



The Rolling Stones

Serving the Communities of Rolling Hills Riviera and Palo De Encino since 1959

Published Quarterly

AUGUST 2026

School is back in session ... don't get stuck in Dodson traffic!

School start time is 8 am; dismissal is at 3:08 pm except for Tuesdays, which dismiss at 2:08 due to staff meetings

Next meeting

The next neighborhood association meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 7 p.m. at 2117 Avenida Aprenda. Special guest Ara Mihanian, RPV City Manager, will be there ... hope you will be there, too!

Special Neighborhood Events

See pages 4-5 for photos from our Ice Cream Social held last June. Clear your calendar for more events as described below!

RHRNeighbors.org

Our website is now live! You can find past newsletters, photos of events, and even things to do! The Neighborhood Contact Page, a list of important phone numbers and emails, can be found on the website as well. Check it out!

Facebook - we're on it!

Log on to facebook.com and do a search for RHRHA



Stay in touch

Send your email address to RHRHARPV@gmail.com so we can keep you informed about neighborhood meetings, issues and events!

Taco Time in the Neighborhood!

Join your neighbors at the Calzada cul-de-sac on Saturday, September 19th, for dinner from local favorite SP Tacos, featuring beef and chicken tacos, rice and beans, cheese quesadillas, and bean and cheese burritos. Beverages and dessert also provided.

Haven't Joined Yet?

All our neighborhood events are free but are only possible because of the voluntary \$30 annual neighborhood association membership. If you have already sent in your 2026 contribution, THANK YOU! If not, you can join at the event, on our website, or send an email to RHRHARPV@gmail.com for more information about joining. You can even just scan the QR code below!



NEIGHBORHOOD TACO PARTY!

FEATURING

SP TACOS
AUTHENTIC MEXICAN TAQUERIA

DATE: SEPT. 19

TIME: 4:30-6:30 PM

PLACE: CALZADA cul de sac

GOOD FOOD • GREAT NEIGHBORS • GOOD TIMES!

Neighborhood Happenings

We Screamed for Ice Cream...

Our June Ice Cream Social, with live music from our neighbor Todd Okina and his band South Bay Style, was well attended and a lot of fun. When else would kids get to create ice cream sundaes and also play basketball with fire fighters and a Sheriff Deputy?



For more pictures, see pages 4-5.

Thank you to the Wright family from Calzada Drive for all their help with the Ice Cream Social and for volunteering to help with the upcoming September 19th Taco Party. Their cul-de-sac is a perfect place for these neighborhood family events.

Helping the Neighborhood ...

Our Neighborhood Association Board members are volunteers who help at our neighborhood events, listen to resident concerns, and work together to respond to those concerns. We are very pleased to announce a new addition to our Board, Laura Reyes from Van Karajan Drive.

We are a member of the RPV Council of Homeowners Associations (CHOA) which brings together residents from across the city with city officials to discuss common interests and concerns. Our Board has representatives at these informative and valuable meetings. The next meeting is September 16th; if you interested in attending, email rhrharpv@gmail.com and let us know.

An Expensive Cal Water Nightmare ...

The MacMorran family on Avenida Feliciano recently faced a serious and extremely expensive problem with Cal Water. The company claimed that the family's June water usage had gone up dramatically, and sent a huge bill - over \$4000!.

Because the bill was set for automatic payment, Cal Water put the charge right through.

Interestingly, there was a very large bill in June of 2025 as well, so the family hired a professional who found no leak or other problems with the plumbing. The family had also not increased their water usage. Suspecting a bad meter, they had Cal Water install a new one, replacing the previous meter that was installed back in 2000. Cal Water is currently inspecting the old one, but the family is still out the money while Cal Water looks into it.

That can be a real problem: if you have two over-watering charges in two years, Cal Water will not honor the second charge!

The MacMorran wanted to make others in our neighborhood aware of what had happened. There is a Cal Water app that can keep you informed about water usage on the new meters. They would also like to know if anyone else has had such a problem and might have advice about how it was handled. Please contact Robin MacMorran at robinmacm@gmail.com if you want more details or have any feedback that would be helpful.



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Coyotes Are Here - Tips For Safety

By Tom Manetti

Coyotes are a natural part of the Palos Verdes Peninsula and play an important role in our local ecosystem. They serve as a crucial keystone species that stabilizes ecosystems by controlling prey populations, boosting biodiversity, and reducing the spread of diseases. As highly adaptable predators, they provide essential services to both rural agricultural settings and urban neighborhoods.

Because our community borders open space, canyons, and nature preserves, residents may occasionally see coyotes in neighborhoods, parks, and walking trails. While coyotes generally avoid people, following a few simple safety practices can help prevent unwanted encounters.

If You See a Coyote

If you encounter a coyote, remain calm and do not run. Stand tall, make yourself appear larger, and use a loud, firm voice to encourage the animal to move away. Clap your hands or make other loud noises if necessary, and slowly back away while keeping the coyote in sight.

Protect Your Pets

- Small pets can attract coyotes, even in residential areas.
- Keep dogs on a leash while walking.
- Avoid walking pets during dawn and dusk, when coyotes are most active.
- Never leave small pets unattended in backyards, even if they are fenced.
- Keep cats indoors whenever possible.



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Reduce Food Sources

Coyotes are often drawn into neighborhoods by readily available food. Residents can help discourage their presence by:

- Keeping trash and recycling bins securely closed.
- Bringing pet food and water bowls indoors after feeding.
- Picking up fallen fruit from trees.
- Cleaning outdoor grills after use.
- Never feeding wildlife.

Working Together as a Community

By taking these simple precautions, we can help keep coyotes wild and reduce the likelihood of conflicts. If you observe a coyote acting aggressively toward people, showing no fear of humans, or appearing sick or injured, immediately report the incident to the appropriate local authorities.

Rancho Palos Verdes has an online system to report coyote sightings, and city officials ask that residents report all sightings so they they can track them and any problems. You can find the link on this page:

rpvca.gov/1114/Report-Coyote-Sightings

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Ice Cream Social!

The June Ice Cream Social was another tremendous success! It was not only fun but also a chance to have serious discussions on neighbor issues.

A large number of invited attendees were available to talk with neighbors: On hand, in addition to many of your friends and neighbors, were RPV Mayor Paul Seo, City Councilmembers Dave Bradley, Steve Perestam, and

Barbara Ferraro, RPV Public Safety Director Jennifer Schmid, Former City Councilmember John Cruikshank, Planning Commission member Dave Chura, CHOA Board member Marie Chura, LA County Sheriff Deputy (Community Relations) Derek Clotworthy and three LA County Firefighters who not only showed kids the fire truck, but played basketball

with them. Even our star mail carrier Cesar stopped by!

Our Neighborhood Association Board members help at these events and act as volunteer neighborhood representatives, available to listen to resident concerns and communicate those concerns to local city representatives.





Photo Credits: Mark Knoernschild and Mike Bilinski

A Vote for Safety

By Ara Mhrranian, RPV City Manager

On July 21, 2026, the RPV City Council voted unanimously to place a measure on the November 3rd General Municipal Election ballot, giving local voters the opportunity to consider an approach intended to properly prepare for future landslides and other natural disasters, while maintaining essential City services such as public safety patrols, emergency preparedness, and street maintenance.

If approved by a majority of voters, the *Public Safety/City Services Measure* would increase the transient occupancy tax (TOT), paid only by hotel and motel guests, by three percent, raising the TOT from 10% to 13%.

If passed, the Measure would provide an additional, locally controlled source of funding that would be dedicated to City services. No funds from the Measure could be taken by Los Angeles County, the State of California, or the federal government. Funds generated by the Measure are required by law to be spent for the benefit of RPV residents and is subject to strict accountability requirements including public disclosure of all spending and annual, independent financial and performance audits.

The City Council's action occurs amid ongoing challenges facing cities across California. The State has increasingly imposed expensive regulations and requirements on local governments and Los Angeles County has continued attempts to seize control over available revenue sources.

To learn more about the Measure, go to rpvca.gov/elections.

On Wednesday, October 14, at 7 p.m., I will be at your neighborhood association meeting to speak with the you about this upcoming measure, the city's fiscal conditions, and our priorities in the coming year. Please join us.



The RPV Emergency Preparedness Booth at a recent neighborhood event

Advocacy Letter Updated

Submit to your insurance company to potentially help lower rates

RPV's Emergency Preparedness Committee previously prepared an advocacy letter that residents can submit to insurance providers emphasizing the comprehensive and ongoing fire risk reduction efforts taken by the City. The information in the letter provided a solid foundation for homeowners and businesses to advocate for the maintenance of their existing insurance policies and to potentially negotiate reduced premium rates.

The advocacy letter has been updated to include the City's new designation on California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire Risk Reduction Community List, effective July 1, 2026.

You can find the updated advocacy letter and certificate designating RPV as a Fire Risk Reduction Community at rpvca.gov/1344/Home-Fire-Insurance-Questions-and-Resour. Feel free to print and submit a copy to your insurance agent for their records.

The RPV Emergency Preparedness Committee has also had a very helpful and informative booth at many of our events, and will be at our upcoming taco party on September 19th.



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Looking for friends: The San Pedro High School Class of 1976 is trying to find everyone in the class to notify them about the upcoming 50th reunion! If you know anyone in the class, please let them know and share this with them.

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OCTOBER 17, 2026

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Upcoming Neighborhood Events

Wed 10/14 In-Person Neighborhood Meeting
 7:00 PM 2117 Avenida Aprenda
Special Guest - Ara Mihanian, RPV City Manager

Monthly Community Events

1st & 3rd Tue RPV City Council
 7:00 PM Hesse Park Community Center
 1st & 3rd Tue Neighborhood Street Sweeping
 2nd Mon Northwest San Pedro
 6:30 PM Neighborhood Council
 Peck Park Auditorium



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The Rolling Stones

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 San Pedro, CA 90734

Membership in the RHRNA is \$30 per year

Advertising in the Rolling Stones is \$70 per year (\$65 per year for residents) If you are interested in advertising in *The Rolling Stones*, contact Bill Spinelli at (310) 433-1515 or wmspinelli48@gmail.com

To submit story ideas, or have comments, questions or concerns, send an email to: RHRHARPV@gmail.com. Send information you want posted to our Facebook page to Maria Todora-Denué at MTD4Homes@aol.com

Lawn Equipment Rebates Available

By Richard Wagoner

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) is offering a program that helps residents replace their old gas-powered lawn and garden equipment with new battery-powered alternatives.

You can receive a rebate of up to \$250 toward the purchase of new battery-powered lawn mowers, leaf blowers, chainsaws and trimmers, as long as you live within the South Coast AQMD's four-county jurisdiction.

To qualify, you must purchase eligible new battery-powered equipment and turn in a working, like-for-like gasoline-powered equivalent to an approved dismantler for permanent destruction. You will be asked to demonstrate that the old gas-powered equipment starts and runs when you turn it in for dismantling.

The program allows up to three rebates to be processed, each up to \$250, as long as they are for different types of equipment. I was able to obtain rebates for a chain saw, a weed trimmer, and a leaf blower. You do need to buy each one separately (though they can be on the same receipt), so don't buy a bundle if you want to receive more than one rebate. For example, a chain saw and trimmer

count as two rebates, but a set that includes a chain saw and a trimmer together counts as one.

If you think battery-powered lawn and garden equipment cannot compete with gas-powered equipment, think again - technology has progressed to the point where they are very equivalent.

I was a disbeliever myself, until I decided to try first with a chain saw and found the battery-powered model I bought was every bit as strong as the gas model, maybe more. And I no longer have to deal with mixing the fuel, hard starts after being warm from use, as well as engine noise and smoke. Just pop in the battery and go. It was a true eye-opener discovering just how far the battery-powered equipment has come.

The success with the saw convinced me to replace a string weed trimmer as well as a leaf blower, and I decided to go with the same brand and system (in my case Ryobi 40 volt) in order to have extra batteries, figuring even if I used all the equipment in one day, I couldn't use them at the same time, and batteries could charge while I used just one.

Since our city forbids the use of gas-powered leaf blowers anyway, that was a particularly easy decision.

You can get a rebate of \$150 for equipment costing \$250 or less before taxes, \$200 for equipment costing from \$251 to \$400, and \$250 for anything \$401 or above. Once you buy the new equipment, just fill out the application online (click the link after reading the full details at aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/electric-lawn-and-garden-programs/electric-lawn-mower-rebate-program).

The hardest part of the process is probably taking the old equipment to the dismantler. I used SA Recycling in Carson/Long Beach, and the process was a little confusing and intimidating the first time. You actually drive onto the same scales that the big trucks use, and see the people at the window to have the form filled out. They are helpful, however, so once you get started, it is fairly easy. Don't forget the form you receive when applying online, and don't forget your ID. Again, you'll have to demonstrate that the old equipment works, so leave a little gas in the tank when you take it in.

Once all that is done and you submit the return form online, you'll get a rebate check in the mail within a month or so.



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

September 19 - TACO PARTY, 4:30 - 6:30 on Calzada

October 14 - Neighborhood Meeting with special guest Ara Mhuranian, RPV City Manager, 7:00 PM.

2117 Avenida Aprenda

**Rolling Hills Riviera Neighborhood Association -
Your neighbors working together!**