

City Parks & Community Services offers a multitude of programs this fall for all age groups

Costa Mesa Parks & Community Services will again offer after-school programs for both early childhood and teens starting this school year as well as swim lessons for adults and youth.

For elementary-aged children the city offers to the Recreation on Campus for Kids, or R.O.C.K.S, Afterschool Program at 11 sites throughout the city.

The R.O.C.K.S Program will also offer Youth Fitness Programs, showing kids that health and exercise can be fun.

After-school care for teens is offered at three Teen Center locations. These free programs take place at the Downtown Recreation Center, TeWinkle Intermediate, and Costa Mesa Middle School and will be open on the first day of school, Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Any teenagers who want to stop by after school, make a few new friends, try something new and have a good time are welcome.

Teen Center permission slips will be available at 7th and 8th grade registration days at Costa Mesa Middle School, TeWinkle Intermediate, and Ensign Intermediate. Please call (714) 327-7562 for more information.

[Click here for more.](#)

Additionally, fall youth and adult swim lessons will be held at the Downtown Aquatic Center at 1860 Anaheim Ave. beginning

Tuesday, Sept. 5. Registration will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 23 at 8 a.m. online or at the Downtown Aquatic Center.

The pool is heated year-round. Please call (714) 327-7564 for more information.

Check out the city's website for a full listing of fall programs and classes by clicking [here](#).



City launches new web page to help residents report aircraft noise and concerns

In response to increased concerns about noise and flight patterns of aircraft flying in and out of John Wayne and other local airports, the city has created a new page titled, Airport Noise and Concerns, that provides residents with important resources for monitoring air traffic.

By clicking on the page here , residents can call JWA directly and the page provides access numbers and websites for the Federal Aviation Administration and Long Beach Airport.

City staff continues to work with county and regional officials to stay up to date on any changes regarding air traffic and noise.

Click here for a related story on noise curfew violations at Long Beach Airport.

Edison to perform infrastructure testing on the Eastside beginning Monday Aug. 21

Southern California Edison crews will be working in certain Eastside Costa Mesa neighborhoods to make improvements to the electrical grid beginning Aug. 21 and extending through Friday

Aug. 25.

The work will commence typically between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This maintenance work is important to ensure the power grid is supported with up to date technology and reliability for continuous improvement.

Click [here](#) to read the letter from Edison and to learn which areas are to be affected.

Vernal pools to get some protective fencing soon

Public Services, in collaboration with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, has completed bid documents for the Fairview Park Vernal Pool Fencing Project.

Per the Fairview Park Master Plan, all seven vernal pools on the west side of the park, and one on the east side, will be protected by installing cable rail fencing. Approximately 6,500 linear feet of fencing will be installed in the fall of 2017.

The Fairview Park vernal pools are home to small aquatic crustaceans, the San Diego and Riverside fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis* and *Streptocephalus woottoni*), which are listed as federally endangered species.

For more information on vernal pools and other biological resources at Fairview Park, please visit the City's website at <https://www.costamesaca.gov/index.aspx?page=1576>.

Caltrans to close a connector and on-ramp for paving work on Friday Aug. 11 through 4 a.m. Aug. 12

Caltrans will be closing both the Southbound SR-55 connector to the Northbound I-405 and the Bristol Street on-ramp to the Northbound I-405 this Friday evening, Aug.11 from 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. Saturday Aug. 12 for AC paving.

Caltrans appreciates the public's patience while this work is being conducted.

Detour signs will be posted to alert motorists of the closure.

For more information, you may contact the District 12 Public Information Office at (657) 328-6000 or log on to the Caltrans website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12.

Pet of the Week: Strike is smart and eager to please

Strike, a Treeing Walker Coonhound, is looking for a new home.

He is smart, sweet, and outgoing and loves to stay active by

going on walks and being outdoors.

Strike is 9-years-old but has the energy of a young pup.

He's eager to please, knows all of his commands and is ready to move in with a new family.

Come visit with this handsome boy today at the OC Humane Society.

For more information go to the OC Humane Society website here

Community comes out to support groundbreaking event for new library and community center

Mayor Katrina Foley, Mayor Pro Tem Sandra Genis and City Council Members Jim Righeimer and John Stephens joined city staff to and other members of the community to officially break ground on the new Lions Park Projects last Friday.

Also in attendance were state Sen. John Moorlach, Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors Michelle Steel, Supervisor Second District, project architect Steve Johnson as well as Orange County Librarian Helen Fried.

The \$36.5 million public works projects will include a new 20,000-square-foot Donald Dungan Library as well as the refurbishment of the existing library into a new Neighborhood Community Center and many park improvements.

About 150 members of the public attended the event.

To see a slideshow from Friday's groundbreaking, [click here](#).

Julie Colgan presented with July's City Manager Leadership Award

City Manager Tom Hatch awarded Development Services Administrative Secretary Julie Colgan with the City Manager Leadership Award at the July Meet and Greet.

"Julie has the important job of being the recording secretary for the Planning Commission meetings," Hatch said. "Her organization skills and ability to remain cool under pressure are impressive traits and I appreciate her professional style very much."

Colgan started with the City as an Apple temp in April 2012 and was offered a part time administrative secretary position in August of 2014 and later promoted to full time for the Development Services Department in November 2015.

As the Recording Secretary for the Planning Commission she has to make sure the various types of public notices occur on time, that agendas and staff reports are readied and copied and sent off to the Commission and other parties, as well as attend all the meetings and prepare the minutes.

Colgan wants to make sure that everyone knew that it's not possible for her to do her job without the support and companionship of her colleagues.

In addition to honoring Colgan, City Manager Hatch welcomed several new employees and congratulated others for their promotions.

New employees included Barry Curtis, the city's new Economic & Development Services Director; Issam Shahroui, the new Building Official; and Courtney Harvey, Office Specialist in the Finance Department.

From Parks & Community Services, he welcomed Zander Fletcher and Elise Price, two new Recreation Leader I hires and Kianna Gicale a new Recreation Leader II. The Police Department's Mayra Avalos, a new Police Records Technician was also welcomed.

In the promotions category, Hatch congratulated Ana Baca, the new Revenue Supervisor in the Finance Department; Katelyn Walsh, who was promoted to Assistant Planner Economic & Development Services; and Theresa Byrne, promoted to Recreation Leader III in Parks & Community Services.

Lions Park Projects Groundbreaking Ceremony set for Friday July 28

The City will hold an official Groundbreaking Ceremony this Friday July 28 at 10 a.m. for the planned Lions Park Projects.

The \$36 million public works projects will include a new 20,000-square-foot Donald Dungan Library as well as the refurbishment of the existing library into a new Neighborhood Community Center.



City Council members, staff and other dignitaries are expected to attend, including the architect of the project Steve Johnson as well as Orange County Librarian Helen Fried.

The Boy Scout Troop No. 339 will be the Color Guard that morning.

[Click here for more information about the Lions Park Projects.](#)

CMPD Chaplain leads volunteers in cleanup efforts at Westside senior mobile home park

Last week, Costa Mesa Police Chaplain Mike Decker led 49 young volunteers visiting from North Dakota in a park-wide cleanup project at the Greenleaf Mobile Home park located on the Westside of Costa Mesa.

The volunteers affiliated with The Gathering, a once every

three years event showing kids how big of a change they can make in local communities, picked Costa Mesa to make a difference in.

“These Dakota kids and their sponsors, traveled 1,600 miles to share God’s love with our community,” said Decker, who also serves as pastor of Palm Harvest Church. “From all of us in Costa Mesa, we say thank you.”

The Gathering event serves as the national youth gathering for the North American Baptist Conference.

The Visitors arrived on Sunday and were quickly hard at work throughout the park.

On Monday, July 10, the team set out to clean up multiple homes that needed some TLC and shore up the landscaping throughout the park.

A fence or two was even constructed. Planned for the week were visits with senior citizens in the park and a few trips to the beach.

Lynn Singer, one of the organizers of the trip explained that some of the kids making a difference had never been outside the small North Dakota town.

She also explained that it was important for the volunteers to remember that you don’t have to go to Africa to make a difference.

Police seek robber of local McDonald's restaurant

Costa Mesa police are seeking a man who robbed a McDonald's restaurant in the 3000 block of Bristol Street.

On Tuesday July 25, a lone male had walked inside the restaurant and approached the female cashier.

The man presented a note demanding cash, while simultaneously brandishing a visible handgun partially tucked into his waistband.

Fearful of being harmed, the cashier complied with the demand note and handed the man cash from her register. The suspect fled on foot, and a witness phoned CMPD Dispatch.

The Huntington Beach Police Department helicopter immediately assisted Costa Mesa police officers who had responded to the business location.

Police were unable to locate the outstanding suspect or a vehicle used in the commission of the robbery.

Costa Mesa police coordinated with detectives and officers from neighboring jurisdictions, investigating the possible connection of similar robberies recently committed in Orange County.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 20's, five feet, 11 inches tall, medium build wearing dark grey shorts and a black long-sleeve sweater. No vehicle is described.

Anybody with additional information regarding the robbery incident should contact the Costa Mesa Police Detective Bureau at 714-754-5637.

Hop aboard new shuttle designed to take workers and visitors to local shopping and dining venues

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the new Costa Mesa Line bus shuttle will take place Friday July 14 at 8:30 a.m. in front of the Experian building at 475 Anton Boulevard in Costa Mesa.

The new bus shuttle is the culmination of an OCTA grant obtained by the city as well as a partnership with Anaheim Resort Transportation and Travel Costa Mesa. [Click here](#) for details about the Costa Mesa Line schedule.

The ART-Costa Mesa Line is free to the public and began operating daily on a fixed route schedule on June 15. It offers area businesses, employees, residents and visitors an easy and economical transportation option and is designed to reduce traffic, and enhance the dining, shopping and the arts experience in Costa Mesa.

This service transports riders on 30-passenger (CNG) Compressed Natural Gas ART vehicles along nine fixed-route stops covering South Bristol Street between South Coast Metro's business and residential areas, South Coast Plaza, The LAB, The Camp, and Costa Mesa's cultural arts centers.