

# THE RIVIERA REPORT

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

"A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO CIVIC SERVICE TO THE RIVIERA COMMUNITY AND ITS RESIDENTS."



## APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday evening  
April 2, 1992  
7:30 p.m.

Riviera School  
Cafeteria  
365 Paseo de Arena

### CRIME

You are approached by a person who professes to be someone that can help you fix your problem. You give them the job, later finding your deposit check gone and the work never performed. Or the work is completed and several weeks later it starts falling apart. You phone the person who did the work only to find the phone disconnected. What do you do?

An officer from the Torrance Police Bunko Squad will explain how to avoid the above situation. You will hear which crimes are most prevalent in the Riviera, what "deals" you should avoid.

### MOVIE

For those residents who missed last year's movie of Hollywood Riviera in the 1920's, we are pleased to have a representative from the Torrance Historical Society provide it again. The movie was the way of enticing homeowners to our neighborhood. See what the Riviera looked like without trees and only a dozen or so houses. If you have not seen this movie, be prepared for an excellent evening of entertainment.

As always, our general meetings are open to the public. It is not necessary to be a member of RHA to attend, however you may want to join (only a \$10 annual membership). This will be our last meeting before summer hiatus. Refreshments will be served. We hope you can attend this informative meeting. The next general meeting will be in October.

*Doug Holker*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the last issue of our Report for the 1991-1992 operating year of the Riviera Homeowners Association. In addition this is my last president's message; my term will be expiring on April 2 when our new officers will take charge. Our nominating committee has proposed the following slate of officers:

Doug Holker	President
* open *	1st V P (Program chairman)
Irene Shackelford	2nd V P (Membership)
Sue Babb	Secretary
Greg Anunson	Treasurer
Jim Vogl	Newsletter Editor
Paul Cohen	Director (Hospitality)
Howard Kosters	Director
Trish McDonald	Director (Historian)
Inez McGee	Director
Connie Sullivan	Director
Kay White	Director
Ruth Vogel & Mary Lenihan	Landscape Award Co-chairmen

\*We are soliciting a volunteer to serve in this capacity. This is a key position in our organization which has been filled very ably by Doug Holker for the last two years. As president in the coming year, Doug would offer a great deal of assistance to any one who wishes to serve in this position. If you would be interested in this job or serving as a director at large, please give me a call at 378-1554.

One very popular feature of our Report is the Historical Home article written by Howard Kosters. We have been encountering reluctance among potential homeowners who do not wish to have their homes featured with an article. If you own one of the original Hollywood Riviera homes and would be willing to have it featured in a coming Report please give Howard a call at 378-4874.

I know that many of you have been following the progress of the Parkway School site development. On February 18, the developer received permission from the California Coastal Commission to continue with the project of 28 homes. The Commission did require a considerable amount of space to be used by the public as parking (25 spaces) and as grassy recreational area.

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President's Message cont'd

We had a very large attendance at our last general meeting at which we conducted a candidates' forum for the ten people running for Torrance City Council. We expect an equally large turnout for the ever-popular showing of the Historical Riviera film. So, arrive early for a good seat.

Thank you for a very satisfying two years as president of the RHA.

*Connie Sullivan*



RHA TREE TRIMMING PROGRAM



The RHA tree trimming program is beginning to take shape. Initially, we are taking two steps to restore views lost due to overgrowth of vegetation. First, we are soliciting your support for an amendment to the Hillside Overlay Ordinance. The amendment follows for your assessment. This amendment was originally put forth by the Planning Commission of the city of Torrance, but was not acted upon by the City Council. At our candidates' forum in February, all three of the people who were subsequently elected to the Council agreed in principle to such an amendment. If you agree also please write us or call us at 378-1554. Now is the time to be counted.

A second approach we are developing is a tree trimming subsidy program for those who would like to trim a tree to restore a neighbor's view, but who cannot afford to pay for all the cost. The subsidy would be granted to only a few, as money is limited, and would probably be based on years of membership. The details of this program are being worked out by committee and will be published in the Report in September.

Please read the following amendment to the Hillside Overlay Ordinance and let us know if you are in support of it.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO TORRANCE'S HILLSIDE ORDINANCE

LIMITATIONS ON HEIGHT AND BREADTH OF VEGETATION

- (a) Vegetation on private property in the Hillside and Costal Overlay Zones my be limited in height and breadth upon reasonable complaint of a neighboring resident of meaningful view impairment by such vegetation.

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No such complaint shall be submitted for review without prior discussion between the parties involved in an attempt to privately resolve their differences.

After field review by a member of the Environmental or Planning staff, complaints judged to be of reasonable merit shall be arbitrated and limitations, if any, assigned at the administrative Hearing presided over by the Director of Planning or designee, with appeals allowable to the Planning Commission and City Council.

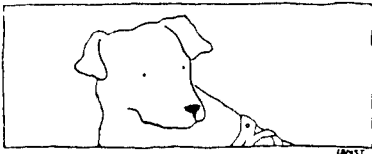
The allocation of expenses for the initial trimming, if any, as well as of the on-going maintenance expenses, shall be included in the arbitration decision. An initial filing fee of \$125.00 shall be paid by appellant(s). This decision shall be made a part of the property records of the City of Torrance.

- (b) The Planning Commission and City Council may impose restrictions and limitations on vegetation as a condition of approval of an application for development, redevelopment or modification of private real property in the Hillside and Costal Overlay Zones where warranted by findings of actual or possible view impairment or blockage of sunlight.



## PET OVERPOPULATION

City of Torrance  
Building and Safety Department



Dog and cat overpopulation has become a great concern of the Southern California Humane Society, the city's contracted agency for animal control. This problem has been caused by indiscriminate breeding of pets which contributes to the number of animals that must be destroyed since the supply of animals far exceeds the demand. If pet owners would have their pets spayed or neutered, this problem would be greatly reduced. The license fee is reduced by half for the neutered animal. The City will be addressing this issue in the near future. For additional information please call the Environmental Division's staff at 618-5931.

THANKS



The RHA Board of Directors would like to recognize and thank **Ron Perez, CPA**, for conducting our annual audit. Ron volunteered his services and we are very grateful.

## OUTSTANDING LANDSCAPE AWARD



Gerald and Gladys Hoshijo of 523 Paseo de Los Reyes received the "Outstanding Landscape Award" for February. Their lovely landscape of low-growing junipers is anchored by melaleuca nesophilia and quinquenervia, and Japanese black pine. Scattered throughout are morea, nandini, raphiolepis and twisted juniper. Rough hewn boulders and colorful Iceland poppies complete a garden statement that is waterwise and drought resistant. While driving by, please note how beautifully this landscape frames the especially pleasing facelift of their typical fifties tract house.

The outstanding garden for the month of March belongs to Wynn and Alexander Craighead. This is a unique and very appealing garden that rambles along the corner of 641 Calle de Aragon and Calle Miramar. Don't just drive by as it will probably not seem like much. But do stop and get out of your car as this is a garden that should be looked at close-up and enjoyed for its infinite variety and texture. Look for a wonderful mix of many things including ranunculas, calendula, geraniums, kalenchoe, bluebells brought from Scotland 30 years ago and double chromosome moon glow gazanias that are no longer available. Wynn Craighead is the consummate gardener who does everything herself: planting, weeding, dividing, tending, watering, snipping, pinching, etc. She even mulches with grass clipping and has her own compost pile!



*Ruth Vogel*

### **ATTENTION !**

The neighborhood surrounding the triangle park bounded by Calle Miramar and Paseo de los Delicias maintains and beautifies that city owned property. The RHA encourages others to beautify the traffic islands near their property since the city's maintenance program is somewhat deficient.



### **BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS**

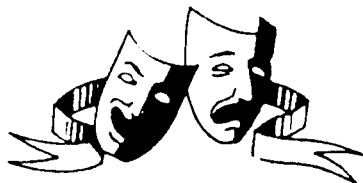
The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission and Torrance City Council annually present Beautification Scene Awards to home or business owners - both commercial and industrial - who, by their own initiative, have contributed to the environmental quality of our City by landscaping, remodeling or maintaining their property in an outstanding and commendable manner. The awards for 1991-92 will be presented by the City Council in the spring of 1992.

If you wish to nominate a property for the consideration of this award, please call the Environmental Quality Division at 618 5929

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The 1992 RHA Community Service Award will be given to the **Hollywood Riviera Sportsman's Club** at our April 2 meeting. This group of men (numbering over 60) has served our community since 1949 and has been involved in a variety of philanthropic activities including annual scholarships for deserving South High seniors; an annual Socrates Award for an outstanding South High teacher; an annual pancake breakfast at South High (this year on Saturday, May 23) with all profits going to area youth groups: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, soccer, baseball, football, band and others; an area-wide Easter egg hunt; and donations for needed equipment to elementary, middle and high schools, local libraries, senior citizens clubs, and Meals on Wheels. During the award presentation, representatives from the club will give a brief history of their organization and explain how interested residents can join.

*Inez McGee*



### ***PALOS VERDES PLAYERS PRESENT***

*Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean , Jimmy Dean*

A comedy by Ed Graszylh playing through 18 April

OPENING 1 MAY AND PLAYING THROUGH 6 JUNE

*An Almost Perfect Person*

a comedy by Judith Ross

Located on Amsler St., one block north of Palos Verdes Bowl on Crenshaw Blvd.  
For reservations phone 326 2287

# HISTORICAL HOMES OF THE RIVIERA

RESIDENCE OF SAM CURRY AND LORRAINE URQUHART  
147 Via Miradores

The current residents are only the fourth owners of the wonderful 1937 Spanish home, purchased only a year ago from a long time 30-year resident. In this short period they have worked diligently to restore the luster of this stately house with sweeping coastal views from both levels.

Removing the carpets, they brought back all the beauty of the hardwood floors, including the living room which has a false wide-pegged look. Under several coats of paint in the kitchen was revealed a huge solid copper stove hood! Covered with plaster in the bedroom were two porthole-like windows which were also brought back to life.

The house structure is original except for a second story on the rear portion, erected in the 1950's. The house is about 2370 square feet with four bedrooms, three baths. Each bath has a narrow dressing room and table, common to the period. The colorful garden in the back yard boasts some unique and exotic plants.

Still in place is the original incinerator used for trash burning, apparently a weekly ritual of alternating days for Riviera residents. Another relic of bygone days is a milk receptacle in the outside wall of the rear kitchen with an ordering dial for number of bottles to be deposited when home delivery was still in vogue.

Sam and Lorraine are both engineers with Aerospace Corporation.

*Howard Kusters*



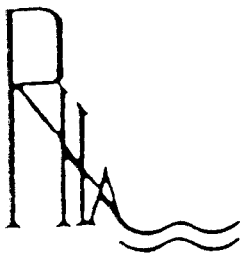
# RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

1991-1992

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Connie Sullivan	378-1554
1st Vice President (Programs)	Doug Holker	378-8984
2nd Vice President(Membership)	Irene Shackelford	373-1838
Treasurer	Greg Anunson	378 6384
Secretary	Sue N. Babb	378-5821
Past President	Greg Anunson	378 6384
Newsletter Editor	Jim Vogl	378-1803
Historian	Trish McDonald	375-9728
Hospitality	Janet Barnhart	378-6240
Director (Past President)	Howard Koters	378-4874
Director (Past President)	Inez McGee	378-5793
Director (Past President)	Kay White	373-1901
Director	Gus Shackelford	373-1838

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