



OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JOHNNY KHAMIS  
SAN JOSE, DISTRICT 10

## District 10 July Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

Happy first week of July! I hope you've all found ways to beat the heat. With budget season over, my staff and I look forward to tackling projects that had been placed on the back burner, and assessing our work over the first six months. Be sure to read our Mid-July Newsletter where we will highlight our accomplishments since January and set the vision for the rest of 2013.

Like I mentioned in my last newsletter, on April 20th, many of you participated in the Great American Litter Pick-Up. Guadalupe Oak Grove Park was one of our locations for the event and the great progress that was made that day is just a fraction of the work still needed to make the park safe for hikers and free of fire hazards. This is why my office is working with neighborhood groups and others to organize quarterly clean-ups at the park. This coming Saturday, July 6th, from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., we will continue working where we left off in April and we'd love to have your help! We will be pruning trees and removing coyote brush, so please wear the appropriate clothing and shoes. Tools and gloves will be provided, but feel free to bring your own as well (no power tools). Water, coffee, and snacks will be provided to all volunteers. If you have any questions, please contact Rayshelle at [rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910. We hope to see you there!

### **Reminder from the San Jose Police Department:**

As we approach Independence Day, The San Jose Police Department (SJPD) reminds residents that **all fireworks are illegal** to possess and ignite in the City of San Jose. The SJPD, in coordination with the San Jose Fire Department, wanted me to let all of you know that individuals who possess, store, sell, or use any materials deemed to be fireworks, is in violation of the law and subject to arrest. Violation of these laws can result in a fine of up to \$1,000 and possible jail time according to California Fire Code (CFC 7802.3) and the San Jose Municipal Code (SJMC 17.12.730). Please help the San Jose Police Department by celebrating this July 4th without the use of illegal fireworks. To report incidences of illegal fireworks in your neighborhood, please call the police non-emergency number, 3-1-1. If you provide the SJPD with a good description of the offenders (approximate height, weight, age, clothing details, etc.), the police may be able to catch up with them, provided they are not responding to higher-priority calls.

### **SJPD Summer Safety Initiative**

Also, with respect to summer safety, the SJPD has established a Violent Crime Reduction Plan to reduce the number of violent incidents (both gang related and non-gang related) in our City. The plan was established as part of a focused, proactive effort to reduce violent crime as well as increase police presence and visibility in our community. This plan was the result of several strategic internal meetings convened by Acting Chief of Police Larry Esquivel. Like me, Chief Esquivel shares our resident's concern over the number of recent violent incidents in our City.

The 2013 Violent Crime Reduction plan consists of three phases that increase in intensity as the summer months progress:

Phase One covers the remainder of the month of June and consists of the deployment of 20 two-officer Patrol Gang Suppression Cars per week, as well as limited personnel from the Special Operations Division, MERGE (SWAT) Unit, and METRO Unit.

Phase Two covers the month of July. It includes several components and adds to the already-increased uniformed presence of June. Twelve additional two-officer overtime Patrol Gang Suppression Cars will be deployed on a weekly basis, bringing the total to 32 cars (64 officers). The work days and hourly work schedule of the MERGE Unit officers will be modified to provide a greater presence, especially on weekends and during peak hours.

Phase Three, which covers the month of August, includes the creation of a Gang Suppression Unit.

For additional information and details, view the Press Release here by [clicking here](#).

### **Prevent Mail Theft**

My office has received several calls in regard to mail theft, asking how to report a theft and what steps residents can take to prevent it from happening. Mail theft is a federal offense and is therefore not in the purview of our city's police department. With that said, by [clicking here](#) you can view a site with loads of information on how to keep your mail safe.

Click here to go to the USPS website. To report mail theft, [click here](#). You may want to update to a locking mailbox to help deter thieves and, as always, keep an eye out for one another.

### **New Appointments**

Last week, we heard the news that the San Jose Fire Chief, Willie McDonald, will be resigning from his post and moving on to lead the Fire Department in Las Vegas. I am sad to see Chief McDonald go, since I have enjoyed getting to know him and appreciate his leadership. I wish him all the best in his future endeavor in Las Vegas.

In the interim, our City Manager, Debra Figone, has appointed Deputy Chief Ruben Torres as Acting Fire Chief. The appointment of Deputy Chief Torres will ensure continuity and stability for the Fire Department until the recruitment and selection process for our next chief is completed. Chief McDonald and Deputy Chief Torres will work closely together during the transition period. I look forward to working with Deputy Chief Torres.

Another appointment - one that I am very pleased to announce - is the selection of our newest

Youth Commissioner, Mason Kimmel. Mason is a senior at Leland High School and has been an active member of the District 10 Youth Advisory Council. His leadership and communication skills are very impressive and I expect nothing but great things from him as our Youth Commissioner. I also want to thank Alexander Polussa, our former commissioner, for his service to the district, the youth in our area, and the City of San Jose. I wish him the best of luck in college and know he will continue to be a great leader among his peers.



### **Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative**

I cannot tell you how often I get complaints about the terrible condition of Almaden Expressway - weeds that are taller than some of the bushes, trees and bushes that are poorly trimmed and unattractive, and, of course, the walls with chipped paint, broken boards, and missing panels.

People have asked what they can do to help, so my office has been working on a two-part plan that we are calling the Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative. We are partnering with Santa Clara County Supervisor Mike Wasserman and the County Roads and Airports Department, since the County manages expressways in San Jose. Also involved in this initiative are several building contractors, PG&E, local businesses, service groups such as the Boy Scouts and Kiwanis, churches, and residents of the local community.

Part One focuses on Almaden Expressway. The first stage of Part One will target the south end, from Blossom Hill Road to Henry. Arrangements are being discussed for eliminating the weeds and improving the landscaping. Much of that work will be done by contractors and County workers for safety reasons. There may be opportunities for volunteers and we will let you know when that happens. In addition to the landscaping, the walls will be getting a fresh coat of paint and replacement boards. We are working on arranging work days when volunteers will be able to come together and paint sections of the wall. More details will follow in future newsletters.

Part Two of the Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative focuses on the concrete walls within our neighborhoods that are privately owned. Recently there have been complaints about the wall around the northeast corner of Redmond and Meridian. We are in the process of working with the neighbors who own the wall to plan a repair project. Many of the neighbors are unable to make the repairs themselves and appreciate that the community is willing to help. We are planning this project for early July with painting to be done on July 13th. We still need a few more volunteers to help on this day, so please contact my office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) or 408-535-4910 if you are able to help.

Please note that the County will be working on removing weeds from all of the expressways over the summer, and there will be other stages in our Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative in the future that

focus on the remainder of Almaden Expressway in our district, Capitol Expressway, as well as privately owned walls in other neighborhoods throughout District 10.

My staff members and I are doing everything we can to work with the various departments involved and clear away all the hurdles, but this initiative will only succeed with your help. We look forward to working with all of you to spruce up our neighborhoods.

Along similar lines, I want to thank and recognize Gary Beck, a D10 resident, for taking it upon himself to clean up litter along the Almaden Expressway, beautifying the area. Gary has been faithfully carrying on this task for many years. I am so fortunate to be the representative of a District that is full of wonderful volunteers just like Gary, going out of their way to improve our community.

### **Helping Home-Based Businesses Save Money**

As a proponent of small business and former Chair of San Jose's Small Business Development Commission, I am always looking for ways to help local entrepreneurs grow and thrive. HomeBiz, a new program from Silicon Valley Energy Watch, can help small, home-based businesses lower utility bills, increase comfort and productivity, improve indoor air quality, and reduce environmental impact. Businesses operating on a residential meter are left behind by other rebate programs. The HomeBiz team makes it easy to upgrade, with rebate processing and construction management handled for you. To learn more, call (888) 964-3193.

I hope you all have a safe and happy Independence Day. Let's all do our best to be responsible during the upcoming holiday and while enjoying the activities of summer. If you have any questions about things you have read in this newsletter, don't hesitate to contact my office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910. You can also friend me on [Facebook](#) and follow me on [Twitter](#).

Sincerely,

Johnny

## **City of San Jose Job Openings**

The City of San Jose currently has several job openings and is accepting applications. To view the job postings and employment requirements please [click here](#).

## **San Jose Beyond the Bell**

A summer learning guide and online directory that allows parents to see the full range of educational resources that exist beyond their children's schools is being made available to parents, educators and service providers in the San Jose area thanks to SJ2020, the collaborative effort to eliminate the achievement gap in local schools by the year 2020. Loaded with more than 1,000 after-school and summer programs, Beyond the Bell also offers a summer learning guide with links to articles and events to help parents support learning outside of school. To preview the San José Beyond the Bell tool, please visit [www.sanjosebeyondthebell.com](http://www.sanjosebeyondthebell.com).

## San José Library Summer Reading Celebration

San José Public Library presents its annual Summer Reading Celebration June 1st-July 31st. This year's reading celebration features more than 100 events for all ages that include live performances, activities and programs. Signing up for the reading celebration is quick, easy, free and rewarding. Books read or listened to from June 1st through July 31st will count toward program prizes. For more information, visit [sjpl.org/summer](http://sjpl.org/summer) or call (408) 808-2175.

## Emergency Preparedness Class

The Office of Emergency Services no longer offers Emergency Preparedness meetings. However, Alex Fraser has graciously offered to conduct one such meeting for the residents of District 10 only. This class will be limited to the first 30 people who RSVP. Topics covered will include earthquake preparation and reaction, 'go-bag' necessities, fire and flood preparedness, and other emergency situations. This is a special opportunity to prepare yourself and your loved ones for the many possible emergencies that can take place.

This event will be an hour and a half on August 24th, 10:30 a.m.. To RSVP, email [drew.spitzer@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:drew.spitzer@sanjoseca.gov) with the names of those for whom you wish to RSVP. Please keep RSVPs to a limit of two per household.

## Sunday Friends

Sunday Friends is a secular nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for children and parents from very low-income families to earn the things they need.

Sunday Friends' programs take place in community settings at three different elementary schools in San Jose. If you have just two minutes, please watch our video by [clicking here](#).

Better yet, arrange to visit a program. 45-minute tours are held starting at 1:15PM on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. They take place at Lowell Elementary in downtown San Jose, just a minute off of the 7th Street exit from Hwy 280. Email [janis@sundayfriends.org](mailto:janis@sundayfriends.org) to set up a tour, or visit our website – [www.SundayFriends.org](http://www.SundayFriends.org) – where you can view pictures, read stories, learn about our various activities, understand our unique model and study our measured results.

If you are interested in volunteering with Sunday Friends – or would like to explore the possibility of setting up a group volunteer experience, please email our Volunteer Coordinator: [jennifer@sundayfriends.org](mailto:jennifer@sundayfriends.org). We offer meaningful opportunities for adults, youths, families and groups.

## Silicon Valley Cares – ParTee Classic

Silicon Valley Cares is a volunteer group of women dedicated to creating fun events to support the community. This year they are presenting the ParTee Classic. The goal of the event is to help raise money for non-profit organizations in Santa Clara County such as CarePoint Cancer. This event will

take place Thursday, July 18, 2013 at the Cinnabar Hills Golf Club on McKean Road in San Jose. You can reserve your space at [www.SiliconValleyCares.org](http://www.SiliconValleyCares.org).

## San Jose Police Department Hiring School Crossing Guards

\$15.98 - \$17.66 Hourly (Part-Time/Un-benefited)

### **Minimum Qualifications include:**

- Able to work morning and afternoon shifts every school day during school start and end times
- Possession of a valid State of California driver's license
- Access to a motor vehicle on a daily basis
- Have the ability to satisfactory pass a Police Department background check
- Be physically and mentally capable of performing the duties of a Crossing Guard
- Have the ability to give and follow oral instruction
- Have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with children, parents, school officials and law enforcement
- Have the ability to use judgment, initiative and remain calm in an emergency situation
- Be of good moral character

Please contact the School Safety & Education Unit at (408) 277-4553 if you have any questions and/or to pick up an application.

## Host Families Needed

Cultural Homestay International (CHI), a Bay Area non-profit educational exchange organization, is looking for families to host international high school students for one semester or one academic year in 2013/2014. You choose from a database of students who have been pre-screened and admitted to the program from over 30 countries like Brazil, Spain, Belgium, Slovakia, Mongolia, Japan, Korea, and Thailand. As a host family, you would provide shelter, basic food, and loving support. Students have their own spending money for all other expenses and carry medical and dental insurance. Ongoing local support is provided, as an academic coordinator will serve as a liaison between the student, the school, and your family. We would love for you to host! To find out more, contact Daniela Tanner, Developing Area Program Administrator for Cultural Homestay International (CHI) at (408) 663-1244, email her at [chidanielatanner@yahoo.com](mailto:chidanielatanner@yahoo.com), or go to <http://www.CHInet.org/ayp/> to find out more.

## Cancer Prevention Study

The American Cancer Society's Epidemiology Research Program is inviting men and women between the ages of 30 and 65 years who have never personally been diagnosed with cancer to make a commitment to enrolling in this long term study. The ultimate goal of CPS -3 is to enroll at least 300,000 adults from various racial/ethnic backgrounds from across the U.S, with the goal of better understanding the lifestyle, behavioral, environmental, and genetic factors that cause or prevent cancer ...and to ultimately eliminate cancer as a major health problem for this and future generations.

The enrollment process involves signing an informed consent form, completing a written survey, and getting a waist measurement and small blood sample at an onsite appointment site. CPS-3 participants must also be willing to complete follow-up surveys at home periodically over 20-30 years. Go to

[www.cps3bayarea.org](http://www.cps3bayarea.org), click on Santa Clara County. This is our opportunity to join together to make a difference this summer!

## San Jose Heats Up With Exciting Summer Events:

San Jose's warm sunshine and exciting events serve up the perfect cure for the Summer time blues now through Labor Day. Here in the Capital of Silicon Valley – the 10th largest city in the U.S., we offer endless possibilities in entertainment – from making a splash or catching a thrill at our amusement parks to dancing in the streets during our music and cultural festivals and cheering on your favorite team at a sporting event. If you want a break from the outdoors, enjoy a wide variety of performing arts productions held in one of San Jose's four historic theaters. For continued updates on events, visit [www.sanjose.org](http://www.sanjose.org).

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