

January 2014

Birthstone: Garnet  
Flower: Carnation

# Pathfinder



CITY OF SANTA MARIA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



*Word has it ...*

*From your City Manager*

Rick Haydon



**H**appy New Year! As we open a new calendar, I'm proud of the fact that the City of Santa Maria has a great team, with familiar faces and some new ones. Teamwork is what makes the City of Santa Maria work so well. We truly depend on each other.

This month, the City will host its 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Employee Service Awards Dinner to honor those employees who have earned Service Awards, or who have retired from City service in the 2013 calendar year. This is an opportunity to highlight their dedication and accomplishments in the context of serving our community.

This month is also the beginning of a New Year, 2014, and along with a New Year comes New Year's resolutions. New Year's resolutions can provide the opportunity to uphold or redefine the type of person you envision being. A good place to start is by deciding how you would like to be described and remembered. What will your legacy be? Chances are that in addition to what you accomplish over the years with the City, your relationships with others will have been equally important, if not more important, to you and to your success.

We had a couple long-term co-workers retire this past year which got me to thinking about the impact they had on their respective departments, on our organization, on the community, and the lasting positive impression

they left all of us. In that regard, we should ask ourselves what impact are we having on the people we work with? What do you suppose people will say when we leave to retire? With that in mind, we should all think about setting positive resolutions in this New Year.

I hope that one New Year's Resolution you might have, as a City employee, is to epitomize the City's Mission Statement: "To provide the highest quality service in the most efficient, cost-effective, and courteous manner possible."

Our Mission Statement and the nine organizational values represent the City's vision of how it would like to be seen by its customers – the public. Our customers then see that the City is committed to public service. They very likely share our values.

As public servants, we are all visible to the public and they judge us by what we do, what we say, and how we conduct ourselves as public servants. So I encourage all of you to put your best foot forward in 2014, and to make your mark this New Year for the betterment of the organization and for the betterment of our community.

I believe that all of us want to make a difference not only in our own lives, but in the lives of others. Each of us has a natural inclination to grow, to improve, and to get better at what we do. With that in mind, we should all strive to make some positive resolutions for 2014.

Wishing you a successful and prosperous New Year!

*Rick*