

City Administrator's Weekly Briefing

From: *Damien R. Arrula*

May 7, 2020



"Rich Heritage, Bright Future"

Placentia's First Inaugural Fire Academy Begins

The first inaugural Fire Academy began for the new Placentia Fire and Life Safety Department on Monday, May 4, 2020. The Academy began with a small commencement ceremony that introduced the firefighters to the Placentia City Council. Remarks were made by Mayor Ward Smith, Councilmember Rhonda Shader, City Administrator Damien R. Arrula, Fire Chief J. Pono Van Gieson, and Chief Executive Officer of Lynch EMS, Walt Lynch.



The Fire Academy consists of both didactic and practical instruction in the general areas of firefighting, emergency medical services, and hazardous materials. "The firefighters are placed in intense situations and will be expected to perform, learning first-hand, what it means to dig deep," said Fire Chief J. Pono Van Gieson. "They will spend hundreds of hours on the drill ground, throwing ladders, deploying hose lines, tying knots, and live firefighting. They will be required to meet time standards for donning turnouts and other critical firefighting skills, while writing papers, taking tests, and being evaluated in emergency medical service scenarios."

The firefighters will typically begin their day at 7:00 a.m. with training instructors during physical fitness. After their physical fitness routine is complete, they will line up for uniform inspections and attend classroom lecture. Most days will be rigorous, with firefighters training in full firefighting gear while performing various firefighting evolutions until the end of the day, which can be ten hours long.



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Upcoming Meetings and Events

- 05/12/20 Parks Arts and Recreation Commission (PARC) Meeting
- 05/12/20 Planning Commission Meeting
- 05/12/20 Heritage Committee Meeting
- 05/13/20 Streetscape & Transportation Advisory Commission

Meetings are subject to cancellation

For additional

information or

questions about this

Weekly Briefing please email:

CAWeekly@placentia.org



Placentia's First Inaugural Fire Academy Begins Cont'd

"Training is one of the most important functions of the new Placentia Fire and Life Safety Department, said Mayor Ward Smith. "This Academy is intended to prepare our department to serve our community in the most efficient and effective and transparent means possible, and to ensure personal safety as we deliver the best possible service to our community."

"Having participated in the first inaugural Fire Academy was truly a momentous occasion as it marked a huge milestone in our efforts to establish our very own Fire Department," said Councilmember Rhonda Shader. "I am excited to see our firefighters train with the most modern firefighting equipment and techniques, while preparing them to be integral parts of the Placentia community upon graduation from the Academy."

The firefighters are scheduled to graduate in mid-June, 2020 and take an oath to faithfully serve the public and begin their careers as fulltime Probationary Captains, Engineers, and Firefighters for the new Fire and Life Safety Department starting July 1, 2020. For more information and continual updates, please visit www.placentia.org/fireems.

Fire Department Participates in a Community Car Parade

The Placentia Fire and Life Safety Department participated in a community car parade for a local senior center facility this morning. The department will continue to engage with the community and look forward to many more events.



Rotary Club of Placentia Distributes Face Shields to Placentia Linda Hospital

On Thursday, April 30th Mayor Ward Smith, as an active Rotarian for the Rotary Club of Placentia, distributed 760 face shields to first responders at Placentia Linda Hospital. The Rotary Club spent several weekends and countless hours along with several other Rotary Clubs from Rotary District 5320 assembling the face shields throughout the County of Orange. The City of Placentia thanks the Rotary Club and its volunteers for providing much needed personal protective equipment to our first responders in Placentia.





COVID-19 Business Resource Webpage

As the situation with coronavirus (COVID-19) evolves, the City of Placentia stands ready to help local businesses navigate the significant challenges you may be facing in this time of great uncertainty. During these difficult times, the City of Placentia remains committed to providing helpful resources and information to assist our business community.

The City has created a dedicated webpage for businesses to receive resources to various federal, state and county websites on available funding for businesses impacted by coronavirus, employer assistance, workplace safety and more. Our City team is working on continually updating this page as resources/information becomes available.

www.placentia.org/businessresources

In addition, the City has launched a Support Local Placentia Businesses campaign. The City encourages our community to support local businesses and restaurants and has created an interactive map of local businesses that remain open and restaurants that are offering one or more of the following: Grub Hub, Door Dash, Postmates, Uber Eats, store delivery, to-go orders, curbside pick-up, and/or drive-thru service. Below is a link to the interactive map. This interactive map will be updated regularly.

www.placentia.org/stillopen

Certain Employees at some Essential Businesses Must Wear Face Coverings Effective Friday, April 24

The Orange County Board of Supervisors approved a directive that certain employees at some essential businesses must wear face coverings effective on Friday, April 24th. All employees of any grocery store, pharmacy/drug store, convenience store, gas station, restaurant, food preparation establishment, or retail store in Orange County who may have contact with the public must wear a cloth face covering while at work.

Employees must comply with this regulation for the health and safety of all in the community as it is enforceable by law enforcement per [Government Code section 8665](#).

Though the regulation issued by the Orange County Board of Supervisors does not apply to customers, County Health Officer Dr. Nichole Quick continues to strongly encourage residents to wear face coverings while engaged in essential activities outside the home.

For additional information regarding this directive, please visit the Orange County website at <https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/article/oc-health-officers-orders-recommendations>

A Message from Mayor Ward Smith

Please visit the following link to view a video message from Mayor Ward Smith to the Placentia community on the coronavirus.

[Mayor's Video Message](#)

A Covid-19 Update

The City of Placentia is actively monitoring the situation involving the infectious disease outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We are working closely with the federal, state and county agencies to receive the latest information on the Coronavirus. The City has created a dedicated webpage at www.placentia.org/coronavirus to provide the community with the most recent information about the coronavirus pandemic. We urge our community to practice social distancing and please wash your hands regularly.



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Applications Now Available for the City of Placentia Volunteer Program

Teens, 13-16 years of age, are invited to apply for the summer Volunteer Program through the Community Services Department. Participants will have the opportunity to receive on-the-job training, earn volunteer service hours for graduation, and develop friendships. Join the Community Services Department this summer and be a part of the multiple activities and events that will be conducted throughout the City. Applicants must be 13 years of age by June 1st. The deadline to apply is Thursday, May 14th at 5:30 p.m. Applications are available online at www.placentia.org/volunteer. For more information on the Volunteer Program, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.



Neighborhood Services

The Neighborhood Services office will continue to operate during its regular hours of operation. The Neighborhood Services office in Placentia offers emergency food and hygiene to low income families in Placentia. For more information on food programs and emergency assistance, please call (714) 986-2333.

Keeping Placentia Healthy Takes All of Us!

The City of Placentia is doing its part to prevent the spread of coronavirus by encouraging social distancing. The following park features are closed until further notice: **Playgrounds, fitness equipment, and sports courts.**

Parks are still great places for residents to take walks or play games such as Frisbee or catch. Restrooms and open green spaces remain open. For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

P.A.R.K.'s Program Update

The Placentia Community Services Department is committed to supporting parents and participants during this uncertain time. In response to the Safer at Home order the City's P.A.R.K.'s Program sites are closed; however, the Community Services Department has created Take-Home Recreation Packets for participants to enjoy safe activities at home. These packets include outside games, arts and crafts, inside activities, and all the supplies. Parents and participants can pick up a free packet from one of four sites at the Whitten Community Center, the Gomez Center, Cathy Torrez Learning Center, or Koch Park between 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 13th. For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.





Placentia Senior Center

Due to the recent concerns surrounding COVID-19 (coronavirus) and in line with County, State and Federal guidelines and recommendations, the City of Placentia has announced the temporary closure of the Placentia Senior Center. Although the Placentia Senior Center will be temporarily closed, participants of the Senior Center Lunch Program may choose to pick-up a box lunch Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or new participants living in the City of Placentia may enroll in the Meals on Wheels Program. Additionally, Placentia seniors who do not have transportation to the senior center, may sign up with Senior Center staff to receive home delivered meals. Seniors without internet access are encouraged to call (714) 993-8232 for updates between the hours of 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and at (714) 986-2333 on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Please be advised this program is only intended for senior residents of Placentia age 60 and over.

PUBLIC WORKS

Emergency Response Plan for Citrus Disease

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has confirmed the presence of the causative bacterial agent of the citrus disease huanglongbing (HLB) in citrus tree tissue collected from the cities of Anaheim, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, La Habra, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana, Tustin, Westminster, and Yorba Linda, in Orange County.

HLB is a devastating disease of citrus and is spread through feeding action by populations of the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama. In order to determine the extent of the infestation, and to define an appropriate response area, additional surveys took place for several days over a one quarter-square mile area, centered on the detection sites. Based on the results of the surveys, implementation of the CDFA's ACP and HLB emergency response strategies are necessary for eradication and control.

The emergency program is based on recommendations developed in consultation with the California HLB Task Force, USDA experts on HLB and ACP, the Primary State Entomologist, the Primary State Plant Pathologist, and the affected counties agricultural commissioners' representatives who are knowledgeable on HLB and ACP. Incorporating these experts' recommendations and findings, the program requires removal of all HLB-infected trees.

In determining how to respond to this emergency, the CDFA employs integrated pest management (IPM) principles. IPM includes cultural, biological, physical, and chemical control methods. The CDFA considered all relevant factors, data and science and determined that cultural, biological, and chemical control methods would not abate the imminent threat posed by HLB-positive trees or meet its statutory obligations. Therefore, a physical method was selected, which includes removal of any infected host plant. This option was selected based upon minimal impacts to the environment, biological effectiveness, minimal public intrusiveness, and cost.

Residents of affected properties shall be invited to a public meeting or contacted directly by CDFA staff. Consultation with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the county agricultural commissioner's office will be provided at the public meeting or upon request to address residents' questions and concerns.

Residents shall be notified in writing at least 48 hours in advance of any treatment in accordance with the Food and Agricultural Code sections 5771-5779 and 5421-5436. For any questions related to this program, please contact the CDFA toll-free telephone number at (800) 491-1899 for assistance. This telephone number is also listed on all treatment notices. Treatment information is posted at http://cdfa.ca.gov/plant/acp/treatment_maps.html.



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Metropolitan Water District Project

Construction is coming to Brookhaven Avenue this summer as led by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). MWD is beginning public outreach related to the Relining project to rehabilitate approximately 2,980 feet of this major regional water pipeline primarily on Brookhaven Avenue (between Bastanchury Road and Yorba Linda Boulevard). Construction activity will limit traffic to one-way only near Swanee Avenue. As presented to the City Council on May 5th, nearby residents will soon receive a letter with details about the project. Please visit the MWD webpage for more information:

www.mwdh2o.com/secondlowerfeeder

The project is planned to begin in mid - June and finish in late - August. Please [click here](#) to view the project details.

Springhill Suites Update

Placentia Hospitality, LLC, a subsidiary to Fine Hospitality Group, is currently constructing an approximately 69,663-square foot, five-story, 116-room hotel building on an approximately 2.1-gross acre, unimproved site located at 380 S. Placentia Avenue. The development will feature a 116-space parking lot, decorative hardscape and landscape improvements.

The hotel will operate 24 hours per day, seven days a week. It will have 60 King Rooms plus 10 King accessible rooms, 38 Double-Queen Rooms plus 8 double queen accessible rooms. Amenities will include an outdoor pool area, breakfast lounge, convenience market, fitness center and meeting/conference room.

The hotel building will feature a design reminiscent of modern architecture with building facades featuring horizontal and vertical reveals and clean lines. Additional monolithic (e.g., tower) architectural elements will be affixed to north and south elevations. A metal porte-cochere will visually accentuate the main entry to the hotel with a strong emphasis on architectural details such as enhanced paving, lighting, window treatments, and stone wall treatment.

Onsite utility improvements have been completed, and the project is in the framing phase of the development, hence the term “sticks in the air.” Four floors of framing are now complete with the remaining framing forthcoming. Construction is anticipated to be completed first quarter 2021. You may contact the Development Services Department at (714) 993-8124 to receive updates or ask questions about the development project. For questions via e-mail, please send to agonzales@placentia.org or jlambert@placentia.org.





POLICE DEPARTMENT

National Police Week

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15th as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that day falls as National Police Week. National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. During the week of May 10 through May 16, please join the men and women of the Placentia Police Department in honoring those law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

At the May 5th, City Council meeting, Captain McElhinney accepted the City Council's National Police Week Proclamation on behalf of Chief Lenyi.

Captain McElhinney recognized Detective Joey Little, Detective Phil Bush and Lieutenant Ken Alexander of the Placentia Police Department. Detective Little, Detective Bush and Lieutenant Alexander all made the ultimate sacrifice.



EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Placentia Library District Weekly Summary



Placentia Library District

WEEKLY SUMMARY – May 8-14, 2020

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Don't have a Placentia Library card already? Click here to apply for a Virtual Library Card:

www.bit.ly/PlacentiaLibraryVirtualLibraryCard

HAVE A QUESTION? CONTACT US:

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<https://www.placentialibrary.org/book-librarian>

Virtual Storytime Programs

LUNA, LUNA! VIRTUAL BILINGUAL STORYTIME

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/placentialibrary

SUNSHINE BABIES & TODDLER TALES VIRTUAL STORYTIME

Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/placentialibrary

RISE AND SHINE! VIRTUAL STORYTIME

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/placentialibrary

Borrow ebooks & audiobooks without leaving home!

Read on Libby.
The one-tap reading app from our library.

**RISE AND SHINE!
VIRTUAL STORYTIME!**

Saturdays @ 10:00 a.m.
Facebook Live
Placentia Library

placentia
LIBRARY DISTRICT

Virtual Programs

QUARANTEA PARTY

Saturday, May 23, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Become an expert in hosting afternoon tea during quarantine! In this fun filled virtual tea party you will discover how to host your very own virtual tea party, learn the history of tea parties, how to brew the perfect "cuppa", what to wear and what kind of food to serve. Plus there will be fun and games with librarians Megan and Michelle while we all enjoy a lovely "cuppa" so put the kettle on!

[Click here for info on how to join the Zoom meeting](#)



VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB: DEATH ON THE NILE

Saturday, May 16, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Are you excited about actor Kenneth Branagh's upcoming film Death on the Nile? We are. So we thought we would get a head start on who dunnit! This is one of Agatha Christie's most famous mysteries. The great detective Hercule Poirot must solve another murder all while vacationing in Egypt. Join us for a lively discussion about this decadent trip down the Nile.

[Click here for info on how to join the Zoom meeting](#)

GAME ON: SMASH TOURNAMENT

Mondays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Virtual on Nintendo Switch

Think you have what it takes hold the #1 spot on the Smash Leaderboard? Play Super Smash Bros ULTIMATE against friends and folks from all across Placentia! Here's how to join our Arena: No registration required! *Must have a Switch, Super Smash Bros Ultimate and a Nintendo online pass*

[Click here for info how to join.](#)

GAME ON: ANIMAL CROSSING

Wednesdays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Virtual on Nintendo Switch

Calling all Villagers! Book your flight with Dodo Airlines to visit our island Lilliput; where the community comes together to create joy, wholesome content, friendships and a reprieve from our solitude of isolation. Share your tips and tricks, harvest needed resources and leave a message on the bulletin board.

The Lilliput gates will be open on Wednesdays from 2 p.m - 4 p.m for villagers to socialize. Our Placentia Library Nintendo friend code is SW-4152-8896-0411. Be sure to add us as a friend at least an hour before the start of the party to enter the island.



The Hangar

THE HANGAR MAKER TOURNAMENT!

Stretch your creativity and test your skill in the first of three challenges! Participate in all three challenges and win a \$20 Michaels gift card. All ages welcome!

BOREDOM-BUSING DIY VIDEOS

Posted weekly. [Click here.](#)

Recent video: [Potato Printing](#)

The Hangar
Where imagination and inspiration take flight!

THE HANGAR MAKER TOURNAMENT

Challenge Dates:

Paper Mache Challenge:	April 27 - May 4
Cardboard Challenge:	May 18 - May 25
Stop Motion Challenge:	June 15 - June 29

Learn new Skills — Use Things you Have at Home — WIN PRIZES!

[Click here for more info!](#)