



MONTE NIDO VALLEY



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A Dark Sky Community

E-NEWSLETTER

October 2009

Crime Watch

At the September meeting of the MNVCA Board of Directors, two sheriffs deputies from the Lost Hills station made a presentation on crime and safety in Monte Nido. Sheriffs Deputies Shawn Brownell, Robert Desantis emphasized that although it may seem as though Monte Nido has experienced a rash of burglaries in the preceding months, in fact, to date our neighborhood has had fewer criminal incidents than in 2008. Monte Nido is exceptionally safe and relatively free from serious crime. Only 10 part one crimes (felonies) were reported so far in 2009, and of those, many will turn out not, in fact, to have been felonies after all. Don't overreact about the few incidents that have recently occurred. They are very few in number.

The sheriffs made some suggestions about how we can best protect ourselves from crime. Sheriffs do not routinely patrol our area because we're remote. Therefore, it is important for us to keep an eye out for unusual or suspicious people and events. Auto break-ins usually happen because an item of value is left in the car in clear view. So keep things out of sight in the car. In our type of neighborhood, many of the crimes are committed by locals. When you notice something that's not right or out of the ordinary, immediately call the station at 818-878-1808. Your call can be anonymous. Keep houses and vehicles locked and valuable items out of plain view. Install motion sensor lighting at corners of the house. Alarm systems will discourage crime. Criminals don't like light or noise. Make sure your address is visible on your home so deputies can easily find you.

One way to help solve crimes is to identify all your items with serial numbers or to grind in an ID. Use a video camera to make a record of your possessions, identifying and describing them. Keep the DVD in a safety deposit box off premises so there's a record that won't burn or be stolen.

The deputies also stressed that we should never be shy about calling to report anything that appears curious or suspicious. They will be happy to respond. The number to call, again, is 818-878-1808.

Everyone Is Invited!! BBQ & Square Dance

Mark your calendars! Get out your dancing shoes and your best do-si-do dress. The annual Monte Nido Square Dance and BBQ is right around the corner. Once again this year, we will enjoy a night of dinner and dancing along with the Cold Canyon Homeowner's Association. A flyer with all the details is included in this newsletter. **RSVPs and prepayment are mandatory. No Exceptions!** Please note that this year's event will be held at the Salvation Army facilities in Tapia Park and as such, we must be respectful of their policies and property. Last year's event was a resounding success and was quite well attended. We are planning a repeat performance and hope all Monte Nido residents will attend!

Please Support Our Trails

Trails are an integral part of our neighborhood. Many of us work hard on trails year after year for everyone's enjoyment. If you cannot donate time and effort to help maintain the trails, monetary donations to our local trails fund are greatly appreciated and help to pay for our hired trail clearing crew. Please support our ETI Corral 36 Trails Maintenance program and send your donation to Jeanne Wallace, 1710 N. Cold Canyon Road, Calabasas, 91302. For information call: (818) 222-2560.

Street Captains Needed

The fire threat in Monte Nido is as serious as it can get. MNCVA is working closely with National Parks and others to create a wildfire protection plan for Monte Nido. We need street captains. Please volunteer to organize your own street or area. If we do a good job, we could qualify for a federal grant for brush/tree clearance. For more information, and to volunteer, please call Joan Kay at (818) 222-2977.

Missing Woman

As many of us are aware, as young woman, Mitrice Richardson, has been reported missing and it is possible that she was last seen alive in our neighborhood. She is a 24-year-old African American. If anyone has seen her or has any information about her whereabouts, please contact the police immediately.

MNVCA Board of Directors

The meeting was called to order on July 14, 2009, at 7pm at the home of Joan Kay. Present were board members Joan Kay, Joan Slimocosky, Marianne Cilluffo, John Low, Carrie and Brent Baltin, Heidi Stompe and Suzanne Bailey (acting secretary). Also present was community member Stephanie Abronson. **The agenda** was changed to include the addition of a request for a check for the Pony Club donation approved at the last meeting. **The minutes** of the last meeting were reviewed and approved. **Treasurer's Report:** Board approved covering expenses for newsletter printing, Pony Club donation (previously approved), replenishing postal account, reimbursement to Suzanne Bailey for July 4th expenses. Treasurer will move some money from the CD to pay these expenses. **Correspondence:** Joan Slimocosky received three pieces of mail that she shared with the board, and which will be referenced in the next newsletter: MRT mailer about xeriscape planting, rattlesnake workshops. Fran Pavley newsletter with legislative information. Water District information **Federation Report:** John Low reported: Don Schmitz is involved with development interests in Calabasas. Ridgeline viewshed concerns were expressed. City of Calabasas is reviewing its plan and development codes and their implementation. "Mont Calabasas" is petitioning to be annexed into the City of Calabasas. **Old Business:** *Fourth of July* Suzanne Bailey gave the financial report. Net proceeds were \$784.46 due to the need to buy sandwiches to sell, and to a significant drop in food sales this year. Suzanne has emailed next year's chairperson, Tracy Bunetta, for a decision on a new location for the tables, tubs, ropes, flags, banners and other equipment that goes with this event. An American flag was left at the event. Suzanne will call Phil Fleeman, who left it there hoping someone would return. If the flag has not been claimed she will add it to the items stored. The board formally thanked Stephanie Abronson for putting together the display of past Grand Marshals, which was enjoyed by all. Board discussed how to encourage greater equine participation in parade as in years past when upwards of 20 equine participated. *Malibu Valley Farms* Board approved \$200 for original certified transcript of July 8 CCC Revision Hearing at which MVF was approved (after initial approval, lawsuits, reversals, revisions, and re-submission). Joan Slimocosky will notify the board's treasurer with information on which agency will receive the check. *Fire Workshop* Joan Slimocosky will write a formal thank-you

letter from the board to Kathy Kirkpatrick, who manned a Fire Workshop Information Table at the July 4 event. Only 5 names were on the sign up sheet at the end of the day. The board concluded that the best way to combat this apathy was to form a small group to plan a strategy, to meet at later date. *Reverse 911* Joan Slimocosky brought an LA Times dated Friday, June 19 with an article reporting that the Reverse 911 system was in place throughout LA county for any land-line. Cell phones must be added to the system by the user, through the county website. *Signage* Joan Slimocosky has made calls about getting deer crossing signs, and will follow up. *Pony Club Donation* The treasurer issued a check to Pony Club for \$500, to help send our local riders to a high-level competition back East (approved at the meeting before this one). **New Business:** *In Memoriam* The board noted with sadness, the passing of Shirley Duryee. Joan Slimocosky will write a memorial article about Shirley to be put into the newsletter. *Fire Station* Volunteers are needed to help our firefighters design and implement a water-wise landscaping plan for our newly remodeled fire station. They can contact Suzanne Bailey at 818-222-7663. This information will go into the newsletter and also we will ask Jill to send it in an email blast. *Wildlife Corridors* Heidi Stompe pointed out that if people use contiguous fencing, they are closing off large areas of land for local wildlife habitat. She suggested that the newsletter have an article informing people that, if they are considering new fencing, that rather than "piggyback" onto a neighbors fence line, they leave a 4-6 foot wide gap and build a parallel fence so that wildlife have sufficient corridors to get across mountains, creeks, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Bailey

*All neighbors are welcome
and encouraged to attend Board meetings.
We welcome your interest and involvement!*

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 818-591-1082

Vice Pres: John Low 818-224-8062

Treasurer: Marianne Cilluffo 818-876-3019

Secretary: Jill Reiss 818-222-1995

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

OCTOBERFEST BBQ & SQUARE DANCE

CO-SPONSORED BY
MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
&
COLD CREEK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009
SALVATION ARMY CAMP MT. CRAGS
LAS VIRGENES NORTH OF PIUMA
ENTER AT TAPIA PARK

DINNER 6 - 8 P.M.
DANCING 8 - 10 P.M.

\$25.00 PER PERSON, ADVANCED SALES **ONLY!**
R.S.V.P. BY OCTOBER 9, 2009

TRADITIONAL BBQ RIBS, CHICKEN & SIDES
DESSERT, COFFEE, ICE TEA AND WATER PROVIDED

PLEASE ENJOY YOUR COCKTAILS AT HOME
NO ALCOHOLIC DRINKS ALLOWED ON SITE
PER SALVATION ARMY RULE

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MNVCA & MAIL TO: JOAN SLIMOCOSKY
25632 BUCKHORN DRIVE, CALABASAS CA 91302

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CCCC & MAIL TO: MARY LANDROTH
26005 MULHOLLAND HIGHWAY, CALABASAS, CA 91302

_____ TICKETS

**MONTE NIDO VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
BULLETIN BOARD**

<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">ROGER SAVATTERI Monte Nido Resident Custom furniture and cabinetry. Unique patinas on wood and metal. www.savatteridesigns.com 310-625-2887</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">RESPONSIBLE HONORS STUDENT about to graduate from high school looking to fund my college education. Available for tutoring, baby-sitting, house-sitting, and pet care. Violin lessons for beginners and intermediate. Extensive horse experience. Safe driver. References upon request. Allison Tade's cell: (818) 667-6437</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 complimentary market analysis. Tracy Bunetta 222-2272 MonteNidoRealEstate.com</p>
<p align="center">HANDYMAN – MONTE NIDO RESIDENT All home improvement from A to Z. Many local references. Honest and reliable. Bill Hagerty 310-317-2221</p>	<p align="center">REAL ESTATE Deborah Capogrosso-Roth Roth & Associates Commercial and Residential 818-222-5705</p>
<p align="center">SADDLE PEAK LODGE DINNER WED - THURS 6-9, FRI 5:30 - 10 SAT 5-10 & SUN 5-9, SUNDAY BRUNCH 10:30-2 New expanded menu featuring four fish entrees starting at \$32 Complimentary dessert for our Monte Nido neighbors. We look forward to having you join us in the near future. (818) 222-3888 or Saddlepeaklodge.com</p>	

To place an ad contact Nicole Brown at macvoodoo@netpowered.com or 818-914-6138
Private Party Ads, \$5 per month. Business Ads, \$10 per month
Pay to: MNVCA. Mail to: PO Box 8054, Calabasas, CA 91372

Calendar of Events

MNVCA Board Meeting

Tues, Nov 10 at 7PM
at the home of
Heidi Stompe
871 Malibu Meadows Dr.
818-222-8711

ETI Corral

Oct. 6, 7 pm
Board Meeting
at the home of Art & Shawn Carvalho
24639 Mulholland Hwy.
(818) 224-4775

Announce Board of Directors candidates for 2010

ETI Corral

Nov 3, 7pm
at the home of Stephanie & Chuck Abronson
Pony Cross Farm
543 Cold Canyon Road
Rod Bergen will speak on
The History of Monte Nido.
RSVP is MANDATORY
818-222-7669 or Stephanie@abronson.com

Las Virgenes Homeowner's Federation Meeting

Thursday, Oct 15, 7:30PM
Diamond X Ranch
(Off Mulholland)

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
PO Box 8054
Calabasas, CA 91372

PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE PAID CANOGA PARK, CA 91304 PERMIT NO. 307
--

Please deliver by October 10, 2009

POSTAL CUSTOMER
RURAL ROUTE NO. 1
CALABASAS, CA 91302