

Neighbor to Neighbor

Ice Cream Social & UNSCC Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, July 18, 2001 at a special location for our July Advisory Council Meeting. Look for us at the SBA/Cisco Systems/San Jose Entrepreneur Center at 84 W. Santa Clara Street in downtown San Jose. We'll be having an ice cream social beginning at 6:45 P.M. followed by our regular meeting. We'll also be passing out how-to fact sheets about planning an ice cream social so you can have your own.

FUNDRAISING 101

Saturday, June 2, 2001

9 A.M. to Noon
Mexican Heritage Plaza
1700 Alum Rock Avenue
San Jose

\$5 UNSCC members
\$50 non-members
Learn how to be a
successful, fearless
fundraiser!

Call (408) 286-8661 for
details.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR OF UNSCC

Hello friends of UNSCC:

June brings us the beginning of summer and fun, festivals, and new opportunities. June can be a month to get some much needed rest and relaxation and/or it can be a month to go outdoors and do some neighborhood and community service.

The times are changing and therefore new opportunities arise. For example, many of our neighborhoods are feeling the impact of the current state of affairs: Santa Teresa Citizen Action Group is facing Calpine/Metcalf Power Plant issues, Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association is seeking an Energy Initiative, College Park Neighborhood Association has San Jose Airport noise and curfew dilemmas, Shasta-Hanchett Neighborhood Association has Fiesta Lanes high density housing considerations. These are a few examples of how the changing times are impacting our neighborhoods and communities.

In addition, plans and policies are being continually developed and acted on in the areas of redevelopment, transportation, and housing. Our neighborhoods must be ready to seize the opportunity as it arises, get involved, advocate for neighborhood issues, and educate others on community concerns.

Thus, we at United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County are here to support you in your endeavors. With our regular workshops, our excellent fall conference, and our Advisory Council, we stand ready to facilitate your needs. Call on us, (408) 286-8661, and ask for Executive Director Jacqui Carr, or me. We are here to serve you!

In closing, the UNSCC wishes you all a joyous beginning of summer and a super Father's Day on June 17.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Chávez

UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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GREAT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Do you know any young adults in your community that believe in positive change and are involved in the community? If so, please pass this opportunity on to them!

Full time community service positions available:
Develop your Leadership Skills in Order to Bring about Social Change in Silicon Valley.

Public Allies–Silicon Valley is actively seeking:

- passionate young adults (ages 18-30);
- committed to social justice; and
- serious about learning & affecting change throughout the Silicon Valley.

Public Allies–Silicon Valley creates opportunities for diverse young leaders to strengthen their communities through ten-month apprenticeships in community-based organizations, weekly leadership training, community building, and team service.

Earn \$18,000 for the ten months. Benefits include healthcare, childcare, an educational award up to \$4,725, and development of valuable leadership skills and professional networks.

Applications are due June 8, 2001. The program runs from September 2001 to June 2002. For more information and an application, please call Public Allies at (408) 289-1875 or via email at elizabethn@publicallies.org.

Next year's class of 25 Allies will serve at local community-based organizations implementing projects with a direct impact in Silicon Valley communities. They will serve as shelter program directors, case managers, volunteer coordinators, and at agencies like: Inn Vision, Asian Americans for Community Involvement, Youth Community Service, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County.

IMPROVE AIR QUALITY

Since 1992 the Bay Area Air Quality Management District has had an anonymous system for the public to report vehicles emitting excessive exhaust. You can help our air quality by reporting vehicles to 1-800-EXHAUST or via www.baaqmd.gov/exhaust. Don't worry about feeling like snitch, since vehicle owners won't be ticketed as a result of your call. The Air District sends them a letter about air quality consequences of smoking vehicles, warns them of the possibility of being cited, and encourages them to have their vehicle checked and repaired.

Do you know what color smoke indicates burning oil? Blue. Black or gray smoke indicates incomplete fuel combustion. Causes are many, but could include a clogged air filter, a blocked manifold, a fuel injection or emission system malfunction. White smoke can indicate vaporized water and/or coolant from a leaking head gasket or cracked block or cylinder head. However, a cold engine can also lead to white vapor and requires no repair.

GRANT FUNDS

The Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority has released a call for projects, i.e., grant applications, due June 6, 2001. About 2.2 million dollars are available. Projects should be \$150,000 and above. Project areas can be pedestrian, landscape, bicycle, streetscape and others. Contact United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County Executive Director, Jacqui Carr, and she will email you more information. You may also email erin.chao@vta.org to obtain application forms in electronic format. Neighborhood associations and non-profits that are not Caltrans certified must collaborate with a city or county government agency to apply for this grant. *–Daniel J. Chavez*

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NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS

Edenvale Roundtable Community Association of San Jose held a successful Adopt-A-College Dinner which raised funds for the Edenvale School Adopt-A-College Fund. Over 250 neighbors enjoyed dinner and conversation on April 26 raising approximately \$700 toward scholarships for Edenvale students going on to college or other training following their high school graduation. ERCA Vice-President, Priscilla Gray will present a scholarship at the 8th Annual Scholarship & Magic Show, Thursday, May 17. Donations were received from Lyons Restaurant, Albertson's, McDonald's, the Oak Grove School District, and others.

The Edenvale/Great Oaks Plan Implementation Coalition has been awarded an annual Volunteer Award by the San Jose City Council. The award was presented Tuesday, April 24. Coalition members serve to carry out the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan approved last year by the City Council for \$700,000 in revitalization projects in the **Edenvale** and **Great Oaks neighborhoods**.

The Burbank Community Association will be hosting a Beverly Tract Street Lighting ceremony on May 29 at 7:30 P.M. on Laswell Avenue between Basile and Scott Avenues near 526 Laswell in San Jose. The ceremony celebrates over a year of work to install new decorative street light poles on Laswell Avenue where no street lights had existed before. Join the BCA community, Jim Beall, Chairperson, Board of Supervisor's of the County of Santa Clara, and other VIPs, as we flip the switch for our wonderful new decorative street lights. A neighborhood working together came make positive changes for their community.

Northside Neighborhood Association of San Jose will be hosting a barbecue on Saturday, June 9 at 1 P.M. in Backesto Park at N. 13th and Empire Streets. The barbecue is free and open to all Northside residents and guests, including other neighborhood association leaders. Bring your own BBQ items and a potluck side dish to share. NNA will supply drinks and desserts. There will be live music, raffle prizes, and piñatas. San Jose's mobile recreation unit will provide games for kids. Contact Bonnie Ross, bonnie202@earthlink.net.

The Downtown Neighborhood Leadership Forum (DNLF), a coalition of 17 greater downtown San Jose neighborhood associations, is sponsoring "School of Neighbors," the Downtown Neighborhoods Shark," by Naglee Park artist Paul Hance as part of the San Jose Downtown Association's Shark Byte Art public art project of 100 life-size fiberglass sharks. The sharks will be displayed in public locations downtown from August through October. The DNLF shark will be on display along the Paseo de San Antonio. Proceeds from the auction of the DNLF shark will benefit DNLF member organizations. Contact Don Gagliardi, dpg2003@aol.com or (408) 291-2752.

Independence High Neighborhood Association of San Jose planted trees along Jackson Avenue, Webster, and Pacheco Drive. Members of Our City Forest, volunteers from the Kiwanis Club, Leland High School, and neighbors planted 23 beautiful trees Saturday, March 31.

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SUNNYHILLS YOUTH AWARDED GRANT

The Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association of Milpitas is pleased to announce that the newly formed Sunnyhills Youth Action Team was awarded its first grant. The grant of \$1,000 was awarded by Community Foundation Silicon Valley's Youth Philanthropy Program. Milpitas High School Students Sadia Mohsin and Aysha Mohsin, President and Vice President of the Sunnyhills Youth Action Team, went before a grant committee on Saturday, May 12 and presented their idea of "Sunnyhills Be an Artist Day."

Most of the \$1,000 will be used to hire professional artists to teach local neighborhood kids how to draw, sketch and provide an opportunity for hands on visual arts experience. The event is also a learning experience for the Sunnyhills Youth Action Team in leadership and organization skills. It will demonstrate how local teens are taking pride in their community and showing neighborhood spirit to put on this family-oriented event.

"Sunnyhills Be an Artist Day" is scheduled for Saturday, August 18, 2001. To reserve a space for this free event, parents are advised to sign up their children in advance by calling (408) 946-5260, or via www.neighborhoodlink.com/milpitas/sunnyhills.

WALK SAN JOSE BOARD POSITIONS OPEN

There are two openings on the Walk San Jose Board of Directors. The Board meets quarterly, and some, but not too much, volunteer work is expected. If you join, we will cover your registration fee for the August Congress of Pedestrian Advocates. For more information, please e-mail Jill at jill@walksanjose.org.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PEDESTRIAN ADVOCATES

America Walks, a coalition of twenty advocacy groups from around the United States dedicated to promoting walkable communities, will convene a National Congress of Pedestrian Advocates in Oakland, August 16-18, 2001. More than just a conference, the Congress will be a hands-on, feet-on-the-ground training camp that brings together advocates from around the country to inspire and learn from each other. The Congress will kickoff a campaign to double the number of pedestrian advocacy groups nationwide by the end of 2002.

The congress is designed mainly for those who are working at a grassroots level to make their communities more walkable. Diverse and walkable Oakland will be the setting. Sessions will be held in the historic Beaux Arts Oakland City Hall, with the city as the walking laboratory for mobile sessions.

An impressive array of inspiring leaders will be participating as mentors, including Dan Burden, of Walkable Communities Inc.; Mark Fenton, Olympic race-walker and Editor-at-Large of Walking Magazine; Bill Moyer, of the Social Movement Empowerment Project; and Rebecca Solnit, author of *Wanderlust: the History of Walking*.

Registration for the Congress is now open. Visit the Congress website at <http://americawalks.org/congress/> or call 1-800-788-7077 for more information. Registrants are responsible for their travel, lodging, some meals, and a registration fee of \$150. Because America Walks is committed to making the congress diverse and accessible, some limited scholarships and travel assistance may be available for those with the greatest need.

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PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

The County of Santa Clara's Boards and Commissions provide an opportunity for members of our community to participate in decisions related to Santa Clara County. Supervisor Blanca Alvarado wants the residents of Supervisory District Two to have a voice on matters that affect the quality of life in their neighborhoods and Santa Clara Valley.

The Planning Commission works in conjunction with the Department of Planning and Development as the County planning agency. The Commission advises and makes recommendations to the Boards of Supervisors on all ordinance amendments dealing with land development and on all subdivisions matters. It may also deny zoning change applications or may recommend zoning changes to the Board. It has the power to grant or deny use permits and administers the County's planning laws for land use and development in unincorporated areas. Commissioners uphold and implement the County's General Plan. The term for each member of the Commission shall be four years.

The Commission meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 A.M. for a morning study session and at 1:30 P.M. for public hearings in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 70 West Hedding Street in San Jose.

A position on the Planning Commission will be available on June 30, 2001. Application deadline is July 15, 2001. To request an application, please contact Javier Aguirre, Policy Aide to Supervisor Alvarado, at (408) 299-2040.

For more information about the Commission, you can contact Mike Lopez, Planning & Development Coordinator, at (408) 299-2454, x 228, or visit the Planning Office website at www.sccplanning.org.

JAMBOREE!

Bring your family to the Jamboree! The West San Carlos Neighborhood Business Association, the Burbank Community Association, the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association and other sponsors will be presenting the Annual Burbank Jamboree featuring food, live entertainment, community entertainers, children's games, numerous vendors, Bungalow tours, and much more! The Jamboree will be Saturday, June 9 from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. at the corner of Shasta and San Carlos Avenues in San Jose. The street will be closed to traffic. To attend the Bungalow Home Tour, visit the Buena Vista Neighborhood Association's both at the Jamboree. Tours are \$10.

PERSONAL SHOPPING CARTS \$10



A new San Jose ordinance has made stores more responsible for keeping their shopping carts on their property. This will help reduce the unsightly gatherings of shopping carts in residential areas. To help residents who walk or use public transportation to shop, the San Jose WalMart is offering a personal shopping cart for a discounted price of \$10. They're available at the store now.

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