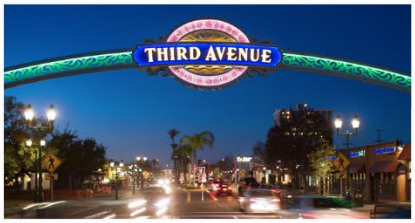
May 2025

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.

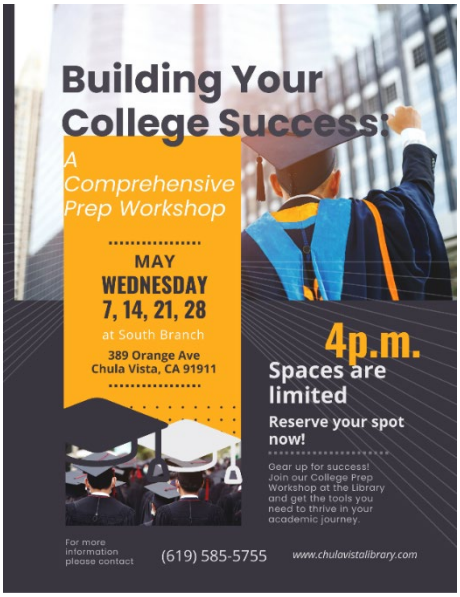






Community News

Good to Know



Gear up for academic success with **'Building Your College Success: A Comprehensive Prep Workshop'**! This free, 4-week workshop will be led by a college instructor and librarian to help students and parents prepare for the upcoming college semester. This workshop is ideal for both newly enrolled and returning students, in either community college or a university.

When: 4 p.m. on May 7, 14, 21, 28

Where: South Branch Library, 389 Orange Ave.

Spaces are limited! To register, please call the Chula Vista Library, (619) 585-5755.

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Businesses looking to expand into international markets can apply for support through the MetroConnect accelerator program! **Applications due June 30.**

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The City's Cultural Arts Division will be accepting nominations for the **2025 Gayle McCandliss Arts Awards!** Nomination forms and additional information can be found here, and nominations are open through May 18, 2025.



Nominees for awards must be Chula Vista residents or Chula Vista-based groups and organizations.

Categories for nominations include: Rising Star, Artistic Achievement, Literary Arts, and Distinguished Service in the Arts.

Established in 1991, the McCandliss Arts Awards recognize individuals and groups who made a substantial contribution toward the arts in Chula Vista. The award is named after former Mayor Gayle McCandliss, who was a strong supporter of the arts.

For more information, please contact culturalarts@chulavistaca.gov.

Things to Do



Join the **City of Chula Vista's Junior Park Ranger Program!** Kids ages 5-15 are invited to learn about conservation, preservation, and protecting local wildlife through interactive activities led by City Park Rangers! Participants must be accompanied by an adult. No sign-up in advance is necessary.

When: Every 4th weekend of the month (Sat. & Sun.), 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Where: Rice Canyon Park, North Rancho Del Rey Pkwy.

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SANDAG Bike Anywhere Day 2025 is **Thursday, May 15!** Ride your bike to work, school, the beach, or anywhere in the San Diego region on Thursday, May 15. Be sure to pedal to one of the 100 pit stops between 6:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The City Sustainability team will be hosting a pit stop on the corner of Bay Blvd. and E St., where a City staff member will educate bikers on the Office of Sustainability's resources and programs. In addition to City staff, community partners including Living Coast Discovery Center, Rambler Motel, Collins Aerospace and Circulate San Diego, will also join with their own tables and bring drinks, snacks and giveaways!



Eligible registrants will be automatically entered into the Bike Anywhere Day Sweepstakes for a chance to win one of three e-bikes. For more information and to register, please visit the website.

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Happy International Compost Week, May 4-10, from the City's Sustainability Office! Since 2015, Republic Services has provided free compost to Chula Vista residents at each of the annual Free Compost Events. The next event is scheduled for May 10th from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Otay Sustainability Park, 1700 Maxwell Road (formerly Otay Landfill). Bring your shovels for loading, containers to fill, and don't forget the tarps to cover your compost! The event is for Chula Vista residents only.

In honor of this week, and to help raise public awareness on the importance of composting organic materials and creating healthier soil, City residents can receive FREE compost!

Remember to keep your food and yard waste cart free of non-organic materials such as rocks, cigarettes, metal, plastics, and ceramics. These items do not break down and therefore contaminate the compost.

Free Compost Events will take place rain or shine! For more information, please visit the Sustainability webpage and click on the "Home Composting" link.

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Parks and Recreation is offering several **exciting upcoming events and activities** this month! To see a full schedule of upcoming events, please visit the Parks and Recreation activities webpage or call (619) 409-5979.

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If you are at least 50 years old, want to serve your community, and give back in a unique and engaging way, the **Chula Vista Police Department's Senior Volunteer Patrol program** is accepting applications! Senior Volunteer Patrol tasks involve crucial (non-hazardous) duties, allowing sworn officers to address other public safety demands. No prior law enforcement experience is required.



If you are interested in applying, sign up for an upcoming academy scheduled for this year: July 21-25 OR October 20-24. Call (619) 476-2417 or email *svpp@ChulaVistaPD.org* to get started.

For details about requirements and expectations, visit the Senior Volunteer Patrol webpage.

Please note that both a ride-along and a background investigation must be completed prior to participation in the academy. Allow at least one month to complete these steps before the academy begins–class size is limited.

Neighborhood Beautification

OPERATION PRIDE continues monthly cleanups. Ranger Perez and Park Ranger Program Manager Alzubaidi collected 28,380 pounds of trash and 127 shopping carts as part of April's OPERATION PRIDE. McAlister (Work For Hope) finished painting Veterans Park and started painting Bonita Long Canyon.

Rangers are continuing to enforce and maintain the parks, while making them clean and safe for the public.