



Fall 2009

City-wide Neighborhood Watch Meeting

Block Captains Updated on Plans, Resources

Back in July, the City of Colorado Springs sponsored a general meeting for neighborhood watch block captains from all over the city. The well-attended meeting provided an opportunity for public safety officials to reiterate how much they value their partnership with citizens, and update the block captains on the status of crime trends and other issues.

In the traffic arena, there was discussion about the “Photo Red” and “Photo Radar” programs that may be implemented. Photo Red would involve photos of vehicles that run red lights, in particular at the City’s 25 most

dangerous intersections. The photo would trigger a ticket sent by mail. Photo Radar would operate the same way, but would target speeders.

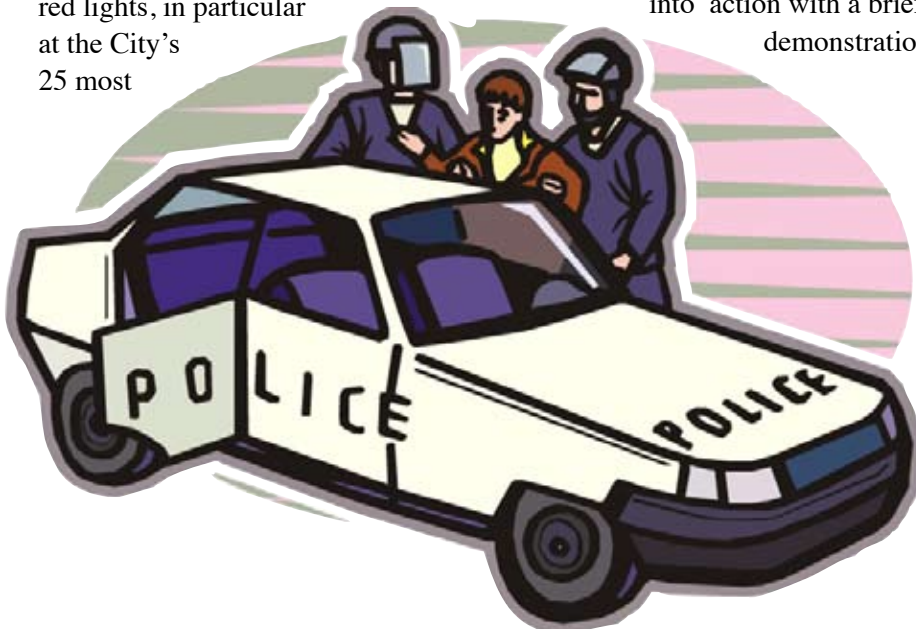
“With Neighborhood Watch and other citizen input, our officers can do their jobs more effectively. On behalf of all officers and staff, I thank you for your efforts to make Colorado Springs a safer community.”

Richard W. Myers
Chief of Police,
City of Colorado Springs

At the time of the meeting, these two photo programs had not gone live; traffic law enforcement is still handled primarily by motorcycle policemen.

The K-9 unit presented an overview of their responsibilities, which include in-process felonies, crimes involving weapons, and field or urban searches. The staff put the dogs into action with a brief live demonstration.

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Some Interesting Facts About Safety in Colorado Springs

- Colorado Springs is one of safest cities of its size.
- 60% of City budget is invested in public safety.
- Colorado Springs police and firefighters cover **236 square miles**.
- Property crime is declining.
- Current crime trends involve crimes through **open garage doors, unlocked house doors, and car thefts from garages**.
- City will replace smoke detector batteries - call **385-5950**.
- Colorado Springs K-9 unit is largest in state (9 teams.)
- CSPD/FD are available to do educational presentations to groups.

President's Corner



Hello Neighbors:

I hope everyone is having a good start to the fall season. It seems like just yesterday we were in the middle of summer with warm weather, summer vacation and longer daylight hours. Now we've had our first cold snap, students are immersed in their school routines, and we have sweaters at arm's reach — it's fall in Colorado!

A friendly reminder to everyone who drives in the neighborhood: Please take extra care when driving near and around the neighborhood schools. Too often, the majority of speeders are residents who are in a rush coming and going from errands and home. Please slow down and take extra caution for pedestrians when driving in and around the Old North End.

A special thank you to the Old North End Community Development Committee for planning the 3rd Annual Old North End garden party in September, and in particular to **Caren** and **Jay McCurty** for sharing their beautiful home and garden with their ONEN neighbors. We appreciate the time and effort that goes into this function every year.

For anyone interested in researching the history of your Old North End home, consider attending the upcoming historic house plaque workshop in early November,

put on by ONEN's Historic Preservation Committee. You can contact **Tamara Higgins**: tamhig35@yahoo.com or **Pat Doyle** at PDoyle@oldnorthend.org for more details.

With cooler weather comes the return of electric space heaters, wood fires and candles to help keep our sometimes drafty homes warm. Don't forget to change out the batteries for your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. With your family, construct and review a fire escape plan to include what to do and where to go in case of a house fire.

Security and neighborhood watch is a responsibility that every Old North End resident shares. If you see or experience something unusual, or witness strange behavior, please don't hesitate to call the Colorado Springs Police at 911 if it's an emergency and **444-7000** for non-emergencies. You can also report abnormal behavior or tomfoolery to Cheyenne Mountain Security - their telephone number is **548-9990**. Often Cheyenne Mountain Security is already within the neighborhood and may at times respond faster than CSPD. Regardless, do not take a chance with the security of the neighborhood. If you witness something that seems wrong or uncommon, please report it.

The next **Old North End Neighborhood wide meeting** is **October 21st, 2009 7:00PM** at **Slocum Commons on the Colorado College campus**. Slocum Commons is located between Tejon and Nevada Ave on Cache La Poudre St. (north side of the street). Hope to see you there!

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2009 Garden Party: A Dripping Good Time Enjoyed by All

ONEN extends a big thank-you to **Caren** and **Jay McCurty** for hosting the third annual neighborhood garden party on September 12, 2009. A steady downpour took the party out of the garden and onto the McCurty's capacious verandah, where more than 175 guests sampled delicious hors d'oeuvres and a selection of wines poured by **Vintages**.

Thanks to all who made this popular event possible.

Garden Party Committee:

Molly Cassidy, Chris Conley, Dawn Conley, Becky Heck, Tom Heck, Sherry Landwehr, Shane McCarthy, Chris Vadala, Khristine Prickett-Vadala, Linette Sheridan, Phyllis Smith, Amy Stephenson, Clint Waltman, Stephanie Waltman.

And of course, our participating ONEN and event sponsors: **Bestway Disposal, Rich Designs Home, and Vintages.**

Music performed by **The Escape (Baniel Brunett, Michael Claus, Alexander Cipoletti, Joe Darpino, Ian Martinez, Tyler Romero.)**



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Traffic Concerns Reviewed

Next Step: Submit Proposal for Traffic Management Program

In conjunction with the regular ONEN board meeting in September, residents and members of the ONEN Streetscape and Noise committee discussed applying for a city-sponsored neighborhood traffic-calming project. **Dave Krauth**, city traffic engineer, attended the meeting to clarify the City's approach to such projects in the current budget environment, and help the group understand how to most effectively proceed with an application.

The broad neighborhood consensus is that there is indeed a dangerous traffic environment in the Old North End, exacerbated by

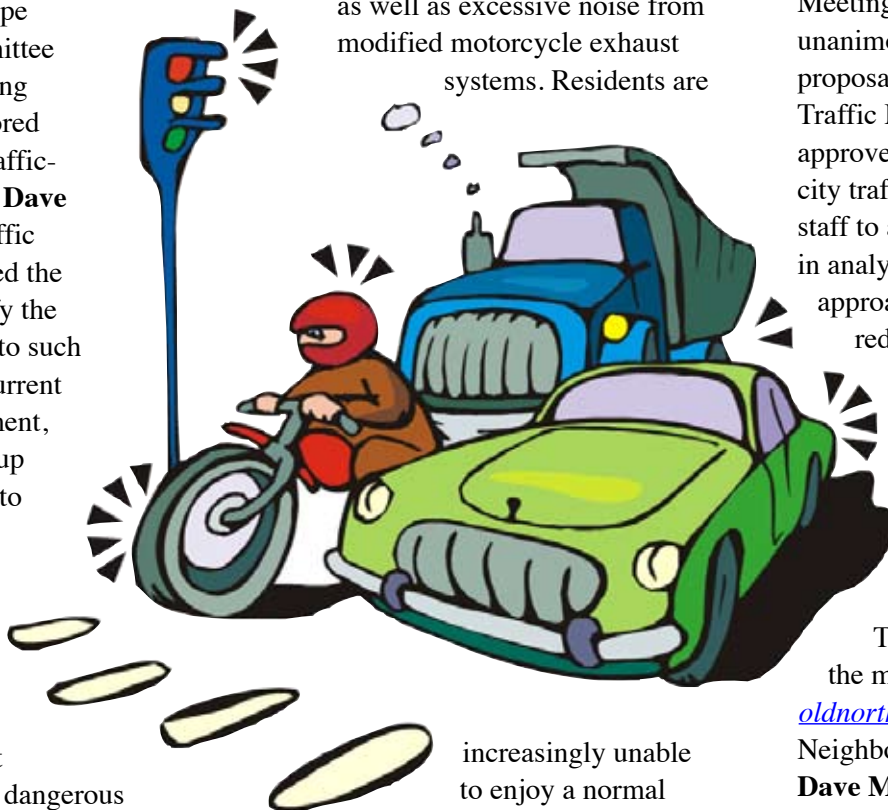
high traffic volumes on north/south streets, consistent and pervasive speeding and transport truck traffic, as well as excessive noise from modified motorcycle exhaust systems. Residents are

increasingly unable to enjoy a normal residential living environment and school children

and cyclists in particular are endangered by the current situation.

Meeting participants voted unanimously to proceed with the proposal for the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. If approved, this project would permit city traffic engineering and planning staff to assist the Old North End in analyzing and developing an approach to calming traffic and reducing speeding throughout the neighborhood. Given budget woes, it is likely that much of the cost of implementing such a program would be borne by the Old North End Neighborhood.

To review full text of the meeting report, visit oldnorthend.org and check the "Our Neighborhood" tab, or contact **Dave Munger** or **Jeanie Sims** directly (*see contact listings on p.2.*)



Please Consider Paying Dues to ONEN

All contributions are voluntary and tax-deductible. Dues start at just \$35.00. \$65 dues payment provides additional funds for trees and our neighborhood security service.

Your dues payment covers one year from the time of payment and helps us support the objectives of the ONEN Master Plan to protect and enhance our Neighborhood.

Please make checks payable to Old North End Neighborhood or ONEN.

Names: _____ E-mail: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Year first moved to the Old North End: _____ Telephone: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

**Please mail this form and your contribution to Old North End Neighborhood,
P.O Box 8185, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80933-8185
e-mail: admin@oldnorthend.org**

Nip and Tuck for Historic McWilliams House

Rehab Project Has Many Ties to Old North End

After 110 years, the elaborate Late Victorian/Queen Anne style house at 601 North Tejon Street needs a face-lift. The building serves as the parish office for Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, which counts many ONEN residents among its parishioners. Sagging verandas, rotting wooden pillars and floorboards and other structural problems are the most visible evidence that TLC for the historic structure is long overdue.

According to **Spot Holmes**, long-time North End resident and parish member, **"the McWilliams House rehabilitation project will preserve this significant landmark for generations of residents in the historic North End community."** To help fund the restoration of this community treasure, Grace and St. Stephen's is seeking historic designation for McWilliams House from the City of Colorado Springs and pursuing grant support from the Colorado State Historical Society.

The historical importance of McWilliams House to Colorado Springs originates with the



McWilliams House, at 601 N. Tejon Street, serves as the parish office for Grace & St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The church is seeking historic designation for McWilliams House from the City of Colorado Springs and pursuing grant support from the Colorado State Historical Society.

City's mining heyday back in the 1890's, when money poured into town from the Cripple Creek region. Built for a cost of \$40,000, it was one of the most expensive houses of that boom era. The house was built for Mr. and Mrs. George Bernard, local grocers who made a fortune by grubstaking miners in exchange for shares of any discoveries. The Bernards' Elkton mine produced more than \$16 million in gold and made millionaires of seven men, including Old North End resident Eugene Shove, who donated Shove Chapel to Colorado College. A prominent local architect, Augustus J. Smith, designed McWilliams House. Smith also designed the original El Paso County Courthouse, which now serves as the Pioneers Museum, and Jackson House on the Colorado College campus.

Since its purchase by Grace and St. Stephen's parish in 1969, McWilliams House has been the headquarters for the parish and over 30 local and international outreach missions. It also provides practice and performance space for numerous musical programs, including the Taylor Memorial Concert Series.

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CC Student Garden Project Blooms

Diverse Crops Flourish with Rain, TLC

If you happen to be strolling the Monument Valley Park trail just north of the Uintah bridge, take a peek over the chain link fence for a look at what might be the neighborhood's most comprehensive garden. Wrapping up its second season, the CC Student Garden project has provided student gardeners with an opportunity to work and manage all aspects of a market garden, and learn firsthand about climate and soil challenges in the Front Range.

According to faculty advisor **Dr. Miro Kummel**, the garden is an entirely student-driven initiative. "They decide what to plant, they manage the work schedules, and they participate in fundraising." Kummel brings to the table extensive gardening experience from the Czech republic. "I grew up in a family of gardeners, and we were fortunate to have a good size garden. This garden served us

well at a time when good food was not readily available." Kummel teaches environmental science.

The CC garden arrived at its present site after an earlier iteration at Venetucci Farms. While there was excellent support at Venetucci Farms, the travel logistics of that location made it untenable. Aside from proximity to campus, the key to success for the present project is sponsorship and fundraising to enable student gardeners to commit through the entire season. The team aims for further continuity by recruiting gardeners as freshmen or sophomores so they can maintain their involvement for several seasons.

Organic and Sustainable

The garden is completely organic, and applies a variety of approaches for pest control and soil sustainability. For example, you'll see rows of chamomile flowers in the center of the garden, to attract the predator insects that feed on vegetable-eating pests. Using a time-honored crop rotation strategy, the gardeners plant beans, followed by tomatoes, then cabbages, and finally potatoes or carrots. The beans rejuvenate the soil with nitrogen, which the tomatoes need to thrive. The cabbages require lesser

amounts of nitrogen, and the root vegetables can still grow well in fairly depleted soil.

Production from the garden goes directly to CC's Bon Appetit food services for use in various campus kitchens – minus a basket or two the gardeners themselves take home to enjoy! Bon Appetit is one of the garden project sponsors; the other primary sponsor is the Colorado Home and Garden Show.



Two Araucana hens in the garden's free-range coop. The chickens feed on garden compost, with eggs collected for use in Bon Appetit kitchens.



Student gardeners **Elise Hellwig** and **Alix Hudson** harvest basil for use in the Bon Appetit campus kitchens at CC.

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You're in the **Old North End Neighborhood** if:

- You live in the shaded area shown on the map on the right.
- You received this newsletter by mail or e-mail.

The Old North End Neighborhood includes all of the Historic Old North End District and part of the North Weber/Wahsatch Historic District. It also includes many blocks north, east, and west of those areas. The Old North End Neighborhood Association serves all of the area shown as shaded on this map (roughly bounded by **MVP, the tracks, Shooks Run and the alley east of Wahsatch, and Uintah**)



Yes on 2C

ONEN Board Votes to Support 2C, Oppose 300

With a projected budget shortfall of \$25.4 million in 2010, the City of Colorado Springs is poised to make significant cuts to all City departments, including police and fire, parks, transit and basic street maintenance. These cuts, on top of measures already taken, will have a significant detrimental effect on public safety, property values and overall quality of life in our community.

Your ONEN board endorses ballot issue 2C as a reasonable measure designed to “stop the bleeding” with a mill levy increase, rather than try to solve all the problems. The measure is designed with the intent to keep City departments at the 2009 funding levels, and prevent further degradation of our City’s services and assets. Find more information about 2C at www.acityworthfightingfor.com.

The board also voted to oppose ballot issue 300, a Douglas Bruce-authored initiative, which would phase out the city’s collection of an annual payment in lieu of taxes from Colorado Springs Utilities, thus further reducing City revenues by an additional \$25 million each year.

The Old North End Neighborhood
P. O. Box 8185
Colorado Springs, CO 80933

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ONEN House Research Workshop
Saturday, Nov 7, 2009
9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade Ave.
RSVP: by Nov 3rd to
Tamara Higgins, 244-8981

ONEN Fall Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2009
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Slocum Commons CC Campus. Corner of
Cache La Poudre & Tejon St.

Holiday Caroling
December date and time TBD
Steele School Gazebo

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3rd Annual Garden Party: Neighbors enjoyed a sumptuous spread of appetizers and wines under the welcome cover of the McCurdy's veranda.