October 21, 2004

**Cultural Connection is Topic at Block Leader Meeting**

Cupertino block leaders will gather to hear tips from their peers about how to connect and communicate with neighbors from China, Taiwan, and India at a block leader meeting on Monday, November 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the new Community Hall, 10350 Torre Ave., between Cupertino Library and City Hall.

Presenters and current block leaders, Chihua Wei, a Cupertino resident for 21 years and founder of the Organization of Special Needs Families, and Mahesh Nihalani, a Cupertino Housing Commissioner, event chair of the Chamber of Commerce’s Diwali Festival, and four-year Cupertino resident, will talk about their cultural traditions and personal experiences in the community.

Those who take part in the meeting will also have opportunities to meet experienced block leaders and learn how to plan gatherings and stay in touch with their neighbors. Updates on the Neighborhood Watch program also will be presented.

More than 100 residents participate in the City Block Leader program, which helps neighborhoods to organize and become safer, more harmonious places to live. Block leaders also gain the inside track on City-related activities in their neighborhoods. Cupertino residents interested in the Block Leader program and meeting should contact Laura Domondon Lee, community relations coordinator, at 777-3331, or email communityrelations@cupertino.org.

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