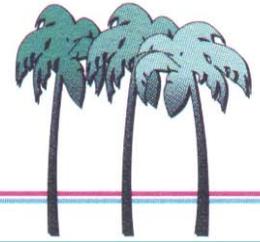


# City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



January 2010 Volume 2, Issue 1

## Upcoming Schedule

**Jan. 1** - New Year's Day -  
City Offices Closed

**Jan. 8** - Furlough Day -  
City Offices Closed

**Jan. 11** - City Council  
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 16** - Chowchilla Chamber  
of Commerce Installation &  
Awards Dinner, Little Theater  
Call the Chamber office at  
665-5603 for information.

**Jan. 18** - Martin Luther King  
Jr. Day - City Offices Closed

**Jan. 19** - Airport Advisory  
Committee Meeting -  
Civic Center, 4 p.m.

**Jan. 19** - Parks & Recreation  
Commission Meeting,  
Civic Center, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 20** - Planning  
Commission Meeting,  
Civic Center, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 21** - Heritage  
Preservation Commission  
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 22** - Furlough Day -  
City Offices Closed

**Jan. 25** - City Council  
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

### Mark your calendars now:

**Saturday, February 13** -  
Chowchilla District Chamber of  
Commerce Valentine Wine  
Express. Call the Chamber at  
665-5603 for information.

Meeting agendas, minutes and  
details on events are available  
on the City's website at  
[www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us)

## Meet Your Mayor

### Kopshever named Chowchilla's newest Mayor



At the  
December  
14, 2009  
City  
Council  
Meeting,  
Jim  
Kopshever  
was

appointed Mayor of Chowchilla. Jim was appointed to the City Council in October 2007 and elected to the City Council in November 2008. He will serve as Mayor from Dec. 2009 to Dec. 2010.

David Alexander was  
appointed Mayor Pro Tem.

Jim and his wife Jeanne moved their family to Chowchilla in 1987 to enter the automotive business. After seventeen years, they sold the business in 2004. Jim continues working in the automotive business as well as consulting in real estate and business development.

Jim and Jeanne have one daughter, Michelle, a

paralegal in Sacramento, and one son, Tony, serving as a Petty Officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. Jim & Jeanne were blessed with their first grandchild, Adam, in 2008.

Jim has been very active in Rotary and was a member of the Chowchilla Planning Commission for 13 years. Jim's interests include spending time with his family, yachting, helping others develop their businesses, and serving his community.

## Time to License Your Dog

### Licenses expire December 31st every year

Chowchilla Municipal Code 6.04.250 states all dogs residing within the City of Chowchilla limits that are **over the age of four months** must be vaccinated for rabies and licensed through the Chowchilla Police Department every year.

Proof of rabies vaccination is required in order to obtain a dog license. You must also

show proof of dog's alteration in order to receive licensing discounts. To obtain or renew a license, visit the Chowchilla Police Department during regular business hours (call for hours). Renewals only in the form of check or money order payable to the City of Chowchilla may be mailed in to the department at 122 Trinity Avenue. Proof of current rabies vaccination must

also be included if not already on file or if it has expired.

The fee is \$9.00 for altered dogs and \$18.00 for unaltered dogs. The Senior discount is \$4.50 for altered dogs and \$9.00 for unaltered dogs. *Note: A \$20 late fee will be added to all fees after April 1.*

For further information, call Chowchilla PD at 665-8600.

## Food Assistance

When times are hard, our community comes together to help their own.

The Good Samaritan **Food Pantry**, sponsored by LifeChange Church, is a food assistance program offered **free** to residents of Chowchilla who are struggling financially during these tough economic times. The Food Pantry is open on Mondays, Wednes-

days, and Fridays (closed New Year's Day) from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the rear of Faith Hall next to LifeChange Church located at 717 Robertson Boulevard. The only requirements are residents must provide a picture ID plus two pieces of mail showing the same Chowchilla address.

For more information, call the church at 665-2613.

### Christmas Tree Roundup



If you would like your Christmas tree taken away for free, please have your tree at curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your regular trash pick up day during the week of **January 4 through January 9, 2010**. Please remember - all trees over six feet tall must be cut in half and all trees must be free of any decorations.



## City of Chowchilla

130 S. Second Street  
Civic Center Plaza  
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Telephone: (559) 665-8615  
Fax: (559) 665-7418  
Email: [generalinfo@ci.chowchilla.ca.us](mailto:generalinfo@ci.chowchilla.ca.us)  
**Website:**  
[www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us)

### Chowchilla City Council

Jim Kopshever, *Mayor*  
David Alexander, *Mayor Pro Tem*  
John Chavez, *Council Member*  
Dennis Haworth, *Council Member*  
Justin White, *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
Human Resources	ext. 105
RDA/CDBG	ext. 107
Public Information	ext. 110
Airport Contact	ext. 322
Planning	ext. 405
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: Furlough Closures

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

### Is the City going to have furlough days in 2010? *H.S., Chowchilla*

At this time, City Council mandated employee unpaid furlough days for all City departments, with the exception of Public Safety, are scheduled to continue

in 2010 until the end of the fiscal year in June.

Beginning in 2010 on Friday, January 8, City offices will be closed every other Friday through June 25 due to the furloughs. Please note the following important information:

⇒ Utility payments will not be penalized on the affected Fridays.

- ⇒ Payments may be dropped in the drop box located on the right side of the front of the Civic Center.
- ⇒ Garbage services will not be affected.
- ⇒ For Public Safety emergencies, not day-to-day business, contact the Chowchilla Police Department at 665-8600.

## Board Vacancies - Get Involved!



City Boards and Commissions are the foundation of our community. They are how the community navigates the daily and weekly decisions that make Chowchilla run smoothly to become the type of

community we all want. Your Mayor and City Council members encourage your participation on these various boards.

Applications may be picked up from the City Clerk's

office located in the Chowchilla Civic Center, 130 S Second St., Civic Center Plaza, on the City website at: [www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us) or by calling 665-8615, extension 105.

## PG&E "Breathe Easy Solutions"

PG&E is offering numerous programs and community outreach projects to help manage energy costs. This can be especially helpful when you may be facing financial challenges or changes in your situation.

There are programs such as CARE (California Alternate Rate Assistance) and FERA (Family Electric Rate Assistance) that offer monthly discounts on

energy bills for qualifying households. REACH (Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help) is a one-time energy assistance program that helps income qualified customers who experience severe or unplanned hardships with their energy needs.

They also offer a balanced budget plan where monthly payments can be averaged

out to allow you to budget your energy costs. There are other helpful programs such as Rebates for your Home, Medical Baseline (for those with special medical conditions), and Energy Partners, a program providing free energy education to help reduce electric usage. For further information, contact PG&E at 1-800-933-9555 or visit them online at: [www.pge.com](http://www.pge.com)



## 2010 Census - Jobs Available

The United States Census Bureau is now hiring local Census Takers, Crew Leaders, Crew Leader Assistants, Recruiting Assistants, and Census Clerks.

With the 2010 Census Team, you can earn good pay, get paid weekly, work flexible hours, receive paid training, receive reimburse-

ment for authorized mileage and other work-related expenses, and help your own community have a successful 2010 Census.

All positions mentioned, except Census Clerk, usually work in their own neighborhoods and must work varied hours which may include evenings and weekends. The Census job

assignments generally last several weeks. Census Clerks work inside the Local Census Office and their work is intermittent.

To apply or to take a practice test, visit [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov) or call their toll-free jobs line at: 1-866-861-2010. FedRelay: 1-800-877-8339 TTY