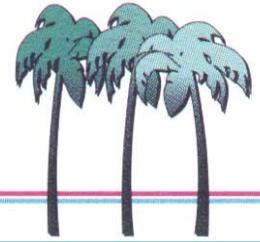


# City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



February 2012 Volume 4, Issue 2

## Monthly Calendar

**Feb 3** - Furlough Day -  
City/CATX Offices Closed

**Feb 4** - CAF Girls Softball -  
Last Day to Register (*see back*)

**Feb 4** - Lions Club Pancake  
Breakfast, Little Theater,  
7 to 11 a.m.

**Feb 5** - Lions Club BBQ Rib  
Dinner, Little Theater,  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Feb 8** - Chamber Board  
Meeting, Civic Center Public  
Meeting Room, 12 p.m.

**Feb 10** - City Offices Closed

**Feb 11** - Sober Grad  
Valentine Dinner, *Details TBA*

**Feb 15** - Planning  
Commission Meeting,  
Civic Center, 7 p.m.

**Feb 17** - Furlough Day -  
City/CATX Offices Closed

**Feb 18** - CAF Hall of Fame  
Dinner, SFA Hall, 6 p.m.

**Feb 20** - Presidents' Day  
Holiday - City/CATX Offices  
Closed

**Feb 24** - City Offices Closed

**Feb 28** - City Council  
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

### Coming in March:

**Mar 10** - Little League  
Opening Ceremonies, RC  
Wisener Park

**Mar 17** - CAF Girls Softball  
Opening Ceremonies, Sports  
& Leisure Park

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)

## New City Department Heads Benelli and Fabino join the Team



The City of Chowchilla is pleased to announce the addition of a City Engineer/Public Works Director and a Director of Community and Economic Development. City Council and staff have been vigilant about keeping a balanced budget and one of the goals has been to reduce outside consultant fees. With the addition of the new directors, outside consultant services have been discontinued thereby providing a cost savings while improving customer service.

Andrew Benelli takes the reins as City Engineer & Public Works Director for the Public Works



Department. Benelli formerly held the same position with the City of Visalia from 2004-2012 and the City of Reedley prior to that from 1998-2004. Benelli obtained two Bachelor of Science degrees in Civil Engineering and Surveying

and Photogrammetry from CSU Fresno in 1989.

Benelli's goals for his new position include providing better customer service and getting involved in the community. Benelli would also like to deliver capital projects to improve traffic circulation and pavement conditions and to modernize and improve the water system. Benelli stated "I truly enjoy working in smaller communities and look forward to working with the staff and residents of Chowchilla."

Kevin Fabino has joined the City of Chowchilla as Director of Community & Economic Development.



Kevin comes from the City of Fresno Planning and Development Department where he spent the last ten years. While employed there, he managed the Current Planning and Mapping and Engineering

Sections of the department. Fabino's educational background consists of a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Recreational Services and a Masters Degree in Public Administration, which he obtained from CSU Fresno in 1998.

According to Fabino, his immediate focus is on customer service. "I am a big believer in public service and want to strive to serve our community with the best service possible," stated Fabino. "Chowchilla is a great community and I have felt the warm welcome," said Fabino. "I am open to hearing what people want and expect out of our department and I look forward to working with the public."

Andrew Benelli and Kevin Fabino have offices at the Civic Center and may be reached at the Civic Center by calling (559) 665-8615. Stop by and meet them when you get the chance.

## Fairmead Centennial Celebration... 100 YEARS!

Fairmead Community & Friends is now in its fourth year advocating for the Fairmead community. Their non-profit committee strives to find solutions to problems in their community and to assist in getting their neighbors involved to make a better quality of life for the Fairmead community.

Fairmead was founded in 1912 by the Co-operative Land & Trust Co. of Palo Alto.

To commemorate the special occasion for their community, Fairmead Community & Friends will be hosting a centennial celebration for Fairmead's 100-year anniversary on June 2, 2012.

There will be a community parade, BBQ lunch, arts and crafts vendor booths, and live entertainment. The group is inviting people to sign up for the parade or set up a vendor booth space (minimal fee for

space). They also are looking for volunteers to be a part of the centennial committee to help organize the event.

For more details, please contact (559) 665-0848 or (209) 247-8000. The Fairmead Community & Friends committee is working under the umbrella of Community Action Partnership of Madera County located in Madera. They may be reached by calling (559) 673-9173.



## City of Chowchilla

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**Website:**  
[www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us)

### Chowchilla City Council

Janan Hebert, *Mayor*  
Jim Kopshever, *Mayor Pro Tem*  
David Alexander, *Council Member*  
Dennis Haworth, *Council Member*  
Isaac Jackson, *Council Member*

Mark Lewis, *City Administrator*  
Wayne Padilla, *Asst. City Administrator*

### City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth **Tuesday** 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. 705
City Administrator	ext. 100
Asst. City Administrator	ext. 101
RDA/CDBG	ext. 101
City Clerk	ext. 705
Human Resources	ext. 705
Public Information	ext. 110
Planning	ext. 400
Building	ext. 410
Inspections	ext. 406
Code Enforcement	ext. 406
Fire	ext. 600
Utilities	ext. 783
Finance	ext. 784
Parks & Recreation	ext. 110
Public Works	ext. 789
Airport Contact	ext. 322

### Direct Numbers

CATX	665-8655
Police	665-8600
Anonymous Tip Line	665-8624
Fire	665-8626

### Emergency - Call 911

### Contacting Us

To contact the newsletter editor, send email or mail to address 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 Civic Center and the Police Department.



Find current City information at [www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us) or 'Like' us on Facebook.

## PAL Warriors Wrestling - New!

The Chowchilla Police Activities League (PAL) is under new leadership with a new program and a determination to continue its commitment to serve the youth in our community.

Chowchilla police officer Manuel Ramirez will now lead the PAL program. He has formed the Chowchilla Warrior Wrestling Program, a community youth program. Chowchilla PAL Warriors Wrestling welcomes boys and girls 5-18 years old regardless of skill level or school affiliation.

This is a community youth program in which the goal is to provide a safe and

structured environment where wrestlers will learn and develop wrestling skills. At the same time, they will develop confidence, self-discipline, and a strong work ethic as they learn to compete as an individual within a team environment.

All wrestlers are required to purchase SCWAY (\$15.00) and/or USA wrestling cards (\$35.00) in order to practice and participate in wrestling tournaments. Local tournaments are normally \$10.00 per wrestler/style and are usually held on Saturdays with a few on Sundays. State tournaments are normally \$35.00



per wrestler (2 day event weekend). Parents will be responsible for providing their own transportation.

Practices will be at the Wilson Middle School wrestling room (S. 13th St. and Trinity Ave) and will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for K-5 grades and 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for 6-12 grades.

PAL plans include adding a mixed martial arts program in the near future. For more info on PAL Warriors Wrestling, call (559) 665-8600.

## Girls Softball - Registration ends soon

Chowchilla Athletic Foundation **Girls Softball** is for girls 6 years through 8th grade. The last day to sign up is Feb. 4 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the Wilson Gym. You may also pick up and deliver registration forms to Shirt Shak

at 510 Robertson Blvd. or D&V Sports at 116 Robertson. Girls Softball opening ceremonies take place on March 17.

be age four by 3/15/12 and there is a \$30 fee. Sign-ups will also be taken on Feb. 4 at the Wilson Gym.

A **Tee ball** program for girls is offered by CAF this year. To play Tee Ball, girls must

For more info, visit: [www.chowchillagirlssoftball.com](http://www.chowchillagirlssoftball.com) or email them at: [cebo4@hotmail.com](mailto:cebo4@hotmail.com)

### ARE YOUR SPRINKLERS STILL ON?

This is a good time to check your automatic sprinkler system to make sure your timer is turned off. During this time of the year, your lawn and landscaping do not need as much water.

Remember, Watering Regulations are enforced **YEAR-round**, so please do your part and be a good neighbor.

The City thanks you for your conservation efforts!



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English TDD: (800) 735-2929 Spanish TDD: (800) 855-3000 So Habla Espanol

