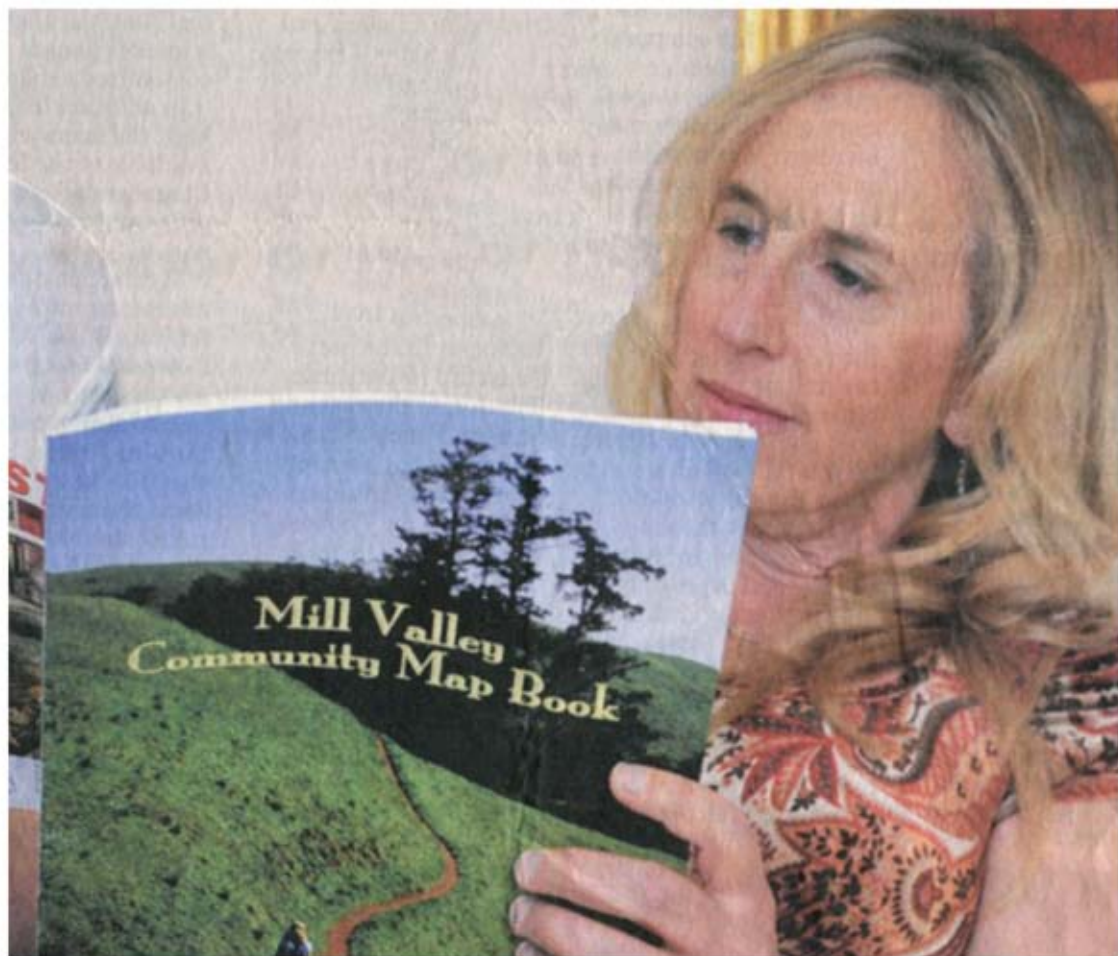


# Marin Independent Journal

## Comprehensive map 'makes home home'

Feature-rich book by local cartographer may be first of its kind in U.S., and city's residents will get it free



Eva Mautner takes a look through a Mill Valley Community Map Book at her home in Mill Valley.

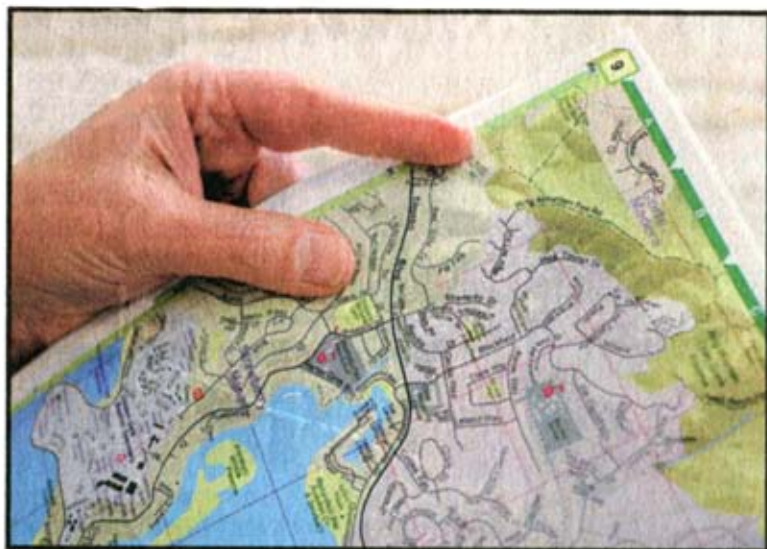
IJ photos/Alan Dep

**T**HANKS TO the work of a local cartographer, thousands of Mill Valley and nearby residents will soon receive a free local map book that contains streets, fire roads, trails, terrain, steps, lanes, paths and the outlines of nearly every structure in the area.



Catalinotto

"I can't say it's perfect, but we wanted it to be as close to perfect as it could," said Bernard Catalinotto, a Mill Valley resident and co-founder of MyMapbook LLC, a startup map publishing and software development firm.



Titled the "Mill Valley Community Map Book," the advertiser-supported book will be mailed this week to 12,000

residents in the 94941 ZIP code area. A San Rafael book

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## MILL VALLEY: Comprehensive map of city developed

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is planned for publication this fall.

"It's a nice way to bring the community together," said Eva Mautner, a Mill Valley resident and member of the company's Marin sales team.

There is no shortage of maps of Mill Valley and Southern Marin, with multiple trail maps available, in addition to the city's "Steps Lanes and Paths" map and the Marin County Bicycle Coalition's "Marin Bicycle Map." But the new book represents the first product that combines most features — it does not include on-street bicycle lanes — in a single place, Catalinotto said.

The map is the most comprehensive in Marin County and is possibly the only product of its kind in the United States, said Catalinotto's business partner, Glen Jansma. While preparing the map the partners looked at other examples around the country, he said, but they

did not find any that reflected their goal of a single map that includes all of the places and features important to a specific community.

In Mill Valley, trails are important to many residents, he noted. "We may go to another community and they may be more interested in a harbor," Jansma said. "We want to bring out what makes home home."

The 36-page map book extends beyond Mill Valley proper, stretching from Larkspur in the north to Sausalito in the south, Tiburon to the east and Stinson Beach to the west.

Catalinotto, formerly a senior vice president of operations for Thomas Brothers, said he took painstaking efforts to assure accuracy. He used data from the county's MarinMap geographic information system as a basis, and he walked trails and consulted with residents and city employees to improve on the details.

"You get raw data and you have to make it accurate," he said.

The printed map will be updated and re-published every year, and will be supplemented by an online tool that will allow users to make changes and print customized versions.

In addition to the mailings, the maps will be available at the Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce office and at local businesses.

MyMapbook has already produced prototype maps for Tamalpais Valley and Newport Beach — Jansma's hometown — in addition to a pro bono map of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, but the Mill Valley map represents the company's first full-scale version.

If the Mill Valley and San Rafael maps are well received, MyMapbook will create similar products for Novato and other communities throughout California and the United States.

Even in an age of smartphones and voice-guided navigation, Jansma said the company sees a desire for detailed printed maps.

"What we're really providing is something that just gives you a sense of what your community is," he said. "A lot of people are satisfied by that feeling of orientation."

For more information or to download an electronic copy of the map, visit [www.mymapbook.com](http://www.mymapbook.com).

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