

Meeting Date: 11/18/08

AGENDA REPORT

City of Santa Clara, California

Agenda Item # 54



Date: November 13, 2008

To: City Manager for Council Action

From: Chief of Police

Subject: Special Order of Business to Present "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award To Emma Kaliterna

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In December 2005, the City Council established the "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award to honor community members who distinguish themselves for activity significantly above and beyond the norm of community activism; or individuals who have distinguished themselves in public service to the Santa Clara community, with exceptional performance and leadership under the ideals of the City's Code of Ethics and Values. The Council policy is outlined in "Guidelines for Selection of 'Those Who Inspire' Recognition Award," which specifies that nominees will be evaluated by an awards committee consisting of designated staff members. The Chief of Police, City Librarian, and Administrative Analyst to the City Manager reviewed the nomination of Emma Kaliterna.

As you can see from the attached description, Emma Kaliterna epitomizes the qualities of "Those Who Inspire."

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ISSUE:

A well-deserving member of the Santa Clara community will receive special recognition for her outstanding service to the members of our community for many years.

ECONOMIC/FISCAL IMPACT:

The economic impact is limited to the costs of the individual and perpetual plaques.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council present Emma Kaliterna with the "Those Who Inspire" Recognition Award for her outstanding service to the community.

Stephen D. Lodge, Chair
Facilities Naming and
Honorary Recognition Ad Hoc Committee

APPROVED:

Jennifer Sparacino
City Manager

Documents Related to this Report:

- 1) Summary of Emma Kaliterna's Community Accomplishments

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“Those Who Inspire” Recognition Award
Emma Kaliterna

An application was submitted nominating Emma Kaliterna as the recipient of Santa Clara’s *“Those Who Inspire”* Recognition Award. In the nomination it was stated, “All who know her or know of her are amazed at her energy, buoyancy, optimism, and strength. She inspires us all to keep moving, keep charging, keep putting out effort, keep passionate.”

Some of Emma’s myriad of activities include:

- Emma runs her own beauty salon, Emma’s Coiffures, which was built by her husband, Mickey, and opened in 1939
- Emma has raised well over \$100,000 over the years. Her backyard fundraising events have benefited the Santa Clara Aquamaids, the Santa Clara Vanguard, the Triton Museum of Art, Harris-Lass Historical Museum, the Mission Library, Police and Fire Department causes, the disadvantaged, the needy, as well as several educational projects including scholarships.
- She has also raised funds for the Santa Clara Lions Club Blind Center.
- She was appointed to serve on the Cultural Advisory Commission and served for eight years – from 1984-1992.
- Emma has been heard to say, “I get such a kick out of giving. It’s like a shot in the arm.”
- Emma has been honored with:
 - The Mission City Community Fund’s prestigious *Austen Warburton Community Service Award* for outstanding citizenship; and
 - The Santa Clara Unified School District made Emma an inductee into the *SCUSD Hall of Fame*. The Hall of Fame honors alumni who have brought extraordinary distinction to themselves, their profession, and their communities.
- Emma’s volunteerism has made her a “One Person Chamber of Commerce” for the City of Santa Clara.
- It has been said that her volunteer projects always have the same purpose – to help enrich the quality of life in Santa Clara. Emma has been quoted as saying, “If it is good for Santa Clara, I’m for it!”
- She has worked all her life – she cut ‘cots’ (apricots) when she was 12 years old, then worked in the canneries before starting her own business.
- It has been said that “Emma colors more than people’s hair – she adds color to their lives. Once you sit in Emma’s chair, you become a loyal friend – part of the family”.
- Emma Kaliterna is a truly unique person. What makes her so is:
 - her support for charitable causes, large and small
 - her ability to involve all of us in her good work
 - her high energy and willingness to get involved.
 - Even as she is about to turn 90 years old, Emma continues to serve the Santa Clara community with care and compassion.
- One person who knows Emma summed it up well: “You have been an example of how to live generously and positively.”

The City of Santa Clara is proud to present Emma Kaliterna with its *“Those Who Inspire”* Recognition Award.