

City Administrator's
Weekly Briefing

From: *Damien R. Arrula*

November 19, 2020



“Rich Heritage, Bright Future”

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Thanksgiving Food Baskets Donations

The Neighborhood Services Office is currently accepting donations for the annual Thanksgiving Distribution event. Donations will be accepted at the Whitten Community Center located at 900 S. Melrose St. until Monday, November 23rd, from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (office closed 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. for lunch). Please [click here](#) for a list of donation items that will be accepted. For more information regarding upcoming Holiday events, please contact the Neighborhood Services Office at (714) 986-2333.

Drive-In Movies

The Community Services Department will host two more Drive-In Movies in the City Hall parking lot. Frozen 2 will be featured on November 20th, and Elf will be the holiday movie on December 12th. The parking lot opens at 7:00 p.m., and the movie begins at 7:30 p.m. A \$5.00 pre-registration fee is required per vehicle. Spots are still available for tomorrow, November 20th. Sign up by visiting www.placentia.org/classes. For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

Winter Wonderland Drive-Thru Experience

The first Winter Wonderland Drive-Thru event will be held on Thursday, December 3rd, from 4:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot. All are invited to drive through a festive Winter Wonderland experience complete with holiday music, Christmas trees, Santa’s Elves, Holiday Characters, a light show, and Santa Claus himself. Families will collect Holiday treats and goodies from their vehicle as they enjoy the Holiday scenery. The event is free, and participants will be asked to remain in their cars, wear a mask, and roll down their windows to collect their treats. For more information, [click here](#) to view the flyer or call Community Services at (714) 993-8232.

Santa Zoom Calls

Santa will be making Zoom calls this year! Santa will be available to visit over Zoom with the Placentia community on December 7th, and December 8th between 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and on December 11th between 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required and will begin on November 30th. Each 15-minute phone call is \$10.00. Register in person at City Hall. For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

<p>Get the iPlacentia App:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>Follow us on Facebook:</p> 	<p>Upcoming Meetings and Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12/1/20 City Council Meeting 12/8/20 Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission 12/8/20 Planning Commission Meeting 12/15/20 City Council Meeting 1/6/20 Placentia EIFD Public Financing Authority 	<p>For additional information or questions about this Weekly Briefing, please email:</p> <p>CAWeekly@placentia.org</p>
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ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Beneficial Wasp Helps Fight Against Deadly Citrus Disease

As the deadly citrus disease, Huanglongbing (HLB), continues to threaten California's beloved citrus crop, a small but mighty predator called *Tamarixia radiata*—a parasite wasp—has been called upon to help. Thousands of these beneficial wasps are being released throughout the state to reduce populations of the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP)—the pest that can spread HLB.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) employs various tools to combat HLB to protect California's commercial and backyard citrus. Deploying *Tamarixia radiata* is a unique way of targeting ACP in urban areas, as the insect only attacks psyllids, so no other insects are infected. More than 4 million of these natural predator wasps have been released in California to reduce the ACP populations. HLB has been found in more than 2,000 residential citrus trees in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties.

For *Tamarixia* to be effective, ant control is critical. Do your part by placing ant bait—not spray—around your citrus trees and controlling ants throughout your yard. Your local nursery or home and garden center can provide recommendations on ant bait. While effective at reducing ACP populations, the *Tamarixia* biological control will not stop HLB on its own. There are many other activities in place—like quarantines, treatment, and tree removal—that also help prevent the disease's spread.

Additional support from the community is critical to stopping the spread of HLB. If you have a citrus tree on your property, you should inspect your trees regularly and immediately report any suspected ACP presence and HLB symptoms to CDFA or the county agricultural commissioner. For more tips on caring for your citrus trees, consult your local [University of California Extension](#) or a [UC Master Gardener](#) program to learn about recommended products you can use to protect your trees. By working together, we can save California citrus.

Orange County Moves into Purple Tier

The County of Orange has moved to the Purple Tier. This is the most restrictive Tier (Widespread). For more information, please visit <https://covid19.ca.gov/>.

Visit a testing Super Site to be tested for both COVID-19 and the flu. Find information and book your appointment at <https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/supersite>.

This holiday season, spread cheer, not COVID-19. Remember to wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Please [click here](#) to view additional tips from the Orange County Health Care Agency on staying healthy and safe this holiday season.



Sign up for City Commissions and Committees

The City is currently accepting applications for our numerous committees and commissions. The City of Placentia welcomes all interested residents who want to get involved in the community to apply. You can find the list of committees and commissions, as well as the application by visiting <http://placentia.org/289/Committees-Commissions-and-Agencies>. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, November 24th, at 6:00 p.m.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

New Employee Introduction

This week, the Police Department welcomed Kari Flood as a new Police Civilian Investigator. After spending 18 years with the Garden Grove Police Department as a Senior Community Services Officer, Kari came to the Placentia Police Department. She has attended numerous investigations related training classes over the years and will be assigned to work fraud and missing person investigations. Kari enjoys traveling, weightlifting, swimming, hiking, camping, and spending time with family in her free time. She also has volunteered with the non-profit organization We Give Thanks who give back to those in need. Please welcome Police Civilian Investigator Kari Flood to the Placentia Police Department!



Beware of Utility Phone Scams

Southern California Edison is warning customers of utility bill phone scam attempts this holiday season. The COVID-19 pandemic created widespread opportunities for con artists posing as utility representatives to target unsuspecting customers observing stay-at-home precautions. These attempts to steal money, personal information, or both have expanded to include the growing use of mobile payment applications.

SCE's top-10 cities for reporting utility phone scams this year are:

- Fontana
- Hemet
- Huntington Beach
- Irvine
- Long Beach
- Moreno Valley
- Ontario
- San Bernardino
- Santa Ana
- Whittier

Utility bill scams tend to target the elderly, English learners — or both — and smaller businesses such as hair salons and auto mechanics, many of which have been struggling since the pandemic started.

In addition to staying vigilant, SCE asks customers who believe they are being or have been targeted by a utility bill scam to:

- Confirm their account balance or payment status by calling SCE's customer service center at 1-800-655-4555.
- Save information, such as callback phone numbers or payment instructions, and report the attempt by calling SCE customer service center, emailing SCE at csinfogov@sce.com, or by completing SCE's [online fraud form](#).

To learn more about the suspicious behaviors and tactics of utility bill phone scammers, please visit sce.com/scamalert.



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DEPARTMENT

Keep Placentia Cooking Safely

People in the United States are most likely to experience a fire in their home than anywhere else. Cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires start in the kitchen. With the holidays just around the corner, please follow some of these safety tips.

Be Fire-Safe in the Kitchen

Stay in the kitchen when frying food or cooking with oil or grease.



Never cook when you are tired.



To put out a pan fire, slide a lid over the pan. Turn off the stove and let the pan cool.



A Recipe for Keeping Your Community Cooking Safely
NFPA • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169 • www.nfpa.org

Be Fire-Safe in the Kitchen

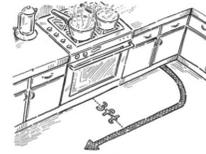
If you have a fire and it does not go out, get out of the home and call the fire department.



Keep things that can burn away from the stove.



Keep kids at least three feet from the stove.



A Recipe for Keeping Your Community Cooking Safely
NFPA • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169 • www.nfpa.org

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Expand the Forest Program

The City is accepting applications for the Expand the Forest Program. Through this program, residents can purchase and dedicate a tree to commemorate a loved one or special event. Planting a tree in a City Park contributes to the expansion of the City's Urban Forest. Tree sponsors will be able to use a Park map to identify their preferred park and planting location(s). The cost to purchase and plant a tree will be funded by the tree sponsor and is based on the current contract price paid by the City for 24-inch box trees. The current cost is \$280 for an Expand the Forest tree. Once a location is selected and payment for the tree has been received, the City will have the tree planted by the City's landscape maintenance contractor, with or without the sponsor(s) in attendance, depending on their preference. Once planted, the City will assume maintenance responsibilities to care for the tree. The tree sponsor(s) will receive a certificate signed by the Mayor in appreciation and be acknowledged in the City's quarterly Palm Newsletter.

To participate, complete an application and submit it to the Public Works Department via email at urbanforest@placentia.org or via mail at 401 E. Chapman Avenue, Placentia, CA 92870. The application is available online at www.placentia.org/urbanforest and at City Hall. For more information, contact Public Works at (714) 993-8148 or urbanforest@placentia.org.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Chapman Avenue Median Renovations

This week, City staff started the groundwork to renovate the existing turfgrass medians on Chapman Avenue between Kraemer Boulevard on Angelina Drive. The renovations will entail removing the turfgrass with low water usage plant materials and a drip irrigation system. Over the next two weeks, City staff will complete the preparation of the medians for the new landscaping. The landscaping will be installed after the holidays in January 2021. Staff expects to complete the project by the end of January 2021.

In 2014, the State imposed several mandatory water restrictions on both public and private landscapes. These restrictions included a prohibition of watering turfgrass street medians. As a result, the grass in most of the City's landscaped medians has since died. In response to these restrictions and to improve the aesthetics of the City's streetscapes, the City began planning for renovations of its turf grass medians. Since 2017, the City has completed renovations of landscape medians along Chapman Avenue between Kraemer Boulevard and All-American Way; Kraemer Boulevard between Chapman Avenue and Alta Vista Street; Rose Drive between Alta Vista and Buena Vista Streets; and Kraemer Boulevard between Alta Vista Street and Bastanchury Road.





DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Springhill Suites by Marriott

Placentia Hospitality, LLC, a subsidiary of 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, and will have 60 King Rooms plus 10 King accessible rooms, 38 Double-Queen Rooms plus eight Double Queen accessible rooms. Amenities include an outdoor pool area, breakfast lounge, convenience market, fitness center, and meeting/conference room.

All framing, exterior façade enhancements, and exterior signage have been completed and/or installed. The construction scaffolding has been removed to reveal the building's design, which features horizontal and vertical reveals emphasizing an overall geometric design theme. A metal porte-cochere visually accentuates the hotel's main entrance, highlighting architectural details such as enhanced paving, lighting, window treatments, and stone wall cladding. Presently landscaping is being planted throughout the property, and the improvements to the building's interior are in progress. Construction is anticipated to be completed in the first quarter of 2021. You may contact the Development Services Department at (714) 993-8124 to receive updates or ask questions about the development project. For inquiries via e-mail, send to agonzales@placentia.org or jlambert@placentia.org.



EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Placentia Library District Weekly Summary



Placentia Library District

Weekly Summary – November 20-26, 2020

Follow us on social media!
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Facebook: @PlacentiaLibrary

Library News

LIBRARY CLOSURE

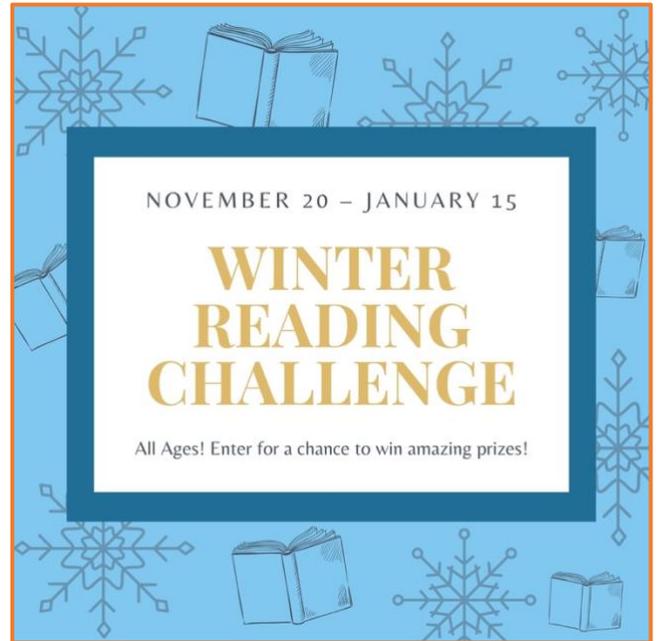
Thursday, November 26, for Thanksgiving

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

November 20 - January 15

Who doesn't enjoy snuggling up with a good book when it's cold outside? The more you read, the more chances you have to win. Take a little bit of time out of your busy holiday schedule to relax, have fun, learn, and READ! All Ages!
Don't forget eBooks and eAudiobooks count too! Check out our wide selection of e-content at [Overdrive](#) and [Hoopla](#).

Register at www.placentialibrary.org/winter-reading
For all ages!



WE'RE OPEN!

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Library Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Passport Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Pasport info: www.placentialibrary.org/services/passports
(714) 528-1906

LAPTOP AND HOTSPOT KITS NOW AVAILABLE

Laptop and hotspot kits available for checkout! Visit www.placentialibrary.org/library-of-things to learn more about our Library of Things collection, or visit www.bit.ly/PLDLaptops to request a free kit for a 2-week checkout.

Virtual Teen & Adult Programs

LITERACY SERVICES

Adult Literacy programs are still available. 1-to-1 tutoring is virtual and in-person instruction. Read, Write, Speak Club and Literacy Reads book club are virtual.
Please visit www.placentialibrary.org/services/literacy for more info.



PLACENTIA TEEN ADVISORY COUNCIL (PTAC)

First and Third Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Next meeting: December 3

The Placentia Teen Advisory Council is open to all high school students interested in gaining community service experience, volunteer hours, and leadership skills, through planning and supporting library events. For more information contact Victor Meza at (714) 528-1906 ext. 234 or vmeza@placentialibrary.org.

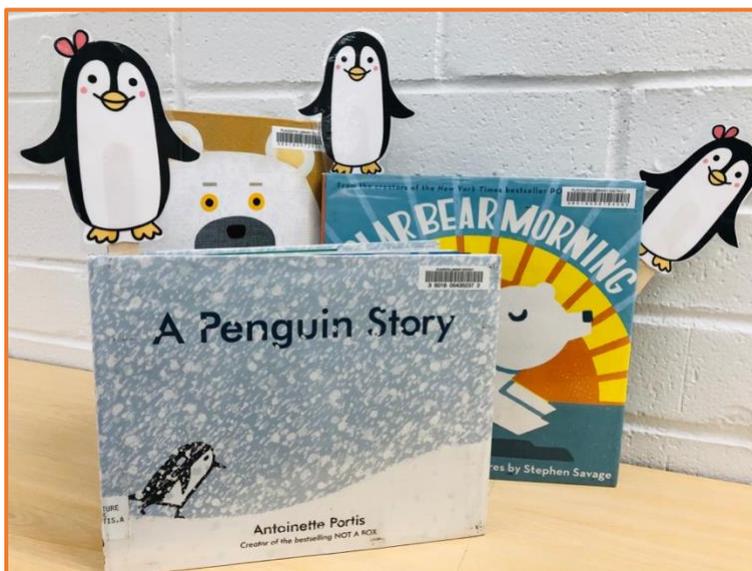
Virtual Children's Programs

VIRTUAL STORYTIMES FALL 2020 SCHEDULE

Our storytimes are held on Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/placentialibrary and are saved so that you can watch them later.

Storytime break this week for the Thanksgiving holiday!

- Luna, Luna Bilingual Storytime is every other Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
 - Next storytime: December 2
- Sunshine Babies & Toddler Tales Storytime is Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
 - Next storytime: December 3:
Waddle like a penguin; growl like a polar bear! Let's explore living in the snow like Penguin and Polar Bear! Join us for fun songs, fingerplays and rhymes that celebrate the winter with these polar opposites.
- Rise and Shine Storytime is Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
 - Next storytime: December 5



Library Info

CHECK OUT EBOOKS, AUDIOBOOKS AND MORE ON HOOPLA!

Instantly borrow free digital movies, music, ebooks, audiobooks, graphic novels, TV shows and more, 24/7 with your library card. Visit www.hoopladigital.com or download the app.

KIDS TAKE 5: GRAB & GO BOOKS!

Parents! No time to browse for those board books or picture books? We've got you covered! Click on the link below to request a Take 5 bag of books! www.placentialibrary.org/kids-take-5

REQUEST BOOKS ONLINE

Request books, audiobooks and more online on our catalog at www.bit.ly/placentialib. You may pick up your holds inside the library at the hold shelf, or stop by our curbside pickup. www.placentialibrary.org/curbside

