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OUR SUMMER BRIGHT SPOT—IS YOU! Dear Fellow Sunnysider,

Thank you all for helping solve problems and keeping our Sunnyside the bright spot it is in our lives.

WHAT'S NEW IN SUNNYSIDE?

- The Southeast Surface Water Street Treatment plant will gradually transition until it is in full operation in June 2018. More info inside.
- Two smaller olive trees were planted on Butler between Peach and Minnewawa and two larger olive tree for the north side of the street are coming. No word yet on the historial designation plaque., but we will continue to press.
- It was reiterated at the Councilmember Chavez Community Meeting in April that the Fancher Creek Shopping Center construction begins the first quarter of 2019. See more items covered inside.
- Join us June 21 at the Fairgrounds for a tour of the ever-expanding Historical Museum, Dinner, and fun. The museum celebrates the diversity and cultural achievements of our valley and Fresno County. Details inside. It's Casual!

THANKS FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

There is not a day that goes by that I think and appreciate all the efforts of you who take the time to make a difference in our Sunnyside area. We can't solve all the problems, but together we can make that dent. I say an extra special THANK YOU to all of you who do your part to help make our Sunnyside—whether City or County— a better place to live.

Debbie Christian, President, SPOA

INSIDE

- Guest Commentary: County Homeless
- Water TreatmentPlan and Meeting
- ♦ Scholarship Awards
- ♦ Fancher Creek Bridle Trail Update
- Councilmember Chavez Community Meeting Highlights
- Regional Park and Soccer Complex
- Hays Home on Historic Register
- Board Slate for June Approval
- ♦ Find your Area Rep!
- ♦ Summer Social

GUEST COMMENTARY

Nathan Magsig

District 5 Supervisor



This is an occasional column for governmental representatives regarding issues in our area. This column addresses the County perspective of both a City and County issue.

Many citizens have raised concerns about one issue in particular - the many homeless encampments and blighted properties that seem to be increasing in size and number all across Fresno County. While this remains a complex and broad issue that offers no easy answer or solution, there is a process in place and positive steps that the County of Fresno is taking to ensure that we are effective in our efforts to maintain a clean and safe community.

In March 2016, the County formed the **Working Group to Address Homelessness** (Group), a committee comprised of representatives from the sheriff's office, human services, public health, public works and planning, county counsel and supervisors' offices aimed at identifying and abating properties that have had a lengthy history of violations regarding homeless encampments and other illegal activity. Once the Group has identified a site, the task begins to educate and work with property owners to ensure that the site is cleaned up and that the property remains clear of any future violations. The biggest contributor to the success of the Group's efforts stem from cooperation between the County and property owners.

When dealing with unlawful trespassers or "squatters", as noted in the Group's Unlawful Trespassers & Property Cleanup Guidelines, available on the County's webpage (http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=14419), the



responsibility of abatement ultimately lies with property owners. It is the owner's responsibility to take reasonable steps to maintain the property free of code violations and nuisances. The owner must ensure the property is free of conditions, which constitute fire, health and safety hazards. The owner must also secure and properly monitor their property. (Fresno

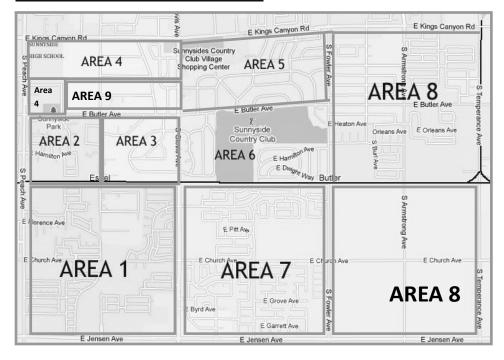
County Ordinance Code, Title 15, Sections 15.32.010 and 15.32.030.F.9)



WHO YOU GONNA CALL WHEN YOU HAVE AN ISSUE? YOUR AREA REP!

Area Representatives

- Marian Vranizan
 255-6526, marionvranizan@comcast.net
- 2. Brooke and Dennis Frost 288-4082, brookefrost@live.com
- **3. Judy Johnson** 251-4008, johnsonworld32@msn.com
- 4. Sue Khushigian 246-5546, sekhus@comcast.net
- Pam Higgins
 970-4103, higgyrn@msn.com
- 6. Dan and Annette Husak 252-9032, danahusak@hotmail.com
- Lily Phanthachack
 360-1837, Iphanthachack@gmail.com
- Michelle Gibbs
 351-3279, MgibbsSells@gmail.com
- 9. Dan and Annette Husak 252-9032. danahusak@hotmail.com



volunteers and park staff, a concession stand and public parking. This component will also include a veterans memorial garden to be developed with the help and participation of Fresno veteran organizations. The soccer complex to be located on the Southern Parcel will include a permanent outdoor Futsal court, two soccer fields with synthetic turf, five soccer fields with natural grass or synthetic turf, an indoor Futsal facility, playground area, all purpose trails. a concession stand, and plenty of parking.

The JPA and the supporting organizations have launched a fundraising cam-



paign for the funding of the costs of this project. Funding sources being sought include tax deductible financial contributions from individuals and corporations, donation of professional services and materials, fundraising events and promotions, state and federal grants and private foundation funds and the revenues to be generated by the soccer components of this project along with concession stands, and facility rental fees. A \$1 million funding proposal has been approved by the California Fire Urban & Community Forestry Program. As an alterna-

tive, supporters of this project may donate professional services like civil engineering design, grading work, environmental expertise, legal counsel and other related services. Supporters may also donate construction materials, equipment and supplies that can be used for a park project. For more information: Joseleonbarraza50@gmail.com.

Next Steps

Fresno State students under the supervision of Professor Woodcock will begin surveying residents as part of the Initial Study. This is required to help focus the work of the Environmental Impact Report,





(559) 930-5678 • jwalked@gmail.com

which could take two years. Another community meeting is expected within six months.

If you find yourself in a situation where unlawful trespassers or other individuals are on your property creating conditions in violation of the County ordinance code and State law, contact the Fresno County Sheriff's Office. Provided below are several tips to empower you to remove trespassers, clean up the trash and debris, and protect your property:

- 1. **Call 811** before you begin a cleanup that may require digging on your property.
- 2. Assemble a cleanup crew and contact your local area trash hauler for solid waste disposal. Contact the Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning, Resources Division if you are in need of an up to \$40 voucher to offset some of the costs of landfill fees.
- 3. Contact Fresno County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division if you have identified sharps/needles on your property for a disposal container.
- 4. Medications/Pharmaceutical (no sharps) can be discarded at drop boxes located at Police Depts. and the Sheriff's Office.
- 5. Overgrown trees and brush provide cover for camping and illegal activity. If these conditions are present on your property, contact a tree trimming company for removal.
- 6. **Secure your property**; the most successful fences are the 6-foot chain-link with barbed wire. (Useful for large vacant parcels)
- 7. Post NO TRESPASSING and/or PRIVATE PROPERTY signs.
- 8. Contact the Sheriff's Office once you have organized your cleanup plan to schedule a cleanup date with the Sheriff.
- 9. The cleanup must occur immediately after the trespassers have been removed by the Sheriff's Office. Note: Sheriff's Office must provide a 7-day notice to the trespassers prior to cleanup.
- 10. Once the County is made aware of the trespassers, homeless advocates will be alerted to the site to offer services.

The key to maintaining your property clean and safe is to remain vigilant and continue to monitor any suspicious activity on your property even after cleanup has occurred.

Fancher Creek Bridle Trail

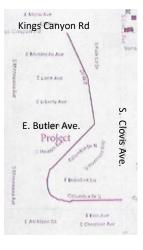
Winding its Way to Reality

by Sue Williams

It's been over five years since the County held a community meeting to discuss vacating the thirty-foot easement located on the far-east side of the canal between Kings Canyon and Clovis Avenues. This section of the Fancher Creek Canal bank was dedicated to the County for use as a bridle trail when the adjacent subdivision was built. It was a natural fit since most of the homes in the area are zoned for horses.

County staff wanted to know if the area residents wanted to keep the easement in the County, as it was overgrown and difficult to maintain. The overwhelming sentiment was yes!

The trail was added to the Fresno County Master Trail Plan as an equestrian/pedestrian trail, Measure C monies were secured, an arborist was retained to evaluate the trees, and a landscape architect was hired to develop a plan that would retain all the healthy heritage trees such as the Eucalyptus and Cork Oaks. Because most pedestrians walk on the Fresno Irrigation District easement, (the dirt road space between the water and the County's easement) FID was contacted in 2015 for permission to use their easement for the trail. Concerned about liability, FID denied the request, and planning focused on the original bridle trail easement.





Two years ago, the County shared its plans for the bridle trail, a meandering path from Kings Canyon to Clovis Avenues. The County has now decided to complete the entire path component from Kings Canyon to Clovis Avenues first. It will be less expensive to implement the hardscape for the entire easement now than in the future. Sleeves will be installed under the Butler Avenue crossing for future irrigation and the tree canopy will be lifted to ensure safe passage for equestrians. Safety pruning

will be the first expense.

The path will remain as presented at the community meeting, gently curving, slightly undulating and composed of decomposed granite. The landscaping will be installed at a later date, when additional funds become available, and is planned for the first 500 feet at all entrances to the bridle trail at Kings Canyon, Butler north and south, and Clovis Avenues. *(continued on next page)*

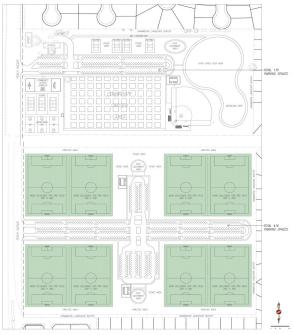
PROPOSED REGIONAL PARK AND SOCCER COMPLEX

By Jose Leon Barraza, CEO of Southeast Fresno Regional Park and Soccer Complex JPA

The Southeast Fresno Regional Park and Soccer Complex Joint Powers Authority (JPA) plans to develop a regional park and soccer complex on a 49-acre park site located at 2155 S. Peach Avenue. This City-owned site had very tall dry grass and weeds next to three boarded-up dilapidated buildings. In recent months volunteers from the JPA organization and various community groups have been participating in the removal of those fire hazardous conditions

from this park site. Additional work to be completed after the clean-up component will include the planting of 120 trees and turf areas on the Northern Parcel of this site. The JPA has adopted this park site as the first step prior to the negotiation of a long term lease for the building of a community-supported regional park and soccer complex on this site by the JPA and its community partners.

The concept plan that includes the creation of a regional park on the



HE SOUTHEAST REGIONAL FRESNO PARK AND SOCCER SPORTS COMPLE

Northern Parcel **with** an existing community garden already in operation, new picnic areas, a woodland area, all purpose trails, open space play area, play equipment area, a dog park, a buffer landscaped area along the property line adjacent to existing homes, a community center complex, tennis, basket ball and volley ball courts, a softball diamond and administration space for

'Next Door' Neighbors Call Meeting

LARGE TURNOUT FOR COUNCILMEMBER CHAVEZ AND CITY DEPARTMENT HEADS

Almost 70 neighbors attended the April 19 meeting organized by Larry Melcher using the social media platform Next Door. Although the results were posted there, this is a recap of some high points. The meeting was organized around City issues, was fluid, and had many topics raised.

Fresno Police: Crime is down in most areas. The speeding along California was addressed and suggestions for a short term rumble strip and a longer term median strip were discussed. He urged residents they continue to call. The new Southeast sub-station in the



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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

SRES

new Fancher Creek development near Clovis/Tulare Avenues should begin construction the first quarter of 2019.

Sanger School District: SUSD is planning a campus at Jensen and Fowler. Fowler will be widened and a light placed at Church and Fowler.

East Area: A traffic light is to be installed at Lane and Armstrong in summer 2019. Belmont will be widened west bound to two lanes and a traffic light will be installed at Sunnyside and Belmont. There will be improvements beyond 180 N on Fowler, including a traffic light on Olive.

Code Enforcement/Public Works:

There are 421 open cases in our area. A rental inspection division is about to launch and training is underway now. There is a 20 year backlog on permanent sidewalk repairs, so patches are done now, not repair.

FresGO: Available from the App Store or Google Play, the app is available for reporting of City issues and notifies you of resolution. Or call 621-CITY.

Continued from previous page

Sue Williams is the SPOA Board member who provides conduits to City and County government agencies and updates on issue resolutions in progress. Let your area rep know if you have an issue that needs assistance.



Help keep our City and County Sunnyside area beautiful and safe. Become a Member!



Valerie F. Davis

Member, Board of Education Fresno Unified School District

> (559) 255-1390 7. 5410 E. Liberty Ave. Fresno, CA 93727 8. mrsvfdavis@gmail.com 9.

Serving Our Community

Sunnyside Property Owners Association Board Slate for 2018-2019

Officers

- President: Debbie Christian
- Vice President: Jackie Grazier
- Treasurer: Randy Sakamoto
- Recording Secretary: Debby McCann
- Corresponding Secretary: Sue Williams
- Parliamentarian: Karen Musson

Directors July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2020

John Carlson Aletha Lang Charles Small

Directors July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

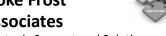
Julie Small Ron Johnson Steve Vasquez Stephanie Sherrell

Area Representatives 2018-2019

- 1. Marian Vranizan
- 2. Brooke and Dennis Frost
- 3. Judy Johnson
- 4. Sue Khushigian
- 5. Pam Higgins
- 6. Dan and Annette Husak
- 7. Lily Phanthachack
- 8. Michelle Gibbs
- Dan and Annette Husak

The slate will be voted upon in June.

Brooke Frost & Associates



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Business Card: \$75 Quarter Page: \$125 Half Page: \$250

Next Newsletter deadline is November 21, 2018

Contact BrookeFrost@live.com



SURFACE WATER COMING TO A TAP NEAR YOU....

Will it taste differently? Will it smell? resentatives Tommy Esqueda, Bud And most importantly, has the City Tickle and Michael Carbajal presentresolved the problems with discol- ed an overview of the new facility ored water that plagued customers and answered questions regarding using surface water in northeast Fres- water quality. no? SPOA's Water Committee believes the answer to the last is "YES."

Transition to the use of the new plant begins in June

and business

leaders formed a committee to ensure surface water from the new Southeast Surface Water Treatment Facility (SESWTF) will not impact existing galvanized plumbing.

informational gathering to re-address "Recharge Fresno," an ambitious di-

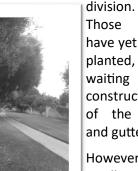
Currently, Sunnysiders are serviced by either private or public wells. Reli-Concerned that improperly treated ance on ground water only, has resurface water may cause the same duced water levels by more than 100 problems in Sunnyside, local water feet over the past 80 years. In addihigh levels of 1,2,3experts tion, trichloropropane (TCP) could affect 30 percent of Fresno's wells.

In 2014, the State of California enacted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to eliminate overuse of groundwater. Fresno is located in the large, "high priority" area spanning from Stockton to Bakersfield. To SPOA and the committee hosted an comply, the City implemented the issues this past quarter. City rep- rective to becoming drought resilient



KEARNY'S OLIVE TREES A TREASURE SINCE 1880

The two historic olive trees cut down site as #203 approved by the Historical on the north side of Butler east of Villa Records Advisory Commission in 2002. will be replaced. We are happy to report that Lennar Homes will be reguired to plant two very large multitrunk olive trees as replacements in the vacant areas adjacent to the sub-



Those trees planted. waiting construction and gutter.

However two smaller trees have

planted on the south side of Butler near Peach, compliments of District 5 City Councilmember Luis Chavez. Our hopes are to partner with the City to fill in the remaining gaps with additional trees to complete and compliment this historic row of trees, eventually adding a plaque identifying the

The original stand of olive and palm trees along Butler and Minnewawa Avenues have been attributed to the colony system of development marketed by Theodore Kearny in the late 1800's.

have yet to be Kearny marketed lots in the "Vineyard Colony" expressly for people on "acquainted with grape culture, with a view to making wine and raisins, the of the curb prominent feature of the enterprise (Fresno Expositor, 1879, quoted in Rehart and Patterson, 1988)." Kearney managed the development of the Fresno Winery at Kings Canyon and Peach Avenues as a showcase for irrigated farming. (Elliot,1882) Local historians credit Theodore Kearney with personally supervising the planting of hundreds of trees along Butler and Peach Avenues and Kings Canyon Road in 1880, some of which continue to shade these roadways. (Rehart and Patterson, 1988)

Hays Home, continued from previous page

The house itself contains five bedrooms, six baths, and is largely in its original condition. Who is responsible for the home remains a mystery. Hays family tradition attributes this home to Charles E. Butner (1888-1957), a well-known California architect active in Fresno in the 1920s and 1930s. Stylistically it draws from a diversity of architectural traditions: the Craftsman (with some exposed rafter tails), the Tudor Revival (with a front gabled fa-

cade bay and four cantilevered second story windows) and Colonial Revival with the interior main staircase, low pitched shingled roof and exterior white paint with green shutters.

Contrary to belief, we enjoy flexible historic building codes for changes, along with reduction in property taxes. Listing properties as historic resources actually increases the value of the property and the surrounding neighborhood. Other gem Sunnyside properties are worthy of recognition.

SUNNYSIDE HISTORY CORNER

The Hays Home Placed on Historical Registry

By Name of Author

The newest home on the City of Fresno's Local Register of Historic Resources is the Senator Ray W. and Marie C. Hays Home, right here in Sunnyside. The home is located at 1616 South Minnewawa Avenue, sitting on two acres of the original 44 that stretched south from the southwest corner of Butler and Minnewawa to its



border with the Minnewawa Ranch at the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks.



P. O. BOX 8096 FRESNO, CA 93747-8096

Annual Membership Drive

The Sunnyside Property Owners Association (SPOA) works to preserve the integrity of existing neighborhoods, foster community involvement, and promote the Sunnyside Community. For over 70 years, the beautification, safety and preservation of the Sunnyside area has been SPOA's mission. Annual household membership dues are only \$25.00 and include our newsletter and reduced prices to SPOA events. Please join today.

Year 2018	ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP		\$	25.00
	DONATION SCHOLARSHIP			
	DONATION BEAUTIFICATION			
	DONATION OTHER			
	DONATION SUNNYSIDE CITIZEN'S PATROL			
THANK YO	OU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!			
Make ch	eck to SPOA and mail to SPOA,		_	
PO Box 8	3096, Fresno, CA 93747-8096	2422224	-	

If you are not a current member please consider this as your membership application and WELCOME to one of the oldest and most active neighborhood associations in California.

NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE & ZIP	
TELEPHONE	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	

The house was built in 1937, and appears to have been built in tandem with the home of UC Regent Earl Fenston, located across Minnewawa (now 5424 E Butler).

Ray moved with his family from Wisconsin in 1890 as an infant. He received his BA in 1911 and JD in 1913 from the University of California Berkeley and practiced law in San Francisco and Fresno before enlisting in the Army in 1916. Hays was a member of the California State Senate from 1930 to 1942, when he was appointed the Adjutant General for the State of California during World War II, attaining the rank of Brigadier General. Ray and Marie raised four children on the ranch, two sons (both attorneys) and two daughters. Senator Ray Hays died in 1973 and Marie in 1993. When son James was married in 1951, Ray planted a deodar cedar tree in front of the house that now towers over the property.

by reducing dependence on ground nized pipes. Treating surface water to water and replenishing our aquifer.

Changes in water characteristics may include pH, mineral content, alkalinity In addition to normal water monitorand hardness. City water customers in ing protocol, the City has initiated an the northeast can tell when the City extensive water-sampling program to transitions between well water and measure conditions before and after surface water, because there is less of the a chlorine odor (city uses chorine to eliminate micro-organisms from groundwater). While the natural components of surface water can have an odor, use of carbon and ozone filters SESWTF surface water is introduced to should address potential odor issues.

And what about the taste? The taste The SPOA Water Committee is comof the new blended water may be prised of retired recycled water mandifferent from what is supplied by ager Steven Faukner, attorney Scott wells, but should not be significant. Schewan, and local businessmen Jay

Concerned about changes you notice? Call 844-FRESNOH20.

With the new surface water supply, Surface Water Treatment Facility will water pressure may increase by 10 to provide clean and non-corrosive water 15 psi. Surface water is also softer to our homes. We appreciate their than ground water, and customers are efforts on behalf of all Sunnysiders encouraged to work with their water concerned with water quality! conditioning company to determine individual needs.

What has the City done to prevent problems experienced by users of the Northeast Surface Water Treatment Facility? Experts determined that the surface water from the northeast facility was not being treated in a manner that could control corrosive prob**lems**. Surface water has different temperature, chemical, and pH characteristics than water pumped from wells: and these differences can degrade protective mineral scales that form over time on the inside of galva-

a pH near neutral, limits its corrosive properties.

SPOA Water Committee opinion is that the City has corrected the problem experienced in NE Fresno

homes and businesses.

Waugh and John Steinhauer. It is their opinion that the city has corrected the problem, and the Southeast

HELPFUL NUMBERS

Emergency	911			
Sheriff's Department				
Fresno County Fire	559-493-4300			
Road Maintenance	600-4240			
Liberty Animal Control	600-7387			
California Highway Patrol	441-5441			
Environmental Health	600-3357			
Supervisor, District 5	559-600-5000			
FAX	559-600-1609			
Violation Complaint Forms/				

Fresno City Call Center621-CITY

Code Enforcement 600-4550

Three Honored with Scholarships

Scholarships for three high school seniors living in Sunnyside are being awarded by the SPOA. Thank you for the member donations that allow us to support these promising young women in their pursuit to become doctors. Following are excerpts from their essays.

Harleen Kaur, Sunnyside High

Living in Fresno, particularly the Sunnyside region, means living amongst people from different parts of the world. Most of neighbors and friends, like my family, are hardworking immigrants who take advantage of this land of opportunity. I attended Storey Elementary School, Terronez Middle School and currently attend Sunnyside High School. My experiences in life motivate me to achieve my fullest potential. I was bullied due to my ethnic differences [and later] joined Don't Laugh at Me, which is a bullying prevention program with its foundation at the elementary school level. Health disparities I experienced as a child stimulate me to become a pediatrician so that I can return back and service the community that has made me who I am.

Maya Rugama, University High

The community that I have grown up in has taught me values that I have carried with me throughout my life thus far. From my early years at Ayer Elementary School, I have been instilled with the principles of persistance, embracing diversity, and integrity. The inspiring community members I have encountered—such

as teachers and coaches—have mentored me through their examples of commitment and dedication to Sunnyside, particularly to its children. I have been diligent in my efforts to serve those around me, whether it is insuring merchants do not sell cigarettes to minors in this region through my job with the FDA or playing at the California Armenian Home with my community band. My plans to return and practice medicine in this area further solidify my commitment.

Mehikpreet Sidhu, Sunnyside High

I started living in the Sunnyside area ever since I was eight after living in a rural village in India for my childhood. Nothing changed for me because I felt at home here. I had grown up seeing people be a part of a collective that would work to enjoy life even when food was scarce for many of the families in the village. Here, people were welcoming and showed how they were a part of the community even as they had problems of their own. One of my favorite activities has been volunteering at a local elementary schools as a tutor. I am someone that has the determination to follow the path to success and that is why I am ranked first in my senior class. I am planning to attend UC Davis this fall so that I can attend medical school to become a neurosurgeon. I plan on coming back to Fresno to help the community that gave me the motivation and opportunity to follow my career path.

THE CHANCE TO BE, THE CHANCE TO SEE FRESNO COUNTY'S HISTORY



Join us for the SPOA SUMMER SOCIAL

Thursday, June 21st, 5—9 p.m.

FRESNO FAIRGROUNDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

1121 S. Chance Ave.

(Cars enter the south entrance on Chance, then follow the signs.)

PERSONALIZED TOURS OF THE MUSEUM 5 PM TO 6 PM

No Host Social 6 PM with Dinner Buffet at 6:30 PM, and Silent Auction throughout

Program at 7 PM

- · Guest speaker John Alkire, The Big Fresno Fair CEO
- Scholarship Awards
- · Election of Board of Directors

Free secured parking on site with easy handicapped access. Dress is casual and event is inside air-conditioned site.

EARLY PAYMENTS POSTMARKED BY JUNE 15 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A \$100 ORCHARD SUPPLY GIFT CARD DRAWING.

\$40 Members, \$45 Non-members RSVP by June 18





Sunnyside Properties Owner Association

NAME(S)	# @ \$40 =
ADDRESS	# @ \$45 =
PHONE	2018 Membership @ \$25
EMAIL	Donation Amount \$
GUEST NAME(S)	TOTAL \$
Donation Description (optional)	

Mail to SPOA, Attn Summer Social, PO Box 8096, Fresno, CA 93747-8096