



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

June 2008

Operation Safe Canyons

Stephanie Abronson attended the May Las Virgenes Federation meeting to gather information on the progress of the "Operation Safe Canyons." The following is her report:

Making presentations were: *Susan Nissman* from Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's office - *Anish Saraiya*, LADPW (Dept. of Public Works) Traffic & Lighting (626)300 4832; email: *asaraiya@dwp.gov* - *Steve Pessell*, CHP (818) 888 0980; email: *spessell@CHP.ca.gov* - *Brooke Covington*, CHP (818) 888 0980; email: *bcovington@CHP.ca.gov* - *Phillip Brooks*, LASD Traffic Sergeant at Lost Hills Station, (818) 878 5555; email: *pdbrooks@LASD.org*.

The most important fact is that the Traffic Study done last year is only valid for one more month. IF MNVCA does NOT request the recommended increase in the speed limit on Cold Canyon Rd immediately, the Study will have to be done all over again! That will take another 1 to 2 years to complete. (Editor's Note: The MNVCA Board is in the process of submitting a request to implement the Traffic Study.) The Traffic Study must be implemented right away. The speed limits on Cold Canyon Road would be as follows:

From Mulholland Hwy to Wonderview, the speed limit would be raised to 40 MPH (yes, we are all aware that this speed is dangerous for ingress and egress from the homes above Wonderview, but the Traffic Study shows this as the mean speed of cars traveling this section of Cold Canyon Road, and the DPW is required to put signage at the 85% of the cars tabulated in the Traffic Study using this section of the road);

From Wonderview to Piuma Road would be 35 MPH. I made a strong point that there are 5 homes north of Wonderview where horses are kept, and the need for a readjustment of the location of that 35 MPH signage. Mr. Saraiya said that he would reevaluate its location.

The good news with the raise in the speed limit on Cold Canyon Road is that the Sheriff Department and the California Highway Patrol can then use radar to catch the speeders. With the 30 MPH on Cold Canyon Rd., they are not allowed to use radar according to the California Vehicle Code. Chasing speeders which is the only option currently open to the Sheriff and CHP, is out of the question on Cold Canyon Road. Tickets for speeding in a 30 MPH zone are most often fought by the speeder and the

courts frequently dismiss these speeding tickets. We need radar! It is likely that many of the speeding violators will be us. (So consider yourself warned!)

The Dept. of Public Works continues to evaluate signage. Because Monte Nido is located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, we are governed by the California Vehicle Code, which has very stringent regulations regarding signage on the roadways. The yellow warning signs currently in use were not discussed. "Share the Road" signage is currently not one of the signs permitted by the California Vehicle Code. There are warning signs (yellow) available for bikes, wildlife and equestrian crossings. A Stop sign at or near Thornhill on Cold Canyon Road would be of great benefit to our neighborhood, but currently cannot be installed as it violates the California Vehicle Code.

Regarding the "Rumble Strips" for the current mountain racing loop used by motorcycle and speed freaks, particularly in the middle of the night, the DWP has applied for grant funds for this project. This racing loop is from Mulholland Hwy at Stunt Road, down Cold Canyon Road, up Piuma Road, across Scheuren Road, and back down Stunt Road to Mulholland. There has been a decrease in the racing activity, according to the Sheriff Dept., but they anticipate a rise during the summer months. The Sheriff Dept. is planning to strictly enforce the laws regarding noise. The big problem is catching the violators. The Sheriff deputies must actually be in the location of the violators.

LASD Sergeant Phillip Brooks shared the current Summary Report for Operation Safe Canyons: Statistics are: *January 08*: 25 Arrests, 228 Citations, 464 Patrol Hours - *February 08*: 14 Arrests, 114 Citations, 250 Patrol Hours - *March 08*: 3 Arrests, 89 Citations, 169 Patrol Hours - *April 08*: 8 Arrests, 129 Citations, 282 Patrol Hours - *Totals*: 50 Arrests, 560 Citations, 1065 Patrol Hours. The CHP also listed statistics on arrests, citations, and patrol hours.

We must be vigilant in our own neighborhood and when we observe a traffic violation, like passing your car over the double yellow line or tossing cigarette butts out a window, try to get the make, model, color of the vehicle, and especially the license number. Note down the date, time, and the location of this violation and report it to the CHP: (323) 982 4945 or 1-800 TELL CHP (800 - 8355-247); or email this information to Officer Leon Hines *lhines@chp.ca.gov*. The owner of that vehicle will

be sent a notice that they were observed in violation of the law and it goes on their driving record. These reports can add up quickly to improve CHP coverage of our neighborhood.

More good news is that Supervisor Zev Yaroslavyk is continuing to fund the Sheriff Dept to work with the CHP for "Operation Safe Canyons" in the Santa Monica Mountains (over 500 miles of roads to be patrolled).

Motorized dirt bikes, etc., on our mountain trails are extremely difficult to regulate. Even spark arrestors, which the rider may claim alleviates the problem of starting a fire, are not effective in our chaparral. We need to be vigilant. When we find anyone violating the laws regarding mechanized bikes or cycles on the local trails, we need to find out the names of the violators and report them to our local Fire Captain (818) 222 1099, and to the Sheriff Dept. (818) 878 1808. Formal reports carry weight.

Individuals may also write letters to the various agencies and personnel cited above in support of our neighborhood needs, and are encouraged to do so. Your letters do carry weight.

Backbone Trail Repair Scheduled

Sat. June 28, 8:30 am

Community Help Requested

The Santa Monica Mountains Trail crew will work on the Backbone Trail along Piuma and/or between Piuma and Stunt Rd. They need community volunteers to help. This is our chance to get the work done to be able to ride this trail without ducking and dodging low limbs. Please get on the phone and call all of your hiking and riding friends so that we can get this trail cleared and repaired well enough to last a few years. Contact Jeanne Wallace 818-222 2560.

Save Our State Parks Successful!

"The voices of state park supporters across the state have been heard! In May, Governor Schwarzenegger announced he reversed course on his proposal to close state parks. He released a revision to his January budget and is now proposing to restore funding to keep all of California's state parks open and keep lifeguards on our state beaches. This is welcome news, and is a real testament to the activism of tens of thousands of state park advocates who kept this issue alive in their communities. Congratulations to the Save Our State Parks Campaign for making this a top priority for the Governor and Legislature to hear!

But the work is far from over, and the Save Our State Parks Campaign will continue. It's important to remember that the Governor's proposal is just that, a proposal, and must be approved by the Legislature. Save Our State Parks will be working with legislative leaders to ensure they share the goal of keeping all state parks open and accessible, and to secure their approval of funding to do so. At the same time, the proposal to close 48 state parks and take lifeguards off 16 state beaches illustrated how under funded the state park system truly is, and how precarious its long-term fiscal picture appears. While we may have averted an immediate crisis, our challenge is clear - as park supporters, we must identify and advocate for sustainable funding for

our state park system. Otherwise, we will simply be fighting, year after year, over another list of 48 parks to be closed."

(The preceding was a news release from the California State Parks Foundation. 714 West Olympic Blvd., Ste. 717 Los Angeles, CA 90015. 1510 J Street, Suite 120 Sacramento, CA 95814 www.Calparks.org)

July 4th Update "Happy Trails"

July 4th is next month! Planning is underway for our annual bash! The theme will be "Happy Trails". Grand Marshall will be Georgia Faranelli. Jane and John Cudworth are once again organizing the raffle. They will be contacting neighbors to ask for donations. Please help, and come forward with some creative raffle prizes. More volunteers are still needed to make the day happen. It can't happen without a group of people to plan and execute it. If you have the time and energy, and want to have a great experience with other like-minded neighbors, please contact Suzanne Bailey at Suzyb0904@aol.com or 818-222-7663.

Block Captains *Still* Needed (Haven't I seen this before?)

Yes you're right. This article does look like a reprint from the last couple of months. Why? Because we still need some people to step up to the plate on this one. Last year's fires made it clear that Monte Nido needs an organized system to alert us all in the event of danger or emergency. The Board has decided the simplest, most effective response will be to reactivate the Block Captain system. All the plans and materials are already in place. The only thing missing is people to make it happen. We need someone to act as "General" to shepherd the process, as well as Block Captains to take direct responsibility for their local street(s). If you can help Monte Nido plan for emergency situations, please contact Joan Slimocosky at 591-1082.

!Coyote Alert!

It has been brought to the editor's attention that a local resident has been feeding the coyotes. As a result, they have become increasingly brazen and less likely to be frightened by human contact. The resident has been asked to discontinue the feeding, but residents are warned that at present, contact with coyotes may prove more hazardous than in the past.

How to reach us:

Send your email address to Jill Reiss, the MNVCA secretary, at mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com, to receive announcements of meetings, community activities, and the time and location of our Board meetings.

President: Joan Slimocosky 591-1082

Vice Pres: John Low 224-8062

Treasurer: Marianne Cilluffo 876-3019

Secretary: Jill Reiss 222-1995

Contributions to the newsletter can be sent to the editor at mnvcanewsletter@gmail.com

**MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
BULLETIN BOARD**

June 2008

<p align="center">! ATTENTION TEENAGERS ! Flexible part-time help for light in-outdoor chores 818-222-6818</p>	<p align="center">PERSONAL TRAINING & REHAB THERAPIST Gyrotonics 3D Fitness of Calabasas DEAN THEODORE 679-6205 dean@3dfitnessofcalabasas.com</p>
<p align="center">ARCHITECT Custom homes and Remodels GARY BARDOVI 222-0313</p>	<p align="center">PIANO LESSONS beginners and advanced Call Aukse 222-6947 or cell 310-500-5121</p>
<p align="center">ARCHITECT Sensitive to budget & lifestyle. Responsive to the land and environment. Monte Nido resident for over 25 years Warren Lawson 591-0646</p>	<p align="center">PSYCHOTHERAPY Specializing in eating disorders and adolescent problems. DAWN THEODORE, MA, MFT 679-6204 dawn@calabasaeatingdisorders.com</p>
<p align="center">COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL CARE We provide general dentistry, orthodontics, invisalign, sedation dentistry (great if you are high fear), implants, and cosmetic dentistry. Monte Nido resident practicing for over 20 yrs in Sherman Oaks. Michael Bjornbak, DDS 818-781-3411 www.shermanoaksdental.com</p>	<p align="center">REAL ESTATE Specializing in Monte Nido Properties. Top Coldwell Banker Agent representing Buyers and Sellers in our community for more than 20 years. How much is your house worth? Call for a complementary market analysis. Tracy Bunetta 222-2272 MonteNidoRealEstate.com</p>
<p align="center">DESIGN & BUILD Residential remodel and new construction All under one roof: Design, Construction, Interiors. Licensed General Contractor 917-1803 www.designblue.com</p>	<p align="center">Real Estate In business for over 20 years, your business is appreciated. It is my professional and personal pleasure to live in Monte Nido. Gail A. Lowe 222-5543 gailcb@earthlink.net</p>
<p align="center">GREAT OPPORTUNITY Possible Ownership for all-around person to run Tool-Die-Sheet Metal machine shop, etc. Full/part time, retired or semi-retired person. Westlake Village, CA area Call for Details 818-222-6818</p>	<p align="center">SADDLE PEAK LODGE DINNER WE-SU 5-10pm, BRUNCH SA-SU 11am-3pm Special Wednesday Farmers' Market menu Blue jean friendly, new air conditioning Ask about our complimentary parking for our Monte Nido neighbors. 222 3888</p>

To place an ad contact Nicole Brown at macvooodoo@netpowered.com or 818-914-6138
Private Party Ads, \$5 per month. Business Ads, \$10 per month
Pay to: MNVCA. Mail to: Nicole Brown, PO Box 423, Malibu, CA 90265

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MNVCA Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 8, 7PM
At the home of Rosemary Alden
901 Crater Camp Dr
222-2936

ETI Corral 36

Seminar & Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 1, 7 PM
Guest Speaker
Farrier Shane Togami
(Practice includes basic hoof care
and specialized care
for the laminitic or foundered horse)
At the home of
Val Coleman & Lorraine Rose
25622 Huckleberry Dr.
818-222 7512
Bring a chair and warm jacket.
Parking is limited-Please carpool

Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation Meeting

Thursday, June 19, 7:30PM
Diamond X Ranch
(Off Mulholland)

Universal Worship Service:

First Sunday of each month, 10:00AM
Marilyn Browning
222-6363

A Course in Miracles Study Group.

Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00AM
Marilyn Browning
222-6362

Zen Meditation

Thursday evenings at 7:30pm
Rosemary Taylor Alden
222-2936

Monte Nido Valley Community Association
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