

The Perry Park

Sentinel

APRIL 2018

THIS IS THE PERRY PARK SENTINEL

Not long ago, I suggested someone write up his concerns about a local issue for the next *Sentinel* edition. "I didn't know we could do that," he said. As far as the *Sentinel* is concerned, "we" can do just about anything we please. It has always been a free, community newsletter supported by donations and local

advertisers and produced by volun-

teers.

Several years ago, we had to go digital because printing and mailing costs had become prohibitive. These days, the biggest expense we have is paying Gari to do the layout and create the PDF. We are still supported only by donations and local advertisers, and, believe me, we are still decidedly non-profit! When it was mailed, the newsletter reached about 1800 homes. These days, we have no idea how many people it reaches-maybe six? Maybe sixty? Maybe 600? I guess 6000 is a stretch! Feedback would be nice. Do you read it? Do your neighbors? We really would like to know!

So who owns the Sentinel? We do. All of us who read it and produce it. I am currently the default decision maker because there's no one else around willing to do it. In years past, we had associate editors who could step in and take over, who helped (over coffee or a glass of wine!) de-

cide what went in and what didn't, how we handled complaints about advertisers, etc.

The last involved associate editor moved away several years

ago. No one else stepped forward. These days we have some really good proofreaders—probably more important in the long run than decision makers!—and some long-time columnists. We also have some reporters who keep us apprised of what goes on in various areas, LFPD, water district, the Lark-

spur Moms' group, etc. Historians and hikers have published in these pages. In the last several issues we've had articles from local wildlife rehabilitators who are trying to educate us about all the wildlife babies being born in our area! Beary Bear drops by for part of the year to explain living in bear country—check out his return from hibernation in this issue!

These are simply people who have something to say that they want to share with the community. Surely there are others of you out there with something to say that might be of interest to your neighbors, so why not share your thoughts with *Sentinel* readers? Be factual or be creative. Poems print just as easily as reports. Photographs are welcomed as well—though I do keep stealing them from the Larkspur Facebook pages!

Submission is easy. Write it up; email it to Sentineleditor10@msn.com. And don't worry about where the commas go and how to spell "schism." Getting that stuff right is

my job—and I have several really good helpers who are adept at such things! You job is communicating with your neighbors—entertain, educate, share. All participation encouraged! ~KDale

