

Mediterrania Homeowners Assn.

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

MEDITERRANIAHOA.COM

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NOTE: To contact the Mediterrania Board or an individual Board member, please send an email to Mediterrania@Cox.net. If you are sending to a particular board member, please put their name in the subject line.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Craig Whited*

WELCOME. Despite inclement weather, we started 2024 with one of the best attended annual meetings in our history on February 4th at the remodeled Café at UCLA-South Bay. During the meeting we heard from the Chief Operating & Financial Officer of UCLA - South Bay, Steve Yu, and the Mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes, John Cruikshank. While the UCLA campus looks like it is ready to accept students, Mr. Yu reported that the plans for the Fall Quarter '24 are still under development. Not surprisingly, Mayor Cruikshank spoke at some length about the City's mitigation efforts on the land movement that has been exacerbated by the heavier than normal rains the last couple of years. It's a challenging situation, and the City is lobbying the Governor's Office to declare a state of emergency to speed up the process of releasing allocated grant monies.

What's new?

- We have a new Board Member, Brent Schrippa, who is joining our Safety and Security Committee. Let's welcome him.
- We are working with the City Department of Public Works on a plan for possible new traffic controls to make the entrance and exit from Mediterrania at the Ganado-PV Drive East entrance as safe as possible. As you might have observed, we have had several injury accidents at this intersection, and the increased Sheriff's Department patrols on the

switchbacks have yet to slow the trend of increasing "T" bone accidents at this corner and on the switchbacks generally.

- The Ladera Linda Community Center is open and we are planning to have our next Annual Meeting there on February 2, 2025. Please mark your calendars.
- We will have an early fall Wine & Cheese get together in October and intend to invite all of the candidates running for City Council to attend.
- We have implemented an MHOA Membership sticker program for members' vehicles to identify those vehicles to the LASD as members in the MHOA when they are detected by our security cameras and to neighbors so they are not mistaken as vehicles that do not belong in the neighborhood.
- We are now in the second year of Annual Defensible Fire Space Inspection program mandated by the state government. Please see the article in the newsletter on this year's inspection emphasis.

Not a member yet? Please see the last page of the newsletter for membership instructions. All residents can be members (renters as associate members and homeowners as voting members). How do you know if you or a neighbor is a member? Just look for their name on the back page of this newsletter or the MHOA ID sticker on the back window of their car. If you are interested in joining the Board or would like to attend a Board Meeting, we would welcome your participation. Please contact me in advance with your topic of interest, and we will arrange for your attendance. Please check out our website www.mediterraniahoa.com for meeting details.

MEDITERRANIA SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE *by Brent Schirripa*

Since January 1st, 2024 there have been 164 reported Part 1 crimes in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. These crimes stretch burglary (69), grand theft (48), petty theft (36), robbery (8), assault (2), and arson (1). Thankfully, none of these crimes were reported in the Mediterrania HOA area. If you would like to see where these crimes are happening, visit the City of Rancho Palos Verdes Crime Reporting website: <https://www.rpvca.gov/1030/Crime-Reports-Mapping>

The Lomita Sheriff Department is responsible for policing the Rancho Palos Verdes peninsula. They have published simple steps to take to avoid being a victim of a property crime: (1) Lock all windows and doors, including garage doors and your vehicle. (2) Turn on exterior lights or set them on a timer so your home looks occupied even if you are away. (3) Remove valuables from plain view in your vehicle and through the windows of your home. (4) If you see something suspicious, say something! Always be aware of your surroundings. Recognize what is normal for your neighborhood and what is not, and report any suspicious activity immediately to the Lomita Sheriff's Station by calling (310) 539-1661, or 9-1-1 in an emergency.

The MHOA continues to strive to make our community the safest in California. MHOA does that in a number of ways that includes providing Flock Safety's license plate reader cameras, deploying a neighborhood watch program, providing vehicle stickers to identify cars that belong to MHOA, and educating the community of safety and security procedures and concerns.

There has been an increase in the number of complaints that cars and motorcycles are traveling at excessive speeds both within Mediterrania HOA and the surrounding area ~ especially the switchbacks of PV Drive East. From a City perspective, the Traffic Committee is aware of the issue. We have also requested that the Sheriff increase education and enforcement of existing speeding laws. It is very important that residents call the Sheriff's Dept. non-emergency number – 310-539-1661 – whenever speeding motorcycles or cars are observed and provide the deputy with the make, model, and license plate number (if known) of the speeding vehicle.

MHOA will continue to publish safety tips in our newsletter, share crime statistics and highlight community policies that enhance safety. Thank you all for helping make our neighborhood one of the safest in California.

LADERA LINDA – OPEN FOR BUSINESS AT LONG LAST *by Jim Hevener*

Whether it was an omen or just good luck, there is at least one thing everyone can agree upon – the rain broke and it was a beautiful Friday afternoon for the re-opening of the Ladera Linda Community Center. With the Mayor, Council, City Manager, local Cub Scouts Pack 955, and approximately 300 residents in attendance, the ribbon was cut, and the Community Center and Park were officially opened for business.

Many families arrived early to enjoy the new playground, tucked in the rear of the Park away from adjacent neighbors. And many residents stayed late, to tour the striking Community Center set into the landscape with ocean views from the large multi-purpose room, classrooms, and revamped Discovery Center. It was an opportunity to consider the many years of effort by residents who supported and opposed the Project, ultimately resulting in a design and use restrictions which struck a balance between use and respect for the neighbors. And it was an opportunity to discuss local issues with the City Manager and Council Members who, we hope, will hold meetings on this side of the Hill where more of our residents will participate and make their voices heard.

Since the opening, your Board has received mostly favorable comments including from residents who attended the opening or have since visited the facility to walk their dogs (leash only please), or play paddle tennis or basketball.

Ladera Linda ← page 2

We have had questions, both positive and negative, about the potential use of the facility as a wedding venue. While it certainly would be a beautiful spot for a wedding, the CUP for the facility makes clear that (out of respect for the neighbors) the Community Center and Park will not become a wedding venue or location for loud or unruly events. It will, however, be a location bringing residents young and old together for decades to come. Indeed, residents and groups already are lining up to make reservations. And, while we hope everyone from Mediterranean visits frequently, mark your calendar for February 2, 2025, when your MHOA Annual Meeting will take place at the Ladera Linda Community Center.



MHOA ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting was a huge success thanks to speakers Steve Wu, COO of UCLA South Bay and Mayor John Cruikshank. Over 65 people attended the meeting at the UCLA South Bay Campus even through the rain storm. Mark your calendars for the 2025 Annual Meeting on February 2, 2025 to be held at Ladera Linda.

ANNUAL DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTION PROGRAM *by Lois Karp*

Did you receive your LACO FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL DEFENSIBLE SPACE CLEARANCE NOTICE? Rancho Palos Verdes is considered a "Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZs)." On your next property tax bill, you will see a charge of \$151. This was approved by the LA County Board of Supervisors to cover the cost of the inspections. Inspections will take place in our area in June. You do not have to be home. All homeowners will receive a Compliance letter mailed to their home or an inspection report showing violations that must be corrected (non-compliance). There will be a follow-up inspection after 30-days. Non-compliance after the second inspection will trigger an Administrative Fine of \$500 and \$990 Abatement Enforcement Fee.

For the best detailed information about the inspections and what the process entails, go to the LACO Fire website <http://fire.lacounty.gov/fire-hazard-reduction-programs/>. This year they will be focusing on the removal of all vegetation within the first 5 feet of your structure (Zone 1).

Additionally, many residents are having trouble with renewal of their Fire Insurance. There is a comprehensive letter, prepared by RPV that you can share with your insurance company. This letter points out what measures RPV has taken to enhance its wildfire management capabilities. The letter can be obtained on the City's website: <http://rpvca.gov/1344/Home-Fire-Insurance-Questions-and-resour>

TREASURER'S REPORT *by George Crudge*

On behalf of the Mediterranean Home Owners Association, I would like to acknowledge and to extend my appreciation to the members who have paid their annual dues of \$50.00. Below is the list of paid members for 2024 as of March 15th. Your \$50.00 membership annual dues will go a long way towards keeping our community safe and help in the beautification of the main entrance of the Mediterranean neighborhood. Our Flock Security cameras require funds to be paid for the annual lease agreement. The license plate and MHOA sticker imaged captured from the Flock Security Camera enables law enforcement in their duties and vigilance in providing safety and security more effectively 24 hours every day for quick identification.

Your membership dues are strictly 100% voluntary but critical in our goal and mission as MHOA Board members to keep our community safe and to maintain the beautification of our main entrance. I encourage all of you to be active members and continue to support MHOA members through your financial contribution and moral support. The new MHOA sticker provided is to be placed on your vehicle's rear right hand corner. Refer to the illustration. Each paid member household is entitled to two complimentary stickers. Additional stickers are available for \$5.00. If members did not receive stickers, they can be picked up on, Sunday, April 14, between 11am - 2 pm at the driveway of Lois Karp (31115 Ganado Drive, RPV). If you would like to join the MHOA and pick up your stickers at the same time, you can also do this on April 14th. If needed, please contact me if you need further assistance: George Crudge, MHOA Treasurer, 2015 Coolheights Drive, RPV CA 90275, (661) 713-5260.



Ajang, Mahmoud
Bakar, Samaan & Caroline
Barger, Joe
Bertolina, James & Nelly
Boa, Willie
Bozin, Milivoj & Barbara
Bozler, Hans & Diane
Brar, Harminder & Suminder
Brinton/Uchima, Stephanie & Darrell
Brinton, Stephanie
Canfield, Pearl
Casares/Davis, Michael & Daniel
Cerami, John
Chargaff, Barbara & Thomas
Chelini/Kennel, Al & Judi
Crudge, George & Shara
Cyr, Tom & Suzy
Deraney, Fred & Arpy
Dontscheff/Mautner, Tony & Silvia
Drake, Marilyn & Liana

Dunn, Jean & Roger
Estes/Walston, Sue & Jack
Estes/Walton, Sue & Jack
Fang, Chun
Flachner/Romano, Stewart & M. Amparo
Folk, Tom and Dona
Goel, Arun & Krishna
Gross, Morrie & Sharon
Grotz, Arlene
Guerra, Susan & Anthony
Gugliuzza, Thomas & Beverly
Hanner, Lillian & Becky
Hansen, Wayne & Gwynn
Hartman, Kirk & Judy
Harvey/Sulkowski, Bruce & Amy
Hevener, James & Vanessa
Hibbsman, Nora
Higinbotham, Mark & Jennifer
Hill, Deirdre
Holmberg, Rayana & Michael

Honkawa, Tony & Yumi
Hove, Ralph & Marilyn
Jankovich, Todd & Maureen
Karp, Lois
Kerolos, Kamal & Dalia
Kim, Brian & Susy
Klopfer, John & Jean
Kobayashi, Mariko
Kochanowski, Joyce
Kollar, Bob
Lam, David & Dominique
Li, Loretta
Marshall, Arthur
McAlpine, Col. Aubry & Patricia
Miller, Dean & Patricia
Mitre, Greg & Carmen
Morris, Carol & Gregory
Muller, Kurt & Irene
Ott, Don & Patty
Parker, Gail & Robert
Pekich, Don & Joyce

Peterson, Jennette & Dionne
Peterson, John & Pam
Phan, Can Quang & Nga Thien
Phillips, Todd Aaron
Pichler, Remo & Vivian
Redfield, Marty
Riedman, Betty
Scherba, Mark & Barbara
Schirripa, Brent & Nadine
Sheth, Bharti
Shiraishi/Nikolaenko, Steve & Liana
Snyder, Alice & Edward
Soldoff, Stephen & Susan
Ueda, Kevin & Nikki
Unmack, James & Olivera
Valot, Tim & Martha
Wang, Michael & Lily
Whited, Craig & Gilda
Wright, Robert & Shirley
Wu, Johnny

(Please cut out and return with your Dues payment)

Mediterrania Homeowners Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2024

Name(s): _____

Check One: Homeowner/Member Renter/Associate Member

Address: _____

Phone(s): (Primary) _____ Other: _____

E-mail(s): (1) _____ (2) _____

Opt-Out (check): I do not wish to receive the newsletter and notifications via email.

Make your **2024** annual dues (**\$50.00**) payable to "Mediterrania HOA" and mail or deliver to: **George Crudge, Treasurer, 3415 Coolheights Drive, RPV, CA 90275**

Thank you for supporting your Mediterranean Homeowners Association!

NOTE: Personal info shown above will never be given, sold, or transferred to any other source. It's for internal use by the Mediterranean HOA for purposes of maintaining member information and dissemination of newsletters and e-alerts.