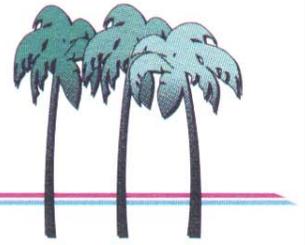


City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



January 2009 Volume 1, Issue 1

Upcoming Events

Jan. 1-2 New Years
Holiday – City Offices
Closed

Jan. 5-9 Christmas Tree
Roundup Week

Jan. 6 Customer Service
Academy begins

Jan. 7 Deadline to
submit applications for
City Commissions and
Committees

Jan. 9-Feb. 7 Little
League & Girls Softball
Sign-ups

Jan. 12 City Council
Meeting

Jan. 15 Heritage
Preservation
Commission Meeting

Jan 17 Chamber of
Commerce Awards &
Installation Dinner

Jan. 19 Martin Luther
King's Birthday – City
Offices Closed

Jan. 20 Parks &
Recreation Commission
Meeting

Jan. 21 Planning
Commission Meeting

Jan. 19 Airport Advisory
Committee Meeting

Jan. 26 City Council
Meeting

Meeting agendas and
minutes are available on
the City's website at
www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us.

New City Council Takes Office

Following certification of the November election results on Dec. 8 three newly elected Chowchilla City Council members were sworn-in and a new city council was seated.

The elected council members include Dennis Haworth, Jim Kopshever and David Alexander.

Dennis Haworth was raised in Chowchilla and graduated from Chowchilla Union High School. Haworth has a background in law enforcement and currently works as a police officer with UC Merced.

Jim Kopshever returns to the city council where he has served the remainder of the term of the late Al Ginsburg.



Seated left to right: Dennis Haworth, Jim Kopshever, Justin White, David Alexander, John Chavez

Kopshever has a business background and has previously served on the Chowchilla Planning Commission.

David Alexander is in the insurance business and for the past four years he has served as a director on the Chowchilla Hospital Healthcare District.

Following their swearing-in, the new council members appointed Justin White as Mayor and Jim Kopshever as Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor White stated, "It is an honor to serve as Mayor and I look forward to working with my fellow council members as we take on what is sure to be a challenging year."

Christmas Tree Roundup Week

The annual Christmas Tree Roundup will take place from Jan. 5-9. If you would like to have your tree picked up for free have your tree at the

curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your regularly scheduled trash pick up day.

All trees over 6 feet tall must be cut in half and all

decorations must be removed from the tree prior to placing it at the curb.

Call 559-665-8615, extension 789 with any questions.

Little League & Girls Softball Registrations Begin

Chowchilla Little League 2009 baseball season sign-ups begin Jan. 9 at the Community Sports Center/Wilson Gym. Registrations will be Friday's from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday's

from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The last day to sign-up will be Feb. 7. For more information contact Shawn Grissom, Vice President at (559) 285-3482.

Chowchilla Girls Softball will also begin registering players

for the upcoming season on Fridays and Saturdays, beginning in mid-January.

Call the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department at (559) 665-8640 for details.

City Spotlight Connects to the Community

To better connect to the Chowchilla community the City of Chowchilla is pleased to produce this monthly newsletter that will include timely news and topics of interest. Additional details about the items will be available on the City's website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us. The City Spotlight will replace the annual City of Chowchilla Community Guide.

City of Chowchilla

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Chowchilla City Council

Justin White, *Mayor*
Jim Kopshever, *Mayor Pro Tem*
David Alexander, *Councilman*
John Chavez, *Councilman*
Dennis Haworth, *Councilman*

Nancy Red, *City Administrator*

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are conducted on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center. The agenda is posted on the City website.

Call Us

Civic Center	(559) 665-8615
City Council	ext. 105
City Administrator	ext. 100
City Clerk	ext. 105
Public Information	ext. 110
Human Resources	ext. 154
Planning	ext. 402
Inspections	ext. 406
Building	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 412
Fire	ext. 600
Utilities	ext. 783
Finance	ext. 784
Police Dispatch	ext. 785
Parks & Recreation	ext. 788
Public Works	ext. 789
Operator	ext. 0

Direct Numbers

Police	665-8600
Fire	665-8626
Parks & Recreation	665-8640

Emergency - Call 911

Credit cards are now accepted for in-person payments at the Finance Department. The City will soon offer an online utility payments option.



City Commission & Committee Vacancies

Now you can get involved in your community. The City of Chowchilla is seeking applicants for City commissions and committees (*Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Airport Committee, and Heritage Preservation Commission*). Members serve a term of four years

from Jan. 1 of the year of appointment, or until their successors are appointed.

Additional information and an application can be downloaded from the City's website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us. Click click on the "Commissions and Committees" heading then click on "Vacancies," or call

Administrative Services at 665-8615, ext. 105, or stop by the Civic Center at 130 S. Second Street at Trinity Avenue.

The deadline to submit an application is Jan. 7 or until a sufficient number of applications are received. Return applications to Administrative Services in the Chowchilla Civic Center.

Business Loan Fund Program

Businesses located within the Chowchilla city limits are eligible for various financial services provided by the City of Chowchilla. Low interest loans in "gap" financing situations are funded primarily by the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Funds can be used

for working capital, inventory purchase, buying machinery and equipment, etc.

The City works with local banks and the Small Business Administration to produce joint financial packages to develop and stimulate business growth in the community.

The City assures that the loan process will be handled confidentially.

For more information on the Business Loan Fund Program contact Angel Johnstone, Community/Economic Development Specialist at (559) 665-8615 ext. 107.

Council Enacts Administrative Fines Procedure

The Chowchilla City Council has authorized the City to issue Administrative Citations to violators of some provisions of the City Municipal Code. This process will minimize the

expense and delay of code enforcement, provide adequate costs recovery, and insure due process to those who are issued a violation. Typical violations will include graffiti, illegal

utilities service connections, dangerous and vicious animals, water wasting, littering, and more. Additional information is at City offices and on the City's website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us.

Year-Round Emergency Water Restrictions In Effect

Watering restrictions are in effect year-round in the City of Chowchilla. To maintain and conserve our important area water resources City residents are required to follow these regulations.

Customers with addresses that end with an odd number may water on Mon., Wed., and Fri., and those that end with an even number may water on Tue., Thu., and Sat. **Watering is prohibited**

between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day. SUNDAY has been designated as a "NO WATERING DAY." Violations will be issued for non-compliance with these regulations.

Customer Service Academy

The Chowchilla District Chamber in partnership with the Merced College Customer Service Academy will present a series of training classes beginning Jan. 6 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sessions will be held in the Public Meeting Room of the Chowchilla Civic Center.

There will be ten courses (three each month) with topics that will include

workplace communication, customer service, team building, values & ethics, conflict management and many more. Each course is \$10 and attendees can earn college credits.

Information is available through the Chamber link on the City's website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us.

Reserve a spot by calling the Chamber at (559) 665-5603.

Chamber Dinner

The Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce Awards & Installation Dinner will be Jan. 17 at 6:00 p.m. Senator Dave Cogdill, the Senate Republican Leader will be the keynote speaker. The no-host reception will be held at the "Little Theater" at the Chowchilla Fairgrounds.

Tickets are \$45 each or \$325 for 8. RSVP to the Chamber at (559) 665-5603 by Jan. 9.