

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE VILLAGE

"VILLAGE TIDBITS"

by Toni Pelletier

I often wonder how many people who receive this newsletter actually read it. I know a few people do because they've called me or stopped by or came up to me at our General Meeting to tell me they enjoy my column.

Well, I enjoy writing it. And I've been in pretty much every business in the Village. How many have you been in? Have you met Doug, Pam, Linda, Natalie, Joe, Vicki, Debra, Jeremy, Celia, John, Julie, Steve, Gretchen, or Aaron? If you know who these business people are and what business they are in, bring your answers to our meeting on Oct. 22 for a drawing and a prize. Board Members excluded. Now I'll know who reads the Newsletter. Thanks!

See you Thursday and Happy Halloween!



"OTHER HAPPENINGS"

by Bob Lund

The City will be redoing the Car Corral with a new single entrance/exit off of Branch Street. You may already notice that the bench and the light above it are already gone. The project will include resurfacing all of the parking areas, restriping all of the car spaces and the creation of a walkway by the cleaners with additional planting areas in the Corral. The project has been deferred from the late fall to early spring due to bids coming in higher than expected. The City is working to obtain additional funding and is confident that the project will be started in January of 2010. I have posted project details of the project in the foyer of the Village Association office.

The City has formed a Centennial committee to start planning for our 2011 centennial. There are five committees; heritage, events and activities, marketing, publicity and fund raising. We anticipate having many events and fund raisers. One of the most significant happenings will be the advent of the closure of Short St. from Branch to Olohan Alley to create a "Centennial Park Plaza". If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please give me a call at 710-4049.

The Branch Street enhancement is nearly completed and looks beautiful. I say nearly because the city is negotiating with the contractor to redo the colored and stamped crosswalks and have contracted with Brough Construction to redo all of the broken tiles that are in the sidewalks on Branch Street.

Halloween in the Village is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 31st between 3 and 5 pm. The city has decided, in the interest of protecting the children, to close Branch Street during this time period. If you are new to the Village, please note that the individual merchants set up tables at their front door and give away candy to the children. We normally get about 2,000 children in the Village during that time.

The Arroyo Grande Parks Department will be having their Halloween Carnival on Saturday, October 24th from 4:30 to 7:30. It will be located at Elm Street Park and will include a haunted maze, costume contest and pumpkin-carving contest.

Members of Arroyo Grande in Bloom attended the national symposium held in Hershey, Pennsylvania on October 1, 2, and 3. In our population category competition, Arroyo Grande won four blooms (out of five) for Heritage Preservation (one of eight criteria we are judged on) and a national award for Tidiness. This is a significant achievement for our City and all of the Volunteers who work so hard during the year to make our City a better place to live.

Village Association
P.O. Box 1526
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We will have a general meeting on Thursday, October 22nd, 8 am at Branch Street Deli. Please attend as this will be an opportunity for you to see the plans for the renovation of City Hall and the proposals the developer has for the property that now includes the Building Department, the Public Works Department and the parkinglot in between. Also there will be plans showing the proposed Centennial Park Plaza.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, October 22nd 2009
Branch Street Deli 8:00 am

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Introduction of attendess**
- 3. Office and Financial report**
- 4. Old Business**
 - Tourism Committee**
 - Car Corral**
 - Centennial Committee**
- 5. New Business**
 - Halloween**
 - Christmas**
 - America in Bloom**
- 6. City of Arroyo Grande report**
- 7. Guest Speaker: To be anounced**