

RANCH

Ramblings

Summer, 2019

Three home burglaries

As most of you know via email communiques, Hope Ranch homes have been burglarized three times in recent weeks. Important statistics regarding these crimes are as follows; nobody home, all three had alarm systems but alarms were either non-functioning or not active in two of the three homes; no driveway gates in any of the three; no dog in the homes. I feel that almost every home in Hope Ranch should have a video feed home alarm system that will notify you with live image if someone is approaching your home. These systems are cheap, can be completely wireless, and are easy to install. You can be on vacation overseas, and see what's going on, live, at your front or back yards. For information on the systems that Hope Ranch Members use, email Gfeet@hoperanch.org Hope Ranch should be on high alert for such crime precursors as solicitors knocking on doors and vehicles cruising or parking along our roadways, and report them immediately to our Patrol at 967-8335 and/or the Sheriff's Department at 681-4100. Reportedly this criminal group drops off a member and picks him up later. Since most Hope Ranch roads are private, our patrol has the right to tap on windows of cars parked along our roadways and ask drivers if they are residents, or to question reported door to door individuals. We will keep you informed via email.

Flash reminders:

Family Beach Campout Friday, July 26 and 27 (Free pancake breakfast Sat morning 8 a.m.). Rules: guests must camp in tent of a Member. No amplified music...Acoustic music encouraged. Bonfires allowed only in metal containers (not provided). No fires if conditions dictate. No fireworks.

Beach Festival Sunday, Sept 1

Questions on either event contact Burleigh Skidmore 570-3963 or Ron Gillio 963-1345 or Tom Fauntleroy 570-8320

Hope Ranch Address Book – Second edition!

by Melissa Brooks

Deadline date extended to July 30, 2019

Hope Ranch Neighbors have enjoyed the Hope Ranch Address Book, First Edition. By now you should have

received the announcement letter that we are in the process of creating the second edition! Deadline to be included has been extended to July 30, 2019. Please contact Charlotte Williams at laladera88@gmail.com or Melissa Brooks at mjb50@cox.net if you'd like to join in. If you were included in the first edition and have not responded, we will keep you in the book with no changes. Let us hear from you! Only those who participate will be eligible to receive a book. Each participant will be charged a nominal fee similar to the last edition to recoup printing costs.

The Hope Ranch Address Book Committee: Alison Bowlus, Geri Bidwell, Melissa Brooks, Jan Dunbar, Diana O'Keeffe and Charlotte Williams.

Aircraft Noise Software Meeting July 10 6 p.m. :

Good news, the airport is now ready to explain and release to the public the noise software that will allow those experiencing commercial jets flying over Hope Ranch an easy method of reporting the incident to airport staff. A Workshop will be held at Airport Administration on Wednesday, July 10th at 6pm. It'll be in the same room as the Airport Commission meetings. In this meeting, Staff will review what PublicVue can do, how to create an account, how to track flights, and how to review results from complaints logged by the user. It will be available via the internet on computers, phones, or tablets. I hope at least 15 of us can attend the meeting. Either way, I will send an email report about the software following the meeting.

Roundup Reduction Campaign: Staff is attempting to drastically reduce the use of Roundup on Hope Ranch common area weeds. We ask for your patience as we try to mitigate the substantial increase in labor that hand and machine weeding requires. The board is considering additional funding towards this goal. Members should know that the majority of Roundup is used on the non-bridle trail sides of our private roadways, difficult to access areas, poison oak, and other areas very difficult to manage by man or machine.

Popup Tent Restriction on Summer Weekends:

On weekends and holidays (but not weekdays) from July 4th through Labor Day, popup tents will be issued only to Hope Ranch Members and permanent tenants (but...once a Member is given a popup tent, the guests can of course occupy it). Those requesting a popup tent during these ten heavy traffic summer weekends will be required to show ID which will be compared to a resident roster. Tent reservations and call-in popup setups are not allowed. We hope that this new policy will help to make the Hope Ranch Member's summer beach experience more enjoyable by reducing the number of unaccompanied guests during the busiest summer weekends. Questions: email Anne@hoperanch.org

Pin Number Fees: For weekdays and for most of the year, pin usage will remain at \$10 per beach visit. However, on weekends and holidays only from July 4th through Labor Day ("heavy traffic days") pin cost will increase to \$20 per beach visit

An update on the Rodenticide Questionnaire, by Ruth Birdt:

Sadly, the questionnaire response did not yield enough answers to clarify poison-free areas large enough to enable safe living areas for owls. California's bill to ban SGAR rodenticides cleared the Senate Environmental Quality Committee and goes forward to a Senate Committee and ultimately to Governor Newsome for signature. A positive outcome of the Questionnaire is that residents are talking about the benefits of owls in our community and are questioning their usage of rodenticides. Safer alternatives include the Goodnature rat and mouse A24 control kit, www.goodnature.co and several other rodenticides such as Selontra. If you still have the questionnaire and can complete and return it to me, I shall continue to record results. Let's hope for a positive outcome from the Senate vote and a healthier environment. Any questions: ruthbirdt@gmail.com

ABR Items—more than average due to bi monthly newsletter and heavy ABR demand
Conceptual review

4055 Cuervo Ave. remodel
4477 Via Alegre remodel
3990 Cuervo Ave. new residence

4441 Via Esperanza garage conversion, new garage & shop

Preliminary review

4125 Creciente Drive pool, garage & art studio
4145 Creciente Drive exterior changes, hardscape, play area & landscaping
4653 Via Roblada new garage, barn, tennis court & remodel
4565 Via Huerto addition & remodel
652 Via Trepadora new residence

Final review

4660 Via Huerto sound wall, outdoor kitchen, landscape & solar
4219 Cresta Ave remodel & addition
4290 Mariposa Dr new residence
4066 Via Laguna new residence
975 Canon Road detached garage, shop & landscaping
4513 Via Vistosa remodel, addition & detached garage
4348 Marina Drive barn, corral, stables, etc.
3903 Laguna Blanca Drive remodel & addition
4184 Cresta Ave. remodel & addition
4182 Cresta Ave. new garage & master suite
4300 Vieja Drive remodel & addition
4642 Via Roblada addition, remodel & guest house
4010 Ramitas road remodel & addition
1124 Estrella Drive remodel & addition
4178 Creciente Drive landscape mitigation, Driveway & landscaping
4660 Via Huerto screen wall, landscaping, exterior patio & solar
404 Via Dichosa new residence
4455 Via Bendita remodel
691 Via Trepadora new residence
4167 Cresta Ave. remodel, pool, guest house, etc.
4640 Via Bendita new residence
4170 La Ladera Road pool, pool cabana, trellises & landscape
4606 Via Cayente remodel & addition
4230 Cresta Ave. hobby room
4090 Cuervo Ave. pool, pool cabana & pool equipment
4517 Vieja Drive new detached garage & rec room
4131 Cresta Ave. remodel
4475 Via Abrigada landscape grading and stone wall

PATROL REPORT Part 1

Note: Not all reports are included. Some items are edited for confidentiality or quicker reading.

March, 12 11:35AM – Patrol was requested by the Sheriff's department to assist with an alarm activation on the 4100-blk. of Marina Dr. Patrol conducted a check of the property and nothing of concern was observed. The residence was found locked and secure. Patrol noticed strong winds at the time.

March, 14 3:20PM – Patrol was advised by the Ranch office that a Resident on the 4600-blk. of Via Vistosa called to report that the day prior, around 1:00 p.m., a man came to her door soliciting paving/sealing services. The Resident did not open the door and the man was persistent. The man advised the Resident that he had done some work for one of her neighbors. The Resident did not see what the man looked like but was seen driving a white truck. The Resident decided to report the solicitation as she saw a driveway paving scam on the local news. *[No similar call(s) have been reported since, but Members are asked to forward such incidences immediately to Patrol at 967-8335].*

March, 17 7:15PM – Patrol was received a complaint from a Resident who reported noise in the area of Mariposa. Patrol located a power washing machine being used to the rear of a residence. Patrol contacted the Resident about the complaint provided a reminder of the permitted hours for such work covered under the Ranch's *general maintenance* rule. The noise did not continue.

March, 20 5:50PM – Patrol received a complaint about loud noise coming from Via Huerto. Patrol located a tree trimming co. working at a residence on the 4600-blk. of Via Huerto. Patrol made the tree co. aware of the permitted hours for *general maintenance*. The tree co. was cooperative and stopped the noise.

March, 22 1:50PM – While patrolling Las Olas Dr., patrol noticed a grey VW Beetle parked in a posted no parking area. Patrol searched the beach for the owner of the VW and while doing so, came across 2 separate groups of older teens. One of the groups had a teen that was trying to hide some opened containers of alcohol (beer). No one in that group was 21 yrs. old, therefore, could not legally possess alcohol. No one in the group claimed ownership of the alcohol. Patrol used discretion and did not involve the Sheriff's department as the group did not claim the items and opted to pour out the alcohol to eliminate possession. The group picked up the empty containers. No one in that group was the owner of the VW. Patrol then contacted the 2nd group and learned the VW belonged to one of the teens. During contact, patrol learned that the group was hiding some alcohol under a towel and behind a tent. No one in the group was 21 yrs. old and the youngest was 18 yrs. old. *Note: During both contacts, no one was observed consuming any of the alcohol.* The VW was moved a short time later.

March, 26 3:40PM – Patrol received a report from of a large semi-truck trying to negotiate the curve by the fire gate.

Patrol assisted the driver by opening the fire gate, providing a safer route for the driver.

March, 31 11:07AM – While patrolling Las Palmas Dr., patrol noticed a black Lance motor scooter with expired tags parked at the map parcel near the large "juicer" fixture. The scooter had been seen at the same location the day before by a motorist leaving the Ranch. The scooter's ignition did not have any sign(s) of tampering. Patrol contacted the CHP and provided the plate # so see if it was a stolen scooter, which it was not. Patrol learned the scooter was registered out of Isla Vista. Patrol issued a parking citation warning and noted the necessary info in the event the scooter needed to be towed away from private property. Patrol monitored the scooter, which eventually was gone a day later.

April, 01 12:20PM – The Ranch office received a report of a discarded mattress on the 4200-blk. of Mariposa and a pile of dead branches on Mariposa & Llano. Patrol located both items and documented the illegal dumping. The dumping was reported to the Ranch maintenance crew for cleanup.

April, 01 12:20PM – While locking up the beach, patrol found a green Bluetooth speaker left at the beach. Patrol placed the speaker in the lost & found at the Ranch office for safekeeping. *Note: Please contact patrol or the Ranch office if you have lost an item in the Ranch.*

April, 05 9:05PM – Patrol received a report from an alarm co. of an alarm activation on Via Esperanza coming from the bedroom motion. Patrol checked the perimeter and all the doors and windows appeared locked and secure. No signs of forced entry was observed and the interior appeared normal. Police were invited to inspect but did not respond. The Resident was advised of the outcome. The next day, the resident said a bathroom window had been found broken.

April, 06 7:55AM – While on patrol, patrol noticed a HRPFA STOP sign had been vandalized with the use of a large circular sticker. Patrol was able to remove the vinyl sticker without any damage to the sign. No other similar incidents were report and/or observed, and the last such incidents were repeated vandalism by spray paint of inner bridle trail signs.

April, 07 10:01AM – Patrol received a report from CHP of loose alpacas outside the Ranch on Modoc. With the assistance of SB County animal control, the alpacas were returned to their home on Via Dichosa. Patrol followed up with the owner of the alpacas who would be installing fencing to better secure the alpacas on the property.

April, 07 4:40PM – While on Las Olas, patrol learned of a beach card (swiping in / out) violation that had taken place earlier in the day. Patrol checked the camera footage and noticed the violation did take place as a single beach card was used to provide access for 2 separate vehicles. Patrol learned the Member only had 1 beach card and had not obtained a pin # for her guests. Patrol forwarded the report to the Ranch office for further review. *Note: Such violation carried a 2-week suspension or a \$50 violation fee.*

See Patrol Report Part 2,

Patrol Report Part II

April,08 10:00AM – Patrol received a report from a Marborg truck driver that a tree was down and leaning on some wires on Camino Medio & Estrella. Patrol noticed a large oak tree was leaning over and resting on some communication wires (the lower set of wires) and causing the utility pole to bow due to the tension. Patrol coned-off the area and contacted the Ranch maintenance crew and the utility co. The water co. was also notified and as a precaution, shut the valve to fire hydrant located near the tree. A tree service responded to cut the tree and the utility co. stabilized the utility pole and lines.

April,08 1:30PM – Patrol received a report from a caller who reported a tree limb down a the Las Palmas exit. Patrol located a large tree limb down and blocking the northbound land of Las Palmas Dr. with traffic backing up. Patrol contacted Sheriff's dispatch who notified SB county roads and CHP. Both patrol and the Ranch manager directed traffic and county roads and CHP arrived to assist. Branch debris was cleared from the roadway and a full county crew responded to completely clear the branch.

April,10 1:35PM – Patrol received a report that a male was using a radar gun at the corner of Lago & Camino Medio. The Resident advised that as she passed by, the male flipped her off and gave her the thumbs down gesture. The Resident said she might have been just above the speed limit. Patrol checked the area but was not able to locate the male with the radar gun. The Resident also mentioned that another Resident had observed the same male using the radar gun before. Patrol advised the Resident that the activity was not HRPFA related and patrol would follow up with the Ranch GM.

April,10 3:20PM – Patrol received a request from the Sheriff's department to assist with an alarm activation on Via Dichosa coming from a living room activation. Patrol conducted a perimeter check of the residence and noticed 2 open ventilation windows and noted very strong winds at the time. While on scene, the Resident arrived and agreed the activation was wind related due to the small open windows. Patrol notified the Sheriff's department of the false alarm.

April,13 4:30PM – Patrol received a report from an alarm co. who reported an alarm activation on the 1100-blk. of Estrella. Patrol and the Sheriff's department conducted a perimeter check of the residence and found a rear sliding glass door unsecure. Additional deputies, including a K-9 conducted a search of the residence. All appeared normal and the Resident was advised of the outcome.

April,14 8:20PM – Patrol came across a tree branch down and blocking via Trepadora. Patrol coned off the area and notified the Ranch maintenance supervisor. The branch was cleared from the roadway.

April,18 2:50PM – While on patrol of Las Palmas near Via Bendita, patrol noticed a newer white vehicle parked at the nearby dirt turnout, which is a posted no parking area. Patrol noticed a couple walking on Las Olas and learned the vehicle was theirs and parked to walk to the beach for a few minutes. Patrol advised the couple that access to the beach was private. Patrol provided directions to a parking area located outside the Ranch that has beach access.

April,18 3:05PM – While checking Hope Ranch Beach, patrol was advised by beachgoers that they called the Wildlife Care Network to report two birds covered in oil. The birds were seen east of the turnaround. *[Note: If needed, the WCN # is 805-681-1080].*

April,18 6:25PM – Patrol received a report from a Resident on Via Roblada of a transient on Via Bendita heading towards Via Huerto. Patrol located a male who was lost and looking for his way out of the Ranch. The male advised he was from Oxnard and enroute to San Francisco. Patrol gave directions to Hollister. Patrol also gave the male some drinking water.

April,19 7:30PM – Patrol received a request from a Resident on Canon, who was out of town, to help check the interior of her house, as the sitter found the front door open. The interior was checked, and nothing seemed out of place, there was no signs of forced entry. Patrol also found 2 unsecure small restroom windows. The Resident was notified, and she will lock the front door remotely from her location.

April,19 8:58AM – While on patrol on Creciente, patrol noticed construction work at a residence. Patrol noticed the project was not listed on the authorization list for Saturday work. Patrol issued a construction violation notice and the work stopped. Patrol forwarded a report to the HR Bldg. Admin.

April,20 9:10PM – While on patrol of Vieja Dr., patrol noticed a black 4-door Jeep Wrangler with a male and a female making out in the back seat. Patrol was unable to get the plate # on the Jeep, which took off when noticing patrol.

April,21 5:30PM – Patrol received a report from a Resident who reported finding a wallet and jacket at the beach turnaround. The driver's license showed an address out of Goleta for the elderly male. With the assistance of the Sheriff's department, a relative of the male was contacted.

April,25 10:20PM – While on patrol on Via Bendita, patrol noticed a blue Hyundai with a male and female in the back seat with the rear windows covered. Patrol knocked on the window and advised the couple that they were parked in a no parking area. The couple jumped in the front seats and drove away.

May,03 10:01AM – Patrol received a report from a Resident who reported a power pole on Via Rosita sparking. Patrol located a utility pole that had a transformer with some active arcing around a coil. Patrol monitored while contacted the Sheriff's department and the County Fire arrived, followed by a Southern California Edison line worker. Patrol coned off the area and the line was fixed without incident.

May,03 11:22AM – Patrol received a report on Lago who reported that through his door camera system he saw a male walk onto his property. Patrol advised the Resident that So Cal Gas had a group of employees working on his street as did the water co. Patrol responded and confirmed this was the case.

May,03 5:30PM – Patrol received a report from a Resident who reported transient on the 500-blk. Of Via Tranquila. Patrol checked the area and noticed a male transient already out of the Ranch as he made his way north on Nogal. Patrol advised male that the road was private.

May,07 9:38PM – While on patrol on Las Palmas, patrol noticed a gold Isuzu SUV with no lights on parked at the map parcel on Las Palmas. Patrol noted the windows were foggy. Patrol checked and noticed a couple in the back-seat area who advised they were "looking at the moon". The nervous-looking couple were advised that they were on private property. The couple left without incident.

May,07 9:53PM – While on patrol of Via Cayente, patrol noticed 2 vehicles, a gold GMC Yukon SUV and a grey Honda Civic, parked along an open area on the backside of a property with a Via Fruteria address. The GMC had foggy windows. Patrol checked on the GMC and noticed the female was covering up and appeared bottom-less and the male was in shorts. The couple got dressed and patrol learned neither of them lived in the Ranch or had any legitimate business in the Ranch. Patrol advised the couple that they were trespassing on private property. The couple left without incident and patrol followed up with the Resident.

May,11 8:40AM – Patrol received a report from a resident of a tractor being used and the noise was "disturbing the peace". Patrol located the work and contacted the worker about the complaint. The male advised that he was unaware of the Ranch work rules for the weekend. The work did not continue.

May,11 12:05PM – Patrol received a report on the 4100-blk. of Marina Dr. of a rattle snake inside the home. Patrol spoke to the Resident who said that her grandmother saw the snake inside the house, which caused everyone to [see reverse]

run out of the house. Patrol checked the home and could not locate the snake. Patrol provided the number to animal control and showed online images of various snakes and it was determined the snake was most likely a garden snake, not a rattler. As patrol was leaving, patrol noticed the garden snake had made it out of the home. The Resident called animal control to report the snake.

May,12 12:37PM – Patrol received a report that a resident's dogs were attacked by other dogs at Hope Ranch Beach. The Resident was no longer at the beach and said that earlier on the sand east of the turnaround, her 2 leashed dogs, a labradoodle and a golden doodle, were attacked by 3 unleashed dogs, a dark brown "squatty" dog, a white w/brown hound and a smaller dog. The Resident was able to separate the dogs. The Resident said her dogs seemed fine. Patrol responded to the beach and located the group associated with the unleashed dogs. Patrol advised the owner of the complaint. The dog owner/Resident was understanding, and she leashed her dogs. Contact info for the dog owner/Resident was on file in the event the owner of the leashed dogs required it.

May,12 9:30PM – Patrol contacted CHP for a dilapidated dark blue VW Jetta that had been parked along Via Hierba. Various parking citations from the City of Santa Barbara were visible inside the VW and the registration tag was expired. CHP towed the vehicle away.

May,13 4:43PM – Patrol received a report of a vehicle accident on Marina Dr. and Cantera. Patrol responded and CHP was already on scene with the 2 involved vehicles, a silver Toyota Sienna minivan and a tan MB Sprinter van. Patrol assisted with traffic control as the Toyota was blocking the e-b lane of Marina Dr. and at one point the roadway had to be shut down to remove the MB out of the ice plants from the northern edge of Marina Dr. Both vehicles sustained front-end damage and airbags were also deployed. It was learned that prior to the collision, the MB was traveling e-b on Marina and the Toyota entered the intersection of Marina & Creciente directly into the path of the MB, causing the collision. Both vehicles were towed away and CHP conducted an investigation. Patrol followed up with a couple of Residents about their landscaping in the event damage was sustained.

May,16 9:20AM – Patrol received a report on the 4100-blk. of Marina Dr. who reported a large tree branch that fell on her car and needed help removing the branch. Patrol responded and a large oak tree branch had fallen on top of the Resident's red Audi parked on the Resident's property. The Audi sustained damage. Patrol was able to cut some smaller limbs from the branch, making the branch removable. The driveway was cleared for the vehicle to be towed away.

May,17 4:10PM – Patrol received a report from the Sheriff's department of a theft from an unlocked truck that took place earlier in the afternoon. The owner of the truck reported that his truck was unlocked with the windows down and at the time he was doing landscaping work in the area. The owner of the truck discovered 2 backpacks containing wallets, credit cards and work keys had been stolen. The owner of the truck reported the incident to the Sheriff's department. No known suspects at this time.

May,20 PM hours – Patrol received a report from the Sheriff's department of a barn on fire on Via Cayente with horses on the property. Patrol responded and arrived as Sheriff units were also arriving. Light smoke was visible from the loft portion of the barn, however, there were no visible flames. Several people on the property were seen trying to corral a frightened horse, which was eventually secured. The county fire department dispatched several units, including a ladder truck to the scene. People on the property at the time reported that the exterior of the barn caught fire and 2 males put out the flames with several hoses. There was a mention of sage burning and cigarette usage. It was unclear what caused the flames, however, the fire department investigated further.

May,24 1:00PM – While following up at a Residence on Vie Huerto for a Resident complaint of an illegally parked flatbed trailer, patrol noticed the residence was under construction as a large remodel/landscaping project was underway. The trailer was related to the property and it would be removed by the end of the day. Patrol followed up with the HR office and it was discovered the construction project was being done without a building permit by the HRPFA. Patrol followed up with the owner of the property who contacted the office to obtain the necessary permit. The Resident advised he was unaware such project required a permit.

May,31 9:40PM – Patrol received a report from a Resident on Monte about a break-in at her residence. –*[residents were sent a special email covering this incident. Minutes later....the following...]*

May,31 9:45PM – Patrol received a report from a Resident on Via Roblada about a break-in at her residence. –*[residents were sent a special email covering this incident].*

June,01 6:30PM – Patrol received a report from the Sheriff's department of a female choking on the 4200-blk. of Llano. Patrol responded and met an AMR ambulance and a Sheriff K-9 handler who was on scene. The female was okay and would be transported for observations.

That's it for now!