



MONTAGE NEWS - March 2009

There has been another break-in on Artisan in January. The homeowner's alarm company alerted the Cathedral City Police; they responded promptly and probably scared the intruder away. There are more details on the Montage website. They were posted the day after the break-in.

Also, the gate codes have been added to the website. Homeowners will need to go to the Special Services menu and register for access. Once registered you may also review the history of payments on your account.

Please note that the Homeowner and service worker gate codes will be changed again on Monday March 9th, following daylight savings time. The Board voted to change these codes twice a year as a general security precaution.

At the time of the development of this Newsletter, the Board is negotiating a new contract with PPM. We are changing some of the services they will provide. One item is continuing the monthly Newsletter; the Board feels it is an important means of communication with the Montage homeowners. The good news is we will not be restricted to a one page Newsletter. We still plan to keep it brief, but often additional information may be included.

If all homeowner's would register with the website, we would be able to just post and email the newsletter and reduce the reproduction and mailing expense.

WEB SITE

Logon to ppminternet.com, click on Access My Association Website and enter Montage.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Pam Price has decided to limit her participation in Neighborhood Watch to working only with her "pod" (group homes surrounding her home). Thank you Pam for getting the Committee started again. But, now we are looking for a new Chairperson for the community wide Neighborhood Watch Committee. That person would be primarily responsible for the development of additional independent and/or overlapping pods to cover the entire community,

coordinating pod activities/feedback and reporting to the Board.

Pam has provided the attached handouts of: Alarm Companies, Incident Reports, Contact Information, Community Site Map for defining pods, Registry of Residential Workers, a blank map of Montage lots and Security Checklist Items.

PARKING

Enforcement of the parking rules is now going on in earnest. Flagrant violators are being scheduled for hearings with the Board, potentially resulting in assessment of fines beginning at \$100 and progressing to \$250 and \$500 for repeat offences.

On street parking is only allowed for temporary parking by service workers and guests. Residents (including tenants) are expected to park their vehicles in their garages, with the garage door shut. Parking in the driveway is permitted, however it is not as safe as the garage.

STREET SWEEPING

Our streets are swept on Thursdays between 10 AM and 12 Noon. Please make sure all cars are off the street during that time frame.

ARCHITECTURAL & LANDSCAPE

Do your shutters, gate and garage door look tired? Maybe they need a fresh coat of paint! Are there weeds in your desert landscape? Tell your gardener or your other half to pull them!! Do the bright colors on your contemporary design look dull? Then it's time to paint! How about your trees and hedges? Do they need to be trimmed? Are bulbs burned out over the garage door or in your landscape lights?

These are the things your A & L Committee will be looking for during it's April walkthrough. Please make their job easier by taking care of these tasks so you don't receive a violations letter. Remember, we want Montage to remain a pristine community and preserve our home values.

DOGS

Please, if you think you need to walk them to do their "business" other than in your yard - walk them in the street or outside the gates. If you observe dogs on peoples yards please try to

identify the home of the dog and report it to Jennifer at PPM. A \$100 fine will be assessed the homeowner. Urination on lawns causes large yellow (dead) spots.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be March 21, 2009 at 9:00 AM at the Children's Discovery Museum at 71701 Gerald Ford Dr., Rancho Mirage.

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.

ANNUAL HOMEOWNER MEETING

The Annual Homeowner meeting & pot luck will begin at 11:00 AM at the Children's Discovery Museum.

At the Annual Homeowner meeting & pot luck we will have a presentation coordinated by Pam Price followed by a discussion on Home and Neighborhood Security. Mark you calendar.

Tom Tousignant, *President*