

# The Cerritos News



*Herb Alpert and Lani Hall perform at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts on Sunday, March 12.*

## March fills CCPA with music and magic

Check out these March shows at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA).

**YAMATO** – The Drummers of Japan celebrates its 30th anniversary in a new, critically acclaimed program – “Hinotori – The Wings of Phoenix” – when the ensemble returns to the CCPA on Friday, March 3 at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$50. Since its 1993 inception, YAMATO has mesmerized more than 2 million fans with its mastery of Japanese drums. YAMATO has “the power to put an audience on its feet, laughing, clapping and taking part,” hailed the “London Times.” The show is sponsored by Aria Apartment Homes.

It’s a sizzling night as “The Prince of Spanish Guitar” Benise takes audiences on a magical journey in “Spanish Nights,” celebrating two decades of fiery Spanish guitar and dance, including the Spanish Flamenco, Cuban Salsa, Parisian Waltz and Brazilian Samba set against a showcase of classic rock anthems from Led Zeppelin and AC/DC. The Emmy winner is accompanied by musicians and dancers on Sunday, March 5 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$55. A \$105 VIP package is also available.

Share an evening of great music with founders of the Folk music movement at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 11. “Folk Legends” stars The Kingston Trio (“Where Have All the Flowers Gone” and the No. One “Billboard” hit “Tom Dooley”) and The Limelites (“Have Some Madeira, M’Dear” and “Whiskey in the Jar”). Tickets start at \$60.

“Happy music made by happy people.” That’s how “The New York Times” described performances by Grammy winner and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame trumpeter Herb Alpert and Grammy-winning singer

Lani Hall. The husband-and-wife duo appears at the CCPA on Sunday, March 12, at 7 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$55.

Composer Rob Kapilow dissects Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Dissonance Quartet” in a “What Makes It Great?” program on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. In a spirited Q&A, Kapilow explores the piece, providing audiences with a fresh approach to the work. Tickets to the presentation, sponsored by George and Bev Ray, are \$55.

The “Las Vegas Review-Journal” named Lance Burton the “Best Magician” 18 years in a row. See for yourself when the magician returns to the CCPA at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 24 with a new live show featuring a mix of illusions, sleight-of-hand, audience participation and acclaimed guest stars. Burton has hosted specials for The History Channel, Discovery, Animal Planet and The Family Channel. Ticket prices start at \$70.

The Bee Gees rocked the music world with a string of hits that sold more than 220 million albums worldwide, earning the group an induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The “Stayin’ Alive” tribute celebrates the Grammy-winning band’s legacy with a “Night Fever” of hits, including “Jive Talkin’,” “How Deep Is Your Love,” “You Should Be Dancing,” “Nights on Broadway” and “Lonely Days.” The production features the Stayin’ Alive band. Don’t miss this show on Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$60.

Purchase tickets at [cerritoscenter.com](http://cerritoscenter.com) or by calling the Ticket Office at (562) 916-8500. ■

## 2023 public meeting schedule revised

Due to audio and visual systems upgrades being made to the Cerritos City Council Chambers, the dates and location of select City public meetings have been revised. Below is the public meeting schedule through the beginning of April:

- The Property Preservation Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m. will be held in the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) Sierra Room.
- The Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, March 1 at 7 p.m. will be held in the CCPA Sierra Room.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Thursday, March 2 has been canceled.
- The City Council meeting on Thursday, March 9 at 7 p.m. will be held in the CCPA Sierra Room.
- The Community Safety Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 15 at 7 p.m. will be held in the Community Safety Center.
- The Fine Arts and Historical Commission meeting on Thursday, March 16 at 7 p.m. will be held in the CCPA Sierra Room.
- The Let Freedom Ring Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 22 at 7 p.m. will be held in the Community Safety Center.
- The City Council meeting on Thursday, March 23 has been canceled.
- The Property Preservation Commission meeting on Tuesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. will be held in the CCPA Sierra Room.
- The Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, April 5 at 7 p.m. will be held in the CCPA Sierra Room.

The Council Chambers is expected to be available for public meetings again after Wednesday, April 5. ■

## Reset your clocks on March 12

Daylight saving time begins on Sunday, March 12. When setting your clocks forward one hour, replace the batteries in your smoke alarms and check the units to make sure they are functioning properly.

A typical smoke alarm has a life span of approximately 10 years. A properly functioning smoke alarm can greatly reduce the risks of death and/or injuries in the event of a fire. ■

## Community outreach meetings scheduled for broadband needs

Two outreach meetings have been scheduled for the purpose of ascertaining broadband accessibility, affordability, needs assessments and other related broadband feasibility information for the benefit of the community.

The Citywide Fiber Optic Feasibility Study/Master Plan community outreach meetings will be held on

Wednesday, March 8 at 9 a.m. and Monday, April 17 at 6 p.m. in the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts Sierra Room. Both meetings are open to residents and businesses, however, the first meeting will be tailored to the local business community.

In addition to the outreach meetings, the City of

Cerritos will make available a community broadband survey beginning Monday, March 6 through Friday, April 21 at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us). The online survey will help the City gather information related to community broadband needs and feasibility. All residents and businesses are encouraged to participate in the online survey. ■

# City Council Recap

City Council/Successor Agency meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of every month. For details, call the Office of the City Clerk/Treasurer from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at (562) 916-1248.

## December 8, 2022

- Approved Councilmember Johnson's nomination of Joel Miranda Ilao to the Let Freedom Ring Committee for an unexpired two-year term of service, commencing December 8, 2022 and expiring April 30, 2024.
- Authorized the annual expenditure of \$68,308.28 to Tyler Technologies for the renewal of Eden software support and maintenance services in accordance with the City's Purchasing and Contracting Policy (8.03) where the purchase of goods and services in excess of \$50,000 shall require City Council approval; and
- Authorized the City Manager, or designee, to execute a Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget amendment with a new appropriation of \$6,400 to be allocated for Tyler Technologies software and support services.
- Approved the completion of the 2022 biennial review of the City of Cerritos, Successor Agency to the Cerritos Redevelopment Agency, and Cerritos Public Financing Authority Conflict of Interest Codes pursuant to the Political Reform Act of 1974 by waiving full reading of and adopting Resolution No. 2022-44, CSA 2022-03, and CPFA 2022-01, a joint resolution of the Cerritos City Council, Successor Agency to the Cerritos Redevelopment Agency, and Cerritos Public Financing Authority adopting the amended conflict of interest codes, and repealing Resolution Nos. 2020-34, CSA 2020-03, and CPFA 2020-01.
- Reviewed award of contracts for Senior Center flooring replacement; and

- Adopted the findings in accordance with Section 3.20.060(h) of the Cerritos Municipal Code, based on the findings as set forth in the associated agenda report, for the installation of a hearing loop system at the Senior Center; and
- Adopted findings in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq. (CEQA) that the improvements planned under the proposed contract award are categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines, based on the findings as set forth in the associated agenda report; and
- Awarded a contract in the amount of \$47,487.38 for the installation of a hearing loop system inside the Majestic Room as part of Capital Project No. 23211, to Otojoy; and
- Awarded a contract in the amount of \$123,088.72 for the replacement of the flooring inside the Majestic Room, Arts and Crafts Room, and River Rock Room as part of Capital Project No. 23211, to Commercial Interior Resources.
- Tabled consideration of the matter of recruitment of a new City Manager until such time as City staff can provide an agenda report with information in response to various inquiries and requests made by the City Council.

## January 12, 2023

- Waived full reading of and adopted Resolution No. 2023-02, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cerritos authorizing the filing of applications for grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Measure A funding for projects and programs.
- Waived full reading of and adopted Resolution No. 2023-03, a resolution of the City of Cerritos approving Conditional Use Permit 2022-2, a request by the property owner to permit light industrial warehousing, wholesaling, and manufacturing uses at

- 17600 Crusader Avenue. The subject property is zoned Industrial (M) (APN 7034-017-019); and
- Waived full reading of and adopted Resolution No. 2023-04, a resolution of the City of Cerritos approving Precise Plan 2022-15, a request by the property owner to demolish an existing industrial building, construct a new industrial building, and complete other related site improvements at 17600 Crusader Avenue. The subject property is zoned Industrial (M) (APN 7034-017-019).
- Waived full reading of and adopted Resolution No. 2023-05, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Cerritos proclaiming the existence of a local emergency concerning a gasoline leak from a privately owned existing pipeline on the Iron-Wood Public Golf Course, and potential threat to the safety of persons and property requiring remediation, repair, and improvement of the public golf course and other City-owned public property, as specified.
- Approved adjustments to the 2023 Council/Agency meeting schedule;
- Directed staff to conduct public education and notification activities utilizing all appropriate City media outlets and methods as related to amendments to the 2023 Cerritos Public Meeting Schedule; and
- Directed staff to reserve the date of Monday, March 20, 2023, 7 p.m. should the City find that it requires a second meeting in March for the purpose of conducting essential business; and
- Directed staff to present any further proposed amendments to the 2023 Cerritos Public Meeting Schedule as needed to accommodate the Council Chamber upgrade project for City Council review and consideration at the appropriate public meeting.
- Adjourned in memory of Cerritos resident Liza Maria Matias Scammahorn.

## Sign up for Cerritos Resident Talent Showcase

Cerritos residents are invited to participate in the Talent Showcase celebrating the City's 67th anniversary, which will be cablecast on Cerritos TV3 at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 28; Saturday, April 29; and Sunday, April 30. The show features Cerritos residents, ages 4 and older, in singing, dancing and musical performances.

To participate, complete and submit the digital entry form available at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us) through Monday, March 6. Qualifying acts will be notified by email and must record their performances on Tuesday, April 4 or Wednesday, April 5 by appointment only. The number of acts will be limited and acts cannot exceed four minutes. Group performances may include a maximum of six members (at least half of the group must be Cerritos residents). Recorded accompaniment music must be in mp3 format. Participation certificates will be issued.

For more information, call Cerritos Park East at (562) 407-2611. ■

## City Council sets goals for FY 2023-2024 budget

The Cerritos City Council held a Strategic Planning Study Session in January to begin the process of developing the City's Strategic Plan pursuant to City Council-approved Policy No. 2.04 – Strategic Financial Planning Session/Budget Preparation Process. At the study session, the Council was asked to develop and prioritize a list of five goals that it would like to see addressed within the FY 2023-2024 budget.

Cerritos residents attended the study session and shared their suggestions for the development of the City's goals. After receiving public comments, the City Council set the following goals:

1. Increase Tree and Street Maintenance/Repair
2. Increase Sales Tax Revenue
3. Review Contract Law Enforcement Services
4. Increase Technology Infrastructure/Use
5. Increase Fiscal Transparency

City staff will work on the development of measurable objectives and tasks for achieving the City Council's Priority Goals based on the information obtained from the Strategic Planning Session. Upon establishing preliminary objectives and tasks, City staff will present this information to the City Council for consideration and approval at a budget study session to be held in the spring. Additional guidance will be sought from the City Council to refine the objectives and tasks, as staff works toward their adoption as part of the Strategic Plan next year. ■

## Legislators Representing Cerritos

Following nationwide redistricting and the 2022 elections, the following lawmakers now represent Cerritos:

### Congresswoman Michelle Steel

45th Congressional District of California  
10805 Holder St., Suite 225, Cypress, CA 90630  
(714) 960-6483  
[steel.house.gov](http://steel.house.gov)

### California State Senator Janet Nguyen

District 36  
1021 O St., Suite 761, Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 651-4036  
[sr36.senate.ca.gov](http://sr36.senate.ca.gov)

### California State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

District 67  
1440 N. Harbor Blvd., Suite 270,  
Fullerton, CA 92835  
(714) 525-6515  
[a67.asmdc.org](http://a67.asmdc.org)

# March Library News

## REGISTRATION

In order to register, patrons must be in the City's RACER registration database. For more information, please visit the City of Cerritos website at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us).

### CLASSES/RACER ONLINE REGISTRATION TIPS

To check the availability or to register for classes, please visit the Cerritos website at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us) and look for the Classes/RACER link. You will not receive confirmation by mail for classes registered online.

Please print a receipt at the conclusion of your transaction and bring it with you to the first day of the event or class. For additional information, please call the Library Reservation Desk at (562) 916-1388. Computers at the Cerritos Library may be used to access RACER.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION

#### cerritos.us

Cerritos Resident online registration for all programs listed begins **Wed., Mar. 1 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident online registration for all programs listed begins **Wed., Mar. 8 at 11 a.m.**

### PHONE REGISTRATION

#### Call (562) 916-1388

Cerritos Resident phone registration for all programs listed begins **Thurs., Mar. 2 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident phone registration for all programs listed begins **Wed., Mar. 8 at 11 a.m.**

### WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Cerritos Resident walk-in registration for all programs listed begins **Wed., Mar. 1 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident walk-in registration for all programs listed begins **Wed., Mar. 8 at 11 a.m.**

## The following Library programs require advance registration:

For more information call (562) 916-1388, unless otherwise noted.  
Seating is limited for all programs.

### STORYTIMES

Cerritos Library's 30-45 minute storytimes incorporating stories and audience participation will be held in the Little Theater. Only children registered for storytime may be brought to the program. Space is limited to 20 participants.

#### Thursdays at 11 a.m. for ages 5 and under

10004	Thurs., Mar. 9
10005	Thurs., Mar. 16
10006	Thurs., Mar. 23
10007	Thurs., Mar. 30
10008	Thurs., Apr. 6

#### Second Saturday of the month at 11:15 a.m. for ages 5 and under

10009	Sat., Mar. 11
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### FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT

Participants are welcome to enjoy a fun evening of STEM related demonstrations and activities conducted by the Whitney High School STEM Club. Space is limited to 60 participants.

10010	Tues., Mar. 14	6-7:30 p.m.
	All Ages	Skyline Room

### DAVE BOATMAN/CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS CARTOON CLASS

This educational and creative hour of cartoon instruction will motivate students and inspire their love of cartoons and drawing. Space is limited to 50 participants.

10011	Thurs., Mar. 16	3:30-4:30 p.m.
	Ages 7-12	Skyline Room

### CRAFTS FOR ADULTS: MACRAMÉ COASTERS

Learn how to make a set of two macramé coasters for your favorite beverages. Students will learn a few basic macramé knots and how to finish their work. The fee is \$5. No refunds will be given. Space is limited to 12 participants.

10037	Wed., Mar. 22	6 p.m.
	Ages 18	Board Room

### STAY & PLAY PROGRAM

Join us as we move to music, play with toys and make new friends! Space is limited to 15 participants.

10012	Fri., Mar. 24	11 a.m.-noon
	Ages 2-5	Little Theater

### BOUTONNIÈRE & CORSAGE MAKING CLASS FOR TWEENS/TEENS

Learn to design and arrange a corsage and boutonniere for your loved ones. Fresh cut blooms and all necessary floral tools and materials will be readily available. Space is limited to 15 participants.

10013	Tues., Mar. 28	4:30-5:30 p.m.
	Ages 12-17	Skyline Room

### SPRING CELEBRATION STORYTIME & PETTING ZOO

Join us for animal stories, songs and crafts in the Little Theater. We will then visit a small petting zoo set up outside the library. A parent or guardian must accompany all children into the petting zoo. Space is limited to 60 participants.

10014	Thurs., Apr. 6	3:30-5 p.m.
	Ages 3-11	Little Theater

## The following Library programs do not require advance registration:

### WILD ABOUT ANIMALS

From pets to wild animals, explore the animal kingdom with Doodlebugs Animal Adventures! Meet a tortoise, chinchilla, lizard and more in this fun and interactive presentation.

	Thurs., Mar. 9	6 p.m.
	All Ages	Skyline Room

### NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: "ROMAN HOLIDAY" (1953)

Theo Siegel will discuss the making of "Roman Holiday," starring Gregory Peck and Audrey Hepburn, followed by a screening of the film. This film is not rated and has a running time of 118 minutes.

	Fri., Mar. 10	6 p.m.
	Ages 18 & Over	Skyline Room

### GEOGRAPHIC LITERACY WRITING WORKSHOP

Poet Mike Sonksen will present information about the California State Parks. He will then lead a writing workshop focusing on geographical spaces. Notebooks and writing utensils will be provided, although participants are welcome to bring their own materials. This program is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library.

	Mon., Mar. 13	6 p.m.
	Ages 13 & Over	Skyline Room

### BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS

The Book Club for Adults will meet for a book discussion. Participants will discuss the book "All the Devils Are Here" by Louise Penny. For more information, call (562) 916-1342.

	Wed., Mar. 15	11 a.m.-noon	Board Room
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### RANCHO LOS CERRITOS HERB GARDENS

In a talk titled "Herb Gardens," Rancho Los Cerritos horticulturist Marie Barnidge-McIntyre will share a presentation about how humans have used humble herbs since ancient times across many cultures to flavor food, color textiles, deter insects and heal wounds. This program is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library.

	Wed., Mar. 15	6 p.m.
	All Ages	Skyline Room

### ARTS AND CRAFTS FOR KIDS

A free hands-on St. Patrick's Day craft will be held in the Art Studio for children ages 2-12. This craft will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes.

	Fri., Mar. 17	11 a.m.-noon & 5-6 p.m.
	Ages 2-12	Art Studio

### FROM READERS TO WRITERS; A PANEL AND READING WITH WOMEN WHO SUBMIT

Participants will learn and get inspired to write in this panel led by published poets and writers from Women Who Submit. The goal of the Women Who Submit organization is to encourage submitting work to literary journals and to clarify the submission and publication process.

	Mon., Mar. 20	6 p.m.
	Ages 13 & Older	Skyline Room

### ARTISAN GUITAR ENSEMBLE

Join us for an evening of international guitar music performed by the Artisan Guitar Ensemble. The group, comprised of Max Mendoza, Daniel Ramirez and Andre Giraldo, has been performing together for more than a decade. The trio has prepared a program highlighting music from Japan, the Balkans, Russia, Spain and Greece. The program offers something for the classical music lover, as well as folk and world music lovers. Come learn about the composers and musical forms and enjoy a lively evening of classical guitar music.

	Thurs., Mar. 23	7 p.m.
	All Ages	Skyline Room

### SHORT STORY AND POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP

Writers from Women Who Submit will lead participants in a writing workshop where individuals will learn to write poetry and short stories. The goal of the Women Who Submit organization is to encourage submitting work to literary journals and to clarify the submission and publication process.

	Mon., Mar. 27	6 p.m.
	Ages 13 & Older	Skyline Room

# March Library News

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## GRAB-AND-GO DR. SEUSS CRAFT

Children ages 4-10 will be provided with materials to create an adorable Dr. Seuss Craft. Please pick up the kit at the Children's Help Desk beginning Thursday, March 2. Kits will be offered while supplies last.

## CONTESTS FOR TALENTED TEENS

The 24th Annual Teen Contests are open to all students with valid Cerritos Library cards and attending grades 7 through 12. All entries must be original. One entry per person is allowed for each category. Gift certificates to a bookstore will be presented to the winners at a reception in May. The contests are sponsored by the Friends of the Cerritos Library. The deadline for all entries is Friday, March 24 at 7 p.m.

### Themes and Specifications:

- Art: "My Favorite View"  
(No larger than 12" x 18" and using any medium)
- Photography: "The Great Outdoors"  
(No larger than 8" x 10")
- Poetry: "Home" (Up to 50 lines)
- Short Story: "Adventures" (No more than 500 words)

## Library Exhibition

### BOOK ART COLLECTION

When an artist creates a work and incorporates any aspect of a traditional book form, however subtle or obscure, it qualifies as an artist's book. Creativity and craftsmanship combine to produce books designed to provoke thought, discussion and emotional responses in viewers. Artists Books from the library's collection will be exhibited during March and April in the main lobby.

## City expands social media channels

The City of Cerritos will launch new social media channels in February, including a Facebook page and Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts. An Instagram account also will be started for the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA). The new social media channels will present information of interest to the local community in a timely and convenient manner.

The Cerritos City Council approved the launch of the new channels for a six- to 12-month trial period. The Council also approved a new Digital Communications Policy that addresses the use of social media by staff, City officials and the public. For the trial period, commenting on posted materials will be unavailable.

The City launched a Facebook group in 2020. Content will no longer be posted on the Facebook group once the new Facebook page is launched. The CCPA currently has a Facebook page and Twitter account.

Once the City's new social media channels are launched, links to join will be made available on the City's website at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us). To access the CCPA's social media channels, visit [cerritoscenter.com](http://cerritoscenter.com). ■



Registration will open March 1 for an opportunity to purchase a City-owned senior affordable housing unit.

## Registration open March 1 for opportunity to purchase senior affordable housing unit

The City of Cerritos is pleased to announce the availability of three City-owned affordable senior condominium units in the gated community Emerald Villas for purchase through a lottery process. Two units are currently available for purchase, and one unit will be available soon.

The Emerald Villas community is located on Carmenita Road and Houston Avenue. Prospective buyers must meet the community's age restriction of 62 years of age or older and be a U.S. citizen or a U.S. permanent resident. They cannot own any additional property and must meet income requirements. A one-person household cannot exceed \$41,700 gross annual income for the very-low income units or \$76,500 for the moderate-income unit. A two-person household's gross annual income must be less than \$47,650 for the very low income units or less than \$87,450 for the moderate income unit.

All built in 1999, two of the condos are one bedroom, one bath; the third unit is a two bedroom, two

bath home. They all come with a one-car garage and range from 733 to 1,001 square feet. Estimated prices will range from \$100,000 to \$250,000. Tours will be offered only to qualified and verified applicants selected by way of the lottery.

The units must be owner-occupied and cannot be rented out. Only the approved low-income senior may live in the unit; children or other family members who have not been approved by the City are not permitted to live permanently in the unit.

Lottery registration forms will be available beginning Wednesday, March 1 at Cerritos City Hall (18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos) and on the City's website at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us). Completed forms must be submitted in-person to City Hall by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 28. Residents can submit only one form.

The lottery to select the prospective homeowners will be held at or before a City Council meeting following the registration period. All potential buyers picked in the lottery will be required to undergo a compliance review for qualifications. ■

## Modifications made to City's 91 Freeway agreement

The City Council has approved modifications to the existing agreement for the 91 Freeway between the City and the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).

To increase capacity, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) and Caltrans plan to widen parts of the SR-91 by adding lanes. The expansion is funded by LACMTA's Measure R and M sales taxes and supplemented by other transportation funding, including state Trade Corridor Enhancement Program grants. Under the program, an extra westbound lane will be added between Shoemaker Avenue and the SR-91/1-605 interchange.

Caltrans is requiring an update to the existing SR-91 Freeway Agreement between the City of Cerritos and Caltrans, in effect since 1966, which covers the entire length of SR-91 from the western City limit to the eastern City limit.

This requirement is triggered by the access change at the SR-91 and Norwalk Boulevard interchange, where the two westbound on-ramps are being merged into one. Upon completion, the single westbound on-ramp will be located to the east of Norwalk Boulevard and be accessible to both northbound and southbound traffic. Portions of the existing westbound on-ramp serving southbound traffic will be converted into additional landscaping.

Under the Freeway Agreement, the City consents to construction affecting City streets and agrees to assume responsibility for the maintenance of City roads that are relocated or reconstructed as part of the project. ■

## Join Neighborhood Watch

Residents are encouraged to join Neighborhood Watch in Cerritos, a joint effort by community members and the Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center. The program serves as the eyes and ears of the Sheriff's Department and has proven instrumental in keeping communities safe.

Contact the Community Safety Division at (562) 916-1266 to see if a Neighborhood Watch group has been formed in your neighborhood. If there is an established group, you will be provided with the name and phone number of the Watch Captain.

If there is no active group yet in your area, the Community Safety Division will help you and your neighbors start one. Ideal Neighborhood Watch groups are typically small – usually 15 to 20 households. A designated block captain will be responsible for acting as the liaison between a neighborhood and the Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center.

While the Community Safety Division and Sheriff's Department will assist in many ways, the success of Neighborhood Watch depends largely on citizen involvement. Participants will receive Neighborhood Watch signs to post, alerting potential criminals that others are watching out for your home. Members of the watch group monitor their neighborhoods, communicate regularly with deputies and meet with neighbors routinely to stay current on new information. If a residential crime pattern is identified in the area, deputies will notify the group of what to look out for and suggest prevention strategies.

Join the City's Neighborhood Watch program at [safecerritos.com](http://safecerritos.com). ■



The rendering above shows proposed upgrades planned at 17600 Crusader Avenue.

## Upgrades planned for Crusader Avenue property

The Cerritos City Council has approved a request by the property owner for a conditional use permit to allow light industrial warehousing, wholesaling and manufacturing uses at 17600 Crusader Avenue in Cerritos.

The proposal includes demolishing an existing 32,000-square-foot industrial building and constructing a new 75,514-square-foot industrial building to include first- and second-floor offices on the site. The work also involves new architecture, landscaping and new parking areas accommodating 66 parking stalls.

Crusader L.P. owns the property, which is zoned Industrial (M). The property is south of Artesia Boulevard, west of the San Gabriel Freeway (I-605) and north of the cul-de-sac end of Crusader Avenue.

The proposed architectural plans adopt a contemporary design featuring smooth-finished, concrete tilt-up walls; a simulated wood siding; concrete panels to provide texture and accents to the building's architectural design; stone veneer-covered columns; and decorative metal canopies. The building's exterior will be white and grey-colored tones to highlight its vertical and horizontal lines.

Landscaping plans call for water-saving plant material in the form of shrubs and groundcover. A variety of trees will be planted, including Bottle, Crepe Myrtle, Southern Magnolia and Aleppo Pines trees.

The work is expected to start in the summer. ■

## Mariposa Escrow

Mariposa Escrow was recently selected for the City's Business Spotlight Program, which showcases companies that foster pride in the community, provide jobs and contribute to the local economy.

Mariposa Escrow was incorporated in 2007 and is a full-service escrow company specializing in transactions for single-family homes, condominiums, investment and commercial properties, and vacant land. The company also handles resale, refinances, 1031 exchanges, and for-sale-by-owner deals.

Licensed in California, Mariposa Escrow services Southern California, particularly the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside.

Mariposa Escrow is located at 19441 Norwalk Boulevard in Cerritos. The phone number is (562) 402-4001 and the company website is at [marioposalescrow.com](http://marioposalescrow.com).

## Arbor Week poster contest entries sought

The City of Cerritos is hosting an Arbor Week art poster contest with the theme "Healthy Trees, Healthy People." The contest is open to Cerritos residents ages 5 to 14 and students in the ABC Unified School District, Valley Christian Schools or Bellflower Unified School District.

Entries must be original artwork, no larger than 11 inches by 17 inches, and may feature any drawing or painting materials (pencils, chalks, pastels, crayons, watercolors and/or acrylics). Do not mat, mount or frame the posters. Include the artist's name, age, address and phone number on the back of the poster or use the official entry form (available at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us)). Completed entries must be dropped off at the Recreation Services Division at City Hall by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 7.

First place winners' artwork will be displayed on the City's website at [cerritos.us](http://cerritos.us) starting Monday, April 17 through Monday, May 29. For more information, call the Recreation Services Division at (562) 916-1254. ■

## New Residential Organic Waste Recycling Program

The City's new Residential Organic Waste Recycling Program expands the list of items to be placed in your green trash cart:

- ▶ Green waste (previously accepted)
- ▶ Coffee grounds
- ▶ Fruits and vegetables
- ▶ Bread, rice and pasta
- ▶ Cheese and dairy
- ▶ Meats and bones
- ▶ Food-soiled paper items
- ▶ Pet food

For more information, visit [athensservices.com/food](http://athensservices.com/food) or call Athens Services at (833) 791-2376.

# TV3 Schedule: March

### City Council and Commission Meetings

#### Cerritos City Council Meeting

7 p.m. on Thursday, March 9 (live), rebroadcasts: 7 p.m. on Friday, March 10 and 9 a.m. on Monday, March 13

#### Fine Arts and Historical Commission Meeting

7 p.m. on Thursday, March 16 (live), rebroadcasts: 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21 and 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 23

#### Planning Commission Meeting

7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1 (live), rebroadcasts: 10 a.m. on Friday, March 3 and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8

#### Property Preservation Commission Meeting

7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28 (live), rebroadcasts: 7 a.m. on Wednesday, March 29 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 1

### Program Highlights

#### Mayor's Weekly 60

11 a.m. on Thursday, March 2; 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 4; 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15; and 8 a.m. on Saturday, March 25

#### Active Shooter Response Seminar

11 a.m. on Sunday, March 5; 7 p.m. on Monday, March 6; 7 p.m. on Friday, March 17; and 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 30

#### Elder Fraud Prevention

11 a.m. on Saturday, March 4; 9 a.m. on Monday, March 6; 8 a.m. on Sunday, March 12; and 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 25

#### Cerritos Library Presents

#### NASA's Universe of Learning: Constellations

11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 21; 10 a.m. on Friday, March 24; and 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 31

For Cerritos TV3 schedule and streaming video, visit: [cerritos.us/RESIDENTS/tv3.php](http://cerritos.us/RESIDENTS/tv3.php)

# Calendar of Events

- February 25 • **Cerritos Certified Farmers' Market**, 8 a.m.-noon, northwest parking lot of the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Also on March 4, 11, 18 and 25.
- Friends of the Cerritos Library book sale, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Cerritos Library. Also on February 26, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- February 28 • **Property Preservation Commission** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts Sierra Room.
- March 1 • **Planning Commission** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts Sierra Room.
- **Friends of the 1st CEB**, 6 p.m., Liberty Park. Contact Chuck Sooter at (562) 860-8174.
- March 2 • **Cerritos Optimist Club**, 7 a.m., Denny's, 16907 Pioneer Blvd., Artesia. Also on March 9 and 23. Contact Manilal Fernando at (562) 402-4700.
- March 7 • **ABC Unified School District Board** meeting, 7 p.m., 16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos. Also on March 21.
- March 8 • **Soroptimist International of Artesia-Cerritos** meeting, 6 p.m., 10929 South Street, Cerritos, Suite 116B. Also on March 22. Contact Mary Ann Tipton at (562) 706-2881.
- March 9 • **City Council** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts Sierra Room.
- **Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos**, 11 a.m., Cerritos Park East. Contact Sue Verway at (562) 926-2660.
- **Bellflower Unified School District Board** meeting, 6 p.m., 16703 S. Clark Avenue, Bellflower. Also on March 23.
- March 12 • **Daylight Saving Time begins**
- March 15 • **Community Safety Committee** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center.
- March 16 • **Fine Arts and Historical Commission** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts Sierra Room.
- **La Palma-Cerritos American Association of University Women**, 6:30 p.m., La Palma Community Center, 7821 Walker St., La Palma. Contact Cathy Niederman at cathbowls@gmail.com.
- March 22 • **Let Freedom Ring Committee** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center.
- March 28 • **Property Preservation Commission** meeting, 7 p.m., Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts Sierra Room.

February 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## City of Cerritos COVID-19 update

Please note that the following information is current as of February 14.

At press time, the County was reporting a total of 13,075 cases of COVID-19 in Cerritos and 99 deaths due to COVID-19. There were 185 reported cases of COVID-19 and two deaths in the unincorporated area of Cerritos. This represents an increase of 205 cases and two deaths in Cerritos since the February issue of "The Cerritos News." ■

## Homeowners' Exemption program provides property tax savings

The Los Angeles County Assessor's Office Homeowners' Exemption (HOX) program reduces the assessed value of a home or condo by \$7,000 for tax purposes, which translates to a reduction of \$70 annually to a homeowner's property tax bill.

The property must be the owner's principal place of residence as of January 1, and an application must be submitted in order for a homeowner to qualify. An application received after February 15 is prorated for that year, but the homeowner will receive the full amount the following years. The savings will continue until a change is recorded.

For more information or to request an application, call (213) 974-3211 or (888) 807-2111. Applications also are available at [assessor.lacounty.gov/exemptions/homeowner-exemption](http://assessor.lacounty.gov/exemptions/homeowner-exemption). ■

## City of Cerritos welcomes new commercial enforcement deputy

The City of Cerritos is pleased to welcome Alvin Tompkins as the Cerritos Sheriff's Station's new commercial enforcement deputy. This new position was created in response to complaints received from residents regarding commercial vehicles routinely traveling off designated truck routes throughout the city. Deputy Tompkins will be responsible for ensuring the safety of the public by enforcing regulations and educating commercial vehicle drivers, and leading the City's commercial traffic enforcement efforts.

Deputy Tompkins is a Cerritos native and graduated from Cerritos High School. He began his career with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in 2008, where he worked for eight years at the Twin Towers Correctional Facility. In 2016, he transferred to the Cerritos Sheriff's Station where he patrolled the city and

investigated traffic collisions. He received training for Advanced Traffic Collision investigation, Standardized Field Sobriety testing, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement and Drug Recognition Expert. He recently completed a course for Commercial Enforcement at the California Highway Patrol training facility in Sacramento.

In addition to a new commercial enforcement deputy, the Cerritos Sheriff's Station has designated a 2022 Ford SUV patrol vehicle to serve as the designated commercial enforcement vehicle. The vehicle has "Commercial Enforcement" displayed on both rear-side doors, and will be equipped with portable scales, inspection tools and other equipment to facilitate the inspection of commercial trucks on public streets. ■

## Short-term rentals banned in Cerritos

Cerritos residential property owners are reminded that the City of Cerritos prohibits short-term rentals.

Short-term rentals refer to leasing or renting a single-family residential dwelling unit (in whole or in part) for 31 days or fewer. The most common types of short-term rentals are vacation rentals and home-sharing rentals, which are both prohibited. The Sheraton Cerritos Hotel located in the commercially zoned Cerritos Towne Center is not considered a short-term rental under the ordinance.

The ban strives to protect Cerritos residential neighborhoods from the noise, nuisances, added traffic and other adverse factors that can arise with short-term rentals. Appropriate enforcement measures will be taken against those who violate the City ordinance. ■

# The Cerritos News

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Councilmember Lynda P. Johnson  
Councilmember Naresh Solanki  
Councilmember Frank Aurelio Yokoyama

## City Contacts

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Public Works ..... (562) 916-1220  
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CCPA ..... (562) 916-8510  
Cerritos Library ..... (562) 916-1350  
Cerritos Senior Center ..... (562) 916-8550  
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