November 2024

VIVA CALEXICO NEWSLETTER



Citizens of Calexico,

On Thanksgiving, we gather in gratitude to reflect on the many blessings we share. As we gather with loved ones this Thanksgiving, I want to express my sincere appreciation to all of you, our dedicated City employees. Your hard work, commitment to our community, and unwavering service make a real difference in the lives of our residents every day. Thank you for all you do, and enjoy a joyful holiday filled with blessings.

Our gratitude extends to our police, fire, public safety personnel, traffic controllers, public works, water operators, and volunteers, whose tireless work serves and protects our neighborhoods and ensures our safety. Equally, we appreciate our city employees, who consistently meet our residents' needs and uphold the city's mission statement to enhance the quality of life in Calexico.

We give thanks to our residents. You are the core of what makes our hometown "Someplace Special." The city of Calexico grows stronger through your hard work, talent, and interest in improving our city. Representing and working alongside residents who care deeply for their community, businesses, and all who visit Calexico is a privilege. The holiday season, filled with joy and excitement, creates multiple opportunities to attend memorable events with family, friends, and neighbors. It is during this festive time that our vibrant city truly shines.

To all those traveling this week, we wish you a safe and pleasant trip. We hope you and your loved ones have a warm and joyous Thanksgiving!

Respectfully,

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December 4 & 18 6:30 pm

Juan A. Contreras City Manager

CITY ADMINISTRATION

- Fire Station 2 is scheduled to have its reopening on December 6th at
- Staff continues to hold meetings with Vincent Memorial staff to reach a MOU agreement
- Interpreting services have been provided during city council meetings. An updated contract for future needs was provided
- Staff has been working on improving its business license process and implementing a business-friendly approach
- Prospective Planning and Finance Director's accepted the offer received and we anticipate they begin working with the city in early December.
- A new HR Assistant has been hired
- Staff is working with SoCal Gas to restructure its utility fees

- Staff provided an update on Heber Park
- The Imperial County Transportation
 Commission (ICTC) is assisting the city with a traffic study and traffic controller scope of work
- A Thanksgiving employee luncheon took place on November 26th
- A meeting is scheduled with SDSU Dean Nuñez regarding the much-anticipated dorm facilities project on the Calexico campus
- We want to thank Shirley Moreno and her staff for her assistance in the cleaning of downtowns alley ways
- A special thanks to Public Works staff for helping maintain and clean downtown

All City Commission Meetings are held at the Fernando "Nene" Torres Council Chambers

Business Improvement District Meeting

JANUARY 9, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

PLANNING/BUILDING

- Fire Prevention Services continued to clean the La Jolla parcel in the Spud Moreno subdivision. Other areas cleaned include General Dollar, Highway 98 and Bowker areas.
- Planning Director offer has been accepted. Anticipated start date in December.
- San Diego State University-IV Campus dorm facilities project is in the works.
- GSA downtown port of entry pedestrian project is in progress.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Reserve Police Officer
- Firefighter Lateral/Paramedic
- City Engineer
- Police Officer
- Police Recruit (Academic Cadet)
- City Manager
- Public Safety Dispatcher
- Human Resources/Risk Management Manager

Visit the city's website to access the job descriptions, application and other forms.

For questions, email: personnel@calexico.ca.gov or call 760-768-2107



LIBRARY DEPARTMENT



CAMARENA MEMORIAL LIBRARY

• Do not miss the upcoming **Christmas Family Night.** An evening full of stories, crafts, games, books and lots of fun! Thursday, December 19th from 5-7 pm. This program is for families with children ages 0-12

- Bring your school-aged child to enjoy Lunch at the Library! We offer a daily warm meal between 2:30-3:30 pm
- Bring your babies ages 0-2 to a Baby Time program every other Friday at 10:00 am. It is never too early to introduce babies to books & reading

Visit our digital branch https://calexicolibrary.org

and learn about everything we have to offer!

Check the monthly calendar of activities to learn about the many programs available such as STEAM Lab, Chess Club, Storvtimes, ARTsv Tuesdays, Family Movie Days, Family Literacy Nights, Raise a Reader, Book Clubs, Cooking Class and much more!

Library Board of Trustees

FEBRUARY 3, 2025 @ 6 PM AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CARNEGIE TECHNOLOGY CENTER

- We have **RE-OPENED!** You are welcome to visit Tuesdays & Thursdays from 3-7 pm!
- Let's Talk Conversation Group on 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm
- Library Learners Book Club on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm
- ARTsy Adults is offered the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm
- English as a Second Language classes are offered Tuesdays through Thursdays from 5:30-7:00 pm. Contact us to get added to the wait list.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- The Christmas Tree Lighting held ceremony November 14th was a huge success. Thank you to everyone that participated!
- The Calexico Recreation Department will be holding a volleyball league in 2025. The divisions are as follows:

3rd-5th grades 6th-8th grades

Registration fee: \$30

Saturday practices will be as follows:

3rd-5th division: 1:00-2:30 pm 5th-8th division: 2:45-4:15 pm

Sunday games: TBA

League starts: January 4, 2025

- A Winter Paint Night is scheduled for December 3. 2024 from 5-7 pm at the Carmen Durazo Cultural Arts Center. The cost is \$10
- Join the Senior Christmas Dance on Friday, December 20, 2024 from 6-9 pm. Tickets are \$5 for seniors and \$10 for adults 21+
- Registrations for Cardio Kickboxing, Yoga, Tai Chi, Senior Aerobics, Zumba Gold, Youth Volleyball & Basketball Leagues and Basketball Clinics follows:

Senior Citizens - December 17th General Public - December 18th

Community Services Commission Meeting

MARCH 12, 2025 @ 5:30 PM AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS



Register ONLINE at:

www.calexicoca.myrec.com

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Re-establishment of the Investigations Bureau: The department is proud to announce the return of the Investigations Bureau with the assignment of Detective Jonathan Rangel as an investigator. Additionally, the bureau has been strengthened by the addition of two task force officers from the U.S. Border Patrol. These officers are already making an impact.
- New and Departing Officers: We are excited to welcome Reserve Officer Stephanie Castro, who will begin her field training. At the same time, we bid farewell to Officer Michael Gonzalez, who dedicated seven years to our community. We wish him the very best in his future endeavors.
- New Leadership in Traffic Enforcement: On November 4, we will welcome Lorena Minor Montes as our new Traffic Enforcement Supervisor. Lorena will lead the Traffic Department, overseeing parking meters and managing southbound border traffic operations.





- Recently, the Investigative team, with the help of Patrol, resolved a felony case involving a felon in possession of a firearm. The firearm was recovered, and charges will be pending with the Imperial County District Attorney's Office.
- These developments reflect our ongoing commitment to enhancing public safety and improving our department's capabilities to serve the Calexico community.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Fire Dept. Captain written test was conducted on November 27th
- An Engineer manipulative test took place on November 26th
- A new EOC (Emergency Operations Center) is being established at the Fire Department. New tables and chairs have been added. We are grateful to the Public Works Department for their assistance in the installation of new lighting. We are working on a new internet based dispatching system





It includes fire, overpressure/rupture, hazardous conditions, service calls, good intent, false alarm, severe weather and special incident

> October 2024 Fire: 72 (14 false alarms) Medical: 308

November 2024 Fire: 65 (7 false alarms) Medical 286







PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

• Public Works - Water Distribution staff repaired a 18" water line on 5th St. between Rockwood Ave & 5th St.





• Public Works - Airport Division continues to pressure wash 3rd St. and Paulin Ave. bus shelter twice a week.





your city

at work!





happyholidays















December 2, 13, 24, 25, 27 & 31, 2024







"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings" -- William Arthur Ward

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