

THE

Riviera Reporter

Newsletter of The Riviera Homeowners Association

SERVING THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA COMMUNITY SINCE THE 1940s— April 2009



RHA Presidents
Tim Youngern and
Roberta Blowers

The Presidents Message:

If you missed our last homeowners meeting with Mayor Scotto and Council member Furey, you missed some very interesting discussion about the new community policing model, rooftop decks and other issues affecting us.

The Mayor brought up the new community policing model that will reallocate resources based on crime patterns and calls for service. This realignment of shifts, manpower, and patrol beats will result in better patrol coverage for the city and an improved relationship with the citizens. Our police department already seems to have a high “esprit de corps” and is well respected throughout Southern California. Kudos to them and thanks for the great job they do in protecting us from the miscreants

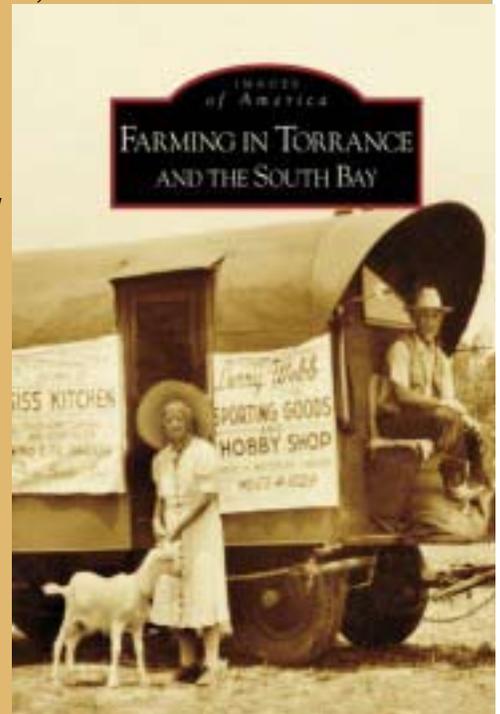
RHA GENERAL MEETING

Meet local history author Judith Gerber
Wednesday, April 22, 2009 7 PM - 9PM

Judi cultivated a love of local history at an early age that was inspired by her grandfather who took her to local farms, ranches, and for pony rides during the early days in and around the South Bay

Richardson Middle School
Cafeteria
23571 Nancy Lee Lane (off
of Newton)

Elections will be held and
there will be a short report on
Beach Bluffs Restoration



that abound in other communities.

The Mayor also brought up his views on the Hillside Ordinance as it pertains to view and privacy. He mentioned that in one case, he literally had to lie on his stomach and look out a little corner of a window to see a view, and that view was not reasonable to protect under the ordinance. I have heard the mayor mention this before and I couldn't agree more. Reasonableness is the test in these situations and differing people will have different views on it. That is true in everything in life. The Mayor went on to mention his views on privacy. He stated that privacy protections in the Hillside Ordinance do not apply to front yards. I personally may disagree with him on this issue, but it was interesting to hear his viewpoint.

I want to thank the Mayor and Council member Furey for attending this meeting. Their input informed us and helped clarify the issues.

(continued)

I also want to thank all of the residents who attended the meeting and provided their input regarding rooftop decks. After some good discussion, a show of hands indicated that more than eighty percent of the attendees were in favor of a ban on rooftop decks.

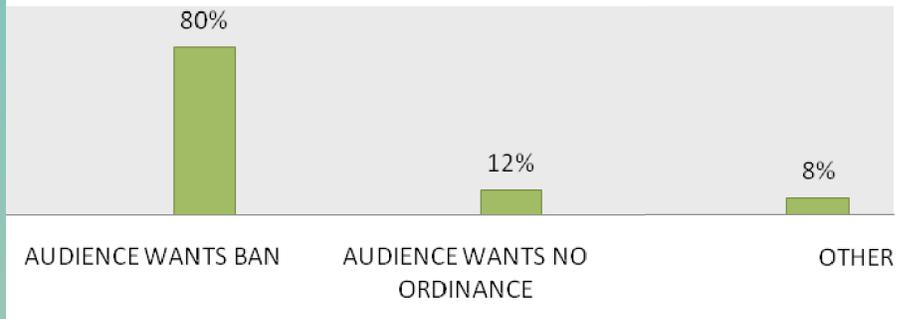
I think our elected representatives need and appreciate this input from the homeowners. Send additional comments to Mayor Scotto at fsotto@torrnet.com or City Councilman Furey at pfurey@torrnet.com.

In closing, I would like to mention we are about to enter the spring season.

Around my home that means sprucing up the yard, cleaning the garage, and taking care of tasks that I didn't get done last spring. My chores list always seems to grow this time of the year. That being said, it is also a time to smell the roses, and I hope everyone gets a chance to do just that.

Tim Youngern Co-President

RHA FEB. 25 GENERAL MEETING SHOW OF HANDS/POLL TAKEN BY MAYOR SCOTTO AT END OF DISCUSSION



SOUTH HIGH GIRLS SOCCER WIN CIF DIVISION 5

South High School has always fielded very strong sports teams. The Spartan's Girls Soccer Team has been a phenomenal powerhouse at South over the years but this year's team has been amazing for several seasons in a row now. After being in the quarter finals and the semi finals the two prior years, South Girls Soccer finally won the CIF Southern Section Division 5 title in early March. The title was first and last won by South Girls in 1998. (Advancing to the regional playoffs, South lost to Harvard Westlake.)

Among the team of 13 seniors, 4 or 5 of them will be going on to Division 1 colleges next year. Leading scorer, Lauren Hein, put 33 goals in for the green team this season. Lauren has been named CIF Player of the Year. Goalkeeper Audrey Medlock and the talented defense helped the South team achieve 24 shut outs.

Coach Brad Gomez says one of the reasons that this team plays so well together is that they are not only terrifically talented but they are a real sisterhood. After almost being lifelong friends, the girls have pizza, sleep overs and karaoke parties together.

The team was honored at the March 24 Torrance City Council meeting. They also were asked to be guests by the KTLA Morning Show on March 26 when the L.A. Sol, our area's new women's professional soccer team, will be introduced at the Home Depot Center in Carson (home of the L.A. Galaxy). One of the BEST soccer players in South history, Shannon Boxx (1994), will be playing for the L.A. Sol.

Congratulations to all for well-deserved success!

Karen Lent



Front row left to right: Myla Senff, Sara Miller, Lauren Hein, Sam Archambault, Alisa Redgrift, Kailyn Proven, Tori Copper, Cristin Yoern, Natalie Bullock, Mackenzie Kirts, Kelly Keenan
Back Row left to right: Lenna Lamas, Elizabeth Esquivel, Alex Kossoff, Jenny O'Connell, Michelle Rushton, Tina Yeghiayan, Jackie Sieder, Audrey Medlock, Alyssa Healy, Callie Hokkaf, Ellen Vicelja, Isabelle Nastaskin, Casey Atamaniuk, Hali Oughton

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RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB LANDSCAPE AWARD

by Shelley & Karen; pictures by Julian



March 2009 Lisa & Mike Narowski
251 Via la Circula

When Lisa and Mike recently updated their Via la Circula ranch house to a more contemporary look, they asked local landscape designer Ric Dykseul to help with the outdoor plan. After the successful backyard redo, they asked him to do the front as well. The Narowskis' and Ric have created a serene water wise oasis.

Two strawberry trees stand as sentries to the yard, inviting guests and hummingbirds. A flagstone path is planted with dymondia and framed with blue succulents and elfin thyme. A surprising stylish black stone fountain sprouts from a circle of decomposed granite set off-center in the front yard. Native plants create a palette of varied and striking color. Some of this color is achieved with "midnight" Mexican sage, bronze flax, yellow yarrow, "big red" kangaroo paw and Santa Barbara daisy. An interesting recast stone driveway leads to the flagstone porch. Drive by for a surprising treat!



February 2009 Janice and Norman Basmajian
4003 Paseo de los Tortugas

A delightful February surprise, the Basmajian's yard is filled with color: white iceberg and pink roses, yellow snapdragons and touches of purple interspersed with dusty miller. The small front yard has a slate patio and walkway that leads to the neat contemporary house. The house and yard are framed by white-painted brick which highlight the colorful plantings. The whole effect is organized and pristine.

The Basmajian's son owns Southern California Tree and Landscaping whose gifted, green thumbed employee, Luis, takes charge of their yard. Norman and Janice are native Californians and raised their three children (who have blessed them with nine grandchildren) in Torrance. They have lived in the city-view Tortugas home for twenty years. A son in law, Michael Cotton, was a former President of the Riviera Homeowners Association (this was unknown to Shelley and Karen – honest! at selection time!).

Riviera Garden Club will dedicate a Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker at 1 pm on April 19th at Torrance Fire Station #4 on the corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Calle Mayor.

Highways are designated as Blue Star Memorial Highways by state legislatures to honor our county's service men and women – past, present and future. Garden clubs then place markers along the highways. The Blue Star Project was begun by the National Council of State Garden Clubs (now National Garden Clubs, Inc.) in 1946. Since then Blue Star Memorial Highways have been designated in every state in the union. You have probably passed the marker in front of the Redondo Beach Library or may have seen one at a rest area on an interstate highway. During the dedication ceremony tribute will be paid to our military personnel and the marker will be presented to Torrance Mayor Frank Scotto. The ceremony is expected to last about a half hour or so and all are welcome to attend. *George Unrine*

Riviera High School Seniors – Graduation is in sight and it's scholarship time. Please mail your scholarship application to the Riviera Homeowners Association at P.O. Box 1074, Torrance, CA 90505 by April 27. South High Students may return the applications to Assistant Principal, Chad Mabery. The Association offers \$500 to \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors living within the Hollywood Riviera boundaries with at least a 3.0 GPA. Please download the South High School Scholarship Application form from our website (even if you are a Bishop Montgomery, Chadwick or CAMS student). Thanks and Good Luck!

*Last Meeting of the year June 10 at 6PM - note earlier time
Ann Lynch from the South Bay Wildlife Rehab will come with her hawks.
Come and bring your kids.*

Shop and Dine in the Riviera Village! Let's keep our unique stores and restaurants open!

Please support these Riviera Village Merchants

who have donated to improve the quality of our newsletter.



DAVE DENNEE
OWNER/DESIGNER

219 AVENUE I, RIVIERA VILLAGE • REDONDO BEACH, CA 90277
(310) 540-0437 • Fax (310) 540-3054

3569 SAGUNTO STREET • SANTA YNEZ, CA 93460
(805) 686-0842 • Fax (805) 686-0967

**COME VISIT OUR NEW PATIO & GARDEN STORE
AT 221 AVE I
NOW OPEN**

The logo for Redondo Beach Cafe features the words 'AMERICAN FAVORITES' on the left and 'GREEK CUISINE' on the right, both in a bold, sans-serif font. In the center is a stylized palm tree. Below the palm tree, the words 'REDONDO BEACH' are written in large, red, outlined letters, and 'Cafe' is written in a red, cursive script below that. The entire logo is set against a white background with a blue and red swoosh at the bottom.

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
VOTED SOUTHBAY'S FAVORITE GREEK RESTAURANT
\$ 2.00 Draft Beer & Wine - Tue * Wed * Thur
1511 S. PACIFIC COAST HWY.

The logo for Yellow Vase Bakery & Flowers features a central square with a yellow background and a dark brown border. Inside the square is a yellow vase filled with flowers. The words 'Yellow VASE' are written in a cursive font across the vase. The entire logo is set against a yellow background with decorative green and yellow swirls.

BAKERY & FLOWERS
310.373.0013 • 310.373.0004 • fax 310.373.0010
1805 South Catalina, Redondo Beach CA 90277

The logo for Jack McSweeney Real Estate Consultant features a background image of a sunset over a body of water. The text 'Jack McSweeney, SRES, e-PRO' is written in a white, sans-serif font at the top. Below it, 'Real Estate Consultant' is written in a smaller white font. At the bottom, the 'RE/MAX' logo is displayed in red and white, with 'Palos Verdes Realty' and 'EXECS' written below it. To the right of the RE/MAX logo, the phone number '310. 373. 3374' and 'Cell: 310. 346. 0391' are listed, along with the website 'http://jackmcsweeney.com'.

The next Newsletter will be in June. Place your ad before the end of May 2009.
For more information, call 310-710-9080 or email treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org

Visit The RHA Website at www.hollywoodriviera.org.

The following RHA Officers can be contacted through their e-mail:

president@hollywoodriviera.org
traffic@hollywoodriviera.org
webmaster@hollywoodriviera.org

newsletter@hollywoodriviera.org
landscape@hollywoodriviera.org
photog@hollywoodriviera.org

treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org
dues@hollywoodriviera.org

Membership Form

JOIN the Riviera Homeowners Association (RHA) for 2008-2009

Your dues are an important contribution to our community. They allow us to provide scholarships to college bound students and donations to elementary and middle schools. They are also used to sponsor general meetings in the Riviera on topics important to our community. They finance this newsletter and allow us to keep members informed on important issues being discussed in the City. Your dues allow us to thank the City when they are doing a great job and to express our concern when our property interests are impacted. If you are not a member, please consider joining. It is a small sum, well invested.

Membership runs from September thru August. Since our new membership and business year has begun, it's time to join or renew your membership in the Riviera Homeowners Association today and help support the interests of our community. Membership dues are only \$25 a year. Please fill out the form below or update mailing label on reverse, enclose your check payable to "Riviera Homeowners Association", and mail to RHA Membership, P.O. Box 1074, Torrance, CA 90505. Or, you can renew or join online through our PayPal system-it is quick and secure! Go to our website at www.hollywoodriviera.org

(Please note: Your street and/or email address are never shared with any third parties, and are used only for the purpose of notifying our members about upcoming events and other important information.)

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Do you receive emails from us? If not, and you would like to be on our list, please provide us with your email address:

Email: _____

\$25 Annual Membership for 2008-09 (Sept.-Aug.)

Additional contributions are always welcome! \$50 \$100 Other: _____

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TORRANCE RELAY FOR LIFE TO BE HELD AT WILSON PARK

Torrance Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society's 24-hour community fundraising event will be held at Wilson Field the weekend of April 25 & 26. The event is a way for us to fight the disease by raising awareness, honoring survivors and remembering those who have lost their lives to cancer. It's a festival with lots of fun and a serious purpose!

The RHA Team is in the process of organizing for this year's exciting Relay. We're thrilled that Castle Rock Winery has agreed to be our team sponsor and we have a nucleus of enthusiastic members. Won't you join us? For more information call: Pam Popovich at (310) 375-8729.

Big Changes for El Retiro Library

El Retiro Library just turned 50, so it's getting a little work done! The date to close El Retiro Library for the refurbishment project is Monday, April 27th. Toddler Storytime will be consolidated to one session at 11 am on Wednesdays. It will be held at El Retiro from April 1st through 22nd, then move to Waleria Library at 3815 W. 242nd Street for the remaining sessions. The monthly Book Discussion Group will meet in the pergola area in El Retiro Park for May, June and July. Call Hillary Theyer, Principal Librarian, 310-618-5950 for information.

The library is scheduled to re-open in late July with new, earthquake-safe shelving; electrical upgrades; improved, energy-efficient lighting; improved access for laptop computer users; fresh paint and new carpet; and a new, ADA-compatible circulation desk provided by the Friends of the Torrance Library. Wi-fi access should also be available shortly after the library re-opens.

Tina Chen, Librarian, says that she was gratified and moved by the concern of patrons and neighbors about whether the staff will lose their jobs or where they will be dispatched to for three months. They will be assigned to work at different branch libraries but will be back as soon as the remodeling is done so that they can put things back in order for reopening.

Riviera Homeowners Association 2008-9 Officers and Directors

Co-President	Roberta Blowers	310-930-1322	Hospitality Chair	Nancy Mansfield-Staudt	310-378-5334
Co-President	Tim Youngern	310-373-4981	Landscape Chair	Karen Lent	310-375-6539
2nd VP (membership)	Judy Brunetti	310-378-5616	City Council Observer	Pam Popovich	310-375-8729
Treasurer	Voc Gregorian	310-710-9080	Traffic Liaison	Mike Guidry	310-373-1944
Secretary	Sam Sandt	310-408-5370	Mailing Chair	Diane Miltimore	
Newsletter Editor	Geneva Martin	310-378-9767	Webmaster/Photographer	Julian Chasin	310-373-6314

The Riviera Reporter

P.O. Box 1074 - Torrance, CA 90505

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