

Mediterrania Homeowners Assn.

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

MEDITERRANIAHOA.COM

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George Crudge / Brent Schirripa / Hans Bozler

THE EVACUATION ZONE FOR MHOA IS:

**RPV-E0175. Go to the MHOA website to see the
Zone map – mediterraniahoa.com/zone.htm**

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. We started 2025 with a very successful Annual Meeting on February 2 at the remodeled Café at UCLA-South Bay. During the meeting, we heard from newly-elected City Council Member Steve Perestam who gave us an update on the many City Measures being taken in the slide area and along Palos Verdes Drive South and then heard from UCLA – South Bay on their plans to gradually reopen the campus to student activity in the Fall of 2025. During our Annual Meeting, Hans Bozler stepped forward and was elected to the Board.

Since the Annual Meeting, our Board has been heavily involved in recommending to the City Council several measures that can be taken to combat the significant upturn in accidents along Palos Verdes Drive East that resulted in a bloody April when there was a fatal accident on the lower switchbacks on Easter Sunday and one week later a non-fatal collision between a motorcycle and an SUV just below Ganado.

What are we doing about these problems?

- Over the last few years, we have been regularly meeting with City Staff and have worked out a plan to provide a better sightline for drivers making a left turn out of Ganado onto Palos Verdes Drive East and by adding a bike lane to the left of the right-hand turn pocket. Our intent is to reduce the likelihood of outgoing drivers being T-Boned in collisions between the exiting vehicle at Ganado and those driving and riding down the right-hand turn pocket and going straight ahead right through that intersection.

- We have been strongly advocating for significantly greater enforcement of the existing speed limits along PVDE. As of this writing on Memorial Day weekend, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department have initiated a maximum enforcement period and the City has closed all of the parking areas along PVDE on the lower switchbacks where vehicles regularly congregate and posted both no parking and no stopping signs in these areas.
- The City Council has created a special committee consisting of the City Manager, the City Public Safety Manager and the Captain of the LASD Lomita Sheriff's Station to develop a more permanent plan that will encompass enhanced enforcement, speed limit adjustments and other safety measures designed to keep us safer. The participation of the MHOA was pivotal in achieving the interim measures, and it will be crucial that we return in force to ensure that longer term measures are adequate.
- Several of our Board Members have been asked to provide additional input to this committee on new measures that might be considered by the City in developing a more comprehensive plan.

Please read pages two and three of this newsletter for additional information relating to the problems we all face as residents in this area. The State of California has developed a new Fire Map that designates much of Mediterrania as a Very High Fire Severity Zone – see the article on page three with a link to the fire zone map.

Have a great Summer. See you in the Fall at our annual Wine & Cheese get together.



PVD EAST TRAFFIC UPDATE



We had an excellent turnout at the City Council meeting last Tuesday night and want to thank everyone who sent letters to the City Council or made a presentation at the council meeting. The speakers were nearly unanimous in pushing for a reduced speed limit and there was unanimity in the request for significantly increased traffic enforcement.

After discussing the findings of the recent traffic study and questioning the City Staff, the Council approved traffic measures for several segments of Palos Verdes Drive East from Crest Road to Palos Verdes Drive South, with a focus on the Ganado Drive intersection. Approvals included replacing landscaping, installing bike lanes, and upgrading traffic signs and roadway markings. Then the Council postponed for 60 days voting on whether to reduce the speed limit for this stretch of Palos Verdes Drive East, opting instead to first consider the impacts of enhanced traffic law enforcement. A report on these enforcement efforts will go before the Council in July.

Since the current traffic enforcement problems recurred in early 2016 after LASD traffic Deputy Knox retired and was not replaced, the MHOA has been repeatedly asking the LASD and the City Council for action. Starting almost immediately after Knox's retirement, the traffic accident rate accelerated and began climbing toward crisis levels where fatalities and serious injuries along the switchbacks grew in frequency and severity. It has now reached a level that is even worse than the level that originally prompted the hiring of a dedicated traffic deputy nearly a decade prior. Below is a portion of the LASD Advisory from May 2016 that gave us the promise of reversing the climbing accident rate, but the actions in this announced Advisory never seemed to gain traction, and it was seemingly abandoned (for the full Advisory go to <https://tinyurl.com/h9pjm7zt>).

We all need to remind our elected representatives that the southern section of Palos Verdes Drive East is one of the most dangerous stretches of road in Los Angeles County, and that the frequency and severity of fatalities and serious injury accidents is accelerating.



LASD - Lomita Station, Los Angeles County Sheriff

Wednesday May 11th, 2016 :: 02:05 p.m. PDT

Advisory

Lomita Sheriff's To Crackdown on Speeders & Noise on Switchbacks in Rancho Palos Verdes

Deputies from Lomita Station are stepping up traffic enforcement on Palos Verdes Drive East, particularly the area known as "The Switchbacks," between Crest Road and Palos Verdes Drive South in Rancho Palos Verdes. This stretch of roadway has become increasingly popular with motorcyclists and sports car enthusiasts from all over the region, drawing complaints of speeding, unsafe passing, reckless driving, and excessive engine noise. The noise generated by illegally-modified motorcycle exhaust systems is a major quality of life concern and infringes on the peace and tranquility of nearby residential neighborhoods.

In addressing these concerns, deputies will increase traffic enforcement in this area, particularly enforcing loud exhaust, speeding, and passing statutes. Our deputies will take a "ZERO TOLERANCE" approach to violations of this nature. Our goal is to protect the users of this roadway and to preserve peace in the community. We also ask all motorists to be mindful of safety on this narrow stretch of road, which is used by bicyclists and pedestrians as well.

MEDITERRANIA SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

by Brent Schirripi

The MHOA continues to strive to make our community the safest in California. Rancho Palos Verdes proudly ranks among the top 15 safest municipalities in the state, with one of the lowest crime rates. To further enhance neighborhood security, MHOA continues to support key safety initiatives, including: 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.

Safety & Fire Update → page 3

Safety & Fire Update ← page 2

In this article, the Safety and Security Committee would like to focus on preparedness for wildfires. In order to be best prepared for wildfires, we recommend to maintain defensible space around your house, harden your home, and to make an evacuation kit

- Create a defensible space by creating a buffer zone around your home, clearing dry vegetation, trimming trees, and removing flammable materials.
- In order to harden your home, please ensure you keep your roof and gutters clean and use fire-resistant materials to protect against windblown embers.
- A well-prepared evacuation kit ensures you can leave quickly and safely in an emergency. Be sure to pack the **5Ps: People, pets, pills, photos, and papers.**
- Lastly, please ensure your homeowner or renters insurance policy includes sufficient coverage for fire and smoke damage. Construction costs have likely increased substantially since your policy was last quoted. Please double check to ensure you have sufficient coverage to rebuild your property and replace your valuables in the event of a fire in this community.

MHOA will continue to publish safety tips in our newsletter. For more information on wildfire preparedness, please visit: rpvca.gov/emergency

FIRE MAINTENANCE REPORT *by Hans Bozler* -- The tragic fires of January acted as a wake up for communities in all of Southern California. CalFire updated its fire hazard maps statewide and the Palos Verdes cities are now in the region of highest susceptibility to wildfire damage. The new fire hazard map on our website (mediterraniahoa.com/zone.htm#firemap) and shows most of Meditteranea in the Very High Fire Severity Zone (VHFSZ red) with a few in the HFSZ. Homeowners will be responsible for maintaining and, where possible, “hardening” the structure to the degree possible.

Los Angeles County fire Inspections of Defensible Space in our area are scheduled to start in early June (for details see <https://tinyurl.com/4uh3f6j3>) A good resource for upgrading fire safety is the Defensible Space booklet 32023.pdf found on the link above. Additional information comes from the California Department of Insurance <https://tinyurl.com/mpsuj34>. Upcoming inspections are more likely to be more rigorous than the previous two years but still concentrate on the 5 ft closest to the house as well as overhanging branches, attached vines, large vegetation along property lines and debris around and under structures.

The first 5 ft may be a challenge for many homes, basically removing anything that can burn (plastic pots, plastic or wood furniture, plastic trash cans, etc.).

For most of us, we should be checking that all vents are covered with tighter screens on basement crawl space, attic vents, and roof vents. (No longer 1/4 inch mesh, should be 1/8 mesh)

Some improvements that can also be considered.

- Siding and garage doors should be fireproof. Fiber cement (e.g. Hardiboard is fireproof, waterproof, and termite proof.)
- Remove wood up to 6+ inches from the ground. Replace with non-flammable filler.
- Upgraded windows (Double paned or added shutters)
- Enclosed eaves

All of these improvements enable discounts for homeowners that or on the Fair Plan, but are equally effective for all homes. See: <https://tinyurl.com/yzxv2hta>

SWALE MAINTENANCE REMINDER: It's time to clean drainage swales that become full of debris. It is the property owner's responsibility to maintain a drainage swale so that it functions properly. Improperly maintained drainage swales can result in property damage. The Municiple Code does NOT permit the construction of any structure within or above a drainage Swale or a slope equal to 35% or greater. This includes decks, stairs or structures of any kind.

PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR LEARNING



The Miraleste Early Learning Academy's Pre-School, located at 6245 Via Canada in RPV, features part and full day programs.

Interested? Contact 310.732.0922 ext. 200 for more details.

TREASURER'S REPORT *by George Crudge*

On behalf of the Meditterania Home Owners Association, I would like to once again acknowledge the members listed **WHO HAVE ALREADY PAID** their annual dues of \$75.00 for 2025. If your name is **LISTED** below, you are **NOT** required to pay. Once again you have my sincere gratitude and I thank you.

For households who have paid their annual dues of \$75.00, we have made available the new and improved 2025 stickers for your vehicles. If you need to pick them up, I will be available Saturday, June 28, from 9-11:00 AM in my driveway. Refer to my address below.

Treasurer's Report → page 4

Treasurer's Report ← page 3

On another note: Driving towards the entrance of Mediterrania Neighborhood you may have noticed four new signs that identify the Flock Camera 24 HRS Surveillance (East of the intersection side of Palos Verdes Drive East and Ganado Drive x2, West of Floweridge Drive and Ganado Drive x1, Ganado Drive and Bendigo Drive x1). These were installed earlier this year. Wayne and Gwynn Hansen graciously donated the necessary funds to design and manufacture these four signs for the community. Please extend your appreciation to them.



I encourage you to continue to inform our neighbors of all the benefits the annual dues contribute towards. Flock Cameras for security, one annual dinner engagement, stickers for your vehicle, Newsletters during the year, beautification of the front entrance and theme decorations for the holidays. For those that have not paid, please use the envelopes provided and know your funds will contribute towards further enhancement of our community, entertainment for social events and provide the security necessary with the Flock Cameras.

MHOA Treasurer : George Crudge. 3415 Coolheights Drive, RPV CA 90275. (661) 713-5260.

Check, cash, or Zelle (georgecrudge@rocketmail.com for identification)

Ajang, Mahmoud & Nasrin
Aroesty, Jonathan & Margie
Bakar, Simone & Carole
Ball, Christopher & Christine
Bao, Willie & Georgina
Barger, Joseph
Bauchman, Mort & Peggy
Beresford, Dean & Laura
Berkson, Richard & Andrea
Bertolina, Jim & Nelly
Bozin, Milivoj & Barbara
Bozler, Hans & Dianne
Brinton / Uchima, Stephanie & Darrell
Casares/Davis, Michael & Daniel
Cerami / Fagar, John & Rosemary
Chargaff, Tom & Barbara
Chelini/Kennel, Albert/Judi
Clinehens (Canfield trust), Beverley (Pearl's trustee)
Crudge, George & Shara
Cyr, Tom & Suzy
Deraney, Fred & Arpy
Dontscheff, Anton
Dunn, Roger & Jean
Estes / Walston, Susan and Jack
Ferraro, Charles & Barbara
Fischer, Jesse & Kamilah

Flachner & Romano, Stewart & Amparo
Folk, Tom & Delicia
Goel, Arun & Krishna
Grotz, Arline & Geoffrey
Guerra, Susan and Anthony
Gugliuzza, Thomas & Beverly
Hanner, Lillian & Becky
Hansen, Wayne & Gwynn
Hartman, Kirk & Judy
Harvey / Sulkowski, Bruce & Amy
Hashimoto, Jerry & Kinu
Hebert, Michael & Dori
Hebert, Thomas & Marcie
Hevener, James & Vanessa
Hibbsman, Nora
Higinbotham, Mark & Jennifer
Hill, Deirdre
Holmberg, Michael & Rayna
Hong/Hochedez, Kaylee & Benoit
Honkawa, Tony & Yumi
Hove, Ralph & Marilyn
James, Loretta
Jankovich, Todd & Maureen
Karp, Lois
Kerkeb and Maslouh, Loubna & Najib
Keroles, Kamal & Dalia

Kim, Jihee
Kim, Jay & Sophia
Kim / Yu, Brian & Susy
Klopfer, John & Jean
Kobayashi, Mariko
Kochanowski, Joyce
Kollar, Bob & Janice
Lam, David & Dominique
Li, Loretta
Mathews, John & Munja
Mathews, Munda
McAlpine, (Col.) Aubry & Patricia
Miller, Dean & Patti
Mock, Ted & Mary Jo
Moon & Kim, Jung & Yoosook
Moore, Jean & Robert
Morris, Gregory & Carol
Muller, Kurt & Irene
Nutter, Jennifer
O Connor, John
Ortolano, Joan
Ott, Don & Patty
Pekich, Don & Joyce
Petersen, John & Pam
Peterson, Jeannette & Dionne
Phan / Thien, Can Quang & Nga
Phillips, Todd
Pichler, Remo & Viviana

Razepoor / Safavi, Nasser & Marjan
Redfield, Marty
Requicha, Shain
Riedman, Betty
Scherba, Mark & Barbara
Schirripa, Brent & Nadine
Schulz/Mathews, Matthew & Kesha
Sharar, Joe
Sheth, Bharti
Shirley, David & Beth
Sichan, Alicia
Singh, Harmen & Dalbir
Smith, Nina
Snyder, Ed & Alice
Soldoff, Stephen & Susan
Stevens, Michael & Kathy
Stewart, Marc & Joy
Ueda, Kevin & Nikki
Unmack/Radovanovic, James & Olivera
Valot, Timothy & Martha
Waggoner, Susan
Wang, Michael & Lily
Whited, Craig & Gilda
Wolff, Marie
Wong, Juliet
Woo, Katherine
Wright, Robert & Shirley

(Please cut out and return with your Dues payment)

Mediterrania Homeowners Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2025

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 **2025** annual dues (\$75.00) payable to "Mediterrania HOA" and mail or deliver to: **George Crudge, Treasurer, 3415 Coolheights Drive, RPV, CA 90275**

Thank you for supporting your Mediterrania 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 Mediterrania HOA for purposes of maintaining member information and dissemination of newsletters and e-alerts.