

Our Community

The *Voice* of your Homeowners Association

LA COLINA LIFE

PROPOSED SHEA BOULEVARD CHANGES

The city has proposed that the median on Shea Boulevard between 136th and Palisades Boulevard in Fountain Hills be broken into more segments in order to allow for more flexibility in the case of an accident along that stretch. Last year, Shea was closed for over 4 hours in both directions for a fatal accident investigation. Breaks in the median would allow the rerouting of traffic to the other side of the road. They also wanted to store a number of traffic barriers and signs somewhere along Shea. The La Colina Homeowner's Association has proposed that the city store them midway, just off 142nd St., up by the water tank. They will keep us posted on their plans.

NUMBER 1 PROBLEM

Dog waste. It's disgusting and unhealthful, but some dog owners are oblivious to their neighbor's revulsion. The board voted in January to authorize hiring a pick up service when the problem becomes most apparent. Mad at the idea of your dues going to pick up after dog owners and you don't even own a pet? Us too, but, we've tried signs and fines. Only neighbors out there with the dog walkers can persuade them to pick it up! The open areas are not doggy bathrooms! Please help.

COMMUNITY CONTACT:

Amcor Property Management, 16441 North 91st St., Suite 104, Scottsdale 85260

Alan Day, manager

948 5860, ext. 22

DIRECTORY

Recently, you received your directory of La Colina residents. The driving force behind this was Meredith Davis, who compiled all the data, and Sheri Statt Bercaw who had them printed up in such a professional manner. We would like to expand the Concierge section to include more homeowner needs. If you have had a favorable experience with a contractor or business, please share it with your neighbors. We especially could use plumbers, painters, electricians and stucco tradesmen. Thanks to Meredith and Sheri for a job well done!!

BOARD ELECTIONS

At the June annual meeting, elections were held for the 3 vacant board positions. Rejoining the board for 2 year terms are

Alice Bauder Ken Goldstein Melissa Simms

Thanks to all three for their willingness to serve. The other two board positions will be up for election next June. A while back, residents approved an amendment to the bylaws to allow staggered terms for board members, so there would always be continuity on the board

CABLE CONTRACT

Our original 10-year contract for cable TV expired in November 2004. Last spring, we surveyed the community, and retaining Cox won by a large margin. We negotiated a contract that will raise cable fees by only 8% over the next five years. That is predicated on no increase in the prevailing retail rate Cox charges. We currently enjoy a 48% discount to that rate which will decrease to a 40% discount by 2010.

Thanks to Ken Goldstein, Ted Collins and Ken Ash who negotiated the terms of the contract and to Jerry McCormick and Denny McGill who negotiated the wording. With their combined help, a very difficult project was completed quickly and efficiently.

OVERNIGHT STREET PARKING

Some residents are starting to park on the street overnight. The CC&Rs prohibit overnight street parking. During the holidays, some is understandable with winter guests and parties. Please do not park directly across the street from another car. Emergency vehicles may have to come down the street late at night, and we don't want any tragedies. If you chronically park a car in the street, please move it to the driveway or garage. Thank you.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Board Meetings are scheduled for this fall on:

September 15

October 20

November 17

All meetings are on Thursdays at the Palomino Library @ Desert Mountain High School @ 6:30 P.M.

SEPTEMBER AGENDA

Budget for 2006

Bylaw changes to reflect recent changes by Arizona Legislature

Changing landscape lighting to in-ground to counteract vandalism

Discuss Gold Dust traffic and Sonora Vista situation

(at request of a homeowner)

DRIVE A PICKUP?

Scottsdale Police commander Michael Rosenberger advises a new trend among thieves. Stealing the tailgates from pickup trucks parked in driveways overnight. The tailgates can be removed quickly, and the thieves can get up to \$500 for them and the cost of replacements are about \$1000. There are locks available for about \$50 to secure the gates.

CRIME REPORT

In the past year, there has been several car break ins within La Colina. Access was gained by cutting the battery cables (to disable alarms), loosening the weather stripping around and window and then removing the window to gain access to the vehicle. In all instances, the cars were parked either in the driveway or on the street.

In April, a series of landscape lights along Gold Dust were smashed by a group of teenage boys. The damage short-circuited the system. The association is now exploring the option of having the landscape lighting put into the ground, a much more expensive option as ours is a high voltage system. Several pieces of glass that cover the wall lights were also broken. Our supply of replacement glass is very low, and replacement can be expensive, as we need to order a large amount to make it worthwhile to the supplier.

All of this is senseless, expensive and irresponsible. All is the responsibility of residents of La Colina to repair. It is your community and your money. We need to know who these vandals are so that we can prosecute and attempt to recover costs.

SONORA VISTA

On May 26th, 2005, our board met with the new board of the Sonora Vista community. They were interested in our views on their hope for a gate between the communities. When we bought up the sign at the front of their community being an irritant to good relations, they informed us that the sign, which re-directs traffic to Gold Dust, was because of damage to their keypad caused by large construction trucks that were unable to negotiate the turn. They said they would consider removing it. To date, they have not. The gate code for Sonora Vista is **6359**.