



UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY S

# Neighbor to Neighbor

VOLUME 5, NO. 1 ♦ JANUARY 2002

## REMINDERS

**January 16, 2002**  
UNSCC Advisory Council Meeting and Board Election  
7:00 pm

UNSCC Membership Payment Due in January  
(see pg. 5 for details)

## New MEMBERS

We have yet another new member! Brand spankin' new Cory Neighborhood Association of San Jose has joined us. They have an energetic board of directors with a lot of enthusiasm and non-profit experience. We've already had the benefit of Cory Board Member Judd Murkland's volunteer efforts through his creation of a volunteer database for UNSCC!

## IT'S ELECTION TIME

Your organization's attendance is required at our January 16 Advisory Council Meeting for our annual Board of Director elections. We'll also vote on the redistricting item detailed in our December 2001 newsletter. Although just General Member representatives vote at this meeting, we ask all Associate Member groups to send representation in order to meet your new 2002 Board of Directors and participate in the meeting. For directions please call (408) 286-8661. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm sharp. Should you wish to nibble and schmooze in advance, please arrive by 6:45 pm. You will also have better luck locating a parking space.

The nominees to date for the 2002 UNSCC Board of Directors are:

**Daniel Chavez**, nominated for Chair  
*Burbank Community Association, San Jose*

**Tom Freeman**, nominated for Treasurer  
*Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association, Sunnyvale*

**Renee Horton**, nominated for Board Member  
*McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Association, San Jose*

**Jean McCloskey**, nominated for Board Member  
*Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association, Mountain View*

**Dale Osborn**, nominated for Board Member  
*Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council, San Jose*

**Cecilia Santos-Chavez**, nominated for Board Member  
*Goodyear/Mastic Neighborhood Association, San Jose*

**Scott Scholz**, nominated for Vice Chair  
*Santa Teresa Citizen Action Group, San Jose*

**Rosario Vasutin**, nominated for Board Member  
*San Miguel Neighbors Association, Sunnyvale*

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## UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County is a coalition of neighborhood associations. Our mission is to promote the creation, preservation, and enhancement of healthy neighborhoods through education, resources and outreach.

# Neighbor to Neighbor

## GOLDEN GOLDA

Northside Neighborhood Association has felt the positive impact of one remarkable resident who is taking action to improve the area. Joseph Golda applied for and obtained a \$5,000 Community Foundation Silicon Valley grant to improve the curbs, trees and plantings in Northside Neighborhood Association area. As a local bus driver, Joe became tired of people falling when they got off the bus or tripping trying to get on the bus and climbing through weeds. To improve the situation he's hauling curb stone, removing concrete, and doing plantings of trees and flowers block by block. He's also applied for a \$25,000 CAP grant to continue the project, referred to as the Northside Parkstrip Garden Project.

We're told Joe's work has inspired other neighborhood associations to request funds to initiate a similar project in their neighborhoods. Married and with children, Joe still found time to devote to Northside Neighborhood Association as a new member of their Board of Directors. We're certain Joe will make lasting positive impression on his neighborhood! His proactive approach to problem-solving sets a great example for us all!

## WORKSHOP CHANGE

United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County's **Traffic Calming and Parking Issues** workshop will be rescheduled. The workshop was originally planned for January 15. We have since discovered many of the local speakers and officials who address traffic calming and parking topics will be attending a conference that week. Please see future newsletters for the new date for this workshop.

If you'd like to brush up on your board governance knowledge, our February workshop is the one to attend! The evening of Tuesday, February 12 will feature information to help your board operate efficiently. You'll learn about well planned agendas, meeting minutes, how to effectively chair a meeting, and how to keep it all legal. Representatives from UNSCC member groups pay just \$5 for the workshop! The non-member workshop rate is \$50, of which \$45 may be applied toward UNSCC membership if qualified and approved for membership. To register for this workshop, **Important Aspects of Board Governance**, please call UNSCC at (408) 286-8661.

## EDITOR SOUGHT

Do you have some knowledge of PageMaker or a similar program and would like to toss together a newsletter each month? If you recognize that it was just him and myself at the meeting is poor grammar, if Apple's slogan "Think different" bothers you (if you should see an ad roughly glued on an Apple billboard one of these days, you needn't wonder who's to blame), and if you know the difference between "accept" and "except," or merely have a good reference book on these topics, the job can be yours! We draw the line at the proper use of "who" versus "whom" — we're all confused about those two.

My last UNSCC newsletter will be the March 2002 issue. I hope to train the new editor with that issue mid-February. I'll also be available in the future for questions and assistance. This is a volunteer position, but will not consume your time. You'll write some articles and edit others. You'll also gain experience and knowledge! Imagine the glitter this will add to your resumé! And, it's just one newsletter a month — no weekly deadlines!

If you're intrigued, please email me at [laurendona@yahoo.com](mailto:laurendona@yahoo.com), or call Jacqui Carr Gouveia at (408) 286-8661.

*Lauren Cheong*  
Editor

# Neighbor to Neighbor

## A Chance For Every Child

The Children and Families First Commission of Santa Clara County was formed when voters approved Proposition 10 in November 1998. Proposition 10 established a tax on tobacco products from which approximately \$700 million will be collected statewide each year. Eighty percent of the revenue is allocated to

county commissions to fund local programs. The Children & Families First Commission of Santa Clara County receives approximately \$25 million annually. These funds are intended to pro-

motivate, support and improve early childhood development from the prenatal stage to 5 years of age. The Commission, along with the community, is concentrating efforts to build systems of support that emphasize quality health care, family integrity, early education, and safe neighborhoods.

**We are calling on you, community members, families, schools, community organizations, businesses, faith-based groups, and many others, to come together to form Regional Partnerships and School Readiness Partnerships!**

The intent of the Regional Partnerships is to enhance

existing neighborhood partnerships or develop new partnerships. The School Readiness Initiative is a statewide effort developed by the State Proposition 10 Commission. The purpose of this effort is to improve the abilities of families, schools, and communities to prepare children to enter school ready to learn.



The goal of these initiatives is to examine the current systems of early learning and child/family support. Once examined, the role of the Partnerships, either Regional or School Readiness, will be to develop and imple-

ment programs, services, and activities to ensure the well being of children, prenatal to five years of age, and their families. These efforts are completely community-driven and funded by the Children & Families First Commission of Santa Clara County.

### Get Involved!

**Working Together We Can Provide A Chance For Every Child!**

For more information or to be part of these initiatives, please contact Children & Families First Commission of Santa Clara County at (408) 289-5330. They are located at 1150 S. Bascom Ave., Suite 12 in San Jose. Visit their website at [www.santaclarakids.org](http://www.santaclarakids.org).

## A GREAT PARTY

Good conversation, food, door prizes, music, and wonderful people. You couldn't ask much more of a holiday party. UNSCC members and friends gathered December 19 at Espresso Garden & Café in San Jose for a wonderful evening. Thank you to all who attended. If you were unable to attend the party, don't fret. We'll have another in December 2002! Meanwhile, we wish you a wonderful new year!

*In response to several requests for musician T. Bone Walter's phone number, you can reach him at (408) 929-9457. He performs a variety of music.*

## WAY TO GO SPARTAN KEYES!

One moment they're winners of the 2001 BRICC Award (Building Resourceful, Inspirational, Creative Community), the next moment they're news in Joe Rodriguez's column in the San Jose Mercury News. Both Debra Yantis and Jill Wirtjes of Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Association in San Jose were acknowledged for their efforts to help redirect truck traffic away from their residential streets. Thanks to their negotiating skills with the City of San Jose, 16 signs will be posted in the area to help divert traffic. Great job!

# Neighbor to Neighbor

## OLYMPIC TORCH BEARER

Lowell Elementary Principal Paul Kramer was selected as a torch bearer for the 2002 Winter Olympics Torch Relay to Salt Lake City, Utah. Paul will be running on either Friday, January 18 or Saturday, January 19 through San Jose. Should he be running on Friday, he has promised to take many children to a location where they can see their Principal proudly carrying the torch. Following the run he will put a ceremonial torch in a place of honor at Lowell.

Paul is a recent arrival in the South University Neighborhood of San Jose and has been making his joyous presence known since his arrival. A participant in the 1984 Paralympics, Paul recently challenged the students of Lowell Elementary to read 5,000 books in six weeks! The students accepted his challenge and succeeded, as a result Paul will fulfill a promise to camp out on the roof of one of the school buildings for a weekend in January!



Paul comes to Lowell after having taught at Horace Mann Elementary (where he also challenged his students to read!), and having served as Vice Principal at Bachrodt in the Rosemary Gardens Neighborhood.

Watch the University Neighborhoods Coalition's website for additional information about Paul's events as they become available.  
[www.university-neighbor.org](http://www.university-neighbor.org)

## SUPPORT FOR LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES

Want to help small businesses grow in your neighborhood? Put them in touch with Lenders for Community Development (LCD). LCD operates a non-profit loan fund that supports small business owners who cannot receive traditional financing from banks. Loans up to \$50,000 are targeted to businesses owned by low-income individuals, women and minorities and businesses located in lower income areas. LCD loans are available to both start-up and existing businesses for a variety of purposes. Our lending criteria is more flexible, so it enables us to help small business owners who may not qualify for a bank loan, says Maryl Curran, Manager of the Small Business Loan Program.

Pooling funds from 23 local banks, LCD is proud to be the neighborhood lender in areas throughout Santa Clara County. Over the past nine years, LCD has made more than 100 loans in neighborhoods like yours. Recently, LCD has made loans to support the expansion a home-based child-care facility in the West Evergreen Neighborhood; to finance the purchase of equipment for a custom cabinet-making shop in the Spartan-Keyes area; and to help finance the start-up of a hair salon near the Rose Garden Neighborhood. These are just a few examples of how LCD has been able to help local businesses.

To learn how Lenders for Community Development can help small businesses in your neighborhood, please contact Anthony Chang at (408) 297-0204, x27.

*Have something to tell us? Please send your news our way. What's going on in your neighborhood? Let us know.*

*We must have completed articles to print. Please include full location address and event times when appropriate. In addition, we require a contact phone number that may be printed. Please send your articles by fax to (408) 286-8680, or by email to your editor, Lauren Cheong, at [laurendona@yahoo.com](mailto:laurendona@yahoo.com). Please note, if you're not with a neighborhood association and would like to submit an article, we give preference to issues and events which serve neighborhoods throughout Santa Clara County.*

# Neighbor to Neighbor

## BE PREPARED FOR REDISTRICTING VOTE

Please be prepared to vote on behalf of your neighborhood association at UNSCC's Advisory Council Meeting at 525 W. Alma Avenue in San Jose on Wednesday, January 16. United Neighborhood's General Member groups will vote on the Resolution for Fair Redistricting presented by Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council at your November 2001 UNSCC Advisory Council meeting. Details of this resolution can be found on page 4 of your December newsletter. If you need a copy of the resolution, please call us at (408) 286-8661.

### UNSCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair	Daniel J. Chavez
Vice Chair	Tom Freeman
Recording Secretary	Lauren Cheong
Treasurer	Ray Batchelor
Board Members	Debbie Salcido Scott Scholz Meg Stein Rosario Vasutin

### UNSCC STAFF

Executive Director	Jacqui Carr Gouveia
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## TIME FOR YOUR DUES

Please be sure your treasurer remembers us in the next week or two when he reaches for the checkbook. It's time to pay your UNSCC membership dues. Please forward your payment to UNSCC at 525 W. Alma Avenue, San Jose, 95125. Please make your check payable to UNSCC. General Member groups pay \$75 and Associate Member groups pay \$60 for the year. Want to save the cost of a stamp? That's easy! Bring your payment to our membership meeting and election on Wednesday, January 16 at 7:00 pm.

## UNSCC MEMBERSHIP STATUS CHANGE

Although we don't encourage members to change their membership status on a whim, should you be interested in the process, here's how it works.

### TO CHANGE FROM GENERAL TO ASSOCIATE:

To change your membership from General to Associate, please include a letter requesting this change (signed by your president) along with your \$60 dues. This change does not require approval of the UNSCC Board of Directors. Why would we want to do this, you ask? If you have not sent a representative to our meetings and don't plan to do so in the future, then remaining a General Member is very detrimental to our voting process. Your absence hurts the membership's ability to obtain a quorum needed to vote (since only General Member groups vote). So, we're not able to vote on issues, and we don't make progress. Changing your status to Associate Membership is the nice thing to do if we haven't seen you in some time. (Although, showing up to meetings would be even better!) Your insurance benefits remain intact, and you don't feel guilty when you're unable to send a representative to our meetings requiring a vote. Everyone is happy.

### TO CHANGE FROM ASSOCIATE TO GENERAL:

To change your membership from Associate to General please make a written request to UNSCC (signed by the president on behalf of your board). UNSCC's Board of Directors will review your request prior to approval. Regular attendance at past UNSCC Advisory Council meetings, age of organization, status of bylaws (must have approved bylaws), and the manner in which your board of directors are selected will be factors in the decision. Upon approval, dues of \$75 will be accepted.

If you have questions, just give us a jingle. We'd love to help. We're at (408) 286-8661.