

Castellammare Mesa Home Owners
NEWSLETTER October, 2012

- **THE COMMUNITY PICNIC**, on September 23 was another great success, thanks to the volunteers who put it together and all of our neighbors who attended. Joan and Harvey Rochman plan and organize the entire picnic, Laura Gerson planned the fun children's activities and Andrew and Cheryl Lynn Furgatch, who live at the end of Coperto, opened up their gates to allow the children to play on their trampoline and swing set. Our Firemen from Station 23 showed up with their fire and paramedic truck which the children always enjoy. A very big thank you to you all! Especially to Joan and Harvey who work so hard every year both before and during the picnic to make it such a great community event.

Although Councilman Rosendahl could not attend the picnic due to illness, he sent John Gregory, Legislative Deputy, in his place. John was able to meet a lot of our neighbors and answer many questions for them. The biggest concern from the community was (and is) how Councilman Rosendahl is doing with his battle with cancer.

- As most of you know, **COUNCILMAN ROSENDAHL** has decided not to run for City Council. Our community has been well served by him and his wonderful staff and we will miss him. We sincerely wish him strength in his battle with cancer. Mike Bonin from his staff has decided to run in his place, and Councilman Rosendahl is endorsing him. We hope to have Mr. Bonin at our Annual General Meeting in February to meet the community.
- **FUNDRAISING FOR THE FIREMEN'S REFRIGERATOR** is going well. The community has given generously to the fund to date, with many more pledging to send in their donations. In addition, the Getty and Waldorf Westside School have pledged generous donations and other HOA's in the area are involved and raising money as well. Thank you to everyone who has given so far! We have a total of over \$5,500 either given or pledged and we hopefully will reach our goal of \$8-10,000 soon.
- **VIEW-BLOCKING FOLIAGE** - This is one of the biggest homeowner complaints. If your trees or foliage are blocking your neighbor's view, please trim them. You don't need to cut them down, a good pruning will most likely do the job! Don't take away the view that added hundreds of thousands of dollars to the original purchase price of your neighbor's home. When comparable prices are calculated by a lender, view-blocking foliage affects the value of everyone's property. Please be a good neighbor.

- **TREASURER'S REPORT** - We currently have a total of \$11,588 in our General Checking Account, \$6,123 in our Legal Defense Fund and \$14,229 in our Money Market Account for a total balance of \$31,940. To date, 158 households have paid their yearly dues of \$85, which is the highest number in recent years.

CMHO is doing the accounting for the Los Liones and Castle Rock Planting Projects, which have a total balance of \$6,288. CMHO is also doing accounting for the Firemen's Refrigerator Fund, which has a total balance of \$1435.

Sincerely, Doug McCormick, Treasurer

- **LADWP TASK FORCE DISTRIBUTING STATION 104:** Kelly Comras is representing CMHO as part of Area 1 for the Pacific Palisades Community Council. The LADWP has posted meeting minutes and handout materials from the first two meetings online at the following web address. Please check website for updates:
https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-power/a-p-projects/a-p-p-distributingstation?_adf.ctrl-state=vps2u6yxs_4&_afLoop=776160952183532

The present set of meetings is scheduled to conclude on November 28.

You may have heard that one of the sites being considered for the distribution station is a 5 acre parcel of the Los Liones Gateway entrance to Topanga State Park. Although DWP inquired about obtaining acreage of the parklands, California State Parks has twice told the DWP that the parkland is not available.

- **LOS LIONES AND CASTLE ROCK BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS** - Progress is ongoing and the gardens are looking well. We could always use people to help out for an hour on Tuesdays at 10am. We have fun working together and it is a nice, short way to make a contribution to the community and get to know your neighbors. How about it? Give Doug McCormick a call at 310-459-1382 if you can lend a hand. Thank you!
- **LOS LIONES STATE PARKS** has been improving the park over the last few months. Temescal Canyon Associates reports that "there is a new ADA trail from the parking lot to the trailhead and a new restroom is completed. There are attractive benches with turnouts where a person in a wheelchair may sit and enjoy the area. At each turnout a new young oak tree has been planted. Another trail has been built across from the mural where a TCA-funded plaque identifying plants and animals on the mural will be installed. The fence at the upper trailhead has been replaced with a beautiful stone wall."

- **WILDLIFE PHONE NUMBER:** Recently a neighbor encountered an injured wild animal and did not know who to call. If you find yourself in this situation, here are phone numbers to assist you:

West LA Animal Services: 888-452-7381 ext. 144

Before 8 am or after hours: Officer Lopez 213-485-0494 & 213-485-0495

California Wildlife Center; 818-591-9453 The hospital will give instructions and determine if they can rescue the animal.

- **CRIME AND SAFETY** - We heard of a burglary on Notteargenta but did not receive a direct report and were told it may have been committed by someone who knew the owner. Nothing was reported to us regarding this burglary via our Senior Lead Officer. Other than this one incidence, we have not been told of any crimes or suspicious activities in the area.

Remember to keep your doors and windows locked at all times, even when you are at home. Be sure to keep nothing of value visible in your cars and lock them. Report all crimes and suspicious activity to our Senior Lead Officer Michael Moore and to your CMHO Board (contact information on the last page of this newsletter). And, in an emergency, call 911.

We have had reports of homeless camping in cars in the area and bothering neighbors. Please call the police if you are being threatened or harassed by them.

- **LANDMARK CONDOMINIUM PROJECT** has recently been sold. When we receive more information on the sale, we will let you know.
- **SEWER PROJECT:** Regarding the construction work being done on our streets, Shirley Haggstrom asked and received this information from Ron Charles of the City's Public Affairs Office: "The City of Los Angeles is renewing its sewer lines in the Pacific Palisades area by either replacing or lining the existing sewer pipes. Replacing the pipes involve cutting into the street and replacing the pipe with a new length of pipe. This Process of rehab normally takes 5-7 days for the initial phase of work. After this phase, the contractor will temporarily pave the Trench areas. There should be about a 2" gap between the trench area and the surface of the street. The contractor will return, usually within 3 weeks of the initial work, and pave the trench areas to be flush with the street. Lining work is less invasive since it does not involve cutting into the street. The contractor will secure the area around the hole, access and line the sewer pipe. Notteargenta Rd. has 1 reach that needs replacement. The first phase was completed and the contractor will return to pave the area. Bellino Dr. has 3 spot

repairs and one reach that needs to be lined. The spot repairs were completed, but the lining still remains. Tramonto Dr. has 1 spot repair and 1 reach that needs lining."

- **ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT AND CURRENT PROJECTS:** One of the CMHO's primary responsibilities, through your Architectural Committee (the AC) is to uphold the CC&R's. Property owners are required, as per the CC&R's, to bring their construction projects, no matter how small, to the AC early in their process to save time and money.

For owners and real estate agents, we have Architectural Guidelines which are available via the internet. Just ask Kim if you would like a copy.

- 294 Bellino Dr. - The new owner submitted plans for an under floor story and first story on this site. The AC has sent letters to neighbors and is going through the approval process.
- 17475 Revello Dr. - The owner received an extension of his permit from the City and does not plan to begin construction until spring. The AC recently received an update of the 2009 plans for their review.
- 17757 Tramonto Dr. - Owners presented preliminary plans to the AC for a room over their garage, a new deck and a small addition to the rear of their home. The AC asked for final plans and will continue going through its process once they are received.

Castellammare Mesa Home Owners
PO Box 742, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
<http://castellammaremesa.com>

Board Members

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* Denotes alternate.

Other Important Numbers:

LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Michael Moore: 1-310-444-0737; 27995@lapd.lacity.org

For non-emergency immediate service: (877) 275-5273

Fire Dept. 911

Brush Clearance: (818) 374-1111

City Services and Building & Safety: 311 or <http://www.lacity.org/boss/request.htm>

Note: This number is for any kind of question or concern re the City (graffiti removal, pot-hole repair, brush clearance, code violations, tree removal, etc.)

City Council Office:

Bill Rosendahl: LA Office: 200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 415, LA, CA 90012; 213-473-7011

West LA: 1645 Corinth, Room 201, West LA, CA 90025; 310-575-8461

councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org

Joaquin Macias, Sr. Field Deputy for Pacific Palisades: Joaquin.Macias@lacity.org

Getty Villa Community Relations Committee:

Kelly Comras: 1-310-459-5661; k_comras@hotmail.com

Kim Clary 1-310-230-8041 kimjdave@msn.com

Getty Villa Complaint Hotline: 1-877-625-4282

Remember to conserve water & to recycle!!

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