



NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

E-BLAST

April 2010



**An information-sharing service of the
Neighborhood Development Center (NDC)**

The mission of the Neighborhood Development Center is to build strong neighborhoods by connecting individuals to information, technology, and opportunities for civic engagement.

Please note that the Neighborhood Development center website has moved. Visit us at <http://www.strongneighborhoods.org/neighborhooddevelopmentcenter.htm>

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If you have questions about the programs, events, or activities promoted in this newsletter, please contact each individual program directly.

Boards and Commissions

Arts Commission

You are invited to join members of the Arts Commission in a **Community Study Session** about the draft **San Jose Cultural Connection: San Jose's Cultural Vision Plan**.

Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: Roosevelt Community Center - Community Room

901 East Santa Clara Street at S.19th Street, San Jose

(NOTE: Roosevelt Community Center is just .9 mile east of City Hall, at S. 19th Street. Parking is in the rear; please note that the entrance to the parking lot is on S. 21st Street.)

San Jose Cultural Connection: San Jose's Cultural Vision Plan (draft) is now available online at:

[www.sanjoseculture.org/downloads/Cultural Connection DRAFT Plan 4-1-10.pdf](http://www.sanjoseculture.org/downloads/Cultural_Connection_DRAFT_Plan_4-1-10.pdf)

BACKGROUND

The City of San Jose is preparing a Cultural Vision Plan to guide the community's cultural development in the coming decade. This plan will inform Envision San Jose 2040, the update to the City's general plan, and will also function as a stand alone plan for the Office of Cultural Affairs, City government and our partners in the community. It is a noteworthy milestone that, for the first time in San Jose's history, the City's general plan will include an arts and culture element that will serve as a blueprint for cultural development for the next 10-15 years.

Please RSVP to rsvpculturalaffairs@sanjoseca.gov or by calling 408.277.5144 ext. 31.

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## Historic Landmarks Commission

### Historical San Jose Photography Contest

The Historic Landmarks Commission of San Jose is holding the first "Historical San Jose" photography contest.

#### Cash Prizes and Ribbons

##### Photo Categories

Residential  
Non-residential Buildings  
Landscapes / Streetscapes

##### Contestant Levels

Student (up to age 19)  
Adult

Winning entries will be displayed electronically on Civic Center Television and on monitors at City Hall.

#### Deadline for entries

Entries must be emailed by May 1st, 2010

#### Reception

May 18th from 5:30 pm to 7:00pm in the Rotunda Mezzanine at City Hall.

For more information go to: [www.SmugMug.com](http://www.SmugMug.com) search HistoricalSJContest2010

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## Clean Slate Tattoo Removal Program

Are gang-related tattoos preventing you from getting a job or moving ahead in life?

We will remove visible gang-related tattoos for FREE if you:

- Are between the ages of 14 and 25
- Are gang-free
- Are going to school, enrolled in job-readiness or already working
- Complete a 10-week Life Skills Program
- Complete 30 hours of community service
- Resident of San José

GOT IT! REGRET IT! REMOVE IT!

For more information or to enroll, please call: (408) 251-7757



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*To highlight, through the lens of each photographer, Historically significant properties that contribute to the character of San Jose. Join us in celebrating Historic Preservation month this May.*

## ***Community Budget Meeting Schedule***

### **2010-2011 City of San José Community Budget Meeting Schedule**

#### **Wednesday, March 24, 2010**

District 7 Community Budget Meeting  
6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Tully Community Library  
880 Tully Road, San José 95111

#### **Monday, March 29, 2010**

District 8 Community Budget Meeting  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Quimby Oak Middle School – Library  
3190 Quimby Road, San José 95148

#### **Tuesday, March 30, 2010**

District 2 Community Budget Meeting  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Santa Teresa Library  
290 International Circle, San José 95119

#### **Wednesday, April 7, 2010**

District 9 Community Budget Meeting  
7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Cambrian Branch Library  
1780 Hillsdale Avenue, San José 95124

#### **Thursday, April 8, 2010**

District 10 Community Budget Meeting  
6:30-8:00 p.m.  
Almaden Winery Community Center  
5730 Chambertin Drive, San José 95118

#### **Wednesday, April 14, 2010**

District 4 Community Budget Meeting  
5:30-7:00 p.m.  
Alviso Branch Library – Community Room  
N 1st Street, Alviso 95002

#### **Thursday, April 15, 2010**

District 4 Community Budget Meeting  
6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Berryessa Branch Library – Community  
Room  
3355 Noble Avenue, San José 95132

#### **Wednesday, April 21, 2010**

District 3 Community Budget Meeting  
6:30 p.m.  
City of San José City Hall  
City Manager's Conference Room T1734  
200 E. Santa Clara Street, San José 95113

#### **Thursday, April 22, 2010**

District 5 Community Budget Meeting  
6:00 p.m.  
Dr. Roberto Cruz Alum Rock Library  
3090 Alum Rock Avenue, San José 95127

#### **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**

District 1 Community Budget Meeting  
7:00-8:30 p.m.  
West Valley Branch Library  
1243 San Tomas Aquino Road, San José  
95117

#### **Thursday, April 29, 2010**

District 6 Community Budget Meeting  
7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Willow Glen Senior Center  
*2175 Lincoln Avenue, San José 95125*

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## ***GREENLIGHT Earth Day Film Festival***

The City of San Jose is proudly sponsoring the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual GREENLIGHT Earth Day Film Festival. This festival is the celebration of Earth Day featuring film projects that explore environmental citizenship and show how individual actions can reduce our environmental impact. Films featured will be produced by local artists, with an emphasis on student-produced films. Show your support and attend on **April 15, 2010** at the Cubberley Theater, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA. For more information please visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/greenlight](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/greenlight)

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## ***Metropolitan Transportation Commission***

### **2010 Transportation Awards Excellence in Motion**

[Click Here to Nominate!](#)

Call for Nominations - Deadline is April 30

Do you know a person or organization that has made an extraordinary contribution to the way people get around in the Bay Area? Is your bus driver the friendliest, most helpful person on earth? Do you know of an innovative effort to boost smart growth, reduce harmful carbon emissions, or encourage other climate-friendly behavior? Isn't it time they get the recognition they deserve?

Once every two years the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) hands out awards to the people and organizations that have made an extraordinary contribution to the way that we get around the Bay Area. See accompanying photos for a sampling of winners from our last program.

MTC is currently seeking nominations of those who have made significant improvements in the safety, efficiency, or quality of your daily travels, as well as those who have spearheaded smart growth or have gone beyond the call of duty as a transportation professional. MTC bestows awards in a variety of categories at a ceremony to be held in October 2010, and nominations are due by Friday, April 30.

For more information on the Excellence in Motion awards program, or to submit your nomination online, please visit: [www.mtc.ca.gov/about\\_mtc/awards/](http://www.mtc.ca.gov/about_mtc/awards/)

For more information or to have a nomination form mailed to you, e-mail [info@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:info@mtc.ca.gov) or phone the MTC Public Information office at 510.817.5757.

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## ***Neighborhood Development Center Trainings***

### **United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County Annual Conference**

**Register now!**

Saturday, April 17, 2010  
San Jose City College

The Neighborhood Development Center is partnering with United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County on this event and many of the classes offered will be eligible for CAP Grant training credit.

Classes include:

- Beginning Grant Writing
- Advanced Grant Writing
- Neighborhood Youth Leadership: Opportunities and Challenges
- Challenges in Developing Leaders in Diverse Communities
- Development Conditions: How to Protect the Neighborhood's Interests
- And more...

Forums offered:

- Community Policing
- Building Strong Neighborhoods
- City of San Jose Neighborhoods Commission: A Community Dialog

For more information or to register log on to [www.unsccc.org](http://www.unsccc.org) or contact Michael LaRocca at (408) 564-2374.

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## ***Our City Forest***

### **April Volunteer Meeting**

Join us at the Our City Forest office for refreshments, snacks and exciting guest speakers!

***April 14th · 6 - 8 PM***

This month, the [Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition](#) will speak about safe environmental practices and their work in San José.



To learn more or RSVP, please contact [Monica Nanez](#) at (408) 99-TREES x107.

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Green Fair 2010

Join us to celebrate 50,000 trees planted!

WILLOW GLEN

May 8th, 12 - 4 PM

[1275 Lincoln Avenue](#)

(@ [Treehouse In the Glen](#)
and [Tyson Interiors](#))



CAPITOL FLEA MARKET

May 22nd, 10 AM - 3 PM

[3630 Hillcap Avenue](#)

Everyone is invited to enjoy our free and fun family events in San José. Both will feature tree-themed activities:

- Tree Tours on the Tree Mobile
- Pruning Workshops
- Photos with "O2" the Tree Mascot
- Kid's Area - button-making, face painting & crafts
- *Ask the Arborist* tree advice booth
- Native Tree and Plant Sale
- Music and light refreshments

To learn more, visit our [GREEN FAIR](#) website or contact [Amanda](#) at (408) 99-TREES x105

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SJSU Tree Tour

Spend your lunch hour outdoors, learning about trees with Our City Forest!

When: Wed., **April 28th** from **12 - 1 PM**

Where: [MLK Library](#) @ 150 E San Fernando St.

Tour the SJSU campus with an OCF arborist as your guide. Learn about common San José street trees, CA native trees, species identification, urban forestry and more!

Everyone is welcome! Just be sure to wear comfortable shoes and weather appropriate attire.

To RSVP, please contact (408) 99-TREES x123 or email education@ourcityforest.org. To learn more, visit us [online](#).

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Public Streetlight Plan

San José Seeks Resident Input on New Public Streetlight Plan

Community Meeting, Wednesday, April 7

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Roosevelt Community Center, 901 E. Santa Clara Street, San José

- *Curious about the white streetlights being installed around San José?*
- *Do you walk, bike, drive or jog after dark?*
- *Concerned by the inability to discern colors under San José's yellow streetlights?*

Then join us at this San José-sponsored community meeting.

The City will be presenting the results of detection tests and surveys conducted at San José's streetlight demonstrations held in early March. We will discuss the implications of that data and how the City proposes to apply it to reduce the City's energy consumption, improve the quality of lights on City streets, and protect the night sky.

For more information or questions, contact streetlightdemo@sanjoseca.gov.

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San Jose Public Library

22nd Annual San Jose Children's Faire

Saturday, April 24 at Discovery Meadow

(in front of the Children's Discovery Museum)

10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

“Going Wild with Nature: Adventures in Our Backyard” is the theme for this year's annual event, which features family-oriented stage entertainment, special attractions, and activity booths offering hands-on activities for children, ages two to 12, in addition to information about education, child care, health and safety resources, creative arts and recreational programs. Check out the children's art displays, providing insight into the imagination and development of young children. The Faire—a free, one-day, outdoor festival highlighting April's “Month of the Young Child” celebration—is designed to link parents and caregivers of young children with community organizations that serve their needs. For information, visit www.sjlibrary.org/moyc.htm or call (408) 808-2617.



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## “California of the Past”

### **Share Your Story! – An Invitation to Capture “California of the Past”**

The Digital Storytelling program is now open to participation from anyone who has a story they would like to share about living and/or working in San Jose. The goal is to capture a wide range of stories and themes that explore and build local community. All stories become part of the statewide collection, “[California of the Past](#).” The Digital Story Station is located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor (525) in the Cultural Heritage Center, and interested parties can call to make an appointment with a staff member. Get inspired by viewing some of the interesting [stories](#) resulting from the pilot phase, *Latino Storytelling Project*. Anyone seeking more information may call Stacy Mueller @ 408-808-2136, or visit our website: <http://www.sjlibrary.org/about/events/digitalstory.htm>.

The library continues to seek historical insight on “mystery images” contained in the King Library Special Collections [Digital Collection](#); both from current residents and those who have moved away. Use the “**Tell us about this item**” link at the top of each image page to share with us what you may know about these images!

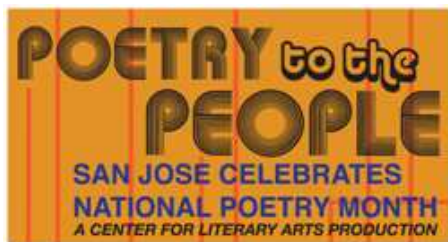


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## Poetry to the People

### **San Jose Celebrates National Poetry Month with “Poetry to the People”**



Enjoy noon hour poetry readings at the entrance to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library every Tuesday in April, featuring different guests each week.

- April 6:** Lyn Hejinian, Brian Teare, Keetje Kuipers
- April 13:** Kenneth Fields, Rebecca Black, Gloria Frym
- April 20:** Juliana Spahr, Randall Mann, Diem Jones
- April 27:** D.A. Powell, Maria Hummel, Justin Chin

Poetry to the People, a SJSU Center for Literary Arts Production funded by Applied Materials Excellence in the Arts Grants, a program of Arts Council Silicon Valley. For information, visit [www.litart.org](http://www.litart.org).

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## Summer Reading Celebration



### ***Water Your Mind This Summer – READ!***

Summer is just around the corner, and whether it's the heat that keeps you indoors or summer vacation that brings more free time, there's nothing like a good book to pass the time. San José Public Library's *Summer Reading Celebration* kicks off on June 12. All participants in the eight-week program will register online. Kids who enroll in the children's program—"Make a Splash, READ!"—will receive a print log to track their progress. Participants in the teen and adult programs ("Make Waves at your Library" and "Water Your Mind, READ," respectively) will log their experiences online. For further news and developments, check the library website ([www.sjlibrary.org](http://www.sjlibrary.org)), contact your neighborhood library or call King Library Youth Services at (408) 808-2183.

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## ***Spring in Guadalupe Gardens***



Celebrating Guadalupe Gardens, Earth Day and the Great Outdoors

**Saturday, April 24, 2010**

**10 AM - 3 PM**

**Guadalupe Gardens**

**Between Coleman Avenue and Taylor Street**

**408-298-7657**

40+ vendors selling plants, garden art, etc.

Heritage Rose Garden in Full-Bloom

Free Compost - Bring your own bucket!

Alternative Energy

Healthy Living

[Free parking along surface streets, click here for map!](#)

[Directions](#)

**Please, no cans, or bottles allowed! This is a Zero Waste Event.**

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## ***Tax Help Provided by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance***

### **Tax Help For Low Income, Disabled, Elderly and Limited English Speaking Persons Provided by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (V.I.T.A.)**

- To qualify for free VITA tax help, your 2009 income must be less than \$49,000 for an individual.
- No appointments necessary -- unless stated. Customers will be served on a first come, first served basis.
- Volunteers are trained to prepare only basic 2009 Forms 1040EZ, 1040A or 1040 with Schedule A, B and California State Income Tax Returns only!
- Federal **and** State returns will be prepared at all sites. V.I.T.A. sites will NOT prepare State-only returns or Married filing separate returns.
- **You must bring the following income tax information:**
  1. Proof of identification
  2. Wage and earning statement(s) Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, from all employers
  3. Social Security Cards for you, your spouse and dependents and/or a Social Security Number verification letter issued by the Social Security Administration
  4. Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents on the tax return
  5. Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
  6. Bank routing numbers and account numbers for Direct Deposit
  7. Other relevant information about income and expenses
  8. Total paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number (the provider's Social Security Number or the provider's business Employer Identification Number)
  9. Current year's tax package if you received one
  10. A copy of last year's Federal and State returns if available
  11. To file taxes electronically on a married-filing-joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms

If you have any questions, please call V.I.T.A. at **1-800-829-1040** or **1-800-906-9887**.

**[More Sites to help with your Taxes](#)**

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## ***West Valley Senior Walk***

Please join Councilmembers Pete Constant & Pierluigi Oliverio for the 5th Annual

# **WEST VALLEY SENIOR WALK**

Friday, April 9, 2010

FREE Registration, Breakfast, Gifts, and more!

Registration and Breakfast begin at 8:45am

Walk and Resource Fair from 9:00am-10:30am

Westfield Valley Fair  
2855 Stevens Creek Blvd.

*(Use entrance on Stevens Creek between the banks for Parking Structure A)*

For more information, call (408) 535-4901 or email [district1@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district1@sanjoseca.gov).

For free transportation, call (408) 286-3411 or email [dlogan@yellowcheckercab.com](mailto:dlogan@yellowcheckercab.com)

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