

The Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association

Fair Oaks, California

September 2011

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC AND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE PARK!

Save the Date: Saturday October 1, 2011, 2 P.M.

The Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association will hold its 3rd Annual Picnic at the Sacramento Bar-Sunrise Access Park located at the bottom of Pennsylvania Road on Saturday, October 1, 2011 at 12:00 noon. The Annual FOARG Membership Meeting and election of next year's directors will occur at the end of the picnic!

Food and drinks are free and we will hold a raffle for fun prizes. Bring your entire family for a nice afternoon in the park!

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

What's Going on in the Neighborhood?

Wes Trunnell, President

Almost four years ago the Fair Oaks American River Gateway (FOARG) Neighborhood Association was formed to address a development that could have negatively affected our neighborhood. That development is no longer a threat. The FOARG continues to be active in issues regarding our neighborhood and we have had some good success. We encourage neighbors to send their concerns to f.o.gateway@gmail.com. Your concerns will be reviewed and addressed.

Last year during the annual meeting, four topics were raised. First, there was concern about the trees overhanging Howard Street were blocking visibility and narrowing the roadway. The offending trees have been pruned. Second, there was a request to require parking permits along Magnolia from Pennsylvania to New York. A portion of Magnolia was remarked No Parking (see the article Magnolia Ave Traffic Safety). Third, it was suggested we have "Do Not Block Intersection" painted on FOB in front of Pennsylvania Ave. The County stated that DNBI is only painted in front of fire stations in the County. And fourth, we provided hard copies of the bylaws to all who requested them. Also, we recently sent a notice to members on our email list regarding the meeting dates and locations for the Sacramento County Medical Marijuana Ordinance development. The County is taking public comments to develop an ordinance. We are sponsoring a picnic again this year for the entire neighborhood at the Sacramento Bar picnic area. The annual membership meeting will be held during the picnic. During the brief annual meeting, you will get the opportunity to hear what has been accomplished, suggest new concerns to be addressed, and elect board members. If you are interested in being a board member there are usually a few vacancies.

If you would like to be apprised of neighborhood news and developments, please e-mail us at f.o.gateway@gmail.com. We keep our email list confidential, and send emails sparingly

Proposed changes for the BYLAWS FOR THE FAIR OAKS AMERICAN RIVER GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

A full copy of the current Bylaws can be found at: www.fo-gateway.org. A paper copy can be obtained by calling Michael Faber @ 967-2990

Article/Section	Current	Change
Article VI ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS Section 6 Impeachment	Section 6 IMPEACHMENT: Any Board member officer may be removed and replaced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a general or special meeting of the membership. Removal does require cause.	Section 6 IMPEACHMENT BY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: Any Board member officer may be removed and replaced by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a general or special meeting of the General Membership. Removal does require cause.
Article VI ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS Section 7 Impeachment by the Board	None	IMPEACHMENT BY BOARD: Any Board Member may be removed by unanimous written consent of all remaining Board Members if such removal is for cause which may include but not be limited to missing 3 or more regularly scheduled Board Meetings in one calendar year, conviction of a crime of moral turpitude, disruptive behavior at more than one regularly scheduled Board Meeting in one calendar year. In the event of removal by unanimous written consent, a Board Member may be barred from attending any regularly scheduled Board Meeting, but shall have the right to appeal his/her removal at any regularly scheduled General Membership meeting. If the General Membership overrides the Board's unanimous written consent, then the removed Board Member shall be reinstated for the remainder of his/her term and granted a one year extension of his/her term, unless the General Membership decides otherwise.

UPDATE ON THE POINTE

It has been a year since we last reported on the proposed commercial development, "The Pointe" on the corner of FO Blvd and Sunrise. At that time the project was still a "go" but the developer, MP Allen did not have a defined timeline on when they would break ground. Since that time much has changed. With the economy still in a down cycle and commercial development and occupancy rates still very low.... the developer has "thrown in the towel."

Considered a victory by FOARG, the abandoned project leaves the 1.36 acre parcel up for sale. On the market for several months now, the "Special Protection Area" (SPA) zoned lot is listed for \$1.2M with the office/retail project plans included in that price. So if you have a cool million burning a hole in your pocket.... do the neighborhood a favor and buy the land, burn the project plans and plant some beautiful trees on that corner instead.

LET'S EXPAND NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!

By Roger Smith

Some parts of the FOARG area are not covered by Neighborhood Watch (NW) programs. Is there a need for more coverage? Absolutely! NW programs help prevent burglaries and other crimes by encouraging neighbors to be vigilant, know each other, and report suspicious persons and activities to the sheriff.

Currently, there are five programs operating in the FOARG area: (1) Magnolia Ave west of New York Ave and Minnesota to Doneva Ave is coordinated by Clara Jewell (967-6156); (2) Southcliff Dr and Tobia Way is coordinated by Mark Bean (965-1931); (3) Oak Hurst Circle and Valley View Ct is coordinated by Joe Dobrowolski (961-6561); (4) New York Ave

south of Magnolia Ave, Mt Diablo Ct, and Oriana Ct is coordinated by Mike Bowling (961-5611); and (5) Orangewood Drive, Deborah Lane, and the south side of Magnolia between New York and Orangewood is coordinated by Roger Smith (961-4470). If you live in one of these areas and want to learn more about NW, please contact the appropriate coordinator.

The remaining areas needing coverage are (1) Pennsylvania Ave, Portofino Ct, Villa Ct, and Howard St; (2) Magnolia from New York Ave to Pennsylvania Ave; and (3) New York Ave between Fair Oaks Blvd and Magnolia Ave. Let's get something started in these areas. We need someone in each of these areas to talk to your neighbors, be the catalyst, volunteer, and then contact Sherrie Carhart of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Dept at 916-536-9876 or scarhart@sacsheriff.com. You may also contact one of the coordinators from the existing programs to help you get started. When you have a meeting, please let Roger Smith (961-4470) know so that he can add your area to the FOARG list of NW programs.

Important reminders for NW: (1) Be alert, learn to recognize suspicious activities, and immediately report any crime in progress to the sheriff at 875-5111; (2) Know your neighbors, talk to them, and watch out for each other. Sherrie recommends adding the sheriff's number to your cell phone!

In these times of budget cuts to our law enforcement, citizen participation in the defense of our neighborhoods is more important than ever!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

As of June 2011, we had \$1,802.00 in our organization's treasury.

GET UPDATES BY E-MAIL!

If you would like to receive updates regarding quickly occurring events affecting our neighborhood, please send us your e-mail address! You may e-mail mfaber@elkgrove.net.

RIVER RAT ZONING UPDATE

River Rat Rezone (Sacramento County Control Number PLNP2010-00145)

A couple of years ago the County discovered that the River Rat was violating the zoning code in that their buses and rafts were being improperly stored. The County has been pursuing a course to correct the zoning violation. The basic issue is that parcels zoned residential cannot be used for commercial purposes. The storage of the buses and rafts is a commercial use. The FOARG Board members discussed the issues with the affected neighbors and concluded that the River Rat should be supported. The owner, Mr. Calvin, is a good neighbor, and the River Rat has been in the raft rental business on Pennsylvania Avenue since 1974. The rafts and buses are only visible from one home on Portofino Oaks Lane. Early in 2011, members of the FOARG spoke in favor of the River Rat on two occasions at County meetings. The FOARG speakers requested provisions that commercial zoned properties would not encroach further into our neighborhood. The path towards the rezone has been difficult and costly for Mr. Calvin. The County's current plan is to rezone the residential lot at 4053 Pennsylvania Ave to commercial with the only allowed use being rafting. The lot will revert to residential (RD5) should any other commercial use be requested.

Magnolia Avenue Traffic Safety

By Vikki Walker

How many times have you almost been in an accident at the crest of the big hill on the east end of Magnolia Ave? This dangerous area has a combination of zero visibility due to the hill, narrow roads, and individuals parking on the side effectively changing the two lanes into one, as cars on each side of the hill drive towards a head on collision unaware of the other!

FOARG has been considering how to deal with traffic safety on Magnolia Ave primarily at the hill between Orangetown and Oak Hurst. This section of Magnolia Avenue is especially dangerous due to the number of vehicles using this section of Magnolia as a detour to Sunrise Blvd, and also to get to the river.

After much discussion and observation of the situation it was decided that a "no parking" restriction at the crest of the hill on the south side of the street would alleviate some of the danger of cars having to swerve out their lane to avoid parked vehicles and potentially be in the lane of unseen on-coming vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles.

On contacting the Sacramento County Dept. of Transportation we were given the task of getting a petition signed by the homeowners at this part of the street. The petition was submitted to the Sac DOT and the "no parking" signs have been placed between 7848 and 7856 Magnolia Avenue, over the crest of the hill. We look forward to a safer neighborhood as a result of this project.

OUR 2010-2011 OFFICERS

President: Wes Trunnell

Vice President: Roger Smith

Secretary: Bob Boyd

Treasurer: Clara Jewell

Board Member: Donald Dunn

Board Member: Michael Faber

Board Member: Garwood Kotite

Board Member: Biba Maletic

Board Member: Vikki Walker

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC ANNUAL MEETING

SACRAMENTO BAR AMERICAN RIVER ACCESS PARK

Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011 at 12:00 noon.

Picnic, Elect Board Members for Next Year, Reports to Membership, Approve Bylaws Amendments, and New Business from the Membership.

FOARG MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

TBA-CALL MICHAEL FABER AT 686-7020 FOR LOCATIONS

6:30-7:30, FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Board meets regularly to discuss events of neighborhood And actions to be taken by organization. Residents Welcome.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

www.fo-gateway.org

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT:

At our upcoming Annual Picnic/Membership Meeting, the Board will propose the attached amendment to our bylaws, making removal of a director possible in between Annual Meetings by unanimous consent of the remaining directors for cause.

MARIJUANA SALES IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD?!

Have you noticed the Marijuana dispensary across the street on Fair Oaks Blvd. or the other one down the road on Sunrise? FOARG did and reported them to the authorities.

Current County zoning does not allow marijuana cultivation or dispensing within the County, however currently there are approximately 50 existing stores. While the county cited these dispensaries, they have appealed. The county has been working to close the existing stores but it is a slow process.

In the meantime, the County is working on an Interim Urgency Ordinance of the Sacramento County Zoning Code. This Ordinance will allow these types of stores in some areas but under heavily regulated conditions. Passage of this ordinance was delayed so they could conduct Community Workshops and conduct more research before making a proposal to the County Board. Perhaps you received a FOARG e-mail about the latest of these workshops. We sent out notices to almost a hundred neighbors whom we had e-mail addresses, so you could go and make your opinions known.

The workshops were completed July 20th. Staff will report the conclusions of the workshops to the Board of Supervisors on August 10th. The information from these workshops, data gathered from other counties and other informational studies will be used to make a final proposal to the County Board of Supervisors.

If you would like additional information you should contact www.saccounty.net or the County Board of Supervisors.

At the time of the writing of this article, no final decisions have yet been made.

A Memory of Our Neighborhood

by Lois Frazier

In the 1950's, the sub-division now called "Glenview" was the Murphy Ranch, owned by Hason and Elsie Murphy. The address was 7880 Magnolia Avenue. The Murphy Ranch was bordered by the River Road, Magnolia Avenue, Orangewood, and the river. There were orchards of plums, oranges, olives and almonds. Some fruit was shipped east from the packinghouse in Loomis.

A large part of the ranch was the chicken (egg) business. All the chickens were housed in long chicken houses. The chicken house floor was high off the ground. Their feet never touched the ground. The flock was over 5,000 chickens. There was a large barn with huge bulk feed bins. It took many buckets of feed for the twice a day feedings. Eggs were gathered once a day into wire mesh egg buckets. The buckets of eggs were immediately placed in a huge walk-in refrigerated room.

[Memory Article Continued]

Next came sanding and crating. The egg sander was a large electric belt machine. Every egg was checked by hand before being placed on the sander belt. This machine cleaned the eggs when necessary. As the eggs came off the sanding belt they were put into double-sided egg crates. These crates consisted of layer upon layer of eggs with a heavy cardboard protector between the layers. Then the eggs went into refrigeration again. Eggs were then ready for the "Nulaid" refrigerated trucks to pick up the crates to be taken to the 'Poultry Producers Company' on Broadway in Sacramento. There, all the eggs were candled (examined in front of a light) before shipping to the market. This routine was done daily. No days off. No holidays. Good weather or bad. Things are truly different now.

Sometime, drive around Oakhurst Circle and imagine the chickens, the orchards in bloom, and the river view.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To become an Active Member of FOARG Please fill out and return the below.
\$20.00 annual membership dues optional but highly appreciated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone
Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please Mail to
Bob Boyd-FOARG Secretary
3927 New York Ave.
Fair Oaks, CA 95628