



Village BREEZE

A Joint Publication of the Laguna Woods Village Corporations

In This Edition...

Gather the whippersnappers: GRF hosts Grandparent's Fun Day this August! Plus, more recycled water to come, watch out for coyotes, and more in store for GRF on [pages 2-6](#)

Shocking Good News for Third's Electric Bill, plus valuable information on Alterations in Common Areas, landscaping and more on [pages 6-12](#).

United wants you to join them, so pick up an application to run for the Board! Also in United, preparing for disasters, "Legally Speaking," and more on [pages 12-17](#).

At the Towers, the mess halls get a facelift, meet the adorable feathery new tenants and more on [pages 18-19](#)

Important Mutual Election Dates

	Third	United
Nominations Close (Applications Due)	8/16/2017	8/11/2017
Meet the Candidates	8/22/2017	8/29/2017
Ballots Due Back	9/27/2017	9/27/2017
Counting of Ballots by Inspectors of Election	9/29/2017	9/29/2017
Annual and Organizational Meeting	10/5/2017	10/10/2017

Visit your Mutual's election page at www.lagunawoodsvillage.com for more information and a candidate application.

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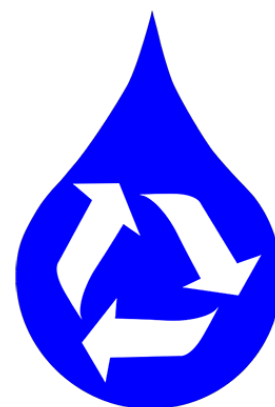
Forward this email to a friend and tell them to [click here](#) to sign up to receive the Village Breeze by email, or visit www.lagunawoodsvillage.com, and click the sign-up link at the top of any page.



It's Finally Happening: El Toro Water District Phase II Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion Project

By El Toro Water District Public Affairs Administrator Sherri Seitz

El Toro Water District's (ETWD) commitment to expanding recycled water to customers will continue with the Phase II Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion Project in the Village. This project further expands the use of recycled water for "*irrigation purposes only*." The Phase I project, completed in 2014, successfully installed over 100,000 feet of new recycled water pipelines and constructed a new recycled water treatment plant. Expanding recycled water in the Village has had a positive effect by reducing the dependence on the precious imported water resource while also providing more affordable irrigation water. Recycled water is wastewater that has received biological treatment and has been filtered and disinfected, so it can be safely used for landscape irrigation. All recycled water produced by ETWD meets or exceeds the stringent water quality requirements for the State of California.



The Phase II recycled water project is expected to start in the fall of 2017 and be completed by approximately June 2018. The project will serve recycled water to Third Laguna Hills Mutual in the area inside Gate 9 and United Laguna Woods Mutual in the area inside Gates 5 and 6. Construction crews will begin potholing in these areas in September, with full construction to begin in the October/November period. Construction will include digging trenches, installing pipelines, backfilling trenches and paving, necessary to expand the recycled water distribution system. ETWD is committed to keeping Village residents informed about the project and will utilize a dedicated project website, direct mail and emailed construction alerts, Village Television, the Village Breeze and a dedicated construction hotline. ETWD would like to thank Village residents in advance for their patience during this important project. Please stay tuned for more information.

The Village Just Got a Little Greener

The Village Boards pride themselves on their green initiatives. In the last year, GRF, United and Third have made big investments in renewable energy.

Third and United installed solar panels: on carports in United and on Garden Villa buildings in Third. These panels will generate power through solar energy, offsetting Mutual common area energy

demands, thereby saving the community money while helping the environment.

GRF is also soaking up the sun, as a result of installing solar panels at Pools 4, 5 and 6 to heat the water with renewable energy. And, to encourage visitors to the Community Center to drive plug-in electric vehicles, a charging station has been installed, with discounted charging rates for residents.

Step Right Up and Get Your Tickets for Grandparent's Fun Day!

Laguna Woods Village's favorite multi-generational event, Grandparent's Fun Day, is back! On Saturday, August 5, Clubhouse 2 will be transformed into a carnival, featuring plenty of fun, snacks and activities for grandkids to enjoy with their grandparents.



Photo by Joel Goldstein

Children will again enjoy water slides, a bounce house, a 68-foot obstacle course, a dunk tank, game booths, prizes, relay races, Village clowns, face painters, arts and crafts, cotton candy, popcorn, snow cones and more! New attractions will be featured this year and appearances from adored characters. Carnival snacks are included in the ticket price, and yummy food will be available for purchase. This year's event will take place from 3 to 7p.m. Tickets are on sale now at the Clubhouse 2 and the Recreation offices. Tickets are only \$10 per person (children one year or younger are free). Tickets are limited. There will be no refunds after noon on August 4. Call 949-597-4286 for more information. Special Thanks to our title sponsor, **Possession Planners**, for making this event possible.

Coyote Awareness and Hazards

By Village Breeze Volunteer Ellen Van Houten

If nothing else persuades you to take steps to make sure your pet is safe from coyotes, this incident surely will. Without warning one afternoon, coyotes snatched a dearly cherished 14-year old cat by punching through the closed door of a totally screened-in patio. Her people, who had raised her from a kitten, were devastated at losing their "sweetest most loving girl" and were distressed at how scared she must have been.

Our Community, with its brushy canyon areas and natural 'den' type rock formations provide an attractive environment for coyotes. In addition, refuse in private garbage cans, pet food and (unfortunately) domestic pets who are allowed to run loose now comprise a large percentage of coyote food supply. Those who leave food out for coyotes are exacerbating the problem.

If incidents continue or get worse, control methods such as trapping or hunting can be used. Unfortunately methods like these are less than satisfactory due to the fact that when coyote populations are reduced, female coyotes respond by producing larger litters of pups to increase the population. The most effective way of controlling this problem is to limit the food sources so that fewer coyotes are attracted to developed areas. Remember...



- Don't hike alone – especially at sunrise or sunset
- ALWAYS keep pets retrained with a short leash when off your property and safe inside at night
- Make sure garbage cans are secured with lids, never leave food out for animals
- If confronted by a coyote, bobcat or mountain lion:
 - DO NOT turn and run from the animal
 - Stay as tall as possible, raise your arms over your head
 - Wave a jacket or other item overhead
 - Yell and shout at the animal to scare it off

It's Official: TV6 is Now Village Television!

Your local community station has made big changes, and is now offered in High Definition (HD). Now found on channels 6, 6.1, and 406, the station name "TV6" became obsolete. GRF officially adopted the new moniker "Village Television" at their July 5 Board Meeting. Stay tuned for a new logo and branding!

Calling All Candidates!

By GRF Director Joan Milliman

The time is here for all good candidates to come to the aid of their Mutuals. You can pick up applications on the second floor of the Community Center now. You may be more qualified than you think. You will probably find serving on a board quite an adventure and very rewarding.

Here are some of the things I enjoy:

1. Working with accomplished, dedicated people.
2. Finding out about the many projects that are being accomplished in the Village.

3. Doing meaningful research on HOA governance issues.
4. Working with VMS Management and Staff.
5. Seeing positive results of boards' and management's work.
6. Actively helping solve problems.
7. Being part of the solutions.
8. Constantly learning.
9. Making new friends and helping people.
10. Using my skills and learning in new ways.

Board members are concerned with more than money. Although, very aware of how money is spent and always looking for the best use of funds, the Boards are attuned to the quality of life available here in the Village – quality of homeowners' daily home life as well as their entertainment and comfort. Boards are also concerned with the future of the Village and so must consider their policies and recommendations with an eye to that future. For example, we have recently had some wonderful improvements in technical convenience -lighting, safety, internet upgrades and the soon-to-come interactive website. It can be fun and very satisfying. So, won't you join the dance?

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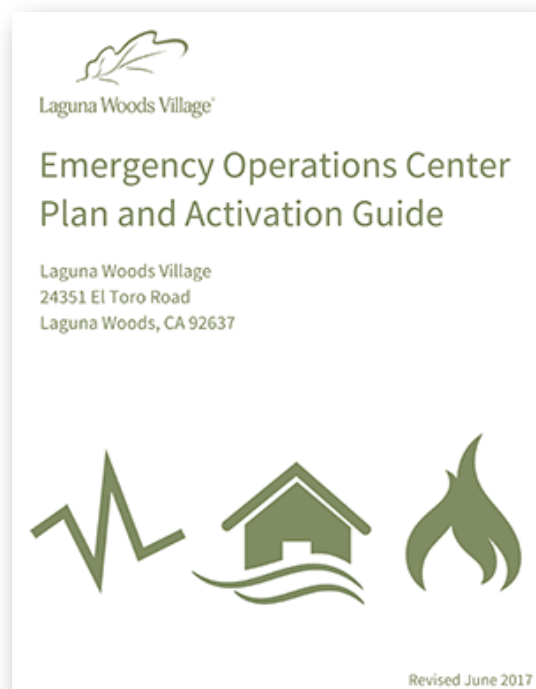
Update on Emergency Operations Plan – Disaster Plan

By Village Breeze Volunteer Ellen Van Houten

Over the past six months, the Security Department has been updating the Village Emergency Operations Plan (Plan), in order to bring it up to industry standards. Experts in the field were hired to coordinate with staff and County Emergency Management Sheriff's Department, City of Laguna Woods, Fire Authority, Red Cross, Edison and El Toro Water District in the development of the Plan. In order to assure the plan conforms to California and National standards, it is important for First Responders to have a standardized response procedure to address area specific to the Village.

The plan addresses training for threats such as fires, earthquakes, flood and storms, energy shortages and other hazards – whether with "shelter in place" or evacuation.

Response and outreach built into the plan include emergency warning systems, evacuation, use of clubhouses as shelters use of the Easy Rider for transporting, role of a Building/Block Captain, emergency resources and more.



In the event of an emergency the plan calls for establishment of an Emergency Operations Center to serve as the Central Command Facility for all disaster management functions.

The Village Emergency Operations Plan describes all of the above in detail, with a special Activation Guide for key positions.

Be Prepared with Basic First Aid Training

The Disaster Preparedness Task Force (DTPF) is offering free Basic First Aid Training Monday, July 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Clubhouse 7. No need to register; just drop-in. These classes are offered by the DPTF to prepare residents to help their families and neighbors in the event of an emergency or a disaster.

Manor Alterations Appointments

In order to better serve residents, the Manor Alterations Division at the Community Center will be offering an appointment-based system to provide timely and individualized customer service. As of July 2, 2017, the Manor Alterations Desk (Windows 7 and 8) improved the alteration process by focusing on accepting complete applications for review and answering basic questions. Requests that require more time such as standard plan reviews and applications variances will be appointment based. This will ensure questions are answered by the appropriate Mutual Inspector with specific knowledge and expertise on the architectural style of the homes in the Village. Appointments will be conducted in the afternoons. For information on setting up an appointment email your questions to alterations@vmsinc.org, call 949-597-4616, or visit the Alterations Desk in the Community Center. The Manor Alterations Division is here to assist you in remodeling your home and making the process as straightforward and timely as possible.



Hot Flashes

By Third Secretary Burt Baum

Electric news: Hallelujah! Southern California Edison (our favorite electric utility) has qualified the last three buildings in our solar project for their Net Metering Aggregation version 1 (NEMA-1) program. SCE will now pay us for every kilowatt the solar panels produce at the same rate they

charge for electricity produced from their grid for the next 20 years. This will result in a significant reduction in the cost of electricity to light the common areas in Third that all residents share in paying. We just made the deadline, despite last minute glitches, because of the hard work of our Board members and staff. Special thanks go to Director Bert Moldow (Mr. Solar) who put us on the road to, and to Director Bill Walsh and Mark Stal of our staff who got us to the promised land. We also thank all the residents who may have been inconvenienced during the installation for their patience.



Common Area Use for Alterations: After consulting with our lawyer and much discussion, the Board has voted (subject to the 30 day waiting period) to limit alterations in the common area. Before reaching any hasty conclusions, please read her following explanation of why this was done.

Board happenings:

- The updated Lease Policy was put into effect July 1. For more information, [click here](#) to see Page 7 of the May 2017 Village Breeze.
- Fences and gates may be made from vinyl in addition to wrought iron and tubular steel --easier to maintain and requires no painting
- More restrictive drone policy endorsed--only VMS staff can fly
- More dough in your pocket. Third will now do all the painting of repaired areas damaged by moisture intrusion that the mutual was responsible for. Resident supplies paint.
- Money matters--third is still running a comfortable surplus; \$400,000 surplus from 2016 transferred to reserve (contingency) fund; total dollar sales volume and average sales price of manors in Third up over 10 percent (year to date).

Alterations Extending into Common Area

By Third Legal Counsel Sandra Gottlieb, Esq.

The Board of Directors of Third Laguna Hills Mutual has recently been working with the Association's legal counsel addressing specific laws that effect the granting of portions of the Association's common areas to individual owners for their exclusive use. As it turns out there are many legal issues that arise when considering such potential grants of common area in response to owner requests for manor/unit alterations. Consideration of the requests must include not only an evaluation of the effect on the Association's policies and procedures but also compliance with various laws. Given the Board's discussion with legal counsel, the Board has adopted a new policy (by resolution) to help ensure that there are no inadvertent violations of such restrictions by the Association on a going forward basis. Under provisions of the Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act, there are

limits placed on the ability of the Board of Directors of a Homeowners Association to grant to any individual owners the exclusive use of a portion of the Association's common area. This law, found in Section 4600 of the California Civil Code requires that, except in certain limited circumstances, two-thirds of the members of any particular Mutual must vote to approve any grant of exclusive use of any portion of the common area to a particular owner. The idea is that the common area is owned by all members, and that granting the use to any one particular owner may not be fair to other members without their consent, unless there are circumstances that would make such grant reasonable—for example, to accommodate a disability.

Given this information, the Board has modified the Association's procedures regarding the approval of alterations by individual owners to their manors and the surrounding areas to ensure that any such alternations do not result in any grant of exclusive use of common area without the proper statutory authority or member approval, as may be applicable. After consulting with legal counsel and reviewing past procedures, the Board has also determined that to investigate all past alterations by members of the community or to perform inspections to determine possible violations of these provisions would be overly burdensome in both time and resources to the Association, and not in the best interests of the community as a whole. As such the Board will not be performing any inspections of past alterations or otherwise interfering with previously approved and completed alterations by owners. Instead, the Board has simply resolved to ensure that potential future violations be avoided through the updated policies.

Did you Know?

By Third President Rosemarie diLorenzo Dickins

The walkway, breezeway, patio and balcony areas and their management and care is under the direction of the Third Board. Third Resolution 03-16-117 establishes rules for the care and maintenance of these areas; here are some highlights:

- All plants must be suitably potted with adequately sized saucers to collect excess water and elevated by substantial caster or sturdy platforms with casters. Care must be used to control the amount of water given to these plants so as not to run over the saucer and collect on the floor surface or fall to a lower level of the building on people, windows, or other objects belonging to neighbors. This also protects against mosquito larvae.



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

- The planting of herbs, tomatoes, vegetables or any other crops in the patios, balconies, breezeways or any other walkways is not allowed. These rules are in place to prevent rats and other vermin from coming to homes for a snack.
- Planting of fruit trees must be of a dwarf variety and adhere to the Landscape “Yellow Stake” program.
- Items, including plants, statues, and furniture, may be placed outside a manor’s front door on the floor and shall be limited. Adequate clearance is required to allow for easy walkway access along the area (a 48-inch clearance as required by law).
- Items that constitute a nuisance to one’s neighbors should not be placed in common areas or limited common areas. Examples include intrusive wind chimes and food or water which will attracts birds, insects or other animals. Residents are encouraged to resolve, amicably, differences or disputes involving such items. Wind chimes are prohibited at all 3-Story Buildings.

For the full list of rules regarding walkway, breezeway, patio and balcony areas, see the Third Laguna Hills Mutual Operating Rules by [clicking here](#) (pg. 211).

Understanding Electric Bill Tariffs Can Save You Money

By Third Director Berton Moldow

When Southern California Edison (SCE) installed new smart electric meters on your manors, they had an ulterior motive: to have greater control over electric usage during peak demand times. In the near future, the smart meters (which will inform SCE how much power you use every 15 minutes) will enable SCE to monitor your use of electricity more closely and charge you more during peak hours. At the same time they plan to eliminate the tier structure currently used to compute your bill and introduce “Time Of Use” (TOU), which is more exact—and potentially more expensive rate for payers. SCE hopes that rising costs will encourage consumers to become more aware of their use patterns and cut back on energy during peak periods (this tariff is already in effect for residents who have solar).



In addition to moving from the tier structure to TOU, SCE is changing what they consider “peak.” Currently, peak hours are from noon to 6 p.m. Consumers are charged a higher rate for the use of power during those hours. In the future, SCE will shift the higher rate to 4 to 9 p.m. to reflect of changing consumer patterns. SCE has found that power generated from privately owned solar farms and roof-top solar during the day is more than adequate to meet current peak demand hours.

However, once the sun goes down and solar no longer feeds the grid, the need for electricity increases. It is during this time period that SCE wants to minimize usage in order to forestall the need to increase capital equipment. Thus, when this tariff takes effect, make an effort to reduce your usage from 4 to 9 p.m. SCE has several usage strategies available to help you reduce your bill and will provide you with a list of these on request.

Customers with rooftop solar have additional options to lower their electricity costs. It is now economically and technically feasible to install battery storage to capture energy from the sun during daylight hours and discharge the batteries during peak hours in the evening, thus lowering the power purchased from the utility during a peak period. Contact your solar installer for information about this new technology. Solar owners also have different TOU tariffs from which they may choose, depending upon their demand pattern, which may save an additional 20 to 30 percent. SCE has a program, which will analyze your pattern of use and suggest which of the three rates will provide the most savings. Call SCE for more details at 1-800-655-4555.

Customers with electric vehicles who charge their cars overnight must be mindful of the peak period. To avoid higher charges and take advantage of TOU savings, they can plug in to their home power at any time as long as they program the vehicle to start charging after the peak period ends.

Drought is Done, but Don't Let the Water Run

By Village Breeze Volunteer Richard Snyder

On April 17, Governor Brown signed Executive Order B-40-17, ending the drought emergency for most of California. With that, your El Toro Water District (ETWD) has relaxed some of its emergency measures. According to James Tung, Third Landscape Chair, there will be some reprieve on the irrigation water bills, but no change in residential water rates-so residents still need to conserve in their homes.

What does that mean?

- The \$2 per cubic foot penalty fee for overuse has been suspended.
- The outdoor drought factor rate has increased from 75 to 100 percent.

For the time being, Third Mutual residents may resume any-day-of-the-week landscape watering but with these caveats:

- Watering is still limited to the cooler hours each day: before 10 a.m. and after 5 p.m. with flow no more than 15 minutes per day, per valve. Monitor your watering to eliminate any excessive runoff or ponding, especially that caused by leaky or broken fixtures.

We all are still bound to the Mandatory Water Conservation Measures found at www.etwd.com, including:

- Use of your hose to wash away debris from paved surfaces is prohibited. Get a broom or hire a grandkid.
- While ETWD's changes have provided some relief, Third Mutual's Traffic Rules and Regulations (section 7.12) prohibit washing of any vehicles.

Indoor conservation remains a key measure we all can continue. Do you collect water in buckets while waiting for the temperature to get more to your liking? Do you run only full dish and clothes washer loads? Can you shower fire-fighter style, using less than five minutes of running water? How about getting one of those low-flow shower heads or high-efficiency toilets? These are just a few of many ways you can save water, even if it's just a gallon or two at a time. It does make a difference. There is never enough water to waste.

While the drought emergency is over for most of California, let's not become complacent; the next one could be just around the corner.

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Third Makes Drone Decision

By Village Breeze Volunteer Richard Snyder

When you think about drones, what pictures enter your mind: teenagers playing around, government snooping, military surveillance? Well, the new Third Mutual *Revised Drone Policy* may put some of your worries to rest.

Because of concerns expressed during the April meeting, the Third Mutual Board referred the drone policy back to GRF Security and the Community Access Committee (SCAC). For further review (see the May 2017 issue of the "Breeze"). Previously, Third adopted a new drone policy prohibiting the use of drones, except in well-defined

circumstances. Now, "well defined circumstances" has more clarity. "Drones are to be prohibited in the Village unless they are flown by VMS staff or an individual commissioned by staff for approved Community events, or purposes; and, in order to meet the standards of any policy and Federal law, are required to complete a flight plan that is submitted for review by the Security Chief." Both Housing Mutuals and GRF have approved this amended policy.

This should make everyone feel better.



Photo by Mark Rabinowitch

Looking Ahead in Landscape

The Landscaping Committee is discussing a landscape modernization program, in which “thirsty” turf areas of the community would be converted into colorful, California-friendly gardens. Check out the garden in Cul-de-Sac 8 in United, across from the Performing Arts Center, for an example.

In other Landscape Committee news, a few slopes identified as high priority by the Orange County Fire Authority have had heavy trimming performed, most notably at the back of Cul-de-Sac 348. There has also been trimming and removal inside Gate 11 that dovetailed with the shepherds crook fencing installation on the perimeter wall. Earlier this year, slopes inside Gate 14 were improved and are filling in nicely; although there is still replacement planting needed in these locations. This planting will take place in the fall when temperatures are cooler.

Third’s policy of “Bettering the Community” by the replacement of turf with drought-tolerant plant materials, has been completed or is being finished up in 64 locations, for a total of approximately 1.25 acres. An additional 123 sites, or about 1.7 acres, are on the list for completion beginning in the fall when the weather is cooler.



President’s Report

By United President Juanita Skillman

To paraphrase a well-known phrase: Ask not what your Mutual can do for you (and it is a LOT), ask what YOU can do for your Mutual.

We all had "other lives" before we moved to the Village, and so we have many talents and experience that can contribute to the governance of our community. Another phrase that comes to mind is "It takes a Village." What background do you have to contribute?

United Board Members are all volunteers, who dedicate many hours every week to the governance of our community. This fall, there will be four seats on the Board of Directors up for election.

Board Members work with committees, both United and GRF, to ensure landscaping, maintenance and construction, alterations, communications and adherence to our Governing Documents all takes

place. Additionally, directors oversee the budget and expenditures for United, including the use of our reserves.

Become a part of the solution, not just a bystander. Consider running for the board of directors this fall. Pick up an application package from Catherine Laster in the General Manager's Office on the second floor of the Community Center.

Good Neighbors Prepare Together

By Committee Chair Andre Torng

At the May meeting, Roger Cowdrey, Security Supervisor, presented the Good Neighbor Captains list and the map of the 50 divisions covering the cul-de-sacs for United on the south side of El Toro. The committee will be contacting the Good Neighbor Captains, who will each partner with several co-captains. During the year, these volunteers will meet the residents in their section in order determine any special needs or circumstances, to be able to assess where help may be needed in the event electrical or communication services are cut off. Persons in the area with medical training will be asked if they would be willing to assist should a disaster occur.



During a major disaster, the Good Neighbors will visit residents in their sections, checking for physical injury and infrastructure damages. They will send their reports up the line to the Section Captains who will report to the Command Center in the designated Clubhouse. Priority will be given to those with urgent needs. The Good Neighbors will remain in their sections, giving support where needed and maintaining communication.

Training, supplies, buttons and hats for identification will be given to those who become Good Neighbor Volunteers.

It is crucial that we have reliable people participating who will become acquainted with, or already know, their neighbors. Please consider becoming involved. Contact the Security Department at 949-268-2356 or United Director Andre Torng at 949-331-3801 to be part of this very important team.

Money Matters

By United Director Gary Morrison

Total revenue for United through April 30, 2017, was \$13,123,000, compared to expenses of \$11,053,000 resulting in greater revenue than expense by \$2,070,000. The favorable difference was primarily due to timing in the area of waste line replacement that did not begin until May, and water heater replacements that are currently being researched. Regarding non-assessment revenues, the largest component was golf cart electric fees as well as interest income and other fees accumulating to \$443,000. Expenses to date are \$11,000,000, with the largest categories of expense being compensation and property taxes followed by utilities, materials and supplies. Reserve balances as of April 30, 2017 were \$22,100,000. Year to date contributions and interest on reserves were \$4,078,000 versus expenditures of \$2,368,000. Meetings for the 2018 budget are taking place for Landscape and Maintenance & Construction committees. Don't miss the next United Board meeting July 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room. All programs will be discussed, and members should express any issues they may have.

Legally Speaking

By Jeffrey A. Beaumont, Esq., Legal Counsel for United Laguna Woods Mutual

Earlier this year, a Mission Viejo man was arrested on several felony and misdemeanor charges, including burglary and property theft from residents of Laguna Woods Village. Sadly, this man took advantage of your neighbors by posing as a maintenance worker to gain access to residences and, once inside, allegedly took valuable items, including jewelry.

This poignant story brings the issue of safety and security into sharp contrast. Despite the vehicle



access gates and a full time Security Department actively patrolling the community, United Laguna Woods Village is not responsible for your security and cannot guarantee safety of persons or property within the community; rather individual residents and their guests are solely responsible for protection of their property and for ensuring their own safety. You are encouraged to contact law enforcement for emergencies or Security for non-life threatening issues and take any other steps necessary to protect yourself. Remember to lock the doors to your residence and vehicle and don't leave valuables unsecured. When in doubt, do not let anyone into your home unless you know the person or they provide valid and proper identification.

United's Deal with the Sun is Up and Running

By Committee Chair Don Tibbetts

Good news! Our new solar power system is back up to 100 percent. Southern California Edison had to do some tinkering, and rewire the system with the proper sized wiring. VMS staff has completed checking the system and has turned it back on.

The Maintenance Committee is considering recommending that the Board adopt a resolution that will charge a fine to residents who miss a maintenance appointment. We have many residents who call Resident Services and make an appointment for a service, and then are not at home when staff arrives at their manor. This costs all of the residents a great deal of money and wastes valuable staff time.

United Residents: Vote Now

Since United's existing Bylaws were adopted in 1994, California laws have changed so much that they make the current United Bylaws unreliable.

The United board has worked closely with United's attorneys in drafting the proposed amended and restated bylaws, to ensure that the interests of United residents are protected. The proposed bylaws clearly and

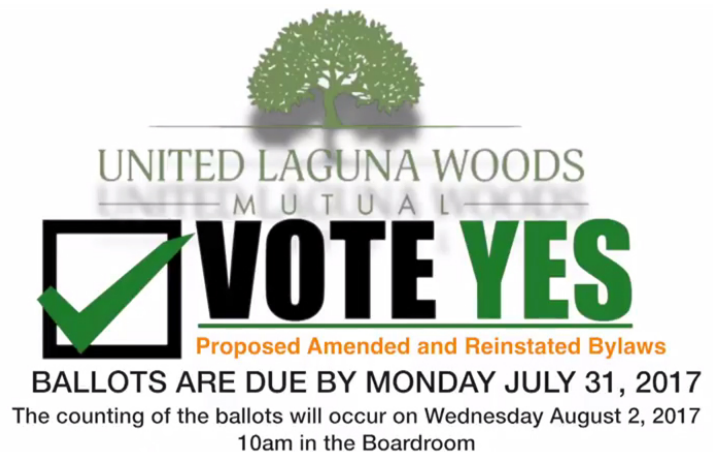
effectively set forth policies and procedures for the governing of the community, and most importantly the proposed bylaws have been updated to reflect current law and clarify important provisions.

The United Board encourages its residents to vote in favor of the proposed amended and restated bylaws.

[Click here](#) to view the Proposed Amended and Restated Bylaws online.

If you did not receive your ballot for the United Restated Bylaw vote, please contact Inspector of Elections Martin & Chapman directly at 714-516-8121 or email united@martinchapman.com.

A meeting to tabulate the ballots on the Proposed Amended and Restated Bylaws will be held August 2, 2017 at 10 a.m. in the Board Room.



Remember To...

By United Secretary Maggie Blackwell

- ▶ Keep the laundry room doors closed so leaves and dirt do not blow in.
- ▶ Move your car on street sweep days – see Street Sweeping Schedule on the website and Village Television.
- ▶ Remind your helpers/visitors/workers that lunch trash, garbage, and cast off items go in the GREEN bin.
- ▶ Remind workers hired by residents that they must remove all construction waste and old materials out of the Village, dumping of these materials in the Village bins is prohibited, and if caught the member is subject to discipline.
- ▶ Rent out your unused carport. Residents and guests need parking spots.
- ▶ Put large items near the trash bins on the third Friday night or the third Saturday morning before 7:30 a.m.
- ▶ Get your air conditioner serviced. All A/Cs in United are alterations, so call a qualified professional.
- ▶ Do not dump soap, oil, waste, paint or poop in drains, all landscape and carport drains go to the ocean.
- ▶ Get a little more sleep and eat your vegetables.
- ▶ Chin up helps you stand, breathe, and feel better.
- ▶ Leave early = arrive on time = lower stress.



Mutual Elections. RUN! VOTE!

By United Secretary Maggie Blackwell

Mutuals hold annual elections in September. United has four Director seats for three-year terms. Applications are available from Catherine Laster in the CEO's Office at the Community Center, second floor. United's deadline to submit your completed application is August 11, 2017 at 5 p.m.

This year, the mutuals are interested in granting equal publicity for all candidates, so candidates will not need to pay personally or solicit funding for advertisements.

The boards desire to get more members voting in the election and providing as much information as

possible. The GRF Communications Committee announces the following to educate voting members and encourage people to run for director openings:

- Governance/Candidate 101 and 102 meetings are open to all candidates and residents to gain information on: aspects of being a director, the time involved, helpful skills and backgrounds, Roberts Rules, basic Village governance, director duties, team work, protecting the interest of your corporation, and sticking to the job.
- Three different Meet the Candidate Forums, replayed on Village Television. Candidates give a two to three minute speech and answer questions. Two forums will be hosted by clubs, and the formal forum for each Mutual is in the Board room.
- Five minute Televised Video of each candidate – three minutes for a speech, two minutes answering a common question. Videos for each mutual are combined into a single program for multiple airings on Village Television.
- Globe Candidate Profile - Candidates submit a photo, background, statement of purpose, and answer a common question.

Parking Patrol Complete

By United Director Cash Achrekar

Considering that most cars and golf carts are parked between the hours of 4 and 6 a.m. on weekdays, a team of four directors ditched their sleep to count vehicles in all United cul-de-sacs: marked and unmarked spots, carports and cart-ports.

The group counted 7,613 cars and 482 golf carts, all safely sleeping at their usual spots and still 1,224 empty spaces in the 91 cul-de-sacs. Plenty of parking available on streets was observed.

Previously, cul-de-sacs 15, 85, 86, 90, 95, 205, 209, 59, 66, 58, 71, 73, and 210 had been reported as problem areas. These areas were visited, and plenty of empty spots in the cul-de-sacs and carports were found. Our residents like convenience first. Many prefer parking on the street next to their doorstep, which is OK if they are not in anybody's way.

The results mirrored a similar study by Urban Crossroads for Third Mutual performed in September, 2016 that found a Parking Demand (Vehicles) of 8,843 and Parking Spaces Supply of 15,331 (including street spaces), equating to room for 6,488 more vehicles.

The committee believes there is no parking problem at this time. Please work with neighbors who have parking issues, reserving more convenient spaces. We want to be one big happy family. Please, do your best to help resolve parking issues.

THE TOWERS *at Laguna Woods Village*

43 Years Young, the Towers Gets a Facelift

By Towers Adviser Saretta Berlin

At a jam-packed Residents' Forum held June 1, 2017, our crowd got a glimpse of the future. On July 24, both the Crystal Dining Room and the informal California Dining room will be closed for major remodeling. In the course of the project, which is expected to last three weeks, both dining rooms will be completely remodeled with new carpet, new tables and chairs, especially designed window treatments and selected artwork. Even the dishes will be new!

The remodel is extremely extensive. Residents were invited to sit in a number of chairs and voted for the ones they found most comfortable. They also had a look at a complete set of the new dinnerware that is to be used in both dining rooms. Residents' comments and informal input were also considered in the planning stage. Acoustics will be improved throughout and behind the scenes, the kitchen will be upgraded.

Working with an interior designer with extensive experience in the field of senior housing, Towers staff considered a number of important items: visual appeal, resident safety and comfort, acoustics and light control. Since the new design is to be used for many years in the future, flexibility and durability were also considered. In response to a resident's question, Katy Howe, General Manager, said that both rooms were being done at the same time because it is more cost-effective. During the remodel, dinner will be served at three seats in Lortscher Hall. Weather permitting, it may also be possible to use the Crystal Patio for additional seating.

There were cheers all-around as Katy Howe announced that following the remodel, the California Dining Room will be open for lunch. The newly refurbished dining areas are expected to open with an appropriate ceremony Monday, August 14. New dining hours will also be announced at that time.

Jazz Vespers at the Geneva Presbyterian Church

By Towers Adviser Saretta Berlin

On June 4, 2017, a group of Towers residents attended the Jazz Vespers, a musical service presented on the first Sunday of each month at the Geneva Presbyterian Church. A member had been attending this service for some time and presented it to The Towers Activities committee as "...something we really ought to look into." The verdict was unanimous: the music was delightful, the hour-long service meaningful, and everyone on board expressed an interest in attending additional services. The Reverend Norman Freeman, who has both bachelor's and master's degrees in music from Juilliard, heads a wonderful quartet of jazz masters. At this session the selections ranged from

George Gershwin's "Summertime" to the haunting "The Summer Knows," by Michel LeGrand. The group swings into "Pennies from heaven" as the Offertory is made. The Church is also most grateful when attendees bring food donations for local charities. The event would not have been possible without the help of Laguna Woods Village Transportation, which arranged for an Easy Rider request to pick up the group at The Towers and a Plan-a-Ride bus for the trip home at 5:10 p.m. Our thanks to Rich, Edward and Rochelle and the excellent drivers who made this wonderful event possible.

Newly Hatched Renters Ruffling Feathers at the Towers

By Towers Adviser Saretta Berlin

An enterprising maternal owl found the perfect spot to hatch her babies: a secluded corner of an unoccupied ninth-floor unit in The Towers. The new family was spotted by Maury, Head of Towers Maintenance, who guarded the nesting site and took a series of photos.

In addition to being adorable, owls are a protected species, and when the new residents moved into the unit, they agreed not to disturb the nest. At this writing two owlets remain as guests.



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About Us

This newsletter is put together by all of the housing Mutuals and GRF. If you have comments about this newsletter, please contact JoAnn diLorenzo, GRF Secretary, at joanndilorenzo914@gmail.com, Burt Baum, Third Secretary at bsqrd54@gmail.com, Maggie Blackwell, United Secretary at maggibewell@comline.com, or Katy Howe, General Manager at the Towers at katy.howe@associa.us.

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