



What makes me happy to be the City Manager in La Verne? First, the more I researched the City and drove through the community, the more it became apparent that this is truly a wonderful place. The emphasis on family, the community spirit shown through local events and support of youth and school teams, and pride of being all-things La Verne that is prevalent when talking to people or reading local news, is a testament to how much residents love and appreciate the City. Second, La Verne appealed to me because after a career experiencing different sized cities, my answer from over 35 years ago reflected the values I have gained in my local government service. As a local government professional, I look forward to being readily available to residents, getting out of the office to interact, exploring the issues, and working with residents and the City Council in order to make the City a better place.

While I bring experience with me to this role, I look forward to meeting more members of the community, attending events and functions, and spending these first few months of 2023 digging into the issues and hearing all about the community that you know and appreciate as your home. I welcome your input and invitation to introduce myself to community groups and organizations by emailing me at [kdomer@cityoflaverne.org](mailto:kdomer@cityoflaverne.org). Mostly, I look forward to a productive 2023, working with the City Council and the dedicated City staff to continuously improve the City organization, and through our efforts, the City of La Verne.

*Ken Domer, City Manager*

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## LA VERNE CITY COUNCIL



**MAYOR**  
**TIM HEPBURN**  
**DISTRICT 4**



**MAYOR PRO-TEM**  
**RICK CROSBY**  
**DISTRICT 2**



**COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**STEVE JOHNSON**  
**DISTRICT 1**



**COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**WENDY LAU**  
**DISTRICT 5**



**COUNCIL MEMBER MESHAL**  
**"KASH" KASHIFALGHITA**  
**DISTRICT 3**

## HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the December meetings, the City Council:

- Adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 1114 which incorporates the 2023 Los Angeles County Building Code and 2022 Fire Code and Green Building Code
- Designated the streets for the Christmas Parade route on Christmas morning
- Executed an agreement with Matrix Consulting Group to conduct an in-depth Police Services Study
- Approved a street closure for the Holiday Half Marathon Event

To see what else was discussed in the meetings, visit the City website to review the recent agendas and minutes as well as watch the video feeds. [Click here](#) to visit the website page.

## ADMINISTRATION

### Chamber of Commerce 2023 Scholarship

The La Verne Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications for their 2023 Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program encourages students to pursue higher education following high school. It is open to graduating seniors whose primary residence is La Verne who will be attending a vocational/technical school, a Community College or four-year college or university. The Chamber of Commerce will award multiple scholarships up to \$500 each. Applications must be submitted by 1:00 PM on March 31, 2023. Application information can be found on the Chamber's website or by [clicking here](#).



### Santa's Helpers

Thank you to all the Christmas Morning volunteers who helped bring the holiday spirit to the City of La Verne. Santa and the Fire Department were joined by 55 volunteers as they paraded through the community and gave goodie bags to the families who greeted them along the way. Volunteers from the community play a key role in the continuation of this deeply valued tradition that has occurred in La Verne for 97 years.



## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Free Sandbags Available



As the rain is expected to continue into the new year, pick up some free sandbags available at the La Verne Fire Department. Sandbags can help prevent flooding as they create a barrier that can guide water to flow around buildings. Sand and sandbags are provided free of charge at Fire Station 1, with shovels available for residential use. It is important to note that filling sandbags is a two-person job, so bring someone to assist you. Fill sandbags 1/2 to 2/3 full and tie at the top so the bag will lay flat when put in place. A properly filled sandbag should weigh between 35-40 lbs. For more information, call 909-596-5991 during normal business hours.

### Subscribe to Alerts!

Stay up to date on [La Verne Police Department](#) by visiting the Alerts, News & Stats page on the department's website! There, you can find LVPD's latest press releases, daily logs and more. Residents can also sign up for the City's emergency alert system, Nixle, by texting "91750" to 888777 or by visiting [nixle.com](#). Nixle provides timely notifications via text or email during emergency situations including fires, earthquakes, closed roads, evacuation orders and other public safety concerns.



## Spark of Love Toy Drive

Thank you to all La Verne residents, businesses, and Council Members for their gift donations to the Spark of Love Toy Drive this year – 20 boxes were filled with toys! These gifts helped 22 grateful families here in La Verne and additional toys were donated to David and Margaret Youth and Family Services, Haynes Family of Programs, and a local woman’s shelter.

## Mutual Aid Agreement

After 10 months of discussion, La Verne Fire Department and Los Angeles County Fire Department have finalized a mutual aid agreement to improve response times around La Verne. This partnership is effective December 1<sup>st</sup> and will remain effective until either Fire Chief notifies the other of termination. La Verne Fire Department’s service levels for the City will remain the same. In addition, they will now respond as first alarm units to all structure and wildland fires in certain regions of the cities of Pomona, Claremont, and San Dimas. The department will also provide second-due service for EMS responses, which includes ambulances as needed. In return, the City receives equal support from Los Angeles County units bolstering our emergency response for residents.

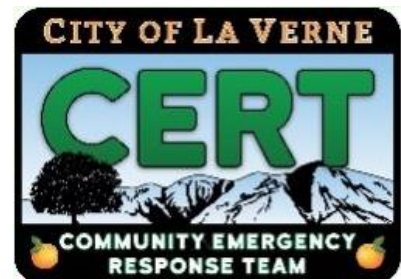


## Sharing the Christmas Spirit - HOST Christmas Story

Our HOST (Homeless Outreach) team recently encountered Mr. Frederick Weeks. In speaking with Mr. Weeks, they learned that he was originally from New York. Over the years he, along with his wife and daughter lived in Kansas City and Atlanta. Frederick then moved to Florida to seek a new career, which eventually led him to California, where he lost his job and housing in November 2021. Our HOST team and our partners at LA CADA and Tri-City reached out to him with offers of assistance. During the transition from Florida, his identification was stolen, which made securing assistance difficult. Recently, our HOST team and Tri-City navigator, Paulina Ale reached out to Frederick’s adult daughter, who was willing to accept and assist him if he returned home. Our team provided him with food, a shower, and other resources, including a hotel voucher and bus ticket to reunite him with his family in time for the holidays. We are truly grateful to our community partners and our LVPD HOST team members for their outreach efforts. We wish Mr. Weeks and his family a Merry Christmas and the very best in the New Year.

## CERT Program

Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program trains residents to prepare and safely respond to the disasters they may face in their communities. The CERT training course includes hands-on exercises to learn the skills needed to safely take care of themselves and others in their home, workplace, neighborhood and community. After a large disaster, La Verne’s emergency resources will likely be overwhelmed and delayed. CERT-trained volunteers may be the only available assistance for the first 72 hours to help others and give critical support to first responders when they arrive. Graduates can use the training for their own personal preparedness or choose to join the team. (Team membership is encouraged but NOT required.) The purpose and goal of training is to prepare for a disaster and how to safely respond and help others around us during a disaster. Team members also help with non-emergency projects and events in their community. To date, the La Verne CERT program has trained over 170 residents. For more information or to sign up, contact us at [lavernecert@gmail.com](mailto:lavernecert@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.lavernecert.org](http://www.lavernecert.org).



# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Recreation Guide

Stay up to date with special events, activities, classes, and sports this season! The Winter/Spring 2023 Recreation Guide is now available to view and download on the City website. Guides have been sent to every household via mail and extra copies will be available for pick-up at the Community Center and at the Community Services Department within City Hall. Click on the Recreation Guide Cover to start reading!



## AARP Tax Assistance

In January, the Community Center will begin taking appointments for free tax filing assistance. AARP Tax-Aide volunteers will provide assistance to seniors with low to moderate income in filing their simple tax returns.



Recommended documents to bring to the appointment include: a copy of the previous year's tax return, any forms showing income, pensions, or Social Security payments, as well as forms showing interest or dividends that your investments have earned, receipts or canceled checks for income or property taxes paid, or any contributions made to charities.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Small Business Rescue Grant

The Small Business Rescue Program has been operating successfully since March of 2022 and has assisted 72 La Verne businesses. The funding used was a portion of the City's allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. Staff worked with the Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Development Center at the University of La Verne to award the grants. As of December 1<sup>st</sup>, the program is complete, and all of the funds have been used.



# PUBLIC WORKS

## Christmas Tree Recycling



Residents may recycle their trees for the first two Mondays in January on their scheduled collection day on **January 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Trees will be collected at the curb. After the three-week period, you may cut your tree and place the pieces in your green waste cart with the lid completely closed.

- Trees longer than six feet must be cut in half.
- Please remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments and tree stands.
- Flocked trees cannot be recycled.

## Organic Waste Pails

At the start of the year, Senate Bill 1383 was passed to tackle organic waste disposal throughout California in the hopes of reducing disposal rates by 75% by the year 2025 (compared against 2014 rates). By doing so, the state would reduce greenhouse emissions and air pollutants. The bill targets this issue on multiple fronts including the requirement for all organic waste to be disposed of in the green bins instead of the black trash bins. To ease the transition process for residents, the City of La Verne has free travel-sized composting bins available for residents by request at La Verne City Hall. These bins can be left in the kitchen so that all food scraps can be placed in the bin to then be disposed of in the green trash bin. Refer to the graphic for types of organic waste that can be placed in the green bin.



## LA VERNE LIBRARY

### Winter Reading Club



Calling readers of all ages! Now through January 15<sup>th</sup>, join the new Winter Reading Club challenge to earn prizes and help reach the communal reading goal of 1 million minutes! As of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, the group has reached 70% of the 1 million minutes goal as club members have read for 707,290 minutes. [Click here](#) to sign up as an individual or a family, with accounts for each reader in your household.

### Visit the Library Without Leaving Home

LA County Library Members can access free library resources including eBooks, audiobooks, magazines, movies and more! Students can also get virtual homework help, learn a language, and take online classes. To view the resources, [click here](#).

### Smarty Pants Storytime

Enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement while learning school readiness skills and having fun. Children ages 2-5 can attend this weekly story time on Fridays from 11:30 Am to 12:00 PM. To register, visit the following link: [click here](#).

### Monthly Events

The La Verne Library hosts educational events for children ages 5 to 12 throughout the month from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. The events include reading, lessons, and arts & crafts that keep the children engaged. This month, children can learn more about artist Yayoi Kusama by making art inspired by her and create dream jars inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. To sign up for events, visit the following website: [click here](#).

# LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**When:** Monday, January 9th, 2023

**Time:** 4:00pm

**Where:** 2705 Mountain Dr.  
La Verne, CA 91750

Park at the north end of the community campus and proceed south to the Administration building and Hillcrest Meeting House. Bring proof of vaccination. Hillcrest staff members will check your temperature as you enter.

The La Verne Historical Society is sponsoring Mr. Allen's presentation and will conduct a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are available on-site and cost \$1 each or 5 for \$4. Here is your opportunity to win \$50 – or more!

Writing for the *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin* since 1997, David Allen specializes in arts & culture, local history & government, people, places, & changes in the local scene.

Mr. Allen will bring copies of his books for sale. Come early for a front-row seat!



**Free Event**

**Masks, Temp Check, & Social Distancing Required**

### City Hall Hours

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

### City Contacts

City Hall – (909) 596-8726  
Graffiti Removal – (909) 596-8787  
Utility Bill Questions – (909) 596-8744  
Zoning Questions – (909) 596-8706  
Passport Services – (909) 596-8700  
Recreation Services – (909) 596-8700  
City Weed & Tree Removal – (909) 596-8741  
Senior Center – (909) 596-8776  
Police Department – (909) 596-1913

La Verne Website: [cityoflaverne.org](http://cityoflaverne.org)



### Quick Links to City Website

City Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes  
Public Records Request  
Utility Bill Payments  
Building Permits  
Business License Process  
Event Calendar  
Program Registration

### View Other Newsletters

Conservation Corner  
Senior

*Have a request, concern, or general inquiry about the City of La Verne? Let us know by submitting a form on the following link: [click here!](#)*

## STAY IN THE LOOP!



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## LA VERNE BRANCH LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY

### Hours of Service

The library is now open the following hours:

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Thursdays through Saturdays 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- Closed Sundays and Mondays

We are committed to keeping our customers and staff safe during our in-person service hours. We ask that all customers follow the guidelines listed on our website:

<https://lacountylibrary.org/customer-expectations>.

To learn more about what the La Verne library has to offer, visit their website: <https://lacountylibrary.org/la-verne-library/>.

