

# SHEFFIELD VILLAGE CRIER

SHEFFIELD VILLAGE HOME OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED JANUARY 1939

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2002 ISSUE

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

### ONE LAST REQUEST

My term on the Board is near its end - and I have one last request to make of you.

It's simple - please consider running for the Board. We have always needed good people to watch over our community but - and perhaps I'm being a bit melodramatic as Cinderella time approaches - the Village faces some big decisions in the next year, and I feel that now is the time when we need the best Board possible - old and new Villagers represented, Board members from different parts of the Village, single folks, parents - to represent our common and diverse interests.

I'm concerned about the Tuscany Hills Development, the care and improvement of our parks, our annual events, and keeping our great relationship with the City of Oakland - as I'm sure you are, too. There are other questions: Should utilities be put underground? Should the CC&R's be revised? Should dues be raised?

But even if you can't run for the Board, please come to the annual meeting and vote. And thank you for letting me be of service to the Village. I'm not disappearing - I'm just joining the proud rank of Village Volunteers again.

**Brian Brick, SVHOA President**

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Non-Emergency Police: 777-3333

Patrol Officer Cell Phones: 520-9235

## IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!!

### CAROLING & COOKIES ON DECEMBER 14TH

Attention all Sheffield Villagers!! It's that glorious time of year again when the leaves have changed their colors and all but left the trees; when that delightful chill in the air beckons for your winter scarf; and best of all when Andy and Jennifer Kitt come out to lead us in singing carols around the neighborhood (last year it was John and Tracy Shimko; thanks again John and Tracy!).

So please join us with a plate of your holiday goodies and your best singing apparel on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m. at the clubhouse (247 Marlow Drive).

Kids of all ages are invited - toddlers through senior citizens. Dress warmly, and bring your flashlights too!! Hot mulled cider will be provided. (And if there are any Ebenezer Scrooges out there, come on along and you'll be in the holiday spirit in no time.)

For more information on this year's Village caroling and cookie sharing call Andy or Jennifer at 639-0534. **Jennie Brick, SVHOA Treasurer**

THE ANNUAL HOMEOWNER'S MEETING & ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 AM AT THE CLUBHOUSE, 247 MARLOW

**There are three openings on the Board!  
Help keep your neighborhood the type of**

We moved into Sheffield Village on Valentines Day, 1990. At the time we were young newlyweds, anxious to begin life together in our new, albeit small home. We outgrew the house the day we moved in. Two cute puppies grew into miniature horses, and two babies are approaching their teens.

The new house will be a compact 1,700 SF and features an open great room, with combined living dining and kitchen. The high ceiling in this room slopes towards the south, and high windows allow natural light in all day long. A front porch will address the street while a rear porch provides covered enjoyment of the backyard and views of the hills. The exterior will be clad in stained cedar horizontal siding, and the windows will be energy efficient insulated glass in aluminum frames.

Neighborhood character is defined in many ways, size and scale of the houses, colors and materials, architectural features and relationship to the neighbors. Most importantly, neighborhood character is about the people. The character of the neighborhood changes with the generations, and with a constant flow of young people, we look forward to these changes.

The unsightly construction mess will be over soon and we expect to be completed early next year. Until then we appreciate the support we've received so far and appeal to the community for their patience.

Sincerely,  
**Geno, Karren, Jessica and Jennifer**  
?????

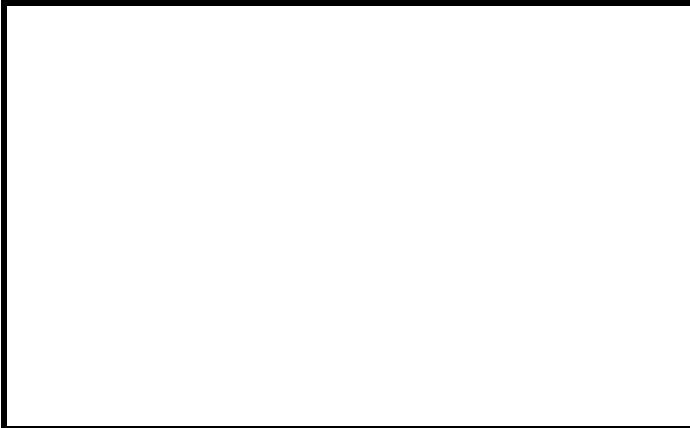
**“Tax Refund Information”**

I am working with the Oakland School District office to straighten out my refund check which was drafted to the *former* owner of my home ... Joanne Camargo [of the Oakland School District] requests that anyone who has not seen their check,  
Joanne Camargo (510) 870-8155

As the year draws to an end, and the tenure of the current president draws to a close, I'd like to say on behalf of all the Villagers.....GREAT JOB, BRIAN BRICK!

Yeah...he volunteered tirelessly both years, he wrote the Crier both years, he presided at board meetings for two years. He was a sympathetic and available ear to all who phoned him at home, he spoke out at community meetings and he sure showed his knack for organizing Village meetings and getting the name of Sheffield Village out to the politicians of the City of Oakland.

Brian- We know you put your heart, soul, time and energy into your role as Board President. We know the sacrifices you made, and we saw your generosity of spirit, and your financial and time donations. The Village is a better place for your presence. **Jill Warner, SVHOA Vice President**



**The Bookmobile Keeps On A-Rollin’**

The Oakland County Library Bookmobile will visit the Sheffield Village Rec. Center on the following Mondays, from 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.: Dec 23, Jan 13, Feb 3, Feb 24, Mar 17, Apr 7. Check it out & check out some books!!



## **PROBLEMS IN THE PARKS?**

### **Who you gonna call?**

As most Villagers are aware, there are three parks in Sheffield Village. The park at 247 Marlow Drive (the Rec. Center) is an Oakland City Park. Onset Park (the dog park) and Milford Park (the tennis court) are owned by the SVHOA.

In the event that there are any problems or “suspicious activities” in the City Park, Villagers should call either the Rec. Center director, Michelle Fulper (weekdays) or the Park Rangers (nights and weekends). Their numbers are in the “Important Phone Numbers” box on the front page of this issue.

Regarding the SVHOA parks, the Board is in the process of posting signs required by the Oakland Police Department, and is filing a formal “permission for entry” notice, which will allow the Police Department to enter these private parks if needed. So don’t be surprised (or offended) when the new signs appear - we’re simply trying to keep our commonly-owned areas safe.

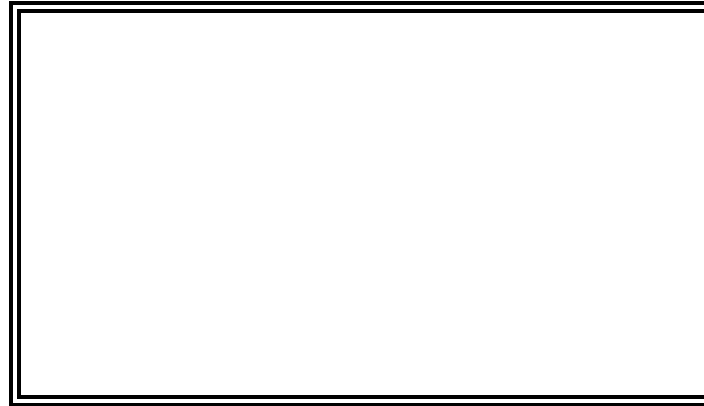
## **SHEFFIELD VILLAGE TO GO UNDERGROUND?**

### **Is It Worth \$4,000 - \$5,500+ Per Home?**

At the November Board meeting the owner of a Village apartment building suggested that the SVHOA petition to have our overhead utility lines replaced with an underground system.

This would require the creation of an “Underground District” for assessment purposes. The estimated cost is \$4,000 to \$5,500 per single family home. In addition, each homeowner has to prepare his/her electrical service to accept the underground system, at an average cost of \$1,000.

An Underground District would be created if a petition is signed by 60% of the owners whose property is contiguous to the new utility lines.



## NOVEMBER ELECTION REPORT

About 75% of registered Village voters participated in the General Election on November 5th. There was very positive response to the new "Votamatic" Touch Screen machines.

The election poll workers were Olga Kempton (Inspector), Dorothy Davis (Judge) Kenneth Pimentel and Sharon Lewis (Clerks).

Sheffield Village residents have, for many years, had the highest turnout of voters on election day! I have been the Precinct Inspector for 12 years and can attest to that! Villagers can be very proud of their participation in helping democracy work.

*Olga Kempton, Villager*

### **Villager Classifieds**

? **GARAGE SPACE WANTED** Benton Russell is looking for a 1 or 2 car dry garage in Sheffield Village or nearby in San Leandro, to store 1 or 2 cars that he will rarely use. Please call Benton at (510) 638-9595 evenings or (925)447-0981 (day).

? **CABINETS WANTED** Remodeling your kitchen? Don't throw your old kitchen cabinets away! Villager will reuse them. Call 635-7282.

? **HOLIDAY LODGING NEEDED FOR RELATIVES** Sheffield Village family is interested in renting a house in Sheffield Village for visiting relatives who would like to stay nearby. Current needs are December 14 & 15th (two people) and December 26-29th (three people). We would also consider doing an exchange (we go away a few times every year) Please call Matt or Patti Cronin at 430-1636.

### **MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FOR SPECIAL OAKLAND CHILDREN !!!**

In partnership with Councilmember Larry Reid's office and Project Outreach, the SVHOA is collecting toys for 2,500 low-income or homeless Oakland children. Do your part by donating a new unwrapped toy - please leave it in the designated collection bin at 3032 Roxbury Ave. by 7 p.m. on

## **FROM YOUR SVHOA BOARD: BEFORE YOU ADD THAT ADDITION ...**

Ours is a Village with a distinct, neighborly feel and character. We all bought homes here for those reasons and more. We cannot survive as a unified community with tremendous appeal if any of its homeowners are going to treat it merely as an amorphous housing tract where they can experiment with the look of their home.

Everyone in the Village was aware when they moved here that we have a homeowner's association with bylaws and CC&Rs. As Villagers, we elect a Board of Directors to represent our interests in many matters including the approval process for construction of ANY structures - fences, garages, room additions. This is a trust (and a duty) we take very seriously as SVHOA Board members.

With an apparent recent increase in unauthorized construction throughout the Village, your SVHOA Board of Directors hereby formally reserves all rights under the Village Declaration of Restrictions (including section 14, paragraph (b)), as to any construction which is deemed visually inconsistent with the character of our neighborhood or is inappropriately located on the property.

Please remember that designs for all construction projects must be submitted to the Board for approval. Those designs are required to reflect what the final construction will look like. Incomplete or evasive designs are not acceptable, and the Board reserves the right to challenge such projects after they are completed.

We live in a community where cooperation with and consideration of our neighbors is essential. Let's all try to work together to keep this the friendliest, most unified neighborhood in Oakland.

**Stay informed @ [www.sheffieldvillage.org](http://www.sheffieldvillage.org)**