

LOS LAGOS NEWS

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Reminders

Night Tennis

Tennis Players, please remember to turn the lights off when done. Apparently they have been left on a couple of times recently.

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Residents Party!

Please join us for the annual Los Lagos Residents Party!

When: March 25th, 2018, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Where: Tennis Pavilion

Beverages: Champagne, Beer, Wine, Water and Orange Juice Provided.

Please bring hor d'oeuvres for 8 to 10 people.

Come and Enjoy Meeting With Old Friends and New Neighbors.

Cash donations would be greatly appreciated to defray expenses for beverages, paper products and drinking glasses.

Question: call Gail Herr 714-904-1437

February 12 Board Meeting

The board approved a contract with Horizon Lighting to maintain lighting around the property. We are waiting for proposals to install year-round lighting in selected trees at the entrance and on the guard house.



Community column

An Invitation

Darlene Pienta once again invites anyone who would like to practice Mindfulness to come to a weekly session at her home every Wednesday from 3:00-4:00. The next session will be on April 4th at 74984 Cachuma Rd. Mobile: 858-472-5800

Did You Know?

We have three pedestrian gates in the community, and one key opens them all.

The first gate is at the main entrance to Los Lagos, between the two vehicle gates.

The second is at the end of Michigan Court on the southern wall. The third is at the end of Superior Court on the northern wall.

You can pick up a key at Avail's office. We suggest you call first.

The board rejected a \$22,000 bid to repair the three fountains which had been out-of-service for many weeks. Jim Turcott fixed the two between Erie Court and Superior Court for \$400 in parts. Don Kristofferson is working with Jim on the remaining fountain in the north lake. We thank them both for their efforts.

Los Lagos Directory

The 2018 Los Lagos Directory is ready. On the weekend of February 24-25, delivery was attempted at each address in the community. In the event nobody answered the door, no delivery was made. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, please contact either Patrick Shannon (pat@dhoby.com) or Darlene Pienta (dpienta@san.rr.com). After April 1st, you may pick up a Directory from the Avail Management Offices at 51350 Desert Club Drive, Suite 4, La Quinta, CA 92254.



Delightful Ducklings

The Los Lagos waterways are brightened each spring by the appearance of several groups of mallard ducklings. The annual cycle begins the previous autumn when the adult mallards pair off before Thanksgiving. The males are recognizable by their glossy deep-green heads, while the females have buff and brown feathers, which provide effective camouflage when she is on the nest. In late winter or early spring, the female lays between 8 and 13 eggs, laying one about every other day. After egg-laying ends, the soon-to-be mother starts incubating, covering the eggs with her body for about 28 days. Even though she laid the eggs at different times - usually more than two weeks between first and last - they all hatch on the same day.

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Lighting up the Night

A Couple of Reasons for Lighting up the Night in Los Lagos.

When you take a walk around our neighborhood in the evening, a perfect time most of the year for a stroll, you appreciate the lighting along the way as day passes into night. Our street lighting is subtly provided by the glow of the mailboxes at each house, and we also notice the warm lights in the windows of each home, since so many of our homeowners are present in the winter.

I was thinking about how important it is to light our homes as I walked one night recently. The paths behind our homes are illuminated by "mushroom" lights which provide enough light for foot walking safety, but I noticed that most homeowners don't keep outside lighting on in the front or the back, or leave lamps on inside while they are away. This darkness is a clear signal that there is no one at home.

Our neighbors keep an outdoor light in their side yard on a timer all year long, and we appreciate the feeling that someone is there, even when they are not. It's a sense of security. We also like that the light highlights the trees and provides us with a pleasant sight when we return home at night.

So, two reasons to think about more night lighting: 1. Security, and 2. Beauty

Check out the lighting and timer options at Home Depot, Lowe's, Ace Hardware, Lamps Plus and see if you can do more to light up the night for you and your neighbors. Lighting is a very cost effective way to provide additional security for your home and to enhance the attractiveness of Los Lagos at night.

Gotta go turn on the lights!

By Vicki Johnston

Delightful Ducklings (continued)

The ducklings can swim as soon as they get to the water. They also graze for seeds and insects, and they soon learn to dive, with their tails in the air. Initially, each duckling looks like a fur ball, covered with yellow and brown pinfeathers. Whether swimming or walking, they seem to be curious about everything as they explore the world with their mother. (Their father, by the way, rarely stays around.) Instinctively the ducklings stay near their mama, and if she senses danger, her cluck brings them even closer. Each mama knows her offspring and refuses to accept any duckling that is not a member of her own brood.

Ducklings face lethal dangers, especially during their first month. Sadly, the number seen at dawn is sometimes less than the last evening's count. The predators are not ordinarily known, but hawks, owls and raccoons are suspects. About a month or six weeks after hatching, both male and female ducklings will resemble a smaller version of an adult female, with buff and brown feathers. Three to four months after hatching, the "juveniles" will be about the same size as their mother, but they may still follow her around. About four months after hatching, they will be able to fly. We hope that some will return to Los Lagos the following year to entertain us again with a new generation of delightful ducklings.

By Herb Costner