



The Pride of Brea

**The Country Road Homeowner's Association, Inc.
585 Country Lane, Brea, CA 92821**

News At A Glance

Visit us on the Worldwide Web: www.prideofbrea.org
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Distributed to all Property Owners and Residents

ALL PRIVATE STREETS REPLACED

11 September 2009

THE TWO FINAL PHASES of our Association's private street replacement program began on the proposed start date, proceeded at the predicted rate and were completed on their projected date. Completion of this long awaited street work brings the total expended for street replacements this year near to 1/3 of a million dollars.

TO FACILITATE THE STREET WORK, all Association residents happily complied by removing their vehicles in a timely manner and by avoiding driving on the subject streets until the street closed signs were removed by our Association work crews. There were no concealed problems once all the old, damaged asphalt was removed, except that some concrete water meter vaults needed replacement as expected. In addition, some Association electrical conduit was unearthed and damaged during demolition work, but that was due to the conduit being placed too near to the surface by the original developer/contractor. There were two such events on Rustic Ct. during Phase I and a single but more complex event along the 100 block of Panorama Ct. during Phase II. Our on-site crew made repairs, installed new conduit, pulled new wiring and restored power to the common area lighting quadrants that were blacked-out by those unexpected events.



STREET REPLACEMENT ON SCENIC WAY

PARKING TICKETS ISSUED IN ERROR

ANOTHER SNAFU INVOLVING THE STREET WORK occurred in the wee hours of Wednesday morning. While our Association did notify the Brea Police of the proposed street work, on this one occasion only that information slipped through the cracks within their organization and a dozen or more traffic tickets were issued to our residents. However, at or around 6:00 A.M. on Wednesday morning, our Operations Manager noticed the numerous tickets on the windshields of the vehicles and promptly telephoned the Brea Police Department. The Manager was granted permission to remove the tickets from the subject vehicles and did so promptly. The Manager gave the tickets to the police who said they would invalidate them. However, several residents had already left for work before the manager removed their tickets. If you received a parking ticket from the Brea Police on Wednesday 9 September 2009 and you are a resident of Country Road and reside along one of the subject streets, please call the on-site office and receive assistance concerning the parking ticket you received.

FUTURE STREET WORK

NOW THAT ALL OF OUR PRIVATE STREETS WERE REPLACED, it will be many years before we will all become inconvenienced again by that type and scope of street work. However, our Association will need to have all the private street asphalt sealed with slurry no later than next May. The good news is that this will require residents to park along the city streets and avoid using each of their streets for only 1 or 1 ½ days, and not for 3 days or more. Weather and ambient temperatures will ultimately dictate the duration. Once that work is completed, we should be able to sail through the next 3 or 4 years without being inconvenienced by the need for any private street work, except when such items as broken city water mains need to be repaired.

Continued on back . . .

NEW GREEN EXPERIMENT

Slowly over the past few weeks we have removed the summer flowering annual plants, nearly all 8,500 of them. You may have noticed clear plastic sheeting covering those planter areas. This new mini program is an experiment of sorts. California has literally banned all soil sterilization chemicals, and this presented a problem for us. The clear plastic is significantly less expensive than soil sterilization chemicals were. The plastic permits the natural sunshine to heat the temperature at the soil surface and below to a high level that brings about pasteurization of the soil, thus killing weed seeds and plants, killing soil fungus and soil/plant pests, all without chemicals. Pasteurization is better than sterilization since total sterilization tends to also kill beneficial soil bacteria and organisms, and other beneficial soil creatures such as earthworms. While we cannot reuse the plastic sheeting, we did fabricate reusable steel pins to quickly affix the plastic to the planters to prevent them from blowing off. So, we can reuse the pins each season. Think of this process as falling into the GREEN category if you desire.

ROOF REPLACEMENT UPDATES

Roof replacements are ongoing. During 2009, the Association has removed and replaced 36 sloped roofs and 5 flat built-up roofs thus far. Photo to right: Country Road Men and Equipment used to remove and replace two built-up flat roofs on Surry Ct.



PUBLIC SERVICE INFORMATION MESSAGES

MESSAGE #1

STARTING 14 SEPTEMBER 2009, the City of Brea will begin to enforce a no parking ordinance within all Brea communities. The new no parking rule concerns the hours between 8:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. on the day city street sweeping/cleaning is performed. We believe that Tuesday is the day the city sweeps Country Lane, Live Oak Street, and Park Lane Street. The parking or no parking rule states that you can park there any time you like except that if you are parked there when the street sweeper comes along you will be issued a city parking ticket. This will be the case even if you have a city issued parking sticker. However, there will be an initial three-week period where only warning tickets will be issued. Watch for the unveiling of the new signs at the entrances to our community. Call the City of Brea for additional information: 714.990.7600.

MESSAGE #2

WITHIN THE PAST WEEK, two or more residents phoned the office to report that on two separate occasions, in two different locations, a large Coyote was roaming and hunting within the community in the daylight of mid morning. This is very unusual for these nocturnal predators. Keep pets in during nighttime hours and keep a watchful eye on your small children and your pets even during daytime hours.

MESSAGE #3

BOTH BLACK AND BROWN WIDOW SPIDERS have been spotted in the common areas, attached to residents' patio fences and around both garage entry doors and the large garage door jams. Very few residents are either aware of or seemingly concerned about either the black widow spider or the more recent brown widow spider that is now indigenous to Southern California. Both of these spiders are very poisonous and the brown widow has been characterized as having venom up to 10 times stronger than a black widow.

MESSAGE #4

Mud Daubers

MUD DAUBERS ARE BLACK AND YELLOW, thread-waisted, solitary wasps that build a hard mud nest, usually on ceilings and walls, attended by a single female wasp. Many residents believe they are hornets or social wasps. Mud Daubers belong to the family Sphecidae and are not social wasps that are typically more aggressive, but may be confused with them. They do not defend their nests and rarely sting. During winter, you can safely remove the nests without spraying. **ALL PEST CONTROL IS THE LOT OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY.** The Association will help to reach high or difficult areas as time and resources permit. If other pests such as wasps, hornets, and yellow jackets visit your area we also urge you to avoid them rather than eliminate them. They play an important role in the ecological balance of your backyard, the neighborhood, and local community by controlling the spider populations throughout.



Inspirational Thought . . .

*"You do not become good by trying to be good,
but by finding the goodness that is already within you,
and allowing that goodness to emerge."*

Design, layout, photos, and
text by: Robert Sackett,
except some of Mud Dauber
information.

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