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Rancho del Cerro Rattler



Where friends and neighbors come together

The Community Association of Rancho del Cerro
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FIRE DANGER- BUFFELGRASS: Your Cooperation is Needed!

At our Annual Meeting, on March 30th, there was mention and some concern about BUFFELGRASS. This is a fast-burning and very dangerous type of grass, and we all must cooperate, because once it starts burning, it spreads very quickly. Ken Cooper met with the Northwest Fire Department on Wednesday, April 29th, and they agreed to do a "ride around" our neighborhood, to look for fire danger. On Friday May first Bill Jones and Ken Cooper drove around the neighborhood, with the fire truck following us, and we stopped in front of many homes that had buffelgrass by the roadside. We toured most of the streets in our Homeowners' Association. We also noticed buffelgrass in the adjoining association and will notify their Board so they can be aware of this concern.

In case you do not know what buffelgrass is, or what it looks like, there is a website, www.buffelgrass.com. Please review this and pull out any buffelgrass on your property and suggest to your neighbors that they do the same. If we all cooperate, we can lessen the fire danger significantly.

Bill and Ken noted the homes that appeared to have buffelgrass by the roadside. This list is reprinted below. Please cooperate, and do your part in removing this dangerous fire hazard. Here are the addresses of known buffelgrass in the subdivision: **Paseo de las Colinas- 4941; Paseo del Barranco-**

5100; Paseo del Campo- 5100, 5140, 5165, 5160, 5115; Placita de Arriba- 4050, 4085; Paseo de las Estrellas- 4940, 4950, 5011, 5020; Paseo de los Rancheros- 4030, 4040, 4102, 4141, 4211, 4200, 4225, 4255, 4300, 4301, 4310, 4311, 4320, 4325, 4330, 4340, 4380, 4521, 4541, 4601, 4621, 4651, 4661, 4871, 4681, 4700, 4715, 4720, 4765, 4760, 4700, 4715 and 4755.

Everyone please understand that this was done just by a quick drive-by by your President and Vice-President and is only a visual inspection from the street. You may have more buffelgrass in

areas we did not see. What we did observe is that most of the problems seem to be on Rancheros along the road, and most of what we did see is probably not even on the property of the above addresses, but in the public right-of-way. No matter the technical "owner" of the land where the grass is located, it is your house that may

burn down if it is not removed and a fire occurs.

The fireman told us that the roots for this plant may be twice the length of the grass, indicating they are deeply rooted and may require watering (to loosen the ground) to enable one to pull them. We hope that you will remove this plant, as it is law here in the county. Buffelgrass has been identified as an aggressive plant that will kill everything around it, and it is highly flammable with a high heat burning factor. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are



not experts, but we have identified what we believe are some of the worst areas, so that removal can begin.

We have learned that the County has passed an ordinance that will make it mandatory that property owners are responsible for removing buffelgrass on their property due to the invasiveness of this grass.

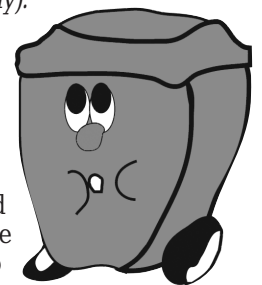
Bill Jones and Ken Cooper

Larger Recycle Bins

At the Annual meeting on Monday March 30th, one of issues brought up was the thought of having large wheeled containers for our recycle items, rather than the hand-carry recycle bins. Ken Cooper, our Vice-President contacted Waste Management, and their response is as follows:

*They could provide us with large wheeled recycle containers for those in our association, but they would then have to stop the second day of garbage pickup. They also stated that if they made the change, it would be for **ALL** (not some one way and others the other way).*

Since our Board felt that **most** people in our Association did not want to give up the second day of garbage pickup, just to get wheeled recycle bins, we told Waste Management to keep things as they now are.



Unless we have **written** requests from a majority of the homeowners requesting the larger wheeled recycling bin in lieu

(Continued on reverse)

Mission Statement - Friends and neighbors coming together to improve their neighborhood community through sharing and cooperation, keeping in touch, and communicating their needs, wants, abilities and available services.

Recycle Bins (Continued)

of the second day of trash pickup, we intend to leave the situation as it is.

P.S. Did you know that in most of the garbage bins, there is a ledge inside near the top that the edge of the recycle bin can sit on, and so you can wheel down the garbage bin with the recycle bin inside.— just be sure to take it out when you reach the street.

Your Rancho Del Cerro Board
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Annual Meeting Summary

For those who did not attend our Annual Meeting on March 30th, here is a brief summary of the meeting:

The Neighborhood Watch Commander spoke, and warned us of some scams concerning banking issues. If anyone calls you and wants personal informa-

tion, just say no. If they come to your door, call 911, and report them.

Treasurer's Report: At the time of the report, we had \$6,277.54 in our account. Two homeowners have dues two years or more past due, and one, more than five years past due. Many homeowners caught up with their dues, which we appreciate. If you have not paid this year's dues, (due January, 2009) please do so immediately.



Old Business: We discussed political signage and freedom of speech issues and the general consensus was that signs would be allowed during the political season. We reminded homeowners that architectural request forms were needed for any modifications to your home, and to give the Board enough time to review them.

New Business: An issue concerning our recycling bins was brought up (see separate article in this issue). Buffelgrass was brought up as a concern (see separate article in this issue). An upcoming yard sale was also mentioned (see separate article in this issue). Water pressure concerns were brought up by a homeowner. If you feel your water pressure is a problem, call the City to complain about it. If enough calls are made, they may increase the pressure.

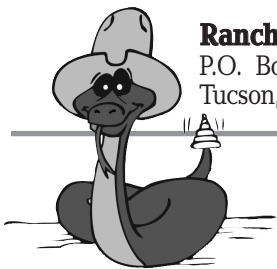
Board members: We all thanked Karen Whitney for her two years of service as Newsletter Director. We all appreciated her efforts in making *The Rattler* an informative newsletter. We also thanked Carol Cullivan for her two years of service as Treasurer. She reduced our backlog of past dues significantly. Those who volunteered to take these two positions were Pete Adamcin as Newsletter Director and Terri Roberts as Treasurer.

Terri Roberts and Karen Whitney are putting on a **Multi-Family YARD SALE**, and **you're invited to participate** as a buyer **AND** a seller! That's right. It started with Terri's "Over 14 years of 'stuff'", and has expanded to **TWO** locations (Terri's at 4030 N. Paseo de los Rancheros and Karen's at 4400 on the same street). It's all going down on May 23rd and

24th, from 8:00 am 'til 4:00 pm. So far the sale will include jewelry, appliances, luggage, toys, clothing, bedding and linens, rugs, lamps and much more.

Would you like to join in as a seller? All you have to do is call Terri (743-4110) or Karen (548-6013) to get started. Of course everybody's invited to be a buyer!

Multi-Family
YARD SALE
May 23 and 24
8:00 am - 4:00 pm, at
4030 and 4400 N. Paseo de los
Rancheros



Rancho del Cerro Neighborhood Association

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DO NOT FORWARD