

THE RIVIERA REPORTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

SERVING THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA COMMUNITY SINCE THE 1940's - December 2012



Presidents' Message

RHA Co-Presidents
Judy Brunetti and
Janet Kaplan

There is so much happening in the Riviera that it is hard to know where to begin!

The most important issue for many residents is the recent application to open a Rock & Brews beer garden on the site of the current Oliver's restaurant at the corner of PCH and Palos Verdes Blvd. The application was denied by the Planning Commission and will be reviewed at a Torrance City Council meeting on either December 4th or 18th at 7 PM

Residents would like to see a successful restaurant on that site. However, Riviera residents have raised concerns about noise from the proposed beer garden: Rock & Brews features a mostly-outdoor dining area, and big screen televisions that continuously play rock music videos. They will be open until 11 PM during the week and until 2 AM on the weekends. There is the potential for noise to affect homes in a wide area, plus a number of other concerns, including parking and traffic. To the developers' credit, they are working on plan revision and have commissioned a sound study for that meeting.

The neighbors and the RHA have contacted Torrance officials to call for a development on the site that fits into the Riviera community, is in harmony with the quiet of our neighborhood, and does not reduce our property values.

To support this effort, you can go to our website, www.hollywoodriviera.org and sign a petition and/or contribute to an independent noise study. You can also contact our city officials directly by email or phone, or if you feel strongly about this issue, come to the city council meeting which currently is scheduled for some time in December.

Also, we haven't forgotten about trees and views. We are meeting with city council members to ask for their support for an ordinance. Our general meeting in February will feature David Wahba, Planning Director of Rolling Hills Estates, to explain how their view ordinance works.

On a happy note, the holiday season is almost here, and the Riviera sparkles when it is brightened up with lights and decorations. The Riviera Stroll this year is on Thursday, November 29 from 5 to 9 PM. The upscale shops and restaurants in the village stay open late to entice you with one-of-a-kind treasures and delectable treats. Hope to see you there!

RHA General Meeting

Wednesday, December 5, 6:30 PM
(early start) Richardson Middle
School Cafeteria 23751 Nancy Lee
Lane (off Newton Street) Torrance,
CA 90505

"Happy Holidays"

Christmas and Hannukah music
performed by the Riviera Element-
ary School choir, under the direc-
tion of Laura Savitz, and the
Richardson Middle School choir,
under the direction of Karrie Willet.



OUTSTANDING LANDSCAPE AWARDS



Kris and David Kenneth, 148 Vista Del Parque

Kris and David Kenneth recently redesigned their front entry to reflect the tropical, lush, relaxing feel of their destination wedding in Puerto Vallarta. The home's previous entry consisted of old railway ties and was not functional for the family or pets. From the street, you are welcomed by custom crafted wood gates flanked by two King Palms,. The remaining front border is filled with Penstemon, Cordyline, Ginger and Euphorbia. The new large flagstone courtyard secures their two small children and two dogs. It is used for entertaining, lots of play time and is flooded with color including: Princess Flower, Pygmy Date Palm, Ginger, Canna, Angel's Trumpet, Purple Banana, Trumpet Vine, Euphorbia, and Geranium. The home is very welcoming and lushly private.



Jeff Harris, 401 Calle de Aragon

A fire 3 years ago necessitated a complete remodel and new landscaping. Landscape architect, Nicola Lagodis of Amadeus Gardens worked with owner Jeff and a hardscape team. Olive trees and very colorful landscaping replaced palms for a whole new look from the street level. A meandering flagstone path leads down to a hardscaped landing with a fountain adjacent to the front porch and door. The rich dark flagstone, and a plot of deep green fescue grass on the lower slope, reflects a richness of the strong colors and contrasts achieved by Nicola's careful planning. Salvias, roses and multi-hued kangaroo paws provide the color punch.



Annie and Steve Paulson, 140 Via Los Miradores

The water-wise landscape of Annie and Steve Paulson's new home harmonize with the color and lines of the contemporary architecture. The Palo Verde tree is a focal point within the street-side planting group and is accompanied by other water-wise plantings including: Blue Fescue, Karagroo paw, Dymondia, Senecio, Lion's Tail, and Flax. Stepping down from the street to the entry is a large front courtyard softened by various plantings including several tropical feeling plants: Giant Bird of Paradise, Mondo Grass, Sago Palm and Papyrus. Congratulations to the Paulson family for integrating their home and landscape so seamlessly.



Megan Baltimore & Rick Howard, 112 Paseo de Suenos

Megan and Rick bought this house a short distance from the beach, a year ago. The front yard was a bit tired and overgrown before Megan took to refurbishing it in a very colorful drought tolerant landscaping. Varied sizes and types of grasses wave in the ocean breeze and purple statice, succulents and kangaroo paws add the texture and color. A very interesting stone path curves up to the entry level of the home and the careful landscaping of the slope with a street side retaining wall is an excellent primer on good slope design.

Landscape Awards are chosen by a committee of Riviera Homeowners and Riviera Garden club members. Photo credit: Julian Chasin and Janet Hart ; Text: Karen Lent and Janet Hart. See more at www.hollywoodriviera.org.



MembershipForm

Join the Riviera Homeowners Association (RHA) For 2012 – 2013

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. 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.

(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.

Email: _____

☐ \$ 25 dollar annual membership for 2012-2013 (Sept. – Aug.)

☐ \$40 dollar membership for two years (2012 – 2014)

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

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SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRPERSON POSITION AVAILABLE

Would you like to help select our scholarship winners in the spring? We are looking for a scholarship chairperson to work with a small group to grant three RHA scholarships to local college-bound students. For more information please email us at scholarships@hollywoodriviera.org or call (310) 378-5616 and ask for Judy. Thank you!

Riviera Homeowners Association 2012-2013 Officers and Directors

Co-President Janet Kaplan	310-780-9641	Treasurer Paul Popovich	310-375-3592
Co-President Judy Brunetti	310-378-5616	Assistant Program Chair Cindy Constantino	310 -245-0140
Membership Chair Julie Garbe	310-378-5831	Online Editor/Photographer Julian Chasin	310-737-6314
Secretary Judy English	310-378-0361	Community Liason Pam Popovich	310-375-8729
Hospitality Chair Nancy Mansfield-Staudt	310-378-5334	City Council Observer Richard Root	310-375-1594
Landscape Chair Janet Hart	310-373-6507	Immediate Past President Roberta Blowers	310-930-1322

Visit the RHA Website at www.hollywoodriviera.org. The following RHA officers can be contacted via email:

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