



MISSION VIEJO

Fall / Winter 2017

# OUTLOOK



**Our community's portal  
to the past and future**

Mission Viejo Library celebrating  
two decades of service



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- Mayor Pro Tem** Ed Sachs
- Council Member** Brian Goodell
- Council Member** Trish Kelley
- Council Member** Greg Rath

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Incorporated in 1988, the City of Mission Viejo is a Council/Manager form of government. Legislative power is held by the publicly elected five-member City Council. As the Legislative Branch of Municipal Government, the City Council adopts laws and makes policy decisions for the City. The Council appoints the City Manager to function as the City's chief executive. City Council meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Meetings are broadcast live on Mission Viejo Television and replayed the following Sunday at noon and Tuesday at 6 p.m. on Cox Channel 30, AT&T Uverse Channel 99, or through the City's Web site at <http://cityofmissionviejo.org>. Meetings are open to the public and held in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

With a population of more than 95,000, the City of Mission Viejo spans 17.4 square miles and is consistently recognized as one of America's safest communities. Mission Viejo is home to several award-winning schools, parks and offers a robust business environment for residents and visitors alike. A true hometown with family traditions, community events and organized sports, Mission Viejo features a mature evergreen landscape with more than 955 acres of parks, slopes and open space. The City also boasts the manmade Lake Mission Viejo, 44 parks and eight recreational facilities.

**Mission Viejo OUTLOOK** is published biannually by the City of Mission Viejo. Correspondence and questions should be directed to the Community Relations Office - [communityrelations@cityofmissionviejo.org](mailto:communityrelations@cityofmissionviejo.org) or 949-470-3033.

**Saturday SEP 9**

8:00 am – Noon  
**Drive-through Document Shred Event**  
Bring up to 10 file-size boxes of sensitive documents for immediate shredding. Documents must be free from notebooks, bindings, and clips.  
\*Mission Viejo residents and businesses only  
Mission Viejo High School Parking Lot  
470-8433  
FREE

**Saturday SEP 16**

8:00 am – Noon  
**Inner Coastal Cleanup Day**  
Volunteers help collect trash and debris in and around Oso Creek Trail.

10:00 am – 11:30 am  
**Home Composting Workshop**  
Learn how to turn your yard waste and food scraps into valuable, organic garden fertilizer through composting and vermicomposting.  
Oso Creek Trail - Potocki Center Lower Parking Lot  
470-3010  
FREE



**Saturdays SEP 23 & OCT 7**

Beginning at dusk  
**Movies in the Park**  
Sep. 23 - *The Secret Life of Pets*, Melinda Park  
Oct. 7 - *The Boss Baby*, Napoli Park  
Parks Make Life Better by bringing families together! Refreshments, games and music will round out the evening. Drop off blankets and chairs early.  
859-4348  
FREE



**Saturday NOV 11**

2:00 pm  
**Veterans Day Observance**  
On this special day, we honor and remember the men and women of the Armed Forces. Reception immediately follows.  
Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center  
470-3062  
FREE

**Friday OCT 13**

9:30 am – Registration for Golf  
11:00 am – Shotgun Start  
**7th Annual Tee It Up For Marines Golf Tournament**  
Enjoy a great round of golf to help provide year-round support to Mission Viejo's adopted Marines and Sailors of the Headquarters Battalion of the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton Golf Course  
Camp Pendleton Golf Course  
Fee information:  
<http://teeitupforemarines.com>  
470-3061 / [rsc@cityofmissionviejo.org](mailto:rsc@cityofmissionviejo.org)



**Saturday NOV 18**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
**47th Annual Mission Viejo Activities Committee Gifts & Goodies Boutique**  
Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center  
830-7066 / <http://mvactivities.com>  
FREE Admission

**Saturday OCT 21**

8:00 am / Rally at MVHS stadium  
9:00 am / Community Fair & South County Disaster Preparedness Expo  
**29th Annual Walk Against Drugs**  
Kick off the event by attending the rally at MVHS Stadium. Walk down La Paz Road through the Oso Creek Trail to the Fair and Disaster Preparedness Expo. Enjoy interactive community booths, educational activities, displays, food, entertainment and games for all ages!  
Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center on the Village Green  
470-8433  
[cityofmissionviejo.org/policeservices](http://cityofmissionviejo.org/policeservices)  
FREE

**Sunday NOV 26**

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm / Festival celebration and Entertainment  
6:00 pm / Santa Arrives  
**Santa's Arrival Celebration**  
Civic Center Plaza  
830-7066 / <http://mvactivities.com>  
FREE

**Saturday OCT 28**

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Hometown Halloween**  
Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center  
768-0981  
FREE (minimal charge for some activities)

**NOV 29 to DEC 20**

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
Wednesdays / Saturdays / Sundays  
**Santa's Workshop**  
Civic Center Plaza  
830-7066 / <http://mvactivities.com>  
FREE

Visit <http://cityofmissionviejo.org/events> or refer to *Mission Viejo Life* magazine for more information.

# COMMUNITY

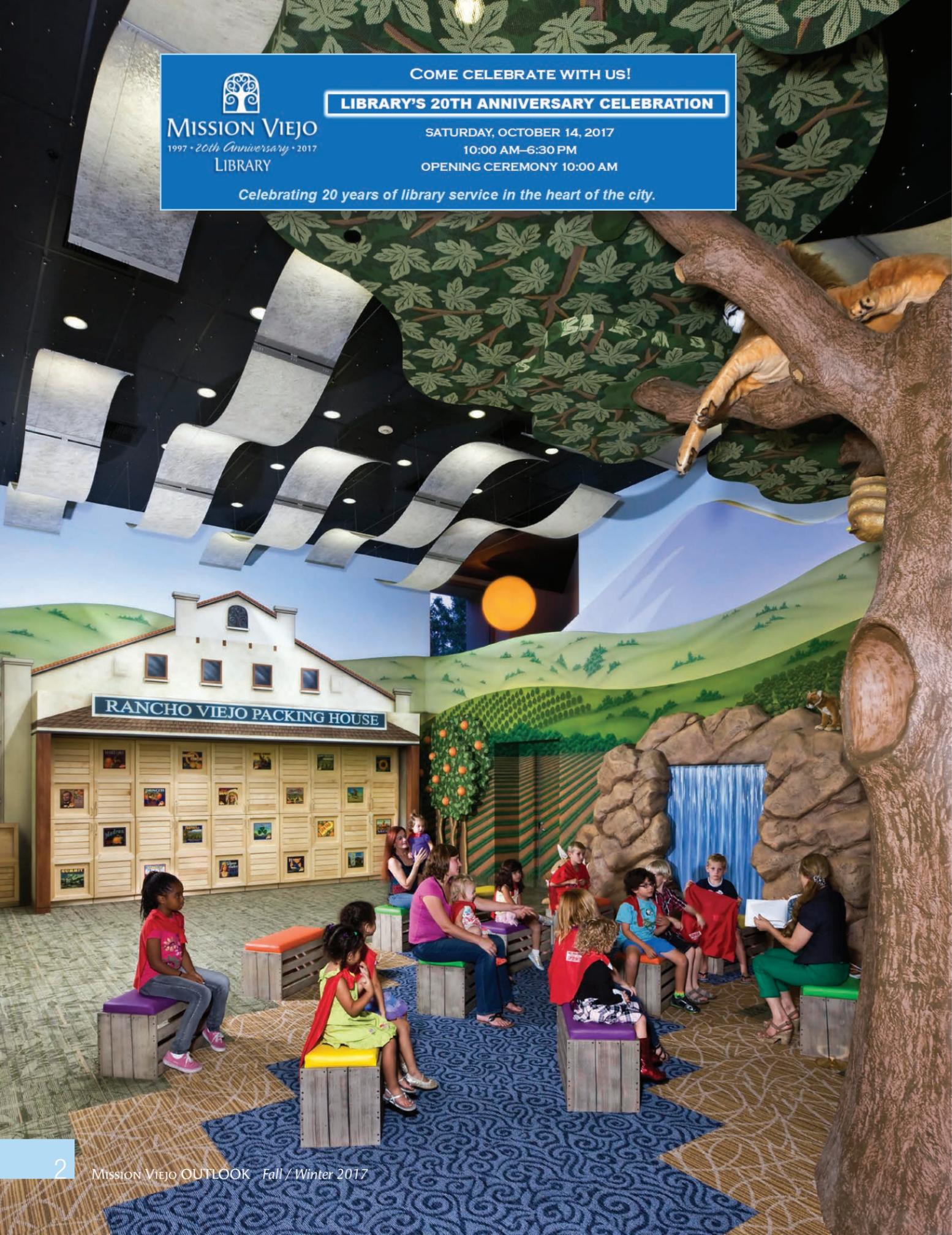
COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

**LIBRARY'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017  
10:00 AM-6:30 PM  
OPENING CEREMONY 10:00 AM

**MISSION VIEJO**  
1997 • 20th Anniversary • 2017  
LIBRARY

*Celebrating 20 years of library service in the heart of the city.*



## Mission Viejo Library celebrating two decades of service

The date was October 27, 1997 when the Mission Viejo Library first opened its doors to the community, after years of planning. The process started a decade earlier with a feasibility study that determined the 9,000-square-foot branch of the Orange County Public Library on Chrisanta Drive could no longer meet this growing City's needs. The county library was built when Mission Viejo was a young community of only 12,000 residents.

houses a technology center; adult fiction books; and local history and genealogy collections. Ten years later came a remodeled Friends Storytime Room.

Innovative changes over the last two decades have kept the library in pace with the community's needs. Free public Wi-Fi; hearty selections of high-quality online resources and tutorials and different electronic formats such as eBooks, audio books, comics, music, TV and movies are part of the vast offerings.



Along with outstanding services, the library hosts its popular Writers Present series, annual SummerREAD program for all ages as well as educational and fun programs for teens and adults.

"Our goal is always to make the library and our collections more accessible and usable for our community," said Genesis Hansen, Director of Library and Cultural Services. "For the first time, we surpassed one million items circulated in a year. We now have 160,000 borrowers and about 185,000 items in the collection. A lot can change in 20 years!"

*On Saturday, October 14, the library will host a daylong special anniversary celebration with fun activities for the entire family, special guest authors and illustrators, tours and an evening concert.*

"We invite the community to join us in this milestone celebration as we look back over a wonderful 20 years serving the City of Mission Viejo – and look forward to what the next 20 will bring," Genesis said.

The Mission Viejo Library is at 100 Civic Center. For more information, call 949-830-7100 or visit <http://cmvl.org>.

When the City's General Plan was adopted in 1990, it called for building a new library facility. Seven years later, that plan came to fruition, and the City of Mission Viejo opened its own 27,000-square-foot municipal library nestled on the corner of La Paz Road and Marguerite Parkway.

With picturesque vaulted ceilings and open space, the library was designed to put the City's history in a contemporary context. The facility began with 65,000 volumes in the collection and 44,000 borrowers. Annual circulation was just over 300,000 items a year. Since then, the library's building, collection and services have blossomed substantially.

In 2002, the City added the south wing of the library, increasing its square footage to 41,500. This wing



## Senior volunteers continue to help keep Mission Viejo safe

For nearly three decades, a dedicated group of senior volunteers has been helping to keep Mission Viejo safe.

*Working under Mission Viejo Police Services, Senior Corps of Retirees (SCOR) volunteers enhance crime prevention efforts in this community, which is continually ranked as one of the nation's safest.*

SCOR volunteers assist Police Services with everything from checking homes while folks are on vacation, reporting graffiti and removing illegally posted signs from City property to help with parking enforcement and special events. Since the program's inception, volunteers have logged nearly 150,000 hours of service, a tremendous savings to the City of Mission Viejo. Throughout the years, this active team has provided a total of 18,956 home checks and reported 1,433 instances of graffiti. Last year alone, they performed 868 vacation home checks and reported 116 graffiti cases. These services support the department's community policing efforts – and while the numbers speak volumes, they don't begin to demonstrate the community spirit these volunteers embrace every day.

In addition to patrolling Mission Viejo, friendly and helpful SCOR volunteers can be found handling reception services on the second floor of City Hall. Last year, they helped more than 3,600 visitors. Virginia "Ginny" Taylor has long been instrumental in this effort. Since 2002, she has been a staple on Thursdays at the City Hall counter, happily greeting and assisting people. Incredibly, she has donated more than 8,500 hours of service to this community.

It's volunteers like Ginny who are the heart and soul of the SCOR program. This year, OneOC, the volunteer center for Orange County, will recognize six of Mission Viejo's SCOR volunteers at the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Awards luncheon for volunteering 4,000 hours or devoting 10 or 15 years of service to the team. Along with Ginny's 15-year recognition, Daniel Moncino, Mary Lou Moncino, Judi Zimmerman, Sheldon Deane and Pat Pene will each be feted for dedicating a decade of continual service to SCOR.

"Our SCOR volunteers provide us with a priceless gift that we all seem to have less of ... the gift of time," said Chief of Police Services Lt. Ken Binning. "Each volunteer continues to give this precious commodity, and I am certain Mission Viejo Police Services could not function as effectively as the department does without these dedicated men and women."

For more information about SCOR, call 949-470-8433 or visit <http://cityofmissionviejo.org/departments/police-services>.



## New Drug Prevention Coalition launched

The City of Mission Viejo launched a new Drug Prevention Coalition designed to provide parents, youth and schools with valuable resources and services to combat drug abuse.

As part of the City of Mission Viejo's ongoing efforts to stop drug abuse in the community, the City teamed up with local support group Solace of Orange County to form the coalition. An action-oriented group, the coalition teaches parents and individuals about the startling drug trends and challenges facing our community and provides them with the necessary resources to prevent the spread of drug addiction and dependency.

Bringing the fight to streets of Mission Viejo, coalition members will promote and participate in drug awareness programs like the Annual Walk Against Drugs in October. They will encourage community involvement in events that properly dispose of prescription drugs as well as educate parents

about the signs and behaviors of addiction. Through the coalition, people will know where to go and what resources are readily available to help.

The need for such a group is certainly there. Prescription

drug abuse among youth in the region continues to grow at alarming rates. In fact, it is a national epidemic, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The coalition meets at 6 pm on the third Wednesday of the month at the Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center, 24932 Veterans Way. The one-hour meetings are followed by the weekly Solace of Orange County Support Group from 7 pm to 9:30 pm. The group supports family members and friends impacted by drug addiction and loss.

For more information, contact Leslie McDonald at [lmcdonald@cityofmissionviejo.org](mailto:lmcdonald@cityofmissionviejo.org) or Margie Fleitman at [margie@solaceorangecounty.org](mailto:margie@solaceorangecounty.org).



## Streamlined permitting process for small residential rooftop solar systems

In an effort to advance the use of solar energy by the community, the City of Mission Viejo adopted a new ordinance that streamlined the process for residents to add rooftop solar energy systems to their homes.

State law, AB 2188, required cities to step up efforts and expedite small residential rooftop solar energy systems. Solar energy is a key component of state and local government goals to achieve climate action plans and generate economic development. Many families want a renewable energy source, and solar panel technology is leading the way. While this type of technology used to be a pipe dream for most as the cost was out of sight, recent years have seen this dream become a reality.

As part of its Energy Efficiency Fee Waiver program, the City accelerates solar energy permits by waiving permit fees for qualified energy-conservation installations. But this ordinance provides even more streamlining for solar energy systems of 10 kilowatts or less that conform to pre-established state guidelines. Because of this beneficial program, the City issued 588 solar permits valued at nearly \$10.8 million from July 1, 2016 to May 31 of this year.

These guidelines contain a checklist for qualified projects posted on the City's website at <http://cityofmissionviejo.org>. This streamlined permitting process will help people save money and time and assure the effective use of solar technology.



## Communication is cornerstone to our agenda

Have you downloaded the MV Life app for iPhone and Android? This useful app provides you with access to report issues and includes information about events, amenities, shopping, dining and recreation in Mission Viejo. The custom-built mobile app is available in the iTunes App Store for IOS devices and in Google Play Store for Android.

This innovative app is just one way the City proactively communicates with residents. To reach different segments, we email eNewsletters and produce quarterly recreation publications and online reports.

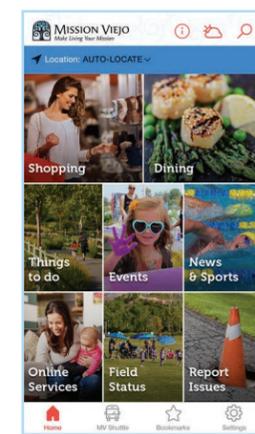
We maintain a lively YouTube channel and use Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for instant notifications about traffic delays, project information, events and other news that impacts the way you live, work and play.

Through our website at <http://cityofmissionviejo.org>, you can watch live or past City Council meetings; find a lost pet or adopt a new one; register for classes; and access City staff any time.

Special events like Hometown Halloween and the Walk Against Drugs are marketed through print and online mediums as well as postcards, bookmarks, banners, fliers, bus shelters, electric signs and on Mission Viejo Television.

Transparency, community outreach and education have long been a hallmark of our City's agenda – and we always welcome public feedback, so we can communicate with you even better.

Share your comments, stories and photos about our community with us by emailing [MVnews@cityofmissionviejo.org](mailto:MVnews@cityofmissionviejo.org).



## Promoting environmental programs and education 'Inside the Outdoors'

For the past 5 years, the City of Mission Viejo has teamed up with Inside the Outdoors to empower students, teachers, parents and the community to explore natural areas and expand their knowledge, understanding and stewardship of the environment.



Inside the Outdoors is a hands-on environmental education program administered by the Orange County Department of Education. It provides rich learning experiences to engage students and foster an interest in STEM subjects by connecting their classroom studies to real-life experiences. The partnership with the City has provided environmental education programs for students from pre-kindergarten through high school.

Just this past school year, the City of Mission Viejo used grant funding to provide Mission Viejo High School with recycling containers, liners, gloves and other equipment so students could launch a campus-wide recycling program. In addition to providing the equipment, the City also provided technical assistance to help students and teachers work through typical issues encountered when implementing a recycling program.

"The City's goal was to divert materials from the landfill, meet state mandates and make recycling become the culture at Mission Viejo schools," said Denise Matson, the City's Environmental Program Administrator. "Inside the Outdoors supports our City's goals and works with students throughout the year to launch these types of programs, provide campus-wide education and create a sustainability plan. It's about providing our youth with a lifelong enthusiasm for the environment."

# LEARNING

## Art and life will entwine at Potocki Center for the Arts

Nestled near the heart of Mission Viejo is an 8-acre facility that helped put this City on the map in 1994 when it became home to the U.S. Men's National Soccer team for the World Cup Soccer USA International Tournament.

The Thomas R. Potocki Conference Center and World Cup Soccer Fields on La Paz Road includes a 5,000-square-foot building flanked by two soccer fields. In the years since it was built, countless youth sports teams have called these fields home, and the facility has housed rental groups, after school and cultural arts programs.

STEAM (science, technology, art and math). With music, dance and theatre, the center will provide rich and creative experiences for all ages. Collaborations with the school districts and organizations like Arts OC will help grow the arts in this community of nearly 100,000 people.

"Just like reading, writing and arithmetic, arts are a vital component of education," said Dru Maurer, Mission Viejo Cultural Services Supervisor. "Music, dance, painting and theater are all essential to sparking creativity and human understanding and accomplishment."

Music recitals, harmonica lessons for kids and adults and Mommy & Me music classes will take center stage at the Potocki Center for the Arts. Artists will have a safe and creative open studio to express themselves. The facility will be the perfect venue for weekend coffeehouse concerts, lectures, Anima drawing classes, middle-school ceramics, pet photography and street painting for the young and old.

Residents will also embrace fun family art days and plein-air art festivals along the Oso Creek Trail as well as Shakespeare in the Park.

"We live in a community that is passionate about cultural arts, and this new center is giving us a great opportunity to fulfill a public need," Dru said.

*"The arts have a critical impact on our economy and are an important catalyst for learning, discovery and achievement."*

The Potocki Center for the Arts is located at 27301 La Paz Road. For more information, visit [cityofmissionviejo.org](http://cityofmissionviejo.org) or call 949-470-8440. 🌐



Today, the center is undergoing a reinvention as the Potocki Center for the Arts, catering to this community's ever-growing thirst for the arts.

The effort is part of a cultural arts master plan that aims to take a strategic approach to fulfilling the need for cultural arts programs and services in Mission Viejo.

The City and Mission Viejo Friends of the Arts are working to engage the community through a cornucopia of offerings like ceramics, photography, drawing, painting and teacher training capturing





## New hotel and commercial retail plaza will complement Mission Viejo's landscape

The City of Mission Viejo is welcoming the openings of two significant developments in the community – the Hampton Inn & Suites and neighboring commercial retail plaza on Marguerite Parkway.

At press time, officials were planning for the summer opening of the 101-room Hampton Inn & Suites, a three-story hotel located just a mile from The Shops at Mission Viejo, Mission Hospital, Saddleback College and Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club. The 61,241-square-foot facility is the City's third hotel and features conference and meeting room space, an outdoor courtyard and pool/spa. It's part of the Hilton Worldwide brand.

and later Land Rover Mission Viejo before the dealership relocated across Marguerite Parkway. More recently, Mountain View Church was temporarily situated at the site before moving to a permanent location.

The attractive new center will include four main tower elements, roof tile and extensive use of stone. The finish of the exterior walls of the building will be textured stucco and complement the tower elements and roof tile. Lush landscaping planted around the entire project, including new street trees to soften the building from the major thoroughfares, will enhance the aesthetic quality of the development.



So far, three retail tenants have been secured for the center. King Shabu Shabu Japanese restaurant will occupy a 2,800-square-foot space on the second floor and will include an outdoor dining area next to Avery Parkway. Seville Classics, a home organization and garage storage solutions company, will be housed in a 3,500-square-foot space on the lower portion of the building. GreenStreet auto spa, a full-service car wash will be located within the parking garage.

Just next door, construction continues on the two-story GreenStreet Center – a commercial retail plaza at the southeast corner of Marguerite and Avery parkways. The 17,000-square-foot Spanish-inspired shopping plaza, which is set to open this winter, will feature restaurants, retail and services along with a full-service auto spa below the deck of the parking garage.

*“GreenStreet Center - Mission Viejo will bring to the area our company's unique concept that combines retail, services and food with an eco-friendly auto spa car wash and detail center,” said GreenStreet's Director of Development Bill Kahale.*

Two vacant buildings were demolished on the site earlier this year to make way for the new retail center. The buildings used to house Armstrong Garden Center

“Visitors to GreenStreet will be able to shop and dine while conveniently having their cars cleaned and waxed at the same time.” 🌿

# ENVIRONMENT

## City's Food Rescue Program designed to help people in need

The City of Mission Viejo is on a mission to help get food to people in need.

Catered food that used to be discarded after parties and events at the Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center and other Mission Viejo facilities is now making its way to homeless shelters and other support programs to feed people in need thanks to a City partnership with Food Finders.

Food Finders, one of three food banks in Orange County, picks up perishable and leftover catered food from grocery stores, restaurants, convention centers, hotels, schools and community centers and delivers the items to local food pantries and kitchens the same day. Food Finders serves more than 300 nonprofit agencies and churches in Orange County and Los Angeles. Many of these agencies serve hot meals or provide food pantry items for individuals and families.

The City of Mission Viejo facilitated its first "food rescue" of leftover catered food through Food Finders last May and continues to tap the organization for City of Mission Viejo events. The City has recently expanded the program and now offers it to organizations, businesses and residents renting City facilities such as the community center for an event.

"We feel it's our duty to help others when possible," said City staff member Leslie Rea-McDonald, who helps facilitate the program. "We don't want to waste food when other people can use it."

Prepared food that ends up untouched such as pasta salad, chicken tenders, lasagna and pizza – perfectly good food that would have otherwise been thrown in the trash – is donated to Food Finders.

*On average, the organization helps provide enough food for 21,000 meals a day, reducing the amount of food insecurity and food waste prevalent throughout Southern California.*

The City process is simple for the public to use. Take for example a recent lacrosse team that hosted an awards banquet for 150 people at the Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center. The group filled out a "Food Rescue Request Form" 24 hours in advance of the event. Then at the banquet's conclusion, leftover pasta, salad and cookies were packaged, labeled and refrigerated for a Food Finder nonprofit agency or church to pick up and distribute to families in need. People who



donate the unused food can request a tax-deductible receipt, and the City of Mission Viejo receives a separate food weight receipt.

"This is a great program that we regularly offer to our rental groups," said Mark Nix, Director of Recreation and Community Services. "It is a win-win for everyone – the program helps feed people who struggle to put food on the table and helps reduce food waste at the same time."

For more information, email [lmcdonald@cityofmissionviejo.org](mailto:lmcdonald@cityofmissionviejo.org) or call 949-470-3062.





City of Mission Viejo  
200 Civic Center  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

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Bunny Days



Concert on the Green



July 4th Street Faire



Arts Alive



DAWG Walk and Pet Faire



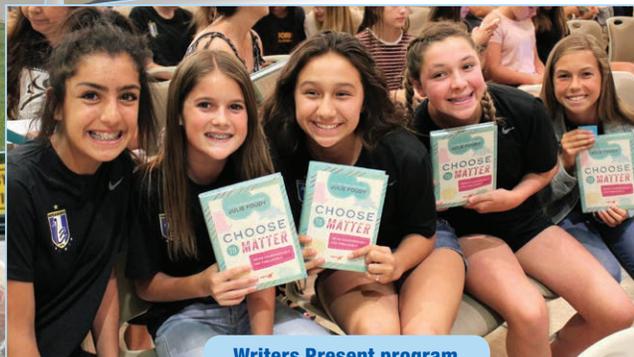
Mission Viejo Bocce Club



Prelude in the Park



National Night Out



Writers Present program



Earth Day / Arbor Day planting

## Spring / Summer Events

The people of our community are what make it special. Thanks to your participation, our spring and summer events created memories and enriched our lives, our families and our community.

*Make Living Your Mission*