

AUGUST 2011

## The Felton Grove Road Association is 15 years old this year!

Before 1996, roads here were in generally bad shape, little more than dirt roads, pot holed and overgrown in places due to lack of maintenance, and without any street signs of any kind. We also had a reputation with local realtors, some of whom would avoid showing properties in the Grove. The Post Office was about to discontinue our mail box service out of concern for the safety of mail carriers and trucks. In response, we came together as a community to get and keep the roads repaired.

Founded in Winter of 1996, we started out as just a road association, collecting fees door-to-door and hoping we could pull enough money together to get the roadwork done that was most pressing. We quickly realized that we need a more effective and reliable collection method if we were truly going to take care of the roads for the long run and maintain the improvements we were making.

We started discussing long range improvements and the formation of a County Service Area (CSA) so we would be able to finance those improvements. As we worked together to get repairs done and road conditions improved, we felt more pride in our neighborhood and a closer sense of community developed. Local realtors were more willing to show property here.

Then the floods of February 1998 happened! Our roads and community suffered quite a blow, but the Road Association was determined to keep moving forward on road issues even if we were still dealing with flood related problems. With the help of some local grants, the CSA was put in place, street signs went up, roads were repaired and other improvements were done. Packard Foundation alone gave over \$33,000 to help our recovery and repair.

Then we got confirmation of the funding of the FEMA house elevation program, which was great for the community but not for our roads. The Association decided to set aside long range plans, and just fill potholes and basic repairs until the construction was over. We didn't realize the house raising process would take more than 8 years.

**Now it is time for us to start to discuss where we want to go from here. Please join us at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, September 6. Your participation in the process is vital!**

**We hope to see you there!**

*The FGRA Core Committee*

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## Heads Up in the Neighborhood: Safety Reminders

**A 5 mile per hour speed limit** is posted throughout the Grove to make drivers aware of the need to slow way down when driving through our neighborhood. We have children, animals, and other drivers who are put at risk by those speeding. Please remind your guests of this as well.

**Cars parked on the street** may create dangerous driving conditions by constricting the passage of cars, trucks, and emergency vehicles. Please park vehicles on your property where possible.

**Be aware of the STOP signs which regulate traffic at the blind corners** at Sylvan Way right onto Circle Drive, Park Avenue right onto River Road, and River Road right onto Circle Drive.