

Castellammare Mesa Home Owners NEWSLETTER July, 2016



Dear Neighbor: We hope you are having a good summer. This newsletter updates you on the community news and happenings since the last notice in April.

UPPER REVELLO STAIRWAY RESTORATION PROJECT: In April we reported we were \$1,500.00 short of the total goal of \$6,157.00 to make the upper Revello stairs safe by adding missing railings and fixing the large concrete trip hazard. We asked for more contributions and subsequently polled the neighbors in Tract 8923 (upper Castellammare, the HOA) to see if they wanted to use CMHO funds to pay for the remaining deficit. Over 94% of the respondents were in favor of using HOA treasury funds to supplement the donations. After the poll, more donations were received and lowered the deficit amount to \$700.00. The stairs will be completed as soon as John and his crew can schedule the work. Thank you John and everyone who donated in making this worthwhile project possible.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Doug McCormick: As of August 1, we have spent \$517 more than we have received, however we have a total of \$36,796 in all accounts. Last year 156 members paid their dues, but so far this year only 145 have paid. If you have not paid your dues already, please consider paying now. Directors and Officers Liability insurance has increased by \$3,000 because

of insurance premium rates increasing statewide. Consequently we will need to increase the dues to \$100 in 2017 in order to avoid a deficit.

CRIME AND SAFETY: LAPD reports crime in Pacific Palisades is down significantly. Current efforts to control the homeless population when they are breaking the law appear to be significantly greater than before with the use of a helicopter, bike patrols, the LAPD transient units, more frequent citing and arrests (since the ignored citations become warrants which lead to arrests), encampment dismantlements and patrols between 12 midnight - 5 am. The officers work with OPCC in this effort. But the police report that the beaches are constant work, as many of the homeless are now sleeping in Tuna Canyon and coming to the beaches during the day.

- Regarding home security, please lock your doors and set your alarms. Burglary theft from vehicles continues and it is important to remember to lock your car and leave nothing visible in it that may tempt a thief.
- Due to neighbor's concerns regarding people smoking and partying in the "overlook" i.e., the area commonly known as the Tramonto bulkhead at Coperto, and the fire danger that creates, your Board has worked with LAFD to get "NO SMOKING" and "NO TRESPASSING" signs made at no cost to us. They will be installed soon on Tramonto at the bulkhead.
- A neighbor recently called the City's 311 number to report a dangerous pothole growing on Tramonto in front of her house. Within 5 hours the City's crews had responded and it was filled in within two days of her call to the City.

PACIFIC PALISADES TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS (PPTFH) was formed approximately a year and a half ago. Goals of the Task Force are to: 1) protect the community; 2) provide services for the homeless with the goal of getting people off the streets and into housing; 3) conduct community meetings to update and educate the residents on the issues of homelessness and what the task force is doing. The Task Force has raised \$229,100 to date and engaged two social workers, Glanda Sherman and Maureen Rivas, from a comprehensive service agency (OPCC) to provide outreach. The workers have contacted over 100 homeless, many of whom generally travel between Santa Monica during the day and sleep in the Palisades at night in secluded areas or on the beach. The Outreach Team has been successful in getting 15 of the homeless off the streets and into housing. Their work continues. If you have information, questions or concerns about a particular homeless person or encampment, please email Glanda or Maureen at PalisadesOutreach@opcc.net.

WISSLE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SYSTEM: Bart and Cindi Young's ONLERT has been changed to WISSLE. It is still the same communication system and those who had signed up with ONLERT should make sure they have been forwarded to the new system.

CASTELLAMMARE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Several residents have shown an interest in working together to beautify our area by having city fences repaired, fixing the stairways and keeping our neighborhood looking good. Jim Breslo is spearheading this worthwhile effort. If you are interested, please contact Jim directly at jbreslo@diamondgame.com or (h) 818-723-3748; (c) 818-727-1690.

SEEKING HELP for gardening at our Fire Station on the corner of Los Liones and Sunset on Tuesday afternoons!! All it takes is about one hour a week. The loyal volunteers who have been gardening this area for years need some relief! Please let Doug know if you will be willing to lend a hand. 310-459-1382.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE and CURRENT PROJECTS: One of the CMHO's primary responsibilities, through your Architectural Committee (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. Generally speaking, any project on your property outside of the current structure of your house should be discussed with the AC. Interior remodeling and construction usually does not fall under the CC&R's.

Please note that the CC&R's for this tract, #8923, are limited in their scope. The three main restrictions are: Nothing can be built that will cause an unreasonable view impairment for neighbors; nothing can be built to exceed over one story in height except that the AC is empowered to approve an additional story or stories as underfloor space; and the depth of front and rear yards must not materially depart from adjoining or other dwellings on the block.

We do not have control over privacy issues, the size of the house (except for what is listed above), design, color or roof decks unless they may cause an unreasonable view impairment.

Current Projects:

- 234 Monte Grigio Drive - The new owner has plans to tear down the existing house and build an approximately 4600 sq. ft. house, including an underfloor space. Story poles have been installed and notices were sent to neighbors in the vicinity whose views may be impacted. The AC is receiving comments and conducting site visits to neighbors who have objections.
- 17543 Tramonto Drive - Plans have been received for a 3179 sq. ft. house with an underfloor space on this site. The current house will be demolished. The AC is reviewing the plans.
- 17727 Tramonto Drive - The owner has plans to demolish the existing house and build a 4500 sq. ft. house with an underfloor space. Story poles have been installed recently and notices will be sent to neighbors for comment.

Castellammare Mesa Home Owners
<http://castellammaremesa.com>
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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: Mike Bonin, Councilman, District 11, councilman.bonin@lacity.org

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

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

Sharon Shapiro, Field Deputy, Pacific Palisades and Brentwood: sharon.shapiro@lacity.org

Area One Representative, Pacific Palisades Community Council: Kelly Comras:

1-310-459-5661; k_comras@hotmail.com

Getty Villa Community Relations Committee:

Kelly Comras: 1-310-459-5661; kcomras@gmail.com

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

Alternate: Aly Montes 1-310-310-8158; teamtramonto@gmail.com

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

Remember to conserve water & to recycle!!