



# Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

## Notes From The President

### SONA Board Elections are this month here's a Slated of Officers

President	Michael LaRocca	Area Captain	Sheila Cvitanich
Admin V.P.	Randi Kinman	Area Captain	Carl Lindner
Secretary	Jussi Rajna	Area Captain	Vacant
Treasurer	Marlene Bird	Area Captain	Vacant
		Area Captain	Vacant

\*\*\*\*\*

Michael Renzi, Director of Finance & Administration with San Jose City College will be our speaker at this month to provide us progress updates on their Capital Improvement Program and answer questions about the program and other educational and operational issues that affect our neighborhood. Also joining Mr. Renzi will be Dr. Michael Burke the new college president. Dr. Burke has a doctorate in Educational Administration from the Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas at Austin, Masters and Bachelors degrees in English from the University of Houston, and certificates of completion from Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management and the League for Innovation's Executive Leadership Institute. Nationally, he currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and serves on the AACC Commission on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity.

This will be your opportunity meet the new college president and for him to meet you as well and hear progress updates related to college campus, programs, and activities. **Michael**

**AGENDA**

**SONA GENERAL MEETING**

**Thursday  
April 12, 2007**

**6:30 p.m.**  
**Refreshments and Meet the Neighbors**

**7:00 p.m.**  
**Welcome**

**7:05 p.m.**  
**Election of Officers**

**7:10 p.m.**  
**SJPD (if available)**

**7: 20 p.m.**  
**San Jose City College Progress Update and New College President**

**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Ave. SJ CA 95128**

## Good Neighbor Corner

Jussi Rajna and Michael LaRocca recently worked as Election Officers on the March 6th Special Election for San Jose City Council's District 6 Councilmember. They received a total of \$167.50 for their work and requested that it be donated to the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association's General Fund. Jussi and Michael thank you for your donation!

## Notes and News

New and renewing members this month include **Lisa Steingart, Nadine Douglas, Carmen & Anthony Pisano, Charissa DeFancesco & Anthony Pagka, Jacqueline Schooler, Betty & Charles Slater, William Jhun & Colean Carrillo, Pauline Gillet, Richard & Marci Deyhle, and Nancy Moritz.**

While our neighborhood has benefited from the overall reduction of crime, we still need to be vigilant and aware. Residents on the 700 block of Richmond Avenue woke up the morning of the 22nd to find their car had disappeared from the driveway overnight. The recent SJPD reports indicate that they expect this to be an active summer as crime is already picking up. Now is the time to review your safety protocols at home. It is tempting to open windows and doors on these great spring days, but just make sure you have things locked up safely. Our best wishes to the Richmond residents on getting their car back.

SONA has receive a Community Action and Pride (CAP) grant from the City of San Jose this year to conduct activities during the year and to help offset our newsletter costs. We could use some help on the organizing front. If you want to help organize our August National Night Out event, or if you have questions concerning the event, contact Michael LaRocca. Our newsletter is not fully funded, so we are always looking for ad placement and additional donations.

On April 12, 2007 there will be a conference at Evergreen Valley College that will be promoting tools for peace and non-violence. **Carry The Vision** is sponsoring the day long conference and Youth Leadership summit that will help you build a culture of peace and non-violence in our communities. They expect to have over 800 attendees from all ranges of ethnic, age, religious

and cultural backgrounds. Partners include The Center for Spiritual Enlightenment, Councilman Dave Cortese, City Year San Jose and the San Jose Sikh Gudwara Community. For more information visit [www.carrythevision.org](http://www.carrythevision.org) or call 528.8000.

**The Bascom Avenue Community Center and Library** process is moving along. The project was recently brought before the Parks and Recreation Commission for an update. Attending this meeting were SONA members Michael LaRocca and Randi Kinman along with Buena Vista Neighborhood Association VP Robert Solis. After the overview, residents commented on the quality of the project which now includes potential for outdoor movie screenings. Residents also requested that staff be more pro-active in searching for funds to ensure the site has solar power to offset future utility costs in alignment with Mayor Chuck Reed's State of the City statement that public building should have solar. The residents of this community were lauded by the architect for being in front of the issues and doing our homework.

**Burbank/Del Monte Neighborhood Advisory Committee** member and attendees were a little dismayed last month when staff proposed shelving the feasibility study for the Highway 280 Freeway Park project in favor of doing a study on acquisition of park land. It was pointed out to the staff members who had not been part of previous conversations that the acquisition concept was part of the whole study and that residents want to keep this project moving forward. We have always promoted a study that would determine if a platform over Hwy 280 is feasible, and if not, what our alternatives are for increasing park land. If you look at a map of our council district, we are sorely lacking in green space or recreational amenities that are enjoyed by much of the rest of the city. We will keep you posted.

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SECRETARY	Vacant	
TREASURER, Marlene Bird	288-9727	mbird@cbnorcal.com
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AREA CAPTAIN, Carl Lindner		
AREA CAPTAIN, Jussi Rajna	291.0202	
AREA CAPTAIN	Vacant	
AREA CAPTAIN	Vacant	
Website	<a href="http://www.sona-sj.com">www.sona-sj.com</a>	

<p>The SONA newsletter is published monthly and distributed to almost 1500 residences. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation and comments.</p>
<p>SONA Newsletter Editor: Randi Kinman SONA Website Administrator: Sonya Paz</p>

## Save the Date

## 2-1-1 Resource Line

**Now through April 13** - San Jose State University Gerontology Program is hosting a series of speakers and events. Ranging from health insurance and counseling, senior day services, Adult Protective Services and careers in aging, there is something for everyone. For more info contact Dr. Hikoyeda at 924.2938 or email [nhikoyeda@casa.sjsu.edu](mailto:nhikoyeda@casa.sjsu.edu).

**April 16** is the annual Master Gardeners' sale at the Mercury News Parking lot from 9am-2pm. Note that this is a new day for the event. This is your chance to purchase standard and heirloom tomatoes and peppers, shop for unusual gardening products and plants or learn more about planting native gardens. Note that this is a new date for the event and it is suggested you get there early. Lines form quickly for incredible variety of tomato plants. For more information, contact Master Gardeners at 282-3105 or visit their website at <http://www.mastergardeners.org/scc.html>. Demonstrations and exhibits will be available throughout the day.

**April 28** is the Spring in Guadalupe Gardens annual event. Held at Columbus Park from 10am-3pm, this is an event for the entire family. Learn about this incredible local resource, tour native gardens, the Heritage Rose Garden, the Heritage Orchard or shop for plants and tips from local gardening experts. One of the highlights for kids and adults last year was learning how to use native materials to dye plants. There will be music and entertainment, fitness activities and solar demonstrations. Local gardening experts Tony Tomeo and Tom Liggett will be on hand. For more information contact [www.grp.org](http://www.grp.org) or call 298-7657.

**May 19** - Great American Pick-Up Day. This is an annual event sponsored by the City of San Jose. More information will come later. Traditionally neighbors ban together to pick up litter, clean graffiti and adopt other one-day projects that will help make neighborhoods a better place.

**June 6** - Second Annual SNI Recognition dinner by the Neighborhood Housing Services of Silicon Valley. This is your opportunity to recognize neighbors who have gone above and beyond to make a difference in your SNI neighborhoods.

**Ongoing** strength and fitness classes are being held for cancer patients and survivors at no charge. Sponsored by Stanford and the YMCA. Contact Joyce Hanna at 650.725.5014 or you can email at [joycehanna@stanford.edu](mailto:joycehanna@stanford.edu). Web: [lslw.stanford.edu](http://lslw.stanford.edu)

We know that for phone number information we call 411, for police non-emergencies we call 311 and for emergencies we dial 911, but who do we call for one-stop resources and referrals when our family and friends are in need?

Thanks to **United Way** and the **Alliance for Information and Referral Services**, Santa Clara County residents can now call 211 for referrals to all types of social service agencies. This resource line is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, offering referral services in multiple languages.

In times of crisis this service will be able to provide you and your family much needed referral services in such areas as:

- **Basic Needs** such as foodbanks, clothing assistance, rental and utility assistance.
- **Physical and Mental Health** referrals including psychiatric, drug and alcohol counseling, health insurance including Medicaid and Medicare, children's health insurance programs and crisis intervention.
- **Employment Support** services such as benefits information, job training, transportation and education.
- **Support for Older Americans and Persons with Disabilities** including home health care, respite services, meal services, transportation and homemaker services.
- **Children, Youth and Family Service** referrals to answer the needs relating to day care, Success by 6, after school care, Head Start, tutoring programs, summer programs and recreation camps.

If you want to volunteer or if you belong to an organization that can offer services, you can also become involved by contacting 211.

Introduced by Senators Clinton (D-NY) and Dole (R-NC), legislation is still pending to make this a nationwide program. For more information on supporting this legislation, call 1-888-PASS211.

# SUPPORT SONA ADVERTISERS

## SONA Membership Dues

Join the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association and become part of a network of residents working to improve and maintain the neighborhood quality of life (safety, property values, aesthetics) and represent SONA neighborhood interests before local governments.

**Dues \$12.00 per year, payable yearly.** All residents, businesses, elected officials and organizations within SONA's boundaries are eligible for membership.

Meetings are held from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128.

Membership dues help fund projects and social events working towards SONA's mission of moving in a positive direction for the improvement of our neighborhood.

NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE and/or

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign me up for the following committees:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paint Out Graffiti  | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Preparedness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social              | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification      | <input type="checkbox"/> Political              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Safety      | <input type="checkbox"/> SONA Board             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)        |

Mail to: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Dues: \$12.00  
 SONA Additional Donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PO Box 59146 Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 San Jose CA 95129-0146

Comments:



**Marlene Bird**

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## San Jose Fire Stations Hold Spring Open Houses

Join the SJ Fire Department at one or more of their Fire Station Open Houses. Learn about the importance of smoke alarms, exit drills, when to call 911 and other subjects. Have you ever visited a Fire Station? If not, this is an opportunity for the whole family. Open Houses will be from 2pm -5pm on:

- **Sat 3/17 Fire Station #22**, 1641 Bose Lane/Camden Avenue
- **Sat 4/21 Fire Station #16**, 2001 S. King Road/Cunningham Avenue
- **Sat 5/19 Fire Station #29**, 199 Innovation Drive/Zanker Road
- **Sat 6/16 Fire Station #7**, 800 Emory Street/Laurel Street
- **Sat 7/21 Fire Station #6**, 1386 Cherry6 Ave/Minnesota Ave

Group reservations for scout troops, clubs, etc. can be made by calling the San Jose Fire Department Office of Public Education at 408.277/2878 or email pub-ed@sanjoseca.gov.