

# PROFILE



## CITY EARNS DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

The City of Pico Rivera is once again being recognized for its financial reporting with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the City's the Fiscal Year 2023-2025 Biennial Budget document. This marks the fifth time the City has been recognized for their financial reporting.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, which is the highest award in governmental budgeting, is presented to those government units whose budgets are judged to adhere to program standards. An independent panel of reviewers completed an examination of the budget document and the Budget-in-Brief document and voted to award the documents for the current fiscal period.

"The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation," said a GFOA representative.

The award demonstrates the



City's commitment to transparency, fiscal responsibility, efficiency, and accountability while ensuring the budget is accessible to residents. This award is presented to recognize excellence in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement for our team.

The award also reflects the City's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. It recognizes the hard

work and dedication of the staff in preparing a budget that serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communication device.

"Government spending of any size is always under scrutiny and we take huge strides in assuring our residents that their tax money is being handled properly through transparent measures," said City Manager Steve Carmona. "This award proves that we

are taking all the necessary steps in accurate financial reporting, and that we are taking the utmost care of our residents tax dollars."

To view the City's current financial reports, visit the City's Administrative Services page on the City's website <https://www.pico-rivera.org/index.php/financial-reports>.

## Popular Farmers Market MOVES to Pico Park

The seasonal Certified Farmers Market returns again this spring. However, the location will be brand new. To allow for construction on Mines Avenue, and for future construction to take place at the Smith

Park Aquatic Center later this year, the Certified Farmers Market has moved to Pico Park, 9528 Beverly Boulevard. The Farmers Market will still be held every Wednesday, beginning April 3 through September 25, from 5:00 p.m.

to 9:00 p.m.

The Certified Farmers Markets will continue to bring attendees the freshest, local fruits, vegetables, bakery items, eggs, nuts, honey, beef jerky, potted plants and cut flowers, and directly from California family farmers. Live entertainment will be featured weekly. Come and visit the Certified Farmers Market and stroll through an array of food vendors and exhibitors.

The Certified Farmers Market will close on Wednesday, July 3 in observance of the Independence Day Holiday. Admission to Certified Farmers Market is free. For the safety and courtesy of others, no pets are allowed except for Service Animals.

For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 562.801.4430.



### PROFILE

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## Youth Climate Meeting in City



Calling all youth leaders and climate activists, ages 12-18.

The City of Pico Rivera, Day One, and The Boys and Girls Club invite you to a special Youth Climate Meeting on Thursday, April 25, from 4 pm to 6 pm. Join us as we discuss vital topics such as our local Climate Action Plan and sustainability efforts in Pico Rivera. This event is an opportunity to share your voice, and contribute to designing the future plans of our city.

**Participants will receive:**

- » 2 community service hours
- » Snacks and refreshments
- » Creative space to share their valuable thoughts and ideas

Spaces are limited, Register today at [https://bit.ly/PR\\_YCM](https://bit.ly/PR_YCM)

Save the date and spread the word! See you there!

## Warning About Scammers Claiming to be Deputies

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department would like to warn the public of phone call scammers impersonating L.A. County Deputies using spoofing apps that shows the number on the victim's caller ID as the Sheriff's office or local police agencies.

Los Angeles County continues to receive reports from residents receiving phone calls from scammers claiming to be a Sheriff's Sergeant, Lieutenant or Office Personnel asking for payment for missing grand jury duty subpoena. The scammers will then ask for some type of electronic payment, and subsequently threaten the callers with their arrest if their payment is not received.

The Sheriff's Office does not call persons to inform them that they have a warrant for their arrest. Stay informed by following the L.A. County Sheriff's Department Headquarters social media pages and your designated patrol station to help keep you up to date on crime trends and safety tips.

To learn more tips on how to avoid falling victim to scam callers visit our website at: <https://lasd.org/scam-spoofing-apps-impersonating-la-county-deputies/>

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department urges the public to remain safe and reach out to your local law enforcement agencies. If you feel you have been a victim of these crimes, contact the Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station immediately at 562.949.2421.

## Construction Begins on Pro Shop

Last year, a late evening fire started in the storage area of the Pico Rivera Golf Club. The fire was contained to the storage area of the Golf Club's Pro Shop and Banquet facility. Luckily, no injuries were reported, and structural damage was minimal with smoke damage reported throughout the facility. Immediately following the fire, City crews worked to preserve the remaining structure to prevent further damage or vandalism.

Since then, the Pro Shop and the restaurant portion of the bar had to adjust daily operations while portions of the facility were closed due to the damage. While there was no damage to the banquet facility, the banquet facility was closed for approximately a month, and there was no phone communication for a while due to the extensive damage done to the phone equipment.

Fast forward to a year later, construction has been taking place at the Pro Shop and the facility may resume full operation later this Spring. Repairs to the damaged facility include removal



and reframing of damaged wooden posts, beams, sheathing, replacement of drywall, windows, doors, flooring and roofing; painting walls and ceilings, application of epoxy floor system; replacement of electrical panels, conduits, wires, HVAC unit and ducting. City officials anticipate repairs to be completed next month.

The Golf Club is open daily from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Driving Range is also open daily, with no club or driver restrictions.

For information on the Pico Rivera Golf Club operations, visit [picoriveragolfclub.com](http://picoriveragolfclub.com) or call 562.801.4229.



## Pickleball Serving Up Fun Times for Everyone

Looking for a dynamic and exhilarating way to stay active? Look no further than pickleball! Combining elements of tennis, badminton, and ping pong, pickleball is a fast-paced and engaging sport suitable for all ages and skill levels.

Imagine the thrill of a fast-paced rally, the satisfaction of a perfectly placed shot, and the camaraderie of playing alongside friends and family. Pickleball offers all this and more.

With its compact court size and lightweight equipment, pickleball is easy to pick up and enjoy. Whether you're a seasoned athlete or just starting out, pickleball provides a fun and challenging workout that improves agility, coordination, and cardiovascular health.

Join the pickleball community today and experience the excitement for yourself. Whether you're playing singles or doubles, pickleball is sure to serve up a good time!

The Pickleball courts are open at Rivera Park for Seniors on Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., and Sundays for ages 18 and up from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Pickleball courts are also open at Pico Park for Seniors on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and on Thursdays for ages 18 and up from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Players must bring their own equipment.

For more information about the Pickleball courts, call Rivera Park at 562.801.4339 or Pico Park at 562.801.4470.

## Pizza With a Cop

The Pico Rivera Sheriff's Department will be hosting a community gathering on Wednesday, April 17 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Chuck E. Cheese, 6005 Rosemead Boulevard.

Officially known as Pizza With A Cop, this event brings the community and law enforcement officers together for a great evening of pizza and fun. In addition, this gives residents an opportunity to meet the Deputies of the Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station, and the Station Captain, Jodi Hutak. This also gives residents an opportunity to speak with the Deputies and the Captain about their concerns around their neighborhood, or around the City in general.

The event is free to attend and includes a free slice of pizza, a drink, and a slice of cake. There's also a Wednesday Game Special, get 30% off a 60+ minute All You Can Play games purchase, all you have to do is mention "All You Can Play Wednesday." For more information about this event, contact the Sheriff's Department at 562.949.2421.



## Parks and Recreation Department Seeking Instructors for Classes

The City of Pico Rivera's Parks and Recreation Department is looking for motivated, energetic and professional contract instructors to teach classes that will enhance the quality of life for Pico Rivera residents.

At Pico Rivera's Parks and Recreation Department, teaching is more than just a job - it's a chance to foster connections, inspire creativity, and enrich lives. We're looking for contract instructors to teach new classes, particularly in the fields of Pilates, Youth Dance, Gymnastics, Art & Music, Dog Training, and much more. Days and times for the classes are flexible.

For more information, or to obtain an instructor proposal form, visit [bit.ly/copr\\_contract\\_instructors](http://bit.ly/copr_contract_instructors)

## PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Andrew C. Lara · Mayor Pro Tem John R. Garcia · Councilmember Gustavo V. Camacho · Councilmember Erik Lutz · Councilmember Dr. Monica Sánchez

## PROFILE

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## UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

All meetings are held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 6615 Passons Blvd., unless otherwise noted.

**City Council Meeting**  
Visit [pico-rivera.org](http://pico-rivera.org) for details.

**Planning Commission**  
Visit [pico-rivera.org](http://pico-rivera.org) for details.

**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
Visit [pico-rivera.org](http://pico-rivera.org) for details.

## This Month on CTV

**We're on the air...** CTV3 has added some new shows to the line-up. Catch more episodes of The Garage with Steve Butler, and the Car Guy Channel. Additionally, catch local favorites like Huell Howser's California's Gold and live coverage of the City Council meetings. CTV3 can be streamed online at [pico-rivera.org](http://pico-rivera.org).

**Spectrum Cable, Channel 3 · Frontier FioS Channel 33 · AT&T U-Verse, Channel 99**

## Sign up for CITY E-MAILS

Receive important City news and alerts by subscribing to the City's e-newsletter service. Simply email us at [gcastorena@pico-rivera.org](mailto:gcastorena@pico-rivera.org)

## VETERANS CORNER



CITY OF PICO RIVERA  
*Honoring Our Own*

# THE MOBILE VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALL

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

### MAY 24-27, 2024

\*\*\*

**Opening Ceremony:** Friday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 pm  
**Candlelight Ceremony:** Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 8:00 pm

**SMITH PARK**  
**6016 ROSEMEAD BLVD**  
**PICO RIVERA, CA**







## Volunteers Needed for Mobile Vietnam Wall Event

The City of Pico Rivera is seeking volunteers for the upcoming installation of the Mobile Vietnam Memorial Wall (AV WALL) during the Memorial Day weekend, Friday, May 25 through Monday, May 27. Volunteer duties for this event will include setup, greeter, computer worker, wall walker, overnight watch, and tear down. If you are interested in volunteering, contact City Staff, Kristin Baca at 562.801.5512 or email [kbaca@pico-rivera.org](mailto:kbaca@pico-rivera.org).

Volunteers must be signed up and able to attend a training that will be held by the AV Wall Board on Thursday, May 9.

Details about the event will be posted on our Social Media channels later this month, and will be in the May edition of the Profile. For additional information, call 562.801.4430.

## Pico Rivera Library to Host Vietnam War Education Programs

In anticipation of the Mobile Vietnam Memorial Wall installation at Smith Park, the Pico Rivera Library will be hosting a few programs in May that will bring the history of the Vietnam War to residents and visitors. Below is the schedule of programs that will be held at the Pico Rivera Library.

**Program Title:** Documentary - *The Vietnam War*

**Audience:** Adults (Video is rated TV-MA, children younger than 13 years must be accompanied by an adult)

**Date and Time:** Wednesday, May 15 - 6:00 pm

**Description:** Join us for a viewing of the first episode of *The Vietnam War: A Film* by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.

**Program Title:** Book Club - *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

**Audience:** Adults

**Date and Time:** Tuesday, May 21 - 6:00 pm

**Description:** Join the Pico Rivera Library Book Club as they discuss this collection of short stories documenting the lives of a platoon of American soldiers fighting on the ground in the Vietnam War.

**Program Title:** Teen Advisory Board: Learn About the Vietnam Memorial Wall

**Audience:** Teens

**Date and Time:** Saturday, May 25 - 4:00 pm

**Description:** Join the Teen Advisory Board as they learn about the history of the Vietnam Memorial Wall and the controversy around its creator, Maya Lin, and surrounding its unique design. Teens will also learn about the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall replicas, one of which will be across the street at Smith Park from May 24 - May 27.

In addition to these programs, there will be displays of library books and DVDs on the Vietnam War (fiction, non-fiction, documentaries, feature films) available for checkout in the Pico Rivera Library. The Pico Rivera Library is located at 9001 Mines Avenue. For more information regarding these programs, contact the Library at 562.942.7394.

## Resident Veterans Turn 100

Every now and then, we will hear about a resident turning 100 years old. Let's face it, turning 100 is a huge deal, and many seek the answers for longevity. This past month saw maybe an unusual occurrence - not one but THREE - 100 year birthday celebrations. What makes this so rare is that all three individuals proudly served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II. Let's all get together and sing Happy Birthday to these Veteran Centenarians of Pico Rivera.



*Richard Salas -  
February 24, 1924 -  
U.S. Army*



*Joe Hilario -  
March 12, 1924 -  
U.S. Navy*



*Matilde Bañales -  
March 14, 1924 -  
U.S. Navy*



## Memorial Day Event Reminder

The City of Pico Rivera will host the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Mines Avenue Monument on Monday, May 27 beginning at 10 a.m. Look for additional details in next month's Profile.



## Local Elementary School a Finalist for National Award

Montebello Gardens Elementary, located in the City of Pico Rivera, received notification this past February that the school had been chosen as one of twelve schools in the United States to be a finalist for the 2024 America's Best Schools Award by the National Center for Urban School Transformation (NCUST).

This recognition serves as a testament to the dedication and commitment of the staff, students, and supportive parents of Montebello Gardens Elementary. The school provides all students with access to a rigorous curriculum, which is fundamental for promoting their academic growth and preparing them for future success. This approach challenges students to think critically, solve problems, and engage deeply with the material they are learning, ultimately cultivating a strong foundation of knowledge and skills across all subject areas.

The America's Best Schools Award program, organized by NCUST, is a highly respected accolade that honors schools for their outstanding accomplishments in delivering quality education and cultivating a supportive learning environment in urban schools. The program aims to identify and celebrate schools that demonstrate indicators of both educational equity and excellence. It highlights elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as dual-language and alternative schools, where every demographic group served achieves impressive academic results.

Montebello Gardens Elementary is one of twenty-nine schools that belong to the Montebello Unified School District (MUSD). It is the only MUSD school in the City of Pico Rivera and services students who live near the Rio Hondo Park area.

## Rivera Middle School: A School to Watch



This past February, the California League of Educators announced that Rivera Middle School was one of 16 middle schools statewide to earn the designation as a California Schools to Watch recipient. This recognition is awarded to middle schools demonstrating academic excellence, responsiveness to the needs of young adolescents, and social equity.

Rivera Middle School's dedication to encouraging a supportive learning environment, implementing effective teaching strategies, and prioritizing the holistic development of its students has earned the school this prestigious distinction.

As a designated California Schools to Watch recipient, Rivera Middle School joins a prestigious network of schools dedicated to fostering academic achievement, social-emotional growth, and equitable learning opportunities for all students.

Schools to Watch is a national network of over 600 schools in 17 states, with California being the largest state participant. The California Schools to Watch program, in collaboration with the California League of Schools, and the California Department of Education, acknowledges schools that exhibit outstanding educational practices and a commitment to continuous improvement.

For more information regarding the program offerings at Rivera Middle School, visit [www.rms.erusd.org](http://www.rms.erusd.org)

## ERUSD Police Raise Funds and Awareness for Autism



In recognition of Autism Awareness Month in April, the El Rancho Unified School Police Department is joining the nationwide police patch campaign by wearing a special, commemorative patch on their uniform.

To further raise awareness, the commemorative patches will be sold for \$10 each, and all proceeds will be donated to the El Rancho Unified School District's Autism Focus Classrooms.

Patches will be available at the El Rancho School Police Department office starting on Monday, April 1, during the office's regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Only cash will be accepted. The El Rancho School Police Department Office is located at 9115 Balfour Street, in the building on the side of the Pico Rivera Boys and Girls Club.

For more information, call the School Police Office at 562.801.7390.

# SPRING CLEANING

## NASA Services is Here to Help

The City of Pico Rivera, in collaboration with NASA Services, will host a Spring Bulky Item Collection on five consecutive Saturdays, April 13 through May 11, **based on your regular trash pick-up days.** (Please see schedule below)

This free, large-item curbside pick-up is specifically for residential customers who need to dispose of large items that cannot be picked up as part of normal collection.

### Eligible items for curbside bulky item pick-up include:

- » Furniture such as chairs, sofas, and mattresses
- » Appliances such as refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers, water heaters, dishwashers, and similar plumbing and small appliances
- » E-waste such as computers, telephones, televisions, stereo equipment, and other electronic devices; Yard waste such as tree branches, scrap wood, or bundles up to 4 ft. long
- » Clothing
- » Other non-hazardous items

**\*\*\*All items must be able to be moved by two-man crews or they will NOT be collected.\*\*\***

### NOT acceptable items include:

- » All hazardous wastes or materials such as oil, solvents or paints
- » Construction debris such as concrete, asphalt, lumber or drywall
- » Equipment or vehicles
- » Truck or automobile tires

**\*\*\*All items must be placed at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. on the scheduled day of collection.\*\*\***

Please consider donating all reusable or repairable items to your local thrift stores and non-profit organizations as these items can help benefit those in need in our local community.

For additional information regarding the Spring Bulky Item Collection, call NASA Services at 888.888.0388.

### Spring Bulky Item Collection Schedule:

- » **Regular Trash Day is Monday**, Bulky Item Pick-up on Saturday, April 13
- » **Regular Trash Day is Tuesday**, Bulky Item Pick-up on Saturday, April 20
- » **Regular Trash Day is Wednesday**, Bulky Item Pick-up on Saturday, April 27
- » **Regular Trash Day is Thursday**, Bulky Item Pick-up on Saturday, May 4
- » **Regular Trash Day is Friday**, Bulky Item Pick-up on Saturday, May 11

Did you miss the Bulky Item Pick-up date or have more items? Call NASA Services at 888.888.0388 for a Bulky Item Pick-up request.

## Free Mulch Distribution

In collaboration with Whittier Fertilizer Co., the City will be distributing FREE garden mulch on Saturday, April 20 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Whittier Fertilizer Company, 9441 Kruse Road.

Residents can receive one 33-gallon container of mulch, free of charge. Additional containers can be filled for \$1 each. Residents must bring their own shovels and containers as there will be none available at the site.

The mulch distribution is part of the City's green waste recycling program. For more information about mulch distributions as well as the City's recycling program, call 562.801.4329.

## FILLED WITH CHEER!

The El Rancho High School Cheerleaders definitely have something to cheer about. The 2023-2024 cheer season was a perfect season for the team as they went undefeated with seven wins and zero losses in their cheer competitions. Their latest win, the final competition of the season, came from the USA Nationals Championship at the Anaheim Convention Center in February. The team finished first and were named Varsity Show Cheer Novice Champions.



Congratulations to the El Rancho High School Cheerleaders, for all of your team's hard work and dedication towards an undefeated season! Go Big Blue!