

# THE RIVIERA REPORTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

SERVING THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA COMMUNITY SINCE THE 1940's

February 2016



## A Message from the Board

by Judy Brunetti, Co-President

### CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FURTHER ACTION ON TREE ORDINANCE!!

On Thursday, January 14, there was standing room only in city hall chambers as residents filled the room and spoke publicly about the need for a tree ordinance in Torrance. Many Riviera residents were in attendance, and the majority spoke about their efforts to keep their view while trying to maintain a positive relationship with their tree-owning neighbors.

At the end of the evening, committee chairperson Mike Griffiths stated that he understands the need for an ordinance. He and councilman Tim Goodrich charged city staff with the task of researching the Rolling Hills Estates tree ordinance to see how it could work in our city. Council member Heidi Ashcraft asked that city trees be included in this ordinance, but it was decided that because the city owns over 40,000 trees in Torrance, the ordinance would be prohibitively expensive if they were included. Both privately-owned and city-owned trees need to be addressed, but they are administered differently, so it seemed logical to do one first, then the other.

City staff will research the Rolling Hills Estates code and will project if funding will be needed for extra staff members. Update from the city: "...the committee asked for more specific information from the Rolling Hills Estates ordinance as well as from other ordinances. A follow-up meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, March 24** at 7:00pm in Council Chambers. Staff will be bringing information regarding how various jurisdictions define views as well as procedures used in their ordinances." In the meantime, your ideas and suggestions may continue to be forwarded to the RHA and/or to:

Linda Cessna  
Deputy Community Development Director  
3031 Torrance Blvd  
Torrance CA 90503  
(310) 618-5930  
[lcessna@torranceca.gov](mailto:lcessna@torranceca.gov)

*Presidents' message  
continued on p. 3*

**RHA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday February 17 at 7 PM**  
**Richardson Middle School**

### TRAFFIC AND DEVELOPMENT

We are delighted to welcome Jacki Bacharach, executive director of South Bay Cities Council of Governments, to discuss traffic in the South Bay. She has worked for LA County Metro and LA County Rail Systems for many years.

There are few people better qualified to answer questions and concerns about development along the PCH corridor, transportation density, traffic patterns and the "long view" about traffic projections of the future.

We will be asking her to suggest solutions for our local transportation issues.

We hope you will join us!

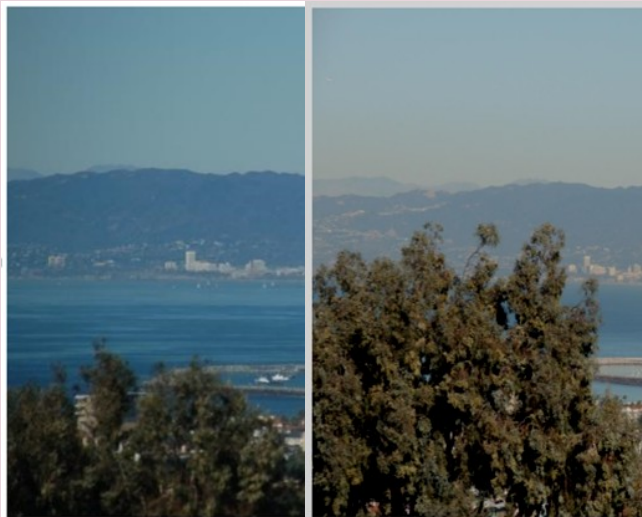
The program starts at 7 PM, doors open at 6:30, and there will be light refreshments. As always, there will be an opportunity to update your membership or make a donation to the RHA at that time.



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Before and after example of view obstruction





# Outstanding Landscape Awards Presented by the Riviera Homeowners Association and the Riviera Garden Club

Photos by: Julian Chasin



**October 2015 – The Marino residence**  
940 Calle Miramar

Visit  
[www.hollywoodriviera.org](http://www.hollywoodriviera.org)  
for Riviera Landscape  
awards dating  
from 1989!

## LEGADO (1700 PCH, at Palos Verdes Blvd) and MORE MIXED USE

The Legado plan voted on in November was too massive and traffic-generating and so DENIED by the Redondo Planning Commission. But, instead of going back to the drawing board to find common ground

with residents re: density and traffic problems, Legado instead filed an appeal with City Council, forcing them to hear testimony on one of the several earlier plans. Thus far, none have met the compromise requests of the Save The Riviera citizens' group, presented during hours of meetings. A City Council hearing is anticipated either in mid-February or in March. (Please "Like" the **SaveTheRiviera** page on Facebook, for up-dated information.)

In the midst of this, RHA and community representatives continue to work closely with RB Staff and Commissioners, encouraging them to refine their laws so that development plans like Legado's (that are too large and out of character here) will not be allowed to erode our wonderful beach community. Stay tuned...



**November 2015 – The Nitsiotis residence**  
137 Via Sego



**December 2015 – the Nilson residence**  
5502 Via del Valle

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Proud homeowner in the Riviera since 2004! **SHOREWOOD REALTORS**



### Presidents' message (cont.)

It's not too late to support the RHA with the many projects that help our community: pushing for a view ordinance, getting the fencing on PCH finished, advocating for residents during Planning Commission hearings, attending council meetings regarding the Legado Development, making sure the gym at Richardson does not impact residents near the school, scholarships for local students.

Help us continue to keep our neighborhood the special place it has always been. Please send in your membership dues or donations. The application is on page 4 of this newsletter. Thank you!!

### Calling all scholars!

For the 21st\* consecutive year, Riviera Homeowners' Assn. is again pleased to be able to award scholarships to 2 of our community's many deserving HS seniors this Spring.

Our final decision is based on a combination of achievement and service.

### Deadline for applications is March 1, 2016.

Your annual membership dues and donations make this possible.

Please visit <http://hollywoodriviera.org/riviera-scholars/scholarship-applications/> for details on how to apply.

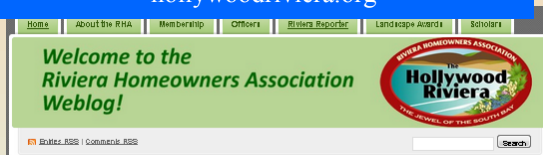
### Volunteer opportunities

We need you! Can you help the RHA with beverages or snacks during general meetings? Or set up the snack table for those meetings? Or set up chairs at 6:00 on meeting nights?

Do your interests lie in computer skills? We need someone who could take the Torrance PD crime statistics and send out an email blast to our area. Or are you interested in government?

We need a second planning commission observer to rotate when HOO cases are being heard. A post on the RHA board might be a stepping stone to local government positions. Call 310 378-5616, ask for Judy. Or call 310 375-8729, ask for Pam.

Sign up for email blasts at our weblog:  
[hollywoodriviera.org](http://hollywoodriviera.org)



### Valentine's Day Story and Craft

Celebrate Valentine's Day February 10 at 4:00PM with a story and craft you are sure to love. This program is free, sponsored by the Friends of the Torrance Library, and no registration is required. Recommended for school aged children. For more information please call the **El Retiro Library** at 310-375-0922.



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Advertise with the RHA.  
Advertising: 310 373-6314, President 310 378-5616.

### From the Torrance Public Works department website:

The City's tree policy allows property owners to have the City tree adjacent to their property trimmed or removed by a private contractor through the permit process. There is no charge for the City permit; however, property owners are responsible for contacting the tree contractor, and for all costs associated with the work. Tree maintenance procedures are designed to protect the health and aesthetic value of street trees. Maintenance practices detrimental to trees, such as topping and over pruning, are not condoned by the City, and residents should not expect a City-approved private tree service to perform these tasks.

For more information, go online to:

[www.torranceca.gov/1866.htm](http://www.torranceca.gov/1866.htm)



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(24 HOUR MESSAGE CENTER)

# Membership Form

## Join the Riviera Homeowners Association (RHA) for 2015– 2016

Your dues are an important contribution to our community. They allow us to provide scholarships to college-bound students, and donations to elementary, middle and high school programs. They are used to sponsor general meetings in the Riviera on topics important to our community. They finance our newsletters and communications, and allow us to keep members informed on important issues being discussed in the City. Your dues allow us to thank City Hall 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 to 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 or \$45 for two years. Please fill out the form below, 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](http://www.hollywoodriviera.org).

Because the RHA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, your membership is tax-deductible!

(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: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to be on our email list, please provide us with your email address, or see how to sign up, below.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\$25 dollar annual membership for 2015-2016 (Sept. – Aug.)**

**\$45 dollar membership for two years (2015 – 2017)**

Additional contributions are welcome!    \_\_\_\$25    \_\_\_\$50    \_\_\_\$100    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Candidates Forum

On Wed. April 20, 2016, we will hold an election forum at 7 PM for the city council candidates for the June 7 election. There are only three seats open this time, and only five candidates filed so far.

### Concerned about helicopter noise?

The Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition has submitted four petitions to the Federal Aviation Administration that will reduce helicopter noise. For more info, visit: [lahelicopternoise.org/](http://lahelicopternoise.org/)

## Riviera Homeowners Association 2015-2016 Officers and Directors

### Co-presidents

• Judy Brunetti	310-378-5616	Scholarship	Amy Josefek		
• Amy Josefek		Online Editor/Photographer	Julian Chasin	310-373-6314	
• Pam Popovich	310-375-8729	City Council Observer	Judy Brunetti	310-378-5616	
Membership Chair	Julie Garbe	310-378-5831	Immediate Past President	Judy Brunetti	310-378-5616
Secretary	Nancy Mansfield-Staudt	310-378-5334	Treasurer	Deborah Naumovski	310-999-1203
Newsletter	Pam Popovich	310-375-8729	Landscape	Neva Gallegos	310-738-3976

**Visit the RHA Website at [hollywoodriviera.org](http://hollywoodriviera.org)!    The RHA officers can be contacted via email:**

[president@hollywoodriviera.org](mailto:president@hollywoodriviera.org)  
[secretary@hollywoodriviera.org](mailto:secretary@hollywoodriviera.org)  
[treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org](mailto:treasurer@hollywoodriviera.org)  
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