

August 2014

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 23, I encourage you to join me along with hundreds of other volunteers for half a day in beautifying our community through Serve Santa Maria VIII. Volunteers will gather at the Abel Maldonado Community Youth Center to be registered from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and then be on their way to worksites by 9:15 a.m.

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

This time around, we have two projects from the Recreation and Parks Department, a litter clean-up, landscaping at two elementary schools, and an extreme home makeover in the 500 block of West Monroe – for that we need people willing to paint.

What would be truly helpful is to choose the project you want to do, and then sign-up ahead of the event. It's first come, first served on the selection. We need a minimum of 200 people to complete all of the projects on the list.



Serve Santa Maria volunteers planting at Rice Park

You may contact **Pastor Carl Nielsen** via e-mail at [carlnielsennews@bethelsantamaria.org](mailto:carlnielsennews@bethelsantamaria.org). Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own gloves, shovels, rakes, and if you have them – wheelbarrows.

This is the second time that Serve Santa Maria is branching out to the local schools. Liberty and Sanchez elementary schools have landscaping projects that their principals want to accomplish. So, perhaps if you are a parent and have kids in schools, this would be an ideal way to be true to your school and help give back to the community.

City staff will be present to guide volunteers in the spreading of wood chips for weed control and water conservation at Preisker Park; and to give instruction for planting shrubs and grasses to replace what is now lawn between the Lawn Bowling green and sidewalk.

A litter clean-up will take place in the neighborhood near West Depot, Boone, Railroad, Lemon, Jones, and Thornburg; with cooperation from the Santa Maria Valley Railroad. Code Compliance staff identified this area in need of beautification. Hugh Bedford of Bedford Enterprises is donating a roll-off box to collect the bagged trash picked up.

The Serve Santa Maria effort began in 2010. Since then, the project has performed cleanups at City parks, at senior mobile home parks, at The Salvation Army, and at the homes of residents who lack the financial resources to perform projects to comply with City codes.

So if you're available on Saturday morning, August 23, I would encourage you to come out and help make a difference in our community. See you there!

*Rick*