



THE WEEKLY COUNCIL INFORMATION REPORT

April 2, 2021

THINGS ARE HOPPIN' AND POPPIN' IN PARKS & RECREATION

THE EASTER BUNNY IS FINALLY HERE!

Join us for our Easter Egg-Stravaganza set for this week which is held April 1st through April 4th during regular Zoo hours, Thursday & Friday from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and Saturday & Sunday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Children may also participate in an Easter egg scavenger hunt as goodies are hidden throughout the Zoo. Saturday, April 3rd, there will be a special guest appearance by the Easter Bunny. Special appearance times will follow.

Admission fees are: \$3 per adult (age 16 – 62), \$2 per child (age 5 – 15), \$1.50 for seniors (age 62+), and children 5 and under are free. The event takes place at the Applegate Park Zoo, 1045 W. 25th St., Merced.

The event flyer is attached. For more information, please call (209) 385-6235.



FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO WELCOMES PARKS & RECREATION & ZOO STAFF

The Parks and Recreation and Zoo staff, along with City Engineer Michael Beltran, were treated to a rare Q & A session with members of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo management team. Mr. Beltran, Lead Zookeeper Donna McDowell, Zookeeper Josh Moreno, Recreation Supervisor Michelle Reid, and Recreation Coordinators Irene Segura and Lam Kindavong visited the Chaffee Zoo and were welcomed by an assortment of Who's-Who, including the General Curator Lyn Myers, Chief Operating Officer Amos Morris, the Marketing, Programs and Events Managers, as well as the Chief People Officer.

Discussion topics ranged from animal enrichment, training programs and staffing needs to implementing education programs, and improving marketing strategies. Chaffee Zoo staff enthusiastically answered City questions and provided invaluable information on how to enhance and improve the Applegate Zoo. The informational sessions were capped off with a leisurely stroll around the zoo where staff gathered more ideas on programs and improvements.

It was no surprise that our Lead Zookeeper received a special visit from one of the ducks at the local pond.



ZOO RECEIVES KIND GESTURE FROM ABEL’S GUTTER CLEANING

Zoo staff would like to extend a HUGE thank you to Abel’s Gutter Cleaning for their donated services. The Applegate Zoo received a bit of a facelift this week when Abel’s Gutter Cleaning donated services to clean and repair the gutters at the zoo. Hector and his team spent almost two days removing leaves from the gutters of the buildings and exhibits, as well as clearing debris and leaves from the rooftops. Tree limbs were trimmed, holes were patched and the broken gutter above the bobcat exhibit was finally repaired. Some of the gutters were beyond repair, so Hector and his team will return in the near future to replace them with donated new materials.

Hector wanted to give back to the community and to a place that has provided his family with fond memories and fun times. He “saw the need and wanted to help”. Thank you again to Abel’s Gutter Cleaning for your generous support of the Applegate Zoo.

Gutter Cleaning – Before & After:



Leaves Removal from Exhibits – Before & After:



Leaves Removal from Rooftop – Before & After:



POLICE UPDATES

LT. BRIAN RODRIGUEZ TO RETIRE



Lt. Brian Rodriguez will officially retire from the Merced Police Department on April 6, 2021.

Brian has spent his entire adult life in service to his country as a combat Marine, his State as a Correctional Peace Officer, and the cities of Stockton and Merced as a Police Officer. Brian’s contributions to the safety and security of Merced during the last 17 years have been both frequent and significant.

Congratulations to Lt. Brian Rodriguez on his career, his accomplishments, and his legacy.

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

April is Autism Awareness Month, the Merced Police Department and the Merced Police Officers Association (MPOA) supports the cause.

Chief Cavallero issued a memo to police personnel announcing, “[April] begins World Autism Month – an observance that this agency and its MPOA membership enthusiastically supports.

By participating, even in a small way, we’re joining parents, families, and communities around the world in an effort to support acceptance, understanding, and inclusion of those with autism.

Uniformed personnel may wear the approved Autism Awareness should patch effective immediately (for the month of April). Some patrol vehicles and motorcycles will be vinyl wrapped in the “puzzle” graphic next week. This effort is funded through private donations.

Personnel can expect our participation to continue through at least the end of the month.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this very worthwhile cause.”

The Chief’s memo is attached.



FIRE STAFF TO THE RESCUE

PET OXYGEN MASKS HELP SAVE PUPPIES

The Merced Fire Department staff is thankful to Girl Scout Troop 3003 for reaching out to them in 2018 and donating pet oxygen masks.

On April 30th, those masks were put to good use when firefighters responded to a structural fire in which they found a litter of one-week old puppies. They used the pet oxygen masks to successfully revive all six puppies!



PUBLIC WORKS IN ACTION

TREE TRIMMING AT TEAL COURT & DAVENPORT PARK

Tree trimming was performed on Teal Court and continues at Davenport this week. The Public Works tree crew also repaired irrigation at Davenport Park.

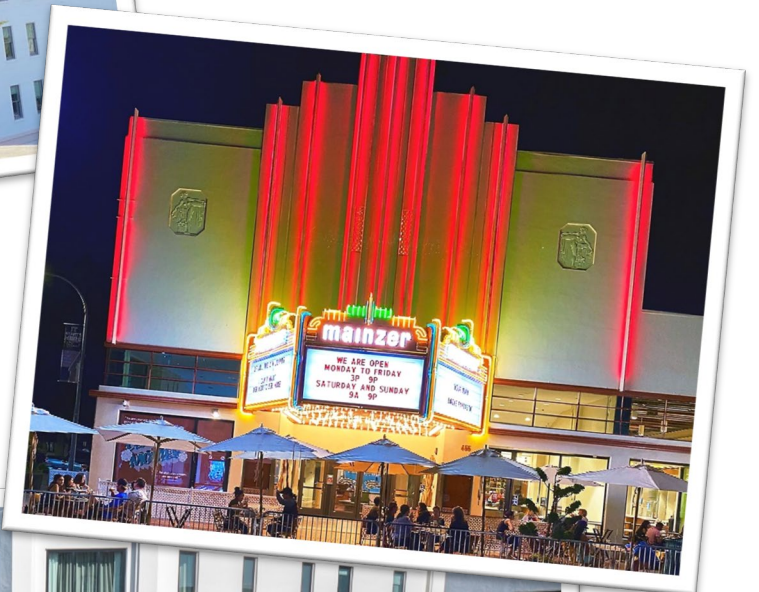


CLEANUP AT “R” STREET AND SANTA FE/HWY 59

Public Works crews, with assistance from the DART team, cleaned under the R Street undercrossing and in the area of Santa Fe & Highway 59 last week.



THE NEW VIEW OF DOWNTOWN MERCED



UNITY RALLY

A Youth-Led Unity Rally will be held this Saturday, April 3, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. to address the uprising in Anti-Asian hate crime and the current climate of our AAPI community in Merced. The unity rally and march will begin at the steps of City Hall to the Merced County Courthouse Museum. The event will conclude with a community healing circle at the Courthouse Museum.

If you have any questions about the event, please contact event organizer Bouasvanh Lor at bouasvanhlor@yahoo.com

The Unity Rally flyer is attached.

NEW BUSINESSES COMING SOON

The Merced County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce announced the ribbon cutting of three new businesses in April, they are Tequila Restaurant, Queens Hair Palace Beauty Supply, and Haven Hair & Beauty.

The flyers announcing the ribbon cutting events are attached.

MERCED COMMUNITY CALENDAR:

Make the most of our community calendar, check it out on a regular basis for upcoming events:

<https://mercedcommunitycalendar.org/>

REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE

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CITY OF MERCED PARKS AND RECREATION

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA!

AT APPLGATE PARK ZOO!

Join us for some Easter fun!

EASTER EGG SCAVENGER HUNT

April 1st - April 4th during regular zoo hours!

Special guest appearance by the

EASTER BUNNY

Saturday April 3rd!

EASTER EGG ACTIVITY KITS ARE AVAILABLE
TO PURCHASE FOR \$5 WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



MEMORANDUM



CHIEF OF POLICE
THOMAS I. CAVALLERO

To: Police Personnel
From: Chief Tom Cavallero *all*
Date: 4/1/21
Subject: Autism Awareness Month

Today begins World Autism Month – an observance that this agency and its MPOA membership enthusiastically supports.

By participating, even in a small way, we're joining parents, families and communities around the world in an effort to support acceptance, understanding and inclusion of those with Autism.

Uniformed personnel may wear the approved Autism Awareness shoulder patch effective immediately. Some patrol vehicles and motorcycles will be vinyl wrapped in the "puzzle" graphic next week. This effort is funded through private donations.

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Thank you, in advance, for your participation in this very worthwhile cause.



**AUTISM
AWARENESS
MONTH**

YOUTH LED

Unity Rally



April 3rd, 2021 @1 pm

Meet at the steps of Merced City Hall
March to Merced Courthouse

#UniteUS

#StopAsianHate

In Partnership with:



**Lao Association
of Merced**
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GRAND OPENING

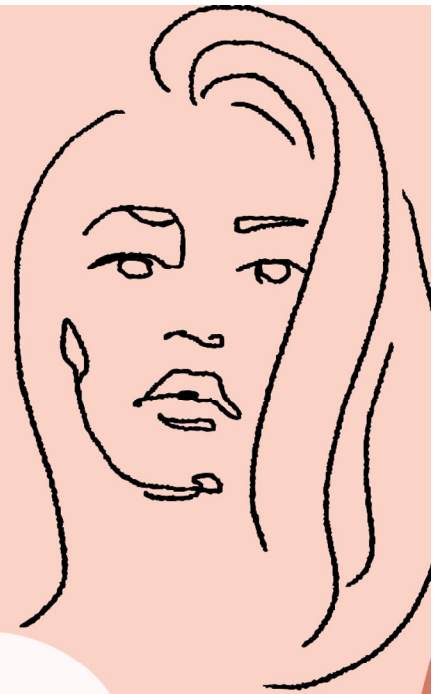
TEQUILA RESTAURANT

Merced County Hispanic Chamber
of Commerce
Cordially invites you at
Ribbon Cutting.
April 9th
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM



**260 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340**

QUEENS HAIR PALACE *Beauty Supply*



Merced County Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce

Cordially invites you
to a Ribbon Cutting
April 16th
12:00 PM -2:00 PM



1850 Yosemite Pwy.
Merced, CA 95341



RIBBON CUTTING

HEAVEN
HAIR AND
BEAUTY

Merced County
Hispanic Chamber
of Commerce
Cordially invites
you to a Ribbon
Cutting Event at
Haven Hair and
Beauty!
April 27th, 2021
12:00 pm -
2:00 pm
2804 G St Merced,
CA 95340

