

RIVER  
ISLANDS

C U R R E N T S



OPEN LETTER FROM  
SUSAN DELL'OSSO  
PRESIDENT,  
RIVER ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT

Susan Dell'Osso

Even without looking at the calendar, it's clear that it's Spring at River Islands!

Walking around the community, I see pick-up ball games at Crystal Cove Park, little ones out on the playground equipment, and lots of happy dogs in our Dog Park. Even though the water is cold, the first kayakers and paddle boarders are out on our lakes. And the trail, which seems to be a year-round favorite, is seeing an uptick in walkers and bicycle riders.

Spring makes people think of new beginnings, making this a great time to share news about new events for the season, new clubs and new amenities now under construction. Underlying all of this activity is our belief that Islanders like to get together, in groups large and small, as a community of people who are putting down roots and making River Islands their forever home.

On the development side, we are working to put together more places to congregate—like the new, 15-acre multiple-purpose park—and welcoming back annual favorites, like the Farmers Market, to bring our Farm-to-Fork lifestyle to life.

For those of you who have not yet experienced the fun and excitement of watching traveling league play at Islanders Field, I highly encourage you to visit our beautiful baseball stadium. Stay a while, and enjoy the food and beverage service provided on-site. It makes for a wonderful afternoon.

There are so many places to discover in our part of San Joaquin County and beyond, including 21 golf courses, wonderful wineries in Lodi and the famously family-friendly parks at Pixie Woods and Micke Grove. Our area has locally-owned restaurants of every kind, many with outdoor eating areas, and weekend activities from hot air ballooning to river rafting.

I hope that everyone gets the opportunity to explore and enjoy all the ways to get outdoors this season at River Islands and beyond. This is my backyard, too, so if you see me, be sure to stop and say hello!

All the best—

Susan Dell'Osso  
President, River Islands Development

## INTRODUCING THE LATHROP POLICE DEPARTMENT

During the last couple of weeks, the City of Lathrop hosted several Meet & Greet events to introduce incoming Chief of Police Raymond Bechler and Police Commanders Kyle Oki and Stephen Sealy. The first meeting was held at the River Islands Welcome Center.

Over a year ago, the Lathrop City Council voted to move forward to create a city police force. With the tremendous support of the City Council and the community, Lathrop has been recruiting its own police force devoted to keeping our town and its residents safe. The headquarters of operations for the Lathrop Police Department will be located in the new police building located at the Bradshaw's Crossing Bridge entrance to River Islands.

Chief of Police Raymond Bechler, along with the two Police Commanders, together have nearly a lifetime of experience as law enforcement officers. All are honored and proud to serve our city. Bechler said that as the head of the new department, his goal is to ensure its transparency, accountability and community engagement by hiring the best candidates to join his team.

Lathrop Police Services will continue to be contracted through the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office until the launch of LPD, targeted for July 2022.



*City Manager Steve Salvatore, Chief of Police Raymond Bechler and River Islands President Susan Dell'Osso.*



*Chief of Police Raymond Bechler speaking to the crowd.*

## ENJOY THE PARKS AT RIVER ISLANDS AND BEYOND

Want to have a picnic with your family or enjoy the recreational sports areas for an afternoon? It's easy to enjoy them if you understand that all of the public parks within River Islands are under the jurisdiction of the City of Lathrop. The City's guidelines make neighborhood parks available to residents on a first come, first serve basis.

While this means that the City does not allow people to make reservations or host organized activities, like sports clubs in the neighborhood parks, River Islands is currently constructing an enormous, 15-acre Community Park that will have a designation that permits reservations at the picnic areas and sports field.

There are several Community Parks outside of River Islands that already allow for reservations of their picnic areas for private functions. For more information and reservations, go to the City of Lathrop website or contact the City of Lathrop Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Services department at (209) 941-7372.



*Somerston Park located in River Islands on Emerson Street.*



*William S. Moss Park located outside of River Islands is at 593 Inland Passage Way.*

## START RECEIVING UPDATES BY TEXT!

With the number of events and time-sensitive news at River Islands, we now have a way to keep our residents informed via text message right to your phone! These messages will only come from the Executive Office or Welcome Center of River Islands and will focus on sharing news that affects community members or provide information on upcoming events.

Scan the QR code below or text the word ISLANDERS to 30120 and you will be able to opt in for community updates. Stay up to date and sign up now!



## NEW CLUBS NOW FORMING!

Here are some details about upcoming clubs that we're excited to share:

- **Yoga Club:** Sarah Elena's goal for the group is to encourage community members to get to know each other and themselves more through yoga and fitness. She envisions the club to grow by welcoming all levels to participate. Contact: Sara Elena at 408-603-6188
- **Veterans Club:** Mike Dillman, Vietnam War veteran and organizer of the "Not Forgotten" Memorial Weekend event, is eager to support veterans from all branches of service within our community. The aim of the Veterans Club is to create a fellowship among those who have served and provide resources to help in all areas of their lives. Members will engage in meetings and social gatherings/activities to affirm the feeling of camaraderie. Leadership opportunities are available. Contact: Mike Dillman at 209-424-4396
- **RITS (River Islands Theater and Jr. Symphony):** Leading this program are resident's Angela Ames and Janet Mackey, who will be offering the opportunity for youth in the community to learn about performing arts and all the moving parts of creating a production. In June, this non-profit, local organization will be inviting kids ages 8 – 15 to audition for no-cost membership into the volunteer-run, educational program and have the chance to be involved in an upcoming theatrical performance. They are seeking Board Members and volunteers to support kids within our community who are actively interested in theater, music and dance. Contact [info@rits.ngo](mailto:info@rits.ngo)

## CALLING ALL CLUBS

We're heading into great weather for gathering outdoors! Participating in clubs is a fantastic way for neighbors to meet and get to know each other based on common interests. Have you started a club within the community or want to, but need some momentum? Send an email to [welcomecenter@riverislands.com](mailto:welcomecenter@riverislands.com) with some basic information and we'll add your official club listing to [www.MyRiverIslands.com](http://www.MyRiverIslands.com), so more people can join!

Don't know where to meet up? Although there aren't any dedicated areas within the community than can be reserved on a regularly-scheduled basis, here are some ideas to help:

- Neighborhood parks are always available on a first come first serve basis and are intended for walk-up use by residents.
- For indoor space, Fire Station #35 at 19001 Somerston Parkway has a community room available upon request. The Lathrop Police Department building, opening soon in the future Town Center of River Islands, will also have a community room.

If you want to use a neighborhood park or the community room at the Fire Station for one of your meetings, be sure to follow the Guidelines for Public and Private Space Usage posted on [www.MyRiverIslands.com](http://www.MyRiverIslands.com).

LIVE LEARN BELONG

## NEW NEIGHBORHOOD OPENINGS THIS SPRING AND SUMMER

Throughout the spring and into the summer, River Islands will see more new neighborhoods openings for preview showings and Grand Openings.

Waypointe by The New Home Company now has its models available to tour by appointment. Three different floorplans, both one and two story, offer from 3 to 5 bedrooms and up to 3,119 square feet.

Avalon Point is a continuation of the all-new Avalon neighborhood, with three home designs built on large lakeside lots. Trumark Homes is building models in both locations, and is offering preview sales from its sales office at Avalon.

The Cove is open for previews as well, from an office at Tri Point Homes' Breakwater community. Its water-oriented neighborhood will offer four to six bedrooms in home designs of up to 4,123 square feet.

Kiper Homes is now previewing Skye, an extraordinary collection of one and two story homes whose architecture ranges from a farm house style to classic contemporary. The Skye homes will have 3 to 5 bedrooms and up to 3,978 square feet.



*Waypointe Plan 2 - Approx. 2848 sq. ft.*



*The Cove Plan 1 - Approx. 2535 sq. ft.*

## Sprouts is “Sprouting Up” in Lathrop



Sprouts Farmers Market has announced construction of an all-new store in Lathrop, in the Lathrop Marketplace Shopping Center, located at the southwest corner of I-5 and Golden Valley Parkway. The shopping center is also the location of a Target store, In-N-Out and Starbuck's.

Sprouts Farmers Market offers a unique grocery experience featuring an open layout with fresh produce at the heart of the store. Sprouts inspires wellness naturally with a carefully curated assortment of wholesome, innovative products made with lifestyle-friendly ingredients including those that are organic, plant-based and gluten-free.

Sprouts has its own private label brand of products, featuring more than 2,400 items. The store has a large Vitamins & Supplements department with more than 7,500 products. Produce makes up approximately a quarter of the business for Sprouts, and the store carries around 200 varieties of organic produce. As a healthy food grocer dedicated to affordability and accessibility, one third of the store's items are always available by special promotion.

Although Sprouts started as a farm stand, today it is a public company with its own Healthy Communities Foundation, which supports local health and wellness related causes. The Foundation has awarded more than \$10 million to nonprofit partners across 23 states. Fortune magazine included Sprouts on its list of the World's Most Admired Companies in 2018 and 2019.

## A PAIR OF SWANS ARE SETTLING INTO THEIR NEW HOME



*The swans arrival and release into the lake.*

Let's give a warm welcome to Apollo and Artemis, a pair of young swans that now call River Islands their home! The pair was brought over shortly after the passing of Siegfried, the community's first swan-in-residence and much-loved neighbor.

Swans are known for their beauty, grace and intelligence. Fun fact: they typically mate for life. Swans feature greatly in mythology, and our new additions' names honor that tradition.

Please remember that these birds are considered wildlife; they get everything they need to eat from within the lakes. Enjoy sightings of Apollo and Artemis and if you happen to get a great picture of them, we'd love to see your photo – just send it over to [community@riverislands.com](mailto:community@riverislands.com)!

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND IN MANTECA TO HONOR FALLEN HEROES

Everyone is invited to attend the “Not Forgotten” memorial event taking place at Woodward Park in Manteca on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Organized by Vietnam War veteran Mike Dillman each year, the family-friendly day consists of memorial displays, a kids play zone, various ceremonies and exhibits, helicopter landings, a fireworks show and much more. This is one of the largest Memorial Day events in the state. River Islands is proud to be a sponsor of this year's event. Register now to participate in the Classic Car Show and Wounded Warrior 5K Run/Walk during the event. Admission is free and all are welcome from 7 am to 10 pm. Visit their website at [www.thememorialweekend.com](http://www.thememorialweekend.com) to learn more.



## OLIVE OIL PICKUP

We were thrilled that so many of you brought your families out last December for the olive oil harvest at Dell'Osso Family Farm! Our residents' harvest yielded hundreds of bottles of locally pressed extra-virgin olive oil. We will be announcing a pickup date soon to our list of participants.



## A CARNIVAL IS COMING TO RIVER ISLANDS

The City of Lathrop is inviting everyone to come out for some family fun! A visiting carnival with rides, games and food concessions will come to River Islands for one weekend at the soccer field complex!

Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 5pm – 9pm

Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5pm – 10pm

Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from Noon – 10pm

Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from Noon – 9pm

Entry is free, and tickets for the rides will be available to purchase at the venue.

## FARMER'S MARKET COMING BACK IN MAY!

Our River Islands Farmers Market will be opening this year in May. Its new location is the parking lot at the River Islands Technology Academy. We'll be sending out a postcard about the Farmers Market and other events planned for the spring and summer; we will also post a story about the Farmers Market on MyRiverIslands.com



## WINNER OF OUR ST PADDY'S DAY SCAVENGER HUNT ANNOUNCED

Congrats to Ivan Villa Salceda, Bella Rose Lopez and Aubrey Lopez, for entering and solving all of the holiday-themed clues and finding our missing pot of gold! A \$100 gift card to the Boathouse Restaurant is heading their way.



*Fun pictures taken on the hunt!*



*Drawing Winners Bella Rose Lopez, Ivan Villa Salceda and Aubrey Lopez at the volleyball courts for Clue #1!*



## EASTER BUNNY ARRIVES AT THE WELCOME CENTER



Bring the kids and come out to the Welcome Center on Saturday, April 16 to meet the Easter Bunny! The Big Bunny himself will be available for photos from 9:30 am till 11:30 am. He will be bringing along some treats to share, to make this a sweet afternoon!