

SAN TOMAS WEST

Neighborhood Association



Neighbor to Neighbor Newsletter

Volume IV, Issue IV

December 2010/January 2011

STWNA MEETING

Wednesday,
January 12
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Payne Elementary
Multi-Use Room
3750 Gleason Ave.

**Everyone
Welcome!**

Log on to the STWNA
website for the
complete agenda
www.SanTomasWest.com

Inside this issue:

Board of Directors Message	P2
2010 Assn. Recap	P2
Calendar of Events	P3
Caring & Sharing Event	P3
Dumpster Day Recap	P3
Advertising Info.	P4

**PLEASE
SUPPORT OUR
SPONSORS**

P4

STWNA Celebrates 4th Birthday Join the PARTY, Get Involved, Be Informed!

CELEBRATE our BIRTHDAY, Wednesday, January 12! STWNA is four years old and our fifth year is already shaping up. Don't miss the January Annual Meeting and **PARTY**. Exercise your vote and choose the direction that you want the Neighborhood to go in 2011. The only requirement to vote is that you live within the STWNA boundaries and that you are a member. Membership applications will be available at the meeting for those who wish to join or renew.

Happy Birthday S.T.W.N.A.



**Join us
for Cake!**

We will celebrate with cake

and sparkling cider, and then we will vote on Bylaws changes. More cake and cider will follow, then we will vote on the 2011 Goals and Priorities, approve the Calendar, and elect our new officers. Offices up for election are President, Vice President and Treasurer. Then we will close out the meeting with more cake and cider – Woo Hoo! We will have a children's area set up, partitioned from the meeting. Kids can work on homework, draw pictures, color, play cards, etc. and when our meeting is finished they can

Seema Salgaonkar of Moreland Middle School Honored with Educator of the Year Award

Moreland Middle School's 7th grade teacher, Seema Salgaonkar, has won the Educator of the Year Award for the California League of Middle Schools for Region 5, inclusive of Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties. The **CLMS Educator of the Year Award**, sponsored by Prentice Hall and the Dairy Council of California, is given annually to 11 educators, representing regions throughout California, who exemplify educational efforts to implement elements of educational reform in the middle school. Ms. Salgaonkar will go on to represent the Region at the state competition in late February in Sacramento.

Payne Elementary School and Moreland Middle School have a lot to be thankful for this

holiday season. In kicking off the holiday season, both schools collected food donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank, demonstrating the need to give back to their students and families.



In addition to regular school day activities, Payne offered a Holiday Boutique, giving students an opportunity to earn money by selling their own homemade crafts, candies, and baked goods.

The Payne students and staff would like to invite you to save the date and attend their performing arts grade-level performances in the New Year. First and second grade will kick-off the various days of performance on February 1st at 6:30PM.

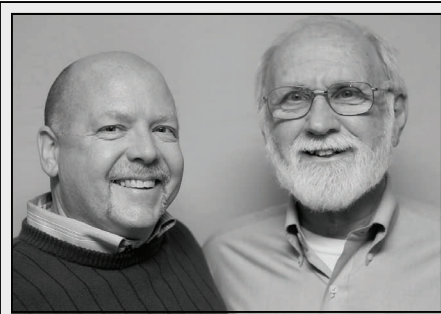
Board of Directors Message

It seems like just a short while ago we wrote about upcoming elections for STWNA Board members. Well, here we are again. At the January, 2011 meeting (2nd Wednesday, on January 12th) we will once again be voting on a Board of Directors, who will steer the activities of the STWNA for the next two years.

This forum has mentioned, numerous times, the importance of volunteers for the running of the Association. Nowhere is this more important than finding people willing to serve on the Board of Directors. The positions take just a few hours of your time each month, and you will be thoroughly coached by the outgoing Board member for each office.

This can be a very rewarding activity. You have the opportunity to take a role in the direction of one of the most successful neighborhood associations in the cities of San Jose and Campbell. There are several openings this time. Up for election are the offices of President, 2nd Vice President and Treasurer.

The main duties of the President are to preside at the General meetings and the Board Meetings, be responsible for getting speakers for the General meetings, direct the activities of the other Board Members and write the President's Message for each newsletter. The main functions of the Second Vice President are to get the advertising for the newsletter and develop ongoing relationships with businesses within our boundaries. The Treasurer keeps accurate financial records for the association and monitors the spending of Association Funds, and pre-



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

sents financial reports at the General Meeting.

Another position that is opening in January is that of First Vice President. Although there is still one year remaining of the tenure, the present First Vice President is requesting to be replaced due to personal commitments. The primary responsibility of this position is to oversee the Block Captains and the distribution of the newsletter. This position can be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors.

The position of Secretary is also open, due to personal commitments of the present Secretary. The main responsibility of this position is to keep accurate membership information and take the minutes for the bi-monthly Board Meetings and General Meetings, which are posted on the internet. This position may also be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors.

To be eligible to vote, you must be a paid member of the STWNA. If not already a member, you can sign up at the January meeting. The dues are still just \$15 for the year. Remember, by becoming a member, you not only get the privilege of voting, but you are sending a message to the cities of San Jose and Campbell that we are an active Association and care about our neighbors and our neighborhood.

We truly hope that volunteers will step up and offer to fill the vacancies of the Board of Directors. The future of the Association depends upon it.

2010 San Tomas West Neighborhood Association Recap

2010 was another exciting year for STWNA. We started off in January by celebrating our third year as a neighborhood organization with cake and Sparkling Cider, voted for our goals and Priorities, and elected new officers.

Throughout 2010 we had some great speakers. Al Bito, Campbell Public Information Officer, informed us on the state of the city; Natalie Mattei, Safeway Inc., broke the news about the Safeway Project at the Mervyns site; Jesse Denver, San Jose Solar, informed us of San Jose's aggressive green goals; Glen Ishiwata, Moreland School District Superintendent, illuminated us on the high caliber of the Moreland school district; Theresa Molinelli, Principal and Tracy Dwyer, Vice Principal of Payne Elementary, showed us the ongoing programs at Payne Elementary and Brian O Regan and all the Firefighters from Station 14 B-shift, gave us

a demonstration on cardiac response procedures.

We have had several restaurant nights, an amazing and well attended Block Party, an association wide Garage Sale Day, two National River Cleanup days, Dumpster Day, a volunteer recognition party and just this month distributed two pick-up truck loads of donated items from the Sharing, Caring and Giving event.

If you are reading this and you have not attended one of our meetings or events, you have missed quite a bit of information, laughter, personal fulfillment, fun and food. But do not worry we will be having more great speakers, community projects, restaurant nights, and fun social events throughout 2011. We hope to see you soon.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

*** The remodeling of the Old Mervyns building is underway and the new Safeway store is expected to be open for business around February 2011. The existing Safeway on Winchester Boulevard at Budd Avenue will remain open.

*** San Jose is facing a fiscal crisis which will likely mean more reductions to your services. On November 9th the City Manager released her preliminary 2011-2012 General Fund Budget forecast. The deficit estimate has already been amended to \$90 Million and will probably be closer to \$112 Million.

*** The Campbell City Council has approved the plans for the first phase of the Winchester Boulevard Master Plan Improvements project. The project is scheduled to begin construction in June 2011 and take about six months to complete.

CLIP AND SAVE

STWNA 2011 Calendar*to be approved at the annual meeting***01/12 STWNA Annual Meeting**

03/09 STWNA General Meeting

05/11 STWNA General Meeting

09/14 STWNA General Meeting

11/09 STWNA General Meeting

All general meetings and information nights will be held in Payne School's MU room unless otherwise noted.

Check the STWNA website for other events and STWNA Restaurant Nights during the year.

**Dumpster Day & eWaste Recap**

Is your fall cleaning complete? Were you one of the many residents who participated in the San Tomas West Neighborhood Association's Annual Dumpster Day on October 16? People were lining up for half a mile to dispose of all kinds of unwanted stuff! The day was a huge success, helping members of the community dispose of unsalvageable, unwanted, unsavory and outgrown items.

People were disposing of a multitude of items, some of which would have cost a fortune to deposit in a landfill dump. Items that were packed into the dumpsters included lawn furniture, old carpeting, fencing materials, a dog house, and a turtle sand box. Some bicycles were brought to the event, but thanks to the good people of the community, did not make it in the dumpster. The bikes were taken to be repaired and further donated to other young children. What a great way to support the community!

This year, there were three dumpsters, two on Phoenix Drive and one on Mendenhall Drive. The two bins on Phoenix filled up pretty quickly. By 11:00AM these dumpsters were fully loaded and ready to be hauled away. Luckily, the dumpster on Mendenhall was still taking unwanted stuff and the e-waste truck was accepting old televisions, VCRs, radios, and other household electronics for FREE!

The 2010 Dumpster Day event cost the STWNA \$1,650. We collected \$90.00 in donations and several neighbors renewed their membership or joined us as new members for 2011. The Dumpster Day is a great resource to help keep our community clean. Remember, we rely on membership funds to help underwrite projects like these so be sure to join or renew your membership soon!

Thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success!

Stellar 4th Annual Caring, Sharing & Giving Event

The Holiday season is always a time for giving to others and celebrating the blessings in our lives. STWNA is no stranger to both of these ideals and our 2010 Caring, Sharing and Giving event was a wonderful testament to our very caring neighbors who dropped off coats, shoes, toiletries, clothing, towels, blankets, pet food and treats to help a local child, family, individual or pet in need.

The 4th annual event was held on Saturday December 4th in the Multi-Use room at Payne School. Even with a last-minute change of chairman, the event came off without a hitch thanks to Elaine Osborn, past event chairman and former STWNA Board member.

This year we were delighted to have the very generous help Erika Perreault's Brownie Troop 61300. The troop is made up of 13 eight year old girls who helped carry in and sort the donations. Their energy and enthusiasm for the task was definitely in the Holiday Spirit!

We collected nearly 100 coats, jackets and sweaters for **One Warm Coat** and delivered them to Sacred Heart Community Services and InnVision. The folks at InnVision, the Silicon Valley's leading provider of housing and services for homeless families and individuals, were anxiously standing by when the delivery took place. They were very excited about the coats and how nice all the donations were. At Sacred Heart, their eyes lit up as the donation was dropped off.

One Warm Coat is a national non-profit organization that assists in the donation of coats. They help individuals, groups, companies and organizations across the country collect coats and deliver them to local agencies that distribute them free, to people in need. Providing this simple yet vital service helps people live productive lives year round. More than 1.5 million coats have been collected and distributed through One Warm Coat activities since 1992.

"Our dream is that One Warm Coat becomes a part of the American lifestyle. When a coat is no longer needed, people will think of One Warm Coat. They will make their donation knowing that children, women and men in need will receive a gift of a warm coat" said Sherri Wood, President & National Coordinator.

About 60 pairs of shoes were collected for **Soles 4 Souls**, and have been shipped to their central warehouse for distribution. And, we did not forget our furry/four legged friends either. Blankets, towels, pet treats and food were all delivered to the **Humane Society of Silicon Valley**.

STWNA was officially recognized in his District One email newsletter by Councilman Pete Constant for our efforts in helping several local charitable organizations. We wish thank everyone who volunteered or donated this year. It is very heartwarming to see the outpouring of generosity from our wonderful community.

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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The San Tomas West Neighborhood Association is an independent, not-for-profit organization that relies strictly on funds generated from 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.

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