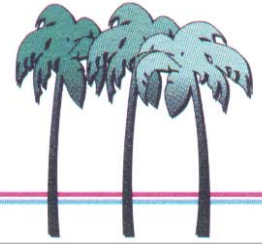




City of Chowchilla

City Spotlight



May 2009 Volume 1, Issue 5

Upcoming Events

May 7 - Annual Mayor's Prayer Luncheon, Faith Hall - Call 665-8615, ext. 110 for info.

May 9 - Iron Gates Art Show Parkview Palms Breezeway, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

May 14 - 12th Annual Peace Officers' Ceremony, Veterans Park, 10 a.m.

May 14-17 - Chowchilla-Madera County Fair, www.chowchillafair.org

May 16 - Chowchilla Spring Festival Parade and BBQ - beginning at 10 a.m.

May 18 - Airport Advisory Committee Meeting, Civic Center, 4 p.m.

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

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

May 25 - Memorial Day - City Offices Closed

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

Mark your calendars now:

June 13 - K9 Kids Carnival
June 20-21 - IHBA Drag Boat Races - TENTATIVE dates
June 27 - Chamber's Motorcycle Show N' Shine

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

It's Fair Time!

The **2009 Chowchilla-Madera County Fair** will be held on May 14-17. Some of the great daily entertainment at this year's Fair will include the Fido 500 Mini Dog Races, Guitar Hero Contests, Rockin' Idol Contest, Imagination Circus, Kids Tractor Pulls and much more. New to the Fair this year will be an "Ultimate Cowboy" contest on Thursday, a scavenger hunt on Friday and Saturday, and



a live homemade ice cream making contest on Sunday.

Admission to the Fair is \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and \$3 for children ages 6-12.

Season passes may also be purchased @ \$18 for adults and \$12 for children. There will be no entrance fee into the Fair on Sunday May 17 from noon to 5 p.m. and parking is FREE all four days. Presale carnival tickets may

be purchased for \$20 per sheet. The sheets may be exchanged daily for a wristband from opening until 4 p.m. (9 p.m. on Thursday).

The Spring Festival Parade kicks off at 10 a.m. on Sat., May 16 and the deep-pit BBQ follows. BBQ tickets are available at \$10 each. For more information on the Fair, call (559) 665-3728 or visit www.chowchillafair.org

Peace Officers' Ceremony

The City of Chowchilla Police Department is holding their **12th Annual Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony** on Thursday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. This event, held during National Law Enforcement Week, pays tribute to our local officers who serve and protect and also honors those

brave men and women in blue throughout the state that have tragically lost their lives in the line of duty.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided by Soroptimist International of Chowchilla. For more information, call Chowchilla P.D. at 665-8600.

Census 2010



Taken every 10 years, the U.S. Census directs the allocation of billions of government dollars and affects political representation. For 2010, the questionnaire has become simpler and shorter and each household's participation is mandatory. More information on Census 2010 will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

Housing Element - Community Input Needed

The City of Chowchilla will be updating its 2004 **Housing Element** of the General Plan in coming months and is anxious to obtain community input on the following topics: housing needs, affordability and availability of housing in Chowchilla, housing assistance for lower income households, special housing

needs, and any other housing concerns in the City.

Housing issues affect all of us. Public participation presents an opportunity for the community to help identify problems and create potential solutions. The City encourages all homeowners, renters, housing/apartment

managers, business owners, developers, and community service providers to provide their valuable input.

Visit the City website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us and look under the What's New section on the home page to view the 2004 document or call (559) 665-8615, ext. 450.



Picnic Pavilion Rentals

Our beautiful Chowchilla city parks have **picnic pavilions** available to rent for fun family picnics, parties and other events.

Rentals are available for half day and full day periods. Electricity is available for some pavilions at an additional charge.

For more information or to schedule your next outing, call the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department at (559) 665-8640.



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

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

Nancy Red, 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
City Clerk	ext. 105
RDA/CDBG	ext. 107
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
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: Administrative Citations

Ask the City is a feature column answering questions submitted to us by email, mail or phone. Readers may send in their questions to the addresses listed in the left column.

I've heard about Administrative Citations being enforced. What are the citations for?

J.H., Chowchilla

According to Ordinance #444-08 of the Chowchilla

Municipal Code, a method has been established to penalize responsible parties for violating provisions of the City Code. Some of these violations include graffiti, non-compliance with watering rules, garbage cans left on streets and dangerous animals. See the enclosed flier for more info on the Citation Program or call (559) 665-8615, x 787.



Building Safety Week

When you enter a house or building, most likely you're not thinking about whether it is properly constructed and safe. Fortunately, your local safety experts think about building safety and fire prevention every day.

To help raise awareness of building safety, the City of Chowchilla's Community Development Department is celebrating **Building Safety Week** from May 3 through May 9. Across the nation, communities will

promote the use and understanding of building safety and fire prevention codes to protect lives and property. The 2009 theme is "Building Safety: Where You Live, Work and Play." We're here to protect you!

Adult Slow Pitch Softball Starts Soon

Team registrations for the **2009 Adult Slow Pitch Softball League** are now being accepted at the City's Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department until 3:45 p.m. on May 26. All players must be at least 18 years of age by June 30, 2009.

Registrations will be accepted for both Co-Rec and Men's recreational and competitive divisions (depending on number of teams, divisions may be combined). Team registration fee is \$395 per division. A mandatory managers meeting for all registered

teams will be held on Thurs., May 28 at 6:00 p.m. League play begins the second week of June. More information and registration forms are available at City offices and online at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us. Via email, contact us at parksrec@ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Summer Chillin' Day Camp

Boys and girls ages 5-12 years will be able to participate in a group playground program this summer through the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department. The day camps will be held at the City's Sports & Leisure Park. Registration details

will be available in mid-May and the day camps will begin in early June. More details will be available at the Parks, Recreation & Community Services office and online at the City of Chowchilla's website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us, or call us at (559) 665-8640.

Area 15 Skatepark

The Area 15 Skatepark in the City's Sports & Leisure Park is open for drop-in skateboarders. Posted rules must be observed which include wearing a helmet and safety pads. Bicycles and spectators

are not allowed in the skatepark. The Area 15 Skatepark is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from 4 - 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and is closed Tuesday and Wednesday.



QUEEN FOR A DAY

The Chowchilla Community Merchants Association (CCMA) is sponsoring a free "Queen for a Day" contest. Entry forms may be picked up from any participating CCMA member business. The deadline is Friday, May 8. Great prize packages for that special lady include a spa day and gift certificates. All winners will be notified by May 15. For more information on entering or where to pick up entry forms, contact CCMA President Andrea Haze at (559) 665-4353.

SAVING WATER IN YOUR YARD



The state's drought conditions mean homeowners need to watch their water usage. Yet over half of our home water is used on our lawns and gardens. Lawn experts say you can be green and still have a green lawn. Homeowners can save water by installing drip or soak irrigation systems and automatic rain monitor or moisture sensors that override water timers. Specially treated soils and mulches help retain moisture in the ground and drought-tolerant seeds and plants use up less water. Water early and slowly allowing the ground to hold onto the moisture. City watering rules are available on our website.