

Winchester San Tomas  
**THE EDEN EXAMINER**  
Payne Williams

**February  
2006**

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**Next Meeting:** *Amber Drive Primary Plus School, Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.*

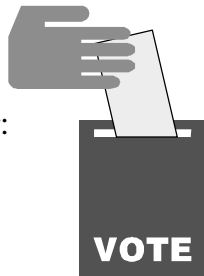
Guest Speakers: Pete Constant, Jay James, & Ross Signorino

Topic: District 1 Candidate Forum



**February 14<sup>th</sup> General Meeting Agenda**

- Welcome
- 2006 Calendar Update
- Committee Reports
- Guest Speakers in alphabetical order:
  - Pete Constant
  - Jay James
  - Ross Signorino



Come join us at our February 2006 General Meeting to talk with the candidates running for District 1 Council Member. Here's your opportunity to hear more about them, ask questions, and find out what they are all about.

**Disposal of Electronic Equipment**

As of February 9<sup>th</sup>, there are new regulations for disposal of toxic materials. These largely voluntary regulations are to protect our drinking water and environment. Four places to dispose of toxic wastes and trash are listed below:

**Sims Metal Recycling**, 1900 Monterey Road, about a quarter mile north of Curtner Ave/Tully Road will accept old electronic computer equipment at no charge. They will also accept old TVs, washers, dryers, dishwashers and car parts including motor blocks. Oil pans, and oil filters should be removed from the latter. All of these items are now banned from the landfill. If you have any questions please call them at (408) 494-4200.

For those who would like to have items picked up from their homes, **Green Team of San Jose** may be their choice. They will pick up furniture including old mattresses, appliances, & TVs. They will not take glass or other hazardous waste. Their phone number is

(408) 283-8500. For apartment complexes the cost for 3 items is \$55.50. Each additional item will cost \$18.50. Homeowner's cost is \$23.00 for three items but their costs would add \$23.00 for a computer monitor or a TV. The costs will be added to your regular bill.

**Recycle Plus (San Jose)** accepts computer monitors with cathode ray tubes, televisions with cathode ray tubes, flat screen televisions as well as plasma screen televisions. Recycle Plus charges \$23 for a full computer system or television. Appointments are necessary and can be made by calling (408) 535-3515.

**Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste** is another place to dispose of hazardous waste such as, batteries, household cleaners, cans of paint, fluorescent tubes, lead, mercury, pesticides, ammunition, asbestos, etc. They can be reached at (408) 299-7300 to make an appointment for disposal at no charge. For more information visit their web site at <http://www.hhw.org>. The site lists what is considered hazardous waste and has links to centers that accept hazardous waste.

A recycling guide for San José residents is available on the City of San José's web site at [http://www.recycleplus.org/res\\_guide.htm](http://www.recycleplus.org/res_guide.htm), which provides comprehensive information about what should be and can be recycled from your home.

- Carl Shoemaker

**Working Toward a Safe, Clean,  
Friendly Neighborhood**

## President's Message Ivy Quiring

Thank you everyone who came to our first general meeting for the year! It was a pleasure seeing your friendly faces, voting in a new Secretary (Welcome Barbara!), hearing your concerns, and listening to Ms. Jonnie Banks tell us about upcoming changes to the San Jose Mineta Airport.

Looking forward into this year, I can definitely tell you it will be a busy year. We've got a lot going on in the neighborhood, the district, and county. Can you believe a number of our local elected positions are up for election this year? There will be a primary election on June 6<sup>th</sup>, where we'll be looking to elect a new San Jose City Mayor, a new Councilmember for our district (District 1), a new Supervisor for our district (District 4), Superior Court Judges, an assessor, a District Attorney, a Sheriff, and a representative for our Water District (District 4). That's just for starters. This year also includes voting on a number of our state officials.

For those seeking more information for voting, as well as neighborhood items, ENA will endeavor to be a resource for answering questions. We are dedicated to working towards a safe, clean & friendly neighborhood. This means we do not do any code enforcement, write warning letters, or report violations. It also means we do not endorse products or businesses. Upon occasion, it may be necessary to remind our residents of certain issues to maintain a pleasant, safe & clean neighborhood - as you will see in this month's Beautification report.

And as we enter into the year of the Dog, I would like to wish everyone a year filled with good health, prosperity, and happiness!



### Beautification Committee



Once a year, we ask homeowners to examine the sidewalk in front of their home and prune overgrown bushes and low tree branches that may be a hazard to those walking by. Many people in our neighborhood take walks for exercise. They should not need to dodge these hazards. We have a few flowers in bloom in the school garden and expect more soon. There is always a need for volunteers to pull weeds and grass.

- Carl Shoemaker

## Traffic Committee: Entry Markers Update

We didn't give up! It's just a long, drawn out process to get entry markers. We had to get maps, scale drawings, etc. before we could apply for the permit. But the application is now in. The Winchester Neighborhood Action Committee ("WNAC") has applied to install entry markers at selected public right of ways along Eden Ave:

- One in the median at Moorpark Ave
- One on each corner of Williams Road
- One on each corner at Payne Ave

Neighborhood associations must take responsibility for maintenance of the signs before they can be installed. ENA plans to take responsibility for the entry markers that welcome people to our neighborhood via Payne Ave and Williams Road. Getting the permit does not obligate anyone to install markers. I can not predict how long it will take for the WNAC application to be processed. I can only tell you that the permit process has begun.

- Betty Kabanek

## ENA Greetings to Neighborhood Babies

ENA welcomes the newest addition of our neighborhood:



❖ December 20, 2005: Ruchir Banerjee, son of Soumya Banerjee & Piu Ghosh

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

Feb 14	GM: District 1 Candidates Forum
Mar 14	General Meeting
tbd tbd	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual ENA Fruit Drive
Apr 11	General Meeting
Apr tbd	Emergency Preparedness
May 09	General Meeting
tbd tbd	Neighborhood Garage Sale
Jun 13	General Meeting
tbd tbd	ENA's Annual Family Summer Picnic
Aug 01	National Night Out
Aug 08	General Meeting
Sep 12	General Meeting
Sep tbd	ENA 11 <sup>th</sup> Annual Dumpster Day
Oct 10	General Meeting
Oct tbd	ENA 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Volunteer Appreciation
Nov 14	General Meeting
Dec tbd	ENA 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual "Festival of Lights"



## **Update on the Amber Drive Field Lockdown**

The Amber Drive School field has been locked down since November 2005. When the field lockdown first began, ENA did not get any response from the school district on why the Amber fields were closed around the clock. From school district custodians and others, residents heard various reasons: from field re-seeding to pesticide spraying to pet droppings to campus security... but there was no official communication. An ENA committee sent several proposals for solving the pet waste issue to the district, however no response was received. Contacts with the leaser, Primary Plus, at Amber Drive have been moving forward in a positive light.

At their regular Board Meeting on Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup>, the Moreland School District (MSD) Board brought up the controversial issue of the locked gates at the Amber Drive - Primary Plus field, and other school fields. Between 75 and 100 people turned out for the meeting. Most of them were residents of the Eden Neighborhood, and most wanted answers on when the field would be re-opened. Your ENA counted 22 speakers in favor of opening the fields to the neighborhood, 7 opposed (5 district grounds / custodial employees & 2 leasers), and 1 undecided (leaser). A number of the speakers and MSD Board Members said they could see both sides, and asked the district to work out a solution.

Eden Neighborhood resident Ed Keane presented findings to the Board that showed open-space - recreational space - in West San Jose would be drastically reduced if MSD fields were shut down. Another resident surveyed 10 nearby school districts and found that 141 out of 145 campus fields do provide public access during non-school hours. Betty Kabanek said that one of the conditions of the original lease agreement between Primary Plus and MSD required that the field be open to the neighborhood during non-session hours. Baseball Coach and Eden Neighborhood resident Jim Ritchley told the Board that the Amber Fearless Baseball League is scheduled to start playing in 3 weeks, and that neighborhood children will need access to the field. Julie Osier presented petitions to the board - with more than 150 signatures from Eden Neighborhood residents who want the Amber gates re-opened. In all, 22 of your neighbors were able to speak, and all were in favor of regaining access to the school field for neighborhood children.

On the opposing side, 5 MSD Custodial and Grounds Crew employees complained about the amount of pet waste they pick up and the alleged ill health effects of the droppings. One of the leasers in opposition holds a 7 days-a-week lease and uses the field at their site (Coventry) every day.

Moreland Board Member Tim Cassell proposed that the district's school fields be re-opened during daylight hours after school, and on weekends. He also proposed that no dogs be allowed. District Superintendent Les Adelson said the lockdown of Amber and other school fields, including Payne and Castro, was due to dog droppings, thefts, and vandalism to school property at some sites. The majority of the Board Members' comments were pro-access for the neighborhood children. Although board discussion occurred after hearing public comments, the Board took no action Tuesday night.

San Jose Councilwoman Linda Lezotte's office is still working to arrange a community meeting with MSD and the neighborhoods to come up with solutions. Resident Carolyn Newburn is continuing her talks with the Amber Drive - Primary Plus school director. The controversial issue attracted news coverage from Channel 11 NBC News the day of the board meeting.

As a community, we will continue to lobby for Amber School to be our open space. We have offered to work with MSD, Primary Plus, and the city to have the gates opened. And, your ENA has offered to assist in working towards a compromise. Hopefully, the school district will respond to our requests and begin to work with us.

You can email comments to Superintendent Adelson at [ladelson @ moreland.k12.ca.us](mailto:ladelson@moreland.k12.ca.us) or to the board members at [board-members @ moreland.k12.ca.us](mailto:board-members@moreland.k12.ca.us) .

*- Betsy Gebhart & Carolyn Newburn*

## **Gentle Reminder to Pet Owners**

An increasing number of neighbors have been experiencing pet waste in their front yards. We appreciate those pet owners who do clean up after their pets. However, there are still some who don't clean up. Thank you for helping keep the neighborhood clean and pleasant.

## Safety Reminder – Door-to-Door Solicitors

There continues to be an increase of door-to-door solicitors selling products, allegedly collecting money for charities, and even requesting money to sponsor them or their school's trip to other countries. Many of these are scams and should be viewed with suspicion. If you are unsure or nervous, do not open your doors, and tell them you are not interested. And please feel free to notify the police, they want to hear about any suspicious activity. Additionally, this will help the police track any increase of such activity in the neighborhood.



## 2006 Membership Report - Mario Vazquez

We had a great start on our 2006 Membership Renewal Drive, but it has slowed down. Your support is greatly appreciated and continues to be needed. To date, ENA has 179 members including 10 new ones. Let's work on meeting last year's count of 403 members.

ENA would like to welcome new members: Vivienann Pianto, and Meliva Rosado. ENA also wants to thank those renewing since the last newsletter. They are:

Glenn & Nancy Avila	George & Shirley Horning	Jon & Chris Linthacum
Bill & Nancy Boltz	Bharat & Smita Joshi	Paul & Patricia Lipari
Truman & Barbara Boman	Kay & Gladyce Kanagaki	Joe & Angie Lynch
Henry & Randee Chin	Richard Kaufmann	Bud & Peggy Muchow
Bulent & Lynae Cinarkaya	Robert & Leanne Kirby	Horace & Elena Nevarez
David Schirle & Denise Michael	James & Diane Kono	Nick & Sue Palermo
Mike & Diane Doyle	Yone & Chizu Kubo	Tom & Jane Pardini
Patricia Fraguglia	Masami & Jiyushi Kusumoto	Jim & Elaine Schirle
Stephen & Joyce Fukuchi	Stanley & Cecilia Latimer	Peter & Isobel Taylor
Dave & Sandy Hart	Raymond & Eunice Lee	John & Eva Yaccarine



You may turn in your membership form at the meeting to any officer. If you don't know if you have renewed, call the ENA hotline at (408) 404-7404 and leave a message. I will return your call.

## Eden Neighborhood Association Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Privacy Policy: All information is confidential and for the private use of ENA)*

I am renewing my membership      Membership Dues      \$15.00

I am a new member      Additional Donations:      \_\_\_\_\_

Total:      \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help with the following Committees:

Beautification       Block Watch/Safety       Festival of Lights       Emergency Preparedness

Garage Sale       Social       Newsletter Delivery       Political

Dumpster       Welcoming       Membership       Traffic

National Night Out (August Block Party)       Others \_\_\_\_\_

General Comments & Suggestions for Speakers at Meeting or other Projects or Events: \_\_\_\_\_