



Dear member,

Here's the February 2015 edition of our monthly newsletter. We hope you like the new format.

## **Urgent Notice**

### **Mission Park to Mission Canyon Concept Plan Acceptance – “Safe Passage”**

#### **Tuesday, February 17th, 11am-2pm**

This Tuesday, February 17, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors will be hearing the staff report on the CalTrans grant prepared by both County and City Staff for adoption. We would urge all those in our Association who are supporting this project to attend the meeting. We understand that the issue will be heard sometime between 11am and 2pm.

The opposition is going to turn out in full force and depict it as a project that will “destroy” the corridor rather than provide all of us with a safe way to use the corridor and at the same time honor, retain, and promote all of the cultural heart of who we are as Santa Barbara.

Your attendance will be much appreciated.

**Location: County Administration Building, corner of Anapamu & Anacapa Streets, 4<sup>th</sup> floor**

---

### **District Elections**

#### **Saturday, February 28th**

The City will hold a community workshop on Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup> to introduce members of the public to the issues of district elections. The public may provide input online or to the City Clerk's Office between February 28 and March 13. A second community workshop will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup> in the evening to introduce the results and conclusions gathered through public input. Members of the public will also be able to provide additional comments.

---

### **7-Eleven ABC Update**

The beer and wine liquor license for the 7-11 under construction at Mission & State has not been finalized according to Melissa Rice, Licensing Rep. II, Department of Alcohol Beverage Control, Ventura District Office, (805) 289-0104 [Melissa.Rice@abc.ca.gov](mailto:Melissa.Rice@abc.ca.gov)

The ABC received 36 protest letters, including one from the City Police Department which recommended approval with conditions. It seems likely that ABC will place conditions on the times of day beer and wine can be sold, as well a restriction on single-unit sales. Once Ms. Rice completes her investigation, those who submitted a protest will receive a letter from ABC stating the conditions on sale of beer and wine that will be imposed on 7-11's liquor license. We will of course give you an update in the newsletter.



## UEA membership is over 250

A modest surge of late renewals has increased our membership roster to 255 households. Thanks for being a member and for contributing to the persuasive influence with City officials that this milestone provides us.

## Street sweeping reminder

Street sweeping in the Upper East takes place on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 8am-noon. According to the City website, this includes the area bounded by Constance Avenue, Garden Street, Valerio Street, and State Street.

---

## Nominations for Looking Good Santa Barbara's Spirit of Service Awards

Looking Good Santa Barbara is seeking nominations for its annual Spirit of Service Awards. This honor goes to individuals or organizations who through their exceptional volunteer efforts keep our city clean and



sustainable in the following two categories: (1) litter and graffiti reduction, or (2) recycle, reuse, repurpose and compost.

Nominations for this award may be submitted online at this [link](#).

The 11th Annual Spirit of Service Awards will be presented in a ceremony presided over by Mayor Helene Schneider on Wednesday May 13, 2015 at the Cabrillo Arts Center.

---

## RV Parking in the Upper East

The Board has formed a subcommittee to take a closer look at the occurrence of RV parking in the Upper East and what the city is doing to address this problem. The current law allows any RVs, boats, trailers, large vehicles or cars to park on the street for up to 72 hours without being moved. Unfortunately, the persons who are using our neighborhood to 'live' know the rules and move their vehicle/home to avoid getting ticketed. The subcommittee will be monitoring the calendar of the City Ordinance Committee so we can attend the hearing regarding 'Excessive RV Parking'. We will let you know when we learn of that hearing. Here's a [link](#) to the City Attorney's report presented at the November 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinance Committee meeting.



If you notice an RV parked on the street that has not moved for 72 hours – or a repeat offender – you can call the Absent Vehicle Hotline at 805-897-2413.

If you notice suspicious activity, please call the 24-hour non-emergency police telephone number at 897-2300.

---

## In search of ... a newsletter editor



If you enjoy publishing a newsletter, we need your help! We're still looking for a member to take over compiling, editing, and sometimes writing articles to create our monthly email newsletter. Milt Hess has been doing this for five years now and is ready to give someone else a chance. If you are interested please call Milt at 895-0116.

## Upper East History – George Washington Smith in the Upper East

In 1917 Mr. George Washington Smith moved to Montecito from Philadelphia to retire from a successful career in bond trading and devote more time to painting. As it turned out, he ended up founding the Spanish Colonial Revival architecture movement. He had bought a piece of land in Montecito, then designed and built a home for himself based in the style of Andalusia farmhouses he had observed during travels in Spain.

It is said that the locals were more interested in Smith's architectural designs than his paintings, and clients started commissioning him to design their own homes. For the most part located in Montecito, these beautiful houses are still very much appreciated, and some are quite well known. George Washington Smith passed away after just

twelve years of creativity in his new field, but his legacy formed the foundation of local Santa Barbara and Montecito architectural history.



The Upper East boasts some outstanding examples of the architecture of George Washington Smith. One is the "Frothingham

House" at 232 Los Olivos; it typifies Smith's preference for thick stucco walls, deep window reveals, handmade terra cotta roof tiles, and generally spare ornamentation. Another very beautiful example is at the upper end of Plaza Rubio at number 530. The house at 2401 Garden Street was also designed by Smith, but in a style atypical for him, namely that of a large English cottage.

---

## Walking with Mo (my dog)



Is it spring yet? As Mo and I walked the neighborhood this evening it was really apparent we still live in very special place. Our hearts go out to those family and friends who are suffering through record-breaking cold and snow across the rest of the county. The downside to this week's weather is we still don't have enough rain. So while folks on the east coast are going to have plenty of water we are going to still watch our water use, and our ability to save or retain as much as we can.

Also as we walk, I know Mo usually has his head down at the ground. But I hope as you all walk our neighborhood that you really take the time to look at what is around us. And if you are like I am, sometimes when going down the street I tend to walk on the same side. Take the time to walk on other side and really look and see some really wonderful and interesting things. This walking and seeing exercise is continually training our eyes to see and as a result sometimes we can change our impressions about what is really in our neighborhood. So I hope on your next walk you discover something new and special.

For those of us that were Huell Howser fans he also kept his eyes open and discovered in that exercise some things that many of us would have never paid attention too, so let's all be our own Huell. Who knows? The next time you are walking up by the Cota Sycamores you might see his name.

Mo and I hope all of you have a good February and onto March to see if we get another miracle rain.

Fred

