



# S.N.A.I.L. News

Sunnyvale Neighbors of Arbor, Including La Linda  
PO Box 62072, Sunnyvale, CA 94088 | Website: <http://www.snail.org>  
Representing over 1,583 households | Established in 1995



## February 2024



### GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 PM**

**SNAIL Community Meeting via Zoom Login:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89925706502>

or: <https://tinyurl.com/SNAILZOOM>

**Meeting ID: 899 2570 6502**

**One-tap mobile: +16699009128, 89925706502# (San Jose)**

**Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128 (San Jose)**

SNAIL typically meets on the first Thursday of the month. The rare exception is when the first Thursday is also the same date as a big holiday. All SNAIL area homeowners, residents and guests are invited. Children are welcome. Membership in SNAIL is always free.

**Schedule: 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, 7/11\*, 8/1, 9/5**

**(\* indicates meeting date change due to a major holiday)**

#### SNAIL 2024 EVENT CALENDAR – SAVE THE DATES

Date/Time	Event Name	Organizer
Sun, Feb 18	SNAIL Lunar New Year Dinner (See flyer directly below)	Barbara Brunasso <a href="mailto:bbrunasso@gmail.com">bbrunasso@gmail.com</a>



#### SNAIL LUNAR NEW YEAR DINNER

**WHERE:** Pho Lovers, 253 E. Maude Ave.

**DATE:** Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

**TIME:** 5:30 –7:30 PM. Dinner will be served promptly at 5:30 PM

**COST:** \$30/Adult, \$15/Child (9 and under) *Cash Only*

**MENU:** Hot jasmine tea or iced tea, seafood mushroom tofu soup, crispy lemongrass tofu, appetizer, shrimp spring rolls with peanut or soy dipping sauce, and the diner’s choice of main entree: rice plate or dry noodle bowl with a choice of chicken, onion beef rolls, or grilled pork.

**RSVP:** *Must RSVP before 1:00 PM Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at:* <http://tinyurl.com/LunarDinner>

**NOTE:** *Upon arrival, check in at the event with Barbara or Tarik for your name tags and food tickets.*

#### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The planting season is upon us.



With the steady increase of inflation, and the high-cost vegetables at the local markets, it is time to start thinking about planting that home vegetable garden and saving some money on groceries.

It is no secret that homegrown vegetables have a much better taste than some of the ones found in the local stores. As many of you know, I am not a gardener. However, last year, my planting yield was very limited. Listening to a very dear friend of mine this year, I decided to work on my planter and prepare it for the growing season. I approached my planter with determination to turn the remaining clay-like soil and prepare it for planting.

I armed myself with tools, fork, rake, shovel and dug deep into the planter, turned the dark and heavy clods of earth, breaking every clump, flipping from the bottom to the top, and mixing it with fresh store-bought soil, and added a few nutrients such as the pulverized dried eggshell. Missing from all of this was compost and worm casting which I purchased at the new OSH. That project starts tomorrow!

For more tips and tricks for your veggie garden, I may not be your best source. On the other hand, if you have some planting advice for your SNAIL Neighborhood, please forward it to Denise (our newsletter editor) and we can publish them in next month’s newsletter.

Happy Planting!  
-Valérie Suarès



# Sunnyvale

#### SUSTAINABILITY SPEAKER SERIES

Attend a Sustainability Speaker Series event and learn what you can do to fight climate change.

#### Upcoming Speaker:

**MICROPLASTICS? MACRO PROBLEMS**

WITH DR. IMARI WALKER-FRANKLIN  
RESEARCH SCIENTIST  
RESEARCH TRIANGLE INTERNATIONAL

WEBINAR ON WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7, 2024

CLIMATE ACTION PLAYBOOK STRATEGY 4: MANAGING RESOURCES SUSTAINABLY

A SUSTAINABILITY SPEAKER SERIES EVENT  
WATER IN A CHANGING CLIMATE THEME

Explore how plastic waste contributes to our changing climate. Dr. Imari Walker-Franklin will teach you how plastic impacts our health and the environment. Learn solutions to our growing microplastics pollution. **Wednesday, February 7, 2024; 6:00 – 7:30 PM.**

Register for this event here: <http://tinyurl.com/2024-MicroPlastics>

## INFORMED DELIVERY® BY USPS®



Some people have complained to city council members that they are not receiving their mail.

Mail distribution for 94085 has moved from the Sunnyvale Post Office to the E. Palo Alto Post Office. The USPS® provides a free service where they will send mail and packages with Informed Delivery® notifications.

Get Daily Digest emails that preview your mail and packages scheduled to arrive soon; see images of your incoming letter-sized mail (grayscale, address side only) and track and manage your packages in one convenient place. Click on or copy the link below for more information and to sign-up for this free USPS® service: <https://www.usps.com/manage/informed-delivery.htm#1>

-Denise Perez, SNAIL Newsletter Editor

## SUNNYVALE FOR EQUITY IN EDUCATION (SEE) UPDATE



A wide range of voices came out to the City Council meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup> to make public comments about extending Silicon Valley Hopper shuttles to Sunnyvale. Silicon Valley Hopper is an on-demand electric shuttle program that already runs well in Cupertino and Santa Clara. If extended to Sunnyvale, it could serve Homestead and Fremont students who want to have safe and timely rides home from evening extracurricular activities. SEE has had conversations with FUHSD about the school district subsidizing the costs of the shuttle to students.

Council voted to agendize the SV Hopper grant as a budget amendment while also considering the future of study issue #23-06, which we advocated for last year. There are CalSTA grant funds available that need to be matched by the City. Sunnyvale could expedite the start-up of shuttles by joining the City of Cupertino's renewal submission. If there is a will and funding, shuttles could be in place by this fall for the school year 2024-25. We hope Sunnyvale can act nimbly to meet the needs of students and residents throughout Sunnyvale that cannot, or choose not, to drive single occupancy vehicles.



SUPPORT SUNNYVALE SCHOOLS

Measure C is a \$214 million school bond for Sunnyvale School District schools on the March 5<sup>th</sup> Primary Election ballot. Measure C will provide funds to renovate older schools, make campuses more accessible, improve instructional technology, develop additional counseling areas to support students' mental health, and increase campus safety and security at schools in the District. The average yearly cost to property owners in Sunnyvale SD will be \$15 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. Please visit:

[www.supportsunnyvaleschools.org](http://www.supportsunnyvaleschools.org) for more information and contact Peggy to host a "Yes on Measure C" yard sign and otherwise support the campaign. [peggyshenbrewster@gmail.com](mailto:peggyshenbrewster@gmail.com)

-Peggy Shen Brewster

## HIGHLIGHTS OF LAST MONTH'S SNAIL ZOOM MEETING

### Discussions with CM Richard Mehlinger (for Mayor Larry Klein)

Annual Strategic Session on Thurs. Jan 25<sup>th</sup> all day (8-4 or 5). Learn how City Government works. Study Issue Workshop - Feb 15, 8 am all day. Rank all the open study issues. Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for new study issues.

**Guest Speaker: Pam Anderson, League of Women Voters**

**Information about upcoming elections:**

<https://sccvote.sccgov.org/home>

**Look up Voter's registration:**

<https://rovservices.sccgov.org/Home/IndexPost?selected=vr>

**For full minutes, please visit:** <https://tinyurl.com/SNAIL2024JAN>

-Jenny Purushotma, SNAIL Secretary

## COLUMBIA NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER (CNC) NEWS

For current information on programs, call CNC at 408-730-7800 or email [CNC@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:CNC@sunnyvale.ca.gov) or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/SVLENCN>.

**FREE! Monthly Activities at Magical Bridge Playground for All Ages, All Abilities at Fair Oaks Park, 540 N. Fair Oaks Avenue:**

- **Storytime: Friday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 – 11:30 AM** by Sunnyvale Library Staff, all are welcome.
- **Inclusive Musical Show: Saturday, Feb 10, 2:00 – 3:30 PM.** With Lori and RJ of Cotton Candy Express Music, all are welcome.
- **Music & Movement: Friday, Feb 23, 10 – 10:45 AM.** Join San Miguel/Columbia Family Resource Center staff for a music and movement activity for families with children, ages 2-5. All are welcome.

**Free! Stop Motion Animation Camp for Youth: Feb 20-23, 1:00-3:00 PM, Ages 8-15, During Winter Break.** In partnership with AACI (Asian American for Community Involvement), this technology-based workshop will be offered to youth. Registration required (Activity #AB3CCR.BB), link to register:

<https://registration.sunnyvale.ca.gov/wbwc/webtrac.wsc/splash.html>

**FREE! Fun on the Run (FOTR): Expanded Hours for Feb. School Break, Feb. 20-23. Please call to confirm program is running, pending staff availability.** Offers a variety of recreation activities for youth, ages 8-12. Parents/guardians must fill out an emergency card on the first day of participation. First-come, first-served basis.

**Morning Session:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Lakewood Park

**Afternoon Session:** 2:00 – 5:00 PM: Tues/Wed @ Braly Park; Thurs/Fri @ Ponderosa Park.

**Drop-In Fitness Room, NEW! Early Morning Hours: Tues. & Thurs., 6:00 – 8:00 AM starting week of January 8<sup>th</sup>. Regular Hours: Monday-Friday, 3:30 – 8:00 PM; Saturday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.** Get active with cardio machines (treadmill, bikes, ellipticals), strength training machines and free weights. Bring water, towel and wear athletic shoes. \$1, Residents only. High school students with signed parent consent waiver. Middle school students are free and must attend with a paying parent/guardian.

**FREE! Food Distribution, Family Harvest:** Families in need of food are invited to register for the Family Harvest Program, a monthly food distribution program that usually takes place on the *fourth Wednesday, 4:15 – 5:15 PM*. Families drive through the CNC/CMS parking lot (739 Morse Ave.) and volunteers load about 100 pounds of food (dry, can and fresh food) into each car with no contact. The next distribution is scheduled for *Wed, Feb 28<sup>th</sup>*.

**FREE! Veggie Rx Program (Spanish):** Free nutrition classes in Spanish by Fresh Approach on **Tuesdays, 5:30-7:00 PM, every other week from Feb. 6 – May 14, 2024.** Receive vouchers to be used at the Farmer's Market. Register at [veggierx@freshapproach.org](mailto:veggierx@freshapproach.org) or 925-771-2925.

**FREE! ShapeUp Sunnyvale - Fitness and Healthy Cooking Program:** Funded by El Camino Healthcare District. Any Sunnyvale resident, individuals or families, interested in getting more active or want to cook healthier meals can register. The next session is scheduled to begin in Feb./March 2024 and will run for eight weeks. Once registered, participants can choose one or both components (physical activity and healthier cooking). Choose from a menu of activities through Recreation Services such as aquatics fitness, Zumba, etc. Healthy cooking involves picking up a pre-packed meal kit weekly from Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC) or the Community Center and cook the meal at home. There will be a recorded video of a professional caterer making the dish and written recipe with instructions. Priority registration for low-income families and new participants. Registration required, call CNC at 408-730-7800 or email: [CNC@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:CNC@sunnyvale.ca.gov), to be added to the interest.

-Angela Chan, Youth & Family Resources Manager



Sunnyvale Solid Waste staff is running a pilot program to reduce plastic food ware. The program helps local restaurants replace disposable plastic food ware with reusable or compostable options. Along with the help of Environmental Innovations, staff recruited eighteen participating restaurants. Thirteen are testing reusable food ware for dine-in customers, and the remaining five are testing compostable food ware for to-go orders. The pilot program began in November 2023 and ends in early March. Go to <https://www.sunnyvale.ca.gov> and search "Reusable Pilot" for a list of participating restaurants.

We're excited to announce a new component of the pilot: reusable, borrow-able cups! We've partnered with Okapi Reusables to implement their cup-borrowing program at Bambu Desserts & Drinks. Once customers download the Okapi app, they can scan a code to receive their drink in a reusable glass cup. They'll return the cup at a later point to any of the 65 cafes in Okapi's network. Okapi is looking to expand to other cafes or boba shops in Sunnyvale.

Want to do even more to reduce plastic food ware? There are some restaurants in Sunnyvale that allow customers to bring their own reusable containers or cups. <https://siliconvalleyreduces.org> lists these restaurants along with simple "how to" instructions for customers.

-Bailey Hall, Environmental Programs Specialist

### ARTIFICIAL TURF IN SUNNYVALE

There is a new local group of parents and environmental activists focused on the impact of artificial turf in our community. Community for Natural Play Surfaces (CNPS) advocates for safe natural play surfaces and educates people on the harms of artificial turf (AT) and other artificial materials. CNPS strives to increase the amount of grass and natural materials in our playing fields, playgrounds, parks, and towns.

The current focus is the 12 old athletics fields at FUHSD that need replacing. They are made of AT, and the Board needs to decide whether to keep AT or to go back to natural grass. Specific highlights include:

**Sunday, February 4, 2024, from 3:00-4:00 PM at the Cupertino Public Library (10800 Torre Avenue).** Susan Hinton, Chair of the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter's Plastic Pollution Prevention Team, will share an informative presentation comparing natural grass and artificial turf. Which one saves water? Which is better for the environment? Come learn about the health risks and environmental impacts of artificial turf and turf alternatives. More information available here: <http://tinyurl.com/Library-Flyer>

**Petition to Oppose Artificial Turf at FUHSD.** If you are interested in voicing your opposition to AT - and your support of natural grass - at the 12 FUHSD fields, please sign this petition: <https://tinyurl.com/FUHSD-Petition>

**Proposed Study Issue.** The City's Sustainability Commission has proposed Study Issue ESD 24-01 "Evaluate the Use of Artificial Turf versus Living Groundcovers". If you would like to share your opinion about this study issue with the Sunnyvale City Council, please email [council@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:council@sunnyvale.ca.gov) and cc [citymgr@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:citymgr@sunnyvale.ca.gov).

**Want to learn more? Email CNPS at:** [contactcfnp@gmail.com](mailto:contactcfnp@gmail.com)

-Cortney Jansen, LVNA Vice-president



[www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org)



## 2024 CANDIDATE FORUM

### 17th Congressional District Primary

Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Registration Link:

<https://tinyurl.com/CD17-2024P-Registration>

#### CANDIDATES

Anita Chen                      Mario Art Ramirez  
Joe Dehn                         Ritesh Tandon  
Ro Khanna



[www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org)



## 2024 CANDIDATE FORUM

### State Assembly District 26 Primary

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Registration Link:

<https://tinyurl.com/AD26-2024P-Registration>

#### CANDIDATES

Patrick J Ahrens                Bob Goodwyn  
Omar Din                         Sophie Yan Song  
Ashish Garg                      Tara Sreekrishnan



### SNAIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

All SNAIL neighbors are encouraged to submit articles of interest to be published in our monthly newsletter. The deadline for submitting articles and photos for the next SNAIL monthly newsletter is **Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**. Send an email to: [SNAILeditor@snail.org](mailto:SNAILeditor@snail.org)

### SNAIL BOARD of DIRECTORS and NEWSLETTER TEAM

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