

VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Public Meeting

August 8, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Four Corners Room/Community Center

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Officer Brian Parsley addressed us:

- Bikes are routinely stolen from the Village, mostly by non-residents who come in looking for bikes to take. You can protect yourself from bike theft by doing the following:
 - Invest in a high-quality lock. A solid U-shaped lock is much, much better than a cable lock. If you have an expensive bike, keep it in your apartment or in your storage closet.
 - Register your bike or at least record your serial number. If your bike is stolen and recovered, you will not be able to get it back unless you know the serial number. To find the serial number, turn your bike over and look near the hub. Record the 7 or 8 digits on the bike.
 - If your bike is stolen, call the Village office and leave a message about it for Brian.
- Please don't park your 2nd or 3rd cars in guest spots. It makes it very difficult for people to come visit the Village and is a violation of your rental agreement. Instead, you can park on Monroe in any of the spaces blacked out for up to 72 hours. You may park on Jackson St. overnight.
- Please don't park in front of Ocean View during school hours.
- Don't park in friend's space when they move out of Village. If you do that, you may be towed or ticketed.
- Use caution when parking on 8th St. There have been occasional burglaries and car thefts out there. Make sure you have a steering wheel club if you park there; many car models are easy to break into using a fake key.
- If someone is parked in your parking spot, call the police department at 642-6760. Be prepared to tell them the license plate number, color and make of the car, and your parking space number. UCPD will come tow the offending vehicle.

COMMUNITY NEWS

- The Village Festival will be held on Sunday, Sep 16 from 12:00 – 3:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer, please contact a resident advisor. There will be pony rides, a petting zoo, free food, a jumping castle, face painting, and entertainment. There will also be an information booth.

EMERGENCY PREPARATION

Sandy Weeks, Albany's Emergency Preparedness Community Outreach Specialist, spoke with us about preparing for an earthquake or other disaster:

- The most important principle to remember in disaster preparation is that NO ONE will be able to come help you for a period of time after a large-scale earthquake or other natural disaster. YOU are the only one that can make sure that your family has food and water for the first several days. It usually takes several days for outside help to reach the area, and all the usual government services like fire departments, etc., will be either busy helping other people, or out of commission because their staff is busy helping their own family. You need to prepare to be self-sufficient for 3-5 days in the wake of a disaster.
- You should decide with your family on a meeting-place in the event of an earthquake. Your apartment, for example, or the Community Center would be good choices.
- Often, making local calls is more difficult than out-of-state calls. Decide on an out-of-state relative or friend that you and your family members will call in case of a disaster when you are separated. If a disaster occurs, call that number and have that person pass on the information that you are okay to everyone who calls.
- If a disaster happens during school hours, the school will keep the children there until a parent comes to pick them up.
- Many earthquake-related injuries happen when people are in bed at night. Look around your bed and see if you have any unsecured bookshelves that could fall on you. Are there any heavy vases or objects that could fall and hit you? Framed art or pictures on the wall?
- Many people jump out of bed when an earthquake happens and run to their children in the other room. This can be a problem if the earthquake has broken a window and there is broken glass on the floor. Keep a pair of shoes near your bed in order to protect your feet if this happens.
- In the event that you smell gas, you should shut it off. But ONLY do this if you smell gas. Only the gas company, PG&E, can turn the gas back on. If there is a major disaster, it could take months before they can turn everyone's gas back on.
- You should store water: 1 gallon per person per day, for 4 days. So, if you have 3 people in your family, you should store 12 gallons of water. This water is just for drinking. If you want water for washing or any other purpose, you should store more.
- In your emergency kits, you should have:
 - Nutritional long-storage food
 - Any medications your family needs
 - Money in small bills, as well as quarters for telephone calls from pay phones
 - Flashlight (Try to avoid candles if possible. They are a fire hazard, especially if there are ruptured gas lines.)
 - Radio
 - Light sticks are fun for kids
 - Batteries
 - 1st aid kit
 - Toiletries (soap, etc.)
 - Copies of personal documents

- Pictures
- A tarp or plastic sheet
- Cards or something to keep everyone entertained
- Small amounts of candy or some comforting food for kids (and adults)
- The VRA and the Albany Fire Department will arrange a shortened emergency response training course for all interested Village residents.

Prepared by:
Maile Urbancic
Sep 15, 2007