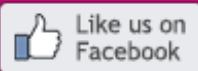


Councilmember

Magdalena Carrasco

.....
East San José



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Si desea leer este boletín en Español, por favor envíenos un email a district5@sanjoseca.gov

Dear Neighbor,

This month we celebrated a time honored tradition that dates back centuries to pre-Colombian times: Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead. It offers us an opportunity to remember our loved ones and our ancestors. It's always bittersweet to remember those we loved and who have left us but who leave a legacy of culture, history, and tradition for us to carry on.

For me, the beauty and irony of life is reflected in my children's faces and in the lessons I impart. It's the way that my grandparents, my aunts and my beloved father live on forever. I wish all of you a month of beautiful memories as you pay honor to your beloved departed and as you enjoy the holiday with your family and friends!

GOLF COURSE UPDATE

In early September, the San José City Auditor released an audit on the city's publicly owned golf courses. The city currently owns Los Lagos Golf Course in south San José, San José Municipal Golf Course in north San José and Rancho del Pueblo in my District, East San José.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

NOVEMBER 13, 2015

[Business Owner Workshop](#)

8am-12:30pm

Mexican Heritage Plaza

NOVEMBER 14, 2015

[District 5 Community Health Fair](#)

10am - 2pm

James Lick High School

NOVEMBER 16-27, 2015

[Infant Clothing Drive](#)

Bins will be placed in City Hall lobby, Cambrian Branch Library, Vineland Branch Library, Almaden Branch Library

NOVEMBER 21, 2015

[East San Jose Beautification Day](#)

9am - 12pm

Various locations - call 408-535-4905 for more information

NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 20, 2015

[The 39 Steps](#)

San Jose Stage Company

490 South First Street

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Community Grants Program Sponsorship

Deadline for application: Nov. 17

Click [here](#) for more details

AACI Feel Good: Do Good

[Join AACI](#) for their volunteer days

[NOV 22](#), 9am - 12pm - Food donations

[DEC 13](#), 12 - 4PM - Gift Wrapping

[DEC 19](#), 11am - 2:45pm - Holiday Boxes

El Nino Emergency Preparedness

A [checklist](#) for how to prepare

[Tips](#) for how to get your family ready

[Sign up for emergency alerts](#)

Holiday Rent-a-tree

[A zero waste way to enjoy your holiday tradition](#)

Sign up [online](#) or at 1000 Spring St, 9am-12pm, Thur through Sat

The audit brought to light the current financial status and recreational activity at these publicly owned courses and was also accompanied by some recommendations from our Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services department. The audit can be found [here](#). I appreciate the work of our City Auditor and the audits findings. What the audit also reminded me of is the current lack of open space in East San José. District 5 is one of the most park-poor districts in the city with very limited options for our residents to enjoy and play.



In a time when our families are facing issues such as obesity, diabetes and other very familiar health issues common to disadvantaged communities, it is important to work together as a community and preserve as much of our open space and recreational activities as we possibly can.

With that said, I hope you take the time to attend our [November 17th Council meeting](#) at 7:00pm where the Mayor and Council will give direction to staff on the future of these courses and whether or not they will remain open space or possibly sold for development.

I hope you will stand with me in preserving one of the few open space and recreational options we have left in District 5.



Join Our Mailing List!

The Business Corner

Sweet Passions Bakery

1512 Alum Rock Ave
San Jose, CA 95116

Located on 1512 Alum Rock Ave we have a local celebrity in the cake world, Sweet Passions. With colorful, immaculate designs, Sweet Passions has been a staple item for weddings, birthdays, and other special events for the last 17 years. The owner, Dilanthi is known as the 'Queen of Cakes' locally for her incredible talent in crafting cakes and cupcakes. As a small family-owned business, Sweet Passions like other Alum Rock businesses have suffered the impacts of on-going construction which is why we need to remember to shop local to support our amazing businesses right here in East San José. So, next time you're looking for a delicious treat, remember to stop at Sweet Passions!



Would you like your business highlighted in our newsletter? Please contact District 5 staff for details!



NOVEMBER IS A TIME TO GIVE BACK

Believe it or not, it's already November and Thanksgiving is right around the corner. That makes it a perfect time to think about giving thanks, of course, for all the good things we have - friends, family, health, work, good food, etc. - and also to take a moment to think about those who are less fortunate than us.

November means that the rainy season is beginning and I'm sure that almost everyone has heard that El Niño is going to be strong this year. While we're all running around making sure our homes are storm ready and that we have an emergency plan, please stop and think about a group of people who are often forgotten: the homeless. Winter is always hard for those without a home and this year will likely be worse than normal. With the cost of living as high as it is, many families have joined the ranks of the homeless, and while we are being thankful for what we have, we should also compassionately consider those who are struggling to find housing. I want to thank Our Lady of Guadalupe Church who approached our office because of their interest in finding a short term solution to house these struggling people while the City's plans for more long-term housing are being approved.

Now, if you don't have any space for a homeless family, don't be discouraged. There are lots of ways to help all those in need in our community. Our office is working with PAL and the San Jose Police Department to put together a turkey giveaway for 250 families who would find it difficult to buy one. As part of the funding for this program, they are using a Go Fund Me site to encourage everyone to donate as much as they can. You can donate by going to <https://gofundme.com/sjturkeydrive>.

If you're looking to help your neighborhood this holiday season or even help out parts of the community that fall outside the boundaries of your neighborhood, our office is sponsoring a Beautification Day on November 21 at 8:30 AM. We need lots of volunteers to make this day a success. We will have a variety of staging locations throughout East San José, so please [contact our office](#) for more details on where and how you can help. If your neighborhood isn't on the list, we are happy to provide you with materials so you can take the lead and have your neighborhood join in!



Finally, if you can't do any of the above, I encourage you to pick a day this month to think about engaging with everyone you encounter with compassion. Not only will you be living the spirit of giving and helping our community, but you might be surprised how much your actions impact your own state of mind.

With that, I wish everyone a healthy, happy, and fulfilling November and Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Councilmember/Consejal,
Magdalena Carrasco

VivaCalle: A huge success!

Thank you to the planning and implementation team in our Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department staff. VivaCalle was a great success!



VivaCalle was started in Bogota, Colombia and has spread all over the world. The Open Streets Project now has more than 100 documented initiatives in North America including San Francisco and Los Angeles. These events are becoming more common in cities seeking innovative ways to promote environmental, social, economic, and public health goals.

The inaugural "Downtown to Eastbound" route was held Sunday, October 11th, with 6 miles of San José roads closed off to vehicular traffic. For one Sunday afternoon families walked, biked, skated, and ran the streets of San José.

The event featured live music, food trucks, bike repair stations, hydration stations, and much more. VivaCalleSJ exposed small businesses to residents and connected neighbors who otherwise would not have had the chance to engage with their community. By closing one of the busiest roads, Story road, we put people over cars. As we try to make this an annual event, we should remember VivaCalleSJ not only brings residents together but also keeps cars off the roads, which is better for the environment.



Addressing Illegal Dumping

Many of you have noticed that illegal dumping has been a severe problem throughout San José, particularly in East San José. Although we have held dozens of dumpster and clean up days there always seems to be more. The City Council and I have implemented new rules in hopes of reducing illegal dumping. Fines have been established starting with \$2,500 for the first violation, increasing to \$5,000 for the second violation and finally \$10,000 for three or more violations. Additionally, I directed City staff to make reporting of illegal dumping online easier. The city website will be made interactive, similar to the report abandoned

vehicles tool available online. City staff will also be implementing a new cell phone application, available next year. Lastly, I would like to refresh everyone's memory by mentioning San Jose currently offers one **3-large item pick up for free**. If you have more items to dispose of, any additional 3-large item pick up will cost only \$27.

For more information regarding Large Item Pickup go to <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?NID=3649>.

Let us all do our part in keeping our city clean!



Educare Center Grand Opening

As a former Eastside Union High School District Board member, former First 5 California Commissioner and currently as a San Jose Councilmember, I have been a strong education advocate for students and their families. High quality and accessible education is essential for the success of our East San José community. On October 16th I attended the ribbon cutting of the new Educare facility, the newest jewel in East San José. Educare is the most effective early childhood educational program in the nation and East San José is lucky to have the very first facility of its kind in the entirety of the great state of California. Educare is an investment in our students, families and communities. After eight long years of collaboration, massive fundraising drives, and many other vigorous outreach efforts, this program, for our children's future, has finally become a reality. I would like to thank everyone who made this exciting opportunity possible, especially our City of San José Library program, the Children's Discovery Museum and other partners, both private and public, for working together and doing great work for our greater East San José community.



You are all investing in our community because EAST SAN JOSE MATTERS!



East San Jose College Day!

Hundreds of students throughout Santa Clara County gathered at SJSU on September 24th to hear from a variety of speakers talk about their college experiences. Having completed my graduate program at San José State, I felt proud of our local University showing students the importance of higher education. College Day offered insight into many of the obstacles students commonly face when applying for college and how each obstacle could be overcome. From payment of tuition to the application process itself, the event showed students and parents how to prepare for this huge step. By having this event on campus in San Jose we gave our local kids a glimpse of a future in higher education.

Higher education is for everyone regardless of someone's income, legal status or previous education. My parents migrated from Mexico and worked at a Del Monte cannery. They did not have a high school education or a large income to pay for all my fees, but I was still able to get a college education because of the tremendous support and resources that were available from schools and organizations. Even when we face more hurdles to jump than others, we must remind ourselves that where there is a will there is a way. I hope that everyone who attended benefited from the resources offered. As for those that missed out, College Day will be back next year!



Valley Transit Authority's New Alum Rock Office Opens

There's a new addition to the store fronts on Alum Rock Avenue - the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Bus Rapid Transit Project office.



The office, located at 1592 Alum Rock Ave, opened its doors on Monday, October 26 and will remain open for at least 1 year during the construction phase.

Office hours run from 10am-4pm, Monday through Friday, with extended hours on Wednesdays until 7:30pm.

VTA decided to open this office to allow business owners, residents, and anyone who has questions about the project, construction, plans, or VTA to come in and ask. In addition, the new San José -hired Administrator, will be stationed out of this office to make him easily accessible for the business owners whose cases he will be reviewing.

So, feel free to check out the office and meet the staff!

INFANT CLOTHING DRIVE

November 16-27

Drop-off Bins will be located in
Almaden, Hillview,
Vineland, & Cambrian Libraries

PLEASE DONATE

**WE COLLECT NEW AND GENTLY USED BABY
CLOTHES IN SIZES 0-12 MONTHS.**

If you have any questions please contact District 5's office at 408-535-4905 or email at district5@sanjoseca.gov

Paid for by the City of San Jose

