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## Cohousing in the News

### Growing Demand for Cohousing Leads Fannie Mae to Update FAQ's

*Fannie Mae, the entity that sets the standards for home mortgages across the country, now recognizes cohousing in their lender guidelines. This effort to petition Fannie Mae was spearhead by the U.S. Cohousing Association and our development consultant, Katie McCamant of CoHousing Solutions. Kudos to Katie for putting this exciting milestone in motion!*

**This is big news!** Why? Because it validates what we already know to be true about cohousing. That these communities are part of the new cooperative economy and are predicted to expand rapidly in the next few decades. That buying into cohousing is a solid investment, as these homes hold their value extremely well and communities experience very few foreclosures.



The mutual support we build in our communities reduces financial risk, and good neighbors make for a more fun time in general! [Read More On Cohousing.org](#)



### Faces Not Fenders: 5 Reasons to Consider Joining a Cohousing Community

Mary Claus of FO EcoHousing collaborated with Jenny of CoHousing Solutions to write a piece for *The Good Trade*! Based out of L.A., this blog's aim is to search for the brands, products and ideas creating positive social change. It's certainly fitting to count cohousing in this category, as these communities are ideal social laboratories for bubbling up great conversations about sustainable living, and partnering with our neighbors to build more conscious communities together.

*Faces Not Fenders:* The sense of community created in these neighborhoods is the secret ingredient of sustainability, enabling



people to have a collective impact, being good stewards together with their neighbors. Such a lively neighborhood means residents can socialize close to home, and parents can reduce the endless back-and-forth of shuttling their kids to playdates.

[Click here to read \*The Good Trade\* blog](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Fair Oaks EcoHousing Site Tour: Saturday, November 12th

**Fair Oaks EcoHousing** will be a beautiful neighborhood of 30 homes on 3.7 acres in Fair Oaks, CA, 18 miles east of downtown Sacramento. We're looking for the rest of our future neighbors! Come see the site and our architectural plans at an upcoming tour.



Meet at **10:30 am** at the **Fair Oaks Coffeehouse** in Fair Oaks Village, located at 10223 Fair Oaks Blvd, at the intersection with Park Drive. Look for us on the side of the Coffeehouse, in the patio area or in the building at the back. We can carpool to the site. The tour will last about an hour, with an optional lunch afterwards at the [Siam Patio Restaurant](#) or the [Smokey Oaks Tavern](#). Group members will lead the tour of our beautiful property. Kids are welcome.

Can't join us that day? An additional tour will be offered on **Saturday,**

**December 10th!**

To sign up, contact **Linda Tanforan** at **(916) 359-3742** or [lmtanforan@gmail.com](mailto:lmtanforan@gmail.com)

### Environmentalist of the Year Awards: Wednesday, November 16th

**Hosted by the Environmental Council of Sacramento, Marty Maskall and FO EcoHousing will be honored at this event!**



Join us from **6:30-8:30 pm** (reception with live music at **5:30**) at **Sierra 2 Center for the Arts and Community, Curtis Hall: 2791 24th St, Sacramento.**

As a special treat, at **7:15 pm** Sacramento's Mayor-Elect Darrell Steinberg will share his environmental vision for Sacramento.

This event is a time to celebrate and recognize our local successes in achieving regional and community sustainability and a healthy environment for all.

Attendees will enjoy wine made by Moniz Family Wines, as well as light, healthy refreshments (provider to be announced) and live music by Midtown Jazz at the 5:30 reception. [Click here to purchase tickets.](#)

## Community-Building Potluck: Sunday, November 20th



This will be a casual time to meet each other, break bread, and talk more about cohousing. First-time guests don't need to bring a dish to the potluck. Food and drinks will be provided.

Join us at **6:00 pm** in **Fair Oaks** (RSVP for address).

Family-friendly: kids are welcome.

RSVP to **Linda Tanforan** at **(916) 359-3742** or [lmtanforan@gmail.com](mailto:lmtanforan@gmail.com)

## Welcome to Joy Reichard!

*We're happy to introduce Joy, who is - coincidentally - already an office neighbor to our site! Next month you'll get to know the newest couple to join our group, Michelle and Alan.*



**JOY REICHARD** has lived most of her life in California, except for a three year stint in New York. She joined Vista (Volunteers in Service to America) when she was twenty. While serving, Joy fell in love with another volunteer. She married him, and they raised her two sons, who have given her three wonderful grandchildren.

Joy found her niche in Human Resources doing recruitment and placement for a biotech company in the Bay Area. After 20 years in various positions, she was laid off. She went back to school for a Master's Degree in Women's Spirituality and certificates as a Clinical Hypnotherapist and a Reiki Master. More recently, Joy has become licensed as an Interfaith Minister.

Since 2003, she has brought joy to others with her practice of coaching, hypnotherapy, and Reiki. As a minister's daughter, she's had a life-long interest in spirituality. In 2007, Joy founded a women's circle called 'In Her Name' which celebrates the Divine Feminine and the divinity and empowerment of all women. Joy wrote a book entitled *Celebrate the Divine Feminine, Reclaim Your Power with Ancient Goddess Women*.

In 2016, Joy moved to Fair Oaks to set herself up for the next stage of her life. She found Fair Oaks EcoHousing and realized she wanted to spend the next phase of her life with the community. Joy is a bit of a trail blazer, and she loves

being part of the team that is developing this amazing family-oriented cohousing development. Learn more about Joy at [JoyReichard.com](http://JoyReichard.com).

## Stress Free Living in Community

Have you ever wondered, just how does a group of people with diverse backgrounds, jobs, hobbies and priorities gain clarity and focus to build a collaborative, supportive community together in cohousing? With practice and patience! **Community-building is both a learning and giving process...**and members Marty Maskall & Al Lampell had opportunities for both recently. They bring back tips and tricks for collaboration to our wider community.

Al presented at the **West Coast Communities Conference** in Yorkville, CA offering a session on "How to Live a Long & Healthy Stress-Free Life in Community." A conference goal: build stronger intentional communities through learning and deep conversations.

Marty traveled to Arizona to attend an excellent weekend retreat on **Dealing with Diverse Personalities**. Held at Arcosanti ([an exciting urban laboratory](#) north of Phoenix), she enjoyed the instruction, the people, and

the place. The weekend gave her new perspectives and skills to work with different points of view. She said the Retreat was fun, too!



### **Want to Learn More About Fair Oaks and Sacramento?**

*Click below for useful links, there's a lot to keep us busy here!*

*Pictured above: Fair Oaks Village, Fair Oaks Theatre Festival, Floating the American River.*

[Fair Oaks Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Fair Oaks Events via Sac Bee](#)

[Fun Things to Do in Fair Oaks](#)

[Fair Oaks Parks & Rec Activities & Events](#)



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