



BURLINGAME NEWS

BHA Elects Board of Directors



Sitting: Jim Velier, David McQuaide Standing: Vance Walker, Grant Merkel, Connie di Girolamo, Betty Ball, Ernie Smith

The Burlingame Homeowner's annual meeting was held at Mazara's Trattoria, our local neighborhood pizza joint. We've all come to love Mazara's - maybe that's because the owners are incredibly friendly and remember your name after a visit or two, or maybe because they supplied the pizza for our pre-meeting dining pleasure!

After dinner, Burlingame residents cast their ballots for the 2010 Board of Directors. Grant Merkel, our Board President in 2009, was running to improve the community, Ernie Smith, a 32 year resident, wanted to stay involved to keep the BHA going, Betty Ball remained on the ballot another year because she told Connie di Girolamo she would, and Connie said she would run since she doesn't have anything to do on Wed. nights. Jim Velier kept his name in the hat because he's just now getting the hang of it, David McQuaide ran because he's almost old enough to remember Burlingame's beginnings in 1912, and Vance...well Vance is there because that's where everybody wants him to be!! Burlingame residents are happy to have re-elected a Board with a sense of commitment, community, continuity, and most of all, a sense of humor!!

Also present at the meeting was Councilmember Todd Gloria and his Senior Policy Advisor Stephen Hill. Mr. Gloria gave us an update from City Hall. Due to budget

deficits and the fact that all revenues are down, Todd expressed his civic concern regarding the decision to cut back on fire protection services. North Park and Golden Hill are experiencing brownouts that have extended response times by 10 minutes. He would like to hear from residents who use these services to convey their experience. You can contact him by visiting our website at www.burlingamesd.com and scroll down to Your Elected Officials. (Continued on page 3.)

Kids' Corner

Don't you just love spring? Butterflies, flowers, and playing outside! What could be better? How about a coloring contest? Here are the rules:

1. Put your name, address and phone number on the back of the picture in this newsletter and drop it off or mail it to:

Spring Coloring Contest

3001 Kalmia St.

San Diego, CA 92104

2. On June 1, we will select a winner in each of the four categories (ages 2-4, 5-7, 8-10, 11 and up) and post photos of the winners in the Summer issue of the Burlingame Newsletter.
3. If your picture is chosen, we will publish it on the Burlingame Website for viewing with your first name and your age.
4. If you would like your picture back, you can come to 3001 Kalmia Street and pick it up.



Good luck Picassos!!

SPRING CALENDAR

BHA Monthly Meetings

April 14th

May 12th

June 9th

Burlingame Easter Egg Hunt

April 3rd - 10:00 a.m.
corner of San Marcos and
Burlingame Ave.

Burlingame Yard Sale

May 1st



BHA Board of Directors

Grant Merkel
President
619-501-4483
grantmkl@hotmail.com

Ernie Smith
Executive Secretary
619-282-9342
lentsmith@cox.net

Connie di Girolamo
Treasurer
619-281-3886
arroyoarts@cox.net

Jim Velier
Secretary
619-756-6205

Vance Walker
619-640-8262
vwancewalker@cox.net

Betty Ball
619-281-2531
b.ball1@cox.net

David McQuaide
619-528-1270
dmcquaide@cox.net

Editor's note...



Our fig tree is budding and the bougainvillea adds splashes of color to the yard. The month of April even smells good to me. Spring cleaning is a tradition that allows us to freshen up our homes and get a head start cleaning out the clutter. This Burlingame resident is usually the first on the scene for Burlingame's Dumpster Day! This year I thought I might need a little help in my spring cleaning efforts, so I decided to get my husband David involved.

Do men just play dumb when it comes to cleaning? Is this an obvious attempt to avoid any sort of housework? I used to think so, but now I think it may have something to do with a Y chromosome.

Last year my house barely survived our annual spring cleaning day. I feared the BHA would revolt and fine us for "hoarding." In fact the fire department still has us on their monthly check-in list. So this year when the time came to divvy up the chores and dig into spring cleaning, I made a cheat sheet of sorts for David to refer to:

- Broom (brum) - a long handled brush used for sweeping
- Vacuum (vak' u em) - much like the leaf blower except it sucks in, instead of blowing out. Don't let this alarm you. It isn't broken and doesn't need more torque, speed, RAM or whatever it is you did to the dishwasher.
- Dust pan (DUH) - Contrary to popular belief, this is where you sweep the dirt, not under the dining room rug.
- Dust Cloth (dust kloth) - A cloth designated for removing tiny particles of dirt from every flat surface of the house. Hint: look for your old "F.E. Trailer t-shirt".
- Bucket (buk' it)- Cylindrical container used for holding soapy water when mopping the floor. Also known as your mid-evil knight helmet when you're playing with Boyana (our neighbor's little girl who you are convinced is your granddaughter).
- Mop - (mop) a bundle of coarse yarn, rags or cloth fastened at the end of a stick. You'll remember this as your dance partner at the New Year's Eve party last year.
- Toilet Brush (toi' lit brush) - Used for scrubbing the inside of the toilet bowl. I don't care what this looks like, you may NOT use my shower luffa again!
- Oven Cleaner (uv' en Klen' er) - No, not the grand kid. This is an actual product that you buy, spray in the oven and wipe out two hours later. You won't need your welder's mask for this task, but if it makes you feel more dangerous, go ahead.
- Sponge (spunj) - used to gently wash away food particles from dinnerware. It won't be necessary to use your son-in-law's 300psi Power wash set. That was given to you in hopes of cleaning the EXTERIOR of the house (hint hint).
- Squeegee (skwe' je) - Same principle as washing the car windshield, and yes, real men DO squeegee!

Final Note: While Duct tape may be a wonderful plumber's aid, it's really not the best solution for keeping the bathroom towels in place.. For these reasons, I have hidden the duct tape and distributed your picture to the Ace hardware stores. Don't make me call Duct Tape Anonymous again.

Take your time, everything will be fine. If you need me, I'll be in the kitchen cleaning up the smoke damage from your barbecued chicken incident last week.

SPRING CLEAN UP



Clean your garage, shed, attic, & closets!

Dumpster locations:

April 24th—Juniper & 32nd Street (9 am—12 pm)

May 1st—Juniper & Commonwealth (9am—12 pm)



Sponsored by: Bobby Edelson, Century 21; North Park Christian Fellowship; Allied Waste

Continued from page 1...

All news isn't bad news, however. There were 60 miles of roads that were paved in Todd's district last October and there are two new parks coming. Following the update, our council member opened the floor for the following discussions:

1. Waste removal costs the city \$54 million dollars. Charging for trash collection could help to bring down costs, but is an issue that would have to be voted on. "Pay as you throw" is a consideration, especially as the Miramar landfill will eventually close.
2. Golf balls have been coming into Dog Park. Mr. Gloria has promised to look into this.
3. The Mills Act is still in place, although fees have been increased and it takes longer to be instated.

Before the meeting was adjourned, Ernie Smith provided an overview of the Neighborhood Watch program. Please see page six for a description of the program and how you can get involved.

Burlingame Welcomes New Fur Neighbor:

By Jake di Girolamo



I've thought about it and I've decided to move in with Pete and Connie di Girolamo and make Burlingame my new home. I was born in Fallbrook, so when the

di Girolamos came to get me, I was a bit apprehensive about the long drive home. I admit it – I'm a "queasy" rider. I was really scared I might get in trouble after I threw up in the car. I vowed right then and there that if I didn't get hollered at, I'd poop in the yard and pee in the grass to make my new parents proud. Sometimes I have accidents though, so I have a few rules that I have to obey to be a good Burlingame fur neighbor:

- Learn to be kind to cats.
- Go to mom the first time she says "here."
- Chew on toys, not shoes.

If you see me in the yard, throw me the ball!!

Burlingame in the News!

Television, newspapers, magazines, internet...Burlingame is in the news!! Our community is home to many architectural treasures.



In the KPBS television series "San Diego's Historic Places" aired in September 2008, the homes of Vance Walker, Will Nebbit and Judy Smith were shown.



An article titled *Pink sidewalks give way to 'tract of character'* in the *San Diego Uptown News* Feb. 5-18 referenced our historical neighborhood, highlighting the homes of Ernie and Corey Smith, Hank Sullivan and Gayle Murphy, Mike and Deb Morrison, and Richard Krauzlis and Laura Middleton.

Sharon Cohoon, *Sunset* senior garden writer featured Dee Randolph and David McQuaide's front yard in her "Fresh Dirt" blog titled *Garden renovation doesn't stop at the front door* on January 12,

<http://freshdirt.sunset.com/2010/01/garden-renovation-doesnt-stop-at-the-front-door.html> and again in an article titled *Eye Candy* on her February 22 blog. <http://freshdirt.sunset.com/2010/02/eye-candy-from-the-web.html>





If you haven't had a chance to see Bill and Jenny Nunnick's beautiful patio, you still have two chances to view their outdoor space! The March issue of Better Homes and Gardens highlights Jenny's creativity in the *in every issue* section under "I did it!" picturing her tile design and artistry. If you missed the March issue, you can join us for the Burlingame April Happy Hour the Nunnick's will be hosting!



The first house in Burlingame, located on Maple Street, owned by Mike and Deb Morrison, is featured in the North Park Historical Society's 2010 calendar for the month of September. Calendars are available for \$19.99 and can be purchased on-line at www.northparkhistory.org.

Earthquake Preparedness



In the past several weeks earthquakes have shaken the people of Haiti, Chile and Turkey. Although we are all familiar with the San Andreas fault that runs through California, San Diego County has a number of active earthquake faults as

well. In recent years there have been several earthquakes recorded within the Rose Canyon Fault that passes beneath the city. Three temblors shook the city on 17 June 1985 (M3.9, 4.0, 3.9) and a stronger quake occurred on 28 October 1986 (M4.7). The *Putting Down Roots in Earthquake Country* handbook lists "Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety" that are especially important for Burlingame residents, as our homes pre-date earthquake safety standards.

Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety

Step 1: Secure it now!

Reducing and/or eliminating hazards throughout your home and neighborhood can greatly reduce your risk of injury or death following the next earthquake. Conduct a "hazard hunt" to help identify and fix things such as unsecured televisions, computers, bookcases, furniture, unstrapped water heaters, etc. Securing these items now will help to protect you tomorrow.

Step 2: Make a plan

Planning for an earthquake is not much different from planning for a party or vacation. Make sure that your emergency plan includes evacuation and reunion plans; your out-of-state contact person's name and number; the location of your emergency supplies and other pertinent information. By planning now, you will be ready for the next emergency.

Step 3: Make disaster kits!

Everyone should have disaster supply kits stored in accessible locations at home, at work, and in your vehicle. Having emergency supplies readily available can reduce the impact of an earthquake on you and your family. Your disaster supply kits should include food, water, flashlights, portable radios, batteries, a first aid kit, cash, extra medications, a whistle, fire extinguisher, etc.

Step 4: Is your place safe?

Most houses are not as safe as they could be. Whether you are a homeowner or a renter, there are things that you can do to improve the structural integrity of your home. Some of the things that you might consider checking include inadequate foundations, un-braced cripple walls, soft first stories, unreinforced masonry and vulnerable pipes. Consult a contractor or engineer to help you identify your building's weaknesses and begin to fix them now.

Step 5: DROP, COVER, and HOLD ON!

Learn what to do during an earthquake, whether you're at home, at work, at school or just out and about. Taking the proper actions, such as "Drop, Cover, and Hold On", can save lives and reduce your risk of death or injury. During earthquakes, drop to the floor, take cover under a sturdy desk or table, and hold on to it firmly. Be prepared to move with it until the shaking stops.

Step 6: Check it out!

One of the first things you should do following a major disaster is to check for injuries and damages that need immediate attention. Make sure you are trained in first aid and in damage assessment techniques. You should be able to administer first aid and to identify hazards such as damaged gas, water, sewage and electrical lines. Be prepared to report damage to city or county government.

Step 7: Communicate and recover!

Following a major disaster, communication will be an important step in your recovery efforts. Turn on your portable radio for information and safety advisories. If your home is damaged, contact your insurance agent right away to begin your claims process. For most Presidentially declared disasters, resources will also be available from federal, state, and local government agencies.

What is the Burlingame Club?

We are a group of women of ALL ages, living in Burlingame, who meet once a month (third Thursday at 7pm) for conversation, education and activities. Every woman in Burlingame can belong to the Burlingame Club! Every woman can attend a meeting or event, whether a member or not!



Since the Club started in 1913, the women of the neighborhood have joined in a wide array of activities and programs to “promote social fellowship among the residents of Burlingame and to stimulate the spirit of civic improvement”. What gets done is up to the membership. Here is a selection of the past few years’ activities or programs:

- Burlingame Home Tours (now planning for Centennial 2012)
- Easter Egg Hunts
- 211 access to community health & human services
- Women’s journaling & story telling
- Women’s History Museum & Educational Center
- BHA Welcome packet distribution
- New Roots Community Farm for refugees & immigrants in City Heights
- Collection for Rachel’s House as part of “Make a Difference Day”
- Valentine bags for ElderHelp
- Green architecture in San Diego
- North Park Historical Society
- Women’s Empowerment International
- Voices for Children & CASA
- Urban vegetable gardening
- Marston House tour & lunch, celebrating Jan Russell’s birthday
- Disaster preparedness in the home
- Western Service Workers Association collection & donation
- December Cookie Exchange

Women join the Burlingame Club for several reasons: to get to know each other, help each other, visit in different homes, work together on a charitable project, learn something new about our neighborhood, and connect with neighborhoods of North & South Park.

Join us with *YOUR* ideas for women of Burlingame!

There are two more meeting this year:

April 15, 7pm: Discuss the 2010 One Book One San Diego, *Outcasts United*; Ginny Sherwood’s home at 2403 San Marcos

May 20, 7pm: Pot Luck Dinner for members & guests; Tricia Garland’s home at 2535 San Marcos

Regular meetings will resume September 16, 2010. Locations to be announced.

If you would like more information, please contact Ginny Sherwood 280-1682.

BHA President-Grant Merkel



The Burlingame Homeowner’s Association has elected Grant Merkel president for the second year running. Grant has lived in Burlingame off and on since 2000. He met his wife Lynn at the dog park in 1998.

After the Merckels were married and several homes later, the couple rented a house on Palm Ave. by Switzer Canyon. A mutual love of the neighborhood, convenient location, and mutual friends in the Burlingame community motivated the Merckels to purchase their 1938 Spanish Revival home on 32nd Street in 2006. Attracted by the double curved front porch that forms a shape like the top of a heart on the outside, they were happy to see that it had retained many of the original features inside as well; wood floors, coved ceilings, and picture rails. Because Grant believes in investing his time talents and energy in the community where he lives, he made the personal effort to contribute to the greater good he wanted to see by joining the Board and accepting a leadership role. His job as a Federal Employee working for a Navy Research, Development and Acquisition Command takes him out of town frequently, but he always looks forward to returning home to his wife and two canine “fur kids.” Grant enjoys the Padres and Chargers, and working on his house. He looks forward to serving on the BHA board in 2010 to maintain and improve the quality of our neighborhood.

McKinley's Annual Spring Carnival

Saturday, April 10th from 12:00 to 5:00

Carnival Rides and Games, Great Food, Free Live Music and Entertainment,

Silent Auction and Raffles

Corner of Felton and Palm Streets

All proceeds will be used to support McKinley Elementary's Music, Arts, and Enrichment Programs

McKinley's Annual Alumni Reunion

Saturday, May 1st from 1:00 to 4:00 in the McKinley Auditorium

Alumni from the last 6 decades will be returning to reminisce and celebrate their times at McKinley Elementary School. Come share memories and reunite with old classmates and teachers. Light refreshments and entertainment provided.

Cost is \$5. For more info, e-mail mckinleyptc@yahoo.com or call Joyce Abrams at 858-459-5370 or email her at nautilus@san.rr.com

Police Activity in (or over) Burlingame



One of the most effective assets in the San Diego Police Department's arsenal is A.B.L.E.;

San Diego PD's Airborne Law Enforcement helicopter. A.B.L.E. responds to a myriad of calls daily from raging gun battles to illegally parked vehicles. They

police our city like every other police officer, but they do it from a thousand feet up.

That occasional but familiar 'fwap-fwap' sound over Burlingame often arouses curiosity for some and concern for others. While there is no need to be overly concerned over the presence of A.B.L.E., it's never a bad idea to exercise a couple of simple safety precautions, at least until the police activity is concluded and especially if A.B.L.E.'s presence is accompanied by police cars cruising the neighborhood.

If you customarily leave your doors open and/or unattended, take a moment to secure them then call SDPD's NON EMERGENCY number at 619-531-2000. Give the dispatcher your name and address and describe A.B.L.E.'s approximate location, this will give the dispatcher an idea which police frequency A.B.L.E. is on. Ask the dispatcher what A.B.L.E. is doing. If by chance, they're looking for a suspect on the run, ask for the description. There are times when privacy issues such as domestic violence preclude their ability to divulge some information, however, in general, the Police Department appreciates and relies on the eyes and ears of the community to help them do their job, so with few exceptions, you will likely receive full cooperation from them.

Burlingame Neighborhood Watch Program

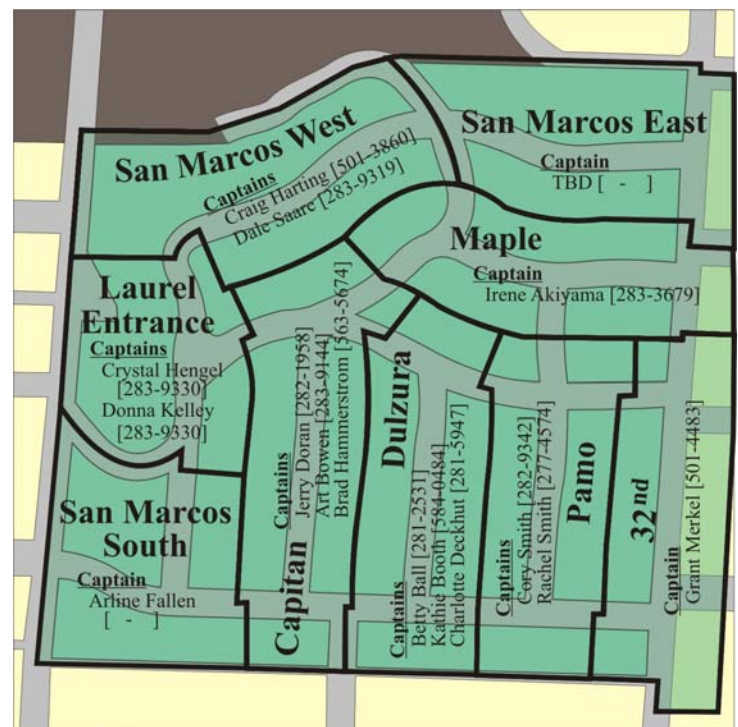


The Burlingame Homeowner's Association has organized a formal Neighborhood Watch Program. We are fortunate to live in a safe neighborhood, but organized neighborhood watch programs are a proven way of sustaining safe neighborhoods and making them safer.

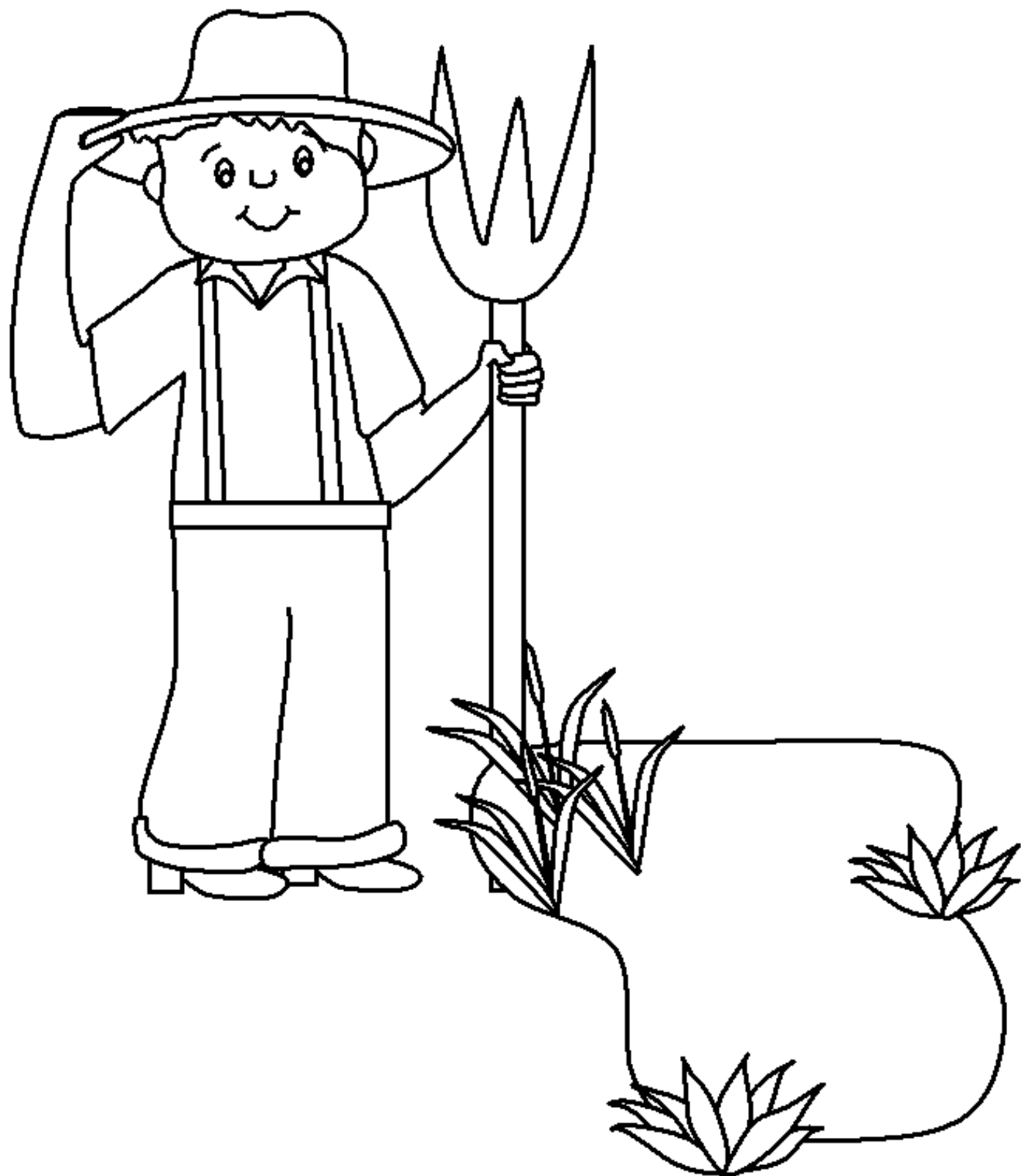
Generally, Neighborhood Watch is "neighbors looking out for neighbors." We have divided Burlingame into nine Precincts. A Precinct is a small section of the community where all of the homes have "line of sight" to other homes on the block.

To date, four of the nine precincts have held meetings and have begun to organize their blocks. These four are Pamo, Maple, Delzura and San Marcos West. Each of the other blocks is in various stages of preparation. If you have any questions regarding any aspect of this program, please contact one of the Neighborhood Watch committee members:

Connie di Girolam 281-3886
Betty Ball 281-2535



Correction: Maureen Ostrich was the host of last years' Christmas Caroling Party, not Maureen Cavanagh, as was reported in the 2010 Winter newsletter.



Q: Why did the farmer plant a seed in his pond?

A: He was trying to grow a water-melon.