



City of Greenfield

City Manager's Report



City Manager's Report

January 16, 2015

Featured Article



Great Job Juliana Gonzalez!
Proud recipient of CHISPA
Scholarship...

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Please visit our website
to review employment
opportunities, upcoming
council meetings and
much more...

www.ci.greenfield.ca.us

Quick Links

8.54 Disposable Food Service Ware

8.52 Reusable Bags

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HAPPY 2015!!!

During the past three days, I have been in Sacramento with newly elected Councilmembers; Leah Santibanez and Avelina Torres attending the academy conducted by the League of California Cities for newly elected Mayors and Councilmembers. The resource manual that was provided to each person in attendance was 674 pages long and covered hundreds of topics that a Councilmember must know in order to perform the duties of their job. The sessions started at 8:00 each morning and lasted until 5:00 each evening. This year there were almost 500 people in attendance as newly elected Councilmembers and Mayors. I was pleased that both Councilmember Santibanez and Torres were willing to spend the time and effort to come to this training session, taking notes and ask questions.

Managing local government today is not easy because of the complexity of issues and difficult task of allocating scarce resources. One of the most important sessions that were included in this training was the process of governing as a collective body compared to running for office as an individual. Trying to remain true to one's political commitments and beliefs while also making decisions that are in the collective best interest of the entire community is something every elected official has to confront each time they come to a City Council meeting and cast their vote.

In the next 30 days, the Mayor and Council will be setting long range strategic goals for the New Year. We will also begin discussing program objectives for the upcoming FY 2015-17 budget. This year, the City will be looking at a 24 month budget to improve long term sustainability. As soon as the dates and times of these discussions are finalized, they will be published on the City's web site. I encourage everyone to attend one of these sessions and share your ideas with your elected officials. It's going to be a very busy year....

Plastic Bag and Styrofoam Ban



The use of single-use plastic bags and Styrofoam food containers is detrimental to the environment and the public health and welfare. The manufacture and use of these plastic bags and Styrofoam containers requires the utilization of natural resources, results in the generation of greenhouse gas emissions, and contributes to environmental problems including litter in storm drains, creeks, the bay and ocean, and our neighborhoods, streets, and yards. In 2014 nearly every city in Monterey County, including King City, Soledad, and Gonzales, adopted ordinances that prohibit retail establishments from using single-use carryout bags (thin plastic bags). Many of these same communities have also adopted ordinances that prohibit the use of Styrofoam food containers. Monterey County has also adopted an ordinance banning the use of single-use plastic bags, as has the State of California.

Plastic Bags

As of March 2015, all retail establishments located in the City will be prohibited from using single-use

carryout bags (thin plastic bags). After that date, all retail establishments can only provide customers with either a recycled paper bag or a reusable bag (a minimum of 4 mil thick). The thin single-use plastic bags that most retailers currently use will be prohibited. The retailer must also charge the customer a minimum of \$0.25 for each recycled paper bag or reusable bag.

I hope that every retailer is making arrangements to no longer use the thin single-use plastic bags beginning in March. When March rolls around, every retailer should be ready to provide customers with either recycled paper bags or reusable bags. Every retailer should also be aware that it must charge the customer a minimum of \$0.25 for each bag. Beginning in March, any retailer that continues to use the prohibited single-use plastic bags could be fined \$500.

As a customer, you can make sure you are not charged for bags by bringing your own bags to the retailer when you shop. If you use your own, you will not be charged. You can save money at the retail store and help protect our environment and reduce litter by using your own reusable bags.

Styrofoam Food Containers

The City has also adopted an ordinance that prohibits all "retail food establishments" from dispensing food in any disposable food container that contains or uses Styrofoam. This includes hot food containers, carry-out containers, and beverage cups. Beginning in, all restaurants, grocery stores, and any other retail establishment that prepares and sells food can only use containers that are biodegradable, compostable, or recyclable. Any retailer that continues to use Styrofoam containers beginning in March could be fined \$500.

To read the full ordinance on reusable bags you can [click here](#), for Styrofoam ban [click here](#)



GREENFIELD COMMUNITY PARK...

Final Design Review on Tuesday January 20, 2015 at the Civic Center

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE FINAL DESIGN REVIEW

INVITACIÓN A PARTICIPAR EN
EL DISEÑO ULTIMO

Come to the final
workshop

GREENFIELD COMMUNITY PARK

Venga al taller
final

Where & When:
Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 6:30–8:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers—Civic Center

Donde y Cuando
Martes, enero 20, 2015 6:30–8:00 PM
City Hall Chambers—Civic Center

Is this the park you asked for?

Es este el parque que quires?



The design for our new 3-acre park at Apple Avenue and 3rd Street is moving along quite well. Late last year we had two community meetings to meet the architect (in September and December); discuss what you, the community, want in the park; and review the design thoughts of the architect. These

were wonderful meetings and we received excellent feed-back from the community and good ideas on what the community would like in the new park. The park will include a basketball court, tennis court, gazebo/public gathering space, amphitheater, boulder garden, multiple play areas, picnic area, water play area, a jogging/walking path, and open turf play area.

The architect has taken all the community ideas and incorporated them into what is almost a final design concept. On Tuesday, January 20th at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, the architect will present this design concept to the community. This will be the last opportunity for the community to meet with the architect and give any final comments or suggestions on the design of the park. After this meeting, the architect needs to move forward with final design documents so we can prepare for construction in the Spring. I encourage everyone that will use the park and everything it has to offer - children, middle and high school students, elderly, adults, and parents - attend this meeting. We want your final ideas for the park so we can make sure that the new park is what you want. I will be there - and I hope that you will too.



GREENFIELD STUDENT...

RECEIVES CHISPA SCHOLARSHIP!



Juliana Gonzalez

CHISPA, Inc. endowed scholarships at Hartnell College and California State University at Monterey Bay (CSUMB) for students in CHISPA apartment buildings or homes. Greenfield resident Juliana Gonzalez received a CHISPA scholarship at Hartnell this year.

"I grew up with the mindset that only the wealthy could attend college. Then, I watched my three older brothers go off to college and earned scholarships in order to help pay for classes and books.

I soon realized that it is not only the wealthy who can attend college. College is also available to those who are willing to work hard to make it there. I am proud to say that I am now the fourth child in my family to attend college.

As a freshman at Hartnell College, I am studying biology. I hope to graduate with an Associates of Science degree and to transfer to UC Berkeley or UC San Diego in 2016, where I plan to major in physiology and neuroscience. My long term goal is to earn a master's degree, a medical degree, and to pursue a career as a neurosurgeon.

My parents helped my three siblings as much as they could with their college expenses, and when I was in high school, I worked 20-26 hours per week at the King City McDonalds.

Now, I am taking five classes this semester at Hartnell College, and I am maintaining grades of A's and B's. I prefer not to risk my grades by taking another part time job while I am in school, so my scholarship has been helpful."

CHISPA's 2015-2016 CSUMB scholarship applications are available now and are due February 2, 2015.

Contact Silvia Vega at CHISPA for information at 831-757-6251 x 121 or email her at svega@chispahousing.org



**OPERATION
BLUE SANTA**

Our police department picked one family for *Operation Blue Santa* that survived an unmentionable crime that left a mother alone to care for her 6 children ages 14, 11, 10, 7, 3, and 2 months. We just want to show them they are not alone and we support them. We hope they will experience some Christmas joy. This morning when I came to work there was a note from my night sergeant that all of the presents in this picture were bought by him for the children of the family.



**MAGNOLIA PLACE
SENIOR APARTMENTS
COMING SOON!**

As anyone who drives or walks along Elm Avenue and 12th Street in the area around Vista Verde Middle School knows, construction of the new Magnolia Place Senior Apartments has started. This is an exciting project that will bring to our community 32 high quality senior apartments. This project is moving along quickly and construction should be completed sometime this summer.

Next week, beginning Monday, January 19, the contractor will be digging up Elm Avenue in front of Vista Verde Middle School to connect a new sewer line. This work should be completed by Friday. While work in Elm Avenue is progressing, all through traffic lanes on Elm Avenue at 12th Street will be closed. 12th Street will be closed to all traffic. However, through traffic along Elm Avenue will be able to use the turn-out/drop-off lanes for the school - and u-turn areas for both eastbound and westbound traffic will be clearly identified. Student drop-off and pick-up areas will be designated on Elm Avenue on both sides of 12th Street. The contractor will have traffic control signs set up along Elm to direct traffic. Flaggers will also be present all during the day to assist parents dropping-off and picking-up their children and to keep traffic moving through the area. The contractor will make sure that a pathway is always open along 12th Street and Elm Avenue for students walking to and from school at Vista Verde.

To avoid the congestion that is going to occur in front of Vista Verde Middle School, it is suggested that motorists use 10th and 11th Streets, Oak Avenue and 13th Street to bypass around this area. It is highly recommended that all truckers use this alternate route.

The good news is that all construction work in Elm Avenue should be completed by the end of the week, and traffic will return to normal at that time. 12th Street will also be re-opened after Friday. So be patient, be courteous to other drivers, watch out for pedestrians, be alert, slow down, and better yet, just simply avoid the area in front of Vista Verde Middle School next week unless you are dropping-off or picking-up your child from school. If everyone is careful and patient, the construction will go smoothly and it will all be over

before we realize it.

Thank you for receiving our CM Report! We appreciate your interest in our Community!

Sincerely,

City of Greenfield
599 El Camino Real
Greenfield, California 93927
831-674-5591

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Try it FREE today.