

CityScene

A newsletter for the citizens of Camarillo

January - February 2008
Volume 14~Number 3

Camarillo City Council

Mayor Charlotte Craven
482-4730 (home)

Vice Mayor Don Waunch
388-5307 (City Hall)

Kevin Kildee
482-2124 (office)

Jan McDonald
389-1813 (home)

Michael D. Morgan
482-0589 (home)

Department Directory

City Manager
Jerry Bankston

Administration: 388-5307

Building & Safety: 388-5395

City Clerk: 388-5316

Community
Development: 388-5360

Finance: 388-5320

General
Services: 383-5633

Police
Department: 388-5100

Public Works: 388-5380

City Web Site:
www.ci.camarillo.ca.us

CityScene is published
bimonthly by the City of
Camarillo. Please address
inquiries to:
CityScene Editor
P.O. Box 248
Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Pay Your Utility Bill On-line



Announcing web access to your utility account! Now you have the option to pay your utility bill on-line. With the City's secure on-line services, you can access your utility account quickly and conveniently. All you need is your utility account number, a computer with Internet access, an active e-mail address and a personal identification number (PIN). Starting this month, a randomly generated PIN will be printed on your billing statement just under the service address on the top right side of the bill. This temporary PIN will continue to display on the statement until you log in and successfully register your own private PIN. Once registration is complete the PIN will no longer be displayed on the statement.

With this free service you can:

- Make credit and debit card payments (using Visa & MasterCard) for your water, sewer and/or trash bills
- View your account information (balance, payment, billing history, consumption history and service summary)
- Receive e-mail notification that your bill is posted on-line and ready to view and pay

It's easy to get started! Log-on to the City's web site at www.ci.camarillo.ca.us, click on the **Click2Gov** icon and follow the on-screen instructions to complete registration. Click on **Quick Links** then **eGov** to view some Frequently Asked Questions or contact Customer Service at (805) 388-5325 for assistance. Watch for more information inserted with your utility statement.

Free E-Waste Recycling Events

The City of Camarillo will team up once again with Gold Coast Recycling to host free e-waste drop-off recycling events January 11-12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring any e-waste listed below to the Camarillo Community Center, 1605 Burnley Street . No appointment is required.



2007 events diverted nearly 86 tons of e-waste from the landfill.

Televisions, computer monitors, and other e-waste should not be disposed of in landfills because circuit boards, batteries, and cathode-ray tubes (CRT's) usually contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, and chromium. If improperly handled or disposed of, these toxins can be released into the environment.

The following items will be collected at the events: televisions, computer monitors, computers, printers, VCRs, DVD players, stereos, radios, cell phones, scanners, keyboards, copy machines, microwaves, and fax machines. Items not accepted include: household/commercial appliances such as refrigerators, washers, dryers, or any hazardous material waste. For more information, please contact the City's Recycling Coordinator at (805) 388-5392.

Old Town Streetscape Improvement Project

On the morning of November 14, 2007, Old Town merchants, elected officials, and those involved with the reconstruction of the Old Town streetscape gathered at Dizdar Park to commemorate the end of major construction for the third and final phase of the Ventura Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Project. All attendees were briefed on the history of the Ventura Boulevard Revitalization project which began in 1997.

The Ventura Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Project was split into three phases and began construction in 1999. The project was coordinated with CalTrans in terms of both design and timing for the Route 101/34 Interconnect Project which reconstructed the Arneill Road Bridge and erected the new freeway ramps in 2002/2003. Additionally, improvements at the MetroLink/Park and Ride facility were coordinated with the Ventura County Transportation Commission to provide for landscape and design features complimentary to the Ventura Boulevard streetscape program.



Old Town landscape.

In total, the streetscape improvements have transformed Ventura Boulevard into a pedestrian friendly street with new roadways, storm drainage, traffic signals, widened sidewalks, themed landscape, nostalgic street lighting, street furniture, a banner program and displays of public artwork. Improvements to the revitalized streetscape are also complimented by many new storefront facades which have been completed through the Façade Improvement Rebate Program.

See Old Town Revitalized, Page 5

Your Yard, Your Watershed...

While pesticides and herbicides kill garden invaders, they can also harm beneficial insects, poison fish and contaminate ground water and the ocean. Also, organic waste, such as grass clippings and leaves, cannot only block storm drains causing flooding, but can also reduce oxygen levels and increase harmful bacteria in our waters hurting plant, animal and human life.

GARDENING/YARD MAINTENANCE POLLUTION PREVENTION TIPS:

- Keep pesticides and fertilizers away from ditches, gutters and storm drains.
- Use organic or non-toxic pesticides and fertilizers whenever possible. NEVER apply pesticides before watering or a rain event.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff.
- Rinse all chemical containers. Recycle or dispose of rinsed containers in the trash.
- When irrigating the lawn, ensure that the sprinkler system is watering the grass and not the pavement.
- Do not leave yard clippings and pruning waste in the streets or near catch basins. Place them in your TAN yard waste container.
- Use a broom rather than a hose or blower to clean up garden clippings, dirt and litter from sidewalks, patios and driveways.
- REMEMBER never blow or sweep yard waste into the gutter, street or storm drain!

For more information on preventing water pollution, please call the City of Camarillo's Stormwater Coordinator at (805) 383-5659 or for 10 easy ways to protect your watershed visit www.cleanwatershed.org.

The Watershed Should Only Shed Water!

"Las Personas Son La Ciudad"

Carbon Monoxide Awareness

Winter is here and the Ventura County Fire Department wants all Camarillo residents to stay warm and safe. By taking a few simple precautions in and around your home, you can help ensure that your family can enjoy winter without worry.



Ventura County Fire Department founded in 1928.

You may be ready to use your fireplace, but is it ready for you? During the winter, the days are shorter, the nights are colder, and you may be

thinking about warming your home with a nice fire in the fireplace, but before you do, check your fireplace and chimney for safety.

Always protect your home from sparks by using a fire screen and burn only wood in your fireplace. To protect yourself, use only tools designed for the purpose to handle firewood or ashes in your fireplace. Never use your hands or short-handled tools.

Creosote and carbon deposits can build up in a chimney and pose a fire hazard, so have your chimney inspected by a professional each heating season and cleaned if needed.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is often called the silent killer; it's colorless, odorless, invisible, and it can be deadly. While everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, infants, young children, senior citizens and people with heart and lung problems are at a higher risk. It is caused when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas and propane are not completely burned. CO poisoning is the cause of more than 1,500 deaths and 10,000 injuries every year.

The following are simple precautions to help protect you and your family from CO poisoning: inspect chimneys for cracks, corrosion, holes, debris or blockages, and service heaters before the first use of the season, never leave a car running inside a garage, never use a charcoal grill indoors, and remember to install and maintain carbon monoxide detectors in your house as they will alert you to the presence of CO.

For additional information on the department and recent news releases, please visit www.firecountyofventura.org.

Do-It-Yourself Guide to Motor Oil & Fluids Recycling

Used motor oil may contain such contaminants as lead, magnesium, copper, zinc, arsenic, chromium, chlorides, and cadmium. One gallon of oil can foul a million gallons of drinking water. Federal reports indicate that used motor oil accounts for more than 40 percent of the total oil pollution of the nation's harbors and waterways.



Camarillo is fortunate to have several state-certified used oil recycling centers located within the city. Appointments are not required; however, please call to confirm operating hours and quantity limits. Keep the following information in mind when recycling oil:

- A refund of \$0.16 per gallon of oil is available upon request (except at the City hazardous waste center).
- Place oil in tightly-sealed, pourable containers that hold no more than five gallons.
- All locations accept oil filters. Please drain your filters and place them in a plastic bag.
- Do NOT contaminate oil by mixing with any other fluids.
- It is **ILLEGAL** to leave oil at a closed collection center after business hours.

CAMARILLO CERTIFIED OIL RECYCLING CENTERS

BARRY'S AUTO SERVICE

130 S. Dawson Drive
(805) 388-6422

JIFFY LUBE

55 Daily Drive
(805) 388-1922

CENTRAL PLAZA UNION 76

700 Arneill Road
(805) 482-3465

KRAGEN AUTO PARTS

367 Carmen Drive
(805) 482-2377

FIRESTONE STORE

261 Arneill Road
(805) 482-9813

OILSTOP INC.

400 Las Posas Road
(805) 384-1189

OTHER RECYCLING OPTIONS

CITY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFFS

2nd Friday and Saturday of each month

Call **(805) 987-0717** for an appointment.

Most household hazardous waste and e-waste is accepted.

GOLD COAST RECYCLING

5275 Colt Street, Ventura
(805) 642-9236

Antifreeze, oil, oil filters, Tv's, computers, microwaves and latex paint are accepted.

"The People Are The City"

Crime Prevention Program Launched

The Camarillo Police Department recently implemented a new Crime Prevention Program called City Watch. This program was designed to utilize e-mail as an avenue to disseminate important information to the community regarding current crimes and crime trends. The goal of the program is to increase public awareness about the current crime trends so that residents can be better prepared to identify suspicious criminal activity and immediately report to the police by calling 911.

This program was designed as a means to receive feedback on particular crimes, and not designed to ask routine questions, or make general complaints regarding traffic problems, neighborhood disputes, etc. Since the e-mail account is not monitored 24-hours a day, residents are encouraged to reply to the e-mails only if they have questions about the information that was disseminated.

Anyone interested in joining the program can send an e-mail request to camcity.watch@ventura.org. If you have questions about the program, or need additional information, please call the Crime Prevention Officer at (805) 388-5130.



Internet Safety Tips For Your Children

The Camarillo Police Department and Adolfo Camarillo High School PTSA will be presenting *Cyber Safety, Keeping Your Kids Safe in a High Technology World*. This free community forum will be for “parents only” on Monday, March 3, 2008, at Adolfo Camarillo High School, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Senior Deputy Julie Novak at (805) 388-5131 or e-mail julie.novak@ventura.org.

The Internet offers children many positive opportunities for learning, entertainment, and even personal growth. At the same time, parents are concerned about the danger children face on-line. Some of these dangers include sexual predators, bullies, and children sharing too much information. There are several ways to mitigate these dangers and still keep children safe while using the Internet. The first and most important step is for parents to become familiar with the Internet and to educate their children on how to use it safely. The following are some safety tips to help you take that first step:

- Help your kids understand what information should be private and know how to use the privacy settings.
- Know the age limitations for individual social networking sites; almost all of them require you to be 13 and older to have a profile.
- Remind kids that information posted on-line creates “permanent footprints” that cannot be taken back when it has been shared with someone else.
- Future employers and schools are now looking at your child’s profile page. If pictures and comments are displayed that are inappropriate or illegal they may be denied entry into the school or turned down for future employment.
- Talk to your children about NOT entering any chat rooms, even if connected to a social networking site. Studies show that most predators and on-line bullies use chat rooms.
- If you find your child is involved with an on-line stranger, DO NOT confront your child. Confronting your child could cause them to erase evidence, alert the person, or even run away with the person. Instead, call the police immediately.
- On-line Resources: www.connectsafely.org, www.getnetwise.org, www.onguardonline.gov

CityScene TV



With two video providers in town, the Camarillo Government Channel is now on two different channels. For Time Warner Cable customers it is still on channel 10. However, for Verizon FiOS customers, the government channel is 29.

The government channel features free advertising about events that are happening in Camarillo, and programming like CityScene TV.

Various governing boards, including the Camarillo City Council and Planning Commission, Pleasant Valley School District Board, the Department of Airports, and the Ventura County Transportation Commission are also broadcast on channels 10 and 29.

Special events such as the Camarillo Christmas Parade and Academic Olympics, and meetings of the County Board of Supervisors and Oxnard Union High School District Board are also shown on a rebroadcast basis.

To air an advertisement for an organization you are involved with, please call (805) 388-5349. Advertisements are typically run two weeks in advance of a particular event. Videos (DVD or VHS) can also be shown on the government channel, depending on the subject matter.

Special Emergency Assistance

January 2008

- January 5, 12, 19, 26 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
8 A.M.-NOON, OLD TOWN CAMARILLO, 482-1507
- January 8 **COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING**
9 A.M., CAMARILLO SENIOR CENTER, 482-4881
- January 11, 12 **Free E-WASTE RECYCLING EVENTS**
9 A.M. TO 3 P.M., 1605 E. BURNLEY ST. CAMARILLO
COMMUNITY CENTER, 388-5392
- January 11, 12 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717

**CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING DAYS:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1 AND MONDAY, JANUARY 21**

February 2008

- February 2, 9, 16, 23 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
8 A.M. TO NOON, OLD TOWN CAMARILLO, 482-1507
- February 8,9 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717
- February 12 **COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING**
9 A.M., CAMARILLO SENIOR CENTER, 482-4881

**CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAY:
Monday, February 18**

Public Meetings

- Jan 9, 23 **CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**
Feb 6, 13, 27 5 P.M., CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
601 CARMEN DRIVE, CAMARILLO, CA 93010
- Jan 15 **PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**
Feb 5, 19 7:30 P.M., CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
601 CARMEN DRIVE, CAMARILLO, CA 93010

**Rare Blends Café inside the
New Camarillo City Library is
now open for business.**

The Ventura County Human Services Agency (HSA) maintains a registry of individuals who would require special consideration during emergency situations. The City of Camarillo is assisting the HSA by collecting information from residents who would require special help evacuating their homes. If you would require assistance, you can provide your contact information and pertinent details about your condition for area emergency responders.



Emergency personnel are ready to assist those in need of special assistance.

This is a voluntary program. The City is also collecting the information so it can be maintained in Camarillo's Emergency Operations Center. Any information that you provide (address, phone, etc.) is confidential and would be used by emergency management personnel only.

If you live at home and have special needs, and would require assistance to evacuate your residence, please mail your information to: Emergency Management, City of Camarillo, P.O. Box 248, Camarillo, CA 93011-0248.

If you live in a group home or assisted living facility, please speak to the facility management about this program. If you have questions regarding the special needs registry, please call (805) 388-5349 or e-mail us at CityHall@ci.camarillo.ca.us.

Old Town Revitalized

Continued from page 3

The streetscape improvement project has been a lengthy one and has certainly not been without challenges; however, the City is certain that the newly completed streetscape improvements will go a long way towards making Old Town Camarillo a special place. While there are still many changes in store for the revitalization effort along Ventura Boulevard, the City would like to inform the public that major construction has been completed. Thank you all for your patience and continued support through this lengthy improvement process.

"Las Personas Son La Ciudad"



City of Camarillo
601 Carmen Drive
Camarillo, California 93010
(805) 388-5307

the City of Camarillo



PRSR STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #21
OXNARD, CA

ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Telephone Directory

City Manager	388-5307	Abandoned Vehicles	388-5150
Cable TV Cust. Service		Airport Noise Complaints	388-4202
Time Warner:	888-892-2253	Animal Regulation	388-4341
Verizon:	888-553-1555	Building & Safety	388-5395
City Cable TV Representative:	388-5349	Camarillo Area Transit (Dial-A-Ride)	988-4228
Economic Development:	388-5349	Camarillo Library	388-5222
Refuse Collection (E.J. Harrison):	647-1414	Graffiti Reports	388-5338
Recycling & Hazardous Waste:	388-5392	Fire Department (non-emergency)	389-9710
City Hazardous Waste Appts.	987-0717	Police Department (non-emergency)	388-5100
City Clerk	388-5316	City Web site	
Finance	388-5320	www.ci.camarillo.ca.us	
Accounts Payable:	388-5352	City e-mail Address	
Business Licenses:	388-5330	cityhall@ci.camarillo.ca.us	
Utility/Customer Service:	388-5325	Camarillo Library	
Community Development	388-5360	www.vencolibrary.org	
Code Enforcement:	383-5660		
Public Works	388-5380		
Streets:	388-5338		
Water:	388-5373		
Engineering:	388-5340		
Traffic:	388-5340		
Sanitation:	388-5332		