



CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2018



Happy New Year!

CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

With the holidays over, it is time to look forward to the New Year. 2018 is set to be another promising year for our city. We anticipate the opening of several new businesses on Foothill Boulevard like Firehouse Subs, Flame Broiler, Blaze Pizza, and Broken Yolk, along with the expansion of restaurant and retail opportunities in our historic Old Town.

We are also set to initiate several capital improvement projects this year including reconstruction of Wheeler Avenue from Foothill Boulevard to Arrow Highway, adding a stage at Mainiero Square in Old Town, bridge widening on Puddingstone Drive, and improvements in various areas to accommodate bicyclists on city streets. La Verne is again making advances that I believe make our community a better place for people to live, work, and enjoy their time.

All the best,

Bob Russi, City Manager

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

CALENDAR

January 6 – See Pg. 2 for Details

First day of Orange Picking at
Heritage Park

5001 Via De Mansion, La Verne,
CA 91750

January 15 – All Day

Marin Luther King Jr. Day
City Hall, City Yard and
Community Center closed

January 16 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

January 27 – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Free Filter Exchange Event
AutoZone, 1410 Foothill Blvd.,
La Verne, CA 91750

HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the December meetings, the City Council:

- Recognized graduates of the fourth session of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes.
- Presented 10851 Award pins to Officers Carlos Flores and David Weaver for recovery of stolen vehicles.
- Moved the City's General Elections to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of even-numbered years, beginning 2020.
- Took steps to cancel the Farmers Market in Old Town by December 31st.
- Approved CicLAvia Open Streets event on April 22nd, 2018.
- Approved naming the south softball field at Wheeler Avenue Park "Jordyn Rivera Field" and adjourned in memory of La Verne resident Jordyn Rivera, a Bonita High School Graduate, who passed away on October 1st, 2017 in the Las Vegas concert shooting.

CHRISTMAS TRADITION CONTINUES

This Year Volunteers Help Keep Christmas Tradition Going

There were challenges in getting the usual volunteer support from members of the La Verne Fire Association to staff the City's Christmas day candy delivery. Fortunately, when the call was put out, this community responded and went above and beyond the call of duty to preserve our 92-year tradition. This year more than 40 community members were not opening stockings or unwrapping presents on Christmas Morning instead they were making sure candy got delivered to every neighborhood in a City tradition that has happened every year since 1925. Thanks to all those that helped make sure this year did not get missed!!

EVENTS IN LA VERNE

Farmer's Market Comes to a Close

After a nearly three-year run, the decision has been made to not renew the contract for the operation of La Verne's certified Farmers Market held in Old Town La Verne every Saturday morning. The Farmers Market was established once the Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District board wanted to move away from the previous Thursday night street festival to something more focused on produce and premium food items. While the market started strong in February of 2015, sales continued to dip after the initial few months, and unfortunately have not rebounded with extra marketing efforts. The City partnered with Xela Aid, a non-profit organization that runs several similar markets in the area, which uses proceeds to help support Mayan families in poverty. The City had to decide whether to keep the market operating at a loss (funding for the operation came from the Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District) or to not renew the three-year contract. It was mutually agreed to have the final market on Saturday, December 30th, 2017.

We would like to extend our thanks to the Xela Aid team of Mel, Leslie, and Oscar for their partnership. The Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District will be exploring other ideas for events in Old Town while they focus on the next big events, like the Cool Cruise to be held on March 30th, 2018 and the Wine Walk event on April 28th, 2018. You can stay connected with the Old Town merchants on social media or on their website, www.OLDTOWNLAVERNE.ORG

Pick Your Own Oranges at Heritage Park

Come join us Saturday, January 6th 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM at Heritage Park for fresh, hand-picked oranges. Enjoy a "Slice of La Verne's Past" while picking some of the best tasting oranges around. The Heritage Foundation offers you one of the last working orange groves in the area as a place to enjoy with your family. Bags of oranges are \$5, and mesh bags and the picking poles are supplied. The historic Weber house will also be open for tours from

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Orange picking opens Saturdays beginning January 6th, 2018, and continuing until approximately the beginning of March. For more information call (909) 293-9005 or check out the web site at www.laverneheritage.org

Community Yard Sale

The La Verne Chamber of Commerce, the City of La Verne, and Bonita High School will be hosting the Community Yard Sale. The date has not been determined yet, but it will be on a Saturday from 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM in the Bonita High School Parking Lot, 3102 "D" Street. The cost of renting a space is \$25. Applications are available online at www.cityoflaverne.org. You can also pick up applications at City Hall or at the Chamber office, which is located at 2078 Bonita Avenue. If you would like to have an application mailed to you, please call (909) 593-5265. No license or permit is required.

PUBLIC SAFETY

New Year, New Batteries

The start of a new year is always a good time to check all of the smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in your home to ensure that they are working properly. It is a good idea to replace the batteries in any that you haven't tested or replaced the batteries in within the past year. To test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, simply press the button on the detector that says "sound" or "test." If the alarm does not go off, your detector is not working properly and may need new batteries, or to be replaced. Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors save lives! Take the time to ensure your family and home are safe by checking the batteries in your devices.

Get Trained to Respond in a Community Emergency

In August 2016, the City of La Verne Fire Department initiated the La Verne CERT Program. The first training classes began in early 2017, and so far we have approximately 69 trained members. These trained volunteers will play a significant role in our community's emergency response to disasters. In addition to being ready to assist the City during times of crisis, team members also provide support at City events. You do not have to be a member of the CERT team in order to participate in the free CERT trainings.

Sign-ups are open now for the next La Verne CERT Basic Training Course (Class #0518), which starts Wednesday, February 21st, from 6:00-9:00 PM at the upstairs training room of the La Verne Fire Dept., 2061 Third Street. Sign up at <https://lavernecert.org/sign-up/>

Schedule:

| Module | Title | Date |
|--------|--------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Disaster Preparedness | 2/21 |
| 2 | Fire Safety & Utility Controls | 2/28 |
| 3 | Disaster Medical Ops- Part 1 | 3/07 |
| 4 | Disaster Medical Ops- Part 2 | 3/14 |
| 5 | Light Search & Rescue Ops | 3/21 |
| 6 | CERT Organization | 3/28 |
| 7 | Disaster Psychology | 4/04 |
| 8 | Terrorism & CERT | 4/11 |
| 9 | Review & Final Exam | 4/18 |

Join the Police Explorer Program

The La Verne Police Department Police Explorer Program is ideal for young men and women interested in community service and law enforcement. Some of the activities Explorers will get to participate in include: assisting police personnel in the Records Bureau, Detective Bureau, and Traffic Bureau; participate in patrol ride-alongs; and participate in physical fitness competitions against other Explorer posts.

Minimum Requirements: Must be between the ages of 14 ½ and 21. Explorers may remain in the program until their 21st birthday. Must be in good physical shape and able to attend an Explorer Training Academy. Ability to attend bi-weekly meetings, work special details, and perform a minimum of volunteer service hours each month. If enrolled in school, must maintain a “C” average and have a good school attendance record.

Mandatory Requirements: Parent or guardian support of involvement in the program for candidates under the age of 18. Strict adherence to all State, Federal, and Local Laws, as well as the La Verne Police Department Policy Manual and La Verne Police Department Explorer Manual. Zero tolerance on drug and alcohol use.

Duties: Under supervision, performs a wide variety of support duties including traffic control, parades, street fairs, and clerical duties. Duties may also include searches for persons, weapons, and evidence. Other non-enforcement duties will be assigned as needed.

Selection Process: Applicants who most closely match the desirable qualifications will be invited to participate in the selection process, which will include a physical fitness test, appraisal Interview, and background investigation.

Application Procedure: A City of La Verne employment application form must be filled out and turned into the La Verne Police Department. Please contact Sergeant Dransfeldt at cdransfeldt@lvpd.org or (909) 596-1913 for questions concerning the La Verne Police Department Explorer Program.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

La Verne Winter/Spring Recreation Guide Available

La Verne’s new Winter/Spring City Recreation Guide is now available. Copies are available for pickup in the Community Services Office at City Hall.

La Verne Community Services is currently taking registration for most classes and activities. Gymnastics registration will begin Wednesday, January 10th for new students. You may register via online, mail, or you may come into the Community Services Office. For more information regarding classes please call the Community Services Office at (909) 596-8700. To register, you can go online at www.cityoflaverne.org or you can go to the La Verne Community Services Office located at 3660 D Street, La Verne, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

City of La Verne Youth Basketball Program

The City of La Verne’s most popular youth sports program, Youth Basketball, is back! Registration is currently going on with practices and games beginning January 6th, 2018.

Mighty Mites Basketball is a program for girls and boys in kindergarten through second grade. The Mighty Mites season runs from January 6th through February 24th. The Youth Basketball program is for girls and boys in grades third through eighth. The season runs from January 6th through March 10th.

La Verne Recreation Classes

The La Verne Community Services Department is currently taking registration for classes and activities. You may register online, in our office, by mail, or you may use the drop box at the rear of City Hall. We are currently taking registration for our activities, such as Gymnastics, Youth Basketball, Dance, Tennis, and many more. For

more information regarding classes and special events, please call the Community Services Office at 909-596-8700. To register online visit our website at www.cityoflaverne.org or you can come to the La Verne Community Services Office located at 3660 D Street, La Verne, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

PUBLIC WORKS/CONSERVATION

Water Management is Critical to Wildfire Management

Ensuring that water and fire management are effective is an important goal for the Southern California region. Water and fire management are interrelated goals because water supply, surface water quality, drought, climate change, ecosystem health, and human development can affect both.

Through significant and continued devotion to water conservation, La Verne residents weathered California's historic drought. The prolonged dry period will continue to have many long term effects though, such as depleted groundwater tables and, more recently, heightened fire risk. Wildfires are a natural part of the ecosystem within Southern California, but changes brought about by human development significantly alter the natural system. Drought, climate change, and urban growth can cause fires to pose significant danger and unique challenges to property and infrastructure.

Given these factors, water conservation is critical, as drought conditions or climate change can affect the supply of natural water sources, the frequency and behavior of wildfires and the timing and length of fire season throughout California for years to come. Fires can also adversely affect the quality of the waters in Southern California. Recovery from wildfires requires initial clean-up of burned debris and erosion control. This ensures that large amounts or concentrations of pollutants caused by fire do not end up in local waterways like the San Gabriel River or the Pacific Ocean.

Free Filters for a Cleaner Future

Bring a used oil filter and get a new one for FREE! The City of La Verne will be holding a used motor oil filter exchange event on January 27th, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at AutoZone, 1410 Foothill Boulevard. In exchange for their used motor oil filters, residents will receive new motor oil filters free of charge (limit two per resident, while supplies last). After your next oil change, bring in your used oil and filter and receive vouchers for new oil filters.

"Used motor oil and filters are highly recyclable," says Kevin Sales, La Verne's Used Oil Recycling Program coordinator. "The City wants to make used motor oil and filter recycling as easy for the Do-It-Yourselfer as possible. The used oil and filter will be recycled; and you can redeem your filter voucher immediately for a free oil filter from AutoZone Auto Parts."

The City of La Verne encourages all residents to participate in the event and to recycle their used motor oil and filters. Supplementary educational materials will be available as well as additional promotional items for eligible participants.

Other used oil collection centers can be located by calling 888-CLEAN-LA, or visiting <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/cleanla/>. Further information regarding the Filter Exchange Event can be obtained by contacting Kevin Sales at (562)-944-4766. Funded by CalRecycle. For more information or to schedule an interview, please call Kevin Sales at 562-944-4766 or e-mail Kevin at kjserv@aol.com.

Claremont Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Event

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 10th from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM at Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Ave, Claremont. 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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Measure H Homeless Planning Grant

Measure H grant funding opportunities for cities were announced earlier this year and in September, the City submitted an application to receive a \$30,000 homeless planning grant. The Home For Good Funders Collaborative, working in partnership with the LA County Homeless Initiative, reviewed the grant application and recently notified staff that the City has been selected and conditionally approved to receive a homeless planning grant award of \$30,000. The grant will allow the City to develop a homelessness plan, which will identify the ways the City can participate in preventing and combating homelessness both locally and regionally. The grant, financed through a one-time \$2 million allocation from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, is for planning purposes only and cannot be utilized for direct services. The next steps will involve the hiring of a consultant to assist with the development of the plan, which must be completed by a June 2018 deadline.

2017 La Verne Community Design Awards: Wähfles

Owner Jeff Rotondo opened Wähfles in 2015. Located in The Commons shopping center at 1502 Foothill Boulevard, Suite #101, the independent café serves coffee, tea, a variety of wähfles, as well as other eats and treats.

The café interior is a blend of contemporary design trends and features artwork by local artists, a unique ceiling tile, distinctive wood siding and vibrant red walls. For their excellent interior design work, Wähfles is a recipient of the 2017 La Verne Community Design Award in the Interior Design category. Fantastic job!



2017 La Verne Community Design Awards: The Frick House

Homeowners Curtis & Deborah Frick worked with local architect Hudson Pruitt and contractor Steve Pruitt to transform their ranch-style home into a mid-century modern inspired residence. Completed in early 2017, this stunning re-model has been a great addition to the Mountain Springs Estates neighborhood. For the beautiful work done on their home, Curtis & Deborah Frick are recipients of the 2017 La Verne Community Design Award in the Residential category. Congrats!

