



City of
SANTA CLARITA

STATE OF THE CITY

spring 2021
newsletter

santa-clarita.com

Mayor **BILL MIRANDA**
Mayor Pro Tem **LAURENE WESTE**
Councilmember **JASON GIBBS**
Councilmember **MARSHA MCLEAN**
Councilmember **CAMERON SMYTH**

in this issue
GO! SANTA CLARITA
WELCOME BACK to the **LIBRARY**
SHOP and **EAT LOCAL**
DFYinSCV
GET ACTIVE! RECREATION IS BACK!
HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM

**the Plan for a
Brighter 2021**



the Plan for a Brighter 2021

WE are just a few months into the new year and things are already looking brighter! Here in Santa Clarita the COVID-19 restrictions are lifting and the City has already cut the ribbon on a newly renovated amenity. On April 12, 2021, the City Council welcomed the community to The Cube – Ice and Entertainment in Santa Clarita.

This massive 93,000 square foot facility located at 27745 Smyth Drive has been repainted, rebranded and renovated to once again welcome ice skaters, hockey players and all other ice athletes. The Cube has three sheets of ice – an NHL rink, Olympic rink and the smaller Pond. Although it is a City-owned facility, Santa Clarita has teamed up with the LA Kings and American Sports Entertainment Company to handle the day to day operations.

The facility had shutdown in March 2020, due to the Los Angeles County Public Health orders, and the owners put it up for sale. The ice-skating community reached out to the City, urging them to purchase the facility to preserve the vital local amenity. The City Council approved the purchase and staff got to work bringing the facility up to City standards.

In addition to ice sports, The Cube will also host a wide range of events including non-profit fundraisers, concerts, conventions, business meetings, banquets, mixers and much more. Small groups can take advantage of the freshly revamped Top Shelf. Located on the second floor, the Top Shelf is a banquet room with fresh white floors and cool blue walls, which opens up to a picturesque balcony with spectacular views of the valley. This space will be ideal for business mixers and meetings. For bigger events, an insulated floor can be placed over the ice, creating a huge space for banquets, galas and other gatherings.

We are working to procure the items to support the multitude of events The Cube can host. The City looks forward to welcoming residents to utilize The Cube for events and appreciates their patience as we put all the pieces in place to make it a superior experience. For more information on daily schedules and programs taking place at The Cube, please call (661) 257-CUBE (2823) or visit TheCubeSantaClarita.com.

CUBE

Did you know...over 500 gallons of paint were used to paint the Cube interior and exterior?



CUBE

Did you know...100 tons of debris were removed as part of the renovation effort?



In addition to this newly restored facility, there are many other new City amenities which will open their doors to the community this year. The City expects to cut the ribbon and welcome residents to the brand-new **Canyon Country Community Center** later this year. This new hub for activity, learning and engagement is located on the corner of Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway. The new **Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Department** located on Golden Valley Road will be turned over to the Sheriff's Department this year as well. To learn more about both of these exciting projects please see page 4.



a message from the City Manager Ken Striplin

After a year of shut downs, I am happy to see that the COVID case rate is continuing to decline, the restrictions are lifting, our businesses are able to reopen safely at a greater capacity and our residents are able to reconnect with friends and neighbors. The months of isolations and shut downs were draining on us emotionally, mentally and for many of us, financially.

As we work our way back to pre-COVID normalcy, I encourage all of you to get out and safely enjoy all Santa Clarita has to offer. Within the pages of this newsletter you will see many programs, events and activities that are once again available to residents. You can now browse the aisles of books at your nearest Santa Clarita Public Library branch to discover your new favorite novel, get back outside with friends for adult softball leagues or polish your ice-skating skills at The Cube.

Remember to also frequent your favorite local store or restaurant. The months of closures have been devastating for local businesses and it is more important now than ever to shop and eat local.

For more information on City programs and events – please visit our website at santa-clarita.com. Make sure to connect with Santa Clarita on social media as well for photos, videos and more information on everything happening in our community.

Sincerely,

Ken Striplin
City Manager

kstriplin@santa-clarita.com

CUBE

Did you know...freezing in layers. over 40,000 gallons of water were used for all three ice rinks at the Cube?

Capital Improvement Project Updates

CANYON COUNTRY COMMUNITY CENTER

In a few short months, the brand-new Canyon Country Community Center will open its doors to residents. This state-of-the-art facility, located at the corner of Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway, will offer a range of classes, including in fitness, technology, English as a Second Language (ESL) and more. Outdoor amenities feature several public art pieces, playground equipment, meandering walking paths, a performance stage and space for festivals. Learn more by visiting santa-clarita.com/FutureCCCC.



SC2025

Do you want to learn more about what your City has planned for the next five years? The City of Santa Clarita has built a reputation for being a forward-thinking organization that sets a

vision and explores creative solutions that meet the community's current and future needs. That was the foundation of Santa Clarita 2025 – the next five-year strategic plan. This plan was formulated utilizing input from the community gathered through several polls and surveys. Some of the highlights among the dozens of action items include completing the buildout of Central Park, supporting events that celebrate our City's diversity, rehabilitating older parks, attracting new businesses, completing energy efficiency upgrades, maintaining a record-low traffic collision rate and much more. To read the entire plan, please visit santa-clarita.com/SC2025.



SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SHERIFF'S STATION

The new Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station is also nearing completion and will be turned over to Los Angeles County for operation this year. The site, which includes the main station building, vehicle maintenance facility, fueling area and helipad, is centrally located in Santa Clarita and also has the space our local deputies need to continue providing superior service to residents. Learn more about this and other capital improvement projects in Santa Clarita at santa-clarita.com/CIP.



Public Safety Updates

a message
from the
Sheriff's Captain
Justin Diez



DFY IN SCV

DFYinSCV (Drug Free Youth in Santa Clarita Valley) has continued to connect junior high and high school students to their anti-drug club through webinars and virtual events. Students can participate in events and summits that include guest speakers, trivia and friendly debates to keep them involved in the conversation about saying no to drugs. Along with online resources for students, parents are encouraged to learn more about the annual Parent Resource Symposium held by the City by visiting DFYinSCV.com.



GUARD THAT AUTO: SANTA CLARITA

In partnership with the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station, the City of Santa Clarita has launched its "Guard That Auto" campaign to combat the increase in grand theft auto incidents over the past year.

As safety is one of the City's top priorities, the campaign is designed to educate residents on the importance of locking and keeping their auto safe, as well as the contents inside. The campaign spotlights five main "Keep Your" messages such as, "Keep Your keys inside your home and out of your car" and "Keep Your car safe and park in well-lit areas." Learn more about the "Guard That Auto" campaign online by following the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station and the City of Santa Clarita's social media accounts.



Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station Deputies continue to remain vigilant and proactive in order to provide the highest safety and security for our entire community. In 2020, we saw an overwhelming outreach of community support for the men and women of our Station. This unprecedented support was complemented by partnering with the community and achieving the lowest Part 1 crime rate on record.

As more establishments begin to open, deputies will be conducting additional target-specific crime suppression operations focused on theft, DUI, traffic enforcement, narcotics activity and more. In Los Angeles County, we saw an overall 400% increase of reported catalytic converter thefts during 2020. In March 2021, the Santa Clarita Valley Station Crime Impact Team (CIT) led a search warrant operation in the City of Los Angeles as a proactive approach to combat catalytic converter thefts. CIT personnel identified multiple locations in L.A. linked to thefts occurring throughout the Santa Clarita Valley. The large-scale operation resulted in the recovery of 250 catalytic converters, one "ghost gun" and 19 arrests.

This increase led to the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station partnering with "Reeve's Complete Auto Center" for two catalytic converter etching events. These events provided an opportunity for residents to have the license plate number of their vehicle etched onto the catalytic converter. This helps deputies locate the original owner in the event the converter is stolen and recovered.

As we progress into 2021, we face new challenges related to a large increase in repeat criminal offenders. Deputies will be working hard to curve crime through the use of data analysis and target specific crime suppression operations.

We will continue monitoring crime trends with a goal of reduction, prevention and community involvement. We encourage our community members to report suspicious activities directly to the station, Crime Stoppers (lacrimestoppers.org) or by calling (800) 222-TIPS. As always, please stay up to date on station news, crime information, tips and more through our social media.

Sincerely,

Captain Justin Diez



HEADS UP

Heads Up, Santa Clarita! With summer around the corner, more and more residents are taking to the streets as motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. While we are all looking forward to a return to normal summer activities, it is more important than ever to remember to stay Heads Up when you are out and about. What does this mean? Being Heads Up means paying attention to your surroundings and taking steps that not only keep yourself safe, but all those around you as well.

To learn more about the Heads Up traffic safety campaign, please visit santa-clarita.com/HeadsUp.

Services Returning to Santa Clarita

As case counts drop and public health restrictions ease, there are a number of recreational opportunities to take advantage of this summer in Santa Clarita. Here are just a few ways to get out and about when the temperature rises. Follow the City of Santa Clarita on social media for more!

All sports participants are required to wear an appropriate face mask that covers the nose and the mouth at all times during practice and conditioning, even during heavy exertion as tolerated to protect the safety of all participants. During competitions, face coverings must be worn when not participating in the activity (e.g., on the sidelines).

ADULT SPORTS

The Adult Sports Softball Leagues have returned, with dozens of teams squaring off to see who will become champions on the diamond. Outdoor and indoor pickleball courts have also reopened and singles and doubles competitions have been heating up. Don't forget to get your team together for the 5 vs. 5 Flag Football leagues and Ultimate Frisbee Open Play opportunities! Learn more at santa-clarita.com/AdultSports.



YOUTH SPORTS

Youth sports throughout Santa Clarita have resumed as kids return to fields, courts and diamonds with their friends. The City's 2021 Summer Basketball Leagues will tip off in July as well. Be sure to check Seasons Magazine for upcoming leagues and clinics and visit santa-clarita.com/YouthSports for more information.



AGENTS OF DISCOVERY

Calling all Agents! The City of Santa Clarita is offering a FREE, outdoor educational opportunity for residents of all ages. New "missions" challenge you to discover new parts of Santa Clarita while learning about the City's history and the environment around us. Simply download the Agents of Discovery app to your smartphone and open it to find your nearest mission to get started! Learn more and get your questions answered at santa-clarita.com/AgentsOfDiscovery.

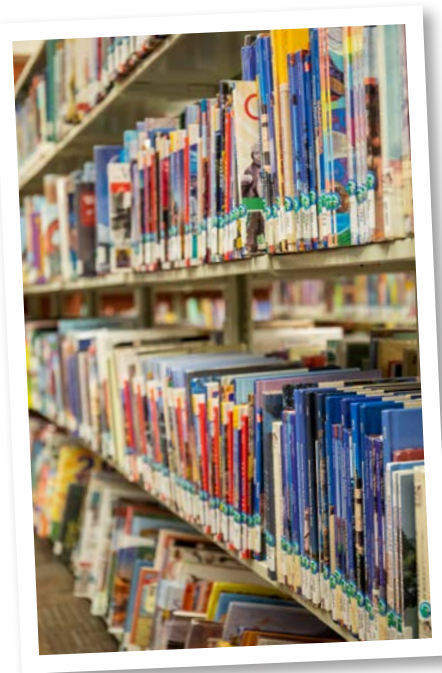


TREK BIKE PARK OF SANTA CLARITA

Ride on over to the Trek Bike Park of Santa Clarita and test your skills on a variety of mountain bike trails and BMX tracks! The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset – weather permitting – and features challenges for riders of all ages and skill levels. Several single-track mountain bike trails are joined by more than 800 yards of pump and BMX track featuring a number of combination jumps. Visit santa-clarita.com/BikePark to learn more.



Did you know...inside the ice rink is usually kept to around 63 degrees and humidity is kept to 30% to decrease a chance of fogging?



WELCOME BACK TO THE LIBRARY!

After a year of being physically closed to the public, the Santa Clarita Public Library is excited to welcome our residents back into the libraries at a limited capacity. Residents will now be able to come into the library, browse our book collections, use the computer lab and complete any service transactions. Curbside services will still be offered to residents Monday through Saturday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Our library lockers will still also be available 24/7 for any of our residents who would like to pick up their materials contactless. Passport Services are still available to residents at all three of our branches. For hours or more information, please visit SantaClaritaLibrary.com

REQUEST YOUR NEXT RIDE WITH GO! SANTA CLARITA

GO! Santa Clarita is an on-demand transit pilot program offered by Santa Clarita Transit. The grant-funded program provides curb-to-curb transportation within designated service areas and key destinations in the City, including College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita Child & Family Center, local Metrolink stations and now Old Town Newhall. The service is available Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. For a map of the service areas and to learn more about how to use the services, visit Go-SantaClarita.com.



SHOP AND EAT LOCAL IN SANTA CLARITA!

As stores and restaurants slowly re-open, now is the perfect time for residents to enjoy the outdoors and Eat and Shop Local here in Santa Clarita. To keep both patrons and employees safe, the City continues to promote the Safer Business Commitment, a program designed to restore consumer confidence while following COVID-19 safety guidelines. For more information on the Safer Business Commitment or to explore new businesses or restaurants, visit VisitSantaClarita.com.



a message from the Assistant Fire Chief **Anderson Mackey**

Los Angeles County firefighters and paramedics have heard all too often, "I only looked away for just a few seconds!" Unfortunately, that's all it takes for a child to drown. Drowning accidents are a leading cause of death for children one to four years of age. Almost 70% of all drowning accidents occur in backyard swimming pools, and all of those accidents could have been prevented. Please follow these simple rules when trying to stay safe (and cool!) during hot summer days.

- Never take your eyes off a child when he or she is in or near any body of water, even for a second.
- Don't rely solely on barriers, such as fences or walls near a pool or spa. There is no substitute for constant supervision.
- Keep toys, tricycles and other children's playthings out of the water and away from the pool or spa.
- Don't consider your children to be "drown-proof" because you enrolled them in swimming classes.
- Don't rely on inflatable devices to keep your child afloat. These are not substitutes for adult supervision.
- Always drain standing (surface) water from the pool cover. Remember that even a few inches of water can be hazardous, especially to young children.

If a child or adult is in trouble in a pool, please remember...Don't panic! Get the child/adult out of the pool immediately, yell for help, call 911 immediately and begin CPR if necessary. If you are not already trained in CPR, the Fire Department dispatcher will provide instructions over the phone.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department wants everyone to remember to exercise caution and safety during any recreational water activity. Remember, the next time you are by the pool, just a few seconds is all it takes for a life to be lost to this preventable tragedy.

Sincerely,

Assistant Chief Anderson Mackey

City of
SANTA CLARITA

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SAMMY CLARITA

Santa Clarita City mascot Sammy Clarita is back and ready for his next big adventure! In celebration of the grand opening of The Cube – Ice and Entertainment Center, residents are invited to participate in the scavenger hunt for Sammy. Sammy can be found hiding around various City locations, and the lucky resident who finds him, gets to keep him! Residents are encouraged to follow the City's official Instagram [@cityofsantaclarita](https://www.instagram.com/cityofsantaclarita) to get real-time clues about his location and post a Sammy selfie with the hashtag [#IFoundSammyClarita](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/IFoundSammyClarita) when he is found. Along with his new look, he has a brand-new book titled, "Sammy Stories: Sammy Explores the City," available to read at SammyClarita.com



CUBE

Did you know...1,500 linear feet of ice rink dasherboard boards were installed at the Cube?

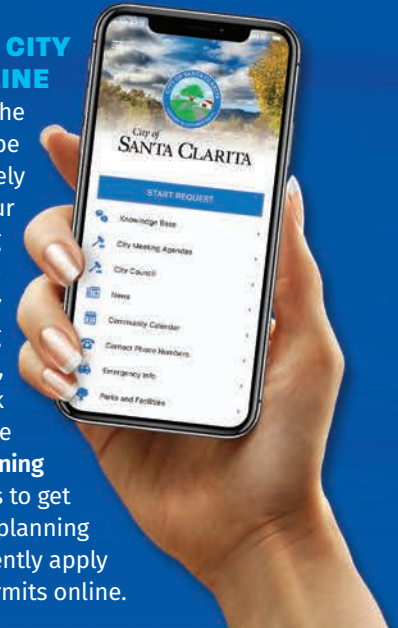
HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM

The City of Santa Clarita established the Hometown Heroes Military Banner Program to honor and recognize currently serving active military personnel from the Santa Clarita Valley. These banners adorn our streetlight poles three times per year and offer a way for family members of active service military members to honor their loved ones. The City recently contracted with a new banner company and brought the installation of the banners in-house, which significantly decreased the cost of participation and renewal. Digital banners are displayed on the Hometown Heroes website year-round, free of charge. The City of Santa Clarita values each of our veteran and active-duty service members and wants to ensure that all military families can participate in the banner program and every local hero is recognized. For more information, visit heroes.santa-clarita.com.



ACCESS CITY SERVICES ONLINE

While City Hall remains open to the public, many City services can be accessed and completed entirely online from the comfort of your own home. From reporting graffiti and requesting assistance in the **Resident Service Center (RSC)** to beginning the permitting process for construction projects, the City is proud to offer quick and convenient ways to get the help you need. The **Virtual Planning Counter** also allows businesses to get more information on City planning and quickly and conveniently apply for permits online.



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santa-clarita.com/Social



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