

**Recreation Division Highlights**

Thursday, March 19, 2026

**Thousand Oaks Community Center**

**McCrea Ranch: Valentine's Trivia & Treats**

Question #1: Which historic site in Thousand Oaks has the most spirited holiday events? McCrea Ranch! The Ranch celebrated Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 14th with Valentine's Trivia & Treats. 40 guests spent the afternoon indulging in sweets and pastries while testing their knowledge of McCrea Ranch history and the legacies of Hollywood actors Joel McCrea and Frances Dee. The event concluded with docent-led tours of the property's lower buildings.



**Safe Passage Field Trip: Peace Day at Thousand Oaks Center**

Peace, Love, & Safe Passage! On Friday, February 13th, 58 kids spent their no-school day at Thousand Oaks Center learning and celebrating a day of Peace. This annual event is in collaboration with Safe Passage, Rotary Club of Westlake Village, and Art Trek. Students designed their own peace banners, participated in teambuilding rec-games, and cultivated musical connections with African drums. The day concluded with catered lunch, fun on jolly jumps, and snow cones!



**Conejo Senior Volunteer Program (CSVP)**

**Free Tax Preparation Program**

The Conejo Senior Volunteer Program (CSVP) has begun offering free tax preparation services for seniors aged 60 and older (any income level) and individuals of any age earning \$67,000 or less. This complimentary service will be available Monday, February 2 through Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Services will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis at the Conejo Creek South Community Room (1350 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks), Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 4:00pm, and at the Newbury Park Library (2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park) on Wednesdays only from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Spanish and Mandarin translation services will be available on designated days; please contact the CSVP Office for details.

## Conejo Community Center / Outdoor Unit

### Archery Class Viking Shields

On Thursday February 19<sup>th</sup> the Intermediate / Advanced Archery class at the Conejo Community Center spent the day shooting at Viking shields and even a Viking boat made by Coach Travis. The students were given round pieces of cardboard 2 weeks prior and asked to decorate them as Viking shields and bring them to class to use for targets.



### Nerf / Pokémon Party

On Friday, February 20, karate instructor Niki Wright hosted a Parent's Night Out featuring an action-packed Nerf battle and Pokémon-themed activities. Eleven children participated in the three-hour program, enjoying an evening of fun and high-energy games while their parents took advantage of a well-deserved Friday night out.

## Dos Vientos Community Center

### Adult Archery at Dos Vientos

Saturday mornings at Dos Vientos features two back-to-back adult archery classes led by our certified Level II Archery Instructor. Designed for adults of all experience levels, these sessions provide instruction and skill development for both beginners and returning participants.

Many of these students signed up for one-day Archery Workshop classes held prior at our center and liked the sport so much they decided to sign up for the session!

## Therapeutic Recreation Unit

### Thousand Oaks Police Service Unit (TOPS)

On Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, our CRPD Therapeutic Recreation TOPS program participants took part in a First Aid/CPR training led and assisted by Deputy Ward, Deputy Gomez and Deputy Betka. Participants were highly engaged, excited to learn, and had so much fun practicing lifesaving skills in a hands-on, interactive setting. The TOPS Program provides adults with special needs meaningful community service opportunities and learning



experiences related to policing and public safety. This training empowered participants with valuable skills while strengthening community connections.

## Valentine's Dance



On Saturday, February 14, the TR Unit hosted its annual Valentine's Dance at the Old Meadows Center, welcoming approximately 75 attendees for an evening of music, dancing, and celebration. The event featured a live DJ, karaoke, and plenty of opportunities to socialize, with participants requesting their favorite songs and dancing the night away with friends. Guests also enjoyed delicious homemade baked goods generously donated by the National Charity League.

## TR Unit Programs

With the Winter session coming to a close, participants enjoyed a wide variety of engaging programs. Offerings have included spending time with friends at our weekly Adult Social and Friends program, a recent outing to the Goebel Center for drop-in social dancing and billiards, cheering on their favorite team at our Super Bowl party, and relaxing at a cozy pajama movie night, complete with in-house concessions stand serving popcorn, candy, and drinks.



## Upcoming

Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026: Conejo Valley Disability Fair at the Oaks Malls from 11:00am-3:00pm.

## Borchard Community Center

### Parker Palooza Rec Van Pop Up

On Saturday, February 21, the Borchard Community Center hosted a Parker Palooza Rec Van Pop-Up at Cypress Park, welcoming an estimated 150 community members for a fun-filled day outdoors. Staff organized a variety of activities, including a potato sack relay, egg-on-a-spoon relay, fingerboard skate station, and a plant decorating and potting craft, along with many other engaging games.

The Rec Van was on site with coloring books, allowing participants to continue earning their Parker the Rabbit stuffed animal. Families brought lunches and enjoyed a picnic-style afternoon, taking advantage of the beautiful weather and community atmosphere.



## Aquatics

### Winter Homeschool Swim Club

The Aquatics Unit not only holds after school programming, but also morning programs for our local homeschool population. As one of our most successful programs, The Homeschool Swim Club offers a unique opportunity for homeschoolers to strengthen their swim skills, improve stroke technique, and foster a sense of community in a team-oriented environment.

Twelve homeschoolers are currently participating in the Winter Homeschool Swim Club, as the program continues to grow with each season.



## Hillcrest Center for the Arts

### Classes, Comedy, and Elementary Music at HCFA (Hillcrest Center for the Arts)

The Elementary Music Program is underway with 966 students enrolled in chorus, 247 enrolled in band, and 114 enrolled in strings. The students are actively moving towards the 10 All District Music Festival Evenings, spring concerts, and musicals.

### Upcoming Shows at Hillcrest Center for the Arts

“YAE Team Up” just closed on the three-week run of Seussical with a sold-out final weekend!

The Hillcrest Players are getting ready for the premiere of “Captain Obvious and the Flame of Inspiration,” which will host 4 shows (2 on each Saturday) on March 14 and 21.

Auditions will be held on March 7 and 8 for the Spring YAE production of “Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Cinderella!”



## Thousand Oaks Teen Center

### Mountain High Snowboard/Ski Trip

The Thousand Oaks Teen Center kicked off the long weekend with an awesome trip to Mountain High on Friday, February 13! Thanks to the Conejo Valley Unified School District pupil-free day, thirty-nine teens were able to join in on the fun. Fresh snowfall and light crowds made for perfect conditions, and everyone who went had an absolute blast. Our next trip is coming up on Monday, March 16, and we’re expecting another big turnout!



## Thousand Oaks Community Center

### Class Highlight: Parent & Me Science

Parent & Me Science is all the buzz at Thousand Oaks Center! Every week participants and their parents explore science through hands-on activities and safe experimentation, all surrounding a unique theme. Some themes explored this Winter session included bubbles, dinosaurs, and magnets. Featured here is the class on Plants & Pollinators, where kids created a pollination simulation using Jello powder, dissected a flower, and made their own watercolor paint using pigment from flower petals.



### Upcoming Event: 2026 Kids' Swap Meet

Got toys? Become a vendor and bring all your unwanted and gently used toys, sports equipment, children's clothing, and more to Thousand Oaks Center's annual Kids Swap Meet on Saturday, April 11th from 8:00 am-12:00 pm. This event features child-led and family run vendor spaces, creating an environment where shoppers can consume consciously while promoting entrepreneurship amongst community youth. Registration is open now.

## Borchard Community Center

### Spring Arts and Crafts Show

On Saturday, March 7, Borchard Community Center hosted the 39<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Art and Crafts Festival from 10:00 am-2:00 pm, attracting an estimated 1,000+ shoppers. The event featured 77 vendors showcasing a wide variety of original, handcrafted items for purchase. Borchard staff and contract instructors further enhanced the event with engaging arts, crafts, sports, and cooking activities for the children in attendance.



### Skate Programs

On Saturday, March 7, Borchard Skate Park featured Open Skate from 12:30-4:30pm, as part of the Unplug programming schedule. Skate staff provided safety equipment and an introduction to skateboarding for beginners, while promoting upcoming classes and the new skate park project.

On Monday, March 9, Borchard skate staff hosted a Rec Van pop-up skatepark at Hickory Park, with portable ramps and equipment, creating a safe place for new skaters to experience a skatepark.

## Conejo Community Center / Outdoor Unit

### COSCA Rangers Visit Preschool

On February 26 and 27, COSCA Rangers Tim and Simone paid a special visit to the Preschool classes at Conejo Community Center. Their presentation outlined what Park Rangers do to keep our trails looking nice and students learned about badgers, bobcats, snakes, and deer. They even got to feel their fur on the taxidermy animals. The kindergartners had so much fun asking questions about the animals and making their very own Junior Ranger Badges.



## Thousand Oaks Teen Center

### Spring Middle School Basketball League

The Thousand Oaks Teen Center is gearing up once again for its Spring Middle School Basketball League—and this year is our biggest season yet. A record seven teams, totaling 59 players, will take the court and compete over 10 action-packed Saturday mornings.

The season tips off on Saturday, March 7, and will run through May 16, when we wrap up with both the consolation and championship games. Our league champions will earn exclusive championship T-shirts, proudly showing off their hard-won Spring League Title.



### ELOP Safari Extravaganza Presentations

On February 27, Matt from Reptile Family brought an exciting assortment of reptiles to the ELOP program. Animals included turtles, snakes, skinks, salamanders, and several other reptiles. Students had the opportunity to see and touch the animals up close while learning about their habitats, diets, and unique characteristics.



## Unplug

On March 7, the center hosted multiple Unplugged programs, encouraging families to spend time outdoors and away from screens. Staff led an *Afternoon Desert Bloom* class, where participants learned about succulents and how to properly care for them. While the class took place, families enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities including cornhole and lawn games, and many took the opportunity to have picnics in the park. Later in the day, guests were treated to a *Rain Forest Magic Show*, which brought lots of laughter and excitement for all ages.



## Aquatics

### Swimming in Volunteer Opportunities

The Aquatics Unit works hard to provide volunteer opportunities to teens who wish to gain valuable work experience before entering the workforce, working closely with The American Red Cross to be able to provide incentives for our volunteers who reach 140 volunteer hours. This month, we were very proud to present our longtime Volunteer, Hazel, who has reached this 140-volunteer hour milestone, with a certificate for a sponsored Lifeguard Training course provided by The American Red Cross. We know that once she earns her certification and employment, she will be an invaluable asset to the Aquatics team.

