



UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY'S

Neighbor to Neighbor

VOLUME 5, No. 11 NOVEMBER 2002

CALENDAR

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, Nov 20
6:45 pm
525 W. Alma Avenue
San Jose, CA

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, Dec 18
time and location TBD

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, Jan 15
6:45 pm

**UNSCC
does not endorse
political candidates**

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RELIABLE AND HUMOROUS

That's how Ken Henning, Vice-President of Buena Vista Neighborhood Association, said of Judd Murkland of Cory Neighborhood Association. What Henning like most about his long time friend is that Judd is a humorous person who turns what he does into an enjoyable task for everyone else. Judd's zest for life and positive personality are infectious, according to Henning.

A native of Connecticut, Judd moved to California over thirty years ago. Last year, with the advise of Ken, Judd joined other residents to found the Cory Neighborhood Association (CNA) in west San Jose. Building upon the initial momentum, bylaws were established and many activities were held to establish an identity that is Cory neighborhood today. The neighborhood spirit, through Cory Neighborhood Association, accomplished a great deal for an emerging volunteer organization as evidenced by the large turnout at community meetings and participation in community events.

The infectious energy spilled over to United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County (UNSCC) where Judd was co-chair of the Annual Conference Committee, which put together a tremendous conference last October 12. In the words of Betty Morin of San Miguel Neighborhood Association (SMNA), the Conference Committee "did such a super job of putting on the 9th Annual UNSCC Conference. The three SMNA members who attended found it most informative and enjoyable. Came home full of enthusiasm and ready to tackle the jobs at hand". Echoing Betty's sentiments, Armin Quiring of the Eden Neighborhood Association wrote, "...may I commend you and your team on a wonderful UNSCC Conference! All the hard work and planning certain shows and is the basis for such a success. Thanks again from this attendee!!"

Supportive of Judd are other Cory Neighborhood Association members who keep the infectious humor and energy going, both at CNA and UNSCC. UNSCC recognizes and thanks Judd Murkland for the incredible amount of time and energy he gave to both CNA and UNSCC.

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.

Thank you County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado for supporting UNSCC!

Neighbor to Neighbor



Traffic Calming

**SPEEDERS? HIGH VOLUME TRAFFIC?
EXCESSIVE TRUCK AND CUT THROUGH TRAFFIC?**

Is the quality of life in your neighborhood dwindling because of the number of vehicles moving through your streets? If so, would your neighborhood group like to learn about the latest traffic calming techniques being employed in parts of Santa Clara County, California and the United States?

REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 7 from 630pm at 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA

For more information, contact Jacqui Carr Gouveia, Executive Director, United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County at 408-286-8661 or unscc@pacbell.net.

Funding for the workshops is provided by a grant from the Santa Clara County Public Health Department/Traffic Safe Communities Network and the California Office of Traffic Safety.

2002 ELIZABETH ANABO BRICC AWARDS

Congratulations to West of 4th Street Neighborhood Group and Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association for winning the 2002 Elizabeth Anabo BRICC Awards. Presenting the awards was Nancy Ragey, Vice President of Programs and Donor Relations for Community Foundation Silicon Valley, the sponsor of the annual Elizabeth Anabo BRICC award. Present at the award ceremony was Anabo's mother Barbara Anabo and sister Stephanie Anabo.

Award #1 (new/emerging category)

Formed in 1999, West of 4th Street Neighborhood Group in San Jose has made a definite visible impact in a very short period of time, effectively and successfully mobilized a diverse and dedicated team of volunteers to work on projects that include activities such as tree plantings, opposing new construction, petition drives to have permit parking, and participating in the San Jose's Strong Neighborhoods Initiative planning process.

Award #2 (established category)

Since 1992, Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association in Milpitas has been working tirelessly to build community spirit, bringing more cultural and family activities to their area, and encouraging civic participation among their members. Achievements/activities in the past few years include monthly community breakfasts, astronomy nights, music programs for the entire family, and a successful campaign to completely re-design and re-make a local park. The sustainability of their efforts over the years and the group's willingness to take on new challenges are exactly what the BRICC award intends to recognize.

BRICC stands for Building Resourceful, Inspirational Creative Community. The award was renamed the Elizabeth Anabo BRICC award in 2001 to honor the memory of and to commemorate Elizabeth Anabo, a Senior Program Officer at Community Foundation who passed away in October 2000. Anabo was extremely dedicated to, and passionate about neighborhood groups and made tremendous contributions to neighborhoods in the time she worked at Community Foundation.

Neighbor to Neighbor

MIKE GAMMILL

RECEIVES LOCAL HERO AWARD

The Local Hero Award recognizes Mike Gammill for his courage and selflessness in staying behind to fight and prevent fires last August 19 when embers from the Santana Row fire rained on the Moorpark apartments. After the sad day, Mike took time off of work to share the shock and sorrow of his neighbors whose homes and possessions were damaged or destroyed. Mike kept watch over the apartment complex and helped neighbors deal with the aftermath. With his wife and baby son by his side, Mike accepted the award at the 9th Annual Neighborhoods Conference on behalf of others who helped fight the fires.

WASHINGTON YOUTH VOLUNTEER GROUP WINS YOUTH AWARD

The Washington Youth Volunteer Group of the Washington Area Community Coalition won the 2002 Youth Award at the 9th Annual Neighborhoods Conference. Funded by AMD, the Youth Award recognizes youth or youth group for working to make a difference in their community. The Washington Youth Volunteer Group plans to use the award money to buy supplies, food, awards and incentives in support of scheduled cleanups and maintenance of Brenda Lopez Memorial Plaza.

A BIG THANK YOU!

United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County (UNSCC) would like to express sincere thanks and gratitude to Girls Community Service Group, the youth group of the Burbank Community Association. The youth group is small in number but very large on helping UNSCC mail out flyers, putting together kits, and generally being extremely helpful with the 9th Annual Neighborhoods Conference.

REACHING YOUTH AWARDS

Dobern Community Action Team and Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association both did excellent jobs at reaching and involving the youth of their communities. For Dobern, having a youth program as part of the association is one way to keep their youth out of trouble and away from gangs and drugs. Sunnyhills involved their youth to teach cultural tolerance and to increase civic participation. For both associations, involving youth in the association is a sure way to involve their parents and the whole family.

Each association received \$500 as part of the Reaching Youth Award. The award is sponsored by Vice-Mayor George Shirakawa to recognize positive interactions with youth by including youth in community activities. Dobern will use the award money as seed funding for future fundraisers and educational fieldtrips. Sunnyhills will use the award money to start a youth chapter at the local middle school and also will set aside some of the award towards the construction of the community breakfast room.

IN THE LOCAL HERO TRADITION

Mike Gammill showed what one remarkable neighbor could do in Moorpark Village. Ira & Laura Leventhal and family, Outstanding Member and Volunteer of the Year for Eden Neighborhood Association, are special folks who had gone above and beyond the norm in their efforts to help their neighbors in need this past year. When devastating fires struck Sunnymead Court last July, this family opened their home to their neighbors, arranged sleep-overs, provided meals, and supported their neighbors in need. These actions truly pulled their neighborhood together and provided a safe haven at a difficult time. They are a wonderful example of true neighbors.

Ira and Laura Leventhal were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Eden Neighborhood Association for demonstrating what it means to be true neighbors.

Neighbor to Neighbor

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE

The children of Santa Clara County need health care.

There are an estimated 71,000 children in Santa Clara County who do not have health insurance. Without health insurance, most families can not afford to take their children to the doctor and consequently many medical conditions go undiagnosed and untreated. Children who see a doctor regularly do better in school and are less likely to expose others to illnesses. They are also less likely to have undiagnosed vision or hearing problems that hinder learning and when diagnosis is early, treatment is more effective and less expensive.

How is Santa Clara County addressing this problem?

Santa Clara County is the first county in the nation to commit to providing full medical, dental and vision health coverage for ALL of its uninsured children. Through a groundbreaking comprehensive health insurance package and aggressive outreach program called the Children's Health Initiative, more than 40,000 of those uninsured children have applied for coverage since its inception on January 2, 2001.

Three plans make up the Children's Health Initiative, Medi-Cal, Healthy Families and the innovative, first-in-the nation health insurance program called Healthy Kids. Healthy Kids reaches out to all uninsured children in Santa Clara County who do not qualify for Medi-Cal and Healthy Families and whose families earn up to 300% of the federal poverty level. For example, a family of four can earn up to \$54,300 per year and still qualify for Healthy Kids.

If you know someone who may qualify for one of the Children's Health Initiative's three low-cost or free health insurance plans, please call toll-free 1-888-244-5222. Telephone assistance available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

How is Healthy Kids funded?

Working Partnerships USA and PACT (People Acting in Community Together) convinced the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and the City of San Jose to commit tobacco litigation settlement money to fund Healthy Kids. Other support comes from cigarette taxes. Together, these sources provide half of the funds necessary to support this program each year. Additional funding is being sought from foundations, corporations and individuals.

You can make a difference in the health of our community!

In a recent San Jose Mercury News editorial, Publisher Joe Natoli wrote:

"Every child in Santa Clara County deserves adequate health care. Along with high-quality parenting, there's nothing more central to a child's ability to learn and become a good citizen. And if it can't be done here, in this valley of wealth and innovation, where and when can it be done?"

It's easy to donate to Healthy Kids. Just log on to http://www.healthykidsfund.org/donations/don_001.htm or call 408-874-1999 to make a tax-deductible donation.

SPEAKER AVAILABLE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

Resources for Families and Communities (RFC) has guest speakers available in November and December to offer information regarding the free Immigration Resource Guild. The presentation may be in Spanish or any other language as requested. To request and schedule a speaker from RFC, call 408-521-5110 by early November.

Neighbor to Neighbor

PROTECTING THE WATERSHED

What is a watershed?

Your home and garden is in a watershed, the land area that drains water into our creeks and bay. The pesticides you use affect the health of your watershed and can harm sensitive aquatic lives that make the creeks and the Bay their homes.

What can be done to protect the watershed?

Avoid pesticides in your home and garden - most residents think farmers are responsible for pesticide problems, but in the Bay area, residents apply more pesticides than farmers. Rain carries pesticides from your home, garden, and yard straight into storm drains that go untreated directly into creeks and the Bay. Pesticides can also reach creeks and the Bay if you pour them down your sink because wastewater treatment plants can not remove all pesticides.

How can pesticide use be reduced?

Attract feathered friends by adding a birdbath, birdhouse or feeder to your garden. A single swallow can easily devour large quantities of flying insects in just one afternoon feast. Purchase beneficial insects for your garden from your local nursery. Prevent pests from entering your home by trimming plants and trees so they don't touch your house. Remove diseased plants, tree pruning, fallen fruit and leaves from around your house. Select non-toxic or less toxic alternatives to pesticides. If you must use pesticides, use only as much as needed by following the label instructions and don't use them when rain is predicted or prior to watering your lawn or garden. Never dispose of unwanted pesticides in the trash, storm drain or sink. Call the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste program at 408-299-7300 for drop off information.

By protecting the watershed, you are protecting the environment for your children and future generations. For more information about less toxic pest control and other ways to protect your watershed, visit www.watershedwatch.net to request your free Watershed Watch Kit or call 1-866-WATERSHED.

UNSCC IN DESPERATE NEED OF BOARDMEMBERS FOR 2003

United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County is desperately seeking boardmembers for 2003. A few brave souls have stepped forward to take on the task, but many more are needed. Nominations will be made at the November Advisory Council Meeting and election will take place in January. Email unsc@pacbell.net or call Jacqui at 408-286-8661 for more information.

CHILDREN TO RELEASE MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

WHEN: Saturday, November 2 at 2pm

WHERE: The Children's Discovery Museum in San Jose, located at 180 Woz Way.

COST: \$16 in advance or \$17 at the door.

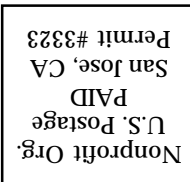
TICKETS: Tickets are available at the following locations: Wild Bird Center in Los Gatos, located on the corner of Blossom Hill and Los Gatos Blvd. For more information, call them at 358-9453. The Children's Discovery Museum in San Jose. For more information, call them at 298-5437.

UNSCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair	Daniel J. Chavez
Vice Chair	Scott Scholz
Recording Secretary	(open)
Treasurer	Tom Freeman
Board Members	Tom Clifton
	Renee Horton
	Jean McCloskey
	Dale Osborn
	Cecilia Santos-Chavez
	Rosario Vasutin

UNSCC STAFF

Executive Director	Jacqui Carr Gouveia
Events Coordinator	Irene Hsu



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GENERAL MEMBERS

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council
Blossom Valley Neighborhood Association
Buena Vista Neighborhood Association
Burbank Community Association
Campus Community Association
Canoas Garden Neighborhood Association
Crescent 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
Japantown Neighborhood Association
Julian/St. James Neighborhood Association
Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association
LeyVa Community Action Team
McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Association

Northside Neighborhood Association
Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association
Rancho Narvaez Neighborhood Association
Redwood Estates Community Club
Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association
Rosemary Gardens Neighborhood Association
San Jose Downtown Residents Association
San Miguel Neighborhood 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
Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association
Warner Heights Neighborhood Association
West of Fourth Street Neighborhood Group
Willow Glen Neighborhood Association

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

College Park Neighborhood Association
Cory Neighborhood Association
Dobern Community Action Team
Fairview Drive Neighborhood Association
Independence High Neighborhood Association
IOOF/San Ysidro Neighborhood Association
Lyndale Neighborhood Association
Mayfair Improvement Initiative
Mount Pleasant Neighborhood Association
North Murray Neighborhood Association
North Willow Glen Neighborhood Association
Park Pleasant Neighborhood Association

Rogers Lane Neighborhood Association
Rose Garden Neighborhood Preservation Association
Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association
Seven Trees Neighborhood Group
Shasta/Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association
Southgate Neighborhood Association
South Skyline Association
Summerhill Neighborhood Association
Sunrise Valley Neighborhood Association
Tamien Neighborhood Association
West Evergreen Neighborhood Association