

ROSEMARY GARDENS

NEIGHBORLY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER www.rosemarygardens.org

2020 In Review

By Paula Harbor

As all of us faced the myriad challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, your Rosemary Gardens Neighborhood Association (RGNA) worked hard — remotely, of course — to keep our wonderful neighbors engaged and connected.

In early **March** our **Annual Meeting** took place at Bachrodt Elementary School. We received updates from the office of City Council Member Raul Peralez, San Jose Police Department's Captain Santos, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and a presentation from resident Ken Young about family disaster readiness. In addition, voting took place for RGNA officers and Board Members.

May debuted our first **Chalk Art Week**. RGNA provided sidewalk chalk and encouraged residents to jazz-up their sidewalks and driveways with chalk art. Simple drawings by youngsters, messages of encouragement and artistic displays made strolls around the neighborhood a joy. In recognition for their great work, two lucky families received retail gift cards via random drawing.

We couldn't let **July 4th** come and go without a celebration, so three stand-alone socially distanced activity stations were set up throughout the neighborhood. The bike decoration station was popular as

both kids and adults paused to select supplies, decorate their bikes or wagons and continue to the other stations. Lemonade and individually bagged popcorn was offered along with American Flag activity kits and patriotic pins at two other stations.

September kicked off our annual **RGNA Membership Drive** which increased membership from neighbors. If you haven't done so, you can sign-up at rosemarygardens.org.

October brought new traditions. While RGNA could not host our customary National Night Out get-together at Rosemary Gardens Park, we hosted **National Night Out Lite** from a driveway on Ferrari Avenue in October. Residents stopped by to select an ice cream bar and Rosemary Gardens frisbee. In late October, orders for Christmas Trees for our annual Christmas Tree Lane rolled in with many households eager to continue our tradition of placing decorated trees in yards.



In **December** RGNA hosted our inaugural Holiday Celebration and Drawing which you can read about on the next page.

With a positive spirit, RGNA looks forward to hosting more fun events throughout the year.

Holiday Celebration & Drawing

By Pam Alford and Monica Thomas



Rosemary Gardens held its first holiday celebration and drawing during December 2020. We had many neighbors decorate their homes and yards creatively, beautifully and brightly.

We were pleased to have 14 neighbors enter the drawing. From those 14 entries, 2 neighbors won gift cards: the Kinder Family and the Satterfield Family. Congratulations!

President’s Message

Well, we made it through the year! While some of us made it without a scratch, many of us have been scared. I lost a close friend to COVID in December and I’d like to extend my sympathies to any of you who lost a loved one as well. When I walk my dog to Rosemary Gardens park I see so many neighbors wearing masks, and if they’re not, they seem to walk a safe distance to



Gil Zamora, RGNA President

We Need You

We are looking for board members to support our mission and have openings for a **Vice President** and **Secretary**. The RGNA Board meets virtually about nine times a year in small committees for each event we organize. If you are interested in serving, email us at president@rosemarygardens.org.

Upcoming RGNA Events

May change due to local health orders: sccgov.org/cv19

General Membership Meeting: Postponed

Dumpster Day: Under consideration

RGNA Spring Sale: Under consideration

Chalk Art Week: Planning for May

Fourth of July celebration: Planning for July

National Night Out: Planning for August

Christmas Tree Lane: Planning for November

Holiday Celebration: Planning for December

make sure they respect your space. It’s so wonderful to see the empathy our neighbors have as we all experience this once in a lifetime event. It’s another reason why I find our neighborhood so special. This neighborhood is why my wife and I chose to serve on the board, why we decided to advocate for quality of life issues, and why we volunteer at RGNA events that make life here just a little bit better.

I know that everyone is busy, but sometimes when you find yourself with some time to reflect, ask yourself how you might make living here in Rosemary Gardens just a little bit better—for you and your neighbors. Your RGNA does its part by producing this newsletter. If you’re reading this newsletter and you’re not a member, please think about joining. It’s easy, visit us at rosemarygardens.org and select Membership — or you can ask a board member for a membership form.

SureStay Hotel Purchase

The SureStay Hotel at 1488 N 1st Street was purchased by the City of San Jose for housing persons experiencing homelessness using State of California Homekey funds. For more information, visit: rosemarygardens.org/homekey