



# THE Leaflet



**5** HUNDREDS CELEBRATE  
CIVIC CENTER

**6** BEAT TRAFFIC  
WITH A TROLLEY

**7** VETERANS PARK  
HONORED





A Message From City Manager  
**DEBRA ROSE**

**Lake Forest is really roaring into the new decade.**

Our new Civic Center, the community's 100 Year Home, is open, the City remains debt free, and other important projects such as Portola Park are underway.

In part, because of the momentous opening of the Civic Center, I also was recognized by the Orange County Register as one of the "100 Most Influential People in Orange County" in 2019. The honor, however, truly goes to all City leaders and staff. The vision for the Civic Center began 20 years ago, and City leadership and staff since then have remained true to the original vision.

The Civic Center signals the crowning achievement of the plan that brought new communities into Lake Forest, infusing new residents and energy, the completion of Alton and Rancho Parkways, and the opening of the Sports Park and Recreation Center.

None of this means it's time for the City to sit back and marvel over these accomplishments. It's really quite the opposite. Portola Park, which I mentioned earlier, will open at Glenn Ranch and Saddleback Ranch Roads this year. There's also a full list of traffic improvements to complete, along with all of the regular events – Bunny Blast, Summer Concerts, and the Fourth of July Parade – to keep us busy. Staff also will be working hard to ensure the Nakase community on Bake Parkway becomes another community that will make all of us proud.

Just as the last 20 years have brought new homes and businesses, the next 20 years promise to be just as dynamic. City staff will remain focused on providing top-quality services to residents, protecting the quality of life in Lake Forest, and planning for a fiscally sound future.

**Thank you, and here's to a great 2020!**

*Debra Rose*



**MEETINGS AT A GLANCE**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**FEBRUARY 4 | FEBRUARY 18 | MARCH 3**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES  
COMMISSION MEETINGS**

**FEBRUARY 5 | MARCH 4**

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEETINGS**

**FEBRUARY 6 | MARCH 5**

**TRAFFIC AND PARKING  
COMMISSION MEETINGS**

**FEBRUARY 3 | MARCH 2**

Beginning in February, all Commission meetings will occur in the same week as the first City Council meeting of the month. Traffic and Parking Commission will meet on the Monday before the first Tuesday of each month, Community Services will meet on Wednesday after the first Tuesday and Planning Commission will meet on Thursday after the first Tuesday.

All meetings will start at 6:30 pm  
\*Subject to change; see calendar and listings at  
[www.LakeForestCA.gov](http://www.LakeForestCA.gov)

The Leaflet is an official publication of the City of Lake Forest and is distributed as a public service to Lake Forest homes and businesses. The City welcomes your comments and questions regarding The Leaflet.

Photo Credit: City of Lake Forest

## VOTE CENTERS



### A New Way to Vote Coming in March

Vote Centers with more voting choices are coming to Lake Forest starting with the March 3 Presidential Primary Election. On February 22, 38 Vote Centers throughout Orange County – including two in Lake Forest – will open for 11 days.

During that time, voters will be able to cast their ballots from any of the centers. In addition to Vote Centers replacing traditional neighborhood polling places, other changes include automatic delivery of mail-in ballots to all register voters and drop boxes where voters can deposit their ballots.

Voters will have the option to mail their postage-paid ballot, drop off at any of the 110 Drop Box locations, vote at any of the 38 Vote Center locations that will open 11 days before the election or any of the 188 locations that will open four days before the election.

All Vote Centers will offer full-service, extended hours, including weekends and a one-stop center for all things voting. Detailed information on services and changes are available online at [www.ocvote.com/fileadmin/vc/](http://www.ocvote.com/fileadmin/vc/) or contact the City Clerk's Office at 461-3420.

### Decision 2020 Planning to Vote in 2020?

Have you registered to vote or moved since the last election? If you want to vote in the March 2020 Presidential Primary Election, now is the time to register or update your registration. Register or update your information online at <https://www.ocvote.com/registration/voter-registration-info/>.

Forms are also available in the Reception Area at Lake Forest City Hall, or you can call 461-3420 and a form will be mailed to you. Postage to return the registration form has been prepaid by the Orange County Registrar of Voters. The deadline to register is February 18 to receive a ballot in the mail.

### Lake Forest Offers Special Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Do you want to support the Lake Forest community and promote your business to thousands of residents? If so, sponsor a City special event.

The City created a Special Event Sponsorship program that allows businesses to sponsor community events. In return, businesses will be recognized on the City's website, receive booth space at the event, and see the company logo printed on the event promotional materials. Finally, sponsors will be thanked in the City's recreation brochure, the Leisure Times, which is mailed to all Lake Forest residents.

Hoag was the first to take advantage of the new program, sponsoring the Civic Center Open House on January 11.

Upcoming events available for sponsorship are the Pet Expo, Bunny Blast, Movies in the Park, Concerts in the Park, and the Family Camp out at the Lake Forest Sports Park.

For more information, contact Nicole Miller McDaniel with Community Services at [nmiller@lakeforestca.gov](mailto:nmiller@lakeforestca.gov).

### 2020 Calendars Now Available

The 2020 Lake Forest City Calendar is now available at the Civic Center, Sports Park, and libraries in the City.

The calendar features photos submitted by residents, including Susan Brown Matsumoto, Bree Vidaurri, Derek Barraza, and Davin Burns. It also features the hashtag "FlourishLakeForest," encouraging residents to tag their photos for the City to share.

Each month of the free calendar also shares a small fact about the City – from the number of parks in the City to the last time it snowed in Lake Forest.





## CIVIC CENTER OPEN FOR BUSINESS

More than 400 people attended the January 11 Civic Center Open House, touring the Senior Clubhouse, Community Center, Performing Arts Center/Council Chambers, and City Hall.

City Manager Debra Rose and the City Council kicked off the event with a history of the project and what the Civic Center means to the community. Assemblyman Steven Choi, County Tax Collector-Treasurer Shari Freidenrich, and Irvine Ranch Water District President Mary Aileen Matheis also presented the Lake Forest City Council with resolutions honoring the opening. The Lake Forest battalion of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps provided the Color Guard, while the El Toro High School choir and jazz band played in the Performing Arts Center.

The Senior Clubhouse is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday through Friday, offering bingo and a variety of other classes and programs. City Hall is open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

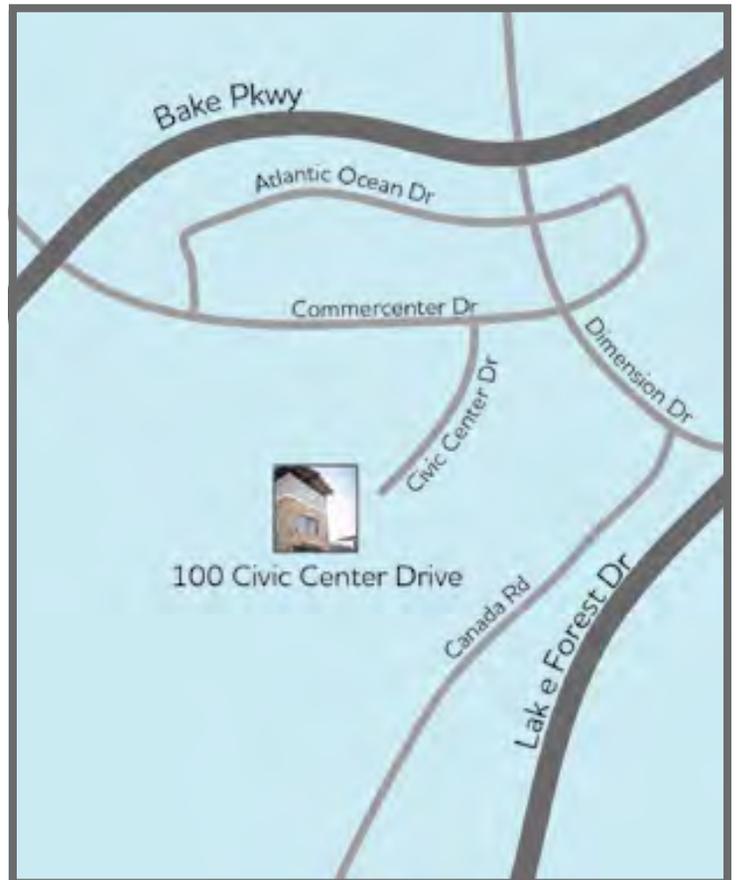
The Community Center offers a covered courtyard with a fireplace and a variety of meeting, conference and banquet rooms that will be available for rent. Call 461-3450 for information.

Free document shredding services remain available for residents. Material should now be dropped off at Police Services on the east side of City Hall.

The \$73 million Civic Center was paid for primarily with the developer fees, allowing the City to remain debt free.

The Civic Center is at 100 Civic Center Drive, off Commercentre Drive.

## LAKE FOREST CIVIC CENTER





## SKIP THE TRAFFIC, TAKE THE BEACH SHUTTLES

### Did you know you can enjoy a sunny day on a South County beach without worrying about traffic or parking?

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) funds free trolleys that run through Dana Point, Laguna Beach, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano. The community shuttle program is funded by Project V, a competitive program under OC Go, Orange County's voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements, also known as Measure M.

The goal of the program is for cities to develop and implement transit services that complement regional bus and rail services, and better suit local needs in areas not adequately served by regional transit.

To date, OCTA has provided three rounds of funding in 2013, 2016 and 2018, which have awarded 28 projects and seven planning studies totaling \$42 million. On October 14, the OCTA board made up to \$9 million available for cities interested in operating their own community shuttle. Applications were due December 12 and are expected to be considered by the OCTA board in the spring.

Leaders in those cities worked together to ensure the routes and schedules match, so riders can start in San Juan Capistrano and ride the shuttles all the way to Laguna Beach. That also means riders can take Metrolink to the San Juan Capistrano station, then use the shuttle system to explore Dana Point Harbor and Laguna. San Clemente's shuttle has 16 stops, including the North Beach Metrolink station. Most cities use open-air, brightly painted shuttles, so even if you're not sure where you want to go, you can be assured that getting there will be half the fun.

For more information and schedules, see <https://www.octa.net/Bus/Routes-and-Schedules/Seasonal-Routes/Free-City-Shuttles/>.



## DO MORE. MAKE LESS.

You know that feeling when you drop your empty water bottle in that gloriously green recycling bin? You are a champion of the environment and saving the planet! But what if you could do more by making less? Yes, it's true. Making less waste is more important and effective than recycling.



### Less Food Waste

- Plan meals around food you already have and only buy what your family will realistically eat.
- Use produce bins in your refrigerator to slow spoilage.
- When life throws you overly-ripe bananas, make banana bread!

### Less Paper and Plastic

- Buy products with minimal packaging.
- Save the paper. Read news and magazines online.
- Use refillable beverage containers and coffee mugs.

### Less Money Leaving Your Wallet

- Be wary of impulse-buying things you don't need—even if it's on sale.
- Repair broken items – If it's broken, there's an internet video that will show you how to fix it.
- Re-purpose old items. Empty pickle jars can hold all the change you're saving.

And then, recycle. Go ahead and use that bright green recycling bin when you need it. You really can be a champion. You really can save the planet. For more recycling tips, visit the City's website [www.lakeforestca.gov](http://www.lakeforestca.gov).



## VETERANS PARK HONORED



The transformation of Village Pond Park into Veterans Park was honored as a project of the year by Southern California American Public Works Association (APWA).

Village Pond Park was built in the 1970s. A popular venue, the park had not been updated in more than 40 years. In work that took more than a year, the pond was drained and reshaped. A liner was added to preserve the integrity of the pond, along with a safety ledge just beneath the surface of the water.

The park was also designed to draw irrigation water from the pond. That means the pond is refilled, circulating fresh water into the pond to improve water quality.

Meandering sidewalks, a butterfly garden and a Veterans monument honoring branches of the armed forces were also added. The new park – with the new name, Veterans Park, was unveiled in November 2018.

In December of last year, the APWA honored the City with the “Creative and Innovative Project of the Year Award” for cities between 50,000 to 100,000 population.

Veterans Park is at 23102 Ridge Route Dr. Please enjoy the park – but remember to avoid feeding the geese. It’s not good for them, and it’s not good for the park.

## CITY ADDING SECOND ACCESSIBLE PARK

Work will begin this year on renovations that will make Cherry Park the second ADA-accessible park in the City.

Cherry is the second park that will undergo renovations as part of the 10-park Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan. Work is already completed at Peachwood Park.

The Cherry Park renovations include grading, landscaping, irrigation, site furnishings, redesigned play area with resilient surfacing, new playground equipment, and a new shade structure.

The footprint of these new improvements will generally replace the existing playground area and abut an existing wood bridge that will be protected and remain.

The City’s goal is to maintain some of the historic charm while providing park patrons with an aesthetically enhanced amenities – and another ADA-accessible play area.



The park is at 22651 Cherry Ave. For more information, see <https://www.lakeforestca.gov/871/Neighborhood-Park-Improvement-Project>.



City of Lake Forest  
100 Civic Center Drive  
Lake Forest, CA 92630

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LAKE FOREST, CA

POSTAL CUSTOMER

ECRWSS

# RECREATION AND EVENTS CALENDAR

# 2020

## ANCHORS AWAY NAUTICAL PARTY



**Friday, February 7**  
**5-8 pm**  
The Club House  
100 Civic Center Drive  
\$10 per person  
Pre-Registration Recommended

## RESIDENT REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2020 PROGRAMS

Begins Tuesday, February 18  
**8 am**  
Mail-In, Walk-In, Online  
Fee: Varies per program

## SPECIAL NEEDS VALENTINE DANCE



**Saturday, February 22**  
**6-8 pm**  
The Club House  
100 Civic Center Drive  
Free / Registration Required

## NON-RESIDENT REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2020 PROGRAMS

Begins Tuesday, February 25  
**8 am**  
Mail-In, Walk-In, Online  
Fee: Varies per program

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION



**Thursday, March 12**  
**11 am**  
The Club House  
100 Civic Center Drive  
Free / Registration Required

## LAKE FOREST ANNUAL PET EXPO

**Saturday, March 28**  
Lake Forest Sports Park & Recreation Center  
Commons Area (28000 Rancho Parkway)  
Fee: Free

## CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Building Division . . . . .	461-3470	Graffiti Hotline . . . . .	461-3583
Building Inspection . . . . .	461-3468	Housing . . . . .	461-3569
City Clerk . . . . .	461-3420	OC Animal Care . . . . .	249-5160
City Council . . . . .	461-3420	Passport & Notary . . . . .	461-3420
City Manager's Office . . . . .	461-3410	Planning . . . . .	461-3491
Community Policing Center . . . . .	461-3530	Public Works . . . . .	461-3480
Community Preservation . . . . .	461-3474	Recreation . . . . .	461-3450
Economic Development . . . . .	461-3567	Sports Park & Recreation Center . . . . .	273-6960
Etnies Skatepark . . . . .	916-5870		

## FIND US ONLINE

City . . . . . [LakeForestCA.gov](http://LakeForestCA.gov)  
Economic Development . . . . . [lakeforestbusiness.com](http://lakeforestbusiness.com)  
[facebook.com/LakeForestBusiness](https://facebook.com/LakeForestBusiness)  
Etnies Skatepark of Lake Forest . . . . . [etnies skatepark.com](http://etnies skatepark.com)  
LinkedIn . . . . . [linkedin.com/company/city-of-lake-forest-ca](https://linkedin.com/company/city-of-lake-forest-ca)  
Sports Park & Recreation Center . . . . . [lfsportspark.com](http://lfsportspark.com)

For more info call 461-3450, 273-6960 or visit our website at [www.lakeforestca.gov](http://www.lakeforestca.gov). For up-to-date info on City special events, check out [facebook.com/LakeForestEvents](https://facebook.com/LakeForestEvents) and follow us on Twitter [@LakeForestCA](https://twitter.com/LakeForestCA).

