



OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JOHNNY KHAMIS  
SAN JOSE, DISTRICT 10

# District 10

## Mid-February Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

Happy Valentine's Day! I hope you all enjoy the love from friends and family today!

I begin this newsletter by recognizing two dedicated individuals who recently passed away. While writing of their passing may seem an odd way to begin our Valentine's Day Newsletter, it is the love and commitment these men had for our community that embodies what this day represents.

### **PAYING OUR RESPECTS – LEAVING A LEGACY**

First, we remember Amal Sinha. Amal served diligently on the City's Human Services Commission as the District 10 representative. He was also very active in Bay Area Prabasi, a Bengali cultural organization that sponsors numerous events and assists people from the Bengali community that are recent immigrants to the United States. A civil engineer by profession, Amal graduated from Jadabpur University and, after coming to the United States in the 1970s, he obtained his Master's degree. He joined the City of San Jose as a civil engineer and moved to a senior level position before retiring from City service. He passed away, unexpectedly, on January 16th while vacationing in India. I had the pleasure of speaking with Amal on several occasions. He was very kind and had a heart to serve our community. Amal is survived by his wife Monju and his son Alak. The February 25th meeting of the City Council, at 1:30 PM, will be adjourned in his honor.

Next, we remember Walter Cottle Lester. Many of you attended the ribbon cutting of the Martial Cottle Perimeter Trail on Saturday, February 1st, sponsored by County Supervisor Mike Wasserman. This was a very exciting milestone in the construction of the expansive agricultural park. The afternoon before, Walter Cottle Lester, the man responsible for the unbelievably generous donation of the park land, passed away in the old, white farmhouse in which he had been born.

In the 1860s, Mr. Lester's great-grandfather, Edward Cottle purchased the property and subsequently left it to his son, Martial Cottle, for whom the park is named. Martial

Cottle's daughter, Ethel, married Henry Walter Lester, a man with a similar farming background, and they had two children, Edith and Walter. Walter began working on the farm in the 1940s, and was dedicated to preserving the land.

Some have said that the land is worth upward of \$500 million, but Mr. Lester was determined to keep a small part of the "Valley of the Heart's Delight" intact. When donating the land to the County of Santa Clara, he made his stipulations very clear...

"No part of the property shall be used for high intensity, organized recreational uses such as athletic fields, playgrounds, tot lots, swimming pools, play courts, amusement rides or similar uses, nor as a repository for historic structures that are relocated from other sites...The property shall be used as a public historical park that informs and educates the public about the agricultural heritage of Santa Clara Valley, as exemplified by the Martial Cottle family, dating from the 1850s into the 20th century."

We owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Lester and the Cottle family. His generosity will be remembered for generations to come, and the park, with its perimeter trail, community garden, and active agricultural land, will be a treasured jewel. Mr. Lester leaves behind a tremendous gift and beautiful legacy.



### **UPDATE FROM THE SJPD ON BURGLARY SUPPRESSION IN D10**

In a recent correspondence with Captain David Honda, the SJPD captain overseeing the Southern Division, he relayed some positive information regarding burglary suppression in District 10. Captain Honda reports that: *"Since the gang violence in the Southern Division has dropped off to almost zero, I was able to re-deploy my gang cars to do burglary enforcement, which is 10 compliments for each month (a compliment is one sergeant and four officers for 5 hours). It is too soon to see the results, but I think we will make an impact."*

He also noted that, *"We are still pressing forward with our "contact to completion" (CTC) officer coordinating with detectives and patrol officers."*

Here are some recent Southern District statistics:

- In 29 burglary cases, the SJPD was able to get finger print matches
- 11 of these cases are being investigated by patrol officers when time allows.
- 8 cases have already been filed at the District Attorney's office and arrest warrants are pending
- 12 of the 29 cases are still open and are being investigated by the contact-to-completion officer

- Since these 12 cases involved fingerprint hits, they will most likely get filed with the DA

As Captain Honda stated, we are not out of the woods when it comes to property crimes, but with these new, proactive approaches, we are looking forward to great results.

On a bittersweet note, Captain Honda will be moving from his role as the Southern Division Commander to become Commander of the SJPD's Administrative Bureau. He will be trading places with Captain Shawny Williams, who currently serves in that position. While I am looking forward to working with Captain Williams, it has been an absolute pleasure to work with Captain Honda. I have appreciated all of his hard work and dedicated service to the Southern Division and District 10. I wish him all the best in his new position!

### **STATUS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER RECRUITMENT**

Several months ago, my office promoted the job announcement for 21 new Community Service Officer positions with the SJPD. These positions were added by the City Council as part of the 2013-2014 Budget to support our residents and to allow our patrol officers, who can get bogged down with administrative duties, to have more time for patrolling our streets, solving cases, and deterring crime in our neighborhoods. The recruitment period is now closed, and over 800 applications for the 21 positions. The City is now in the process of screening these applicants in order to select finalists for the 21 positions. In the coming months, the new Community Service Officers will receive intensive training before they are deployed. When training is completed, the new officers will be sworn in, something we are all looking forward to.

### **WESTFIELD OAKRIDGE WINTER WALK & SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR**

Mark your calendar for the 7th Annual Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk and Senior Resource Fair. This year's event is scheduled for February 28th at 8:30AM and will be held at Westfield Oakridge Mall in the Macy's courtyard. We are looking forward to hosting several new vendors in addition to everyone's favorites from previous years. We will also have great prizes for our drawing! And most importantly, new this year, we are encouraging pre-registration through the website, Event Brite. Pre-registration takes the hassle out of waiting in registration lines at the event and the first 100 guests who pre-register will receive a free gift! To pre-register for this year's winter walk visit, [click here](#). If you'd like more information please contact Michele at [michele.dexter@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:michele.dexter@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910. You can also [visit our Facebook page](#). We hope to see you there!

### **MAYOR CHUCK REED'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

On Thursday, February 20th, at 6:00 PM, San José Mayor Chuck Reed will be delivering his final State of the City Address at the recently-renovated McEnery San José Convention Center, 50 W. San Carlos Street, San Jose, CA 95113. In addition to the Mayor's address, City Councilmembers will be recognizing organizations and individuals who have gone above and beyond in their service to their communities and the city.

Our District 10 State of the City honoree will be the South Valley Family YMCA. The South Valley Family YMCA enriches children, adults and families through health, fitness, and wellness programs, youth and family programs, camps, aquatics, and other activities for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities. They make a positive impact on District 10 residents and others through after-school enrichment, child care, and their

Summer Achievement program for 85 low-income children, not to mention their contribution of hundreds of hours of community volunteer hours. The Y builds healthy spirits, minds and bodies, while instilling core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

This is a great opportunity to hear about the City's accomplishments over the past year, and Mayor Reed's vision for our City, [so click here to register](#).

There is no charge for this event and it is open to the public. I hope to see you there!

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS WEEK'S COUNCIL ACTIONS**

Last Tuesday, the City Council approved the framework for a contract with Chevron Energy Services that will implement numerous energy efficiency and conservation improvements throughout San Jose. Mayor Reed authored a memo with me and several of our colleagues on the City Council

(<http://sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/26502>) which was adopted on a 10-1 vote.

Over the long term, these projects should significantly reduce the City's energy usage and will help the City meet the goals of Mayor Reed's Green Vision. Projects include conversion of over 2,000 streetlights to LED technology, installation of solar hot water heating systems, HVAC chiller replacements, and other projects that will reduce energy and water usage, Chevron Energy Services was selected after a thorough competitive bidding process and is providing a guarantee on the reductions in energy usage that they are promising to deliver. I carefully reviewed the estimates that were included in the proposal to ensure that they were financially conservative so that the savings projections are realistic and so that the projects do not become a burden on the City's General Fund.

In other Council action, we unanimously approved a memo from Councilmember Constant (<http://sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/26827>) that incorporates elements of a proposal from Vice Mayor Nguyen and I, for appointing new commissioners to the Housing and Community Development Commission. I look forward to having our new commissioners in place within the next few weeks so that our residents have complete representation on this important commission. For more on this commission, visit the City's website at <http://sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=1262>.

### **ALMADEN LAKE PLANS**

The Santa Clara Valley Water District has made great strides in digesting the input from residents, the City, government agencies, and environmental organizations to create two additional feasible alternatives for required changes to Almaden Lake. These new alternatives seem to have created a consensus among the interested parties. Below are diagrams of Alternatives 6 and 7. Both of these alternatives retain the largest amount of open water space possible, while fulfilling the engineering and environmental mandates from the State of California.

You can also learn more about all of the alternatives by visiting <http://www.valleywater.org/Mercury/AlmadenLake.aspx>.



## **GROUND BREAKING FOR NEW SOCCER FIELDS IN DISTRICT 10**

On Friday, February 21st, at 3:30 PM, the City's Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Department and the District 10 office will host a groundbreaking for the brand new, artificial turf soccer fields that will be located at the Allen at Steinbeck School. At the groundbreaking, the very generous, anonymous donor will be revealed. If you would like to attend, please contact Rayshelle in the D10 office for more information. She may be reached at [rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov) or at 408-535-4910. We are all excited for this project to get underway, and look forward to the day when these new playing fields are available to our community!

Continue reading below for more updates and opportunities to get involved in our community. If you have any questions regarding what you've read in this newsletter, feel free to contact my office at [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408-535-4910. Also, for updates between newsletters, add me as a friend on [Facebook](#) or follow me on [Twitter](#)!

Sincerely,

Johnny

## **Martial Cottle Park Trail Closures**

Starting on February 10th, the contractor will begin the final phases of hydro seeding the swales adjacent to the trail which will involve herbicide spraying, rototilling and application of hydro seed over several weeks. The contractor will be placing signs at all trail entrances notifying the public that, from February 10th – 28th, construction work will be occurring and portions of the trail may be subject to closure during this time. On February 11th and 12th, the trail between the Snell/Branham and the Carlton Plaza entrances will be closed from 7:00 AM to Noon, and the trail between Carlton Plaza and Chynoweth will be closed from Noon to 5:00 PM. The Carlton Plaza entrance will remain open as the contractor works around this area so the public will always have a way on/off the open trail segments

## **Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara Civil Grand Jury Recruitment**

The Santa Clara Superior Court is recruiting applicants interested in serving on the Civil Grand Jury. For more information:  
Visit our website: [www.scscourt.org](http://www.scscourt.org), and select "Civil Grand Jury"

Email: [CGJ@scscourt.org](mailto:CGJ@scscourt.org)

Call the Office of the Grand Jury: (408) 882-2721

Application Deadline: Friday, March 14, 2014 at 5:00 P.M.

### **San Jose Police Department PAL Cadet Program**

The Law Enforcement Unit (CADET PROGRAM) was created to introduce young people to law enforcement as a career opportunity. The cadet program was first organized by the Boy Scouts of America in 1964. The Explorer Program was then administered by volunteers of the San Jose Police Department. In 1968 the program was transferred to direct sponsorship by SJPD when the Police Activities League was formed. Also in 1968 young women first joined the ranks of the cadets. The San Jose Police Activities League is committed to maintain an outstanding career training program for its police cadets.

Cadet meetings are held every Tuesday from 5pm to 6:30pm. The purpose of these meetings is to educate each cadet in different areas of the San Jose Police Department and other law enforcement agencies. Films, guest speakers, lectures, practical exercises and demonstrations are used. Field trips are taken to police departments, prisons and other law enforcement related locations. Cadets are required to put in 15 volunteer hours each month. Cadets gain field experience by assisting members of the San Jose Police Department when called upon.

The cadets participate in such events and activities as Fantasy Flight, DUI checkpoints, crowd control and our ride along program.

For more information on our cadet program visit our website at [www.sjdpal.com](http://www.sjdpal.com) If you are between the ages of 14-20 years and are interested in joining our cadet program please email Officer Saul Duran #3862 at [saul.duran@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:saul.duran@sanjoseca.gov).

### **Extension of Comment Period for State Route 85 Express Lanes Project**

In response to public interest in the State Route 85 Express Lanes Project, VTA has extended the public comment period on the project's environmental documents to February 28, 2014. Written comments on the Initial Study/Environmental Assessment and Proposed Negative Declaration may be submitted no later than 5 p.m., Friday, February 28, 2014, via email to [85expresslanes@urs.com](mailto:85expresslanes@urs.com) or via regular mail to: Ngoc Bui, Caltrans Office of Environmental Analysis, P.O. Box 23660, MS-8B, Oakland, CA 94623.

For more information on the SR 85 Express Lanes Project please visit: [vta.org/85expresslanes](http://vta.org/85expresslanes).

### **3rd Annual South Bay Women's Conference**

The SBWC encourages dialogue and action to create social change and awareness of gender issues in the STEM professions. By providing space for all people to come and discuss societal influences on women and girls, we aim to break through those barriers. We bring students, scholars, educators, cultural workers, community organizers, working professionals, researchers and policy makers together to discuss how these professions interact with matters of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, size, disability, class, and religion.

The conference will be held on Saturday, March 8th. To register or learn more, visit [www.southbaywc.org](http://www.southbaywc.org).

### **Parks and Recreation Summer Camp Registration**

Registration for the city's Parks and Recreation Summer Camps begins on February 22nd. If you register your child before March 21st, you will receive a 10% early bird discount. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services has 100's of camps to choose from. [Follow this link and find the camp that is best for your child!](#)

### **Dry Back Creek Conditions**

[Please click here](#) for important information from the Santa Clara County Water District about Reservoir and Dry Back Creek conditions.

### **San Jose Family Camp at Yosemite: Online Reservations for 2014 Summer Season**

Returning for another year of family memories, San Jose Family Camp at Yosemite is proud to announce a new online reservation system for the 2014 summer season that runs from June 13 through August 9, 2014. The system allows Campers to view photos of campsites, select their favorite spot from a map of available tents on their preferred dates, and make a partial or full payment by credit card.

Family Camp at Yosemite amenities include; all meals, a tent, cots, flush toilets and showers. Camp activities include fishing, swimming, rafting, hiking, gold panning, crafts, relaxing and organized events. Yosemite's West Entrance gate is 20 minutes away.

Reservations are being accepted now - simply visit [www.FamilyCampReservations.com](http://www.FamilyCampReservations.com). Please call the Family Camp Office at (408) 794-6208 if you need any assistance, or wish to pay by cash or check.

### **Historic Landmarks Commission Vacancy**

The Clerk's Office is recruiting for one position on the Historic Landmarks Commission to fill an unexpired four-year term ending June 30, 2015. Applicants must be registered

voters in the City of San José and, if appointed, must remain so throughout the term of office. Members of the commission shall be persons having demonstrable interest and expertise in historic preservation, and professional expertise in any of the following disciplines is highly desirable: architecture, history, architectural history, planning, prehistoric and historic archaeology, folklore, cultural anthropology, curation, conservation, and landscape architecture or related disciplines, to the extent such professionals are available in the community. [To apply click here](#) or to request a paper application, please call the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 535-1260 or via e-mail at [commissions@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:commissions@sanjoseca.gov).

## San Jose Police Department Hiring School Crossing Guards

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

### **Minimum Qualifications**

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 satisfactorily 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 arrange to pick up an application.

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