

WESTWOOD PARK ASSOCIATION

Newsletter ~ Autumn ~ 2009



Letter from the President

Miramar Tree Update. Despite the protests of two Westwood Park residents, the San Francisco Bureau of Urban Forestry and the San Francisco Board of Appeals agreed with the Association's arborist, Davey Tree, that six of the aging Miramar Stone Pines presented a serious danger of major limb failure and upheld our permit to have them removed. In fact, during the six-month appeals process, one of the trees did indeed suffer a large limb failure, falling on a Miramar resident's driveway seconds after she had gone into her garage. We were all greatly relieved that no one was hurt. We were even more relieved that the city agreed that these trees needed to be removed before someone did get hurt—or worse. These beautiful, but dangerous, trees were finally removed in July.

As we have stated before, the Association's plan is to replace these aging trees with Red Flowering Gum trees. You can see a number of newly planted trees, as well as a few mature gum trees, along Miramar. Moving forward, the Association intends to plant the largest gum trees available, finances permitting. These will likely be in 24" square boxes, somewhat larger than the previously planted gum trees. Not only will we replace the six trees that were just removed, but our long-term plan is to plant trees in between existing Stone Pines to give the new trees a head start.

Thanks to the many neighbors who came forward to voice their concerns about the trees, who took pictures, wrote letters, and testified at the hearings. It says a lot about our neighborhood that so many residents are willing to get involved to preserve the beauty and the safety of Westwood Park.

Thank You, Geoff and Åsa. A big thank you goes out to Geoff and Åsa Williams, the Association's co-secretaries, who are leaving the board for other endeavors. For three years, not only have Geoff and Åsa taken minutes for our board meetings, they have provided important disclosure packets to prospective home buyers. They also made sure that each new resident received a Welcome Package with Westwood Park photo CDs and DVDs, newsletters, info sheets, and so forth. As private citizens, Geoff and Åsa will continue overseeing the disclosure packets and Welcome Packages. Many thanks, you guys!

Greg Clinton, President

board@westwoodpark.com

Westwood Park Association Board Members

Greg Clinton
President (term expires 2011)

Anita Theoharis
Vice President (term expires 2009)

Åsa & Geoff Williams
Co-Secretaries (terms expire 2009)

Julie Hagelshaw & Grant Edelstone
Co-Treasurers (terms expire 2010)

Anne Chen
Member at Large (term expires 2009)

Nanette Asimov
Member at Large (term expires 2010)

Members of the Westwood Park
Association Board of Directors
are volunteers elected to
serve three-year terms.

Board meetings are usually held
on the third Tuesday of each
month at the home of a board
member, and begin at 7 p.m.

For information and the location
of upcoming meetings, visit
www.westwoodpark.com.

Contact us via e-mail at:
board@westwoodpark.com,
or by voicemail at:
415-333-1125
or by mail at:
P.O. Box 27901 #770
SF, CA 94127

Candidate Statements

KATE FAVETTI

Great public transportation, neighborhood shopping, comfortable houses and wonderful neighbors brought us to Westwood Park 30+ years ago to raise our three children. That and our refreshingly foggy summers!!!

As an active community volunteer, I have worked on neighborhood beautification and Ocean Avenue improvement, including community plantings, monthly Ocean Avenue clean-ups, holiday decorations installations, the annual Family Festival and fundraising for the Ingleside Library campaign.

I am also a member of the Ocean Avenue Revitalization Collaborative, the Ocean Avenue Community Benefits District Steering Committee, and other neighborhood groups.

I care our about our neighborhood and its unique place in San Francisco. I would be honored to serve on the Westwood Park Board and would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

ANNE CHEN (Incumbent)

I am a 30+ year resident and have served on the Westwood Park Board for the past four years. I have worked on planning issues and maintaining our trees and common areas. Preserving the quality of our unique neighborhood is important to me. I would appreciate your vote so I can continue my service to the Westwood Park Association.

ANITA THEOHARIS (Incumbent)

As a 25-year resident, I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as a board member for several years. I have served as President and am currently Vice President and Chair of Planning and Zoning. Participating in the care of the Park has been a very rewarding experience because the current board and many residents have shown intense interest in keeping Westwood park a beautiful place to live, as well as preserving its historical value and unique architectural character.

I consider it an honor and privilege to volunteer to help preserve and improve the quality of life for all residents in our very special neighborhood.



OFFICIAL BALLOT

Please use the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope to mail this ballot to:

Westwood Park Association
P.O. Box 27901 #770
San Francisco, CA 94127

Please mail your envelope promptly so that your vote will be counted. Or you may bring your ballot to the Westwood Park Association's annual Homeowners' Meeting and Picnic, where the election results will be announced.

VOTE FOR UP TO THREE

- Anne Chen
- Kate Favetti
- Anita Theoharis
- Other _____

Westwood Park Association Meeting Notice & Agenda September 26, 2009 11 a.m. Faxon Green

- I. **Welcome Message**
Greg Clinton
- II. **Co-Treasurer Reports**
 - A. Account Balances (*Grant Edelstone*)
 - B. Dues & Lien Collections (*Julie Hagelshaw*)
- III. **Committee Reports**
 - A. Planning & Zoning (*Anita Theoharis*)
 - B. Common Area Maintenance (*Greg Clinton*)
- IV. **Board of Directors Election Results**
(*Margaret Reed, Inspector of Ballots*)
- V. **Speakers**
San Francisco Public Library:
Ingleside Library Update
Neighborhood Emergency Response Team
- VI. **Open Questions from Residents**
- VII. **Adjournment**

Remembering Joseph Ozan & John Henning

By Nanette Asimov

Westwood Park lost two extraordinary residents this spring – accountant Joseph C. Ozan, a World War II veteran and pillar of his church; and labor leader John F. Henning, a former regent of the University of California who served as U.S. Undersecretary of Labor in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Both men dedicated their lives to helping others.

Generations of San Franciscans relied on Mr. Ozan to do their



Joseph Ozan
Courtesy Ozan Family

taxes at the Mission St. accounting firm he ran until his death on May 26, at 88.

He had served on the city's Public Utilities

Commission, the Municipal Railways Commission, and on the board of the San Francisco Junior Academy.

Mr. Ozan was also active in the Philadelphian Seventh Day Adventist Church on Bush Street for more than 60 years.

Mr. Ozan, of Greenwood Ave., is survived by his wife, Betty Jackson Ozan, whom he married in 2004; brothers John and Robert, son Joseph Jr., daughters Chelsea and D. Patricia Wan, five grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and a great-great grandchild.

Mr. Henning, of Westwood Dr., was a union man – in the United Federal Workers, the Boilermakers Union, and the California Labor Federation—who spent his life advocating for workers' civil rights. He died on June 3 at age 93.

His legacy lives on in the strengthened worker safety laws, better compensation, and rights for farm workers that he helped establish.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Mr. Henning “revolutionized the labor movement and had an enormous impact on California.”

Mr. Henning is survived by sons John Jr., Patrick, Brian, Daniel and Thomas; daughters Nancy Goulde and Mary Henning; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.



John Henning
CA Labor Federation

** Family Festival * Come to the OMI International Annual Family Festival, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 19! Faxon Avenue from Ocean to DeMontfort will be closed off.*

Ocean Ave. Volunteers Win \$21K Grant

By Kate Favetti

California native plants will soon grace the Ocean Avenue Gateway next to the Fire Station near City College, welcoming pedestrians and motorists to our commercial corridor. The Ocean Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (OARC) is the proud recipient of a \$21,000 Challenge Grant to beautify this important corner with sustainable landscaping.

Planting day is September 26, from 10 am to 3 p.m. Come after the Westwood Park picnic!

Also moving forward is the formation of a “Community Benefits District” (or Business Improvement District) on Ocean Avenue in which property owners would pay a fee to beautify storefronts and promote businesses.

The OARC won a grant for technical assistance.

Meanwhile, long-vacant properties remain a problem on Ocean Avenue, often attracting graffiti. These include the former Blockbuster Video at 1770 Ocean Ave., and the former Rite Aid, at 1830 Ocean. Please report graffiti by calling 311, for cleanup and so the city can track problems. To express concern about vacant properties, write to City Hall, at 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, SF, CA 94102. Supervisor Sean Elsbernd is in Room 244, and at sean.elsbernd@sfgov.org, or 554-6516. Edward Reiskin, director of the Department of Public Works, is in Room 348, and at dpw@sfdpw.org, or 554-6920.

Remember to provide the address of the empty property.

Thank you to all those Westwood Park residents who contributed to the OARC Sponsor-a-Tree campaign for December holiday decorations. We have raised more than \$800 to buy festive bows to decorate our signature palm trees on Ocean Avenue.

The Ocean Avenue Revitalization Collaborative (www.oceanave-oarc.org) meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the OMI Senior Center at 1948 Ocean Ave. Contact Dolly Sihounnolat at 375-2265 or dolly.oarc@gmail.com. Also let her know if you'll attend the planting.

New Library Opens!

By Nanette Asimov

We've waited six years for the oil-stained Sunset Garage to morph into a beautiful public library—and Opening Day is here at last. But before we settle down with a good book... let's party!

Of course, no library can open without a ribbon-cutting and speeches – but there will also be lion dancing, free food, music, bikes, a race car, and more.

"In short, a fabulous civic party!" said Marian Chatfield-Taylor, of Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

Festivities will be from 1 to 4 p.m., with library services firing up at 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Lower Plymouth Ave. will be closed off for the celebration.

Local volunteers and Friends of the San Francisco Public Library have raised \$313,000 of the \$500,000 needed to equip the new library, with much generosity from Westwood Park neighbors.

Farmers Market Opens!

By Anita Theoharis

Sundays just got tastier.

The Stonestown Farmers Market has arrived at the Stonestown parking lot at 3251 20th Ave. and will be open year-round, Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All farmers' products are grown, raised, or caught in California, according to Marin Farmers Markets, a nonprofit that operates the market.

The farmers market also features food purveyors and artisans, making it like a mini Ferry Building or Alemany farmers market—without the tourists. And parking is right there and free!

There are also wonderful creative artisans, a bouncy house, and other activities for the kids to enjoy.

The Stonestown Farmers Market opened in June.

WESTWOOD PARK ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 27901, #770

San Francisco, CA 94127

Annual Picnic!

*Please join us at
11 a.m. Saturday,
September 26, for
our annual meeting
and picnic on the
upper Faxon Green.
Bring your favorite
dish to share
(and extra chairs,
if you can).*

WESTWOOD PARK ASSOCIATION

Dear Westwood Park Renter Residents,

This enclosed note is a special insert to the Autumn 2009 Westwood Park Association Newsletter for our renter residents. Your newsletter does not contain a self-addressed, stamped envelope for ballots because only property owners are "official" members of the Association, who possess the voting rights in any Board election. That said, we are all neighbors and part of the Westwood Park Community. Please join us at our Annual Meeting and Barbecue on September 26th. This event is open to all residents, as is the opportunity to participate in any Association activity, including volunteer time and professional services that will contribute to making Westwood Park a better place to live.

We welcome your comments, suggestions, or concerns. You can contact the Westwood Park Association at 415.333.1125, or by e-mail at board@westwoodpark.com.

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