



CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2020



CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

March 3rd is Election Day and there are several important decisions that voters will consider at the Local, State, and Federal level. As a reminder, you can cast your vote at the library or Hillcrest in La Verne or one of the 970 voting centers countywide. No matter your party affiliation, please exercise your right to vote. To find a voting center [click here](#).

In this issue you will find information relevant to the upcoming Municipal election on March 3rd. Also, in this issue you will find information regarding the Sidewalk Coloring Contest, Free Tax Services for Seniors, and Home Fire Safety.

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

March 2 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

March 3 – Election Day

Vote Centers open from
7:00 am – 8:00 pm

March 14 – 8:00 AM

La Verne Little League
Opening Day
Pelota Park

March 16 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

March 24 – 6:30 PM

Youth & Family Action Committee
Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

March 25 – 9:30 AM

Sidewalk Coloring Contest
Maniero Square

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the February 3rd and 18th meetings, the City Council:

- Celebrated the badge pinning ceremonies of Lieutenant Jason Prows, Sergeant Joshua Wells, and Corporal David Weaver
- Recognized La Verne Girl Scout Katelyn Roney, who won a nationwide competition to be featured on Girl Scout Trefoil cookie boxes
- Presented the Jim Scranton Pride of La Verne Award to Carolina Coppolo for her many roles with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) over nearly 20 years
- Presented the Jack Huntington Pride of La Verne Award to Denny Sharpe for his 40 years as treasurer for the Fourth of July committee and numerous volunteer efforts

ELECTION FAQs

Where can I vote in La Verne?

For the first time, Los Angeles County voters may vote at any vote center and do not have to report to a specific polling place. In La Verne, two voting centers will be available: Hillcrest Retirement Community (Citrus Room) and the La Verne library (Meeting Room). These voting centers are open for voting from February 22 until Election Day, March 3. To check hours and find other voting centers, see the LA County Registrar website at <https://locator.lavote.net/locations/vc>



How can I see my sample ballot?

Sample ballots have been mailed to voters, but registered voters can also look up an interactive sample ballot at: <https://isb.lavote.net/>

Where can I drop off my Vote By Mail ballot?

LA County also offers an alternative solution for Vote by Mail (VBM) voters to easily and securely drop off their ballot in-person at over 200 drop box locations throughout the County. This year, La Verne does not have a Vote by Mail drop box. The closest boxes are San Dimas (San Dimas Library), and Claremont (Alexander Hughes Community Center or Claremont City Hall). For other locations, see <https://lavote.net/home/voting-elections/voting-options/vote-by-mail/vbm-ballot-drop-off>

How can I watch the City's Candidate Forum?

The City-sponsored candidate forum held on February 13th is available on the City website: <https://laverneca.new.swagit.com/videos/43056>



GOLD LINE UPDATE

Foothill Gold Line Update

Major construction on the first nine miles of the project, from Glendora to Pomona, is anticipated to start in August. Ahead of the construction starting, the Construction Authority is hosting a series of community meetings to provide project stakeholders the latest information about the project. Importantly, these meetings (which start this week) will give the community a better understanding of when construction is expected to be underway in their area. The station artists will be available to discuss the public artwork planned at their city-specific meetings. All four meetings will take place from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, and the same information will be provided:

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Glendora Library, Bidwell Forum

140 S. Glendora Ave., Glendora, CA 91741
Station Artist: Michael Hillman

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Palomares Park Community Center

499 E. Arrow Hwy., Pomona, CA 91767
Station Artist: Stephen Farley

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

La Verne Community Center

3680 D St., La Verne, CA 91750
Station Artist: Blue McRight

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Stanley Plummer Community Building

245 E. Bonita Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773
Station Artists: Eugene and Anne Olsen Daub

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Let's Go Swimming

Water Wings was approved by the Planning Commission to operate at 929 Foothill Boulevard (the brand-new building in the Mr. D's parking lot). Water Wings is a year-round swim school with indoor heated pools, catering to the needs of children and adults of all ages and abilities. They currently have six indoor facilities in Nevada, California, and Arizona. It will take some time for them to build out the new space and construct two indoor swimming pools, but keep an eye out for their progress while you are visiting Mr. D's Diner!



Kohl's Updates

Kohl's is getting a new look! The Kohl's Department Store at 2229 Foothill Blvd. will be undergoing some interior and exterior re-modeling as part of a plan to reduce the store to approximately two-thirds of its existing size in order to make room for a proposed grocery store tenant. The City has received a Conditional Use Permit application for the new grocery store, but staff is still waiting for the name of the new grocer to be revealed before bringing the request forward to the Planning Commission for approval. Though we're still awaiting more details on the new grocer, the plans to modify the building are moving full-steam ahead having received approval from DRC at their February meeting and currently in plan check with Building & Safety. Get ready for a new and improved Kohl's later this year!

Community Design Award: The Resting Spa and Massage

The Resting Spa and Massage is a hidden gem in the heart of Old Town La Verne. Located at 2071 Third Street, the business is owned by Darlene Lopez, a professional massage therapist and cosmetologist. At The Resting Spa and Massage customers can relax with a variety of massage services and spa treatments, including therapeutic massage, hot stone massage, Swedish massage, facials, aroma therapy and sugar scrubs.

Darlene and her father worked to re-model the interior of the space, which had previously been home to Classic Electrology for 35 years, transforming the 400 square foot area into a cozy and quaint boutique with charming décor. For all of her efforts and hard work, The Resting Spa and Massage is a recipient of the La Verne Community Design Award in the Interior Design category. Congratulations!



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Honor a Veteran with a Memorial Paver

The La Verne Community Services Department is still accepting paver orders for the Veterans Memorial until April 9th for installation by this upcoming Memorial Day. The new pavers will be displayed at our Memorial Day Ceremony which takes place at Veterans Hall, 1550 Bonita Avenue, on Monday, May 25th at 11:00 am. The cost to purchase pavers is: \$150 for a 4 x 12 paver, \$300 for an 8 x 12, or \$400 for a 12 x 12. If you have questions or would like further information regarding paver purchases, contact the La Verne Community Services Department at 909-596-8700.

Donations Needed for Free Summer Lunch Program



The City of La Verne will once again offer its Summer Lunch Program this upcoming summer. The Summer Lunch Program is a free program for kids who receive a free lunch during the school year. Once the school year ends, the free lunches are not available through the summer from the schools, and this program fills the gap. The program will run daily at Las Flores Park from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm from June 8th through August 14th. The program is staffed by City employees and includes activities, crafts, and a free nutritious lunch. Last year close to 1,300 lunches were served.

The Summer Lunch Program is funded entirely through donations. The City is once again seeking donations for the upcoming 2020 summer to keep this free program running for the children of this community who stop receiving a free lunch once the school year ends. If you are interested in being part of this great program, please contact the Community Services Department at 909-596-8700.

Preschool Enrollment

City of La Verne Preschool is taking enrollment now through May 2020. This class is a social recreation program for children ages 3 to 5. Children will learn about numbers, colors, shapes, and the alphabet. Call the Community Services Department for more information.



Free Tax Assistance for Seniors



Did you know? AARP Volunteers provide FREE tax assistance to community seniors with low-moderate income by assisting with filling out SIMPLE tax returns on Tuesdays through April 14th. Appointments are required, so call the Community Center at 909-596-8776 to schedule.

Sidewalk Coloring Contest

On Wednesday, March 25th at 9:30 am, children ages 1-12 can display their creative talents in the Sidewalk Coloring Contest! Admission is FREE! Children will be drawing with chalk on their own sidewalk square. Prizes will be awarded to various groups. Chalk is provided for all participants. Register March 2-24 at the Community Services Office by calling 909-596-8700. Late registration will take place Wednesday, March 25 from 9:00-9:25 am at Mainero Square. Awards will be given at 10:00 am.

Community Yard Sale is Coming

Are you ready for some spring cleaning? Mark your calendars, Saturday, April 18th from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, is the date of the Community Yard Sale & Fitness Expo. The City of La Verne, Chamber of Commerce, and Bonita High School are sponsoring this event. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to browse, shop, and think fit! Contact the Chamber of Commerce at 909-593-5265 for information about spaces to sell items.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Always be prepared for a Fire Emergency

The worst part is that most home fires are preventable. Keep your family and your home safe with just a little fire safety preparation and prevention. From creating a fire escape plan to making sure your smoke detectors are working properly, these fire safety tips are easy to learn and practice in your home.



Preventing home fires

- Install and maintain smoke alarms on every floor of your home and within every bedroom.
- Never leave food cooking unattended, especially deep fryers and other frying equipment.
- Avoid using portable and fixed space heaters, as heating equipment is the second leading cause of home fire deaths.
- Have a fire plan that gets you out of your home in less than two minutes and practice it.
- Avoid smoking in the house.

Test your smoke detectors



Every smoke alarm should be tested monthly by pushing the “test” button and batteries should be changed when needed. It is best to always have at least one spare battery. If your smoke alarm ever “chirps,” it is time to replace the battery immediately. Most smoke alarm failures occur because of a missing or disconnected battery or a dead battery.

Placement of your smoke detectors should be primarily in the kitchen and basement.

How to use a fire extinguisher – P.A.S.S

Pull the pin

Aim low

Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly

Sweep the nozzle from side-to-side



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 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

AB 341 Mandated Commercial Recycling



In 2012, the State of California passed AB 341, which requires recycling by commercial facilities generating four or more cubic yards per week and multi-family properties with five or more units. Should the State not reach its diversion goals, the threshold for commercial businesses will drop to two cubic yards per week. Cal Recycle (the State of California's enforcement agency for solid waste) requires extensive outreach by cities to ensure the properties within their jurisdictions are complying. Despite the rising cost to cities from the outreach and monitoring of businesses, the State does not allocate any funding to cities for these efforts.

In 2016, 34% of La Verne eligible properties were in compliance. In 2017, that number almost doubled to 62%. By 2018, it rose to 68%. This compliance can be attributed to the efforts of the Public Works Administration and Waste Management staff. Outreach is constantly ongoing through personalized site visits, print, electronic, billing messages and advertising in local media. In 2019, City and Waste Management staff made personal contacts with over 200 La Verne business and multi-family managers or owners.

LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Eulalia Pérez: Her Life and Times

Historian Roberta H. Martínez will tell us about the life and times of Eulalia Pérez de Guillén Mariné (1766?-1878) a cook and midwife during the time of Governor Pio Pico. She is one of only two non-clergy buried in the courtyard of Mission San Gabriel. Come hear this fascinating story of a lady who lived in pre-statehood California. Lecture will be on Monday, March 9th from 7:00-8:00 pm, at the Hillcrest Meeting House, 2705 Mountain View Drive.

LA VERNE BRANCH - LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY

March Events - Children:

Smarty Pants Storytime, Wednesday, March 18, and 25 (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 18 months - 5 with their parent/caregiver.

After School Adventures, Tuesday, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 (4:00 - 5:00 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 grades 1-6.

Baby Band, Tuesday, March 17, 24 and 31 (10:45 - 11:15 am). Join us for a lively time enjoying songs, rhymes, and movement activities while learning school readiness skills in an encouraging environment. For babies 6-18 months with their caregiver.

March Event - Teens:

Teens' Create Month Art Day, Monday, March 16 (3:00 - 4:00 pm). Let's try our hands at Origami. The library will supply the materials if you provide the creativity! For ages 12-18.

March Event - Everyone:

Tamora School of Irish Dance, Saturday, March 14, (2:00 - 3:00 pm). The Tamora's School of Irish Dance is a competitive Irish dance school located in San Dimas. Tamora's philosophy has been to share the love and culture of Irish dance in a family-oriented environment. The lessons and values learned during their Irish dancing careers carry through into all aspects of their lives. Enjoy our performance and maybe try to learn a step or two. For all ages.

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:
Cesar Chavez Day – Tuesday, March 31, 2020

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