



# CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

January 2019



## Happy New Year!

### CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

With the holidays over, it is time to look forward to the New Year. 2019 is set to be another promising year for our city. It also gives us an opportunity to look back on how much has been done in 2018, from the opening of 20 new businesses along Foothill Boulevard and Old Town and the opening of ULV's new residence hall. We also hosted a segment of the CicLAvia open streets event that 50,000+ riders and walkers took part in. 2018 saw the rehab of Wheeler Avenue and the installation of new medians. We also introduced several new programs in public safety: online crime reporting, the social media 9 PM Routine and the Host Our Homeless outreach effort.

In all, 2018 has resulted in some great changes for La Verne and I look forward to more in 2019.

Happy New Year!

*Bob Russi, City Manager*

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

### CALENDAR

#### January 12 – See Pg. 2 for Details

First day of Orange Picking at Heritage Park  
5001 Via De Mansion, La Verne, CA 91750

#### January 21 – All Day

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

#### January 22 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting  
City Hall Council Chambers

#### January 29 – 6:30 PM

Youth & Family Action Committee Meeting  
City Hall Council Chambers

# HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

## At the December meetings, the City Council:

- Recognized Dr. Robert Neher for 29 years of service representing the City on the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Board and appointed Elyse Rasmussen as his successor
- Celebrated the retirement of Jerome and Beverly Walczak after 32 years leading the City's karate program
- Approved job description and salary range for a new position, Police Cadet
- Approved a Job Creation and Business Incentive Policy

## 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 for help was put out, this community responded and went above and beyond the call of duty to preserve our 93-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

### Pick Your Own Oranges at Heritage Park

Come join us beginning Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 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](http://www.laverneheritage.org)



## 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.

### **Spark of Love Toy Drive**

We received an overwhelming amount of over 2,300 toys and 12 bikes donated this year to the Spark of Love Toy Drive! This allowed us to provide toys to 39 local families in need, as well as the following youth organizations: David & Margaret's LeRoy Haynes Center, La Verne Options Headstart program, and local church preschool programs. Special thanks to Captain Sam Dominick and his children, and Retired Engineer Dave Castanon for being Santa's elves making deliveries, as well as everyone else who contributed to Spark of Love making Christmas special for these families.



### **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 21<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:cdransfeldt@lvpd.org) or (909) 596-1913 for questions concerning the La Verne Police Department Explorer Program.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Discovery Your Recreation Guide Online!

The City of La Verne's Winter/ Spring Recreation Guide is now available online!

Registering for your favorite classes and events is more convenient by visiting our website at [www.cityoflaverne.org/recguide](http://www.cityoflaverne.org/recguide). You can view upcoming classes and events at your convenience, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For more information, please call the Community Services Office at (909) 596-8700, Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM.

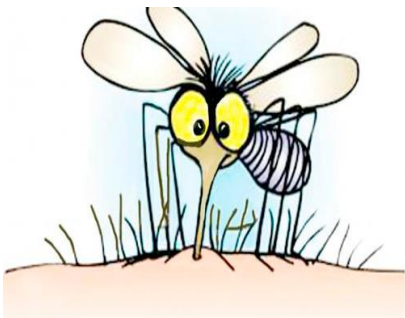


### La Verne Recreation Classes

The La Verne Community Services Department is currently taking registration for classes and activities. We are currently taking registration for a variety of classes such as Preschool, Art, Youth Basketball, Fitness, Mindfulness, and much more. Registration may be done online at [www.cityoflaverne.org/recguide](http://www.cityoflaverne.org/recguide), in our office, by mail, faxed, or you may use the drop box at the rear of City Hall. For more information regarding classes and activities, please call the Community Services Office at 909-596-8700.

### Bite Back Campaign

Join a grassroots, neighborhood-oriented outreach campaign to protect your community from mosquitos and the diseases they carry. The benefits to a Bite Back Campaign in your neighborhood are; improved neighborhood quality, less mosquitoes=more outdoor fun, reduces outbreak threats of Zika, West Nile virus and other dangerous diseases, direct connection to Mosquito Control experts. We'll make you experts, too! Breaks down barriers between neighbors, once neighbors are educated about the issue, it's a great way to spread the word and get to know new friends and neighbors. For more information or to sign up for a 30-minute neighborhood orientation [click here](#).



### CicLAvia Returns

The Heart of the Foothills open streets bike ride is coming back to La Verne. The cities of La Verne, San Dimas and Pomona have been funded by Metro for a CicLAvia-like event in 2020. The date for the event has not been set and planning will begin in early 2019. Event updates will be available on the City's website at [www.cityoflaverne.org](http://www.cityoflaverne.org).

## PUBLIC WORKS/CONSERVATION



### Christmas Tree Recycling

The City of La Verne in conjunction with Waste Management is once again offering Christmas Tree Recycling. We ask that you remove the stand, water container, and other decorations before placing your tree curbside on December 31<sup>st</sup> or January 7<sup>th</sup>. Trees can be picked up on later dates by request as a large item pickup. If your tree is over six feet, we kindly request that you cut it in half. Flocked trees are accepted, but *CANNOT* be recycled due to the chemicals in the flocking material.

## **Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Event - Monrovia**

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 Monrovia on January 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM at Huntington Millennium Center, 181 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, 91016. 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](http://www.888cleanla.com)

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **Target Improvements**

La Verne residents can expect to see some improvements at Target over the next few months. Target has obtained tenant improvement permits for a \$2 million update to the interior of the store. Most work will occur overnight as the store's layout will change significantly with new flooring and lighting upgrades. It is expected that construction will start on January 13<sup>th</sup> and last through April.

## **LA VERNE BRANCH - LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY**

### **Library Hours:**

Monday, Tuesday: 10 AM – 6 PM  
Wednesday, Thursday: 11 AM – 8 PM  
Friday, Saturday: 9 AM – 5 PM  
Sunday: Closed



The library will be closed on the following dates:  
New Year's Day - Tuesday, January 1, 2019  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Monday, January 21, 2019

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