



FALL/WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER



CELEBRATING A

City of the Arts!

MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER

KEN STRIPLIN

Bringing Art to the Streets



Public art adds interest and invigorates public spaces, while at the same time reflecting and revealing our history, culture and unique community. We are fortunate to currently have 34 public art pieces throughout the City of Santa Clarita, and many more on the way!

You can be an active part of your imagination when the **Imag_ne** sculpture makes it home in front of the Santa Clarita Public Library Valencia Branch. You'll notice the word "imagine" is missing its "i" – that's where you come in! The playful sculpture includes larger-than-life scrabble tiles with the second "i" missing. This empty space invites the audience to physically engage with the work and stand in the gap in order to complete the word. The internationally acclaimed public sculpture was designed by Australian-born artist Emma Anna and will be unveiled in November.

Soon our City sidewalks will also become works of art. The **Sidewalk Poetry** project will take original poems from residents, or anyone with a connection to Santa Clarita, and imprint them into our City sidewalks. The call for poetry for the 2019 project has closed, but please look out for future opportunities to have your work included.

Also on the horizon are a mural at the **Santa Clarita Skate Park**, an interactive sculpture at **Fair Oaks Park** in Canyon Country and a permanent public art installation at the future **Canyon Country Community Center**.

If you would like to experience all the public art Santa Clarita has to offer, please download our Santa Clarita Public Art App at scpublicart.com.

Sincerely,
Ken Striplin
City Manager

kstriplin@santa-clarita.com

A Year in Arts

A NEW ARTISTIC RENAISSANCE IS EVOLVING IN SANTA CLARITA, IN AN ARTS SCENE CRAFTED AND CULTIVATED BY OUR LOCAL ARTS COMMUNITY, ARTS COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL.

Today, the arts are alive in Santa Clarita - in performances on our stages, on our gallery walls, throughout communities by way of public art, and in music permeating from our entertainment venues and public spaces.

The City of Santa Clarita made a commitment to enhance the artistic and cultural lives of our residents and visitors when the **Arts Master Plan** was adopted in 2016, a long-term roadmap for arts, entertainment and cultural development in the City.

Since then, the City has put the plan into action and **increased funding for its Arts Grants program by 50%**, adopted a **Civic Art Policy** to increase funding for public art projects, supported the newly refurbished **Newhall Family Theatre for the Performing Arts**, launched **SantaClaritaArts.com** as a portal for art and cultural information in the community, and began operating a central arts venue called the **The MAIN** in Old Town Newhall, which features an art gallery, live shows, improvisational acts, live music and much more.

There are a total of **eight City-managed galleries** located throughout the City, including in our Santa Clarita Public Library branches, City Hall and the Town Center Art Space at Westfield Valencia Town Center, to name a few. This year, our galleries centered on themes varying from donuts, '80s pop culture and Native American masks! The full gamut of art mediums were also on display, including photographs, woven art, encaustic paintings, upcycled pieces, mosaic art and much more.

Public art holds a mirror up to the community. It helps us identify ourselves and bridges the past, present and near future. The **Cycling Bear** by local artist Frank Rock now greets cyclists and pedestrians along the Chuck Pontius Commuter-Rail Trail. The life-sized fiberglass bear was installed during National Bike to Work Week and is part of **The California Bear Project**, one of many public art projects the City is driving to make art and expression easily accessible to our residents. Public murals can be seen around the City, and even trash bins are becoming art as they are reimagined through **The Art Can Project** along Main Street in Old Town Newhall.

In Santa Clarita, everyone is encouraged to create, enjoy and advocate art. Art inspires and enriches the quality of life in our community. For more information on art and art happenings around the City, please visit SantaClaritaArts.com.



HOME IS WHERE THE
HEART IS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT UPDATES

Canyon Country Community Center

A gorgeous, new 25,000 square foot community center is coming to Canyon Country on a City-owned, eight-acre site, located on the northeast corner of Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway. The site was cleared this year and is now ready for staff to begin grading and finalizing design plans. Construction is scheduled to begin sometime in the summer of 2019 and once complete, the Center will offer the community more opportunities to participate in free and low-cost activities. In addition, residents will enjoy a new park which will provide outdoor activities including a play area, half-court basketball, courtyards and plazas, event area, walkways and landscaping. This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of **Building and Creating Community**.



Redevelopment Block in Old Town Newhall

As part of the Redevelopment Block, which encompasses the corner block of Railroad Avenue and Lyons Avenue in Old Town Newhall, a brand new, seven-story parking structure has opened! The new lot, which can be accessed from 9th Street, offers visitors 372 free parking spaces and a community rooftop event space. Future additions on this block include two projects: Laemmle Theatres, a seven-screen art house movie theatre, and Newhall Crossings, a mixed-use project featuring residential and retail units. This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of **Enhancing Economic Vitality**.



MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT LEWIS

The job of Law Enforcement is a tough one, but we are fortunate in Santa Clarita to have a community that prioritizes public safety and most importantly, supports the Deputies who are passionate about their job.

Over the past year we have been working hard at arresting drug dealers, tracking down the suppliers and educating those who are high-risk for becoming addicted. Even with this proactive approach to the heroin epidemic – we are still seeing a spike in overdoses.

In 2018 alone we've already lost ten Santa Clarita Valley residents to recreational opioid overdoses. That number is up 60% over 2017. One new tool to our arsenal to help save lives is deputies now have access to naloxone or Narcan, an anti-opioid nasal spray that can save lives during an overdose. Since our deputies were issued and trained on naloxone, they have saved the lives of five people.

Our Juvenile Intervention Team, or "J-Team," will continue to utilize their three-pronged approach targeting education, intervention and enforcement. This allows team members and community leaders the opportunity to work together to outline a comprehensive strategy to address growing concerns regarding drug/heroin use and availability in the Santa Clarita Valley.

A recent example of this collaboration, was the Parent Resource Symposium held at City Hall in September. The event focused on drug laws and trends, as well as common issues affecting teenagers today. Panelists shared important information regarding the effects of drug use on the body, warning signs and symptoms to spot, and resources available for parents and teens to get help for those they know are using.

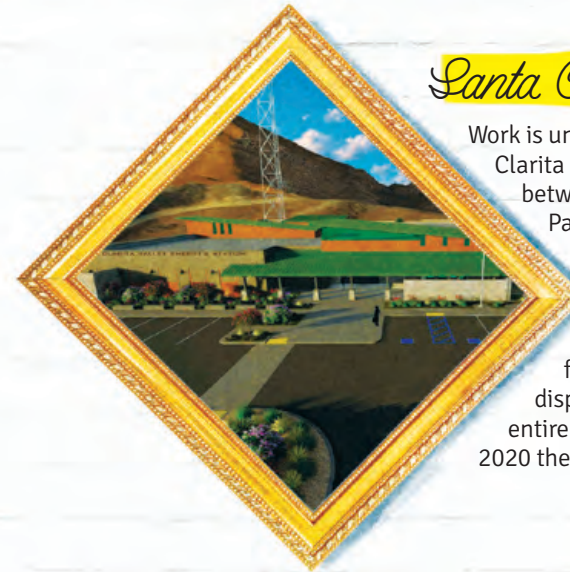
This is not someone else's problem, it is all of ours as a community and we MUST continue our unwavering commitment to address substance abuse at all levels. With our strong community partnerships focusing on education, resources, intervention, medical treatment, rehab and enforcement, we will continue to take on this epidemic. I ask that if you see something, please say something - what you share with us just may save a life!

Captain Robert Lewis,

Chief of Police
Santa Clarita

Newhall Ranch Road Bridge Widening

The Newhall Ranch Road Bridge widening project over San Francisquito Creek is coming to a finish! The bridge now has an additional lane in each direction – for a total of eight lanes- greatly improving the traffic flow in this busy area. Safety improvements were also made with a new landscaped median and a barrier protected sidewalk and bike path, on the south side of the bridge. Cyclists and joggers are also loving the new San Francisquito Creek trail connections under the bridge. This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of **Building and Creating Community**.



Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station

Work is underway at the construction site of the future Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station, along Golden Valley Road, between Centre Pointe Parkway and Robert C. Lee Parkway. The new station will replace the current station that has been in use since the 1970s, and once open, deputies will have a 46,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility. The sheriff station will feature a detached, 4,000-square-foot vehicle maintenance facility to repair vehicles on-site, a heliport, 9-1-1 dispatch center, a jail and enough space to house the entire Sheriff's team. This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of **Public Safety**.



2020 Update

The City of Santa Clarita has been hard at work completing projects laid out in the **Santa Clarita 2020 Plan** – the City's five-year strategic plan.

Under the theme of **Sustaining Public Infrastructure**, the annual **Road Rehab** program resurfaced an estimated 38.9 miles of street and completed 161 street segments this summer! Meanwhile, the annual **Sidewalk and Concrete Rehabilitation** project improved over 70,000 square feet of sidewalks, repaired 768 feet of curbs and gutters, and installed 34 new, ADA compliant, pedestrian access curbs. Within the theme of **Enhancing Economic Vitality**, the City continued to hold large-scale events to promote tourism such as the 25th Annual Cowboy Festival and The Bear Grylls Survival Challenge. As part of the **Community Beautification** theme, the City installed over 500 replacement trees throughout the City through the Median Beautification Project.

To learn more about the Santa Clarita 2020 Plan and the City's progress, visit SantaClarita2020.com.

Library, Arts and Community Center in Saugus

The City is working on bringing a Library, Arts and Community Center to the Saugus community. Saugus is the one community in the City without a Santa Clarita Public Library branch. The exact site for the new center is still in the works, but once a site is located and acquired, next steps will include creating and finalizing a design plan and then construction can begin. The new facility will serve as a vibrant community hub with unique indoor and outdoor spaces created for all ages! It will be a place where learning, exploration, imagination and play can happen simultaneously in the same area! This project supports the Santa Clarita 2020 theme of **Building and Creating Community**.



Building and Creating Community.



FALL EVENTS



Veterans Day

Join the Santa Clarita City Council in honoring Santa Clarita veterans and currently-serving military members. The City's annual Veterans Day Ceremony, which is hosted in conjunction with local veterans organizations, will take place on Sunday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held at Veterans Historical Plaza in Old Town Newhall (24275 N. Walnut Street) and will feature musical performances, guest speakers and the changing of the flags. Santa-Clarita.com/Events



Hometown Heroes Military Banner Program

The City's Hometown Heroes Banner Program honors currently serving, active military personnel in the United States Armed Forces 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, either to hang in the City or appear as a digital banner online, can do so at any time at santa-clarita.com/Heroes.



Santa Clarita Marathon

The 23rd annual Santa Clarita Marathon, presented by Parkway Motorcars, will officially take place over two days, from November 3-4. There's something for everyone at the Santa Clarita Marathon, which will offer a 10K course for the first time. Whether you are planning to do the full marathon, half marathon, 10K, 5K or Mayor's Walk, or just want to spend the weekend cheering on your neighbors, come join the fun at Westfield Valencia Town Center. A free Health and Fitness Expo will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 3-4, with packet pickup available Friday, November 2. Learn more and sign up to volunteer! SCMarathon.org



Winter Thursdays@Newhall

The popular Thursdays@Newhall series, presented by Valencia Auto Center, will continue through the winter months, from November through February, by highlighting local talent each week. The lineup will include the 10 by 10 variety show, Note by Note music showcase, a monthly gallery reception at The MAIN and the New Heights Artist Development Series. ThursdaysAtNewhall.com



Light Up Main Street

Hark! The herald angels sing, won't you come to Light Up Main? Old Town Newhall will once again transform into a holiday wonderland during the City's annual Light Up Main Street event on Saturday, November 17. Kick off the holiday season and enjoy music and dancing with performances by local groups. Performances begin at 6:00 p.m. and thousands of lights and the 23-foot Christmas tree will be illuminated at 7:30 p.m. Get there early and participate in the Sip N' Shop event from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at businesses in Old Town Newhall. OldTownNewhall.com



Award-Winning Programs

This year, the City of Santa Clarita once again won two prestigious League of California Cities Helen Putnam Awards for Excellence.

Santa Clarita Business Incubator

The City received a Helen Putnam Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations for the success of the Santa Clarita Business Incubator, which is a collaboration between the City, College of the Canyons and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC). The Business Incubator helps local entrepreneurs groom their cutting-edge ideas and connect them to resources necessary to thrive. The program provides startup companies with one-on-one business consultation, access to funding and customized trainings for tenants.



MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

ANDERSON MACKAY



It's been a very busy year for the Los Angeles County Fire Department!

In addition to responding to an average of 1,300 calls for service monthly in the City of Santa Clarita, your firefighters routinely maintain their readiness through drills and exercises, including their annual Wildland Fire Drills. This past year, with the support and assistance of the City, local firefighters had several opportunities to train on their structure fire tactics using actual buildings that were scheduled for demolition.

We recently broke ground and began construction on Fire Station 104, which will be located at the corner of Golden Valley Road and Newhall Ranch Road. This new, state-of-the-art, 10,700 square foot facility, is scheduled to open in fall 2019.

Earlier this year, we acquired a new Firehawk helicopter to add to our fleet. After making final modifications, this new Firehawk was recently put into service. In addition, our contract air assets (Super Scoopers and Helitanker) are available to us through the end of the year.

Sadly, we recently lost Fire Captain Wayne Habell, who faithfully served the Newhall community for many years. We applaud the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for their recent motion that focuses on addressing the unfortunate growing trend of suicide amongst first responders and what can be done to address the mental health needs of these individuals. We ask you to join us in remembering and thanking Captain Habell for his contributions and commitment to your public safety.

Please keep Captain Habell, his family, and all first responders and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Anderson Mackey,

Assistant Fire Chief
Santa Clarita

Community Court Diversion Program


Prior to 2006, youth who committed petty crimes in Santa Clarita would become one of thousands processed through the Los Angeles County Juvenile Justice system. To remedy this, staff from the City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and William S. Hart Union High School District created the Santa Clarita Community Court Diversion Program, which won a Helen Putnam Award for Excellence in Intergovernmental Collaboration. To date, nearly 4,200 youth have participated in the program, more than 40,000 hours of community service have been performed in Santa Clarita and participants have a 98 percent completion success rate.

City of
SANTA CLARITA

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HEADS UP!

SEE AND BE SEEN.
A SECOND CAN COST
A LIFETIME.
Santa-Clarita.com/HeadsUp



YOU CAN DO YOUR PART TO REDUCE TRAFFIC-RELATED COLLISIONS AND FATALITIES BY BEING A HEADS UP DRIVER, CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN. #HeadsUp

OUR COMMUNITY, OUR FAMILIES...



SLOW DOWN!!!



YOU CAN DO YOUR PART TO REDUCE TRAFFIC-RELATED COLLISIONS AND FATALITIES BY BEING A HEADS UP DRIVER AND PEDESTRIAN. #HeadsUp
www.santa-clarita.com/HeadsUp

Heads Up!

Last year, the City of Santa Clarita and the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station teamed up on a public safety initiative to educate drivers and pedestrians on road safety. This year, the award-winning Heads Up campaign focuses on bicycle safety in Santa Clarita. By ensuring they are highly visible, wear the proper safety gear and follow traffic laws, cyclists can help improve safety and decrease accidents on the road. It takes all of us doing our part to keep Santa Clarita roads safe for cyclists, drivers and pedestrians! Santa-Clarita.com/HeadsUp

Resident Service Center

We want to hear from you! Our Resident Service Center makes it easy for Santa Clarita residents to submit a service request, report graffiti, or even ask questions about potholes, recycling, recreation opportunities and more. Last year, City staff responded to 24,336 requests, including issues related to removal of illegal signs, pruning of trees and trail maintenance. You can access Resident Service Center by visiting santa-clarita.com/RSC or through the Santa Clarita Mobile App available in the App Store and Google Play.



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santa-clarita.com/Social



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