

# Capitola Sunset

SPECIAL EDITION

CAPITOLA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

NEWS, EVENTS & INFORMATION

## May 2020; Personal Reflections from the Covid-19 Pandemic

### A High School Student's Perspective

By Joshua Henshaw, Youth Board Member

Being in a time like this is very strange and new, especially as a student in school having to work from home. The whole quarantine situation is annoying. I understand why the shelter-in-place is smart, but shutting down parks and beaches really limits what we can do to exercise. Now you can't leave home to go to the store without a mask. Plus states like Florida have stopped their shelter in place. Meanwhile so many other states are still continuing shelter-in-place.

I'm also very curious as to how our lives will be different after all this. We'll probably do this again next winter and it's likely we won't be able to have big gatherings, and I can't even start to imagine what school will be like. People will probably be more worried about unclean surfaces and contact with other people. The distance learning is very interesting since everything we've done is online and not sitting in a classroom with a teacher.

The nice thing about the shelter-in-place is you have a lot more down time in which you can do stuff you normally can't do often like baking, learning a new hobby, etc. What I've been doing myself to keep busy is a 13,200 piece jigsaw puzzle. It's currently taking up the majority of the living room. Also in times like this it's hard to find ways to exercise since you are limited to few things. What we have been doing is going to the park and playing tennis, basketball, and Frisbee.



Keeping myself busy is what has been helping me cope with the shelter in place. That way I don't have to focus or think too much about this situation we're in.

We are all in this together.

### Signs of Our Time

Images by Brian Legakis



## View from the Museum

By Frank Perry, Curator

Things have been far from ordinary at our beloved museum. After only being open a week with our new "Capitola Then & Now" exhibition, the museum abruptly closed. At first it was "for a few weeks." But now, it is looking more like a few months, possibly most of the year. Nobody knows for sure.

For those of us who are used to hanging out at the Museum, talking with the public, answering questions, chatting with volunteers, this is rather disruptive.

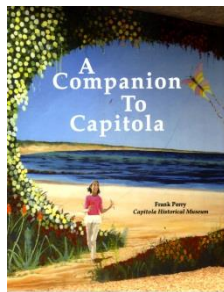
The event has affected history-lovers in different ways. Many of us sought comfort in studying up on the 1918 flu epidemic and how people coped with that. I don't necessarily recommend this. It was pretty horrible, so not much comfort there.

Staying home, but with internet access, might seem like a boon for historical researchers. Due to the long periods of time with few interruptions, there should be plenty of opportunities to concentrate and get into the writing "groove." Several of my friends, however, say they find it hard to concentrate and have not been all that productive.

There were a few days in March when I, too, found the situation depressing. But it was not long before I found some work that I could get excited about. Once that happened, I was on a roll. If I had trouble getting to sleep at night, it was because ideas kept popping into my head. I had to quickly get up and go write them down. If I woke up extra early in the morning, it was because I was anxious to start implementing my ideas from the night before.

Fortunately, much of the work that I do can be done away from other people: research, writing, cataloging collections, sending thank-you cards to donors, doing Facebook posts, submitting photos and captions for the *Sentinel* "Focal Point," responding to inquiries, etc.

One of my first projects was to update the book, *A Companion to Capitola*. I added several new entries (including ones for Olley Nutter, Ron Graves, and Doug Messini) and revised a few of the previous entries to reflect new information I have found on those topics. The revised version is on the museum website: <https://www.cityofcapitola.org/capitola-museum>



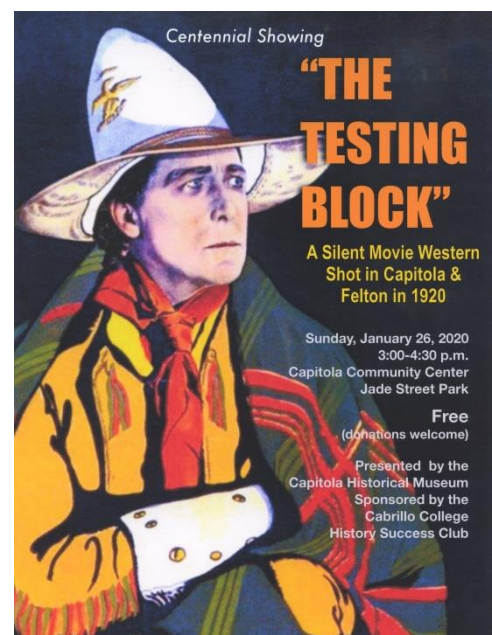
After the screening of the movie "The Testing Block," several people said that they were sorry to have missed it.

I recently uploaded it to the Museum's YouTube channel along with a short introduction similar to what I presented at the showing. If you want to watch it, follow this link: <https://youtu.be/MU78Jz7v8MM>

Lately, I have been turning my attention to the Rispin mansion. The mansion was mostly constructed in 1920, although Mr. Rispin, his wife Annette, and son Alan did not move in until 1921. The museum board and I had discussed several options to celebrate the centennial, such as walking tours or an outdoor event at the mansion. For now, I am creating a website for the mansion, filled with historical photos, articles, a timeline, a quiz, videos, and other resources. Having a carefully researched, accurate history will help with planning other possible centennial events and be a valuable resource for the future.

Much has been written about Rispin over the years, but the story is scattered in different places. My predecessor at the Museum, Carolyn Swift, revisited the topic many times and did considerable research. In recent years, many new resources have become available, painting an ever-clearer picture of just who Henry Allen Rispin was and why he failed at running a seaside resort.

Ever since I became curator in July 2013, I have enjoyed enthusiastic support for our museum from the city staff, board of trustees, volunteers, visitors, and the Capitola community in general. Fifty years from now, when people look back on the Museum's 100-year history and all that was accomplished, 2020 will likely be but a small hiccup. If we are patient and sit tight, the future will be bright.



The public screening in January was hosted by the Capitola Museum and the Cabrillo College History Success Club.

For your own private screening, go to the You Tube link provided at the top of this column. Frank Perry recorded a special introduction to go along with the film.

# Nothing to Do and All Day to Do It

By Niels Kisling

Today is May 11, 2020. It is 53 days since the shelter-in-place order was placed on all of us in Santa Cruz County. Already we have seen many changes to the original order and many of us are adapting on a semi-daily basis to this strange, new period we live in.

I have two teenagers at home and think it is important to show them that strength and patience in the face of adversity are two tools that will get us through. The teacher became the student though recently while out sailing early on in March. My 19-year old said, "Dad, we cannot let this thing define us. If we are smart and make good decisions, we can still live our lives the way we want to."

I found those words to be very powerful and the kind of words that I wish I had crafted.

My family is lucky enough to have a 38-foot sailboat and we have not experienced restrictions to the access of our boat or to the sea that we love and cherish so much. Sailing is a passion and a way of life for us, and now it has taken on additional importance. Being out on the Monterey Bay brings feelings of freedom, safety and escape from the world we know ashore. On the Monterey Bay we are 'normal,' while back home we are sheltered-in-place. In the ocean we can safely go anywhere, anytime, for as long as we want without restriction.



Pigeon Point lighthouse is seen between my boys, Jack (on the left) and Christian. We took a boat trip 30 nautical miles up the coast in April on our 38-foot sailboat, *Geronimo*.

On land we all have to stay safe and protect ourselves from the virus we cannot see. We take the precautions we can to distance ourselves from the possibility of the virus entering our body. Not knowing if the virus even exists in concentration around us makes it sometimes difficult mentally for me to strap on a mask and pull on rubber gloves for a trip to the store. And, when we get there, we sometimes stand in line with others just waiting to get in. Some of these people show fear in their eyes while others jump out of the way when we approach.

We all react to these situations differently, but we must show compassion for everyone because we all have our own personal boundaries, definitions, fears and uncertainties of what we must do to stay safe and healthy.

Personally, my world is very much different today. This morning, for example, I forced myself to stay in bed for hours, and when I finally roused at 0730 I just wanted to be depressed. But, the bright sunshine penetrating the room and my dog doing her silly, little back roll accompanied by grunts of sheer joy at my waking killed all possibility of feeling sorry for myself. I also realized the other day that time is both standing still and rushing by at the same time.

I like to say that I have nothing to do and all day to do it.



At an unnamed beach this week my dog, *Spirit*, got too close to the ocean and she fell in...forty times.

On March 20, I received a phone call from my company letting me know that my position had been eliminated. This didn't seem like great timing. Adding financial uncertainty to the additional stresses we all face seems cruel and unfair, but I cannot change what happened. I can only move forward with strength and patience. Having joined the many millions of Americans seeking help, I know that I am not alone and I know that I am luckier than many.

On the positive side, I have my family & friends, and my dog, home, boat and health. I am still working on keeping my sanity, but *we may all need a bit of insanity to do great things*. My days mostly include projects on my home and boat, staying in touch with family & friends, and keeping busy with small tasks. It is important to my mental state to complete some project successfully every day—even if it's just a small task. The big projects make me feel great; the small ones make me feel good, and a day without any completed project makes me feel empty.

Other things I do to stay sane include forgiving myself for being a 'slacker' and allowing myself to do nothing at times. If I wake up late, sit around too long, stare at the mountains or the ocean for an hour, don't get my laundry folded, or skip a shower, I remind myself that some things have no hard deadline. It's actually nice to slow down, to lose that sense of urgency and that pressure of accomplishment that I had just 53 days ago.

After all, I have nothing to do and all day to do it.

## The Glass is Half Full

By Dave Peyton

I now hear the waves crashing during the day, and not just at night, now that cars have ceased their continuous movement to and from the surf spot that titles my home territory, Pleasure Point. I consider the sound of daytime surf and the near silence making way for it, a gift during this time of Covid-19. Finding other gifts during the months of SIP (sheltering-in-place) hasn't been easy, but as a guy with a glass half full attitude and a knack for finding a silver lining in nearly every cloud, I decided to give it a try. This is not intended to provide false cheerfulness or ignore the very difficult challenges we face, but sometimes it's just good to focus on something positive. I hope I've captured some of the positive elements of this difficult time.

With echos of museum curator Frank Perry's emphatic declaration that "we were living history" and knowing what he meant: document with words and pictures like what was accomplished during the Great Depression, when photographers, writers, and other artists were sent out across America to document the people and places effected by the hardships and uncertainties of a time not unlike today. Museum board members, faithful to Frank's reminder, have been capturing the sights and sounds in and around Capitola since the beginning of the pandemic.

My initial list of the good stuff, the gifts most of us have recognized include of course, the clean air and the quietude. With far fewer autos on the road, those on foot or bicycle have taken over the space once dedicated to the "American Way." Wide open roads provide enough space for walkers to avoid others on foot who are not practicing social distancing or appear maskless. A warmhearted wave to a regular on an early morning walk brings the world into alignment, if only for a brief moment. The vast increase in walkers, joggers, and cyclist (the first couple of weeks of SIP brought out many wobbly cyclist who apparently hadn't been on two wheels in quite some time) will perhaps have a lasting impact on the overall health of our community. Talk about a glass half full.

The quiet has been noticed! Nearly everyone I've spoken with makes note of the silence in their neighborhoods. In my neighborhood, I discovered a family of woodpeckers that may well have been around for years and only when it became quiet enough to hear the rat-a-tat-tat did I locate their nest in time to observe a couple of fledglings. Other bird sightings include a Cooper's Hawk who gifted me with a visit two days in row. We stared at each other, 10 feet apart, with a window between us for nearly 20 minutes. The hawk showed no concern for me as it was more interested in the birds attracted to a nearby feeder. Unfortunately, I've not seen my raptor friend since, but each quiet day brings other possibilities.

Speaking of neighborhoods, mine has children. Of course, I knew this, but the kind of schedules kids typically keep with school, extracurricular activities, and assorted responsibilities around the home kept obvious kid sounds to a minimum, that is until SIP. Now, the peal of children's laughter, balls being kicked around, and families out together fill my space in a way I hadn't anticipated. The family unit, especially children being children, seems to have provided an anchor of sorts during these unsettling, turbulent times. For those of us who are the sole occupants of our homes, the nearness of family, even if not our own, may help us cope, especially when we are missing the closeness of our own family.

Other silver linings include the necessity of becoming more adept at using technology. I discovered the "up-close and personal" benefit of FaceTime with family and close friends, and the advantage of Zoom for meetings and group interactions. Those who know me, know that my DNA likely includes a bit of Luddite, so imagine my surprise when my laptop cooperated (though my laptop might see it the other way around) and picture and sound showed up at the same time!



The first Capitola Museum Board Meeting ever held on a Zoom conference brought us all together while at the same time staying apart.

In this time of contradiction, when togetherness means being separate, when time goes quickly or seeming not at all, and when past practices are now considered fair game for the future, each of us must adjust to changes in the way we live. For me, some of those adjustments require an open mind and a relaxed attitude—something worthwhile at any time, but especially valuable today. I will certainly miss the many events and activities that bring the Capitola community together and will try to be patient as we all wait for SIP and social distancing to relax.

I'm certain that with more time I'd think of additional half full glasses and silver lined clouds, but it's time to complete my grocery list, don my face mask, and get in line.

# Life in the Middle of a Pandemic Storm

By Gordon vanZuiden

I remember exactly where I was and what I was doing when I realized how serious Covid-19 was going to impact my life. It was March 16, 2:05PM and I had just pulled into our garage after coming home from work. I was on my cell phone with my wife telling her that I was planning to go to San Carlos to pick up a progress payment check from a client in Portola Valley the next day because that construction site had been ordered to close and I wanted to make sure we were paid for the work we had completed. My wife told me that I had better pick it up the check that afternoon because after midnight, all of us living in Santa Clara County, would be ordered to shelter in place and leave our homes only for essential services. I am 65 years old, the son of parents that lived through World War II and knew what “sheltering in place” was like, but I have never experienced this restriction on my freedom to leave my home in my entire life.

Almost immediately the pandemic did the following:

- Jeopardized the economic viability of my business cyberManor and our 10 employees
- Stopped all of my recreational racquet sport activities
- Forced my 2 working children to work from home
- Created anxiety that anything you touched or anyone you met could give you a life threatening disease amidst a backdrop of where the number of Covid infected people were exponentially increasing around me
- The stock market tanked and the hourly bombardment of depressing Covid 19 news stories was paralyzing

March was a very tough month, and April wasn't much better.



One of the 'new normals.' Gordon and his wife on a Zoom call with their daughter, Claire, and son, Brett, from their Capitola beach home.

But now that we're through most of May a new normal is beginning to emerge and with Covid-19 now much more under control in Santa Clara County where I live, I can reflect back on the positive effects of this pandemic:

- The air is much cleaner and the traffic is much lighter.
- Our business has always been considered essential so our company is hanging in there and I have not needed to release any employees. In fact, we are almost as busy now as before Covid-19 hit us.
- Our 2 adult children, and their spouses, have visited (and lived with us) several times during this pandemic—telecommuting from our home. It's been wonderful to have their adult presence around to discuss their lives, their work, their hopes and their dreams.
- We have spent hours working on our beautiful backyard. We've lived in our home 28 years and the backyard has never been more beautiful than this Spring and we're grateful to have this sanctuary to shelter in place.
- I appreciate my wife of 36 years even more after Covid than before. We're spending more enjoyable time at home together working on projects and on a daily basis she is the only person I can safely hug—and we all need someone to love and to hug during these challenging times
- People, in general, are more sensitive, and respectful of others. The world is a kinder place, hopefully it will stay that way for awhile.
- The faster and faster pace treadmill of life has dramatically slowed down. Each day we can work on doing one thing well instead of 10 different things not so well.
- And above all it's given me time to reflect and appreciate the most valuable aspects of life—family, friends, my work peers, and my fellow Capitola Museum board members. *We are all in this together.*

On a recent walk in the village I ran into Jo Jo Urbancic. He is anxious to see the Capitola Wharf reopen so he can get back to cleaning fish.



## New Normal Brings Hope and Promise

By Dean Walker

The times, they are a-changing. Indeed. That's the way it always is, right? Only now, the change in how we do things in our daily lives has taken a quantum leap. Someone recently asked me how I would like to see the future, and I replied; "The way things used to be." But the future will naturally be a mix of the old and the new, and the new may include improved ways in how we navigate.

What is new in how we carry on? How we work and play. Where we go. How we shop. How we plan our time. On the positive side, we are seeing the development of some behaviors that have the potential for significant benefits, such as increased efficiency and resource conservation. As an example, my psychologist daughter and her engineer husband have been able to work from home, meaning zero commutes for them to Palo Alto and Mountain View. In the future their remote work, albeit reduced, will likely not be something that goes away. And thank goodness for all of the ways that we can communicate with other people and entities, which has led to expanded experience with the technologies now available. I find myself communicating much more frequently with my "front line" physician son in San Francisco, not in small part related to the challenges that he faces at UCSF.

In another sense, the recent weeks have renewed my appreciation for past days and what we have had the opportunity to enjoy. A lot of my recent focus has been on family and the home front. Babysitting a new grandson has been a joy. The beginning of his life will certainly have a memorable association. My wife's ongoing baking and cooking are at a skill level that never ceases to impress. It has been a time to pursue hobbies and a number of projects that needed tackling. Various home repair, brush abatement, and tree trimming jobs have been checked off the list. I got a big burn done of material that couldn't be hauled for chipping.



Fire on the Mountain; like the picture shows, there is more than one use for a face mask!

Someday, when we are back to a new normal, the Capitola Historical Museum will happily reopen. It represents our interest in and respect for the past, but also is a repository for history that is continually being made. There is no end to the exploration and documentation of local history. The times are a-changing in Capitola, and fortunately we have the museum to help record it.

## In the Middle of the Pandemic

By Brian Legakis

All across America museums are gathering historic information while the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic is unfolding. Realizing such a major event requires documentation, personal accounts are being collected along with official governmental and medical documents. I would like to provide my own COVID-19 observations at this early stage of the pandemic for the Capitola Historical Museum newsletter.

The American public was jolted to their attention when the NBA shut down the professional basketball season on March 12. The San Francisco Bay Area and Santa Cruz County, followed by the State of California, quickly instituting shelter-in-place restrictions that we live by today. In the meantime the City of Capitola shut down the Museum following County Health information. We had to cancel the Museum grand opening of the exhibit "Then and Now" scheduled for March 14, as well as the Museum fundraiser at the Shadowbrook restaurant on the 17th of March. Vast numbers of businesses had to close their operations in Capitola and across the nation.



Play structures are closed by order of the County Health Department as a precaution to prevent contact spread of the Covid-19 virus.

What has life been like after nearly two months in shutdown? That depends on your situation. Many are working at home if they have a job. My wife and I are retired, so our activities have fewer limitations. We did have to cancel our overseas travel trip to Spain and Greece to visit family and are unsure of the practicality of an upcoming visit to Yellowstone. We have, however, enjoyed our time at home in this beautiful County of ours.

Unlike Spain and Italy, we have the freedom to go outside to enjoy our spectacular local parks and beaches while in shutdown mode. Lately we have made a special effort to hike Nisene Marks, Seacliff State Beach, and the Polo Grounds, perhaps in compensation for not being able to see our family and friends. We do encounter neighbors on the street for brief conversations, and we have been making outside socially distanced visits to see friends. As social animals we need this safe contact in order to remain sane and stable.

County Health has directed the closure of playgrounds and skateparks and has closed State Park parking lots in an effort to keep numbers down. That process has successfully discouraged over the hill visitors and has made locals use their cunning and experience in accessing the parks of their choices, while using proper spacing. Recently, our county beaches have been closed between 11-5 daily and it has dramatically cut down on crowds. Surfing is allowed at all times and the numbers in the water are greater than normal for this time of year. There have been two shark attacks in the last month within our county, one fatality to a surfer near Manresa Beach, and one close call on a paddle board at 38th avenue that has more to do with the yearly return of many juvenile sharks to our shores. Beach restrictions related to infectious disease and shark attacks are a unique occurrence in our county's history.



The Monte Family Skateboard Park at McGregor Drive is closed along with the pump track and dog park. Our beaches are still open during limited hours for exercise and water activity. Sitting, lounging and sunbathing is prohibited at this time.

With restaurants closed cooking at home has become a necessity and a new pastime. Visiting markets under these circumstances made my wife and I uncomfortable so we have switched entirely to online delivery of food. We buy groceries exclusively with Instacart delivered to our door and rarely walk into a store. I bought commercial toilet paper and paper towels when I could not buy any from the markets. We are growing a small vegetable garden out of flower pots and sprouting and harvesting micro greens in our kitchen. We have tried takeout food but we enjoy cooking at home more than ever. Like others we are

baking bread and oatmeal cookies with whole grains flours purchased online due to shortages in the markets. From the beginning we have been told not to hoard but to plan ahead a week or two for grocery needs. We have done all of those things from the beginning but we crave our favorite restaurant food that just isn't the same as takeout.

Proper diet, rest and exercise has been our routine partly in preparation for possible infection, unlikely as it might be in isolation. Besides the walks in the neighborhood and parks I have biked through Capitola Village on a regular basis. It has been very sad to see so many shops shuttered for the last two months. As gift shops are allowed to open now, I noticed some are making a brave attempt to restart their business. Yesterday I noticed maybe 20% of the shops open in the village. A slight increase in mostly local tourism was seen in the beach area, and the eateries along the Esplanade were more active for takeout. They need our help, and I plan on doing my part.

Understanding how our lives will be shaken by the pandemic until a vaccine is available sometime next winter or spring of 2021, my household of two has decided to use this next six months wisely. We have set goals to accomplish tasks left undone. The list is ambitiously long and includes everything from cleaning out old files and making improvements to our house and garden. Some items stand out. With over 50 years together we have accumulated thousands of photographic images going back to our student years at UC Davis and studying for two years in Greece in the early 1970s. Sorting, scanning and organizing these images is like delving back into our archaeological past with many delightful surprises in store. We are hoping to survive this unusual period of our lives with a sharper vision of our future in a society that will be forever changed. In the rush to reopen our economic livelihood, traffic and overall activity will increase from the eerie tranquility we have experienced this spring. There is still time to jot down for posterity those remarkable moments you may have experienced in the middle of the pandemic.

## The Times They are A-Changin'

By Pam Greeninger

It was Monday night, March 16, when I heard the news that our state and county adopted a "Sheltering In Place (SIP) Order" that has ultimately changed life as we knew it. I had been sending messages to my friends and fellow board members about our annual Capitola Historical Museum Community Tuesday fundraiser at the Shadowbrook Restaurant on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. Needless to say, that event never happened as all restaurants were required to close their doors, effective immediately.

We are now almost 10 weeks into our new normal... How has our life changed? How has our community changed? What things am I having to do differently? How does one explain the life altering changes a pandemic dictates? When in the world will this be over??? Please!!

For the Capitola Museum Board the way we meet had to change, and on April 7, 2020, we had our first-ever Zoom board meeting. A historic event for sure! Since I take minutes of the meeting on my computer, I used my husband's iPad to set up the Zoom meeting. It worked out just fine, and we all enjoyed being able to see and connect with fellow board members. Of course the main topic of conversation was how was everyone doing and sharing information about how the pandemic has affected us. At our second board meeting on May 5, Brian Legakis suggested putting together a Newsletter with articles written by board members on their perspectives on how our lives have changed since COVID-19. Many of us said we were tired of hearing about it—that seems to be all the news all the time.

For me personally, I must say that I am particularly grateful to live in Capitola (let's be honest, we live in paradise) and to be retired (not have to work from home, home-school children or worry about losing my job). I can't think of a nicer place to shelter in place. Every person has a different story on how their lives have changed based on their current situation.

**Exercise & going to the gym**—I can no longer go to In-Shape to work out, which I did at least 5 days a week. I really miss all the great instructors, saying hello to everyone and catching up with friends. Thankfully, there are lots of work out videos available on-line, which I have taken advantage of, but it is just not the same. One of my friends and I walk at least once a week and enjoy connecting and finding new routes to walk in our beautiful neighborhoods.

Our state and local communities have implemented new rules for social distancing and have put up many signs in public areas reminding us to keep our distance, etc. In Capitola, all the benches along the Esplanade were moved up to the city's parking lot to keep people from sitting on them. Parking is limited to 1 hour in the Village and both city parking lots are closed to the public. In addition, all beaches in Santa Cruz County are closed from 11 am to 5 pm. You can go in the water surfing or other water sports, but you can't take a walk or sit on the beach.

On May 14th I signed up for the first "Virtual Wharf to Wharf Race." I have been participating in this event since 1980 after we moved to Capitola. I've only missed a few years when our children were young or I was pregnant. Looking forward to being a part of this historic event!

I'm attending a Weight Watchers (WW) Life in Focus Virtual Experience with Oprah Winfrey via Zoom. How cool is that to have Oprah leading a WW meeting in my home? Very inspirational!

**Travel**—Our plans to travel to Charleston and Hilton Head, South Carolina, in March had to be cancelled. We definitely hope to reschedule someday, but for now we'll just have to wait and see. Even our trip to visit our daughter's family in Dana Point later this month will be cancelled. I was so looking forward to seeing our grandchildren and getting together, but now is not the time to travel.

**Shopping**—I miss being able to just run into a store to grab a few things or to just look around for gifts, clothing, decor, etc. Just going to the grocery store is a major expedition! First of all, I have to figure out when to go, so I am not around a lot of other people. Many stores have implemented special hours for us "Senior Citizens," but guess what—there are a LOT of us and the lines seem to be even longer than at other times! Before I leave I review my check-list: Lysol wipes in a zip lock bag, gloves, sanitizer, face mask. Ok, now I can venture out, but sometimes, after all that hyping up I would end up just coming home because lines were too long (especially at Trader Joe's) and I didn't want to deal with it. Then, when I did get in the store I would feel paranoid about getting too close to someone, my glasses would fog up from the face mask, and I would start hyperventilating from not being able to breathe. Not fun!

**Family & Friends**—I love getting together with my family and friends and give them big hugs when I see them. This new way of life does not allow for that, which is really hard for me. My husband and I are doing our best to shelter in place and not expose ourselves to this invisible virus. We do get together with our sister-in-law who lives alone, our youngest son who lives in San Francisco, and very few others for social distancing...always making sure we are 6 feet apart! Is this the new norm? On a positive note, we are so fortunate to have the technology to connect with loved ones the way we do. We especially enjoy FaceTiming with our grandchildren and seeing how much they are growing! Our twin grandsons who just turned 1 in March have started walking and dancing—it is so fun to watch! Our granddaughter turned 3 in April and is so full of energy. She misses playing with her friends at preschool. I enjoy getting together with my older son when he comes to Santa Cruz for work projects, but his work has slowed down with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Our grandson just turned 18 and graduated from high school this year which is so exciting, but, of course, no graduation... I especially think of the high school and college students who are having to complete their schooling online and shelter in place without being able to hang out with their friends. Although they have social media to see what their friends are doing, it's just not the same as being together.



**Decluttering**—Marie Kondo here I come... After retiring over 9 years ago I have been going to clean out my closets, filing cabinets, drawers, etc. Something always got in the way, like going to the gym, shopping, and spending time with friends... Since I can't do that, I have no excuse not to work on that project; however, it is a daunting task having been in our home for over 37 years. A dent has been made, but I now realize why I have procrastinated ~ it takes so much TIME, not to mention a BIG MESS! My new motto is: "Stay Positive and One Day at a Time."

**Faith**—Most important to me during this difficult and unprecedented time is my faith in Jesus Christ. He is my rock and my hope. Each morning I start my day reading scripture, listening to our pastor's Daily Devotional and keeping a journal. This routine sets the stage for a positive day. Although our church (Twin Lakes Church) can no longer hold weekly services in the church building, we enjoy participating in the online live-streamed worship service each week via YouTube. My bible study group keeps in touch via email and Zoom. I try to take time to recognize moments of beauty and gratitude throughout each day and to stay focused on the positive, looking forward to a bright future when we can hug our grandkids and do some of the things we used to do. I am thankful every day for being well during this pandemic and pray for healing of all those affected by this horrible virus.

This pandemic has brought our neighbors together because we now stop and chat (6 feet apart, of course) while getting out of the house for exercise. Every night at 8 p.m. our neighbors come out front of their homes and howl for all the first responders, doctors and nurses and all those caring for COVID-19 patients. After a minute of howling, where all the dogs in the neighborhood chime in, we then say "good night."

The Capitola Museum has recently received generous donations from:

Al & Marian Carlson	Michael & Barbara Clark
Calvin Cornwell	Margy Cottle
Leslie Couvillion	Al DaDalt
Rickey Feldner	Carol Fuller
Lani Hall	Jan Jensen
Brian & Sally Legakis	David & Jeanne Macdonald
Mary Jane McGranahan	Joan Gilbert Martin
Betty Mello	Jed & Helen Myall
Diane Nelson	Paul Parsons
David Peyton	Barbara Reding
Shadowbrook Restaurant	
Laura Smith & Rowland Morin	
Linda Wilshusen & Rock Photenhauer	

**Humor and levity can be good medicine during times of crisis. While there is nothing funny about the death the world has seen during this pandemic, sometimes a little chuckle creates a smile that goes a long way on a lonely day sheltered in place:**

*My body is so full of soap and disinfectant that when I pee it actually cleans the toilet.*

*This pandemic has taught me that one of my favorite hobbies is touching my face.*

*The difference between Wuhan and Las Vegas is that everything that happens in 'Vegas stays in 'Vegas.*

*This virus has done what no woman had been able to do; cancel sports, shut down bars and keep men at home.*

*You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home-schooled by day drinkers.*

*When this is over I'll have to decide which meeting to attend first—Weight Watchers or AA.*

*Whoever said one person alone cannot change the world, never ate under-cooked bat soup.*

## Shelter in Place 2020



**BEFORE**

**AFTER**

*Capitola Sunset* is published by:

**The Capitola Historical Museum**  
410 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Website: [www.cityofcapitola.org/capitola-museum](http://www.cityofcapitola.org/capitola-museum)  
Email: [capitolamuseum@gmail.com](mailto:capitolamuseum@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 831-464-0322

Museum Hours: **Temporarily Closed**

Curator: Frank Perry.

Board Members: Niels Kisling (President), David Peyton (Vice President), Pam Greeninger (Secretary), Brian Legakis (Treasurer), Emmy Mitchell-Lynn, Dean Walker and Gordon van Zuiden.  
Museum Youth Board Member: Joshua Henshaw.

While the museum is closed, we continue to work on projects remotely. Your generous donations help us provide a future for our past.

*Your donation helps provide a future for our past.*



*Thank you!*



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Capitola Historical Museum  
420 Capitola Avenue  
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