

CityScene

A newsletter for the citizens of Camarillo

Mar. - Apr. 2013
Volume 19~Number 4

Camarillo City Council

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Building & Safety: 388-5395

Camarillo Library: 388-5222

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Utility Billing/
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Finance: 388-5320

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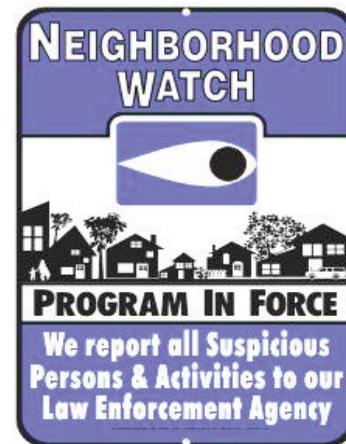
Neighborhood Watch: Let's Look Out for Each Other

Have you heard the saying, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem?" That's so true. And if you're not already involved in Neighborhood Watch, here's your chance to help solve the problem of crime.

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest, most effective crime-prevention programs in the country. It brings citizens, businesses, and law enforcement together to make communities safer. The concept is simple: people in a neighborhood know who belongs there and when something unusual is going on. The program fights the isolation and separation that crime feeds on and helps reduce thefts, burglaries, and robberies.

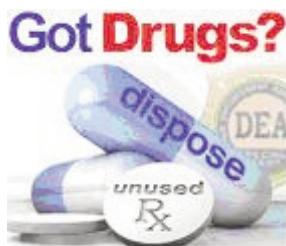
Neighborhood Watch calls on residents to step forward and help organize groups to discuss local crime issues and develop solutions. Local police supply information to the groups and instruct them in crime-prevention techniques.

Camarillo has 26 active watch groups—and encourages every neighborhood to start one. What about your neighborhood? If it doesn't have a group, why not step up now? Begin by contacting the Police Department's Community Resource Unit at (805) 388-5155.



The Camarillo Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Program continues to grow since its beginning in 1980.

Got Prescription Meds?



In 2012, a total of 1,767 lbs of medicine was collected.

Need to safely dispose of unused, unwanted prescription drugs? If so, take note. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, Apr. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Camarillo Police Station, 3701 Las Posas Road.

In four previous take-back events—with help from state, local, and tribal law-enforcement partners—the DEA has collected more than two million pounds (1,000 tons!) of medications.

The take-back day provides a convenient, responsible means of putting meds out of circulation, while also educating the public about their potential for abuse.

Reminder: If you miss the national event, our Police Department also accepts prescription drugs for disposal Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Help Us Complete Our Emergency Roster



What if a major earthquake struck tomorrow? Would you or someone you know who lives alone need help? If so, please contact the City about our Special Needs Emergency Roster. We want to know the locations of our residents with special needs in case an evacuation is required, Their lives may be at risk.

Our roster lists people who are homebound or dependent on special care such as dialysis treatments, including elderly persons who simply have trouble getting around. The roster is not designed for people in assisted-living facilities—only for special-needs people living in houses or apartments, who may not have anyone to help them in an emergency.

Any information you provide for the roster is confidential and kept in the City's Emergency Operations Center. For more information, contact Heidi Zahrt at (805) 383-5688 or hzahrt@ci.camarillo.ca.us.

Become a Kitty's Foster Parent

They're tiny. They're vulnerable. And they're so adorable. Who? Newborn kittens at shelters operated by Ventura County Animal Services (VCAS). And now VCAS has launched a kitten foster-parenting program asking for volunteers to care for them.



"Kittens are cute and cuddly but need a high level of care," says VCAS Interim Director Donna Gillesby. "This program is a wonderful way to help save the life of a stray or abandoned kitten."

In their own homes, VCAS foster parents agree to care for one, two, or an entire litter of kittens, providing the babies with frequent feedings by bottle or, if old enough, with kitten food. When the kitties are at least eight weeks old and weigh 2 pounds each, they're put up for adoption at VCAS shelters.

Want to volunteer? E-mail VCAS.volunteer@ventura.org or call VCAS Volunteer Coordinator Brooke Novak at (805) 388-4345.

Rev Up for Old Town Cruise Nights



Love cars, especially classics? You're in luck. Classic Car Cruise Nights begin on Friday, Apr. 26, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., and will continue on the fourth Friday of each month through Sept. 27.

You'll have the chance to reminisce and enjoy pre-1980 vintage cars on display along Ventura Boulevard between Elm and Fir Streets, in the beautifully restored Camarillo Old Town business district.

The Camarillo Old Town Association hosts Classic Car Cruise Nights. To learn more, call Tom Maloney at (805) 443-9219.

Free EGGstravaganza Coming Up

The Easter Bunny will hop into the Camarillo Community Center on Saturday, Mar. 30, when Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park District hosts its Easter Eggstravaganza and Craft Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Highlights include entertainment, an egg hunt, carnival games, kid's crafts, inflatable attractions, great food, specialty vendors, and much more. Pony rides and a petting zoo will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Egg hunt times are:

3-year-olds and under	10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.
4 to 7 years old	11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
8 to 11 years old	11:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.
12 years and older	12:00 noon

Don't miss this delightful family fun! For further details, call (805) 482-1996.



"Las Personas Son La Ciudad"

Do This Before You Drain Your Pool!

Summer's around the corner. If you own or take care of a fresh-water swimming pool, you need to be aware of proper pool maintenance, as well as the harm pool waste can cause. Pool water contains pollutants such as salts and chlorine that could end up in our creeks and oceans if not drained correctly.

If you do a good job maintaining your pool, you shouldn't need to drain it more than once every 10 years. When the time does come to drain your fresh-water pool, follow these steps before you do.

- Notify the City's Stormwater Program Manager at (805) 383-5659. Also notify your water supplier, so you will not be cited for wasting water under our conservation program. City of Camarillo water customers should call (805) 388-5373.
- Inspect the drainage path (curb/gutter/street) that old pool water will travel. Clean this path to be sure that trash, sediment, and other debris does not wash out to the storm-drain system with your pool water.
- Use a pool test kit, available from a pool supplier, to check the pool's chlorine level. It must be at or below 0.1 parts per million (ppm) before it can be drained. If chlorine exceeds that level, reduce it by waiting several days to several weeks without adding chlorine or add a commercial chlorine reducer (also from a pool supply store). Always **stop using the pool** when the chlorine drops below 1.0 ppm.
- Never drain acid-wash wastewater or other pool-cleaning wastewater into the street, gutter, or storm-drain system.
- Never wash pool filter backwash (diatomaceous earth) into the street, gutter, or storm drains. If no harmful chemicals are present, filter waste should be bagged wet and placed in a trash container.
- Read the directions before using any pool chemical. Avoid using copper-based products to control algae. If drained into the environment, copper can easily build up to hazardous levels and kill aquatic organisms. Instead use hypochlorite shock treatment.

If you have a salt-water chemistry pool, be aware that it is illegal to discharge that water into the storm-drain or sewer system. This water must be hauled to an ocean-discharging disposal facility. Because of the higher disposal costs, you may want to replace the salt-water system with a fresh-water one.

Questions? Call the City's Stormwater Program Manager at (805) 383-5659.

Fun Facts About Our Water

Did you know...?

- In 2012, City customers used enough water to cover a football field to a depth of almost two miles.
- Camarillo imports 60% of its water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The rest comes from our local groundwater.
- 97% of the world's water is salty or otherwise undrinkable. Another 2% is locked in ice caps and glaciers. That leaves only 1% for use by all living creatures, including plants and animals.
- If everyone in the U.S. used one less gallon of water to shower in every day, we could save approximately 85 million gallons of water a year.
- If everyone in the U.S. flushed their toilets just one less time per day, we could save a lake full of water about one mile long, one mile wide, and four feet deep.
- Every glass of water brought to your table in a restaurant requires another two glasses of water to wash and rinse it. Since 70 million daily meals are served in U.S. restaurants, we'd save more than 26 million gallons of water if one person in four declined the complimentary glassful.

For more tips on saving water, visit our water-wise gardening website at www.camarillogardening.com.

"The People Are The City"

Library's March Focus: "Camarillo Reads—One City One Book"

Join us for our second citywide reading event! This year's title, *Farm City* by Novella Carpenter, reminds us of our connection to the land and the joys of local eating. "An unforgettably charming memoir; full of hilarious moments, fascinating farmer's tips, and a great deal of heart..." Companion books for kids are *SeedFolks* and *Weslandia* by Paul Fleischman. Teens, read *Omnivore's Dilemma: The Secrets Behind What You Eat*, young readers edition. The following library events tie in with *Farm City* themes.

Focus on the Masters, "Coloring from Nature"—Saturday, Mar. 16, children at 10 a.m.; teens at 12 noon; adults at 2 p.m. Learn about Roxie Ray and Gail Pidduck, renowned for paintings of Ventura County field workers and farmlands. Then create your own landscape using colors made from leaves, flowers, grass, and even dirt! Limited to 30 participants per class; supplies included.

Saturday, Mar. 9—Family Farm Day at the Library, all day. Mary Maranville, founder of Students for Agriculture Education, presents "From Field to Fork in Ventura County." Then roll up your sleeves to milk a sawhorse cow; gather "eggs" from puppet hens; and plant a glove garden. VC Handspinners and Weavers will do demonstrations.

Monday, Mar. 18 – 6:30 – 8:00 PM – Back by popular demand, photographer John B. Mueller is back! Get ready for digital photography tips with food & farm themes!

Saturday, Mar. 23 at 2 p.m., Local Farming Panel. Watch for future details.

Sunday, Mar. 24 at 2 p.m.—Author Novella Carpenter discusses how she became an urban farmer and signs her books in the Community Room.

Wednesdays in March—Master Gardener Series, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Community Room. *Free veggie seedling to the first 100 attendees at each event.*

- Mar. 6—"History of Citrus in Ventura County" with Julian Hoyle
- Mar. 13—"All About Tomatoes" with Julian Hoyle
- Mar. 20—Container Gardening
- Mar. 27—"History of Gardening" with Dr. Rose Hayden-Smith

Thursdays in March—Food & Farming Films at 6 p.m.—Be inspired by films that include "Supercharge Me!" "30 Days Raw," "Dirt!" "Fresh," and "Ingredients."

Book Clubs, *Farm City*—Everyone welcome!

Tuesday, Mar. 5 at 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Mar. 12 at 11 a.m.; Thursday, Mar. 21 at 7 p.m.

Teen Book Club, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*—Tuesday, Mar. 19 at 4 p.m.

Read Aloud & Book Discussion—*Seedfolks* and *Weslandia* by Paul Flieshman.
Mar. 19 at 7 p.m. for children and their families in the Pirate Ship.

Online Book Club—Sign up at the Children's Desk with your library card number or by e-mail to: ivanoni@camarillolibrary.org. First discussion group will post Mar. 1.

Food Drive—All library users are invited to bring canned food for **FOOD Share** during the entire month of March to help meet our goal of 1,000 pounds to help those in need.

► **IT'S TIME TO VOTE** for your choice for the California Young Readers Medal. Ballots available at the Children's Desk (classroom ballots on request). Ballots must be received **by 5 p.m. Mar. 15**.

For further details, April events, and ongoing programs unrelated to "One City, One Book," visit in person, phone us, or log on to our website. The library is located at 4101 Las Posas Rd. and is open seven days a week: Monday—Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tel: (805) 388-5222; website: www.camarillolibrary.org. Like Us on [Facebook.com/camarillolibrary](https://www.facebook.com/camarillolibrary). Follow Us on [Twitter.com/camarillolib](https://twitter.com/camarillolib).



March 2013

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- NOON, CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 482-1507
- 8, 9 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CI.CAMARILLO.CA.US
- 25 **MEADOWLARK SERVICE LEAGUE**
CHARITY TENNIS TOURNAMENT AND LUNCHEON
8:30 A.M.- 10:30 A.M.
FOR DETAILS, CALL GWEN AT 630-7257 OR VISIT
WWW.MEADOWLARKSERVICELEAGUE.COM
- 30 **FREE EGGSTRAVAGANZA**
10 A.M.- 3 P.M., 1605 BURNLEY STREET
WWW.PVRPD.ORG

April 2013

- 6, 13, 20, 27 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- NOON, CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 482-1507
- 12, 13 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CI.CAMARILLO.CA.US
- 26 **CAMARILLO OLD TOWN CRUISE NIGHT**
5 P.M. - 8 P.M., VENTURA BLVD.
FOR DETAILS, CALL TOM MALONEY 443-9219
- 27 **NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**
10 A.M. - 2 P.M., 3701 LAS POSAS RD.
FOR DETAILS, PLEASE CALL 388-5392 OR VISIT
[WWW.DEADIVERSION.USDOJ.GOV/DRUG_](http://WWW.DEADIVERSION.USDOJ.GOV/DRUG_DISPOSAL/TAKEBACK/)
[DISPOSAL/TAKEBACK/](http://WWW.DEADIVERSION.USDOJ.GOV/DRUG_DISPOSAL/TAKEBACK/)

Businesses Will Pay One More Dollar

A new Senate bill (SB1186, Section 44670) requires all California cities to collect a one-dollar (\$1) fee from anyone who applies for or renews a business license or permit. This state-mandated fee is in addition to the existing business tax.

You'll see this fee at the top right corner of the Business Tax Renewal form, labeled "State Certified Access Specialist program (CASp) Fee," under "For Office Use Only." Collection began on Tuesday, Jan. 1 and will continue until Dec. 31, 2018.

To learn more, visit the City's website at www.ci.camarillo.ca.us.

Spring Cleaning Guide: Be Clean and Green

Ahhhh, spring—the season of renewal. No wonder it's traditional to clean up and clear out all the stuff that's gathering dust in our homes, garages, and attics.

The hardest part of a cleaning spree is figuring out what to do with that dingy old chair or mattress and the other clutter you've decided must go—right? Fortunately, there are many programs to help you make sure your clutter is properly recycled, reused, or disposed of. A few options below:

Bulky Item Disposal—(805) 647-1414

If you receive a trash bill directly from the City, you are allowed 2 bulky items—picked up at no charge—in a 12 month period — (not including special disposal). Examples of accepted items include mattresses, dishwashers, water heaters, furniture, and tree stumps that weigh less than 50 pounds. For an extended list of acceptable items, or to schedule a bulky item pick up, please call E.J. Harrison & Sons ay (805) 647-1414.

For non-City customers, E.J. Harrison charges \$25 per bulky item, plus fees for special handling of discards such as Freon and cathode ray tubes. (City customers may request special handling, too, for the same fees).

Refuse Bin Rental—(805) 647-1414

Large roll-off containers and smaller bins for use during renovation or large clean-up projects are available for rent from E.J. Harrison & Sons. Call 647-1414 for information concerning this service. Customers will be billed directly.

Hazardous Hazardous Waste—(805) 987-0717

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), such as paint, solvents, pesticides, pool chemicals, household cleaners, household batteries, button batteries (used for hearing aids and cameras), fluorescent tubes and bulbs, must NOT be discarded in your solid waste or recycling barrels. The City's HHW drop-off center is open the second consecutive Friday and Saturday of each month, by appointment only. These items can harm people, animals, and the environment if not properly discarded.

Used motor oil and oil filters may be recycled at the HHW drop-off center or at any state-certified recycling center. Call 1-800-CLEANUP for the location of a center near you.

Electronic Waste (E-Waste)—(805) 388-6068

Computers, printers, monitors, and "peripherals" (any device used with a PC, such as a flash drive), TVs, VCRs, DVD players, fax machines, stereos, radios, cell phones, speakers, and other electronic waste must NOT be discarded in landfills because they may contain hazardous materials. Instead, recycle e-waste free of charge at G & C Technologies, 90 Camarillo Street, Monday- Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The City's "Odds-N-Ends Guide," available to download and print at www.ci.camarillo.ca.us, is a great source for more reuse, recycling, and disposal info. Or you can contact the City's Recycling Coordinator at (805) 388-5392.

"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	Abandoned Vehicles	388-5150
Cable TV Customer Service		Airport Noise Complaints	388-4202
Time Warner:	(888) 892-2253	Animal Services	388-4341
Verizon:	(888) 553-1555	Building & Safety	388-5395
City Cable TV Representative:	388-5349	Camarillo Area Transit (<i>Dial-A-Ride</i>)	988-4228
Economic Development:	388-5349	Camarillo Library	388-5222
Trash Collection (E.J. Harrison):	647-1414	Fire Department (<i>non-emergency</i>)	389-9710
Recycling & Hazardous Waste:	388-5392	Graffiti Reports	388-5338
Hazardous Waste Appt. Line:	987-0717	Police Department (<i>non-emergency</i>)	388-5100
City Clerk	388-5316	City Website	
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 Billing/Customer Service:	388-5325	Camarillo Library Website	
Community Development	388-5360	www.camarillolibrary.org	
Code Compliance:	383-5660	Social Services Hotline: 211	
Public Works	388-5380	Camarillo Government Channel	
Streets:	388-5338	Channel 10 (Time Warner customers)	
Water:	388-5373	Channel 29 (Verizon FiOS customers)	
Engineering:	388-5340		
Traffic:	388-5340		
Water Reclamation:	388-5332		



Please recycle this paper