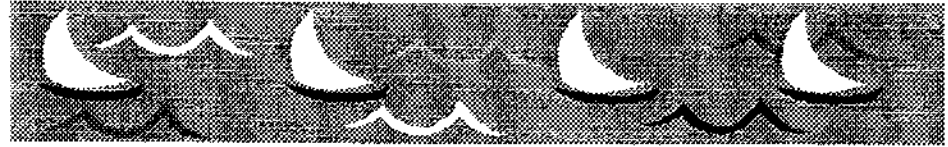


THE KEYS BREEZE

Ventura Keys Association Inc.'s Newsletter, Spring 2001



Keys Association off to a Great 2001

The most frequent comment I hear when speaking with residents of the Keys is, "When are you going to bring back the Keys newsletter?" Well, I hope this edition will be the first of many. With all the things happening in our community, there should be enough information to fill the newsletter for publication at least several times per year. As always, input from the residents is much appreciated. So please, if you have anything newsworthy please let us know. You can contact the Association's Board by voicemail at 677-2601, write us at P.O. Box 1086, Ventura, CA 93002 or e-mail to Venturakeys@hotmail.com.

Cheryl Shaw, President
Ventura Keys Association

Annual Meeting Update

The Association had a great turnout for its annual meeting on January 17. There was a lot of energy and interest expressed by the residents in what the Association is doing and ideas for improving our community. For those of you new to the area, the Homeowner's Association owns the common parcels in the Keys which

include the Big and Little Beaches and the Keys entry ways. The Association maintains the common areas, pays the general liability insurance premiums on the beach parcels, and does beautification projects. As the Association is a nonprofit corporation, the dues collected go directly back into maintaining our neighbor-

2001 Board of Directors

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Stan Friedman, Vice-President
Richard Rosenbloom, Treasurer
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Karen Towner
Dave Witham

Art Jury:
Brad Barnes
Lucy Ledner

A Note About Use of the Beaches

The Board occasionally receives requests from residents to "reserve" the use of either the Big or Little Beaches for private parties. If you are a resident and would like to use the beach please do the following: 1) call and leave a message on the voice mail (677-2601) with your name, phone number and date and time of event. Although there is no way to exclude others from using the beach, conflicts can be avoided if the Association is aware of the date of your event; 2) please check with your homeowners insurer; your liability insurance should extend for the date and place (i.e. Association beach area) of the event. If not, a rider should be added to your homeowner's policy to extend your policy for the event. Although we maintain liability insurance, private events often include many guests who are not Keys residents and increase our liability exposure tremendously. Therefore, please include an insurance check when planning; 3) CLEAN UP AFTER USE. Trash cans are located at both beaches. USE THEM!

hood. The homeowners at the annual meeting voted to have the asphalt area at the Big Beach resurfaced. The Board is reviewing bids for asphalt and cementing the area.

In addition to striving to get a newsletter out, the Board has formed several committees to help keep our residents informed of what is going on in Ventura.

-Kathy Heiberg will be keeping us informed of City Planning staff's efforts at updating the City of Ventura's Comprehensive Plan. That Plan addresses the City's objectives regarding growth, development, etc.

-Laurie Merritt has volunteered to head up a welcoming committee so



that new residents get acquainted to the neighborhood. Laurie, along with a few volunteers, hopes to get the Keys Welcome Committee busy making house calls soon.

-Richard Rosenbloom, the Association's Treasurer, also undertook the arduous task last year of printing the annual dues notices. The task has been complicated by the seemingly constant battle to keep the homeowner database current to reflect changes in property ownership. A second mailing is planned for May to those who have not yet paid.

What's Going on at City Hall?

The answer is A LOT! Although

there has been concern from some residents about the Association dabbling in politics, the general feeling is that residents need to be informed of the issues that affect our community.

The City Council, Port District and City Planning staff continue to meet with Douglas Ring, the chosen developer for the two vacant waterfront parcels on Anchors Way across from the mobile home park. The proposed project currently includes 20,000 square feet of retail and commercial space with 300 apartments. The City is studying proposals to address traffic issues on Beachmont and adjoining Keys streets.

The City is also looking at proposals



to develop the vacant lot at the corner of Seaward and Harbor Blvd. including the construction of commercial/retail space, 20 apartment units and 60 townhomes.

For anyone interested, City Council meetings are held every Monday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located at 501 Poli Street. Meeting agendas can be viewed on the City's website at www.ci.ventura.ca.us. Public comments are accepted on agenda items. The Council also has a Public Communications comment period at the end of the first Council meeting of every month regarding any issue not on the agenda.

**Ventura Keys
Assoc.**

**Voice Mail
677-2601**

**Mail
P.O. Box 1086
Ventura, CA 93002**

**email:
venturakeys@hotmail.com**

What's That Smell?

Well, it's been much debated but between the sewage treatment plan, surrounding waterways, and the mushroom farm, there is certainly something in the air. We may never get a straight answer as to exactly what THAT is but if you smell anything "fishy" or otherwise, be sure to report it to Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, 645-1445. Nuisance complaint forms are available upon request.

Also, report any suspicious foam or sewage in the water or channels by contacting the Public Works Department, Wastewater Division, 677-4135.



Soundwall Construction Approved

The City Council approved, at its meeting on February 5, to amend its Capital Improvement Project Plan to include construction of a soundwall along the 101 freeway from Seaward to Peninsula. The Council also approved the appropriation of approximately \$92,000 in matching local funds for the construction which is estimated at \$804,000. The appropriation of the 11-1/2% matching funds is required at the local level in order to receive the estimated \$3 million in federal funds recently allotted to Ventura for soundwall construction.

Speed Limit Victory!

A huge thanks to Leonard Weber, a Keys resident who has been very vocal and extremely diligent in getting City traffic engineers to address the 55 m.p.h. speed limit on Harbor Blvd. It was a long battle but the speed has now been permanently reduced to 45 m.p.h. The reduced speed will add to the safety of our neighborhood streets.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The City of Ventura is updating their Comprehensive Plan and has requested input from local Ventura citizens regarding their views on population growth, housing, public



amenities, etc. Therefore, the Association has recently sent out a Visioning Questionnaire to allow Keys residents to give their input to the City Council. Please take a minute to fill out your questionnaire and send it back to the address indicated. The questionnaires will be organized and the results of the survey will be submitted to the City Council and City Planning staff. This is a great way to be able to express your views. ALL comments are welcome!

On March 14 the City conducted the second workshop for the update of the Plan. The focus of the workshop was the housing element, i.e. how many new residential units will the city allow to be built between now

and the year 2005. The City's planning consultant advised that the Southern California Association of Governments, a state agency, is requiring the city to plan for a minimum of 1,358 new housing units by 2005, with 695 of them being "very low" or "low" income category. The next meeting of the Comprehensive Plan update committee is April 11, from 6-9 p.m. at the Pointsettia Pavilion located at 3451 Foothill Road. The public is welcome to attend.

Mushroom Farm Fire

As of the printing of this newsletter, the Pictsweet Mushroom Farm fire was still burning. On March 13, County health officials issued a health advisory warning those in areas affected by the smoke to avoid strenuous outdoor activity and stay indoors as much as possible. The County also established a hotline to address health concerns. The Hotline numbers are 339-9750 and 339-9151.

LET US KNOW YOUR IDEAS FOR THE KEYS NEWSLETTER!

VENTURA KEYS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 1086
VENTURA, CA 93002