

# City of Santa Fe Springs

OCTOBER

NEWSLETTER

2011

## Santa Fe Springs Fights to Keep Local Funds Local

The Santa Fe Springs City Council is doing everything in its power to retain what has been the most important and influential funding source for the City throughout its history; redevelopment funds, which have been instrumental in the creation of the rich aesthetic treatments that has helped define Santa Fe Springs as a world class community. In June, Governor Jerry Brown signed ABXI 26, which eliminates redevelopment agencies, and ABXI 27, which allows for a voluntary alternative redevelopment program, subject to specific terms and conditions. It is estimated that this elimination defined in ABXI 26 could shut down redevelopment agencies throughout the state and cost agencies billions of dollars. The Santa Fe Springs Redevelopment Agency (AKA Community Development Commission) will suffer a loss of millions of dollars in annual tax increment funds if this occurs. This act could devastate many local economies and jeopardize the economic recovery of the state, as redevelopment creates and supports jobs and housing, and revitalizes communities.

The City has joined the California Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and League of California Cities (League) in challenging the constitutionality of the state's action in adopting ABXI 26 and ABXI 27. The CRA and League have determined that the taking of these local redevelopment funds to balance the state budget is unconstitutional and a violation of the California redevelopment law Article XVI, Section 16 which requires tax increment to be paid to redevelopment agencies to repay the cost of redevelopment projects and also Proposition 22, which was recently enacted by the voters of California to keep local funds local.

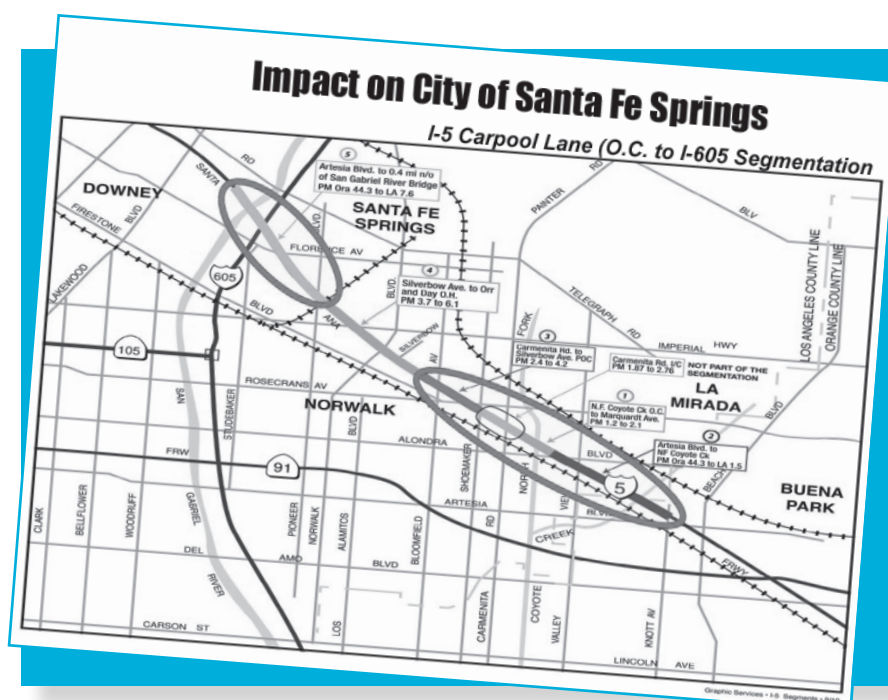
On August 11, the California Supreme Court issued an order in California Redevelopment Assn. v. Matosantos (S194861). The court announced it would hear the lawsuit filed by the CRA/League, which requests that the court declare unconstitutional ABXI 26 and ABXI 27. The court's action is good news for cities in that the court has committed to making a decision before January 15, 2012, which would mean a decision should come prior to Cities/Agencies having to make the first installment of the "extortion payments" that ABXI 27 calls for, which for Santa Fe Springs is \$9.3 million this year and approximately \$2.5 million every year thereafter.

The City is confident the State Supreme Court will ultimately strike down this unconstitutional legislation that ignores the voters' will and that will destroy local economies.

## I-5/Carmenita Project Ready To Start

The I-5/Carmenita Road Interchange Project is the first of six projects that will be completed by the State of California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) with the goal of easing traffic congestion along the I-5 corridor between the Orange County line and the I-605. This project will involve constructing a new overpass where Carmenita Road crosses the I-5, and approximately one mile of the I-5 Freeway will be widened. Traffic will be maintained on the existing road while the new Carmenita overpass is being constructed. Work is expected to start in November of this year, and be completed by 2014. Completion of this project will significantly improve access to the I-5 Freeway and circulation in this area.

CalTrans and the City of Santa Fe Springs are working cooperatively to make sure the general public, affected businesses, and residents, are kept informed about the progress of work. For more information, visit the I-5 Corridor Improvement website at [www.I-5info.com](http://www.I-5info.com). The website is a valuable source of information about the project and provides businesses with the opportunity to register to receive alerts about construction. Residents and businesses may also contact the City's Department of Public Works at 868-0511.



## Red Ribbon Week - October 24-28

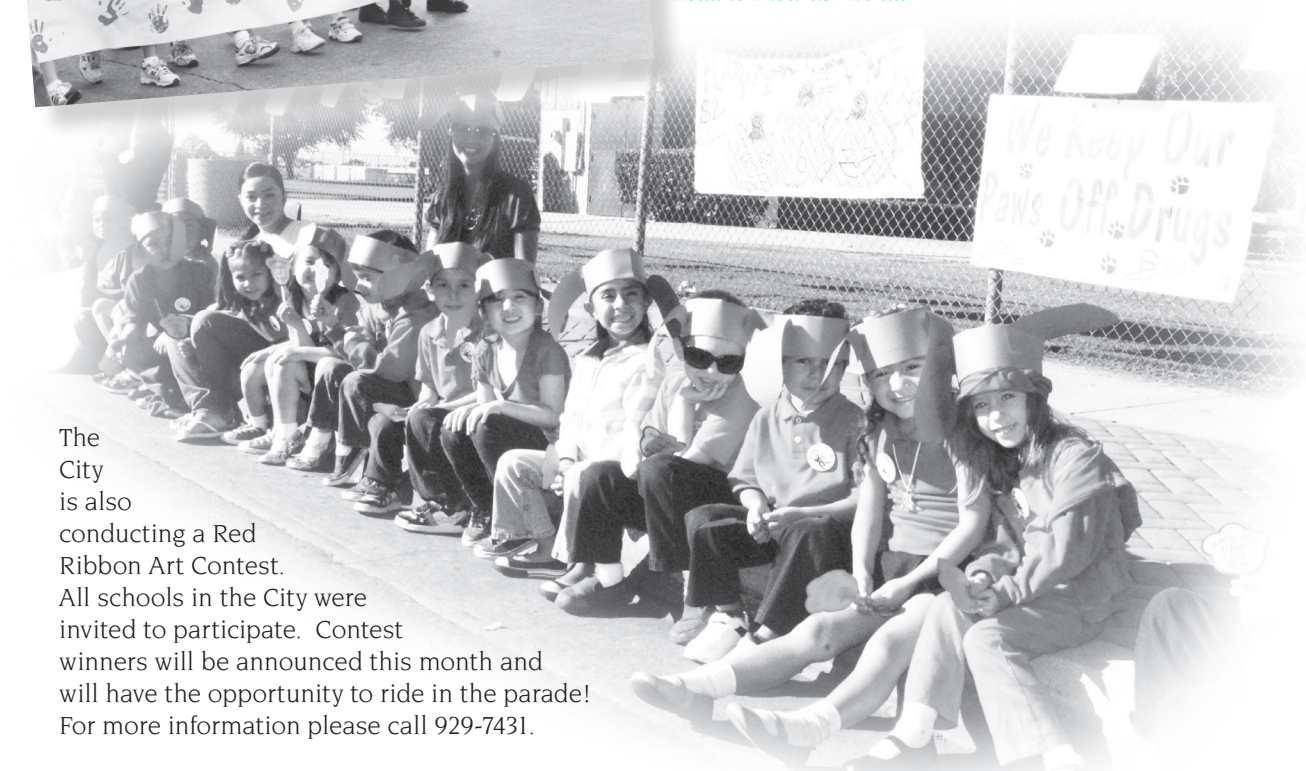
### "Look At Me, I'm Drug Free"



Join City officials, the Whittier Police Department, and local schools and businesses, to kick off the "Say No To Drugs" Campaign on October 26 with the City's Annual Community Parade!

Support a drug-free and proud community by coming out and watching the "Look At Me, I'm Drug Free" Community Parade on Wednesday, October 26 at 9:30 a.m.

*Parade Route: Clarkman Street at Pioneer Blvd. to Jersey Avenue, north on Jersey Avenue through Telegraph Road to Charlesworth Road to Albutis Avenue*



The City is also conducting a Red Ribbon Art Contest. All schools in the City were invited to participate. Contest winners will be announced this month and will have the opportunity to ride in the parade! For more information please call 929-7431.

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## City Council Update

The Community Development Commission and City Council meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at City Hall. For details, call the City Clerk's office at 868-0511, Ext. 7314. For new Council meeting minutes and archives of past minutes, visit [www.santafesprings.org](http://www.santafesprings.org).

### June/July, 2011

- The City Council approved the updated Urban Water Management Plan for 2010-2014.
- The City Council Adopted the City Budget for 2011-2012, including the approval of one-year contracts with employee groups.
- The City Council approved the prohibition of northbound left turns on Orr & Day Road at Longworth Avenue.

### August, 2011

- The City Council approved a Budget Preparation and Adoption Process that encourages public input in developing the City Budget.
- The City Council renewed the contract with Tierra Mia Coffee Company to provide concessionaire services at the Library.
- The City Council cancelled the General Municipal Election scheduled for November 8, 2011, because there were not more candidates than offices to be elected and appointed Bill Rounds and Joe Serrano to the City Council for the 2011-15 term.

## Council Election Cancelled Due to Lack of Challengers

*Mayor Serrano and Mayor Pro Tem Rounds Appointed to Council Terms*

At its meeting of August 23rd, the City Council voted to re-appoint Mayor Joe Serrano and Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Rounds to new, four year terms, expiring in December 2015.

Back in May, the City Council called for a November 8, City Election for the two Council seats set to expire in December of this year (currently held by Mayor Serrano and Mayor Pro Tem Rounds respectively). The nomination period ended on August 12th with only the two incumbents filing to run. Because the number of candidates seeking office did not exceed the number of seats up for election, the Council had the option of directly appointing the two office-seekers. By appointing Mayor Joe Serrano and Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Rounds instead of holding an uncontested election, the City will save \$65,200. Both will be sworn in to their new terms of office on November 10, 2011.



## City Hall Hours

City Hall has resumed its regular hours of operation.

City Hall is open

Monday through Friday (closed every other Friday)  
from 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

## Improve Your Reading Today It's Never Too Late!



The Library's free, adult literacy service is available to all English speakers who are interested in receiving help with reading and writing. A person seeking help is first given an assessment and is then matched with a volunteer tutor. Pairs set their own days and times for tutoring and meet two to three hours a week. We supply a "starter packet" of materials for each pair. Pass this information on to a friend!

### Become a Volunteer

Tutor Volunteers attend a training workshop prior to being matched with a student. They learn how to use the materials and various techniques that will help their student read and write better. Upcoming Adult Tutor Training Workshops will be held October 13, 18, & 20 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (registration required). If you would like to volunteer to help someone, please call the literacy office at 868-7738, Ext 7820.

## First Aid & CPR Classes Offered at Police Services Center

Did you know you don't have to travel very far to learn First Aid and CPR? The City offers First Aid & CPR courses year-round at a nominal fee for residents. Sign up for a class and learn how to recognize an emergency and overcome the reluctance to act; recognize and care for breathing emergencies, heart attack and cardiac arrest in adults, children and infants; identify and control life-threatening bleeding; identify the signs of shock and minimize its effects; and identify and care for sudden illness.

Courses are held at the Police Services Center from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Standard First Aid & CPR classes are offered at a fee of \$17 per class to City residents. A certificate of completion is awarded upon completion of the course(s). Payment is required upon registration.

Classes will be offered on the following days:

Adult CPR	Tuesday, November 15
First Aid	Tuesday, November 22
Infant & Child	Tuesday, November 29

To sign up now or for any questions, please call 409-1850.



## Water Conservation Corner

The City of Santa Fe Springs is joining water agencies throughout Southern California in asking its residential and business customers to help maximize existing local and regional water supplies by voluntarily conserving water.

Each and every Santa Fe Springs resident can do their part to help save water by implementing these 10 easy to follow, "no cost" steps to achieve water savings:

1. Take shorter showers.
2. Turn off the water faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving.
3. Fix leaky faucets, toilets, and pipes.
4. Wash only full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher.
5. Refrigerate drinking water instead of running the faucet until water runs cool.
6. Don't use the toilet for a waste basket.
7. Water lawns early in the mornings and only if needed.
8. Mulch around trees and plants to hold water and cool the soil.
9. Wash your car using a bucket of soapy water followed by a quick hose rinse. Be sure to use a shutoff nozzle.
10. Clean sidewalks and driveways with a broom, not water from a hose.





# Spooktacular Fun!

## SUGAR SKULL WORKSHOP

October 22 at 10 a.m.  
Heritage Park  
Fee: \$2

## HAUNTED HOUSE

October 28-31 from 6-10 p.m.  
Activity Center  
Fee: \$2 (children 12 and under)  
\$4 (13 years and up)

## PUMPKIN CARVING

(for children ages 5-12)  
October 28 at 3:30 p.m.  
All City Parks  
Fee: \$3

## FEARSOME FLICKS AND CREEPY CRAFTS

October 29 from 1-4 p.m.  
City Library  
Free!

## HALLOWEEN FRIGHT FEST

(for active adults 50+)  
October 28 from 9-12 p.m.  
Neighborhood Center  
Fee: \$5

## HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL AND COSTUME PARADE

October 31 from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Los Nietos Park  
Event Free!  
Pictures available for \$2  
Food and drinks available for purchase.

## Employee Spotlight

**Cherie Blake, Program Coordinator**



Have you seen the beautiful posters for the Library's programs? They are all created by Cherie Blake, the Library's award-winning graphic artist, celebrating her 30th year with the City of Santa Fe Springs!

Born and raised in Santa Fe Springs, Cherie had been a frequent visitor to the Library for many years. At age 18, she started working for the Library as a Page shelving books and assisting staff and patrons. She quickly moved up to a part-time clerical position. Cherie became a full-time Library Clerk in 1986 and worked with the public every day for many years.

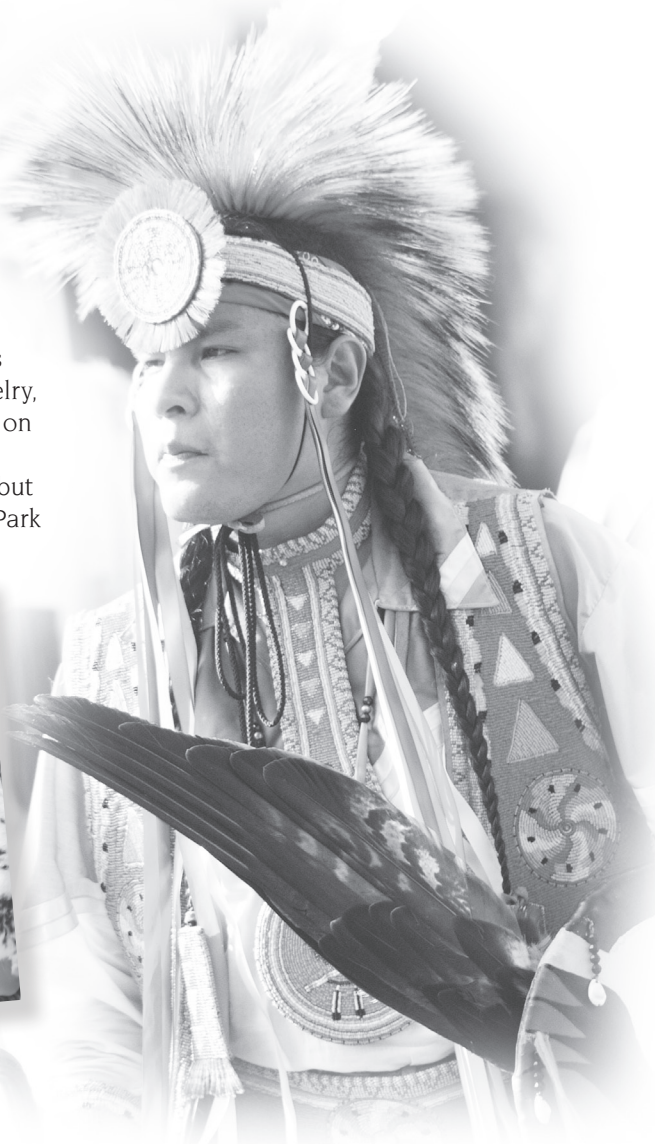
For twenty years, Cherie was the main cataloger for the Library. (The job of library cataloging involves gathering information for the Library's electronic catalog to ensure that residents can find what they are looking for on the shelves.) However, in working her way up through the ranks, Cherie found that she had an eye for design. She was asked to work on posters and flyers for the Library's programs and has been doing it ever since: "My supervisors were generous in allowing me to learn new skills on the job." In addition to creating her eye-catching designs, Cherie also assists with programs and special events.

Cherie has won awards for her designs. She has won an award for her First Friday marketing campaign from the American Library Association (ALA). In 2006 and 2007, she won multiple Awards of Excellence from the California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS).

Cherie is always looking for more ways to increase her knowledge and use her creativity: "Truly, I love the opportunity I'm given every day to be creative and I get excited at the prospect of a new project to work on – I enjoy my job everyday!" When she is not serving the City of Santa Fe Springs, Cherie loves spending time with her family (and new baby grand-niece) and her two adorable white poodles.

## Annual Pow Wow November 5 - 6

Heritage Park will once again be the site for the annual Pow Wow. The event will celebrate Native American life through dancing, singing, drumming, and food. Exhibitors will be on hand to offer native made products such as jewelry, clothing, blankets, and pottery. The Pow Wow will be held on Saturday, November 5th from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m., and Sunday, November 6th from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This event is hosted but not funded by the City of Santa Fe Springs. Call Heritage Park at 946-6476 for more information.



## Class Registration is Just a Click Away!

You may now register for any of our recreational classes online from the comfort of your home or office.

An account needs to be activated before you can access online registration. To activate an online account please visit the Parks and Recreation Services office at Town Center Hall. Please note that proof of residency will be required. To register online simply visit [www.santafesprings.org](http://www.santafesprings.org). Go to online services, follow the simple steps on the form, and register and pay through a secure website in just a few minutes!





P.O. BOX 2120 • SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90670-2120  
For information regarding this newsletter, call 868-0511.  
[www.santafesprings.org](http://www.santafesprings.org)

#### Your City Council

Joseph D. Serrano, Sr. .... Mayor  
William K. Rounds..... Mayor Pro Tem  
Louie González..... Councilmember  
Richard J. Moore ..... Councilmember  
Juanita Trujillo..... Councilmember



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## Library Offers Databases To Help Get You The Answers You Need

Looking for auto repair information? Need to pass an exam? Researching a health issue? The City Library has databases that will help answer your questions. All of the Library's online databases are available from your home or office with a valid Santa Fe Springs City Library card. They include Reference USA, Career Transitions, Chilton Library, and Price It! Antiques and Collectibles Pricing, among many more. Call the Library at 868-7738 for more information.



## 46th Annual Citizenship Awards Luncheon Celebrating 46 Years of Volunteers! Wednesday, November 16th



Past Citizen of the Year recipients

The City of Santa Fe Springs and the Chamber of Commerce are pleased to honor the 2011 Citizens of the Year for their extraordinary contributions at a City hosted luncheon, Wednesday, November 16, at Town Center Hall.

The Citizenship Awards Committee, made up of several members of the Santa Fe Springs residential and business communities will select this year's recipients. The winners will be introduced at the first City Council meeting in November and later recognized at the awards luncheon. Attendance to the luncheon is available at no charge to residential and

business citizens of Santa Fe Springs beginning Tuesday, November 1st. Space is limited. Contact the Chamber of Commerce at 944-1616 to make reservations or register online at [sfschamber.com](http://sfschamber.com).

## Join the Santa Fe Springs Chamber/League Youth Enrichment Fund Mentoring Team

The Santa Fe Springs Chamber/League Youth Enrichment Fund is looking for business people who have a desire to provide young students with support, counsel, friendship, reinforcement, and constructive examples. By becoming a mentor, you will have the opportunity to be a role model and encourage a student to be successful by providing them guidance in helping them plan for his/her futures. Through activities such as Job Shadow Day, College Visits and Business Breakfasts, students get "hands on" exposure to reliable role models in a professional environment while developing interpersonal skills, broadening horizons, and learning about life and business. The Mentor Program is a 9-month structured program, run in partnership with Santa Fe High School. All activities take place from September 2011 through June 2012. The qualifications required are minimum! All that is needed is a friendly attitude and a desire to positively influence the life of a young person. If you are interested in participating in the Mentor Program, call the Chamber office at 944-1616.



Mentors and mentees enjoying last year's Business Breakfast at Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital

### Cars 4 Causes



Donate your Car, Truck, RV or Boat to the Santa Fe Springs Chamber/League Youth Enrichment Fund.

You can donate your car, running or not, to Cars4Causes. Tell them you want the proceeds to go to The Santa Fe Springs Chamber/League Youth Enrichment Fund. We benefit from the donation and you get a tax deduction.

1-800-766-CARE (1-800-766-2273)  
[www.cars4causes.net](http://www.cars4causes.net)