

# **CASANOVA OAK KNOLL**

# **NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

March 2009 www.cona.info phone 831-375-6241 email -- conamonterey@aol.com 2009 will be a year of new directions! Deep within a widening economic slide, CONA will be part of new decisions

We do not have to reiterate the continuing shocking news of our country's economic disaster. The City of Monterey is facing a \$3 million dollar deficit between now and June 2009. From June to the following year in July 2010, the deficit is now projected to be an additional \$6 million dollars. That is, if the situation does not get worse. Most of us experienced recessions, but none like this one.

The City of Monterey is conducting town hall forums to obtain residents opinions of what essential services must be retained and what will cease to be provided to you. In fact, there are so

many changes that have taken place or will change this year that our annual meeting will focus on (1) explaining these to you and (2) to get a neighborhood consensus so that CONA can properly pass your concerns back to the city government.

At the last City Council meeting, changes were made to the zoning regulations that could dramatically affect the appearance of neighborhood character. One change was in front yard setbacks that allows remodels and new construction to be five feet closer to the curb.

North Fremont Street is now preparing a new streetscape plan that, in time,

will dramatically improve appearance, pedestrian improvements and traffic flow of our commercial district. You will be able to comment on the streetscape in an upcoming meeting. Next year, we will all get involved in writing a completely new Neighborhood Plan, the last one was done in 1985. That plan was instrumental in the renewal of our neighborhood. Back then we were a forgotten part of the City of Monterey. Twenty-four years of working together changed our neighborhood for the better. The new plan must address future problems with even more creative solutions.

## Traffic calming is working in CONA Latest traffic speed surveys results:

S peeding cars. They are the recurrent theme of CONA meetings for many years. Now that we have completed a few phases of our traffic calming plan here are the latest speed surveys.

The state of California uses the 85% rule to base speed studies. 85% of the cars are at that speed or less. The 85% speed on Airport Road is now 29 miles per hour. This is a reduction of 5 mph. It was just a few years ago that we were facing raising the limit to 30 mph. Now we do not have to. Ramona is now at 28 mph., leaving now the fastest street in

the neighborhood as Casanova at 33 mph.

We have enough funds left in our last cals do not conform. traffic calming phase to do a median on Casanova between Melway and Ralson and crosswalk elements for Ramona at Euclid. This three-way stop has been a constant problem. Two surveys done in the last few weeks have shown 18 out of 20 and 12 out of 13 cars **not coming to <u>a full stop</u>** at the stop signs. Monterey Police are enforcing full stops here and at other areas of the neighborhood. The police are also enforcing our speed lim-

its. Citations are being issued, and they are expensive. Remember stop, many lo-

A portion of our traffic calming funds have been put on a NIP (Neighborhood Improvement Program) hold pending the outcome of this economic crisis. We are also delaying two solar speed signs for Casanova due to the sign manufacturer being unable to get the product to perform as advertised. The recording capability is not functioning; it would allow police to target times of the day for enforcement.

CONA ANNUAL MEETING – March 25. 2009 @ 7:00 P.M.

## **CONA Annual Meeting**

City & Neighborhood issues need your concerns and decisions. Recent events require many questions to be voted on:

Pressures have dramatically increased on Monterey neighborhood associations. Our City Council has been talking about adding new requests of our associations. They would like to hear more from members on more issues. They also want to know how members are noticed, how many show up for meetings, how the discussion took place and actual vote numbers. They are asking for association officers to fully disclose these items when representing their group. We hope the same standards are applied to business groups and those representing them as well as the City Council as well.

In the past we have noted that businesses or developers hire public relation firms to organize speakers and place ads on television and in the papers. Not mentioned of this new process is if they will also be asked to disclose who hired them and for how much when they speak to the Council. This all adds up to a lot more commitment of time and resources. The Council are also requesting that the City Attorney review and recommend their opinion of each neighborhood association's by-laws. Each association in Monterey is a private group, set up for its members not the public. It is because of all these new concerns that CONA will devote the annual meeting to asking you a multitude of questions so that we can accurately reflect your views to our City Council.

At its March 3<sup>rd</sup>. meeting the Monterey City Council changed single family zoning regulations on front yard setbacks. For decades it has been 20 feet, now it will be 15 feet. Until now, the neighborhoods in the city have not had a thorough discussion on the pro's and con's of this change. The issue started with concerns over mansionization of homes on small lots. As homes are remodeled and new ones replace old ones, this one issue could change neighborhood character. Whether it would be better or worse is something everyone should discuss at the meeting.

Sidewalks and repair of trip hazards are a continuing problem. The current city ordinance requires homeowners to repair sidewalks unless a city tree has caused the damage. Since the Neighborhood Improvement Program put in many of our sidewalks, it seems fair that NIP also be allowed to keep public access sidewalks free of hazards. To do that, we need our association to request the City Council to re-look at this provision of the city ordinance.

We also need to get your feedback on the new N. Fremont Street Streetscape Plan. This involves commercial sidewalk widths, handicapped access, and improving safety of pedestrians crossing North Fremont Street.

Our neighborhood plan has done a wonderful job of setting our goals and protecting us for the past 29 years. Many of those goals have been met. Next year, we are scheduled to completely update that plan. We cannot emphasize how important this is to the future of Casanova Oak Knoll. We will discuss how we need to set up an organization so that we can give this new plan the attention it deserves.

## **Neighborhood Improvement Program 2009**

Projects submitted for this year follow. The association will discuss and vote on them at our annual meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> .

- 1. CONA sidewalk and curb repairs (neighborhood wide)
- 2. CONA Park Center tot lot handicap access improvements
- CONA Park Center emergency water tank replacement. 3.

### **DOOR PRIZES**

All members at the annual meeting will receive a ticket for door prizes that will be drawn for: **Fire Extinguishers &** Smoke alarms

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2009

**GENERAL MEETING** March 25 – Wednesday 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. PARK CENTER 735 Ramona

Agenda

7:00 Call to order Reports 2009 Election of officers Old Business 2009Neighborhood Improvement 2009 Priorities New Business

- **7:30** N.Fremont Streetscape Neighborhood Front Yard Setback
- 8:00 Neighborhood Improvement Program **CONA Traffic Calming**
- 8:30 Neighborhood priorities **City budget issues**
- 9:00 Adjournment

## **COME & BRING YOUR NEIGHBOR**

2008 **CONA BOARD OF DIRECTORS** President-Richard Ruccello Vice-president-Gary Carlsen Secretary-Tuppence Cabot Treasurer-Darla Gustaitis Board member-Michael Brassfield Board member-Denise Marsaguerra Airport Chairman-Open Webmaster-Louis Agaze NIP Representative-Richard Ruccello Alternate NIP Representatives: Gary Carlsen Michael Brassfield

# 2009Calendar

March 25 – 7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting April 15 NIP hearings CONA Park center June 13& 14 – Garage Sale Sat.&Sun

# Neighborhood News

Last November 5, CONA received two calls from two residents on Edinburgh. One confronted a young woman on their front porch when they heard their mail box being opened. They said this woman was going through their mail. The woman left before anything could be done. The second resident across the street was missing outgoing mail that contained personal check payments. Calls to the postmaster revealed how common this problem is and how little enforcement is available. Thieves do not steal all the mail, just anything with checks or credit applications, thus victims are unaware of what is happening for some time. With cold weather and residents at work, no one notices a single person following in the steps of the mailman. Without witnesses filing written police reports, there is no follow up. Identity theft is spreading like a virus, and the economic depression just makes it worse.

On December 10<sup>th</sup>. the Herald had a story on the Pacific Grove Police arresting a mail theft gang. They were involved in what is described above but on a very large scale. They were also washing checks (chemicals that remove all your writing from the check leaving basically a blank check) writing in fictious names and cashing the checks in phony accounts. Of the 4 arrested one of the women resembled the description of the one in the confrontation on Edinburgh. The P.G. police said this is just a sample of a larger problem.

Please be cautious, do not put outgoing mail in your mailbox, drop it off to a street mailbox (at Longs and on Fremont), and report incidents and crimes to the police department.

#### Bank Robbery

February 9<sup>th</sup>. Three men, one showing a firearm, held up the Wells Fargo Bank inside Safeway. A Del Rey Oaks police officer was in the parking lot when they exited the building, followed their car for a short distance after which the robbers ran from their car. One was arrested immediately, and a shot was fired. The other two ran across Canyon Del Rey and through the driving range. The second man was arrested in the backyard of a home on Ralston. The last ran over behind Shirl Pat Way and was believed to have escaped to the Airport property. A firearm was recovered.

Streets were blockaded, and officers with weapons drawn searched the neighborhood. Several neighbors expressed concern over the lack of communication to the neighborhood. Our community center has a pre-school enrollment of 25 to 30. One parent, upset at the possibilities, asked for a lockdown, which was done. Police procedures should automatically do this. The city now has access to an automatic emergency dialing system, it was not used that day. Hopefully, this incident and the possible ways it could get much worse will start us on the road to better communication.

**CONA revitalization draft plan** is about to be released for your comments (a special meeting will be called) and then it will be sent to the Monterey City Council for official adoption. This program provides many benefits to a neighborhood including targeted housing rehabilitation funds and assistance for families who earn too much to qualify as low-income but are still in need of assistance. **Street Tree planting** is now on citywide hold due to several years of drought and city staff reductions. **Driveway approaches** are also on hold citywide

## **Monterey Public Library:**

Wednesday, April 29, 7 p.m. Stories for Adults featuring Diane Ferlatte "Have I Got a Story to Tell!" Don't miss this evening with Grammy nominee Diane Ferlatte with musical accompaniment by Erik Pearson. Ages 16-up. Tickets \$12 in advance at the Library Check-out Desk or 1 ticket free with your valid MPL or PGPL card. For more information call 831.646.3949 or e-mail mccombs@ci.monterey.ca.us

**Saturday, May 1**, 2 p.m. Poetry Writing Workshop with Patrice Vecchione. Teens & Adults. Free. Pre-registration required. Call 646.3949 or email <u>mccombs@ci.monterey.-ca.us</u>

**Saturday, June 6**, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Summer Reading Program Kick-off Party for Kids & Families More information: Youth Services 646.3934

**First Saturday of every month** 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Friends of the Library Book Sale - Books, DVDs, and more at bargain prices.

Monterey County Weekly----Monterey Public Library has been named "Best Library in Monterey County" by MCWeekly voters.

#### Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center Upcoming Events and Programs

Hello Neighbors! The staff at Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center has planned a lot of new programs that we are all very excited about. Our new Summer / Fall lineup is sure to have something for everyone in your household. The new Recreation and Community Services Guide will be available on Wednesday, April 29. Here is a sample of our new classes! Tot classes will include the following additions, Animal Safari, Fantastical Fairy Fun, and Masks, Pumpkins and other Spooky Creations. Youth classes will expand greatly in the new season, with Egyptian Cabaret Style Belly Dance, Photography for kids, Wii Love Fridays, and **Trash to Treasures**. Adult classes will also broaden this season with Cooking Essentials for Adults, Making **Desserts Healthier for the Holidays, The Dangers of Dairy** and Soy, and Women's Hormones. We will continue to offer Guitar and Piano lessons on Mondays and Wednesdays evenings, Kids Kitchen Caper and Family Night on Tuesdays, and Public Access Computers and Pool Pals daily. We are open Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. We look forward to seeing you soon! .....Rachael Deis, Director...646-5665

#### Airport-City Liaison Working Group Meeting

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, in their Board room, the Monterey Peninsula Airport and the Monterey City Liaison Working Group met. This is composed of Airport Chair Carl Miller and Board member Robert DeVoe and City Council members, Frank Sollecito and Jeff Haferman. Also attending were Airport Manager Tom Greer and Monterey City Manager Fred Meurer. Your CONA President, Richard Ruccello and CONA Board member Mike Brassfield attended with other members of the public. Among the topics discussed were the airport plans for the Northside Modernization, their evolving plans to update many of the commercial buildings on the north side as part of a planned process; an FAA Stimulus and Grant process for improving the runway and other efforts; and one of the topics of more interest to CONA, that the airport is moving to Phase II of gaining access from Hiway 68 around the NE end of the runway leading to the north side (across the fence from CONA). The airport is moving on this 4-5 year plan to complete a \$24M multi-phased plan that should reduce traffic through our neighborhood by directing much of the existing and any new traffic away from the neighborhood and to Highway 68. While complete plans were not available for review, it does appear that this project is moving.

Also discussed were parking issues along Garden Road, mutual issues with Taxi's at the airport and within the city of Monterey, the continuing education process of pilots to stay within the suggested flight paths while taking off and landing (the Airport has produced a nice color chart with these illustrated suggestions to hand out to each pilot for their flight book), and mutual aid/automatic aid issues related to a new staffing issue at the airport Fire Dept. The last issue discussed that relates to CONA was a traffic study report conducted by the city and handed out by Mr. Meurer. This shows a significant amount of traffic going into and from the north side of the airport. Your board will be comparing this with a similar report completed in the mid-1980's.

.....Michael Brassfield, CONA board

#### **Airport News**

From Carl Miller, Chairman of the Airport District:

I am the Board Chairman this year (2009) and I wanted to do more of an outreach program. I think we have some great CPI (capital improvement plans) that will affect your neighborhood (for the better) in the works. Here are just a few:

The lighting system at the airport has been updated to low volt LED and will turn off at night. Any pilot who wishes to land after the tower has closed can turn the lights on remotely by going on a special radio frequency. Because it takes time to update all the pilots/books about this, it will not be activated until April-ish 2009, but the work has been done. CONA can look forward to darker nights.

We are asking the FAA for a grant to place power and AC outlets at the gates. This means that we could get rid of the GPU "Ground Power Units" diesel generators which are a source of noise to your neighborhood especially (I have heard complaints form CONA). It takes several years sadly for these projects to work their way through the FAA pipeline and there are no guarantees that we will get the grant, but we have made it a priority.

We are looking into the airport taking over gate operations now done by each airline. The airlines would pay the district for the service. We would then replace all the gas-powered vehicles with quiet electric ones. Again this is a couple of years away if it happens.

Traffic Study on the north side, should be done in early 2009.

The new hangers already on the north side creating a sound barrier and a relocation of the touch down area of the main runway (part of the runway safety project/north side access road the EIR is about) is still a few years away if all goes well. This will significantly lower sound in CONA and improve safety.

I am planning a special board meeting sometime early in 2009, at night at the airport, where we could hear neighborhood (all of the Mtry neighborhood Associations, PG and DRO) concerns and discuss long range plans for our Airport.

Due to the economic downturn the Airport is seeing a lot less corporate jets using our airport. This hurts us financially and we hope for a fast recovery, but in the meantime CONA can except a quieter Airport. Hope to talk further soon.

Carl Miller

#### **Christmas Toy Drive 2008**

CONA members reached down in the middle of this awful recession and made last Christmas special for many children. In fact the Fire Department actually had to more than double the number of children for this last year. The department gave gifts to 59 families with 169 children on the peninsula. Each child received several gifts, candy canes and stuffed animals. This year, Tuppence Cabot, CONA secretary, and her son Jeff transported the CONA contribution down to the wrap party and helped wrap. Every inch of her car was stuffed with toys. It was quite a sight.

### **Home Foreclosures**

As we mirror the rest of the nation we find our neighborhood is not immune from the mortgage meltdown. We have seen five foreclosure notices for our area in the Herald, so far. We know we have not seen them all. If there is any good news, it is that the houses are selling to new buyers. It appears that prices are running at least \$200,000 lower than a couple of years ago. Lower prices will have the follow up effect of reducing our senior's ability to get reverse mortgages. It is clear that the remaining survivors of this economic disaster must stand together and ensure the continued improvement of our neighborhood. We always need more volunteers. Please get involved.

#### Neighborhood Services

**CML Home Repair**-owned by Gary Carlsen. Specializes in all phases of home repair, electrical, carpentry, and plumbing. If you have a small job that needs to be done, give him a call at 373-3426.

**MONTEREY UNOCAL 76**-owned by Harry Mucha, a member of C.O.N.A., at 2045 N. Fremont St. (next to Chef Lee's) 375-8415. Harry runs a full service neighborhood service station with full auto care.. **CONA members can obtain a \$15.00 off a lube and oil change**. **Please show your membership card for this special offer**.

**Belleci's Janitorial & Window Cleaning. 372-2238 DC-Roofing**, Dave Costa, RE Roofing specialist, 915-1651. **A Puppies Paradise**, Tammy Costa, Let us be your small dog's 2<sup>nd</sup>. home. Let your dog go on vacation when you do! 915-9923

The association cannot check out or guarantee any work or services but merely lists them for your convenience. There will be a small fee of \$5 per service to cover the additional printing costs.

## November Airplane Crash on Garden Road

#### NTSB Prelim Report

(National Transportation Safety Board) NTSB Identification: WPR09LA046

14 CFR Part 91: General Aviation

Accident occurred Tuesday, November 25, 2008 in Monterey, CA

Aircraft: PIPER PA-28-180, registration: N2383R Injuries: 1 Serious, 1 Minor.

This is preliminary information, subject to change, and may contain errors. Any errors in this report will be corrected when the final report has been completed.

On November 25, 2008, about 1757 Pacific standard time, a Piper PA-28-180 airplane, N2383R, was substantially damaged when it impacted trees and terrain following a loss of engine power while on final approach to the Monterey Peninsula Airport (MRY), Monterey, California. The airplane was registered to and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. The private pilot sustained minor injuries and his passenger sustained serious injuries. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed for the personal flight. The crosscountry flight originated from Calexico International Airport (CXL), Calexico, California about 1442 with an intended destination of MRY.

The pilot reported that after an uneventful flight, he entered the traffic pattern for runway 10 **left**. As he turned from base leg to final, the engine lost power. The pilot stated that he realized that he "ran the right fuel tank out of fuel" and immediately switched to the left fuel tank and turned on the electric fuel boost pump. Despite his efforts, the engine did not restart and the airplane descended into trees and subsequently impacted the ground.

"The pilot added that prior to departure from CXL; he had topped off the airplane with fuel in Mexicali, Mexico and flew 20 minutes to CXL where he underwent an

# inspection by the US Customs and Border Protection for re-entry into the United States."

Examination of the airplane by a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector revealed that the airplane came to rest in a vertical position within a parking lot. The right wing was partially separated from the fuselage and exhibited structural damage. The horizontal stabilator was also structurally damaged. "During removal of the airplane, recovery crews reported that they drained 24 ounces of fuel from the left wing fuel tank and 8 ounces of fuel from the right wing fuel tank."

......This is the 7<sup>th</sup>. airplane crash in around the last twenty years near the neighborhood. Four of these ran out of fuel. We have made repeated requests to the FAA and the Airport District, and neither to date has disclosed any action against pilots who ran out of fuel. This is an issue of accountability. It is the reason we lobby to get pilots not to fly over homes. The issue is always raised about aircraft safety, never brought up is ground safety. This factor is why we are concerned every time we hear sputtering planes overhead. Until the Airport District or the FAA develops stricter standards we will continue to document these incidents. If this plane lost fuel 60 seconds earlier, would the crash have occurred in downtown Monterey? Would the investigation be different?

# NorthFremontStreetnews:

**Club Fit** fitness studio, physical therapist and spa construction is still on hold due to economy.

**The Bay Pet Hospital** continues to deteriorate while waiting for the water situation to change.

**O! Sushi is a new** restaurant that has opened in the Travel Lodge location. Check out the extensive remodeling. **Sushi by the Bay** is open (formerly Casa Moreno) next to car wash.

**Longs** was sold last year to a new company, CVS and will change in the next month.

### July 4<sup>th</sup>. 2009

Faced with becoming overwhelmed by the combination of the Red Bull motorcycle races rescheduled to the 4<sup>th</sup> and the fireworks, the Monterey City Council voted to postpone future fireworks displays. A major consideration was the awful budget situation we are now facing. Concerns were raised that people are still going to flock to the beach or set off fireworks in our forested neighborhoods. Obviously our emergency response was overwhelmed before and will test our limits this year.

### Monterey Police Department News!

Officer Galin has been working speed enforcement on Airport. So far he's written a couple of tickets but people seem to be behaving themselves.

We've had some recent car burglaries in the area. Just a few reminders;

-Don't leave anything in your car.

-Try and park in a well lit area. If a bulb is burned out replace it as soon as you can. Consider adding security lighting. We can give you some tips on that.

-Watch your neighborhood. I recently got called out to a residence where someone was rummaging through the dumpster, someone who wasn't supposed to be there. The reporting party was a sharp eyed and concerned neighbor and it was a good call.

A reminder that the next COPPS meeting is in April. Please come and try to convince a neighbor who hasn't been to come as well.

I've been doing some 'walk and talks' at the apartment complexes. I'll be visiting all of them over the next several months. If you see me please take a moment to say hi and let me know of any concerns.

Officers Newby and Pinkas have been handing out some informational flyers to motels alerting them of what to look for concerning prostitution and drug problems.

California law is that you must turn on your headlights in inclement weather even in daylight. For us that basically means fog and rain. If you're driving in fog or have to run your wipers, even intermittently, you must have your headlights turned on. Daytime Running Headlights don't qualify as your taillights do not come on so someone approaching from, behind may not see you.

Sgt. Russo and Officer Pinkas took a City crew down to Laguna Grande park and cleaned out all the homeless encampments. Trash, waste and all. We'll keep an eye on the place but hopefully we'll get a break for a bit. Hat Tips and Kudos to Jake and Frank!!!

If you've noticed no more DROCK Graffiti lately it's because we arrested him a couple of months ago. Hat Tips and Well Done to Officer Oelfke and the MPD Detectives!!!

Sgt. Frank Russo is taking over the position of COPPS Coordinator. That means not only will he be in charge of Areas 17 and 18 but also every other Area in the City. Not to worry though, Frank has the drive and energy to get both jobs done with his usual excellence. He can be reached at 646-3806.

Officer Eric Stidham Monterey Police Department 351 Madison Monterey, Ca. 93940

# CONA ANNUAL MEETING March 25<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

## **Monterey County Fair**

The Monterey County Fair is off and running in 2009! We are pleased to showcase our new and improved website,.for 2009 Fair Information, Interim Events Schedule and more please log on to <u>www.montereycountyfair.com</u>.

The Monterey County Fair will be held August 12-16, 2009. We are holding a 5 day fair this year, as opposed to the six days we have had in the past. We will also be holding our 4-H Horse Show VERY early this year on April 19th. New to the Fairgrounds is its first ever Monterey Bay Classic Livestock Show. This event will be held on May 1st and 2nd is a chance for area exhibitors to showcase their talents while practicing for the Salinas Valley Fair in May.

On the grounds, we are still working with our fence contractor to replace the entire fenceline AGAIN! The Fairgrounds will be removing the fence in sections and building a stabilizing and aesthetically pleasing curb along the entire length of fence on Fairgrounds Road. This project will most likely begin in October, 2009.

Should residents have questions regarding this project, please contact Kelly Baldwin at <u>Kelly@montereycountyfair.-</u> <u>com</u> or 372-8106.

## Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center Family Flea Market

Families will be selling their used toys, games, clothes and other items at great prices. Child vendors under 12 must be supervised by an adult. Booth registration begins Monday, April 13 and ends Friday, May 1 at Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center. Call 646-5665 for more information.Saturday, May 9 10:00 am-1:00 pm \$15 Booth Space.

#### **Bunny Brunch**

Hippity-hop! Come take a look at what the Easter Bunny has brought. Parents and children will love this springtime event which includes brunch with the Easter Bunny, eggstra specialcrafts, entertaining stories, and a special photo with the Easter Bunny. We will end the afternoon with a grand finale egg hunt! Ages 3-6 years Saturday, Apr 4 10:00 am-12:00 pm Monterey Resident \$25 (\$10 per additional participant) Other Resident \$33 (\$13 per additional participant) Fee includes parent/child pair

### **Mother and Daughter Creations**

Learn etiquette in this English tea-themed class while making English scones, Devonshire cream, tea sandwiches, an assortment of sandwich fillings, and decadent desserts. Enjoy the luxuries of linen and silver service! Ages 7 and older. Tuesdays, 4:00-6:00 pm May 5-May 26 Monterey Resident \$60\*, Other City Resident \$78\* \$20 Material Fee\* (\*Fee includes mother and daughter)

# C.O.N.A. ACHIEVEMENTS

Our neighborhood had an organization as far back as 1958, but there was a long period of inactivity on the part of our neighbors in the 70's. In 1982 the problems facing our neighborhood started to accumulate. The Mahara condominiums brought them to a critical point. It was this project that focused residents on forming a renewed neighborhood association that could deal with our problems. As you review the short highlights (included would be an annual garage sale, and park day), please note how the successes have changed your quality of life in our neighborhood. 2001

> Restored \$350K Health Risk Study Additional \$1.5M accelerates cleanup

> \$150K Airport Road drainage passed

\$7.5K in additional street trees planted

Melway/Casanova drainage NIP \$52K

Casanova/Ralston crosswalk \$25K

N.Fremont signal coordination \$30K

Stuart partial street closure \$8K

Cona traffic calming I&II-\$215K

New playground equip -\$8K

Solar speed signs \$30K

Bruce Lane curb&gutter -\$43K

Chemical cleanup accelerated 3 yrs.

NIP 20 driveway approaches \$60K

Park Center pre-school deck \$5K

CONA traffic calming phase III \$200K

Park Center power window opener \$4K

New Park Bench installed at Park Center

3 New CONA entry signs approved

NIP 20 driveway approaches Phase II

turkey trailer left hopefully for good

Obtained extra funds for entry signs

Final driveway approaches approved

Sidewalk trip hazards repaired

CONA entry signs installed

NIP 20 driveway approaches Phase III

CONA Traffic Calming Phase V approved

CONA Traffic Calming Phase IV

sults in mandatory quiet time

Fairgrounds

hood

CONA

started.

•

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

CONA appeal of new loading dock for Safeway re-

The day after appeal the earsplitting gas generator

Successfully opposed return of motorcycle races at

2007

Two solar speed signs for Casanova approved

City Council supports CONA Airport resolution

2008

New streetlight in front of Park Center

New traffic calming reduces speeds in

design new entry at Canyon Del Rey

New Fairgrounds fence facing neighbor-

City engaged in meetings with Seaside to

North Fremont Street Streetscape Plan

More to Come

Want to help your

association?

Ask a neighbor to join!

825 Casanova condo conversion approved

Record breaking CONA XMAS toy drive

\$35K CONA Traffic Study

Opposed PUD development

Melway drainage improvement

- 1983 Neighborhood Plan & Survey
- Reopened Fairgrounds Road to Jazz Festival parking.
- Park renovation & cleanup
- \$22,000 HUD grant 1984
- CPR class
- Neighborhood mediation classes
- 45 street trees planted
- Neighborhood Watch-1st in Monterey to implement a full watch program & paid for our own signs.
- Carved Park sign (by Leland Peterson)
- Neighborhood Plan completed with highest survey results in City
- Door viewers & smoke alarms specially installed for members.
  - 1985
- CDBG funds for sidewalking one side of Airport Road. \$50,000
- Life membership to Planner Butch Cope
- New Bookmobile ordered for City
- J.C.Penny Community Service Award P.G. & E. Community Service Award
  - 1986
- Capital Improvement Program -\$50K Casanova right turn lane to N. Fremont
- Street sweeper is back!
- Fairgrounds parking program
- Sidewalks curbs & gutter on Ramona 1987
- Stop sign installed at Bruce Lane
- New retaining wall with landscaping at Fairgrounds & Airport Road
- Dundee fill in sidewalks completed
- Sidewalks installed on Lerwick
- Ramona side street stop signs
- Casanova finished in fill sidewalks and added a school bus stop area.
- Ralston granite boulders oak island
  - Garden road walkway approved 1988
- Sidewalk infill continued on Airport, Edinburgh, Littleness & Stuart
- Cypress Bowl building torn down
- Installed City of Monterey entry monument on N. Fremont.
- N. Fremont Street name change
- Caroling Trolley for Christmas 1989
- Major remodeling of park, new playground equipment, barbecue area
- Approval of sidewalks on Airport, Euclid, Fern and **Bush Streets**
- Approve bike path on Mark Thomas
- Successfully opposed Ramona 14,000 sq. ft. office building
- Successfully petitioned Monterey Planning Commission to require more attractive design on Blockbuster
- Successfully opposed live entertainment at Brick House 1990
  - Airport Road beautification project
- Airport Road & Olmstead intersection approved & in design
- NIP purchased property for a CONA Community Center
  - 1991

- Airport implements noise abatement Community Center planning started
  - 1992
- Fairgrounds **stops** motorcycle racing
- Generator added to Park Center
- Fairgrounds carnival gate landscaped with funds from C.O.N.A.
  - 1993
- Community Center opens!
- Pre-school started at Center
- Ivy street sidewalks approved Airport sound insulation under way
- 1993 Xmas Caroling Trolley Ride \$1,237 for Herald's Christmas Cheer

#### 1994

- Emergency Preparedness Class
- CPR Class
- Parking Ordinance approved
- Lilac sidewalks approved
- Voting precinct moved to Center •
- Questionnaire compiled
- Neighborhood 5 year plan completed
- Water storage tank for Center
- N. Fremont landscaping approved .
- Picnic area renovation approved
- Spaghetti dinner fund-raiser for teen equipment at Center

#### 1995

- N.E.R.T. graduated 25 team members
- Purchased 2 Emergency radios
- Obtained special FCC license
- Picnic area renovation completed
- CPR class
- Acoustical tiles & carpet added to the Community Center
  - 1996
- N.E.R.T. graduated almost 50, #1
- Playground fencing & flagpole
- Purchased 3rd. emergency radio
- Emergency Operations Center passed 1997
  - Full time director at Park Center
- NERT radio base station Park Center
- 3 additional NERT radios A.T.&T.
- New park lawn & irrigation (NIP)
- NERT steel storage shed to be installed at our Park

#### 1998

- Successfully raised funds for police night scope and new canine unit.
- Activated NERT team 3 times during heavy rains in February.
- . Resident parking program for Melway Circle started.

#### 1999

- First 2 day neighborhood garage sale Neighborhood 8 dumpster cleanup with NERT supervision
- Largest NERT drill in city's history
- First CONA City Council town forum at our Park Center
  - 35 street trees planted
- NERT emergency shed installed 2000
- Exposed Airport toxic plumes
- New N. Fremont Plan adopted

Upper BBQ area renovated

- N. Fremont Phase I drainage passed.
- 40 street trees planted Storage added to Park Center

#### **ROYAL PRESIDIO CHAPEL**

The Royal Presidio Chapel a city, state and national treasure reopened its doors on January 21, 2009 following a major renovation and retrofitting of the building which began in May of 2007. To alleviate the moisture problems which have plagued the Chapel for over 200 years, the existing concrete apron which prevented evaporation of moisture in the exterior walls was removed and a French drain was constructed around the entire perimeter of the building to divert water away from the sandstone walls. The roof was removed in order to repair wood members damaged by termites and also to install the attic portion of the retrofit. The building is a National Historic Landmark, the first stone building in California, the first architecturally designed building in California, and the single surviving building of the original Royal Presidio of Monterey. It is also the oldest building in Monterey. It has maintained its original mission and is acknowledged as the longest continually operating House of Worship in California. It has quietly, humbly served the spiritual needs of the soldiers of the original Monterey Presidio and the people of Monterey for over 213 years.

This sturdy stone church bears many names and a substantial weight of history. Royal Presidio Chapel, San Carlos Church, Cathedral of San Carlos Borromeo. From its founding on June 3, 1770, this chapel has accompanied Monterey on its path through history. Father Serra and Don Gaspar de Portola, leader of the Spanish military expedition, were charged with founding a new settlement to secure New Spain's possession of Alta California. Soldiers constructed the first fortifications and dwellings of the Royal Presidio (long gone, the site occupied an area approximately bounded by Webster and Fremont streets between Camino El Estero and Abrego Street). The first chapel took the form of a pole-and-brush structure.

Three versions of the chapel were built and lost to fire, the last in 1789, before work began on the stone building visitors see today in 1791. Using plans drafted in Mexico City, mason Manuel Ruiz from San Blas using local labor, including Indians directed the construction that was completed in 1794. The main façade of the chapel is California's first architect designed building. It is embellished with pilasters, decorative niches, and sculpture.

When the Presidio was abandoned around 1835, all the buildings except for the chapel fell into ruin. Converted to a parish in 1840, the chapel became San Carlos Church. It served as the Cathedral of the Bishop of Monterey from 1850 to 1857.

In 1858, Francisco Pacheco contributed funds to enlarge the Chapel. Transepts were added, giving it the cross-shaped appearance it has now. A new sanctuary and a new sacristy were added along with the Pacheco vault under the Chapel. In 1961 the chapel was entered as a National Historic Landmark, and in 1966 the was property listed on The National Register of Historic Places

The division of the Diocese of Monterey-Fresno in 1967 found the bishop once again residing in Monterey, making the Royal Chapel a cathedral (though the smallest in the continental United States) in 1968. In 1969, a remodeling of some church furnishings occurred, as a consequence of a new revised liturgy.

At present, San Carlos is the only surviving building of the original Royal Presidio of Monterey. The beautiful stone facade is substantially unchanged for 200 years. The Royal Presidio Chapel is the only building remaining from the original Monterey that has never been a ruin. The building stands as a tall, silent witness, to its great history.

Land Patents Database. The Bureau of Land Management Database shows the original purchasers of land from the federal government and covers the period from pre-Revolutionary times up to 1908. www.glorecords.blm.gov/ To commerate the restoration of San Carlos Royal Presidio Chapel ....submitted by Gary Carlsen