

Brentwood Hills Gazette

New Patrol Service in Brentwood Hills

Palisades Patrol will begin providing security patrol services for Brentwood Hills residents on July 1, 2005. BHHA encourages all residents to subscribe to the Patrol Service. **The more BHHA subscribers to the service, the more patrol coverage our area will receive.** Patrol service (not including alarm monitoring) costs \$69.95 per month. You do not have to have an alarm or change your existing alarm over to subscribe to patrol service with Palisades Patrol.

Palisades Patrol employees are well trained in law enforcement and also have first aid training. Patrol vehicles will carry defibrillators, chainsaws and other emergency equipment. Officers trained with such equipment may be in a unique position to provide time-critical assistance to persons in need. Palisades Patrol will also install a radio repeater to ensure that its patrol vehicles have complete radio communications throughout the Upper Canyon.

Palisades Patrol's main station monitors the local police and fire communications channels, so they typically know about emergency situations before their subscribers do. On several occasions, Palisades Patrol has been the first to arrive on the site of an emergency because they were already in the area patrolling when the call came in. The patrol service includes mail pick up when you are out of town and escort service if you are coming home late and need them to escort you to your home.

Palisades Patrol also provides a full line of security services for additional costs, including alarm installation and monitoring services. Palisades Patrol will provide a free estimate for anyone that might be interested in converting an existing alarm system to them. Costs vary depending upon your existing system and the manner in which it has been installed, so a home visit will be required for the estimate. Once your alarm is converted to Palisades Patrol, patrol service including alarm monitoring and response costs \$100.00 per month.

The three Mandeville Associations believe that the presence of Palisades Patrol in Mandeville Canyon will be a significant deterrent to crime and vandalism. In that manner, all residents will benefit from their presence. But as a private security company, Palisades Patrol lacks legal authority to respond to emergency situations unless they involve subscribers. So to enjoy the full benefits of the service, residents would have to participate as subscribers.

Included In This

Issue:

- Sign Up For Palisades Patrol—New Security And Alarm Service
- Snakes On The Prowl—Stay Safe!
- Westridge Trail-Head
- Vandalism Still An Issue In Our Canyon
- What Does BHHA Do For YOU?
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- Meet Your BHHA Board
- **Don't Forget To Send In Your Dues For 2005!!!**

Why The Tri-Association Has Endorsed Palisades Patrol

The Tri-Association is comprised of representatives of the three Mandeville-area homeowners associations, BHHA (Brentwood Hills), UMCA (Upper Mandeville), and MCA (Lower Mandeville). The Tri-Association has studied private security issues for the past year in response to complaints by members of the Mandeville community about the decline in private security patrols in the area and the increase in crime.

The Tri-Association concluded that we need to leverage economies of scale in order to obtain a dedicated security patrol presence in the area. We can only hope to induce frequent private security patrols throughout the area if we can make it economically feasible for a private company to dedicate the necessary resources. Hence the Tri-Association decided to endorse a single private security company to provide patrol services. The Tri-Association studied the options for more than a year. It selected "Palisades Patrol," which was named the "Best New Business In The Palisades" in 2004.

Palisades Patrol can be reached at 310-454-7741

Snakes On the Prowl (or slither?..)

DID YOU KNOW??

IN THE US, ABOUT 8,000 PEOPLE SUFFER FROM VENEMOUS SNAKE BITES EACH YEAR. OF THOSE, ABOUT 12 (LESS THAN 1 PERCENT) RESULT IN DEATH. MORE PEOPLE DIE EACH YEAR FROM BEE STINGS OR LIGHTNING STRIKES

SORT OF INTERESTING RANDOM FACT:

Snakes have no eyelids, so their eyes are always open., even when they are sleeping (kind of creepy....)

It's that time of year again! The snakes are out in full force. With the rain and now the sunny weather we are certain to have a bumper crop, and there is plenty of food available to allow them to eat and grow big. One resident reported a rattlesnake nearly 40 inches long in her backyard, and there have been reports of other large snakes in the neighborhood as well. You can tell the difference between the snakes by their

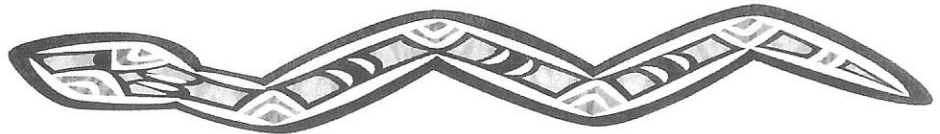
coloring and body shape. Rattlesnakes have a triangular head that is larger than the neck, and while coloring varies by species, rattlesnakes usually blend into their surroundings, i.e., mottled or banded in shades of brown and combinations of grayish green, orange, red, bright green, yellow, black or peach. Other non-venomous snakes such as garter and gopher snakes are much smaller in size and have no rattles.

If you encounter a rattlesnake, it is best to leave it alone. If it remains in the area, contact the LA City Animal Care and Control Center at 1-888-452-7381 and they will come out and capture it.

If you are bitten by a rattlesnake call 911 immediately.

PET OWNERS

**RATTLESNAKE BITES
ARE DEADLY TO PETS!
PLEASE EXERCISE
CAUTION DURING THE
SNAKE SEASON!**



Westridge Trail-Head

Many of you may have noticed the feverish work taking place at the top of Westridge and wondered, "what the heck is going on?" On April 25, 2005 the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy voted to approve the tentative designs for the new public trailhead at the top end of Westridge Road, and appropriated money for its design and execution. There will be a new rock gateway, with gates closable

after-hours; a pedestrian entrance; parking for 14 cars; and landscaping of what is now the bare hillside with ugly swale. The conservancy will also remove the unattractive signage that now exists and remove the unsightly iron barriers. Work should be accomplished over the next few months. Stay tuned for further developments!



Vandalism Still an Issue in Our Canyon!

Unfortunately the vandalism trend in our lovely neighborhood has continued. Car and home eggings are the norm nearly every weekend, and recently several mailboxes were ripped out of the ground and tossed into resident's front yards. One Saturday evening a homeowner was driving up Westridge at around 11pm and had her car pelted with eggs by kids driving down the hill, nearly causing a very serious accident. She was able to obtain the license plate. The incident was reported to police and after much pressure, the

police agreed to contact the minor's parents. (Please see the letter of apology submitted by the young man who admitted throwing the eggs to the right).

If you are a victim of vandalism, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SECURITY COMPANY AND THE POLICE. The board is interested in knowing what happens as well, so please drop us a note so that we are also aware. PARENTS—PLEASE LET YOUR KIDS KNOW THAT VANDALISM IS A CRIME. We hope it is not one of our own, but residents are taking action to catch the vandals in

question, and victims of the recent vandalism have told us that they will not hesitate to pursue legal action when they do.

DID YOU KNOW?

Depending on whether the vandalism is deemed a misdemeanor or felony, a vandalism conviction could result in a jail term?

Letter of Apology to the Residents of Brentwood Hills

"In regard to the current situation, I am truly sorry for my actions. It was dangerous and immature, and I assure you it will not happen again. I was not thinking about the consequences of my actions. What I did was regrettable and I hope you accept my apology"

-vandal caught throwing eggs at moving cars on Westridge

Van*dal*ism (noun)

Willful or malicious destruction of public or private property

How Does BHHA Work For You? Why Pay Dues?

Some of you might wonder what the Brentwood Hills Homeowner's Association (BHHA) does for you. Why pay dues if you don't know what they are used for? The answer is, BHHA does a LOT behind the scenes that you may never realize. Some recent activity and success involving our BHHA Board:

*Successfully fighting to keep the "gated enclave" at Canyon-back road open to pedestrians, hikers and bikers. You will recall they wanted to com-

pletely shut out the community, and our own Eric Edmunds contributed countless hours to the fight against this.

*Petitioning the city to make lower Chalon "NO PARKING" to ensure the safety of our driving residents.

*Spearheading a campaign to replace our ineffective security service (ADT) for a more reliable service, Palisades Patrol, to keep our community safe.

*Pressuring the Santa Monica Conservancy to beautify the Westridge trailhead to include parking spaces and make it

more attractive and user-friendly.

*Working with the other homeowner's associations on the Tri-association Council to create "strength in numbers" for many of our causes.

*Attending Voluntary Neighborhood Oversight Committee meetings (VNOG) to bring our neighborhood concerns to the forefront on issues such as the traffic on Sunset Blvd.

*Requesting needed stop signs such as those installed at Pesquera and La Condesa.

*Working closely with the Brentwood Hills councilperson (now Bill Rosendahl) to keep our community and concerns visible.

*Monthly meeting held the first Wednesday of every month at 8pm. All residents are always invited to attend. Check the website for details

Your BHHA Board does so much! Please help support our efforts!

If you have not already done so, please send in your 2005 dues of only \$35 to PO Box 49495, Los Angeles, CA 90049.

A Publication of the Brentwood Hills Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 49495
Los Angeles, CA 90049
www.brentwood-hills.org

Dogs on Westridge Fire Road

The Santa Monica Conservancy (the body who governs the activity along the Westridge fire road/trail at the top of Westridge), has voted to limit the number of dogs that a private individual can walk along the fire road to three (3). Furthermore, commercial dog walking will now require a permit from the conservancy, and it is rumored that these permits will be difficult to come by...

Doggie Etiquette take TWO!

Always worth reminding folks is proper etiquette when out with Fido. **PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR POOCH HAS COMPLETED HIS/HER "BUSINESS".**

There have been many complaints about people leaving doggie doo in yards and on sidewalks.

No matter how big or small your dog is, the considerate thing to do is to clean up after your pooch. Please also adhere to any signs people have posted in their yards regarding dogs. It's the neighborly thing to do!

Curb Painting Notices

You have likely seen the notices taped to your mailbox to have your house number painted on the curb. Please note that this is NOT an official notice from the LAPD, the Fire Department, your homeowner's association, or any other association "mandating" that your curb be painted. **THESE ARE COMPANIES SIMPLY TRYING TO DRUM UP BUSINESS BY LOOKING "OFFICIAL".** Whether or not you decide to have your curb painted by these individuals is strictly up to you.

Parking Enforcement In Full Force!

Many of you have commented on the dangerous traffic situation at the bottom of Chalon where it intersects Mandeville Canyon. Work trucks, food vendors and trash bins crowded the road and blocked traffic flow forcing moving vehicles to enter into opposite lanes. Thanks to the persistent efforts of our own BHHH Vice President, Eric Edmunds, Chalon in now **NO PARKING** starting 100 feet west of Mandeville Canyon Road. Note that Mandeville Canyon is no parking any time on both

sides of the street, and the lower part of Westridge too becomes **NO PARKING** on both sides of the street. Around Westridge Terrace headed down.

REPORT PARKING VIOLATIONS TO PARKING ENFORCEMENT AT (213)485-4184 (PRESS 2)

Be sure to note the address of the violation. **This is a serious safety hazard and we must work together to keep our streets safe!**

Your Brentwood Hills Homeowners Association Board

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Robert Levin
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