



hometown

Officers

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Block Directors

Upper Oakridge 414-671
 Debbie Sobolewski . 641 W. Oakridge . . 547-3918 ssobolewski2001@yahoo.com
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Please note that Livernois is the dividing point of upper and lower addresses

FYI: Neighborhood House Count

Upper Oakridge 31	Upper Woodland 40
Lower Oakridge 20	Lower Woodland 43
Upper Drayton 40	Upper Maplehurst 40
Lower Drayton 37	Lower Maplehurst 48
	Lower Lewiston (north side only) 27
Total Households in WPIA 326	

WPIA Residents:

You can win \$2,000 with a Ferndale Educational Foundation (FEF) Raffle Ticket!
 ●2nd Prize: \$500 ●3rd Prize: \$250

Tickets are \$10 each or six for \$50. Mark your calendar for the **Ferndale Educational Foundation's annual community fundraiser on Friday, February 6 from 7:00pm to midnight at Club Venetian in Madison Heights.** Tickets are \$35 per person. Buffet dinner, dancing, raffles and a live auction. Proceeds will go into our childrens' classrooms through innovative programs initiated by Ferndale teachers and staff, and tutoring programs promoting excellence in education. For more information on the Foundation, raffle or event tickets contact Carol Frederick or Katrina Collins, FEF Trustees. See contact information above under Officers.



President's Corner

Welcome new residents to our beautiful neighborhood. To bring you up-to-speed on our background and history, please visit our website at www.hometown.aol.com/wpiaferndale. 2004 marks our 80th year anniversary!

After 34 whopping years as block directors, Carol Kauffmann and Dianne Carolan have stepped down to enjoy their respective retirements! It has truly been a pleasure working with these fastidious ladies. They are strong supporters of Ferndale and our neighborhood. Bravo for all those years that you've been there for us!!

Dianne and Carol have nominated Susan Nash to take over their vacated position. The Association welcomes Susan as Lower Woodland's new block director. Thank you and welcome aboard Susan!

As you may have heard, the City of Ferndale would like to sell two parcels of property that fall within our Association boundaries. They are located on the north side of West Oakridge between Livernois and Woodward (parcels are each marked with a sign that denotes "B" and "C").

It is the position of the Association that the proposals be defeated (by voting "NO" on B & C). I have asked Bill and Carol Frederick to provide us with their professional viewpoint. They are both members of The American Institute of Architects, 20+ year residents and very active WPIA board members :

"Carol and I have reviewed lots "B" and "C" on Oakridge relative to the proposal allowing the City to sell these lots. It appears that neither lot would be able to meet set back requirements for their current zoning and that a variance would be required to develop these lots.

As professionals, we believe that variances are a valid avenue in the development of property when hardships exist or when circumstances warrant. However, in this case we believe a variance would not result in a development that is in keeping with the character of the residences in the present neighborhood. Considering the small size of the property and the unusual shape of the lots, we would oppose any variance. We would also oppose any rezoning of these lots.

The City currently owns these lots and defeat of this proposal would not present an economic hardship for any individual. Because the City presently owns these properties, we believe the best use for these properties is to continue as a natural, green space park area. In an era of dwindling availability for recreational and green space areas, it is the most appropriate course of action.

William A. Frederick, Jr., AIA
Carol A. Frederick, AIA

By halting the sale of this property, we maintain the character and charm of our subdivision. We hope you agree and will vote NO on Proposals B and C.

Katrina Collins, our new treasurer, has asked that I remind all block directors to begin dues collection. Presently, we do not have enough money to cover our December 1st snow removal payment.

A reminder to all residents: If you have decorative lawn ornamentation near city sidewalks, please make sure it is removed or out of the way for snow removal.

Watch for our December newsletter for the announcement of the 2003 WPIA Beautification Award, another featured WPIA home and historical musings from one of our residents...and more!

Karen Breen-Bondie
 Karen Breen-Bondie

Tuesday
November 4

Vote "NO" on
Proposals B & C