



City of
SANTA CLARITA

STATE

OF THE

CITY

**SPRING 2022
NEWSLETTER**

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MAYOR PRO TEM JASON GIBBS
COUNCILWOMAN MARSHA MCLEAN
COUNCILMEMBER BILL MIRANDA
COUNCILMEMBER CAMERON SMYTH**

SANTA-CLARITA.COM

**CELEBRATING
OUR 36
PARKS!**



CELEBRATING OUR 36 PARKS!

Did you know when the City of Santa Clarita was incorporated back in 1987, there were only seven City parks? Now, there are 36 beautiful parks with places to stroll, play, be active and enjoy the beauty of Santa Clarita.



NUMBER 36

Our 36th park was welcomed to the City in March. **Vista Canyon Park** is located in the new Vista Canyon community just off the 14 Freeway in Canyon Country. This new park offers 11-acres to enjoy with a playground featuring sensory musical elements, three pickleball courts, two tennis courts, a full basketball court, an outdoor picnic gazebo and more. This location is also home to the **Mitchell River House**. Inspired by the original Mitchell Family Adobe, which sat on the site in the 1860s, the inviting community building is designed to highlight local history while accommodating a variety of activities and events - and with its beautiful wood beams and natural light, it is sure to be a popular spot for weddings.

INCLUDING INCLUSIVITY

The City opened its first inclusive play area at **Canyon Country Park** in 2020. The play structure was thoughtfully designed to be accessible to people of all abilities. A community visioning process allowed for residents to provide feedback on the design and suggest elements. Some of the suggestions can now be seen in the final park, including a dual-track inclusive zipline, accessible connections to existing park facilities and sensory-friendly play elements. This play area has been so popular that plans are already underway for another inclusive play area at West Creek Park. Construction is anticipated to begin in the fall of this year.





ENHANCING OUR CROWN JEWEL

The crown jewel of the Santa Clarita Park system is the 105-acre **Central Park**. This is the location of the popular summer event series **Concerts in the Park**, the **Central Bark Dog Park** and home to a wide range of sports activities from flag football and disc golf, to soccer and softball. With the park's popularity, the City has embarked on a capital improvement project to enhance offerings and add amenities. The project consists of the addition of four full-sized multipurpose fields, as well as sports field lighting, landscaping and irrigation to support the development. Crews will also construct a new restroom building, an exercise staircase, upgrades to the dog park and a lighted accessible walkway connected to the brand-new, 286-space parking lot. This exciting project is anticipated to be completed by this fall.



WIDE-RANGE OF AMENITIES

There are so many ways to get active and explore hidden gems at our City parks. You can test your skills on two wheels by going off-road at the **Trek Bike Park of Santa Clarita** or get in your steps while strolling the picturesque trails at **Valencia Summit Park**. Perfect your cornhole skills on the permanent set-up at **Valencia Heritage Park**, or take in the spectacular colors of the Santa Clarita sunsets at **Canyon Country Park** or **Todd Longshore Park**, which both offer stunning views. Make a plan to swing by the new **Canyon Country Community Center** to explore the nine-acre site, which offers meandering walking trails, a covered play area, several public art pieces and an event stage for live performances.



Check out these highlights and all our City parks have to offer this season. You can find out more information by visiting santa-clarita.com/Parks.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER **KEN STRIPLIN**

Some of the things that draw people to our community are the year-round natural beauty and pleasant weather that is part of Santa Clarita life. There is no better time to get outside and enjoy, than this spring and summer – and fortunately – the City has a full slate of events and activities on the calendar.

Two of our favorite event series are returning. The **SENSES block parties in Old Town Newhall** are already taking over Main Street on the third Thursday of the month. With themes like Wild West, Nintendo Party and Summer Camp, these events will stimulate all of your senses with live music, specialty cocktails, games and more. Then in July, **Concerts in the Park** return to Central Park with tribute bands that will get you up and dancing.

A new event series is also underway at the new Canyon Country Community Center. The **Celebrate** series showcases the diverse cultures that make up the Santa Clarita community. Each month will highlight a different culture through music, dance, activities, art, food and drinks. Speaking of food and drinks, the new Community Center is also home to a new Wednesday night **Farmers Market**.

Residents will be pleased to hear that the hometown favorite **Fourth of July** parade is returning to Newhall. That evening, the skies will light up over Westfield Valencia Town Center for the **fireworks spectacular**.

In addition to these events, I also encourage you to get out and enjoy all of our City amenities. Take your kids to the **Skate Park** to work on their tricks, chill out with a public skate session at **The Cube**, find your new favorite book at the **Santa Clarita Public Library**, make a splash at one of the **City pools** or get your wheels spinning at the **Trek Bike Park of Santa Clarita**.

For more information on all of these facilities and events, visit our website at santa-clarita.com.

Sincerely,

Ken Striplin
City Manager

kstriplin@santa-clarita.com

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES



NEW TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS COMING TO VISTA CANYON

Residents will soon have even more ways to travel throughout the Santa Clarita Valley when the **Vista Canyon Multi-Modal Center** opens later this year. Once complete, the Multi-Modal Center will feature the fourth Metrolink Station in Santa Clarita, while a new Regional Transit Center will bring convenient Santa Clarita Transit service to Vista Canyon and the surrounding area. These projects will result in easy access to public transportation for residents traveling and commuting throughout the Southern California region.



RIDE YOUR BIKE WHERE YOU NEED TO GO!

Multiple projects have begun to enhance amenities and safety for bicyclists in Santa Clarita. The City is working to create buffered space between bicyclists and motorists along existing on-street bike lanes between Alamogordo Road and Haskell Canyon Road in Saugus, as well as along Soledad Canyon Road from Sand Canyon Road to the easterly City limit. Additionally, a project is progressing to design a new off-street trail to connect Bouquet Canyon Road at Espuella Drive to Central Park, reducing bicycle traffic on the street and improving safety for all. For more information, please visit BikeSantaClarita.com.



GET READY FOR ROAD REHAB

Did you know that in 2021, the City rehabilitated more than 76 lane miles of pavement? That's nearly 6.8 million square feet! Each year, the **Road Rehab program** addresses residential and arterial streets in need of repair and maintenance throughout Santa Clarita. Road Rehab fixes cracking, potholes and other road issues before they develop into critical problems in the future. More information about Road Rehab can be found at santa-clarita.com/RoadRehab. A list of streets included in Road Rehab in 2022 will be published on the website when it is finalized.



PASEO BRIDGE PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE MEASURES PLANNED

With miles of paved off-street trails and an extensive paseo system, the City offers residents a way to navigate Santa Clarita without ever getting behind the wheel of a vehicle. Each year, City staff performs key maintenance on paseo bridges to ensure they are structurally sound and in top condition. In 2022, the bridges across Orchard Village Road south of McBean Parkway, Valencia Boulevard west of Citrus Street and Copper Hill Drive east of McBean Parkway have been identified for maintenance.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2022

Wander off the beaten path with a good book for the **Santa Clarita Public Library's 2022 Summer Reading Program**. Residents of all ages are invited to participate in a variety of reading challenges, Library activities and fun programming from June through August. The theme of this year's program is "Read Beyond the Beaten Path," combining elements of camp and outdoor exploration for this summer reading adventure. As residents accomplish different reading challenges, they will also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of events such as gardening, constellation crafts, bike safety demonstrations, scavenger hunts, local hiking excursions and much more. For the duration of the program, each of the City's three Library branches will be transformed into campsites representing different mascots. Summer Reading Program registrations kicks-off on Saturday, April 30, with programming running from Monday, June 6 to Saturday, July 23. Learn more by visiting SCVSummerReading.com.



CITY HALL CEREMONIES

Say "I do" at Santa Clarita City Hall! The City Clerk's Office is ecstatic to offer wedding services to loving couples. **City Hall Ceremonies** offers residents the chance to make their special day memorable and hassle-free. Whether you choose to have an intimate ceremony or get a confidential marriage license, the City has everything you need to make it a one-stop trip. For more information about City Hall Ceremonies please visit santa-clarita.com/Weddings.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF'S CAPTAIN JUSTIN DIEZ

Deputies at the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station rang in the new year in our new station. We are now settled into our new home on Golden Valley Road, which has been successfully operating for the last few months, thanks to the efforts and support of the City of Santa Clarita and the County of Los Angeles 5th District. The new station offers state-of-the-art technology, a 180-foot radio tower, modern jail facility, high-tech dispatch center, helicopter pad and plenty of room to expand with our growing community. The former Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station, located on Magic Mountain Parkway, has been closed since November 2021, with no set future plans.

Your Sheriff's Station will continue to offer free "Catalytic Converter Etching Events." With the help of local mechanic shops, this event allows residents to have their license plate number etched onto the catalytic converter. Doing so will help deputies locate the original owner of the catalytic converter in the event it is stolen and recovered. This coincides with the "Guard That Auto" campaign, in partnership with the City of Santa Clarita, as a proactive approach to offering safety tips to keep your vehicle and its contents safe.

Crime rates have seen a rise since January 2021. However, SCV Sheriff's Station personnel remain committed to serving our community through weekly crime suppression operations, proactive patrol and safety campaigns like "See Something, Say Something," which encourages the public to always report any suspicious activity. Station personnel will continue to remain vigilant and motivated, despite any changes in policies by Los Angeles County and the District Attorney's Office.

As we continue into 2022, station personnel are determined to remain focused on minimizing crime and traffic-related matters. With pandemic restrictions easing, we are excited to bring back our annual "Haunted Jailhouse," station volunteers, Community Academy, ride-alongs and various station events involving our SCV community.

Stay up to date on new information, tips and more through our social media pages and the City of Santa Clarita website.

Sincerely,

Captain Justin Diez



SUMMER EVENTS

STIMULATE YOUR SENSES

SENSES block parties are back on Main Street in Old Town Newhall every third Thursday of the month through the end of October. These free monthly themed events stimulate your senses through live music, food, activities and much more. SENSES takes place from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and is geared towards Santa Clarita adults. See the full list of themes and dates for 2022 at OldTownNewhall.com/senses-block-party.

CELEBRATE THE CULTURES OF THE WORLD

A new free event series is taking place on the first Friday of every month, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Canyon Country Community Center! "Celebrate" explores a new culture each month and offers attendees the chance to experience music, art, food and activities from around the world. Celebrate Santa Clarita's diverse population each month with your friends and neighbors at this all-ages event! Learn more by visiting santa-clarita.com/Events.



DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY AT CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Concerts in the Park, presented by Logix Federal Credit Union, return to the stage on Saturday nights in Central Park! From July 9 through August 27, bring your family to Central Park each week for a free concert that will have you dancing, singing along and having a wonderful time. The fun starts July 9, with DSB: A Tribute to Journey at 7:00 p.m. Be sure to bring your chairs and blankets to claim your spot on the grass! You can also bring dinner with you or order from one of the featured food trucks each week. Learn more at santa-clarita.com/Concerts.

POP OFF AT PARTY ON THE POINTE

After more than two years of dealing with uncertainty, worry and restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is time for Santa Clarita residents to come together as a community and celebrate – at **Party on the Pointe!** Taking place at the Santa Clarita Sports Complex (20880 Centre Pointe Parkway) on **Saturday, April 23, from 12:00 to 10:00 p.m.**, Party on the Pointe offers up a full afternoon and evening of fun and entertainment for all ages. Conquer an inflatable obstacle course on the Aquatic Center's 50-meter pool, view demonstrations at the Santa Clarita Skate Park and Trek Bike Park of Santa Clarita and enjoy musical performances all day.

Learn more about Party on the Pointe at Facebook.com/CityOfSantaClaritaEvents.



HEY SANTA CLARITA - LET'S SPRING BACK FROM COVID AND COME TOGETHER TO

PARTY ON THE POINTE!

APRIL 23, 2022
12:00-10:00 PM.

AT THE SANTA CLARITA SPORTS COMPLEX
20870 CENTRE POINTE PARKWAY

LEARN HOW TO PROPERLY SWIM - SHOTS FROM SANTA CLARITA
KIDS & ADULTS - SWIMMING - SHOTS FROM SANTA CLARITA
TRUCK SHOW - FOOD TRUCKS - SHOPPING
MUSIC DEMOS - KARAOKE - BASKETBALL
MUSIC DEMOS - KARAOKE - BASKETBALL
AND MUCH MORE!!!

JOIN US FOR THIS FREE ONE-TIME, ALL-OUT CELEBRATION MARKING THE END OF COVID RESTRICTIONS!!!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MAYOR LAURENCE WISSETT, MAYOR PRO TEM JASON GIBBS, EDUCATION/COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR TULLY BERKSON, AND COUNCILMEMBER CAMERON SMITH



EXPLORE LOCAL SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS IN SANTA CLARITA!

With summer just around the corner, the time to try new restaurants and peruse shops is now! Old Town Newhall is welcoming a variety of local businesses to Main Street, including **Maggin's Irish Pub** and **Rustic Burger House**, both offering burgers and brews! We are also excited to bring residents a brand-new **Farmers Market** to Canyon Country! Every Wednesday, starting April 27, local farmers and vendors will come to the Canyon Country Community Center from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Mercado, bringing fresh, farm-direct produce and food. To learn more about the Canyon Country Farmers Market, please visit canyoncountryfarmersmarket.com. If you would like to see a list of places to shop and eat local throughout the Santa Clarita Valley, go to VisitSantaClarita.com.



FOURTH OF JULY

The City of Santa Clarita is proud to welcome back traditional **Fourth of July** events this year for all to enjoy! The much-anticipated Santa Clarita Valley Fourth of July Parade in Old Town Newhall and the Spirit of America Fireworks Spectacular at Westfield Valencia Town Center will return this July. Join the City in these patriotic celebrations. For more information, please visit santa-clarita.com/Events.



A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF NICK BERKUTA

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.

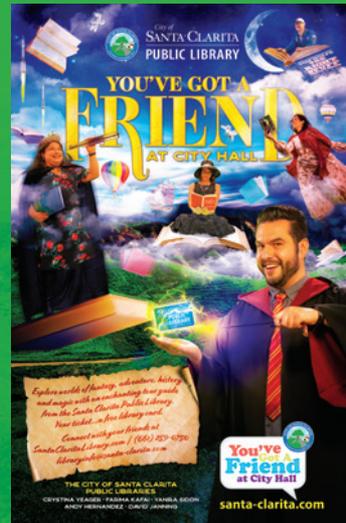
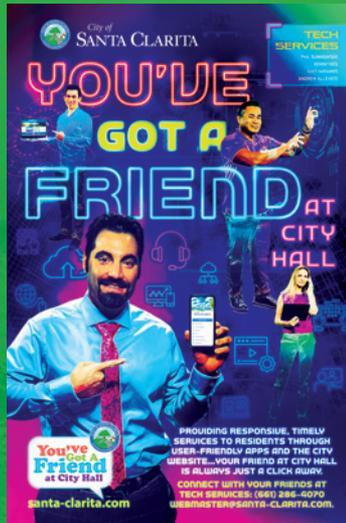
- Never take your eyes off a child when he or she is in or near any body of water, even for a second.
- Don't rely solely on barriers, such as fences or walls near a pool or spa. There is no substitute for constant supervision.
- Keep toys, tricycles and other children's playthings out of the water and 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 Fire Chief Nick Berkuta



YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND AT CITY HALL

Did you know that **You've Got a Friend at City Hall**? Whether you need help at the Permit Center, Library or one of our other City facilities, you can always count on the assistance of dedicated staff members. With over 400 full-time employees, in 20 divisions and six departments there is always someone ready to take on the next request. Our friendly, energetic and helpful staff is accessible both in-person and online. The next time you need assistance, be sure to reach out to your "friend" at City Hall. Be on the lookout for our next edition featuring the City's Building and Safety Division. In 2021, Building and Safety issued 6,920 permits and performed 43,652 building inspections for more than \$302 million of new construction in the City of Santa Clarita!



HEADS UP! WALK - OR RIDE - A MILE IN THEIR SHOES

Heads Up! Traffic collision statistics in Santa Clarita remain low, and it is up to everyone to ensure our streets remain safe for all users. If you only travel through the City in a vehicle, you may not realize the impacts your behaviors have on non-drivers. This summer, take a step back and see what it's like to be a pedestrian or cyclist by walking - or riding - a mile in their shoes. Bike to work, walk to the park with your children and take note of challenges you face, such as speeding cars and inattentive drivers at intersections. Then use that experience to inform your own driving behaviors and help improve road safety for everyone. Learn more at santa-clarita.com/HeadsUp.



PLACES WITH SPACES

Are you an artist seeking the perfect place to display your art piece? Are you a local business wanting to adorn the walls of your establishment with art? Let the City of Santa Clarita be your matchmaker! The City's Arts division has launched **PLACES with SPACES** to partner with Santa Clarita businesses and artists from around the region to create a perfect match. The City of Santa Clarita will serve as a liaison for businesses and artists to best meet the needs and specifications of both parties. For more information about **PLACES with SPACES** and to join the growing portfolio of businesses and artists, please visit SantaClaritaArts.com/PWS.

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with The City of Santa Clarita
santa-clarita.com/Social



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