

SANTA TERESA FOOTHILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION **Neighborhood Newsletter**

Preservation of the Santa Teresa Foothills | Creation of a public trail along the Coyote-Alamitos Canal Public Education and Awareness | Safe Neighborhoods | Hillside Development Enforcement

Volume 6, Issue 1

www.STFNA.org

Fall 2006

Neighborhood Meeting

WHERE

Sakamoto Elementary School (corner of Shadelands & Colleen) WHEN:

Thursday, October 26th, 2006 7:00 to 9:00pm

Join your neighbors for a neighborhood meeting. We've got a lot of exciting things happening in the neighborhood, so why not come on out to find out what's going on?

Our guest speaker will be Dr. Patrick Pizzo who will present "Incorporate California Native Plants in your Garden". Dr. Pizzo will share his experiences in planting native plants and provide tips from his lessons learned.

There are a couple of new principals in the area as well, so we are inviting the new principals of Santa Teresa High School and Sakamoto Elementary School to introduce themselves and answer any questions people may have about the changes at the respective schools.

In addition, we'll bring everyone up to date on pending or proposed hillside development, progress on beautifying Curie Drive, Updates on the BEST Program, and hear from our city council members Forrest Williams and Nancy Pyle. We will also invite candidates that are running for office in the fall election to attend and hand out information.

It's a lot to cover, but we'll keep everyone to a tight timeline to be sure to allow time for socializing and asking questions at the end. Please come out and learn why the Santa Teresa Foothills neighborhood has become such a desirable place to live!



Don't Miss It. Meet and Greet and Eat Some Treats!

Why they're a great choice for your garden Introducing:

Feature Presentation:

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS

Thursday

October 26th



In Addition: Meet the new principals of the Santa Teresa High and Sakamoto **Elementary Schools**

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

With witches, goblins, and super-heroes descending on our neighborhood, the American Red Cross offers parents some safety tips to help prepare their children for a safe and enjoyable trick-or-treat holiday:

- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Look both ways before crossing the street.
- Cross the street only at corners.
- Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars.
- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing.
- Plan your route and share it with your family.
- If possible, have an adult go with you.
- Carry a flashlight to light your way. Keep away from open fires and candles.
- Visit homes that have the porch light on.
- Accept your treats at the door and never go into a stranger's house. Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover your eyes.
- Be cautious of animals and strangers.
- Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating.
- Don't eat candy if the package is already opened. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.





Accepted Items: Computers (CPUs) Mice/Keyboards **Computer Monitors** Televisions Microwave Ovens Printers Fax Machines Radios **DVD / VCR Players** Telephones PC Speakers Stereos Scanners



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> Avoid a recycling fee while helping a good cause!

Businesses can contribute! Call to arrange for FREE pickup on quantities of Computers & TVs. In conjunction with these items, ASL will honor pickup of other products listed here. Call for details! (Remember to mention Santa Teresa Foothills Neighbohood Association for Credit! Call 877.279.0230.) Proceeds to benefit the Neighborhood Association! Just drive in, drop off, and we unload for you!

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!

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-mail		Check here if this is a renewa	
(your e-mail is private and will not be shared outside of STFNA) Address: City / Zip code: Phone:		Mail form and enclose check payable to: Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Assoc. 117 Bernal Road - #70-273 San Jose, CA 95119	
WWW.51	Tell us which issues interest you the	most:	THANK
or email contact@stfna.org	Foothills Open Space Preservation Public Education and Awareness Neighborhood Beautification	Coyote Alamitos Trail Safe Neighborhoods Other:	YOU!

Recent and ongoing projects STFNA has been involved in:

- •Received grants and continue to organize work parties for tree planting and clean-up of city-owned lots along Curie Drive.
- •Helped residents of Blossom Drive to organize a block partv
- •Compelled the county board of supervisors to modify hillside development policies.
- •Successfully lobbied the local school district to remove excessive limits on the use of the Santa Teresa High School athletic fields.
- •Organizing semi-annual neighborhood meetings with presentations by local officials/ dignitaries.



- •Monitor development on the hills behind Foothill/Colleen/ Curie, and organize meetings with developer, city and/or county to be sure any development is in line with existing policies and has minimal impact on the hills and the neighborhood in general.
- •Semi-annual clean-up of Canoas Creek
- •Adopted Foothill Park (Foothill & Cahalan) and Century Oaks Park (Snell & Colleen). Periodic park cleanup events are posted on our website and announced through emails. To volunteer to help cleanup trash and weeds on your own schedule, sign-up with Lynne at 226.3521 or email lcpaulson@sbcglobal.net to receive supplies such as trash bags and gloves. By volunteering with the Adopt-a-Park program you will also be invited to a city-wide annual celebration with a chance to win prizes.

News from the Association

Beautify Everything in Santa Teresa (BEST) Our first ever neighborhood improvement awards!

B.E.S.T. will strive to accentuate the positive of our neighborhood surroundings and acknowledge those residents who have improved their properties for all to enjoy, as we continuously make Santa Teresa the place to be!

Here's how it will work ...

- 1. There will be four categories
- Best overall home
 - (as viewed from street.)Best use of native plants.
 - Most improved (should have
 - photos of before re-landscaping.) Best kept street.

Residents of our association's 4200-home parameter will be eligible. You may either nominate yourself or a neighbor. The projects can have occurred in the last five years. There is no maximum to the number of nominations you can submit. Nominations can be sent directly to: Dave Smith at <u>Smith333@comcast.net</u>, and must be received by November 15th.

3. Volunteer judges will select the winners. If you'd like to be a judge - we could use your keen eye! Judges will be excluded from awards. Please contact Dave Smith directly at Smith333@comcast.net.

4. Awards will be presented to the winners at the Spring meeting. Winners will be profiled in our Spring newsletter, given a plaque, and a gift certificate from one of our many sponsers.

Dave brought this idea to the board in an effort to "put the emphasis on the positive and thank people for what they do for all of us!



The Journey's Extreme Yard Make-Over

"As a church in the community, we would like to offer help to one person or family that has had a difficult time maintaining their yard. Over a period of one or two days, we will send in our volunteer crew of approximately 25 people. The team will be armed with yard tools and up to \$500 for landscaping materials!!'

B.E.S.T. - BONUS OFFER Category: Yard in Need of Help!

**Anyone who would like to selfnominate their own yard is welcome to consider the above offer from The Journey Church. To submit your name and address, contact Jeff Wenke, Pastor of The Journey Church at 499-9790.

B.E.S.T. Sponsers:

- Orchard Supply Hardware
- Summer Winds Garden Center
- Almaden Valley Nursery
- The Journey Church
- Tim Ryan
- (Century 21 Real Estate) Angie Cocke
- (Century 21 Real Estate)

MIRACLE MOUNTAIN DRIVE **DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

As most people are aware, there is a proposal to rezone a parcel of hillside land above Miracle Mountain Drive (just east of Almaden Lake) to allow a custom home to be built. Association board members have been working with the City and the applicant to address a number of concerns. At present, the project applicant is working with the City to obtain a "geologic hazard" clearance. Once this occurs, the public hearing, environmental, and approval processes will move forward. We will keep everyone informed.

CURIE DRIVE BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE

This project has been proceeding nicely the past 2 years. Through the hard work from volunteers in the neighborhood and grant money from the city, the neighborhood association has been able to transform several rundown cityowned lots (park strips) along Curie into attractive areas that add beauty and value to the entire area.

The neighborhood association received a 'Neighborhood Improvement' Award from the city in recognition of all the hard work. Jacqueline Price has been the driving force behind this effort and her hard work was recognized during our spring meeting with a gift certificate to the Hayes Mansion.

Three doggy dispensers have been setup along Curie drive and one at the corner of Snell and Colleen. Please make use of the doggy dispensers!

Graffitti has appeared on the walls recently, but the appointed wall "spys" have been working to get it painted over. One new seedling has been planted and is doing well. The other one will be transplanted shortly. Two of the park strips will receive wall plantings this fall.