

# PORTERVILLE

MARCH 2016

## Newsletter



### TOWN & COUNTRY MARKET NAMED OUTSTANDING BUSINESS HONOREE

The City of Porterville is pleased to announce Town & Country Market as an Outstanding Business Honoree.

Teddy Wong opened Town and Country Market in 1952 along with brothers Norman and Henry, who both ran the meat department. The store is currently managed by the second generation of Wong's, Barbara Sue and Mark Wong.

When looking for a location to open a grocery store, Teddy Wong's cousin who lived in Tulare and owned the Palace Market, told Mr. Wong that Porterville was the best place to open a new store.

Barbara Sue, one of Mr. Wong's daughters, said he had enough insight to build his own warehouse behind their current location and buy directly from suppliers instead of the wholesalers, to offer products at a reduced cost.

Mr. Wong not only had the ability to plan for the future, but also had a tremendous work ethic. Even in his later years he would still show up to work, sweep floors, bag groceries, and take customers groceries out to their cars. That work ethic has been engrained into the culture of Town & Country. Barbara and Mark have carried on Mr. Wong's work ethic of doing whatever is necessary.

Barbara attributes their success to being involved in the community and providing exceptional customer service. They have customers who's families have been shopping at Town & Country Market for generations. This customer service and the relationship with their customers is seen everyday. An example of this is that customers often wait in line to be waited on by a specific checker that they want to talk to.

Town & Country focuses their charitable giving on organizations that benefit children. These organizations include the 4-H Breakfast, band events, and various school fundraisers.

Barbara's favorite part of the business is "getting to know customers and employees." Town & Country is a large family that keeps growing of those who work and shop at the market. Since its opening 63 years ago, they have grown to over 80 employees.

The future is bright for Town & Country Market as the third generation (Nick and Stephen Wong) are now vested into the business. They plan to continue to grow the family business, building on the tradition of strong work ethics and community involvement another 60 plus years.

Congratulations to Town & Country Market for being recognized as a Porterville Outstanding Business Honoree.

#### CITY INFORMATION CITY COUNCIL

**MAYOR**  
Milt Stowe

**VICE MAYOR**  
Cameron Hamilton

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
Virginia R. Gurrola  
A. Monte Reyes  
Brian Ward

**CITY MANAGER**  
John Lollis

#### CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

City Manager's Office  
(559) 782-7466  
Department of Finance  
(559) 782-7566  
Community Development  
(559) 782-7460  
Police Department  
(559) 782-7426  
Fire Department  
(559) 782-7526  
Parks & Leisure Services  
(559) 782-7536  
Public Works  
(559) 782-7462  
Administrative Services  
(559) 782-7441



**City Hall**  
City of Porterville  
291 N. Main St.



# SPRING TIME IN PORTERVILLE

## Wall of Fame Ceremony-March 23 @ Heritage Center

Local individuals are honored on the City's Wall of Fame and recognized for their service to the heritage of the community.

## Egg Hunt- March 25 @ Veterans Park

Thousands of candy and toy filled eggs appear in Veterans Park for this fast and furious event! Plus, there is a special appearance by the Bunny.

## Springs Kids Fest-March 26 @ Veterans Park

This fun-filled festival features carnival rides, a 100ft. giant slide, bounce houses, games, informational booths, food, local performers and more!

## Music on Main- Fridays @ Centennial Park

Free concerts in the park every week that welcome dancing, picnic dinners and all-around good time for all ages. The entertainment starts April 8 and continues Fridays through June.

## Corporate Games- April 11-21

This premier business-to-business competition brings local organizations of all sizes together for a variety of fun and entertaining activities all while vying for ownership of the coveted Corporate Cup.



## PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES NOW ONLINE!

### RESERVE:

Check availability and reserve a park or facility

### REGISTER:

Sign up for sports leagues and recreation classes wherever there is internet connection

### CONNECT:

Team portals and simplified messaging keep you engaged throughout the season and up to date on all our activities.

## STATE OF THE CITY

The City of Porterville hosted the annual First Friday Coffee in December where Jenni Byers, Community Development Director, acknowledged the Outstanding Businesses and Outstanding Organization for 2015 and the Mayor addressed those in attendance with the State of the City.

Mayor Milt Stowe provided a summary of 2015 projects. Plano Street Bridge Widening had its official ribbon cutting on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Jaye Street Bridge Widening is a \$10 million project primarily Federally-funded is projected to begin construction in the summer 2016. The Public Safety Station is a \$4.5 million Measure H funded new public safety facility that began construction in the fall of 2014 and it is expected to be completed and operational soon that will house both the Fire and Police and will help with response times.

Downtown projects mentioned included former Porterville Hotel site and the how it will be improved to constructible condition and marketed for private development. The Downtown Parking Lots Rehabilitation Project that rehabilitated four Downtown parking lots and were completed in 2015. His speech concluded with promises of exciting things to come in 2016.

## WATER CONSERVATION/DROUGHT RESPONSE PHASE IV

Despite recent rains, the State of California is still facing drought conditions. Due to this, the City of Porterville has adopted Phase IV of the Drought Response Plan. Phase IV water schedule includes restricted watering days to one day per week based on property address and prohibits watering between the hours of 5 am to 10 am and 5 pm to 10 pm and also prohibits watering Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

### Mandatory Odd/Even Watering Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	DO NOT WATER	OK TO WATER	OK TO WATER
—	—	—	—	—	ODD	EVEN

Legend:   Odd Address      Even Address

## PORTERVILLE CITY LIBRARY EVENTS



### BEE A READER

March 1st—March 31st  
Mini Reading Program  
Join the program and read your way to our Honeycomb Party.



### National Library Week

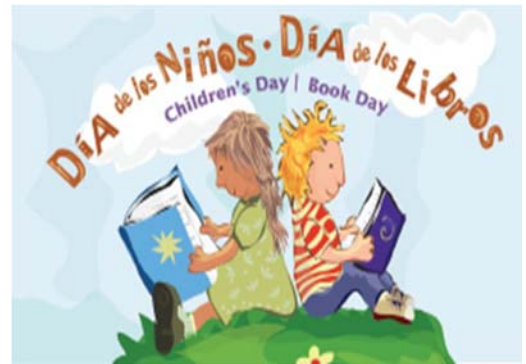
April 10-18, 2016  
Libraries Transform @ your library  
Stay tuned for events that transform.



### Dia de los Niños/ Children's Day Dia de los Libros/Book Day

April 30th, 2016  
10am-12pm  
Centennial Plaza Park

Help the library celebrate Children's Day with lots of free, fun activities for all children.



### EASTER BUNNY PICTURES

The Easter Bunny will be stopping by the library for photo opportunities  
March 15: 4:30pm-5:30pm  
March 19: 3:00pm-5:00pm  
March 22: 10:30am-12:00pm



For more information on these or any other library programs contact the Porterville City Library at 784-0177 or visit us at [facebook.com/portervillelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/portervillelibrary).