



The Oak Leaf



Feb. 2010

Neighborhood Meeting with Supervisor Rich Gordon

Laurel School Multipurpose Room, 7:30pm
Tuesday February 23rd

Supervisor Rich Gordon will be holding a neighborhood meeting for residents of the unincorporated Menlo Oaks neighborhood on February 23rd. The meeting is being called to allow for continued discussion of potential pedestrian safety improvements along Coleman Avenue. Any and all residents of the neighborhood are encouraged to attend in order to hear more specifics about what is being proposed and ask questions of the Supervisor as well as County Public Works Staff.

The meeting will be the last of several held over the past few months to discuss low-impact methods of improving pedestrian safety along the Coleman Avenue corridor. This process began as a roundtable discussion among local elected officials and administrators from the County of San Mateo, Menlo Park City School District, the Sequoia Union High School District, the Town of Atherton and the City of Menlo Park. It is not related to the City of Menlo Park's Safe Routes to School program of two years ago. The discussion at these meetings led to the San Mateo County Public Works Department developing a concept for a minimal 4-foot path to be created along the Highway 101 side of Coleman Avenue. The goal was to improve safety while achieving the least possible impact on the nature and character of the Menlo Oaks neighborhood.

Through several meetings with neighborhood residents, Supervisor Gordon has shared the idea and welcomed feedback from those with concerns about the concept. As a result, there have been significant changes made in the proposal that take feedback into account and address resident concerns. You are encouraged to attend the meeting so that you can learn more about these changes and the concept as a whole.

In advance of the meeting you will receive a letter and survey ballot from the San Mateo County Public Works Department. In it you will find a description of the proposal and a ballot that allows you to place a vote regarding whether any of the changes to Coleman Avenue should move forward, with 50% plus one of votes cast necessary to gain approval. You will have ample time to submit the ballot after the neighborhood meeting takes place.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this message, and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting on February 23rd.

Preston Burnes
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PICNIC WINNERS

Children's Salad

- 1st Place: Salade Nicoise
- Victoria Sanie
- 2nd Place: Fruit Salad
- Mayson Rutsky
- 3rd Place: Cabbage Salad
- Gigi Rutsky

Children's Dessert

- 1st Place: Teddy Bear Picnic Cupcakes - Molly Baxter
- 2nd Place: Delicious Brownies
M&Ms - Annabell Baxter
- 3rd Place: Big Boy Baseball
Cookies - Nate Baxter

Adult Salad

- 1st Place: Chinese Cabbage
- Betsy Davis
- 2nd Place: Greens & Tomatoes - ?
- 3rd Place: Potato Salad - ?

Adult Dessert

- 1st Place: Midnight Dream
- Nadia Kupke
- 2nd Place: Banana Nut Bread
- Steve Shaw
- 3rd Place: Lemon Bar
- John Davis

Calendar 2010

Spring Cleaning	April 17th
Annual Picnic	June 13th

Spring Clean-Up

Want to talk trash with your neighbors? Then join us for the 5th Annual MODA Spring Clean-Up & Earth Day Celebration. We will meet in front of the Peninsula School on Sunday, April 17, at 10 am, rain or shine. MODA Board Members will be handing out trash bags, gloves and trash collection maps. We will split into smaller teams to comb the streets and pick up trash and recycling. Prizes will be awarded for the most unusual item found and the biggest item found. A BBQ will follow at 441 Arlington Way.

**High School and Middle School students are eligible for community service credit.

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Neighborhood News

Annual meeting Minutes Dec. 13th 2009 Laurel School Multi

The meeting was attended by approximately 30-40 residents and included the MODA 6 Board members.

Supervisor Gordon came to speak on an idea the County would like residents to consider. The project has arisen from the Sterling Committee meetings comprised of other elected officials from the School Districts and Cities that have concerns with the traffic flow and safety around schools.

The Project would entail the following:

A 4ft walking path would be formed on the Peninsula side of Coleman. The removal of a few scrubs and about 2-3 trees. The current surface area would be changed from the roads edge to 4 feet into the resident's easement. The material used to replace the current gravel or leaf litter and soil has not yet determined, but that would provide a even surface to walk upon. A 1.5 inch colored rubberized divider would be placed at the current edge of the road to provide a delineation between cars and walkers. This divider would not be in front of Driveways. There would also be limited parking during school hours, most likely only in the block between Ringwood and Menlo Oaks.

As the project does not change the width of the road, no changes in the Road Standards adopted by the SMC Supervisors in 1997. The precedent set by SMC and Transportation Projects throughout their jurisdiction has been to survey the neighborhood involved to gauge support prior to spending resources on the project. Or pursue funds for the project. Hence the need for a survey of the property owners in the entire Menlo Oaks District to determine if a project should be pursued.

The County would like to have a survey out to property owners by mid Feb. They will be working with MODA to arrange another meeting Tuesday Feb 23rd at 7:30 to provide another chance for residence to pose questions on this issue directly to the Supervisor Gordon.

MODA Member attending the annual meeting requested a MODA generated flyer be distributed by hand to residents before the next meeting with the Supervisor. This will be a resource of information to help people educate themselves on this issue if it has not been something they have followed or are new to the neighborhood. Members voted that the Dues be used to create the flyer.

Treasurer's Report:
Given by Remona Murray. For the MODA year Oct. 08- Sept. 09: Dues collected was \$2,870. Expenditures were \$3,470. Picnic expenses of \$2,650 made up the majority

of the expenses. The year ended with balance of \$1,075.15 in funds. The change in ownership of WAMu to Chase Bank made it necessary to have the checking account number in order to keep banking at Chase without account fees.

Other Business:
Holly Still MODA President resigned and no new board members were elected.

No new business was discussed outside the Coleman Project.

- Remona Murray

PICNIC THIS SUMMER

At last year's picnic many of you cast a vote on a date change of the picnic from the 2nd Sunday in June to the 4th of July. Of votes cast only 2% wanted it change in date.

Earth Day Dedication

This year we would like to dedicate the 5th Annual Spring Clean-Up/Earth Day Celebration to Allen Amsbaugh. Although you may not have known him personally, you may have seen him over the years with his recycled trash bag and pick stick in hand. Allen often took it upon himself to keep our neighborhood looking spiffy. Most often along Berkeley and Menlo Oaks, but some times he would take on the daunting task of Coleman and Ringwood. Allen has passed on recently, but for us he was an example. For him Earth Day and neighborhood clean-up came more than once a year.

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ABOUT THE OAK LEAF:

The Oak Leaf is published by the Menlo Oaks District Association and is distributed to all homes in the Menlo Oaks neighborhood of unincorporated San Mateo County.

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