

The San Diego Community College District has received millions in federal funding.

Find out how this could benefit you as a student.

And daylight saving time is approaching.

We'll tell you when to turn your clocks, coming up.

And a popular Latino Film Festival returns to San Diego.

We'll have the details later in the show.

News scene starts now.

Hello! I'm Jillian Fortner, and welcome to this week's edition of News scene, a broadcast produced by the students of San Diego City College.

Every Wednesday, we bring you the top stories of the week.

We start tonight with millions of dollars of federal funding going to under-served students in the San Diego Community College District.

A \$3.4 million check was presented at a press conference on the Mesa College campus this week.

The money will be used to fund three different projects.

One of the projects includes expanding the four pride centers for LGBTQ students.

Representative Sara Jacobs said these centers

are vital resources on campus.

“We are talking about kids! they should feel free, safe, and celebrated for being who they are. and that is why these LGBTQ+ pride centers are so important.”

The funds will also be used to grow Dreamer Resource Centers.

These centers assist undocumented students by providing personal, academic, and career counseling.

And funding will also go to internships and job training for students who have recently aged out of foster care.

To learn more about this story, visit sdcitytimes.com.

And just when our energy bills were starting to edge downward, San Diegans could be paying even higher bills in 2024.

The California Public Utilities Commission received a request from SDG&E to raise rates next year.

But the increases aren't automatic.

Before they are approved, remote and in-person public hearings are scheduled throughout the month.

Household electricity bills are expected to increase by about \$9 a month.

And natural gas bills are expected to be slightly higher than that.

And a new club committed to serving our community is starting right here at City College.

It's called Knights for Change.

And the club is looking for dedicated volunteers interested in meeting new people and engaging with the community through charity work.

The club is one of many at City College focused on building community outside of the classroom.

For more information you can go to sdcity.edu and search "clubs."

And City College is kicking off women's history month with a celebration of sports.

City College will be celebrating 50 years of title 9 with a pair of games today.

The Knights tennis and softball teams will compete this afternoon.

It comes after a free barbecue and a jersey give-away to the first 100 in attendance.

For more information, visit sdcityknights.com.

And the San Diego Police Department is looking to re-activate its controversial surveillance tech.

There are 500 inactive cameras and microphones still in place on street lights across the city.

The Police Department says they would like to use them as a tool to combat crime.

But opponents are concerned about privacy violations.

The department is holding hearings throughout the week.

And City College's urban campus will be a little brighter at night thanks to new permanent lighting.

Campus officials have added new lighting near the crosswalk over by parking lot 3.

You can also see new permanent lighting near the northeast corner of the science building.

Additional temporary lights are now near parking lot 5.

For more information, follow @sdcityoutreach on Instagram.

And a favorite San Diego film festival is back this year.

We'll have the details coming up after the break.

Welcome back to Newscene.

San Diegans have been hit hard by colds and flu this winter season.

According to county data, the percentage of emergency room visits for flu-like symptoms have been noticeably higher.

Although there has been a focus on covid for the past three years, other viruses have been circulating.

These viruses have a range of symptoms such as stomach or respiratory issues.

And these symptoms tend to linger longer than usual.

Some ways you can stay well include getting enough exercise and sleep, and reducing stress.

And make sure you don't forget to set your clocks forward this sunday.

Daylight saving time will begin at 2 a.m. this Sunday, March 12.

It will now get darker later in the morning and lighter longer in the afternoon.

The time change will affect the entire country except for Arizona and Hawaii.

And it will last until early November, when once again, we fall back an hour.

And a new way to ride to Pacific Beach will be available this summer.

After being lobbied by local officials, a new shuttle service will be offered for locals and tourists.

The shuttles would connect PB to the Balboa Avenue Trolley Station.

To fund the new program, parking meters will be placed in the community's business district.

The goal is to provide better transportation and alleviate congestion in the area.

And the Fleet Science Center is celebrating 50 years of elevating STEM in San Diego.

To mark this special anniversary, the Fleet will kick off a year of events all over the county.

Ticket prices will return to their original 1973 year price of \$2.50 starting this weekend.

Guests can also check out the new flashback exhibit that showcases each decade the center has been open, from 1970 to 2010.

For more information, visit fleetscience.org and search "anniversary."

And San Diego is celebrating Saint Patrick's Day a few days early.

The city will celebrate its 41st Annual St.

Patrick's Day parade and festival this Saturday in Balboa Park.

The festival will honor Celtic culture and the community in the San Diego region.

The parade will feature marching bands, Irish community groups, and over 100 floats.

For more information, visit stpatricksdaysparade.org.

And lovers of Latino cinema, art and culture are in for a treat starting this week.

The San Diego Latino Film Festival returns for its 30th anniversary.

More than 160 films will be shown across two locations, including the AMC Mission Valley cinema and the downtown Digital Gym CINEMA.

Filmmakers will make appearances and there will be live music and gala celebrations.

For more information visit sdlatinofilm.com.

And finally tonight, America's Finest City is now ranked among the nation's happiest to live in.

According to Wallet Hub, San Diego is ranked 15th out of 180 cities.

The rankings are based on 30 different metrics.

They range from emotional and physical well

being to income and employment.

Community and environment were also considered.

To read the full rankings, visit wallethub.com and search for happiest cities.

And that's all we have for this week's Newscene.

You can tune in for a new show every Wednesday evening, or watch anytime you want on YouTube.

You can also keep up with the latest news from the entire City Times Media team on sdcitytimes.com/newscene.

This is Jillian Fortner, and for the entire Newscene team, good night.