



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes From the President

We are pleased to welcome back James Crawford, Deputy Superintendent for Campbell Union School District. We thought it would be better if the questions that recently came up on construction at Sherman Oaks were answered directly and Mr. Crawford readily agreed. Rather than working with rumors or second hand information, you'll be able to speak directly with the district and get an up to the minute status report.

We've been getting phone calls asking when the Bascom Library and Community Center is opening. It's been more than 16 months since it was ready for occupation; the idea of outsourcing the community center has fallen flat. The Mayor has mentioned it in the \$10mil surplus that showed up somewhere between last month and the January 21 community budget games as part of the ongoing budget discussions. Keep in mind that all of these discussions are based on ever changing numbers, so my answer realistically is let's be hopeful, but until we're actually allowed to enter the building, it's not a done deal

It's pledge drive time for SONA. Dues are due by the first of April. This newsletter, our website and materials for potlucks, ice cream socials, etc. all are paid for with your dues. Rather than remind you every month, we are concentrating on collecting over the next 90 days. Support your local neighborhood organization and help the volunteers by paying dues using the form on the back page or by going to our website www.sona-sj.com and using the PayPal button. We've had a good response to pledge drive, but need a few more to put us over the top. While we have used city grants in the past to supplement our funds, that is not an option at this point. We depend solely on dues and advertising. Thanks to this month's new and renewing members: Roberta Emerson, Shelia Cvitanich, Mary Ann Roa, Rick & Sharon Hobbs, Ernest March, Phyllis & Richard Cirigliano, Maureen & Erik Walstra, Tosh Leventhal, Scott & Deb McQueen, Anthony & Carolene Giluso, Elizabeth & James Harris, and Julia Biedemann & Matthias Steffens...*See you at the meeting...Randi*

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association is a volunteer group of residents working to make our neighborhood a better place to live, work and play. Newsletter funds are paid for through dues and advertising.

Issue 133 of your local neighborhood newsletter.

SONA General Meeting April 12, 2012

6:30pm Meet and Greet

- ❖ **Get to know your neighbors**
- ❖ **Coffee and Cookies**

7:00pm Welcome!

- ❖ **Reports from Council Office**
- ❖ **San Jose Police Department Updates**
- ❖ **Reports from San Jose City College**
- ❖ **Sherman Oaks Community Charter School Construction Update, James Crawford, Deputy Superintendent**

8:00pm Elections

8:05pm Time to Wrap Up

- ❖ **Announcements**
- ❖ **Drawing**
- ❖ **Have a safe trip home**

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association ...the voice of your neighborhood
Notes and News From The Neighborhood

The **United Neighborhoods of Silicon Valley Annual Spring Open House** is set for Saturday, March 31 at 5750 Almaden Expressway. This event runs from 9am-noon and features guest speaker Senator Joe Simitian who will give tips on how you can successfully influence people you meet and effectively advocate for your concerns. A continental breakfast will be served and there will be demonstrations, resource booths and neighbors from Gilroy to Palo Alto. For more information contact Michael at 564-2374 or rsvp@unsc.org.

A special thanks to **Korean American Community Services** for donating Safeway grocery bags to us! We have shopping bags for those who attend meetings. If you need an extra one, stop by.

Want to stay in touch with neighbors online? Join our chat group on Yahoo. This ensures you can find out what's going on even if you are at work. Residents who are home during the day in both the Shasta/Hanchett and Willow Glen areas were able to use their online forums to track in real time people who had committed burglaries or stolen packages dropped off by delivery services. While waiting for police, they alerted each other as to where the suspects were headed. Neighbors tracking suspects (without confrontation) could keep an eye on them and kept police alerted to their exact locations.

We also provide online delivery of our newsletter. You can sign up for online delivery by contacting board member Layne Kulwin. Thanks goes out to Layne and our new website administrator Richard Anderson.

We need delivery people who are willing to donate an hour a month. Some volunteers have recently resigned after years of service in several areas, including **Goodwin & Princess Anne**. Contact board member Sheila Cvitanich if you can help. Thanks to our new neighbor **Sharon Hobbs** for volunteering to deliver newsletters in her area.

Save those cans and bottles for our recycling drive. Board members Jussi and Lisa will be conducting another pick up drive. Give them a call to be on the list. They offer front porch pick up and your contribution helps our bottom line.

Assembly member Jim Beall is hosting a series of events this month. You can join hundreds of neighbors from across the area in the **Annual Creek Clean Up on Saturday April 14**. Registrations begins at 9am and clean up of Los Gatos Creek runs from 9:30-11:30. This is a great event that encourages clubs and classes to join in. Event is at Gilman and Campbell Aves in Campbell at Campbell Park so you're just a short light rail hop away. **Funding the Future: A Student Budget Dialogue with Legislators** is scheduled at DeAnza Community College on April 19 from 1:30-3:30pm, 2150 Stevens Creek Blvd. Cupertino. This is your chance to learn more about the ongoing drastic cuts to our educational system and talk directly with your legislators. On April 20 from 1-3pm you can learn how to not be a victim at **Senior Scam Stopper; Don't Be A Victim!** This event will be at First Congregational Church of San Jose, 1980 Hamilton Avenue and features speakers from local, state and federal agencies. You don't have to be a senior to attend this event. Register for these events online at www.asmdc.org/members/a24 or call the San Jose office at 282-8920.

Santa Clara County is updating its General Plan to include a section on how we can promote community health and wellness. What elements are important to you? What are our assets? What will we need in the future? This is your opportunity to attend a public workshop where your opinion on these matters counts and you don't even have to travel far! **The Community Health Element Workshop for our area will be held Monday April 30, from 6-8:30pm** at the Sobrato Center, 1400 Parkmoor Avenue. To receive more information or add your name to the list, contact Cherry Maurer at 299-5746 or cherry.maurer@pln.sccgov.org.

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SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to 1500 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Newsletter editor is Randi Kinman. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation. Feel free to contact any of us with ideas or questions.

City College News and Updates

Greg Nelson, Administrative Vice President of San Jose City College gave us some great news at last month's meeting! Rapidly moving along on previously approved plans, he has been working with various transit and transportation groups to realign the Leland entrance to the campus and convert the signalized intersection there. As you may recall, the initial plan was to install a three-way signal at this intersection. This would allow vehicles to enter the campus from the Parkmoor/Leland side instead of driving around Moorpark and Leigh. It will also allow vehicles exiting the campus to take advantage of a green light, allowing them direct access onto Moorpark or Leland without having to dash in front of ongoing traffic or use the Leigh Avenue side to conduct illegal left turns. The end result should be a smoother transition in and out of the campus. The project will also require coordination of signals to ensure back up is minimized, but you should see progress soon and completion before the fall semester. That will be a great relief for residents, especially during those first confusing weeks of school.

Security upgrades to the campus are also on the way. A license plate reader will be installed, allowing all vehicles to be scanned. This is tied into data base systems that scan for stolen vehicles. Greg said this was extremely successful in identifying and recovering stolen cars. A system of security cameras are being installed, including around the perimeter of the campus. This will give the campus the ability to digitally record activities and assist in police investigations, track activity on campus and keep an eye on the perimeter problems we currently experience.

Metering Lights

The Burbank/Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee will be hosting a public meeting with Caltrans to review the metering lights being installed along the Highway 280 corridor between Highway 880/17 and 10th Street. All are welcome to attend this meeting at the Sherman Oaks Community Center on April 26, 2012 6:30pm. The progress of this project and the proposed launch will be discussed. For more information, contact Michael or Randi.

SONA April Elections

It's that time of year again. Our board elections will be conducted at our April meeting. If you are interested in holding a board position, we welcome you. And we'll make it easy for you. If interested in any position, contact any board member or simply attend April's meeting. The current proposed slate is: President; Randi Kinman; Administrative VP, Michael LaRocca; Secretary, Layne Kulwin; Treasurer, Vacant; At-Large, Jussi Rajna; At-Large, Lisa Steingart; At-Large, Marlene Bird, At-Large, Sheila Cvitanich.

General Elections June 5, 2012

With General Elections coming up, SONA hopes to host a candidate/issues night in May. Stay tuned. This is a Presidential election year and there are State and local issues on the ballot. In the meantime, some important dates to remember are May 7 (first day vote by mail ballots are sent), May 21 (last day you can register to vote), and May 29 (last day to request vote by mail ballot). For more information contact the Santa Clara County Registrar's office at registrar@rov.sccgov.org or visit the website www.sccvote.org or call 282-3005. The office can also help you with materials in languages other than English and they are always looking for polling place volunteers.



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SONA Dues are Due

SONA asks for yearly dues of \$15 per household. Dues pay for newsletters, flyers and special events. While we have augmented dues by obtaining grants, the grant sources have dried up. This year, more than ever, we need your dues. You can also pay dues online through PayPal and set up an automatic billing by visiting our website at www.sona-sj.com. Thanks for your help. Please note that at no time do we share or release your information.

_____ **YES! Our Family wants to support SONA with our dues payment.**

NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Email/Phone: _____

_____ **Dues** **Make all checks out to: SONA**

_____ **Donation** **Mail to: PO Box 59146, San Jose CA 95159-0146**

_____ **Total**