

April 2015

Birthstone: Diamond
Flower: Daisy or Sweet Pea

Pathfinder



CITY OF SANTA MARIA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



Word has it ...

From your City Manager

Rick Haydon



On Saturday, April 11th, I encourage you to join me along with hundreds of other volunteers for half a day in beautifying our community through Serve Santa Maria # 9. Volunteers will gather at the Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center to be registered from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be available as you arrive, courtesy of the All-America City Committee. After a short opening, volunteers will be on their way to work sites by 9:15 a.m. A sack lunch will be prepared by the Central Coast Rescue Mission for all participants to take with them to their work sites.

Each year, the City partners with Serve Santa Maria, spearheaded by Pastor Carl Nielsen of Bethel Lutheran Church, to improve the community in a variety of ways. City staff identify suitable projects, and with the help of volunteers, fan out across our community.

What would be truly helpful is to choose the project you want to do, and then sign up ahead of the event. It is first come, first served on the selection. Some projects are getting full, but there are more to pick from. You may contact Pastor Carl Nielsen via e-mail at carlnielsennews@bethelsantamaria.org or Mark van de Kamp at ext. 372.

Parks: **Project 1:** Spreading bark at Preisker Park, 330 Hidden Pines (25 to 50 people). Bring shovels, metal rakes, wheelbarrows and gloves. **Project 2:** Spreading bark at Pioneer Park, 1000 W. Foster Road (10 to 20 people). **Project 3:** Assembling 20 picnic benches (6 to 10 people). **Schools:** **Project 4:** Al-

vin Elementary School, 301 E. Alvin (25 to 30 people), bring shovels, weeding tools, cutting and trimming tools, and gloves to remove dumped stuff from an alley. Also, square shovels to shave off a berm beside a sand area. Trim some plants in an area beside the office. **Project 5:** Battles Elementary School, 605 E. Battles (25 to 35 people). Tools needed are brooms, weeding tools, trimming tools, leaf rakes, shovels, and gloves, for general gardening and cleaning up of the campus. The principal also expressed interest in someone who would paint murals. **Special Projects:** **Projects 6 and 7:** Clearing a backyard, two locations (20 to 30 people each). Bring gloves. Removing lots of old bicycles and materials. **Project 8:** Picking up litter by the railroad tracks. The All-America City Committee will be doing this project. **Project 9:** A team from First Christian Church will build a small fence with a gate for a Santa Maria resident.

The Central Coast Rescue Mission will have its donations truck out in front of the Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center. Do you have any clothing to give away? A tax-deductible donation slip will be provided. All of the sales from the donations go toward supporting the ministries of the Central Coast Rescue Mission, which includes its food outreach, recovery and restoration of the men in its program, and providing clothing and hygiene products to those in need. Also, the Central Coast Rescue Mission will be assembling the lunches for all volunteers.

We all should be grateful for what we have and for what the City has done for us as employees. Now is your opportunity to help give back and help make a difference in the community. So if you're available on Saturday morning, April 11th, I would encourage you to join me as well as some of your fellow employees and help beautify our community.

Rick