



Neighbor to Neighbor

VOLUME 7: NUMBER 1 - JANUARY 2004

CALENDAR

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**
Wednesday Jan 7
7:00 pm
UNSCC Alma Office
525 W. Alma Ave.
San Jose

**ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING**
Wednesday Jan 21
6:45 pm
UNSCC Alma Office

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**
Wednesday Feb 4
7:00 pm
UNSCC Alma Office

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**
Wednesday March 3
7:00 pm
UNSCC Alma Office

**ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING**
Wednesday March 17
6:45 pm
UNSCC Alma Office

DEAR UNSCC MEMBERS

United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County (UNSCC) is a remarkable non-profit organization servicing neighborhood associations and celebrating its Tenth Anniversary. This is the First Annual Letter requesting donations to continue programs and benefits to your neighborhood group. UNSCC is the only agency to offer these services to neighborhood associations. **UNSCC is in desperate need of operating funds.**

The services UNSCC offers to neighborhood associations are numerous. A partial listing is:

- Insurance coverage for all neighborhood meetings & events.
- Fiscal sponsorship for neighborhood associations who do not have the 501(c)(3) status from the government.
- Annual conference.
- Monthly workshops on requested neighborhood topics.
- Bi-monthly networking opportunities for neighborhood leaders.
- Monthly newsletter.

Please consider making a generous, tax deductible donation so United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County can continue to grow and service neighborhood associations. Make out a check and send to UNSCC, 525 W. Alma Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125.

Name: _____	\$10
Address: _____	\$25
Association: _____	\$50
Phone _____	\$100
E mail _____	\$ _____

Thank you for your generosity and support of your community!

This is very important. UNSCC needs Jacqui back!

525 W. Alma Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125
Phone: 408-286-8661
Fax: 408-286-8680
unsc@pacbell.net
www.unsc.org

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.

UNSCC DOES NOT ENDORSE POLITICAL CANDIDATE(S).

Neighbor to Neighbor

CHOOSING THE BEST ELECTRIC RATE SCHEDULE FOR YOUR BUSINESS

By Bev Alexander

Depending on their pattern of electric use and hours of operation, customers can often save money by choosing a different electric rate schedule. Customers who have recently expanded or reorganized their business should contact PG&E to determine if changing electric rate schedules can cut their bills, but all customers should run the numbers at least once a year. Customers should assess their current electric usage and compare it with the rate schedules listed below.

Rate Schedule A-1: Typical A-1 customers use most of their energy between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays and use less than 50,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year.

Rate Schedule A-6: This time-of-use (TOU) rate schedule is for small business customers who use much of their electricity at times other than noon to 6:00 p.m. weekdays. Time-of-use rates offer lower rates at night (off-peak rates) and higher rates during the afternoon, when demand on the electric system is greater. Off-peak rates are lowest between 9:30 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. weekdays, and all day on weekends and holidays. A TOU meter installation or processing charge applies.

Rate Schedule A-10: Medium-size businesses that use a minimum of 50,000 kWh per year may be able to save money on this schedule.

Rate Schedule E-19: This time-of-use (TOU) electric rate is voluntary for customers who have a monthly kilowatt (kW) demand of less than 500. E-19 is mandatory for customers whose monthly demand exceeds 500 kW for three consecutive months. If 70% or more of a business' electricity is used to grow crops, raise livestock, or for other uses which involve production for sale and which do not change the form of the product, that business may be eligible for an agricultural rate schedule.

Rate Schedule AG-1: This rate applies to customers with an electric demand of less than 500 kilowatts (kW) who generally operate for less than 500 hours per year, especially if the customer cannot minimize the use of electricity during the summer peak hours of noon to 6:00 p.m. PG&E has several other agricultural rate schedule options designed for customers with fluctuating usage, around-the clock operations, or high annual operating hours.

PG&E also has rate schedules for customers who operate solar and/or wind electric generating facilities (E-NET), and for oil and gas extraction customers (E-36 and E-37).

For more information or to run a quick comparison to determine if you are on the best rate, log on to www.pge.com/biztools or call PG&E's Business Customer Center at 1-800-468-4743.

Bev Alexander is Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Vice President of Account Services.

Neighbor to Neighbor

THANK YOU, SUPPORTERS!

Thank you to the following people and businesses for supporting UNSCC with donations, volunteer hours, and advertising. Please contact UNSCC at unsc@pacbell.net or 408-286-8661 if you would like to advertise in this newsletter.

Bill Lusto
Partner

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NOMINATIONS FOR 2004

At the November Advisory Council meeting, the following candidates were nominated to be on the 2004 United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County Board of Directors. The slate of officers will be voted on at the January Advisory Council meeting. The nominees are:

Tom Clifton, nominated for Treasurer
Campus Community Association

Bob Dhillon, nominated for Board Member
Community Representative

Tom Freeman, nominated for Board Member
Community Representative

Ken Henning, nominated for Board Member
Buena Vista Neighborhood Association

Bill Hughes, nominated for Chairperson
Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Judd Murkland, nominated for Secretary
Cory Neighborhood Association

Ed Rast, nominated for Vice Chairperson
Willow Glen Neighborhood Association

Meg Stein, nominated for Board Member
San Tomas Neighborhood Association

We are accepting nominations for the two unfilled Board Member seats. Nominations for the rest of the board and officers are closed.

FREE WEBSITE HELP

A volunteer has stepped forward to help neighborhood associations with their website. Email geetha_ka@yahoo.com for more information or to get started building your neighborhood websites.

Neighbor to Neighbor

CARING FOR THOSE

Who Cared for Us

from the office of County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado

For the first time in history, there are now more elder adults than children in the United States. By the year 2010, one out of every five adults in the United States will be over 65. The average woman currently spends eighteen years caring for children and eighteen years caring for parents. One out of every four California households is involved in caregiving. While most of us agree that living in the comfort of one's own home is the ideal situation, how do we manage? How can we prolong our aging parents' independence?

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) is a county program that assists adult children with the care of their parents. The California IHSS program enables individuals to remain independent and living at home rather than in a more expensive nursing home, hospital, or in other institutional care.

Who is eligible and what services will clients receive?

In Santa Clara County, the Social Services Agency determines eligibility and the number of service hours each person can receive through the IHSS Program. Currently, the IHSS program serves about 6,300 people. Any person who is blind, disabled, or older than 65 and meets income criteria is eligible. Generally speaking, a single individual cannot have a net income of more than \$969 per month and couples cannot have a net income over \$1,359 per month to stay within the income threshold. The Social Services Agency welcomes inquiries concerning eligibility, and multi-lingual staff is available to help answer your questions.

Step 1: The first step is to call an intake screener at (408) 928-3737. The screener will request: standard information such as name, address, social security number, and age; information concerning income, housing, and medical problems; and the names of any in-home supportive resources currently used (i.e., Meals on Wheels, Home Health Agency, etc.).

Step 2: If the preliminary information indicates possible qualification for IHSS, a social worker will set up a personal interview in the applicant's home to assess what services are needed. Social Services must complete both an eligibility determination and a needs assessment before authorizing IHSS services.

What services does the County provide under the IHSS Program?

- Domestic Services - These include meal preparation and cleanup, laundry, grocery shopping, and errands.
- Non-Medical Personal Care Services - These include 11 sub-categories such as help with feeding, dressing, bathing, etc.
- Other Services - Miscellaneous services, which Social Services may authorize, include paramedical services, transportation accompaniment, non-medical protective supervision, and heavy cleaning.

For more information about the IHSS Program, call (408) 928-3737 or visit www.santaclaracounty.org - click on the agency/department window at the top of the page, and select In-Home Supportive Services.

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SKATEBOARD CLUBS

The San Jose Parks and Recreation Department and the West of 4th Street Neighborhood Group and the San Jose State University Youth Development Camp are looking for San Jose Park and Recreation Department and community leaders and mentors to develop city-wide Skateboard Clubs. These leaders will help the clubs create a safe environment for our youth and change the negative perception of skateboarding. The clubs will promote skateboarding events, take part in their planning, be involved in the running of the events, and build and maintain the obstacles.

It only takes one youth with leadership skills and a couple of kids to get a club formed. We are asking one adult to mentor each club; small groups have already formed in the Washington, Alma, and Evergreen Community and Youth Centers.

The clubs will also help incorporate other interests into skateboard events such as clean rapping, giving exposure to up-and-coming bands and DJs, and graffiti art demonstrations, and will promote the sport by locating safe and legal skateboarding areas in the city and publicizing information on approved skate sites.

Resources, including printing costs, building materials, event support, transportation, and food and refreshments for meetings, will be provided with donations and grants administered by the neighborhood associations.

Mutual skate events will also take place with other skate clubs, such as those from Sunnyvale, Campbell, Modesto, and Bakersfield.

For more information, contact Steve Cohen, West of 4th Street Neighborhood Group at 470 South 3rd Street, Suite #10, San Jose, CA, 95112, westof4th@yahoo.com, 408-947-7877.

ALMOST RELEVANT

Chaos reigns within.
Reflect, repent, reboot.
Order shall return.

2004-2005 ASSEMBLY FELLOWSHIP

PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW

AVAILABLE

Fellows in the 11-month Assembly Fellowship Program serve as full-time Assembly staff members, working on fiscal and policy issues in an assemblymember's capitol or district office and participating in a weekly academic seminar with assemblymembers, senior staff, journalists, lobbyists, and state government officials. Fellows earn 12 graduate credits from California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), and receive a monthly stipend of \$1,882 a month as well as health, dental and vision benefits.

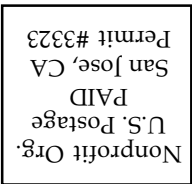
Applicants must have earned their undergraduate degree by September, 2004, and individuals with advanced degrees and mid-career professionals are also encouraged to apply.

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Assemblymember Manny Diaz's office in San Jose at 100 Paseo de San Antonio, Suite 319, San Jose, CA 95113, telephone 408/277-1220, or the Center for California Studies at www.csus.edu/calst/programs/jesse_unruh.html, by email at calstudies@csus.edu, or by phone at 916/319-3753. The postmark deadline for submitting applications to the program is February 25, 2004. Final selection of the 18 Assembly Fellows is made in May, 2004.

UNSCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Clifton, Chairperson
Meg Stein, Secretary
Tom Freeman, Treasurer

Helen Bliven, Boardmember
Bob Dhillon, Boardmember
Ken Henning, Boardmember
Bill Hughes, Boardmember
Judd Murkland, Boardmember
Edward Rast, Boardmember



UNSCC
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GENERAL MEMBERS

Alma Neighborhood Association
Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council
Blossom Valley Neighborhood Association
Buena Vista Neighborhood Association
Burbank Community Association
Campus Community Association
Canoas Garden Neighborhood Association
Casa Loma-Loma Chiquita Neighborhood Association
Cory Neighborhood Association
Crescent Park Neighborhood Association
Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association
Eden Neighborhood Association
Edenvale Roundtable Community Association
Friends of Santa Teresa Park
Goodyear/Mastic Neighborhood Association
Guadalupe/Washington Neighborhood Association
Horace Mann Neighborhood Association
Julian/St. James Neighborhood Association
Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association
McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Association
Monta Loma Neighborhood Association
Northside Neighborhood Association

Olinder Neighborhood Association
Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association
Plata Arroyo East Gate Neighborhood Association
Rancho Narvaez Neighborhood Association
Redwood Estates Community Club
Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association
Rosemary Gardens Neighborhood Association
San Jose Downtown Residents Association
Santa Teresa Citizen Action Group
San Tomas Neighborhood Association
Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association
Silver Leaf Neighborhood Association
South University Neighborhood
Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Association
Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association
Sunnyvale Neighbors of Arbor Including LaLinda
Sunrise Valley Neighborhood Association
Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association
University Neighborhoods Coalition
Warner Heights Neighborhood Association
West of Fourth Street Neighborhood Group
Willow Glen Neighborhood Association

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Almaden Winery Neighborhood Association
College Park Neighborhood Association
Doborn Community Action Team
Eden Hill Neighborhood Association
Fairview Drive Neighborhood Association
Glenview Drive Neighborhood Association
Haven Neighborhood Association
Hyde Park Neighborhood Association
Independence High Neighborhood Association
IOOF/San Ysidro Neighborhood Association
Japantown Neighborhood Association
Joaquin Miller Neighborhood Association
LeyVa Community Action Team
Lyndale Neighborhood Association
Mayfair Improvement Initiative
Mount Pleasant Neighborhood Association
Newhall Neighborhood Association

North Murray Neighborhood Association
North Willow Glen Neighborhood Association
Palm Haven Restoration Neighborhood Association
Park Pleasant Neighborhood Association
Primrose Neighborhood Association
Rogers Lane Neighborhood Association
Rose Garden Neighborhood Preservation Association
San Miguel Neighborhood Association
Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association
Seven Trees Neighborhood Group
Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association
Southgate Neighborhood Association
South Skyline Association
Summerhill Neighborhood Association
Tamien Neighborhood Association
West Evergreen Neighborhood Association
Westside Property Homeowners' Association