

# Mediterrania

Homeowners Association Newsletter

January 21, 2006

## 2005 Board Members

Please feel free to contact any of the 2005 Mediterrania Homeowners Association Board Members should you have a question or topic that is relevant to the Mediterrania residents:

| POSITION                | NAME                     | TITLE                     |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| President               | <b>Lois Karp</b>         | jlkarp@cox.net            |
| Vice President          | <b>Chris Ball</b>        | christopher.ball@cox.net  |
| Secretary               | <b>Jean Dunn</b>         | jsd.rsd1@cox.net          |
| Treasurer               | <b>Allison Brandt</b>    | allisonb@milestonemtg.com |
| Arts Jury               | <b>Marilyn Hove</b>      | rhove@cox.net             |
| Streets and Landscaping | <b>John Petersen</b>     | johngpetersen@cox.net     |
| Neighborhood Watch      | <b>Beverly Gugliuzza</b> | tgugliuzza@cox.net        |
| Newsletter              | <b>Nanette Babich</b>    | nbabich@cox.net           |
| City Reports            | <b>Tom Redfield</b>      | tmredfield@cox.net        |

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Editor: Nanette Babich (310/265-0317)  
(If you would like to contribute an article, please contact us.)

## Rancho Palos Verdes Storm Drain Repairs



While the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council has approved several million dollars for emergency storm drain repairs, complex regulations will result in this work taking almost two years to complete. No immediate emergency repairs are scheduled for Mediterrania.

However, with the rainy season upon us, we strongly encourage all residents of Mediterrania to make certain we are doing what we can to prevent storm drains from clogging up.

In addition, those of us who have lined concrete swales on our hillsides are required to ensure they don't become clogged as well as to repair them as needed.

## Marymount Expansion Update

The final Scoping Session was held before the Planning Commission and the Traffic & Safety Commission on January 10th to determine what will be studied in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This was a very important and well-attended meeting. Oral comments addressed concerns regarding geological studies, parking, noise, and crime statistics, all of which will be studied in the EIR. The Draft EIR, if on schedule, should be ready for circulation to the public in April or May of this year. Draft EIR hearings will be held to verify whether everything submitted was studied, and whether the studies were sufficient.

An announcement was made at the beginning of the January 10th Scoping Session that Marymount has withdrawn the nursery school from its expansion plans. It will be permanently removed.

Another very important meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31st, 7:00 p.m. at Hesse Park. This is a joint workshop between the RPV City Council and Marymount College. The public may comment about any and all aspects of the proposed expansion project. This meeting will not be limited to environmental issues. This is the first opportunity to tell the RPV City Council your thoughts and concerns on the Marymount Expansion Project. Mark your calendar for this very important meeting and be there.

### Information Slip

Please complete the information below and check the appropriate box. If including payment for 2006 dues, please make your check payable to **Mediterrania HOA in the amount of \$15.00.**

Send this slip along with your payment, if applicable, to:

Allison Brandt/Treasurer at 3415 Coolheights Drive.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

- I've paid my 2006 Dues and would like to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter.
- I'm including my 2006 Dues and would like to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter.
- I'm including my 2006 Dues and will read the newsletter on the Mediterrania website.

Remember, your 2006 Dues must be paid in order to vote at the upcoming Annual HOA meeting on January 28, 2006.

Not sure if you've paid your 2006 Dues? Go to [www.palosverdes.com/mha](http://www.palosverdes.com/mha) to check your payment status.

### MHOA Newsletter Online

The Mediterrania Homeowners Association Newsletter will continue to be available online. To access the newsletter, simply log on to [www.palosverdes.com/mha](http://www.palosverdes.com/mha) and click on *Newsletters*. There you will find the most current issue – NOW IN COLOR as well as past issues of the newsletter for your reference.

Members who have paid their dues for 2006 and prefer to receive a printed version of the newsletter may do so by request. All you have to do is complete the *Information Slip* on this page and send it to Allison Brandt, Treasurer at 3415 Coolheights Drive.

Members, who have not paid their dues for 2006, simply send your \$15 dues along with the completed *Information Slip* to Allison Brandt, Treasurer at 3415 Coolheights Drive and you too will receive a printed version of the newsletter.

Not sure if you've already paid your dues for 2006? Go to [www.palosverdes.com/mha](http://www.palosverdes.com/mha) to check your payment status.

## MHOA Annual Meeting

The Mediterranean Homeowners Association (MHOA) Annual meeting is just around the corner. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as follows:

- Saturday, January 28, 2006
- 5:30 PM
- Marymount College, Auditorium

The MHOA will provide dinner to include salad, pizza, cookies and drinks.

This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a bite to eat, mingle with your neighbors and gain some valuable insight from our guest speakers. This year our guest speakers are Dr. Thomas M. McFadden, President of Marymount College as well as Steve Wolowicz, Mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes. Please make every effort to attend and hear about their plans for the future and how these might impact our city, our neighborhood and you directly as a homeowner. This is your chance to have your questions answered as well as learn from those asked by others.

An important item on the evening's agenda is the election of five new MHOA board members for 2006 as Lois Karp, Allison Brandt, Chris Ball and Marilyn Hove have completed their two-year terms. Nanette Babich will be unable to continue due to other commitments.

The four board members who remain on the board for another year are:

- Jean Dunn
- Beverly Gugliuzza
- John Petersen
- Tom Redfield

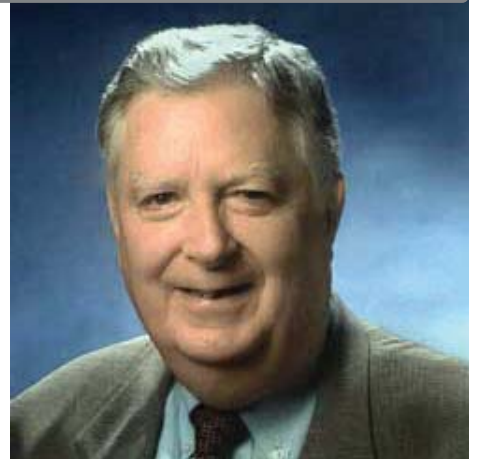
The following are the names submitted from the Nominating Committee:

- Marjorie Beringer
- Laura Knapp
- Dorie Marshall
- Abbas Mohaddes
- Joan Ortolano
- Barry Ryan
- George Zugsmith

Additional nominations can be made from the floor. Any homeowner, whose 2006 dues are paid, is eligible to serve on the board. Consider nominating yourself or a neighbor. The time and commitment involved is minimal, yet what you are giving to your community and your neighborhood is invaluable.

Those in attendance will also have the opportunity to vote on amendments to the current MHOA Bylaws. Please note that in order to vote on the Bylaw Amendments as well as to cast your vote for 5 new board members, your 2006 dues must be paid. And, only one member from each household is eligible to vote.

Haven't paid your 2006 dues yet? Don't worry. Simply complete the *Information Slip* in this newsletter, enclose your payment of \$15.00 and send it to Allison Brandt/Treasurer at 3415 Coolheights Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275. Or, you may certainly pay your dues at the Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.



Guest speaker Dr. Thomas M. McFadden  
President, Marymount College



Guest speaker Steve Wolowicz  
Mayor, Rancho Palos Verdes



## Another Successful Party



The residents of Mediterrania, and beyond, enjoyed another neighborhood gathering at the annual Halloween Block Party on October 29. Kids explored the not-too-terrifying Haunted House, frolicked in the jumper, marched in the parade that was led by a clown, and contemplated a future on one of the local fire engines. Adults, meanwhile, mingled with old friends and met new neighbors, listened to local civic leaders, and vied for a cash prize through the 50/50 raffle. Everyone who attended was treated to spectacular food by lots of talented cooks and extraordinary music by the local McArthur brothers. The weather cooperated to make the day thoroughly delightful.

Mediterrania's Board of Directors would like to extend sincere gratitude to all the people who helped make the event possible. In particular thanks to:

- The Marelli family for once again converting their garage into a haunted house.
- Don Ott and Dave Shirley for constructing the haunted house.
- Former resident Matt Beecher for providing all the material for the haunted house.
- The Stevens family for allowing their front yard to serve as the jumper launch pad.
- The McArthur brothers for dazzling everyone with their wonderful jazz sounds.
- Fire Station 83 of the Los Angeles County Fire Department for being generous with their time and equipment.
- Local civic leaders for agreeing to speak and graciously making themselves available to the neighborhood.
- All the residents who provided the delicious culinary treats. This year's offering was probably the best in recent memory.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, please feel free to send your comments to: Chris Ball ([christopher.ball@cox.net](mailto:christopher.ball@cox.net)).

Thanks again to everyone!





# Halloween Photo Gallery





## Palos Verdes Drive East and Ganado Drive Intersection



The Rancho Palos Verdes Traffic & Safety Committee finally completed all parts of its plan to make the primary entrance into our neighborhood safer. Residents may notice that work crews recently finished the project, which included painting the curb red along the corner property on Ganado Drive/Palos Verdes Drive East to prohibit parking in the middle of the right-hand turn (south only) lane.

The turnout area just south of the intersection of Ganado Dr./Palos Verdes Drive East has also been painted. The curb has been painted red and major stripes throughout this area in conjunction with "No Parking At Any Time" in red make it most clear that no parking is allowed.

Finally, many of you have noticed, some have complained about, the "right-hand turn only" lane coming south on Palos Verdes Drive East as you approach Ganado Drive. In fact, so many drivers ignored the striping intended to make drivers merge left, that the city recently added bumps to remind drivers they must merge left first, then enter the right-hand turn only lane. Lois Karp, President MHOA, disagreed with this final plan approved by the city's Traffic Consultant Engineer and his decision to force drivers coming south to merge to the left just before turning to the right onto Ganado Drive. Unfortunately, the city makes the final safety decisions on all matters. Lois agreed to study the results in the months ahead. Your comments will be appreciated.

## Treasurer's Report

This past year (2005) we had terrific neighborhood support for the HOA. Membership during 2005 grew to 148 households by the end of the year, which was a 28% increase over the prior year. I would like to thank all the households who have and continue to support our association. As for the new year, we already have 28 households who have paid their 2006 dues to date.

For those of you who will be attending the annual HOA meeting on January 28, you may pay your 2006 dues at that time. However, if you are unable to attend the meeting, please complete the *Information Slip* in this newsletter and send it along with your check in the amount of \$15, payable to Mediterrania Homeowners Association. If you are not sure if you have paid your 2006 dues, you may check the paid members list on the Mediterrania HOA website. The internet address is [www.palosverdes.com/mha/members.htm](http://www.palosverdes.com/mha/members.htm).



## Message from the President



The year has gone by very quickly and in looking back we had many small successes. The Mediterrania Board of Directors works very closely with the City of RPV to be sure our area is well maintained and receives the required services. If you do not have an active homeowners association, there is no way to liaison with our city. In order to use one of our best-hidden resources, I created a committee post on our Board called City Reports for Tom Redfield. He attends more city meetings than anyone of us would even consider, and it is through his sharing of this information with our Board that we can truly keep on top of what is happening in our city and how it will affect Mediterrania. Thank you, Tom for a great job.

We are very proud that Mediterrania gave \$250 to the Portuguese Bend Preserve campaign. This was an opportunity of a lifetime to be part of preserving these beautiful areas in our community for future generations and us.

We also worked with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes to remove diseased trees from our tract. We coordinated with the Edison Company to remove illegal overhead lines between light poles on Hightide, and with Code Enforcement to verify permits were on file for homes undergoing a remodel. Board members and neighbors weeded and trimmed the entry landscaping, applied and received for a city grant to upgrade landscaping, and participated in many Traffic and Safety Commission meetings regarding the striping of Palos Verdes Drive East.

As part of our busy year, we tried very hard to work on items that you asked us to fix during the 2005 Annual Meeting. You asked us to make the voting process clearer, and to improve the newsletter. First, regarding the voting issues, we encouraged every member of our Association to participate in revising the bylaws by hand-delivering ballots to every household. The voting procedure will not be revised this year due to the fact that not enough ballots were returned to initiate a change. The Bylaw Amendment will reappear on the agenda at the 2006 Annual Meeting on January 28. Second, as regards the newsletter, I want to personally thank Nanette Babich for being our Newsletter Editor. This is an enormous job and I know you will all agree with me that she produced an informative and first class newsletter. Thank you Nanette.

Our Halloween Block Party, which is one of our major events each year, was a huge success. We had great weather, great food and adorable children enjoying the day's activities. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet and chat with neighbors. I was pleased that every member of our city council attended our event. It is a wonderful way to visit with and learn more about our city council members. This is one of the great benefits of living in RPV.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank every member of the Board of Directors for doing an outstanding job this year. Their hard work keeps Mediterrania a wonderful place to live. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president. It has been a very rewarding year.

When my presidential term has ended, I will still continue in my function as the Chairman of the Concerned Citizens Coalition/Marymount Expansion (CCC/ME); working on behalf of all residents living near Marymount to make sure that the Marymount Expansion Project will not adversely affect our neighborhood. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

Lois Karp

President



## Super Bowl Sunday Corn Chip Chili Pie

With Super Bowl Sunday just around the corner, why not try this savory recipe? It's quick and easy, leaving you plenty of time to enjoy the big game.

### CORN CHIP CHILI PIE

#### Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 (11-ounce) can sweet corn, drained
- 1 (16-ounce) can kidney beans, drained
- 1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce
- 1 (21/4 ounce) can sliced ripe olives
- 1 (1.25 ounce) package Chili Seasoning
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup coarsely crushed corn chips

#### Directions:

1. In large pan, brown ground beef and onion until meat is no longer pink; drain
2. Stir in corn and next 4 ingredients
3. Heat on medium low until thoroughly heated
4. Add ingredients from pan into a baking dish
5. Sprinkle with cheese and corn chips
6. Bake uncovered at 350 until cheese melts

Makes 6 servings

