

Panorama Estates Neighborhood Newsletter

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NEW PANORAMA ESTATES GMAIL ACCOUNT

In response to recent concerns about crime in our neighborhood, Panorama Estates Association (PEA) opened a new Gmail account, panoramaestatesneighborhood@gmail.com. Initially, we had hoped to monitor the site, respond to all inquiries and coordinate messages; however, we have found that we unfortunately do not have the capacity to adequately monitor and respond to all incoming emails in a timely fashion. For that reason, the Gmail account will be limited to outgoing announcements regarding neighborhood events.

For more urgent situations or specific questions, please contact PEA Board members by phone (see our contact numbers, listed in each newsletter), or by their personal email. Also, we recommend using NextDoor to communicate efficiently with many neighbors about a topic. NextDoor is monitored by PEA Board members.

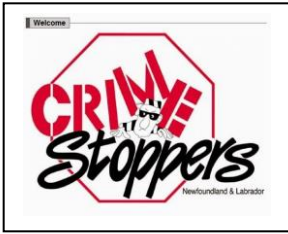
PEA NEIGHBORS MEET, ADDRESS NEIGHBORHOOD BREAK-INS

Thirty-Five Panorama Estates neighbors attended the urgent meeting March 5, 2017, called by the PEA Board to discuss a rash of break-ins, burglaries and verbal harassment of pedestrians in our neighborhood. Although beginning in late 2016, most events seemed to cluster in the month of February 2017.

Events consisted of 2 completed burglaries with extensive stolen property, one car burglary, and 3 attempted break-ins, often while homeowners slept inside, with property damage to doors and windows. Additionally, there were 4 reports of verbal harassment of pedestrians by motorists. These events affected our entire neighborhood, occurring on Bella Vista, Clausen Circle and Panorama Circle, and caused great concern for many neighbors.

After the meeting, reports of burglaries and other incidents appeared to decrease. However, Sentinel Shadows has reported several cases of damage to doors.

For more detail on the meeting, see related article this issue.



ADDRESSING CRIME IN PANORAMA ESTATES: DETAILS OF THE MARCH 5, 2017 MEETING

In response to continuing reports of neighborhood burglaries and crime, and to follow up on a February 18, 2017 PEA executive committee meeting, the Panorama Estates Board led by President Mary Jo Ghory called a general neighborhood meeting on March 5, 2017, inviting all neighbors via postcard mailing. The purpose of the meeting was to inform and update neighbors about the situation, to hear the police report and plan of response, and to discuss safety measures and neighborhood communication strategies that could ameliorate criminal activity.

35 Panorama Estates homeowners and residents attended the meeting, which was also attended by Steve Arnquist representing Ward 1, and who has attended all our meetings of concern; and by Gene Einfrank, the President of the Menlo Park Neighborhood Association.

Presented at the meeting was a chronology of events, followed by a detailed report from TPD Officer Jose Perez of Team 2, Sub Police Section 6 out of the Miracle Mile/Flowing Wells Substation. Under the guidance of his supervisor, Officer Rizzi, Officer Perez has made Panorama Estates his special project, and has been very responsive to PEA concerns.

Officer Perez began by asking us to **CALL THE POLICE (911 or 791-5059) AND REPORT ANY PROBLEMS ASAP**. To allocate resources, the CRO (Community Resource Officer) gets these stats to the Officers daily. Per Officer Perez, **THE MORE STATS, THE MORE ATTENTION WILL BE PAID**. Police patrols of Panorama Estates have indeed increased since the meeting due to our increased willingness to report problems to the police.

The stats for Panorama Estates reported by Officer Perez include 8 case reports (which are assigned a case #) and 11 events (which are recorded by not assigned a case #).

When questioned, Officer Perez did not feel that the burglaries were gang-related, as the most recent wave of "Westside" gang activity in Panorama occurred in early 2016, mostly vehicle break-ins; this was quelled by a strong response from the TPD Gang Unit.

Also discussed were strategies to discourage burglary, such as security systems, lights on timers, bars on windows, etc. Most importantly, communication and coordination between neighbors emerged as crucial for decreasing neighborhood crime, and was recognized as the foundation of neighborhood cohesion. Many neighbors have begun to use the online Next Door site to communicate and share concerns with other neighbors, and Panorama Estates established a new Gmail account to foster communication (see related article below).

Present at the meeting were Barbara Anderson, Steve Arnquist (Ward 1), Serena Baker, Robin Boyer, Patrick Cavanaugh, Ben and Vanessa Champion, Larry and Jody Chavez, Rosalee Castro, Candace Charvoz, Gene Einfrank (Menlo Park), Fred Elling, John Foley, Mary Lou Gonzalez, Jim Gregg, Andrew and Valerie Greenhill, Mary Jo Ghory, Nathan Hall, Dave Honecker, Molly Kent, John McEvers, Linda Otero, Ellen Paige, Lewis and Floy Parkhill, Jane and Guy Shovlin, Dave and Marsha Tesschner, Ernie de la Vara, and Curtis and Amber Yingling.

2017 PEA BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Jo Ghory, President -- 622-6419
Jane Shovlin, Vice President -- 820-5840
Jill Hofer, Secretary -- 270-3293
Ellen Paige, Treasurer -- 623-6689
Alan Murray, Member-at-Large --
Larry Chavez, Plans Review Committee Liaison --
490 5578



PLANNING TO BUILD IN PANORAMA ESTATES?

Please contact the Panorama Estates Association Board for review well BEFORE you begin grading or construction. Cooperation of builders is crucial in this process, and greatly appreciated!



NEIGHBORHOOD MAP

Ever need your PEA lot# and descriptor number? Go online to PEA's website to see a map of the lots, a list of owners, and the descriptor and lot numbers.

To access the website, go to www.neighborhoodlink.com then type in our zip code: 85745. Hit "go" then select Panorama Estates from the list of neighborhoods.



CITIZENS, FRIENDS OF A-MOUNTAIN MEET WITH CITY STAFF

On April 11, 2017, residents interested in Sentinel Peak Park met with City staff to discuss potential allocation of Development Impact Fees totaling \$200,000. One large proposed budget item included a cultural/archeological survey of the entire 300-acre park, which would cost \$18,000. There was also support for water-harvesting shade structures that would provide rainwater for the wildlife on the hill. The overall first choice: improved hiking trails and connections between the Mercado area and A-Mountain, with designated marked trails to improve foot access from the Mercado area. Bufflegrass removal would be concomitant with trail-building. Of note, PEA neighbor Candace Charvoz expressed concerns about the security of pedestrians on A-Mountain, and the need for budgeting for more police presence to combat crime and drug use in the Park. Her Op-Ed on this topic was published in the Tucson Daily Star.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS! JUNE 24TH IS EL DIA DE SAN JUAN

Join neighbors behind the Mercado Center June 24th to celebrate El Dia de San Juan, which traditionally marks the first day of the summer monsoon season. This annual tradition has been celebrated in Tucson for over a century, and legend says that if the rains hold off until that day, then the monsoon will bring a good rainy season to the Old Pueblo. Come experience some of the unique foods, music and culture of our Tucson home on El Día de San Juan.

PEA HIRES PRIMAVERA, WORKS TO REMOVE BUFFLEGRASS

Many thanks are due to PEA Board Secretary, Jill Hofer, for organizing buffleggrass removal in Panorama Estates by Primavera Works, which employs unemployed, underemployed and homeless workers as they get back on their feet. The project took place March 21, 2017, when a team of four Primavera workers and their supervisor cleared roadside buffleggrass along Bella Vista and Panorama. Fred Elling volunteered his labor and pick-up truck to transport the bagged buffleggrass to the roll-off dumpster organized by PEA President Mary Jo Ghory.

Do you need help tackling yard work or buffelgrass? Learn more about hiring these screened, skilled workers at www.primavera.org

Excellent teamwork all around; plus, provision of temporary work to some deserving folks!