

Crown Valley Highlands Community Association

Additional Newsletter Page 2

January 2020

Dear Homeowner's;

Last October, we attended a short but very informative presentation given by Polly Bowen of the Orange County Fire Authority on the subject of disaster preparedness. Her audience was neighborhood block captains for Laguna Niguel and her presentation covered best practices for a neighborhood-wide response to a major event – whether fire or earthquake.

Locally, we are mostly aware of the risk from wildfire, as the June 2018 Wood Canyon fire (200 acres) recently demonstrated. In such cases, being prepared for emergency evacuation is primary, and Ms. Bowen listed a number of best practices for getting ready for such a crisis.

However, another risk to our neighborhood longer-term is earthquake. Over the past 25 years Southern California has experienced Northridge (6.7) and Ridgecrest quakes (7.1). OCFA estimates that less than 10% of Southern California neighborhoods will be prepared for the next quake of that magnitude. We are all conditioned to expect a high level of support from police, fire, and utilities, but when a catastrophic earthquake hits, service and resource scarcity will result in an enormous amount of stress for those not adequately prepared.

We've been fortunate in getting Ms. Bowen scheduled to give a reprise of her 1-hour presentation to all CVHA members on Tuesday, January 21, 2019 at 6pm the CVHA clubhouse, located at 23372 Niguel Road.

At this brief meeting, Polly will have fact sheets and other handouts for everyone attending. You will not regret the investment of one hour of time to prepare and safeguard your family for an emergency event that all of us hope might never occur.

We hope to see you there :

Board of Directors for CVHCA