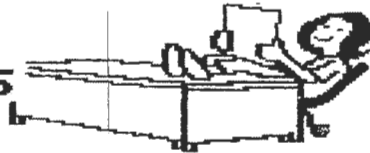


Cummings Valley Protective Assn.

Quarterly Newsletter No.3
June, 1991



New Proposals



As of May 23, the Planning Department in Bakersfield reports no new applications or NOIs (Notices of Intent) in Cummings Valley. However, an application for a General Plan Amendment to allow rezoning of 174 acres adjacent to our area of interest between Hwy 202 and Old Cummings Valley Road has been filed. This would allow 166 homes on one acre lots as well as the already rezoned area of two and a half acre lots.

A Brite Valley group is being organized to oppose this project called "Tamaron." We will consider whether or not to support them.

Vix/Benz Mini Mart

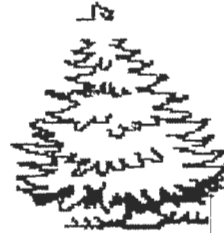


The Planning Department has not yet seen any action on this commercial project. With uncertain economic conditions and public distaste for the project, we hope it will quietly pass away.



Tehachapi & Brite Valley Groups

A meeting was held on May 26, 1991, with several individuals who are interested in founding citizens groups similar to CUPA to represent the Tehachapi and Brite Valleys. If successfully formed, these groups may exert some control of helter-skelter development which would benefit all of us.



Tree Donation & Planting

At our December, 1990, meeting we vote to donate six trees to the Cummings Valley Elementary School -- two 15 gallon and four 5 gallon trees. Weather delay the planting until April 27, when Gerry Trierweiler, Dorothy Woods, Les Hanson, and Chuck McCollough attacked the rock hard compacted soil of the school yard with picks, crowbars, and shovels to plant two 15 gallon trees.

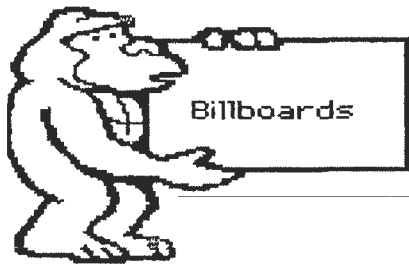
Photographer Lorraine McCollough captured the occasion on film which appeared in the Tehachapi News with an appropriate write-up.

Planting of the 5 gallon trees is awaiting completion of some construction work.



ROADSIDE CLEANUP

Pat Campbell has volunteered to chair the committee to organize a cleanup day to remove roadside trash in Cummings Valley. He is working with the County for the necessary permit and laying out road sectors for groups to clean up. When the plans are complete, we will ask for volunteers to work on the various sectors some Saturday morning.



The County Building Department which is responsible for enforcing the Zoning Ordinance which governs signs and billboards seems to be ignoring the half dozen complaints we have filed against illegal billboards. Some filed as long ago as February 5, 1991, have not been acted on as far as we can determine. A fairly strong letter to Bill Roope, head of the Tehachapi office has elicited no response as yet.

We are preparing to turn up the heat by voicing our dissatisfaction to higher echelons in Bakersfield and/or through the newspapers. Legal action would be a last resort.

In the meantime, realtors and others are putting up or keeping up illegal billboards/signs with impunity.

So far, the "good guys" seem to be RJ Properties who have twice taken down signs in response to our letters. Karpe & RE/MAX also cooperated in removing their billboards on Cummings Valley Road west of Hwy 202.

Anyone driving into the valley on Hwy 202 knows who the "bad guys" are!

VICTORIAN HOME TOUR FUNDRAISER

The open house at the 103 year old Elijah Stowell House, now owned by CUPA members Bob and Patty Souza, was a smashing success. With the several promised donations that have not yet arrived from members who could not attend, we will clear almost \$1000.00! This should go a long way toward funding the graduate

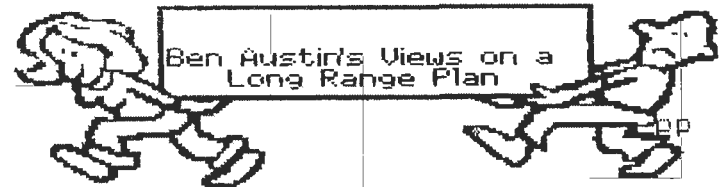
student study of a long range plan for the valley.

It was an absolutely delightful and outstanding event, and we've heard nothing but glowing comments from those who attended. We received some excellent publicity from the papers -- especially the BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIAN who gave us almost a full page in the Accent section with three great color photos and a nice writeup.

The TEHACHAPI NEWS editor, Ann Hawkins, was there and we hope for a good article from her.

Abundant "thank you's" were passed out at the June 7 meeting, but we want to thank again anyone who pitched in to make the event a success. Special thanks to Bob and Patty Souza for opening their home and their tremendous effort in getting house and grounds ready.

Perhaps one of the biggest benefits was the camaraderie and getting to know each other better.



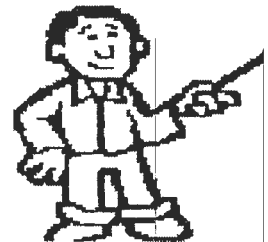
After the fundraiser invitation was sent to Supervisor Austin, calls were made to his Mojave and Lamont offices to explain the purpose of CUPA having a graduate student do a review of the current General Plan to see if an updated plan for Cummings Valley is appropriate at this time. Nina Hartnett of the Mojave office discussed the subject with Supervisor and reported back to CUPA that he feels the current plan is adequate in light of his "commitment to keeping Cummings Valley rural."

This is a heartening response. However, Ben Austin will be succeeded one day, and his successor may have a different viewpoint. Since the study could take two or more years, the Board feels it is prudent to proceed. The plan review process should be a good learning experience for us of CUPA and should help us make informed and responsible decisions about any future zoning change proposals. Other welcome information from Nina Hartnett is that she and Supervisor Austin feel CUPA represents the views of the Cummings Valley area community and Supervisor Austin will consider passing any Cummings Valley proposals by us at an early stage to solicit our position.



The nominating committee consisting of Joyce Burton of Stallion Springs, Jack Oliphant of Bear Valley, and Chairman Les Hanson of Cummings Valley put together a slate of candidates with Chuck McCollough for President, Bill Dresser for Vice President, Sherrie Grott for Recording Secretary, Dorothy Woods for Treasurer, and Gerry Hussman for Corresponding Secretary. The slate was voted into office by acclamation at the June meeting.

July 5 Meeting



CUPA member Bill Schader, who is a partner and Director of Operations in Superior Sod, will present a slide-illustrated talk "Sod Farming in Cummings Valley." We all see the sod farming going on, but here is a chance to learn the nitty-gritty of the business and get answers to any questions we might have.

The meeting will be at the usual time of 7:30 PM in the Stallion Springs CSD Building.

By-laws
Adopted



MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL

It was a long struggle, but finally the Board with the generously donated and substantial help of attorney, Judge Jason Brent completed our By-laws. The members voted their adoption at the June 7 annual meeting.

Please read the enclosed renewal plea and renew your membership now before you forget about it. We really don't want to use our limited funds sending out multiple renewal requests, but we sure don't want to lose you as a member, either.

CUMMINGS VALLEY PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

Enclosed find my family membership dues of \$12.00 for 1991-1992

Name(s) _____

Local address _____

Phone () _____

Mailing address _____

(if not same as local) _____

Phone () _____

Mail to: Cummings Valley Protective Association
% Dorothy Woods, Treasurer
18835 Old Ranch Road, Cummings Valley
Tehachapi, Ca. 93561

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Cummings Valley Protective Association

18835 Old Ranch Road • Cummings Valley
Tehachapi, CA 93561 • (805) 822-3478 • (805) 822-1376

June, 1991

Dear Member(s),

It will soon be one year since CVPA came to life and became recognized as a voice of our rural community with real standing in political and economic circles.

I think we have accomplished a lot in our first year. Supervisor Ben Austin recognizes that we are a force to sit up and take notice of. We have established an extensive communication network with the Planning Department in Bakersfield, and they are cooperating with us in providing early information about any zoning change proposals in Cummings Valley.

The real estate companies know we are here, and that we are ready to fight any zone changes or land uses detrimental to the rural agricultural charm of the valley.

Through extensive publicity in The Tehachapi News and other papers we have let the public know what we are doing. We have shown that we are a responsible, professional and constructive organization. At the present time there are groups considering starting similar organizations in Brite Valley and Tehachapi Valley.

CVPA is going to have a positive influence on the destiny of Cummings Valley and the surrounding mountain communities. But it won't happen without individual commitment and effort. Just as Americans have preserved their freedoms with effort and sacrifice, so must we of CVPA meet the challenges in order to preserve an area of extraordinary rural beauty and a lifestyle that we all treasure.

We must continue to grow and build our strength in numbers. Our current membership of 397 is impressive, but think of the impact twice that number would have. We must also build our financial base to undertake constructive projects such as the long range plan update we are preparing to launch soon. And it is almost inevitable that we will have to engage in one or more legal battles for which there will be attorney's fees.

To succeed we must have your continued support. We can't let down our vigilance, or sooner or later we will find the mini marts, the subdivisions, the apartments and all the other things over-development brings popping up like toadstools out of control.

Please fill out the renewal form and send it with your check right now. Use the extra form to sign up a friend or neighbor. Your past support has really made a difference. Please don't let us down now!

Sincerely,

Chuck McCollough
Chuck McCollough, President

BULK RATE
POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #10
Tehachapi, CA

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18835 Old Ranch Road • Cummings Valley
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