

June 2010



THE ACORN



FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The biggest event in the community this month, and for me all year, is upon us. The pool is opening this weekend! Come out and enjoy the hopefully warm weather and probably cold water. It's always nice to catch up with neighbors during the summer-long pool fest.

By now, most if not all of the ARB property reviews from Sequoia Management have gone out. From what I have seen, most are very minor fixes, and the Board appreciates the job that Jan and her team do in making sure our community home values remain as stable as possible by ensuring property upkeep is maintained. So keep on smiling while you paint that trim and pull those weeds!

The Board received recommendations on traffic calming measures from Supervisor Frey's office. Some of our Traffic Calming Committee will be visiting homeowners where speed "tables" (i.e., longer than a speed "hump") have been recommended. We will continue to work on the final recommendations to present in the near future at a community meeting. That will be followed by a mail-ballot vote.

The Board also received our annual financial audit. All is well, and the community is well funded to take care of annual business and future infrastructure repair and replacement.

See you at the pool!

Architectural Review Board. The Architectural Review Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on June 15th at 12549 Lt. Nichols Road to review all completed applications received at least *seven days* before the meeting. An agenda for the meeting will be posted on the FOEHA Web site (www.foeha.org) prior to the meeting.

Special Note. Art Treiber has resigned from the ARB. We all should thank Art for his many years of service to our community, a record of service second to none. Thank you, Art, for the professionalism you showed and for your longstanding commitment to Fair Oaks Estates.

ARB May 18th meeting results: Six applications were submitted—removing a dead tree; installing a swing set; landscaping; putting in a new walkway; replacing a deck; and widening a driveway. All applications were approved.

Contact information. Sequoia Management is your primary contact for submission of ARB applications, requests for re-sale packets, and reports of ARB violations. Contact Jan Fenton, Fair Oaks Estates Homeowners Association, c/o Sequoia Management Company, Inc., 13998 Parkeast Circle, Chantilly, VA 20151-2283, 703-803-9641, 703-968-0936 (fax), or e-mail jfenton@sequoiamanagement.com.

Open Space Committee. Phase 1 of the Eagle Scout project to improve the small tot lot

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between Ox Hill Road and Lt. Nichols Road was completed. This phase cleared branches and brush that encroached on the path and tot lot. The Scouts also picked-up litter and installed a new trash can donated by Wal-Mart at Fair Lakes. They leveled the ground and put down pavers as a solid base for the new heavy-duty can that is much more stable and easier to use than the previous one. We have already received positive feedback. Phase 2 is scheduled for June 19th.

We treated a large patch of poison ivy (PI) by the Washington Brice Road play area. The PI is wilted but can still cause irritation if you go play in it. We may need a second application. Thank you to **Carolyn Dutrow** for alerting us to this problem and for monitoring the progress.

FROM THE PAGES OF THE ACORN

Here's more news from *The Acorn* from 25 years ago. These items are from June 1986:

- The June 1986 edition was the first "graduation" issue of *The Acorn*, taking note of our neighborhood high school and college graduates. This has been a June tradition ever since.
- On June 7th, the Orange Line metro was scheduled to open from Ballston to Vienna, providing Fair Oaks Estates residents an alternative to driving all the way into D.C.
- Our swimming pool opened for the first time in late June. We hope this season will provide as much fun and relaxation as that first season did.

SUPPORTING MUSIC AT OAKTON HIGH SCHOOL

You can support the orchestra at Oakton High School by shopping for books at the Book Fair at Barnes and Noble at Fair Lakes on Friday, June 4th and Saturday, June 5th. There will be music, stories, crafts, and face-painting during the Book Fair. You also can shop online at www.bn.com/bookfairs from June 4th till June 10th. Tell the cashier at the store that you're supporting Oakton Orchestra #10179919 or enter that code at the online checkout. Barnes and Noble will donate a percentage of all sales. Thanks for supporting music in our schools!

READER'S RECOMMENDATION (Mary Lou and Bobby Palmer)

We would like to add our voices to those of other residents who have been pleased with the work done by our "neighborhood plumber," **Ali Nazhand** on Stewarts Ford Court. He totally remodeled our master bathroom and did all of the plumbing associated with it; our master bathroom is now our own personal spa. He also did a great job on our guest bathroom. He provided excellent prices for both bathrooms, and all work was done in a expedient and professional manner. Many thanks to **Ali** for his work on our home. We highly recommend him to other Fair Oaks Estates residents and would be happy to talk with anyone about his work.

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FAIR OAKS ESTATES RECREATION ASSOCIATION (FORA) NEWS

Opening day is just about here, and we're looking forward to a fantastic summer. The lifeguards and Board members have been hard at work getting the pool ready.

Important Dates:

- The pool opens on May 29th.
- There will be a Memorial Day party at the pool. Keep an eye on the Web site for details.
- On June 12th we will have an adults-only party. More information to come.

For the latest news on FORA, including updates on events and pool closings, please go to our Web site at <http://www.fairoaksrec.com/>.

FAIR OAKS SHARKS SWIM TEAM NEWS

Registration for the Summer 2010 season is filling up, and we're looking forward to a great season! To join the team, please register online at www.vikaza.com/FairOaksSharks.

Our after-school swim practices begin on Tuesday, June 1st:

- 4:15 - 5:15 p.m., ages 13 and up
- 5:15 - 6:00 p.m., ages 9 thru 12
- 6:00 - 6:45 p.m., ages 8 and under

Note: Junior Sharks do not start practice until after school is out.

FAREWELL TO THE WHARTONS

Ben and **Motoko Wharton**, original homeowners on Stewarts Ford Court (here since 1983), are moving to Richmond to be near their granddaughter and family. **Ben** says the pace of life there is slower, the traffic lighter, and the cost of living reasonable. **Ben** graduated from Colorado State University with a B.S. in Forestry in 1966 and joined the Navy; undoubtedly, there's an interesting story behind that decision. He retired as a Commander in 1988 after spending his final five years on active duty in the Washington area. After retiring from the Navy, **Ben** spent more than 19 years working for the Fairfax County Park Authority, where he finally was able to put his undergraduate learning to good use. Their daughters graduated from Chantilly High School and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. The first daughter, **Elizabeth**, went on to law school at the University of Virginia and is now an attorney with Legal Services in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The other daughter, **Rachael**, works for Genworth in Richmond.

Ben says he and **Motoko** have thoroughly enjoyed living in Fair Oaks Estates and that they'll miss their many friends and neighbors, the notorious holiday parties on Stewarts Ford Court, the geezers bicycle gang, and the relative quiet of this well-kept development. **Motoko** also will miss her many quilting friends. We wish them both a happy retirement in Richmond!

FROM THE EDITORS

Congratulations and good luck to all our Fair Oaks Estates graduates! If you forgot to send news about a graduate in your family, it's not too late. Get the information to the editors by June 25th, and we'll catch up with anyone we missed in the July issue of *The Acorn*.

And so the summer begins, with heat, humidity, and, thankfully, swimming pools—all staples of a Washington summer. As noted in the "From the Pages of *The Acorn*" section of this issue, this summer marks the 25th anniversary of our neighborhood swimming pool, which owes its existence to heroic efforts by a lot of people. Unlike in many other developments, the builders of Fair Oaks Estates did not build a swimming pool or other amenities, such as tennis courts. The builders left behind only our two small tot lots and a parcel of undeveloped land that the community could use for whatever purpose it wanted. There was no guarantee that a pool would ever be built, but after some months of informal discussion by a Pool and Recreation Committee, the first official meeting of the Recreation Association Board of Directors was held in June 1985. A membership drive kicked into

high gear in the following months, accompanied by work to expedite County review of the project, obtain bank loans to finance it, bids to build it, and liability insurance to operate it. As a result of this hard work and the willingness of enough residents to put "risk" money up-front for the development, construction began in March 1986.

Most of the people who were crucial to getting the pool funded, approved, and built no longer live here. These include **Russ Sotkovsky**, who was the first President of the Recreation Association; **Steve Berman** (who *does* still live here) was the first Vice President and later served as President; **Carol Riggan** was the first Treasurer; and **Mark Keffer** was the first Secretary. Many other folks who have since moved on also worked hard on the Board and on various committees to make the pool a reality.

So remember the contributions of these former residents as you enjoy a refreshing dip in the pool on a hot and humid afternoon and resolve to do what you can in your time here to improve our community for the benefit of current and future residents.

**Fair Oaks Estates Homeowners Association
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13998 Parkeast Circle
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