

CityScene

A newsletter for the citizens of Camarillo

Nov. - Dec. 2015
Volume 22~Number 2

Camarillo City Council

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Building & Safety: 388-5395

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Camarillo Christmas Parade

The holidays are almost here again. This year the Camarillo Christmas Parade will celebrate the sunshine and thrills of our Golden State, starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12. Our theme, "A California Christmas," highlights the fun of living in California with cool autos, lively bands, showy equestrian units, big floats, large balloons, and specialty units moving from the corner of Temple and Las Posas Road and ending at Santa's Village at the Community Center Park.



The parade kicks off for the exciting marching band competition on Temple Avenue between Ponderosa and Temple, across from the First Baptist Church. This battle of the bands begins at 8:30 a.m., so arrive early to get a seat.

Santa's Village will also be bustling with parade festivities at the Camarillo Community Center, 1605 E. Burnley Street from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy great food, kids' crafts, visits with Santa, holiday shopping, musical entertainment, carnival games, and much more.

For further details on the parade and Santa's Village, please visit www.pvrpd.org or call (805) 482-1996.

El Niño Is Here...And If The Rain Comes...

El Niño is here...the question for Camarillo residents is whether El Niño will be wet or dry. To be safe, let's prepare for a rainy season. That said, what should you do?

- + Is your roof in good shape? Have it inspected by a roofing professional or handyman.
- + Clear your rain gutters of mud and debris, and make sure the gutters are in good condition.
- + Are there any large tree branches that could break in a storm and cause injuries or property damage? Have them trimmed.
- + Inspect walls (fences) around your property; are they solid, or could significant rain make them unstable?
- + Check with your insurance company about flood insurance.
- + Are overhead utility lines a concern? Contact SC Edison at (800) 655-4555.



For information about sand and/or sandbags at one of the Ventura County Fire stations in or near Camarillo, please call (805) 371-1111. The fire stations are: #50 (Camarillo Airport); #52 (Mission Oaks); #54 (Pickwick Dr.); #55 (Las Posas Estates); and #57 (Somis).

You should also be aware of the Emergency Alert Stations (EAS), which are: KVEN - 1450 am, KHAY - 100.7 fm, and KMLA 103.7 fm (Spanish).

Go to www.ReadyVenturaCounty.org for emergency preparedness information. All cell phones in your household should be registered on **VC Alert**...it's free! Go to www.VCALert.org, or text VCALLERT to 313131.



Planning a Drought-Tolerant Yard?

Are you thinking about converting your water-thirsty lawn to a drought-tolerant garden? Before you get started, here are a few things to keep in mind.

- You can design your own plan or work with a landscaping professional. Great tips on how to do both can be found at www.camarillogardening.com.
- A significant amount of the front yard landscaping may be artificial turf but must also include live plants.
- For drought-tolerant landscaping (i.e. Southwest), up to 70% of the front yard landscaped area may be nonplant material such as wood chips, decomposed granite, and decorative rock; the remaining 30% must be live plants.
- Decorative rocks and decomposed granite are permitted within the parkway (the space between the curb and the sidewalk) but must include plants every 10 feet.
- Your landscape conversion plans must be approved by the Department of Community Development by obtaining a FREE zone clearance before starting any work. Please call them at (805) 388-5360 for further details.

Due to the overwhelming response, funds for turf removal rebates have been exhausted. New applications are being accepted only for a wait-list, in case additional funding becomes available. Information on rebates for water-saving clothes washers, toilets, weather-based irrigation controllers, soil moisture sensors, and rain barrels, can be found at www.bewaterwise.com.

Recycle Your Christmas Tree

E.J. Harrison & Sons and the City of Camarillo make it easy for you to “recycle” your Christmas tree as much-needed mulch.

Simply remove the ornaments, hooks, lights, tinsel, bows, nails, and tree stand, cut the tree into four-foot sections, and place them in your yard waste barrel on your scheduled pickup day. E.J. Harrison & Sons even accepts flocked Christmas trees for recycling.

Collected trees will be processed into various sizes of mulch, which is used to make several products that benefit local farmlands, orchards, nurseries, and gardens.

As a special holiday feature, E.J. Harrison & Sons customers may put out twice the amount of trash at no extra charge during the two weeks after Dec. 25. Please make sure the trash is in paper or plastic bags alongside the trash bin. Customers may also put out extra recyclables; flatten all boxes and place them alongside the recycling bin.

Harvest the Coming Rains



If the predictions are true, we could be in for some wetter weather this Fall (we certainly hope so!). Here are a few helpful things you can do to extend the benefits a rain shower can bring:

First, turn your sprinklers off! You will save water that will otherwise be wasted, and current law requires that you turn off your sprinklers for 48 hours after any measurable rain.

Second, put your houseplants and porch plants out in the rain for a good soaking.

Third, collect the water from your downspouts to use in your gardens later. You can do this with rain barrels or 5 gallon paint buckets, or just about anything else that will contain water. Store bought, 50 gallon rain barrels are the best option, and are eligible for a \$75 rebate. They can be purchased or ordered from most local hardware stores.

For helpful information on installing and maintaining a rain barrel, and information on rebates for rain barrels, please go to www.socalwatersmart.com.

For more water saving tips, please go to www.bewaterwise.com or pick up a handy brochure at City Hall.

Knock, Knock. Who's There? Be Sure You Know

Before you open your door, find out who's knocking. Speak loudly through the unopened and locked door to learn if this is a salesperson or charity worker. If so, tell them you will want to see their City of Camarillo solicitation permit. Don't open the door if they say they can't produce one.

Even with Internet shopping, door-to-door selling and charity requests are still common. All commercial solicitors (salespeople) operating within the City—even ones who are just leaving brochures or business cards at homes or businesses—must carry a permit issued by the Camarillo's Business Tax Division.

Solicitors from religious and charitable groups (nonprofits) must also carry a permit when they seek donations in any public place or door-to-door—and they must show it to you when you ask to see it. Nonprofit solicitation permits are issued by the City Clerk's office. (Charitable and religious organizations don't have to do this if they're only providing information.)

What's more, all solicitors must respect "No Solicitors" signs. If someone comes to your door even though you have posted such a sign outside your home or business, try to get the person's name or at least the company's or charity's name, then call the Business Tax Division at (805) 388-5330 or the City Clerk's office at (805) 388-5353 to report them. If you call after normal business hours, leave a voicemail.

If a solicitor cannot produce a permit or doesn't want to take "no" for an answer, we urge you to call the Camarillo Police Department at (805) 388-5100. If you feel threatened by a solicitor, call 9-1-1 for emergency help.

Save Time, Effort: Pay Utility Bills Online

Did you know you can choose to pay your utility bills on the Internet? It's free, safe, and easy with the City's secure online services. All you need is your utility account number, a computer with Internet access (at home, at a library, at a senior center, etc.), an active e-mail address, a personal identification number or PIN (see below), and a credit or debit card.

Each month, a randomly generated PIN will be printed at the top right side of your billing statement just under your service address. This temporary PIN will continue to be displayed on your bill until you log on and successfully register your own private PIN (password). Once registration is complete, a PIN will no longer show on your statement.

With this free, secure service you can:

- Make credit or debit card payments using Visa or MasterCard for your water, sewer, and/or trash bills.
- View all your account information: balance, payments, billing history, usage history, and service summary.

It's easy to get started. Log on to the City's website at www.cityofcamarillo.org, click on the word "Payments," then click on UTILITY PAYMENTS and follow the on-screen instructions. For assistance, contact Customer Service at (805) 388-5325.

Thank You, 2015 Coastal Cleanup Volunteers!

The 31st California Coastal Cleanup Day was held on Sept. 19, 2015. In Camarillo, 208 volunteers removed 416 pounds of trash and recyclables from two locations: Calleguas Creek and the Mission Oaks Park barranca. Volunteers worked hard to stop debris at the source, which prevents it from entering our waterways and ending up in the ocean. Along with picking up after others, these environmental heroes collected data on what was picked up and how often; this gives us the statistics on problematic debris.

Camarillo's volunteers joined the annual statewide event that always takes place the third Saturday of September. This year's preliminary results show that over 53,555 volunteers removed nearly 614,188 pounds of trash and recyclables from California's beaches, shorelines, and inland waterways.

The City of Camarillo and the California Coastal Commission continue to request that all residents take responsibility for ensuring trash is disposed of properly—securely in a trash can, recycling bin, or a hazardous waste facility when appropriate.

If you were there, thank you for dedicating your time to cleaning up and making our environment a better place to live. We hope to see you again next year!

"The People Are The City"

Wonderful Winter Programs at Your Camarillo Library

Family Events

- **Write Military Appreciation Letters** in the Children's Room, **Nov. 11** from **10 a.m. to 9 p.m.**
- **The Humane Society of Ventura County** shares animals and responsible pet care, **Nov. 24** at **10 a.m.**
- **Around the World with the Reptile Family:** Meet turtles, snakes, and more, **Nov. 25** at **10 a.m.**
- **"A Little Dickens Carolers":** Get in the holiday spirit, **Dec. 12** from **2 to 3 p.m.**

Children's Programs

- **Esper A. Peterson Homework Center** (K-8 students) is open **Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays**, from **3 to 6 p.m.**, and **Thursdays** from **2 to 6 p.m.**, **Nov. 2** through **Dec. 17**; on break **Nov. 23** through **26**.
- **International Games Day:** Puzzles, prizes, and more, **Nov. 21** from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- **Chanukah Storytimes** for preschoolers and their families, **Dec. 8** and **9** at **10 a.m.**
- **Celebrate the Holiday Season** with stories, songs, and a surprise visit from Santa, **Dec. 15** from **7 to 8 p.m.**

Teen Programs (ages 12-18)

- **Teen Movie Nights:** First Thursday of each month at **6:30 p.m.**
Nov. 5 — *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl* [PG-13]
Dec. 3 — *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* [PG-13]
- **Teen MakerSpace** — Third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
Nov. 19 — Let's Get 3D!
Dec. 17 — Wearable LEDs
- **Second Teen Readers Conference:** Grab some FREE books on **Nov. 7** from **2 to 4 p.m.**
- **Make Gingerbread Houses** on **Dec. 5** from **2 to 4 p.m.** in the YA area. Registration opens **Nov. 1**.

Adult Programs

- **"Financial Coaching for Veterans"** with Lucia Trujillo, **Nov. 2** from **6 to 7:30 p.m.** and **Nov. 9** from **10 to 11:30 a.m.**
- Tips and tricks for **"Graduating College Debt Free,"** **Nov. 4** at **7 p.m.**
- Open to all ages and experience, the **Camarillo Camera Club** meets **Nov. 11** at **6:30 p.m.**
- Celebrate National Novel Writing Month at our **Fiction Writing Workshop**, **Nov. 14** from **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**
- **"Adapting to Alzheimer's: Aging Gracefully with Memory Changes,"** **Nov. 16** at **6:30 p.m.**
- Ventura County **Genealogical Society Series: Saturday, Nov. 21**
11 a.m. to 12 p.m.: DNA Special Interest Group Round-Table Discussion
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.: Civil War Research: Learning about Your Union Veteran Ancestor
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.: Workshop on Mapping Ancestors' Lands
- **Must-See Movies for Adults: Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room**
Nov. 12 — *Pitch Perfect 2* [PG-13] **Nov. 19** — *No se aceptan devoluciones* (en Español) [PG-13]
Dec. 10 — *Jurassic World* [PG-13] **Dec. 17** — *Holiday Inn* [NR]

Russell Fischer Business Collection

- Learn to master all the cool new features at **Windows 10 Tips & Tricks**, **Nov. 17** at **8 a.m.**
- Professor Priscilla Liang presents **Demystifying China's Unique Business Culture**, **Nov. 18** at **6 p.m.**
- Hasnain Rizvi presents **Leveraging Project Management to Deliver Value**, **Dec. 1** at **6 p.m.**
- Conejo Valley Financial Associates explain **Financial Guidance for Every Stage of Life**, **Dec. 9** at **5:30 p.m.**
- **Beyond Words: How Nonverbal Communication Influences Business Interactions**, **Dec. 16** at **6 p.m.**

The library is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library will close at 5 p.m. on Nov. 25, Dec. 24, and Dec. 31. The library will be closed Nov. 26 through 27, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1. Contact us at (805) 388-5222 or visit us online at www.camarillolibrary.org. We are located at 4101 Las Posas Road.



November 2015

- 7, 14, 21, 28 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- 12 P.M., CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 987-3347
- 7 **FREE ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION EVENT**
8 A.M. - 12 P.M., 291 ANACAPA DR., 499-0050
WWW.PCRECYCLE.US
- 13, 14 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CITYOFCAMARILLO.ORG
- 26 **FREE TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING DINNER**
CAMARILLO MOOSE FAMILY CENTER, 484-9118
11 A.M. - 4 P.M., 341 SUITE A, ARNEIL RD.

December 2015

- 2, 9, 16 **SANTA NIGHTS**
4:30 P.M. - 8 P.M., CAMARILLO RANCH HOUSE
201 CAMARILLO RANCH RD., 389-8182
- 5 **STUDIO CHANNEL ISLANDS ART CENTER**
HOLIDAY ART MARKET
11 A.M. - 6 P.M., 2222 VENTURA BLVD.
- 5 **CHRISTMAS AT THE CAMARILLO RANCH**
4 P.M. - 8 P.M., CALL 389-8182
201 CAMARILLO RANCH RD.
- 5 **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**
8 A.M. - 10 A.M., CAMARILLO COMMUNITY CENTER
1605 BURNLEY ST., FOR DETAILS, CALL 482-1996
- 5, 12, 19, 26 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- 12 P.M., CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 987-3347
- 6 **COMMUNITY MENORAH LIGHTING**
4 P.M. - 5:30 P.M., CONSTITUTION PARK
MORE INFO. AT: WWW.CHABADCAMARILLO.COM
- 11, 12 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CITYOFCAMARILLO.ORG
- 12 **CAMARILLO CHRISTMAS PARADE**
10 A.M., CORNER OF TEMPLE AND LAS POSAS
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 482-1996
WWW.PVRPD.ORG
- 12 **SANTA'S VILLAGE**
9 A.M. - 2 P.M., CAMARILLO COMMUNITY CENTER
1605 BURNLEY ST., FOR DETAILS, CALL 482-1996
WWW.PVRPD.ORG
- 13 **MEADOWLARK SERVICE LEAGUE**
ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOME TOUR FUNDRAISER
1 P.M. - 5 P.M., VARIOUS LOCATIONS, CAMARILLO
FOR MORE INFO., CALL 279-8909
WWW.MEADOWLARKSERVICELEAGUE.COM
- 13 **MEADOWLARK SERVICE LEAGUE**
RED BARN HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
1 P.M. - 5 P.M., 201 CAMARILLO RANCH RD.
FOR MORE INFO., CALL 279-8909
WWW.MEADOWLARKSERVICELEAGUE.COM
- 21 **SANTA NIGHTS**
3 P.M. - 6 P.M., CAMARILLO RANCH HOUSE
201 CAMARILLO RANCH RD., 389-8182
- 29 **WELCOMING THE NEW YEAR**
SEMI-FORMAL EVENING OF DANCING
6 P.M. - 9 P.M., COMMUNITY CENTER AUDITORIUM
1605 BURNLEY ST., FOR TICKETS, CALL 482-4881

Free Grants Workshop for Nonprofits

Could your organization use more money to do more good? Then mark your calendars: On Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., the City of Camarillo will conduct a workshop for nonprofit groups and agencies seeking Community Development Block Grants (CDBGs) and Community Service Grants for fiscal year 2016-2017. The workshop will be held at the Camarillo Public Library, 4101 Las Posas Road.

If you plan to request funding through either of these sources, we urge you to attend the workshop. You'll definitely improve your chances of getting the funds you need. Afterwards, applications will be available online; filing deadline is Friday, Jan. 22, 2016.

CDBG funds come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. They are designated to help create more viable urban communities by providing suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. These funds may be used for housing, public services, public facilities, and economic-development activities.

Community Service Grants come from the City of Camarillo. They are available to qualified groups with a current 501(c) (3) registration, such as community service organizations, nonprofit corporations, and parent/teacher groups. Capital projects and community service activities (including enhancement of established events and programs) that directly serve or benefit Camarillo residents are eligible.

For more info regarding CDBGs, please contact David Moe at (805) 388-5367 or by e-mail at dmoe@cityofcamarillo.org. For additional information regarding Community Service Grants, please contact Deborah Whitlock at (805) 383-5654 or by e-mail at dwhitlock@cityofcamarillo.org.

emPower Ventura County

The emPower Ventura County program was launched just over a year ago to help local homeowners and contractors make energy upgrades easy and affordable. Whether your home feels too hot, too cold, drafty, stuffy, dusty, or if your energy bills are too high, emPower can help offer solutions.

In addition to free energy coach site visits and efficiency evaluation results, emPower offers free expert energy advice, can put you in touch with local, qualified contractors, help you access utility rebates up to \$6,500 or, if needed, low-interest, unsecured loans from local credit unions. emPower can help you make your home more comfortable, more efficient, and healthier with improvements to reduce your utility bills and enhance your property while helping the environment, creating local jobs, and producing positive economic impacts.

To learn more and to schedule your FREE Home Energy Site Visit with emPower's Energy Coach, call (805) 654-3834 or complete an online interest form at www.emPowerSBC.org.

"The People Are The City"



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

the City of Camarillo



PRSR STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAIL MANAGER, INC.

ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Telephone Directory

City Manager (805) 388-5307
Cable TV Customer Service
Time Warner: (888) 892-2253
Verizon: (888) 553-1555

City Cable TV Representative: 388-5349
Economic Development: 388-5349
Trash Collection (E.J. Harrison): 647-1414
Recycling & Hazardous Waste: 388-5392
Hazardous Waste **Appt. Line:** 987-0717

City Clerk 388-5316

Finance 388-5320
Accounts Payable: 388-5352
Business Licenses: 388-5330
Utility Billing/Customer Service: 388-5325

Community Development 388-5360
Code Compliance: 383-5660

Public Works 388-5380
Streets: 388-5338
Water: 388-5373
Engineering: 388-5340
Traffic: 388-5340
Water Reclamation: 388-5332

Abandoned Vehicles 388-5150
Airport Noise Complaints 388-4202
Animal Services 388-4341
Building & Safety 388-5395
Camarillo Area Transit (*Dial-A-Ride*) 988-4228
Camarillo Library 388-5222
Fire Department (*non-emergency*) 389-9710
Graffiti Reports 388-5338
Police Department (*non-emergency*) 388-5100
Camarillo Post Office (800) 275-8777

City Website
www.cityofcamarillo.org

City E-mail Address
cityhall@cityofcamarillo.org

Camarillo Library Website
www.camarillolibrary.org

Social Services Hotline: 211

Camarillo Government Channel

Channel 10 (Time Warner customers)
Channel 29 (Verizon FIOS customers)

