

Welcome to the LVNA

Villager

The Newsletter of the Lakewood Village Neighborhood Association

Volume 48, Number 12

Sunnyvale, California

December 2005

No General Meeting in December

Holiday Lighting Contest Judging December 16

President's Column

-Ursula Syrova, LVNA President

Holiday Lighting Contest

Compete for the Santa Trophies! Have your holiday decorations up by Friday, December 16, 2005 to be considered for judging in the annual holiday lighting contest. Judges will circulate on that evening. Winners will be announced in the January issue of the Villager, and trophies will be given out at the January general meeting on Thursday, January 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lakewood Park building.

I'm Feeling Grateful that I'm Involved with the LVNA

I usually stick to reports on Village activities for my column, but since it was just Thanksgiving, I thought I'd digress. I have been feeling a bit down about my volunteering activities with the LVNA board because there seems to be such small turnout for our meetings, and every time we have elections for the board we can't seem to come up with any new folks who want to participate. However, as I write this the parade is just about to happen, and I know people will turn out for that. Also, I'm remembering that many people came out for the annual picnic in September, and that was a lot of fun. And every year for Dumpster Day there are plenty of volunteers to monitor the dumpsters. This all makes me think about how my involvement with the board here has introduced me to a great group of "core" people who consistently help in the neighborhood and come out for meetings and events. These are wonderful, inspiring people who have lived in Lakewood Village for years and enjoy participating in these activities that bring neighbors together and strengthen the neighborhood. This is the first place I've lived where I've known a lot of my neighbors at all, and it is very comforting. So when I feel a bit dispirited, I just talk to the other board members and

they re-energize me and remind me why service to my neighborhood is truly a wonderful and rewarding undertaking. It does make a difference.

Give, If You Can

This is the season for giving, and there are many opportunities. Sunnyvale Community Services is collecting canned and dry food at their 725 Kifer Road location. See www.svcommunityservices.org for updates on what is needed. Other organizations have placed boxes in many area stores for toy and book donations. If you are fortunate enough that you don't need help, please consider donating for those who do. ■

Join the Villager Team

Are you interested in being on the Villager staff? Soon our long-time editor Brian Smithson will be stepping down, and co-editor Faith Rogers will need another co-editor. This position requires good computer word-processing skills. We also need help with Villager advertising management. Many local businesses advertise in the Villager and must be invoiced and, in a few cases, visited. This position takes some organization, a computer, and a little bit of time each month. For more information, please contact Faith Rogers at 408-738-3215 or e-mail her at editor@lvna.net. ■

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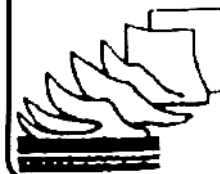
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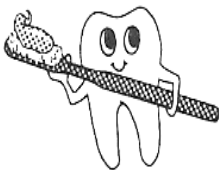
December in Your Yard and Garden

- Be sure to get in the last of the spring-blooming bulbs this month. Remember that wet soil is difficult to dig properly. Be careful not to plant the bulbs too deep.
- Water plants as needed.

- Watch out for frost.
- Direct water from downspouts to avoid damage to the garden.
- Save wood ashes from the fireplace as a source of potash for the compost pile.

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- Request seed and nursery catalogs from mail-order companies.
- Set out large-sized transplants of winter-flowering plants into the bedding plot, using such plants as calendula, Iceland poppy, primrose, and stock.
- Apply dormant spray to deciduous flowering plants and fruit trees.
- Prune pines, magnolias, junipers, and red-berried plants for holiday greens.
- Cut back chrysanthemums as they finish blooming.
- Hold off fertilizing most plants in preparation for winter.
- Stabilize plants that might be harmed by wind.
- Harvest winter vegetables as they ripen.

These tips are from the book Northern California Gardening: A Month-by-Month Guide, by Katherine Grace Endicott, published by Chronicle Books, San Francisco, copyright 1996, and are used with the publisher's permission. ■

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For back issues and other online information about Lakewood Village, visit <http://www.lvna.net>.

To subscribe to the Lakewood Village mailing list, send a blank e-mail to: lakewoodvillage-subscribe@topica.com

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LVNA Meetings

-Skip Gottschalk, LVNA Secretary

November 10 General Meeting

Sunnyvale Community Services Executive Director Nancy Tivol explained how SCS works to help prevent homelessness and hunger. SCS provides numerous services to low-income families and can always use donations and volunteers to assist in food or gift distributions. Their phone number is (408)738-4321; Web site is at www.svcommunityservices.org.

The LVNA board briefed other meeting attendees on current plans for the Lakewood Village Annual Holiday Parade and Toy Drive, scheduled for December 3.

November 19 Board Meeting

The board discussed plans for the LVNA Holiday Parade and Toy Drive (Saturday, December 3, Lakewood School to Fairwood Park). Parade participants, music and carolers, refreshments, Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety support and traffic control, insurance, permit, park reservation, photo supplies and setup, and car pool and transport vehicles were coordinated. The estimated cost is \$850. The treasurer's financial report indicated that no fund-raising is needed this year for the parade.

The Holiday Lighting Contest will be judged on December 16. Prizes will be distributed at the January General Meeting.



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Letter

My name is Khristine, I am 19 years old and I reside in the Fairwood side of Lakewood Village. I currently am in my second year of college at San Francisco State University. On Halloween, I went trick-or-treating for coins on the 1200 side of Prescott Avenue, Manzano Way, and Oak Creek. I was able to collect \$21.85 from the generous residents of the listed streets, and I just wanted to thank them for their generosity. Many residents were very reluctant at first but after I said that I was collecting spare change for UNICEF and that the money was going to the Hurricane Relief, they donated what they had. I want to let them know that I am very thankful that they were able to open their hearts and their wallets for this great cause.


Khristine Madayag ■

Wanted: Help with my mother--meals, companionship evenings and weekends. Lakewood Village. Please call (408) 981-3745.

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Sunnyvale Library Offers Special Programs in December

Holiday Mummers Play, Saturday, December 10, 1 p.m. Actors will present a humorous version of the story of St. George and the Dragon, for the whole family.

Tree Trim Night (Night Owl Special), Thursday, December 15, 7 p.m. Children age 3 and up and their families are invited to make ornaments to decorate the library's Christmas tree.

Hanukkah Stories, Sunday, December 18, 2 p.m. Librarian and author Diane Rauchwerger will read her new book, *Dinosaur on Hanukkah* and other Hanukkah tales, for the whole family.




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Lakewood Resident

Needed: LVNA Villager Walker for Lakewood Side

-Wendy Stanley, Villager Walker Coordinator, Lakewood Side

I need someone to deliver the *Villager* to 82 homes. The route is from 746 Lakewood Drive toward Lawrence, along Blazingwood and then back up the other side of the street until you get to Meadowlake Drive. If interested, please call Wendy at 745-1331. It takes less than an hour a month, so please consider this great opportunity to get some exercise and meet some of your neighbors. ■

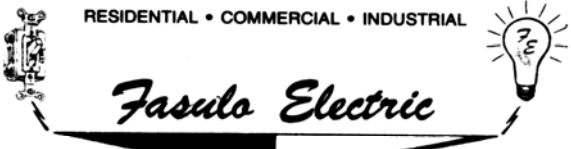
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City Events

Free health presentation: Difficult Discussions with Your Aging Parents

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7-8 p.m., City Council Chambers, 456 West Olive Ave.

The Family Caregiver Assistance Program provides help in planning for care of an aging parent or family member. El Camino Hospital's eldercare consultant, Robbie Smith, will help you to identify the signs that your family member may need help, along with an overview of services available in Santa Clara County.

To register, call (800) 216-5556. Provided through a partnership between the City of Sunnyvale and El Camino Hospital.

Posadas Celebration

Thursday, December 8, 7 p.m., Columbia Neighborhood Center, 785 Morse Ave. The whole family is invited to join us for music, a traditional Posadas procession, and refreshments. Bring a flashlight and warm coats!

For more information, call the Sunnyvale Public Library at (408) 730-7292 or Columbia Neighborhood Center at (408) 523-8150. ■

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Contact Faith Rogers at 408-738-3215 or advertising@lvna.net



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Safety and Sobriety Checkpoint Scheduled for December 17

Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety officers will conduct a DUI safety and sobriety checkpoint from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m., Saturday, December 17. The primary purpose of the checkpoint is public education.

Each year a countywide "Avoid the 13" safe-driving program is launched by police agencies in Santa Clara County. Numerous checkpoints will be established throughout the county, all with the intent of educating the public to the perils of driving while impaired.

The checkpoints provide an opportunity to locate drivers who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and remove them from local roadways. Every year, drivers who are under the influence cause a disproportionately high number of collisions, many of which result in injury or death.

During the checkpoint hours, cars will be randomly stopped and checked. Officers will look at the safety of the vehicle, use of seatbelts, the operator's license, and state of sobriety. Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) will also be present to distribute educational materials. ■

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Columbia Neighborhood Center News


Community Service Opportunity

The Columbia Neighborhood Center is looking for Sunnyvale community members, school staff members, parents, and students (6th-12th grade) to volunteer for the Center's Community Advisory Committee. The Committee meets five times per year on weekday evenings to talk about the Center's services and needs in the community, to help with community projects, and to serve as representatives of the Center. For more information and an application, please call (408) 523-8150 ext. 11 or e-mail LKim@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us with your name, address and phone number. Applications are due February 1, 2006.

FluMist Vaccine

Students and staff members (healthy individuals, 5-49 years old) of Sunnyvale School District may receive a free FluMist (nasal spray) vaccine at the Columbia Neighborhood Center (785 Morse Ave.) on the following dates: Tuesday, December 13, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. and Tuesday, January 3, 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call (408) 523-8150. For more information on the vaccine, call FluMist at 1-877-633-4411. ■

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Sunnyvale Again Named Fifth-Safest City

The twelfth annual Morgan Quitno Safest Cities in America awards again place Sunnyvale as the fifth-safest of cities with a population between 100,000 and 499,999. Among cities of all sizes, Sunnyvale rated the highest of any northern California city. The awards rank 369 cities across the nation and are based on the FBI's 2005 crime report, which reflects data from 2004.

"The city and our residents have formed a partnership in which every one of us has a sense of pride and ownership in the quality of our life. Our many neighborhood associations have been key to helping maintain both that quality of life and the safety of our community," said Mayor Dean J. Chu.

For the fifth consecutive year, neighboring San Jose ranked first among cities with a population above 500,000.

Sunnyvale has been ranked in the top ten cities in its population class for the last ten years, and for eight years it has been ranked as one of the top 20 safest cities of all sizes, usually placing within the top 10.

See <http://www.morganquitno.com/safecity.htm> for complete rankings, methodology, and previous year's results. ■



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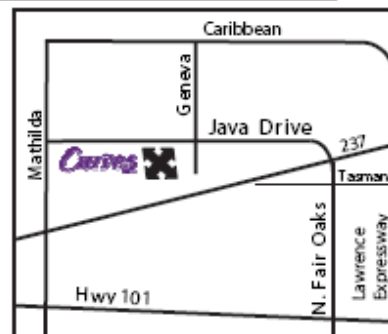
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2 nd Vice President	Thom Mayer	vicepresident2@lvna.net	734-3935
Secretary	Skip Gottschalk	secretary@lvna.net	746-3741
Treasurer	Faith Rogers	treasurer@lvna.net	738-3215
Newsletter Editors	Faith Rogers, Brian Smithson	editor@lvna.net	738-3215 738-5939
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Delivery (Lakewood)	Wendy Stanley	walkers@lvna.net	745-1331
http://www.lvna.net/Miscellany/Contact/contact.html			

Internet Links

LVNA Web Site	http://www.lvna.net
Lakewood e-mail list	http://www.topica.com/lists/lakewoodvillage
City of Sunnyvale	http://www.sunnyvale.ca.gov
Sunnyvale Library	http://www.sunnyvalelibrary.org
Sunnyvale Freecycle	http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/sunnyvalefree *
http://www.lvna.net/Resources/Links/links.html	

* new URL

Upcoming Events

What	Where	When
Street Sweeping	Your street – move your cars!	12/6 Fairwood 12/13 Lakewood 1/3 Fairwood 1/10 Lakewood
Holiday Lighting Contest Judging	Lakewood Village	12/16
Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off	Carl Road, near the SMaRT Station	12/17, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
LVNA Villager Editorial Deadline	Contact editor@lvna.net	12/30
LVNA Meeting	Lakewood Park Bldg.	1/12, 7 p.m.
http://www.lvna.net/Resources/Calendar/calendar.html		

Important Phone Numbers

Public Safety – Emergency	911
Public Safety – Non-emergency	730-7100
Speeding cars; parking complaints; traffic signal repair; dead animals	Dispatch 730-7180
Noise complaints; homeless complaints; commercial vehicles on residential streets	Desk Officer 730-7110
Illegal storage or buildings; decrepit fences or buildings; weed problems; illegal home businesses; rental housing complaints; commercial vehicles on private property	Neighborhood Preservation 730-7610
City streets, sidewalks, trees, streetlights, street sweeping	Public Works 730-7505
Nuisance vehicle hotline	730-7706
Drug hotline	245-3784
Graffiti hotline	730-7680
Shopping cart pickup	725-1010
Neighborhood liaison	730-7472
http://www.lvna.net/Resources/Phones/phones.html	



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