

**Superstition
Neighborhood
Association**

**Block Watch
Captains**

(McAllister)
Faye High

(Malibu)
Karen Gibbs

(Laguna)
Carolyn Idso
& Carol
Morton

(East side
LaJolla)
John & Judy
Simon

(West side
LaJolla)
Amanda
Nelson &
Chris Rogers

(West side
Manhattan)
Dee & Bob
Haver

(east side
Manhattan)
Pam & Gary
Schrack

(Hermosa)
Reyes Colvin

The City approved our 2007 Grant for improvements to Joyce Park. They Include:

- A new water fountain, which has been installed.
- Four new park benches, which the City hopes to install in the March-April 2008 timeframe.
- Eight new grills and eight new trash cans. Installation will depend on the funds remaining after the installation of the benches.

The 2008 Grant application is due on May 19, 2008. Some ideas for Joyce Park are:

- Trash cans and grills that we couldn't afford in the 2007 Grant.
- Desert landscaping between the new walkway and the school fence (estimated costs- \$12,000)
- Stabilized DG (Decomposed Granite) walkway to a picnic bench (unknown costs at this time). Bob Pohlit (Tempe Parks & Recreation Department) will have a better idea of the cost in mid-April.
- Small spring-loaded equipment for children. Bob thinks we only have room for one item. We would have to get estimates for the cost.

If you have any other suggestions, please call your Block Watch representative or Gary Schrack.

Dee Haver, SNA Neighbor

ORBIT JUPITER OFF TO SUCCESSFUL START

The city's latest Orbit route, Jupiter, which serves the SNA area, started in mid January and is off to a successful start with more than 41,000 boardings during the first month. Many SNA residents are riding Jupiter to get to work and school, as well as ASU sporting events, restaurants, museums and other cultural/recreational destinations.

Several neighbors have been spotted waiting for the Orbit in their bright gold ASU T-shirts on game days, and groups of neighbors are riding together on the weekends for outings in downtown Tempe.

"I'm getting to know neighbors who I only waved to in the past," said Kate Hogan, who lives on La Jolla. "Now we're having actual conversations, exchanging emails, getting to know each other on the Orbit. It's creating a greater sense of community."

Orbit is a free service that uses mini-buses to serve residential areas and connect them to local destinations such as shopping areas, other neighborhoods, major bus routes, schools and multi-generational centers. All Orbit routes run from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. every 15 minutes, seven days a week.

For more information about Orbit, visit: www.tempe.gov/tim and click on Orbit under Hot Topics.

Amanda Nelson, SNA Neighbor

The speaker at our Annual Meeting, **Liz Atkinson** will bring a presentation about the **Arizona Advance Directive Registry** from the Secretary of State's Office. Arizona was one of the first states to provide this service for its residents. **An Advance Directive document is one in which you give instructions about your health care if you can't speak for yourself.** This is a valuable topic for all ages. I hope you plan to attend – the handouts are extremely helpful.

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**WINTER
RAINS
BRING
BEAUTIFUL
WILD
FLOWERS
THEN DEAD
FLOWERS &
WEEDS - City
Codes require
residents to
control weeds
and
landscaping in
both their
yards and the
alley behind
their homes.
If weeds &
dead flowers
are left
unattended,
residents could
face a **serious
fire danger.****

TRAFFIC CALMING IN SNA

As the city of Tempe continues to grow and redevelop, traffic has become a concern for many neighborhoods, including SNA. As a result, the city created its new Streetscape and Transportation Enhancement Program (STEP), which provides solutions to neighborhood traffic issues and offers residents a variety of tools to help calm traffic.

Several SNA neighbors have expressed interest in pursuing traffic calming measures, including the types of measures proposed for College Avenue, to help slow traffic and reduce cut-through traffic. For example, we could look at traffic circles at key intersections, as well as chokers/chicanes to narrow streets, and gateway medians at neighborhood entrances.

The STEP provides a process for residents to request that the city implement traffic calming devices or strategies in their neighborhoods. A successful process includes reporting a problem, requesting a field evaluation from City staff, developing an Action Team, identifying possible solutions to neighborhood traffic conditions, conducting community meetings, achieving community consensus and implementing traffic mitigation solutions that are uniquely tailored to traffic problems or conditions in the neighborhood.

For more information about the city of Tempe's STEP program and a comprehensive list of traffic calming tools, visit: www.tempe.gov/tim/Traffic/NTMP.htm.

Amanda Nelson, SNA Neighbor

**Neighborhood Watch Update
Spring 2008**

We owe ourselves a pat on the back for our continual involvement with the Neighborhood Watch program through the City of Tempe. The intent of the program is for each block resident to be aware of their neighbors normal activities and the neighborhood overall in order to provide a safer community. We can all act as additional eyes and ears for the Police Department by being attentive.

Each block has a *Neighborhood Watch Captain* who maintains a record of those residing within their watch and distributes this information so that neighbors can contact one another. The captains coordinate the required semi-annual meetings necessary for a watch to maintain their standing with the City of Tempe. These captains also encourage new residents to participate in the program and introduce the new neighbors to other neighbors which establishes the necessary component of Neighborhood Watch which is *neighbor knowing neighbor*.

We can improve this component, **Neighbor Knowing Neighbor** by getting to know the neighbors on the block behind our houses. Since many crimes do take place out of view of the street, it would be prudent for us to strengthen the neighborly bond with the neighbor across the alley. The Neighborhood Watch captains currently have the addresses and phone numbers for the streets directly adjacent to their own. ***To encourage everyone to get better acquainted with their alley neighbor, these maps will be handed out at the upcoming SNA Annual meeting.*** So, please come to the meeting, pick up the map for the adjacent street, introduce yourself to your alley neighbors and continue to establish a neighborly bond to help provide a safer community for yourself and all SNA residents.

Should you like more information on Neighborhood Watch, please feel free to visit <http://www.tempe.gov/cpu/Nwhtml.htm>

Karen Gibbs, SNA Treasurer