



# CITY MANAGER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2022

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## CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

With summer around the corner, we look forward to the upcoming events in our community. Our annual Sip of La Verne Wine Walk is on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, participants while sampling some of the best wines our businesses have to offer. The return of the Los Angeles County Fair offers fun for all ages and we look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces at the Fairplex on La Verne Day at the Fair. Make sure to also meet the candidates for the upcoming election in districts 1, 3, and 4 during our Candidate Forum at the Community Center on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

The month of May has been designated as Mental Health Awareness month. We look forward to the developments of the Tri-City Mental Health Grant at standardizing systems for young adults and children. The month of May is also recognized as Asian American and Pacific Islander month and the City encourages all residents to share in this tribute by learning about the generations of Asian descent who continue to enrich our nation and local community.

We encourage everyone to continue to show care for your neighbors and support our local businesses. I hope you find this newsletter helpful and you are safe and well.

*Bob Russi, City Manager*

To receive this newsletter automatically every month, please sign up for e subscribe by clicking here: <http://cityoflaverne.org/index.php/documents/newsletters/city-manager-s-monthly-newsletter>

## CALENDAR

### May 4 – 6:00 PM

Youth Sports Committee via Live Stream

*City Website at [cityoflaverne.org](http://cityoflaverne.org)*

### May 6 – All Day

LA County Fair - La Verne Day

### May 11 – 6:30 PM

Planning Commission via Live Stream

*City Website at [cityoflaverne.org](http://cityoflaverne.org)*

### May 12 – 6:30 PM

City Council Candidate Forum at the Community Center

### May 14 – 5:00 PM

La Verne Wine Walk

*Downtown La Verne*

### May 16 – 6:30 PM

City Council Meeting via Live Stream

*City Website at [cityoflaverne.org](http://cityoflaverne.org)*

### May 18 – 10:00 AM

Senior Advisory Committee at the Community Center

### May 30 – 11:00 AM

Memorial Day Ceremony at Veteran's Hall

# HIGHLIGHTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the April meetings, the City Council:

- Recognized the Bonita High School Girls Water Polo team for their 2022 Palomares League championship and CIF run
- Declared April “Donate a Life” month to bring attention to the need for organ, marrow, and blood donation
- Recognized RSVPs Dave Boscarino and Mike Medlock for reacting to a juvenile in distress while on patrol
- Presented Senior Office Michael Scranton and Officer Bradley Bailey with a Lifesaving Award for their emergency response
- Celebrated the badge pinning of Fire Marshal Robert Montaghani
- Recognized Sherry DiGregorio as the City’s Outstanding Older American
- Presented the Pride of La Verne Jack Huntington Award to Sherry Best for her volunteer work with the La Verne Historical Society
- Presented the Pride of La Verne Jim Scranton Award to Michele Arvidson for her volunteer work with AYSO and local soccer programs
- Adopted Resolution 22-17 in response to the duration of the drought State Emergency

## ADMINISTRATION

### LA County Fair – La Verne Day



We are pleased to announce our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of La Verne Day at the Fair on **Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**, featuring \$1 admission for La Verne residents. For details, see [LACountyFair.com](http://LACountyFair.com) as special \$1 tickets are only available online. A parade will not be held this year, but a small ceremony recognizing our La Verne heroes will be held, time still to be determined.

### Memorial Day Ceremony

The La Verne Veterans Hall will be hosting their annual Memorial Day Ceremony to honor our veterans who have valiantly served the United States. Attendance is free so make sure to join us at 11:00 AM. For any questions, call Community Services at (909) 586-8700.



### Holiday Closure

In observance of Memorial Day, City Hall, City Yard, and the Community Center will be closed on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Candidate Forum

You are cordially invited to the “Meet the Candidates” forum to be held on **Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM** at the La Verne Community Center, 3680 “D” Street, La Verne. This forum will introduce our 2022 Candidates for districts 1, 3, and 4. For viewing schedule and more information, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (909) 596-8726. Visit the City of La Verne website for more details: [Candidate Forum](#).

## Districting Summary

Due to recent inquiries regarding the City's districting process and outcome, updated information has been placed on the city's website for residents to review. The information is accessible at: [Districts](#).

## Districting Information

During the La Verne City Council meeting in July 2021, the city council members unanimously voted to support redistricting to create five districts. The purpose of redistricting is to follow the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) which focuses on ensuring minority populations equal representation in local government. Having 5 districts instead of 4 districts allows La Verne's minority populations to unite more strongly in one district as opposed to dividing them throughout multiple districts. Under this system residents will vote for their council member and the Mayor will rotate amongst them. For an interactive map to determine your district, visit [MapLaVerne.org](#).



## Election News

The City's next general municipal election will be on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. This is La Verne's first by-district election, and voters from Districts 1, 3, and 4 will select a Council Member. For more information, visit the [City website](#).

Candidates are:

### **District 1**

Muir Davis  
Steve Johnson

### **District 3**

Joseph Gabaldon  
Meshal "Kash" Kashifalghita

### **District 4**

Richard Gill  
Tim Hepburn  
Estella V. Maldonado



## La Verne Wine Walk



Buy your tickets now for the Sip of La Verne Wine Walk! The event will be on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM. More than 30 businesses will offer samples of quality wines and unique foods from an amazing selection of local restaurants. Wine selections include reds and whites as well as dessert and sparkling wines. [Click here to purchase tickets](#). To volunteer for the event, please call the City of La Verne at (909) 596-8706.

## 2021-2022 Mid-Year Budget Review

In April, the La Verne City Council reviewed the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Mid-Year Budget Report and determined the City's budget is stable and healthy! Based on the anticipated surplus of funds, the City will adjust the budget to ensure it remains balanced. Learn more: [Budget](#).

## Visit the City's New Website



On April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the City released the newly updated official website. While it is located at the same address, [cityoflaverne.org](http://cityoflaverne.org), there is a new City logo and layout design. The update was done to ensure more effective navigation of the website so that citizens can easily find the resources they need. For any questions on where to locate items or general comments, call the City at (909) 596-8726.

## Tri-City Mental Health Grant

The State of California was awarded two grants totaling \$4,020,932 allocated to Tri-City Mental Health that the Governing Board approved to accept on March 16, 2022. The Crisis Care Mobile Unit and Mental Health Student Services Act grants will expand behavioral and mental health services for youth and young adults ages 0 to 25 in the cities of Claremont, Pomona, and La Verne. The Crisis Care Mobile Units will be a yearlong effort to expand mobile behavioral health crisis services for individuals ages 25 and younger to prevent and divert involvement in the criminal justice system. The Mental Health Student Services Act will be a four-year, four-month planning and implementation project to help foster school-community partnerships, train staff in schools and behavioral health clinics, and provide and increase access to mental health services for children/youths/young adults, students, and families.



## La Verne Historical Society Fundraiser



The La Verne Historical Society is hosting a fundraiser to restore Inman Conety's 1938 International Harvester that helped La Verne become the "Heart of the Orange Empire"! The truck was previously used to support local citrus growers, ranchers and farmers dating all the way back to 1938. Donations will be used to make the truck operational for this year's Fourth of July Parade.

To donate, visit: <https://gofund.me/fa4d6e97>. For more information, contact the La Verne Historical Society at (909) 596-4679.

## Damien High School Basketball Team Recognition

The Damien High School Basketball team won the CIF Division I State Championship tournament by defeating the Clovis North team 65-57 on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. The team had a record of 32-4 for the season. The team was recognized at the City Council meeting in early May for their great success. We look forward to seeing what the next season brings for them!



## Fourth of July Raffle

The Friends of the Fourth of July Committee is in full swing planning the Fourth of July festivities! We are excited to announce the opening of the Raffle Application process for the Fireworks Show. If you are interested in applying, the application along with the Raffle Policy and Guidelines can be found on the City's website: [Celebrate](#).

The following is a partial list of requirements for the selected group:

- Must be a La Verne organization and have a non-profit status
- May not have hosted consecutive years
- Must provide 5-8 gift baskets as prizes
- Must provide 10-15 people to walk around the venue selling tickets



The deadline to apply is May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We look forward to another amazing 4<sup>th</sup> of July in La Verne!

## Pride of La Verne Recipients Awarded at City Council Meeting

The La Verne City Council recognized this year's Pride of La Verne award recipients!

La Verne Historical Society President Sherry Best received the Jack Huntington Award for her engagement in the community through her lifelong commitment to children and education. The Jim Scranton Award was awarded to AYSO VIP Program Director Michelle Arvidson for working with players with mental or physical disabilities. Sherry DiGregorio was honored with the Outstanding Older American Award for La Verne.

Thank you to these La Verne residents for going above and beyond to make a positive impact on our community! They will be honored with a public ceremony at the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Summer Registration



Registration for summer classes, programs, and activities begins in mid-May! Registration dates for various offerings are below:

#### Mt.Sac Active Adults and Inclusion Classes

- Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM: Walk-in "Request to Register" registration begins

#### Youth Sports, Art Classes, and Adult Excursions

- Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM: Mail-in and online registration begins
- Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 AM: Walk-in registration begins

#### Aquatic Classes

- Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM: Mail-in and online registration begins
- Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM: Walk-in registration begins



#### Private Swim Lessons

- Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM: Walk-in only registration begins. No other form of registration will be accepted.

## Summer Youth Basketball League

The Summer Youth Basketball League for June and July is open for registration until May 5<sup>th</sup>. Children grades 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> are eligible to join the team for \$90 and every additional child in the immediate family can join for only \$75. For additional questions or to register, please visit the Community Services Department at La Verne City Hall or call at (909) 596-8700.

## Senior Lunch Program

Participation in the Senior Lunch Program is on the rise! Every Thursday, participants receive prepacked "Grab and Go" meals, consisting of 2 fresh meals, 5 frozen meals, milk, fruit, and a variety of snacks. Currently, an average of 119 participants pick up meals each week. Interested in signing up or learning more information? Call the Community Center at (909) 596-8776.

## Paws 4 Pets Walk

Join us on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, for a 1.5-mile walk at Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park in San Dimas to support the animals of the Inland Valley Humane Society & S.P.C.A. The Paws 4 Pets Walk is the largest pet walk in the Inland Valley! You and your dog will enjoy activities, a vendor village, photos with your pet, contests, music and a tail waggin' fun day! Register to attend the event by emailing Lisa Roybal at [Lroybal@ivhsspc.org](mailto:Lroybal@ivhsspc.org). The event will be from 7:30 AM to noon and cost of entry is \$25. Visit the official website for more details: <https://paws>.



# PUBLIC SAFETY

## International Firefighters' Day



May 4<sup>th</sup> is International Firefighters' Day. This is the day when we invite you to remember the past firefighters who have died while serving our community or dedicated their lives to protecting the safety of us all. Make sure to also say hello and thank you to our current firefighting team. We are proud of those who protect the City of La Verne.

## Officers and RSVPs honored at City Council Meeting

During the City Council meeting, the City honored two officers and two Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) staff for life-saving acts in our community over the past year.

The City awarded RSVP members Dave Boscarino and Mike Medlock with a Pride of La Verne Certificate for their role in helping save a young person who was in distress. The City also presented Police Corporal Michael Scranton and Officer Bradley Bailey with a Lifesaving Award for their quick actions which saved a man's life.



La Verne is grateful to have heroes like this in our city!

## Woman of Distinction

Congratulations to Chief Colleen Flores who has been named as a 2022 Woman of Distinction by Assemblymember Chris Holden of the 41<sup>st</sup> Assembly District! We are extremely proud of Chief Flores and congratulate her on this acknowledgement.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Amazon Fresh Grand Opening

Forget the checkout lines! La Verne is the latest city to welcome an Amazon Fresh grocery store. The store is located at 2229 Foothill Boulevard (next to Kohl's). Amazon Fresh offers a traditional checkout option and a "Just Walk Out" option, available with the Amazon app. Come experience this fresh new shopping experience!



### Affordable Housing Developments

News for Walnut Street! The developer, Brandywine Homes, Inc. is in the process of developing eight new two-story affordable single-family homes located at Walnut and B Street. These units will be comprised of affordable housing units and are in conjunction with the new development on Fruit Street by the same developer. The building plans for the homes have recently been approved so construction will be starting shortly for the project. Keep a lookout for the new housing as it undergoes construction during the year.

## LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### "Get on the Bus" Tour of La Verne

Want to learn more about La Verne? Join the La Verne Historical Society on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> as they give free tours of our beautiful community. Additional seats are available for the 1:45 PM tour. View the flyer below for details.



The flyer is enclosed in a red border. At the top left is a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit holding a megaphone. To the right of the illustration is a dashed-line box containing the text: "THE LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO...". Below this is the main title: "'Get on the Bus' - a Free Guided Tour of Old Lordsburg". The text continues with "Where: Hillcrest Retirement Community, 2705 Mountain View Dr., La Verne, CA 91750", "When: Saturday, May 7th, 2022", and "Times: Bus departures at:" followed by a list of three times: 8:45am for Hillcrest community residents, 11:00am for Cedar Court residents, and 1:45pm for La Verne community residents. At the bottom, it states: "Hillcrest & La Verne community residents will gather at the Citrus Parking Lot 1/2 block north of the Hillcrest Meeting House & next to the wood shop & sewing center. Look for the LVHS event poster. Each tour lasts 1 1/2 hours. Masks are required." and provides contact information: "Email or call Sherry Best at sbest@lavernehistoricalociety.org or 909/596-4679 to get on the required reservation list."

**THE LA VERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO...**

**"Get on the Bus" - a Free Guided Tour of Old Lordsburg**

**Where:** Hillcrest Retirement Community  
2705 Mountain View Dr.  
La Verne, CA 91750

**When:** Saturday, May 7th, 2022

**Times:** Bus departures at:

- ✓ 8:45am for Hillcrest community residents
- ✓ 11:00am for Cedar Court residents
- ✓ 1:45pm for La Verne community residents

Hillcrest & La Verne community residents will gather at the Citrus Parking Lot  $\frac{1}{2}$  block north of the Hillcrest Meeting House & next to the wood shop & sewing center. Look for the LVHS event poster. Each tour lasts  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours. Masks are required

Email or call Sherry Best at [sbest@lavernehistoricalociety.org](mailto:sbest@lavernehistoricalociety.org) or 909/596-4679 to get on the required reservation list.

# PUBLIC WORKS

## Hazardous Waste Pick Up Event

Have any leftover paint, electronics, or oil? Drop it off at the Hazardous Waste Mobile Collection Event! Los Angeles County will be hosting a pick-up event on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the West Covina Maintenance Yard located at 825 Sunset Avenue, West Covina 91790. Items that can be dropped off include paint, oil, cleaners, televisions, and electronics.

For specific questions and further details, feel free to call LA County Clean LA at (888) 253-2652 or visit the website: [cleanla.gov](http://cleanla.gov).

## Drought Information

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced it will reduce the State Water Project (SWP) allocation from 15 percent to 5 percent of requested supplies for 2022. The Metropolitan Water District then declared a water shortage emergency on April 26<sup>th</sup>, restricting outdoor watering to one day per week in selected areas. The City of La Verne is SWP dependent and receives approximately 75 percent of its water from the SWP through our wholesale provider. With this in mind, the City has implemented Phase V mandatory restrictions mandating for overall water consumption to be reduced by twenty percent. The City Council unanimously approved the conservation measures during the April 18<sup>th</sup> adjourned City Council meeting and water conservation requirements are now in effect. To see what Phase V entails, visit the following website: <https://code>.

Ways that you can reduce water consumption includes:

- Reducing hose washing of paved surfaces
- Limiting the washing of vehicles
- Turning off decorative fountains
- Reducing landscape irrigation
- Modifying gardening to drip irrigation systems that save water
- Updating lawns and gardens into drought resistant forms
- Seeking rebate opportunities to fix inefficient fixtures
- Fixing leaks in plumbing and irrigation systems
- Watering lawns during maximal times such as the evenings and early mornings



To meet the new requirements set forth, an urgency ordinance will be brought to City Council on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Let's work as a team to reduce the City's water consumption during this state of emergency. For more creative ways to save your water, visit the following website: <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/start-saving>.

## Cal Recycling Grant



Public Works staff applied for and received a \$170,000 competitive grant which aims to lower our dependency on single-use beverage containers and increase the amount of beverage containers that are recycled. Water bottle refill stations and recycling bins are being distributed throughout the parks of La Verne. Next time you're visiting one of our parks, please pay a visit to these sustainable additions to our community.

## Gold Line Update

White Avenue is now re-opened for daily traffic just in time for the upcoming LA County Fair! During the closure, crews completed extensive underground utility work, built the two new light rail tracks, and installed a host of safety improvements. It is expected to partially close again once the LA County Fair is over to finalize construction. Below you can see the current status of the La Verne Station.



San Dimas Canyon Road is slated to close May 9<sup>th</sup> for approximately 6 months for underground utility work, median construction, light rail track installation, building a new right turn pocket from westbound Arrow Highway to northbound San Dimas Canyon Road, and rebuilding the roadway curbs and gutters.

## LA VERNE BRANCH - LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY

### New Hours of Service

The Library is now opening an hour earlier Tuesdays through Saturdays. The new hours are:

- Tuesdays from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
- Closed Sunday and Monday

We are committed to keeping our customers and staff safe during our in-person service hours. We ask that all customers follow the following guidelines: <https://lacountylibrary.org/customer-expectations>

