

examine his/her underside. One thing is certain about Evelyn, though, he/she has hit the jackpot.

*Rae Doyle*

### **ARDEN WOOD NEIGHBORS FILE DISCRETIONAL REVIEW ON PHASE I**

Neighbors of Arden Wood (NOA), who are concerned about how their neighborhood will be impacted by the proposed Arden Wood development of 8 homes on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, are making an appeal to the Board of Supervisors to require a more thorough geological study and a more thorough traffic study on this project.

The Planning Department has determined that a Categorical Exemption to an Environmental Impact Review applies to the project, and the NOA begs to differ. The Board of Supervisors will consider NOA's appeal of the Categorical Exemption on September 25, 2007.

In a related action, on August 27, NOA filed a request for a Discretionary Review (DR). One of NOA's concerns is the impact the new homes will have on traffic on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The other concern is that there are discrepancies between the project manager's geological consultant and a geological study done in 1990 on a house near the Wawona Street and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue corner.

In relation to the traffic issue, at a June 2006 meeting with Mark Nelson, the project sponsor, NOA asked that a road be built at the rear of the property so that cars would not exit garages onto 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

On March 13, 2007, GWPNA President Ken Kruszka wrote a letter with the same recommendation.

NOA's request for a rear access road addressed two concerns: first, that cars entering and exiting garages facing 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue present safety problems. The second concern is that 10' cutouts for 8 tandem garages would greatly reduce parking spaces on 15<sup>th</sup>

Avenue. Nelson declined the NOA's request to build a rear access road.

Another concern is the opening for classes in September at the new Waldorf School at St. Francis Circle, presenting an unknown in the traffic situation. Since West Portal Avenue is the only access to the school entrance, the 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and West Portal Avenue intersection, a block away, will be significantly impacted, NOA claims. The problem of the unknown traffic impact of Waldorf school is compounded by the fact that there are two other schools close by; St. Cecilia's Catholic Elementary School, and the Lutheran School at 19<sup>th</sup> and Sloat..

NOA wants a more thorough geological study because a report in 1990, on a property at 2687 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, three houses from the Arden Wood corner lot, conflicts with the findings of Earth Mechanics Consulting, Nelson's geotechnical surveyors. In addition, the 1990 report suggests that sewer lines may have been compromised in the 1989 earthquake, resulting in soil seepage into them. NOA is asking for a more thorough study of this fragile system.

NOA's appeal of the Categorical Exemption of EIR on the project will be heard before the Board of Supervisors on September 25, 2007. Public comment can be directed to the Board of Supervisors and to Michael Smith and Delvin Washington, Planning Department, 1660 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

A date for the DR before the Planning Commission will be determined after the Board of Supervisors hears NOA's appeal on September 25.

### **NEWS OF LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL**

Mayor Gavin Newsom sent a letter to "Community Members" on August 2, putting to rest the rumor that The San Francisco homeless population would be housed on the LHH campus.

On August 15, at a Town Hall meeting at LHH, the report on a HUD-financed study of the feasibility of a