

Marquez Knolls

A Publication of Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association, Inc.

Fall/Winter 2009

Help Keep Our Neighborhood Safe



This holiday season don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, mugger and pickpockets a better change to do their dirty work.

Crooks love the holidays as much as everyone else, but chiefly because it's an opportune time for crime.

Home, jam-packed with glittering gifts. Stores, malls and downtown streets teeming with unsuspecting shoppers. It's enough to make a crook giddy with holiday joy.

Here are some tips on how to celebrate safety this holiday season:

LAPD and ACS Join Forces

- ACS will be posting theft prevention tips on car windshields
- Please read the flyer and follow the tips
- Alert visiting friends and family about locking cars

If You're Out for the Day/Evening

- Turn on lights and a radio/TV
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave even if its just for a few minutes
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from the outside
- Have UPS/FedEx packages delivered to a neighbor

If You're Shopping

- Lock your car, close your windows and place shopping bags and gifts in the trunk
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with check or credit cards
- Park in a well-light space
- Get an automatic timer for your lights

If You're Traveling

- Alert ACS or other patrol service and a neighbor to watch your home.
- Stop mail donate newspapers to Kids in the Classroom (LA Times)

The holidays are also a good time to update—or create—your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers.

For more information visit www.weprevent.org



President's Message

Taking Back Our Neighborhood

Marquez Knolls fought for green space during the development of the Highlands in the 70s. The California Coastal Commission required Headlands Properties to donate a park at the top of Lachman Lane, known as "The Top of the World" because of its glorious views.

As the access trails aged fewer hikers dared the now treacherous climb. Agile youth, however, began to enjoy the

(Cont. on page 5: President's Message)

Join us at our next MKPOA Meeting: Jan. 25, 2010

Inside This Issue

Property Tax Warning	2
Magic Purse	2
In and Around Town	3
Business Directory	4
Block Party Sponsor	5
Block Party Collage	6

Property Tax Warning

The Los Angeles County Tax Assessors office is warning residents about a potential scam where solicitors are offering to lower your property taxes.

According to the agencies Web site: *“Various private companies are sending mailings to property owners offering their services to pursue a reduction in their property taxes. These companies may charge hundreds of dollars.”*

Here are some tips to be aware of before pursuing this offer:

- Homeowners can request their own re-assessment of property tax at no cost.
- Simply fill out a short form and wait for the results.
- A re-assessment may actually raise the value of your home if you have owned your home for several years.
- Review the assessed value of your on your annual tax statement
- Check with a local realtor to find out what the prevailing/comparable sales are in our area.
- Determine how today's sales compare to your assessed value on your property tax statement
- Consult with your CPA or attorney.

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MKPOA received this message after sending out an e-mail alert:

“Thank you very much for this information. I was wondering if I should pursue lowering my taxes via one of these solicitors, although I would never proceed without advice. You have been helpful. We appreciate everything you do to keep us informed about our community, too.”

Palisades Bluffs Receives Facelift

A stretch of Pacific Coast Highway is getting a facelift to reduce risk of erosions, mudslides and preserve the recreational and visual resource.

The bluffs stabilization work is forcing the intermittent closure of the northbound lane of PCH (nearest the bluff) through April 2010.

The 1.6 mile stretch from

McClure Tunnel to Entrada Drive will be closed between 8:00 am and 3:00pm, Monday through Saturday.



The work is being managed by Santa Monica’s public works department and is federally funded.

For more information on the project or road closures, visit www.PCHPartners.org, or call the Project Hotline at (866) 755-7679.



The Magical Coin Purse and a Neighborhood

If you’ve ever doubted the charm, quaintness and honesty of our neighborhood, this story will warm your heart.

On a recent Tuesday trash pick-up day, a neighbor along Enchanted Way spotted a small child’s coin purse along side a storm drain. It was the garbage bin’s wheel that stopped the small child’s purse from flowing down the gutter.

Not knowing what to do, the neighbor contacted MKPOA to ask for help.

MKPOA President Haldis Toppel immediately sent an e-mail to a list of neighbors on Enchanted Way.

Only one day later, the rightful owner sent a detailed description of the purse, “it is about five inches wide, very soft to touch, is made of black velvet and is very sentimental to me.

The purse was successfully returned along with the \$18 inside. It truly must be a magical purse or a magical neighborhood.

MKPOA Membership

MKPOA is committed to enhancing our community and environment. Consider renewing or joining the organization for 2010, dues are \$40 per household per calendar year.

Please Return the Enclosed Envelope and Join or Renew

MKPOA is dedicated to assisting its members with a multitude of issues including view obstructions, construction, traffic or other neighborhood concerns.

In and Around the Town and our Neighborhood

Toppel Appointed to C-PAB

MKPOA President, Haldis Toppel, has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the West Los Angeles LAPD Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB).

C-PAB is a partnership between LAPD and the local community. Community members are encouraged to attend to voice their concerns and suggestions on crime reductions, safety, and quality of life issues.

Community-Police Advisory Boards were created in 1993 for each of the 21 geographic areas with police stations.

Members Speak about ACS

We signed up for ASC security--dropped ADT because ASC has more patrol routes throughout Marquez Knolls and offers same services for patrol and monitoring at a very reasonable price.

I was impressed with the officer who was the sales person and also with the technician who came switched over the monitoring system.

I hope more Marquez residents will sign up.

Lani and Bill Duke

City's 311 System Fixes Problems

MKPOA has been using the City's 311 system to report various problems, including a collapsed guard rail along enchanted way as well as graffiti in the neighborhood.

The issues have been addressed swiftly and decisively, so it is important for all residents to utilize the service and report pot holes, street sign obstruction and graffiti.

LA Fire Department Coverage

Edited excerpts from Councilmember Bill Rosendahl's Office to Pacific Palisades Community Council Chair Richard Cohen.

In response to your question regarding the staffing of Fire Station 69, the reassignment of personnel only applies to one of the two fire engines/trucks assigned to the station.

Fire Engine 69 with a crew of four will be reassigned. The crews will be reassigned and rotated out of the area nine to ten days each month for full 24 hour shifts.

Light Force 69 engine and crew will remain at Station 69 with a full crew of six firefighters, along with Rescue Ambulance 69, staffed by two firefighters/paramedics.

Neither of these remaining resources are subject to the rotation and will remain fully staffed 24/7, leaving eight members assigned to the station at all times. Neither fire station will be closed.

LAPD Reassigns Officer

In response to community pressure, the LAPD has agreed to reinstate 17 officers back to the Pacific Palisades.

School Playground to Re-Open

The Marquez Elementary School playground may soon re-open to the public if a single non-profit entity can be formed.



The grounds were closed earlier this year when the current insurance policy expired.

MKPOA assisted in coordinating negotiations among the various parties including Councilman Bill Rosendahl after being contacted by resident George Kalmer.

He is now coordinating the re-opening efforts with other parents and has formed the "Friends of the Playground."

They are exploring options to form the organization to raise the necessary funds and to meet the LAUSD requirements.

MKPOA Block Party Returns

After a five-year hiatus, MKPOA, ACS Security, and Marquez Businesses threw a block party for the neighborhood.

The ACS BBQ was a great treat, the clown was a huge success, the moon bounce was shaking, while the Jazz band played its tunes, and the balloon artist entertained the crowd.

A heartfelt thanks to our sponsor:

ACS Security

CVS Pharmacy

Alicia's Place

Alper Music School

Innate Chiropractic Center

Knolls Pharmacy

Moonlight Printing

Oasis Palisades

Paws n Claws Grooming Salon

Ralph's Market

Renaissance Art School

Ronny's Market and Deli

Ronny's Parklane Cleaner

MARQUEZ KNOLLS BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association supports local businesses located within the Marquez Knolls community. The merchants listed below are business members of MKPOA and share in our vision of protecting and enhancing the quality of life in our community. Many of them offer goods and services to Marquez Knolls residents and may require identification for redemption.

<p>Alicia's Place Childcare 670 Via Santa Ynez • (310) 459-0750 Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm www.alicias-place.com for Loving Care</p>	<p>Alper Music School 707 Jacon Way • (310) 454-0160 37 Years of Enthusiastic Students & Happy Parents Kids Jazz Band, Private Lessons www.AlperMusic.com</p>
<p>Bailey Electric Company 16640 Marquez Ave. • (310) 454-5575 Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm Residential Electric Service and Repairs</p>	<p>Michael Edlen Real Estate (310) 230-7373 Michael@MichaelEdlen.com Marquez Knolls Resident for More than 30 Years</p>
<p>Ideas Studio 16650 Marquez Ave. • (310) 573-7190 Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-6:00pm Weekends: Parties Only Toddler Enrichment, Preschool, Birthday Parties</p>	<p>Innate Chiropractic 16624 Marquez Ave. • (310) 230-1899 Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm First Visit \$57 (Includes X-rays and adjustment)</p>
<p>Knolls Pharmacy 16630 Marquez Ave. • (310) 454-6000 Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-6pm Sat. 9:00am-4:00pm Serving All Your Prescription Needs</p>	<p>MAX Impact Martial Arts & Fitness 16632 ^{1/2} Marquez Ave. • (310) 454-7105 Mon.-Sat. 9:00am-9:00pm Call Now for Your Free Private Lesson!</p>
<p>Moonlight Printing 670 Via Santa Ynez • (310) 657-7528 Mon.-Sat. 8:30am-6:00pm www.moolightprinting.com Ask for Avi</p>	<p>Oasis Palisades 16704 Bollinger Drive • (310) 454-5855 Please Call for Appointment Spa, Massage, Acupuncture, Call for MKPOA Special</p>
<p>Palisades Animal Clinic 16636 Marquez Ave. • (310) 454-6503 Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-5:30pm John T. Condello, D.V.M. - UC Davis Graduate</p>	<p>Palisades Heating & Air Conditioning 16706 Bollinger Drive • (310) 459-5588 Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-5:00pm Free Filter with Service</p>
<p>Palisades Plumbing 16626 Marquez Ave. • (310) 454-5548 Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-4:30pm 10% Discount (if Invoice Paid on Day of Service)</p>	<p>Palisades Screen & Glass 16628 Marquez Ave. • (310) 459-3596 Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-4:00pm Windows, Mirrors, Screens—Free Estimates</p>
<p>Paws 'n Claws Grooming Salon 16634 Marquez Ave. • (310) 459-2009 Tues.-Sat. 8:00am-4:30pm Come In and Get 10% Off Your First Visit</p>	<p>Ronny's Park Lane Cleaners 16648 Marquez Ave. • (310) 454-9789 Mon.-Fri. 7:00am-6:00pm Sat. 9:00am-5:30pm Dry Cleaning (25% off), Alternations, Notary Svc.</p>
<p>Dan Urbach Prudential CA Realty 16509 Akron St. • (310) 230-3757 www.ExclusiveRealtor.com, info@DanUrbach.com I Represent PEOPLE, NOT PROPERTIES!</p>	<p>Vittorio's Restaurant 16646 Marquez Ave. • (310) 459-9316 Tues.-Sun. 4:00pm-10:00pm Join Us for Dinner or Take Your Meal Home</p>

New Communications Tool from LAPD

By Sgt. David Podesta



The West Los Angeles Community Police Station is always working to improve how we communicate with our community.

We often close streets due to a natural disaster, such as mudslide or fire, or we must set up a perimeter to catch a criminal.

Until now we have not been able to inform affected residents about the emergency in a timely manner.

Now, we have **NIXLE**. This free nationwide service only allows police and fire department personnel to communicate emergency information to affected residents.

Simply go to NIXLE.com and register your cellphone to your home, work or school. Remember, this is a free service.

(Continued from page 1)
seclusion especially at night at "Party Central."

Crowds congregated in the cul-de-sac. Rambunctious parties in the park attracted drug use, underage drinking and smoking, trash, graffiti, fire pits, and illegal fireworks. This became a fire danger for all, not just a NIMBY nuisance.

Jeannie Jefferds took me to the park to show me how bad things really are. We found heaps of trash including countless beer and liquor bottles, hundreds of cigarette butts, a couch, graffiti, a spent butane BBQ starter, and a recent fire pit next to charred chaparral.

I am happy to say that all authorities contacted on this matter have responded positively. LAPD activated the gangs unit, and has made drug and drinking arrests at night. The fire department offered its assistance in patrolling. ACS has agreed to patrol. Steve Nuccio, Chair of the Highlands President's Council, has agreed to cooperate with MKPOA on possible remedies including potential ADT patrol. The State Park Ranger has issued citations for smoking on park land

and will post no smoking signs and park-closed-at-night signs to allow for enforcement. I am conferring with the immediate neighbors on Lachman on additional enforcement and cleanup options addressing their special needs. We are taking action to improve/repair the access trails to enable daytime visitors and nighttime patrolling.

We are on the way to take back our neighborhood park for the enjoyment of responsible residents of our community, both young and old.

And with that I wish you very happy Holidays.

Haldis Toppel
MKPOA President

MKPOA Meetings

Every 3rd Monday
(unless it falls on a holiday)

Contact MKPOA

Hotline:
310 454-7678
Web site:
www.MarquezKnolls.com



Marquez Knolls Home Sales 2009 vs. 2008* Brought to you by Michael Edlen.com

	Number Sold	Ave Sale Price Per Sq Ft	Number of Active Homes
2009	20	\$610	14 (as of 11/30/09)
2008	21	\$779	19 (as of 11/30/08)

Number of Sales **5 % Lower**
Ave Price/Sq Ft **2 % Lower**
Active Inventory **25 % Higher**

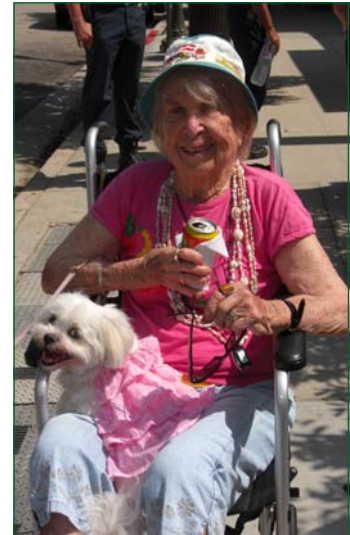
As of Tuesday, December 01, 2009 the lowest-priced available home in Marquez Knolls was a 3-bedroom, 3-bath on Livorno being offered at \$999,000. The highest-priced property is a 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath on Charmel Lane being offered at \$2,765,000. The lowest sale price so far this year was a 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath on Via Santa Ynez (\$901,000). The highest sale so far this year was a 5-bedroom, 4-bath on El Hito Place (\$3,000,000).

*Statistic based upon M.L.S. records of Single Family Residences ONLY

MKPOA
P.O. Box 1307
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Presort Standard
US Postage Paid
Permit # 1
Pacific Palisades, CA

MKPOA Block Party



*Neighbors Enjoy the
Return of the MKPOA
Block Party in the
Marquez Business District*

