

Kalra Capitol Report



Inside this issue:

Message from Assemblymember Ash Kalra	2
Kalra Promotes Pedestrian Safety on Halloween Night	3
Select Committee Comes to San José	3
Overview of New Laws Going into Effect January 2018	4
Kalra Continues Tradition of Giving Back to Community	4
Community Announcements	5
Meet a New Friend at the Animal Shelter	5
Fight the Flu with Healthy Habits	6

Kalra Presents Spirit Awards at Native American Heritage Month Celebration

The month of November is nationally recognized as Native American Heritage Month, and Assemblymember Ash Kalra was proud to be a co-host with the American Indian Heritage Celebration (AIHC) Committee this year to celebrate the heritage month here in San José. On Sunday, November 5th, Assemblymember Kalra and AIHC hosted the 2017 American Indian Heritage Celebration, which included a first-ever Community Spirit Awards Ceremony at the ConXion Community Center. This annual celebration brought community members and organizations together to celebrate Native American Heritage Month through great performances from our local tribes, children's activities, informational resource booths, and a community feed sponsored by Assemblymember Kalra, free for all guests to enjoy.

Residents from around the Bay Area were invited to experience the cultural traditions and heritage of Native Americans. In addition to the festivities, Assemblymember Kalra hosted the first annual Community Spirit Awards to recognize local tribes for their selfless dedication to continuing the

Native American legacy and traditions, and for their continued advocacy and education. Kalra had the honor of recognizing the following local tribes:

American Indian Alliance, Calpulli Tonalehque, Muwekma Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, and Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Nation.

"During these challenging times for our nation, it is as important as ever that we understand our history and work to advocate and educate our community on tribal heritage, contributions, and current issues, particularly in regards to protecting tribal lands," said Assemblymember Kalra. "I want our local tribes and advocates for Native Americans to know that we appreciate the work they do to preserve and protect their heritage and that we are here to support them in that important responsibility."



Families Fill Downtown Streets to Celebrate 99th Annual Veterans Day Parade



The United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County hosted their 99th Annual Veterans Day Parade in Downtown San José on Saturday, November 11th, with hundreds of onlookers lining the streets to thank veterans and their families for their service. This year, the parade's Grand Marshal was Rear Admiral William W. Copeland Jr. USN, who retired from the United States Navy in 2000 after serving as the Commander of the Theodore Roosevelt Battle Group. He has flown over 300 combat missions with over 1,300 carrier arrested landings, and more than 5,000 flight hours in 30 different types of aircraft.

"We should all be grateful for those who choose to serve in our Armed Forces, and taking a moment once a year to specifically show our appreciation is the least we can do for our veterans," said Assemblymember Kalra. "San José has one of the oldest celebrations in the nation and I look forward to participating in next year's Centennial celebration!"

Ash Kahn

Kalra and Staff Hit the Streets to Promote Pedestrian Safety on Halloween Night

Halloween is a fun tradition for children and families to walk around the neighborhood at night to collect treats and show off their costumes. But it also increases the risk for pedestrians as they wonder through busy streets and intersections. Assemblymember Ash Kalra knows how important it is to keep our trick-or-treaters safe from oncoming traffic, so, once again, he joined the Safe from the Start campaign to promote pedestrian safety. Healthier Kids Foundation hosts this Halloween program in Santa Clara County to bring together local agencies and organizations to hand out free glow necklaces to make trick-or-treaters visible on Halloween night. This year Assemblymember Kalra hosted four different glow necklace distribution sites

throughout Assembly District 27, and handed out one thousand glow necklaces. The locations included downtown San José, East San José, and a couple in South San José, including Kalra's own home.

Children flooded over to the various locations when they learned the Assemblymember was giving out free glow necklaces. As many of us know, public safety has been a growing issue in our community, and has always been a priority for the Assemblymember. He was honored to be one of the sponsors in promoting Safe from the Start, along with other supporters—First 5 of Santa Clara County, Honorable County Supervisor Cindy Chavez, UA Local 393-Plumbers, Steamfitters, HVACR Service Technicians, and Working Part-

nerships USA. The Assemblymember thanks Healthier Kids Foundation for continuously advocating for the care and safety of our children, and for hosting a successful campaign to promote pedestrian safety. We look forward to participating again next Halloween!

Want to learn more about Healthier Kids Foundation? Visit www.hkidsf.org



Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color Comes to San José



In conjunction with Mayor Sam Liccardo, and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, the California Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys & Men of Color held their briefing for the first time in San José on Wednesday, November 1st at San José City Hall. The 11-member committee, chaired by Assemblymember Reginald B. Jones-Sawyer, Sr., was created to look at comprehensive policies and legislation to reduce barriers to opportunity and build pathways to education and employment for boys and men of color. Assemblymember Ash Kalra is

one of the sitting members of the select committee, and urged the Chair to come to the City of San José, who is highly involved with the My Brothers' Keeper Education Policy Initiative, to learn firsthand the work that is being done in the tenth largest city in the United States.

The briefing included testimonials from non-profit organizations and city agencies, including Silicon Valley Debug, City of San José's Library, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, and Police Departments, as well as the Alum Rock Unified School District. This event was a part of a state-wide initiative of the California State Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color to learn what cities are doing to improve the outcomes for boys and men of color. Coming to San José provided an opportunity for committee members, advocates, and City leaders to sit down to hear what has been done, and what still needs to

be done, for the educational advancement of our young students of color. Through library programs, work opportunities, and other partnerships, the City of San José demonstrated the importance of multi-agency collaboration to help youth of color succeed in our community.

"I was grateful that Committee Chair Jones-Sawyer saw the importance of bringing the Committee to San José, to hear first-hand about the work being done by local stakeholders to build strong pathways for the boys and men of color in our community," said Assemblymember Kalra. "Being my home town for almost 40 years, having worked in criminal justice, and for eight years as a Councilmember, and now as a member of the Select Committee up at the Capitol, I know how important it is for us to work with cities in a joint effort to break down barriers to ensure equal access to tools necessary for academic and professional success."

Overview of New Laws Going into Effect in January 2018

Since our October newsletter, in which Assemblymember Kalra mentioned three of his bills that were signed into law (AB 1398, AB 1440, and AB 1541), we are happy to announce that four more of Kalra's bills were signed by Governor Brown, which will go into effect in 2018. Some of his bills that were passed include:

AB 646 – Rental Unit Disclosure

on Flood Hazards: In response to the devastating flooding along Coyote Creek in February 2017, this bill requires all tenant lease agreements to contain a notice that the property is located in a special flood hazard area or an area of potential flooding.



AB 21 – Access to Higher Education for Every Student:

The bill seeks to mitigate the impacts of potential federal changes to immigration enforcement policies, including the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, to ensure these students have access to their financial aid, legal representation and their constitutional right to due process.

AB 20 – Dakota Access Pipeline: Requires, by April 1, 2018, CalPERS and CalSTRS to file a report with the Legislature and the Governor that reviews investments in, and engagement of, companies constructing, or funding the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline.



AB 830 – Repeal of the California

High School Exit Exam: Repeals the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) and the requirement to pass the CAHSEE as a condition of graduation.

Some other laws that go into effect on January 1, 2018 that the Governor passed that residents should pay attention to are:

Minimum Wage: Minimum wage will be growing to \$11 per hour for businesses with 26 or more employees. That number will increase annually until California reaches the goal of a \$15 per hour living wage.

Equal Pay for Equal Work:

Employers cannot use an individual's prior earnings to justify compensation, since prior earnings can be based on a widespread, historical gender, race, or ethnicity based salary. If wage discrepancies exist, employers must demonstrate the factors that went into that decision.



Worker Protections: Starting January 1, general contractors who employ subcontractors will be held jointly liable for these wages and benefits. For too long, the worker has paid the price when a contractor negligently hires a disreputable subcontractor.



Paid Leave: Currently, most workers contribute into the State Disability Insurance Fund and are eligible for partial wage replacement, if they are unable to work due to their own injury or illness or while caring for a seriously ill family

member or bonding with a new child. Beginning January 1, these workers will receive a higher wage replacement rate and they will have access to that money right away.

Free Community College: Will allow community colleges to waive fees for first time, full time community college students for one year, and expand the number of students eligible for a community college fee waiver – boosting enrollment and graduation rates, expanding access to financial aid while decreasing student debt.

Kalra Continues Tradition of Giving Back to the Community on Black Friday



For the eighth year in a row, Assemblymember Kalra gathered close friends and volunteers to put a spin on Black Friday by turning the sale-frenzy, post-Thanksgiving tradition to one of charity and giving — the way it should be! On the Friday after Thanksgiving, around fifty volunteers gathered in Kalra's home to assemble around 500 bagged lunches for the homeless. Not only were meals distributed, but other generous donations were made, with one volunteer bringing supplies to make personal hygiene kits, as well as warm clothing, blankets, and rain ponchos for the coming winter.

"There is nothing inherently wrong about people wanting to shop for loved ones and seek out good deals. But, I believe we should also take the time to truly reflect on the holidays and focus on the gratitude we have for living in this amazing community and being afforded opportunities most people could only dream of," said Kalra. "This is my way of giving back by bringing together families who are showing their holiday spirit through their actions by spreading their love to the homeless community. It is quite humbling, while at the same time uplifting, to be able to connect with our unhoused neighbors during what is typically a very emotional time for them."

*The African American Community Service Agency
invites you to attend the*

38th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Luncheon Themed: "I Still Have A Dream"

Monday, January 15, 2018, 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn San Jose/Silicon Valley

1350 N. 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95112

For more information, tickets, or sponsorship opportunities, please
visit: <http://www.sjaacsa.org/mlkluncheon/>



LOCK IT
Lock your vehicle.

HIDE IT
Hide your valuables.

KEEP IT
Keep your property.

BE SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

ASSEMBLY MEMBER
Ash Kalra
DISTRICT 27

Come In From the Cold

HomeFirst Winter Shelters

October 16, 2017—April 15, 2018

(open every day in San Jose, Sunnyvale, and Gilroy)

SAN JOSE LOCATION:

Boccardo Reception Center

2011 Little Orchard Street, San Jose, 95135

(near "The Plant" shopping center)

Be onsite by 3PM to join bed assignments line

Bed assignments start at 3:30 PM

New intakes at 4PM

Shelter Phone Number: (408) 510-7502

For more information on
this joint program with
HomeFirst and the County
of Santa Clara, please visit
www.HomeFirstSCC.org.



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS ADOPTION PROMOTION



From now until 1/7/18, all adult pets at the San Jose Animal Care Center are \$20! Please help bring these furry friends home for the holidays. But remember —the holidays are a great time to get friends and family new pets, but please make sure everyone is ready for the responsibility. For more information on this promotion, please visit www.sanjoseanimals.com. Happy Holidays!



Meet a New Friend at the San José Animal Care Center, and Make a Best Friend for Life!



December Feature: Baxter - ID#A1060354

I am a neutered male, brown and white Pit Bull Terrier. The shelter staff think I am about 1 year and 2 months old, and I have been at the shelter since October 24, 2017.

Baxter is our handsome oversized puppy. He would do best with someone who is seeking a true companion, not just a dog. He will need some work, such as leash and obedience training. Baxter is interested in other dogs but he is a bit rude, so other dogs usually do not like his paws in their face. If you have another dog at home, bring her/him to the shelter so they can meet. Baxter likes to fetch and appreciates tasty treats. He is a good boy, and just needs someone who will lead him in the right direction.

Want to learn more about Baxter, or make yourself a new best friend for life? Then please visit the San José Animal Care Center located at 2750 Monterey Road, San José, 95111, or call (408) 794-PAWS (7297) or visit www.sanjoseanimals.com. Hours of operation are on Tuesday to Saturday from 11:00 am—7:00 pm, and on Sun-day from 11:00 am—5:00 pm.



Contact Us!

Want to sign up for the newsletter? Please email Stacie Shih at stacie.shih@asm.ca.gov.



Capitol Office

State Capitol, Room 5160

Sacramento, CA 94249

P: (916) 319-2027

F: (916) 319-2127

District Office

100 Paseo de San Antonio, Suite 319

San José, CA 95113

P: (408) 277-1220

F: (408) 277-1036

State Agencies Contact Information

Administrative Law	(916) 323-6225
Aging	(916) 419-7500
Alcoholic Beverage Control	(916) 419-2500
Board of Equalization	(800) 400-7115
Bureau of Automotive Repair	(800) 952-5210
California Courts	(415) 865-4200
California Highway Patrol	(800) 835-5247
Caltrans	(916) 654-2852
Child Supportive Services	(866) 901-3212
Consumer Affairs	(800) 952-5210
Controller's Office	(916) 445-3028
Developmental Services	(916) 654-1690
Employment Development	(800) 300-5616
Fair Employment & Housing	(800) 884-1684
Fair Political Practices Commission	(916) 322-5660
Fish & Wildlife	(916) 445-0411
Food & Agriculture	(916) 654-0466
Health Care Services	(916) 445-1248
High Speed Rail Authority	(916) 324-1541
Insurance	(800) 927-4357
Motor Vehicles	(800) 777-0133
Parks & Recreation	(800) 777-0369
Public Health	(916) 558-1784
Rehabilitation	(916) 324-1313
Secretary of State	(916) 653-6814
Social Services	(916) 651-8848
Toxic Substances Control	(800) 728-6942
Veterans Affairs	(800) 952-5626
Water Resources	(916) 653-5791

Fight the Flu with Healthy Habits

The holidays are upon us, and in addition to all of the fun festivities 'tis the cold and flu season as well. How can you protect yourself and your family? The best defense is a year-round offense. Focus on these 5 steps to help build a strong immune system:

• **Eat smart:** Choose a variety of wholesome foods daily such as colorful fruits and vegetables, legumes, nuts, seeds, lean protein, and dairy. A well-balanced diet provides important nutrients needed for improving immune function, including protein, vitamins A, C and E, and zinc to name a few. Fermented foods like sauerkraut, kefir and kimchi deliver gut friendly probiotics that play a role in a healthy immune system.

• **Get enough sleep:** With busy holiday schedules it is even more important to make healthy sleep patterns a priority. Try for eight hours daily, on average.

• **Move more:** Aim for 60 minutes of physical activity daily. A family walk following a meal is one great way to spend time with loved ones while being active.

• **Reduce stress:** The holidays can be chaotic, so try to make time for stress relieving activities such as meditation or yoga.

• **Wash your hands:** Proper handwashing can prevent food poisoning and reduce the spread of the common cold and flu. Before and after preparing or handling food, wash hands with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds.

Good nutrition, as well as the healthy lifestyle habits above, is essential in building a strong immune system. Check with your medical provider about other protective health measures to prevent the flu, such as scheduling a flu shot. Visit EatRight.org and contact a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist for a personalized healthy eating plan that supports immune function and beyond.