

Siesta Hills Neighborhood Association

SHNA - A sunny place in the Southwest May 2015

www.siestahills.org

News around SHNA

Annual Meeting May 9th at CUMC 10-12 AM

Please mark your calendars for the Annual meeting Saturday May 9th at 10 AM. We will invite the APD Lieutenant Swanson, Maggie Stebbins, Ray Garduno and CB&I from and will elect new board members.

Security – Break-in's. Two on Ridgecrest PL. this last Thursday one at 4 am another at 2pm.

Friday night we had two officers combing our neighborhood, they parked near my house and patrolled on bikes. We talked together and have learned a little more about these guys. There are two vehicles that work the burglary a red Chrysler Sebring (Updated) and a silver Ford/Nissan small pickup with the extended cab and covered bed. (See Below these images are the actual vehicles used)

The red car cruises past the house and parks in front (He may have another silver grey car with a damaged front bumper). The intruder gets out and goes to the door. If there is no answer he switches his shirt, as we saw on video he pulled a red shirt over a Comcast like shirt. He then breaks in somewhere. At that time the small pickup comes back and forth. This car is the spotter. If he sees something he honks his horn and his intruder friend gets out and drives away. We captured the horn honk on surveillance camera video.

The police believe this red car/truck is the same person(s) they were looking for near Lomas and Washington.

The break-in have happened in broad daylight. The officers told us they have entered houses with the residents working in their yards.

Please keep your eyes open. If you see these guys call 242-cops immediately, tell them you are in Siesta Hills. Try to get a license plate, but do not interfere with them.

Grey Spotter Truck Mazda with bed cover



Red Chrysler Sebring



Suspect in Red Car



Dear Neighbors,

As many of you know, Precious Gifts Foundation has rented the house at Lovelace and Hertz. This is transitional housing for up to 8 women coming out of treatment for substance abuse. Currently, there are five women in residence and full-time staff with one full time on-site.

Members of the Siesta Hills Board and several people living immediately adjacent to the house met at Pete Stromberg's house Wednesday, April 29th, to discuss this and to prepare a report for the community before the Annual Meeting on May 9th. We want to be sure everyone has accurate information and is aware of the various issues involved.

Pete Stromberg and Molly Grady met three of the residents and three staff members at the Neighborhood Clean-up on April 25th, when they came to volunteer. There has been no official notice to the neighborhood association, although the owner of the house and the director of the program have talked to some of the immediate neighbors. At that time they showed us a plaque of appreciation from their previous neighborhood, which they left because the owner was selling the house.

They have gone through the process of getting permission from the City and we were told the program is considered a "permissive use" of the property in an R-1 zone. Our Covenants are not clear on the issue and may not be not enforceable in court.

SHNA has sought legal advice and more information on covenants and zoning

restrictions, and we are waiting for definitive answers. In the meantime, SHNA members are contacting the previous neighborhood association to follow up on their experience.

Many of us expressed support for people working to turn their lives around. At the same time, we all share concerns for safety and the value of our homes. Additionally, we are concerned about the number of empty houses in the neighborhood. We certainly need to address the recent increase in crime in the neighborhood, but believe that to be unrelated.

Steve Pierce had a similar experience in Michigan. The neighborhood welcomed the residents but established a very clear criteria for neighborhood behavior and the interaction became very positive. In fact that house became supportive of that association helping elders with leaf collection etc. Precious Gifts has a similar policy, and expect their members to join and help in neighborhood committees.

We have posted the documents that Precious Gifts Foundation has presented SHNA at our website. They will be at the annual meeting and you can talk to them at that time. They have an open house scheduled for May 30th. Please read all of the documents to be well informed. If you do not have internet access, we will have hard copies at the annual meeting.

<http://www.siestahills.org/>

Click on the "Related Links" and look for the documents we have received on PGF

<https://www.facebook.com/PreciousGiftsFoundation?fref=ts>