



FALL &  
WINTER  
2019

THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

# STATE OF THE CITY



NEWSLETTER

LIGHTS, CAMERA,

SANTA CLARITA!

*Mayor* Marsha McLean, *Mayor Pro Tem* Cameron Smyth,  
*Councilmembers* Bob Kellar, Bill Miranda and Laurene Weste

SANTA-CLARITA.COM



*A message from  
City Manager  
Ken Striplin*

It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of our **Santa Clarita 2020 Strategic Plan**. I am proud of all the projects completed, goals met and programs implemented by our hard working staff. Through the direction of the City Council's leadership, we will be able to deliver the high quality of life our residents have come to expect.

Some of the work already completed includes the **Old Town Newhall Parking Structure**, successful implementation of the **Traffic Safety Plan**, completion of the **Arts Master Plan**, completion of the **Golden Valley Bridge** and the **Newhall Ranch Road Bridge Widening Projects**, thousands of acres of open space acquired and miles of improved streets and sidewalks.

As we head into the home stretch there are several major projects coming to fruition, which will have a significant impact within our City. The **Canyon Country Community Center** is slated to open its doors to our residents in 2021. This new center will be a vital community hub offering arts, recreation, community events and so much more. In the area of public safety, in cooperation with Los Angeles County, our brand new **Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station** is taking shape off Golden Valley Road and will be complete in 2021.

Vision, anticipation and prioritization are essential elements in preparing for a successful future and to ensure the City of Santa Clarita continues to provide superior municipal services that will meet the current and future needs of our community. I look forward to seeing the final projects within our Santa Clarita 2020 plan come to fruition! For more information and updates on all of our Santa Clarita 2020 plans, please visit [SantaClarita2020.com](http://SantaClarita2020.com).

Sincerely,

Ken Striplin  
City Manager

[kstriplin@santa-clarita.com](mailto:kstriplin@santa-clarita.com)

# LIGHTS, CAMERA, SANTA CLARITA!

For the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year, the Santa Clarita Film Office recorded 526 film permits and 1,380 film days, which generated an estimated \$33.4 million in economic benefit.

Some of the biggest stars of the silver screen and television have filmed on the movie ranches, sound stages and wide-open natural backdrops of our City of Santa Clarita. The history of film is closely intertwined with the history of our valley. Some of the first western, silent films were shot in our picturesque canyons and the charming, rugged streets of Old Town Newhall. Our local hero, **William S. Hart**, was the foremost star of this era and not only filmed many of his movies in Santa Clarita, his mansion is now a museum paying homage to Hart and his films.



These days, blockbuster films, hit TV shows, commercials and music videos are frequently shot throughout our City. Some of the most popular TV shows that are based in Santa Clarita, and regularly film on location here include "NCIS," "Mayan's MC," "Goliath" and "S.W.A.T." The feature films "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood," "Deadwood: The Movie" and "Call of the Wild" also filmed in Santa Clarita last year.

All this filming adds up to big bucks for our local economy. In Fiscal Year 2018-19, location filming in Santa Clarita resulted in an estimated economic impact of \$33.4 million. Santa Clarita is home to more than 25 sound stages, 10 movie ranches, a multitude of film-related businesses and approximately 6,000 residents who are employed in the entertainment industry.

The City has worked to retain and increase filming with its local **Film Incentive Program**, **Movie Ranch Overlay Zone** and a **one-stop permit center**, making it easy for Hollywood to choose Santa Clarita. Our local businesses (think restaurants, caterers, retailers and hotels) also benefit tremendously from local filming.

We appreciate our residents and business community who are so cooperative with location filming in Santa Clarita. If you are interested in learning more about **Santa Clarita's Film office**, including a comprehensive list of the latest television shows and movies filmed here, visit [FilmSantaClarita.com](http://FilmSantaClarita.com).



## MAJOR PROJECTS

### CANYON COUNTRY COMMUNITY CENTER

*Building Our Future - The New Canyon Country Community Center and Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station*

The City of Santa Clarita strives to make fiscally sound decisions and budget for projects that will enhance the already high quality of life residents enjoy. It is an exciting time as two of the City's biggest projects to date are currently under construction as part of the **Santa Clarita 2020 Strategic Plan**.



The first is the new **Canyon Country Community Center**, which is taking shape at the intersection of Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway. Much work has already been completed on the nine-acre site, including improvements to the Mint Canyon Channel and storm drains. Currently, a water infiltration system is being installed and the building pad is being prepped. Once this work is completed the next phase of construction includes the building itself.

Once this project is complete in early 2021, it will be a vital hub in our community. The new Canyon Country Community Center will offer classes, activities and programs for youth and adults, as well as host special community events and workshops that offer opportunities for personal and professional growth. In addition to the enriching programs that will take place within the center, the grounds surrounding the facility will offer a beautiful green lawn for activities, event space, a playground for children, a basketball court as well as picturesque courtyards and meandering walkways.



### SHERIFF'S STATION

The second project is a new **Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station**. Working hand-in-hand with Fifth District Supervisor Kathryn Barger and the County of Los Angeles - the Sheriff's Station will replace the current facility located on Magic Mountain Parkway, which has housed our hard-working deputies since the 1970s. Once complete in early 2021, the new Sheriff's Station will be more than 44-thousand square feet, with a transmission tower, vehicle maintenance facility and a helipad. It will provide the space and resources our deputies need now - and into the future.

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES



## CANYON COUNTRY PARK INCLUSIVE PLAY AREA

Earlier this year, the City conducted public outreach meetings at Canyon Country Park for the Inclusive Play Area project, which is anticipated to open by the end of 2019. The public meetings allowed attendees to learn about the project, share their thoughts and ideas with City staff and the consultants, vote on play elements and review and comment on the preliminary and revised designs. Feedback from residents went directly into updated designs and features for the Inclusive Play Area. Stay tuned to [santa-clarita.com](http://santa-clarita.com) for the date and time of the grand opening!



## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The City's Traffic and Transportation Planning division continues to enhance Safe Routes to School, which is a Citywide initiative to eliminate barriers and encourage Santa Clarita students to walk and bike to school. Through meetings with school staff, parents and students and evaluating the neighborhoods around schools, the City is developing improvement plans that include curb extensions, high-visibility crosswalks, bicycle lanes and more. Once plans are complete, the City will apply for State grant funding to implement proposed improvements.

Santa Clarita was ranked in the Top 25 Safest Cities to Raise a Child by Safewise and the Top 20 Best Places to Raise a Family on the West Coast by SmartAsset.



## PARK UPGRADES

A number of parks in Santa Clarita received upgrades in 2019 to ensure residents have high quality amenities to enjoy year-round. Both the North Oaks Pool and the Activity Pool at the Santa Clarita Aquatic Center received repairs, while the outdoor basketball court at Old Orchard Park was resurfaced to enhance safety. Shade structures were installed at Santa Clarita Park, Pamplico Park and Oak Spring Canyon Park to keep kids out of the sun on hot summer days. The play equipment at Creekview Park was replaced with new equipment and residents living near Copper Hill Park will enjoy the new play area and restroom facility that opened this year.

## JOB CREATION OVERLAY ZONE

This year saw the creation of a new planning tool that will allow for additional jobs in the City, called the Jobs Creation Overlay Zone (JCOZ). The JCOZ will allow office and industrial buildings in certain areas of the City to build taller buildings that fit the current needs of the commercial market to attract high-end jobs to Santa Clarita. Targeted employment sectors include aerospace/defense, advanced manufacturing, medical/biomedical, digital media/entertainment and information technology. Two major developments in the City, Vista Canyon and Needham Ranch, are currently under construction and will bring new jobs to our community.



## VISTA CANYON

The development of this 185-acre master-planned community, which includes up to 1,100 residential units and 950,000 square feet of commercial and office space, continues to progress. The Vista Canyon site has been fully graded and major utilities and key infrastructure for the community have been completed. A 480-unit multifamily residential project along the western portion of Vista Canyon is under construction and will continue until its completion in 2020. A 245-unit single-family residential development along the eastern portion of Vista Canyon recently broke ground and the first commercial/office building is complete with the adjacent parking structure anticipated to be completed in January 2020.

## NEEDHAM RANCH

The first phase of the Needham Ranch project is well underway after nearly 30 years in the planning process. Approved in 2003, Needham Ranch is set to bring first-in-class industrial buildings to the City. Six buildings, totaling nearly one million square feet, are in various phases of construction with the first tenant, Illumination Dynamics, preparing to move in. Development of the next phase of Needham Ranch is anticipated to begin in late 2019.



## ROAD REHAB

The City of Santa Clarita's annual Road Rehab project maintains major corridors and residential streets. Roads are selected for the project using a data-driven process that prioritizes streets by taking into account average daily traffic and conditions such as cracking, potholes and more. In the summer of 2019, approximately 22 miles of road and four miles of trails in Santa Clarita received either slurry seal or overlay treatment to improve roadways and extend their life.

Santa Clarita was honored with a 2019 Project Achievement Award from the Construction Management Association of America for Road Rehab.



A message from Sheriff's Captain Robert Lewis

The staff at the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station strives on a daily basis to keep you and your family safe. Our dedicated deputies are able to be proactive thanks to a strong partnership with the community. We thank all of you who serve as 'our eyes and ears' by reporting any suspicious activity. Together, we are all working towards the same goal, of creating a safe place to call 'home' and raise our families.

Currently, the crime rate in the Santa Clarita Valley has dropped to an all-time low. Despite this positive progress, we do face a challenge right now related to the opioid epidemic that has struck families and communities across the nation. The City of Santa Clarita has not been immune to the dangers presented by the abuse of prescription drugs and their illegal street counterparts.

We are working diligently to combat the opioid epidemic. Two years ago, our patrol deputies began carrying Naloxone or Narcan, the life-saving drug that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. It has proven to be a true lifesaver and has been utilized by our deputies on multiple occasions to bring overdose victims back from the brink of death. However, Narcan alone should not be the second chance they need, which is why our station's Juvenile Intervention Team (J-Team) detective and intervention specialist reach out to narcotics offenders in our jail facility and conduct follow-up visits once individuals are released. The goal is to offer resources and assistance in hopes of breaking the cycle of addiction.

Just as we have experienced great success in reducing crime through our partnership with the community, we are asking for your help in fighting the opioid crisis as well as addressing the growing concerns of vaping, which is affecting many in our community including teens in schools. Talk to your family members and kids. Know who your children hang out with and have regular discussions about the dangers of drug abuse and vaping. You can reach our J-Team at [SantaClaritaJTeam@lasd.org](mailto:SantaClaritaJTeam@lasd.org).

If you notice a particular house or street corner that has an increase in foot traffic or vehicle traffic that looks suspicious, we want to know. Anonymous tips can be submitted through the website [LACrimeStoppers.org](http://LACrimeStoppers.org), or by calling (800) 222-TIPS.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

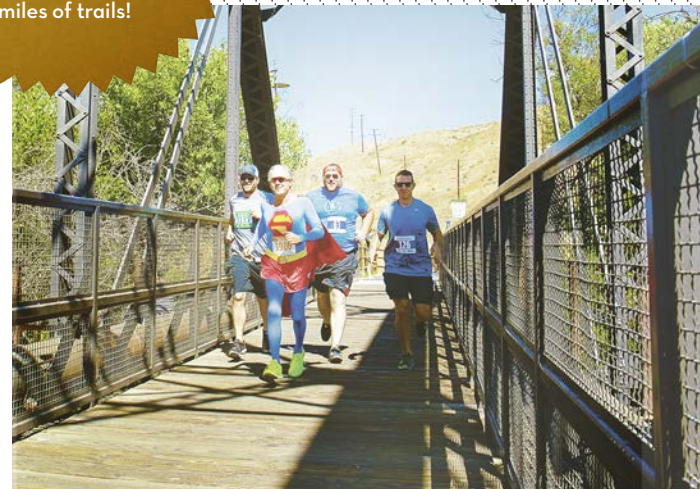
# FALL EVENTS

The City of Santa Clarita was ranked in the Top 25 Healthiest Cities in America by WalletHub - partly due to our 85 miles of trails!



## VETERANS DAY

The Santa Clarita City Council invites all residents and guests to the City's annual Veterans Day Ceremony to honor Santa Clarita veterans and currently-serving military members. The Veterans Day Ceremony is hosted in partnership with local veterans organizations and will take place on Monday, November 11, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Veterans Historical Plaza in Old Town Newhall (24275 N. Walnut Street). Join the City Council for this special event, which will feature musical performances, guest speakers and the changing of the flags. [santa-clarita.com/Events](http://santa-clarita.com/Events)



## SANTA CLARITA MARATHON

The 24th annual Santa Clarita Marathon, presented by Parkway Motorcars, will take place over two days, on November 2-3. Runners are encouraged to dress up as their favorite hero this year and unite to conquer the Santa Clarita Marathon Heroes Edition! In addition to a marathon, the weekend will also feature a half marathon, 10K and 5K run and the Mayor's Walk. A free Health and Fitness Expo, presented by Boston Scientific will be held on Friday, November 1, and Saturday, November 2. Learn more and sign up to volunteer! [SCMarathon.org](http://SCMarathon.org)



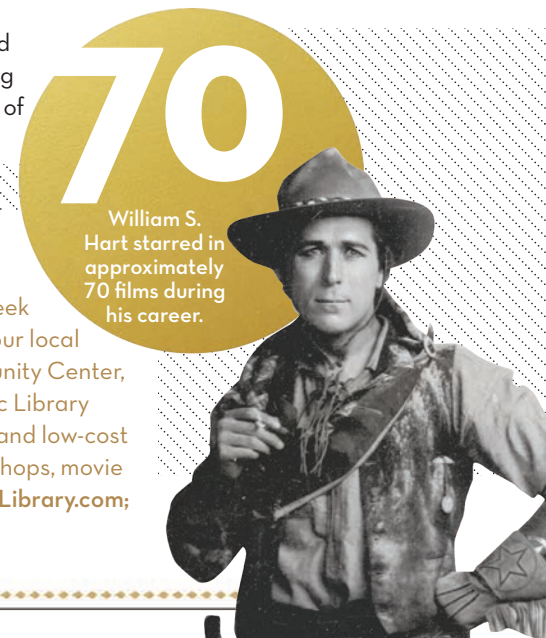
## LIGHT UP MAIN STREET

The unofficial kickoff to the holiday season is Light Up Main in Old Town Newhall! Join thousands of your closest friends as Main Street is transformed into a winter wonderland on Saturday, November 16, at 6:00 p.m. You and your family will enjoy music and dancing with performances by local groups. Performances begin at 6:00 p.m. and the thousands of lights and 23-foot Christmas tree will be illuminated at 7:30 p.m. [OldTownNewhall.com](http://OldTownNewhall.com)



## MORE EVENTS IN SANTA CLARITA

Looking for great, family-friendly events taking place each week throughout the City of Santa Clarita? Look no further than your local community center or library branch! Canyon Country Community Center, Newhall Community Center and all three Santa Clarita Public Library locations (Canyon Country, Newhall and Valencia) offer free and low-cost events to residents throughout the year, including craft workshops, movie screenings, family game nights and much more. [SantaClaritaLibrary.com](http://SantaClaritaLibrary.com); [santa-clarita.com/NCC](http://santa-clarita.com/NCC); [santa-clarita.com/CCCC](http://santa-clarita.com/CCCC)



70  
William S. Hart starred in approximately 70 films during his career.



## HOMETOWN HEROES MILITARY BANNER PROGRAM

Recognizing and remembering the sacrifices our local heroes make on a daily basis is extremely important to our City. This year, over 80 banners were hung at designated locations throughout the City on the Fourth of July, Veterans Day and Memorial Day as a part of the **Hometown Heroes Military Banner program**. The Hometown Heroes website was also updated with digital banners, and engraved bricks were added to the Veterans Historical Plaza as another way for community members to recognize loved ones for their service. For more information about the Hometown Heroes Military Banner program, visit [heroes.santa-clarita.com](http://heroes.santa-clarita.com).

## 2020 UPDATE

### PUBLIC ART

This year, Santa Clarita has seen many new additions to its vibrant art community. The interactive "IMAG\_NE" art sculpture by artist Emma Anna was installed in front of the Valencia Library, and community members and visitors were able to share what they imagine on social media using #ImagineSC. Santa Clarita also saw new poems by community members stamped into City sidewalks as part of the Sidewalk Poetry Project. Another exciting addition to the City's public art collection is a new mural at the **Santa Clarita Skate Park** by artist Miguel A. Del Real. Stay up to date with all things art in the City at [SantaClaritaArts.com](http://SantaClaritaArts.com)!



## PROGRAM UPDATES

### DFYINSCV

Drug Free Youth in Santa Clarita Valley (DFYinSCV) has made great strides in its effort to educate and empower Santa Clarita's youth to make good choices and practice healthy lifestyle habits. The DFYinSCV team has visited numerous campuses from each of the school districts in the Santa Clarita Valley to help spread their message. A **Parent Resource Symposium** was also held this year to offer information to parents and teens about navigating peer pressure, the dangers of vaping and other obstacles students face. For more information about DFYinSCV, visit [DFYinSCV.com](http://DFYinSCV.com).



*A message from  
Assistant Fire Chief  
Anderson Mackey*

The Los Angeles County Fire Department proudly serves the City of Santa Clarita. Whether we're responding to a house fire, wildland fire, medical emergency, hazardous materials incident or just providing public assistance, we are always there to assist you in your time of need.

Last year, we added a new Firehawk helicopter to our robust air fleet, and we are planning to add an additional aircraft. For the 26th consecutive year, we have contracted with the government of Quebec to lease two SuperScooper aircrafts, and those planes arrived in September and will remain through the end of the year. As the entire Santa Clarita Valley experiences several brush starts throughout the year, our air assets, combined with our ground forces, are instrumental in preventing these fires from endangering lives and property.

We have also been quite busy behind the scenes, planning for future needs. With advances in communications and technologies, coupled with increasing populations, we are in the process of identifying appropriate equipment and personnel needs. For example, over the last decade, the volume of emergency medical calls we receive has increased over 50 percent; however, our paramedic squads and associated staffing have increased by only five percent.

While we work on determining future needs, it is also vitally important that we hear from the residents we serve to find out what their priorities are and what services are most important to them. We need you to help us plan our future. We encourage you to learn more about the challenges we are facing and to participate in our community survey by visiting [WeAreLACountyFire.org](http://WeAreLACountyFire.org).

Please remember, we are never completely out of fire season; we are hopeful that everyone has prepared themselves, and their home, by utilizing our Ready Set Go Wildfire Action Plan. If you have not yet done so, please visit [fire.lacounty.gov/rsg](http://fire.lacounty.gov/rsg).

City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

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KNOW YOUR OPTIONS**

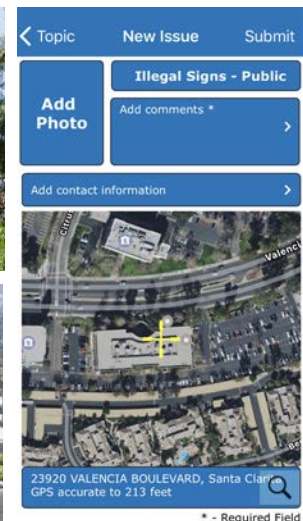
Although the number of overall traffic collisions in the City of Santa Clarita has dropped by 22 percent in the last two years, the percentage of collisions that involve someone driving under the influence has remained the same. In an effort to combat instances of DUI in Santa Clarita, the City's Traffic Safety team, in partnership with the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station, is teaming up with local businesses to remind residents to know their limits, as well as what alternative transportation options are available. Look for more information on the City's award-winning Heads Up! traffic safety campaign at [santa-clarita.com/HeadsUp](http://santa-clarita.com/HeadsUp).

The Heads Up Traffic Safety Campaign has won two California Association of Public Information Officials awards and for three years in a row has been honored with a Savvy Award from the City-County Communications & Marketing Association.



**RESIDENT SERVICE CENTER**

We want to hear from you! Our Resident Service Center makes it easy for Santa Clarita residents to submit a service request, report graffiti or even ask questions about potholes, recycling, recreation opportunities and more. Last year, City staff responded to 24,336 requests, including issues related to removal of illegal signs, pruning of trees and trail maintenance. You can access the Resident Service Center by visiting [santa-clarita.com/RSC](http://santa-clarita.com/RSC) or through the Santa Clarita Mobile App available in the App Store and Google Play.



Follow us on social media to stay up to date with the City of Santa Clarita!  
[santa-clarita.com/Social](http://santa-clarita.com/Social)



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