



Happy Anniversary

Annual Newsletter 2013 Year In Review

It's often said that history tends to reward those who embrace it and such is the case with the City of San Jacinto. What began as a simple trading post in the 1860's soon grew into a town and finally to what we see today, a full service city. In fact, these humble beginnings helped forge the can-do spirit of our historical families as well as our current residents. So, there is no doubt that these experiences left us with a rich history and a bright future.

Actually, 2013 was a great year for the city in many ways, but most importantly because we reached a significant milestone not yet experienced by most California Cities. We joined an exclusive "quasiquicentennial" club this past year when we turned 125! Subsequently, the city found many ways to celebrate this milestone by embracing our origins, traditions and other factors that made us who we are today.

To kick off the celebration, city staff began painting "San Jacinto, 125 Years" logos on various streets much like you would find driving down historic "Route 66". Assuredly, as soon as the logos were finished the curious began to call and inquire

what was going on. Needless to say, this provided us with the perfect opportunity to inform them of the City's 125th birthday.

From there, we established a common theme for the city as we incorporated our 125th anniversary into most everything we did. We also launched a number of new events this year to celebrate our birthday including, Cinco De Mayo, Concerts in the Park, Hispanic Heritage Festival and Christmas at the Mansion. All of these new events proved to be great tourist attractions which drew people from all over.

Happy Anniversary San Jacinto!



NORTH MOUNTAIN "S" RESTORED

Many years ago, an ambitious group of San Jacinto residents (mostly high school students) decided to enhance North Mountain's splendor by painting a large "S" near the crest of it. As a result, they created an icon so large it could pretty much be seen from anywhere in the valley. Needless to say, our community quickly embraced the huge symbol as a sense of pride and identity for our growing community.

However, over time the icon began to fade away as it slowly but surely returned to its natural vegetated state. What to do? Well, thankfully, a local family and the dedicated staff of Cal Fire came to the rescue. For those that don't know, the "S" is actually comprised of large painted rocks that are combined to make up the sizable letter. So, to restore it, one crew knocked down weeds and the other refreshed the rocks with water based paint. As you can see, the large "S" has been returned to its former glory.

Thank you both!



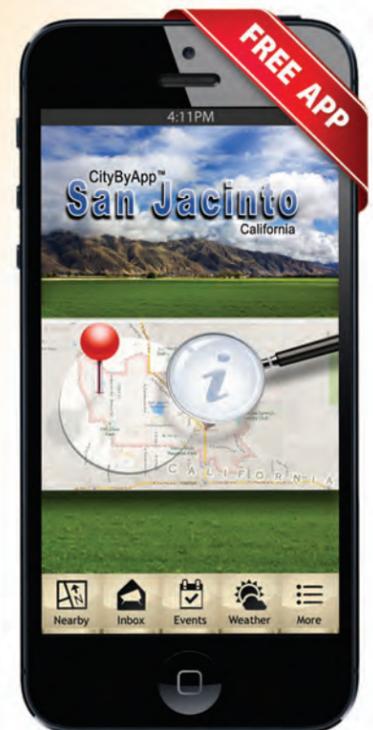
24/7 ACCESS TO CITY RESOURCES ON YOUR PHONE

Are you ready to get connected? Do you want all city related information at your fingertips? If so, we have great news for you! Beginning early February 2014, the City of San Jacinto is offering a downloadable app for smartphones that will connect you to a variety of services that include municipal, commercial and retail resources. So, whether you're looking for tourist information, a city park or a local business, City by App, San Jacinto will get you there with just a few swipes of your finger.



Release Date: Early Feb 2014

Download CityByApp™ San Jacinto! for **FREE** on your iPhone & iPad via iTunes or visit the Google Play App Store for Android devices.



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Unleash

Your Spirit In San Jacinto Valley!

Visit San Jacinto Valley is a tourism initiative spearheaded by the City of San Jacinto.

In 2013 the City of San Jacinto did something unprecedented. They spearheaded a tourism partnership with the County of Riverside, the City of Hemet, the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians and businesses with tourism interests in the San Jacinto Valley. The City of San Jacinto has had a long-term vision of bringing tourism back to the San Jacinto Valley and in 2013 set out to make that vision a reality.

Stemming from results of a community-visioning meeting hosted by the City of San Jacinto in 2011, city officials started exploring tourism options for the city. They began a dialogue with the Inland Empire Tourism Council, the regional tourism entity for the State of California's tourism program and Leslie McLellan, a Southern California tourism professional who had a long history with the Inland Empire Tourism Council and Lake Arrowhead. In the spring of 2013, McLellan was hired by San Jacinto to put together a marketing program and a website for the area. After a valley-wide tourism meeting attended by approx. 30 businesses, organizations, and governmental agencies the Visit San Jacinto Valley multicultural tourism marketing program began to take shape.

As the valley has such strong Hispanic, Native American and Agricultural influences, a multicultural tourism program was an easy choice as the tourism focus. Regional events like the Agricultural Festival, the Hispanic Heritage Festival, the Soboba Inter-Tribal Powwow, and the Ramona Festival are key to the tourism marketing effort.

There has been genuine excitement throughout the entire valley for this new tourism initiative. Earlier this year, the City of Hemet agreed to help San Jacinto fund the tourism program and in July the new tourism website www.visitsanjacintovalley.com was launched at a special reception attended by 300 people at the Ramona Bowl.

GET CONNECTED IN 2014 HERE'S HOW

Since the launch of the program, social media has played a big part in growing the awareness of the Visit San Jacinto Valley program. There is a very active **Facebook** page <https://www.facebook.com/VisitSanJacintoValley> as well as a **Twitter** page <https://twitter.com/visitsjv>. Key to the success of both these social media sites is the community Calendar of Events page found on the **Visit San Jacinto Valley website at <http://visitsanjacintovalley.com/calendar-of-events/>**. Events listed on this particular calendar are specifically for tourists regarding fun and exciting things to see and do while visiting the San Jacinto Valley. Download **CityByApp™ San Jacinto** to be connected 24/7. See article on next page.

Top 10 Reasons to Visit

1. The San Jacinto Valley is virtually a new tourism destination in Southern California
2. Perfect for family exploration
3. Extensive outdoor recreation possibilities
4. Excellent central location for Snowbirds
5. Six, count them, six lakes in the area
6. Seasonal events like the Agricultural Festival and the 4th of July Celebration
7. Mastodons were our first visitors, you can see them at the Western Science Center
8. Home to "California's Official Outdoor Play" – The Ramona Pageant
9. We celebrate the Native American influence of our Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians which dates back 1,000 years
10. The natural beauty takes your breath away... Come Unleash Your Spirit in the San Jacinto Valley



<http://visitsanjacintovalley.com/calendar-of-events/>



RECREATION



CONCERTS



CULTURAL EVENTS



WORLD CLASS GOLF



LAKES

CITY FESTIVALS
SEE BACK PAGE



MUSEUMS

New Police Canine



The San Jacinto Police Department is pleased to announce that it has added a new member to the team this past year.

Deputy Mark Wallace has been with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department for eight years and has worked at the Indio Jail and the Hemet and San Jacinto Patrol Stations. While working for the Sheriff's Department, Deputy Wallace has had the opportunity to serve the communities of Valle Vista, Idyllwild, Anza, Nuevo, Homeland, Green Acres, and the City of San Jacinto.

Deputy Wallace is currently assigned as the K9 Handler in San Jacinto with his partner, "Sultan". Sultan is a two year old mixed Belgian Malinois / German Shepherd from Slovakia. Sultan is trained to locate hidden articles of evidence and to apprehend dangerous suspects. In March of 2014, Deputy Wallace and Sultan will attend a narcotic detention school where they will learn to detect hidden narcotics. Deputy Wallace and Sultan have been patrolling in the City of San Jacinto since November of 2013. Deputy Wallace and Sultan are proud to work in the City of San Jacinto and strive every night to keep the city and their partners safe from those who would cause them harm.

Our K9 team is invaluable in the fight against narcotics and for apprehending suspects while reducing the risk of injury to other officers.



This past year, the Mayor of San Jacinto took the government to the people by hosting a number of community outreach events throughout various city neighborhoods. He had a simple goal to reach out to the average person who just didn't have the time to attend a council meeting. As we all know, time is precious and most spend it working and or attending to family life. This of course leaves few options for people to attend a local government meeting.

However the Mayor changed all that this past year when he literally took the "City" to the people. How did he do this you ask? Well, he assembled a team of two City Councilmembers, representatives from the City Manager's Office, Police, Fire, Public Works Departments as well as a representative from "Crimestoppers" and State Assemblyman Brian Nestande's Office.

Needless to say, the people really appreciated the opportunity to meet with their elected officials and city staff face to face. Citizens listened to briefings from various representatives who spoke about activities in their respective areas. After that, the sessions progressed into a two way dialogue between citizens and staff to further share concerns and suggestions regarding their specific neighborhood. These outreach events proved to be of great value to the citizens as well our elected officials.

Way to go Mayor and team!

ENGINEERING KEEPS THINGS MOVING

Our Engineering Department undertook a number of significant projects this past year and all of them resulted in improved roadways and circulation efficiencies. Beginning with the resurfacing of Lake Park Bridge, a special coating was applied to ensure its longevity even in the toughest of conditions. Next, the department undertook a number of asphalt rehabilitation projects in the city including one on the Northbound Ramona Expressway as it meets Main Street. There, a stretch of roadway was rehabilitated to improve its surface and facilitate drainage. Last, but certainly not least, is the Ramona Expressway Widening Project. This two-phase project between Sanderson Avenue and Main Street began in 2013 and Phase I is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2014. Phase 2 construction between Eagle Road to Main Street is expected to start June 2014.



Other projects in the works include Cawston Avenue Paving with construction start date in Summer 2014 and Warren Road Pavement Rehabilitation.

"Semper Paratus" TO ALL OUR MARINE FRIENDS



On November 11th, 2013, the City of San Jacinto paid tribute to The United States Marine Corps for their 238 years of service. What began as councilmember's vision and was then forged into reality was one of the finest monuments to an armed force the city has constructed to date.

The bronze sculpture of the Marine Corps eagle/anchor/globe created by sculptor David Nunneley, sits atop of a custom (locally made) black granite base engraved with text including the Marine's Hymn, the description of the symbol and a dedication statement. Needless to say, we experienced a tremendous turnout for the ceremony of which was highlighted by an inspiring speech given by a former San Jacinto resident, Marine Corps First Lieutenant Jeremy Stalnecker.



Mr. Stalnecker conveyed a heartfelt speech about his desire to become a Marine during his childhood and then described his time in the corps with colorful humor and gripping stories. Approximately 500 attendees listened and then watched a World War II Veteran, Ed Bardwell unveil the masterpiece. Thank you US Marine Corps and all our service men/women for serving!



COMMUNITY Celebrations

Keeping in step with last year, the community **CELEBRATED EVEN MORE EVENTS THIS YEAR!**



Beginning with the Ramona Pageant Parade, the valley celebrated this important tourist draw with a procession that began downtown and then ended at the historic Estudillo Mansion. Then, in conjunction with the parade, was the "First Peoples Day" which was sponsored by the Human Relations Council. As you can see, both events were hits with the attendees and "Ramona" and "Alessandro" spiced things up with their celebrity appearances.

Back, with even more crowd enthusiasm, was our Annual 4th of July Parade. Once again residents came out in droves to see a multitude of entries paying tribute to our "Founding Families" in a unique display of civic pride.

Of course we would be in remiss if we didn't highlight our city's third annual Agricultural Festival. This year we added a number of additional agricultural events, vendors and contests to make it even bigger than before. Families came out to enjoy the carnival rides, petting zoo and a variety of food vendors to tantalize their taste buds.



Ramona Pageant Parade



First Peoples Day



Cinco de Mayo Street Fair



Agricultural Festival



Christmas Celebration



Cinco de Mayo & Hispanic Heritage Festival

This year, the city added two new street festivals on Main Street with the intent to honor our heritage as well as to help increase our downtown business activity. Both featured dancers, music, vendor booths, food and plenty of family fun.



Run United 5k

The San Jacinto Unified School District created a new community event this year that brought in runners from all over the region. Although an inaugural event, this 5k race through the streets of San Jacinto proved to be a crowd favorite and huge success. We can't wait until this year's event to be held on April 26th, 2014. www.sjrunited.com



We did it all...

Mark Your Calendar

City Meetings:

City Council
1st and 3rd Tuesday
625 S. Pico Avenue
7:00 PM

Planning Commission
2nd Thursday
625 S. Pico Avenue
7:00 PM

City Officials:

Alonso Ledezma, Mayor
Crystal Ruiz, Mayor Pro Tem
Mark Bartel, Council Member
Andrew Kotyuk, Council Member
Scott Miller, Council Member
Kaleena Richards, City Treasurer
Tim Hults, City Manager
Mike Emberton, Assistant City Manager
Jeff Balinge, City Attorney
Steve Mike, Police Chief
Charlie Dehart, Fire Chief
Tom Prill, Finance Director
Habib Motlagh, City Engineer
Sharon Paisley, Development Director
Rick Miller, City Clerk