



NEW MONTEREY Neighborhood News

September 2009

Next meeting: Monday, September 14 – Hilltop Center – 7 PM

POLICE HOLD UPDATE MEETING- On August 18, five members of the police department met with interested citizens to update them on activities of the department over the last six months. The most important point is that crime is down in our neighborhood beats 2 and 3. Beat One, Lighthouse Avenue to the Bay, continues to be active for the police, but things calm down moving up hill. Beat Two, from Hawthorne Avenue to Oak Street, was quieter than during the same period last year, although Beat three, from Newton to Divisadero continues to be the most quiet this side of the tunnel.

Busy with 236 incidents, the police reported there were fewer incidents involving drugs, sexual assault, auto accidents and thefts. There were nine thefts, seven burglaries and 23 thefts from vehicles. These were almost all from unlocked vehicles or ones where items of value were visible and only a piece of glass was in the way of anyone who coveted them. GPS devices led the list of targeted items followed closely by purses.

There was little obvious gang activity here and graffiti was down due, it is believed, to rapid response eradication efforts. And a notorious tagger was recently apprehended. This young man was responsible for hundreds of tags. He and his parents are currently paying restitution for his crimes.

Traffic enforcement continues to be a big item with about 100 citations issued monthly during the period on David and Prescott Avenues. Your Association asked for heightened enforcement to calm traffic speed on the two primary hill streets. Police also cited failures to stop (116) and cell phone users (39). Bicyclists, by the way, are expected to comply with traffic laws, e.g. Stop Signs.

Several attendees complained about traffic speed. A member of your Association noted there are plans for traffic calming features on David and Prescott Avenues, but they were sidelined due to the current budget constraints. This delay may have cost two attendees their pet cat that was struck and killed recently by a car on Prescott Avenue.

The police department met its fiscal issues by cutting administrative and investigative positions and with voluntary pay restraints from its officers. They are short handed and find volunteers helpful. If you can offer a few hours a week to input data, answer inquiries or do office work you will be very appreciated.

GET OUTTA HERE! Have you ever dreamed that...Some Enchanted Evening You Will See A Stranger...? Well, your dream can be enjoyed on the stage once again now that the play South Pacific has returned to San Francisco. The Golden 55 Travelers from the Dickman Center have a bus load heading for the theater on Saturday the 19th, and a few seats are still available. Take the bus, travel with friends, enjoy a great musical and avoid feeling ...This Nearly Was Mine...

Also coming up are trips to New England, Los Gatos and SFO to see Beach Blanket Babylon. Call: 646-3878

NMNA meeting – September 14 – 7 p.m. Hilltop Center – Jessie and David

GUEST SPEAKER: The meeting will begin with an address from Council Member Libby Downey who will share her thoughts and concerns for the future of the City.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT: Your Association continues to watch out for your interests. We have the police department making its presence shown. We continue to monitor the City's adherence to our zoning and building laws. We assist residents with parking issues and noise problems. Your neighborhood representatives are often at City Hall meetings as your advocate.

You can be involved, too. First, be sure you are a member of the Association. If you join now, your dues will be credited to 2010, so you get a few free months of membership.

Second, your dues make communication possible. Your extra donation above \$10 helps immensely in furthering our outreach to all of our neighbors. We will be asking for renewal beginning in December.

Third. Be alert. If you see something than needs attention, someone who needs assistance, something that is unsafe, be proactive. Call a Board Member and ask about your concern. We are community here. We care! Be a part of it.

Howard B. Fosler

FALL SEASON: As the tourists leave and the best weather returns, let us all be grateful for the grace that lets us be here. Let us be aware that this is a difficult time for our local businesses. They especially need our patronage during the next few months. Several restaurants offer local menus with special pricing. It offers one an opportunity to visit these lovely establishments under favorable conditions. Many of us like to plan a dining experience by waiting for a full moon, parking free (after 4 p.m.) and walking around the Row to see all the changes that have occurred recently.

It is also a good time to prepare for the winter weather. Check your trees for trimming. Get rid of those threatening limbs now, before the rush. Check your gutters and drains to be sure they run freely. Eliminate weeds before they germinate. Refresh your emergency supplies. Power will likely be out for some period quite soon.

PARK SAFELY: Here in New Monterey there were some reports recently of licensed trailers getting loose and careening down hill until they struck something that stopped their decent. One can imagine how dangerous it could be to have a loaded boat trailer for instance, suddenly racing down these hills with no brakes and no way to stop it. There was also an incident recently involving a grocery cart that got loose and eventually struck a vehicle blocks away.

The Association wants to alert everyone to the risk of trailers with no brakes getting loose on public streets. They can be deadly. If you have one, please be aware it should be parked safely off city streets when not attached to a vehicle (MCC 20.86.5). After using a shopping cart, please be sure it is stowed properly with no chance of it getting loose and rolling downhill on its own.

LIBRARY EVENTS: Sunday, October 18 Historic House Tour. Save the date on your calendar if you want to visit some of Monterey's more interesting historic houses. This is an annual event sponsored by the Friends of the Library to support library collections.

NIP: Neighborhood Improvement Program, quietly reorganizing its priority of projects stalled by dollar denudation, is preparing for the availability of funding which may begin as early as the first quarter of the year. Very

high on our local list is sidewalk paving from Taylor Street to Forest Avenue. Our representative is concluding an agreement with Pacific Grove to include its portion in the project inasmuch as the inconvenience and hazard doesn't stop at the City limits. There is a chance it could be done before the rains begin.

CERT NEWS: Community Emergency Response Team is reorganizing to be more self-sufficient as the City tightens its financial belt. Neighborhood Team Directors and others interested in the activities of the organization meet each month at the EOC downtown. Subcommittees are forming to plan for CERT volunteer training; Communications & Emergency Ops; Finances; Marketing & Recruitment and CERT boxes.

CERTs, Pacific Grove's NERTs and folks with interest and expertise in any of these focus areas are invited to join us as we begin a new chapter in CERT's growth on the Monterey Peninsula. September 7th is our next meeting. We noticed that emergencies rarely honor boundaries, so Pagrovians are invited to attend. Questions? Call Sharon at 375-0841

Membership Dues: 2009 NMNA Membership Form

Basic - \$10 Name _____
Additional Support - \$20 Address _____
Or Phone _____
 Email _____
 Deliver my newsletter via email? Yes No
 Comments/Suggestions? _____



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