

Dear «Preferred_Name»,

From March 3rd through March 7th a delegation from Dublin, Ireland visited San Jose to honor the San Jose-Dublin Sister City Relationship which has been in effect for the last 24 years. Established in 1986, the San Jose & Dublin Sister City Program was initiated by then Mayor of San Jose, Tom McEnery, and Bertie Ahern, then Lord Mayor of Dublin. The program, known as “twinning” in Ireland, has thrived throughout its two-decade existence and develops cultural, economic, artistic and sporting ties between San Jose/Silicon Valley and Dublin.

The following meetings and events took place during “Irish Week”:

- A special premiere of the Irish Film “Secret of the Kells” which was an Academy Award Nominee for Best Animated Film
- Welcome Sister City Breakfast at the Fairmont Plaza Building
- Flag Raising Ceremony at San Jose City Hall
- Business meeting with IBM
- Shark’s Hockey Game during which Ireland was presented a Sharks’ signed hockey stick
- Breakfast hosted by San Jose City Manager Debra Figone
- Meeting with John Hartnett, CEO of G-24, regarding the Irish Technology Leadership Group, the Irish Innovation Centre and future plans for both of our countries.
- Ballet San Jose’s performance of “Romeo and Juliet”
- Spirit of Ireland Award Dinner at the Hayes Mansion, honoring Robert Hennessy, the founder and executive director of San Jose Conservation Corps & Charter.

Companies in San Jose / Silicon Valley such as Adobe, Cisco Systems, eBay, Flextronics, IBM and Xilinx have an Irish presence. Since the delegation visited in 2009, plans have been announced for the Irish Innovation Centre, located in the Linden Building at 177 W. Santa Clara Street. The facility is expected to house as many as 35 cleantech and software communications companies looking to build a presence in the United States. Trinity College–Dublin is backing the Innovation Center, as is University College, two of Ireland’s top schools.

By developing partnerships between Dublin and San Jose, providing opportunities for their city officials and citizens to experience community partnerships, the San Jose–Dublin Sister City Program strives to create an atmosphere in which economic and cultural development can be implemented and strengthened. Through reciprocal cultural, educational, municipal and business exchanges and projects, we look to continue the significance and relevance of the relationship between San Jose and Dublin.



Dublin Lord Mayor Emer Costello, Former San Jose City Councilmember Charlotte Powers, Vice Mayor Judy Chirco & Councilmember Nancy Pyle pose with Irish Week Proclamation

March 15th 2010
Newsletter
print version is
[available here](#)



[facebook.com/SecretOfKells](https://www.facebook.com/SecretOfKells)

All the Best,



Nancy Pyle, Councilmember

**City works to Balance Budget –
Article provided by Debra Figone, City Manager**

The City of San Jose, like private sector companies, has been hard hit by the economic downturn. For the budget year that will start in July, the City is facing a \$116 million deficit.

While many other cities have already been forced to make significant reductions in the services they provide, the City of San Jose has historically been able to soften these community impacts through the strategic use of reserves, strong fiscal policies, and a long tradition as a well-managed City.

The decisions our elected officials face in June will require a difficult balancing act between significantly reducing costs while sustaining the best mix of critical City services, such as police, fire, street maintenance, parks and library services.

To minimize cuts in service, which also means eliminating positions, the City is asking employees for wage and benefit concessions, looking at new revenue sources and exploring ways we can be more efficient or restructure service delivery.

That said, there are hurdles to success in these areas. Any new revenues in the form of taxes must be approved by voters, who may not be supportive. In the area of employee concessions, we are targeting reductions for all employees. Every 5% reduction would reduce the deficit by \$30 million. We have begun the process to negotiate with bargaining units. However, changes to City employees' wages, benefits or pensions can only be made after going through the negotiating process with the City's 11 bargaining units.

If new revenues or employee concessions are not achieved, it will mean more significant service reductions and lay-offs. We are still in the early stages of developing next year's budget, so the "solutions" will change. But among the proposals are significant reductions, including closing fire stations, reducing police staffing, shuttering community centers and cutting branch libraries back to three days per week.

All of these proposals will be the subject of much public debate. The City of San Jose uses a community-based budgeting process to help ensure that our decisions reflect the values and priorities of our community. You can stay informed and make your opinion on these issues heard. Check the [City's Web site](#) to find information about the budget. Meetings to share information and hear public comment about the budget will be held in every City Council District starting in March. The City Council will hold study sessions for two weeks in May, and public hearings are scheduled for May 18 and June 14.



The Irish Flag is flown ceremoniously over San Jose City Hall



Bag Piper plays at City Hall during 2010 Irish Week Flag Raising



San Jose Family Camp Swimming Area

For more information, contact the City Manager's Communications Office (535-8170).

San Jose's Family Camp will remain closed through the summer and re-open in 2011

The City of San Jose's Family Camp will be closed this summer due to serious structural safety hazards in the Camp's dining hall. City staff will use the one year closure to complete the Family Camp Master Plan, negotiate a new 20 year lease with the National Forest Service, develop a business plan to make camp operations cost recovery and upgrade facilities at the camp. Staff will also assess and implement upgrades to key infrastructure such as the potable water system, forest, roadways and tent platforms. Family Camp provides San Jose residents with an affordable camping experience in the Stanislaus National Forest. Family Camp is generally open from May to mid-October. During spring and fall, the pre- and post season, the camp is host to community organizations such as the YMCA, Scouts and Schools. On a typical day, Family Camp houses approximately 250 people and serves food to them three times each day.

San Jose Airport Launches Flights to Maui and Kona

Alaska Airlines launched its new three-times-weekly service between San Jose and Kahului, Maui, on Thursday, March 11, and four-times-weekly service between San José and Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii starting Friday, March 12. Both flights depart San Jose at 7:30 a.m., and they both arrive in the Hawaiian Islands before 11:30 a.m. That's plenty of time to get to the beach or the golf course for the afternoon.

SJC last had direct service to Maui six years ago, and ongoing surveys of travelers indicate very strong interest in the return of the route. This will be the first-ever service to Kona from San Jose. Alaska will operate the new flights with Boeing 737-800 aircraft, accommodating 16 passengers in first class and 141 in the main cabin. Alaska also now operates the daily "Nerd Bird" service between San Jose and Austin, and it started the second daily flight on this service on Sunday, March 14. For information about schedules and fares, contact Alaska Airlines at www.alaskaair.com.

Falcons at San Jose City Hall —

Clara and Esteban Colbert are expecting again! On Tuesday, March 2nd at 9:57am, Clara delivered her first egg of 2010. The laying of this first egg came more than a week earlier than in 2008 and 2009, when her first egg was laid on March 13th and March 12th respectively. As female falcons typically continue to lay eggs at 48- to 60-hour intervals, additional eggs are expected. This is Clara's fourth nesting season at San Jose City Hall, and her second with Esteban Colbert.

Thanks to the generosity of individuals and corporations, falcon fans can witness the action live via the upgraded FalconCam system, which now includes a second camera and provides new vistas around the nestbox and City Hall. The FalconCam is maintained by the City of San Jose in partnership with the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group at the University of California-Santa Cruz.

The FalconCam is online at both the City of San Jose website and the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group website.

Upcoming Events:

Prom Dress Drive

This City of San Jose in partnership with Councilmember Madison Nguyen presents Operation Prom Dress! In this tough economy many girls are discouraged from attending their high school prom due to the high cost.



Venice Falls, Maui

Contact Us

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Falcon Clara sits on her first egg of 2010.

Please help our San Jose students have a memorable prom by donating a new or gently used dress today! Donation boxes are at community centers throughout San Jose, including the Almaden Community Center until March 27th. For more information please contact Lan Thao Nguyen at 408-535-4959 or at lanthao.nguyen@sanjoseca.gov.

Great American Litter Pickup – Saturday March 20th
Meet up at Pioneer High School (1290 Blossom Hill Road)
Free Breakfast and Lunch provided!
Community service credit available for High School Students



Prom dress drive

**don't let LITTER
trash your community!**

Sign Up,
Pick Up and
Clean Up
Your Community!

**Great American Litter
PICK UP**



Saturday, March 20, 2010
Clean-up: 8:30 – 11:30 AM
For more information or to sign up call: **(408) 277-3208**

Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own pick-up stick & gloves. All youth under 18 need supervision & transportation to get to clean-up sites.

Para información sobre este día de limpieza comunitaria, llame al (408) 277-3208. Muốn biết tin tức bằng tiếng Việt về việc dọn rác vứt bừa bãi, xin gọi số (408) 277-3208.



Councilmember Pyle with
Volunteers from a Previous
Great American Litter
Pick Up Event

Happy Hollow Grand Re-Opening: Saturday, March 20th

**HAPPY HOLLOW
PARK & ZOO**

**Opening for
New Memories
March 20, 2010**

Opening with More Rides, More
Animals, More Themed-Play Areas,
More Puppet Shows, More to See,
More to Do, More to Learn,
And So Much More!

**Grand Re-Opening
March 20, 2010!**

www.hhpz.org

Census 2010 Notice

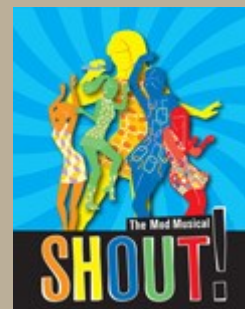
A successful census is in your hands.
In March 2010, every household in the county will receive a Census
questionnaire. We need you or someone in your household to fill it out and



The 2010 Census will be
taking place in March—
watch for the materials that
are being mailed to your
home.

[Click here for the
Citywide Phone
Directory](#)

Arts Calendar –
*fun things to do around
town!*



Shout! The Mad Musical
Now to April 11th
The Retro Dome in San
Jose
www.theretrodome.com

mail it back by April 1, 2010, in order to ensure an accurate people-count in San Jose and Santa Clara County.

It's Important – The federal government uses census numbers to allocate more than \$435 billion annually for community programs and services, such as education, housing, public health, senior services, transportation, neighborhood improvements and more. The information you provide makes sure that San Jose and Santa Clara County get their fair share of these funds.

It's Easy – Every residence will receive a short form with 10 questions that are simple and fast to complete. Forms are available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and Russian. Phone language assistance is available in over 50 languages by calling (866) 872-6868. Lines will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week from February 25, 2010 through July 30, 2010.

It's Confidential – By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's answers with anyone, including welfare and immigration agencies. Every Census worker has taken an oath for life to protect confidentiality of census responses. Violation would result in a jail term of up to 5 years and/or a fine up to \$250,000. For more information about 2010 Census, visit www.sanjoseca.gov/Census2010.asp.

Community Calendar

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 16th: 1:30pm

San Jose City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara Street

www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/agenda.asp

♣ ♣ ♣ St. Patrick's Day ♣ ♣ ♣

Wednesday, March 17th 2010

Hoffman Via Monte Neighborhood Association Meeting

Wednesday, March 17th: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Hoffman Via Monte Neighborhood Center, 1180 Blossom Hill Road

Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, March 18th: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Location: TBD

www.stfna.org/

Great American Litter Pickup

Saturday, March 20th: 8:30 am – 11:00 am

Pioneer High School, 1290 Blossom Hill Road

Happy Hollow Grand Re-Opening

Saturday, March 20th: 9:00 am

Happy Hollow Park and Zoo, 1300 Senter Road

Free Family Movie Night

Friday, March 26th: 6:30 pm doors open, 7:00 pm movie starts

Almaden Community Center; 6445 Camden Avenue

Hosted by the District 10 Youth Advisory Council

For more information email Laura.Cowan@sanjoseca.gov

Easter Egg Hunt with the Easter Bunny

Saturday, March 27th: 9:30am

Westfield Oakridge Mall, Macy's Courtyard



Ain't Misbehavin'

Now - April 18, 2010

San Jose Repertory Theatre

www.sjrep.com



OVO

Cirque du Soleil

February 4th to March 21st

www.artsopolis.com

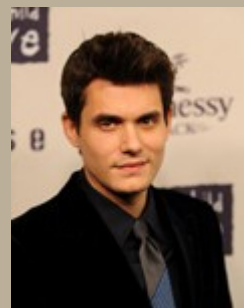


Legally Blonde: The Musical

Broadway San Jose

March 16th to March 21st

[Click here for details](#)



John Mayer

HP Pavilion

March 26th Only

[Click here for details](#)

Please call the Westfield Oakridge Management Office at 408-578-2912 to register your children between the ages of 3 and 7.

VEP Community Association

Community Home Fair
Tuesday, March 30th: 7:00pm
Gunderson High School, 622 Gaundabert Lane
www.vepca.net/

Cesar Chavez Day

Wednesday, March 31st

District 10 Budget Forum

Thursday April 8th
Mayor Reed, Councilmember Pyle and the San Jose City Manager's Office would like to gather feedback from District 10 residents about their budget priorities. San Jose is currently facing a \$116 million deficit for the fiscal year 2010–2011 operating budget. Click here for the FY 2010 – 2011 Budget Timeline.



Quote

“May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow, and many trouble avoid you wherever you go.”

-Anonymous

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