

August 2015

Birthstone: Peridot, Sardonyx or Sapphire
Flower: Gladiolus or Poppy

Pathfinder



CITY OF SANTA MARIA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



Word has it ...

From your City Manager

Rick Haydon



On Saturday, August 29th, I encourage you to join your fellow City employees as well as hundreds of other volunteers for half a day in beautifying our community through "Serve Santa Maria X." Yes, this is the tenth edition! At the April event, more than 400 people were involved in beautifying schools, private residences, and City parks.

Volunteers will gather at the Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center to be registered from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., then after a short opening be on their way to work sites by 9:15 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be available as you arrive, courtesy of the All-America City Committee. A sack lunch will be prepared by the Central Coast Rescue Mission.

Each year, the City partners with Serve Santa Maria, spearheaded by Pastor Carl Nielsen of Bethel Lutheran Church and the other seven members of the Serve Santa Maria leadership team, 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.

This year, there will be projects at four elementary schools: Robert Bruce, Tunnell, Ontiveros, and at McKenzie school in Guadalupe. There also will be projects at four private residences: mostly landscaping and gardening enhancements, and also building a

ramp for access for disabled persons and tackling another "hoarder house."

Good advice is to bring shovels, metal rakes, brooms, wheelbarrows (if you have one) and tough gloves, and if it's sunny wear a hat and sunblock.

The Recreation and Parks Department has these projects: Planting and bark placement along South McClelland Street in front of the civic center parking structure and the parkway in front of the bowling green (12 to 15 people with shovels, rakes, brooms); Cleaning up a VTC garden on "A" street (four to six people with rakes, hoes, shovels and wheelbarrow for general cleanup); at the Veterans' Memorial Building, possible demo of plant material and/or planting and spreading bark (eight to 12 people with shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows); and at Pioneer Park, spreading of bark around designated areas (10 people or more). The department plans to have a staff person at each site to provide guidance.

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, August 29th, I would encourage you to join some of your fellow City employees and help beautify our community.

Rick