

RIVER ISLANDS

C U R R E N T S



Susan Dell'Oso,
Project Director

OPEN LETTER FROM SUSAN DELL'OSSO PROJECT DIRECTOR

As the dog days of summer turn into fall, I hope you are enjoying the start of a whole new season at River Islands. The return of our student body to the River Islands Technology Academy marks the beginning of new clubs and activities as well as academic pursuits. I am excited about the return of the Run Club and its Progressive Marathon for students, staff and parents. What a great idea, to run a marathon one mile at a time! As a proud Technology Academy family member, I may be lacing up my running shoes and joining in the fun!

I am happy to announce that the long-awaited opening of the Boathouse Bar and Grille will take place in the next few weeks! As soon as we have a firm day for opening, we will get the information out to you. The operator is planning to be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. I had the opportunity to try some of the recipes and sample a few of the wines to be served. All I can say is: yum!

I have received a number of requests for information about renting the Boathouse for private events. Now that the building has an independent operator who is planning to be open seven days a week, scheduling private events is going to take careful coordination; we suggest that you send inquiries to Kathy Willows at the Executive Office: kwillows@cambaygroup.com.

We have talked in the past about balancing the community's needs for privacy and security. The planned River Islands security camera system has been designed to offer our in-house security force and the local police more "eyes" on the public areas of the community, without affecting neighborhood privacy. Our state-of-the-art security cameras have been delivered; we anticipate that they will be installed in early November. They will be located in our parks and other public areas within the community, where our residents and their friends congregate and send their children to play. Always remember that cameras are secondary to neighborhood vigilance. Please call the Lathrop Police Department at 209-468-4400 if you see any suspicious activity or 911 for emergencies.

As always, should you have any questions about our community, plans and progress, email me at: info@riverislands.com. I promise to get back to you!

All the best—

Susan Dell'Oso
Project Director

RIVER ISLANDS CELEBRATES ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The first anniversary celebration for River Islands was held at the Welcome Center on October 10. Local restaurant Dickey's Barbecue Pit catered lunch, and radio station KKIQ set up for a live broadcast in the afternoon. The music and mood was upbeat, and a balloon animals were a big hit with River Islands kids, young and old!



HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS MAY REQUIRE APPROVAL FROM RIVER ISLANDS ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Before you hire a contractor to extend your driveway or add another gate to your back yard fencing: please contact us first! Of late, we have had some home improvement projects turn into problems for their homeowners - or have an impact on their entire neighborhoods.

Please remember that your home is subject to covenants, conditions and restrictions to maintain the look and feel of our community and for safety. These rules also contain practical restrictions on renovations to your home and landscaped areas. Certain improvements require the approval of the River Islands Architectural Committee.

When you extend a driveway, for example, you might be pouring concrete over Comcast's access to equipment for your entire neighborhood. That green box on the edge of your property? It belongs to an outside utility company, and it can't be moved.

Residential lots may also contain slopes and drainage improvements that help to keep water away from your foundation, for instance. These improvements should not be changed without the approval of the River Islands Architectural Review Committee.

Before you start your home improvement project, please contact Curtis Bryant: cbryant@cambaygroup.com with questions about your proposed project. Please drop off your plan, a description of the project and pictures/drawings if applicable to the Executive Office, at 73 W. Stewart Road. Include your contact information, especially your email.

AN UPDATE FROM RIVER ISLANDS TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

Test scores are in, and we look terrific! Results come from a new testing system based on the Common Core Standards and our first results are superior to most schools in our county!

The Tracy Press has reported on the results of online testing taken last spring by students in grades 3 – 7. The Assessment of Student Performance and Progress gauges students' progress associated with the Common Core Standards adopted by the State of California. With 296 students participating, more than 20% of the students tested exceeded the state standard in at least one area of testing. The full article is available online at [www. http://www.goldenstatenewspapers.com/tracy_press/](http://www.goldenstatenewspapers.com/tracy_press/news/state-first-test-scores-a-baseline/article_451c3138-5da-11e5-b004-a7447ccc9868.html)

[news/state-first-test-scores-a-baseline/article_451c3138-5da-11e5-b004-a7447ccc9868.html](http://www.goldenstatenewspapers.com/tracy_press/news/state-first-test-scores-a-baseline/article_451c3138-5da-11e5-b004-a7447ccc9868.html) Congratulations to our students, teachers, staff and parents for their committed partnership to support our College Bound direction!

The last week of October marks the beginning of Red Ribbon Week, a program started in 1988 to create awareness of the problems and potential violence created by use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. River Islands Technology Academy is partnering with schools all over the state and the nation to throw some light on the problem and help the students make better choices in their lives.

On our own campus, signups have begun for the Run Club, which is hosting a progressive marathon, and the Chess Club, which is returning after growing its numbers last year. A volleyball team has been formed, and we are well into soccer season. There is always so much going on, inside the classrooms and out, that it is no surprise that our student body has grown to 570 students this year! Always remember that although River Islands Technology Academy has a long waiting list, students who come from household within River Islands and the Banta Elementary School District receive priority status!

Last- but not least - we want to thank the Booster Club for the Welcome Back Family Barbeque in September, for their help in making our first Movie Night in the Park a success, and for all of the things that our parents do to make our school strong and successful.

TAKE A CONSTRUCTION TOUR OF RIVER ISLANDS TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY!

You have all heard the story of how River Islands built the new Technology Academy in four months... now we are offering a special, behind-the-scenes tour of the buildings to demonstrate how the buildings are constructed, how we save water, our state-of-the-art wiring, and how the teachers have been able to customize their classrooms. We are planning the tour as a part of one of the school's parents' events, and will be inviting you as soon as we have a date confirmed.

Community Chatter:

Our River Islands residents have been talking to us about creating a community-wide program to allow us to give to the less fortunate during the holiday season.

We are planning to set up a Giving Tree in the Welcome Center some time in November, to allow people to pick an ornament for the tree that represents a donation to charity. We will keep you updated as our plans become more detailed.

~~~~~

Also in the planning - Dell'Oso Farms will be putting together a Holiday on the Farm night for River Islands residents with special discounted admissions and the promise of neighborhood fun. Date and time to follow!

~~~~~

Last but not least - we will be working with the residents on a holiday lights and seasonal decorations contest! Prizes, yes, and more important: bragging rights to the most wonderfully decorated home for the holidays at River Islands. We will keep you in the loop as this idea develops!

Resident Stickers - Free at the Welcome Center!

Be sure to get your "Resident" identification stickers for your cars. Their purpose is simple: with your car sticker in place, the security staff can more easily identify you as a part of the River Islands community.

Just come out to the Welcome Center and show your driver's license or a bill with your name and address on it, and the Welcome Center staff will provide you with stickers for your vehicles. If you are willing to share your email at that time, we will keep it on file to alert you in advance about changes in the community, street closures, landscaping maintenance and heavy construction that might change the routes you drive.

We have enjoyed seeing familiar faces as many of our residents have already come in; we look forward to providing you with your stickers at the Welcome Center, which is open daily from 10 - 5.

*Please note that due to Daylight Savings time change we now close at 5:00 PM instead of 6:00 PM

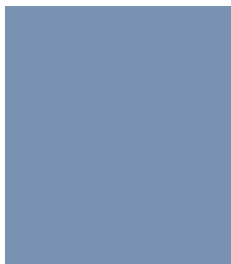


The students of River Islands Technology Academy put on their Halloween finery and enjoyed a costume parade while on their annual field trip to Dell'Oso Farm's Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze, just next door to our community.



Dell'Oso Family Farm delivered pumpkins to all of the students at River Islands Technology Academy in plenty of time for the students to make jack-o-lanterns for Halloween!





MOVIE NIGHT IN THE PARK

Our first Movie Night in the Park had a great turnout. Please check out the very cool cars the kids designed and built to enjoy a total "drive-in" experience! Many thanks to the River Islands Technology Academy Boosters Club for making this, such an enjoyable evening!

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

River Islands has had such a spectacular first year that it is no surprise to find our own builders and other award-winning members of the homebuilding community discussing their ideas for home designs and neighborhoods to be built in 2016. As soon as we have our next group of builders under contract, and the sizes of the homes in our new neighborhoods set, we will be posting an announcement about neighborhoods to come in an issue of Currents. Stay tuned, and get ready for some exciting news in the months to come!

UNAPPROVED SIGNAGE CAUSES CONCERNS WITHIN COMMUNITY

In recent months, a number of unapproved signs have sprung up within the community. River Islands, as a neighborhood within Lathrop city limits, complies with the City's sign ordinances and guidelines. For example, when you see a directional "ladder" sign that leads people to our neighborhoods, a temporary construction sign or even what looks like a temporary sign that directs people to the model homes, please be aware that the design, materials and dimensions of those signs have been approved by the City as part of our comprehensive sign program.

River Islands is restricted by a limit of square footage as to how many signs we have on the property and their size. When unapproved signs crop up in the right of way, it is within the City's rights to take them down. Please think twice before you make the streets of River Islands a bulletin board for events or announcements. These signs are considered illegal, and can and will be removed.

If you have ideas for new signage within the community that would contribute to clearer directions, please make a suggestion at info@riverislands.com.

At Home....Tips & Ideas



Make these inexpensive and fun concrete ball accents for your garden using surprising tools -- either a glass globe for a light fixture or a glass Christmas ornament. Plus, they're easy to make and look fantastic. Using either a glass globe for a light fixture or for a smaller ball, a glass Christmas ornament. Using concrete for a matte look or mortar mix for a shiny finish. You'll need a small bucket lined with newspaper, a glass globe for a light fixture, cooking spray, a large flexible plastic bucket, rubber gloves, a five-pound bag of concrete or mortar mix, water, a stir stick, a large heavy-duty plastic bag, safety goggles, a hammer, and a soft cloth. First, spray the inside of the glass globe with cooking spray. Next, put on plastic gloves and mix the concrete or mortar mix with water until it's the consistency of a thick milkshake. Carefully pour the concrete or mortar into the glass globe and let it dry completely. For concrete, this should take about 48 hours. But for mortar, you should let it dry for a week. Place the filled, dried globe in a heavy-duty plastic bag and seal it. Don your safety goggles, then gently hammer to crack the glass. Remove the ball and carefully wipe. Watch and learn how at,

<http://www.bhg.com/videos/m/87610244/diy-concrete-balls-for-your-garden.htm>

Source [bhg.com](http://www.bhg.com)



Kathy Willows
Realtor Associate
209-679-1710

