

THE BRET HARTE BEAT

A newsletter of the Bret Harte Community Association
September 1, 2003 182 Irwin Street

THE NON-LABOR DAY PICNIC

You've seen the flyers. You've heard the buzz. Everybody is talking about it. This will be your last warning. After this you have no excuse. Next Sunday is THE big day in Bret Harte.

September 7 is the day of the combination of the BH neighborhood garage sale, the 12th annual non-labor day picnic and the formal dedication of the new park. This is clearly not a day to miss.

The day begins at 9 AM with the garage sale. BHCA will place ads and post signs and all you have to do is sell stuff from your front yard or garage. No cost, no fuss, no muss; just collect the cash.

After the garage sale everybody will move to the newly rebuilt and modernized park for a neighborhood celebration. Beginning at 4:00 PM BHCA will have meat sizzling on the barbeques and soft drinks in the ice chest. You need to bring a side dish to share.

Activities will include dedication of the new park by city officials, live music by THE FINISH LINE, a local band featuring Rebecca DeShields who lives on Irwin Street, Kid games galore, and a cookie-baking contest. Fire up the oven and bake those favorite cookies. Look out ladies; the guys are going to give you some competition this year.

Remember, this Sunday is the big day.

THE NEW PARK

Most of you have seen the steel and concrete realization of architect Gary Semling's (Irwin Street) plan for the park. Gary and a group too large to mention have pushed the plans through the City, arranged for the contractor and built the park the way they wanted it. Many thanks and congratulations for a job well done to all of you who made this happen. It's been a long and sometimes frustrating effort

But, have you looked at the details around the entry? The tiles and the engraved bricks are totally home grown.

The tiles were done by local children under the supervision of Molly Blauvelt and Patti McKay. They were set by Sarah Leipsic, Catherine Wilson, Becky DeShields, Jennifer Mennucci and Steve Thies. Mark Boller was the Professional tile setter who ran the show. See the gossip file for more on Mark and Catherine.

There is still room for more tiles on the wall by the play structure. If you want your kid's art work to be immortalized in the park call Molly at 454-7614.

The engraved bricks have been on sale for the last year and are still available if you want to add your name to the ones already there. Call Sheryl Draper (456-0199) to make the arrangements.

The bricks are a fundraising effort to support completion of the park and sell for \$125 each. A whole flock of local people spent most of a weekend laying the bricks on a specially prepared bed of sand. Thanks folks, we appreciate your contributions to the park and to the 'hood.

One last note on the park: what's done is phase one. Phase two, the landscaping is still being discussed. Rob Spiess is negotiating with the developer of Baywood Terrace on the hill for him to make a contribution to the landscaping efforts. Stay tuned.

STILL ON THE PARK

Sarah Leipsic, on Meadow, invites all toddlers to come to the park Thursdays at 10:00 AM for play, socialization, good fun, what have you. By the way, mothers can come, too. Call Sarah at 459-7410 with any questions.

THE GOSSIP FILE

New neighbors in the 'hood:

Sarifina and Mike on Hillview.

Ricky Daghlian on Irwin.

Mike Boller and Catherine Wilson, on Glenaire. Not only are they new neighbors, they donated a weekend laying tiles at the park. Welcome to Bret Harte, all of you.

We celebrate the birth of William ("Liam") July 28 to Elisabeth Osgood and Malcolm Campbell, on Irwin. July 28 just happens to be Elisabeth's birthday as well.

Lucy Sky Rothbardt was born to Deanna and Mitchell on Irwin Street on 03/03/03. Talk about proud parents!

Congratulations to all of you.

We regret the passing of some of our long-time neighbors:

Joyce D'Ambra, Hazel Court, passed away June 10, at home.

Joe Nail, of Billou, passed away on April 30.

Fred Carlsen, on Irwin, passed away in July, at home.

Myrna "Shorty" Durban, of Hillview, passed away on April 29.

ASSOCIATION DUES

Note that dues to the Bret Harte Community Association are set at \$5.00 per year for each household. We begin accepting dues for the next year at the non-labor-day picnic. This means that your dues for 2004 are now due and payable. It's easy: there will be a booth at the picnic where you can pay, or you can clip the coupon on the front of this newsletter and mail or take it with your check to 146 Du Bois Street. Note that this is a new address for dues.

THE HOT LINE

One of the services your dues supports is the BHCA hot line. The hot line is a local message center for residents of Bret Harte to use to communicate with the Association. Tell us what is happening on your block: births, new neighbors, deaths, whatever concerns you. The number is 721-1611.

DART TRAINING

Woodland neighbor Rem Calvin recently finished the SR Fire Department's emergency training program and has rave reviews about the program. This six evening, fifteen-hour course covers all aspects of citizen response to emergencies in your neighborhood. The more people who have the training the better the community response will be. Remember, we live in the middle between the Hayward and the San Andreas faults.

To find out more call Rem at 456-0658 or call Dawn at the Fire Department non-emergency number 485-3308.

BHCA OFFICERS

The people who make the BHCA go are its officers.

Chairman: Tim Lentini
Treasurer: Terry Mech

Block Captains: Sarah Leipsic
Senior Program: Sandy Hanus
Webmaster: Debbie Woo
Newsletter: Bruce Scott
City Liaison: Jim Draper

-----TEAR OFF-----

YES! Please enroll me as a member in good standing of the Bret Harte Community Association. I'll gladly pay the dues of \$5.00 per year per family. Send to 146 Du Bois.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-mail address _____

Enclosed is \$5.00 dues for 2004, plus \$ _____ to help with your programs.

INTERESTS AND CONCERNS: