



# The Bonita Highlander

October 2021

## From the President

Here are a couple items of interest:

- The water leak on Corral Canyon should be fixed and paving restored to its original condition by the County of San Diego by the time you read this. This has been a lengthy task for several reasons, but suffice it to say that the job has been completed.
- You may notice that the speed limit on Corral Canyon has been reduced to 30 mph. This should make Bonita Highlanders who live on Corral Canyon happy as some daily commuters and transient drivers seem to always go at least 5 mph faster than the posted speeds. The old limit of 35 mph often resulted in drivers going 40 mph or more. Of course, lowering the limit to 30 mph will also require CHP Officers to enforce the new, lower limit or it will be just a “**paper tiger.**” (You older folks probably know what a paper tiger is, but younger folks should look up the term, as it is significant and often encountered in our daily lives.)

Here is a thought for life from a great man:

The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. - *Nelson Mandela*

~ *Mike*

## From the Open Space Chair

### IS THAT A WITCH OR A DITCH?

April showers bring May flowers, but in San Diego, October is the best month to get our yards and the open space ready for the spring bloom. In checking the *Farmer's Almanac*, the rain forecast for Southern California is for a warm, dry winter. This means an average to below average rainfall, again. A major task for the open space crew is the brow ditch cleaning regardless of whether the forecast is for rain or not. The contractor will be out in the open space during the month of October clearing the brow ditches of leaves and debris. As October is a great month to add new plants to the landscape, we will also be doing a general maintenance of our cul-de-sacs and adding some new color.

Homeowners should consider taking this time to clear the brow ditches on their property as well. The BHHA Rules and Regulations section 5.4. state that “*Proper drainage of lots is usually towards the street, and landscaping shall not prevent this flow. **Where a brow ditch is on a residence lot, it is the responsibility of that homeowner to maintain the ditch and keep it clear of obstructions to facilitate drainage. Failure to comply may result in liability for damages caused.***”

Please check that your brow ditch is clear of debris and that it is not blocked with bricks or boards where it adjoins to the open space or your neighbor. The brow ditches in Bonita Highlands were installed by the developer and have been located to insure proper drainage of the open space and resident lots to the street. Obstructing the ditches could lead to flooding and erosion. Some residence lots may have the brow ditch on the outside of their yard fence, yet still on their property. If you received a letter last year regarding a brow ditch, then you have a brow ditch on your property and are responsible for the maintenance of it. If you feel there was an error, please contact us.

(Continued on page 2)

## Coming Events in Our Community

### BONITAFEST HONOREES:

Celebrating the 49th annual Bonitafest - "*Back in the Saddle!*" Southwestern College mariachi founder/director **Dr. Jeff Nevin** is the Grand Marshal of **Bonitafest 49**. Dr. Nevin is known as the "Johnny Appleseed" of mariachi for his role in establishing college and high school groups over the past 20 years. Southwestern's Mariachi Garibaldi is generally considered the world's best college mariachi group and has performed across the globe. Other Bonitafest honorees are Bonita Vista High School history teacher/basketball coach **Don Dumas**, retired National School District teacher **Daryl Hern**, COVID ward nurse **Ariana Delucchi**, MJ's Fusion Grill chefs **MJ** and **Kevin**, teenage recording artist **Kieler Muller**, college magazine editor **Xiomara Villarreal-Gerardo** and recently deceased Southwestern College art professor/age group triathlete **Dick Robinson**.



Bonitafest was founded in 1973 by **Emily Ritter** to bring people together. Her mission continues today – even if we are a few feet apart.

**GOOD NEWS – Our upcoming IN-PERSON BOOK SALE will be held on OCTOBER 2-3, 2021, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, at the Bonita Museum!!! And to remind you of how special you are and how much we appreciate your past support, we want to invite you to our Wine & Cheese Preview Event on Friday, October 1st!**



**While the wine will be available (I know that you are all happy about that!), the "cheese" snacks will be a little different in light of ongoing COVID concerns!** 😊 ~ Mary Ellen

(From the Open Space Chair, continued from page 1)



Also, notice that Section 5.4 also addresses the issue of storm water (rain) drainage from the residence lots as being "toward the street." Storm water drainage by homeowner installed pipes, channels, gutters, or other manufactured means from lots to trail entrances, onto trails, or into the open space is prohibited. The only exception to this rule is lots where the storm water is draining to a brow ditch. This does not include backwashing or the discharging of treated pool water. All treated pool water is to be discharged into the sewer. Please see the County of San Diego regulations on discharging of pool water into the storm drain (street) on their website: [www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/pools\\_and\\_spas\\_final\\_2016.pdf](http://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/pools_and_spas_final_2016.pdf)

October is also a great month to check your irrigation timers to reduce watering as well as checking for leaks. With cooler weather coming and the sun heading into the Southern Hemisphere, irrigation can run for a shorter time. Fruit trees will not need to be watered as often, either. Most native or xerophytic (drought tolerant) plants will require no water until next summer, even if our winter is dryer. The Highlands will be reducing our water on the green belts (we have warm season lawns that go dormant in winter), as well as reducing our need for weekly mowing. All these measures equal savings to our homeowners.

Enjoy the open space. ~ *Michelle Kriz*

We are happy to report that **Ray Snider** is now the Chair of our Bonita Highlands Welcoming Committee. If you are new to the "Highlands" or know of someone who just moved in, please contact Ray, who will stop by to welcome them with a Bonita Highlands mug and some information about our HOA. Ray may be reached by electronic mail at [rsnider742@cox.net](mailto:rsnider742@cox.net) or by phone at (619) 421-9384.



Please note that Ray is not a point of contact for problems, complaints, or issues. Such items should be identified either at our monthly Board meetings, by e-mail to [bhighlander@cox.net](mailto:bhighlander@cox.net), or by letter to our postal address on page 3 of this newsletter. *Thanks!* ~ *Ed*.

## From the Financial Officer

The annual budgeting process has begun. The first of three budget "Readings" will be held at the November Association meeting. The next two will take place in December and January. The 2022-2023 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 the budget meetings.

You may request an invitation to the ZOOM HOA board meetings by sending a note to the Recording Secretary at our [bhighlander@cox.net](mailto:bhighlander@cox.net) address. The link to the meeting will be sent out the Monday before the meeting.

Sandra Jones, Financial Officer

A little gray hair is a small price to pay for all this wisdom.	Everyone was thinking it, I just said it.	<i>Some thoughts to lighten your day.</i>	4 out of 3 people struggle with math.	Patience is a Virtue... It's just not one of <b>my</b> Virtues.
SORRY I'M LATE... I didn't want to come				



**U.S. Postal address for the BHHHA:**  
 Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association  
 PO Box 458  
 Bonita, CA. 91908-0458

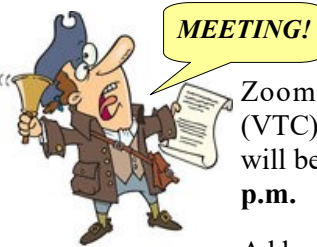
**E-mail address:** [bhighlander@cox.net](mailto:bhighlander@cox.net)

**FAX only:** (619) 479-2200 (24 hours)

You may also find documents, forms, meeting minutes, and notices on our **BHHA** web site: [bonitahighlands.org](http://bonitahighlands.org)

### Important to remember:

1. When you **e-mail** us at [bhighlander@cox.net](mailto:bhighlander@cox.net), please put your property address in the subject line. Always include contact information, so if you have a question about a project, a phone conversation may be more effective than an e-mail back and forth.
2. When you submit an **SCR** that includes paint chips, you can mail it and save having to deliver your paint chips. Please see that your SCR get to us 14 days before the meeting as with ZOOM meetings, The SCRs have to be driven to Board members for signatures.
3. If you would like to receive some HOA documents electronically instead of by postal mail, please request the Electronic Transmission Consent Form, which will be available from our web site. Note that some documents must be sent by U.S. mail, by law.



Until the Fire Department's Training Room is again opened for community use and the pandemic eases up a bit more, BHHA monthly meetings will continue to be held by way of Zoom video teleconference (VTC). Our next VTC meeting will be on **October 12th at 6:30 p.m.**

All Bonita Highlands Homeowners are welcome to attend! Homeowners wishing to attend the VTC meeting must send an e-mail to our Recording Secretary requesting that they be included in the distribution of the e-mail, which will provide the meeting's VTC link: [bhighlander@cox.net](mailto:bhighlander@cox.net)

Homeowners wishing to attend who don't have a computer may send a letter to our above U.S. postal address with their phone number and our Recording Secretary will contact them to provide a homeowner's address who has volunteered an outside VTC station at their residence within the Highlands. ~Ed.

**The Bonita Highlander** is the monthly newsletter of the Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association, a California non-profit corporation whose mailing address is: **P.O. Box 458, Bonita, CA 91908-0458**



This newsletter is distributed (postage paid) to each residence within the Bonita Highlands community.

Editor / Distribution: **Mary Ellen Phillips**

Submissions for publication should be sent to the editor, copy-ready, at [bhighlander@cox.net](mailto:bhighlander@cox.net). The deadline is the 15th of the month for publication the following month. The Association reserves the right to edit any copy submitted for publication.



# **The Bonita Highlander**

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The next monthly BHHA HOA meeting will be held on **Tuesday October 12th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** The meeting will be convened via a Zoom video teleconference (VTC). To attend, please send a request to **bhighlander@cox.net** and our secretary will forward an e-mail to you a day prior to the VTC with a link to the meeting. If you do not have a computer or e-mail capability, please send a letter to our mailing address on page 3 of this newsletter, including your telephone number, and someone will contact you with a dial-in telephone number for the meeting.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, Announcement of the Next Meeting, Adoption of Minutes from Last Meeting.
2. Homeowner Open Communications.
3. Homeowner appearances for appeals to violation notices, fines, requests for structural alterations.
4. Committee and staff reports. 5. Old Business. 6. New Business.
7. Community items of interest. 8. Board Member Comments.
9. Adjournment.
10. An Executive session may be held.



The Bonita Highlands Homeowners' Association Board of Directors welcomes and encourages e-mail and letters from other homeowners. Any letter sent to the Board may be published in this newsletter. Please sign letters and include a phone number (which will NOT be published). Any opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author, the editor, or other contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors or any member thereof.