



## **MONTAGE NEWS - December 2009**

Here we are in the Holiday season again. This year has sure gone by fast. Here in Montage we are ending it in a big way. See articles below on the forthcoming Newsletter Re-design and New Website.

Neighborhood Watch is beginning to grow in participation. They are still looking for pod captains. Contact Pam Price at [pamprice57@gmail.com](mailto:pamprice57@gmail.com) if you want to get involved.

We had a problem recently with a realtor publishing the homeowner gate code in the advertising of a house for sale. Chastising letters have been sent to both the homeowner and realty firm, stating that the owner would be potentially subject to fines of up to \$2,100 plus costs if this happens again. The good news is the advertising came out the same weekend we changed the gate codes, and they published the old gate code.

I want to remind you all again that we all must be respectful of our neighbors. Two items were brought to my attention in the past month. First, a homeowner washing out his trash containers and not cleaning the residue out of the gutter. This is not only unsightly; it is a potential health problem. Everything in the gutters works its way to the retention basin. The second is speeding within the community. There are no sidewalks, the many people that walk must walk in the street, and there are children that may be in the street. Please watch your speed and if you observe speeders please report them to Jennifer Zeivel.

### **NEWSLETTER RE-DESIGN PROJECT**

The Board approved the development of a "new" redesigned Newsletter at the November Board meeting. The first issue is scheduled for January or February 2010. It will potentially include more articles contributed by Montage homeowners to expand the sense of community, as well as more general interest articles about neighbors and topics "inside the gates." It will also contain advertising.

If you would like to advertise in the Newsletter, or would like to participate by writing an article, please contact Jennifer Zeivel at [jeivel@ppmineternet.com](mailto:jeivel@ppmineternet.com) or 1-760-325-9500.

Also, we are going to try to move toward the distribution of the Newsletter via email in the coming months.

### **NEW MONTAGE WEB SITE DESIGN**

The Board approved the proposal from a homeowner to design a new "improved" website at the November Board meeting. This version would allow residents to log in directly to our own Montage website without going through the PPM website first.

The plan includes an update of the website design and consideration of some new features which would allow greater interaction among Montage residents, among other improvements.

The new web site is currently planned to debut in February 2010. Information on how to access the site will be in the January Newsletter.

Until then, log on to [ppmineternet.com](http://ppmineternet.com), click on My Association at the top, click on Associations w existing websites and enter Montage. Current news, security alerts, governing documents (including the Montage Rules) and gate codes are available to registered homeowners. Register online in the Special Services pull down icon.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

Submitted by Pam Price

"Emergency Preparedness Recommendations" from Karen Greenbaum, Commissioner for the City of Rancho Mirage on Emergency Preparedness. Below is Step 2 of her 5 Step process toward being prepared, Step 1, with the first 15 points was in the November Newsletter.

#### **Step 2: Create and Practice Preparedness Plans**

**16.** Identify safe spots in every room, such as under sturdy desks and tables.



the inspections on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month and any required repairs soon thereafter.

The maintenance of the developer installed front yard landscape lights is continuing. As mentioned previously, your garage lights are not covered by this program, because occupants can control them from the switch by your front door. So they remain your responsibility and must be on at night. If you did not receive a Switch Lock to aid you in keeping visitors, housekeepers, etc. from turning that switch off, please contact [sandynips@hotmail.com](mailto:sandynips@hotmail.com)

Any homeowner wishing their front yard landscape lights NOT be maintained as part of this program should notify Jennifer Zeivel at [jzeivel@ppminternet.com](mailto:jzeivel@ppminternet.com) or 1-760-325-9500.

### **STREET SWEEPING**

Our streets are swept on Thursdays. Please make sure all cars, including service workers, are off the street. Also, be sure that trees are trimmed and don't interfere with the street sweeper.

### **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 3:00 PM at Personalized Property Management 68950 Adelina Road, Cathedral City.

Check the community message board on the wall by the retention basin or the web site for the agenda. It will be posted at least 4 days before the meeting.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE FROM YOUR BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Tom Tousignant, President**

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ADENDUM**

After the printing of the Newsletter, we have decided to send out a Neighborhood Watch packet the first week of December to all Montage Homeowner's primary addresses.

The Holiday season is, regrettably, a time when burglaries spike dramatically. With that in mind, we hope you, as a Homeowner, will carefully review the information for the protection of your home and our community. In the coming weeks we are going to implement a neighborhood security network...a neighbor-to-neighbor system of communication and shared security procedures that will discourage intrusions, break-ins and breeches in our overall security. The system is based on 14 groupings, known as "Pods", a mutual network of neighbors to keep you "in the loop" regarding security matters.

We are also seeking volunteers to serve as "Pod Captains" to coordinate activities with the neighbors within your Pod.

Please read the materials, ask questions and let's make Montage a safer place to enjoy. If you have any questions regarding the packet you receive in the mail, please contact Pam Price at 760-202-8728.

Thank you