



THE KEYS BREEZE

Issue Number 12

December 1984

HOLIDAY HOME DECORATION CONTEST

JUDGING WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 7-10 P.M. BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR LIGHTS ON!

The off-water homes and duplexes will be judged between 7 and 7:30; then the judges will board the Bay Queen to tour the waterfront display. NOTE TO WATERFRONT HOMEOWNERS: Please help the judges by putting your address where it can be seen from the boat.

The waterfront and off-water winners will be announced prior to the Parade of Lights the following Saturday, and the prizes will be awarded at the Ventura Keys Association's annual meeting in January (time and place to be announced later). Tom Rush, owner of the Bay Queen, has offered a tour on his boat as an extra prize in the contest. The details will be worked out and the winners notified.

PARADE OF LIGHTS

Ventura Harbor's Parade of Lights will be on Saturday, December 15. We are certain it will be well run this year (Harbortown is heavily involved) and that every effort will be made to get the boats into the Keys to be seen by all our party-goers.

Participation has been light the past couple years for one reason or another, but now that our harbor is growing and thriving, why don't some of our Keys boat owners get out the decorations and try to help make this a really spectacular event? Call the Ventura Port District office for details - 642-8538.

MISCELLANY

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CRUISES - Tom Rush, owner of the Bay Queen and Harbor Queen tour boats, reports he will begin nightly Christmas lights cruises, called the California Sleigh Ride, on December 7 from 7:30 until approximately 9:00. The cost is \$5 per adult, \$3 per child between the ages of two and twelve, and free for children under two. Coffee, hot chocolate, and coffee drinks (such as Irish coffee) can be purchased onboard. The cruises depart from Slip 14, which is by the Ventura Harbor Village (just around the corner from Hornblowers). Sounds fun, especially if you have out-of-town guests for the holidays. Call Tom at 642-7753 if you need more information.

KEYS ENTRANCE - Have you noticed that the lights are now on at the Peninsula/Harbor entrance to the Keys? The apartment owners on either side of Peninsula are supplying the electricity as well as the water for the plants. We certainly appreciate their generosity.

BARBEQUE - Although the BBQ was back in September, we want to thank some special volunteers: Nickie and Jean (don't know their last names) sold tickets all afternoon, while Pat and Steve Ehret pitched in wherever an extra hand was needed. Thanks also to those Board members and spouses who again put in so much time and effort to make the BBQ a success.

DOGS - We learned that one night last summer a couple of dogs in the Surfrider/Sailor area died, and one became quite ill as a result of some kind of poisoning. It is unclear whether the poisoning was deliberate or the result of a snail bait or insecticide. We have not heard of any incidents since, but it would certainly be a good idea to keep an eye on your dogs.

TRASH BARRELS - One of our residents requested we quote the city ordinance concerning trash barrels. The cans may be put out no sooner than the night before and put away no later than 12 hours following trash pickup. Also, the barrels must be stored out of sight of the street. You can have your dilapidated trash barrel replaced by calling Ventura Rubbish Service.

WATCH YOUR WAKE - Another of our residents reports that boat wakes can easily damage the older cement docks. The speed limit in the Keys is 5 MPH, although 3 MPH would be preferable. Some of the smaller boats seem to be the worst offenders.

KEYS SHIRTS AND VISORS

We have some Keys merchandise on hand that we will sell on a first-come-first-serve basis to those calling 642-6867. The following shirts are available (all shirts are navy blue with white Keys logo):

<u>Style</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
1 Men's polo shirt	M . . .	\$15.50
1 Ladies' polo shirt (like junior sizes)	L . . .	\$15.00
1 Ladies' polo shirt (like junior sizes)	M . . .	\$15.00
2 Ladies' V-neck semi-fitted T-shirts.	L . . .	\$ 9.00
2 Ladies' round neck semi-fitted T-shirts.	XL. . .	\$ 9.00

This year we also have Keys VISORS available at \$5 each. They are white, adjustable, and have the Keys logo imprinted in navy blue - very good looking! We have several of these in stock, so call now for yours (they would make good extra Christmas presents). If there are any left we will bring them to the January meeting.

KEYS BEAUTIFUL

In this column we have been commenting on the many Keys properties getting repainted and/or relandscaped. Although most of them certainly were not in particularly bad condition to begin with, the result is a fresher, neater, sharper neighborhood. Recently I have noticed new landscaping at the Ruhmels' house at 2715 Surfrider and the Rasmussens' at 1137 Bonita Court. The Murrays at 2477 Seahorse have done an easy care yard using an attractive border to contain the rocks and lessen the chance that they will be scattered about by children and animals. The Ferraros at 2906 Surfrider have an outstanding new paint job as do the Kanes at 2800 Sailor and the Hoffbergs at 2778 Sailor.

I try to get around to see what's happening, but it is hard to notice everything. If there is attractive new paint, lush new landscaping, or a tasteful remodeling job on your street, PLEASE let me know. We want to acknowledge everyone's efforts.

CRIME PREVENTION

issue of the Keys Breeze contained a report on a Neighborhood Watch program and a promise to include in this issue some specific suggestions to notice. By the way, the police reported that 70% of burglaries happen between the hours of 9 A.M. and 3 P.M. The material is from What is Suspicious? or When to Call the Police Police Department.

Any stranger who comes into your neighborhood is a criminal suspect. There are many perfectly legitimate door-to-door salesmen, servicemen moving around Ventura all the time. But don't make advantage of this by assuming the guise of the legitimate representatives. After all, if a criminal looked like a legitimate person, he would have any trouble spotting him or her.

Be alert in some situations involving people you might see and what they might mean.

Someone who is going door-to-door in your neighborhood. Watch for suspicious activity. If, after a few houses are visited, one or more of the persons tries a door to see if it is locked, or goes into the back or side yard, it could be a burglar. Such action is suspicious if one person remains in front when this person goes or if there is a car following a few houses away.

Someone waiting in front of a house or business becomes suspicious if the owners are absent This might be a lookout for burglary in progress inside.

Someone forcing entrance to or tampering with a residence, car, bus, or vehicle is suspicious anytime, anywhere.

Someone running, especially if carrying something of value, or someone leaving the scene of a crime.

Someone buying property could be suspicious, too, if it's at an unusually low price, for a short time, or in an unusual place, and if the property is wrapped as if it was just purchased.

(continued on p. 6)

SEAWARD AVENUE INTERCHANGE UPDATE

As we mentioned previously, the City of Ventura wants to improve both the traffic flow and safety in the area of the Seaward Avenue interchange. A southbound onramp to the freeway at Harbor and Peninsula, which has been mentioned as a partial solution, is not popular with the Keys Board of Directors or other Keys residents with whom we have spoken.

Keys President Dennis Trenten received an update from Shelley Jones, Director of Public Works, regarding the city's Seaward Avenue Interchange Study. The city has hired Omni-Means, Ltd. to review the interchange, and the resulting recommendations will include cost estimates and safety and congestion analyses suitable for presentation to Cal Trans. The city is hoping to get a proposal included in the Transportation Improvement Program for next year, which means the project would be funded for 1989-90.

Meanwhile, the Greater Ventura Chamber of Commerce reports in its newsletter that it has sent a letter to Omni-Means recommending, as a long-term solution to Seaward's traffic problem, that traffic be diverted from Seaward to the vicinity of the Lemon Grove over-crossing, about 200 yards west of the Southern Pacific railroad tracks. The article goes on to say:

"Directors suggested that Cal Trans be urged to explore the feasibility of an interchange at this location which, with a four-lane road to Harbor Boulevard and Schooner Drive, would accommodate motorists heading to the Ventura Marina, Ventura Keys, Oxnard Shores, and the beach communities. The recommendation was also made that the county build the road from Lemon Grove to Harbor Boulevard."

The Chamber's article concludes that any other freeway onramp near Seaward such as has been suggested going south from Peninsula Street would only be a short-term solution. The Keys Board feels the Chamber of Commerce is on the right track and will certainly support their position.

THE KEYS BREEZE is the bimonthly newsletter of the Ventura Keys Association. Direct news items, comments, and questions to:
Newsletter, Ventura Keys Association, Box 1086, Ventura, CA 93002.
Editor: Sue Liserani (642-6867)

CRIME PREVENTION (CONTINUED FROM P. 4)

- A person exhibiting unusual mental or physical symptoms may be injured, under the influence of drugs, or otherwise needing medical or psychiatric assistance.
- Much human traffic to and from a certain residence is not suspicious unless it occurs on a daily or very regular basis, especially during late or unusual hours. It could possibly be the scene of vice activities or a "fence" operation (the buying or selling of stolen property)."

We will list some more suspicious situations in the next issue of the newsletter. Meanwhile, if one of your neighbors invites you to a Neighborhood Watch meeting, be sure to attend, or why not organize one yourself? Remember, if you see something suspicious, CALL THE POLICE!

Newsletter
Ventura Keys Association
Box 1086
Ventura, CA 93002