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UMCA UPDATES ARTICLES AND BYLAWS, FINALLY!

A general Meeting of the Upper Mandeville Homeowners Association was held on Monday March 2nd at the home of Elodie and Karl Lorenz. A vote was held to pass the Restated Corporate Articles and Bylaws of the Association, which had been revised after considerable study by Board Members Ophir Finkelthal and Julia Weinstein. The Board would like to thank the members who attended and also those who lent their proxy to the UMCA President for this vote. The purpose of the Upper Mandeville Homeowners Association, a charitable 501 (c) (3) corporation, is to protect and enhance the quality of life in, foster connection among residents of, and preserve the beauty of the open spaces surrounding Mandeville Canyon.

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT ALERT

To get Emergency FIRE and EVACUATION WARNINGS by phone, cell, email and text message go to: emergency.lacity.org/EOCOperations/NotifyLA/index.htm

Enter all your communication devices. Los Angeles Emergency Management Department's new alert system can save the lives of your family. Early warnings will inform us of danger and help us evacuate our Canyon calmly as we did in our practice fire drill back in May. Cell and text message will reach you at work, so you can alert your scattered family of what's coming and where you all can meet. Last-minute evacuation causes panic. Panicked drivers may clog our narrow Canyon roads, costing lives. That happened in the Oakland California Fire years ago. Many lives were lost. Don't let it happen here! Go to NotifyLA and sign up today.

2015 UMCA DUES ARE DUE NOW!

We are now on an annual calendar year membership. If you have paid in 2015, or if you are on autopay, then your membership is current. UMCA Board volunteers take a leadership role on a whole range of efforts that keep our canyon a wonderful place to live. If you LOVE Upper Mandeville, then please support your UMCA. The more members we have, the more we can do! GO TO uppermandeville.com to pay your dues TODAY!

GARBAGE CAN REMOVAL

One simple way to keep our narrow canyon road safer for everyone is to make sure we bring in our waste bins as soon as possible after they have been emptied by the city. Bins should be positioned on the 'curb' the night before collection and removed as soon as possible after. It is not uncommon for the collection trucks to leave a bin such that it protrudes into the traffic lane. Please take the time to pull your bin(s) to the side of the curb whether or not you can immediately return them to their stored location on your property.

CAN DRIVERS AND CYCLISTS PLEASE TRY TO GET ALONG?

The law provides for drivers and cyclists to share the road. Put simply, cyclists should ride single-file on the far right side of the lane, and drivers should pass cyclists only when they can do so safely, which includes a 3' clearance and ample visibility for oncoming cars. If you see a cyclist in the middle of the road, chances are the cyclist is riding in a protective position because it is not a safe place to pass, and when the road straightens, he/she will move to the right. The challenges aren't going away, but with a little more patience, we can all be safer.

LOSING TWO GREAT NEIGHBORS

We are sorry to report that two popular Mandeville residents, Elodie and Karl Lorenz are leaving the canyon, moving north to the bay area, where Karl has taken a job at Stanford University. Elodie, an IT expert, has been Secretary of the UMCA Board, and has supervised our website for the last few years. She is also the beloved "cookie lady", who puts out home baked cookies every weekend for famished cyclist who peddle to the top of the canyon. She and Karl built a tiny roadside lending library, too. They have hosted many UMCA Board meetings. They are retaining and renting out their house here in hopes of returning to Mandeville someday.

UPDATE: ARCHER SCHOOL EXPANSION PLANS

In a vote at the Brentwood Community Council, UMCA joined with Brentwood Hills and others to urge a vote against the controversial Archer School expansion plan. A majority agreed that Archer's expansion will increase traffic at the often clogged intersection of Sunset and Barrington. Mike Bonin, in negotiation with Archer, had suggested a compromise position. The majority at BCC felt his was only a slight improvement over the ambitious "Archer Forward" concept. It is felt that BCC's opposition will strengthen Mr. Bonin's hand in negotiating a better deal. Archer's neighbors are meeting with school officials about the disturbance that five years of construction will bring to their lives and the harsh effect it will have on home values there.

CORRECTION

Philippe Besson was inadvertently left off the list of UMCA Board Members that was in the printed version of the January Canyon Echoes. Philippe joined the board this year.



Annual Cinco de Mayo Party

Bring the whole family. Spend the afternoon with friends and neighbors. Blue grass band. Great Mexican food and exceptional margaritas! Great view of the canyon. Join UMCA by April 24 to get discounted tickets. Go to uppermandeville.com to pay dues. Tickets available soon.



Look What's Blooming Now!

Clockwise From Top Left:

Baby Blue Eyes, Common Eucrypta, Purple Nightshade, Red Stemmed Filaree, Dove Lupin, Fuscia-Flowered Gooseberry Miner's Lettuce.

Thank you Jeanne Field!



Spring Sign Winners!

Thanks to Anna K and Samara F (both 11) for entering the Spring Sign Contest for kids under 12. Their entry, entitled 'Spring', was posted in early March. Enjoy the colors and sparkles of 'Spring!' And stay tuned for future opportunities for Upper Mandeville artists.

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