



FRIENDS OF SUNSET PARK

A California nonprofit corporation of Sunset Park residents • Box 5823, Santa Monica, California 90409-5823 • (310) 358-7117 • FriendsofSP@yahoo.com

MARCH 2009 NEWSLETTER

Layout by Bill Josephs

Help Reduce Auto Burglaries

Auto burglaries are mostly crimes of opportunity, and the increase in auto burglaries is part of a national trend. Here are some things you can do to reduce your probability of being a victim:

Do not leave your valuables in plain view in your vehicle. Take them with you, or place them in your trunk before you arrive at a location where people might be watching.

Do not leave your vehicle registration in your car. It should be kept with your driver's license.

Always close your car windows and lock your doors. An open door or window allows a thief a quick and quiet way to steal your property. Even if the window is only

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A surprise visit by a leprechaun (disguised as a Mallard duck) flew in for a brief swim in this Sunset Park pool on St. Patrick's Day morning. "It's the luck of the Irish," according to photographer Dinah Hubley, an Oak Street resident. Other neighbors on the street also claim to have seen one or two ducks in their backyard pools this month. "First time I've seen this in the 30 years I have lived here," exclaimed one neighbor.

Banning C and D Aircraft from Santa Monica Airport — One Year Later

March 25, 2008 – The Santa Monica City Council acted to ensure public safety by adopting an ordinance requiring aircraft operations at Santa Monica Municipal Airport to conform with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design standards for Category A and B aircraft. The ordinance banned the faster, unsafe Category C and D aircraft from using the airport. The FAA has since moved on two parallel tracks to prevent enforcement of the ordinance: (1) by way of the federal courts, and (2) by way of FAA administrative proceedings.

April 23, 2008 – The FAA issued an Interim Cease and Desist Order and filed an application for a Temporary Restraining Order the next day. The federal government and the City agreed to forestall enforcement of the Ordinance pending the hearing on the Temporary Restraining Order.

April 28, 2008 – Judge George H. Wu of the United States District Court issued a Temporary Restraining Order enjoining the City's Ordinance until the hearing on the preliminary injunction on May 15, 2008.

May 15, 2008 – Judge Wu heard oral argument from the City of Santa Monica and the United States. On May 16, the Court issued a Preliminary Injunction which prevented the City from enforcing Santa Monica Municipal Code §10.04.06.220 and required the City to permit the use of the Santa Monica Airport by category C and D aircraft for the duration of the lawsuit.

May 27, 2008 – The FAA issued its Director's Determination in the administrative proceeding it first instituted against the City of Santa Monica in October 2002, asserting that the City did not have the legal authority to adopt the Ordinance prohibiting the use of the Santa Monica Airport by Category C and D aircraft.

June 3, 2008 – The FAA served the city with its opposition to the city's Application for a Stay Pending Appeal. The city's Reply to the FAA's Opposition was filed with the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on June 10, 2008.

August 27, 2008 – The City filed its reply brief in the Ninth Circuit proceeding that challenged both Judge Wu's Preliminary Injunction and the FAA Interim Cease and Desist order.

November 19, 2008 – At the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Courthouse in Pasadena, a 3-judge panel heard the City's challenge to the Interim Cease and Desist Order. The court has not yet issued a decision.

March 11, 2009 – The City filed its pre-hearing brief in advance of the FAA Part 16 hearing, which took place March 16 to 19 at the Federal Building in Long Beach. The City's brief argued that: (1) as Airport pro-

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Senior Scene

SMC's Emeritus College – 1227 Second Street – 310-434-4306

– Office hours: Monday through Friday (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM) – Email: emeritus@smc.edu – Web site: www.smc.edu/emeritus

Emeritus College, started in 1975, is a college for seniors. It serves over 3,400 students annually and offers over 160 free non-credit classes. All classes are held during the day at more than 20 locations throughout the community and at the Emeritus College building on Second St. near Wilshire.

Classes include financial management, entitlements, auto repair, home repair, current events, theater review, home gardening, calligraphy, computer training, writing, language, fine arts, coping with aging, medical information, assertiveness training, widow support, performing arts classes in music and theater, writing, aerobic exercise, strength training, flexibility, stress management, yoga, qi gong, tai chi, tour classes for art and gardening, and performing arts appreciation.

SMMUSD Adult Education - 2510 Lincoln Blvd.

310-664-6222 – www.smmusd.org/AdultEd/AECBrochure09.pdf

Classes for active older adults (55 and over) include Drawing, Drawing from Photos, Painting from Photos, Mystery Writers, Great Writers and Artists (Austin and Cassatt; Faulkner, Maugham, and Vermeer), Historical and Current Perspectives, and Fun & Games.

Santa Monica Senior Recreation Center – 1450 Ocean Ave. (in Palisades Park near Broadway) – 310-458-8644 – Monday to Friday (9 AM to 2 PM) and Saturday (11 AM to 4 PM)

Senior Nutrition Program – Lunches are served each weekday at noon. Saturday box lunches are available at 11 AM. Make reservations in advance. Suggested donation: \$2.50. Minimum age: 60.

Classes include chair yoga, conditioning, feeling fit, senior exercise, guitar, improv, and line dancing. Activities include ballroom dancing to live music (1st and 3rd Mondays at 2 PM), bridge, Bingo, chess, movies on Saturday afternoons (noon and 2 PM), and sing-alongs.

WISE and Healthy Aging – Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St., 310-394-9871 – info@WiseandHealthyAging.org – www.WiseAndHealthyAging.org

This non-profit organization (combining WISE Senior Services and the Center for Healthy Aging) provides services, information, programs, and support for seniors, those who care for them, and the professionals who work for them. These include adult daycare services, meal programs, elder abuse prevention, friendly visitors, in-home services, mental health services, peer counseling, retirement planning, selecting a long-term care facility, senior volunteer programs, support groups, AARP driver safety classes, and travel packages.

Westside Center for Independent Living – 12901 Venice Blvd., L.A. 90066 310-390-3611 – www.wcil.org

A non-residential center which provides independent living skills training, information and referral, assistive technology services, benefits counseling, personal assistance services, and peer counseling for individual with disabilities.

Getting Around Town

Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus – Serving the city since 1928, the company has 210 buses and carries 21 million passengers a year. The customer service center is at 223 Broadway. 310-451-5444. www.BigBlueBus.com.

Fares are 75 cents regular fare, 50 cents for students ages 5-20, and 25 cents for seniors 62+. Children age 4 and younger ride for free.

Bus routes serving Sunset Park are Line 3 (Lincoln Blvd.), Rapid 3 (Lincoln Blvd. to LAX), Line 7 (Pico Blvd.), Line 8 (Ocean Park Blvd.), Line 14 (Bundy/Centinela), the Mini-Blue Crosstown Ride (south on 20th, west on OPB, north on 17th, west on Pearl, north on 14th, east on Montana), and the Mini-Blue Sunset Ride (SMC Bundy Campus, SMC Main Campus, SMC Academy of Entertainment and Technology, and the SMC Shuttle Parking Lot).

Dial-a-Ride – The City of Santa Monica/WISE & Healthy Aging “Dial-a-Ride” Program is a low cost shared-ride service offering curb-to-curb transportation in Santa Monica. Riders can use the service for any transportation purpose, and it operates 7 days a week. Destinations outside Santa Monica include UCLA Medical Center, West L.A. VA Hospital, and Kaiser West L.A. The program is for ages 60 and over, and for disabled individuals ages 18 and up. Registration is required before using the program, and the fare is 50 cents per one-way trip. For more information, call WISE & Healthy Aging at (310) 394-9871 ext 455.

Access Services – This is the ADA-mandated curb-to-curb accessible paratransit transportation system for L.A. County. It operates 7 days a week. Eligibility is based on ability – can the person (1) get to and from a bus, (2) get on and off a bus, and (3) understand which bus to get on and when to get off – and it is determined through an in-person Transit Evaluation. For more information, call Access Services at (800) 827-0829. www.asila.org

Talking Rubbish

The city's Solid Waste Management Division (<http://www01.smgov.net/swm/>) collects, transfers and disposes of trash, processes green waste for compost, recycles single-stream commingled recyclables, and provides a state authorized e-waste collection facility. To obtain the collection schedule for your neighborhood, or to request an extra container, call 310-458-2223.

Here are some items that cannot be picked up in the weekly trash collection:

Specialty Pick-Up Items The city provides fee-based bulky collection service, available on Fridays, for furniture, moving debris, and old appliances. Request by Tuesday for Friday pick-up at 310-458-2223.

Electronic Recycling Take old computers, monitors, copiers, fax machines, printers, TV's, cell phones, and other electronic items to the Santa Monica Refuse and Transfer Station at 2401 Delaware Avenue. It's open Monday through Saturday (6 AM to 2 PM). 310-829-7323

Household Hazardous Waste Center Take fluorescent light bulbs, thermometers, batteries, oil and oil filters to 2500 Michigan Avenue. Wednesday through Friday (7 AM to 1 PM) and Saturdays (7 AM to 3 PM). 310-478-3001. Batteries can also be dropped off at Santa Monica public libraries.

Used Household SHARPS As of September 2008, it's illegal in California to dispose of SHARPS (syringes, needles, lancets, and other devices used to penetrate the skin) in trash or landfill. They should be brought in containers to the local hazardous waste center, or mailed to a medical waste disposal service. Home-bound residents can phone 1-800-98-TOXIC (1-800-988-6942) for assistance. The S.A.F.E. disposal centers closest to Santa Monica are located at either UCLA, 550 Charles E. Young Drive West, Los Angeles, CA 90095, Thursday through Saturday, 8 AM to 2 PM, or Hyperion Treatment Plant, Gate B, 7660 W. Imperial Highway, Playa del Rey, CA 90293. Saturday and Sunday, 9 AM to 3 PM.

Finding Lost Pets

The Santa Monica Animal Control Section investigates complaints regarding animals, operates a full-service animal shelter, and issues dog licenses. Both the section headquarters and the shelter are located at 1640-9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404. To reach the shelter, drive westbound on Olympic Blvd. from 11th St. and turn right on 9th St. Hours are 8 AM to 5 PM every day except Sundays (12 NOON to 5 PM) and Wednesdays (10 AM to 7 PM).

The shelter houses both stray and owner-surrendered animals, including dogs, cats, rabbits, and an occasional bird or reptile. Owners of lost pets are encouraged (1) to come in person to look for their lost pet, and (2) to file a lost report as soon as their pet is discovered missing. If you see an animal that may belong to you on the Animal Shelter web site, <http://www.SantaMonicaPD.org/AnimalShelter/shelter.htm>, contact the staff as soon as possible during business hours at (310) 458-8594.

Santa Monica residents are required to license their dogs every year. First-time dog licenses must be obtained in person at the shelter. A valid rabies certificate, proof of sterility (if applicable), and proof of residency is required to complete licensing. The dog license fee is \$16.00 for spayed or neutered dogs, and \$53.60 for unaltered dogs.

Calendar

March 28 – SMMUSD Facilities Use Forum – JAMS cafeteria – 9 AM to 12 NOON

March 28 – “Airport Art Walk” – Airport Avenue – 1 to 5 PM

March 28 – “Earth Hour” – turn off non-essential lights – 8:30 to 9:30 PM

April 6 – SMC Board of Trustees – Business Building – 7 PM

April 16 – FOSP Board/Membership Meeting – 7 PM

April 18 – Neighborhood Council – Ken Edwards Center – 10 AM

April 25 – Local poets read their work – Fairview Library – 3 PM

April 27 – Airport Commission – City Hall – 7:30 PM

May 9 – Santa Monica Festival – Clover Park – 11 AM to 6 PM

May 9 – Fire Service Day Open House – Fire Station #5 – 1 to 3 PM

May 30 – FOSP Annual General Membership Meeting – 1:30 to 4 PM

Contact Information

SMPD Non-emergency Dispatch – 310-458-8491

SMPD Neighborhood Resource Officer – Artis Williams – 424-200-0687

SMPD free residential security surveys/Neighborhood Watch – 310-458-8474

Graffiti Hotline – 310-458-2231

Airport Noise Hotline – 310-458-8692

To report illegal dumping – 310-458-2223

Parking enforcement around SMC – 310-434-3000 (Campus Police), 310-458-2226

(SMPD traffic enforcement, between 8 AM and 6 PM), or 310-458-8491 (SMPD dispatch) after 6 PM.

Web Sites

City of Santa Monica – www.smgov.net

City Council – www.smgov.net/departments/council/

Police Department – www.SantaMonicaPD.org

Fire Department – www.SantaMonicaFire.org

Santa Monica Airport – www.smgov.net/airport/

Santa Monica Public Library – www.SMPL.org

Santa Monica College – www.smc.edu

School District – www.smmusd.org

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prietor, the City is not preempted from adopting an ordinance restricting access to preserve safety and limit liability; (2) the ordinance banning C&D aircraft is reasonable and does not violate the federal prohibitions against unjust discrimination and the creation of exclusive rights; (3) the ordinance is fully consistent with the 1984 Agreement, previous federal grants to the City, and the wartime transfers of airport property; and (4) the Tenth Amendment protects the City against federal coercion to accept aircraft in contravention of federal runway safety standards.



Aerial view of SMO from the southwest (Clover Park, the Business Park, and Ocean Park Blvd. at the top left, Airport Avenue and Mar Vista on the bottom right)



Jet coming in over Centinela Avenue to land at SMO.

Auto Burglaries, continued from page 1

slightly open, it makes the thief's job easier.

Your GPS and other equipment in your vehicle such as airbags and stereos can also be targets.

If your vehicle has an alarm system, be certain to activate it.

Thieves look for vehicles that they can enter with the least possibility of being seen or caught by citizens and authorities, so try to park in well-lit areas where your vehicle is visible to others. Be aware of your surroundings prior to leaving your vehicle.

Some of the items commonly stolen from vehicles include GPS units, iPods, MP3s, cell phones and chargers, briefcases, backpacks, keys and access cards, garage door openers, gym bags, clothing, address books, SUV third row seats, catalytic converters, wheels and tires.

Be on the lookout: Report suspicious people or vehicles in your neighborhood. Report suspicious persons wandering around looking into vehicles as they walk. Wait until your security gate or garage door closes before leaving your residential parking area.

Remember: If the crime is "in progress," call 9-1-1. To report an auto burglary that has already occurred and if the suspect is gone, call the Police Department non-emergency number: (310) 458-8491.

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