

Councilmember Kansen Chu

VOLUME V/ISSUE III JUNE/JULY 2012



Councilmember Chu invites Piedmont Middle School Orchestra led by Susan Chase Schadeck to lead invocation on April 3, 2012.



Councilmember Chu & elected officials at the Ground Breaking for the Berryessa BART Extension Project on April 12, 2012.



Councilmember Chu with Chick-Fil-A representatives at the soft opening at @First in North San José on May 14, 2012.

Door-to-Door in District 4

Newsletter

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU

Dear District 4 Neighbors,

The past two months have been very eventful in District 4. I had a great time meeting many of you at the 2nd Annual Family Day at the Berryessa Farmers Market, 37th Annual Berryessa Art and Wine Festival, Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Berryessa Branch Library, and at the Emergency Preparedness Training and Health and Resource Fair at the Berryessa Community Center.

As we reach the end of another school year, I would like to take a moment to congratulate all the graduates from college, high school, middle school, and elementary school this spring! This is a significant accomplishment and should be a time filled with excitement. I had the pleasure of attending the Independence High School and Piedmont Hills High School graduations and celebrated the achievement of the Class of 2012. Continuing the tradition from my years as a school board member, I also attended the graduations for Morrill, Sierramont, and Piedmont Middle Schools. I would like to recognize and thank all the parents, teachers, administration, and staff that have worked with our graduates for their commitment and dedication to equip our students with the tools to pursue their dreams. Congratulations to each and every one of our graduates for all of your accomplishments!

With summer fast approaching, I encourage you to visit some of the following stay-cation outdoor ideas to explore in District 4: Alviso Marina County Park, Penitencia Creek Trail, Coyote Creek Trail, or Alum Rock Park. I hope you and your family have a safe and happy summer.

Best Regards,



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Sign up for regular email updates from District 4

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

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

DISTRICT 4 OFFICE

200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San José, CA 95113

Telephone: (408) 535-4904

Fax: (408) 292-6459

Email: District4@sanjoseca.gov



Neighborhood Groups

Alviso Neighborhood Group
Meets every 1st Thursday at 6PM
Contact: Betty Brown
betty@maileater.net

Alviso Water Taskforce
Meets every 2nd Wednesday at 6PM at the Alviso Library
www.alvisowater.org
Contact: Alviso Taskforce
alvisowater@gmail.com

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council
Meets every 2nd Monday at 7PM at the Berryessa Community Center
Contact: Ty Greaves
tgreaves@sbcglobal.net

River Oaks Neighborhood Association
Meets every 1st Thursday at Premier Pizza
Contact: Jean Marlowe
jean@jeanmarlowe.com

Townsend Park Neighborhood Association
Contact: Lori Wallace
lori_wp@yahoo.com

If you are interested in starting a neighborhood group, please contact my office at district4@sanjoseca.gov or call (408) 535-4904 for assistance.

DO YOU RECEIVE WEEKLY EMAILS FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU?

Sign-up at www.sanjoseca.gov/district4

Councilmember Chu's Budget Proposals

Each year, the City of San José must develop a budget plan that addresses the needs of the City's diverse communities, reflect shared priorities, and continue to move the City forward. Councilmembers were able to submit budget requests, through the budget documents process, to the Mayor by, May 23rd.

Public safety continues to remain a high priority for me and residents in District 4. In addition, I believe that our efforts to prevent crime are one of the reasons why San José is one of the safest big cities in America. I have submitted a budget request to restore police officers in an effort to ensure the safety of our neighborhoods and residents in addition to allocating more funding to install metal Neighborhood Watch signs on public streets. Many neighborhoods in District 4 have benefited from Neighborhood Watch meetings and indicated the importance of installing metal Neighborhood Watch signs on public streets in their neighborhood. While the City is only funded to provide resources for up to 100 installations per year, averaging two signs for installation, I recommended that we allocate additional funding so that more neighborhoods can benefit, allowing previously unfulfilled neighborhoods that submitted requests to have priority.

In addition, I advocated for funding to support a mural art program to help eliminate graffiti in our neighborhoods. The City spends more than \$1.2 million each year to combat graffiti and vandalism on walls and utility boxes. In addition to graffiti prevention, a mural art program can help reduce blight, enhance the attractiveness and vibrancy of the community, and establish partnerships with local artists, businesses, and residents.

Lastly, I submitted a budget request to preserve Alviso Historic Landmarks by allocating funding to prepare construction related documents to retrofit Alviso's historical structures and install signage and markers to preserve Alviso's identity. Alviso has a rich history in our community and is identified as a Historic District on the National Registrar of Historic Places and is a California Point of Historical Interest.

I worked collaboratively with my colleagues on budget documents to increase hours at existing branch libraries to 4.5 days per week, to advocate for an additional \$200,000 in grant funding for senior services operated by our community based organizations, to restore three code enforcement officers, and to restore funding to all City-recognized Neighborhood Business Districts/Associations, including our newly formed Berryessa Business Association.

To view the list of all budget documents that I submitted, please visit my website at www.sanjoseca.gov/district4.

The final public hearing takes place on Monday, June 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The City Council is expected to review and adopt the Mayor's June Budget Message on Tuesday, June 12th and to adopt the FY 2012-2013 budget on Tuesday, June 19th. I appreciate hearing your thoughts, concerns, and priorities. Your feedback has given me valuable insight during the budget process as I work with my colleagues on the City Council.



District 4 Art Box Unveiling

The unveiling of the first Art Box Project in District 4 took place on Monday, June 4th at the corner of Berryessa Road and Piedmont Road. I was joined by the Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council, Art Box Project San Jose Founder & Project Manager Tina Morrill, and Artist Isabel Quinonez to celebrate the completion of this new public art project.

The City of San José spends more than \$1.2 million each year to combat graffiti and vandalism on walls and utility boxes. In addition to graffiti prevention, this public art program to paint murals over utility art boxes can help reduce blight, enhance the attractiveness and vibrancy of the community, and establish partnerships with local artists, businesses, and residents.



Each art box project is coordinated with a local neighborhood group and a local artist is chosen to paint the utility box with images that focus on reflecting the feel and flavor of the neighborhood. The result is a beautiful piece of artwork that transforms utility boxes in our neighborhoods into public art.

On May 23rd, I submitted a budget document to the Mayor's Office requesting a small amount of funding to support the Art Box Project to help eliminate graffiti in our neighborhoods. While the Mayor did not support this recommendation in his June Budget Message, I believe that the relatively small amount of funding requested will positively contribute to the aesthetics of our neighborhoods. If you would like to sponsor an art project in your neighborhood, please contact my office for more information.



Green Energy Match

Save Money, Earn Rewards, and Help San Jose Win!

San Jose is competing with 9 other cities to be named the Coolest City in California. You can help your city win — just by saving energy! Join Green Energy Match, our city program for saving energy. The program is free, and you'll earn rewards and prizes while you save energy.

There are approximately 100 San Jose participants so far and the City of San José is close to entering into the 3rd qualifying position for the Cool California Challenge.

- **Save Money** — reduce your energy bills
- **Earn Rewards** — coupons for BIG savings from local stores and prizes for energy savings
- **Help San Jose Win** — San Jose's joined a contest to be named the Coolest City in California

Go to www.greenenergymatch.com to sign up or call 1-800-314-5997. This program is sponsored by the City of San José, Silicon Valley Energy Watch, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, WattzOn, and Acterra.

San José's New Business Recycling & Waste Collection Services

San Jose businesses will be using a Wet/Dry collection system starting **Sunday, July 1, 2012**. The Wet/Dry system is exclusive to Republic Services in San Jose. Everything collected is delivered to the recycling facility for processing with little waste going to the landfill.

The Wet/Dry collection system, makes it simple for businesses to comply with the CA Assembly Bill 341 (AB 341), also effective July 1st. AB 341 requires all businesses that generate a least four cubic yards of waste to also arrange for recycling services. San Jose businesses are in compliance since everything collected on the Wet/Dry system will be processed as recycling. Businesses only has to determine if waste material is wet (organics) or dry (recyclables and everything else) and place them in the correct bin.

For more information on San Jose's new business recycling and waste collection services, please contact **(408) 432-1234** or visit Republic Services at <http://www.republicservicescco.com/>.



PHOTOS FROM THE DISTRICT



Emergency Prepared Training.



2012 Berryessa Art & Wine Festival.



Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley.



Congratulations to District 4 Schools

District 4 schools have had a wide range of accomplishments this school year. I had the honor to attend many school events, fundraisers, and also had the opportunity to work with many of the schools. I want to congratulate all students, staff, and parents on another successful year. I look forward to working with everyone again in the next school year!

Amidst all our graduates and the end of the school year, I would also like to congratulate the **Piedmont Hills Vocal Jazz Ensemble** who earned a Command Performance Rating (the highest rating) at the Santa Cruz Jazz Festival. As a result, they were asked to perform at the festival closing concert which featured all of the top rated groups. I am tremendously proud of their accomplishments!

Independence High School has also displayed a year of great events, sports games, and fundraisers this school year. I attended some of the football games, fundraisers, and charity shows. In all, the whole school had over 100 events for students and parents to participate in. Great job Sixers!

At the middle school level, **Piedmont Middle** not only honored the City Council at the April invocation, they also participated in the California Heritage Festival in Southern California. At this year's Synopsis County Science Fair, **Morrill, Sierramont, and Piedmont Middle** students participated in large numbers.

This school year, **11 of the 13 Berryessa Union School District** schools and **George Mayne Elementary**, reached or went beyond the target 800 Academic Performance Index (API) score. **Northwood and Noble Elementary** reached above 850 API and **Ruskin Elementary** over 900 API. According to results, **Toyon Elementary** was 1 of the 8 schools in the state to exit the "needs improvement" status this school year.

Orchard Elementary focused on building community and fostering creativity while engaging youth in positive expression through the arts, providing young people the skills to become innovative, problem solvers for our future workforce through this year's "Bring Back the Arts" event.

Earlier this month, there was a celebration for **Ruskin Elementary** which was also one of the 35 schools in Santa Clara County to be honored as a Distinguished School in 2010. The RuskinFit program was recognized for adding physical fitness as an important part of their educational programs. For this school year, Ruskin Elementary was once again a finalist for the Governor's Physical Fitness Challenge. Results of the challenge will be announced next month. Additionally, **Piedmont Middle** has been acknowledged as a middle school finalist for the Governor's Physical Fitness Challenge.



29th Annual National Night Out

On Tuesday, August 7th, neighbors throughout San José are invited to participate with other communities nationwide for the 29th Annual National Night Out. National Night Out will involve over 100,000 communities and over 34 million Americans are expected to participate this year.

National Night Out is a crime and drug prevention event that is sponsored nationally by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the San José Police Department. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug awareness, generate support for and participation in anti crime efforts, and strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. In addition, this night sends the message that neighbors are working together to keep their neighborhoods safe. It has been successful partnership between the community, the Police Department, and the City of San José.

Last year, approximately 100 San José neighborhoods supported National Night Out by hosting a variety of events in their communities, such as potlucks, cookouts, ice cream socials and barbecues. The most important thing is to have fun and get to know your neighbors.

If you plan on hosting an event in your neighborhood, please register with the San José Police Department by contacting the Crime Prevention Unit at (408) 277-4133 or www.SJPD.org (click on the National Night Out 2012 logo) by Friday, July 27th. Registration is free and allows the opportunity for the Police Department and my office to attend events held in District 4. I will be stopping by as many events as I can throughout the evening and hope to meet you and your neighbors. I encourage you to join me, your neighbors, residents throughout the City, and citizens across the country to participate in this year's National Night Out.



2011 National Night Out at Townsend Park

COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

WEDNESDAY, June 20, 2012
6:00PM-8:00PM

Alviso Branch Library, Study Room
5050 North First Street

Dates and locations are subject to change.
Please call for confirmed times and locations.

No Office hours will be held in July.

Since I have been elected to serve you in 2007, I have held community office hours to receive feedback and provide assistance to residents. Over the past five years, I have enjoyed meeting with many of you and being able to assist you regarding City related issues and concerns. I encourage you to continue taking advantage of the community office hours so that I may be of assistance to you all.

Please call the District 4 office at (408) 535-4904 to book a 15 minute appointment.





North San José River Oaks Park

The five acre River Oaks Park located on River Oaks Parkway between Zanker Road and Cisco Drive consists of two tennis courts, half basketball court, running trails, playground area with play equipment, barbeque and picnic areas, one acre open grass area, bathroom facilities, and wildlife preserve area.

The City of San José's Public Works Department is working with the Irvine Company, the developer, for the park completion, scheduled to open this summer.

I am excited to see the opening of the new River Oaks park in North San José. This is going to be a great amenity for residents in this community.



Alviso Zip Code Modification

There is a proposal to modify the 95134 zip code by extending it westerly along the north side of Route 237.

Several properties on the north side of Route 237 in North San José are designated in the San José General Plan as employment lands and house the operations of leading technology companies or being marketed for use by companies expanding operations in Silicon Valley. Companies currently located along this business corridor and those who are moving in the area soon (including Polycom and Flextronics) will be the only locations affected by the zip code modification. **This will not alter the way mail is distributed to residential households and the Alviso Post office will not be shut down due to the change.**

A public hearing will be scheduled to inform residents of the modification and any questions or concerns related to the zip code change. For more information, please contact my office at District4@sanjoseca.gov.

2nd Annual Pride of District 4 Photography Contest

This year, my office and the San José Parks Foundation hosted the 2nd Annual Pride of District 4 Photography Contest. This was a great opportunity for students to show their talent and artwork in the community. Middle and high school students were encouraged to submit a photograph that expresses what the neighborhood means to them, what they are proud of, and what inspires them in Alviso, Berryessa, and North San José.

There were over 30 entries this year and three winners in each age group were chosen. San José Parks Foundation, Executive Director, James Reber who has attended the U.S. Naval School of Photography assisted with the judging. We both felt that all the photos had amazing qualities and was truly impressed by the work of such young photographers and artists. Thank you again to all the students who participated in this year's photography contest, and congratulations to the winners!

Middle School Winners...

1st Place: Megan Nguyen
Morrill Middle School

"This captures a moment so exciting and full of motion, that it almost makes you breathless, and yet it is perfectly composed, and everything is frozen for the moment, which reveals much about the moments that will follow." - James Reber





2nd Place: Jarrett Chen
Piedmont Middle School

“Selecting to take a photograph with minimal lighting available was a challenge and yet this is such a compelling, poetic image. Stark blue, small distant light and passive branches silhouetted gently to one side.” - James Reber



3rd Place: Connor Hares
Sierramont Middle School

“A classic American image of a barn and cows on a hill in the background. This is a peaceful pastoral image that evokes an era long past our collective consciousness, and yet here it is, living, breathing, welcoming us.” - James Reber

High School Winners...



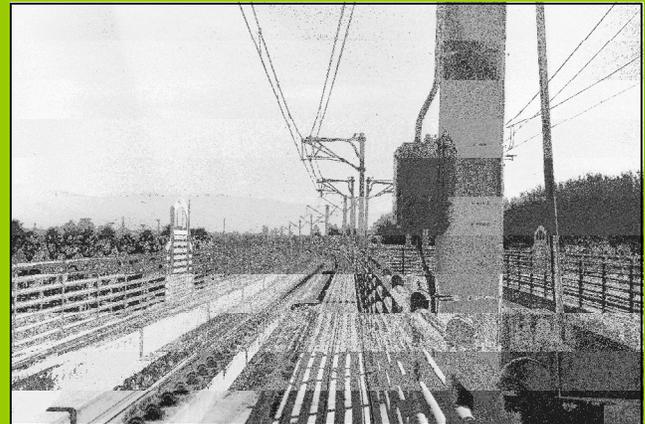
1st Place: Amanda Reyes
Piedmont Hills High School

“She redefines a portrait by taking such an acute angle and yet the angle isn’t arbitrary; it tells us where these two laughing people are. To capture such a wonderful candid moment is just great photography. This picture really tells a story and we can examine it for some time and feel like we are learning more.” - James Reber



2nd Place: Lillian Bui
Piedmont Hills High School

“This would be just another landscape were it not for the spectacular array of natural color that fills the photograph. I had a visceral, joyful response the first time I saw this. I thought maybe someone had sprayed colors over it. The use of light captured at that moment makes this natural setting live.” - James Reber



3rd Place: Ronald Tran
Independence High School

“Ronald did more than simply use black & white for his pallet. He filled the photo with the stark vision of everyday electronic machinery that transports people. There is very little living in this photo. It is mostly a bleak, unpopulated landscape. And yet, the composition brings it to life. The curving tracks. The shadows that repeat the patterns of the tracks. And in the foreground is a power box, reminder of the forces man has created to power the world. Power that isn’t warm or inviting or human.” - James Reber



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) 423-1706

Berryessa Branch Library

(408) 808-3050

Berryessa Community & Senior Center

(408) 251-6392

Berryessa Youth Center

(408) 715-6557

Code Enforcement

(408) 535-7770

Crime Prevention

(408) 277-4133

Garbage & Recycling

(408) 535-3500

Graffiti Hotline

(866) 249-0543

Our City Forrest

(408) 998-7337

Parks & Recreation

(408) 535-3570

Sidewalk Repair

(408) 277-3158

Street Lights

(408) 794-1903

Street Sweeping

(408) 283-4800

Tree Trimming & Removal

(408) 277-2762

Meet Your District 4 Team

Stephanie Fong, District Director

stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Land Use, Budget, Capital Improvement Projects, Intergovernmental Relations, Labor, Personnel, Intern Coordination, and Media Relations.

COMMITTEES

Rules and Open Government



Margie Espinoza, Executive Assistant

margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

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

Sheila Ngo, Policy Analyst

sheila.ngo@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

North San José Neighborhood, Land Use, Environmental Policy, Airport, Economic Development, Newsletter, Social Media, and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Community and Economic Development; Transportation and Environment; Public Safety, Finance, and Strategic Support



Rosa Santiago, Council Assistant

rosa.santiago@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Alviso Neighborhood, Parks & Recreation, Trails, Community Centers, Libraries, Schools, Public Safety, Constituent Services, Event Planning, and Neighborhood Watch.

COMMITTEES

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

Anh Tran, Council Assistant

anh.tran@sanjoseca.gov

FOCUS AREAS

Berryessa Neighborhood, Transportation, Housing, Environment, Mobilehome Communities, Code Enforcement, and Constituent Services.

COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Services and Education; Transportation and Environment





DISTRICT 4 CALENDAR

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

JUNE

2 STORYTIME at the SANTA CLARA COUNTY OFFICE of EDUCATION
10:00AM-11:00AM

Santa Clara County Office of Education
1290 Ridder Park Dr., 1st Floor

Contact Lonni Gause at (408) 453-6800

3 THE GARDENS of SAN JOSE
10:30AM-4:00PM

Various Locations at the Rose Garden

For more information go to:

http://www.sanjoseparks.org/gardens_of_san_jose

7 ALVISO NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP MEETING
6:00PM-8:00PM

Fire Station 25,
5125 Wilson Way

Contact ANG President, Betty Brown at betty@maileater.net.

7 RIVER OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING
7:00PM-8:30PM

Premier Pizza
670 River Oaks Parkway

Contact RONA President, Jean Marlowe via email at marlowe@ro-na.org for more info.

10 JUBILEE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR
9:00AM-2:00PM

Jubilee Christian Center
105 Nortech Parkway

For more information, please contact Randy Estrada at randye@jubilee.org.

20 WALKING TOUR Of ALVISO
10:00AM-12:00PM
Alviso Marina Parking Lot Starting Point

For more information, please visit www.preservation.org.

20 COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS
7:00PM-8:00PM

Alviso Branch Library, Study Room
5050 North First Street

Please call (408) 535-4904 to schedule a 15 appointment.

21 SOUTH BAY SALT POND PROJECT / SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY SHORELINE STUDY
Alviso Ponds / Santa Clara Working Group
6:00PM-8:00PM

San José Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant
700 Los Esteros Road

Contact Ariel Ambruster at (510) 528-5006 or aambrust@yahoo.com for more info.

26 NORTH SAN JOSE COMMUNITY MEETING RE: 199 River Oaks Parkway Development Project
7:00PM-8:00PM

Lam Research - Auditorium
3960 North 1st Street

Contact Sheila Ngo at (408) 535-4904 for more information.



JULY

1 San Jose's New Business Recycling and Waste Collection Services take Effect

For questions, contact the Environmental Services Department at zerowaste@sanjoseca.gov.

4 FOURTH of JULY HOLIDAY
City Hall Closed



19 BERRYESSA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
9:00AM-10:30AM

Panera Bread
1706 Oakland Road

Contact BBA President, Frank Cancilla via email at fccreatey@gmail.com

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



Councilmember Chu with Northwood Elementary PTA President Michelle Lyle & Treasurer Kim Gomez at the Walkathon & Book Fair event on April 26, 2012.



Councilmembers Chu & Kalra and Mayor Reed present the Asian Pacific American proclamation to Independence High School Vietnamese Student Assn. on May 8, 2012.



Councilmember Chu speaks in support of reliable transportation for our seniors at the Senior Transportation Press Conference on May 21, 2012.

VOLUNTEER IN DISTRICT 4!



San José Public Library Volunteer Program

Volunteering at the library is a great way to use your talents, provide valuable service to the community, learn new skills and meet great people.

For more information, please contact Joan Young:

San José Public Library • (408) 808-2181

San José Partners in Reading

Volunteers are needed to help enrich the lives of adults through reading, writing, technology, life skills, critical thinking, as well as English language learning; equipping them to achieve their goals and participate more fully with greater confidence in all areas of their lives.

www.sjpl.org/pr • (408) 808-2361



Summer Reading Celebration

This year's reading celebration features over 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 from June 1 through July 31 will count toward program prizes. For more information, contact Elizabeth Chavarin: **(408) 808-2175 • www.sjpl.org/tags/summer-reading-celebration**

4th Annual Graphic Novel Making Contest

From June 1 through July 31, The San José Public Library will hold its annual Graphic Novel Contest as part of this year's Summer Reading Celebration. Entries must be submitted by 8pm on Tuesday, July 31. Winners are announced at the Berryessa Branch Library on Saturday, August 25, at 2pm. Contact Elizabeth Chavarin: **(408) 808-2175 • www.sjpl.org/aphicNovelContest**

Positive Alternative Recreation Teambuilding Impact Youth Summer Leadership Program

PARTI Program serves youth through our community program and also provides summer leadership classes. The mission of PARTI Program is to promote education around healthy lifestyles and healthy decision making. For more information: **(408) 561-4664**

Summer of Service

The Children's discovery Museum offers a unique and innovative summer program where youth can have fun, make new friends, meet new challenges, and make a difference in the community. Summer of Service responds to the needs of young teens too old for the traditional day camp, but too young for full-time employment. Contact Jennifer Gamurot: **jgamurot@cdm.org • www.cdm.org/sos**

