

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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

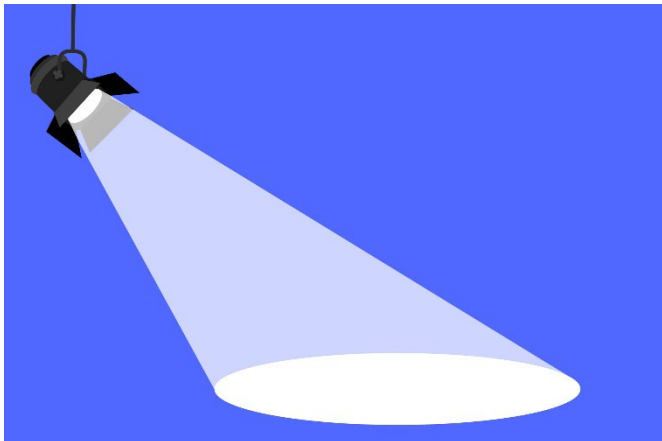


Community News

Good to Know

If you are an older adult or have limited income and are looking for help with taxes, stop by the City's Civic Center Branch Library at 365 F Street on Thursday or Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. The **AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide** program will be providing free tax assistance through April 12 on a walk-in basis only. For other tax assistance options, please call 2-1-1.

The City is proud to be home to a talented, creative, and diverse community of small businesses. To celebrate the contributions of our businesses and support their continued



success, the City is launching an inclusive and equitable way to spotlight local small businesses in this monthly newsletter, *Community Connections*. If you are interested or have a suggestion for a candidate our new **business spotlight**, [please complete and submit this form](#). A small business, selected at random, will be featured each month. Should you be selected, City staff will reach out to you to coordinate your spotlight. With any questions or for business assistance, please contact: business@chulavistaca.gov.

Things to Do

The City will host an annual **National Prescription Drug Take Back Day** on Sat. April 27 from 10 am – 2 pm. Anyone who has expired, unused, or unwanted prescription drugs is encouraged to drop them off for disposal at the City's John Lippitt Public Works Center located at 1800 Maxwell Rd. No sharps or e-waste will be accepted. For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or the April 27 Take Back Day event, go to <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday>. There are many additional ways to properly dispose of unwanted prescription drugs every day, including the 11,000 authorized collectors that are

available all year long. For more information, visit the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's year-round collection site locator at

<https://apps.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubdispsearch/spring/main?execution=e1s1>.

Southwestern College will hold a **State of the District and State Update event** on Friday, April 12 from 9 – 11 am. The event will be held at Southwestern College Performing Arts Center at 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, 91910. Speakers will include Southwestern College Superintendent/President Dr. Mark Sanchez, California Assemblymember David Alvarez, Governor Gavin Newsom's Chief Deputy Cabinet Secretary and Senior Advisor for Cradle to Career Ben Chida, and San Diego Regional EDC Director of Talent Initiatives Taylor Dunne. To register or for more information, visit

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E358293&id=58>.

The County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation is inviting the public to participate in a series of public meetings on April 8 and April 29 from 6-7 p.m. to provide information and discuss opportunities for a **45-acre park within Otay Valley Regional Park**. Public input will be used to determine amenities and overall park design. The first meeting will be virtual, and the second will take place in person at Ocean View Church, at 2460 Palm Ave., San Diego. For more information and to register for the April 8 meeting by Zoom, visit [OVRP: Active Recreation Area 3 | Engage San Diego County](#).

Get Involved

Do you have room in your heart and home to foster or adopt a pet? The Chula Vista Animal Care Facility is always looking for loving homes to help pets find their way into a permanent home. Foster animals may be nursing mothers, under medical treatment or may need a home environment, training, or enrichment. To get started, fill out the [online foster care application and agreement](#).



Neighborhood Beautification

OPERATION PRIDE continues weekly clean ups with assistance from the City's Public Works Department, as well as nonprofit Alpha Project. In March, these efforts resulted in the collection of a total of 27,580 pounds of trash and 75 shopping carts. Thank you!