



RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Special Olympics Torch Run Coming to Vernon



Hundreds of officers from local, county, state, federal, and military agencies will come together in the 2023 Torch Run for Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC), an organization that enriches the individual lives of athletes with intellectual disabilities and their communities through sports, education, and athlete health.

Law Enforcement Torch Run participants will journey through local streets as a lead up to the 2023 SOSC Summer Games in mid-June, promoting acceptance and inclusion, and raising awareness and funds for Special Olympics athletes. Vernon's Police Department (VPD) is proud to be joining the fun on Tuesday morning, June 6th. VPD's dedicated team of runners will carry the torch through a portion of Vernon, south down Santa Fe from Los Angeles, to Pacific, then into Huntington Park. Every dollar raised through the Torch Run will help fund SOSC programs. To learn more, visit sosc.org/torchrun.

Congrats Vernon CommUNITY Fund Scholars!

On May 17, 2023, the Vernon CommUNITY Fund (VCF) Grant Committee held its final grant award meeting for the 2022-23 fiscal year where eight VCF Scholarship Grants were approved, for a combined total of \$40,000 in awards. The City is proud to recognize all student scholarship recipients for outstanding academic performance, leadership, personal achievement, and community involvement. We have no doubt that these amazing young people will be successful in their future endeavors!

To our Vernon resident recipients, **Sophie Martinez** and **Damian Plata**, we send our special regards! It has been a pleasure to learn a bit about you and we wish you the very best as you pursue your dreams in college, and in life! We celebrate your accomplishments thus far and congratulate each of you on your scholarship awards!



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Community News

WEA Health Survey

The Wellness Equity Alliance (WEA), in partnership with Vernon's Public Health, is seeking input for a Community Health Needs Assessment. In recent weeks, residents may have seen WEA staff visiting Vernon neighborhoods to promote participation in a survey that allows you to share your opinion on the types of health care and wellness services you would like to see prioritized in the community. The ultimate goal is to develop a comprehensive suite of valuable services for Vernon's residents and workers. The survey is available at cityofvernon.org/WEAhealth.



Up-to-the-Minute News

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Housing Lottery

As you may know, the City leases 1- and 2-bedroom apartments and 2- and 3-bedroom single family homes. As vacancies occur, the City holds a lottery for available housing units.

Currently, the City has two vacancies: A 2-bedroom home and a 2-bedroom apartment. The interest form submission deadline is June 7, 2023. Spread the word among your family and friends! For info, visit cityofvernon.org/vernonhousinglottery.



2-bedroom, 1-bath Vernons Avenue home available for rent via lottery on June 14th.

CommUNITY Support

In addition to offering scholarships to high school students residing in the Vernon Area, the Vernon CommUNITY Fund (VCF) enriches the local community by providing grants to charitable and governmental entities for projects and programs that benefit those residing and working in Vernon and surrounding cities. These grants support regional programs and services that address workforce development, youth advocacy, sports, the arts, violence prevention, homelessness, mental health, and more.

So far, the VCF has awarded over \$5 million in grants to nearly 70 non-profit organizations and 34 scholarships to deserving students committed to investing in their education. The VCF contributes to the health, well-being, and quality of life in local communities by enabling access to much needed services.

We are proud to highlight the good work being accomplished through community partnerships! Learn more about the VCF and its grantees at cityofvernon.org/communityfund.



November 2022 nonprofit organization grantees accept their certificates of award from the Vernon City Council - 13 received funding from the VCF last year.

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City Events

The year began with a couple of engaging community events. On March 23rd, the City's annual Spring Egg-Stravaganza was held for Vernon residents. Numerous resources, free food, raffles, and candy giveaways were available to all! Next, Vernon's first Job Fair of the year was hosted on April 6th. About 30 local companies looking to fill vacancies were on hand to speak with job seekers. The City started 2023 on a very positive note!

Spring Egg-Stravaganza March 23



Bunny discusses strategy with a young lady before joining in on the Egg Hunt.



Job Fair April 6



Job seekers make their rounds to the local companies in attendance.



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Calendar



✓ E-Waste Recycling Event

June 1, 2023 @ 10:00 am (Drop-Off at 3382 E 50th Street)

With only a few exceptions, e-waste items will be accepted for recycling without charge from 10:00 am through 2:00 pm!

✓ Free Blood Lead Testing

June 4, 2023 @ 10:00 am (In-person at Vernon Village Park)

LA County Health will be on-site at the 52nd Drive apartment complex parking lot to offer free blood lead testing to the public.

✓ Special Olympics Torch Run

June 6, 2023 @ 9:00 am (In-person)

Come cheer on Vernon PD who is expected at City Hall on Santa Fe around 9:00 am before their run down Pacific!

✓ Regular Vernon Housing Commission Meeting

June 14, 2023 @ 6:00 pm (In-person and online)

Meets quarterly to discuss all matters related to City-owned housing stock and public is welcome to participate.

✓ Vernon Resident Summer Swim Day

July 9, 2023 @ 12:00 pm (In-person at Maywood YMCA)

Our Summer Swim Day at the Y will be exclusively for Vernon residents! Registration information will be sent out soon.



Join us for City Council Meetings Monthly
1st and 3rd Tuesdays
@ 9:00 am
(In-person and online)

Public meetings at City Hall where Council deliberates on matters pertaining to Vernon and provides policy direction to City staff.

Housing Info & Contacts

Vernon Village Park Resident requests?

Call Solari Enterprises at (323) 771-0202

City-owned housing maintenance requests, questions, or comments? Use our Housing Hotline!

Call (323) 826-1472 OR cityhousing@cityofvernon.org

After hours urgent requests? To report electrical outages, internet issues, or immediate City-owned housing tenant needs...

Call (323) 826-1465

Online Utility Bill Pay Available!

Residential customers can now go online to pay their electric bill. Once you receive your bill, visit cityofvernon.org/payonline to make a payment with a credit card, Paypal, or Venmo.

City-owned Housing Automatic Rent Payments

The City offers a convenient method to pay your rent and avoid any late fees. Automatic monthly payments are available! To enroll in auto-pay, contact the Housing Hotline.

City-owned Housing Lease Updates & Unit Transfers

Do you want to renew the lease for your rental, or add someone as an authorized occupant? Are you interested in transferring to a different residential unit? Contact the Housing Hotline for info.

Payment Drop Box

The City offers a payment drop box for your convenience. Submit payments at any time in our secure drop box located just outside the first floor entrance to City Hall (near the Police Department).