new General Plan 2030 and proposed zoning designations. Please contact me if you have questions.

AT&T DSL is up and running in most of Cohasset. I have heard they have not advertised, so if you are interested, you can call AT&T or any Internet provider and see if your parcel is eligible.

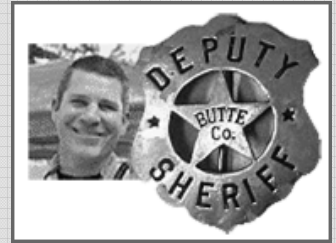
The State has passed some new building codes for new construction and for substantial remodels. After January 1, fire sprinkler and carbon monoxide detectors will be required for all new construction.

Enjoy the holidays! I will be back in 2011.

Supervisor Maureen Kirk  
◆ mkirk@buttecounty.net ◆ 891-2800

## Police Beat

by Butte County Sheriff's  
Detective Doug Patterson



Over the last several months and as recent as the end of November, there have been several vehicle accidents involving the suspicion of driving under the influence of marijuana. These accidents have led to several North State deaths and tragedy for several families.

In July 2010, a very well liked school teacher lost her life while jogging, to a driver accused of being under the influence of marijuana while driving. Within a couple of weeks, the driver's girlfriend would be arrested after being accused of selling marijuana in order to obtain funds to post her boyfriend's bail and lawyer fees. She too is still in custody and both await further court appearances.

Unlike alcohol, marijuana does not have a "legal limit," meaning that there is no set standard on what constitutes being under the influence of marijuana. With alcohol, we know that if you are over .08 percent you could be arrested for driving under the influence.

Hopefully in the near future this state can change this by enacting law that would give the public guidance in what is considered being under the influence of marijuana. You would think that common sense would dictate that one would not get behind the wheel; however, people do not think as clearly after smoking marijuana.

I would hope the public would be all for this since it is you, your family and friends who are on those roads too. Making a death notification to a family member is one of the worst duties I have as a Deputy Sheriff.

Take care this holiday season and have a wonderful and safe Christmas. Talk with you next year!

Detective Doug Patterson  
dpatterson@buttecounty.net



## Attention Cohasset! Enjoy High Speed Internet Today!

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No more cleaning out the closet while you wait for emails to download.

**Free DSL modem. Call today at 898-9123, or visit us at AccessNow.com**

# Cohasset Community Association News

## SAC News

The School Acquisition Committee recently met with the Chico Unified School District Superintendent and staff to discuss the status of the May CCA proposal to lease the old school. The CCA Board proposal is to lease the site to be used as a park and community center. It was generally agreed that the Cohasset School site should be used for some type of public function and that it is not likely that a valley charter school would be interested in the property. The district was recently advised by legal counsel that there are several procedural steps to follow should the school board choose to offer the property for lease. Among other things these steps include a requirement for the school district to form an advisory committee, notify other public agencies and other non-profits of the building availability and publicly advertise for lease proposals. CUSD staff has now agreed to move the process forward and will provide the CCA with a written outline of the steps and estimated timeframes necessary to allow for school board consideration to consider leasing the facility after the upcoming holiday season. While we look forward to finally getting the process in gear, we will now likely miss the deadline to apply for the specific parks grant money we were hoping for. We will continue to look for other funding sources for this and other future community needs. The CCA will continue to work with the school district and keep the community informed.

*Report by Tony Baptiste*



## Women's Gathering

The women's gathering held on Sept. 20th was wonderful. We had an opening ceremony. Laura gave a really nice tribute to Native American Culture. Ruth led a great drumming circle. We shared stories and made prayer flags.

The clothes trade was really nice; we all came away with "new stuff to us." We had a terrific potluck and closed with another drumming and ceremony. Many thanks to the 20 women who attended and a special thanks to Ruth who helped set up and tear down.

Bye for now,

Your neighbor Elizabeth

P.S. We want to have another on May 1st. What do you think?

*Report by Elizabeth Davison*



## Guest Speakers at the November CCA Board Meeting

### 13-Year-Old Cohassian Aliya Traficante Goes Professional

The top women's cycling team in the US, TIBCO, has invited Aliya Traficante to join their development team that helps women and girls to rise up to National, International and Olympic racing. As a member of Team TIBCO, Aliya is required to race in 20-25 sanctioned races. Last year Aliya raced in 9 sanctioned races and finished on the podium in almost every race.

Aliya's racing schedule requires her to travel extensively and maintain expensive equipment. She is sponsored in part by donations from neighbors and friends, the Steve Harrison Memorial Foundation/Linda Zorm, Team Chico, and Colusa Fitness Center. If you wish to help this ambitious young Cohasset woman, please walk into any Wells Fargo Bank branch and donate to: Aliya Traficante Cycling, account number 680-383-601.



### Local Anne De Felice Plans Artist Auction for Save the Redwoods League

Anne De Felice spoke to the CCA board asking if the quilting club would consider donating a small child's quilt as a donation for a fund-raising artist/auction/crafts event she is planning for sometime this coming spring.

Anne passed out collateral material to the board including

a map and graphs.

Save the Redwoods League is dedicated to protecting the ancient redwood forests so all generations can experience the inspiration and majesty of redwoods. Since its founding in 1918, the league has completed the purchase of more than 189,000 acres of land.

For more information, call Anne De Felice at 896-0269 and visit: [www.savetheredwoods.org](http://www.savetheredwoods.org)



# Events & December Calendar

## Church Food Pantry

The church food pantry will be open on Saturday, December 18th.

If anyone has any questions, please call Pastor Brian Hall at 343-8479.



## African Rhythms & Dance

Learn all about West African music. Have fun, meet old friends and make new acquaintances. Dance to great West African music with hosts Lansana & Tania.

This recurring event is held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 10am at the CCA Building. All ages are welcome. We'll see you all Sunday December 12th & 26th.

For more info, call Ruth at 891-3481.

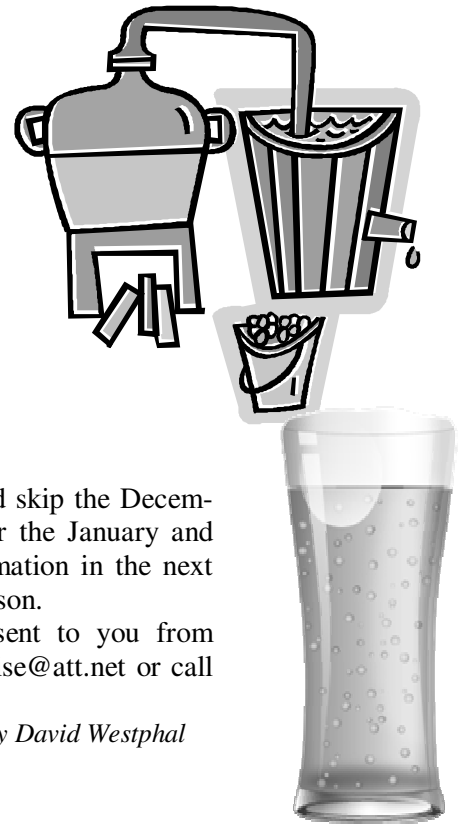
## Cohasset Brew Club

A wonderful group of Strong beers and strong souls came to the November Cohasset Brew Club meeting. There were commercial examples of beer to try as well as home-brewed samples, some of which had been aged for over a year. Everything was good, with many beers in the outstanding category.

In spite of all the fun at the November meeting and excitement of the December meeting being more of the same, it was agreed that the club would skip the December meeting and watch the weather for the January and February meetings. So look for information in the next newsletters and have a great holiday season.

Thanks for reading this message sent to you from David Westphal. Please reply to leastrise@att.net or call 530-343-4951.

*Report by David Westphal*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>December 2010</b>				1 2 7-9pm Cohasset Volunteer Fire Dept Mtg	3	4
5 10:30am Church Service	6 7-8pm Cohasset 4-H Meeting	7	8 12pm-2pm Commodities Distribution	9	10	11
12 10:30am Church Service 10:00am African Dance	13	14 5-6pm School Acquisition Meeting	15	16	17	18 Cohasset Com- munity Church Food Pantry
19 10:30am Church Service	20	21 8pm Emer- gency Prepared- ness Mtg	22	23	24	25 Christmas
26 10:30am Church Service 10:00am Africa Dance	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 7-9pm CCA Bingo	

Cohasset Community Association  
**Newsletter**

11 Maple Creek Ranch Road  
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# **CCA Fall Book & Soup Sale**

*Sunday, December 5th*  
*10 am to 5 pm*

Have we got bargains for you!  
Low prices on books  
\$5.00 a bag bargains  
Several hearty soups for you to enjoy  
EPC emergency kit sale  
On-site massages  
Free good company  
Come one! Come all!

