

# Councilmember Kansen Chu

VOLUME 1/ISSUE 3 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008



Councilmember Chu at a West Coast Aquatics competition as an honorary time keeper.



Councilmember Kansen Chu visits a neighborhood block party in District 4 on National Night Out 2008.



Councilmember Kansen Chu visits Neighborhood Clean Up sites in District 4.

## Door-to-Door in District 4 Newsletter

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

### A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU

Dear District 4 Neighbors,

Welcoming the Fall season brings many exciting occasions, including the beginning of another holiday season. From Halloween to Thanksgiving, there are many activities for families to enjoy.

On Friday, October 31, thousands of costumed children will be out looking for treats in District 4. I encourage parents to make sure their children are aware of safety concerns in order to make this a fun and safe Halloween.

With the holiday season just around the corner, it is also important for all of us to take time out from our busy schedules to reassess our priorities. It also gives us an opportunity to think of others and how we can find ways to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Everyone has something to be thankful for.

Have a safe and great holiday season.

Best Regards,



### In this Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Neighborhood Spotlight
- How to Get Involved
- Old Library Re-Use

Sign up for regular updates from District 4:

Email [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) so we can add you to our email list.

Kansen's Blog: [www.kansenchu.com/blog](http://www.kansenchu.com/blog)

District 4's 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  
Email: [District4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:District4@sanjoseca.gov)



## 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.

## COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS DATES AND LOCATIONS

### WEDNESDAY

#### OCTOBER 1

Alviso Youth Center

Room 1

6:00PM-8:00PM

### WEDNESDAY

#### OCTOBER 29

Berryessa Branch Library

Study Room C

6:00PM-8:00PM

### WEDNESDAY

#### NOVEMBER 13

Berryessa Community Ctr

Room 2

1:00PM-3:00PM

### WEDNESDAY

#### DECEMBER 10

Starbucks @ River Oaks

6:00PM-8:00PM

*Dates & locations subject to change.*

## Increased Traffic Enforcement in Berryessa

The San José Police Department Traffic Enforcement Unit (SJPD TEU) will be conducting increased traffic enforcement in the Berryessa area between October and December 2008.

The Berryessa area has been selected as one of six high enforcement zones based on the number of citizen complaints regarding traffic problems such as speeding, failure to yield and running stop signs. The SJPD TEU will be out in full force, especially in the areas of our schools. The SJPD includes both motor officers and patrol cars.

The boundaries for the Hostetter Enforcement Zone are Cropley Avenue, the Foothills, Penitencia Creek Road, Capitol Avenue and Interstate 680.

Despite the increased enforcement, I continue to urge all drivers to drive safely where ever your destination is and follow the posted guidelines so we can continue to have a safe community. For more information, please visit my website at [www.sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4)



Attendees at District 4 National Night Out Movie Night



Councilmember Chu at the Grand Opening of Downtown College Prep in Alviso.



## Neighborhood Groups

### Alviso Water Taskforce

Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6PM at the Alviso Community Center  
[www.alvisowater.org](http://www.alvisowater.org)

Contact: [alvisowater@gmail.com](mailto:alvisowater@gmail.com)

### Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Meets every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7PM at the Berryessa Community Center  
Contact: Mike Flaughner

[mikeflaughner@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeflaughner@yahoo.com)

### Independence High Neighborhood Association

Meets every 3rd Monday of the Month at 7PM Location TBA

Contact: Dale Warner

[ihna@dalewarner.com](mailto: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](mailto:kn_nca@yahoo.com)

To Subscribe to the Listserve, Please send an email to:

[NorthValleyCA-](mailto:NorthValleyCA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

[subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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](mailto:Cheryl_vanzuylen@yahoo.com)

### River Oaks Neighborhood Association

Meets every odd month Location TBA

Contact: Jean Marlowe

[jean@jeanmarlowe.com](mailto:jean@jeanmarlowe.com)

### Townsend Park Neighborhood Association

Meets twice yearly Location TBA

Contact: Lori Wallace

[lori\\_wp@yahoo.com](mailto:lori_wp@yahoo.com)

## NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

### Townsend Park



Townsend Park

Residents from the Townsend Park neighborhood emerged as community leaders of District 4 through their formation of a group in 2007 to address the issue of constructing restrooms at Townsend Park. Last fall, two community meetings took place to discuss the possibility of this issue. I was very impressed by the turnout, strength, and emotion of this community over this issue and suggested that they should use their energy to form a neighborhood association to work together to improve the lives of their community.

My office worked with Bonnie Montgomery from the beginning to explore the concept of establishing a neighborhood association. Since then, Lori Wallace and David Biagini have taken the lead and have been working very hard over the past year to get the Townsend Park Neighborhood Association together. I would like to take this time to commend all of them for their efforts.

The Townsend Park Neighborhood Association has formed to give residents a voice on issues of neighborhood enhancement and preservation in addition to fostering a greater sense of community. In addition to getting to know their neighbors and establishing a greater community network, they are in the process of creating a neighborhood watch group.

Since the formation of the Townsend Park Neighborhood Association, David Biagini has proven to be an active voice and advocate for his neighborhood. On May 31, 2008, David was selected at a neighborhood caucus to be one of the three representatives from District 4 to serve on the City of San José's Neighborhood Commission.

This has been a long process but the hard work and dedication of the Townsend Park Neighborhood Association will help make a positive impact on the lives of their neighborhood.



Santa Clara County students join Councilmember Chu with Ribbon Cutting.



San José's 1st completed "Boundless Playground" located in District 4.



Majestic Way students listen on during the Ribbon Cutting event at Berryessa Creek Park.

## Berryessa Creek Park Playground

On Friday, September 19, 2008, I hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony event for San José's newly installed playground at the Berryessa Creek Park. Completed in August 2008, the playground boasts the esteemed distinction as one of the first in the City of San José to go beyond standard accessibility requirements to a 'boundless playground.'

The youth play structure is wheelchair accessible throughout so that children in wheelchairs can play and interact with fully-abled children. The Berryessa Creek Park playground was selected as the first site in San José in part because of the location of the County Office of Education, Special Education program at Majestic Way Elementary School, which is adjacent to the park.

The event was a joint effort with the City of San José Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services, and Majestic Way Elementary School.

Students from Majestic Way Elementary School and students from the County Office of Education, Special Education Program attended this event. I would like to thank Staff from the Berryessa Community Center who attended to provide activities for the children after the ribbon cutting ceremony.

I encourage you to take your children to visit this special playground, as it will be well used in the many years to come.



## Your San José Police Department Captains

San José Police Department

**Foothill Division Captain**

**Captain Ernesto Alcantar**

[ernesto.alcantar@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:ernesto.alcantar@sanjoseca.gov)

**Central Division Captain**

**Captain Phan Ngo**

[phan.ngo@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:phan.ngo@sanjoseca.gov)



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



## OLD BERRYESSA LIBRARY

Since taking office in June 2007, I have been working closely with City staff and community members to find a tenant for the old Berryessa Library site. My goal from the beginning was to find a tenant that not only works for the community but is also good for the neighbors in the immediate vicinity.

In March 2008, the community advisory panel comprised of neighborhood stakeholders rejected proposals submitted by the County Office of Education and Silicon Valley Future Stars. The community panel felt that the proposals were not compatible with the neighborhood's needs and agreed to reopen the process to allow for other proposals to be brought forward.



The City of San José is currently undergoing the second selection process to find tenants for the reuse of the old Berryessa Library. The delay in the release of the second process was due to the discovery of mold in the building and the City of San José has been working to find ways to address this issue prior to making it available for public use. I would also like to thank District 4 residents for their patience and understanding as we go through the second RFP selection process.

The latest Request for Proposal was released on September 29, 2008 and closed after 3 weeks. After all the proposals are received, City staff will convene a meeting with the community advisory panel in the Fall to make a recommendation. A community meeting allowing citizen input will be coordinated in December. The City Council is also expected to review staff's recommendation for the use of the facility by late fall. The City's goal is to execute a contract by the end of the year.

I would like to thank the community advisory panel for their time and assistance during the RFP selection process as well as the community members for their input and feedback. My goal from the beginning was to find a solution for the use of the old Berryessa Library that best fits the community as a whole.

## NEW 880/101 FREEWAY ROUTE SIGN ON COMMERCIAL STREET

I have been working closely with the Department of Transportation to install an alternative freeway entrance sign on Commercial Street to inform District 4 commuters that they can continue on Commercial Street and still have access to 880 North and 101 North. Drivers do not have to wait at the streetlight to turn left onto Oakland Road to access the freeways. Please utilize this alternate route to help alleviate traffic on Commercial Street.





## 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](mailto:edesa.bitbadal@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

Land Use, North San José Neighborhood, Redevelopment, Neighborhoods Commission, Media Relations, National Issues, Sister Cities, Office Technology, and Personnel.

### COMMITTEES

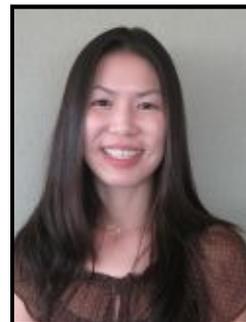
Rules & Open Government, Community & Economic Development

## Margie Espinoza, Executive Assistant

[margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

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



## Stephanie Fong, Policy Analyst

[stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

Berryessa Neighborhood, Budget, Sister Cities, Parks & Recreation, Seniors, Youth, Disability, Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Clean-ups, Web Content, and Constituent Services.

### COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Services & Education.

## Kathy Duong, Policy Analyst

[kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

North Valley Neighborhood, Land Use, Public Safety, Housing, Airport, Economic Development, Human Rights, Childcare, Newsletter, Code Enforcement, Web Content and Constituent Services.

### COMMITTEES

Community & Economic Development, Transportation & Environment



## Iris Zheng, Council Assistant

[iris.zheng@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:iris.zheng@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

Alviso Neighborhood, Transportation, Public Safety, Community Outreach, Code Enforcement and Constituent Services.



## District 4 Events

For up-to-date event information, visit [sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://sanjoseca.gov/district4) and email [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) to receive e-Notices.

## OCTOBER

**2** NORTH SAN JOSE TASKFORCE UPDATE  
7:00PM-9:00PM  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Library  
Room 255-257  
150 E. San Fernando Street

**6** NVCA General Meeting  
Occurs every 1st Monday  
7:00PM-8:00PM  
Northwood Elementary School  
2760 E. Trimble Road

**9** PRESCRIPTION DROP-OFF EVENT  
2:00PM-6:00PM  
Berryessa Community Ctr  
3050 Berryessa Road

**11** TOWNSEND PARK ASSOCIATION MEETING  
Inaugural Meeting  
10:00AM-12:00PM  
Townsend Park  
On Lundy Ave and Townsend



Councilmember Chu with District 4 SJPD Captain Ngo.



Fire Engine 19 visits Majestic Way students at the Berryessa Creek Park Playground event.

**25** PENITENCIA CREEK PARK RIBBON CUTTING EVENT  
Opening of Reach Trail  
10:00AM-11:00AM  
Penitencia Creek Park  
Near the Wildlife Center

**29** FIRESTATION 19 GROUNDBREAKING EVENT  
10:00AM-10:30AM  
On Piedmont Rd and Sierra Rd

## NOVEMBER

**10** BERRYESSA CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING  
Occurs every 2nd Monday  
7:00PM  
Berryessa Community Ctr.  
3050 Berryessa Road

**11** ALVISO WATER TASKFORCE & LOWER GUADALUPE COLLABORATIVE MEETING  
6:00PM-8:00PM  
Alviso Branch Library  
Community Room

**11** VETERANS DAY  
City Hall Closed

**13** COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS  
Please call for appointments  
1:00PM-3:00PM  
Berryessa Community Ctr  
Room 2

**16** NVCA ADOPT A PARK  
Occurs every 3rd  
Sunday 9:00AM-10:00AM  
Northwood Elementary School & Northwood Park  
921 Fox Lane

**27** THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY  
City Hall Closed on  
November 27 and  
November 28



Councilmember Kansen Chu presents a grant check to the North Valley Little League at its inaugural game.



Councilmember Chu welcomes Father Hendrickson to St. Victors Church.



Councilmember Chu presents a commendation to Sylvia Lowe, mentor for IHS student organizers of the Moon Festival at Overfelt Gardens.

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

# VOLUNTEER IN DISTRICT 4!

<p><b>Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley</b> (408) 929-9453</p>	<p>The Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley strives to provide high quality care and rehabilitation of injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife within the Silicon Valley Community. Volunteer to assist our wildlife!</p>
<p><b>Adopt A Creek Program</b> (408) 265-2607 ext. 2945 Web: <a href="http://www.valleywater.org">www.valleywater.org</a></p>	<p>There are more than 800 miles of streams in Santa Clara County that need cleaning. The water district works very hard year round to maintain the health of these creeks, but they can not do it alone. They need help from citizens like you who act as stewards for the cleanliness of our community and environment throughout the year.</p>
<p><b>Adopt A Park Program</b> (408) 793-4190 Web: <a href="http://www.sjadoptapark.org">www.sjadoptapark.org</a></p>	<p>Adopt a Park Program's main goal is to protect and enhance San José's neighborhood parks and open spaces by ongoing volunteer support, and to educate San José residents about the importance of parks and open spaces.</p>
<p><b>Friends of the Library Program</b> (408) 808-2181</p>	<p>Contact the Berryessa Library Volunteer Information regarding a wide array of volunteer opportunities!</p>
<p><b>Santa Visits Alviso</b> Web: <a href="http://www.alvisosanta.com">www.alvisosanta.com</a></p>	<p>Please visit <a href="http://www.alvisosanta.com">www.alvisosanta.com</a> or email Richard Santos at <a href="mailto:rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us">rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us</a> for more volunteer information for the event in December.</p>

**Office of Councilmember  
Kansen Chu**

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