



OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JOHNNY KHAMIS
SAN JOSE, DISTRICT 10

District 10 Mid-December Newsletter

Dear Ray,

I hope you have all been keeping warm during this unusually cold December. Be sure to bundle up when you join us for our First Annual District 10 Holiday Celebration & Toys for Tots Drive tomorrow, Saturday, December 14th, from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

The District 10 Holiday Celebration & Toys for Tots Drive is a wonderful way for the community to come together and celebrate the season of giving. Blairburry Way will be closed between Glenburry and Dunsburry for a neighborhood block party that will include a nationally-recognized holiday light display, live music, hot chocolate and snacks, games and activities, carolers, and appearances by Sharkie from the San Jose Sharks, representatives from the San Jose Fire Department, and Santa Claus himself! All children are welcome to meet Santa and receive a special candy cane.

Volunteers will be accepting new, unwrapped toys to benefit the United States Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Program. I am so excited to be sponsoring an event that brings people together to celebrate the joys of the holiday season while benefiting children who may not otherwise received a gift this Christmas. It is important to always remember how blessed we are and to give back when we can. The event is being held in a residential neighborhood, so please drive slowly & safely, and be aware of pedestrians. If you have any questions, please contact Rayshelle at rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910. Please remember to bring a toy, and I look forward to celebrating with you!



HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

As we enter the Christmas season, it is good to keep in mind some helpful tips to reduce the chances that one of us becomes the victim of an auto break-in or theft. Following are some of the risk-reducing tips that we can apply during the holidays and throughout the year:

- When out and about, try to park your car in well-lit, attended areas. Lights and people will deter most car thieves and vandals. When at home, park in your driveway or garage, if you have one.
- Always lock your car doors and close windows and/or sunroof. Typical car break-ins and thefts are crimes of opportunity. By closing windows and locking doors, you reduce that opportunity. Also, consider purchasing an anti-theft device for your car.
- Never step away from your car while it is running and never leave your keys in the car. This may seem like an obvious deterrent, but 10% of car thefts happen because keys were left in the car or the car was left running and unattended.
- Never leave any valuables in sight. Most “smash & grab” thefts occur because purses, laptops, GPS systems, cell phones, or other personal items were left on the seats of the car, in public view.
- When shopping at malls, if you go out to your car to place bags in the trunk but want to continue shopping at the same location, consider parking in a different area of the parking lot. Many thieves will watch and wait for people to place bags in their cars and go back into the store so that they can then break into the vehicle to retrieve these items.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS WEEK’S CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council took action on a number of important items on Tuesday afternoon and in a marathon evening session that lasted until after midnight, including:

- Approving an 11% pay increase for police officers that will be implemented over the next two-and-a-half years. This will bring pay levels back to those that were in place in 2009 before the SJPOA (police officer’s union) agreed to a 10% pay reduction to help preserve police officer jobs.
- Appointing our acting police chief, Larry Esquivel, to the police chief role, creating further certainty and stability for our police department.

-Authorizing city staff to draft strict new regulations on the locations where medical marijuana collectives can locate and directing city staff to begin closing the collectives that are located too closely to sensitive establishments such as schools, houses of worship, and drug-treatment facilities.

City Council meetings take place each Tuesday and are broadcast live on Comcast cable and on the web. Video recordings of each meeting are always available for your viewing pleasure here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=191>. At this page, scroll down for Council, Planning Commission, and Retirement Board meeting videos.

SJ BETWEEN THE LINES

We are continuing to receive amazing videos from students all over San Jose! I am so thrilled with the caliber of the work that the students have been submitting. They have created poignant videos about the importance of safe driving habits. It will certainly be a challenge for the judges to decide to whom to award the \$5,000 grand prize! To ensure that every high school student who wishes to has the opportunity to participate, **we have extended the submission deadline to Friday, January 10, 2014**. Please help spread the word! To check out the videos being submitted, or if you know a high school student who is interested in submitting a video, visit www.sjbetweenthelines.org. If you have any questions, contact Rayshelle at rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910. You can also share our [YouTube Channel](#) on your Facebook or Twitter page!

NEW BUSINESSES IN DISTRICT 10

This past Saturday, December 7th, I was pleased to attend the ribbon cutting of the newest business in District 10, Tiffani's Nail Lounge. I even pampered myself with a fantastic manicure and pedicure! Please stop by and welcome them to the neighborhood. The store is located at 5965 Almaden Expressway, #35.

I am also excited about the opening of Sweet Rendezvous Ice Cream & More at 688 Blossom Hill Road! Stop by the shop and grab something for your sweet tooth! As a proponent of small business, it is great to see local entrepreneurs investing in our community and opening up new shops right here in District 10!

MINETA SAN JOSE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CONTINUES TO GROW

From Mayor Reed's monthly newsletter: the City of San José's efforts to increase air service at Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) continue to show results. Over the past year, SJC added two new airlines: All Nippon Airways (ANA), which launched daily flights to Tokyo-Narita Airport on the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, and Virgin America, which offers four daily flights to Los Angeles. In addition, a number of existing carriers expanded service during this period.

-Delta Air Lines added four daily flights to Los Angeles and, in October, added service to Atlanta and Salt Lake City.

-Alaska Airlines expanded service to both Guadalajara and Cabo San Lucas, added more frequent flights to Seattle, and will begin service to Salt Lake City in June 2014.

-American Airlines added more flights to Dallas/Fort Worth and Los Angeles.

-Southwest Airlines increased frequency to Orange County and Seattle and has announced that it will be adding even more flights in 2014.

-Virgin America has added more flights between San Jose and Los Angeles.

These new flights have helped fuel a tenth consecutive month of year-over-year increased passenger traffic, resulting in an overall 5.3 percent increase in passenger traffic in 2013.

"Our airport offers Silicon Valley businesses and residents a close and convenient option for air-travel, one of the nation's best on-time records, as well as superior comfort and amenities," said Mayor Chuck Reed. "We continue to see a huge demand for additional flights at SJC and I encourage all Silicon Valley residents to 'Fly San Jose'."

Passenger growth at SJC is expected to continue to grow throughout the rest of the year and into 2014 as the Silicon Valley airport continues to prove itself as a marquee destination for travelers. For additional information, read SJC's [news release](#).

SAFE & SANE FIREWORKS

One of the calls my office received more frequently than any other in June and July concerned the use of illegal fireworks in neighborhoods. Believe me, I was just as frustrated as many of you at the careless disregard for the law that I saw and heard – especially heard! I also recognize that many may not want to drive downtown or to San Francisco to see fireworks, so they have taken the festivities into their own hands. My office has been looking at ways to prevent the use of illegal fireworks while still providing the community with fun alternatives. I would love your input on the matter. There is a quick survey posted on my Facebook page where you can tell me your thoughts on the possibility of a professional fireworks show at Almaden Lake Park as well as on legislation that my colleagues and I have proposed taking a look at that would permit the sale of “safe and sane” fireworks within the City of San Jose. [Click here](#) to take the survey!

May you and yours have a blessed and safe holiday season! Please continue reading below for more important updates and useful information. If you have any questions about the things you have read in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact my office at district10@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910. You can also friend me on [Facebook](#) and follow me on [Twitter](#).

Sincerely,

Johnny

Volunteer Profile – Patrick Pizzo

Pat's professional life was centered around engineering and ultimately teaching. He enjoyed student contact and saw himself as contributing to the big-picture, encouraging

and preparing young people to solve some of the world's major technological problems. However, he realized at some point, that life was not all about Aluminum-Lithium, two elements on the periodic table that captured his focus and professional efforts for more than 10 years. He realized that other things in life are even more important, such as family, plants, trees, neighbors, and the environment; and so began to give back to the world around him through volunteer efforts. Introducing native plants to those that access our neighborhood parks brings him joy; and he found that bird, insect and animal-life responded. The oak titmouse often accompanies him on walks, and, to Pat, there is no greater reward!

Run Santa, Run!

You better watch out, You better not cry,
You better not pout, I'm telling you why,
Santa Claus is coming to town!

Register for the Second Annual TiVo "Santa Run Silicon Valley" to earn some extra brownie points with St. Nick this year! Bring the whole family for an evening of fun! This year's Santa Run will be on December 15 at 3:00 pm. The course will lead you to a finish under the lights at Christmas in the Park. What better way to spend a winter evening?! Register today at santarunsv.com

Almaden Community Center WiFi

One of the things I had allocated in my office budget was to improve WiFi access at the Almaden Community Center. Our city tech team is currently working on the permanent fixtures, but in the meantime, they have installed 3 wireless routers throughout the building as a temporary solution. You should now be able to connect to the internet wirelessly in several of the community rooms in the building. I will keep you updated on the progress!

Christmas Bird Count

Sunday, December 15
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Alum Rock Park (meet at the innermost parking lot)

Come and be part of the Audubon Society's nationwide bird count. The bird count involves a bunch of friendly bird enthusiasts who go in search of birds. When we see or hear them, we make a note and at the end of the day we tally them all up to see how many of each kind we found. You don't have to be a bird expert to do this. You just need to be energetic and want to help. You will need to be able to hike about 4 miles, up and down hills. We will count in a remote area, never before counted. Bring lunch, water and a sense of adventure. Parking inside Alum Rock Park costs \$6 per car. To reserve a spot, please call (408) 224-7476.

Winter Leisure Class

Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Winter Leisure Class Registration will begin on Saturday, December 7 at 10:00AM. To register, please visit, Almaden Community center or visit them online at www.sanjoseca.gov/prns.

Breakfast with Santa

Join Almaden Community Center Staff at their Annual Breakfast with Santa Event on Saturday December 14th from 9:30AM – 12:00PM. There will be a delicious breakfast, arts and crafts, and, of course, a visit from Santa. The cost is \$10 per person. If you have any questions, call the Almaden Community Center at 408-268-1133.

San Jose Family Camp Registration

Returning and new campers need to create their camper profile by logging onto https://familycampreservations.com/reservations/pre_reg.asp

Then on Saturday, December 14, 2013 registration for the 2014 summer season opens online (just click the previous link).

Eager campers can reserve their favorite tent from the comfort of their own home 24/7 on or after December 14th. The system allows campers to view a virtual campsite, select their favorite spot from a map of available tents, and have the flexibility of making a partial or full payment by credit card.

For more information, if you experience difficulties, or have questions while creating your camper profile, please contact the Family Camp office at (408) 794-6208 or familycamp@sanjoseca.gov.

Countdown to San Jose's Foam Container Ordinance - Are You Ready?

The first phase of the City of San José's Foam Food Container Ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2014. This phase only affects multi-state restaurant chains, with all other restaurants affected on January 1, 2015. Multi-state restaurant chains will be unable to provide expanded polystyrene, commonly known as Styrofoam™, food ware beginning January 1, 2014. They may provide any alternative product of their choice. With just a few weeks left before the ordinance takes effect, we encourage restaurants to take the following actions to be in compliance with the new ordinance:

- Use up your current supply of foam food ware.
- Read the full ordinance at www.sanjoseca.gov/eps.
- Learn about the unique packaging and financial hardship exemptions at

www.sanjoseca.gov/eps.

If you have questions, please contact the Green To Go team; they are there to help!

Email: greenotogo@sanjoseca.gov

Phone: 408-975-2586

Visit www.sanjoseca.gov/eps for updates on alternative packaging pricing, frequently asked questions, restaurant tips, and other resources.

Christmas in the Park & Downtown Ice

A wonderful way to get into the holiday spirit is to enjoy the entertainment, lights, and activities at Christmas in the Park and/or Downtown Ice. Click the links below for more information.

[Christmas in the Park](#)

[Downtown Ice](#)

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