



Sunnyhills Times

P.O. Box 360581, Milpitas, CA 95036-0581
Phone: (408) 262-0420

Volume 20
Issue 09-12

HALLOWEEN PARTY AT AUGUSTINE PARK

by Wiley & Debbie Rankin



Come to our Annual Sunnyhills Pre-Halloween Party!

Date: Saturday, October 27, 2012

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Where: Augustine Park at Coelho Street, Milpitas

Price: Free!

Welcome to all Sunnyhills neighborhood friends! Come have fun and learn about safety precautions for Halloween as well as the Neighborhood Watch Program. This is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and to give our children a chance to show off their costumes. Adults can come in costume too!

Children's Costume Contest – judging at 3:15pm

Free prizes, snacks, art projects!

Live Music by Jump for Joy Music—fun for the whole family!

This event is sponsored by the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association and County Supervisor Dave Cortese. For more information, please contact The-Vu Nguyen at (408) 386-6115 or the-vu.nguyen@bos.sccgov.org



Community Events Calendar

SNA Monthly Meeting

11/7/12

➔ Halloween Party 10/27/12

Community Breakfast 11/3/12

Fall back clocks 11/4/12

Community Breakfast 12/1/12

➔ International Potluck SNA Elections 12/5/12

Household Hazardous Waste Hotline 299-7300

Free Dump days
2nd & 4th Saturdays

Contents

- ➔ Megan's Law
- ➔ Tobacco Facts
- ➔ Thuốc lá Facts
- ➔ Special Election Issue
- ➔ Neighborhood Watch
- ➔ SNA Fundraising
- ➔ Community Breakfast
- ➔ Membership Drive
- ➔ Holiday Potluck
- ➔ SNA Elections
- ➔ Newsletter help!

Healthy Milpitas Campaign

by Gina Vittori

Do you care about the impact that tobacco use has on the Milpitas community?

Get involved in the Healthy Milpitas Campaign!

The Healthy Milpitas Campaign, a partnership of Santa Clara County Public Health Dept., the Tobacco Free Coalition of Santa Clara County, Community Advocate Teens of Today (CATT) youth coalition, local health-related non-profits, and residents has been working to reduce the burden of tobacco and exposure to secondhand smoke in the city of Milpitas. Spearheaded by our youth advocates, the campaign recently organized a cigarette litter butt clean-up at two Milpitas parks, Gill Memorial Park and Dixon Landing Park. Over 3,000 cigarette butts were collected in one hour showing that this is an important health and environmental concern in Milpitas. Findings from the park clean-up were presented to the Milpitas Parks and Recreation Com-

Healthy Milpitas Campaign (cont.)

mission on December 5, 2011, where the commission voted to strengthen the existing policy by endorsing smoke-free parks and recreation areas. Findings were also presented to the Milpitas Youth Commission at their November meeting and the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association in February 2012, where the SNA board voted to endorse smoke-free outdoor areas (smoke-free parks and smoke-free outdoor dining) and tobacco retailer licensing to prevent youth access to tobacco.

Why create smoke-free protections in outdoor areas?

There is no question as to the real dangers of secondhand smoke – it's been declared a toxic air contaminant and the U.S. Surgeon General stated that there is no risk-free level of exposure. A Stanford University study showed that even when a non-smoker is sitting a few feet from a lit cigarette, they are likely to be exposed to substantial levels of contaminants comparable, on average, to indoor levels. As a result, many cities and counties in California are working to protect their residents from the dangers of secondhand smoke exposure by passing city ordinances that ban smoking in outdoor areas, including parks, recreational areas, and outdoor dining areas. These ordinances, when comprehensive, are an important way to protect the environment from the toxic effects of cigarette butt litter and fire damages, and also to protect the health of all residents, especially families, pregnant moms and children who frequent these places and may be in danger of exposure to secondhand smoke. Also, there is county-wide support for smoke-free outdoor dining policies. According to a public opinion poll conducted by the Santa Clara County Public Health Department in 2011 at public events and online, over 79% of Santa Clara County residents agreed that smoking should not be allowed in outdoor dining areas.

Why are local Tobacco Retail Licensing policies needed?

Youth access to tobacco products is a serious public health problem for Santa Clara County, and unfortunately the current state Tobacco Retail licensing does little to reduce the sales of tobacco to minors (no state license has ever been revoked for repeatedly selling to minors). In order to reduce illegal sales to minors, the adoption of local tobacco retail licensing (TRL) ordinances are required that contain strong enforcement provisions and financial deterrents (including revocation) for violators selling to minors. One of the most common sources for acquiring cigarettes reported by Santa Clara County adolescents is 'making a purchase on their own.'

Since the start of the campaign, members have been reaching out to organizations and residents to build support for preventing youth access to tobacco and reducing exposure to secondhand smoke in outdoor areas. The Healthy Milpitas Campaign has participated in outreach events at St. John the Baptist Church Health Fair and the Great American Smoke-free Day where over 300 Milpitas residents were educated about tobacco prevention and cessation efforts, and quit tobacco materials and secondhand smoke resources were given out to patients and families to help smokers quit for the day or for good. Additionally, over 75 endorsements for tobacco prevention efforts have been collected from Milpitas residents, employees, community groups, and visitors.

If you would like to get involved the Healthy Milpitas Campaign or endorse the campaign's efforts, please contact Gina Vittori at gina.vittori@phd.sccgov.org.

Tobacco Facts

- **Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable diseases and premature death and kills over 43,000 Californians each year.**
- 4.7 million Californians still smoke, including 4.5 million adults and 207,000 adolescents.
- Smoking-related diseases cost California an astounding \$16 billion a year.
- 10.5% of SCC youth and 10.7% of adults are smokers.
- Low-income adults smoke at twice the rate of adults with above-median incomes.
- 32% of Vietnamese-American men in SCC and 53% of recent Hispanic immigrants smoke.
- **The average age of youth who start smoking is 13.**
- Nearly two-thirds of SCC high school students report it is easy to get cigarettes.

Thuốc lá Facts

- **Sử dụng thuốc lá là nguyên nhân hàng đầu của bệnh truyền nhiễm và chết sớm và giết chết hơn 43.000 California mỗi năm.**
- 4,7 triệu dân California vẫn hút thuốc lá, trong đó có 4,5 triệu người lớn và 207.000 thanh thiếu niên.
- Bệnh liên quan đến hút thuốc lá chi phí California đáng kinh ngạc \$ 16 tỷ USD mỗi năm.
- 10,5% của SCC thanh niên và 10,7% người lớn hút thuốc.
- Người lớn hút thuốc có thu nhập thấp hai lần tỷ lệ của người lớn với thu nhập trên trung bình.
- **32% người đàn ông người Mỹ gốc Việt trong SCC và 53% khối gần đây người nhập cư gốc Tây Ban Nha.**
- **Tuổi trung bình của thanh thiếu niên bắt đầu hút thuốc là 13.**
- Gần hai phần ba học sinh trung học SCC báo cáo nó rất dễ



Holiday Potluck and SNA Elections / Annual Call for Help

by *Melanie Lewert*

Please join us for our annual **International Holiday Potluck**. Bring your favorite dish to Jones Hall at SUMC (355 Dixon Rd, across from Weller School playground) on Dec 5th at 7:00 pm. We'll share food, drinks, music, and good times. Let us know you are coming by contacting us at 408-942-1418 or sending us an email to mlemail@mindspring.com.

We are also holding elections during this meeting. For those who believe that holding our communities together is important during the challenging times ahead, consider a role on the Board. Come to the potluck and see the SNA family that you could be supporting. Then stay to help set the future direction of SNA.

Please volunteer to become a board member (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or At-large Board of Director) and keep SNA going strongly forward. **SNA needs you!** If you wish to run for office contact Rob Means at 408-262-0420 or by email to SNA@electric-bikes.com. Nominations will be accepted at our November 7th meeting and also on the day of elections.

As you are talking with your neighbors and enjoying the wonderful foods everyone brought, please give thought to the events that you would like SNA to help sponsor over the coming year, or issues that affect Sunnyhills residents that you think SNA should be championing. **WE NEED YOU**—please help SNA make your neighborhood a better place to live.

Remember to put December 5th on your calendar! See you there.



Neighborhood Watch

by *Wiley Rankin*

Join a Neighborhood Watch Group. It's easy! Just contact Officer at Duong Nguyen at the Milpitas Police Department. He can be reached by phone at 408 586-2528 or by email to: dunguyen@ci.milpitas.ca.gov

You can join an existing one or start your own. Once you have a group of 5 or more, an officer will come to visit your group to answer questions and give you a good start.

Advantages-

- 1) You get connected to your neighbors! This is a trustworthy way to get to know new people.
- 2) You can have a social gathering with games, potluck, or light snacks. This can start new friendships, or at least provide helpful contact information in case of special needs or emergencies.
- 3) You can help make improvements to your Neighborhood. Recently the Arizona Tiny Street Neighborhood Watch group received from the Police Dept. a free, large NW sign prominently posted at the entrance to the neighborhood.
- 4) You receive periodic reports from your block captain about recent alerts and police activity that might affect you directly
- 5) You get to have input yourself! We believe that your neighborhood will become a safer, better-connected place.

Want more info—Come to our Halloween party!

SNA Election Issue

by *Melanie Lewert, Editor*

Don't forget to
VOTE on
November 6th



This election is important to **all of us**. We will be deciding on the next President of the United States.

Along with this important decision you will be asked to decide on who will be Milpitas' next mayor, make decisions on which people you want in other important positions, and vote on state and local propositions. SNA encourages you to exercise your right to vote.

This issue of the Sunnyhills Times includes, as a fundraiser, paid advertisement from locally running candidates. Their inclusion in this issue is in no way an endorsement of any particular candidate, nor is the order to imply preference—placement is solely on a first-come, first-served basis.



SNA is accepting ads, on a first come first-serve basis, to be displayed in its newsletter.

Contact SNA's Treasurer, Melanie Lewert, by phone @ 408-942-1418 or by email to mlemail@mindspring.com for details.



Elect Danny Lau for Milpitas School Board

Milpitas deserves experienced school board members who are actively involved in our schools and our community.

- Experience
- Trust
- Respect
- Integrity
- Accountability

“Danny has proven to be an effective school board member. He has a true passion for students’ education. Please join us in voting Danny Lau for the Milpitas School Board.”

Dan Bobay, President, Milpitas school board
Marsha Grilli, Vice president, Milpitas school board
Gwan Alisantosa, member, Milpitas school board
Bill Foulk, member, Milpitas school board

Proven track record of school and community involvement

- Currently serving on the Milpitas school board
- Three years on the Community Board of Advisory Council (CBAC)
- Member of the Santa Clara County School Board Association
- Previously served as school PTA officer and on School Site Council
- 17 years board member of non-profit Milpitas Community Chinese School
- Served two years as cub scout leader

Partial list of supporters:

- Jose Esteves, Milpitas Mayor
- Armando Gomez, Milpitas City council member
- Althea Polanski, Milpitas City council member
- Kansen Chu, San Jose City council member
- Van Le, East Side Union High School Board member
- California School Employees Association – Milpitas Chapter
- Janice Bobay, President, Milpitas PTA council
- Mike Mendizabal, formal president of Milpitas school board

Learn more at www.DannyLauforSchoolBoard.com

Danny Lau for Milpitas School Board

646 Hamilton Ave.
Milpitas, CA 95035

Cell phone: 408-504-0745

Email: dylau38@yahoo.com

Website:

DannyLauforSchoolBoard.com

FPPC# 1350385

Please vote on November 6

Vote!

Independent Voices—Common Vision

Our Commitments to Citizens

- Fiscal responsibility in controlling City expenses
- Ethical conduct and performance of duties
- Consistent, quality, and timely public safety services—police and fire
- Quality of life for all residents—senior services, educational support
- Economic development that encompasses all residents with jobs and opportunities
- Smart, eco-friendly, and balanced growth and development of businesses and housing
- No special interests or agenda



Dear Voters,

We have many challenges facing the City Council, primarily involving funding shortfalls, controlling expenses, and balancing needs and costs. It is very difficult to balance needs with resources and it requires commitment to the community, new ideas, and understanding of complex matters.

Besides asking for your vote to re-elect me as your Mayor, I am endorsing Rajeev Madnawat and Garry Barbadillo for City Council and I ask you to vote for them. I am taking this unusual step because we need fiscally responsible, moderate, and independent thinkers on the Council. None of us are tied to special interests, we have all-volunteer, grass-roots campaigns, and we believe in ethical government. Rajeev, Garry, and others are the future leaders of our wonderful City and their time has come to serve you.

Your City Council needs good ideas, teamwork, and moderation to take Milpitas "Forward to the Future." I ask for your vote to re-elect me as your Mayor and your votes for Rajeev and Garry to the City Council.

Respectfully yours,

Jose Esteves

Rajeev Madnawat

- Planning Commissioner
- Attorney specializing in Intellectual Property
- Milpitas 2012 Citizen of the Year; Chairman, Measure B Oversight Committee; Board Mbr, Milpitas Educational Endowment; recognition by City, County, State organizations for volunteer work.

Jose 'Joe' Esteves

- Mayor (2002-2008, 2010 to current), City Council 1998-2002
- Systems Manager and businessman
- BA Civil and Industrial Engineering, MBA
- Very active in civic, community, Church organizations. Voted Best Elected Official 8 times, including 2012.

Garry Barbadillo

- Planning Commissioner (Alt)
- Attorney specializing in consumer advocacy and family law
- Volunteers in County Pro Bono Library Project, assists those with limited finances; Chairman of Alexander Rose School Site Council; former member of Parks and Recreation Commission.

DEEPKA Lalwani

Milpitas City Council

MBA • Business Woman • Community Leader

Dear Neighbors,

My name is Deepka Lalwani. After 21-years of community service, I'm running for Milpitas City Council. Milpitas is facing difficult times -- unemployment is high and many more are underemployed.

The residents of Milpitas need a city council member who can independently review the city's budget and independently evaluate budget recommendations from city staff. With my Masters in Business Administration from San Jose State University, I can provide this objective review, and fiscal leadership to a balanced budget.

I am a proud business woman with a reputation as an outspoken advocate. As a board member of Democratic Activists for Women Now (DAWN), founder of Women for Political Empowerment, former board member of The Women's Fund, and founder of Indian Business & Professional Women organization, I have advocated strongly for women's rights and women in business.

However, creating jobs is a bi-partisan issue. Keeping our homes, residents and businesses safe from crime is non-partisan. Attracting jobs and businesses to Milpitas and public safety are my top priorities. As former President of the Milpitas Chamber of Commerce, I will work on business friendly policies to ensure that entrepreneurs and start-ups make Milpitas a top choice of where to locate. I also pledge to stop further staffing cuts to police and fire. While we must control cost, maintaining officers on the street is essential. Without safe streets, little can be done to rebuild our city.

As a former Milpitas Planning Commissioner, a former appointee to the Milpitas Citizens Budget Task Force, and former Milpitas Citizen of the Year, I am uniquely qualified to represent ALL the people of Milpitas. I humbly ask for your vote for Deepka Lalwani for Milpitas City Council.

Sincerely,

Deepka

"Deepka is a grass root activist starting from her Neighborhood watch to being the chair of Planning commission, she has immersed herself in community activism. She will be a great council member in Milpitas." - **Supervisor Dave Cortese**

"Deepka knows that public safety is the number one priority." - **Sheriff Laurie Smith, County of Santa Clara**

"Deekpa Lalwani is honest, hard-working, and represents the diverse community in Milpitas. She is committed to represent all the residents of Milpitas with integrity and honesty. I believe Deepka will make decisions based on what is best for all of us and not any special interest." - **Milpitas Council Member Althema Polanski**

I am helping Deepka because she is a grassroots activist. She will support Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association. Her highest priority is Neighborhood Safety.-**Bill Ferguson**

"Deepka has worked hard on minority and women issues, she represents the diversity of Milpitas." - **Heidi Pham, Probation Community Worker, Navel Reservist, Community Leader**

for Assembly **DIAMOND** *District 25* *2012*



The people I speak with, while campaigning for **Assembly District #25**, are all concerned about **the safety and comfort of their families, their children's future**, and declining **opportunities here in Silicon Valley**. They also care about those who can't care for themselves.

Currently jobs have left California. K-12 education has declined. Services have been reduced due to local governments' lost revenue and poor planning.

We need change.

Together we can:

Encourage job-opportunities that employ our families and neighbors, and increase productivity, stability and growth in California.

We can reduce bureaucratic waste, we need competitive incentives – and reduced corporate taxes – to keep businesses here.

We must improve the education our children receive.

More of the tax money we already invest should go directly to the teachers in the classrooms, so they can better serve our children. Create standards for teaching excellence and encourage young, bright motivated men and women to enter teaching as a profession.

Let's focus on the programs we developed to help those in need

and make sure that we are really serving those needing our help.

As your Assemblywoman, I will work hard to see that our tax money is used to maintain our quality of life, to help those truly in need, and to ensure that **our local public safety needs** are met with strong police and fire services.

Let's **end the animosity and polarization** that permeates politics today and **work together** to restore California to greatness.

Vote for me, ArLyne Diamond, for Assembly District 25 on November 6th.

www.diamondforassembly.com

ArLyne has always been active, helping people as a volunteer, often behind the scenes. Professionally, her work includes helping people get the best out of themselves and others.

- She has always been a champion of civil rights and fought for equal housing and job opportunities
- She volunteered every week at the Veteran's Hospital, working with patients and started what later became the Wheelchair Basketball League.
- She was a member of the consortium that created Women's Re-Entry Programs in Northern California's junior colleges and helped set up career and counseling centers
- She was the founding President of the American Psychology–Law Society's first chapter – helping to break down distrust and conflict between the two professions.
- She created a series "Breaking Down the Walls of Fear and Hate" which earned the Santa Clara County Human Relations Award.

For more information about ArLyne, please visit www.diamondforassembly.com





Rob Means for Milpitas Mayor

A Clear Choice

Rob Means

green Democrat

increase revenue and adequate staffing
small businessman and community builder

Mayor Esteves

conservative Republican

out-sourcing and reduced services
career politician and govt. bureaucrat

Community Building and Leadership for 20 Years

- Milpitas resident and homeowner for 35 years; local small businessman for 16 years.
- As Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commissioner for 10 years, inspired and led development of the City's first Trails Master Plan – including the Coyote Creek Trail.
- During 18 years on the Board of the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association, successfully fought for Hetch-Hetchy linear park from the Town Center to City border.
- 20-year advocate for local efforts that protect our hillsides, improve or resist unbalanced development projects, and support our schools.

Fresh Vision for Our Future

- Balance the City's budget with increased revenues, not just cost savings in staff and services.
- Generate jobs and family savings through leveraged investments in energy-saving home retrofits and solar-electric generation.
- Attract businesses, tourists, and outside dollars through investments in advanced transportation technologies - particularly around the new BART station.

More at www.MeansForDemocracy.org "I truly care for our community."

Means for Mayor, 408-262-0420, MeansForMayor@electric-bikes.com
1421 Yellowstone Avenue, Milpitas, CA 95035 FPPC #: 1351750

Megan's Law

by Linda Gray

Did you know? THERE ARE 50 REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS IN THE 95035 ZIP CODE!!!!

Since 2004, the public has been able to view information on sex offenders required to register with local law enforcement under California's Megan's Law. Previously, the information was available only by personally visiting police stations and sheriff offices or by calling a 900 toll-free number. The law was given final passage by the Legislature on August 24, 2004 and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2004.

California has required sex offenders to register with their local law enforcement agencies since 1947. California's Megan's Law provides the public with certain information on the whereabouts of sex offenders so that members of our local communities may protect themselves and their children. Megan's Law is named after seven-year-old Megan Kanka, a New Jersey girl who was raped and killed by a known registered sex offender who had moved across the street from the family without their knowledge. In the wake of the tragedy, the Kankas sought to have local communities warned about sex offenders in the area. All states now have a form of Megan's Law.

Check out this website for more info and the registry: www.meganslaw.ca.gov

SNA Fundraising—We NEED You!

Once a year the Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association asks for your financial support with a donation to our group. Without donations from our neighbors we can not put on or help support special events like Be an Artist Day and the Halloween party. As a qualified Non-Profit your donations are 100% tax deductible. Attached to this newsletter is a membership form—please consider filling it out and sending us a donation so that we can keep helping our neighbors.

Community Breakfast



Please join SUMC & SNA for a FREE breakfast from 8am-9:30am on the first Saturday of most months, at 355 Dixon Road. Past breakfasts have included a candidate forum, the Milpitas Police and Fire Departments, and the Milpitas Post.

November's breakfast will be held on Saturday, 11/3/11 where the new Milpitas City Manager will speak. Come join us and participate in the discussion following the presentation.



HELP!

Can you help us distribute this newsletter? If you can't deliver a newsletter on a regular basis, how about as an occasional fill-in? Sometimes for one reason or another a person can't deliver their regular route, and we need fill-ins to help—ALL volunteers are welcome—just give us a call (408-942-1418) or drop us an email to mlemail@mindspring.com (title: Newsletter Help). We can help your child earn community service hours too. The average number of homes on a route is 50 and takes about an hour to deliver.

Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 360581

Milpitas, CA 95036-0581

Phone: (408) 262-0420

Email: SNA@electric-bikes.com

A community foundation-sponsored organization and member of United Neighborhoods

SNA 2011-2012 Board Members

President	Bill Ferguson
Vice President	Zeya Mohsin
Treasurer	Melanie Lewert
Secretary	Rob Means
Board Member at Large	Guy Haas

The Sunnyhills Times is a community newsletter serving the homeowners and residents of the Sunnyhills neighborhood—SNA is a volunteer group of local people who are actively working to improve our neighborhood, and thus the city of Milpitas, through positive activities and programs.

Melanie Lewert—Editor

Inquiries & summations to this newsletter can be sent to: mlemail@mindspring.com



Your Community Advocate

P.O. Box 360581, Milpitas, CA 95036-0581
Phone: (408) 262-0420

Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association (SNA) is your local neighborhood association. We are a volunteer group of local people who are actively working to improve our neighborhood, and thus the City of Milpitas, through positive activities and programs.

Your Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association has:

- Transformed the Hetch-Hetchy right-of-way into Pecot Park. After 7 years of work, the park opened on 12/4/99. What was once a blighted corridor through our neighborhood was transformed into a beautiful linear park, which will soon extend all the way to Town Center.
- Sparked the re-development of a derelict gas station into Crescent Center (Walgreen's).
- Delivers the Sunnyhills Times to over 2000 neighborhood homes – bringing news of events and issues of civic and community interest.
- Sponsored the Milpitas Community Breakfasts, a monthly gathering for presentations and dialog that promotes civic responsibility, builds community cohesion, and bridges cultural gaps.
- Refurbished Al Augustine Park with better design, new play sets, and many tree plantings. Efforts begun in 1997 led to City Council approval in June 1999 and completion/opening in May 2002.
- Produced events such as:
 - * International Potlucks
 - * Music in the Park
 - * National Night Out
 - * Astronomy Nights
 - * Be An Artist Day
 - * Community Breakfasts
 - * Bike & Roller Fest
 - * Drumming Night
 - * Neighborhood Watch Events

With your help we will:

- Continue to solicit and secure grant funding which, thanks to our non-profit status, has enabled SNA to attract over \$30,000 for our community programs over the past 8 years.
- Support K-12, affordable housing, and a safe and friendly Sunnyhills.
- Continue bringing you programs, newsletters, and be an activist voice in City and area matters.

This ambitious program needs your support. Because most program funding comes from grants, it's critically important to demonstrate local support to the grant makers. Your SNA membership demonstrates that local support. At only \$10 per year, it's a bargain & it's tax deductible. We are a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation.

Membership Form

Name

Address

E-mail Address

Phone

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Annual Dues | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild & Crazy Guy | \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student or low income | \$5.00 |

Please make your check out to "**Sunnyhills Neighborhood Association**" and mail it to:
P.O. Box 360581, Milpitas, CA 95036-0581