# City Manager's **Bi-Monthly Update**

## ANTIOCH CALIFORNIA





SEAN WRIGHT

JOY MOTTS





IIM DAVIS

**ARNE SIMONSEN** 

## Message Of Thanks

After years of dedicated service to Antioch citizens, I would like to thank Mayor Sean Wright, Mayor Pro Tem Joy Motts, City Clerk Arne Simonsen, and City Treasurer Jim **Davis**. It has been an incredible honor and great privilege to serve our residents with such **dedicated** public servants.

Thank you for the time, talent, and expertise you have given to the City of Antioch. You have made a difference through your hard work and leadership.

## Welcoming Our Newly Elected City Council

On behalf of the City of Antioch, I would like to welcome our new Mayor, Lamar Thorpe, Mayor Pro Tem Monica E. Wilson (District 4), Council Member Tamisha Walker (District 1), Council Member Mike Barbanica (District 2), and Council Member Lori Ogorchock (District 3). I would also like to welcome our newly elected City Clerk Elizabeth Householder and City Treasurer Lauren Posada. Congratulations to each of you on your successful campaign and election by Antioch voters!

As a City, we are excited to work with this new leadership team and continue to create **opportunities** for Antioch to thrive in 2020 and beyond!



LAMAR THORPE Mavor



MONICA E. WILSON Mayor Pro Tem

LAUREN POSADA

City Treasurer



TAMISHA WALKER Council Member





LORI OGORCHOCK Council Member Council Member





EILIZABETH HOUSEHOLDER City Clerk











## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Season of Giving**

The Antioch Police Department is feeling this **Season of Giving**! Every year, our personnel and their families put together a "giving event" for those in our community who are struggling and need assistance during the Holiday Season. During this event, we provide food and cold weather gear, and small gifts for the kids. As with many things this year, the pandemic has affected our abilities to raise funds. Knowing the need would be great this year, we put a call out to our community for help, and their support has been amazing!

From knitting hats and blankets to **donations big and small**, our community members, businesses, and churches have been very generous. They will allow us the ability to make this Holiday Season a little brighter for many families.



#### **Meet your Beat!**

Meet Officer Eric Rombough. He has been with Antioch PD since February of 2017. Before coming to Antioch, he began his career at Alameda County Sheriff's Office where he worked corrections, gang classification and patrol. Eric played college soccer and also professionally in Bolivia prior to taking over his family's construction company. He launched his law enforcement later in life at age 32. Officer Rombough is currently assigned to the **Problem Oriented Policing Team** (POP Team) as well as the department's SWAT team and Gang Unit.



When not at work, Eric enjoys spending time with his family that includes his four dogs - two Great Danes, a Chiweenie and a Formosan Mountain Dog. He also enjoys wine tasting and cooking using his Traeger smoker. A funny fact about Eric is that our dispatchers tease him and use his "mumbling" on the radio to test new dispatchers. Now that he is on dayshift it is not quite as difficult a test as when he used to work graveyard shifts!

## **PD- ANIMAL SERVICES**

## Pet Food Express Doubling Fundraising Dollars Nov 23-Dec 27

Need a further excuse to splurge? **FRIENDS** by Pet Food Express is extending their holiday cheer by doubling their donation to Antioch Animal Services. Throughout the year, we receive 4% of everything you buy while using the link, but from **Nov 23-Dec 27**, they are doubling that to 8%! Please support us by shopping online using this URL:

<u>https://www.petfood.express/holiday-shopping-spree/?p=ANTHAS</u> You save while we receive an 8% donation from Pet Food Express on all of your purchases.





## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

## Hires/Re-classifications/Promotions:

- Ronald Chandra was hired as an Operations Supervisor for Public Works on 11/9/20
- Cathy Marlow was hired as a Police Records Technician for the Police Department on 11/16/20
- Erin Lewis was hired as a Police Records Technician for the Police Department on 12/7/20
- Christine Raposo was hired as a Public Works Technician for Public Works on 11/23/20.
- **Phyllis Guillory** was hired as an Administrative Assistant for Public Works on 11/23/20
- Jazmin Ridley was hired as the Unhoused Resident Coord. for the City Managers Dept. on 12/1/20
- Emily Arredondo was hired as an Administrative Assistant for the City Clerk on 12/7/20

Please join me in welcoming these employees to their new positions with the City of Antioch.

## **Currently open recruitment's include:**

- Police Officer Lateral (continuous)
- Police Academy Graduate/Student (continuous)
- Police Trainee (continuous)
- Assistant City Engineer

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- Operations Supervisor (Public Works)
- Water Treatment Plant Operator
- Collection Systems Supervisor
- Senior Civil Engineer
- Youth Services Network Manager

## There are always exciting career opportunities with the City of Antioch.

The City's recruitment openings can be found on the Human Resources page <u>here</u>. Click on Job Opportunities or Promotional Opportunities, click on the Job Position, click on Apply.



## **Recreation Guide**

Antioch's **Winter/Spring 2021** Recreation Guide is coming – Wednesday, December 9th! Residents will be able to check out all of the Winter/Spring classes and programs on the Recreation Department webpage.

This online guide can be accessed anytime at your convenience. There are various class offerings, both **virtual and in-person**, and all in-person classes and programs have been modified to reflect current health and safety measures; facial coverings and social distancing are required.

## **Recreation Guide**

Unifying and strengthening our community.

Opportunity is limitless here. Winter/Spring 2021

In Antioch, opportunity is everywhere. It's our community centers and water park, our recreation sports and programs, our classes and parks. It's our services for youth, services for families and services for seniors. It's the connection we share,

## **RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

#### Antioch Trails Challenge Concludes on December 31

The City of Antioch Trails Challenge is an invitation to explore the local trails, exercise, and recreate **while maintaining social distance**. The Trails Challenge is free, designed for all fitness levels, and is a self-guided program to complete on your schedule.

Big 5 Sports **has partnered** with the Antioch Recreation Department, sponsoring this program by donating gift cards to their stores. Submit your completion log by December 31 to be entered to win a **Gift Card** to the Big 5 Sports on Lone Tree Way. Check out the Trails Challenge Website at

https://www.antiochca.gov/ recreation/trails-challenge/

for trail information, safety tips, and to submit your Trails Challenge Completion Log.



## A Great Season of Programming

The Fall season of programs and classes ended with hearts full of gratitude on November 19th! **Antioch youth and residents** successfully enjoyed recreational activities in a new way. Preschool Academy safely learned academics, creatively crafted projects, spaciously played games, and celebrated friendships in their learning pods. Tai Chi and Chi Gong gave our participants and active older adults a **sense of normalcy** through health and wellness classes.

In contrast, Outdoor Max Martial Arts classes **provided positive structure**, selfesteem building, and youth confidence. Art classes were a creative outlet for school-aged youth and teens to socialize and get inspired. Good times were had, and **great memories** were made during challenging times.





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## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

## Building

Building activity has been very steady in the City of Antioch even as many industries have slowed or stopped altogether, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A comparison of construction activity in 2019 and 2020 shows that construction remains a very busy industry in the City of Antioch. Here are some highlights:

- From January 1, 2019 until October 31, 2019, the City of Antioch issued a total of **2,995** building permits.
- Of these, **207** building permits were for new housing units.
- From January 1, 2020 until October 31, 2020, the City of Antioch issued a total of **2,558** building permits.
- Of these, **239** building permits were for new housing units.
- Though overall building permits declined by **14.6%**, the number of building permits for new housing units increased by **15.5%**.
- The timeline of Building Permit issuance in 2020 is in the following table:

Month	Housing Units
January	20
February	38
March	
April	0
May	15
June	8
July	20
August	35
September	39
October	44



#### **Building Continued**

The top builders during this time period are shown in the following table:

Builder F	lousing Units
Benchmark Communities	50
Meritage Homes	45
Davidon Homes	44
K Hovanian Co. of CA.	35
Albert D. Seeno Constructio	on 21
Denovo Homes	16
Arroyo Cap VI LLC	15
West Coast Home Builders	9

We anticipate that the current housing demand will continue as interest rates remain low and the City of Antioch has a number of shovel-ready projects available. During this time, we also expect that many residents of inner Bay Area communities are considering Antioch as they adjust to remote working and reduced reliance on set office locations. They can now pursue the high quality of life that living in Antioch affords.



## **CITY CLERK**

## **City Council Meetings**

City Council Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. City Council Agendas, including Staff Reports are typically posted onto our City's Website 72 hours before each Council Meeting. To be notified when the agenda packets are posted onto our City's Website, simply click on this link: **https://www.antiochca.gov/notifications/** and enter your e-mail address to subscribe. To view the current and past agenda information, click on the following link:

https://www.antiochca.gov/government/agendas-and-minutes/citycouncil/.

## **November 3, 2020 General Election Results**

https://www.cocovote.us/election-results-november-3-2020/

#### November 3, 2020 General Election – Nominees for Public Office:

- Mayor Lamar Thorpe
- Council Member District 1 Tamisha Walker
- Council Member District 2 Michael Barbanica
- Council Member District 3 Lori Ogorchock
- Council Member District 4 Monica E. Wilson
- City Treasurer Lauren Posada
- City Clerk Elizabeth Householder

#### **Message from City Clerk**

It has been an honor to serve the residents of Antioch as your City Clerk for the past 8 years and become **Antioch's first Master Municipal Clerk**. I am proud of our Deputy City Clerk, Christina Garcia for becoming a Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) and working on becoming a Master Municipal Clerk (MMC). After it was approved 14 years ago, the City Clerk's Office is finally getting its

Administrative Assistant to better serve our residents. As the 259th largest City in the United States and the 54th largest City in California, the workload and population have significantly increased since 1872. After 24 years in the United States Navy, 14 years in the private sector and 16 years serving the residents of Antioch, I look forward to my retirement and thank the loyal City employees for their continued dedication to our residents.

Respectfully, Arne Simonsen, MMC City Clerk







## BART Bay

Bay Area Rapid Transit

#### **BART Passenger Bulletin**

As part of the ongoing Antioch Station Parking Expansion Project, modifications will be made along Slatten Ranch Road and a concise portion of Hillcrest Avenue to improve bicycle and pedestrian access to the Antioch BART Station. Visit our website to read the complete bulletin https://www.antiochca.gov/fc/c ommunity/announcements/bar t-notice.pdf

#### **Capital Improvements**

The water main replacement has been completed on Shaddick Drive and the adjacent streets. The crew will now begin the permanent paving on those streets and the previously completed Putnam Street and surrounding residential streets. The waterline crew has moved on to Delta Fair Boulevard, Kendree Street, and Desrys Boulevard. Residents should expect minor traffic delays in these areas.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

## **Operations & Utilities**

City crews recently completed painting the sound walls along James Donlon Boulevard from Lone Tree Way to Blythe Drive. This work has improved the neighborhood's aesthetics and is evidenced by the multiple honks and thumbs up from motorists traveling this road. Public Works plans to return in the spring when the weather warms up again to resume painting the Lone Tree Way sound walls eastbound to Dallas Ranch Road. The medians' stamped concrete project is progressing nicely, with crews completing the prep work and scheduled to pour concrete on Buchanan Road tomorrow and Davison Drive on Thursday. We will update you with pictures of the finished project when completed.

The Collection Systems (sewer) cleaning crew is currently working in Buchanan Road and Delta Fair Boulevard and doing an outstanding job, cleaning approximately 4,000 feet of pipe each day. This is an essential aspect of what we do in the Collection Systems Division, and it is vital for the continued functionality of the sewer pipes in the winter months. These procedures reduce the inconveniences and environmental effects of sanitary sewer spills to members of our community.

## FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease)

The work listed above also reduces FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease) related issues in the sewer system. A friendly reminder about FOG:



- 1. Scrape and wipe down pots, pans, and work areas prior to washing
- 2. Dispose of food waste directly into a compost bin or the trash
- 3. Do not pour waste oil directly into drain, parking lot or street
- 4. Do not use emulsifiers or solvents other than dishwashing detergents

If you see a truck with a big tank and blue hose attached to the front, know that your sewer system is being maintained.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## **Small Business Grants Awarded**

The City of Antioch created a Small Business Grant Program to provide a one-time grant of \$5,000 to small businesses that have experienced adverse financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is funded by the CARES Act and the program is providing grants to 60 small businesses within the City of Antioch.

The City received a total of 87 applications. Twenty-nine of the businesses did not receive any prior federal funding. Twenty-nine of the businesses only received one source of federal funding (PPP or EIDL). Two of the businesses were part of a twenty-two business lottery selection. Seven applications were rejected that did not meet the qualifying criteria. Checks were distributed last week to the following businesses:

- Afrique Restaurant & Entertainment
- AJJA's Barbershop
- Almost There Travel
- Anu's Indian Grocery and Fashion
- Any-Kris Beauty Salon
- Bella's Vintage House
- BK Nails
- Braids By Kadi
- Champions Martial Arts Academy
- Cligarettes 4 Less
- Classy glass tinting
- Cocina MedinaContra Loma Fit Body Boot Camp
- Dad's Barber Shop
- Danang Tourane Vietnamese Restaurant
- Diablo Live Scan
- Divas
- Doctors's Computer Service
- Haircut Headquarters
- Dutch Pride/ Gas and Mart
- East County Strength & Conditioning
- Evolve Movement Center
- Fades
- Forum Nails
- Gricelda's Beauty Shop
- Hair By Vicky-Renu Salon and Skin Spa
- HIMC Barber Studio
- IMEDCC Industrial Medic Clinic
- Indigo Skin Design
- K & R Nails

- Kay Nails
- Kikis Burger Bar
- King Nails & Spa
- Kumon Math and Reading Center
- Lucky Cuts Salon
- Bridgehead Café
- MedicalOne Health
- MedihealingMelody's Dance Studio
- Mike and Mike Media
- Miller's Café
- Mount Diablo Distillery
- Nail Fever
- Ocean Spa
- Omani Beauty and Wellness
- Paula's Family Florist
- Prodigy Elite All Stars
- Visions
- <u>Rivertown Sweets</u>
- Romis Liquor
- Sawaddee Thai Cuisine
- Shoe Stop Instant Shoe Repair
- Slick's Barber Shop
- Solid Rock Cafe
- Star Easy Auto Sales
- Styles-4-U
- T3 Nails
- Tony's Beer Garden
- VK Nails
- HTTD INC / Ngon Noodle House

### Economic Development Department Hours

The Economic Development Department staff will continue to provide service and information remotely during the **Contra Costa County mandated shelter in place order**. The hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (925) 779-7012



## bludot open

The City of Antioch is working with **Bludot** to provide a more userfriendly version of the **Antioch Essential Business List.** The list combines information for customers seeking open essential businesses and business owners seeking to be added to the list, in one convenient location. The program is available on both desktop and mobile platforms. Be sure to use the "filter" feature to search by business type. Please visit **Antioch Open Essential Businesses.** 

# Here's what's happening In the City of Antioch

## EL CANDANIL THEATDE DDESENTS VOU AND SANTA. ONE-ON-ONE NO MASK REQUIRED DECEMBER 5TH-20TH BOOK NOW AT ELEGAMERANILTHEATRE.COM

## Live from the Workshop

Even the Big Guy knows the importance of social distancing! Want to see Santa, but want to stay safe? Book a one-on-one, five-minute session with old Saint Nick before he packs his sleigh! You'll get the chance for your household to chat with Santa, tell him what you're hoping for, and you'll even get a downloadable link to your chat so you can treasure the memory forever!

**How many children can participate in our session ?** *Since you have 5 minutes, you can probably assume that 1, 2 or 3 children can interact with Santa. If you have a larger family, you might consider booking 2 adjoining sessions.* 

What is the cost of a 5 minute session? \$20 per household.

What is included for the cost? You will receive a link to a Zoom session with your receipt. We ask that you arrive no more than 10 minutes early. You will also receive a link to a form which when submitted will be delivered to Santa to help with the session. You can even upload a copy of a Santa Wish list. Please complete this form as soon as possible so we make sure Santa receives it in time. After the session you will receive a digital copy as a memory.

**Sounds great! How do I book a session?** *Click Buy Ticket <u>here</u>, then select the Date and Time that you would like to purchase. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select 1 Ticket. Click Continue To Your Shopping Cart. If you wish to purchase another session or other tickets, you can do that by clicking More Tickets.* 

Is this session private? Yes--only your family will be in the chat with Santa Claus.

## **El Campanil Theatre Academy**

Since 2006, El Campanil Theatre has offered El Campanil Children's Theatre-a tuition-free, performance-based program that has served as a first stepping stone for hundreds of young



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actors over the years. As arts programs get slashed everywhere, we asked ourselves what our greater responsibility was: to our students, to their parents, and the community.

**El Campanil Theatre Academy-**-is a tiered, multi-layered program meant to educate students in the performing arts and give them tools for career placement in the performing arts. Classes range from acting to design, from directing to playwriting, and from voice to movement--all taught by industry professionals.

Tuition-free and low-tuition classes are available below. Limited scholarships are available by **applying** <u>here.</u>

These classes have been designed to be taught either virtually or in-person, depending on the **COVID regulations** at the time that classes begin. Full information will be sent out as we get closer to start dates.



