



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes From the President

First of all, my apologies for missing the last general meeting. You know those days where you just can't seem to get caught up with yourself? Well, that was one of those days.

Congratulations to those of you who did attend and took the Heart Safe Training provided by the City of San Jose! SONA residents became the first in the district to take advantage of this free training and we now have 20 people who are certified and who took home kits to train others. I can't express how important this training could be in saving a life of a loved one or neighbor and will be interested in hearing how many people go on to train others. The program is available for groups, schools and associations and is meant to not just train people, but train the attendees to train others. What a great opportunity for us all.

Our 2009-2010 Board of Directors was elected at our last meeting. Welcome to our newest board member and welcome back to the returning members. Our Board has a busy year ahead of us with a variety of projects.

We could use a couple volunteers to help Michael work on our August fundraiser, an electronics recycling event. I know that we have all had flyers for free events left on our doors lately, but I would ask that you please hold onto those cell phones, printers, computers, monitors and other pieces of electronics until August. We will be conducting a free event for you to drop off these items and the more we collect, the more funds we can raise. We are in the process of partnering with San Jose City College on this project and will be splitting the proceeds with them. We need to collect a significant amount to cover costs, so start gathering these items from your family and friends as well.

What would life be like if we could resolve issues before they became issues? Wow, think how much time we'd have to go out and play. Sometimes we get to the point where having a third party step in and help is a good idea. The County of Santa Clara has a Dispute Resolution program that handles a variety of issues. If you want to learn more, come to our next SONA meeting.

Speaking of issues, we will take time at our next meeting to talk about San Jose City College and get caught up. Thanks to all the SONA members who are working on this.

I recently attended a number of meetings regarding new development nearby. While building housing down by the old Del Monte Cannery may not seem to be a SONA issue, remember the new residents and businesses will be using the same freeways we do.

Remember, this is your neighborhood and your neighborhood association. We are here to help each other make every part of our neighborhood a great place to live and work. To do that, we must talk to each other, listen to each other and work together. Your problems are our problems.

See you at the meeting.....Randi

SONA

General Meeting

Thursday

May 14, 2009

6:30pm

Coffee and Social Time

7:00pm

Welcome

7:05pm

San Jose PD

If Available

7:15pm

Dolores Morales

Dispute Resolution

Santa Clara County

7:30pm

Update on

San Jose City College

8:15pm Adjourn

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Ave. SJ CA 95128

Notes and News

If you have questions about what's going on in San Jose and want records of a meeting, the City Manager has set up a new website link that allows you to request items online instead of going down to City Hall.

Visit www.sanjoseca.gov/openGovernment

And, remember, if you go to City Hall during the day or for an evening meeting, parking is free in the underground garage. There are validation machines at all offices and in the rotunda. Don't park in the retail area across the street and don't feed the meter on the street or at the 4th Street Garage.

With San Jose officially over the 1,000,000 mark, it's more important than ever to make sure our census data is accurate. Help spread the word that when the data collectors come calling it doesn't matter who you are, it just matters that you give accurate information. We depend on the funds allocated to us from the State and Federal governments to keep services rolling.

Have an old mercury thermometer? You can trade that in for a new digital one for free. The City of San Jose's Environmental Services department has free exchanges at community centers around the city. The next one is at the Southside Community Center on Cottle Road on May 20. You can get more information by calling 945-3000 or visit the website at www.sanjoseca.gov

Don't throw out those old light bulbs or household

batteries. Store them and when you have a collection, you can drop them off at a free Household Hazardous Waste site. This goes for paint can, car batteries, household chemicals, hypodermic needles and more. For more information call 299.7300 or visit the web at www.hhw.org for a list of materials and drop off sites.

Used and unused medical supplies and medications should never be flushed down the toilet or thrown into the landfill. You can drop them off at multiple locations nearby:

VHC at Bascom Pharmacy

750 S. Bascom Ave

VHC at Moorpark Pharmacy

2400 Moorpark Avenue

Outpatient Pharmacy

751 S. Bascom Ave

Enborg Lane Pharmacy

2221 Enborg Lane

Thanks to our new and renewing members!

William & Celena Jhun, Carol & Ken Cooper, Anne Kearney, Susan & Victor Price-Jang, Nhut Tuu Tran & Thanh Loan Nuyen, Patty Massa, and Laura Duncan

PRESIDENT, Randi Kinman	835.2881	randikinman@yahoo.com
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Website	www.sona-sj.com	

SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to almost 1500 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation and comments.

SONA Newsletter Editor: Randi Kinman
SONA Website Administrator: Patrick Solmon

San Jose City College Update

SONA residents met several times outside of our general meetings during the last few months to develop a strategic response to the Subsequent Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIR) that included the plans for future development on campus. This plan is a guideline for improvements through the year 2041 and includes a new parking garage, the partially constructed Baseball Field Complex and other items.

SONA's 16 page report can be found on our website and a copy will be available at meetings. We will continue to post the most recent information on our website, including responses from other agencies or groups. We urge you to check in on our website because time lines for meetings regarding this issue can change.

We have been advised that certification of the SDEIR that was scheduled for the May 12 Board of Trustees Meeting has been postponed. At this time we have no information regarding when this issue will be discussed in open forum by the Trustees.

In the meantime, SONA residents will continue to investigate all of our options and will continue to hold strategy meetings. While we hope that the delay in certification means the District is taking a hard look at questions raised, we should continue to look at all possible scenarios and be prepared to answer any actions taken by the Board of Trustees.

Residents are also gathering signatures on petitions to object to the current plans for the Baseball Field Complex. You can obtain a blank petition on our website or by contacting Steve Kline.

In the meantime, there is good news for the residents along the southern border of the campus! After years of back and forth, promises and plans, the sound and privacy wall is now under construction. This will mean that residents will have a buffer between residential units and the campus which will make it easier to bear construction activity as well as long term use along that side of the campus. Residents are very excited to see this phase begin.

Thanks to all who are participating in these discussions.

Save the Date

05/12/09 7pm San Jose/Evergreen Board of Trustees meeting. Note that a decision on the SDEIR will not be made at this meeting.

05/16/09 2-4pm Celebrating Science 2009 is being sponsored by SETI (Search for ExtraTerrestrial Intelligence) in Mountain View. With an amazing array of activities geared for kids 8-15, this event promises to be fun. Who wouldn't want to build a catapult, weather station or spinning model of the earth? Can't help but think this is ideal for motivating kids about their studies disguised as fun and games. And, who wouldn't want to attend a lecture titled : *Why Falling into a Black Hole would be a Once-in-a-lifetime Event*. For more info visit their website at www.seti.org/celebratingscience or call 650-960-4565. Admission is free but reservations are required.

05/30/09 Jammin' at the Jamboree! Join neighbors at the annual event sponsored by the West San Carlos Business Neighborhood Association at the corner of WSC and Shasta (Leigh). Lots of fun during the day with community and food booths and a rock climbing wall, followed by music and two movies (Madagascar II and Casablanca). Starts at 4pm

06/06/09 Buena Vista Home Tour runs all day. This is a great home tour just across the freeway. The BV neighborhood has an eclectic mix of "working man" homes that range from Victorian to Craftsman. It's always a treat to see how our neighbors have worked on some classic home. And you get great tips on home improvement projects from people who have already been there.

For a complete list of activities, events and classes offered by the City of San Jose's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department, pick up a brochure at Sherman Oaks Community Center or visit the PRNS website at www.sanjoseca.gov/prns. Summer programs, including league sign ups can now be done online. This includes youth and adult leagues, San Jose summer camp and all programming offered at parks, community centers and neighborhood facilities.

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Green Beans Coffee is a unique business that brings coffee houses to our men and women in the service of our country. For over a decade they have set up Worldcafe sites on bases around the world and here in the U.S. Service personnel can take a relaxing break, listen to music and enjoy the flavor of home and custom coffee in the most far flung areas.

They have long had a service that allows friends and relatives to purchase gift cards and is now asking the public to join their "Cup of Joe" program. You can go online, buy a "Joe" or "Jane" a cup of coffee for \$2 and type in a message of thanks. They will deliver the message along with the coffee and make arrangements for you to get a response. They will also donate a portion of the proceeds to groups that help support the families of service personnel around the world.

You can reach out to Saudi Arabia, Germany, Kuwait, Qatar, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Africa, United Arab Emirates or one of 37 locations in Iraq along with domestic sites such as California and Texas. Check out their website at www.greenbeanscoffee.com

Another group working for our troops is Soldiers' Angels. They have a variety of programs that send care packages and gifts to our deployed or you can join their Adopt a Soldier program. They have a variety of assistance programs for soldiers and their families if they are injured or killed while deployed. You can make blankets of gratitude and hope for hospitalized soldiers, contribute to outreach programs and help make sure our vets and their families are taken care of. Visit their website at www.soldiersangels.org or, if you don't have a computer, leave a voice message on their phone (615) 676-0239. At press time their website listed over 400 soldiers waiting to be adopted.

Neighborhood Noise

There are all kinds of noise we hear every day or every week that we pay little attention to. Bells from the college? That happens every hour. Steamboat whistle? Who'd've thought we could hear the car wash on Hamilton clear over here every noon.

Resident Stan Paddock wanted to know what the siren over by Sam's was for. After sleuthing around he discovered it is an obsolete siren and is never used. So where was that siren/horn coming from every Monday at noon? Valley Medical Center. The siren/horn there is tested every Monday at noon. It is intended as an alert in case of biologic attack or an accident to warn people to shelter in place. That means stay home, close the doors and windows and wait. This system is used in places like Richmond when there are problems at the refinery. So, if you hear that siren/horn and it's not a Monday, go inside and turn on the news. And thank Stan.

Thanks Copyland

SONA wouldn't be able to function without the services of our favorite printers. They crank out our newsletter every month, often dealing with tight deadlines and last minute changes. They have helped us put out a professional looking newsletter every month for more than seven years.

A local owned and operated full service location, Copyland provides brochures, business cards, labels, posters, banners and more to businesses throughout San Jose.

They will work with you on designing a project and make sure you are advised about options. Stop by their offices at 2300 Stevens Creek Blvd. and see why SONA and other neighborhoods trust Copyland with their printing needs.