

QUARTERLY REPORT



CITY OF SUNNYVALE

WINTER 2012

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES SUNNYVALE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC CARRYOUT-BAG BAN

Each year, an estimated 19 billion single-use plastic carryout-bags are given out in California with 75 million distributed in Sunnyvale alone. Fewer than 5 percent are recycled and the rest of these light-weight, single-use bags clog recycling equipment, litter the streets and float into local waterways and the Bay. Following a two year process that involved business and community meetings to get input about plastic bags, Sunnyvale's City Council met December 13 and adopted an ordinance to ban single-use plastic carryout-bags. Sunnyvale joins many cities and counties in California, including San Jose, San Francisco, Santa Monica and Los Angeles and Santa Clara counties. Internationally, China, Mexico, India, South Africa, Ireland, Belgium and France have also instituted bans.

The ordinance, which takes

effect June 2012, bans 99 local area stores from carrying plastic bags and requires retailers to charge a 10¢ fee for recycled-content paper bags. The fee would be kept by the retailer and increase to 25¢ in 2014. The ban will extend to all Sunnyvale retailers in March 2013. Restaurants, food establishments, nonprofits and charitable organiza-

tions are not subject to the ban. Plastic garbage and produce bags, like those used in grocery stores to wrap meat, fruits and vegetables, are not affected. Reusable bags are available for sale at all major supermarkets and drugstores. For a list of stores that are included in the ban, or for more information, go to Recycling.inSunnyvale.com.



Inside This Issue



SUNNYVALE ELECTION RESULTS

Sunnyvale voters had their say last November, and they overwhelmingly rebuffed the notion of having a directly-elected Mayor. By a nearly two-to-one margin, Measure A, which would have done away with the traditional Council-selected mayor system, was defeated. Measure B, however, which reduces Council compensation, passed with nearly 90 percent of the voters supporting the change.

Four Council seats were up for grabs in the election. One

seat was filled by the re-election of a seated Councilmember. The other three new Councilmembers, filling termed-out seats, won voter approval and will be seated at Council's January 10 meeting. At that same January 10 meeting, the new Council will select a Mayor and Vice Mayor. The Mayor serves a two-year term, while the Vice Mayor serves a one-year term.

With the seating of the newly-elected Councilmembers, the roster for the new Council will be:

- Christopher R. Moylan
- Anthony (Tony) Spitaleri
- David Whittum
- Jim Griffith
- Pat Meyering
- Tara Martin-Milius
- Jim Davis

Where are Council Photos?

We are frequently asked why we don't feature photographs or articles about our City Council members in *Quarterly Report*. The reason is simple: we are prohibited from doing so. The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), bars newsletters that are mailed and produced or distributed at City expense from showing pictures, articles or the signature of our elected officials. We may, however, publish a list of Councilmembers in a roster format. The FPPC rule is designed to prevent elected officials from gaining an advantage by using City-funded publications to further political goals.

— Editor

City Employee Saves Life of Sunnyvale Visitor with AED

On November 30, a San Jose resident collapsed after an apparent heart attack while attending a meeting at NOVA in Sunnyvale. Attendees at the meeting immediately summoned help and City employee Peter Evangel quickly responded from an adjacent office. After a quick assessment, Evangel applied one of the City's automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and delivered one shock. Shortly after, the visitor's heart started beating, and he regained consciousness. When fire and EMS personnel arrived, the visitor required two more shocks delivered by paramedics before being transported to a local hospital for further treatment.

The NOVA visitor was talking to his rescuers as he was transported to the hospital and was discharged for rest at home a few days later. This event is a testament to the AED and CPR training of City employees, as well as the necessity of properly placed AEDs. The City visitor is very grateful and looks forward to meeting his rescuers when he returns.



CITY OF SUNNYVALE Winter 2012

Sunnyvale City Council

Melinda Hamilton, Mayor
Jim Griffith, Vice Mayor
Otto Lee
Christopher R. Moylan
Anthony (Tony) Spitaleri
David Whittum

City Manager

Gary Luebbers

Assistant City Manager
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THE BRIEFING — NOTES FROM YOUR CITY MANAGER

When I first joined the City of Sunnyvale as City Manager, one of the first things that I did was take stock of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) reporting directly to me. I did this for two reasons: first, and most obvious, these individuals held key positions and wielded significant influence over day-to-day operations affecting service delivery to the community. Their capabilities and performance would be one indication of how well-positioned the City was to move forward. Second, there is, across the country, a noticeable loss of talent in executive levels of local government (typically held by older employees who have earned their stripes through the years) as the baby-boomer generation begins to retire from the workforce. I wondered how this might impact the ELT in the near future.

I didn't have to wait long to find out. More than half of the Department Directors that were here when I first arrived were of retirement age, and fully half of them have since pulled that trigger and moved on. Fortunately, due to its strong reputation in government circles, Sunnyvale has long attracted talented staff. Those members of ELT who have remained with the City since my arrival – City Attorney David Kahn; Assistant City Manager Robert Walker; Director of Community Development Hanson Hom; and Director of Information Technology Cuong Nguyen – are testament to that. Each one is a major contributor to Sunnyvale's many successes. Nonetheless, at least three of the retiring members had spent a decade or more working for Sunnyvale, and their leaving represented a significant loss of institutional knowledge and history.

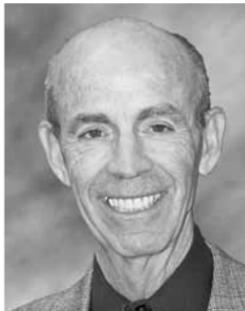
Yet with every challenge comes opportunity – in this case, the opportunity to recruit five new members of a team critical to the success of City operations. And today, having completed this difficult but rewarding task, I'm proud to say we are an even stronger team than when I first arrived. Let me introduce you to our newest members:

Frank Grgurina, Department of Public Safety



Heading up police, fire and EMS services in Sunnyvale, any other city would have two or three chiefs to do the job Frank handles by himself. With 23 years of experience in the Fremont Police Department, Frank is a highly-

qualified individual. Frank has a master's degree from St. Mary's College of California. Frank has supervised just about everything in law enforcement: patrol, detectives, SWAT, K-9, dispatch, personnel, records and forensic services, just to name a few. Before he joined Fremont PD and rose through the ranks, Frank was an investigator



City Manager
Gary Luebbers

with the California Attorney General's Office, where he investigated large-scale fraud schemes perpetrated against the State of California Medi-Cal System by individual and corporate medical providers, as well as investigating elder-abuse cases involving Medi-Cal recipients. *What you don't know about Frank:* he loves physical fitness.

For the past three years, Frank has been an avid practitioner of the CrossFit program, an intense workout regimen designed for police and military to keep themselves fit and more resistant to physical injury.

Kent Steffens, Department of Public Works



Kent came to Sunnyvale after serving as Menlo Park's Deputy City Manager and, before that, Director of

Public Works. Kent's experience extends back to the Union Sanitary District in Fremont, the city of Foster City, and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in San Bruno. Kent's considerable experience embracing public works and executive city management has put Kent in a unique position of working with city council-appointed commissions on transportation, environmental quality and bicycles. Kent represented Menlo Park on large regional committees, including the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, South Bay Waste Management Authority and High Speed Rail. One of Kent's most significant accomplishments was the implementation of the Measure T Recreation Bond Program that will raise \$38 million over its 30-year life. *What you don't know about Kent:* he loves to hike and spend time in Yosemite. He's an outdoor photography buff and has visited more than a dozen national parks.

Teri Silva, Human Resources



second hat of Acting Assistant City

Manager. She was the division head responsible for all human resources and risk management functions. Teri was responsible for employer-employee relations, including disciplinary actions, grievances, policy and procedure development and EEO policy administration. Teri negotiated with eight bargaining units and three compensation plans. While in Salinas, her work further expanded to include supervision of the City Manager's Office and the City Clerk's Office. Prior to working for Salinas, Terri was the Soledad Unified School District's HR Director. It's worth noting that Terri has a Masters Degree in Human Relations Management from Chapman University, and graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Relations from Golden Gate University. *What you don't know about Terri:* she's an avid snow and water skier during vacation time. Terri and her family, including Jack, her Havenese, have become proud Sunnyvale residents, happy to be in Sunnyvale, and happy to no longer be commuting from Salinas.

Lisa Rosenblum, Library and Community Services



Lisa's role has grown since she joined my team as Director of Libraries. As I consolidated our organization, I asked Lisa to

taken on the additional responsibilities of handling our community services, and thus was born the Department of Library and Community Services. As the former Hayward Director of Library and Neighborhood Services, Lisa was well-experienced in this dual role, and she has made tremendous strides in organizing and controlling costs in what used to be two separate departments. While in Hayward, Lisa developed an interdisciplinary team of 70 employees to provide integrated neighborhood services; directed a newly-formed Neighborhood Partnership Program to help neighborhoods organize and develop the internal structure to address community issues; and organized and led the City of Hayward Innovations Taskforce to improve delivery of city services in all areas, from public safety to public works. Lisa is, at heart, a librarian, and she brings that spirit to the Community. As the former Supervising Librarian of San Jose's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Main Library and a San Jose State University lecturer in the School of Library and Information Science, Lisa is a well-respected professional who is always looking to improve our service delivery to the community. *What you didn't know about*

See City Manager Briefing, page 9

SUNNYVALE SWAT AND K-9s ASSIST GILROY POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH “OPERATION GARLIC PRESS”

Law enforcement officers from around the state descended on Gilroy in the early morning hours of Friday, October 14, to assist in the arrest of 115 suspects involved in the sales and distribution of narcotics and stolen property. “Operation Garlic Press” resulted in 186 indictments, according to the November 16 *Gilroy Dispatch*. In the planning stages for 16 months, more than 400 officers from 23 different law enforcement agencies participated in the action, including Sunnyvale SWAT and K-9 units.

“After noticing an increase in crime, Gilroy officials asked for help in dismantling a gang network that had set up shop in their town,” said California Attorney General Kamala Harris.

Undercover officers purchased everything from drugs and illegal firearms to stolen automobiles from gang members. The operation netted a hefty haul for law enforcement – 50 illegal firearms, 87 stolen vehicles and a wealth of stolen property and narcotics.

Sunnyvale SWAT, working with other SWAT personnel from Mountain View and Los Altos Police

Departments, were assigned a mission to take down a wanted suspect in a residence in downtown Gilroy. Using the Sunnyvale armored rescue vehicle, the SWAT operators swooped in on the residence just as the sun came up. The officers gained full compliance from most of the people in the house, and after a few tense moments and a few loud barks from Sunnyvale K-9 Koa, the wanted suspect emerged from the residence and was safely taken into custody. 🐾

CROSS-TRAINED K-9 MAKES LARGE DRUG FIND

During the month of August, the Department of Public Safety opened an investigation on a Sunnyvale resident suspected of selling methamphetamine in the community. After a lengthy investigation, a search warrant was served on his residence on September 9. Because drug dealers often hide their drugs and paraphernalia, a DPS cross-trained K-9 was brought in to assist with the search.

K-9 handler PSO Dan Pistor and his partner Koa conducted a search of the apartment. Koa is cross-trained in protection and search, as well as narcotics detection. During that search, Koa alerted on an upper kitchen cabinet and on a shirt hanging in the bedroom closet. After closer inspection, more than a pound of crystal methamphetamine was found in a small container in the kitchen and more than \$6,000 in cash was found in the shirt pocket.

The suspect had been arrested prior to the search on outstanding arrest warrants, and detectives added the charges of possession for sale of methamphetamine and

a probation violation. Thanks to the Sunnyvale K-9 team of PSO Pistor and Koa and investigators, a dangerous drug dealer was taken off the streets. 🐾



Koa about to take a bite out of crime.

Photo by City of Sunnyvale

SAVE THE DATES, AUGUST 25 – 26, FOR A ONCE-IN-A-CENTURY CELEBRATION

Sunnyvale is almost 100 years old. Although known locally as Sunnyvale for many years, the City was formally incorporated on December 24, 1912. To commemorate this centennial, the City, the Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association, and the Chamber of Commerce are planning two full

days of celebration this summer to celebrate who we were and what we have become.

The party will begin Saturday, August 25, with a parade to the Historical Society Museum where there will be many activities, including: historical bike tours, scavenger hunts, hayrides, music, a history in art exhibit, a 1912 general store, a blacksmith, and agricultural

and electronic tools demonstrations. On Sunday, August 26, the celebration will continue with the State of the City address and a continuation of the festivities.

For kids who can't wait until summer to celebrate, a writing contest for K – 5th graders will be held to tell us about their favorite

See *Save the Dates*, page 11

2012 Study Issues Key Dates

Sunnyvale’s study issues process provides City Council, City staff and the public with a valuable planning and management tool. Through this process, Council sets priorities to address the large number of policy issues that are raised each year, and gives staff the tools to balance the work required to thoroughly study an issue with the work required to deliver ongoing City services. For more information on study issues, visit StudyIssues.inSunnyvale.com.

Key Dates* for the 2012 Study Issues Process

January 10

Study Issues/Budget Issues Public Hearing
7 p.m.

February 3

Study Issues/Budget Issues Workshop
8:30 a.m.

February 28

Adoption of the 2012 Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar
7 p.m.

*These are tentative dates and subject to change. Be sure to review the Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar (TCMAC) for an up-to-date schedule of Council meetings. The TCMAC can be found at TCMAC.inSunnyvale.com.

HOW TO BUY A BMR HOME IN SUNNYVALE

Being a homeowner can feel like one of life's rights of passage, but affording a local home at current prices may seem daunting. Luckily, the City of Sunnyvale provides two programs to help prospective buyers with lower-to-moderate incomes, living or working in Sunnyvale, to buy a first home: The Below Market Rate (BMR) Home Ownership Program and The First Time Home Buyer Program

Step 1: Attend a Home Buyer Presentation.

The Housing Division provides occasional presentations at City Hall about the City's home buyer programs and similar programs for first-time home buyers offered by the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County and various other agencies. These presentations will help determine which of these programs are the right one, qualifications and the steps to take to purchase a BMR home. Presentations are free and open to the public. The dates of upcoming presentations are listed on the program's website at BMR.inSunnyvale.com or call the City at (408) 730-7250 to request an appointment for a one-on-one informational session with staff. Staff can also make this presentation to local community groups, public agencies, associations or businesses upon request. Contact the Affordable Housing Manager at (408) 730-2784 to inquire about hosting

a Sunnyvale home buyer presentation at a worksite, community group or agency.

Step 2: Determine Eligibility.

2011 Moderate Income Limits for Sunnyvale Home Buyer Programs are noted in the table below. Gross (pre-tax) household income may not exceed these limits.

Number of Persons In Household	
1	\$87,000
2	\$99,450
3	\$111,850
4	\$124,300
5	\$134,250
6	\$144,200
7	\$154,150
8	\$164,100

Additional information for tenants, landlords, homeowners, home buyers and residents can be found at Housing.inSunnyvale.com.

Step 3: Get on the Home Buyer Interest List.

The City uses an interest list to provide timely information on the BMR and First Time Home Buyer Programs to interested parties, such as prospective buyers, real estate agents, lenders and family members. Anyone may sign up on the interest list to receive email notices about current BMR homes for sale, application procedures, and related program updates, using the

web-based form at BMRInterestList.inSunnyvale.com.

Those without Internet access may call (408) 730-7250 or visit the City One-Stop Permit Center at 456 W. Olive Ave. to request and submit an interest list form.

Step 4: Find a Home.

A number of new two-, three- and four-bedroom BMR town homes are now available in the Fusion and Encinal developments for prices well below current market-rate prices.

Fusion: 592 Santa Rosalia Drive
www.fusionsunnyvale.com

Encinal: 1170 Morse Ave.
www.classiccommunities.net

BMR homes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Prospective buyers may visit the developments, tour model homes and ask the development's sales staff for locations, sizes and prices of any available BMR homes; however, buyers wishing to purchase one of the available BMR homes need to submit an eligibility application (available online) to the City. If determined eligible, the City will provide buyers with an approval letter to submit to the sales agent before completing an offer to purchase. Current listings, application forms and eligibility details are provided on the Housing website or by phone, but may change daily, so visit BMR.inSunnyvale.com or call (408) 730-7250, TDD (408) 730-7501. ☎

City's Earth Care Kidz Program Gets State Recognition

The City received the statewide award for Outstanding Stormwater News, Information, Outreach and Media Program from the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) in September. The award is for the development and implementation of Sunnyvale's Earth Care Kidz youth program.

The goal of the Earth Care Kidz program is to educate youth that being part of a community means taking responsibility for their own actions and choices, which can have positive impacts on their neighborhood, community and the environment. The Community Kidz Camp program has been held for five years during school breaks for students in the Sunnyvale elementary schools service area, and the environmental education elements were added to the program three years ago.

The Earth Care Kidz program uses interactive, hands-on activities and environmentally-themed games to help children learn about local issues such as pollution prevention, recycling and sustainability-related activities. Messages and activities this year included:

- Be the solution to water pollution
- Recycling begins at home
- Be sustainable: reduce the use of single-use items
- Litter walk – keep litter out of our creeks and the Bay
- Where should it go? – bean bag recycling and waste disposal game
- Environmentally-themed posters and re-useable canvas bags art projects.

GET HIP ABOUT REDUCING UTILITY BILLS

To help reduce home utility costs and maintain the livability of homes in lower-income households, the City of Sunnyvale presents Home Improvement

Programs (HIP) to fund household updates, such as electrical, roofing, plumbing or heating repairs. HIP covers energy efficiency improvements, retrofitting for handicapped accessibility, painting the exterior of a home, or making emergency repairs to eliminate an immediate health and safety hazard.

HIP is funded by the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which may be used to help lower-income households maintain or improve the health, safety, accessibility and energy efficiency of their homes. Lower-income households are those whose gross household incomes do not exceed the following limits:

Number of Persons In Household	
1	\$58,000
2	\$66,300
3	\$74,600
4	\$82,900
5	\$89,500
6	\$96,100
7	\$102,800
8	\$109,400

The program offers the following forms of assistance:

- **Housing rehabilitation loans.** Deferred loans of up to \$60,000 (\$15,000 for mobile homes) to fund deferred maintenance and repairs of plumbing, roofing, electrical and heating systems, as well as windows, flooring and wall repairs or replacement.
- **Exterior paint loans and grants.** Loans of up to \$4,000 to pay for labor and materials for

See *Utility Bills*, page 10

AN ENERGY SAVER'S DREAM

ENERGY UPGRADE CALIFORNIA, SANTA CLARA COUNTY TEAM UP TO GIVE BEST INCENTIVES YET

Energy Upgrade California is a program for homeowners and renters of single-family, detached residences who want to make upgrades to their home.

The program is designed to guide residents through the process of selecting a package that suits their efficiency goals, provide assistance in finding a participating contractor to do the work and provide guidance in applying for financing to help pay for the upgrade.

There are two program packages offered: basic and advanced. The basic package includes a predetermined set of improvements to go along with a rebate of up to \$1,000. The advanced upgrade package is customized for the specific needs

of the home and may include such items as energy-efficient windows, wall insulation, duct replacement, heating and cooling systems and high-efficiency water heating systems. With the advanced upgrade package, the more energy saved, the higher the incentive, up to \$4,000.

Santa Clara County is providing financial incentives to residents in addition to Energy Upgrade California. The county is enhancing the program by providing an 80 percent rebate (up to \$800) for home assessments. The benefits for homeowners include greater home comfort, reduced energy and water use, lower utility bills, improved indoor air quality, increased home value, minimized waste and a good investment in the home's future.

To take advantage of this program and financial incentives visit energyupgrade.ca.org or Green.inSunnyvale.com.

It is Easy Being Green in Sunnyvale

The Silicon Valley Energy Map is a resource for information about energy use, solar and renewable energy and green buildings in Santa Clara County. An online tool produced by the Silicon Valley Energy Watch, a partnership between the City of San Jose and PG&E, the map showcases the efforts people are making in Silicon Valley to implement clean energy. All of the cities within the county, including Sunnyvale, are partnering to contribute energy-related data to the map. The map has many interactive features that allow users to search for information on solar projects, green building and energy use projects by ZIP code, project type, jurisdiction and other factors. It also includes a solar calculator. The map is available at svenergymap.org.

Current data illustrated by the map show Sunnyvale has far exceeded any other jurisdiction in the total amount of square footage of green buildings completed and certified to date, with six times the area of green buildings in the next highest-ranked city. Only those projects certified by the US Green Building Council or LEED are included on the map. Sunnyvale's green projects include four large office developments in north Sunnyvale, and one secondary dwelling unit.

Output from Silicon Valley Energy Map

All Building Types, Certified Projects (Data published on map as of October 17, 2011)

Cities	Square Feet
Sunnyvale	121,387,754
San Jose	20,630,774
Santa Clara	10,844,424
Mountain View	3,875,530
Palo Alto	3,455,452

WINTER RAINS WASH POLLUTION INTO WATERWAYS

The rains of the season have hit the Bay Area. Litter and pollutants from motor vehicles and landscape maintenance activities have built up on surfaces, sidewalks and roadways during the dry months. Those pollutants are picked up by the stormwater as it runs into the street gutters. During heavier storms, these same pollutants wash into our local waterways and into the Bay, threatening water quality, recreation and wildlife.

There are many things Sunnyvale residents can do to minimize the pollution that washes into waterways during the rainy season. Here are just a few tips:

- Set an example for others by not littering. Pick up litter and put it

in the recycling or trash bins.

- Carry a litter bag in the car or on the bicycle.
- Keep trash containers covered securely to prevent the wind or animals from spreading litter.
- Keep leaves and yard clippings picked up around the home and recycle them as green waste.
- Use green gardening methods to reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides.
- Regularly maintain vehicles to avoid auto fluid leaks that build up on roadway surfaces.

For more information on preventing water pollution, visit WPCP.inSunnyvale.com and click on *Pollution Prevention*, or call (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501.

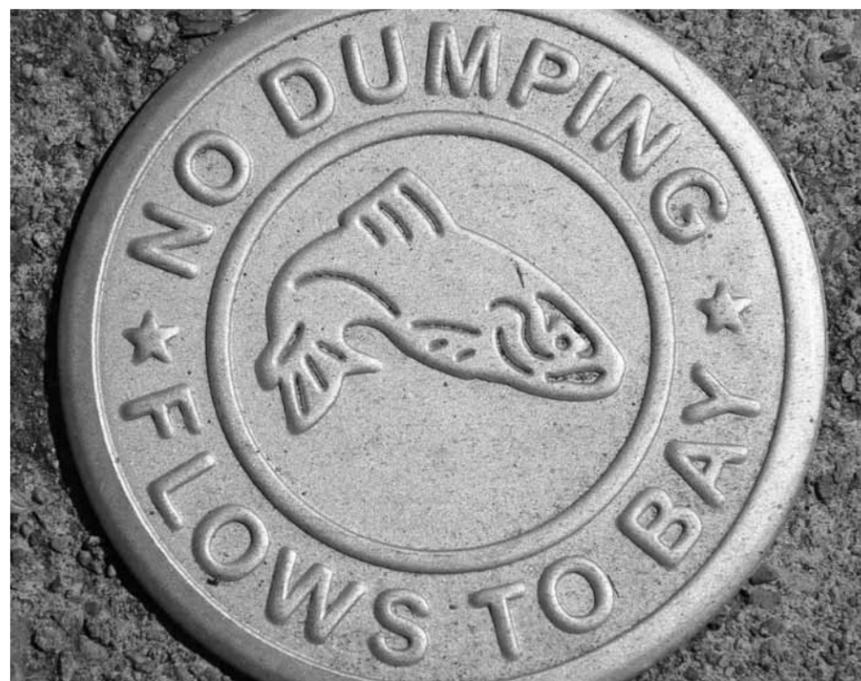


Photo by Shonda Ranson

Dangerous Chase Leads to End of Bay Area Burglary Ring

At 2:30 a.m. September 8, Sunnyvale Public Safety officers responded to a burglary alarm at VMI Technology on Weddell Drive where arriving officers saw two males carrying items from the business. The suspects dropped everything after spotting the officers and started to run. Although the officers gave chase, the suspects got into a vehicle and drove away.

During a short vehicle pursuit, the suspects jumped from the moving car and ran into a nearby mobile home park, allowing the unattended vehicle to crash into a parked car. One of the suspects was quickly located and arrested in the mobile home park, while the second suspect evaded officers. Officers from Mountain View and Santa Clara arrived to assist with a perimeter and a search for the outstanding suspect.

DPS and Santa Clara PD K-9 teams searched the mobile home park and nearby residences, eventually locating and arresting the second suspect who was hiding in a storage shed. Detectives were called to assist with this investigation and, as a result, it was determined these suspects were responsible for numerous burglaries throughout the Bay Area.

KEEP NEIGHBORHOODS CLEAN AND INVITING

With proper storage and maintenance of trash and recycling containers, neighbors help control garbage rates and ensure neighborhoods are attractive and inviting.

Keep trash and recycling containers in good order.

Trash and recycling containers must not be filled above the rim and lids must be kept closed. Neither liquids nor hazardous waste such as paint, oil, batteries, electronics or tires, may be placed in any solid waste container. All containers must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

For bulky goods, use the on-call collection program.

On-call collection is part of the convenient ChoiceCollect program designed for Sunnyvale residents in single-family, duplex, tri-plex and mobile homes. It includes the option to schedule two additional curbside collections for extra garbage and bulky goods at no charge. On-call collection includes household goods, electronic waste and extra non-hazardous garbage. Residents can dispose of up to two cubic yards of items or trash plus two bulky household items such as a couch or refrigerator. To schedule a pick-up, contact Utility Customer Service at (408) 730-7400.

Store trash and recycling containers in safe areas.

Trash and recycling containers must be screened from public view, removed from public right-of-ways

or stored in the side yard of the premises behind the face of the house. For scheduled curbside pick-up, containers are permitted from midnight on the day before pick-up to 6 a.m. on the day following pick-up. To report improper storage of trash and recycling containers, contact Neighborhood Preservation at (408) 730-7610 or via email at np@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

Illegal dumping is a crime.

It is illegal to dispose of material in any manner other than in an approved solid waste container, and it is illegal to dispose of garbage in any container owned or rented by another person without their permission. Illegal dumping should be reported to the Department of Public Safety at (408) 730-7100. 🗺️

Tree-Cycling Time

It is time to recycle those cut holiday trees. Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling, the City's garbage and recycling franchised hauler, will be collecting properly-prepared holiday trees at the curb. To ensure collection, prepare natural, flocked or painted holiday trees, by following two simple steps. First, remove all decorations, light strands and stands. Second, cut tree lengths to four-foot or shorter lengths so wood chipping equipment can process it easily.



Photo by John Pilger

Single-family customers may place prepared trees at the curb on any regularly-scheduled service day as part of their yard trimmings collection service. Trees may be placed inside yard trimmings cart, provided the lid is still able to close.

Multi-family customers should contact their property owners or managers who will designate an onsite area where properly-prepared trees may be collected between December 27 and January 20. Prepared holiday trees may also be disposed for \$13 at the SMaRT Station.

In 2011, more than nine tons of holiday trees were collected at the curb then chipped into mulch at the SMaRT Station. Residents may collect up to one pickup load of mulch and compost per week to use as ground cover for yards and gardens. For more information on residential recycling, find the *ReNews* inside this *Quarterly Report*, or call (408) 730-7262.

LITTER? YOU'RE ON NOTICE

Sunnyvale staff hosted four litter cleanup events this year. The events were very successful, with the amount of trash and debris collected surpass-

ing previous years' totals. A huge "thank you" goes out to the volunteers who helped keep 8,596 pounds of litter out of our local waterways and the Bay.

Event/Date	# of Volunteers	Event Location	Area Cleaned	Approx. Weight of Litter and Discarded Debris Collected
Great American Litter Pick Up April 16, 2011	31	Raynor Park, Columbia Neighborhood Center, Fair Oaks Park, J. W. Christian Greenbelt	4 square miles	5,013 lbs
National River Cleanup Day May 21, 2011	38	Sunnyvale East Channel and Calabazas Creek, near Baylands Park	2.5 miles of banks	1,146 lbs
Coastal Cleanup Day September 17, 2011	42	Sunnyvale West Channel and Guadalupe Slough	2.2 miles of banks	787 lbs
Knock Out Litter in Sunnyvale October 1, 2011	105	Columbia Neighborhood Center, San Miguel School, Orchard Gardens Park and area near the intersection of Maude and Mathilda avenues	3.5 square miles	1,650 lbs

For information on our upcoming cleanup events in 2012, visit WPCPevents.inSunnyvale.com and click on *Events*, or call (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501. 🗺️

sunnyvale reNews

sunnyvale's recycling news resource

Winter 2012



A Day in the Life of Your Garbage

in this issue

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- B** Glad You Asked
- B** Hauler's Holler ... News From the Truck
- C** Getting Rid of Extra Trash
- C** SMaRT Station Services
- C** Coming Soon!
- D** Your Sunnyvale Certified Green Business
- D** Understanding Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
- D** Upcoming Events
- D** Contact Us

Where does garbage go once it's collected at the curb? It isn't hauled directly to the landfill — it spends a day at the SMaRT Station.

Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling, the City's franchised waste hauler, delivers residential garbage and recyclables to the SMaRT Station® where waste is manually and mechanically sorted. After workers sort the largest items from dumped loads, excavators shovel mounds of garbage onto conveyor belts where sorters manually remove mid-sized items such as bricks, wood and corrugated cardboard.

Conveyors move trash through rotating trommels that resemble monster maws edged with jagged, teeth-like knives that rip apart garbage bags. As spilled contents rotate, screens separate materials; the smallest material is destined for composting while eddy-current and magnetic separators capture metal containers. From your trash, workers recover 18 to 25 percent of valuable recyclables. Remaining garbage is then loaded into large transfer trucks and driven to Kirby Canyon landfill in south San Jose.



Trommel monster's teeth rip apart garbage bags.

For the safety of those who handle and manage trash, be mindful of what you throw into the garbage. Keep paint, pool chemicals, needles (sharps), expired and unused drugs, aerosol cans under pressure and other

See A Day in the Life, page B

important dates

- February **11**
Compost Workshops — New Location
- March **31** — April **1**
Extra Dumping Weekend
- April **28**
Paper Shredding Event
194,820 pounds shredded since January 2010

New Green Year Resolution: Compost to Reduce Waste

A 2010 SMaRT Station waste characterization study deemed 42 percent of the City's overall waste as compostable and/or potentially compostable organic material — food scraps, branches, stumps, compostable paper, leaves, grass and yard trimmings.

Composting is the method of combining organic material with appropriate amounts of water and air to accelerate natural, biological decomposition creating nutrient-rich soil.

See Compost, page C

How to Recycle Right! — At Home

glad you asked ...



Q. How can I dispose of extra yard trimmings?

A. Yard trimmings that exceed yard cart capacity may be placed in 32-gallon containers labeled yard trimmings, or stockpiled and fed into carts incrementally. Branches smaller than four-inches in diameter and four-foot or shorter lengths can be bundled and placed next to the yard cart. There is no limit to the amount of yard trimmings that can be placed at the curb for collection. Yard trimmings in plastic bags are considered garbage and require a \$6 extra garbage bag tag to ensure collection. Holiday trees may be placed at the curb, provided they are properly prepared — cut into four-foot lengths or shorter with stand, decorations and light strands removed. Prepared holiday trees may also be placed inside a yard cart, provided the lid will close.

hauler's holler — news from the truck...



Hauler's are not permitted to service overfilled carts or bins as their contents tend to spill outside truck beds and litter the streets. Overfilled waste containers may be tagged for non-service until excess materials are removed, and a return service fee may be applied to the account. If overfilled containers are a consistent issue, consider expanding your recycling efforts. See page C, *Getting Rid of Extra Trash* for more disposal options.

Sunnyvale ReNews

The *ReNews* is printed on 30 percent post-consumer content recycled paper. See the electronic version online at Recycling.inSunnyvale.com under *What's New?*

Please send all comments and suggestions to:

City of Sunnyvale, Residential Recycling Program,
P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

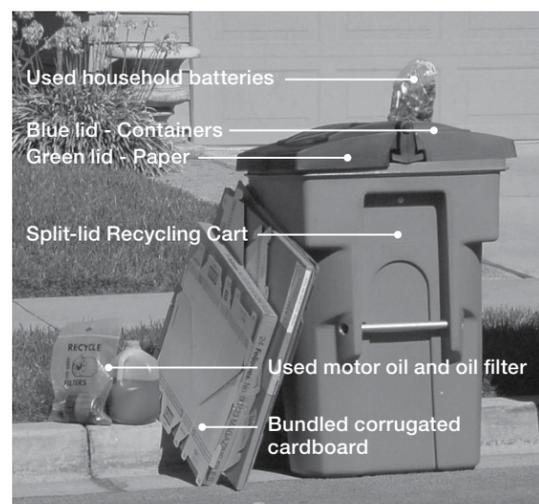
Email: Recycling@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

Products or company listings should not be construed as endorsements by the City of Sunnyvale.

All Sunnyvale residents have garbage and recycling collection services. Everyone recycles the same types of materials, but how we recycle depends on where we live.

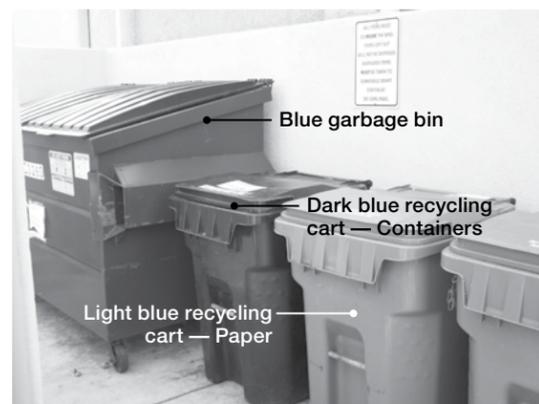
Single-Family Service

Residents with single-family garbage and recycling services live in single homes, duplexes, triplexes or mobile homes. Single-family customers recycle paper and containers using a split-lid cart (shown below); yard trimmings in a yard cart; and bundled corrugated cardboard, household batteries, used motor oil and oil filters at the curb.



Multi-Family Service

Residents living in apartments, and many in townhome complexes of four or more units, receive multi-family garbage and recycling services. Multi-family customers share onsite trash bins; light blue carts for container recycling and dark blue carts for paper recycling. Used motor oil and oil filters collection service is provided at the property owner or manager's discretion. Cardboard may be bundled and placed in trash enclosure or flattened and placed in the trash bins.



If you have questions about recycling where you live, see *Contact Us*, page D.

WHAT'S RECYCLABLE

Paper

Single-family — Split-lid cart, green side
Multi-family — Light blue cart

- Catalogs, magazines
- Cereal, cake mix, tissue boxes (remove liners)
- Copier or office, construction paper
- Gift wrap, greeting cards (non-metallic)
- Newspapers, inserts, junk mail
- Paper egg cartons, paper bags
- Phone and paperback books

Containers

Single-family — Split-lid cart, blue side
Multi-family — Dark blue cart

Empty and rinse food and beverage containers, remove and recycle lids.

- Glass bottles and jars (food, beverage, wine, oil)
- Metal cans (aluminum, tin, bi-metal, steel)
- Plastic bottles and tubs #1-#7

WHAT'S NOT RECYCLABLE

Throw these items in the trash

- Aerosol cans (must be completely empty)
- Aseptic packaging (boxed liquids like juice, broth, soy, soup)
- Black or hard plastics of any kind
- Plastic clamshells (hinged food containers)
- Glass (auto, ceramics, mirrors, pyrex or window)
- Hard bound books
- Metallic content gift wrap and cards or foil
- Paper contaminated with food/liquids (pizza boxes, napkins, plates, cups)
- Polystyrene foam (egg cartons, cups, food and meat trays)
- Recycle clean, dry single-use plastic bags, wrap and film at local grocery stores.

A Day in the Life, continued from page A

hazardous waste out of the garbage. Read more about safe disposal of hazardous materials on page D, the HHW article.

Take the *SMaRT Station video tour* to learn more about a day in the life of your garbage at Recycling.inSunnyvale.com.

Getting Rid of Extra Trash

Whether cleaning, moving or entertaining, everyone occasionally generates extra trash. Before throwing items away, consider donating or selling items to keep them out of landfills.

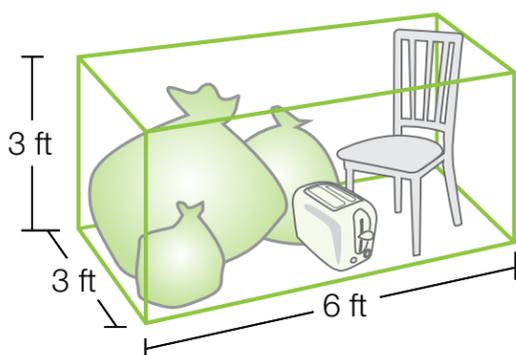
Extra Garbage Bag Tags

For that extra bag or two of holiday garbage, remember to purchase extra garbage bag tags (\$6) for each extra bag. Visit *Recycling.inSunnyvale.com* for a list of grocery retailers and City facilities that sell tags. Set tagged bags next to garbage carts with tags facing the street. Tags are NOT required for on-call collections.

On-Call Collection — Single-Family Residents

Single-family residents may take advantage of two convenient On-Call Collection appointments each year. Using the setup below as a guide, place up to two cubic yards of extra trash and

On-Call Collection Setup

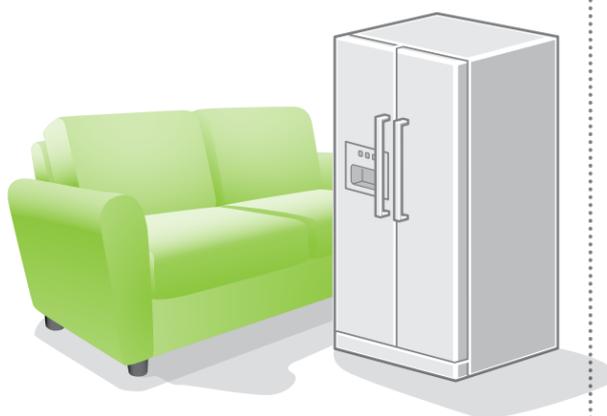


two bulky items, including electronics and appliances, at the curb for collection. To make an appointment, call Utilities Residential Customer Service at (408) 730-7400, no later than 2 p.m. the day prior to regular trash service.

On-Call Collection Guidelines

- Briefly describe items to ensure dispatch of appropriate equipment and personnel.
- Allow for collection between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Contain loose materials in bags, boxes or 32-gallon cans.
- Hazardous waste and most construction and demolition materials are not collected curbside.

Multi-Family residents may dispose of extra trash using onsite garbage bins, provided they do not overfill bins. The SMaRT Station accepts extra trash at a minimum charge of \$16 per cubic yard depending on materials disposed. Residents can separate recyclable materials from trash to save money on disposal.



Compost, continued from page A

Aside from converting organics to a resource and diverting tons from the landfill, the use of compost:

- Regenerates and enriches poor soils, producing vitamin-rich vegetable and fruit crops;
- Suppresses plant diseases and pests, reducing need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides;
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions by keeping methane-producing organics out of landfills; and
- Helps retain moisture in the soil, reducing watering needs.

The City hosts composting workshops every second Saturday monthly, beginning February through November (see *Upcoming Events*, page D). Master Composter volunteers teach both backyard and worm composting methods, provide bin demonstrations and answer questions. Bins and worms are available for purchase following the workshop so residents can start composting right away.

Take personal waste reduction beyond recycling paper and containers — make a New

Year's Green Resolution to compost your organic material. Workshops fill up quickly, so register online or by phone today (see *Contact Us*, page D).



Volunteers Joanne Cantey and Mary Ann Kasaitis demonstrate backyard composting.

SMaRT Station services

Trash Disposal

The SMaRT Station accepts trash, debris and construction material from Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Palo Alto residents. Disposal charges are based on type of material and volume (cubic yards). To keep costs low, separate recyclables from trash before dumping. Contact Bay Counties Waste Services at (408) 752-8530 for disposal information.

SMaRT Station Recycling Center

You can recycle paper, plastics, glass, scrap metal, cardboard, clothing and shoes and these hazardous waste items only.

- Antifreeze*
- Cooking oil*
- Used motor oil and oil filters*
- Batteries (any type, tape positive ends)
- Fluorescent bulbs and tubes
- Small electronics, monitors and televisions (limit 4)
- Sharps, needles, lancets (dispose in red bin)**

*Limit 10 gallons, in 5-gallon containers or smaller
 **Use a biohazard, or heavy-duty, tightly-sealed plastic container

Hours of Operation

The SMaRT Station is open daily, except Thanksgiving, December 25 and January 1, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To minimize roadside littering, loads must be covered or pay a \$15 charge.



Coming Soon!



The 7th Annual Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival contest, sponsored by the City of Sunnyvale, is open to students, grades 6 – 8 and 9 – 12, and adults. Video entries that show how individual actions can reduce our environmental impact will vie for \$1,000 in prizes and recognition on cable TV and the internet. For details and entry forms, visit www.cityofpaloalto.org/greenlight or call (650) 494-8686 ext. 39.



Your Sunnyvale Certified Green Business

European Auto Works 629 N Mathilda Ave

When European Auto Works recently relocated to Sunnyvale, Cliff Greenman made Green Business re-certification a first priority. Greenman incorporated environmentally-friendly features such as:

- Installing solar tubes over the shop floor and work spaces to use natural light and maximize long-term energy cost savings;
- Sealing the shop floor for better pollution prevention control;



Manager Cliff Greenman uses 100% recycled content copy paper.

- Dry-sweeping surfaces to conserve water; and
 - Capturing dirty car wash water to filter pollutants from water entering storm drains.
- Greenman implemented additional conservation tactics such as:
- Planting water-wise plants to reduce landscape maintenance and water use;
 - Mulching landscaping to retain moisture and control weeds;
 - Using durable dishes in the kitchen to minimize single-use disposables; and
 - Increasing container and paper recycling.

Greenman was pleased to “save \$100 monthly” on his garbage bill and, when asked why European Auto Works went through so much effort to obtain Bay Area Green Business certification, he said, “It just feels good and customers really do take notice.”

For a complete list of all Sunnyvale Green Businesses, visit Recycling.inSunnyvale.com. Interested in becoming a Green Business? Visit reducewaste.org or call (408) 282-3180 for more information.

Understanding Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

It's easy to get confused about proper household hazardous waste (HHW) disposal. A hazardous waste can be a solid, a liquid or a compressed gas and has properties that render it potentially harmful to human and environmental health.

Products labeled toxic, corrosive, flammable or reactive — paint, solvents, lacquers (nail polish), household cleaners, garden and pool chemicals and compressed air cylinders are clearly hazardous and must be disposed at an HHW event (see *Upcoming Events*, right). Ordinary household items — electronics, over-the-counter

(OTC) and prescription drugs may contain heavy metals or chemicals that contaminate the environment and, when thrown into the garbage, can jeopardize the health and safety of SMaRT Station sorters who manually cull recyclables from the trash.

Use the chart below as a guideline for proper hazardous waste disposal. Remember, it is unlawful to dispose of HHW in the garbage, recycling carts, down storm drains, in the sewer (toilets) or on the ground. For more details, visit our website or call (408) 730-7262 (see Contact Us, at right).

Household Hazardous Waste Items:	Where to Dispose — Not in the Garbage
Products labeled toxic, corrosive, reactive or flammable. Paint, solvents, lacquers (nail polish), household cleaners, garden or pool chemicals, compressed air tanks, and prescription drugs (including liquids)	Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Event
Prescription drugs, vitamins and OTCs NO LIQUIDS	Sunnyvale Fire Stations
Sharps, needles and lancets	SMaRT Station (red bin only)
Universal Waste: Mercury-containing products, fluorescents, thermometers and thermostats. Electronic devices, computers, cell phones, small appliances and batteries (all types)	SMaRT Station Recycling Center
Used motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze and cooking oil	SMaRT Station Recycling Center (in designated area)

Recycling Events

For details about upcoming recycling events, see the *Contact Us* listings below. Locate the 2012 Recycling Events Calendar inserted in this winter *Quarterly Report* or contact us for a copy.

Compost Workshops

February 11 • March 10
10 a.m. to noon

Learn to compost at free workshops on second Saturdays monthly February through November. Registration online or by phone required.

New Location

250 N. Sunnyvale Ave., Murphy Park Building

Bay-friendly Gardening Workshops

Learn to plan and plant a sustainable garden. Go to Stopwaste.org, *Bay-friendly Gardening Workshops* for more information.

Extra Dumping Weekends

March 31 – April 1 • April 14 – 15
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dispose of extra trash at no cost — these weekends only.

SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-Off Events

January 21 • February 18 • March 17
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dispose of HHW at no cost every third Saturday monthly except December.

164 Carl Road

Paper Shredding Events

April 28 • August 25 • November 3
8 a.m. to noon

Personal document shredding at no cost. Five bag/box limit. Proof of Palo Alto, Mountain View or Sunnyvale residency required. No businesses. SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road

Citywide Garage Sale Day

September 22

contact us

Business hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are at your service.

Recycling Program Customer Service

(408) 730-7262
TDD (408) 730-7501
Recycling.inSunnyvale.com

- Recycling answers, event details
- Online registrations

Utilities Residential Customer Service

(408) 730-7400
PayMyBill.inSunnyvale.com

- Garbage service accounts
- On-Call Collection appointments
- Cart repairs or replacements

Utilities Commercial Customer Service

(408) 730-7681
■ Garbage service accounts
■ Debris box rentals

Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling

(408) 565-9900
sswr.com

- Missed pick-ups

PARTNERING IN THE PARKS

The City of Sunnyvale's Parks Division has always received strong support from the community, and with recent economic uncertainty, residents and businesses have pitched in to help sustain the high standards of Sunnyvale Parks. The assistance to the City has been invaluable and ranged from local businesses like Medtronic to faith-based organizations such as Church of Latter-Day Saints, Crosswalk Community Church and the United Methodist Youth Group. Local high school students have also pitched in from The Kings Academy and Fremont High School. All of these efforts have resulted in more than 500

volunteer hours that benefit all park users.

Recently, the local nonprofit group Las Madres Neighborhood Playgroup partnered with the City to make a difference. Las Madres had a number of residents with children who use Orchard Gardens Park and noticed some of the equipment was dated with no space for parents to sit and watch their children. Las Madres partnered with the City and raised \$5,000 toward new play equipment. The project was a great success and there is now a space for parents to sit and chat while watching their children playing in the renovated park.

The wintertime is an excellent

time to volunteer in the Parks Division. Even though there are fewer visitors to parks, there is plenty of work to be done on large infrastructure projects such as rehabilitating athletic fields and repairing irrigation lines. As City staff work on these maintenance projects, volunteers have been able to perform a number of duties, including planting bulbs to increase the beauty of the City parks for everyone. Groups and individuals interested in volunteering can call the Parks Division at (408) 730-7506, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit Volunteering.inSunnyvale.com. ☺

NEWS FROM THE LINKS

Wintertime is still a great time to play golf and the City is offering a few extra incentives for Sunnyvale players.

The "Kids Play Free" promotion was so successful that it has been extended until June 30. Junior golfers (16 and under) can play golf at either of Sunnyvale's two courses for free when accompanied by a paying adult. Take advantage of this great offer any day of the week.

For the dedicated golfer, Sunken Gardens Golf Course is now offering Free Replays through June 30. Pay one 9-hole fee of only \$15 on weekdays or \$19 on weekends, and play a second round that same day for free. Reservations can be made for first round only and replays will be provided on a space-available basis.

After a great day of golf, it is always a good idea to reflect on the highs and lows of the game, making it the perfect time to take the City golf course customer survey online. The opinions of patrons are valuable in helping to plan the future of the course, so take a moment to rate the facilities and services. The survey is open to anyone who has played



Sunnyvale or Sunken Gardens Golf Courses recently and may be accessed online at Golf.inSunnyvale.com. Click the [Take our Golf Course Survey](#) link to get started.

Remember, rain is no longer an issue in Sunnyvale. Since the

installation of the new cart paths, hitting the links year-round has never been better. Golf reservations for Sunnyvale and Sunken Gardens Golf Courses are available at Golf.inSunnyvale.com. ☺

Demystifying the Zoning Code

The City's Zoning Code contains land use regulations, standards for development, requirements for permits and procedures for the administration of these regulations. It is important for the Zoning Code to be clear and accessible to everyone, not just attorneys and professional staff. The last time the City of Sunnyvale's Zoning Code was reviewed in its entirety was in 2001, and before that in 1963.

This is why public feedback will be critical to the review process. Residents will be able to provide input in the form of surveys and public hearing comments, beginning in the first quarter of 2012, as the Community Development Department reviews and reforms the entire Zoning Code (Title 19 of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code) for clarity and user-friendliness. This effort will also explore ways to improve administrative procedures and streamline permitting requirements for residents and businesses.

The purpose of the Zoning Code is to implement the City's General Plan and promote orderly, positive development in the City, while protecting the character of neighborhoods. It is important to note, however, no changes will be made to land use regulations or development standards during this review.

The City's Planning Commission will serve as an advisory committee to select a new, desirable format, and to ensure that any proposed changes to administrative procedures still meet the community standards. Visit ZoningCode.inSunnyvale.com to stay updated on the progress of the project and for any upcoming public meetings and hearings.

Meet Local Author Francisco Jiménez

Meet and greet Francisco Jiménez, Ph.D., award-winning author of *The Circuit*, *Breaking Through*, *La Mariposa* and *Reaching Out*. This special event will take place February 7, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Columbia Middle School, 739 Morse Ave. The event is open to the public at no charge.

Jiménez will share his life story and experiences as a young child who immigrated to the U.S. with his family. He will discuss his time working in the farmlands of California, his challenges with the English language and how he took full advantage of his education. Jimenez attended Santa Clara University for his B.A., and earned his masters and doctorate in Latin American literature from New York's Columbia University. He is currently the Fay Boyle Professor at Santa Clara University and has published and edited books on Mexican and Mexican-American literature.

Hosted by the Columbia Neighborhood Center and Sunnyvale Public Library, do not miss this opportunity to meet Jiménez in person, and read his inspiring books that have been translated into many languages, including the illustrated, bilingual children's book *The Christmas Gift*.

BORROW eBooks FOR KINDLES FROM THE LIBRARY

Sunnyvale Public Library cardholders can now borrow eBooks through the Library on any generation Kindle device, free Kindle application or in a browser with Kindle Cloud Reader. Sunnyvale Library contracted with Overdrive to provide Kindle-compatible eBooks with functionality that includes Whisper-

sync technology that synchronizes personal notes, highlights, last page read and real page numbers.

Library Kindle users have more than 2,000 titles from which to choose. To find Kindle eBooks, go to the Library's webpage at sunnyvalelibrary.org and find the eBooks link on the right-side *Quick Links* menu. Library-provided eBooks can be accessed from several other

devices as well as Kindles, including Nooks, Android phones, iPads and laptop computers.

To help patrons enjoy new access to eBooks through the Library, eBook classes are given monthly at the Library to help make the most of eReaders. For more information, visit sunnyvalelibrary.org.

SILICON VALLEY/SUNNYVALE READS SELECTIONS FOR 2012

Two books about what it is like to be both Muslim and American have been selected for Silicon Valley Reads 2012, the regional program that asks every-

one in Santa Clara County to read the same books, at the same time, and talk about them. *The Muslim Next Door* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali and *The Butterfly Mosque* by G. Willow Wilson present two perspectives on their experiences as young American women who are also Muslim. Their stories provide insight into the Islam faith and cultural traditions and misperceptions about them.

This year, the author of one of

the chosen books will speak at the Sunnyvale Public Library in February, sponsored by the Friends of the Sunnyvale Library. The Library's book discussion group will discuss one of the selected titles. To get up-to-date information on Sunnyvale Reads activities, visit the Library's website sunnyvalelibrary.org. For more information about the Silicon Valley Reads program throughout the region check out siliconvalleyreads.org.

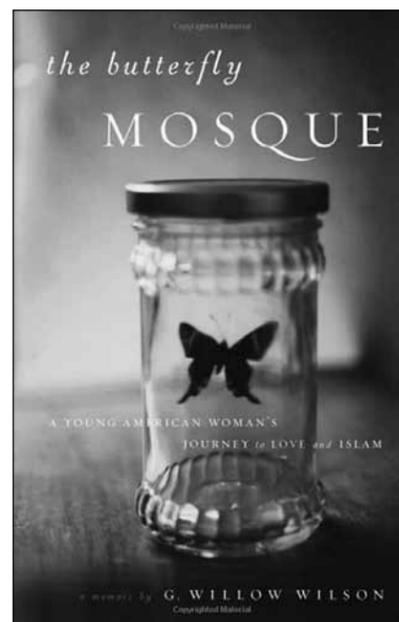
Mango Languages

Sunnyvale Public Library has recently acquired Mango Languages, an online language learning system that can help anyone learn languages such as Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Russian. Mango uses real-life situations and actual conversations to effectively teach a new language.

In a short time, Mango students are able to navigate all sorts of everyday situations in a new language, such as asking directions, ordering a meal or making new friends. Because it is Web-based, languages can be learned anywhere there is an Internet connection — at the Library, a coffee shop or even at home in bed.

Mango also offers three English as a Second Language (ESL) modules for native speakers of Spanish, Mandarin Chinese and Russian. Through Mango Languages, words are pronounced so English pronunciation can be improved while learning new vocabulary.

Mango Languages can be found by visiting the Library's website, sunnyvalelibrary.org, and clicking on the *Articles and Information* link on the right-side *Quick Links* menu. Create a profile to track progress and start learning a new language today.



SIGN OF THE TIMES SIGN CODE TO BE STUDIED

City Council has requested the City study comprehensive changes to the City's sign code. Every few years there have been revisions to the code which have resulted in portions of the sign code becoming a patchwork of rules. As a result, the current code may not address current trends and technologies affecting signage. This will be the first comprehensive sign code review since 1985, and may affect ground signs, wall signs, temporary signs, commercial signs and

residential signs.

Signs serve many purposes, and there are differing opinions and interests when adopting sign regulations. Businesses see signs as necessary for business identification and important to promote their businesses; the general public wants effective signage to find their destination easily; and some community members may want a community standard that avoids "sign clutter" altogether in the City. This study will consider all options and will take into account the differing views on the subject.

A website for the study

has been set up at SignCode.inSunnyvale.com. It will provide updates to the progress of the study and include important dates for outreach meetings and public hearings. Businesses, residents, business associations, sign companies and neighborhood groups are invited to participate in these meetings, scheduled to begin in early 2012. City Council will make a final decision on the new sign code at a public hearing in October 2012. Visit SignCode.inSunnyvale.com for updated information or call (408) 730-7440.

CITY MANAGER BRIEFING, *continued from page 2*

Lisa: She's a hat collector, with nearly two dozen hats dating back through the 1950s, 40s, 30s and 20s. And they're not just for show; she frequently wears them at weddings.

Grace Leung, Finance Director



Grace has worked for the City for about 15 years and became a resident about 18 months ago, buying a house,

as it turned out, within a stone's throw of my own home. Grace's years in our Finance Department, moving up from budget analyst to Finance Manager to Acting Finance Director, have prepared her well to handle the Director's job. Given the tumultuous economy we have been weathering, Grace's performance is absolutely vital in keeping me, my executive leadership team and Council fully aware of fiscal realities. It goes beyond challenging, and has proven she is up to the challenge. Grace has a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies from Columbia University. **What you didn't know about Grace:** when she had a bit more time on her hands, Grace spent her leisure time as a member of both dragon boat racing and competitive rowing teams.

John Stufflebean, Environmental Services



John came to us from San Jose, where he was the Environmental Services Director. John is a registered professional

engineer and he has been a great choice to bring onto our team as the head of a brand new Environmental Services Department. While these services have historically been part of the Department of Public Works, in today's society, environmental concerns and activities have risen to the level that should be accorded its own voice at the table. In addition to operating the SMaRT Station and recycling activities, John is also responsible for the Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) and is already deeply involved in planning for the construction of our new WPCP facilities, a more than \$300 million project. As San Jose's Director of Environmental Services, John supervised a staff of more than 500 with an annual budget of \$250 million. His department included operation of a \$2.5 billion regional advanced wastewater treatment facility that serves 1.4 million people in eight South Bay cities. John also directed San Jose's waste management facility which included the largest residential contracts in the United States. **What you didn't know about John:** He's an outdoorsman, which isn't

surprising for an environmentally-oriented person. A really interesting part of his life, however, was spending time in the Ukraine under the auspices of USAID, helping a city cope with water and wastewater issues in light of a growing population and a very marginal infrastructure. The highlight of his time in the Ukraine was being honored by a parade thanking him for his service to their community.

Kris Stadelman, NOVA Workforce Services



The NOVA Workforce Services have rarely been as critical as they are today. With many people out of work and

employers in Silicon Valley now rebounding and hiring new staff, NOVA provides a vital link between the needs of workers and employers. Thus it was very important to find the right person to head the effort. Kris is the right person. She came to us from Seattle, where she was the CEO of the Workforce Development Council of Seattle – King County. Her prior experience includes being the Executive

Director for the Stanislaus County Department of Employment and Training/Private Industry Council in Modesto, as well as serving as the Assistant Director for the Colorado AFL-CIO Employment and Training Programs. Kris has received national recognition and has a national reputation for innovative best practices in workforce programming, products and policy advocacy. Running NOVA can be particularly challenging, since NOVA not only represents a City department, but it serves six other neighboring cities as well.

What you didn't know about Kris: It would be an understatement to say Kris is into yoga. Not, as she says, the kind of "competitive yoga" you see in a lot of area venues, but yoga that is designed to take you from where you are, to an improved state. Kris has received extensive training and experience in designing yoga courses, and has worked with individuals to help them with specific problems. Different types of yoga can best serve different age groups, from childhood to middle age to seniors. Her ideal next job when it eventually comes time to leave the City? A yoga instructor on a cruise ship. 🌊

Columbia Neighborhood Center Services Available to All Sunnyvale Residents

Community services held at the Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC) 785 Morse Ave. are available to all Sunnyvale residents. Here is a quick reference of services available:

- **Family Harvest Program.** The Family Harvest Program at Second Harvest Food Bank provides a free, monthly food distribution of dry and fresh foods to families with children (ages 0 – 18). Food is distributed the fourth Wednesday of each month from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the CNC by appointment. In order to qualify, families must meet income guidelines. For more information or to download an application, visit CNC.inSunnyvale.com or call (408) 523-8150, TDD (408) 730-7501.
- **Affordable children's health insurance enrollment assistance.** In partnership with the Health Trust, a representative is available to assist families with enrolling children (ages 0 – 18) into an affordable medical insurance plan, such as Medi-Cal, Healthy Families and Healthy Kids. The representative is available to assist on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Drop-ins are welcome, but appointments are highly encouraged. To make an appointment or for more information, call the representative directly at (408) 679-2402, TDD (408) 730-7501.
- **A free program to educate and support individuals in managing chronic disease.** The Health Trust is partnering with CNC to host two sessions of this free program. This six-week program is led by trained facilitators, who are also self-managing their own chronic disease and working towards staying healthy. Open to anyone with chronic disease, such as asthma, high blood pressure, obesity and diabetes. Participants learn new skills, coping actions and hear from others who are also managing chronic disease.
 - The program is offered in English Wednesday evenings, January 11 through February 15, from 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Columbia Middle School Library, 739 Morse Ave.
 - The program is also offered in Spanish Thursday evenings, January 12 through February 16, from 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Columbia Middle School Library, 739 Morse Ave.

Registration is required as class sizes are limited. Call (408) 523-8150, TDD (408) 730-7501 to register or email cnc@ci.sunnyvale.us. For more information about the Chronic Disease Management Program, call the Health Trust at (408) 961-9877.

- **Free tax preparation assistance.** Free tax help is available in February and March for families with an annual total gross income of \$50,000 or less. In partnership with Columbia Neighborhood Center, Tax-Aid, a nonprofit organization, will provide trained volunteers to serve taxpayers on a first-come, first-served basis on four Saturdays: February 25 and March 10, 24 and 31, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Residents may be eligible for Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Creditor and other tax credits. Participants do not have to be U.S. citizens, and Spanish translators will be available. This service will be provided in the Columbia Middle School Staff Room, 739 Morse Ave. This is a walk-in service only with no appointments necessary. Participants will be required to bring photo IDs and other documents. For further information, visit tax-aid.org or call (408) 523-8150, TDD (408) 730-7501.

PARENT AND CHILD CARE PROVIDER WORKSHOPS

The City of Sunnyvale has announced two upcoming workshops that are open to anyone providing care to children, whether a parent or child care provider. The workshops will focus on important health, education, discipline and child development topics that will help improve the quality of care provided to children, address common challenges that arise in the home, and help providers and parents support the development of healthy, happy children. Registration is required to hold a place in these free workshops.

Kindergarten Readiness: Activities to Prepare for School will be held Thursday, January 12, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., in English at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, 550 E. Remington Drive. Experienced Learning Together Initiative Family Resource Center staff will discuss ways to improve a child's classroom success, socialization and adaptation to school. They'll also explore what the basic building blocks are for kindergarten-readiness and activities to do at home to prepare children for the transition. Participants will receive a copy of the *FIRST 5 Santa Clara County Parent/Teacher Handbook* that gives straightforward tips for families to get ready for school. The class will also be held in Spanish on Wednesday, January 11, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at Columbia Middle School Staff Room.

5 Keys to Raising a Healthy, Happy Eater takes place Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at the Sunnyvale Community Center, 550 E. Remington Drive. Karen Astrachan, a Palo Alto Medical

Foundation Registered Dietician, will give parents and caregivers strategies to tackle common mealtime challenges that can lead to poor child health and obesity. The workshop will address such concerns as: how to encourage children to make healthier meal and snack choices; how to handle situations when children aren't eating enough; how to successfully get a child to sit and eat at the table; and what to do when the

pediatrician recommends weight loss and dietary changes. The 5 Keys workshop will help parents instill in their children good eating habits that can last a lifetime.

Space is limited, so register early. For more information or to register, call (408) 523-8150 or email childcareresources@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us or to find out more about the City of Sunnyvale's Youth and Family Resources Program, visit Childcare.inSunnyvale.com. ☎

NEW INTERACTIVE DISPLAY IN LIBRARY LOBBY

A new, interactive display has been installed in the Sunnyvale Public Library lobby. Welcoming visitors, the display provides timely information about City services and events and engages the user in an interactive and exciting way. Some of the features of the widescreen TV include What's New, Check It Out, eBooks, Kids Events, Adult Events, Teen Events, Sunnyvale Speaks, City Services, Friends of the

Library and How Do I? When no one is interacting with the display, an "attract mode" video plays in a continuous loop and lights flash beneath the category images in an attempt to attract users to interact with it. Using motion-sensor technology, a user simply waves a hand over a category topic to interact with it, and the category cell plays the content. Anyone can choose to access content from another cell at anytime just by waving a hand over that cell. ☎



Photo by Susan Denniston

Sign Up for Senior Trip Program Newsletter

To receive a copy of the Senior Center Trip Program's *Steppin' Out Messenger* newsletter, send an email to bburney@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us, subject "Want to Receive Steppin' Out Messenger." Include a full name, address (including ZIP code) and phone number. To read about trips we are currently offering, pick up a copy of the current newsletter at the Senior Center or visit Seniors.inSunnyvale.com and select *Senior Trips*.

UTILITY BILLS, *continued from page 4*

exterior painting or grants of up to \$1,000 for paint and supplies for exterior painting.

- **Energy efficiency loans and grants.** Deferred loans of up to \$25,000, or a matching grant of up to \$5,000, to increase the energy efficiency of low-income households, including insulation, weather stripping, air sealing and the replacement of inefficient and aging appliances,

heating systems, windows and other types of weatherization improvements.

- Home access grants for homeowners and renters. Grants of up to \$6,500 for seniors and disabled low-income homeowners or renters to retrofit the home to improve accessibility, such as grab bars, hand rails and ramps.

- Emergency grants for homeowners. Grants up to \$2,500 to fund urgent health and safety repairs, such as burst pipes, water heater repairs, heating repairs and sewer line repairs.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Richard Gutierrez at Rgutierrez@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us, (408) 730-7459, TDD (408) 730-7501, or go to Housing.inSunnyvale.com. ☎

CHILDHOOD LEARNING THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS

A FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP IN SUNNYVALE OFFERED BY UC DAVIS EXTENSION

The City of Sunnyvale, in partnership with UC Davis Center for Excellence in Child Development, will offer an exciting professional development workshop exclusively for licensed family child care providers. Participants can receive continuing education units (CEUs) for attending.

Learning through Relationships with Infants and Toddlers addresses the emotional, social, intellectual, and physical development of infants and toddlers and the supportive

role of the caregiver. Participants will gain an increased understanding of the role of relationships and emotional development in learning and the temperament of children and adults. Ways to partner with parents and talk with them about developmental processes will also be explored.

This free, two-part workshop will be held Thursday, February 2, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 4, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, 550 E. Remington Drive.

Space is limited and registration is required. Providers must complete both days to receive CEUs. For more information or to register, call (408) 523-8150 or email childcareresources@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

Workshops are subject to cancellation, pending enrollment and UCD or City administrative action. If canceled, all registered individuals will be contacted in advance. To find out more about the City of Sunnyvale's Youth and Family Resources Program, visit Childcare.inSunnyvale.com.

SAVE THE DATES, *continued from page 3*

Sunnyvale memories. Details about entering the contest will be available later this month. All children who live in Sunnyvale are invited to participate, either through their

school or independently.

It's a once-in-a-century party, so mark the calendar for August 25 – 26 to join in on celebrating Sunnyvale's centennial. For more

information about the event, including information about volunteering, parade participation and details about the writing contest, please visit www.Sunnyvale100.com.

Sunnyvale Public Safety Canine Teams Compete in the 27th Annual Witmer-Tyson Police Canine Trial

In late October, Sunnyvale DPS canine teams competed in the 27th Annual Witmer-Tyson Police Canine Trial. Public Safety Officer (PSO) Robin Smith with K-9 Colt and PSO Dan Pistor with K-9 Koa represented the department. A total of 27 police canine teams participated, representing departments from throughout the state. The teams were judged on their performance in obedience, obstacles, protection and search.

The commitment and dedication to training paid off for our teams. PSO Smith and K-9 Colt took second place in obedience, fourth place in obstacles and fourth place in search, with an outstanding third place overall ranking. PSO Pistor and K-9 Koa took first place in obedience, fifth place in obstacles, second place in protection and first place in search, taking first place overall in the competition. This was another impressive showing for the Sunnyvale DPS canine unit.



PSO Pistor with K-9 Koa and PSO Smith with K-9 Colt.

Photo by City of Sunnyvale

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