



The Bonita Highlander

November 2024

Time for Thanks And GIVING!

At a time of year when our thoughts turn toward being thankful, we might also consider those around us and across our country who have suffered through unimaginable losses due to hurricanes, flooding, loss of income, a job, or our military personnel and families dealing with prolonged separation. Here are some charities to think about...some local some not.

Save the Children. 100 years after its inception Save the Children works in the United States and around the world to give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn, and protection from harm. When crisis strikes and children are most vulnerable, they are always among the first to respond and the last to leave. 85% of your donation goes directly to the children.

San Diego Food Bank. Give Back and Donate. Food drives are a great way to help the Food Bank. SDFB has several options in place for individuals, groups, and organizations to help support the community.

Jewish Family Services. At JFS, they're committed to fighting hunger and making sure everyone in our community is food secure. Their reason for this is clear—they know when families have enough to eat, they can more easily afford other necessities, fulfill their potential at work and school, and focus on long-term goals.

AniMeals - Feeding Pets of Those in Need - Helen Woodward. The mission of AniMeals is to keep pets in their home regardless of the logistical or financial challenges faced by their owners which include homebound and low-income elderly, disabled veterans, and the homeless. AniMeals coordinates individual pet food packaging and delivery to those in need. If you have wet or dry pet food to donate, you can do that at the Helen Woodward Animal Center 6523 Helen Woodward Way, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

Warrior Foundation Freedom Station—San Diego. Warrior Foundation Freedom Station aims to be the leading force in assisting, honoring, and supporting the military men and women who have so bravely sacrificed themselves for our country. They are committed to supporting our warriors in a variety of ways including providing quality-of-life items, support services, and transitional housing designed to assist them and their families during both recovery and transition processes. 89% of your donation goes to veterans/wounded warriors and their needs.

Senior Gleaners. Senior Gleaners feed the hungry by gathering surplus crops and unsold groceries for food distributors across San Diego County. They can always use help from volunteers, donations, or both!

So as we go through this holiday season, let's think of those less fortunate and do what we can to help them have a healthy and happier holiday season!

Neighborhood Notes

Crimes in the Highlands

People have installed the “crime mapping” application onto their computer to get a feel for what is happening in our community. Thankfully few crimes have been reported in the last few months. There was one fraud, one civil disturbance, and one vehicle taken without permission. We have also heard that a car was broken into to and some disorderly parties that were not formally reported. Homeowners should be mindful of vehicles in the neighborhood as people who might be driving slow to “case” your home or your neighbors, or abandoned vehicles. We should all just be mindful of unusual activities in our neighborhood and watch out for our neighbors.

- If you park your car on the street or in your driveway, be sure to lock it at all times.
- If you are going away for a day or more and receive a daily newspaper, either stop your service or have your neighbor pick up your paper. You should also hold your mail at the Post Office.
- You can call the sheriff and they will check your property if you are going on vacation.
- There appears to be more people looking for a place to “camp”, and if you see that in our Open Space, please call the sheriff and notify the BHHA.

Its Election Time!

With the general election approaching, please note that any signs in your yard (you are allowed two according to the Rules and Regs) are to be removed right after the election. Often times, campaign workers drive through neighborhoods and put up signs for their candidates on those little metal stands, and street light and utility poles. But they seldom come back to take them down! Removing those signs after the election is a big help for all of us.

There are more days and ways to vote this year, mail it, drop it, or visit a Vote Center in person. Mail-in ballots have already been sent to voters. You can Mail-It or you can Drop-It at a one of the Registrar’s Official Ballot Drop Boxes in the county. Some Vote Centers will be open starting on 26 OCT 2024, from 8 am to 5 pm. All Vote Centers will be open on 2 NOV 2024, 8 am to 5 pm, and on 5 NOV 2024, from 7 am to 8 pm. Visit sdvote.com for a list of official Ballot Drop Box and Vote Center locations.



It's All About Those Brow Ditches!!!

The rain will be coming soon and it is a good time to check the brow ditches that run through your property or near your property. Please make sure those brow ditches on your property are free of debris so that water will flow easily and get to the storm drains. Brow ditches that are clogged can cause damage to your backyard, other homeowner’s yards, and /or the Open Space. The BHHA is responsible for the brow ditches that are outside of property lines but homeowners are responsible for those running through your lot, even if you “short fenced” your yard. Check them out, clear them out, and be ready for the rain that will eventually come. The BHHA plans to have the landscape maintenance contractor clean the Open Space brow ditches over the next several weeks. If homeowners see Open Space brow ditches that are compromised by broken branches or other debris please let us know by contacting the Recording Secretary at bhighlanderhoa@gmail.com.



Time is Running Out to Run for the Board!

Think about running for a position on the **BHHA Board of Directors**. The BHHA is overseen by 5 elected Board of Director volunteer residents. They oversee 5 part time Staff Members who deal with structural modifications, CCR/Rules & Regs compliance, Open Space maintenance, finances, and correspondence. The 10 members work as a cohesive team to keep the Highlands a beautiful place to live. If you would like to run for a Board position, please contact the Recording Secretary at bhighlanderhoa@gmail.com and ask for a Candidate Qualification Form. Your completed form must be returned to the BHHA by December 1, 2024

It is November and that Means BUDGET time

The annual budgeting process has started. The first open budget "Reading" will be held at the November BHHA Board meeting on 12 NOV 2024. The second and third "readings" will take place December 10, 2024 and January 14, 2025 respectively. The 2025-2026 budget and the annual Assessment amount will be approved at the January meeting. If you are interested in the budgeting process, please attend any or all meetings.



The Bonita Highlander is the monthly newsletter of the Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association (BHHA), a California non-profit corporation. The Newsletter is distributed (postage paid) or emailed to each residence within the Bonita Highlands. Information for publication should be sent to the recording Secretary & Editor, Mary Ellen Phillips at bhighlanderhoa@gmail.com by the 15th of the month, for publication the following month. The Association reserves the right to edit any copy submitted for publication.

**BHHA
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The BHHA documents, forms, meeting minutes and notices can be found on its website:
bonitahighlands.org



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The next monthly BHHA meeting will be held on ***Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 6:00 PM***, in person at the Bonita Sunnyside Fire Station. All homeowners are welcome to attend.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Introduction of Board members, Pledge of Allegiance, Announcement of the Next Meeting, Adoption of Minutes from the last monthly meeting.
2. Homeowner appearances for appeals to notices, fines, or requests for structural alterations.
3. Homeowner Open Communications.
4. Committee and Staff Reports: ACC-A (SCRs), ACC-C (violations), Financial Officer, Open Space Chairperson, and BHHA Communications.
5. Old Business.
6. New Business: Harassment Training, Political Sign Removal, Halloween Decoration Removal, Election '25, Open Space Contract.
7. Community Items of Interest.
8. Board Member Comments.
9. Adjournment.
10. Board Executive Session (if required).



The BHHA Board of Directors (BOD) welcomes and encourages e-mail and letters from homeowners. Any letter sent to the Board may be published in this newsletter. Any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author or other contributor, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the BOD or any Staff Member.