



# NEW MONTEREY Neighborhood News

October 2011

October 17, NMNA members meeting. 7pm Hilltop Center

**City Council Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 4pm and 7pm.**

**City Council Meeting Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 4pm and 7pm.  
Traffic speed will be discussed.**

**NMNA community meeting Monday, Nov. 14 at 7pm.  
Henry Ruhnke and Kim Cole will update us on the  
Specific Plans for Lighthouse, Downtown and North  
Fremont.**

**New Speed Limits Proposed-** The Vehicle Code requires that speed limits be reasonable as defined by a new liberalized formula based on the actual rate of speed of traffic measured every five years. As a result on November 1 the Traffic Division of the City will propose to the City Council that a number of speed limits be increased. Those close to us include:

*David Avenue- increase from 30 to 35mph*

*Prescott Avenue- increase from 25 to 30mph*

*Lighthouse Avenue- increase from 25 to 30mph*

*Del Monte Avenue- (from Camino El Estero to Sloat)  
increase from 25 to 30mph*

*(from Sloat to City limits) increase from 35 to 40mph*

The Council is likely to find itself in a position where it must accept the changes or waive any enforcement of speed limits at all. We might refer to it as Hobson's Law.

**Presidio of Monterey Announces Gate Changes-** Last month a few changes occurred in gate schedules at the Presidio. Even the military is feeling the pinch, it seems, as they reduce the hours the gates will be open.

- Bolio Gate remains the primary entrance, including visitors, and stays open 24 hours.
- Franklin Gate remains open M-F 4:45am -10pm. Weekends & holidays 8am-5pm. Visitor Center is closed.
- Taylor Gate remains open M-F 4:45am -7pm. Weekends & holidays 8am-7pm. High Gate- Closed to vehicle traffic. Pedestrians can still use it.

With the closing of High Street, and the decision to stop teaching activities below it, we are looking at the possibility of civilian access traversing the Post. While that would increase traffic through the neighborhoods to some extent, it would also help relieve overstressed Lighthouse and give us quick access to the other side of town.

**From The Prez-** We have the largest volunteer membership neighborhood association in the City and for that we can be proud. But I wonder why even more people don't join the association. I am addressing the wrong people of course, since you readers do not fall into that group. Can you help to encourage your neighbors to join and let their voices be heard in support of New Monterey? In a very real sense Democracy begins at the neighborhood level. We all have a stake in our kids and our schools or if a Mac Mansion is about to go up across

the street. We all use David, Prescott and Lighthouse streets and we are all concerned about safety and security. How can we get our other neighbors involved to the extent that they spend the big \$10 and support their representative voice at City Hall?

**Shop Monterey This Holiday-** Your town's businesses offer unique gifts not likely available anywhere else. Gift Certificates to wharf restaurants, for instance. Stuffed otter dolls. Monterey hats. Good gifts that exude the charm of your home town.

To entice you to shop, the City offers parking deals. How about using your two free hours at the wharf lots between #1 and #2 for a nice lunch and some shopping before heading for the Cannery Row lot where you can park free after 4pm? Have you been to the new restaurants down there? Clément's happy hour and restaurant are terrific as are several little ones all along the Row.

**Library Wants To Hear From You-** Jeanne McCombs thinks you might have some ideas that could make the library more helpful to all and she has planned some meetings plus there is a website where you can share your thoughts. On Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> there is a morning and afternoon meeting and Mondays the 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> there are evening meetings. A survey form is provided at [www.monterey.org/library](http://www.monterey.org/library). If the library is not satisfying your needs or you want additional services here is your chance to make a difference. As Special Services Coordinator, she will listen.

Reach her at Phone: 646.3949 FAX: 646.5618,  
Email: [mcombs@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:mcombs@ci.monterey.ca.us)

**Stay Connected-** You should soon be able to process your email or continue to work while eating that burger or quaffing some suds in Lighthouse Avenue businesses thanks to Red Shift. They are beaming a ray along there that will allow you to pick up the internet free of charge. Nice neighborly thing, what?

**Meeting Note-** Your Association normally meets every second Monday of each month at 7pm at Hilltop Center, Jessie and Irving Streets, and everyone is always invited. This month, however, the Center will be closed for refurbishing that Monday, so we will meet the third Monday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, just this once. Try to make it.

**Trustee Candidates Address Association-** We had the rare occasion to hear both candidates running for Trustee from our area for the school district (MPUSD) at our last meeting. As you are aware, we were disappointed when our trustee at the time, who has since resigned, voted with the majority to close Bay View School and bus our kids to Monte Vista in Skyline Forest. Incumbent Richard Glenn, with a long resume of public service, and a native of New Monterey, was appointed to fill out the term and he stands for reelection in November. Candidate Jonathan Hill was educated in California and recently returned after living in Oregon. Before moving

here -in New Monterey- and working for Monterey County as an analyst he spent many years in various educational positions in Oregon.

Both candidates answered preselected questions intended to give them a chance to expose their views. Afterward, the audience, one of our largest in a while, asked questions. President Fosler recessed the meeting so the candidates could meet the audience and address specific matters. The differences in opinion, qualifications, experience and perhaps goals were evident giving the voter solid information on which to base her vote. It was a valuable well spent evening.

Incidentally, this event drew a bigger crowd than did the MPUSD community update meeting at MHS on 9/27. That speaks very highly of our community and its level of caring for the education of our kids. And that was even without the publication of our meeting notice we requested of the Herald.

**Crime Update** - A recent spike in property crimes aroused our community, some of whom appeared at last month's meeting to learn more and evaluate the responses available to us. Fosler summarized events based on reports to him from neighbors who were affected and from police records. His take was that the spike seemed to result from opportunistic events such as open windows, unlocked doors and unattended personal effects. These types of crimes are not indicative of a crime wave. Nonetheless, there are things that can be done to mitigate neighborhood crime and he presented the options. The consensus was we need not do a lot

more than become more alert to the fact that, perhaps due to economic conditions or the rise in drug use, there are more people willing to chance incarceration for personal gain than in the past. And while we don't need enhanced patrols or a neighborhood watch program we do need more community activism in the form of looking out for each other and ourselves. Fosler was asked to develop a formal data report on trends and have it presented at the next meeting.

**Halloween on Lighthouse**

New Monterey's Lighthouse District invites you to join in for their Annual Halloween Celebrations! With children's trick-or-treating at the shops on Lighthouse Avenue, parties for adults and kids, a great selection of costumes, and special October deals, Halloween in the Lighthouse District promises to be fun for all ages.

<<http://www.lighthousedistrict.net/eventinfo.php?eventid=15114>>



Visit your association on Facebook

**Membership Dues: 2011 NMNA Membership Form**



**Basic - \$10**  
**Additional Support - \$20**  
**or** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deliver my newsletter via email? Yes  No   
 Comments/Suggestions? \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to NMNA and mail to address below.

**2011 NMNA Board Contacts**

- Howard B. Fosler – President – 649-6935
- Barbara Bass Evans – VP – 372-8323
- Brian Greenshields – Secretary – bhgreens@nps.edu
- Bruce Crist – Treasurer – 333-1876
- Sharon Dwight – NIP – 375-0841
- Bob Evans – 372-8323
- Alexandra Albin – 372-4813 alex.albin@me.com

**NMNA Website**

newmontereyneighborhood.org