

SANTA-CLARITA.COM

30 YEARS
1987-2017

STATE OF THE CITY

SPRING/SUMMER 2017
NEWSLETTER



Mayor Cameron Smyth • Mayor Pro Tem Laurene Weste
Councilmembers Bob Kellar, Marsha McLean and Bill Miranda

MESSAGE

FROM CITY MANAGER
KEN STRIPLIN



What a difference 30 years can make. Thanks to the foresight of our founding members, Santa Clarita is now benefiting from three decades of Cityhood and the hundreds of millions of dollars that stayed right here to fund local facilities, programs and services. As you flip through this newsletter, you'll notice glimpses of the past peeking through the present reminding us not only of the amazing place our City is today, but also of all the hard work and dedication it took to get here.

When the City was incorporated on December 15, 1987, it was 39 square miles. Since then, more than 30 neighborhoods have annexed to the City, making Santa Clarita over 60 square miles and the third largest city in Los Angeles County.

One of the things I am most proud of is our City's unwavering commitment to preserving the natural beauty of our valley. Through the City Council's leadership we have dedicated nearly 9,000 acres as open space and created 34 parks. Plus, we have fought to stop a new landfill and an aggregate mining project from coming to our City.

Being a city has also allowed for our community to benefit from three Metrolink stations, three libraries, two community centers, anti-drug programs for youth, hundreds of sports and recreation programs, an aquatic center, skatepark and traffic and road improvements.

Come be part of the 30th celebration! Throughout 2017, we plan to have a series of special events, contests and festivities so you can participate in our City's big 30-year milestone.

Sincerely,

Ken Striplin
City Manager
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STATE OF THE CITY 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The year was 1987. The number one song of the year was "Walk like an Egyptian" by the Bangles, Ronald Reagan was president, American Bandstand was broadcast live for the last time, the Ford Escort was the best-selling car and Santa Clarita became the largest area to ever become a City in the history of the state of California on December 15. The month prior, residents in the communities of Canyon Country, Saugus, Newhall and Valencia voted on Measure U, which asked whether the area should become an official City. The final vote tally was 14,723 Yes and 6,597 No.

Since that year, our community has evolved, grown and earned a distinct reputation for offering a high quality of life, top-notch recreation and cultural experiences and has been consistently rated as one of the safest cities in the state.

With the creation of the **City of Santa Clarita**, residents reaped the benefits of having their tax dollars kept locally. Those funds have added up to many infrastructure improvements over the years. Traffic circulation has been enhanced thanks to the improvement of several popular routes and the opening of the **Cross Valley Connector**. As part of the City's 2020 plan, several bridges have been widened, and enhanced pedestrian and cyclist access has been added.

Those tax dollars have also added up to three libraries and one more in the works. The photo to the left shows the **Bamboo Café** in the 1960s. This café sat at the northwest corner of 10th and Spruce streets. This is now where our beautiful **Old Town Newhall Library** is located.

Back in 1987 the area now known as **Aquatic Center Drive** was a manufacturing building for Merle Norman Cosmetics. Now this area is the popular **Sports Complex Gymnasium**. Santa Clarita residents can take advantage of its full-sized basketball, pickleball, volleyball, futsal and racquetball courts. And it couldn't be named Aquatic Center Drive without our spectacular **Santa Clarita Aquatic Center**. Residents can splash around in three pools, including a 50-meter competition pool, a 25-meter dive pool and an activity pool complete with water play equipment and a 160-foot water slide!



Back in the day, the area along Bouquet Canyon was a corn field. Now those crops have made way for the crown jewel of our park system – the 130 acre **Central Park**. It is home to a variety of amenities including playing fields, baseball/softball diamonds, the City's first community garden, Central Bark Dog Park and a regional cross country course providing a great location for the valley's local high school and college athletes to train and hold meets!



The Newhall-Walnut-Market Street "triangle" served many purposes through the years but eventually became a vacant eyesore. Now it is a place of remembrance, pride and honor – our **Veterans Historical Plaza**. The design team's goal was to create a place of serenity and reflection in the middle of our bustling city. Extending on either side of the central water features are walkways leading to a central lawn area with bronze story-stations depicting each of our nation's military conflicts. Across this lawn area are the majestic United States and California flags, flanked by flags of each of the five branches of the military. A brick walkway surrounds the ellipse and contains hundreds of engraved bricks honoring individuals who served in the military.



A large open space off Camp Plenty and Soledad Canyon roads used to be a hot spot for four-wheeling and illegal dumping. The City sought and received a grant from the Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District to transform the space into a "passive" river park. **Discovery Park** opened in 2010 and was designed to encourage barrier-free interaction with the natural environment. The park is comprised of 25 acres and was designed with sustainable landscaping and irrigation practices.



While many projects and facilities have been added thanks to our cityhood – some things have been taken away. Check out this picture of Lyons Avenue where banners, billboards and signs of all sizes and shapes battle for attention. This cluttered mess was cleaned up thanks to the City's adoption of its first sign code in 1990.

You can check out more historical photos and see how our City has evolved at santa-clarita.com/30years. The website will also share all upcoming events and contests taking place throughout 2017 in celebration of this grand milestone.



MESSAGE

FROM ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF
GREG HISEL

Los Angeles County Fire Department Division 3
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Since the Ghost Ship warehouse fire in Oakland on December 2, 2016, which claimed 36 lives, tremendous attention has been placed on fire prevention efforts. For the Los Angeles County Fire Department, fire prevention has been, and continues to be, a critical component of our mission to protect lives and property.

Our Fire Prevention division, in coordination with the City of Santa Clarita, focuses on educating the community about the benefits of proper safety practices and works to identify and eliminate hazards which pose a threat to life, property and the environment. Locally, Captain Gerald Meehan is in charge of the Santa Clarita Fire Prevention Office, while acting Assistant Chief Mark Savage, a Santa Clarita resident, currently serves as the department's fire marshal.

There are several units within the Fire Prevention division, all of which have unique responsibilities. The Regional Unit conducts inspections and plans checks for building and fire extinguishing systems. The Codes & Ordinances Unit conducts research and works with architects and government officials to propose changes to the International Fire Code and Building Code.

The Land Development Unit sets conditions with regard to water and access. The Arson Unit responds to significant fires to determine cause and assists in the investigation of suspected arson. The Public Safety and Film Unit reviews applications and issues permits. Finally, our Schools and Institutions Unit conducts safety inspections in all schools and other facilities.

Through fire prevention and emergency response, the Los Angeles County Fire Department is proud to provide valuable, life-saving services.

HAPPY 30TH!

OLD TOWN NEWHALL

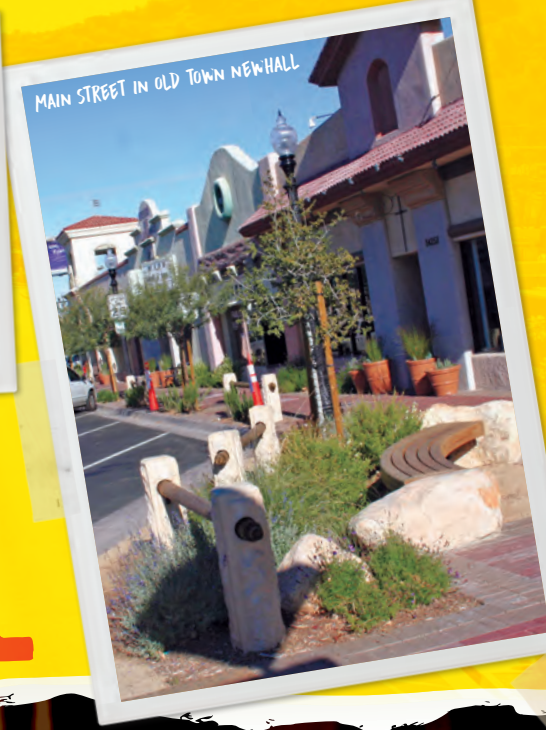
Old Town Newhall is alive with arts, entertainment and events. Here's a snapshot of some of the new and exciting things headed to Main Street in Old Town Newhall for you to enjoy!

- **The Brew House**, located between Lyons Avenue and 9th Street, will feature a selection of beers brewed on site as well as craft beer from local and regional breweries. The food is designed to pair with the various beers on tap and will include upscale contemporary pub fare including vegetarian and vegan options.
- **Nightingale Boutique**, featuring an assortment of handmade goods, photography and unique one-of-a kind items, will be opening in the Tom Mix Cottages on Main Street between 6th Street and Market Street.
- **Cali Shrimp** is coming into town offering a delicious seafood option on Main Street, located between 8th Street and 9th Street.
- **Newhall Press Room** will offer food pairings and specialty wine and coffee in its new space on Main Street between 6th Street and Market Street.
- A co-tasting room for **Hoi Polloi Winery** and **Pagter Brothers Wines** is set to open on Main Street between 8th Street and Market Street.
- The **Old Town Junction** is also opening in Old Town in the former Work Boot Warehouse space at Main Street and Market Street and will serve up farm to table seasonal American fare, a full bar and outdoor dining.

Also in Old Town Newhall, the popular local coffee chain, **Coffee Kiosk**, will be opening a sit-down location on the corner of Railroad Avenue and Market Street.

Old Town Newhall's first hotel, **The Luxen Hotel**, is currently in construction and upon completion will be a 42-room boutique hotel on Railroad Avenue between 5th Street and 6th Street.

These new additions join local favorites on Main Street. Head to the City's Arts and Entertainment District to eat, see a show, do some shopping or just take a stroll and see what's new! Find everything you need to know about Old Town Newhall at OldTownNewhall.com.



MIXED USE PROJECT

If you've been down to Old Town Newhall lately, you've seen some action across the street from the **Old Town Newhall Library** and may be curious about what is going on. Earlier this year, the City broke ground on the City-owned parking structure, the first of three projects slated for the block. The parking structure will have a total of 372 parking spots making it easier for you to enjoy all that Old Town Newhall has to offer. The parking structure also includes a roof top area that will be available for special events. The construction on the parking structure is expected to take a year. In the coming months, construction on the **Laemmle Theatre** and **Newhall Crossings** will begin. Laemmle Theatre will be a seven screen art house cinema with 2,300 square feet of retail/restaurant space and an outdoor event space. Newhall Crossings includes 47 residential units, over 20,000 square feet of retail/restaurant space, a public plaza area and subterranean residential parking. These two private projects are on schedule to be completed and open to the public in early 2019. Updates on all three projects and their progress are available at OldTownNewhall.com.

THE MAIN

We'll see you at **The MAIN!** After getting word from the Executive Director of Main Street's Repertory East Playhouse that the theatre would be shutting down, City staff put together a proposal for City Council's review to take over management of the theatre. On January 24, 2017, City Council approved the proposal and what will now be known as The MAIN is currently undergoing renovations. The space will receive a facelift, but will remain a theatre and will also be home to **Thursdays@Newhall's Ten by Ten** and **Note by Note** events. Other plans for The Main include classes/workshops, a rotating art gallery and even summer camps. Want to learn more about The Main? Head over to ATTheMain.org.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES

CITYWIDE WAYFINDING SIGNS

This federally funded project will install wayfinding signs throughout Santa Clarita's extensive pedestrian, bikeway and trail network to make it easier for residents and visitors to navigate routes to key City destinations such as a Metrolink station or nearby library. Wayfinding signs will include directional details and distance, allowing travelers to explore new places with confidence. Construction on this project has already begun and is expected to be completed by the end of summer.



SANTA CLARITA 2020

What new facilities, programs and improvements will we see within the City by the year 2020? **Santa Clarita 2020**, the City's five-year strategic plan breaks it down for you. The plan is used by City staff to guide major work efforts, prioritize resources and achieve milestones in order to continue providing the best services and facilities for Santa Clarita residents. Over 60 different projects and programs, totaling tens of millions of dollars, are in the works now with the main goal of improving Santa Clarita's quality of life. Visit SantaClarita2020.com to learn about new projects happening in your community!

CANYON COUNTRY PARK

The recently updated Child Play Area in Canyon Country Park is now open for play! The new design was inspired by "natural" elements, from the river-like rubberized surfacing, to the tree house style play tower, and scattered rock and log play features. These new structures replaced old equipment that was installed when the park first opened 20 plus years ago! The old equipment was donated to Kids Around the World, a charity that will reuse the equipment in less fortunate countries. This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of Sustaining Public Infrastructure.



CITY PARK UPGRADES

Canyon Country Park isn't the only park getting some love. Santa Clarita Park, Valencia Glen Park and Begonia Lane Park will soon have their basketball courts resurfaced with new asphalt, ensuring year-round enjoyment for residents. This year, construction for new shade structures will begin at Circle J Ranch, Fair Oaks and Valencia Summit parks, providing a comfortable environment for children and adults to play.



NEWHALL RANCH ROAD BRIDGE

This multi-million dollar project will widen the Newhall Ranch Road Bridge over the San Francisquito Creek from six to eight lanes, providing an additional lane in each direction. A raised median will also be installed in the center to help keep drivers within lanes. Those traveling on foot or on bike will appreciate the new protected sidewalk and bike trail. Construction is set to begin in late spring. This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of Building and Creating Community.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS

The intersections of Bouquet Canyon Road and Centurion Way, and McBean Parkway and Magic Mountain Parkway will be receiving upgrades to their existing traffic signals. New underground wiring will be installed to prevent signal malfunctions and the aged signal traffic heads will be revitalized with new ones, improving safety for both drivers and pedestrians. This project is part of the annual Intersection Improvement Program which supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of Sustaining Public Infrastructure.





THURSDAYS@NEWHALL

Thursdays@Newhall, presented by Galpin Subaru, brings even more energy and excitement to the Arts and Entertainment District. Learn new dance styles with **JAM Sessions**, enjoy a unique variety show at **10 by 10**, ooh and ahh at the **Revved Up** car show, presented by State Farm, listen to local musical talent at **Note by Note** or catch an interesting speaker at the **ARTree Speaker Series**. Or, head to Main Street on the third Thursday of every month for the popular **SENSES** event where Main Street is transformed into a themed block party. Explore the entire 2017 Thursdays@Newhall lineup at ThursdaysAtNewhall.com.



CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Music under the stars! This summer's popular **Concerts in the Park** series, presented by Logix Federal Credit Union, takes place every Saturday evening in July and August. This year's lineup includes some old favorites and entertaining newcomers. Set your summer schedule by visiting santa-clarita.com/Concerts.



COWBOY FESTIVAL

The **Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival**, presented by Heritage Sierra Medical Group, brings the sights and sounds of the West to Old Town Newhall from April 19 to April 23. William S. Hart Park Event Area will host a multi-day lineup of music, food, entertainment and activities for Western enthusiasts of all ages. Visit CowboyFestival.org for the entire lineup of fun and to purchase tickets.



EARTH DAY

The 2017 **Earth Arbor Day Festival**, presented by SCV Family of Water Suppliers, will be combined with the KHTS Santa Clarita Home and Garden Show, the Emergency Expo and the KHTS Arts and Crafts Fair at Central Park on April 29 and April 30. The Earth Day celebration brings together thousands of residents to learn about sustainable and eco-friendly resources, hear from educators and visit with local sustainable vendors. To learn more, visit GreenSantaClarita.com.



THE AMGEN TOUR OF CALIFORNIA

Santa Clarita will host the Stage 4 Finish for the 2017 **Amgen Tour of California** on May 17. This year will mark the 13th stage the City has hosted, giving Santa Clarita the distinction of having hosted the most stages in race history. The 600-mile event will begin in Sacramento and make its way south through the state, concluding in Pasadena. Find out how you can join the excitement of the Stage 4 Finish in Santa Clarita at SantaClaritaTourOfCA.com.



WINGS FOR LIFE

Join the unique worldwide **Wings for Life World Run** to find a cure for spinal cord injury on May 7. As you run through Santa Clarita on some of its major thoroughfares, beware of the "Catcher Car" that chases runners and initiates their finish line. This exciting event starts at 4:00 a.m. on May 7, simultaneously with the rest of the world. Learn more at WingsForLifeWorldRun.com.



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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EGGSTRAVAGANZA AND SPLASH AND DASH EGG HUNT

There are two egg-cellent egg hunts in April. Grab your kids and their baskets and head to Central Park for the **Eggstravaganza**. Children will be broken up by age group and have their own special area to scramble for goodies left by Mr. E. Bunny. Or, if you prefer your eggs soaked, the Santa Clarita Aquatic Center is the spot for you. The **Splash and Dash Egg Hunt** will give kids the chance to jump in and track down the bobbing eggs. Both events are free and both take place on April 15 at 10:00 a.m.



HOMETOWN HEROES

Memorial Day is coming up and is the perfect time to honor our hometown heroes. The City's **Hometown Heroes Military Banner Program** honors currently serving, active United States Armed Forces military personnel from the Santa Clarita Valley. Custom streetlight pole banners with pictures, names and titles of the honorees decorate City streets three times a year: Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day. Residents or organizations interested in ordering a banner can do so at any time at santa-clarita.com/Heroes.



DODGER DAY

It's time for Dodger baseball! For the 40th year in a row, Santa Clarita residents will be making the trek to Chavez Ravine to see the boys in blue as part of the City's **Annual Dodger Day** on May 20. Santa Clarita holds the all-star record for the most games attended by a city. Tickets are on sale now for the May 20 game against the Miami Marlins. Money generated from this event will help support local schools and non-profit groups. Buy tickets now at SCVDodgerDay.com.



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santa-clarita.com/Social



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