



## Monthly Newsletter

### June 2026

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### *Crosswalk installed near park*

In response to a friendly "campaign" by WDDNA, the County Department of Transportation has installed a crosswalk at the intersection of American River Drive and Ashton Drive.

The installation took place the morning of May 11. County workmen arrived around 9 a.m. with a large tank of street paint and a line striper cart. It took about 45 minutes to heat the paint and prepare to stripe the lines. The paint is made of plastic, so it must be heated to be fluid enough to apply to the roadway. The plastic material is more durable than regular paint and resists damage from passing vehicles.

While the paint was heating, the team put down guide lines to follow when they began laying down the paint. They explained that crosswalks are eight feet wide between the stripes and the stripes are each one foot wide, for a total width of 10 feet.



Once the paint was heated, the crew painted half the crosswalk at a time, so as not to back up traffic for too long. The paint was put down using a walk-behind line striping cart and a worker followed behind the striper pouring water on the painted line to cool it down and harden it. It took only minutes for the paint to harden enough for cars to drive over it.

Once the team began painting, the whole process took less than 30 minutes and people started using the crosswalk immediately, offering a thumbs up as they crossed.

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## *Keep your house number visible*

A WDDNA deputy recently reminded homeowners to make sure their house numbers are clearly visible to assist responders in times of emergency.

The Metropolitan Fire District requires that your house number be either internally or externally lighted so that it can be easily seen at night. And you should ensure that trees, other landscaping and structural elements such as walls and fences do not prevent the numbers from being easily seen from the street.

Sacramento County requires that house numbers should be a sharply contrasting color from the background color on which they are mounted. And homes set back 50 feet or more from the street should have house numbers that are at least 6 inches tall.



You also may wish to paint your address number on the curb in front of your house. Technically, Sacramento County requires a permit to do so. However, according to [Scott Urbanik](#), senior civil engineer with the Department of Transportation Right of Way Management office, the ordinance is primarily focused on companies that paint curb numbers.

While a permit is technically required for homeowners, as well, he noted that the Department of Transportation is responsible for a long list of high-priority projects. Monitoring curb address painting is far down on the list. Thus, unless a homeowner were to paint a curb red or in some other way cause a neighbor to file a complaint, it is unlikely that the homeowner would be cited for painting a house number on the curb without obtaining a permit. However, Urbanik suggested that the best policy would be to stick with a standardized white background and black numbers.

County officials do warn against using the services of door-to-door solicitors to avoid the possibility of being scammed. If you hire a company to do it, be sure that it has a Sacramento County business license.

If you decide to do the job yourself, there are inexpensive kits available online. One such kit costs about \$13. It does not include the paint, but provides a frame that can be taped to the curb and stencils for painting the numbers. Watch the video below to see how it is done.

To make the numbers stand out even more, you might consider sprinkling reflective beads onto the white paint before it dries. After the black numbers have been painted on top, the beads will catch the light and make it easier for first responders to find your address at night. A package of such beads can be found for about \$14 online.



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## *E-bike meeting set June 1*

On Monday, June 1, Supervisor Rich Desmond will host a community discussion focused on safety issues surrounding e-bikes, scooters, bicycles and pedestrians.

The public is invited to attend, offer feedback and hear from community leaders.

Participating in the event will be representatives from the California Highway Patrol, Sacramento County Regional Park Rangers and the Sacramento County Department of Transportation. They will discuss methods for improving the safety of the county's roads and trails.

The event will take place at 5:30 p.m. in the Carmichael Park Clubhouse at 5750 Grant Avenue in Carmichael.

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## *Garage door hacking device*

A WDDNA member recently reported that he heard his garage door open twice during the night, even though nobody in the family had opened it. He asked if there are devices that allow burglars to open garage doors electronically.

Unfortunately, there are such devices. In 2015, *Wired* magazine even wrote about it. *Wired* said the relatively low-cost device is smaller than a cell phone and can defeat security codes for cars, trucks and garage door openers.

<https://www.wired.com/2015/08/hackers-tiny-device-unlocks-cars-opens-garages/>

Experts offer the following suggestions to protect yourself from garage door hackers:

- **The Lockout:** Nearly all garage door remote operating pads have a “lock” button which, when activated, prevents any remote or signal from opening the door. This can solve the problem if you are mainly concerned about someone opening the door at night or while you are away for extended periods. To see how this works, you can [CLICK HERE](#) and watch a video.
- **Put Eyes on the Door:** Install an after-market device that will alert you on your smart phone whenever the garage door is opened. There are a large number of after-market garage door monitoring systems available online and through home centers. Some have Bluetooth and can tie into your smart home network, if you have one. For even better monitoring, you can pair such a device with a separate motion-activated indoor wireless security camera with night vision to shoot video of the intruder. Set it up somewhere inside the garage with a clear view of the door.
- **Don't Forget the House Door:** Always deadbolt the door connecting the garage to your home. And, for extra security, consider switching out that door to a steel-clad door and harden the doorjamb with a metal reinforcement kit to prevent kick-ins. [CLICK HERE](#) to see one such \$97 DIY kit available through Home Depot.

Garage door companies also suggest the following safety features for smart garage door openers:

- **Two-factor authentication:** Smart garage door openers are connected to the internet. Enable two-step authentication to keep people from hacking into your accounts and gaining access to your smart garage door opener.
- **Security + and Security 2.0:** These are features to look for in any of the new garage door openers you're considering. These make things harder for criminals by offering rolling codes and different radio frequencies for the opener to operate.
- **The myQ smartphone app:** LiftMaster created myQ technology as a security feature for smart garage door openers. It allows you to control your garage door from anywhere. You'll receive a notification when someone uses your garage door. You can even customize who has access to your garage door at specific times of the day.

### Keep your WiFi secure

It's crucial that you keep your WiFi secure if you have a smart garage door opener.:

- **Use a complex password:** Make sure to put a unique password on your WiFi to keep unwanted users from accessing it. Write it down and keep it in a safe place in your home.
- **Change the WiFi's name:** If you keep your WiFi's public name the same, potential hackers may start to realize which signal in the area belongs to your house. Change the name to throw hackers off your trail.
- **Disable your WiFi during zero-activity hours:** Some routers and apps allow you to turn off the WiFi during certain hours of the day. If there are times when your whole family will be out of the house, set your WiFi to turn off as an added security feature. Then have it turn back on when you return.

### Other Tips

- **Invest in a deadlock:** A deadlock is device that is attached to the inside of your garage door and slides into a hole in your garage door track to prevent the door from opening. Slide the deadlock in place when you plan to be away and criminals won't easily open your garage door.
- **Install a security camera:** Security cameras can be crime deterrents. When criminals see a security camera above your garage door, they might decide to take their chances elsewhere.
- **Install lighting with a motion detector:** When a potential thief gets close enough to your garage, a bright light will fill the area.

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## *County extended hours on American River Drive*

The [Sacramento County Clerk/Recorder \(CCR\)](#) office is consolidating its late Thursday services (5-8 p.m.) into one location at 3636 American River Drive, Suite 110.

This location has two marriage ceremony rooms. County officials explain that consolidating at that one location "provides a streamlined and accessible experience for customers seeking limited services during extended hours."

These services include:

- Marriage licenses and marriage ceremonies (by appointment only)
- Certified copies of birth, death and marriage certificates

By bringing those services under one roof, CCR aims to a "more efficient experience for the community."

To learn more about CCR services or to book an appointment, visit [County Clerk/Recorder website](#).

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## Member Q&A

**Q:** I have noticed more reports of monitoring, ticketing and community outreach at Rio Americano High School, Jesuit High School and Del Dayo Elementary School. My question is, do these schools contribute monetarily to the Wilhagan Del Dayo Neighborhood Association which pays for these patrols.

**A:** As you know, Rio is part of the San Juan Unified School District. The district has no contact with us and does not pay us for anything. The principal of Rio, however, has been very helpful at all times. In the past, we used to hold our monthly board meetings at Rio or at Del Dayo School, but the school district was charging us a lot for the service. So, we switched and now meet at the home of one of our board members.

As a private institution, Jesuit High School does contribute to us by allowing us to use their facilities at no cost for our annual member meeting every December. They have been extremely generous with staff time to set up the facilities for us. That would otherwise cost us hundreds of dollars.

That said, the time that our deputies spend monitoring parking does not cut into the work they do for our association. Checking for illegal parking near Rio in the mornings does not take much of their time. We do it as a service to our members who live near the schools, not as a service to the schools. And the first priority for our deputies is always to serve our members by doing vacation watch checks, patrolling our streets, checking for problems with transients and dealing with traffic issues. And, if there is ever a report of a serious problem anywhere in the neighborhood, our deputies are immediately dispatched to deal with it. None of that has been degraded by Rio parking issues.

One good thing is that our deputies have called on the Sheriff's Department to send their parking enforcement crew out more regularly to check the area around Rio. That does not cost us anything.

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## HOW TO CALL FOR HELP

### IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

- CALL 911 from a land line.
- Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.

### TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.
2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: [https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime\\_report.php](https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php)

### SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY (Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

### GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via [EMAIL at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com](mailto:wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com).

Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association | 761 Cortland Drive | Sacramento, CA 95864 US

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