



CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2020



VOTE 2020

LA VERNE CITY ELECTION

★ FEBRUARY 22
THROUGH MARCH 3 ★

VISIT WWW.LAVOTE.NET FOR THE LIST OF VOTING CENTERS

CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

In this issue you will find information relevant to the upcoming Municipal election on March 3rd. The candidates' forum will be held on Thursday, Feb 13th at 6:30 pm at the Community Center, with Los Angeles County representatives on hand to demonstrate and answer questions about the new voting machines. Also, in this issue you will find information regarding National Burn Awareness week, La Verne Historical Society events, and why the 2020 Census is important!

I hope this newsletter is helpful in keeping you up to date with City news, activities and programs.

Bob Russi, City Manager

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<http://cityoflaverne.org/index.php/documents/newsletters/city-manager-s-monthly-newsletter>

CALENDAR

February 3 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

February 7 – 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Sweetheart Dance for People with
Special Needs
Community Center

February 17

President's Day
*City Hall, City Yard and
Community Center closed*

February 18 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

February 25 – 6:30 PM

Youth & Family Action Committee
Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The January 6th meeting was canceled. At the January 21st meeting, the City Council:

- Presented the Mike Shaw Pride of La Verne Award to Battalion Chief Kevin Greenway
- Celebrated the badge pinning of Fire Captain Andy Glaze
- Approved salary charts to reflect market adjustment and new minimum wage increases

ELECTION INFO

Municipal Candidates

The candidates for the following City of La Verne offices are listed below in the ballot order as determined by the Secretary of State's randomized alphabet draw:

For Mayor:

- Tim Hepburn, City Council/Small Business Owner
- Don Kendrick, Mayor
- Zach Gibson, Filmmaker

For Member of the City Council:

- Rick Crosby, Educator
- Keny Chang, Business Owner
- Wally Emory, Retired
- Wendy M. Lau, Risk Manager/Attorney
- Jeremy Milici, Community Services Specialist
- Rich Gill, Photographer/Videographer



The candidate statements are available in the City Clerk's Office.

Meet the Candidates

The public is invited to "Meet the Candidates" at a forum on **Thursday, February 13th at 6:30 pm** at the La Verne Community Center (3680 D Street). LVTV will record and televise the forum. For viewing schedule or more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 909-596-8726 or visit www.cityoflaverne.org.

The New Way to Vote

Voters in LA County now have 11 consecutive days to vote in person at **ANY** Vote Center in the county. For the March 3rd Presidential Primary Election, Vote Center voting begins February 22nd and will be available through 8:00 pm on Election Day.

Voters are no longer required to cast ballots at an assigned voting location, and are free to pick the most convenient Vote Center for them. La Verne's two Vote Centers are the La Verne Library (3640 D Street) and the Citrus Room at Hillcrest Retirement Community (2705 Mountain View Drive). A full list of Vote Center locations and an easy-to-use locator tool is available at www.lavote.net.

Those who can't get to a Vote Center can also vote at the LA County Registrar-Recorder office (12400 Imperial Hwy., Third Floor, Room 3002, Norwalk) starting 29 days before Election Day. Contact the Norwalk office at 800-815-2666, option 2 to confirm business hours.

Voters are not required to bring anything with them. However, bringing the Sample Ballot or Interactive Sample Ballot will speed up the voting process.

All LA County voters still have the option to vote by mail. Applications to vote by mail are available from the La Verne City Clerk or online and must be received by the Registrar by February 25th. Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots begin being mailed 29 days before Election Day.

Tax Measure

A unanimous La Verne City Council has placed Measure LV on the March 2020 Ballot. If approved, Measure LV will add ¼% to the existing 9.5% sales tax and generate an additional \$3.1 million annually for La Verne services. In terms of dollars, approving Measure LV means you'll pay an additional .75 cents for a \$100 taxable purchase, all used to maintain quality city services. (Essential purchases, including rent, utilities, groceries, and prescription medicine, are exempt from sales tax.) Two-thirds of this new revenue will be used to maintain the City's median compensation practices, which support the City's ability to retain and attract employees. This revenue affords the City the ability to remain competitive in the local labor market. The remaining share of revenue generated by Measure LV will be used to enhance certain services, programs, or facilities. The sales tax measure also establishes an oversight committee that will be tasked with ensuring the new revenue is being used as intended per Council adopted spending guidelines. These spending guidelines outline the oversight process and how the dollars should be spent if the tax measure passes. For more information, please visit the City's website at <https://www.cityoflaverne.org>.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Design Award: Pomona Valley Health Center

Pomona Valley Health Center, a branch of Pomona Valley Hospital, opened in early 2018 in the former Marshall's building at 2333 Foothill Boulevard. The 33,496 square foot medical center facility features a dedicated physical therapy swimming pool as part of its physical therapy services and also offers local patients primary care, urgent care, radiology, and occupational medicine services.

Along with the addition of the Pomona Valley Health Center, new improvements were made throughout the shopping center, including a new stucco finish on the building, new paint scheme, heightened parapets, wrought iron architectural elements, updated monument signs, revamped landscaping, and a new public art piece.

All of these combined improvements result in an aesthetically pleasing update to what was once an aging center. For their work developing the new Pomona Valley Health Center facility and renovating the shopping center at 2317–2371 Foothill Boulevard, the StoneCreek Company is a recipient of the 2019 La Verne Community Design Award in the Commercial category. Well done!



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Sweetheart Dance for People with Special Needs

The annual Sweetheart Dance for People with Special Needs will be held at the Community Center on Friday, February 7th from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm. Come and join us for a fun-filled Valentine’s Day dance! Participants will enjoy refreshments, fun decorations, a photo opportunity, and music played by a DJ. This event is sponsored by the Order of Alhambra and the City of La Verne Community Services Department. Tickets are available for \$5.00 presale at the Community Services office or are \$7.00 at the door. Parents and caregivers are free to attend the event



Homeless Count

The City of La Verne participated in the county-wide homeless count. The City had 22 volunteers that arrived at the Community Center at 6:30 pm to receive their instructions and all arrived back to the facility by 9:00 pm. The City was separated into nineteen different areas, and the count was broken down into the following criteria: Individuals, families, cars, vans, campers, tents, and shelters. The findings are as follows, with a comparison to La Verne’s previous findings:

| | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Individuals | 11 | 2 |
| Families | 0 | 0 |
| Cars | 1 | 3 |
| Vans | 1 | 1 |
| Campers | 0 | 0 |
| Tents | 1 | 0 |
| Shelters | 2 | 1 |

These counts are helpful for the city as we explore programs aimed at curbing homelessness from occurring locally.

Sponsorships Needed for the 2020 La Verne Concerts in the Park!



The La Verne Heritage Foundation along with the City of La Verne is proud to announce their 2020 Summer Concerts in the Park series. We are currently scheduling bands for the upcoming summer. These concerts have been one of their most popular local events for over 25 years.

To continue offering quality music, sponsors have an opportunity to donate towards these concerts. If you are a business owner, family, or know of someone who would like to help in continuing to offer these free events to La Verne residents and surrounding communities, please contact Chad Peterson at the Community Services Office at 909-596-8700 or by email at cpeterson@cityoflaverne.org with your interest. To ensure your business or family name will be included in any time-sensitive advertising, it is important to express your interest ASAP. Benefits include a tax write-off, listing of your business in all concert advertising venues to reflect your support of community events, and your business’s exposure at all the concerts.

Support your community with this great event! It is a pleasurable time for families to enjoy quality music, beautiful Heritage Park, and “Music Under the Stars.”

PUBLIC SAFETY

Temporary Fire Station 3 Closure



Effective Friday, January 17th at 8:00 am, La Verne Fire Station 3 located at 5100 Esperanza Drive is temporarily closed. This decision was difficult but is being taken to address the staffing shortages the department is currently experiencing. The primary factor in this decision is the safety and wellbeing of our firefighter paramedics who have been working well beyond their regular hours due to staffing shortages within the department.

The department is actively engaged in the recruitment and hiring of new members to address the staffing shortage the department is currently experiencing. We anticipate having new hires available to work by early March. Once sufficient staffing is available, Fire Station 3 will be reopened.

During this closure, the City will continue to provide the high-quality and dependable service through our other two stations, including areas serviced by Station 3. We have also made arrangements to utilize resources from Care Ambulance and the Los Angeles County Fire Department (paramedics) to provide for additional patient transportation and treatment as needed.

The La Verne Fire Department will continue to evaluate this closure as well as its impacts to the community and will reopen as staffing becomes available.

Coyotes and Wildlife Safety Precautions



In California, people have become accustomed to drought conditions and water restrictions, but how does the wildlife survive in drought conditions? Wildlife depends on water just as citizens do. The unusually dry weather in the region, along with construction activities in town, is causing wildlife to leave their typical habitats and go in search of food and water in the more populated areas. This should be expected and prepared for with open wilderness areas bordering the community.

The first precaution to take around your home is to clear the brush and dense weeds from around your property. This will reduce the likelihood of rodent or snake invasions. Tightly screen all access holes into your home from ground to roof to bar rats, squirrels, and birds.

Be sure not to allow pets to roam from your home and bring in cats and dogs at night whenever possible. Pet food left outside is like a buffet for wildlife. Once animals become accustomed to your pet's feeding routine, they will begin to depend on it. Animals will be attracted by the smell of food in your garbage too. Keep garbage containers tightly lidded and secure against tipping by large animals. Drain any outdoor sources of water each night including bird baths or pet water bowls.

Carry a whistle with you when you take your pets out for a walk. If you see a coyote, blow the whistle. The noise will scare them and push them back into wildlife areas.

If you encounter an animal that is posing a threat to people or pets, please report the incident immediately to the Inland Valley Humane Society & SPCA at 909-623-9777 (8:00 am to 5:30 pm) or 909-594-9858 (after hours). If you are reporting an encounter and the situation requires emergency medical attention, dial 911. If you have seen any wildlife, especially in groups or in families, and want it documented, please call the Inland Valley Humane Society & SPCA during regular business hours.

The California Department of Fish and Game offers the following information regarding coyotes. More information can be found at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Coyote>.

Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. They are by nature fearful of humans. **If coyotes are given access to human food and garbage, their behavior changes.** They lose caution and fear. They may cause property damage. They might threaten human safety. Relocating a problem coyote is not an option because it only moves the problem to someone else's neighborhood. Help prevent deadly conflicts for these beautiful wild animals.

"Coyote country" precautions

- Never feed or attempt to tame coyotes. The result may be deadly conflicts with pets or livestock, or serious injuries to small children.
- Do not leave small children or pets outside unattended.
- Install motion-sensitive lighting around the house.
- Trim ground-level shrubbery to reduce hiding places.
- Be aware that coyotes are more active in the spring, when feeding and protecting their young.
- If followed by a coyote, make loud noises. If this fails, throw rocks in the animal's direction.
- If a coyote attacks a person, immediately contact the nearest Department of Fish and Game or law enforcement office.



Stash your food and trash, allowing coyotes access to human food and garbage is reckless and deadly. Coyotes primarily hunt rodents and rabbits for food, but will take advantage of whatever is available, including garbage, pet food, and domestic animals.

- Put garbage in tightly closed containers that cannot be tipped over.
- Remove sources of water, especially in dry climates.
- Bring pets in at night, and do not leave pet food outside.
- Put away bird feeders at night to avoid attracting rodents and other coyote prey.
- Provide secure enclosures for rabbits, poultry, etc.
- Pick up fallen fruit and cover compost piles.
- Ask your neighbors to follow these tips.

National Burn Awareness Week

The American Burn Association observes the first week of February as an excellent opportunity to increase **burn awareness** and prevent future fires from occurring! We want to raise fire safety awareness and **prevention** to help lower the number of **burn** injuries across the country.

A FEW WAYS TO HELP PREVENT BURNS

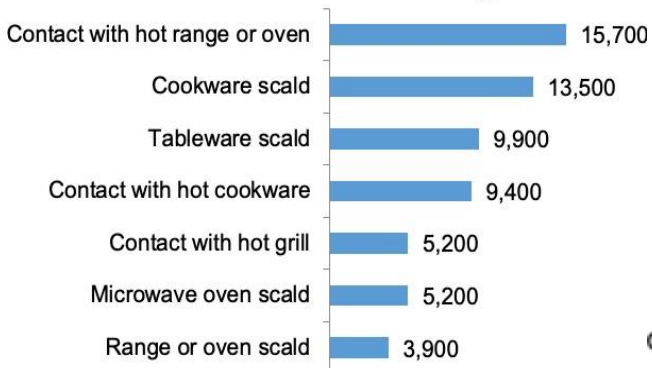
- Supervise children around hot objects at all times.
- Stand at least 3 feet away from hot outdoor objects.
- Turn heating pads and blankets off before sleep.
- Have hot pads available whenever cooking. Long oven mitts are best when reaching in or over hot surfaces.
- Remember items from a microwave can be just as hot as from the oven.



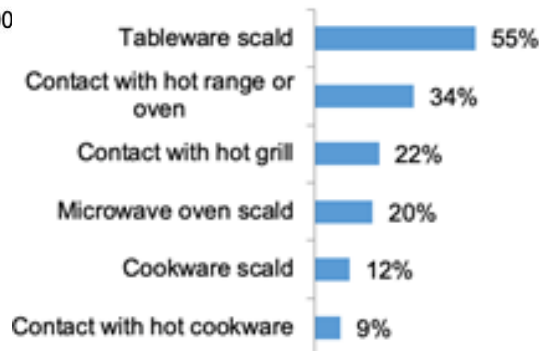
FACT – About one-third of the patients were children under the age of five (5)

NON-FIRE COOKING BURNS

**Non-Fire Cooking Burns
Seen at Emergency Departments
2013-2017 Annual Averages**



**Percent of Non-Fire Cooking-Related
Burns Seen at Emergency Departments in
2013-2017 by Children under Five**



PUBLIC WORKS/CONSERVATION

Local Household Hazardous Waste Events

Please collect your hazardous waste (pesticides, old batteries, used automotive fluids, used cleaning products, etc.) and electronic waste products (computers, old televisions, and broken cell phones) for a FREE collection event in Claremont on February 8th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Ave, Claremont and in Diamond Bar on Saturday, March 14th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at City Streets Gateway Corporate Center, 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive, Diamond Bar. All L.A. County residents are welcome to participate. If you can't make it to this event, there is a roundup nearly every weekend in L.A. County. The entire schedule and more details are posted at www.888cleanla.com



Water, Mosquitoes, and Disease Prevention

Vectors are living organisms that can transmit infectious diseases between humans or from animals to humans. Mosquitoes are the best-known disease vector, and it takes just one to spread disease throughout a community. It is important to control vectors, especially in a place like LA County with high population density, where disease can spread easily and quickly.

Locally the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District work to prevent outbreaks of disease and work with other local vector control districts to keep the greater Los Angeles County area safer. Vector control districts employ several preemptive strategies to manage disease outbreaks and work closely with flood control districts to ensure water flows rather than pooling in populated areas.



If insects can't be controlled early in their life cycle as eggs or larvae, they are significantly harder to handle. La Verne residents should ensure that water is not left to stagnate on their property including places like pools, ponds, buckets, rain barrels, and even tarps with low points where water can collect and sit. Even a little water left for a short time can be a breeding ground once it's still, so remember to keep water moving, properly treat it, and report chronic standing water issues outside of your property to the vector control district.

CENSUS

Why We Ask – The 2020 Census is Easy!

The 2020 Census is fast-approaching and outreach efforts to promote the Census are in full swing throughout the County. The census asks questions that provide a snapshot of the nation. Census results affect your voice in government, how much funding your community receives, and how your community plans for the future.

When you fill out the census, you help:

- Determine how many seats your state gets in Congress.
- Guide how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year.
- Create jobs, provide housing, prepare for emergencies, and build schools, roads and hospitals

Additional information on the 2020 Census can be found [here](#)

LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Bus Tour of La Verne

Join the La Verne Historical Society for a Bus Tour of La Verne on Saturday, February 15th, from 8:45-11:00 am for a Historical Tour of La Verne. The bus will depart from the Citrus parking lot at Hillcrest. Bus tours last approximately 1 ½ hours. Reservations are required, so please contact Sherry Best at 909-596-4679 to register.

1938 International Beautification Work Day!

Join LVHS members on Saturday, February 22nd, at 10:00 am to begin restoration of a 1938 International flatbed work truck. Experience a morning of history with LVHS and enjoy refreshments and a sense of accomplishment! For additional information or to donate to the restoration efforts, contact Sherry Best at sbest@lavernehistoricalociety.org

LA VERNE BRANCH - LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY

February Events - Children:

Smarty Pants Storytime, Wednesday, February 5, 12, and 19 (11:30 am - 12:00 pm). Let's get ready for school! Enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills and having fun! Attendance is limited and advanced registration is required. Storytime is for ages 2 - 5 with adult caregiver.



After School Adventures, Tuesday, February 4, 11, and 18 (4:00 - 4:00 pm). Join us for after-school games, crafts, and STEAM activities. You never know what adventures will be waiting. Check out the lobby each week to see what adventures await. After School Adventures is for ages 7 -12.

Baby Storytime, Tuesday, February 4, 11, and 18, (10:45 - 11:15 am). Enjoy bonding with your baby through rhymes, finger plays, and books. Attendance is limited and advanced registration is recommended. For babies up to 18 months with their parent/caregiver.

Leap Day Celebration! Saturday, February 29 (12:00 - 1:00 pm). It's Leap Day! Leap on over to the library and join us for games, crafts, and fun as we learn about Leap Day. Leap Day Celebration is for ages 5-12.

February Event - Teens:

Makmo: Tower Up! Friday, February 14 (3:00 - 4:00 pm). Design and build your own famous tower inspired by the works of Gustave Eiffel and Simon Rodia. Makmo: Tower Up! is For ages 12-18.

February Event - Everyone:



Rudy's Radical Science Projects! Saturday, February 8, (2:00 - 3:00 pm). Be amazed as Rudy takes you on a trip that will both awe and inform you about the wonders of chemistry! Discover the world of physical and chemical reactions with live experiments in this thrilling and action-packed show for the whole family. Ages 7+

David Cousin Juggling, Saturday, February 29, (11:00 - 11:45 am). Do you like to laugh? Do you want to celebrate the extra day this year? Join us for the kick-off to our Leap Day Event as you watch ball, pins, hoops and more leap into the air! David Cousins hold 5 work records in juggling and his high-energy juggling show is perfectly suited for the whole family. This is a show you won't want to miss!

Library Hours:

Monday, Tuesday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Wednesday, Thursday: 11:00 am – 8:00 pm

Friday, Saturday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday: Closed



The library will be closed on:

President's Day – Monday, February 17, 2020

For more information visit the library's website: <http://www.colapublib.org/libs/laverne/index.php>