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MANAGER'S BI-MONTHLY







FREE SPIRIT BICYCLE GARDEN A SAFE PLACE TO RIDE

As a young kid growing up on the innercity streets of San Francisco, I can remember saving my hard-earned money from my two paper routes so that I could purchase my first ever shining "Free Spirit," **10-speed bicycle** from the Sears and Roebuck catalog book. Although I loved riding my bike through the city, I, along with the neighborhood children, quickly realized how dangerous it was to dart in and out of traffic. Yet, it was thrilling knowing that my bike was my only mode of transportation, and I didn't leave home without it.

On May 25, 2021, the City of Antioch introduced and embraced an innovative and exciting landscape urban plan called the "**Bicycle Garden**." In partnership with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the Street Smarts Diablo Safe Routes to School programs, the city proposed the development of a **state-ofthe-art** Bicycle Garden. Bicycle safety is one of the top priorities for the mayor and the city council.

The proposed newly developed Bicycle Garden would be a permanent, hands-on bicycle training facility, with a free and safe, fully contained obstacle course within an existing Antioch Park. In an urban setting, the Bicycle Garden would be designed like a **miniature city streetscape**, which will provide a safe place for youth and adults to ride bikes and learn the rules of the road. The Bicycle Garden Park would consist of small streets that weave in and around designated landscape areas with smaller scaled versions of **real-life traffic features**. This includes signals, traffic signs, realistic road markings, painted bus stops, bike lanes, and stationary train tracks.

Surveyors have identified, recommended, and ideally ranked five **potential parks** locations as follows: 1) Prewett Park 39%. 2) Chichibu Park 22%, 3) Gentrytown Park 12%, 4) Eagleridge Park 11%, and 5) Meadow Creek Park 6%. After 140 participants in a public survey, several workshop groups discussion, and workshop polling, the parks were narrowed down to three final recommended park locations: Prewett, Chichibu, and Gentrytown.

Identifying these **wonderful parks** as a possible location for our future Bicycle Garden Park is both exciting and reminiscent of a time when young kids could dream of getting on their new and shining bike and riding in a bike paradise, where their spirits can run free. Antioch Bicycle Garden will become **Antioch's safe place** where are residents can ride free.



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FENTANYL DANGERS

Fentanyl is one of the most dangerous synthetic drugs currently in circulation. According to the DEA, fentanyl is a **synthetic opioid** drug approximately 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin. More recently, there has been a re-emergence of trafficking, distribution, and abuse of illicitly produced fentanyl and fentanyl analogs with an associated dramatic increase in **overdose fatalities**, ranging from 2,666 in 2011 to 31,335 in 2018.

Illegal fentanyl is sold in the following forms: as a powder, dropped on blotter paper-like small candies, in eye droppers or nasal sprays, or made into pills that look like actual prescription opioids. In the event anyone encounters a substance believed to be fentanyl, please **DO NOT TOUCH IT OR APPROACH IT** and immediately dial 911.







ANTIOCH POLICE DEPARTMENT





RECREATION DEPARTMENT

DANCE AND TUMBLING

Fun with Dance & Tumbling is offered on Saturday mornings! You and your little one can join this all-abilities class while we explore creative movement, games and activities and learn basic dance and tumbling skills. Gymnastics and Ballet classes are also offered. Our classes incorporate activities to enhance motor skills, balance, swinging, jumping, flexibility and strength. Come in and sign up, or you can register online!



SENIORS MUSIC AND DANCING

The Antioch Senior Center is set to spring into summer with music and dancing at 213 F Street on Thursdays from 10:00 – 11:00 am! For more information, call (925) 778-1158.



LEPRECHAUN VISIT!

On St. Patrick's Day, preschoolers had a special visit from the leprechaun they tried to catch with their trap! This tricky leprechaun escaped with his pot of gold after he was scolded for leaving such a mess in the classroom! Special thanks to our lucky charm of a Sports Recreation Supervisor, Troy Faulk, for bringing extra merriment to the classroom.





ANIMAL SERVICES





IT'S HIP TO CHIP!

You may be cool, but are you as cool as Jax and his mom?

Jax's mom recently visited us to register Jax and purchase his **Antioch Dog License**. While at the shelter, Jax's mom made an appointment to have Jax microchipped the next day. Rocking his **blue mohawk**, Jax was all smiles when he left because now he knows he has a much greater chance of finding his way home if he gets lost.

Do you want to be as cool as Jax and his mom? Purchase your Antioch Dog License, and get your pet microchipped today! We can **microchip cats too!** Call the shelter at (925)779-6989 to set up an appointment. Having your pet microchipped at the Antioch Animal Shelter costs **\$25.00**, and our microchips come with lifetime registration so that you can update or change your contact information for free.

If you are already as cool as Jax and your pet is microchipped, be sure that your contact information is **up-to-date** with your microchip company. Need to update, and know your number? Enter it on the following site to find the company it is associated with **here**.

If you don't know your microchip number, set up an appointment with the shelter to have your pet scanned. We can find the number for you. Have questions about microchips? Call us at (925) 779-6989 to learn more.

HUMAN RESOURCES

HIRES/RECLASSIFICATIONS/PROMOTIONS

• **Anthony Garcia** was hired as a Customer Service Representative for the Finance Department on March 14, 2022.

Please join me in welcoming this employee to his new position with the City of Antioch.

Currently open recruitments include:

- Police Officer Lateral (continuous)
- Police Academy Graduate/Student (continuous)
- Police Trainee (continuous)
- Water Treatment Plant Instrument Technician
- Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
- General Laborer

There are always exciting career opportunities with the City of Antioch. The City's open recruitments can be found on the **Human Resources page** of the City webs. Click on Job Opportunities or Promotional Opportunities, click on the job Position, click on Apply.



PLANNING COMMISSION



On April 6, the Planning Commission will consider the United

Pacific Gas Station project. The applicant is requesting the approval of a General Plan Amendment, Final Development Plan, Use Permit, and Design Review to construct a Gas Station, Car Wash, and Convenience store at 5200 Lone Tree Way. The project consists of a 3,200 square foot convenience store, an attached car wash of 1,125 square feet, a fuel canopy with eight fuel dispensers, and related site improvements and landscaping.



TENANT/LANDLORD MEDIATION ASSISTANCE AND FAIR HOUSING

The City contracts with ECHO Housing to provide Tenant/Landlord services for Antioch residents. These services include assistance with eviction notices, landlord mediation, **connection to COVID rental assistance**, and limited legal assistance for lower income households.

Contact ECHO at (925)732-3919 or **(855) ASK-ECHO** or (855) 275-3246. They are located at 301 W. 10th Street in Antioch. Visit their website at: https://www.echofairhousing.org/

CCWD'S LANDSCAPING WEBINAR SERIES

Join CCWD for a single webinar or all three opportunities! The upcoming webinars include:

- Water-wise Landscape Design and Plant Selection – March 30, 2022
- How to Remove your Lawn DIY
 Sheet Mulching April 13, 2022
- Drip Irrigation 101: How to Install a Drip Irrigation System – April 27, 2022

Webinar Sign-Up Learn more and sign-up at ccwater.com/441.

For additional landscaping inspiration this spring, make sure to check out the **Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour**.

Learn more about CCWD's Lawn to Garden Rebate Program at <u>ccwater.com/RebatesCCWD</u>







CITY CLERK HISTORY

In honor of **Antioch's 150th anniversary**, here is some history about early Antioch City Council Meetings!

The Honorable **Roswell Butler Hard** was elected as Contra Costa County Supervisor 1866-1868 and Sheriff from 1867 and 1869. He built his large **two-story brick house** on Front (First) Street in 1869 using bricks from Antioch's first brick factory. It was considered the nicest and most costly home in the area at the time. It served as the **meeting place** for the first board of trustees (called the city council today) for the newly incorporated City of Antioch. Roswell Butler Hard was elected mayor at this meeting! Known now as the "Roswell Butler Hard House," this **historic building** is owned by the City of Antioch. Although it remains vacant, there are plans to **renovate** the building and use it for satellite city hall offices.

CITY COUNCIL REDISTRICTING

The City of Antioch is redistricting after the **2020 Census** count. The City Council will be holding hearings to receive public input on where district lines should be drawn.

For more information email **redistricting@antiochca.gov** or call (925)779-7008

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Participate either in-person or virtually. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The City of Antioch encourages residents to **become involved** in our local community. One way to do so is to serve in an advisory capacity on one of the City's various commissions, boards and committees. For more information and to check openings, visit: www.bit.ly/ApplyAntioch

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE









DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PREWETT WATER PARK REFRESHER!

Send in the CROWDS!!! We are steadily preparing **for the return of our families and friends** at the Prewett Water Park located at 4701 Lone Tree Way, Antioch. The old concrete is being jack-hammered, and new concrete installed. Stairs are being given new life to **provide safe access** in and around the water park. Pathways? They are being primed, painted, and prepared for the prancing of happy feet and pool edges reinforced for safety! **We're reopening Memorial Day weekend** and rolling out the red carpet! We can't wait to see you!



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CUT THE COMMUTE

The Economic Development Departments of East Contra Costa County cities of Antioch, Brentwood, Oakley, and Pittsburg are **collaborating** on an economic development initiative to help residents "Cut the Commute." The team is asking residents to **identify their commute** destination and other information in a one-minute survey to target businesses with a high concentration of employees in



the region to consider expanding or relocating to East Contra Costa County.

The Economic Development Departments of East Contra Costa County know that many of its residents commute daily to offices in and around the greater Bay Area. Due to the pandemic, employers are now **considering new ways** to address the needs of their employees, including deciding where employees report to work daily. The information collected during the survey period will provide valuable insight to the cities, and the **overall initiative** is intended to decrease commute times for East Contra Costa County residents by attracting larger employers of existing residents to expand in the region. For more information click link <u>here</u>.



OPEN REWARDS PROGRAM

Bludot and the **City of Antioch** have partnered to launch Open Rewards, a city-wide rewards program to incentivize consumers to shop local in the City of Antioch! An App for consumers is **here** to download! How it works? When you shop at

Antioch, participating small businesses in the program, consumers will earn 5% credit. Consumers can spend their accumulated rewards at any participating business in Antioch! The App shows a list of small businesses that are part of the program. We have over 45 businesses participating in the program.

For Customers Phone App for Open Rewards download from:

- Apple Store
- Google Play

If you are a business, please register for the full program **HERE** and be listed as a participant.





RAPPENINGS HAPPENINGS



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE! LEARN ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES AT OPPORTUNITY JUNCTION

Community partners are invited to find out what's new with Opportunity Junction on Thursday, April 14th at 10:00 a.m. The event will be online, via Zoom so you don't need to worry about the commute! This event is a great opportunity for community partners to learn about the job training programs and other services offered at no cost to Contra Costa residents. It's also an opportunity to learn about your organization and the services and resources you have available to the community.

Register below if you would be able to attend this virtual event. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Register **here:**

Phone: (925)775-0319 <u>Web: **https://www.opportunityjunction.org**</u>





EL CAMPANIL THEATER

602 West 2nd Street Antioch (925) 757-9500

Best of SF Comedy Competition Saturday, April 2, 2022 | 8:00 pm ORCHESTRA: \$30, LOGE: \$25, OPERA: \$20

Back again after a stellar show this last January, don't miss these hilarious finalists from the famed San Francisco Stand-Up Comedy Competition all together for one night at El Campanil Theatre!



Laurie Sings A Song For You

A CABARET CONCERT INSPIRED BY THE MUSIC OF KAREN CARPENTER

Saturday, March 26, 2022 | 2:00 pm Sunday, March 27, 2022 | 2:00 pm Adults \$35 | Seniors \$30 | Youth \$20

featuring special guest vocalists and

Singer and actress **Laurie Roldan** shares personal stories and memories in an **uplifting afternoon** woven through well-known Carpenters songs,

musicians.

Laurie Sings a Song for You Here and the Song Association Comparison of the Song Association Compar

