

MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE & MONTAGE NEWS – March 2016

By Michelle Madison, President & Newsletter Editor

Spring brings about noticeable change as it does every year. For the HOA Board this Spring, there are several items that note change as well.

A most recent change on our HOA Board was the resignation of our former President Curt Beyer. Curt - we wish you the best and thank you for your hard work and contributions to the Montage community. Enjoy your retirement.

Every March, the annual Montage HOA Potluck meeting takes place. This year it will be catered and coordinated by our Welcome Committee Chairwoman Jo Ann Horwitz. There is also a change in the location, the Cathedral City Center near City Hall.

Homeowners recently received ballots in the mail for not only the 2016 election of two HOA Board members but also to vote on 5 additional items.

As a community, we will be looking toward the possibility of adopting changes to the updated Bylaws and CC&R's that govern our community. We encourage you to review the updates as soon as possible. They can be found on our website at: www.MontageAtMissionHills.org. This is incredibly important as there must be a vote of at least 67%, in order to obtain approval for the proposed updates.

We recently, conducted a survey regarding surveillance cameras. As a board, we took note of your suggestions and the survey outcome. Now, you will have the opportunity to cast your vote for or against them on your ballot.

Lastly, you will also vote to keep or cease the patrol company that was hired to maintain oversight of our community's overnight street parking. We must be reminded that they are not a security service but a patrol service.

Again, we're encouraging you to complete your ballots and submit them as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing you at our annual Homeowners HOA meeting Saturday March 19th at the Cathedral City Center located at 37171 West Buddy Rogers Ave.

SIGNATURE ON BALLOT ENVELOPE REQUIRED

By Tom Tousignant

When completing your ballot and stuffing it into the Ballot Envelope, then put that envelope into the Inspector of Elections Envelope. It is very important that you sign your name in the return address area of the Inspector of Elections Envelope.

The Inspector of Elections uses that signature to validate your ballot before opening it for counting. Un-signed envelopes are put into a pile to be counted toward establishing a quorum, but they are never opened and the votes never counted.

If you are concerned about signing and returning through the mail, you have 3 options to protect your identity:

1. Hand deliver the signed envelope to PPM
2. Hand deliver the signed envelope to the Annual Homeowners meeting
3. Insert the signed envelope into another envelope of your choice addressed to Montage at Mission Hills at PPM and mail.

Make your votes count – Sign the Inspector of Elections Envelope.

GATE CARD READERS

By Tom Tousignant

In mid-February the card reader on the Da Vall gate kiosk was stolen. That card reader was also stolen in mid-December. Neither the gate maintenance company nor I can imagine what someone would do with the card readers. They do not do anything except work with the cards that were issued with the installation of the new system in 2012.

Other than the expense of their replacement, the biggest problems the thefts presented was that both times the removal caused the kiosk to cease functioning. In December the entire kiosk shorted out disabling the keypad and the primary receiver. In February only the primary gate receiver was disabled.

The result of these outages was that car buttons that had been programmed originally by the gate maintenance contractor stopped working. Car buttons that had been programmed more recently by Nick Nickerson continued to work because they work with an auxiliary receiver.

Again, if you are not able to enter, drive to the other gate. Then call me or PPM when you get home so any repairs needed can be initiated.

Welcome Committee Report

By Jo Ann Horwitz, Welcome Committee Chair

Welcome Spring to all our returning friends and neighbors who will be spending the next several months enjoying our beautiful weather.

This past month we have welcomed new neighbors Gary Roman and Frank La Ferla. They bought the beautiful home at 36297 Da Vinci Drive. Welcome and enjoy your new home.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our March 19th Annual HOA Meeting. We will have a light buffet of Coffee, Danish and Muffins. This meeting will start at 9 AM at The Cathedral City Center across from our City Hall at 37171 West Buddy Rogers Ave.

I have scheduled our annual Christmas Party for December 10th at our Mission Hills Country Club. This year the welcome committee is proposing to have a sit down 3-course dinner. However, we will get your vote on what you would like for our party. I promise it will be a fun evening for all.

Be happy and stay well

DRONES, NEW LEGISLATION AND ASSOCIATIONS

FEBRUARY 22, 2016 John R. MacDowell Fiore Racobs & Powers

In 2015, the California Legislature enacted two bills, Senate Bill 142 and Senate Bill 856, which take the first steps toward addressing the potential for drones to trespass and invade individuals' privacy.

Civil Code section 1708.8 was first enacted in the 1990s to allow lawsuits for invasion of privacy against paparazzi, or others, who photograph or record private activity without permission. The law provides, among other things, that a person is liable for physical invasion of privacy by knowingly entering onto the land of another in order to make photographs or sound recordings of private activity without permission. The law establishes special penalties for this invasion of privacy. SB 856, effective January 1, 2016, amends Civil Code section 1708.8 by providing that a person also commits a physical invasion of privacy by entering into the air space above the land of another to photograph or record private events.

SB 142 creates a new Civil Code section 1708.10, stating that use of a drone less than 350 feet above ground level without express authority is a trespass. Now, drone operators are subject to civil lawsuits if they fly at less than 350 feet above private property.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which has jurisdiction over all airspace, also regulates when, where, and how a drone may be operated. As of December 21, 2015, recreational drone users are required to register with the FAA.

Can an association establish reasonable regulations on the use of drones within the project? Probably, yes, within the limits of the rulemaking power in the governing documents. Can an Association prohibit the use of drones altogether, by way of a rule? It is tempting to say yes, but federal regulations may be found to supersede, or “preempt,” both local laws and association rules. To avoid this problem, associations may consider rules controlling the effect of drone use, based on the nuisance provisions of the CC&Rs. For example, rules might prohibit using drones to look into other residents’ private yards or windows, or to harass or annoy others.

“No Soliciting’ May Be A Salesman’s Best News

March 07, 1985|By Abigail Van Buren.

Dear Abby: This is in response to the letter signed “Sick of Solicitors,” who was upset because her sign saying “No Soliciting” didn’t help.

We had the same problem and discovered that some people don’t know what the words “solicitor” and “soliciting” mean. In England, a “solicitor” is a lawyer. In the United States it means to ask for or try to obtain (something) from someone.

We finally took down our “No Solicitors” sign and put up one that said “No Door-to-Door Salespeople.” It worked.

Also Sick of Solicitors

Dear Also: Read on for an explanation of why experienced door-to-door salespeople ignore that sign:

Dear Abby: When I worked for an insulation company as a canvasser, we were instructed to ignore all “No Solicitors” signs and ring the bell anyway. We were told that only people who had a hard time saying “no” to a salesperson needed to put up a sign like that, and after working in the field for three years, I found it to be true.

Don’t Believe in Signs

Dear Abby: Did that letter signed “Sick of Solicitors” ever bring back memories to this 65-year-old salesman! Forty years ago I was a member of a crew of door-to-door salesmen who used to cover an entire county in a couple of days, then we’d move on to the next county.

Our crew chief told us on our first day that “No Salesmen” signs were often used by people with low sales resistance, and we should pay no attention to them.

Dear Abby: The letter from “Sick of Solicitors” made me smile. All good salespeople know that “No Solicitors” signs are put up by people who realize their sales resistance is practically nil. When they open the door, after they bark, “Didn’t you see the sign?” comes the next question, “Okay, so what are you selling?”

Article taken from the Chicago Tribune Dear Abby column.

Dear Montage Homeowners:

We have signs posted "No Soliciting" and we have them posted for just this reason. When one person allows a salesperson to come in the community then "the door to door" sales person feels that they can keep knocking and disturbing other homeowners. We ask that Montage homeowners help each other by adhering to our policies and by not allowing the "door to door" sales person into your home if it is an unsolicited appointment.

We have received complaints and actually see the sales people walking around or riding their Segway thorough out our neighborhood.

Both gate entrances clearly have signs posted saying, "Soliciting is not allowed." So, why should they take it serious when they are being invited into your home to sell you what your neighbor has recently had installed?

This apparently is clearly not just been our problem. Just Ask Dear Abby!

Thank you in advance.
Montage HOA Board

PARKING PATROL UPDATE

By Tom Tousignant

Twelve Month Parking Summary

	2014 - 15			2015 - 16									
	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC**	JAN**	FEB	
Garage door left open*	5	4	9	1	8	3	3	1	1	2	0	2	
Vehicles parked in street overnight	161	133	112	59	55	45	57	62	84	50	98	78	
Vehicles with out of state licenses	(69)	(42)	(25)	(8)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(11)	(21)	(8)	(20)	(4)	
Homes with cars parked on street	43	45	39	22	21	27	20	24	31	19	33	30	
Illegal parking warnings issued	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	
Tow warnings issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Illegal parked vehicles towed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Top 3 homes with most vehicles parked nightly per month													
Number 1 – Home on	Matisse	19 Matisse	18 Matisse	15 Dali	14 Dali	15 Dali	4 Van Gogh	7 Dali	8 Dali	10 Artisan	12 Artisan	12 Artisan	1
Number 2 – Home on	Dali	11 Van Gogh	13 Van Gogh	9 Matisse	7 Artisan	8 Artisan	3 Artisan	6 Artisan	7 Artisan	9 Van Gogh	8 Artisan	11 Artisan	
Number 3 – Home on	Artisan	11 Chagall	10 Artisan	9 Van Gogh	6 Matisse	4 Matisse	3 Matisse	5 Matisse	5 Chagall	6 Artisan	7 Artisan	8 Monet	

* When Garage doors are discovered open the

** Street parking not counted during holiday period Dec 22 -Jan 2

* When Garage doors are discovered open the Patrol Service calls the phone number(s) for the homeowners to inform them – they often cannot make contact due to out of date phone numbers.

EMERGENCY PREPARIDNESS

By Mike Gialdini Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair

The City of Rancho Mirage is again offering CERT training in April 2016. It is desirable that as many Montage Residents as possible obtain this training prior to any disaster.



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RANCHO MIRAGE TO OFFER COMMUNITY EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) TRAINING
TO RANCHO MIRAGE RESIDENTS APRIL 12-13-14, 2016
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RANCHO MIRAGE, CA (February 11, 2016) - To help prepare citizens to care for themselves, their families, and neighbors in the event of a major disaster, the City of Rancho Mirage is offering Rancho Mirage residents a free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training April 12th through April 14th. In addition to Rancho Mirage residents, employees of businesses located in the City of Rancho Mirage may also attend the training at no cost.

The 24-hour class stretches over three days and will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The training will be conducted by the Rancho Mirage Fire Department and be held at the Roy Wilson Training Center in Thousand Palms.

Training consists of classroom and hands-on exercises and follows the federally prescribed curriculum of seven modules as follows:

- Module 1 - Disaster Preparedness
- Module 2 - Team Organization
- Module 3 - Disaster Medical Operations I
- Module 4 - Disaster Medical Operations II
- Module 5 - Disaster Fire Suppression
- Module 6 - Search & Rescue Operations
- Module 7 - Disaster Simulation Exercise

Because this training includes hands-on exercises, participants must be able to stand, kneel, stoop, wear hardhats, etc. Appropriate clothing such as closed-toe shoes is also required.

Although this class is offered at no cost to the citizens of Rancho Mirage, registration is required to guarantee a spot in the class. Applications will be available on the City's Emergency Preparedness webpage at

www.ranchomiragepreparedness.org on **February 16th** or interested parties may contact City Hall to obtain the registration form.

For further information, please contact Rancho Mirage City Hall at [760-324-4511](tel:760-324-4511).

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www.RanchoMiragePreparedness.org

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, March 10th at 3:00 PM at the Offices of Personalized Property Management, 69850 Adelina Road, Cathedral City. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the community message board on the wall at the DaVinci/Van Gogh corner or the web site at least four days before the meeting.

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Community Management

Shelly Ruegsegger, Community Manager - sruegsegger@ppminternet.com 760.325.9500
Jasmine Meza, Assistant Community Manager - jmeza@ppminternet.com 760.325.9500

Board Members:

Michelle Madison, President - michelleymadison@gmail.com,
Mary Weiler, Secretary - mpweiler@yahoo.com
Tom Tousignant, Treasurer - td2znot@aol.com,
Leo Schlesinger, Board member - lschles694@aol.com,

Committees

A & L Committee – Al Mazzarella, Chair al.mazz55@yahoo.com 760.328.5666
Emergency Preparedness/Neighborhood Watch – Mike Gialdini, Chair
MikeGialdini@gmail.com. 760.413.0100
Welcome Committee – JoAnn Horwitz, Chair JoAnnWLV@aol.com 760.992.5199
Web Masters - Scott Reese scott.o.reese@gmail.com
Website – www.MontageatMissionHills.org

CATHEDRAL CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES CALENDAR

City of Cathedral City - Recycling, Trash & Energy page www.cathedralcity.gov

To have a Guide and Calendar mailed to your home please contact Deanna Pressgrove with the City of Cathedral City at 760.770.0369 or email dpressgrove@cathedralcity.gov

CATHEDRAL CITY CONTACT INFORMATION (also on Nextdoor.Montage)

Cathedral City Emergency 911

Cathedral City Police 760.770.0300

Police Emergency Only 760.202.2411

Fire 760.770.8200