

# SAN TOMAS WEST

## *Neighborhood Association*



## *Neighbor to Neighbor Newsletter*

Volume IV, Issue V

October/November, 2010

### STWNA MEETING

**Wednesday,  
November 10  
6:30pm - 8:30pm**

Payne Elementary  
Multi-Use Room  
3750 Gleason Ave.

### Everyone Welcome!

Log on to the STWNA  
website for the  
complete agenda  
[www.SanTomasWest.com](http://www.SanTomasWest.com)

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### November Keynote: Brian O Regan and Station 14 Firefighters

Station 14 Firefighters, in conjunction with the Fire Administration, are reaching out to local community groups in an effort to create a partnership in promoting fire safety. Due to recent budget cuts, the San Jose Fire Department has been forced to make some very difficult decisions; one of these being the elimination of their Public Education Program. This action, along with the numerous recent fires in our neighborhood, has moved them to actively seek ways to better inform the people they serve about what they do, how they operate, and actions community members can take to help themselves stay safe.

Brian O Regan and Station 14



**Brian O'Regan**  
Station 14 Firefighter

Firefighters will present audio tapes from a recent fire event at the November meeting. We will explain logic behind the

coordinated actions firefighters from each company take to extinguish a house fire. We will also review response times to events, and discuss actions homeowners can take to assist us in performing our duties more efficiently. Additionally, we will explain and demonstrate each firefighter's responsibilities in a cardiac arrest event.

Captain Chris Remer said "We strongly feel that establishing a direct link to the community can help us serve and protect, and participating in neighborhood associations like yours is one of the ways we can accomplish this. Thank you for granting us this opportunity."

### Christmas Tree Fundraiser for Moreland Schools

Pre-order your Christmas tree now and support the music program in our district! Music in Moreland and the Moreland Educational Foundation (MEF) is sponsoring a Christmas tree fundraiser to help save our district's band and orchestra programs. Pre-order your tree now through November 10th, 2010 through the MEF website at [www.mefhome.org](http://www.mefhome.org). Secure payments can be made via PayPal using your credit card or download the order form from the website to pay by check.

Trees will be distributed on Saturday, December 4, 2010 at the Moreland Woods on Doyle Road adjacent to Easterbrook Discovery School. Santa Claus will be there to take pictures with the children. Enjoy the festive holiday music provided by our district music stu-

dents while indulging in cookies and hot chocolate. This will be a fun-filled event not to be missed! Pre-order your tree today and support the music program in our local community. Contact Terri Fill at [terri.fill@gmail.com](mailto:terri.fill@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

These USDA Certified Grade #1 or better trees are set at these **very affordable prices:**

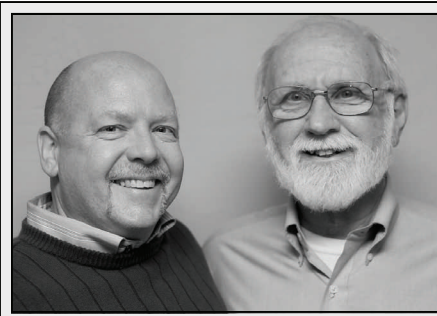
Douglas Fir	Noble Fir
5 - 6 ft \$35	5 - 6 ft \$45
6 - 7 ft \$40	6 - 7 ft \$50
7 - 8 ft \$45	7 - 8 ft \$55
8 - 9 ft \$50	8 - 9 ft \$65

## Board of Directors Message

The STWNA meetings, while usually well attended, seem to attract mostly older, even retired, residents. We would like to see a much higher attendance from the parents of the Payne School students. Starting with our November meeting, we will offer an area of the meeting hall where students can study, do a coloring project or work on a quiet craft, while the parents attend the meeting. They will be supervised by a member of the Board or anyone else willing to sit with them.

Participation by the Payne School parents is important, since the Association is starting a volunteer program with the school. Residents living within the STWNA boundaries will be invited to help out at the school in a variety of ways. Volunteers could help serve lunches in the cafeteria; help out on the playground or assist teachers in other ways. One program that the school administrators would love to promote is to have older people come in and share their experiences and skills with the students. This could be stories about themselves, sharing interesting work experiences or doing some sort of arts and crafts with the students. This program would take only about one-half hour at a time and be conducted during the student's lunch hour.

We are also going to make an effort to have the meetings be more of a social event, where neighbors can talk with neighbors and socialize over a cup of coffee and a treat. To provide for this time, the meetings will be shortened to one and one half



**STWNA President Warren Campbell (l) & Vice Pres. Peter Rushbrook (r)**

hours (from two hours), leaving time for visiting at the end. One hour of this will be for our featured and other speakers, and one-half hour will be for STWNA Board reports and other business. We hope everyone will stay after the official meeting and join in the socializing.

Also, as we have written in the past, the STWNA runs on volunteers. In response to a call for volunteers to become Block Captains to distribute the newsletters, we were able to fill three vacancies. At present, there are still two distribution routes open, so once again, the call is out for

volunteers. The two routes are Morrene (19 newsletters) and San Tomas Aquino Parkway from Payne to Hamilton plus Flora Ave (90 newsletters). The first one would take only about fifteen minutes to finish, the second would take about one hour. Newsletters are distributed five times per year. If anyone is interested, email the STWNA and put BLOCK CAPTAIN in the title. If you would be willing to take on both routes, mention that in your email, since, as mentioned, the Morrene route is very small.

Finally, the January 2011 meeting is when new Board members will be voted into office. There will also be other issues that will require a vote from the membership. Information on these issues will be available at the November meeting, so please, everyone make a special effort to attend the meeting on November 10th. See you there!

## Scrip Provides an Easy Way to Support Payne School

STWNA and Payne School have recently begun a partnership to build and improve our community. The Principal and parents at Payne School are working on ways to increase visibility and participation for STWNA. Members have already begun supporting Payne school.

One of Payne's most successful fundraisers is the **Scrip Program** and members of STWNA can participate too **without spending any additional money!** The way the Scrip Program works is through gift cards. It offers over 200 of your favorite, local retailers, including groceries, pharmacies, gas, fast food, restaurants, movies, and our favorite shops. When you buy a scrip card for \$25 to CVS, you pay \$25, get the \$25 scrip card and it is CVS that contributes 6%, or \$1.50 of your \$25, to Payne.

Here's an example of how to make Scrip work for you:

- ◆ You spend \$200 per month at Nob

Hill for Groceries, or \$2400 per year.

- ◆ This month, you buy \$200 scrip at the November meeting. Then, you buy your groceries at Nob Hill and pay your \$200 bill with the Scrip you purchased.
- ◆ Nob Hill then contributes 6%, or \$12, to Payne.
- ◆ If you used scrip to buy groceries each month, Nob Hill would contribute \$144 to Payne at no extra cost to you!!

**Scrip gift cards also make an excellent gift!** The Holidays are coming and with over 200 retailers to choose from, you can finish up your Christmas shopping at our upcoming November meeting! Gift cards make a wonderful, easy gift for our friends and loved ones and you can raise money for your local school at the same time!

One of our favorite Scrip cards costs only \$20, and has a \$50, value! It is **Restaurant.com** who donates a whopping 50%, or \$10, to Payne. What a great way to get a bang for your buck!

There are many ways to raise money for Payne for **FREE!** Do you shop at Lucky's, Safeway or Nob Hill for your groceries? If you do, just sign up for a FREE grocery card and raise money for Payne every time you do your regular shopping. It's easy. All you need to do is email Lisa at: [stwna@yahoo.com](mailto:stwna@yahoo.com) to sign up for your **FREE** grocery card!

Scrip forms have been posted on the STWNA website so you can look and see what stores are available. Many favorite grocery and retail stores offer scrip and many at a discount! Feel free to contact Lisa at [stwna@yahoo.com](mailto:stwna@yahoo.com) if you'd like to start purchasing scrip. She will be selling scrip at the November meeting, so come on by and she can answer any questions you may have.

CLIP AND SAVE

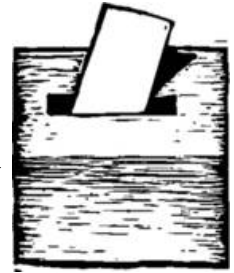
**STWNA 2010 Calendar**

- 11/10 STWNA General Meeting
  - 12/4 Caring and Sharing
  - 1/12/11 STWNA Annual Meeting
- All general meetings and information nights will be held in Payne School's MU room unless otherwise noted

# Remember to VOTE

## Tuesday, November 2

log on to [www.SmartVoter.org](http://www.SmartVoter.org) for Santa Clara County Voter information on Candidates, Ballot Initiatives, Polling Places and More!



### Virtual Town Hall Meeting A HUGE Success ~ Watch it Online

The D1 Leadership Group in conjunction with Councilmember Pete Constant's office hosted a unique opportunity for community members to learn more about three crucial measures that will appear on ballots this November and that can directly affect the nature of both our City and our communities. This hugely successful event included proponents and opponents to each of the measures:

- ◆ Measure U: Marijuana Business Tax
- ◆ Measure V: Limits Powers of Outside Arbitrators
- ◆ Measure W: Pension Reform

Garvin Thomas, award winning local reporter for NBC, Bay Area News served as moderator for the event. If you missed the meeting or the live streaming, a recorded version is posted on the D1 website at [www.d1leadershipgroup.com](http://www.d1leadershipgroup.com).

Special thanks to Councilmember Pete Constant and his office for co-hosting and providing equipment, resources and support to make the event possible.



**Have a safe Halloween  
Trick or Treat with Friends!**

## Strong Neighborhoods and Cap Grant Funds

San Jose Neighborhood Development Center provides the community with access for tools and resources to assist new and established neighborhood groups and leaders with their organizing efforts. Our President, Warren Campbell submitted a request for resources to help STWNA reach our 2011 goals.

As of 2010 over 104 million dollars of redevelopment funds and 32 million of City funds have been invested as part of strong neighborhoods to improve the physical capital and services of those neighborhoods. The strong neighborhood, established in 2002 by the city council, is a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization program. The core of the strong neighborhood strategy is to provide meaningful and visible changes in our neighborhood.

Some of the visible changes you will notice in our STWNA neighborhood is the results from the river clean up in May and November, community garage sales in May, our Dumpster Day in October and the Caring and Sharing Holiday event in December. These programs and events help our community in many ways and improve the cleanliness of our neighborhoods.

Our association meetings at Payne School have had meaningful speakers related to topics in our STWNA community. The

police Department from Campbell and San Jose discuss traffic problems, crime and safety tips to keep our homes and neighborhood safe. The fire department has attended to encourage safety in our homes and the prevention of fires. The speakers from Safeway have informed us and kept us updated on the new Safeway that is coming in the old Mervyns store area on Hamilton Avenue.

Each year we have a block party to improve community relations and awareness, and to meet and greet more members of our community. The fun and games are enjoyed by everyone. Our annual caring and giving event is conducted each year as part of the social awareness project. We have contributed shoes, clothes, food and articles for pets to those in need. The STWNA Neighbor to Neighbor newsletter is distributed to over 2000 houses to keep them informed of our community activities.

We do these things and a lot more due to our Cap Grant and the generosity of our members that volunteer their time and talents and their dues. We encourage everyone to join the San Tomas West Neighborhood Association for 2011 to support OUR neighborhood organization and become an active participant in keeping our community safe, clean and well-informed.

**Are you or do you know our local business owners? The STWNA is developing a business partners program for local companies. Contact the STWNA today to explore the possibilities and assist in the development of our unique program.**



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## Support the Advertisers in the Neighbor to Neighbor Newsletter

The San Tomas West Neighborhood Association is a completely independent, not-for-profit organization that relies strictly on funds generated from member dues, newsletter advertising and donations.

Through the generosity of the advertisers on this page, we can fund our special projects, like the upcoming Holiday Caring, Sharing and Giving event, Block Parties, Dumpster Days, River and Creek-Way Cleanups, E-Waste Events and more.

The advertisers make this newsletter possible. Please support our advertisers and let them know you saw their ad in the STWNA Neighbor to Neighbor Newsletter.

### Advertise in the STWNA Newsletter

Rates start as low as \$40.00 per placement to reach **OVER 2000 homes** in our community.

For information, or to place an ad log on to [satomaswest@yahoo.com](mailto:satomaswest@yahoo.com) and click on the newsletter tab.

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