

# SHEFFIELD VILLAGE CRIER

SHEFFIELD VILLAGE HOME OWNERS' ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED JANUARY 1939  
OCTOBER 2002 ISSUE

## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN: ANOTHER BATTLE WON**

Margaret Mead said "never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has."

Well, Sheffield Village has once again proven this to be true. Neighbors kept a close watch on the registered sex offender who had moved into our Village. The Board brought in the Oakland Police to advise us of our rights, and to present seminars for our children. I had several phone negotiations with the registrant, advising him that while the Village would not harass him, we would never welcome him.

He is now gone. He sold his house. We changed our little corner of this world for the better.

But keep teaching your children to be safe, and to be good citizens ... by words and by example. And let's move forward to the other issues that face us - the Tuscany Hills development, the need to take better care of our parks - together, with thoughtfulness and commitment.

I'm very proud of this neighborhood.

**Brian Brick, SVHOA President**

## **"MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY" RETURNS TO THE VILLAGE**

Make A Difference Day, the National Day of Doing Good, is coming and we're planning our second annual Sheffield Village Food Drive! Last year we delivered over 900 cans/boxes/cartons of food to a local food bank!!!!

Want to be part of this year's FUN and REWARDING event? Here's how you can help.....

1. Donate non-perishable food....talk to your co-workers and friends to see if they want to contribute too!
2. Distribute fliers to the houses in Sheffield Village, telling them about the food drive....
3. Help collect food on Saturday, October 26th, and bring it to our collection point....
4. Help sort the food and box it for delivery.....
5. Help deliver the food to a local food bank in our district.....

If you want to help, please email or call me, and let me know your availability. Fliers should be delivered between Tuesday and Thursday, October 22nd-24th. Food will be collected, sorted and delivered on Saturday, October 26th. Your help will be greatly appreciated by the many recipients of the Village's generosity.

THANKS in advance for your support!

**Dawn Chesney, Villager**

### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:**

**Non-Emergency Police: 777-3333**

**Patrol Officer Cell Phones:**

**9 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.: 520-9235**

You can contact Dawn Chesney by email at:  
dawn.chesney@target.com or by phone at  
510 420 0000 (home) or 510 727 2722 (work)

## **BORED? NOT ON THE BOARD!**

Wow, it's hard for me to believe that my two year tenure as Treasurer of SVHOA is coming to a close. It doesn't seem very long ago at all that I was trying to talk my husband into joining the Board with me as "something we could do together"!

Well we have certainly done A LOT together since joining the SVHOA Board of Directors. We have been part of the fight against the redevelopment of the Lake Chabot Golf Course, as well as the resistance against the "Tuscany Hills" development.

We have participated in giving out annual scholarships to some of our graduating seniors. We've met neighbors who we have laughed with and cried with. We have new friends with whom we walk the Village and play cards on some Saturday nights.

Yes, we have heard a complaint or two but we've heard a lot more praises and "thank you's" than we every imagined.

So, come January there will be three vacancies on your SVHOA Board of Directors. Would you like to give something back to this amazing neighborhood, and then receive more than you thought was possible in return?? Let us know, and we will fill you in on all the details. You won't regret a day of it.

*Jennie Brick, SVHOA Treasurer*

## **WE HAVE OUR NEW MAILBOX!**

By email on September 26<sup>th</sup>, Villager John Shimko was the first to advise The Crier that "Everyone may already know this, but the new mailbox is in. It's between the Ballet Folklorico and the tan apartment building on Marlow. It's regular size instead of the small ones we used to have."

A subsequent email from Villager Joanna Lee advised that "the new mailbox is at 55 Marlow

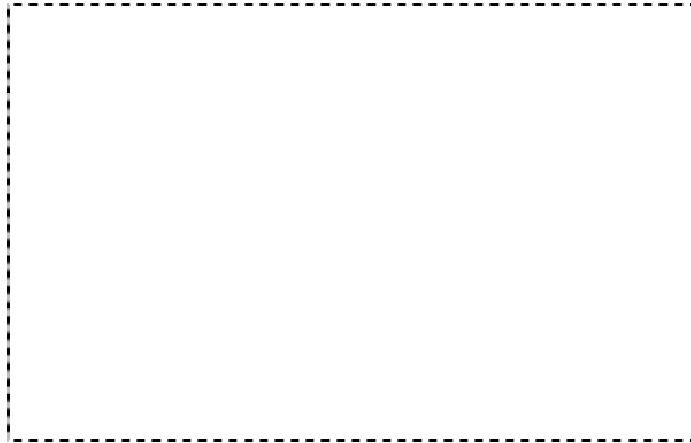
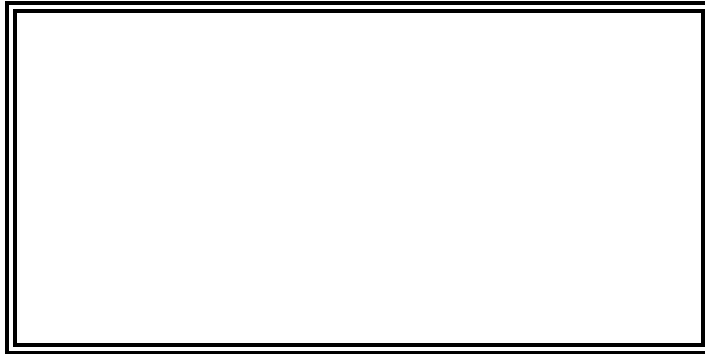
## **DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL CONTINUES TO CHANGE**

Ed Patmont of Hillside Homes spoke at the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Chabot Highland Homeowners Association. His presentation described "updates" to his Tuscany Hills development. Some of the highlights:

- ?? His updated plan calls for 1 house for every acre, for a total of 67 homes
- ?? The main entrance streets are now Golf Links Road (58 homes) , Malcolm Avenue (8 homes) , and Lochard Street (1 home)
- ?? The plan includes rerouting and some re-design of the current 18-hole golf course and a new roadway which follows the KSL plan
- ?? He has not yet presented the plan to the City of Oakland
- ?? His company is willing to contribute \$1 million towards the golf course upgrade
- ?? Homes will be Mediterranean style, built away from creeks, with consideration for wildlife

In answering questions, Mr. Patmont stated that he has not obtained an easement from Marshall School (although he has paid the school \$25,000 already and is offering a total of \$50,000). He agreed, without comment, that Sheffield Villagers would be able to see some houses on a tract that borders the ridge overlooking our neighborhood. He also indicated that things are still in the planning stages with more research to do, and emphasized he is open to input from all interested parties.

*Deni Hodges, Villager (Ed.. - adapted from an email that she sent to the SVHOA Board)*



**THE LAST SVHOA BOARD MEETING  
OF THE YEAR WILL BE ON  
NOVEMBER 19TH AT 7:00 PM AT  
THE CLUBHOUSE - 247 MARLOW  
If you had been at the October meeting,  
you would have met our Oakland Police  
Area III Commander, Dennis Shinn!  
as well as several of your fellow Villagers.  
So come on out and join in the discussion  
of your neighborhood and your concerns !**

**BOULDERS GOLF CENTER & CAFÉ**

At least every two years, Sheffield Village is faced with having to pay an unexpected, unbudgeted expense. Because our annual dues are so low (currently \$30 per household) we are unable to stash away a large enough reserve to pay for multiple projects during a calendar year -- even when we need to have the projects taken care of immediately.

Currently, we need to hire a company to do major tree trimming in Milford and Onset Parks. Multiple neighbors have complained about dead branches, too many falling pine needles and overgrown trees that are negatively affecting their properties. It is impossible to take care of this type of work through volunteerism and it is obvious that we need to hire professionals to do the jobs. We will likely have to dip into our already shallow reserves to get the work done, which will leave the Village fairly tapped out in 2003.

There are numerous projects that we could embark upon if we raised dues to make our Village a more attractive place to live. In my experience as a consistent volunteer in the parks over the past eight years, I have seen little evidence to support the contention that volunteers will always respond to our pressing needs. I am thoroughly convinced that most people are too busy to spend the amount of time we need fixing up the Village.

Therefore, I am going to propose a formal resolution to the board that we spend whatever it takes to hire a lawyer and change our bylaws so we can raise our dues to a more reasonable amount -- say \$50 to 60 dollars a year. I will also include in the proposal a section that allows folks on a limited income to pay less based on hardship. That way, we won't have to cry for help every time we need a few branches trimmed or have some debris removed, and we can get on with the business of making our Village parks a more desirable place to spend time. Please e-mail me at [mjc4962@aol.com](mailto:mjc4962@aol.com) with your

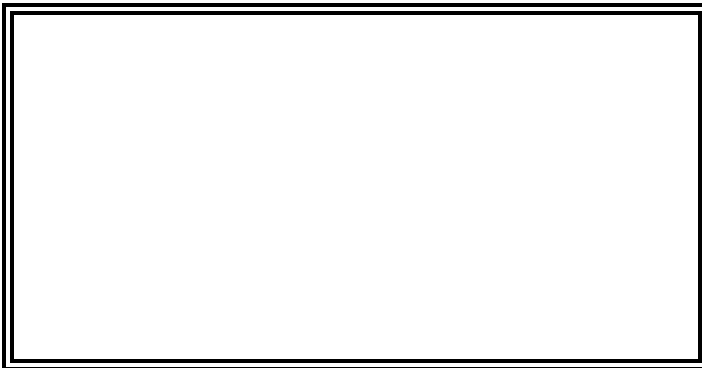
? ? GRATIS: An Oakland Tribune newspaper box (attach to your porch or ??). Call **568-3631**.

? ? FOR SALE: Computer (used), 15" Color Monitor (new), 17" Color Monitor (used) - sale under \$100.00 or Best Offer. Woman's Fashion Clothing and Shoes (new and used, size S - M), Coat, Oriental Silk Jackets, Suits, Dresses, Skirts, Casual Clothing, Accessories. Each item sells at \$2 and up. Please call and come to see. **510-568-3879**

? ? FUR COAT: Beautiful Russian Ermine Coat For Sale. **510-562-7014**

*Free ads for Villagers - for their non-commercial, private party items or services only. (Subject to space availability)*

**Thanks to Friends of Sarah Cronin**  
**Matt, Patti, Cassandra, Connor and Chiara Cronin** want to say thanks to all those wonderful neighbors (humans and canines both) who left flowers, gifts (even a bone!) and letters after our beloved 14-year-old dog Sarah, passed away on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Sarah loved this neighborhood, enjoyed sitting out on our front lawn to watch the world go by, and most of all, loved the occasional pat from a passerby. Thank you all for being so kind.



## The SVHOA Board Asks For Your Help

Our records show that we haven't received dues from about 10% of our listed Village property owners - whether this is because they've sold and moved, or checks were lost in the mail, or whether they just haven't paid, we don't know. Letters were mailed to each of the following, none were returned as undeliverable, but dues were not received

It's not our intent to embarrass anyone, and we would certainly understand if the dues would pose a hardship - but we need to keep our records accurate, and collect from Village property owners, so that we can maintain the parks and fund Village activities (the picnic, battles with developers, this newsletter, etc.) . If you know of any errors in this list, or you're on this list, please contact our (part-time) bookkeeper, Jen Frick, at 569-6829 between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday only, please. ***So please take a minute to look over this list - and thank you for your help.***

Our records do not show 2002 dues from:  
Amy Sontheimer & Jia Ling Wang, John & Terra Blaylock, David & Rochelle Collins, Julia Darrigan, Steven Flyten, Leonard & Charlene Fox, Charolette Hardy, Stephen & Eva Herzfeld, Kevin Kendall, Mark Lee, Nellie Merritt, Don & Kawanna Moffett, George Mulock Jr., Rick & Katherine Munoz, Richard & Debra Nimmer, James & Mariel Nohr, Howard Pomerantz, H. Dean Ponitzious, Carol Quillen, Stanley Samuel, Maria Santiesteban, Robert Seeley, Thomas Sinagra, Ora & Betrell Smith, Martin Stiener, Denny Tomkins, William Trujillo, Brian & Rhonda Turner, and Robert & Toyoko Yoshioka.

### **THE SHEFFIELD VILLAGE CRIER**

*Editor Emeritus: Gale Grunert*

**Editor: Brian Brick**

The Crier welcomes Villager's letters, classified ads,