

# P-TOWN INFORMER

A Bimonthly Report to the Community



PLACENTIA  
California

"The People Are The City"

November 22, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 3

## FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

As we enter the Thanksgiving season, we take time to gather with our friends and families to give thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us and our nation.

During these trying times, many of us will find comfort in the time-honored and uniquely American tradition of Thanksgiving. Since 1621, when the Plymouth colonists and their native neighbors shared their first Thanksgiving feast, people have gathered to give thanks. In fact, Thanksgiving is the very first national holiday, proclaimed by President George Washington in 1789 as "a day of public thanksgiving and prayer." Although Thanksgiving was sporadically celebrated over the years after Washington's proclamation, it was until President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed, in the midst of the Civil War, that a national Thanksgiving Day be celebrated on the last Thursday in November that the Thanksgiving tradition was officially revived. In 1941, Thanksgiving was finally sanctioned by Congress as a legal holiday, as the fourth Thursday in November.

Although those who celebrated the first Thanksgiving endured much hardship and loss, they kept alive their hope and their faith by making time to give thanks. Today, amidst hard economic times when there are many around us

who are unemployed or just struggling to make ends meet, it is equally important to keep our hope and faith alive by remembering the many unrivaled freedoms and liberties we enjoy as a nation and what we have to be thankful for.

The liberties and freedom we cherish are not without cost. On this day of being thankful, let us not forget the many who have sacrificed their lives to preserve our freedoms and to defend peace around the world. Let us also remember our dedicated firefighters and police officers who help keep our community safe and our public employees who work tirelessly to keep Placentia a pleasant place to live, work and play.

No matter how you celebrate Thanksgiving, I hope you will take a moment to reflect upon the many things as a nation and a community we have to be thankful for. As former President Jimmy Carter said in his 1979 Thanksgiving Proclamation, "May we be thankful in proportion to that which we have received, trusting not in our wealth and comforts, but in the strength of our purpose, that all nations might be similarly blessed with liberty and abundance and live in peace."

Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at the City of Placentia.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### News Bits

- ◆ Veterans Day Event at Civic Center Plaza
- ◆ Community Emergency Response Training (CERT)
- ◆ Santa Visits
- ◆ Golden State Water Company
- ◆ New Business License Issued

### Crime View

- ◆ Placentia Police Monthly Traffic Report-October
- ◆ Police Reports

### Did You Know?

- ◆ Dead Animal Removal Hotline
- ◆ Senior Center
- ◆ Placentia Disposal

### Meeting Notes

- ◆ City Council
- ◆ Planning Commission
- ◆ Recreation and Parks Commission
- ◆ Cultural Arts Commission
- ◆ Placentia Community Foundation



## UPCOMING COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Nov. 23	Wednesday	City Hall Closed
Nov. 24	Thursday	City Hall Closed. Happy Thanksgiving! 
Dec. 6	Tuesday	Placentia City Council Meeting at 7 p.m. City Hall
Dec. 7	Wednesday	Tamale Festival from 4-9 p.m. in Old Towne Placentia
Dec. 8	Thursday	Placentia Historical Committee Meeting at 7 p.m. Library
Dec. 13	Tuesday	Planning Commission Meeting at 6:30 p.m. City Hall
Dec. 20	Tuesday	Placentia City Council Meeting at 7 p.m. City Hall



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## VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE CEREMONY

The Veterans Advisory Committee and City staff worked for several months to plan the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Veterans Day Observance Ceremony held on Friday, November 11, 2011 at 10 a.m. at the Civic Center adjacent to the Veterans Monument.

The Master of Ceremonies for the event was Veterans Advisory Committee Chairperson Larry Crawford. Local guest singer Noelle Juarez sang the National Anthem and God Bless America and American Legion Post 277 from Placentia and Post 72 from Anaheim provided the honor guard and rifle salute.

The event included Mallory Grismer as a student speaker from Valencia High School and the American Legion Girls State program.

The featured guest speakers were Charles B. Ash retired United States Marine who served in WWII and the Korean War and active duty Navy SEAL, Matt Espindola who has served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, seven names of Placentia Veterans were added to the monument this year including: Marc Anthony Bastreri, James M. Ellstrom, Felix R. Piro, Marlene Rae Guerrero, Jacob Daniel Smith, Ricky Solis and Roberto R. Solorio.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know about the City's dead animal removal hotline? The City has recently established a dead animal removal hotline. To report dead animals in the City, please call (714) 765-0360 and provide the address or location of the dead animal. For all other animal control concerns, including pet licensing, lost and found animals and pet adoption, please contact Orange County Animal Care at (714) 935-6848.

### Santa Visits

The City of Placentia has made special arrangements with Saint Nick to come and visit Placentia homes. Santa's busy schedule will only allow him to be in town from Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

For pricing information or to schedule a visit with Santa, please call the Community Services Department at (714) 993-8232.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Placentia Disposal offers three large trash pickups per single family household, per calendar year. Please call (714) 238-3300 to schedule your pickup.



## NEWS BITS

### Residents Preparing for Disasters Through Community Emergency Response Training

The Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) is designed to help out families, neighborhoods, schools and businesses prepare for effective disaster/emergency response through training and preplanning. The CERT program is offered throughout the year by the cities of Brea, Placentia and Yorba Linda. It is offered twice a year in the spring and the fall, and is free of charge. The final drill for this CERT program that started in October was conducted at the City's Corporation Yard on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. During the final drill, participants put to practice what they had learned throughout the program. At the conclusion drill, Mayor Nelson along with Mayor Nancy Rikel of Yorba Linda and Councilmember Ron Garcia of Brea congratulated the 44 students that participated in the program.

For more information about CERT or the next schedule program, please contact Eddie DeLaTorre at (714) 993-8117.

### Golden State Water Company

On November 2, 2011, Administrative Law Judge, Richard Smith, granted the City's motion for intervener status allowing it to join with the Town of Apple Valley and the City of Claremont in formally protesting the General Rate Case Application filed by Golden State Water Company. As an intervener, the City is now allowed to provide testimony and question witnesses in Golden State's rate case.



## CRIME VIEW

### Police Reports

#### November 10th

Officers were dispatched to 500 N. Bradford Ave. (Valencia High School) to investigate a classroom burglary in progress. A school sanitation technician discovered a young adult who was fleeing the inside of a classroom through an open window. The classroom had been ransacked and a desktop computer may be missing. A Police CSI Technician responded to process the scene and collect evidence. The items lost were in excess of \$2,000.

#### November 11th

Day watch officers responded to Tuffree Middle School for a robbery that had just occurred. The victim reported he had gone to the location with three friends. While at the school, one of his friends pulled a knife on him and took his cell phone. All three fled in a vehicle, leaving the victim behind. An area check was conducted, but officers were unable to locate the suspect. The named suspect is a probationer who has been on the run and out of contact with his family.

An officer attempted a traffic stop in the area of Valencia and Palm, but the driver failed to yield. Additional officers were called in to pursue the driver who began driving in the area of Yorba Linda Blvd. between Kraemer and Placentia. The driver repeatedly drove through the surrounding area shopping centers. Although the speeds were generally slow to moderate, officers were concerned with the safety of pedestrians. A large number of people were watching the pursuit as well as those just out walking on the street. The suspect drove through a red light and almost struck a pedestrian in the intersection of Bradford and Yorba Linda. To avoid further risk to the public, Officers used their vehicles, at slow speeds, to legally intervene and safely bring the suspect's vehicle to a stop at Yorba Linda Blvd. east of Placentia Ave. where the driver was arrested.

#### November 12th

Officers were dispatched to the Orange County Teacher's Federal Credit Union regarding a female at the location attempting to cash stolen checks. Officers arrived and located a female matching the description and detained her. Upon completion of their investigation, it was learned that the checks were in fact stolen and the female was arrested for multiple charges.

#### Senior Center

Did you know about the Placentia Senior Center? The Senior Center is located at 143 S. Bradford Ave. and offers many activities and programs for older adults such as movie mornings, knitting, physical fitness and BINGO.

For those needing transportation to and from the center, a free taxi service is available. For more information please call (714)

### Placentia Police Monthly Traffic Report- October, 2011

	This Month	Last Month	Year to Date	Last Year to Date	Percent Change
<b>Total Accidents</b>	33	27	287	301	-5%
<b>Fatal</b>	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Personal Injury</b>	12	11	111	97	14%
<b>Property Damage</b>	21	16	176	204	-14%
<b>Total Citations</b>	1130	1239	11350	12608	-10%
<b>Parking Cites</b>	811	952	7611	7466	2%
<b>D.U.I Accidents</b>	2	3	31	29	7%
<b>D.U.I. Arrests</b>	16	16	148	163	-9%

### New Business License Issued

Business Name	Address
Tax & Financial Consulting	201 Lakeview
National Retail	350 Orangethorpe
I Style Salon & Spa	901 Yorba Linda Blvd.
Care More Medical Group	1325 Rose #23
Beauty Body Care	116 Santa Fe #A
Savvy Business Services	1414 Kraemer



## MEETING NOTES

The following is an annotated summary of key actions taken by the City Council and various City Commissions/Committees. For additional details including the full agenda for the City Council and Commissions, please visit the City's website at [www.placentia.org](http://www.placentia.org). Live and recorded City Council meetings or individual agenda items can be viewed [here](#).

### City Council Meeting

The City Council met on Tuesday, November 15th and took the following actions:

- ◆ Mayor Nelson designated the month of November, 2011, Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in Placentia.
- ◆ Mayor Nelson and Chamber of Commerce President, Rosalina Davis, presented both El Dorado High School Band and Valencia High School Band with a \$600 check for all their hard work throughout the year.
- ◆ Approved Placentia Rotary Club Cowabunga Crab Fest Fundraiser for June 9, 2012
- ◆ Approved notice of completion for construction work to Korston Construction Inc. for the Civic Center restroom and flooring renovation project
- ◆ Approved Earthquake Insurance for specified City facilities
- ◆ Approved one year extension with Willdan Engineering for as needed engineering and traffic engineering services
- ◆ Approved Appointments to fill vacancies on the Veterans Advisory Committee
- ◆ Closed the meeting in memory of former City Administrator of Placentia, Edwin T. Powell

### Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, and approved the following items:

- ◆ Use Permit 2011-15: Operation of a construction equipment rental and sales business with outdoor storage at 208 E. Orangethorpe Avenue
- ◆ Use Permit 2011-16: Operation of a reading and learning center at 1029 E. Imperial Highway
- ◆ Use Permit 2011-14: New Wireless Communication Facility at Samp Park at 600 Loyola Drive

The Use Permit (2011-14): There were approximately five members of the audience (though more present) with questions regarding the proposed cell site. The general concern amongst those that spoke was the health effects of radio frequency (RF) emissions from the cell site. Under federal law, the City cannot solely deny a cell site based on health concerns from radio frequency (RF) emissions. It should be noted that the nearest building of any sort to the proposed wireless facilities is more than 160 feet away.

### Recreation and Parks Commission

On Monday, November 14th the Recreation and Parks Commission held their regular monthly meeting. The Commission reviewed the status of several Capital Improvement Projects including the current renovations to the Gomez Community Center and Kraemer Memorial Park, along with the exterior light upgrades occurring at the Backs Community Building and the main entrance to Kraemer Park. The Commission discussed their goals and objectives for 2012 and their park inspection assignments. The Recreation and Parks Commission Sports Advisory subcommittee also outlined items that they will discuss with all of the youth and adult sports leagues during their meeting later in the week.

### Cultural Arts Commission

On Tuesday, November 8th the Cultural Arts Commission held their regular meeting and reviewed applications for Cultural Arts Projects for Every Student (CAPES) grants. CAPES grants are made available to PYLUSD teachers to complete art-related projects with their students including music, visual art, dance, drama, poetry, photography, or graphic art. The Commission is able to offer these grants through their fundraising efforts during their summer Concerts in Parks series. The Commission approved nine (9) grants ranging from \$200 to \$500. The Commission also further discussed moving forward with their partnership with the Placita Santa Fe Merchants Association to plan the Tamale Festival, Las Posadas, and Winter Holiday Celebration event occurring on Wednesday, December 7th from 4-9 p.m. on the 100 & 200 Block of Santa Fe Avenue.

### Placentia Community Foundation

The Placentia Community Foundation held their regular meeting on Wednesday, November 16th. The Foundation reviewed their application and procedure for distributing grants to local community organizations and will continue to work towards having grant applications available in January 2012. The Foundation also discussed moving forward with inviting community members to join the Blue Ribbon committee to help support the Foundations sponsorship efforts.