

Rancho San Clemente

www.rscga.com

Community Association

Spring
2023
Newsletter

Spring is here !

.... and gentle rains have carpeted the hills and slopes with sunny yellow mustard blooms and colorful African Daisies throughout the community. Enjoy!

All Way Stop Signs, Crosswalk & Bike Lanes

... on Calle Del Cerro @ upper Vista Montana are in the works as unanimously approved by the City Council on March 7, 2023. Kristy Newhausen of Villagio II spearheaded a group of 30 homeowners who attended Planning commission and City Council meetings to share harrowing experiences and accounts of numerous preventable accidents. The curve along Calle Del Cerro obscures the line of sight for drivers exiting Villagio II and for drivers traveling downhill on Calle Del Cerro. Speeding has also been a safety concern.

Orange County Fire Authority

... Greetings from Jonathan Lim, Senior Fire Inspector.

First and foremost, we hope you have remained safe and healthy over this last year. Moreover, we want to express our gratitude for your flexibility and all your hard work to keep the residents and communities of Orange County safe from wildfires.

As you are all undoubtedly aware, Orange County had two large, unexpected fires in 2022: 1) The Emerald Fire in Emerald Bay in February, and 2) The Coastal Fire in Laguna Niguel in May. These were unexpected, considering Southern California sees winter weather thru February and in May the temperatures were unseasonably cool with higher humidity and an onshore flow. These were largely wind driven fires that had high rates of spread. The Emerald Fire, although wind driven, did not reach into the community of Emerald Bay largely due to good vegetation management around the perimeter of the community and homes. In addition, we truly believe that the well-maintained and living trees on the north side contributed to preventing embers from getting into the community. The Coastal Fire in Laguna Niguel, unfortunately, had a different outcome. The community involved has had a fuel modification in place that helped prevent direct flame impingement to the properties. Unfortunately, the damage caused by this fire was due to embers being cast onto the homes and getting into attics through vents with ¼" mesh and older roof systems.

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Our focus is in two areas: 1) vegetation maintenance and 2) providing home hardening education. These areas are the two main factors that determine the ability of firefighters to safely defend a home and either increase or decrease the home's survivability in the absence of intervention.

OCFA will begin inspecting the areas in and around your communities in the coming months. As a community manager, you are an integral part for ensuring those areas are in compliance with either an approved Fuel Mod Plan if applicable or to the State's Defensible Space requirements. This is the time of year when the heavy lifting should be completed. Prior to coming out to conduct an inspection, we are offering to meet with you, the Landscape Company and even the HOA Board to review areas and address any questions or concerns.

We anticipate beginning our inspections in April.

We are also asking for your help in getting the word out to your communities regarding our Home Assessment program for Home Hardening. This tool can be found on our website at <https://ocfa.org/RSG/HomeAssessment> or by having the homeowners contact us at (714) 573-6774 to schedule a free Home Assessment.

Questions? Call Jonathan Lim: 949. 274.6786

Police Service:

Call Police Dispatch: 949.770.6011

New city police chief: Captain James Christian

Questions? City desk: 949.361.8224

Code Compliance:

Call (949) 366-4705

email; codeenforcement@san-clemente.org

Board of Directors

President: Vonne Barnes, Montego
Vice-President: Jerry Anderson, Villagio I
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Meetings are on the second Thursday each month at 6:00 pm via Zoom or at St. Andrews Church, 2001 Calle Frontera, San Clemente, CA 92672

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