Councilmember Kansen Chu

VOLUME 11/ISSUE 2 APRIL/MAY 2009

CITY OF SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Councilmember Kansen Chu plants trees with Boy Scouts and students From Cherrywood Elementary.

Councilmember Kansen Chu reads to children at the Berryessa Branch Library during Storytime.

Mayor Reed and Councilmember Chu with 2009 BCAC Citizen of the Year, Lonnie Gross.

Door-to-Door in District 4 Newsletter

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU

Dear District 4 Neighbors,

Happy Spring! The arrival of spring brings a sense of new beginnings as plants return to life and beautiful flowers bloom in full glory. In order for us to continue enjoying the natural beauty of our environment, we each need to do our part in cleaning and maintaining our earth, our air, and our water. District 4 residents can do their part in helping to keep San José clean by volunteering with other concerned citizens in the Great American Litter Pick-Up on Saturday, April 25, 2009.

Volunteers are needed year round in order to keep your city clean. Please call the Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Program at (408) 277-3208 and the Adopt-A-Street Program at (408) 975-3728 to see how you can help. In addition, Adopt-A-Park and Adopt-A-Trail are citywide volunteer programs that recruit and train residents to assist in the general care and maintenance of neighborhood parks and trails. I hope that we all continue to take pride in our City and do what we can to keep it clean and beautiful.

Best Regards,

In this Issue

- **Upcoming Events**
- **Neighborhood Spotlight**
- **How to Get Involved**
- **Budget Updates**
- **Volunteer for the Great American Litter Pick-Up**

Sign up for regular email updates from District 4

Email district4@sanjoseca.gov so you can be added to the email list.

Kansen's Blog: www.kansenchu.com/blog

District 4 Website: http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4

DISTRICT 4 OFFICE
Council District 4, 18th Floor
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113
Telephone: (408) 535-4904
Fax: (408) 292-6459

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COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

Councilmember Kansen Chu invites you to attend Community Office Hours in order to get feedback and provide assistance to residents. Staff will also be on hand to assist in handling questions and concerns from residents. If you wish to make an appointment to meet with Councilmember Chu on any of the listed dates, please call the office at (408) 535-4904.

The Great American Litter Pick-Up

Help keep San José clean, improve the environment and contribute to a better quality of life by volunteering with other concerned citizens in the Great American Litter Pick-Up to help clean up litter and debris on **Saturday, April 25, 2009** from **8:00AM-12:30PM.**

This is an annual event where hundreds of volunteers come out to help pick up litter in their neighborhoods. At the Great American Litter Pick-Up, the City of San José will provide the litter clean up supplies: gloves, pick-up sticks, safety vest, and trash & recycling bags. A lunch celebration at the Berryessa Community Center and the Alviso Youth Center will be organized for volunteers on that day too.

The Great American Litter Pick-Up event in 2008 was a success! **Out of nearly 1,000 total volunteers in the City of San José, District 4 had the largest turn out of almost 400 volunteers and a total of 107 bags of litter picked up!** Let's continue the success and show the City how dedicated District 4 is to keeping our neighborhoods clean! Sign up by emailing me at **district4@sanjoseca.gov**.

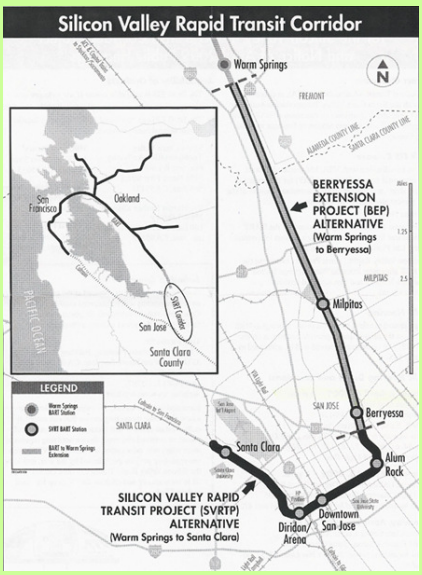
COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS DATES AND LOCATIONS

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 20
Alviso Branch Library
Community Room
5:00PM-7:00PM

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 29
Berryessa Branch Library
Study Room C
6:00PM-8:00PM

WEDNESDAY
MAY 13
Berryessa Branch Library
Study Room C
6:00PM-8:00PM

Dates & locations subject to change. Please check the District 4 website for confirmed time and locations..



RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDOR PUBLIC HEARING

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), in coordination with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) proposes to construct a BART extension from the future Warm Springs Station in Fremont to Santa Clara County. FTA and VTA have prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to address impacts and possible alternatives. The statement can be accessed online at www.vta.org/bart. You are invited to attend a **public hearing on Monday, April 6, 2009** at San José City Hall to learn more about the project and to provide comments.

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Neighborhood Groups

Alviso Water Taskforce
Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6PM at the Alviso Community Center
www.alvisowater.org
Contact: alvisowater@gmail.com

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council
Meets every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7PM at the Berryessa Community Center
Contact: Mike Flaugher
mikeflaugher@yahoo.com

Independence High Neighborhood Association
Meets every 3rd Monday of the Month at 7PM Location TBA
Contact: Dale Warner
ihna@dalewarner.com

North Valley Community Association
Meets every 1st Monday of the Month at 7PM Location TBA
Contact: Karen Navas
kn_nca@yahoo.com
To Subscribe to the Listserve, Please send an email to:
NorthValleyCA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Piedmont Hostetter Neighborhood Association
Meets quarterly at 6:30PM at the Berryessa Union School District Board Room
Contact: Cheryl VanZuylen
Cheryl_vanzuylen@yahoo.com

River Oaks Neighborhood Association
Meets every odd month
Location TBA
Contact: Jean Marlowe
jean@jeanmarlowe.com

Townsend Park Neighborhood Association
Meets twice yearly
Location TBA
Contact: Lori Wallace
lori_wp@yahoo.com

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

Friends of Berryessa Library

Friends of the Berryessa Library is comprised of community members who strive to preserve and strengthen the Berryessa Branch Library and to create awareness and appreciation of library services.

As Friends of the Berryessa Library, their mission is to promote and support library programs and staff through grants and advocacy. Friends of the Berryessa Library are a not-for-profit group that raise money solely by selling books that are graciously donated by District 4 residents. Book sales throughout the year provides Friends of the Berryessa Library the opportunity to engage in activities that will make the library a stronger presence in the community. The Friends of the Berryessa Library have been an active organization in District 4 since 1968.

Friends of the Berryessa Library are gearing up for their largest book sale at the upcoming Berryessa Art & Wine Festival at Penitencia Creek Park on May 9, 2009 and the Friends need your help! In order for this book sale to become a success, Friends of the Berryessa Library are asking for your help in donating unwanted and gently used books. These books may be donated at the Berryessa Branch Library during operating hours.

For more information, please contact Friends of the Berryessa Library President, Cliff Sciba at csciba123@aol.com.

Members of the Friends of the Berryessa Library

Councilmember Kansen Chu

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Mayor Chuck Reed, Councilmember Kansen Chu and community members celebrate Gran Paradiso Park's opening with the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Residents listen on as Councilmember Chu speaks at the event.

GRAN PARADISO NEIGHBORHOOD PARK RIBBON CUTTING EVENT

On Saturday, March 21, 2009, I hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony event for San José's newly installed turnkey park at Gran Paradiso Neighborhood Park, located in District 4's newest development, Villas at Lundy by Toll Brothers. Gran Paradiso is a 1.25 acre neighborhood park featuring a children's play area, a shaded picnic structure with picnic tables, a half basketball court, concrete walkways with lighting and benches, and irrigated turf and landscaping.

Gran Paradiso Neighborhood Park was a collaborative effort between the City of San José's Parks and Recreation Department and Public Works. I would like to thank staff for the successful coordination in making this park a reality.

A park is a valuable asset that every community treasures. An active life is a healthy way of life, and having a park in your neighborhood is a great way to support that. With all City parks, I challenge the neighborhoods and homeowner associations to adopt their neighborhood park as their own and maintain them. Parks are designed and built for the community and parks will only thrive with the support of its community.

Children and families in the neighborhood attended this event. I wish to thank staff from the Berryessa Community Center, the San José Fire Department, and the San José Horse Mounted Police Unit for providing activities for the children at the event. I encourage you to take your children to visit the newest addition to District 4.

Councilmember Chu and wife Daisy with the San José Horse Mounted Unit at the Gran Paradiso Ribbon Cutting.

Your San José Police Department Captains

San José Police Department

Foothill Division Captain

Captain Ernesto Alcantar

ernesto.alcantar@sanjoseca.gov

Central Division Captain

Captain Phan Ngo

phan.ngo@sanjoseca.gov

Councilmember Chu with Captain Alcantar at the Gang Prevention Training for Parents in District 4.

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UPCOMING COMMUNITY BUDGET MEETINGS

Each year, the City of San José must develop a budget plan that addresses and reflects the needs of the City's diverse communities. As we begin the budget planning process for Fiscal Year 2009-2010, It is important to help the City understand your needs and priorities by sharing with us your thoughts on how we should create a balanced budget that addresses the fundamental issues of our City while remaining fiscally responsible.

The City of San José continues to face significant and enduring fiscal challenges and will need to make up a $65 million shortfall to balance the budget for the fiscal year beginning in July. Unfortunately, after 7 years of budget cuts, the City is now facing employee layoffs and service cuts in order to balance the budget.

I invite you to participate in the upcoming District 4 Community Meetings to learn and personally impact the 2009-2010 Budget. There will also be a series of public meetings in the coming months where the Mayor and City Council will discuss the budget. The schedule for the public hearings is available on my website at **www.sanjoseca.gov/district4/budget.asp** I encourage you to visit the my website frequently for the latest news and updates.

DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2009
BERRYESSA BRANCH LIBRARY
Community Room
3355 Noble Avenue
6:00PM-8:00PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2009
ALVISO BRANCH LIBRARY
Community Room
5050 North First Street
6:00PM-8:00PM

HAPPY EARTH DAY 2009!

This year, Earth Day will be celebrated on April 22, 2009. This is a day to celebrate the achievements that have enabled our community to be environmentally conscious. However, there is still a long road ahead. I am encouraging all of you to find ways for you and your family to do your part in protecting the environment. Earth day is a perfect time to think outside the box. There is more to saving the earth than putting newspapers in a recycling container once a week. Our product and consumption choices, reusing, and recycling are all areas that affect our homes and our world. Some of the things we can do will take very little time. Other choices will require research, persistence, and a conscious effort. You have the power to make a difference. Small changes to your daily routine can add up to big changes in helping to stop global warming and protecting our earth.

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City & Community Contacts

City Hall Call Center
(408) 535-3500

Abandoned Vehicles
(408) 277-5305

Alviso Branch Library
(408) 263-3626

Alviso Youth Center
(408) 586-7624

Anti-Graffiti & Litter
(408) 277-2758

Berryessa Branch Library
(408) 808-3050

Berryessa Community & Senior Center
(408) 251-6392

Berryessa Youth Center
(408) 262-1014

Code Enforcement
(408) 277-4528

Crime Prevention
(408) 277-4133

Garbage & Recycling
(408) 535-3515

Parks & Recreation
(408) 535-3570

Sidewalk Repair
(408) 277-3158

Street Lights
(408) 277-5517

Street Sweeping
(408) 277-2571

Tree Trimming & Removal
(408) 277-2756

Meet the District 4 Team

Edesa Bitbadal, Chief of Staff
edesa.bitbadal@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Land Use, North San José Neighborhood, Redevelopment, National Issues, Media Relations, Economic Development, Office Technology, and Personnel.

COMMITTEES

Rules and Open Government; Community and Economic Development

Margie Espinoza, Executive Assistant
margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Councilmember Scheduling, Office Administration, Constituent Services, and Event Planning.

Stephanie Fong, Policy Analyst
stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Berryessa Neighborhood, Budget, Sister Cities, Parks & Recreation, Capital Projects, Seniors, Youth, Internship Coordination, Code Enforcement, Web Content, and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Services and Education; Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support.

Kathy Duong, Policy Analyst
kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

North Valley Neighborhood, Land Use, Environment, Public Safety, Housing, Airport, Childcare, Newsletter, Code Enforcement, Web Content, Vietnamese Media Relations and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support; Transportation and Environment

Iris Zheng, Council Assistant
iris.zheng@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Alviso Neighborhood, Mobilehome Communities, Human Rights, Transportation, Community Outreach, Code Enforcement, Chinese Media Relations and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Human Rights Commission; Mobilehome Advisory Commission; Santa Clara County Valley Habitat Conservation Plan

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District 4 Events

For up-to-date event information, visit sanjoseca.gov/district4 and email district4@sanjoseca.gov to receive e-Notices.

APRIL

6 RAPID TRANSIT CORRIDOR PUBLIC HEARING
6:00PM
San José City Hall
Wing Rooms 118-120
200 E. Santa Clara Street

13 SAN JOSE HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE
Community Meeting
6:30PM-8:00PM
San José City Hall
Wing Room 119

16 COYOTE CREEK TRAIL UPDATE
Community Meeting
6:00PM-7:30PM
Roosevelt Community Center, Room B
901 E. Santa Clara Street

Councilmember Chu with District 4 SJPD Captain Ngo.

20 DISTRICT COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS
With Councilmember Chu
6:00PM-8:00PM
Alviso Branch Library
5050 North First Street
Please call for an appointment.

22 EARTH DAY
Celebrate Earth Day by volunteering to beautify your neighborhood.

25 GREAT AMERICAN LITTER PICK-UP
Berryessa Community Center & Alviso Youth Center
8:00AM-12:30PM

30 2009 COMMUNITY BUDGET MEETING
6:00PM-8:00PM
Berryessa Branch Library
Community Room
3355 Noble Avenue

MAY

2 SECOND ANNUAL PARENT UNIVERSITY
8:00AM-12:00PM
Ruskin Elementary School
1401 Turlock Lane

6 2009 COMMUNITY BUDGET MEETING
6:00PM-8:00PM
Alviso Branch Library
Community Room
5050 North First Street

6 FRIENDS OF THE BERRYESSA LIBRARY MEETING
Occurs every other 1st Monday
6:30PM-8:00PM
Berryessa Branch Library
3050 Berryessa Road

9 34TH ANNUAL BERRYESSA ART & WINE FESTIVAL
10:00AM-5:00PM
San José's Largest & Oldest!
Penitencia Creek Park
3050 Berryessa Road

16 TRANSIT-ORIENTED HOUSING TOUR
Sponsored by Silicon Valley Leadership Group
6:00PM-8:00PM
www.whistlestop2009.eventbrite.com

25 MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY
City Hall Closed

Councilmember Chu with Tracey Firestone and Friends of the Berryessa Library at the Maui Wowi Café Grand Opening at the Berryessa Library.

Councilmember Chu with this year's raffle winner at the Berryessa Little League Opening Game Day.

Councilmember Kansen Chu with Mayor Reed and Ricardo Maciel with Toll Brothers at the Gran Paradiso Park Ribbon Cutting Event .

Event dates are subject to change. Please contact the District 4 office at (408) 535-4904 to confirm events.

VOLUNTEER IN DISTRICT 4!

Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley

The Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley strives to provide high quality care and rehabilitation for injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife within the Silicon Valley Community. Volunteer to assist our wildlife!

(408) 929-9453 • www.wcsv.org

Adopt A Park Program

Adopt a Park Program strives to protect and enhance San José's neighborhood parks and open spaces by volunteer support, and at the same time dedicated to educating San José residents about the importance of parks. Adopt a Park today!

(408) 793-4190 • www.sjadoptapark.org

Santa Visits Alviso

Santa Visits Alviso has been serving the Alviso Community since 1983 and is dedicated to bringing gifts & the Spirit of the Holidays to hundreds of toddlers and teens every year. Santa Visits Alviso is an all volunteer organization & is active year long.

rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us • www.alvisosanta.com

Friends of the Library Program

District 4 is proud to have two libraries to serve our community. Call today for volunteer opportunities!

Friends of Alviso Library • (408) 263-3626

Friends of Berryessa Library • (408) 808-2181

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

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San Jose, California 95113

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