

River Oaks Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 8

November 1991

SEEKING OCCUPANTS

The River Oaks Board of Directors has begun its annual campaign to fill the three positions that will be vacant in 1992. These positions are for three year terms. By custom, Board members also serve as Committee Chairpersons.

The Nominating Committee has distributed a packet of information regarding nominations to these positions. The petitions included in these packets provide an opportunity for all River Oaks residents to nominate someone to become a member of the Board. When all of the petitions have been received, the Nominating Committee will then assemble and publish the slate of nominees. Voting will take place by secret ballot at the Annual Meeting, which will be held on the first Thursday of February, 1992. The persons receiving the most votes will be elected. The new Board will then elect its own officers.

So, think about who you'd like to nominate (including yourself) and submit the petition(s) to Toni Oster at 29W620 Ridge, or Ruth Brackman at 2S540 River Oaks, or Judy Molina at 2S510 River Oaks.

Petitions are due Friday, January 10, 1991. All nominating information will be kept confidential.

NEWSLETTER GOES PUBLIC !

Beginning with the October 1991 issue, the *River Oaks Newsletter* is being mailed on a trial basis to nine other homeowners associations in Warrenville. The River Oaks Board of Directors hopes that this initiative will begin a regular exchange of newsletters with the other subdivisions, to help spread information of common interest and importance to all Warrenville homeowners. Hopefully our own Newsletter will soon be able to bring you "news you can use" from our sister subdivisions!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Tuesday, November 19

Public Hearing on Route 59
Strategic Regional Artery Study:
2 - 8 PM, West Chicago City Hall
(see story, p. 4)

Thursday, November 21

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting:
7:30 PM at the Osters',
29W620 Ridge Dr.

Friday, November 22

COURT DATE for City of Warrenville
vs. Anden Corp. (see story, p. 2)

Friday-Saturday, December 6-8:

'Old Time Magic Holiday' festivities
in Warrenville (see story, p. 3)

**REMINDER: PLEASE SEND
IN YOUR ROUTE 59
LETTERS BY FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 22 !!**

RIVER OAKS PROPERTY TAX REVOLT: YEAR TWO

*"No, no, guys - the homeowners are **REBELLING**.
It's the **PROPERTY TAXES** that are **REVOLTING**!"*

Once again a group of homeowners from River Oaks is banding together to appeal their real estate tax assessment increases. There was a meeting on Saturday, November 16th at the Nesbits' house to fill out the necessary forms for a joint appeal, as well as to discuss the approach to take with the DuPage County Board of Review. A total of thirty homeowners joined the group appeal.

There are two major bases for this appeal. First, the 1990 sales figures for River Oaks suggest that we are being assessed above the 33 1/3% level mandated by law. This overassessment seems to be a small amount this year, but it will be compounded by any future increases. Second, the sales figures for "old Warrenville", i.e. those sections of the city not in a subdivision or individual assessment neighborhood, show that this area is assessed at a level of 28%, clearly below the required level. This is the basis for our equity appeal, that we are being "treated unfairly in the assessment process", as stated in the Rules of the Board of Review. The group of homeowners that met on Saturday agreed to be represented by Tom Sinnott and Becky Christiansen at the Board of Review hearing.

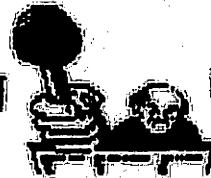
The Board of Directors of the homeowner's association in River Oaks is compiling a database of tax information that can be used in this year's appeal, as well as those that might be made in the future. Lists of sales of all single family homes in both Wheaton and Warrenville are included. We would like to thank Laurie Druyor, a realtor with REMAX Affiliates, 1600 Pebblewood Lane in Naperville, for her aid in getting us this information. We asked Laurie if she could get us sales information about Warrenville and Wheaton, and she surely did: 10 feet of computer printout in all! Thank you, Laurie, for all that time and paper!

SNOW FOOLIN' !

Winter is fast approaching and with it the sometimes dreaded four-letter word SNOW!! The Warrenville Police Department reminds all residents that there is **NO PARKING** on ANY City street during a 24 hour period after a 2" snowfall or until the street has been plowed.

Avoid tickets and potential towing by moving your snowbird off the street!

ANDEN



UPDATE

After several months of sporadic and largely unsuccessful attempts at negotiation, the City of Warrenville and the Anden Corporation will finally go to court on November 22 over the issue of River Oaks public improvements and landscaping. The case will be heard in the Circuit Court of the 16th Judicial Circuit, DuPage County. As you may recall, the City filed suit against Anden and its bonding company, American Motorists Insurance Company, on March 14, 1991 (see April 1991 Newsletter), alleging that Anden failed to complete numerous public improvements within River Oaks to the City's satisfaction, and that Anden failed to comply with City Ordinances 756 and 628, which require Anden to provide substantial landscaping along the north, west, and south boundaries of the subdivision and in the Common Area. We hope to have more news to report on these important developments in the next Newsletter!



It's a girl! Kandice Kendall Modene arrived on November 10, 1991, daughter of Elaine and Bob, and little sister of Bobby, Lot 58. Congratulations!



WANTED: Wooden baby changing table, maple or oak. Playpen. If you are interested in selling either, contact Lois Hitchcock, 393-2409.



THANKS FOR THE PARTY



Once again this year, the costumes were kooky and spooky. A good time was had by all. Sixty goody bags were made and only seven remained at the end of the party, so turnout was excellent.

SuperMagic entertained, and one wonders "How did he see through those fifty-cent pieces to see what each child had in their hands?"

A big THANKS goes to Amy Salyer, Ana Vainisi and Ruth Brackman for the yummy cupcakes. Also to Sara and Angie Vainisi for helping to sort all those goodies in the bags. Thanks to Angie Vainisi, Jamie Salyer, and Jacquie Salyer for being our "pocket people". Also to Lois Hitchcock, our resident Hersey Kiss, for setup & cleanup, and a big thanks to everyone who donated candy.

THE ENVELOPE, PLEASE !

The Newsletter is pleased to report the results of the judging for the 1991 River Oaks Halloween House Decorating Contest. This year, we were fortunate to have a celebrity judge: Greg Simunich, the voice of the weather on radio station WYSY-FM ("Y-108" to most of us). Greg, a Warrenville resident and meteorologist of renown for Omni Weather, graciously consented to brave bitter conditions (which we're sure he predicted!) on the night before Halloween to judge the fearsome fantasies, eerie embellishments, and diverse diabolical decorations sported by River Oaks' heavily haunted homes.

...And now for the winners. The ghostly nod this year goes to:



- FIRST PLACE: the Dursos (Lot 15);
- SECOND PLACE: the Lanutes (Lot 16);
- THIRD PLACE: the Highlands (Lot 38).

Congratulations to a pretty scary group!

OLD TIME MAGIC HOLIDAY IN WARRENVILLE



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6: Friday evening finds Santa, arriving via Eagle Express, join in the fun as Mayor Lund presides at the tree-lighting ceremonies at 7 PM at City Hall. Festivities continue with refreshments and visits with Santa at the Warrenville Community Center, plus a "Family Sing-Along" until 8:30 PM. The Warrenville Park District will sponsor a free wagon ride through the old Warrenville downtown. Maureen's will provide complementary hot chocolate to keep you warm.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7: Saturday will find city-wide business promotions and shopping specials along with many special events:

- Kiwanis' "Breakfast with Santa" at the Courtyard Restaurant on Route 59, serving at 9 AM.

- Breakfast with Santa" at the Naperville Sheraton, sponsored by the Warrenville Women's Connection.

- Family Concert presented by the Warrenville Public Library at 1 PM, with a special surprise guest to appear.

- Warrenville Museum Guild's Seventh Annual "Good Olde Time Christmas Fest", located in the Albright Building on 2nd Street, offers gifts, ornaments, decorations, and baked goods.

- Li'l Red Schoolhouse, on Batavia Road, will host its Annual Open House with free refreshments for your enjoyment from 10 AM to 4 PM. Featured will be seasonal collectibles.

- Saturday's "Old Time Magic" will also include a number of old craft demonstrations including woodcarving, weaving, pottery making, basket making, caning, and a bake sale by the local Girl Scouts. These activities will take place in the Bollweg Building at 28W321 Warrenville Road.

- A haywagon ride, co-sponsored by the Warrenville Chamber of Commerce and the Warrenville Park District, will circle a route in old downtown: from the Albright Building to Stafford Place, down 4th Street to the Bollweg Building, and back to the Albright Building.

- Santa will be all over town on Saturday, making a stop at Warrenville Commons at 10 AM proceeding to the Midwest Academy for a visit and stopping by the Warrenville Community Center area. He will be ready for visitors from noon to 2 PM at the Bollweg Building.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8: Sunday finds the Museum Guild's Olde Time Christmas Fest continuing from 1 to 4 PM, while the Li'l Red Schoolhouse will continue their Open House from 10 AM to 4 PM.

ROUTE 59: WHAT YOU CAN DO



How many times have you sat at the entrance to River Oaks trying to get out or get into the neighborhood? Have you worried about the speed of the other drivers? NOW IS THE TIME THAT EACH OF US CAN DO SOMETHING TO SLOW DOWN THE TRAFFIC.

Currently residents of River Oaks are going through the neighborhood and asking each of you to sign a petition requesting that the speed limit be reduced to 40 MPH from the current 50 MPH. Please take the time to sign this petition.

Also you will be given a packet of three letters and envelopes. These letters are requests to the Illinois Department of Transportation, State Senator Forest Etheredge and State Representative Mary Lou Cowlshaw. We are requesting their assistance in reducing the speed limit. Please sign each of these letters, put a stamp on the envelopes and mail them today. In order to have all of this mail arrive together, please send your letters by Friday, November 22, 1991.

All of the homeowners associations within Warrenville are participating in this petition and mail drive. LET'S DO OUR PART!!!!

ROUTE 59 STUDY: WHAT THEY MIGHT DO

A study is proceeding with a long range plan for making Route 59 from I-55 to Pilcher Road (just North of Plainfield) four through lanes, and from Pilcher Road to Route 72 (Higgins Road) SIX through lanes with additional right and left turn lanes, raised medians of various widths, including sidewalks on both sides of the road, and additional signals with some of them interconnected to provide more smooth movement. Some of this can be constructed in the existing right-of-way and some will need acquisition of additional right-of-way. The plans are available for review at City Hall.

A public hearing on the Route 59 Strategic Regional Arterial Study is scheduled for November 19 from 2 to 8 PM at the West Chicago City Hall. This is a public hearing with an Open House format. There will be repeated video presentations throughout the

scheduled time to explain the project. Displays will be available for study and review and IDOT and consultants will be available to answer questions. An opportunity will be provided for you to submit comments in writing or orally by tape recording.

FOX VALLEY EXPRESSWAY

The Public Information Office has opened in Warrenville. It is located in the 4-M Plaza on Route 59 and Ferry Road. You can review the plans that have been prepared by the IDOT consultants and have questions answered. The Fox Valley Expressway is a proposed North/South freeway that would be built between Routes 59 and 25. This is billed as a post 2010 project, but NOW is the time to voice your opinion about it. There is a questionnaire IDOT is encouraging citizens to answer and submit. This questionnaire was included in your Route 59 speed limit petition packet.

Please complete the survey and return it to the Fox Valley Freeway Citizen's Advisory Committee. There are two ways to do this:

Mail to:

FVFCAC
c/o HNTB
111 North Canal Street, Suite 880
Chicago, Illinois 60606

or Drop off:

Public Information Office
4-M Plaza, Route 59 & Ferry Road

Surveys need to be turned in by Friday, November 22, 1991.

This Newsletter is brought to you by your friendly Newsletter Committee, consisting of:

John Christiansen, Chairman, 393-4946
Linda Saxton, 393-2306
Marnee Sinnott, 393-2808
Lois Hirschcock, 393-2409
Amy Salyer, 393-7645
Becky Christiansen, 393-4946

Let on of the committee members know of anything you might want included in the Newsletter.

RIVER OAKS

WHO'S THERE, TWO ? Another River Oaks Puzzle

There are a total of 15 River Oaks kids in Middle School. Look closely at the word search below and try to find their names hidden in the lines. In case you need help with the names to look for, they are listed to the right of the puzzle. Answers next month !

E J P U R B X R S N H S Q F N Z
F N I R K A Y C J D C C T S P X
W K R O O C O G K O P Y H R X Y
V X C G B R P I T R N N F T L W
E X L P E I U Q C A J F A O I C
V K F J I L F Q F L M W H R O J
S W U X M J L F L G L A U R A A
L C Z I A U I E Y X G O R N K S
K J O Y J T S Y H C A I A A H E
F Q K Q P S N N E C C Z N Y L E
O Y H L U L Y B B R I A N A V R
G P F R N S P F V D S M I A O C
A V X Q Y Q H V T X S N R C I B
H B N A G T O Y A L E G N A S C
H T A T P J E I L U J Z M P U F
P J E L I N P W W M U R Q F K G

Tiffany	Sara	Brian
Julie	Tamara	Gina
Russell	Jacque	Scot
Elaine	Jamie	Angela
Laura	Michelle	Jessica

Last Month's answers:

.....D.....Y.....
.....SE.....EN.....MM.....
.....YRALLIHO.....ECAN.....A.....
.....E.....M.....NHJ.....BRIANR.....
.....K.....R.....ATE.....KHURU.....
.....MI.....AN.....E.....AE.....
.....INATTIRB.....L.....L.....
.....J.....OTALEHKULCE.....
.....JL.....I.....AEA.....A.....
E.....E.....NSTNSRVH.....F.....
N.....AA.....AASR.....I.....FA.....
YENTIH.....HUIA.....IN.....R.....
R.....WPC.....GRE.....B.....
.....E.....IE.....R.....E.....
.....NTHAMISABA.....S.....
.....SIT.....AN.....
.....T.....HD.....
.....AS.....O.....
.....M.....UN.....
.....J.....



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, NOVEMBER KIDS !

Kandice Modene
Heather Moore
Brian Oster
Gina Kim

Scot Moore
Sara Vainisi
Michael Highland
Lisa Kim



MINUTES OF RIVER OAKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 24, 1991

PRESENT: Tom Sinnott, Amy Salyer, Toni Oster, Millie Murphy, Linda Saxton, John Christiansen.

ABSENT: Cheryl Soelke, Gloria Langston.

GUESTS: Marnee Sinnott, Becky Christiansen.

Tom Sinnott called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

OPEN FORUM: Becky Christiansen and Marnee Sinnott had a suggestion for the Entertainment Committee regarding the annual Halloween party. They felt that the Halloween party is an inappropriate expense, and that a different form of Halloween observance, such as the Halloween parades we have had in some previous years, would be preferable. There are at least 1/3 of the homeowners who reside in River Oaks who do not have children and don't participate in the party, and their dues do help pay for this event. They would like the Board to have the Entertainment Committee review this idea.

The Board agreed that next year's Entertainment Committee would be passed along this suggestion and the new Committee would take this under advisement.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gloria was absent. Much discussion was on on delinquent accounts, and whether small claims court action is advisable. Also the mortgage company for the delinquent accounts will be contacted.

Tentative budget figures were given and work on the budget is proceeding.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE: Linda stated the party was on track, and looked like a good turnout could be expected by the amount of candy that has been donated. This ends the Entertainment Committee's planned activities for 1991.

CITY LIAISON: Amy wrote Officer Van Wankum a thank you letter for speaking at a previous Board meeting.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: John requested and obtained Board approval to send our newsletter to other homeowners associations starting with the

October issue.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Toni has reserved the Johnson School multi-purpose room for our Annual Meeting. Also, this committee will be soliciting nominations for three open Board slots. John's, Gloria's and Linda's terms are up in 1992. Toni moved that discussion be held on the proposal that Board members' terms of office be for only two years instead of three. Much discussion was had on this proposal; it was decided to table this issue for the time being. An ad hoc committee was formed, composed of Tom, Cheryl, and Linda, to study the River Oaks Bylaws and Covenants to see if and how this could be done. It was felt that a shorter term may encourage more people to run for the Board. Cheryl will be asked to write other homeowners associations to request copies their by-laws & covenants.

A guest speaker for the Annual Meeting has not been decided upon; a local realtor or a representative of the Warrenville Park District are being considered as possibilities. Amy will look into this issue further.

GROUNDKEEPING/BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: The City has given its approval for River Oaks' parkway tree planting proposal.

The judge in the City of Warrenville's lawsuit against Anden has directed Anden and the City to meet and try to reach an agreement. There is a whole new cast of players from Anden as everyone has left that was working on this issue for the last year or more. If Anden and the City cannot reach an agreement, the case will go to court soon.

Tom read a letter that Police Chief LaDeur wrote to IDOT regarding the campaign of "selective enforcement" of the speed limit on Route 59. The campaign is now officially over, and IDOT will hopefully do another Route 59 speed survey shortly.

NEW BUSINESS: Tom will have a meeting of the ad hoc bylaw committee at his home on November 14th.

Mark Moore has volunteered to fill Karl Berland's open position on the Board and serve out the rest of the term, which expires in 1993. The Board voted unanimously to accept.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM. The next Board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 PM, Thursday, November 21, at the Langstons'.

.... Respectfully submitted, Linda Saxton, acting Secretary