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Editors: Lauri Barwick
and Nina Macdonald

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO HRB

The current Homeowners' Representative Board (HRB) requests self-nominations to the three two-year positions opening next year on the Board. This call will be repeated in the January Newsletter. Filing statements must be sent to Isabel de Figueiredo, Chair of the HRB, 22 Los Trancos, by **JANUARY 15, 2004**. Statements and ballots will be printed in the February Newsletter. Voted ballots must be received by the HRB, 22 Los Trancos, **NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 17, 2004**.

GOOD-BYE AND THANK YOU TO ICHA AND THE UH HOMEOWNERS FROM FREDDA

I will retire from the Irvine Campus housing Authority office on December 31, 2003.

I am not sure what I will do with myself after being accustomed to coming to work every morning for fourteen and one-half years, but I imagine that there are many things that I can catch up on, and many new and delightful ways to occupy my time. What I am sure of is that I shall miss ICHA and all of the wonderful homeowners that I have come to know while I was here for a little time on the landscape of a wonderful community of diverse peoples.

I thank all of you for permitting me to be of service to you.

*Fondly,
Fredda N. Schlacter*

[Editor's Note: On behalf of the Newsletter Staff, I would like to thank Fredda for all the years of hard work and dedication to the Irvine Campus Housing Authority. We will miss you!]

HRB MINUTES --- Tuesday, December 2, 2003

Present: Jeffrey Beckwith, Brian Cummings, Isabel De Figueiredo, Rachel Gamby, Shirley Palley, Michele Walot, Andrew Herndon, Ron Reid.

ICHA Monthly Report Discussion:

WIRELESS DATA SERVICE OPTIONS: UCI NACS is exploring the possibility of providing wireless service in University Hills (see ICHA report for details). The HRB agreed with ICHA Management that distributing a poll/survey on the University Hills Listserv would be the most efficient and accurate means to provide UCI NACS with feedback from potential

users. Brian Cummings is in charge of requesting the required information and forwarding it to ICHA.

ENGINEERING GATEWAY NOISE MEETING: Both Jeff Beckwith and Ron Reid took part in a meeting with Engineering regarding the noise from the Engineering Gateway building's generators. A sound test

will be conducted in December. The test will be conducted in the early morning hours to avoid traffic noise interference.

PAY PHONES AT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: MCI, the current service provider of pay phones at the recreational facilities, has increased its rate to an unacceptable level and an alternative must be put in place within the next month. ICHA Management presented two alternatives. It was agreed that if an alternate provider offers an acceptable rate that ICHA would proceed with a new contract. If the provider could not offer an acceptable rate that ICHA would run the service themselves.

Old Business:

VIRGIL COURT: The Virgil Court resident who installed a garden wall without approval has not yet complied with the HRB directive to make an opening to allow neighbors to access their meter box. Management is discussing a new gate design for the wall to resolve the access issue. Both parties are providing input.

New Business:

RICHARD HAIER RE: ICHA AND HRB BOARD ROLES : Richard joined the meeting to clarify some questions the HRB had concerning the roles of the ICHA and HRB boards.

---- Rachel Gamby, HRB

AD SUBMISSION REMINDER

Please note that ADS CAN NO LONGER be submitted by EMAIL. The reason for this is that ads tend to get lost in the quantities of email we receive and then people are unhappy when their ads do not appear in the Newsletter. The only way to submit ads is to

- 1) Send a form to the ICHA office
- 2) Fill out the form on the web site <<http://www.uhills.org/>>

---Nina Macdonald and Lauri Barwick, Newsletter

DID YOU KNOW?

You can report a problem in University Hills anytime through the web site, www.uhills.org. Choose the left-hand menu option, "Solutions to problems." If you notice a street light or paseo light out, type it into the form on the web site, and it will usually be replaced the next business day. You can report all kinds of problems, broken sprinkler heads, etc. And you can report them when you're thinking about them.

*---Nina Macdonald
webmaster, www.uhills.org*

NEWS FROM IRWD

IRWD'S SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER

Unlike many areas of Orange County, Irvine Ranch Water District is not dependent upon only one source of water. Approximately 65 percent of our drinking water is local groundwater pumped from 21 wells within the Orange County Groundwater Basin. The remaining 35 percent of our water supply is imported water which must be purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).

MWD imports water from the Colorado River via the Colorado River Aqueduct and from Northern California via the California Aqueduct, also known as the State Water Project. IRWD generally uses well water between April and October. During the winter months, we shut off the wells so that winter rains can help replenish the groundwater aquifer. From October through April, IRWD uses mostly imported water.

Imported water is treated at MWD's Diemer Filtration Plant using chloramines, a combination of chlorine and ammonia. IRWD disinfects your well water using chloramines as the water enters the distribution system.

Because your water sources may vary or be made up of a blending of these various types of water, you may notice a difference in the taste or hardness (mineral content) of the water at different times of year. None of these factors affect the safety of your water.

Having multiple sources of water is beneficial for IRWD customers. Local groundwater is both high in quality and lower in cost than imported water which must travel hundreds of miles through aqueduct systems. Having more than one source also improves the overall dependability of our water supply.

This column provides information on some of the most frequently asked water quality questions and topics. If you have any other water quality questions or concerns, call the IRWD Public Affairs Department at (949) 453-5500.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

More plants suffer from over watering this time of the year

- Too much water can stress plants and cause disease. Most homes can leave their sprinkler systems OFF this time of year, especially in shady areas. If you think you need to water, check the moisture of the soil 3-6" below the surface. With our heavy clay soils, the surface may look dry, but the clay remains moist beneath the surface. If water is needed, see the suggested schedule below. According to the California Association of Nurserymen, more plants are lost due to over-watering than to any other cause.
- Avoid fertilizing your lawn. Fertilizing can force a growth spurt at a time of year when plants naturally go into a dormant phase. If a growth spurt happens before a chill, the intense cold can permanently damage plants. In addition, fertilizers applied during this

time of year are more likely to get washed away by rain, contributing to pollution in the waterways.

- Cut back roses.
- Bare-root season for fruit trees and roses. Water to keep the plants moist, but not wet. Water deeply, not frequently. Hand-water the new plants directly in the early morning. Allow about an hour for the water to soak in before re-applying.

DON'T LET YOUR HOLIDAY MEAL CREATE A SPILL!

Grease poured down drains is the leading cause of sewage spills. Grease needs to be handled carefully all year round, but especially at this time of year. With the holidays upon us, many families are cooking special meals to share with friends and relatives. But the larger quantity of grease created by cooking a turkey, ham or roast can result in problems within your home's sewer pipes or within your neighborhood if not disposed of properly.

Never pour grease down your sink drain, toilet or garbage disposal! Instead, pour grease into a can and refrigerate or freeze until solid and then dispose of the can on trash day. An empty soup can works well for everyday cooking; however for larger holiday meals you may want to save a coffee can to hold the grease. Wipe excess grease from pots, pans and utensils with paper towels before washing. These simple steps will help IRWD protect the environment by preventing sewer spills.

---Irvine Ranch Water District