



## Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm Upper East Neighborhood Watch Welcomes Santa Barbara Police Officer Gutierrez

Twenty-two people attended the January *Neighborhood Watch* kick-off meeting. Since then, our Neighborhood Watch steering committee has been busy recruiting volunteers, building participation on the Nextdoor social network, and planning the next event.

On Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., Santa Barbara City Police Officer Adrian Gutierrez will give an overview of crime in Santa Barbara, provide home safety tips, and answer questions from our Upper East neighbors. Neighbors on Islay generously offered their spacious home for this gathering. If you are interested in attending, please email [rsvp@mazama.net](mailto:rsvp@mazama.net) with your name and address. Meeting location will be provided to those whom RSVP.



## It's Raining, It's Pouring

The rainy season has been fairly generous to Southern California, but the lakes are still low, our supply is still limited, and we are still in a drought. Water conservation in this region has become the latest trend, but if the environment is going to be able to continue to support its population, water conservation must become a way of life. It is our responsibility as residents of this region to continue to reduce our water consumption.

The latest regulations prohibit us from using potable water to irrigate our lawns. However, they do not prohibit us from having beautiful landscapes. Consider drought tolerant plants and drip irrigation, decorative patios with outdoor BBQs., synthetic lawns for our kids to play on, or pond free water features accented with outdoor lighting.

Spring tip: Utilize your existing irrigation system to supply water to your newly designed landscape. Simply cap off the sprinklers in the areas where you do not need water and convert the rest using drip conversion kits. Ask your local landscaper or landscape products distributor for details.

## Out and About in Upper East – The History Behind Upper East Street Names



When Santa Barbara was surveyed in 1851, the northern boundary of the City was Mission Street. Prior to World War I the City's first outside subdivision was laid out between Mission Street and Constance Avenue bordering the Old Mission. The new cross streets were named First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth. Sidewalks on State Street still carry these unimaginative appellations imprinted in the concrete.

Such prosaic nomenclature offended sentimental Barbarenos, who took pride in their Spanish-flavored street names. So in 1927, by overwhelming demand, the five streets were rechristened. First Street became Padre, honoring our mission heritage. Second Street became Los Olivos, because it bisected the Old Mission olive grove (remnants still exist). Third Street became Pueblo, for the 240 Neophyte adobes built for the Mission's Chumash families. Fourth Street was renamed Junipero, in honor of Padre Junipero Serra. Fifth Street picked up its Spanish equivalent Quinto. Constance Avenue memorializes Constance Dreyfus, the wife of a well-known realtor who helped develop the Mission district. Up until the 1950s the City's main thoroughfare, State Street, dead-ended at Constance Avenue where the First Presbyterian Church is located.

### Welcome to our New Board Member Tim Townsend

Recently our long-time Board member Don Olson announced that he was moving out to the hinterlands of Goleta, so he reluctantly had to step down. As a result, the Board would like to announce Tim Townsend as a new member. He will take his place as our ninth member of the Board at our March board meeting. We certainly welcome him aboard and look forward to his contribution both to the board and our neighborhood.

### Walking with Mo

If you haven't taken a walk in the neighborhood lately, now is the time to do so. Everything is green and just about ready to bloom. My roses are all leafy and hopefully the ones I transplanted in January will bloom in full color soon. Mo and I are delighted with all that rain we have seen over the last few weeks. However, we also know this brings dangers such as fallen trees, washed away slopes and water in containers, which, if not taken care of, will become breeding grounds for mosquitos. In fact, one of our favorite pepper trees came crashing down at the corner of Santa Barbara and Constance in this last storm. Some beautiful trees stressed by the drought may be subject to disease and lose their strength to remain upright. Let us all now forge ahead with refurbishing our gardens continuing to be water-wise and aware that this drought is not over just yet.

The Upper East Association Board has reached out to our adjacent neighborhood associations and we are in discussion with them to consider co-sponsoring district council candidates' forums and a possible mayors candidates' forum in the early autumn. The final effort for dealing with oversized vehicles is almost complete. My contacts at city hall say the actual enforcement date

should start soon. Mo and I have seen some of the required signs for restricting these vehicles already up around town, and several more still need to be put in place. They are not necessarily going to be placed in every block but at strategic locations in all our neighborhoods. So let us keep vigilant and we will let you know when the enforcement becomes effective.

The Board will also be reviewing a new State of California law requiring all cities and counties to formulate new Secondary Dwelling Unit laws, or “granny units” as we have referred to them in the past. The City is also in the final stages of implementing a comprehensive update of its zoning code, referred as the NZO (New Zoning Ordinance). This is the first major revision to the original 1957 code and will offer a new approach to carrying forward zoning codes and procedures for many years to come.

Mo and I will continue to walk the neighborhood checking to see if we might run into some of our neighbors who might step forward to run for our first council district seat. If we do, we will be sure to let you know. In that vein, we want to thank Kathryn Hinsch for stepping forward to organize a Neighborhood Watch program. The Board is still looking for a volunteer to assist with some of our technology needs. There is so much talent and energy in this neighborhood so it is always encouraged when individuals see a need and step up to address that need.

Fred Sweeney, 2016 Board President.



& Mo

[fredsweeney@gmail.com](mailto:fredsweeney@gmail.com)

cell: 805-448-4392

