

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

**November 2006** Web page: <http://www.EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org> ENA Message Center: (408) 404-7404  
Email: [email@EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org](mailto:email@EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org) Address: P.O. Box 9383, San Jose, CA 95157

**Next Meeting:** *Amber Drive Primary Plus School, Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.*  
Guest Speaker: Councilmember-Elect Pete Constant  
Topic: Talk With Our 2007 City of San Jose District 1 Councilmember

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

- Welcome
- ENA Elections
- Committee Reports
- Guest Speaker: *Councilmember-Elect Pete Constant*

Neighbors & parents - come join us at our November 2006 General Meeting to talk with our next District 1 Councilmember. His term starts January 1, 2007. Here's your opportunity to hear more about his goals for the City of San Jose District 1, as well as let him know what is important to you. See you there!



**Meeting Date Change:  
Proposed Signal Light at  
Williams Road & Eden Avenue**

As the original meeting date was scheduled for the same day as our state elections, a number of residents requested a date change.

Councilmember Linda J. LeZotte, the Department of Transportation, and the Winchester Neighborhood Action Coalition have put together a follow-up community meeting to solicit input from us on the proposed signal at Eden Avenue & Williams Road.

Date & Time: Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-8:00pm  
Location: International Christian Center, 3275 Williams Road (at Eden Avenue)

This is your opportunity to learn more about what is planned, ask questions, raise additional concerns, and convey your agreement or disagreement with the proposal. For additional information, please call the Council District 1 Office at (408) 535-4901.

**ENA's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Lights**

Your Eden Neighborhood will be holding its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Lights on Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6pm (dark). Kits will be available for pick-up in the Amber Drive School parking lot on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 10-12 noon. Yes, pickup & lighting are planned for the same day. If Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> is a rainy or wet day, please use the backup date of Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> for lighting your kits.

And when you come for the kit pick-up, bring a can or two (or more) of food to donate for those in need. All food cans collected will be taken to the Second Harvest Food Bank for those less fortunate.

We hope you can join us in this fun tradition! The kits will be available while supplies last, and are open to all residents of our neighborhood.



- Leslie Posada & Ivy Quiring

**Festival of Lights  
December 16<sup>th</sup> Reminder**

**Light Kits will be distributed on  
Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
10am - 12noon  
at Amber Drive School  
while supplies last**

**Backup Date In Case Of Rain:  
Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**



## President's Message Ivy Quiring



Another month has gone by and fall is definitely upon us with the changing of our clocks, to the color change and falling of the leaves in a number of our neighborhood trees, and the smell of wood smoke in the air. As the days get shorter and nights longer, please be careful as it gets harder to see – this applies both to last minute homeownership activities, as well as driving.

Whether it is sunny, rainy, or windy, our volunteers always come through in their support of the association and our neighborhood. A big round of applause goes to all of them for all their hard work in making our neighborhood a wonderful place to live! I had a chance to speak with a number of them at our recent Volunteer Appreciation Dinner last month – it was a pleasure to see our volunteers appreciated for their support of us all! To all the volunteers of our neighborhood – your contributions mean a lot to me - Thank you!

And if you see one of our volunteers passing out the newsletter, or pulling weeds in the ENA garden, or removing graffiti from our neighborhood, or any number of volunteer activities, please feel free to give them a “Thanks for your help & support!” – they deserve it for all they do for us!



Additionally, there is another day of thanks this month – Veterans Day. Whether it be times of war or peace, this day is set aside to honor all who have served. It is intended to thank both the living and past veterans for their service and to acknowledge their contributions to our nation. Our freedom and our nation's premise on freedom is supported and maintained by all those who served and sacrificed for this great country. Thank you and God Bless You All!

Don't forget to attend our next General Meeting. We are fortunate to have our Councilmember-Elect Pete Constant as our speaker. Come listen to his goals for the district, and help him understand what is important to you!

This is our last newsletter of 2006 - we extend our wishes from our families to yours for a joyous and healthy holiday season and all the best in the new year.



## Unused Cell Phones, Empty Ink Cartridges Give Them to a Good Cause

Some of us got cell phones recently as gifts. Some of us updated phone plans. For whatever reason, we end up with left over cell phones that we don't know what to do with. Often, we end up tossing them in some random box or the garage. And what to do with those used up empty ink cartridges? Well – you can give them all to a good cause.

There are a number of options that can help those less fortunate - such as nationwide programs and cell phone vendor programs that provide re-use options for these phones to support groups for domestic violence prevention, suicide prevention, animal protection services, children's support services, and many other needy programs.

### Ink Cartridges & Cell phones:

You can help save homeless pets by recycling your used inkjet cartridges (no Epson cartridges) and cell phones via PetSmart Charities recycling program. Visit the nearest PetSmart store and look for the PetSmart Charities recycling display to pick up a free postage paid preaddressed envelope. PetSmart Charities will receive a \$2 donation for every cartridge or phone recycled through this program. For more information on the program, you can visit their website:

<http://www.petsmartcharities.org/>



### Cell Phones:

If you have unwanted cell phones you do not know what to do with, check out some of these options:

➤ Sprint Project Connect Program: local office (408) 345-0300 or via their website

[http://www.sprint.com/community/communities\\_across/project\\_connect.html](http://www.sprint.com/community/communities_across/project_connect.html)

➤ Verizon Wireless Hopeline Program: local office (408) 777-0220 or via their website

<http://www.verizonwireless.com/b2c/aboutUs/communityservice/hopeline.jsp>

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

- Nov 14 GM: ENA Elections, Councilmember - Elect Pete Constant
- Nov 16 MSD Community/Board Advisory Committee Meeting @ MSD Board Rm
- Dec 16 ENA 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "Festival of Lights"
- Dec 23 Backup Date: ENA 7<sup>th</sup> Annual "Festival of Lights"
- Jan 09 General Meeting

### Sunshine Reform Taskforce Update

The Sunshine Reform Taskforce was formed in May 2006 to advise the City of San Jose Council on opportunities to:

- increase public access to information
- enhance neighborhood participation
- ensure government accountability

Updated information on the taskforce, their meeting minutes and other related information can be found at:

- <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/TaskForce/SRTF/SRTF.asp>

### Gift Ideas for Your Neighbor



Don't know what to give a friend that is a neighbor? Especially one that has "everything" – what about a year's membership to ENA? It's just \$15 and gives them added benefits and supports your neighborhood association.



### ENA Email Distribution List

Please call the ENA Message Center at (408) 404-7404 or send an email to:

- [ivyq\\_ena @ sbcglobal.net](mailto:ivyq_ena@sbcglobal.net) , or
  - [email @ EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org](mailto:email@EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org)
- if you want to be added to the email distribution list, if your email address has changed, or if you wish to be removed from the distribution list.

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



### ENA Greetings to New Babies & New Neighbors

Whether your new neighbors are new to the neighborhood or there is a new baby in the family, let us know about their arrival, so we can say "Welcome".

Give us a jingle with the new neighbors address (and name if you have it) or the proud parents' and baby's information at any of the below contact options:

- leave us a message on the ENA Message Center (408) 404-7404, or
- catch one of our officers, or
- send us an email at [ivyq\\_ena @ sbcglobal.net](mailto:ivyq_ena@sbcglobal.net) or email [@ EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org](mailto:EdenNeighborhoodAssociation.org)



### 2007 Master Composter Training Available

The Home Composting Education Program for Santa Clara County is accepting applications for the 2007 Master Composter Training Program to become a Master Composter Volunteer. In return for free instruction, materials, and a Master's Certificate in the Art & Science of Composting, graduates do public outreach events and workshops throughout Santa Clara County.

Nearly 35% of what Santa Clara County residents throw in the garbage or leave at the curb can easily be composted at home. Backyard and worm composting is a major element in every city's efforts to meet state and local waste reduction goals, as well as guidance for our children to be better stewards of Planet Earth. Help be an advocate for a better, sustainable earth.

The upcoming 2007 Program will run on each Wednesday evening January - March 2007 at the County Service Center in San Jose, including a series of weekend field trips. Those interesting in enrolling can either contact the Santa Clara County Home Composting Education Program for more information via email [compost @ pln.sccgov.org](mailto:compost@pln.sccgov.org), phone (408) 918-4640, or their website: <http://www.ReduceWaste.org> .



**Best Wishes to All**



Wishing all a safe & enjoyable rest of the year, as well as a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year.

## About Those Raccoons Visiting - *Armin Quiring*



A number of you have already noticed the sudden increase in activity by raccoons in our neighborhood. Raccoons may seem cute - and they are certainly intelligent - but those razor sharp teeth and claws can do a lot of damage.

There has already been at least one neighborhood pet attacked and killed recently. So, for the safety of your animals and your children, keep them away from the raccoons. In the early and late hours of the day and at night, please consider keeping your pets indoors to protect them. Caution your children and grand-children about the dangers of those cute-looking raccoons.

There is the possibility of rabies making the raccoons more aggressive - one raccoon was not easily frightened off by the pet owner making a big ruckus just 2 feet away - that alone is a big sign that something is off with that raccoon. My advice is to not approach raccoons (or possums for that matter), but use a strong burst of water from your hose or toss an object at the raccoon if you need to scare it away from something. Please do not shoot at the raccoons! This is very dangerous should you miss, and also illegal within the city limits. Also, to help combat rabies, please be sure that your pets' rabies vaccinations are current.

Here are some tips to help discourage raccoons from visiting: Don't leave pet food outdoors, especially at night. Make sure household garbage is not easily accessible - use bricks or bungee cords on your garbage can lids. Harvest ripe fruit and vegetables in a timely manner. Keep your pets indoors or in the garage at night, especially with the cold temperatures. Keep in mind that raccoons will use pet doors - they are very intelligent.



You can call Santa Clara County Vector Control (VC) for advice on raccoons, rats, and other unwelcome visitors. If the raccoon is just passing through your yard, they may not be able to provide much besides advice. However they can trap the raccoon if it is taking up residency in your yard. Contact VC at (408) 918-4770 or (800) 675-1155, or visit their website at <http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/vector/> for more information.

Should you choose to trap the raccoons, borrow the appropriate trap from VC or another source, and be very mindful of those sharp claws and teeth. San Jose Animal Care & Services (SJAC&S) will pick-up the animal (your best option) and transport it to the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley (WCSV). You can reach SJAC&S at (408) 578-PAWS (7297) and the WCSV at (408) 929-9453. For more information visit <http://www.sanjoseanimals.com/> and click on Wildlife on the left side.

## Please the Nose & Cut the Grease - *Armin Quiring*

Cold & wet weather is on it's way, and brings us all a gentle reminder - please do not pour any grease, oil, or lard down the drain. Anything that requires the use of hot water to help it down the drain or through your garbage disposal congeals and clings to the sewer pipes, especially during the colder months. It continues to accumulate until it becomes difficult for anything but liquid to pass through the clogs, and eventually closes the pipe altogether. This is currently happening in many of our main sewer arteries. What occurs next is very unpleasant - especially for our noses. So please, utilize a container for these types of waste, and contact the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste program at (408) 299-7300 for disposal guidelines.

## Eden Examiner Article Submissions

Please feel free to submit articles or information of neighborhood interest for publication in the Eden Examiner. You can send the article / information to [ivyq\\_ena@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ivyq_ena@sbcglobal.net) or to the ENA editor via the ENA mailbox: ENA Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 9383, San Jose, CA 95157-0383 .