



CITY OF SAN MARINO

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

CITY HIGHLIGHTS

Election results seat new Councilmembers and approve Measures U and SA

According to the preliminary results from the November 3, 2015 election, the total number of voters registered in San Marino is 8,419. At press time, the final results of the election were to be certified by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk of the County of Los Angeles on November 23, 2015 and would be officially adopted by the San Marino City Council at their meeting on December 9, 2015.

The count reflects the total number of ballots cast by the City's electorate either through vote-by-mail or at the polling location was 3,186. The results of the election indicate that the top two candidates for City Council, having received the most votes, are Steve Talt (38.88%) and Steven Huang (28.01%).

In addition, the final results of the votes cast for Measure SA, the Public Safety Tax, reflect that

2,147 (73.91%) were in support of the measure and 758 (26.09%) did not support the measure. Requiring a two-thirds vote, Measure SA was approved by the voters in the election.

The final results of the votes cast for Measure U, the Utility User Tax, reflect that 2,066 (71.99%) were in support of the measure and 804 (28.1%) did not support the measure. Requiring only a majority vote, Measure U was approved by the voters in the election.

For more information and election results, visit the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk website at rccc.co.la.ca.us/elect.

A special thanks goes out to the Members of the Committee of San Marino Residents for Measures U and SA. Those individuals include Co-Chairs Jerry Hawk, Mort Mortimer, Tom Santley and Linda Sun; and Members at Large Lee Baca, Kathryn Barger-Leibrich, Dan Biles, Wayne Carter, Brent Chang, Jennifer Chen, Doris Christensen, Louise Cook, Hilary Dorsey, Sally Fadley, Corinne Hawk, Calvin Lo, Pete Loeffler, Dick Pearson, David Stuteville, Ken Ude and David Wang. ■

City of San Marino water conservation update

The City of San Marino has averaged a 28% to 30% reduction in water consumption during the months of June through October. Current numbers are compared to 2013 water usage figures. The City has been required by the state to reduce water usage by 25%.

So far throughout the City, there have been 545 watering violation warnings issued and 82 citations issued for repeat watering violations.

Residents are reminded that all water restrictions remain in place, including no watering within 48 hours of measurable rain.

As a reminder, odd numbered residential addresses are allowed to water on Tuesday and Friday only; even numbered residential addresses are allowed to water on Monday and Thursday only. Watering is restricted between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and is limited to no more than 15 minutes per scheduled day. Violations will be issued to those who do not comply with these important regulations.

Residents are encouraged to be proactive by reducing watering to one day a week and decreasing the duration of watering as the weather gets cooler. ■

If you have a comment, question or idea for the newsletter, please email Community Services Manager Rosa Pinuelas at rpinelas@cityofsanmarino.org.

GREEN CORNER

Oleander Leaf Scorch



Oleander Leaf

Scorch is a plant disease found mainly in southern California. Symptoms can be expressed year-round, although they may be more noticeable in late spring and summer. Leaves on one or more branches may yellow and begin to droop; soon the margins of the leaves turn a deeper yellow or brown, and the leaves eventually die. As the disease progresses, more branches of the plant are affected and the plant dies.

The disease is caused by the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*. It

is spread from plant to plant by xylem-feeding insects.

There is no known cure for Oleander Leaf Scorch. Pruning out the part of the plant showing symptoms may help the appearance of the tree or shrub, but will not save the plant. Some affected plants may express symptoms to lesser degrees than others and may live longer than other varieties. The best management may be early removal of plants infected with the disease to prevent further spreading.

To submit a comment about the "Green Corner," please contact Environmental Services Manager Ron Serven at (626) 300-0789 or rserven@cityofsanmarino.org. ■

Preparing for El Niño

With the expected El Niño coming to Southern California, the San Marino Fire Department offers the following tips to property owners to help with the possibility of above normal rain falls this winter.

Property owners should:

- Have a professional check their roof for leaks and stability issues.
- Gutters and drains should be cleaned and checked for damage.
- Run-off and yard drainage areas should be cleared and maintained for proper water egress.
- Basement water pumps should be tested and ready for automatic drainage.
- Storage areas should be checked to make sure valuables are slightly above any accidental water entry levels.

If sand bags are needed this winter, the public can obtain these at the Recreation Department (parking lot) at 1560 Pasqualito Drive. More valuable public safety information is available on the San Marino Fire Department website. ■

City Manager's Message

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conditions are expected to peak in November-December-January then decrease into the spring and that the updated long range precipitation forecasts continue to show a greater than 60% chance of above normal precipitation across southern California throughout the December through March time period.

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Holiday crime prevention tips offered

The holidays, while a time for joy and celebration, are unfortunately also the time for criminals to take advantage of kind-hearted and unsuspecting victims. The San Marino Police Department offers residents the following tips to avoid becoming a victim this holiday season.

Telephone Scams

If someone calls with a deal that seems too easy or too good to be true, hang up. When someone calls asking for personal information such as your date of birth, account numbers or especially your Social Security number, they are trying to scam you. Your credit card company, cable and cellular provider already have all of that information. Although the voice on the phone may sound sincere and trustworthy, be aware that they are not at all. If someone calls asking for such

personal information, hang up and call the number on the back of your credit card or on your bill. If you make payments online, go to the company website and obtain a telephone number under their contact information.

Package Delivery

Many of us make purchases online and have our packages delivered to our homes. Suspects know this and will follow a delivery truck or cruise through a neighborhood looking for packages in front of residences. When you order a package, obtain the shipping tracking number and follow your package's movement to your home. Include specific delivery information such as having the package sent to your place of business, a trusted neighbor or having the package placed in an area outside the view of the

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City parkway modifications in effect

The City of San Marino offers the following checklist to assist residents and their architects or designers in preparing plans for residential parkways that require staff review and approval. It is important to note that drawings must be accurate and include all features of the modified landscape that are being proposed. The proposed plan can be hand drawn or prepared in a digital format by a licensed landscape professional. An 8.5" x 11" sheet is acceptable.

It is recommended that residents review the respective City ordinances that pertain to the proposed improvements before making any design changes.

General Requirements

- Maximum allowable height of plants or other landscape features is 24".
- Parkway must be covered with plant material or vegetative growth, or a combination of these items.
- Landscape boulders must be

softened by landscape plants.

- Measures must be incorporated to eliminate potential run-off.
- The usage of decomposed granite is allowed. Manufacturer's fact sheet verifying material is permeable must be submitted with the application.
- No more than 45% of the front yard, including parkway, of a lot in the R-1 zones shall be covered with an impervious surface.
- Impervious surfaces are limited to walkways or an 18" wide landing adjacent to the street curb.

The following items are required as part of your application:

- A photo of the existing parkway;
- Two copies of a detailed plot plan or site plan of the property showing the proposed changes to the parkway. Include the parkway dimensions, size and species of all existing trees in the parkway, and any existing and/or proposed impervious surfacing (walkways, pavers or other flatwork); and
- An irrigation plan that includes information on meeting the requirement of landscape irrigation systems that exclusively use the following: very low flow drip type irrigation systems in which no emitter produces more than two (2) gallons of water per hour, and weather-based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70% efficiency standard.

For more information, contact Environmental Services Manager Ron Serven at (626) 300-0789 or rservern@cityofsanmarino.org. ■

LIBRARY NEWS

Open House

Crowell Public Library will celebrate its eighth anniversary with an open house on Saturday, January 23, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop by to see the variety of services the library has to offer, including programs for seniors, teens and kids; cultural programs; passport acceptance; and even test proctoring. At noon, the annual bookmark contest winners will be announced along with the titles in the Library's Meet the Authors series. Crowell Library has something for everyone in the community! ■

Holiday crime prevention tips

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street. If you find the package was delivered, but you did not receive it, contact the shipping company to notify them and then contact the San Marino Police Department.

Home Burglaries

The City has experienced an increase in burglaries this past year. At times, residents forget to secure a door or a window or to activate their alarm. Please remember when you leave your home, for no matter how short a time period, to secure your home and turn on your alarm.

Additionally, if you are going to be away from home for an extended period, contact the San Marino Police Department at (626) 300-0720 to be included in the Housewatch Program. Once you have signed up, officers will drive by your

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SNOW DAY

**Saturday,
January 30, 2016
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Lacy Park**

**Bring your family for a day
of fun in "Snow Marino!"
Find out how to get your
wristbands on page 9.**



Citrus threat found in California

The California citrus is at risk. A devastating plant disease called Huanglongbing, also known as HLB or citrus greening, has been found in Southern California. HLB kills citrus trees and there is no cure.

Diseased trees produce bitter, hard and lopsided fruit, and eventually die. The disease is spread by a pest called the Asian citrus psyllid as it feeds from tree to tree. Psyllids are small, about the size of an aphid, and can be seen on the tender, new growth of citrus trees.

The best way to protect California citrus from the disease is to stop the spread of the pest. Help protect our citrus by doing the following:

- Inspect your citrus trees monthly for the pest and disease.
- Do not move citrus plants or plant material in or out of your area, or across state or international borders.
- Cooperate with agriculture

crews placing traps, inspecting trees and treating for the pest.

- Talk to your local nursery or garden center about products that can protect your tree from the Asian citrus psyllid.
- Plant citrus trees from reputable, licensed nurseries in your area, and when grafting trees, only buy registered budwood with source documentation.
- Control ants on your citrus trees. Ants interfere with beneficial insects and actually protect the Asian citrus psyllid. Talk to your local nursery about ant bait that can help.
- If you suspect your tree has the psyllid or the disease, act fast. Call the California Department of Food and Agriculture at (800) 491-1899, or contact your county agriculture commissioner.

For more information about HLB, visit californiacitrusthreat.org. ■

City Manager's Message



The new and improved Circle Drive Bridge was dedicated and opened in November.

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In addition to this, two new Councilmembers were installed at the meeting of Wednesday, December 9. On Wednesday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m., we will be hosting

our first community meeting to provide residents an explanation of the budget process for 2015/2016 and to give them an opportunity to provide input. This meeting will be in the Fireside Room at the San Marino Center. ■

Holiday crime prevention tips

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house several times a day, check the location for any unusual activity and walk the location to check doors and windows while looking for any unauthorized activity. The cost is only \$5 per day.

Vehicle Thefts and Thefts from Vehicles

Another area of concern is vehicle thefts and thefts from unlocked vehicles. Oftentimes while rushing from place to place, we forget to remove valuables and packages from the inside of our cars. We may also forget to lock the car and activate the alarm. It is important to remember: "Lock It, Hide It and Keep It." This simple process will reduce thefts from vehicles.

Finally, when you park your cars in your driveway at home, please lock your cars and bring your keys with you. There have been several instances of vehicle thefts where the keys were left inside a car at night. Bring your key fob inside with you, keep it by the bedside and if you hear a strange noise or believe someone is attempting to enter your residence, activate the vehicle panic alarm. After activating the panic alarm, call the San Marino Police Department and officers will respond immediately to ensure your safety.

All of the men and women of the San Marino Police Department wish you happy, healthy and safe holidays. ■

