

# QUARTERLY REPORT



CITY OF SUNNYVALE

SPRING 2011

## UP BEFORE THE DAWN

### A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO KEEP SUNNYVALE SHINING

It's 6:30 a.m. The sun is not yet up, but the City's Corporation Yard is buzzing with activity. The night street sweeper, responsible for sweeping arterials, downtown and streets in the commercial and industrial areas overnight has just left. Administrative support staff has arrived and is checking messages left overnight and dispatching calls to the appropriate field staff. The staffs of both the Water and Sewer/Storm programs are conducting their bi-monthly safety tailgate meeting. Other field staff are preparing their vehicles and loading supplies for the day ahead.

This is how a typical day begins for the City of Sunnyvale's Field

Services division. Part of the City's Public Works department, Field Services staff deal with the maintenance and operation of many of the City's everyday services, including pavement maintenance, striping and marking, traffic control and parking signs. The division also maintains the City's many street lights — although not its traffic signals — sidewalks, street trees, water mains, sewer collection and downtown public parking lots, in addition to many other responsibilities.

It's a big job. With more than 70 field workers making up dozens of crews, the work is constant, and can be intense and complex. With help from Public Safety dispatchers after hours, calls for service from residents and businesses are answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The clock never stops.

#### 8:30 a.m.

It has been a fairly quiet morning for the answer point, allowing office staff to catch up on invoices, filing and other paperwork, and field crews are busy with street sweeping, routine cleaning of sewer mains, "exercising" fire hydrants and water valves to keep them in good working order, pruning trees, grinding off high spots that have been reported in sidewalks, patching and sealing cracks on neighborhood streets, installing clean-outs and checking street signs and poles for readability and garage sale signs that residents have not removed.

Water staff repaired three water main breaks over the last two weeks, and, as a result, activities such as hydrant and valve main-

*See A Day in the Life, page 8*

## Study Issues Priority Ranking and Calendar

The City of Sunnyvale's study issue process assists City Council with setting priorities for the coming calendar year. Study issues are issues proposed for future study that have been generated by Council, boards and commissions or City staff. In their Study Issues/Budget Issues Workshop in January, Council made decisions on whether to drop, defer or rank each of the proposed study issues.

Based on these rankings and available department resources, the Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar was prepared for 2011. A priorities list shows the ranking given by Council to each new issue. Each department was asked to establish a cutoff point where new issues receiving a lower priority would not be addressed due to workload demands and other factors. Those items falling "below the line" are considered deferred and will automatically be brought back to Council for consideration at the Study Issues Workshop in January 2012.

*See Study Issues, page 2*

**The Briefing — Notes From Your City Manager** — is on hiatus. The column will return in the Summer edition to discuss the City's budget.

## DOWNTOWN MATHILDA BRIDGE PROJECT UPDATE

The Downtown Mathilda Bridge Rehabilitation Project continues to make good progress, with several major milestones completed, and remains on time and within budget. The \$25 million project improves the Mathilda Avenue Bridge over Caltrain tracks and Evelyn Avenue.

When complete, the project will widen the bridge and approaches to provide standard lane, shoulder and ramp widths; provide access

to both eastbound and westbound Evelyn via a new off-ramp; add curbs, barriers, accessible sidewalks and pedestrian ramps; install ornamental street-lighting, an aesthetic bridge edge treatment, and landscaping; increase local parking; realign Evelyn Avenue and close Charles Avenue with a cul-de-sac.

Other elements of the project include intersection improvements and new traffic signals at two intersections: Mathilda and California Avenues and the Mathilda Avenue

off-ramp and Evelyn Avenue.

#### Milestones

The first major milestone was demolition of the raised median and installation of a structural section suitable for re-routing traffic lanes towards the center. This allows construction along the outer edges of the bridge while maintaining three traffic lanes in each direction during construction.

*See Mathilda Project, page 3*



*Audel Contreras navigates around parked cars as he sweeps Sunnyvale's streets.*



**CITY OF SUNNYVALE  
Spring 2011**

**Sunnyvale City Council**

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Ron Swegles  
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[QuarterlyReport.inSunnyvale.com](http://QuarterlyReport.inSunnyvale.com)

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# NEWLY FORMED SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION UNDERWAY

The City of Sunnyvale's new Sustainability Commission held its first meeting in January. During the meeting, the new commissioners selected their chair and vice chair and determined their term through the drawing of lots. The Commission, in order of expiration of term, includes:

- Commissioner Dan Hafeman**  
Term Expires 2011
- Commissioner Barbara Fukumoto**  
Term Expires 2012
- Commissioner Gerry Glaser**  
Term Expires 2012
- Commissioner Sue Harrison (Chair)**  
Term Expires 2013
- Commissioner Regina Wheeler (Vice Chair)**  
Term Expires 2013
- Commissioner Joe Green-Heffern**  
Term Expires 2014
- Commissioner Amit Srivastava**  
Term Expires 2014

The commission meets the third Monday of every other month in the City Hall West Conference Room at 7 p.m. If it

falls on a holiday, they meet on Tuesday of the same week. The commission has made a commitment to go paperless, where practical. To support this goal, the City has set up a Sustainability

Commission website at [Sustainability.inSunnyvale.com](http://Sustainability.inSunnyvale.com), that will have the agenda, reports, meeting minutes and links to resources that may be useful to the commission in the course of their work.

## NEAT Team Tackles New Area

The City of Sunnyvale's Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team (NEAT) brings together key staff from City departments, residents, businesses, property owners and neighborhood groups to identify and resolve issues in selected neighborhoods.

This spring, NEAT will launch a new program area around the Homestead Terrace area, including Ontario Drive, La Grande Drive, Queen Charolette Drive, Krikland Drive, Tenaka Place, Grand Coulee Avenue and a portion of Hollenbeck Avenue.

If you live in this neighborhood, NEAT is looking forward to working with you to identify and resolve community issues. If you see individuals with NEAT shirts or jackets in your neighborhood, say "hello," and share any questions or concerns you may have. They are in the neighborhood to provide assistance and help resolve community issues.

To report quality-of-life issues to NEAT or to request a visit in your neighborhood, call (408) 245-NEAT (6328) or e-mail [NEAT@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:NEAT@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).

## STUDY ISSUES, *continued from page 1*

The dates for "above the line" study issues are scheduled on the 2011 Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar and listed in the table below. Work on the studies

will commence in the order in which they are ranked. However, since some studies require fewer staff hours (or require less time to process) they may not be

completed in the order in which they are ranked. For more information on the study issues process, visit [StudyIssues.inSunnyvale.com](http://StudyIssues.inSunnyvale.com)

Department	Final Council Date	Council Rank	Number	Title
Community Development	5/29/12	1	CDD 10-06	Toolkit for Commercial/Residential Mixed Use Development
	11/15/11	3	CDD 11-01	Requiring Electric Car Chargers in New Residential Developments
	9/27/11	4	CDD 11-04	Location and Operation of Firearm Sales Businesses
	10/30/12	2	CDD 11-07	Comprehensive Sign Code Revisions
Community Services	4/26/11	1	DCS 11-01	Revisit City Policy Governing the Community Recreation Fund
Finance	9/20/11	2	FIN 11-01	Utility Bill Assistance for Low Income, Fixed Income, Senior and Disabled Utility Customers
	8/23/11	1	FIN 11-02	Update Fiscal Sub-element Policy Related to Budget Stabilization Fund
Public Works	12/06/11	4	DPW 09-02	Update/Review Corner Vision Triangle Municipal Code Ordinance
	2/07/12	2	DPW 10-09	Reliable Electrical Power Options
	9/18/12	3	DPW 11-01	Ban the Use of Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Food Containers
	05/10/11	1	DPW 11-06	Closing Murphy Avenue to Automobile Traffic
	8/23/11	5	DPW 11-10	Fair Oaks Avenue/Route 237 Parking Facility Study

# LAWRENCE STATION AREA PLAN

The first phase of the Lawrence Station Area planning effort is underway to consider mixed-use development opportunities for residential and employment uses within a one-half mile radius of the Lawrence Caltrain station. A technical working group (TAG), comprising Sunnyvale staff and staff from Valley Transportation Authority, City of Santa Clara, County of Santa Clara and a consultant team, has been formed to lay the conceptual foundation of a plan that would address land use alternatives, access and circulation

issues, as well as to identify sense-of-place improvements. The TAG had its kick-off meeting in December and has been collecting data and analyzing available information to assess the potential for development and constraints within the study area.

Two community outreach meetings were held in February and March. These meetings provided an opportunity for the community to participate and provide input at a conceptual level on issues such as the overall vision for the area, how the area could accommodate future growth while preserving established residential

neighborhoods and how access and circulation for cars, bicyclists and pedestrians could be improved. For more information about upcoming meetings, visit [LawrenceStation.inSunnyvale.com](http://LawrenceStation.inSunnyvale.com)

## Boards and Commissions

The City of Sunnyvale is recruiting volunteers to serve on Council-advisory boards and commissions. Board and commission members are appointed by the City Council; special requirements, qualifications or professional experience may be required. Recruitment is ongoing for all boards and commissions. For more information and to download an application, visit [BoardsAndCommissions.inSunnyvale.com](http://BoardsAndCommissions.inSunnyvale.com). To request an application by mail or for more information, call the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 730-7483, TDD (408) 730-7501, or e-mail [cityclerk@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).

## WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON 25 YEARS FROM NOW?

Horizon 2035 was created to guide two important City projects that will contribute to smart growth and a healthy community: the Land Use and Transportation Element (LUTE) and Climate Action Plan (CAP). This committee has been working together since June 2010 to review land use planning and transportation issues; discuss climate change solutions; assist City staff in developing draft goals, policies and action strategies that

will be considered by City Council; guide new policies in accordance with the adopted Sunnyvale Community Vision; and help create the City's first Climate Action Plan.

Committee meetings are open to the public and held on the first and third Wednesday of each month starting at 7 p.m., in the City Hall West Conference Room, 456 W. Olive Ave. For more information, visit [Horizon2035.inSunnyvale.com](http://Horizon2035.inSunnyvale.com).

## Sunnyvale Opens 2011 Community Awards Nominations

Each year, the City of Sunnyvale honors exceptional members of the Sunnyvale Community. The City has opened nominations for the 2011 awards, which will be presented at the Mayor's State of the City celebration, Sunday, July 4, at Washington Park. This year's prestigious awards include:

- Distinguished Resident of the Year
- Outstanding High School Senior
- Outstanding Community Volunteer
- Outstanding Businessperson
- Outstanding Educator
- Outstanding Environmental Achievement
- Outstanding Contribution to the Arts

Community Award Nomination Forms are available online at [StateoftheCity.inSunnyvale.com](http://StateoftheCity.inSunnyvale.com). Following the nomination period, which closes at 5 p.m., Friday, May 6, a committee chosen by the Mayor will select the award recipients.

A permanent display for the annual Community Award winners has been installed outside the doors leading into City Council Chambers. For more information, contact the Sunnyvale Community Resources Division at (408) 730-7599, TDD (408) 730-7501.

## MATHILDA PROJECT, *continued from page 1*

The second major milestone was completion of night work, which was necessary to install temporary structures across the rail lines. The only remaining night work will occur after the permanent overhead concrete work has sufficient strength to allow removal of the temporary supports.

The third major milestone was accomplished with the successful completion of pile-driving work on December 15. To form the sub-surface foundation for new columns, 196 piles were driven at 17 locations. Several measures were taken to reduce the noise and duration of the pile driving, including pre-drilling, use of sound-attenuating blocks and shrouds, and using two pile drivers to shorten the duration.

The new bridge foundations allow the contractor to continue constructing columns and erecting falsework, or temporary structural supports, for widening the bridge and creating the new off-ramp. The falsework supports the new bridge structure during installation of the steel reinforcement and concrete pouring. Once the new reinforced concrete reaches sufficient strength, the falsework is removed.

After demolition of the former Evelyn Avenue off-ramp founda-

tions, a new parking lot will be built at this location, between Evelyn Avenue and Caltrain's right-of-way. One-way traffic control is in place along Evelyn Avenue during demolition operations.

Coordination is ongoing with Caltrain when work takes place above or near the railroad tracks. The project's progress and upcoming construction activities have been presented a series of public meetings, and is scheduled to be completed by January 2012, weather permitting. For weekly updates, visit [Downtown.inSunnyvale.com](http://Downtown.inSunnyvale.com).

### Mathilda Bridge Project Contacts:

- HNTB Construction Manager  
Andrew Kreck, P.E., C.C.M.  
(408) 592-1754
- City of Sunnyvale Construction Answer Point  
(408) 730-7415  
TDD (408) 730-7501
- RGW Construction Noise Disturbance Coordinator  
(510) 377-5839

## 2011 Basketball Shoot-off

On Friday, February 4, more than 200 Sunnyvale seventh and eighth grade students participated in the 2011 Basketball Shoot-off Finals at the Columbia Neighborhood Center Gym. Department of Public Safety Neighborhood Resource Officers, Crime Prevention Unit staff and Department of Community Services staff spent hosted qualifiers in January at all the Sunnyvale schools with seventh and eighth grades. Several hundred students tried out, and the top scorers from each division at each school were invited to the finals.

Each participant had 60 seconds to score as many baskets as possible while moving around five spaces on the key. First place winners in each division — seventh-grade girls, seventh-grade boys, eighth-grade girls and eighth-grade boys — received a Wii Game System and a basketball, second place received a \$50 gift card from Fry's and third place received a \$25 gift card from Fry's.

The University of Santa Clara Broncos Women's Basketball Team joined the fun at finals providing coaching and re-bouncers for the finalists. In addition to their prizes, the winners were honored at the February 5 Broncos Basketball Game. Everyone who attended the event received free game tickets from the Broncos and free hotdogs provided by the Elks Lodge.

The annual event is made possible through community partnerships with the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge, Best Buy and Fry's Electronics.

# PLANNING NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY EVENTS IN SUNNYVALE

**E**vents such as parades, fairs, fun runs, concerts, festivals and block parties are an important part of a vibrant community. They provide opportunities to celebrate diversity, heritage and uniqueness and strengthen a sense of community and neighborhood

identity. Take a look to see how the City can help make your event both successful and safe.

## Planning a Neighborhood Block Party?

Spring and summer months are the perfect time of year for an outdoor neighborhood get-together. Block parties help strengthen bonds between old friends and welcome new neighbors into the community. If your block party requires the closure of neighborhood streets, the City will need to know about it a couple of weeks in advance. Simply visit our website at [BlockParty.inSunnyvale.com](http://BlockParty.inSunnyvale.com) to download the one-page form and follow the instructions for getting the street barricades. When ordering barricades, let us know if you would like to invite on-duty officers to stop by in their fire truck; it's always a big hit with the kids.

## Planning a Community Event or other large gathering?

The best way to plan a community event or large gathering is to

get started early. And the City can help in several ways:

- 1) We have a streamlined special event permit process to make sure your event receives all the necessary permits and guidance from City staff. Make sure to submit your application at least 60 days in advance of the event.
- 2) The Community Events Calendar on our website is a tool for promoting upcoming events serving the Sunnyvale community. It's available for nonprofit organizations to get some extra promotion at no cost.
- 3) The City also offers a Community Event Grant Program to assist organizers of large community events in Sunnyvale. Grants are awarded once per year, so make sure to check our website early in the planning stages.

To get information on all these services, simply visit [Events.inSunnyvale.com](http://Events.inSunnyvale.com) or call (408) 730-7599, TDD (408) 730-7501. ☎

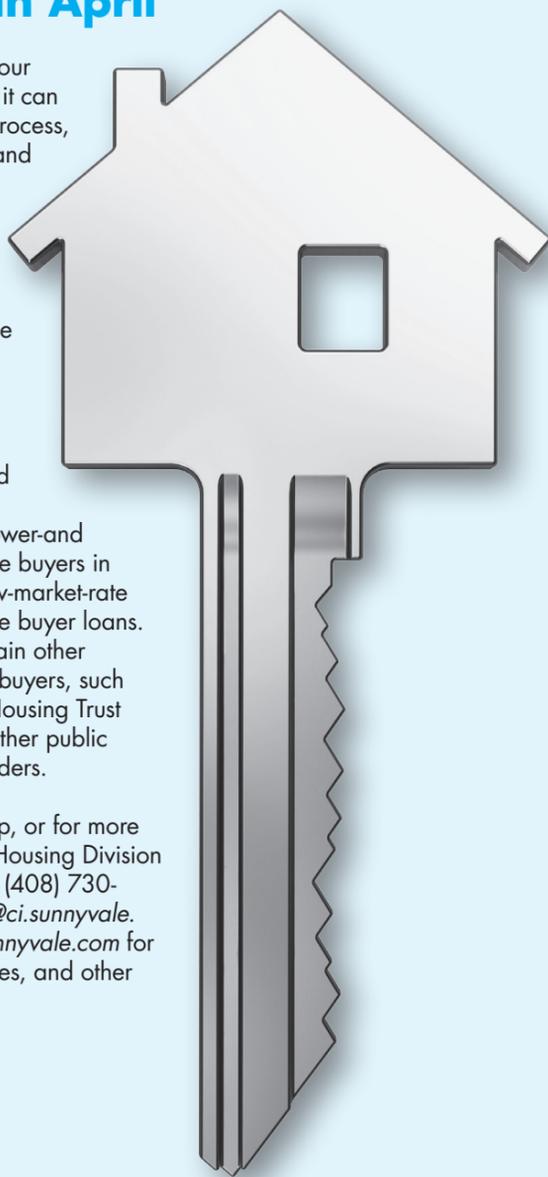
## Community Event Grant Program Now Accepting Applications

Are you planning a community event in Sunnyvale? If so, your organization may qualify for a community event grant. Applications are now being accepted for larger community events which are free and open to the public. Applicants must be nonprofit or not-for profit organizations, but not necessarily based in Sunnyvale, as long as the event is held within city boundaries and serves the Sunnyvale community. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m., Friday, June 3. Full details and application information are available online at [EventGrants.inSunnyvale.com](http://EventGrants.inSunnyvale.com) or by calling (408) 730-7599, TDD (408) 730-7501.

## First-Time Home Buyer Workshop in April

The prospect of buying your first home is exciting, but it can also be an intimidating process, especially for moderate-and low-income families. To assist residents hoping to enter the housing market for the first time, the City of Sunnyvale will present first-time home buyer workshops, April 21 and 23, at Sunnyvale City Hall, 456 W. Olive Ave. The workshops are open to anyone interested in learning more about assistance available to lower-and moderate-income first-time buyers in Sunnyvale, such as below-market-rate homes and first-time home buyer loans. The workshops also explain other programs to prospective buyers, such as those offered by the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County, other public agencies and private lenders.

To sign up for a workshop, or for more information, contact the Housing Division at (408) 730-7250, TDD (408) 730-7501, or e-mail [housing@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:housing@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us). Visit [Housing.inSunnyvale.com](http://Housing.inSunnyvale.com) for updates, program changes, and other details.



## APPLY FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM

**T**he City of Sunnyvale is now accepting applications for the Neighborhood Grant Program. The program funds neighborhood projects and events, which are planned and carried out by neighborhood associations, mobile home park residents' associations and neighborhood groups within Sunnyvale.

The program offers grants of up to \$1,000 per association or group, which must be applied for in advance and correspond to at least one of four categories:

- Increasing communication among neighbors
- Building bridges between cultural groups
- Improving the physical condition of the neighborhood
- Enhancing neighborhood pride and identity

Creative ideas for projects and events are encouraged. Examples of some grant fund uses are start-up funds for neighborhood association

newsletters or directories, clean-up and beautification activities, block parties and cultural awareness events.

Although the program is open to all neighborhood groups, approval priority is given to registered Sunnyvale neighborhood associations, mobile home park resident associations and neighborhood groups currently applying to become a registered Sunnyvale neighborhood association.

Neighborhood Grant Program applications are currently being accepted for projects and events to be completed during fiscal year 2011/12 (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012), subject to City Council budget approval. If your neighborhood association or neighborhood group is considering applying for a grant, applications will be accepted until 5 p.m., Friday, May 20.

To download an application or get more information about the Neighborhood Grant Program, please visit [Neighborhoods.inSunnyvale.com](http://Neighborhoods.inSunnyvale.com) or contact Community Resources at (408) 730-7599, TDD (408) 730-7501. ☎

FOR ALL CITY SERVICES, TDD ACCESS (408) 730-7501

## BELOW MARKET RATE HOMES AVAILABLE NOW

**A** number of new Below Market Rate (BMR) homes are available for sale now, and additional homes will be completed throughout the next several years in various new local developments (see below). Prospective buyers who live or work in

Sunnyvale may receive e-mail notification whenever new BMR homes are available for sale by signing up on the City's new BMR interest list.

To sign up, use the form provided online at: [Housing.InSunnyvale.com](http://Housing.InSunnyvale.com) or at the City's One-stop Permit Center. Staff will notify everyone on the interest list when new and/or

resale BMR homes become available for sale and will provide details about the application process in the notices. For more information, please contact the Housing Division at 730-7250, or attend an upcoming Home Buyer Workshops (see article, page 4).

### 2010 Moderate Income Limits (MAXIMUM Annual Gross Household Income)

Number of Persons In Household							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
\$86,950	\$99,350	\$111,800	\$124,200	\$134,150	\$144,050	\$154,000	\$163,950

Upcoming Below-Market-Rate Housing Developments					
Development	No. of Units	Bedroom Size	Type	Available	Sales Prices
Toll Brothers "Verona" 1122 Morse Ave.	2	2	Townhouse	Feb. 2011	\$218,954
	1	3	Townhouse	June 2011	\$246,821
DR Horton "Lotus" 637 E. Taylor Ave.	5	3	Townhouse	March 2011	\$246,821
O'Brien Homes "Fusion" 920 Duane Ave.	20	2	Townhouse	Sept. 2011	\$336,572-\$382,949
	7	3	Townhouse	Sept. 2012	\$430,315
	3	4	Townhouse	Aug. 2012	\$468,253
"Sunnyvale Town Center" 2502 Town Center Ave.	11	1	Condo	Aug. 2011	\$291,000
	23	2	Condo	Sept. 2011	\$335,200-\$379,400
	3	3	Condo	March 2012	\$393,400

## LIBRARY TOURS OF THE AUTOMATED MATERIALS HANDLING SYSTEM

**W**ant to know more about how the Sunnyvale Public Library works behind the scenes? Library staff will host tours of the Library at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, Thursday, May 3 and Thursday, June 7. Sign up for a tour at the Library's main Information desk.

On the tour, visitors will get a behind-the-scenes look at the new automated materials handling (AMH) system in action. Books and other library materials are returned, one-by-one through two return slots outside on the Library's plaza and two returns inside the Library. Each item is checked in immediately and taken off of the borrower's Library record. Materials next travel on a conveyor belt to pre-programmed bins that hold specific items, such as picture books, feature DVDs or fiction. From the bins, staff sort books onto carts and shelve them. A large monitor above the lobby return slots shows the books moving along the conveyor belts to the bins. With the new AMH system, library materials are re-shelved much faster, typically in 24 - 48 hours. The new check-out machines allow borrowers to place up to four items at a time on the machine and receive a dated receipt.

The tour also takes visitors through the main room where they will see the reserve area where customers can pick up requested "hold" materials, the new books area, the Friends of the Library continuous sale shelves, the public access computers at the Technology Center and books on CD.

Moving towards the Fiction Room, tour participants will pass art displayed by local artists and the Sunnyvale Collection, where tapes of City Council meetings and yearbooks from local high schools are housed. In the Fiction Room, authors are shelved in alphabetical order with separate sections for mysteries and science fiction.

The tour also explores the Children's Room where there are computers for children to use. There are also picture books, beginning readers, folktales, science books, state books, fiction, children's books on CD and music CDs. Librarians are available to respond to questions and offer suggestions for reading materials from the Adult/Circulation and Children's/Teen desks.

Staff are also available to assist customers with using the new check-in and check-out machines and to answer questions about your account. For more details, visit the Library at 665 W. Olive Ave., and sign up for a tour.

## Finding Your Ancestors

Do you want to know the name of the ship that brought your grandmother to the United States? Find the names of your great-aunt's siblings? Discover lost cousins in China? The Library has online resources to help you search for your ancestors and add on to your family tree.

A database called *Ancestry*, which is available only in the Library, is a great source for genealogy studies. If you know names, dates and places where your someone lived, *Ancestry* can provide census information, parish records, immigration data, yearbook photographs, and birth, marriage and death records to assist you. One searcher found her grandparents' marriage banns (church announcement of a forthcoming marriage) from 1886 in the Paris registry and was able to discover the maiden name of her great-grandmother. The patents filed by a great-grandfather were unearthed, using *Ancestry*, by another grateful sleuth.

Use one of the Library's public access computers to delve into your family's history with *Ancestry* and make discoveries about your family.

For more information, call the Library at (408) 730-7300, TDD (408) 730-7501.

## National Library Week

During National Library Week, April 10-16, the Library will offer many special family activities and Library tours. Visit the Library's website at [www.sunnyvalelibrary.org](http://www.sunnyvalelibrary.org) or call (408) 730-7300, TDD (408) 730-7501, for updated Library Week information.

## Hand on the Arts Saturday, May 21

The City of Sunnyvale's long-running and popular celebration of children and the arts, Hands on the Arts, returns to the Sunnyvale Community Center this May. The daylong multi-cultural arts festival is for children in grades K-6, and will be held Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

More than 30 artists sponsor visual or performing art workshops at the Community Center. It's a fun-filled day of art and wonder, magic and excitement, creativity and imagination. A food court and daylong entertainment will round out the fun. This event is open to the public, and tickets are \$10 per child. For more information, call (408) 730-7354, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit *HandsOnTheArts.inSunnyvale.com*.



## 3RD ANNUAL CITY OF SUNNYVALE CHILD CARE PROVIDER APPRECIATION TOUR

In honor of National Child Care Provider Appreciation Day, the City of Sunnyvale will recognize and celebrate child care providers in Sunnyvale by inviting all center and family child care providers to participate in the Child Care Provider Appreciation tour. City leaders and staff will visit participating providers, bringing public recognition to the vital work of child care providers throughout the City. A certificate of recognition will be presented to each child care provider, honoring them for the important role they play in the lives of Sunnyvale's children and families.

The tour panel will consist of three to five individuals and may include City Councilmembers; City directors; Youth, Family and Child Care Resources staff; and Child Care Staff Advisory Committee members. Tours will be held May 4 - 18. Parents of children in Sunnyvale child care programs are encouraged to refer their providers to the City.

Family child care homes and center-based programs in Santa Clara County can accommodate some 58,000 children, far short of the 95,000 children who need quality child care services. In Sunnyvale, there are 58 center-based and 174 licensed family child

providers with a capacity to serve approximately 6,412 children.

In recent years, local governments across the United States have joined many governors in proclaiming this day of recognition. Around the globe, Department of Defense installations celebrate Provider Appreciation Day by recognizing those who care for the children of military parents living both at home and abroad. The celebrations this year promise to carry on and strengthen Provider Appreciation Day.

For more information, or to express interest in being a tour site, contact Alicia Gonzales at (408) 523-8150 or e-mail [agonzales@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:agonzales@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).

## YOUTH BOXING PROGRAM IS BACK

Ever since the Public Safety Youth Boxing Program closed its doors three years ago, Sunnyvale Public Safety Officer Jose Ramirez has been searching for another location. The program was highly successful during its first few years when it was located at Columbia Middle School. As many as 40 children a day took advantage of this unique free after-school program, and more than 700 participated over the course of those first years.

Now, after several years of searching, the boxing program has joined forces with Gateway Neighborhood Outreach and will re-open in 2011 at the Gateway Building behind Trinity Church on Mathilda Avenue.

In addition to boxing, there will be other activities available at the center, such as youth fitness, volleyball and basketball. The program will be staffed by volunteer coaches and is funded by donations.

Gateway Neighborhood Outreach is the building coordinator for a 33,000 square foot building owned by Trinity Church. Trinity Church has raised the necessary funds to complete code compliance renovations which should be completed by mid-March. The group held a series of meetings with community leaders to determine how the space could be used.

The boxing program will be the first of these opportunities to be launched in the new facility.

The planned grand opening of the after-school boxing program is April 4. Hours of operation are expected to be Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. - 8 p.m., and potentially some Saturdays. The program will give neighborhood youth a

place to go to after school with great role models and mentors. They will learn about healthy activity and good nutrition and, along the way, build confidence and a sense of belonging.

For more information about this program, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at (408) 730-7140, TDD (408) 730-7501.

## LOW- AND NO-COST SKILLS-BASED WORKSHOPS FOR CAREGIVERS

This spring, the City of Sunnyvale is sponsoring four new workshops for anyone providing care to children — including parents, licensed child care providers, neighbors caring for children and even young adults caring for younger siblings. The spring workshop series will focus on a variety of important health, safety, discipline and nutrition topics, to help improve the quality of care and help caregivers address common challenges that arise in the child care setting.

### Spring workshops include the following:

- **Strategies for Effective Discipline in the Child Care Setting (Free)**

Equips providers with proven strategies for managing challenging behaviors. Training will be offered on April 16, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

- **Kid Proofing Your Child Care Home and Preparing for Emergencies and Disaster (Free)**

Helps providers plan and be well prepared for crisis situations. Training will be offered on Saturday, May 14, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

- **Preparing Quick and Healthy Snacks and Meals That Kids Will Love (Fee: \$20)**

Teaches caregivers about meals that both nourish and are easy to prepare. Training will be offered on Thursday, May 19, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- **Kindergarten Readiness: Activities to Ease the Transition Into the Classroom (Free)**

Focuses on ways to improve a child's future classroom success, socialization and adaptation to school. Training will be offered on Tuesday, June 7, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For more information, or to register, contact Youth, Family & Child Care Resources, (408) 523-8150, TDD (408) 735-7501, or e-mail [childcareap@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:childcareap@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).

## JUNIOR GOLF GETS KIDS HOOKED ON GOLF

**S**unnyvale wants to get your kids hooked on golf. The sport can help keep kids in shape, teach life skills like communication, time management and patience. It builds self confidence and improves self esteem. And, most importantly, it's fun! Golf is the "game for a lifetime," and Sunnyvale can help get your kids started.

Don't have any kids' golf clubs? Sunnyvale's Sunken Gardens Golf Course has junior golf clubs for all ages available, free of charge, thanks to a 2010 Sticks for Kids grant funded by the National Recreation and Parks Association. Sunnyvale also offers a groundbreaking junior development program, called Kids Play Free. Designed to promote optimum golf play and to develop the next generation of golfers, the program provides golfers 16 years of age

and younger with free green fees when accompanied by a paying adult. Junior golfers and their adult sponsors can take advantage of this promotion seven days a week, with no time restrictions, at either of Sunnyvale's two courses.

Sunnyvale also offers low-cost youth golf instruction throughout the year. Events include drop-in clinics, weekly classes, and two-day golf camps. All lesson programs are conducted by experienced PGA and LPGA golf professionals, so your kids will have a great time and learn from some of the best.

Sunnyvale is also proud to promote junior golf through its relationship with local schools. In conjunction with Columbia Neighborhood Center and the Sunnyvale School District, a group of Sunnyvale Middle School students spend winter break learning, practicing and playing golf at Sunken

Gardens. The golf portion of this annual winter break camp, now in its second year, includes the basics of grip, stance and swing, along with such topics as safety, etiquette, rules and careers in golf. Three local high schools also call Sunnyvale golf courses "home." Homestead, Fremont and Kings Academy high schools take advantage of Sunnyvale's reduced team rate, \$500 per season, to field competitive golf teams in their respective leagues. A dozen team members from each school play twice a week in Sunnyvale during the golf season. They also hone their skills by practicing at the Sunken Gardens driving range.

For more information on any of Sunnyvale's junior golf programs, visit [Golf.inSunnyvale.com](http://Golf.inSunnyvale.com) or call the Sunnyvale Golf Course, (408) 738-3666, or Sunken Gardens Golf Course, (408) 739-6588, TDD (408) 730-7501. ☎



## 12TH ANNUAL HEALTH & SAFETY FAIR

**B**ring out the family for an afternoon of fun, entertainment and valuable health and safety information at the City of Sunnyvale's 12th Annual Health & Safety Fair. Admission is free and takes place Saturday, April 30, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., at Columbia Middle School, 739 Morse Ave. Children will have a great time being active and can climb the rock wall, play in the bounce house, participate in the U.S. Soccer Foundation soccer skills clinic, and learn about wellness as they play games and win prizes. Children will also have a chance to explore a variety of safety vehicles including fire rigs, squad cars and the Stanford Life Flight rescue helicopter. Children can also learn about bike safety as they navigate through the bike skills course and get a free bike tune up.

The Fair will also offer adults the opportunity to receive important health checks for diabetes, cholesterol, vision, body mass index and blood pressure. There will be more than 50 exhibitors on site showcasing local health and family resources. In addition, there will be performances throughout the day including dancing, music and martial arts demonstrations.

For more information visit [HealthAndSafetyFair.inSunnyvale.com](http://HealthAndSafetyFair.inSunnyvale.com).

The City is also currently recruiting volunteers to help make the event a success. If you or your group is interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Volunteer Resources at (408) 730-7533, TDD (408) 730-7501, or visit [Volunteering.inSunnyvale.com](http://Volunteering.inSunnyvale.com). This is a great way to support community wellness in Sunnyvale.

For more information about the Fair, please contact Alicia Gonzales, (408) 523-8150, ext. 19, or e-mail [agonzales@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:agonzales@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us). ☎

## Council to Recognize Local Green Businesses in April

The Bay Area Green Business Program distinguishes businesses that protect, preserve and sustain our environment. A partnership of environmental agencies and utilities, it assists, offers incentives, and verifies that participating businesses conserve energy and water, minimize waste, prevent pollution and shrink their carbon footprints. Businesses that meet its environmental standards are officially recognized as Bay Area Green Businesses.

The Sunnyvale City Council recognizes newly certified (or recertified) Green Businesses each April in honor of Earth Day. Congratulations to this year's businesses.

- Country Inn & Suites
- Juniper
- Labcyte
- Promega
- Savory & Sweet Catering
- Sheraton Sunnyvale
- Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce
- Sunnyvale Ford Lincoln
- Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer (SMaRT® Station) Office
- Toyota Sunnyvale

See *ReNews* inside this issue of *Quarterly Report* to read more in-depth about this issue's featured certified Green Business, SummerWinds Nursery. Interested in shopping at other certified Green Businesses in Sunnyvale or want to certify your own business or organization? Go to [www.greenbiz.ca.gov](http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov) or call (408) 282-3166 to find out more.

Product and company listings should not be construed as an endorsement by the City of Sunnyvale.



**Breakfast Tip A Cop for Special Olympics**  
meet athletes and be served by Sunnyvale's finest

**April 21, 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

Coco's Bakery Restaurant – 1206 Oakmead Parkway



URBAN VILLAGE FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION

## The Sunnyvale Farmer's Market is returning to its roots.

Join us on  
MURPHY AVENUE  
April 2nd for the  
Grand re-opening

## CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY

**T**he Department of Public Safety operates a child passenger safety inspection station on Wednesdays from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Sunnyvale residents can make appointments by calling (408) 730-7179. Six technicians have completed a 40-hour training course, passed both written and practical tests, and must complete six hours of continuing education every two years and work at least one special event per year to maintain their certification.

### Car Seat Basics

Babies and children should ride rear-facing for as long as possible.

Some seats can accommodate up to 40 pounds, up to the maximum height or weight allowed by the specific manufacturer. The 12-month and 20-pound requirement that many parents cite when turning their child forward-facing is actually the minimum size and age requirement for that change.

Technicians have found most of the seats they inspect need corrections and/or adjustments. Sometimes the seat is deemed unsuitable due to the size of the child, age of the seat — they expire after six years — or other issues. In these situations, parents are advised to dispose of the seat and to replace it with an appropriate seat.

The popular service tends to have a waiting list of up to three weeks, so parents should plan ahead. Special child seat check-up events are scheduled from time to time throughout the year, in conjunction with Safe Kids Coalition from Lucile Packard Children's Hospital. The next event will be held at the Sunnyvale Health and Safety Fair at Columbia Middle School, April 30. Appointments are available between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. by phoning Safe Kids at (650) 736-2981. For more child safety information, visit the Public Safety website at [StayingSafe.inSunnyvale.com](http://StayingSafe.inSunnyvale.com).

## A DAY IN THE LIFE, *continued from page 1*

tenance fell a little behind. It has been more than a week since the area has seen any rain, but Sewer/Storm staff know that more may be coming. In preparation, they are clearing excess leaves and debris out of storm drain inlets to prevent localized flooding when the rain comes again.

Large amount of leaves on the street — common for this time of year — have filled one daytime sweeper already, and the driver has returned to the Corporation Yard to empty the sweeper before he heads back out to continue his route. A Parks worker just called to report a leaking backflow device at Serra

Park. Water crews are now on the way to check it out.

### 10:30 a.m.

The relative calm of the morning is a thing of the past. Water coming up through the pavement was reported near Duane Avenue, suggesting a broken water main. Water crews are on the way but won't know how long repairs might take until they arrive on the scene and evaluate the situation. The first step will be to use a series of isolating valves in the area to make sure water continues to flow to as many area residents as possible during repairs.

Work orders are also coming in from the Finance Department for residential water meter repairs identified by the meter readers, and a crew is digging at the Wolfe/Evelyn water plant to prepare for the replacement of a 24-inch meter at that site.

Pavement Signs and Markings crews are nearly finished with their routine inspections and cleaning of City street signs for the day, making sure each is legible to drivers and pedestrians. They turn their attention to their ongoing winter project of replacing older signs that are no longer reflective, or have aged or been damaged beyond usefulness. Today's load of signs will fill the rest of the day, except for responding to calls from the City's Graffiti and Abandoned Shopping Cart Hotline, which will be dispatched to them periodically as they come in.

### 12:30 p.m.

Sewer crews have already flushed almost a mile of City sewer mains today, as part of their preventive maintenance zone flushing program. Their goal is to flush about 3 percent of the City's 280 miles of sewer mains every month, in order to complete the entire City in three years. There have not been any sewer calls today that they needed to respond to, and the equipment is working properly, so they are having an above-average day.

Pavement crews have been busy all morning repairing potholes on Homestead and Fair Oaks, and are moving on to cleaning pedestrian walkways throughout the City. Concrete Program crews are inspecting

and grinding raised sidewalks that have been called in to the Field Services answer point.

Street Tree Services Program crews are divided between pruning and stump grinding. They have pruned more 1,800 over the past six months, but they have a backlog of more than 150 stumps from trees removed over the past two years that need removing. The backlog was 250 stumps a couple of months ago, so they are making good progress during this period when the trees are growing more slowly.

### 2:30 p.m.

The tree-pruning crew is finishing up on Sandia Avenue between Fairwood Avenue and Blazingwood Drive, then will proceed to the next area on the schedule. Pavement staff is finishing up the months-long process of assessing the condition of the City streets and assigning a number to each, for a report known as the Pavement Condition Index (PCI). This number will help to guide the flow of future maintenance resources. The spring and summer maintenance schedules will soon be finalized.

### 4:30 p.m.

Many of the field staff that arrived early this morning have left for the day. Stand-by staff — on call 24 hours a day for both water and sewer-related emergencies — already have a couple of calls pending that were called in to administrative staff late in the day. The phones are turning over to the Department of Public Safety and any emergency calls that come in before tomorrow morning will be dispatched by them.

The night sweeper will be arriving in a few hours, and soon, the process will begin again, with the dedicated staff of the Field Services Division providing the Sunnyvale community with the high level of service they have come to expect.

*This day-in-the-life snapshot of the City's Field Services Division took place in January of this year. Field Services staff is available to answer questions and respond to calls for service at (408) 730-7510.*

## Automated License Plate Reader

Since April 2010, the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety (DPS) has had a new tool at their disposal to help keep the City safe. It's the Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR).

As an officer drives around the City, the ALPR uses cameras to capture images of license plates, which are then stored, geographically mapped and checked against the Department of Justice database to determine if any vehicles are stolen or are associated with an Amber Alert, missing persons case or a suspect wanted for a major crime. When a hit occurs, the system notifies the officer with an audible tone, and displays a photograph of the vehicle and the associated license plate.

In the short time since the equipment has been in use in Sunnyvale, a suspect in a series of multi-state robberies was identified while preparing to commit armed robberies in Sunnyvale. The suspect was later arrested based on information gathered from the recovery of the vehicle, which led investigators to his location. In another case, a vehicle used in an armed robbery was recovered 20 minutes after the crime occurred. Because of ALPR and the quick recovery, valuable evidence was found inside the vehicle.

Perhaps more impressively, the ALPR system has helped Sunnyvale public safety officers recover an average of one stolen vehicle a week. This valuable tool allows the officers to browse thousands of license plates in seconds for a variety of investigative needs. Thanks to a Homeland Security grant, two DPS vehicles are currently equipped with ALPR devices.



Photo: City of Sunnyvale

## PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE SEASON BEGINS

**N**ow that spring is upon us, with its longer days and milder weather, the City of Sunnyvale will begin its annual street resurfacing preventive maintenance, which includes both chip sealing and slurry sealing resurfacing programs.

If you have lived in Sunnyvale for any length of time, you've probably seen Public Works crews involved with these two processes, vital to the maintenance of City roadways. Less expensive than larger resurfacing or reconstruction projects, the chip seal process consists of crushed rock applied over emulsified asphalt oil, sealing the pavement from water penetration. Slurry seal is a mixture of fine aggregate and emulsified asphalt oil, spread on the pavement using a specially equipped slurry seal truck. Slurry seal generally provides a smoother final wearing surface than chip seal.

These resurfacing techniques can be used separately or together, usually with the slurry seal occurring a year or two after the chip seal. Which process to use, and when, and with how much advance preparation, is based upon a condition index maintained by the City. The pavement condition index (PCI) is updated on a two-year cycle, in order to have the latest condition information on all streets when making resurfacing recommendations. The success of these processes is largely based upon the quality of advance preparation performed by public works crews in the two years leading up to the

resurfacing. Streets are prepared with crack sealing and patching to remove obvious and significant areas of weakness, which could undermine the long-term effectiveness of the chip or slurry treatments. Every City department is pressed to be as effective as possible with limited resources. The quality of the preparatory work, and the final seals, applied with the best timing of the PCI survey and evaluation, help to keep Sunnyvale streets in the best condition possible for the least cost.

This spring, City contractors will apply a slurry seal resurfacing on approximately 1.3 million square feet of City roads, beginning in mid-April. Barring weather related delays, this project should be completed by early May. In July, City crews will begin applying chip seal resurfacing on approximately 1.4 million square feet of City streets. Completion of this project is scheduled for late September. Then, in the fall, crews return to the corrective maintenance activities to prepare for the next year's street resurfacing.

Residents on the streets scheduled for maintenance will be notified by letter, and these streets will be posted for "no parking" prior to the work, giving at least 48 hours notice. Pavement program crews appreciate the cooperation of City residents as this maintenance is completed every year.

City residents interested in knowing whether their street is scheduled for maintenance this spring or summer, can visit *Streets.inSunnyvale.com*. For scheduled

## Shredding Events Offer Residents a Secure Way to Recycle Paper

Even the simplest tax returns require sifting through financial documents, many of which can be destroyed after filing. Storing outdated documents fosters clutter around the house, while throwing them in trash or paper recycling carts may risk possible identity theft. The City of Sunnyvale offers a solution that provides a safe way to dispose of personal documents.

Mary Ann K. was among those 1,650 residents from Palo Alto, Mountain View and Sunnyvale who attended a 2010 event at the SMaRT Station®. "This event is a great idea," she said. "The SMaRT Station was easy to find and conveniently close. It inspired me to clean out file cabinets, plus I don't wear out my own shredder."

Last year, 54,000 tons of documents were shredded on site. This paper was diverted from Kirby Canyon Landfill, where the City's trash is disposed, and made into useful paper products such as paper towels and toilet paper. According to a 2008 EPA report, recycling one ton of paper saves 17 mature trees, 7,000 gallons of water, three cubic yards of landfill space, two barrels of oil, and 4,100 kilowatt-hours of electricity — enough energy to power the average American home for five months.

For people like Mary Ann K., it's more than just a way to declutter. "I know it's good for the City that all this paper isn't being landfilled, but it's an emotional relief for me to get rid of files."

Paper Shredding Events will be held April 30, July 30 and December 3 at the SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road, from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, visit *Recycling.inSunnyvale.com*, or see the *ReNews* spring edition.

streets, this site is also helpful to stay up to date with the work, including any delays that arise, especially if the work gets rained out. ☀

## Spring Vehicle Tow-Away Service Available

Sunnyvale residents who have a vehicle that is taking up parking space may have the vehicle disposed of at no cost during Sunnyvale's 2011 Vehicle Tow-Away.

During the entire month of April, residents can call the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety and request a pick-up appointment. Requests will be sent to a City-approved towing company, which will call residents directly to arrange for pick-up of the vehicle during the month of May.

Vehicle owners must sign over ownership and turn in the vehicle's pink slip to the approved towing company. Vehicles must be towable, with four inflated tires, and have all debris and garbage removed. Vehicles removed during the clean-up do not qualify as an IRS tax donation.

For additional information on the program, contact Michelle Tani in DPS at (408) 730-7104, TDD (408) 730-7501.

## CLEANUP EVENTS

**E**veryone wants to live in a clean and healthy environment, but fast food wrappers, bottles and cans, cigarette butts and other debris often litter our streets and neighborhoods.

Besides being unsightly, litter can find its way into storm drains and pollute the waterways, as well as the environment throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. To help curb this pollution problem, the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit requires reductions to the amount of trash that enters into waterways from Sunnyvale's storm drains. Sunnyvale and other communities in the Bay Area must reduce current levels of trash and litter coming from storm drain collection systems by 40 percent as of July 1, 2014, 70 percent by July 1, 2017 and 100 percent by July 1, 2022.

Help Sunnyvale meet these goals by joining City staff and community volunteers working to keep Sunnyvale streets and our local waterways clean through the following spring cleanup events:

### Great American Litter Pick Up Saturday, April 16 9 a.m. – noon

This year's event will focus on cleaning up litter in neighborhoods and next to roadways around Fair Oaks Park, Raynor Park, Columbia Neighborhood Center and a portion of John W. Christian Greenbelt.

### National River Cleanup Day Saturday, May 21 9 a.m. – noon

At Sunnyvale's site, volunteers will pick up litter and debris from the Sunnyvale East Channel and areas around Baylands Park. Check-in for the event will be at Baylands Park north parking lot, near the Reclaimed Water Garden.



These two cleanup events are open to everyone; however participation in the National River Cleanup Day at Baylands Park may not be suitable for young children due to steep channel banks in some of the areas to be cleaned. More family-friendly locations for this event for younger volunteers can be found at *www.cleanacreek.org*. For both events, youth under the age of 18 must have parental approval and anyone age 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

To volunteer or receive additional information for either event, call the City of Sunnyvale's Environmental Outreach program at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501, or e-mail *wpcp@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us*.

Registered participants will receive additional instruction on the morning of the event. Gloves, pickup sticks, safety vests, trash and recycling bags will be provided. Volunteers are encouraged to wear long pants, sturdy shoes, hats and bring sunscreen. ☀

# EXTRA DUMPING WEEKENDS

APRIL 2-3, 9-10 AND OCTOBER 1-2, 8-9

## Spring Cleaning: An Opportunity for Donations and Reuse

It's a tradition celebrated around the world. The Scots call it *Hogmanay*. In Iran, it's *khooneh tekouni* (literally, "shaking the house"). Here in America, it's simply "spring cleaning."

The annual household cleaning of unused or unwanted items and intense scouring and polishing leads to a tidy house. Often, though, it also leads to disposing of mass quantities of household stuff, which goes directly into landfills. Efficiency experts recommend sorting stuff into three categories: keep, sell or donate, and throw away. Try these ways to manage stuff sustainably and keep usable items out of landfills:

- Sell them at a garage sale or post them online. The City of Sunnyvale organizes a Citywide Garage Sale Day each year. This year's event will be held September 17.
- Take items to a consignment store.
- Donate items to a second hand store.
- List free items on *Freecycle.org* (formerly called SunnyvaleFreecycle), a popular online bulletin board.

Items with no resale, reuse or donation value are destined for the landfill and usually cost money to dispose.

After "shaking out the house" this season, take advantage of extra dumping weekends when Sunnyvale residents can dump extra trash at no

cost at the SMaRT Station®. Events run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., both Saturday and Sunday on these designated weekends: April 2-3, and 9-10 and October 1-2, and 8-9.

As part of curbside garbage service, single family residents can schedule up to two on-call collection appointments per year to have extra trash picked up at the curb. Call (408) 730-7400 to make an on-call appointment. Also, consider using less-toxic cleaning agents during your clean up (see the article on greener cleaning practices in the ReNews section).

If you have questions about how to dispose of what "shakes out," call the Recycling Program at (408) 730-7262, TDD (408) 730-7501, or visit us online at [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com). ☼

## Housing-Related Legal and Mediation Services in Sunnyvale

### Fair Housing Investigation and Enforcement

Housing discrimination is prohibited by federal and state law, and the City of Sunnyvale supports fair housing rights. If you suspect you've been discriminated against in your efforts to obtain or maintain housing, the following agencies may be able to assist you with investigation of your situation and/or enforcement of fair housing laws, at no cost to you:

Asian Law Alliance  
[www.asianlawalliance.org](http://www.asianlawalliance.org)  
(408) 287-9710

Project Sentinel  
[www.housing.org](http://www.housing.org)  
(888) FAIR-HOUSING (324-4687)

Bay Area Legal Aid  
[www.baylegal.org](http://www.baylegal.org)  
(408) 850-7066

SALA (Senior Adult Legal Services)  
[www.sala.org](http://www.sala.org)  
(408) 295-5991

You may also file a discrimination complaint directly with the following public agencies responsible for enforcing fair housing laws:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
[www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)  
San Francisco Regional Office  
(415) 489-6526 or (415) 489-6536

California Department of Fair Employment and Housing  
[www.dfeh.ca.gov](http://www.dfeh.ca.gov)  
(800) 233-3212 (Within California)  
(510) 622-2945 (Outside California)

### Tenant — Landlord Dispute Resolution Services and Eviction Prevention

Bay Area Legal Aid (for low income residential tenants only)  
[www.baylegal.org](http://www.baylegal.org)  
(800) 551-5554

### Community Mediation Services (Conflict Resolution)

This service provided by the County of Santa Clara District Attorney's Office assists parties with conflicts such as those between neighbors, homeowners' associations, businesses, and other various parties. Conflicts need not necessarily be related to housing issues.

### Community Mediation Services

County Dispute Resolution Program  
[www.sccgov.org/portal/site/drps/](http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/drps/)  
(408) 792-2327 or (408) 792-2300

### Homebuyer Education and Foreclosure Help

Project Sentinel  
[www.housing.org](http://www.housing.org)  
(888) 331-3332

Additional resources for tenants, landlords, homeowners, home buyers and residents can be found at [Housing.inSunnyvale.com](http://Housing.inSunnyvale.com).

## SUNNYVALE'S URBAN FOREST

One of the things that makes Sunnyvale such a wonderful city in which to live in is the amazing urban forest all around us. The thousands of trees in Sunnyvale, made up of dozens of species, help keep temperatures moderate, slow the runoff from storms, provide a changing vista of scenery throughout the year, are habitat and food source to birds and other wildlife, moderate noise pollution and dust, remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and produce oxygen, enhance property values, and even help keep traffic speeds lower.

Trees in Sunnyvale fall into two major categories for maintenance: those in the parks, civic centers and public rights-of-way, and those on private property. Any work on City trees must be performed by

City staff, or with a permit obtained from the City. Trees on private property may be pruned without permits, as long as they are treated properly, but will require City approval before they can be removed.

In order to provide for the well-being of City trees, the City has a Street Tree Services program, staff arborists, and ordinances regarding the proper care and consideration of trees in the City. Chapter 13.16 of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code <http://qcode.us/codes/sunnyvale/> deals with Street Trees, and Chapter 19.94 deals with Tree Preservation on all properties within the City.

If you have questions about trees in the City, the Street Trees and Concrete program of Field Services should be able to respond to most questions. Contact the City tree staff at (408) 730-7505, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit [Trees.inSunnyvale.com](http://Trees.inSunnyvale.com). ☼

## Free Landscape Education Series Includes Most Frequently Requested Topics

The City of Sunnyvale, in cooperation with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, is offering a new series of free landscape education classes. The popular series is similar to the offerings provided in the fall, but with some exciting new additions, based on participant comments feedback.

One of the most requested topics is how to incorporate edible plants into your landscape. On March 19, Instructor Deva Luna will present "Water Efficient Edible Landscaping," which will teach participants about water-efficient edibles and enjoying a bountiful harvest. The topic will also be discussed in the April 30 class, "California Edible and Native Landscaping," taught by Alrie Middlebrook. This course will teach participants about introducing California native edibles into your garden utilizing an ecological agricultural model.

Six classes will be offered this spring. Class descriptions and registration information is available at [www.bawwsca.org](http://www.bawwsca.org) or by calling (650) 349-3000. Information is also available at [Green.inSunnyvale.com](http://Green.inSunnyvale.com), and flyers will be posted at various City facilities. Register early as these classes are very popular.

## IS YOUR GARDENER GREEN?

**T**he perfect landscape is functional. It provides beauty and offers a place for relaxation and play. And, if done right, it is sustainable and efficient.

Creating and maintaining a landscape such as this requires knowledge and training. The Santa Clara Valley Green Gardener Program trains individuals to use sustainable landscaping practices.

### What is the Santa Clara Valley Green Gardener Program?

The program is designed for landscape maintenance workers, landscape contractors and professional gardeners in the Santa Clara Valley area, and provides training on the key principles of sustainable landscaping. These include soil improvement practices, using the right plants in the right places, proper pruning, irrigation management and water conservation, and use of less toxic options for pest control and appropriate fertilizer application. These practices promote the reduction of urban runoff and pollutants such as fertilizer and pesticide that may be carried in runoff, decrease the amount of green waste generated, and add to the overall sustainability of residential and commercial landscapes.

The Santa Clara Valley Green Gardener Program has been training landscapers and maintenance workers since 2008. Sponsored by the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program and the City of Sunnyvale, classes are available in both English and Spanish. Each participant must successfully complete 20 hours of training over a 10-week period and pass a final exam to receive a certificate of completion.

To assist you in hiring a Green Gardener for your landscape maintenance needs, the names and business contact information of more than 65 individuals who have successfully completed the program can be found at: [mywatershed-watch.org/findgardener.html](http://mywatershed-watch.org/findgardener.html).

Starting this September, additional certification classes will be held through the Sunnyvale-Cupertino Adult Community Education (ACE) Program. To receive notification of upcoming Green Gardener classes, call the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program in Sunnyvale at (408) 720-8811, ext. 2, and speak with Miranda, or call Environmental Outreach at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501. ☀

## IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR: DEALING WITH WEEDS

**W**ith winter rains come weeds, which, in addition to being unsightly, are prohibited by City code. The Sunnyvale Municipal Code prohibits weeds on any property as well as on the landscaping strip between the sidewalk and curb, also known as the park strip.

Weeds can be very serious pests. When these plants are introduced into natural areas, they overwhelm native vegetation and degrade the environment for wildlife and residents alike. Weeds include clovers, dandelions, bluegrass and foxtails and must be removed before they flower, produce new leaves or go to seed.

The City encourages non-chemical strategies for controlling weeds, including hand weeding, mulching, competitive planting and mowing.

In addition to weeds, the winter rain may cause plants and trees in your front yard and park strip to grow over the sidewalk or street.

The Sunnyvale Municipal Code prohibits any type of vegetation from obstructing pedestrian travel or vehicular traffic. Any overgrown vegetation must be trimmed to the edge of the sidewalk or curb. Low-hanging tree limbs need to be trimmed to at least seven feet above the sidewalk, and 13½ feet above the street. Many residential homes have City trees in the front yard and park strip. Call Public Works at (408) 730-7505 prior to trimming an overgrown City tree.

Weeds and overgrown vegetation are considered a public nuisance. It is the property owner's responsibility to remove weeds and cut back overgrown vegetation from their property. If property owners fail to remove weeds or prune overgrown vegetation, the City may issue administrative citations until compliance is met.

For additional information or to report a possible violation, contact Neighborhood Preservation at (408) 730-7610, TDD (408) 730-7501, or e-mail [np@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:np@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us). ☀



## TAKE A TOUR OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT

**D**id you ever wonder where the water goes after it leaves your bathtub drain or toilet? How is the water cleaned, and where does it go after that? If you'd like to learn the answer to these questions and are interested in learning more about how Sunnyvale treats the wastewater from your home or business, consider joining us for a free community tour.

After much demand and

reaching capacity within a week after announcing our March tours, additional tour dates have been set for 2011.

During the 90-minute tour, visitors will learn about environmental issues, the various stages of treatment, how the design of the plant uses alternative fuel sources to produce electricity and conserve energy, and how Sunnyvale promotes water conservation by producing and using recycled water for landscape irrigation at corporate

business parks and city facilities.

The new tours for Sunnyvale residents will be held on Saturdays in June and September, with the first being Saturday, June 18, 1 p.m., at the Water Pollution Control Plant located at 1444 Borregas Ave. September's tour date will be announced in the summer *Quarterly Report*. For more information about the tour or to reserve a spot, call the Environmental Outreach section at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501 or send an e-mail to [wpcp@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:wpcp@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us). ☀

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