

RIVER ISLANDS

C U R R E N T S



OPEN LETTER FROM SUSAN DELL'OSSO PRESIDENT, RIVER ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT

Susan Dell'Oso

This year, I noticed that many holiday cards and Christmas letters, emails and Facebook posts used a longer sign-off than the usual “Best Wishes”. Instead, I found both friends and business leaders wishing me a “healthy, happy, safe and prosperous” New Year. Other messages reminded me of the virtues of kindness; still others spread the desire for patience.

After the last couple of years, I can see why people want to pack more “good” into their good wishes. We have all been through a time that is unprecedented, and we are not yet on the other side, looking back with whatever wisdom can be gained from such a prolonged crisis.

Here at River Islands, I see signs of the hardship we have faced at home, at school and at work. I commend the teachers and staff at the River Islands Academies for taking classrooms online over the course of a spring break, and then coming back strong to live classrooms with students who were feeling their way back, both academically and socially, and parents whose work lives had been altered both by home schooling and the work from home movement.

In this second year of Covid, we at River Islands worked hard to keep people safe, while getting them out of their homes and back into the fabric of the community. Seeing people gathered on the lawn at Michael Vega Park, enjoying free performances by the Stockton Symphony, watching families together at the Christmas Tree Lighting, meeting new neighbors at our first annual Islanders Day celebration at Islanders Field—these are just a few of the experiences that will stay with me as I look back on 2021.

We have a lot of work to do in 2022 to deliver new schools, new parks, new neighborhoods, and the unveiling of plans for an amazing new Town Center, while working with the City on traffic lights to keep our streets safe and our children protected. I would pass on to you the wishes that I received this season, and hope for all of us that we enjoy health, happiness and safety, and spread kindness and patience in our interactions with each other.

Wishing you a healthy, happy, safe and prosperous New Year,

Susan Dell'Oso
President, River Islands Development

HUGE BREAKTHROUGH FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS AS RIVER ISLANDS ANNOUNCES SCHOOL OPENINGS IN AUGUST 2022

Given an ever-growing student population, River Islands moved up its development plans and started construction of its third school last fall. The new K-8, called the EPIC Academy, will be open for instruction for next fall's term, beginning in August, 2022. EPIC Academy will serve grades kindergarten through eighth (and a 9th grade academy for one year as noted below).

The new campus is located off River Islands Parkway, between the newly-opened Cardiff and Sunset neighborhoods. As a part of the River Islands Academies, this new campus will share the curriculum, teaching style and culture of the two existing schools (River Islands Technology Academy and Next Generation STEAM Academy). River Islands residents, residents of the Banta Unified School District, and families with students already enrolled in the River Islands Academies have top priority in attending the charter schools at River Islands.

A separate part of the EPIC Academy campus has been set aside for the students of the River Islands High School Ninth Grade Academy. Opening the Ninth Grade Academy in August, 2022, allows the students graduating from River Islands Technology Academy and the Next Generation STEAM Academy an uninterrupted academic and social experience, all consistent with the vision of the River Islands Academies.

For safety, as heavy construction goes on at the permanent high school site, the Ninth Grade Academy students will go to classes and participate in student activities geared for the high schooler at the EPIC Academy campus for the 2022-2023 academic year. A complete list of classes, sports activities and electives will be posted at the River Islands Academies website in March.

In August 2023, the 9th and 10th grade classes will move over to the new high school campus. In August, 2024, the eleventh grade classrooms will open.

In August, 2025 River Islands High School will house 9th-12th grades and all of its academic, sports, arts, and social activities will be available to all of its students.

For questions about River Islands High School, contact us at rainfo@riacademies.net



EPIC Academy Rendering



River Islands High School Rendering

YEAR ENDS WITH INDIVIDUAL GIFTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARTICIPATION

The weeks from Thanksgiving until the end of the year were filled with activities geared toward helping the local community and creating new bonds of friendship among neighborhoods:

365 DAYS OF GIVING



The River Islands 365 Days of Giving program collected food items for the Second Harvest Food Bank from bins at the Executive Office, Welcome Center and the Lathrop-Manteca Fire Station 35. Once again, our residents provided many families in the local area

with daily necessities and holiday treats during the holiday season. The program is called 365 Days of Giving because we understand that many food banks have a surge of contributions during the holiday season, and then have few items to share as the year goes on. By having the food bins available at our fire station, at the end of Somerston Drive all year round, our residents are able to help the hungry every day of the year.

THE GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree, now in its fifth year, again provided gifts to children in the greater Lathrop community. Every single name was picked from the tree, and the wrapped gifts that came back overflowed the lobby until they were picked up for distribution a few days before Christmas.

LIGHT UP THE ISLANDS

Neighbors banded together to light up the community Christmas Tree and get photos taken with Santa. Many of the photos were shared on the Residents Facebook Page. Photos and videos of the neighborhood holiday lighting project showed off the ingenuity, artistic (and electrical) talent of our neighbors, and culminated in prizes to the winning homes. (See photos below)

Light up the Islands is always such a tremendous success because of the sheer energy and joy our neighbors put into brightening up our community! Thanks to all for such a beautiful expression of community spirit!



*First Place winner:
18291 Melones Dr.*



Second Place winner: 1772 Harker Court



Third Place winner: 17774 Brandeis Court

YEAR ENDS WITH INDIVIDUAL GIFTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARTICIPATION (con't)

OLIVE HARVEST A SUCCESS

Once again, Susan and Ron Dell'Oso opened the gates to Dell'Oso Family Farm to invite residents in to pick olives one very cold December morning. For the best quality oil, olives must be pressed within 24 hours of picking, and we are grateful that our local bottler could make room in a very busy seasonal schedule to accept the harvest for bottling. Those residents who participated in the olive harvest will be contacted when the olive oil is pressed and bottled, for pickup some time in March.

The Dell'Ossos surprised the residents participating in the program with the offer to pick bags of citrus fruits that were also ready for harvest at no cost—if they were also willing to pick some fruit for Second Harvest Food Bank. A great accomplishment for all involved, and lots of fresh citrus went on to the families that Second Harvest serves.



AVALON BY TRUMARK HOMES COMING IN JANUARY

Trumark Homes has acquired the largest lots available to date at River Islands for some of the largest and most luxurious homes in the master plan. Two neighborhoods, one built on a park and another on a lake, will be offered in 2022. The first, called Avalon, is opening in January for previews of its three plans—one single story and two two-story plans, with three to five bedrooms. Home sizes range from 2827 square feet for the single story home to 4,191 square feet for a 5-bedroom, two story residence. Avalon will have a neighborhood park and access to the 18-mile trail system that will ultimately encircle all of River Islands. Avalon's sales trailer (the aquarium inside is a must-see) is located along River Islands Parkway, just past the Breakwater neighborhood.



Avalon - Plan 1 Approx. 2827 Sq. Ft.



Avalon - Plan 2 Approx. 3764 Sq. Ft.