



City of Santa Ana
20 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Staff Report
November 19, 2024

TOPIC: Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Division Report

AGENDA TITLE:

Receive the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Operations Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Each month city staff provides an operations report to the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission related to Recreation and Community Services.

DISCUSSION

Athletics Section

Youth Flag Football

Youth Sports/Jerome registered 248 boys and girls for the 2024 season with an increase of 59 participants than last year. Picture day was scheduled on October 12 where all teams and individuals were able to purchase team and individual photos as well as create an individual introduction to display during ceremonies. Playoffs are currently taking place with Ceremonies and Championship games scheduled November 18 – 21.

Movies under the Friday Night Lights

The City of Santa Ana Athletics department hosted its first ever *Movies Under the Friday Night Lights* event. This event displayed the movie *Little Giants* at the Santa Ana Stadium on the Jumbotron. Free hotdogs and popcorn were available for anyone in attendance. On the field, there were Youth Sports booths along with our Sports Zone. OC Fun events provided games like Foam Axe Throwing, Nerf Tag and Soccer Darts. Approximately 100 participants attended this free event.

Adult Basketball League

The City of Santa Ana Adult Basketball League concluded its season with the ABL Championship at Godinez High School on September 24 where team *Mdsn* defeated team *Not Like Us* by a score of 74 to 51.

Salgado Recreation Center

Salgado Community Center continues to offer programs and recreation classes for Santa Ana youth, teens and adults. Under the administration of the Athletics Team, Salgado Center provides athletic programs to the community. Classes and activities include: ARTS Academy, Muralitos Art Club, Open GYM-Basketball, and Drop-In Pay to Play (Badminton, Basketball, Pickle Ball, and Volleyball), Aerobics and Zumba.

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Los Muralitos Art Club

- Los Muralitos Art Club is offered to youth ages 6 to 12 years, every Friday from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Los Muralitos Art Club, participants will have the opportunity to explore various art styles, ranging from drawing and painting to crafting ceramics and sculptures, allowing them to uncover their unique artistic style. Participants pay a \$25.00 dollars fee for materials and supplies.
- Total registered participants for the month of September: 9
- Los Muralitos Art Club had the chance to learn about Día de los Muertos and create their own sugar skulls. The process was divided into sessions, with the young artists dedicating every Friday to working on their sugar skulls, adding colorful and sweet decorations along the way. All sugar skulls where displayed at our Gallery Night on November 1, 2024, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Total registered participants for the month of October: 10

Salgado Recreation Center Gym

- Drop-In, Youth and Seniors - \$3.00 /Adults - \$5.00
- Monthly Membership:
 - Santa Ana Residents (Youth, Adults, Seniors) - \$35/month
 - Non-residents - \$45/month
- Sports offered are Badminton, Pickleball, Basketball and Volleyball.
 - **BADMINTON**
 - Friday, 5:00-9:00 pm
 - Sunday, 1:00-4:00 pm
 - Total drop-in daily, September – **317**
 - Total drop-in daily, October – **385**
 - **PICKLEBALL**
 - Thursday, 2:00-5:00 pm
 - Sunday, 9:00 am-12:30 pm
 - Total drop-in daily, September – **203**
 - Total drop-in daily, October - **198**
 - **BASKETBALL**
 - Monday, 8:00 am-9:00 pm – **Open GYM (Free)**
 - Total September - **209**
 - Total October – **166**
 - Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00 am-2:00 pm
 - Wednesday & Friday, 8:00 am-5:00 pm
 - Total Pay and Play drop-in daily September -**49**
 - Total Pay and Play drop-in daily October-**75**
 - **VOLLEYBALL**
 - Tuesday, 2:00-5:00 pm
 - September – **16**
 - October – **48**

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Recreation Classes

- Salgado Recreation Center is currently offering for the months of September/October 2024, five recreation classes:
 - Aerobics Monday/Wednesday, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm –class fee \$25.00.
 - Aerobics Tuesday/Thursday, 10:00 am to 11:00 am – class fee \$25.00
 - Aerobics Tuesday/Thursday, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm –class fee \$25.00.
 - Aerobics - total register participants for the month of **September – 35 / October – 40**
 - Latin Zumba Fitness Monday/ Wednesday, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm – class fee \$25.00
 - Zumba – total register participants for the month of **September - 4/ October -3**
 - Ballet & Creative Dance – new class starting on 11/18/25, students of all abilities will become inspired as they discover and explore ways they can use their bodies to express emotions and develop their imaginations through the beauty of dance with dynamics choreography and update basic each week. No prior dance experience required.

Reservations

- On September 3, 2024 –hosted the City Adult Sports League from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm.
- On Friday September 20, 2024 –hosted the **Kids Night Out** from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm for ages 6 to 12. **20 Participants** enjoyed a world of excitement playing games and doing group activities. Snacks and drinks were provided to all participants.
- On Saturday, September 21, 2024 – hosted the Little Saigon Community Festival, coordinated by VietRise. The event was set from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The event offered art, music, vendors, food trucks and more. Free event for the community.
- On Tuesday, October 22, 2024 - hosted the Riverview West neighborhood association meeting from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm.
- On Thursday, October 24, 2024 - hosted the Community Stakeholder Meeting from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Jerome Recreation Center

Jerome Recreation Center provides programs and recreation classes for the youth, teens and adults of Santa Ana. Jerome Recreation Center provides Pay and Play drop-in sports like basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer, along with leisure classes such as ballet, gymnastics and sewing, and houses resources such as the Santa Ana Library out of the Computer Room.

General Operations

- Sponsored by the Community Action Partnership of OC, the Senior Commodity Box Distribution Program offers nutrient-rich foods in a monthly food package to registered, low-income seniors (60+) on the first Wednesday or Thursday of the month from 9:00 pm to 12:30 pm.

On Thursday, **October 5**, there were **431 boxes** distributed to seniors. On Wednesday,

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November 6, there were **383 boxes** distributed to seniors.

The next scheduled distribution will be on Wednesday, **December 4** from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Jerome Center Gymnasium

Pay and Play, Open Gym

- **Basketball**
 - Pay And Play: 29 registered participants in September (16 registered participants in October)
 - Open Gym: 69 registered participants in September (68 registered participants in October)
 - Monday 8:00 am-3:30 pm
 - Tuesday 8:00 am-5:00 pm
 - Thursday 12:00 pm-9:00 pm
 - Friday (Open Gym) 8:00 am-4:00 pm
- **Volleyball**
 - Pay And Play: 33 registered participants in September (61 registered participants in October)
 - Monday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm
 - Wednesday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm
 - Friday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm
- **Indoor Soccer**
 - Pay And Play: 0 registered participants in September (4 registered participants in October)
 - Tuesday 5:00 pm-9:00 pm
 - Thursday 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Athletic & Leisure Classes

- TKO Boxing continues to have boxing and training sessions Monday through Friday from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm. TKO Boxing provides training and fitness activities for 100+ youth per week. For more information about TKO and registration, please contact Erica Lopez at (714) 313-1360.
- Participants can experience the joy and beauty of dance by focusing on the basics of ballet through our *Ballet and Creative Dance* class held on Saturdays at the following times: 9:00 am to 9:50 am for ages 3-5 (Level 1), 10:00 am-10:25 am for ages 4-12 (Level 1.5), and ages 6-12 on Saturdays from 10:30 am to 11:20 am (Level 2).
 - Level 1 (9:00 am-9:50 am): 15 participants registered in September (11 participants in October)

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- Level 1.5 (10:00 am-10:25 am): 8 participants registered in September (11 participants in October)
- Level 2 (10:30 am-11:20 am): 13 participants registered in September (13 participants in October)
- *Sewing* is a four-week leisure class. In this 70-minute class you will learn basic sewing skills such as how to use a sewing machine, important sewing terms, what needles are used for different fabric, how to cut fabric, how to pin fabric, practice straight lines and how to pivot stitch corners. This class is offered every Saturday from 9:40 am-12:10 pm for ages 11 and up.
 - For the sewing session from September 7 to September 17, there were 8 registered participants for Level 1 and 3 registered participants for Level 2.
 - For the sewing session from October 5 to October 26, there were a total of 15 registered participants for both Level 1 and Level 2.
 - The next sewing session is from October 29 to November 26 on Tuesdays. For Level I (4:50 pm-5:50 pm), there are currently 5 registered participants. For Level I (6:00 pm-7:00 pm), there are currently 2 registered.
- Tumble-N-Kids Gymnastics continues to grow with four classes – *Tumble Bugs*, *Junior Olympians*, *Jammin’ Gymnasts*, and, *Advanced Floor Tumbling*. Classes are held on Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:15 pm for ages 1.5-12.

For the summer session from **September 28 to October 22**, we have the following registered:

- 7 participants for our Tumble Bugs (1 year 6 months-3 years old)
- 12 participants for our Junior Olympians (3-5-year olds)
- 9 participants (5 Wait List) for our Jammin’ Gymnastics (6-12-year olds)
- 7 participants for our Advanced Floor Tumbling

Tumble-N-Kids made up their October 19 class on Saturday, November 2 in the Jerome Center Gym.

Below are the registered for this current session (**November 9-December 14**):

- 5 participants for our Tumble Bugs (1 year 6 months-3 years old)
- 6 participants for our Junior Olympians (3-5-year olds)

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- 8 participants for our Jammin' Gymnastics (6-12-year olds)
- 5 participants for our Advanced Floor Tumbling

The next session for Tumble-N-Kids is from **January 4, 2025 to February 1.**

- Learn about marital arts through Karate Do Kiai on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm (2 one hour sessions) for ages 5-9 and 10 and up.

The past session was from **October 7 to October 31.** Below are the registered participants this last session:

- 11 participants for our Karate Do Kiai (5:30 pm-6:30 pm, 5-9 year olds)
- 9 participants for our Karate Do Kiai (6:30 pm-7:30 pm, 10 and up)

The current session is from **November 4 to November 20.** Below are the currently registered participants in this session:

- 10 participants for our Karate Do Kiai (5:30 pm-6:30 pm, 5-9 year olds)
- 11 participants for our Karate Do Kiai (6:30 pm-7:30 pm, 10 and up)

Facility Reservations

- **Santa Ana Public Library:**
 - Monday-Friday, 2 pm-6 pm in Jerome Center's Computer Room for book pick-ups and returns, as well as free computer usage. For the month of October, 12 patrons utilized the Santa Ana Library at Jerome Center.
- **Cristo Rey Orange County High School:**
 - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:00 pm-5:00 pm in the Jerome Center gym. Reservations are broken up into practices and games. Cristo Rey had an amazing game against another school on Friday, October 4 that was back and forth. Cristo Rey's last day at Jerome Center was on Monday, October 7.
- **CoSA – Rent Stabilization Division: Petition Hearings:**
 - On Thursday, October 3, the Rent Stabilization Division hosted a Petition Hearing in the Jerome Center Gym from 10:00 am to 5:30 pm (they did go over their 4 pm end time). This Petition Hearing was split into 2 groups: Group 1 going from 10:30 am-1:30 pm and Group 2 going from 1:30 pm-5:30 pm. With over 100 chairs set up in the gym, there were very few empty seats as community members were allowed to speak about their perspectives about rent related issues. There were approximately over 200 total participants.

- **Spooktacular 2024**
 - On Saturday, October 19 from 2:00 pm-5:00 pm, Jerome Center hosted their Spooktacular Open House to over 300+ youth and family members who took part in a scavenger hunt, costume contests, haunted house and various activities and games prizes. There were also performances and booths from various contributing sponsors and partners like the Anaheim Ducks, Youth Sports, City of Santa Ana departments, and our Jerome Center leisure classes.
- **OC Vote Center 2024**
 - From Saturday, October 26 to Tuesday, November 5, Jerome Center hosted an Orange County Vote Center for 11 days. Jerome Center was able to provide our MPR, back hall restrooms and Kitchen (break area). The Vote Center was generally open from 8:00 am-5:00 pm, with the exceptions being on November 4 when the Vote Center closed later at 8:00 pm and November 5 when the Vote Center opened earlier at 7:00 am and closed later at 8:00 pm.

Field Permits

The Athletics Reservations Office issued over 1,800 permits for the months of September and October 2024. The Athletics Reservations Office requested January-June 2025 field requests and 2025 Compliance Requirements. January-June 2025 field permits were issued in order to provide organizations sufficient time to prepare for their seasons. The Athletics Reservations Office Team met with organizations in October for our semi-annual meetings.

Football:

The Athletics Reservations Office is half way through the football season and the Reservations Office has hosted 12 games in September and October. The Reservations Office is preparing for (3) potential playoff games for the month of November involving Mater Dei High School and the Turkey Bowl involving Santa Ana College. The Reservations Office will also host our very own Youth Sports Program for their closing ceremonies at the Stadium in November.

Cabin Reservation Permits

Santa Ana residents and non-residents can reserve Fisher and Santiago Cabins for their private event including birthday parties and church gatherings. Fisher Cabin is also popular for Neighborhood Association meetings. Interested applicants will need to submit a Cabin Reservation Application and Certificate of Insurance via email at Fieldreservations@santa-ana.org or in-person at the Reservations Office. Fees vary by group classification. Santiago Cabin is currently decommissioned until further notice.

The Reservations Office issued three (3) cabin permits in September and three (3) cabin permits October.

Picnic Reservation Permits

Santa Ana residents and non-residents can reserve various picnic areas and shelters throughout the City of Santa Ana for private events, including family gatherings, parties, etc. Interested applicants will need to submit a Picnic Reservation Application via email at Fieldreservations@santa-ana.org or in-person at the Reservations Office. Fees vary by resident and non-resident status.

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The Reservations Office issued eleven (11) picnic permits in September and fourteen (14) picnic permits in October.

Santa Ana Moves

Santa Ana Moves returned in September at Santa Ana Stadium! Registered participants will have access to the field and stairs for self-led workouts and pick-up games. Interested participants can register for \$15 per month or participants can register for \$40 for September through December. Step-up and get fit! Contact the Reservations Office at 714-571-4225 for more information.

Our September through December membership included 12 registered participants.

Aquatics Section

The end of September marked the final day that Jerome pool was open for Aqua Zumba and Aqua Fitness. This signified the closing of all the of the pool facilities until training begins again for Lifeguards in early March 2025.

Since introducing both Aqua Zumba and Aqua Fitness as new programs offered by Aquatics, both have been extremely successful. The programs have increased popularity, especially within the senior community here in Santa Ana. Aquatics began offering Aqua Fitness back on March 13 through a contracted class given by Santa Ana City College. Aqua Zumba began on June 3, with the instructor being one of the Santa Ana lifeguards who withholds a current Zumba instructor certification. Aqua Zumba classes were held every Monday morning at either 8:30 am or 9:30 am while Aqua Fitness classes were offered every Wednesday morning at either 8:30am or 9:30 am.

The Aqua Zumba class cost \$20 per participant each month, to people who were under the age of 50 years old. Aquatics was fortunate enough to receive a partnership from Kaiser Permanente that permitted participants over the age of 50 years could purchase a Silver Splash membership for the calendar year. This \$5 fee allowed access to unlimited Aqua Fitness and Zumba classes all season long. Thanks to the Kaiser grant, the Silver Splash membership was valued at over \$80 and provided access for the seniors to come to as many of the classes as they wanted to. Participants had access to attend up to four classes a week during the months of June through September.

Over the past six months, Aqua Zumba and Aqua Fitness had a total of 365 participants that were the age of 50 years or older. Specifically, for Zumba, there were 6 participants who were under the age of 50. Aqua Zumba generated \$175 from participants under 50 years. The Silver Splash membership made \$295 with 59 members who participated in various classes throughout the months of June through September. In total, Aquatics generate \$470 in revenue from the new Aqua Zumba and Fitness programming for the year of 2024. Due to popular demand, these two programs will be back in spring 2025, with changes from feedback given throughout the summer.

Off-season for the aquatics department takes place from October to February, where the team starts to gear up for the popular 10 week summer season. During this time, the pools are down for maintenance repairs and updates. The full-time team attends multiple weeklong trainings to obtain their instructor certifications for lifeguarding and water safety. These instructor certifications allows the full time staff to

teach and provide the proper trainings for the new hires this spring to become city lifeguards and water safety instructors to teach swim lessons. The team also works on conducting all the aquatics data to write the final reports needed to ensure the multiple grant funding. Recruitment for the new lifeguards becomes in the month of December along with the planning stages for spring programming to ensure staff will be mentally and physical fit for the lifeguard position. E.L.L. (EMERGING LIFEGUARD LEADERS) will began again this February. This program is a free lifeguard readiness program designed to train and prepare participants for the lifeguard certification course. The E.L.L program teaches basic water safety, rescue skills and swim stroke proficiency.

Community Engagement Section

Cultura

The Winter/Spring edition of the CULTURA is now in development and will cover February – May 2025.

- Subscriptions to start receiving hard copies in the mail are ongoing and available to complete online: www.santa-ana.org/cultura-subscribe/
- We are looking for community photography images and encourage submissions: www.santa-ana.org/photo-contest/

Social Media

Social media and program promotion continue to be a focus. Engagement and commentary from the public continues to grow on all fronts. The @santaanaparks Instagram account is now approaching 8,000 followers and has impressively helped steadily promote day-to-day programming offered by PRCSA in all 7 recreation sections. Many programs even reach capacity within hours after social media posts about an upcoming program go live.

Sponsors and Partners

In the last month, the following new partnership agreements were executed to support PRCSA events and programs:

- Disneyland Resort: Plaza Navideña

Contract Classes

The community engagement team has streamlined efforts and opportunities to teach classes in Santa Ana with the assistance of the City Attorney's office. A new standardized scope of work template has been finalized that will allow for instructors to teach at any PRCSA location and expand their teaching opportunities. An additional four instructors are now working with the City and planning to teach in the Winter/Spring season.

Ribbon Cutting/ Ground Breakings

The Gerardo Mouet Ribbon Cutting Ceremony has been set for Wednesday, December 4 at 12:30 pm. Please join us for a special ceremony acknowledging this new park on 10th and McFadden Streets named for our late PRCSA Director, Gerardo Mouet.

Health & Wellness Section

Roosevelt/Walker Community Center

Roosevelt Walker is hosting a variety of leisure classes:

- Fun with Sounds
 - October: 5 participants
- Dosis Piano
 - October: 12 participant
- Yoga/ Tai Chi
 - October: 7 participant

Santa Ana Public Library

- Book pick-up and return available at Roosevelt Walker PAAL/Computer Lab from 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Computer workshops on Thursdays and Fridays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm to learn computer basics, navigate the internet, master Microsoft office software, and more!

Free Evening Community Programming

- **Study Hall NEW!** – Roosevelt Walker now provides a safe, quiet space with desks and chairs to study and complete homework. Monday – Thursday 3:00 – 5:00 pm.
- **Kicking it with The Neighbors!** –Roosevelt Walker offers soccer pickup games to all ages and levels. With its growing interest, the program has been expanded to twice a week: Monday and Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. 4:30 to 6:00 pm. 125 participants joined for the month of October.
- **Fitness and Wellness at Roosevelt Walker!** – Join neighbors for circuit training in the outdoor exercise equipment area and High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) workouts led by staff. This program recently added a second day to allow families and kids to join in on the weekend. This program runs twice a week: Thursday from 6:30 to 7:30 pm and Saturday from 10:00 to 11:00 am. Exercise equipment provided. During the month of October, 21 participants joined.
- **Badminton!** – Badminton for everyone is set-up in the Roosevelt/Walker basketball court area to allow the community to learn how to play badminton or play a friendly game with other community members. Badminton takes place on Friday from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Supplies provided. For the month of October, 20 participants joined.
- **Game Night! NEW!** –Game On! Play board games, video games, and more! Every Friday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. 52 participants joined for the month of October.

Past Reservations

- October 3 My First Home Program
- October 7 IEP Meeting
- October 23 Consolidated Plan Community and Stakeholder Meeting
- November 2-5 OC Voters

Upcoming Reservations

- Nov 12 Neighborhood Association Meeting
- Nov 16 Reservation for Georgina Montes
- Nov 18-19 Training and Research Foundation

Past Events

- Dia de Los Muertos: October series all month long every Tuesday from 5:30 to 7:00 pm for the community to join in for a creative journey celebrating Dia de los Muertos with weekly themes crafts that honor and remember loved ones. All amazing creations will be featured at our Dia de los Muertos: Magic of the Altar event on November 1.
 - October 1 Magic of Marigolds and Calaveras with 36 participants
 - October 8 Pan de Muerto with 72 participants
 - October 15 Mini Altars with 94 participants
 - October 22 Papel Picado Prints and Dia de Los Muertos Signs with 54 participants
 - October 29 Sugar Skulls with 87 participants
- November 1 Dia de los Muertos: Magic of the Alter – 311 community members celebrated the rich tradition of Dia de los Muertos, experience an evening full of games, crafts, giveaways, exhibitors, and more.

Upcoming Workshops

- November 19 Fall Workshop – Decorating “Thankful for You” Photo Frames and creating Turkey Flower Pots
- December 3 Winter Workshop – Make Christmas Cards and Personalize Gingerbread Villagers
- December 17 Winter Workshop – Decorate Cardboard Gingerbread Houses
- December 20 Kids Night Out Polar Express

Community Garden Program

The Santa Ana Gardens are starting off the Fall season by removing summer plants and composting whatever plant material s left over. Due to the time changing, the gardens are now closing at 5:00 pm.

10/26 - participated in the SAUSD Farm to Table Resource Fair. Led a marigold dying activity, shared programs and made connections with staff

10/29 - attended a Community Schools meeting at Carver Elementary. Discussed possible field trips to El Salvador Garden and Golden City Hour.

Community Composting

PUMPKIN SMASH - community composting effort for the disposal of pumpkins. Don't trash it, smash it!

The Community Garden team picks up:

- Food waste from Southwest Community Center
- Camel dung from Santa Ana Zoo
- Food waste from El Sol Academy Food Distribution

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The Community Gardens receive compost drop offs from:

- Barrio Logan Food Distribution
- Orange County High School of the Arts Compost Club
- Residents and participants of the Community Garden Program

El Salvador Park Community Garden

October was a busy month for El Salvador Park Garden. We received a mulch delivery and dispersed the mulch to cover up the grassy walkways. There was a Pre-Halloween Garden Fest on October 21, where 31 participants (mostly from the Santa Ana Middle College) came to decorate mini pumpkins, and donated them for Harvest Festival decorations. Some students also stayed behind to help disperse the remaining mulch.

October 25, was the 7th annual Harvest Festival (250 participants). The event included:

Craft stations:

- Sunflower Activity - weaving yarn around sunflower cut out
- Fruit and Veggie painting with bubble wrap
- Pumpkin patch with decorating table
- Beaded corn with stovepipe cleaners

RecreAuto/games:

- Candy corn ring toss
- Corn hole
- Jenga
- Ball toss
- Connect 4

Exhibitors:

- Artesia Pilar Neighborhood Association
- OC Connect
- Vista Charter School
- Santa Ana Active Streets
- Victory Outreach
- Santa Ana Water Department
- Santa Ana Library Knowledge Mobile

Upcoming

December 16 - REFLECT, RESTORE, AND COTTON ON
-Create snowmen from the cotton tree!

Past Health & Wellness Workshops

September 18 – Marvel At The Harvest Moon
October 21 – Pre-Halloween Garden Fest

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November 13 – Woven Bookmarks

Open hours: Monday 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Wednesday 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Thursday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
mid-September to mid-November El Salvador Park Community Garden participants – 449

Madison Park Community Garden

Staff have been engaging with a number of community organizers in order to activate the garden space! Staff created various eye-catching signs around the park to help the community locate the garden. This garden was also recently replenished with more garden soil. The garden is currently growing: Oregano, basil, spinach, lettuce, bok choy, cilantro, radish, cabbage, kale, guava and marigolds. On November 8, the garden space hosted a community get together/ resource fair highlighting mentorship, health, and care services. This was in hopes to bring more constant participation and awareness to Madison garden. There was a total of 16 participants, besides the 8 guests from the 5 organizations that were in attendance (Catholic Charities, Big Brothers Big Sisters, America on Track, Santa Ana Active Streets, and Kid Works.) The Recreato was also rolled out to this garden get together!

Upcoming

December 20 – Reflect, Restore, and Cotton On! Creating snowmen from the cotton tree.

Past Health & Wellness Workshops

October 18 – Plant More & Stress Less

November 8 – Giving and Sharing is the Santanero Way!

Open hours: Monday - Friday 3:00 –6:30 pm

Mid-September to mid-November Madison Park Community Garden participants – 114

Pacific Electric Park Community Garden

The morning open hours have consistent volunteers from Goodwill Disable Adult Services, APT from SAUSD, Adult Enrichment Center, Port View Preparatory, and home school students. The Tortilla Making Workshop was a success with 15 participants learning about the origin of masa, and tortillas while practicing how to make their own.

Upcoming

November 18 – Gratitude: Woven Bookmarks

December 10 – Winter Wonderland Water Color Cards

Past Health & Wellness Workshops

October 7 – Fall Harvest: Making Tortillas

Open hours: Tuesday – Wednesday 2:00 – 5:00 pm, Thursday & Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Mid-September to mid-November Pacific Park Community Garden participants - 242

Jerome Park Community Garden

Jerome Community Garden has been impacted by construction with many participants thinking the garden is closed. We have requested an Open During Construction sign, which was installed November 13, 2024.

Produce harvested: harvested various seasonal produce such as okra, calabash, lemongrass, banana, cactus, fruits, and herbs. The marigold seeds planted during the Marigold Celebration in July bloomed in time for Dia de los Muertos. Some of the flowers were harvested for the Magic of the Altars event.

The "Calm the Mind with a Sensory Garden" workshop attracted several participants. It was a mild success in promoting relaxation and mindfulness by making fall-themed origami and wind chimes. With winter approaching, the team is focusing on winter seeding to improve soil nutrition and structure. Our plan to generate composting and soil rejuvenation efforts is to prepare for spring. We aim to ensure a vibrant and productive garden in the upcoming spring season. We also prepare for the November and December workshops on gratitude and setting New Year intentions. It is intended to bring more community engagement and celebration of 2025 to our Santa Ana Community Gardens and the Health and Wellness program.

Upcoming

November 16 – The Mission Continues Volunteer Day – building a pergola and work benches

November 27 – Gratitude in Action: Building Stronger Communities

December 11 - Seeds of Intention: Cultivating Dreams for the New Year

Past Health & Wellness Workshops

October 30 – Calm the Mind with a Sensory Garden

Open hours: Tuesday – Thursday 2:00 – 5:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Mid-September to mid-November Jerome Park Garden participants - 125

Roosevelt Walker Community Garden

Roosevelt Walker Community Garden recently had its beds replenished with soil. The aquaponics was removed and two additional beds were built by Public Works. The garden beds were quickly filled with soil and plants, just in time for Dia de los Muertos: Magic of the Altars event. During the event the garden was home to a coloring activity, and garden tours. We had two 2nd grade classes visit from Roosevelt Walker Academy for a field trip on November 8. They planted seeds to take home, smashed some pumpkins in the compost pile, and learned about seed dispersal and the nutrient cycle of a garden.

Upcoming

November (every Wednesday) - Celebrating Native American Heritage Month every Wednesday with a variety of workshops and activities!

December 9 – Making Tamales

December 11 – Improve your Soil Day!

Past Health & Wellness Workshops

October 30 Pre-Halloween Garden Fest

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Open hours: Monday - Friday 3:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Mid-September to mid-October Roosevelt Walker Community Garden participants - 390

Total garden participants for mid-September to mid-November– 1,320

Past Events

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| June 1 | Roosevelt Walker Open House – Summer Kick-off |
| June 21 | Summer Solstice Garden Party at Pacific Electric Park Garden – 60 participants |
| July 19 | Marigold Celebration at Jerome Park Garden -92 participants |
| August 9 | Salsa Y Salsa at Madison Park Garden -46 participants |
| October 25 | Harvest Festival -250 participants |
| November 1 | Magic Of The Alters – Dia De Los Muertos -310 participants |

Wilderness Club

The Santa Ana Wilderness Club explores the nature that exists in our everyday habitats and local wilderness parks through guided hikes, field trips and volunteer activities.

Upcoming Trips:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| November 16 | Limestone Canyon Guided Hike with Irvine Ranch Conservancy |
| January 25 | Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary |

Past Trips:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Sept. 24 & 28 | Pre-trip informative meeting and Santiago Parks Regional Park field trip with OC Habitats (25 participants) |
| October 12 | Bolsa Chica Wetlands Conservancy Guided Hike (28 participants) |

Golden City Hour – A two-mile staff guided walk through Santiago Park. We walk and talk about the Santiago Creek Watershed, its cultural history and the flora and fauna of the park! It's also a time to meet neighbors, share stories and memories of the Santiago Creek Watershed.

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month
3:30 – 5:00 pm **NEW TIME**

Senior Services Section

The Senior Services Section offers a variety of daily programs and services for Santa Ana Seniors. The Santa Ana Senior Center and the Southwest Senior Center are the hubs for classes and activities including Tai Chi, an array of exercise classes, BINGO, Loteria, Arts & Crafts, Billiards, English and Technology Classes, Karaoke, Table Tennis, Dance, and more. Some of the new classes now offered in collaboration with Santa College are Self Defense, Famous Musicians, Fabric Arts, Bodyworks Fitness, Cultural Appreciation, Senior Topics, Famous Art, as well as Healthy Aging.

Santa Ana Senior Center

- Tai Chi – Volunteer led class takes place outdoors in the Fitness Center with an average of 7 participants per class.
- English for Spanish-speakers – Staff led class with an average of 20 participants per class.
- English for Chinese-speakers – Staff led class with an average of 7 participants per class.
- Fit Mind, Fit Body (Amistad Medical Clinic) – Participants engage in rhythmic exercises on Friday mornings with an average of 20 participants per class.
- Bingo (18) & Loteria (15) – Volunteer-led activity every Friday.
- Appy Hour (Santa Ana Public Library) – Instruction in technology, app trends, and library resources with an average of 4 participants per session.
- Asian Social Dance – Volunteer led dance activity to traditional Chinese music with an average of 6 participants per activity.
- Karaoke – Volunteer led karaoke activity where seniors can join and enjoy singing along to popular song with an average of 7 participants per session.
- Bodywork Fitness (SAC) – Low-impact physical fitness to help awaken the body with an average of 22 participants per class.
- Famous Musicians (SAC) – Students explore different type of music to gain deeper understanding and appreciation for all types of music for an average of 17 participants.
- Low Impact Resistance Training (SAC) – Provides full-body, low impact resistance training with upbeat jams for an average of 32 participants per class.
- Famous Art (SAC) – Instruction that inspires exploration of creative methods of some of the most highly regarded artists, and their influential artwork. This month, the instructor engaged with diverse mediums including watercolors, crayons, and oil pastels for an average of 16 participants per class.
- Senior Topics (SAC) – Instruction designed to enhance the knowledge and skills of older adults with an average of 16 participants per class.
- Healthy Aging 1 (SAC) [18 participants] & Healthy Aging 2 (SAC) [14 participants] – Lessons vary with topics in healthy eating, disorders, stress management, regular physical activity, and the benefits of healthy lifestyles.
- Cultural Appreciation 1 (SAC) – Lessons take participants for a ride around the world as they watch videos, visiting different countries, and discovering diverse cultures with an average of 14 participants per class.
- Self-Defense for Seniors (SAC) – Self-defense techniques class with an average of 4 participants.
- Standing Cardio – Staff led fitness class with an average of 25 participants per session.
- Table Tennis – Staff led class for beginner table tennis players with an average of 4 participants per class.

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- Game Hour – Traditional game activities with an average of 5 participants per activity.
- I-Lounge – Technology class with an average of 8 participants per session.

October 2024 Events & Excursions

- 10/3 – Appy Hour with SAPL
- 10/4 – Knowledge Mobile at Birch Park
- 10/10 – TEFAP distribution (A-L)
- 10/10 – Appy Hour with SAPL
- 10/10 – SASC Movie Night featuring “Coco”
- 10/11 – Dr. Talk
- 10/11 – Spirit Week Workshop #1
- 10/17 – Appy Hour with SAPL
- 10/17 – TEFAP distribution (M-Z)
- 10/18 – Spirit Week Workshop #2
- 10/18 – Knowledge Mobile at Birch Park
- 10/24 – Appy Hour with SAPL
- 10/24 – Old Town San Diego Excursion
- 10/31 – October Celebration
- 10/31 – Appy Hour with SAPL

November 2024 Planned Events

- 11/1 – HICAP Presentation
- 11/1 – Knowledge Mobile at Birch Park
- 11/6 – HICAP appointments
- 11/7 – Appy Hour with SAPL
- 11/8 – Dr. Talk
- 11/8 – Spirit Week Workshop #1
- 11/13 – Harvest Celebration
- 11/14 – TEFAP distribution (A-L)
- 11/14 – Spirit Week Workshop #2
- 11/15 – Knowledge Mobile at Birch Park
- 11/21 – TEFAP distribution (M-Z)
- 11/21 – SASC Movie Night featuring TBD
- 11/21 – Appy Hour with SAPL

Southwest Senior Center

- Dance and fitness classes – Volunteer lead class for active seniors who want to participate in cardio fitness. Average of 39 participants per class.
- Stretch Class – Staff Led, seniors start their day by warming up to this class. Average of 31 participants daily per class.
- Chair Yoga (SAC) – Class for seniors with mobility issues, very popular with an average of 66 participants.
- Choir and Guitar class (SAC) – Music and choir classes are success with 17 registered participants per class.

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- Technology class – Staff-led class, with an average of 7 participants per class.
- Karaoke (14 participants) – Staff-led karaoke activity where seniors can join and enjoy singing along to popular songs.
- Loteria – Staff led with 45 participants per session.
- Bingo – Staff led with an average of 42 participants per session.
- Fit Mind, Fit Body (Amistad Medical Clinic) – Participants engage in rhythmic exercises with an average of 68 participants per class.
- Cultural Appreciation (SAC) – In-person instruction, with 15 average participants. Lessons take participants for a ride around the world as they watch videos, visiting different countries, and discovering diverse cultures.
- English for Spanish Speakers – Staff led class, 13 register participants, participants will learn how to listen to English and understand it, as well as develop writing and speaking skills.
- Folklorico Dance Class – Volunteer led dance class for active seniors to learn the basic steps of traditional Mexican dances. Average of 10 participants per class
- Low Impact Resistance Training (SAC) – A fun and active fitness class with upbeat jams. Average of 68 participants per class.
- Arts and Crafts Class – Staff led 13 participants per class.
- Standing Cardio – Staff led fitness class with an average of 25 participants per session.
- Florescent Minds – Staff Led support group for seniors focused on providing space for open dialogue to discuss topics of concerns and explore interpretations from multiple points of view with an average of 12 participants per session.
- Dance for Fun (Zumba) – Staff Led class that provides seniors with different body movements aimed to promote and maintain a healthy cardiovascular endurance while having fun. Average of 15 participants per class.
- Fitness Fusion (SAC) – Class provides seniors with different body movements directed towards improving and retaining optimum health. Average of 31 participants per class.

October 2024 Events & Excursions

- 10/2 – Memorial Pot Luck (Anita)
- 10/4 – Appy Hour Extreme
- 10/8 – Legal Aide
- 10/10 – Commodities A-L
- 10/16 – Health Seminar
- 10/17 – Commodities M-Z
- 10/23 – HICAP
- 10/24 – Old Town SD
- 10/31 – Spooktacular Celebration

November 2024 Planned Events & Excursions

- 11/1 – Dia de Muertos Celebration
- 11/4 – Hicap Enrollment, Pop up Class, Jerome Karate
- 11/5 – Hicap Enrollment
- 11/7 – Excursion (citadel)

- 11/11 – Veterans Observe Day
- 11/12 – Legal Aide
- 11/13 – Thanksgiving Celebration
- 11/14 – Commodities A-L
- 11/20 – Health Seminar
- 11/21 – Commodities M-Z
- 11/27 – Hicap Appointments

Programs and Services

In-Person Congregate Lunch Program

The senior centers are pleased to announce that the Meals-On-Wheels OC in-person congregate lunch program has returned to Santa Ana Senior Center and Southwest Senior Center. The in-person lunch program offers healthy nutrition and social connections for older adults. Seniors are welcome to visit the senior centers, Monday through Friday from 11:30 am-12:30 pm, to enjoy a warm meal. During October, Santa Ana Senior Center provided 1067 meals to an average of 45 participants per day. Southwest Senior Center provided 1739 meals to an average of 76 participants per day.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

TEFAP provides monthly food assistance targeted to low-income seniors. To keep track of food distribution, seniors are requested to register to receive a punch card with dates indicating when they pick up a bag of nonperishable food items distributed on the second and third Thursday of the month from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at Santa Ana Senior Center, and from 9:30 to 11:00 am at Southwest Senior Center.

October distribution numbers for each center include 99 seniors at the Santa Ana Senior Center and 138 seniors for Southwest Senior Center.

Senior Transportation Program

The Senior Transportation Program services are in transit! The program currently offers transportation services for seniors (262 currently registered) from their place of residence to either the Southwest Senior Center or Santa Ana Senior Center. To participate, seniors are required to be 60 years of age, a resident of the City of Santa Ana, and a registered participant at either of the two senior centers in the City of Santa Ana. Monthly shopping trips to local markets, social outings and outdoor excursions for program participants are in progress!

The registered numbers of participants have increased due to our monthly excursions and weekly shopping trips.

October 2024 Trips:

- 10/7 – Walmart/El Super
- 10/8 – IHOP
- 10/14 – Food 4 Less/Marshalls
- 10/18 – Tanaka Farms
- 10/21 - Walmart/El Super

- 10/22 – Thrift Store
- 10/28 – Trader Joes/Ross/Target

November Upcoming Trips:

- 11/4 – Walmart/El Super
- 11/12 – Food 4 Less/Marshalls
- 11/18 – Walmart/El Super
- 11/22 – Brea Mall
- 11/25 – Trader Joes/Ross/Target
- 11/26 – Café Cultura

Special Events Section

Special Event Permits

During the months of November and December the Special Event Section is processing approximately 12 third party permits while receiving approximately 6 applications for future months. Interested applicants can contact the special events division at specialevents@santa-ana.org to receive the application and gain assistance going through the special event reservation process.

City-Wide Special Events

Mid Autumn:

Mid-Autumn was held on October 5 at Centennial Park from 4:00-8:00 pm in partnership with AASCSC. The 3rd annual event brought in approximately 6,000 people. The event had a wide variety of entertainers and ended the night with Lion dancers. There was a wide variety of vendors, exhibitors and a great cultural exhibit. AASCSC and Project Kinship were sponsors for this event brought a wide variety of resource to the public. The event provided a variety of flavored mooncakes to the public for free, made by 85 degree bakery. The event was a celebration of the Harvest Moon and included lanterns to decorate and take with them.

Native American Heritage Festival:

Native American Heritage Festival will be held at Thornton Park from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. This event is the City Council RFP event for Indigenous People's Day and will have live performances, a kids zone, vendors and food available for purchase.

Plaza Navidena:

Plaza Navidena will be happening on Saturday, November 23 at Plaza Calle Cuatro. This is the annual downtown tree lighting event and will include Santa, community entertainment, free tamales for the public, and arts and crafts. The event will run from 5:00 pm-8:00 pm with the tree lighting promptly happening at 5:30 pm. Orange County Soccer Club and Disney are event sponsors and are bringing a wide variety of activities to benefit the community and the event.

TET:

The second annual TET Festival is currently being planned and will be held on Saturday, January 25 from 1:00 pm-6:00 pm at Centennial Park. There will be live performances, vendors, cultural exhibit, food vendors and a fireworks show at 5:45 pm. AASCSC and Project Kinship are sponsors of this event and are working with PRCSA on how to bring a variety of elements to benefit the community.

Future Planning:

PRCSA is in the planning stages of the Eggcellent Adventure, Santa Ana Fun Run, Movies in the Park and Concerts in the Park.

Youth & Teens Section

Garfield Community Center

Current:

- SAPL Teen Time: rotating teens 5-10 participants
- Contract Classes Fall:
 - Active Parenting (ages 5-12): will resume in February 2025
 - SAC Digital Literacy Tier 1: 15 Participants *last day 10/08
 - SAC Digital Literacy Tier 2: 5 Participants *first day 10/15

Facility Reservations & Events

October: None

November: 11/14 2nd Floor Computer lab & Dance Room, Department Reservation – Software Training

Past:

Special Event - Boo Bash

Thursday, October 31, 2024, families gathered at the Garfield Center from 2:30-4:30 pm to celebrate Halloween at the Boo Bash event. Participants enjoyed popcorn and a holiday movie, trick or treat bag decorating, temporary tattoos, holiday crafts, and much more.

Attendance: 69 pre-registered, 63 walk-in's

Youth Programming:

Fall Break Kid's Camp

Youth ages 6-12 years old can look forward to a special fall break camp over Thanksgiving week, Monday 11/25 to Wednesday 11/27, 7:30 am - 5:30 pm at the El Salvador Center. Participants will enjoy crafts and exciting activities inspired by a weekly theme, educational and entertaining special visits from city agency partners and special guests. Resident fees will be \$69 with a sibling rate of \$43.80, non-resident fees of \$81 with a sibling rate of \$55.80.

Winter Break Kid's Camp

Youth ages 6-12 years old can look forward to a special winter break camp Monday 12/30, Thursday 1/02, & Friday 1/03 from 7:30 am - 5:30 pm at the Salgado Center. Participants will enjoy crafts and exciting activities inspired by a weekly theme, educational and entertaining special visits from city agency partners

and special guests. Resident fees will be \$69 with a sibling rate of \$43.80, non-resident fees of \$81 with a sibling rate of \$55.80.

Kid's Night Out

Participants' ages 6-12 years have the opportunity to attend one Friday a month, themed evenings with crafts, activities, and treats at rotating community center locations throughout the City for \$10 monthly/\$5 per additional sibling.

Past:

- Theme: Scarecrow Craze
- Vendor: n/a
- Friday 10/18/24 5:00 – 8:00 pm Garfield Center Participants: 33

Upcoming:

- Theme: Turkey Trot
- Vendor: n/a
- Friday 11/15/24 5:00 – 8:00 pm El Salvador Center Est. Participants: 50

Mariposa Park Pop-up

Another returning community-favorite program that holds exciting outdoor themed activities and games. Garfield Staff recognized the need for outdoor programming at the local park and created this free interactive program that was piloted Spring of 2024. Mariposa Park Pop-up is held Tuesdays and Thursdays (2-3 pm) weekly.

Past

- October: 34 participants

Upcoming

- November: 24 participants

Techno Niños

This community-favorite program focuses on exposing youth, grades K-6, to STEM and technology programs with coding languages, basic technology skills, a world of fun, and hands-on tech activities. The program began on 8/13/24, and held on a bi-weekly basis for \$5 monthly.

Past

- October: 7 participants

Upcoming

- November: 11 participants

Teen Programming:

eSports:

This program is a pilot program to create not only a positive safe space for our youth and teens to play games but to create a scholarship pipeline for college and career opportunities. We have purchased 11 new custom-built computers and are currently waiting for them to return from IT to begin. This program uses gaming and technology to build life skills such as leadership, teamwork, effective communication, critical thinking, and problem solving. **(Waiting on computers to be delivered by IT in November).**

Teen Excursion Program

Past:

October 26, 2024 the **Teen Excursion Program** went to **Frida Cinema**. Check-in was at 9 am and we left Garfield Center by 10 am. The teens and staff enjoyed a Private Movie screening (Beetlejuice) and interacting with other teens. Teens purchased their own food. Group arrived at the center by at 3 pm.

- 23 Teens attended
- 4 Staff attended

Upcoming:

- Oak Glen Apple Picking Excursion: Saturday, November 16, 2024
 - Expected attendance: 50 teens and 5 staff
 - Time: 6:30 am – 6 pm

VolunTEEN

This program allows teens to engage in volunteer opportunities with the city and a unique pathway into public service careers. Grounded in youth development theory, this program combines hands-on volunteer experiences with leadership training, fostering skills needed for future civic roles. VolunTEENs can transition into employment opportunities within the city, graduating into roles such as internships, program leaders, and lifeguards for PRCSA and SAPL. Participants will contribute to their community while gaining insight and connections that support their growth as emerging leaders.

Past:

- Friday, October 11, 2024: Center Project/Assisting with inventory check (2 Teens)
- Friday, October 19, 2024: KNO at Garfield Center (6 Teens)
- Friday, October 25, 2024: Center Projects/Center Decorations for Halloween (2 Teens)
- Thursday, October 31, 2024: Boo Bash (2 Teens)

Upcoming:

- Friday, November 8, 2024: Center Projects (2 Teens)
- Friday, November 15, 2024: KNO at Garfield Center (5 Teens)

Youth Empowerment Initiative (Y.E.I)

This program is our first leadership program for teens ages 13-17. The Youth Empowerment Initiative, rooted in the youth development theory, emphasizes the importance of involving youth in the process to enhance their connection and engagement with the outcomes. By providing opportunities to develop skills, gain knowledge, volunteer, and build positive relationships. The teens will meet twice a month on Fridays. Impresiones is currently collaborating with the Santa Ana Senior Center and Southwest Senior Center to create intergenerational opportunities with older adults ages +55.

Past:

- Friday, October 4, 2024: Teen Council – (18 Teens)
- Friday, October 18, 2024: Impresiones - (14 Teens & 9 waitlist)

Upcoming:

- Friday, November 8, 2024: Teen Council – Project participation (25 Teens)
- Friday, November 15, 2024: Impresiones – Projected participation (14 Teens)

CDSS Funding Update

The Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Agency (PRCSA) has been awarded a contract from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide after-school care and full-day summer camps for qualified residents ages 5 to 13. This contract allows the opportunity to earn up to \$6.9 million to fund these programs at seven locations throughout the city. Phase I of the program is scheduled to begin in 2025, with after-school care offered at Garfield Community Center by the end of March. The funding will enable up to 515 children to participate in these programs at little to no cost to their families. Due to the requirements of obtaining licensing, hiring staff, and verifying applications, the centers will open in phases, with all seven locations anticipated to be fully operational by 2028. This achievement distinguishes Santa Ana as a trailblazer in Orange County, being one of only two cities to secure this transformative funding.