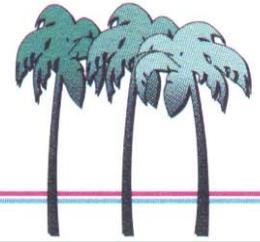


City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



October 2009 Volume 1, Issue 10

Upcoming Events

Oct. 4-10 - Fire Prevention Week; see article this page

Oct. 6 - Madera Co. Public Health **Free** Flu Shot Clinic in Chowchilla - see article on back

Oct. 12 - City Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Oct. 15 - Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Oct. 17 - Chowchilla PAL Motorcycle Toy Run, 8:00 a.m. sign-ups. Call (559) 665-8615, ext. 502 for information.

Oct. 17 - Chowchilla Volunteer Fire Department Open House, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. @ Fire Station
See article this page

Oct. 20 - Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Oct. 21 - Planning Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Oct. 26 - City Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Oct. 29 - Halloween "Treat Street", Call Parks & Rec. for info at (559) 665-8640.

Mark your calendars now:

November 1 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

November 11 - Veterans Day Commemoration Ceremony

November 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving Holiday week, City offices closed.

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



Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week 2009 focuses on ways to keep homes fire safe and prevent painful burns. By following simple safety rules, you can "Stay Fire Smart!"

Don't Get Burned.

- ⇒ Keep hot foods and liquids away from tables and counter edges so they cannot be pulled or knocked over.
- ⇒ Have a 3-foot "kid-free" zone around the stove.
- ⇒ Never hold a child in your arms while preparing hot food or while drinking a hot beverage.

Just Right?

- ⇒ Remember that young children and older adults' skin burns more easily.
- ⇒ To avoid scalds, set the thermostat setting on your water heater to no higher than 120 degrees.
- ⇒ Consider using anti-scald devices on tub faucets and shower heads to prevent scalds.
- ⇒ Always test the water first!

Cool a burn.

- ⇒ Treat a burn right away. Put it in cool water for 3-5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth.
- ⇒ Remove all clothing, diapers, jewelry, and metal from burned areas.
- ⇒ If the burn is bigger than your fist or if you have any questions, get medical help right away.

A complete list of fire safety tips and fire facts is available at the Civic Center or from the City website at:

www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us

-Information provided by the NFPA website

OPEN HOUSE

The Chowchilla Volunteer Fire Department will hold an **Open House** on Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Fire Station located at 240 N. First Street.

Their **NEW Fire Prevention Trailer** will be open for tours. Kids can go through a fire simulation and learn what to do in case of an actual fire.

There will be refreshments, giveaways, and also a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog. Be sure to stop by on Oct. 17th. For info, call 665-8615, x 110.



Burglary Prevention Tips

Be a good neighbor and keep your eyes open

Burglaries are on the rise and the Chowchilla Police Department reminds you to **Light** up your residence, **Lock** your doors at all times, and call the **Police** when you see something suspicious.

Here are some basic common sense tips to help deter burglars:

- ☑ Make your home look occupied. Leave lights on when you leave. Use automatic timers for longer periods of time.
- ☑ Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- ☑ If you'll be gone for a few days, have a neighbor or friend pick up your mail and newspapers.
- ☑ Pushbutton locks are easy for burglars to open. Install

deadbolt locks on all of your outside doors.

- ☑ Check your window locks and install special locks on sliding glass doors for better security.

Solicitors in the City

For the most part, solicitors follow the laws before heading out to neighborhoods however not everyone who comes to your door may be reputable.

ALL solicitors must obtain a license from the City and be able to furnish suitable identification when they approach your home. If you are visited by a solicitor, be sure to ask for an ID showing the name of the person and the organization they are with. If they cannot provide this, call the Police Department. If you feel uncomfortable or suspicious, call 9-1-1 immediately.

- ☑ Have adequate lighting outside. Consider a motion-sensitive light for back or side yards.
- ☑ Never leave notes on your door saying you're away.
- ☑ Never leave keys under doormats, in flowerpots, or other "secret" places.
- ☑ Consider installing an alarm system and then be sure to activate it every time you leave home.
- ☑ Mark your valuables with an engraving tool. Marked items are harder for a burglar to dispose of and easier for police to recover.
- ☑ **MOST IMPORTANT TIP: Be a good neighbor. If you notice anything suspicious in your area, call 9-1-1 immediately!**



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Website:
www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Chowchilla City Council

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

Jay Varney, *Acting City Administrator*

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are held 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
Asst. City Administrator	ext. 101
City Clerk	ext. 105
RDA/CDBG	ext. 107
Public Information	ext. 110
Human Resources	ext. 154
Airport Contact	ext. 322
Planning	ext. 402
Inspections	ext. 406
Building	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 412
Fire	ext. 600
Utilities	ext. 783
Finance	ext. 784
Parks & Recreation	ext. 788
Public Services	ext. 789
Operator	ext. 0

Direct Numbers

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

Emergency - Call 911

Contacting Us

To contact the newsletter editor, send email or mail to addresses listed above or call the Public Information Office at (559) 665-8615, extension 110.

Visa and MasterCard credit cards are now accepted for in-person payments at the Finance Department. The City will soon offer an online utility payment option.



Ask the City: Census 2010 Jobs - Apply Now!

Ask the City is a feature column answering questions submitted to us by email, mail or phone.

Are Census jobs available? M.B., Chowchilla

Yes, there are positions open for census takers and another round of recruiting begins this fall. According

to U.S. Census Bureau representatives, these are temporary, part-time jobs with flexible hours with up to 40 hours per week. Mileage reimbursement for field jobs is also included.

The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity

Employer. Bilingual applicants are encouraged to apply.

For census employment information, call their toll-free number at 1-866-861-2010 or visit their website at: www.2010censusjobs.gov



PAL Motorcycle Toy Run

Join the ride for the 10th Annual **Chowchilla PAL** (Police Activities League) **Motorcycle Toy Run** on Saturday, October 17, 2009. Sign in between 8:00 a.m. and 9:50 a.m. at Carl's Jr. Restaurant in Chowchilla. The Toy Run will get underway at 10:00 a.m. traveling through the

foothills before returning to Veterans Memorial Park back in Chowchilla for a delicious barbeque and great raffle prizes.

Admission donation is \$15 per rider and \$5 for an additional passenger. The first 150 participants will receive a commemorative

pin from the ride. Proceeds benefit the Chowchilla Ministerial Association's Christmas Basket Program and the Chowchilla PAL Program.

For more information on the Motorcycle Toy Ride, please call (559) 665-8615, extension 502.



Adult Co-ed Volleyball

Monday nights this fall offer great recreational fun for adults through the Chowchilla Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department.

The **Open Recreational Volleyball Program** is not a league - rather an opportunity for individuals to come together, form teams each week, and play volleyball just for FUN!

The fall program, held at the Community Sports Center/Wilson Gym, runs through December 14, 2009. The cost is \$2 per person per night and the time runs from 7-9 p.m. every Monday (*cancellations may occur due to holidays or special events*).

You may sign up any Monday night at the gym; all participants must sign a

Program Registration Liability Waiver Form and a Player's Code of Conduct Form prior to playing. These forms are available to download from the City website at: www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us

For further information, call the CPRCS department office at (559) 665-8640 or send email to: parksrec@ci.chowchilla.ca.us

FREE Flu Shot Clinics

Drive-through flu clinics are scheduled all over Madera County during the month of October. These clinics will offer **free** (donations are accepted) *seasonal flu shots for county residents twelve years of age and older. **Note: The H1N1 vaccine is not available at this time at these clinics.**

Chowchilla's Flu Clinic is set for October 6, 2009 at the Chowchilla Fairgrounds from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. There will

be two clinics in Madera at the fairgrounds on October 16 and October 17 (Saturday clinic). Both times are 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Madera County Public Health also encourages community volunteers to assist at these clinics. For more information or to volunteer, call Madera County Public Health toll-free at (800) 427-6897 or (559) 675-7893. *Vaccines may be limited.

Halloween "Treat Street"



Chowchilla Parks, Recreation & Community Services is bringing you a **NEW** holiday event on Thursday, October 29, 2009 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Halloween Treat Street is a **FREE** event for children 12 years of age and younger. For information, call the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department office at (559) 665-8640.