



The Villas Voice

A Newsletter for the Villas Community Association of
Rancho San Joaquin, Irvine, CA
www.rsjvillas.com February, 2017

Villas Monthly Board Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month at the Rancho Senior Center. Unless noted otherwise, the meetings begin at 6:45 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: February 23, 2017

2017 Board of Directors Election

The Annual Membership Meeting and Election of The Villas Community Association was held on January 26, 2017. Congratulations to the following community residents who have been elected to serve as our Board of Directors!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Cathy Lewis	President	2017
James Weaver	Vice President	2018
Elizabeth Kojian	Treasurer	2017
Daniel Wells	Secretary	2018
Jill Cooper	Member-at-Large	2017

Did you know the City of Irvine is...

- Ranked **#1 Major City in Fiscal Strength** by The Fiscal Times
- According to FBI crime statistics, designated **America's Safest City** for 11 consecutive years for cities with populations of more than 100,000
- Has been named one of the **Best Places to Live 2017** by Sunset Magazine
- Is identified as having the **8th Best Park System in the U.S.** by the Trust for Public Land.

Mail Thefts

A resident recently reported theft of outgoing mail from one of the Villas Mail Box Units (MBU). Willful damage to mailboxes or theft of mail are Federal crimes (felonies), punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.

The only way to successfully steal mail from an MBU is for the mailman to have left the door open, unlocked (an error that sometimes occurs) or a thief to use a sticky substance and remove whatever pieces they can pull out from the narrow slot in the door. To open an MBU requires a special Arrow Key, which only the Post Office has. They are checked out in the morning and turned in at night, rarely lost. It is possible for loss to occur somewhere else further on along the line. It is nearly impossible to solve these problems.

THE BEST WAY TO AVOID THEFT- take outgoing mail to the Post Office and deposit it **INSIDE**. Do Not leave mail in a collection box, anywhere, any time.

If you believe you have been the victim of mail theft, recommended action includes filing a police report and reporting the suspected theft to the United States Postal Inspection Services on line at <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/> or by phone at 1-877-876-2455 (press option 3).

Patio Drains



With the considerable amount of rainfall and winds we have experienced lately, we would like to take the opportunity to remind residents whose homes include an interior atrium/patio that it is vitally important to be vigilant about keeping your atrium/patio drain clear. Do not cover it and be sure it is not clogged with leaves or other debris.

Raised drain covers that fit the opening can be purchased at a local hardware store. This drain cover can prevent both you and your neighbors a lot of heartache and expense, as any water that seeps into your neighbors' walls **is your financial responsibility to repair**.

Please take this simple step to protect your, and your neighbors, property.

Sandbags Available



Irvine residents can get 10 free prefilled sandbags at the City's Operations Support Facility, 6427 Oak Canyon Road, Irvine. Please check in at the front office; staff will direct you to the sandbag pickup area. Be prepared to show proof of Irvine residency prior to picking up your bags.

Public Works staff is available to assist during the following hours: Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday.

Call 949-724-7600 for more information.

Please Don't Feed the Wildlife

Feeding a wild animal may seem harmless, but feeding wildlife can have serious effects for both the animals and humans.



- "People" food isn't good for animals. It can cause disease, mouth and throat injuries to the animal and even death.
- Feeding wildlife can make them dependent on humans as a source of food and they may become unable to survive on their own.
- Wild animals can lose their natural fear of people once they become used to humans feeding them. It puts people at risk and they can become a nuisance.
- Wild animals can be unpredictable. A wild animal may see people, including children, as a threat and may attack to defend itself.
- Leaving food on the sidewalk or common area for a rabbit, squirrel or duck, can have unintended results - attracting coyotes, bobcats, or rats.

Preventative Measures

In addition to atrium/patio drain covers and sandbags, **remove standing water**. Don't allow pools of standing water to form near your home. These preventative efforts will go a long way toward ensuring a safe environment for you and your neighbors.



Holiday Lights

As a gentle reminder, per our Residence Guide, holiday lights should be removed by the end of January. If you still have lights up, please take them down and store until next year. Thanks!

VILLAS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGER
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