

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association...the voice of your neighborhood



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association (SONA) general meetings are open to all interested parties. General meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Bascom Community Center, 1000 S. Bascom Ave beginning at 6:30pm. SONA board meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center at 6:30pm. Newsletter is partially funded with a Community Action and Pride (CAP) Grant from the City of San Jose.

Issue 182 of Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Notes from the Board

SONA Board members are pitching in this month with some messages:

Lisa wants to remind seniors who live in their own homes and are low income that you can reduce your tax bill by applying for an exemption with Santa Clara Valley Water District for the Safe, Clean Water Parcel Tax. **You must enroll by June 30, 2016.** To apply, call the main number at 408.265.2600 or go to www.valleywater.org and look for the button on the home page.

Jussi wants to let folks know we are no longer collecting recycling for SONA. Thanks for all of your help, and thanks for the last donation.

Randi wants to point out that there are a lot of scams these days coming in through the phones. Even if your phone is listed on the "Do Not Call" registry, it doesn't stop people from calling you all the time. The IRS and the State of California, along with Microsoft do not call you asking for money or access to your computer. Report all of these scams to the FCC. It's one easy call (1-888-225-5322) or online form (fcc.gov)

Michael wants to remind folks that next month we will be having our annual ice cream social at the KaBOOM! playground on Leigh and Fruitdale. Save the date and plan on joining us on the evening of July 14. Bring a picnic or mosey down after dinner. Free ice cream and treats while they last.

Anne wants people to know we have a new bakery and café opening, Vie Café at 905 S Bascom. Adding to our newly opened La Superior Panadaria y Taqueria on Leigh at De Rose (across from CVS), it looks like SONA's business areas are starting to pick up steam.

Marlene noted that those of you who have enjoyed the great service of Nancy's Cleaners and Alterations on Bascom can now find the business on Southwest Expressway in the new Fruitdale Station Development. Plenty of parking.

As always, stay safe and have fun during the month of June.

SONA General Meeting

**Homeless Care Kit
Pack-a-Thon**

**June 9, 2016 6:30pm-8:30pm
2nd Floor Community Room
Bascom Library, 1000 S. Bascom
Use stairs or elevator**

We will once again be packing up care kits for the county outreach teams to use as they contact homeless residents and try to connect them to services. This is not a direct outreach program, but by providing staff with materials that have basic necessities in them, this allows a more personal touch and provides homeless with a few simple things. The last time, we packed up more than 200 kits.

If you want to donate, we can use toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, socks, shampoo, soap, brushes and combs, razors, hand wipes, wash cloths and lip balm. We also packed up small first aid kits with bandaids, small tubes of antibiotic ointment, q-tips and emery boards. Food donations of packaged nuts, fruit snacks, snack bars, gum, mints, packaged eating utensils, etc. as long as there is no chocolate to melt are welcome. Women's hygiene supplies that are packaged, hair ties, scrunchies, clips, etc. will be gladly accepted.

Right now we could use lots of socks and lip balm.

Please RSVP if you are coming, especially if you are bringing products with you. And if you want to drop off supplies, we will provide you with a drop off point.

**Info or rsvp: Rand
randikinman@yahoo.com or 408 835 2881.**

Notes and News

San Jose City College project is underway. The new PE building has gone through demolition and the project can finally get underway. The City stalled SJCC on a fully operating intersection at Kingman and Leigh, but they have been able to move forward. We will be receiving monthly updates and posting them online. Meanwhile, a construction camera has been set up and you can see the progression of the new facility by going to <http://cboc.sjebond.com/san-jose-city-college-physical-education-building-webcam/>

You have a few weeks left to take advantage of the free large items recycling the City of San Jose offers for single-family homes. From now through the end of June your first pick up of three items (furniture, televisions, appliances, etc.) is free by calling your carrier (we should be Green Team 408.282-4400). After June or after your first pick up, the fee is \$27 which is extremely reasonable. For those of you who live in apartments or condos, contact your property manager or owner. You can also find more information on the City's website <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=3649>. Or call the city's main line (408.535.3500) and ask for the Environmental Services Department. Business owners can contact www.recyclestuff.org.

After this month City Council takes a break but all city offices will still be up and running. If in the next month or so where temperatures are sustained at more than 100F and you don't have air conditioning, the City will have cooling stations available. Take care of yourselves and keep an eye on your neighbors. If you have questions about cooling centers, call the city's main number at 408.535.3500.

While you are enjoying the summer, don't forget to stop by Plaza de Caesar Chavez downtown. The set up for the Superbowl, with movable chairs, activities and lots of space will be going on all summer. It's become a great place to take the kids to cool off in the fountain, gather with friends and enjoy our summer afternoons and evenings.

Cinemark Movies is running a special kids club movie program (\$5/10 movies or \$1/each) so check with the Santana Row theater manager.

SONA Contact List

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Nextdoor Neighborhood: www.Nextdoor.com

Website www.sona-sj.com

SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to 1000 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.

**SONA Prepared
Part 2 in a Series**

Earthquakes, fire and floods are the most likely scenarios that will drive us from our homes. This month we will concentrate on what to do if you have to leave your home or if stranded with your car. First, make sure your house is earthquake safe and that you have an evacuation plan. Make sure caretakers of children, seniors and disabled are involved. Double check your plan; is your evacuation route going to have fallen bookcases, debris or barriers? Do you have a secondary route like a window? Look around, where are you likely to have a fire?

Everybody should have a go-bag. Keep it under a bed or somewhere easy to reach. In earthquakes, the most common injuries are from people walking through broken glass, so have shoes handy. Pack your bag as if it's all you'll have for 48 hours.

Grab your bag and go. If home, don't stop to make phone calls, don't try to put out fires, get out now.

Hold drills. When on vacation, keep a bag packed and handy at all times.

Home Go-Bag

One per person. Store within handy reach.

- ✓ At least one change of clothing, preferably two. Make sure there is something warm. Always pack extra socks. Diapers for kids and extra clothes for older ones.
- ✓ Your communications plan. Make sure it includes how to reach everybody else.
- ✓ Medical kit. Ask your pharmacist for an empty pill bottle or save one. Inside keep a list of your medicines, allergies and a copy of your insurance card. Make sure you have a three-day supply of necessary medicines in the bag. Put a first aid kit in. Add extra antibiotic gel, wipes or foam.
- ✓ A photo copy of your ID (license, ID card, passport, etc.) in a waterproof bag. If you do not use an off site or cloud method of backing up important documents, scan and add them to a thumb drive or make sure whoever is your out of town contact has copies. Toss in a small notepad and pens.
- ✓ Several bottles of water. Snack bars, dried fruits, protein bars or other food to keep you going.
- ✓ Extra keys with a key ring flashlight.
- ✓ Hygiene supplies such as toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, paper towels, tissue, wipes, gel, cream, sunscreen.
- ✓ For kids, something of comfort; blankets, a soft toy, etc. and don't forget diapers.
- ✓ Pets: If you have room outside, use a pet crate to store food and comfort items. Tape a picture of your pet inside the crate along with your vet's info and microchip info.
- ✓ Bonus: Hard hat, reflective tape, disposable phone, chargers, radios, towel, wash cloth, garbage bags, rain poncho. Glow sticks make great temporary lighting. Headlamps for the dark,

Car Kits

Your car should have emergency supplies for your entire household at all times. In an urban area, we can often be kept away from home because of accidents or emergencies. Even a lovely day trip along a back road can be problematic when you have an accident or flat in the evening and have to wait. What would you or your family need to car camp for a day?

- ✓ Food and water. Doesn't have to be a lot, but make sure there's protein, carbs and hydration.
- ✓ Emergency first aid kits
- ✓ Many medicines will not store well in a hot car for long times.
- ✓ A handful of t-shirts and sweats will serve the family, but pack extra socks, towels and blankets.
- ✓ Bonus: reflectors, flares, reflective tape and flashlights.
- ✓ **Never leave identifying information in your vehicle that can be used for identity theft in case your vehicle is stolen.**

SONA Prepared – June Checklist

Family Communication Plan

Last month we covered the Family Communication Plan. Before any preparation, your family should have emergency contact info together, a plan to meet up and a way to contact outside friends or family.

Even if you don't complete the "homework" for one month, you can still follow through.

Even if you can't put together a Go-Bag for everybody in the house right away, start with the car. Pool the supplies needed; you don't need six tubes of toothpaste, just one. Those old shoes you've replaced are good emergency footwear. That last big garbage bag makes a great tarp or rain poncho. There's usually plenty of room for things around the spare tire.

This month we concentrate on home and vacation emergencies.

- ✓ Establish an earthquake or fire drill system at home so everybody knows how to evacuate the house. Hold at least one evacuation.
- ✓ If there are baby sitters, caretakers for seniors and disabled, etc. make sure they have drilled.
- ✓ Prepare a Go-Bag kit for evacuating your home for each person.
- ✓ Prepare a Go-Bag kit for the car.
- ✓ If on vacation, make sure you know how to leave and where to go. Airlines give you that information in flight, but it's up to you to figure it out when you are away from home. Even if you are at a theme park, make sure everybody knows where to go in case you get separated.
- ✓ Know the drill at work.

There is a huge array of information on line that allows you to tailor your plan and needs. Those with mobility issues, medical equipment, pets, etc. all have very specific issues to address. There is also a lot of good advice out there for people with children, including lessons plans and activities for even the smallest child that allows you to prepare not scare the kids. Our lists serve as a general list, but for more information on actions you can take, visit

Santa Clara County also has an alert system for local residents called AlertSCC that will send an alert to your mobile device, computer or landline. You can sign up via 211 or log in and sign up at <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/alertscc>.

Next Month: Long term emergency supplies. In a major disaster, even though we are just blocks from the primary county hospital and near a primary evacuation point, in a major disaster we are warned to expect a week or more before being "rescued". What do you need, where should supplies be stored and how can you access them easily?

Coming: Fire and earthquake safety measures to take around the house. A step by step process of walking through your house and making it safe.