June 2019 Assembly Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 2

Kalra Capitol Report



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gy Announcement

Lowell Elementary Students Get Colorful Surprise Thanks to Community Volunteers

Each year Assemblymember Kalra selects an elementary school in District 27 to help mobilize the community to beautify. This year, the Assemblymember selected Lowell Elementary School located in the heart of Downtown San José! On June 1st, Kalra was joined by Lowell's Principal Ramon Sanchez, volunteers from the Painters Union, Silicon Valley New Leaders Council, Think Together, and Sunday Friends San Jose, in addition to San Jose Unified School Board Trustee Teresa Castellanos, and dozens of dedicated community members who all pitched in to repaint and revive the playground blacktop and transform Lowell's colorless play yard into a bright and inviting space for kids to play and learn.

In addition to repainting the blacktop, a local artist painted a mural on campus for all the kids to enjoy. The beautifully designed mural depicts





an open book surrounded by monarch butterflies. The mural also includes an image of and quote from our famous labor leader, Cesar Chavez, that reads: "Once social change begins it cannot be reversed, you cannot uneducate a person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate a person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore." Due to the rising anti-immigrant sentiment from the federal government, the Assemblymember and the Principal wanted to provide an image of empowerment for the students of Lowell to reaffirm that their lives and potential are limitless, regardless of where their families come from.

This event would not have been possible without all of the amazing sponsors who prioritized community projects such as this one. A big shout out to our sponsors for the 2019 Beautify Our Local School Event: California School Employees Association, Supervisor Dave Cortese, the 49ers, Fire Fighters Local 230, LiUNA, Light Dream Foundation, Kelly Moore Paints, San Jose Teachers Association, San Jose Earthquakes, San Jose Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, San Jose Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, San Jose Councilmember Raul Peralez, South Bay Labor Council, School Board member Teresa Castellanos and community members, Rose Amador and Cindy Vu.

Prior to the start of the volunteer painting, the Assemblymember thanked them and mentioned, "Today's event is a beautiful testament to the generosity that exists within the community I have the honor of representing every day. Thank you for joining me in publicly demonstrating to our children that they matter and that they are dearly loved."

MESSAGE FROM ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASH KALRA

On Thursday, June 13th, the State Legislature approved the 2019 – 2020 Budget as California's new Governor paves the way for three main priorities: Ensuring a hefty Rainy Day Fund, committing to paying down our pension debt, and investing in education. The State Budget includes a lot of financial investments that I believe will help our working families and most vulnerable populations, but at the same time, help our economic investments as California leads the nation as the fifth largest economy in the world.

One of former Governor Brown's strongest traits was his ability to be financially prudent (we are now able to save approximately \$20 billion in Rainy Day Fund and other reserve funds) considering that he took office when California was dealing with an almost \$26 billion deficit. Governor Newsom is carrying that tradition by maintaining record amount reserve funds by adding more funds to build budgetary resiliency and pay down the state's unfunded liabilities. This includes \$4.5 billion to eliminate debts and reverse deferrals, \$5.7 billion to build reserves, and \$4.8 billion to pay down CalPERS and CalSTRS pension liabilities.

The approved 2019 – 2020 Budget also shows a strong record investment in education as we focus on providing free community college and more admissions for our CSUs and UCs. The State Legislature has prioritized funding for two free years of community college tuition for first-time full-time students, and provides significant increases for CSUs and UCs to prevent tuition increases in the budget year. \$85 million was approved for an additional targeted 10,000 enrollment slots for CSU undergraduates, and \$10 million for UCs to achieve the same goal. As for K-12 education, the Governor has been consistent with his message to increase spending to improve educational outcome.

Another issue of importance is the upcoming 2020 Census. The budget is reflective of California's strong support of a complete count of all our residents. An additional \$54 million to bolster State efforts to ensure an accurate and successful count in California will help our state get a fair share of funds to support residents. I am proud of the budgetary decisions we made in Sacramento for 2019 – 2020, and if you want to learn more about what was approved and how it will impact San José, please contact my District Office at (408) 277-1220.

Budget aside, I am excited for the coming summer months as more community events and festivals take place out-doors. Although I spend most of my week in Sacramento, I am most at home and happy when I am back in San José, enjoying the company of the communities I represent. August will be a fun and busy month, so make sure to mark your calendars for Tuesday, August 6th, which is National Night Out. National Night Out is one of my favorite annual events where neighbors get to host unique gatherings, ranging from ice cream socials, to block parties, to large resource fairs. No matter the size of the event, these National Night Out gatherings provide an important opportunity for residents to bond with the San José Police Department to build stronger relationships, and decrease drug and crime activities (please see pg. 9 for more info). Another great event that will be taking place in August will be my Veggie Fest at Martial Cottle Park on Saturday, August 10th. I am bringing this back after the success we had last year in providing families and residents a free and fun opportunity to learn about healthy living, plant-based diets, urban agriculture, and relive the memories of the Valley of Heart's Delight (please see pg. 3 for more info). I hope to see you there!

SAVORING SEASONAL PRODUCE

Nutritional Nugget from the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics



Incorporating seasonal produce into your meals and snacks improves flavor, freshness and nutritional value! Seasonal items are delicious because they are picked after ripening on the parent plant and nutritious because they spend less time in transport preserving nutrient content. Seasonal, locally produced items don't have to travel as far to reach your grocery store or farmers market, so choosing them reduces your carbon footprint and saves you money! Below are some helpful tips to select and incorporate the most delectable seasonal fare:

- V Plan your meals and snacks to feature produce that's in season. This will encourage you to consume a greater variety of fruits and vegetables throughout the year!
- Construct a colorful plate. Fruits and vegetables come in an assortment of colors because each color confers different health benefits. Set a goal to eat a rainbow of colors each day.
- √ Visit local farmers markets! We are so fortunate in California with an abundance of accessible produce available directly from farmers. Most farmers are passionate about connecting with their customers and may give you a better price than grocery stores.























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11TH ANNUAL SENIOR AND OLDER ADULTS

Health Fair & Walk

HOSTED BY Senator Jim Beall, Assemblymember
Ash Kalra AND Councilmembers Magdalena Carrasco,
Sylvia Arenas AND Maya Esparza
CO-HOSTED WITH Eastridge Center



Friday, June 28 • 8:30 - 11:30 am

Eastridge Center • 2200 Eastridge Loop, San Jose enter through ENTRANCE C (by 24 Hour Fitness)

Know Before You Go





REAL ID Driver License/ ID Card

- · To get one, you must visit a DMV office and bring:
 - One Proof of Identity
 - One Proof of Social Security number
 - Two Proofs of California Residency (Beginning April 2019)
- Use it to board a plane.
- Use it to enter a secure federal facility. (EX: military base)
- · Features a Bear and Star.



Federal Non-Compliant Driver License / ID Card

- May renew online without going to a DMV office.*
- <u>NOT</u> allowed for boarding a plane starting October 1, 2020.
- <u>NOT</u> allowed to enter a secure federal facility starting October 1, 2020.
- May require showing further evidence of legal presence to purchase a firearm.
- Says "FEDERAL LIMITS APPLY"



If you do not choose a REAL ID card, you will be issued the Federal Non-Compliant driver license or identification card.

For more information visit REALID.dmv.ca.gov

*Certain customers may be required to renew in person. Check your DMV renewal paperwork to see if this applies.

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Stakeholders Come Together to Combat Social Isolation in Aging Community

Social isolation can be a problem for all age groups, but the consequences of social isolation for older adults can be especially detrimental, causing them to be more likely to fall ill or pass away much sooner than their socially active counterparts. As the former Chair and current member of the Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee, this is an issue Assemblymember Kalra hears about often from his constituents, and something the Age-Friendly San Jose Advisory Council agreed should be a major topic stakeholders come together to address. That is why on Friday, April 26th, Assemblymember Kalra and the Advisory Council was joined by the Santa Clara County Seniors' Agenda, in partnership with the Institute on Aging, AARP, and the Department of Public Health, to host a Roundtable on Social Inclusion of Older Adults to spread awareness, information, and ultimately change these grisly outcomes for isolated older adults.

The event took place at San José City Hall with three main panelists and Kalra as the moderator. The first panelist was Susan Frazer, the Regional Director of Community Living Services for the Santa Clara County at the Institute on Aging. The second panelist was Dr. VS Periykoil of Stanford University, who is a part of the Successful Aging Project, a project aimed at improving quality of life and quality of care for all older Americans from diverse backgrounds. The third panelist was Dr. Ann Ferris, an Internist and Geriatrician at Kaiser Permanente in Santa Clara. These three highly qualified individuals shared their thoughts and findings on the causes and impacts of so-

cial isolation in older adults, and answered questions from the audience, who mainly represented organizations or groups that deal with the day to-day care and well-being of our



aging community. After the informative panel discussion, the roundtable participants broke into groups to discuss what programs, activities, and services are currently available to prevent isolation and to serve those who are isolated. The outcome of the breakout session was to hopefully determine how these programs and organizations can work together to fill the gaps or expand their services for those older adults who are still isolated.

"Seeing all these individuals, who each have their own connections and their own resources, come together to support us in our movement towards change speaks volumes about the people in our community," Kalra stated. "We have so many resources, from non-profit to government, but we need a way to connect it all together so that we can ensure the best outcome for our aging community. This is why this roundtable is so important and I hope we can pave the way for other communities to come together to combat social isolation."

San José and California Commemorates 44th Anniversary of Fall of Saigon

This year April 30th marked the 44th anniversary of the fall of Saigon, a date that stands out in the minds of millions of Vietnamese Americans as they mark the anniversary of when they lost their country and their home. For many, this was the beginning of their refugee journey, which would take them across the world, many finding a new home in the United States.

This year the California State Legislature commemorated this tragic day by passing Resolution 60, which recognizes the month of April as Black April Memorial Month, a special time for Californians to remember the lives lost during the Vietnam War era, and to hope for a more humane and just life for people of Vietnam. San José is home to the largest population of Vietnamese of any city outside of Vietnam and therefore hosted a variety of events to commemorate and pay tribute to the lives lost and forever changed on that momentous day.

Assemblymember Kalra was honored to present the Memorial Resolution at the Black April event at San José

City Hall Rotunda, hosted by the Vietnamese American Roundtable, and also had the honor of participating at Santa Clara County's Black April day hosted by the Vietnamese American



Community of Northern California. In addition to these two events, several local community organizations hosted Black April events around San José including at the Vietnamese American Community Center and the Immigrant Resettlement and Cultural Center at the Viet Museum in History Park. As the next generation of Vietnamese Americans grow up, it is important to educate and remember the harrowing events that took place that led to the resettlement of those that came before them.

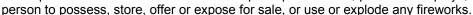
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FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL IN SAN JOSE!

As Fourth of July approaches, we need to remember that fireworks are not only illegal, but are also very dangerous. They are classified as explosives and have caused loss of hands, eyesight, and have even been fatal. Fireworks have also caused many fires and costly property damage. In addition, firework use during holidays frightens pets and wildlife, and the peak loss of pets during the year occurs over the Fourth of July. You can help create a safer, healthier community by enjoying fireworks only at permitted public displays and by not using fireworks in your neighborhood.

All types of fireworks are banned in San José and most of Santa Clara County, including: large bottle rockets, roman candles, firecrackers, and sparklers. Sparklers can reach over 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit and account for most fireworks-related injuries to children ages 5 and under. San José

Municipal Code 10.17.100 states that except for professional, permitted displays, it is unlawful for any





Use the online Fireworks Reporting Form to report fireworks

The online reporting form serves to map where fireworks are being used and, with accurate information, may result in the issuance of citations to fireworks users. Using the form will not result in enforcement officers being immediately dispatched to the scene. It should not be used to report an emergency. Always call 9-1-1 to report an emergency. Please visit https://sicdot.knack.com/ fireworks#report-illegal-fireworks/ to report fireworks. For more information, please visit the City of San José's website at https://www.sanjoseca.gov/fireworks.

Assembly District 27 Leaders Recognized in May for API Heritage Month



The month of May marks Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Comprised of a large Asian **Pacific** American population, residents of San José and the Bay Area take part

in the recognition of their history and contributions through numerous events. On Thursday, May 23rd, Assemblymember Ash Kalra hosted the AD 27 Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Kalra recognized several dedicated leaders in the Asian Pacific Islander (API) community for their selfless actions and civic leadership in San José. The event took place at Mumbai Local Restaurant in Downtown San José and was a celebratory evening shared among the hundreds of community members who attended.

This year, Assemblymember Kalra was joined by County Supervisor Dave Cortese to host and help honor individuals for their contributions in four categories: Leadership in Public Service, Leadership in Business, Leadership in Community Service, and the Legacy Award. The Leadership in Public Service Award went to former San José Police Department (SJPD) Captain Johnson Fong for his service to the city for nearly 30 years. As captain, he participated in several major community policing projects, such as the Project Hope in the Roeder and Roundtable Neighborhood, which aimed to decrease crime and

improve the quality of life for community members by developing trust.

The Leadership in Business Award was presented to Evergreen Studio of Music and The Arts (ESOMA) for providing quality music and theatre art instructions to students of all ages and skills. Since 2006, it has contributed to San José's and Evergreen's art and culture scene and has brought more life to the culturally diverse community, while training hundreds of students in music and the performing arts.

The Leadership in Community Service Award was given to Bikram Jeet Singh, a man who wears many hats. On top of founding The Yellow Cab Company Peninsula and Bollywood Events, he later established the Woman Empowerment North American Awards and was instrumental in arranging strategic meetings in Punjab during the State Assembly delegation to India in December 2018.

The Legacy Award went to Vy Truonggia, the founder of the Viet Tribune Media, Inc. headquartered in San José. Shortly after emigrating from Vietnam to California, Vy founded the Viet Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds for victims of natural disasters, and continues to raise funds for flood victims, cancer patients, orphans in Vietnam, and the homeless community in San José to this day.

Kalra stated, "In times like these, it is important to celebrate our diversity. I am honored to represent a district of selfless and diligent Asian and Pacific Islander community leaders."

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SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE For Children of Form Workers

Please, donate NEW Items.

Backpacks (No red or bright blue, no military/camo, no corporate logos-promotions) Spiral notebooks (College & Wide-Rule, 100 sheets) Composition Books (College & Wide-Rule, 100 sheets) White lined 3-hole filler paper

(College & Wide-Rule, 100-sheet packs)

Large Erasers & Pencil Caps

3-Ring Binder (1 inch)

Highlighters (standard)

Glue Sticks (small)

Pencil Sharpeners

2-pocket folders

Pencil pouches

Rulers

Pencils or Mechanical Pencils

Standard Ballpoint Pens (blue, black)

Colored Markers (regular tip, 10 pack)

Basic Handheld Calculators

Colored Pencils (12 pack)

June 24th - July 8th

San José City Hall – Tower 200 East Santa Clara Street Santa José, CA 95113

Phone - San José City Hall: (408) 535-3500

Office of State Assemblymember Kalra: (408) 277-1220

Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm

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Local Elected Officials Join to Support Protection of Coyote Valley Through New Assembly Bill Introduced by Kalra

Preserving the environment is undeniably one of the most important tasks to be given to both the general population and generations to come. Thus, as cities and counties plan to accommodate the needs of our growing population and growing economy, we must be mindful of how we can plan small, without encroaching on our few remaining open spaces. This especially holds true for Coyote Valley in South San Jose. On Friday, April 5, Ash Kalra held a press conference to introduce his bill AB 948. This bill, if passed, will create a formal conservation program for about 17,000 acres of land in northern California, administered by the Santa Clara Valley Open Spaces Authority. The press conference, organized by the Open Space Authority, allowed an opportunity for the community to learn about the importance of the bill and how it will positively impact San Jose. In attendance to show support for AB 948 were San José Mayor Sam Liccardo, San José Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, State Senator Jim Beall, and Open Space Authority General Manager Andrea Mackenzie. Also in attendance were multiple organizations, including Mothers Out Front, Committee for Green Foothills, Sierra Club, and more.

If approved, Coyote Valley would be declared a resource of "statewide significance," given concrete boundaries, and officials report that the area could possibly be eligible for additional state funding to help the conservation and restoration of the area. AB 948 has now passed the Assembly Floor, with no opposed votes, and is now being considered by the Senate.

The Coyote Valley Region important not only because of the wildlife houses, but because of the economic advantages it gives the local population. mushroom, bell



peppers, and other agricultural crops represent \$30 million in financial value, and also serve as the livelihood for its residents. In addition, John Laird, California Secretary for Natural Resources, said that "Coyote Valley represents a rare opportunity to preserve an intact floodplain upstream of a major urban area. It is the prime example of nature as infrastructure, and its protection is essential for flood risk reduction, wildlife linkages, and resilience to climate change." The list of reasons for why Coyote Valley is important is numerous, and Kalra hopes that he can help keep this San Jose gem protected for decades to come.

Kalra stated, "I am optimistic about the passage of AB 948, and the direction it will lead our region and state. Hopefully, this will be one of many steps towards leaving our future generations with a healthier planet."

Let's Welcome a New AD 27 Business: Lee's Supermarket!



On Saturday, May 18th, Assemblymember Ash Kalra was joined by elected officials and hundreds of community members to welcome Lee's Supermarket to San José. Opened and operated by the same owners of Lee's Sandwiches, the new supermarket is a great addition to the Seven Trees neighborhood for fresh groceries and authentic Vietnamese culinary treats. To celebrate, the Lee's owners and staff held a ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration, which included a Ritual Ceremony, firecrackers and a Lion Dance performance, and ended with a warm reception at the supermarket entrance with gifts for visitors.

Lee's Sandwiches, a San José institution, was founded in 1983 by Le Van Ba, a businessman who settled in San José after emigrating from Vietnam. Le Van Ba and his family adopted the American fast-food restaurant principles and revolutionized Lee's Sandwiches from a single mom-and-pop food truck to one of the first Vietnamese fast-food chains in the US. Lee's embraces their responsibility to the community by helping to raise funds for local, national, and international organizations. Lee's Supermarket, the chain's associated grocery

store, consciously strives to provide healthy and high-quality food at affordable prices to the San José neighborhood. They are located at 2889 Senter Road.

"It is essential for all communities to have easy access to not only fresh foods, but culturally diverse options," stated Kalra. "We have so many different cultures and communities in San José, so I am grateful for Lee's Sandwiches and now Lee's Supermarket for providing our Vietnamese American community with more quality options."

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California High Speed Rail Community Working Group & Open House

San Jose CWG

Tuesday, July 16, 2019, 6:00-8:00 pm Leininger Center (Okayama Room) 1300 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112

San Jose Open House
Thursday, August 15, 2019, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
San Jose City Hall
200 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113

You are invited to attend the California High-Speed Rail Authority's (Authority) Community Working Group (CWG) meetings and Open Houses for the San Francisco to San Jose and San Jose to Merced Project Sections. Other CWG meetings will take place in Morgan Hill, San Francisco, and Burlingame.

This round of meetings and open houses is especially significant, as it will focus on sharing and discussing the <u>Staff-Recommended State Preferred Alternative</u>.

Meeting materials will be posted to the Authority website prior to the meetings. For more information on the meeting, please email Morgan Galli at mor-

gan.galli@hsr.ca.gov or visit http://www.hsr.ca.gov/.



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



June Feature: Phoebe - ID#A1104198

My name is Phoebe and I am a spayed female, white and gray Shorthaired Rabbit. My age is unknown, and I have been at the shelter since June 06, 2019.

Hi, my name is Phoebe! Let me tell you a little about myself. Well, first of all, I'm a love bunny extraordinaire. Since I was turned into the shelter, I've managed to keep my spirits up and continue to spread the love, despite my challenging situation. In fact, I melt everyone's heart here because I'm so sweet and affectionate. Besides exploring and playing with toys, my favorite pastime is snuggling. I love to lie on the floor next to you and be petted and kissed. I also like lounging on the couch with people and cuddle. I find couches are much more comfortable than

the floor. I'm looking for someone who can reciprocate my affection and tenderness -- someone who will give me LOTS of attention and spend quality time with me because I'm a very special, sensitive girl. If you're that special someone, I'd love to meet you and have a forever home!

Want to learn more about Phoebe, 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 Sunday 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.





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



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SanJoseCleanEnergy.org

info@SanJoseCleanEnergy.org | 833-432-2454