



City of Signal Hill

City Views Newsletter

<http://www.ci.signal-hill.ca.us>

Fall 2005

Election Day



Measure H Public Safety Improvements; Financing

November 8, 2005

On November 8, 2005, Signal Hill voters will be asked to decide whether to impose a tax of 3% on charges for electric, gas, water and other utility services (with exemptions for seniors and low income households) for a period of no more than 15 years. The money generated will be used to finance and construct a new, modernized police station in the City of Signal Hill and to pay for police equipment and other related costs. If you would like to schedule a tour of the Signal Hill Police Department, please contact Captain Tom Sonoff at (562) 989-7205. **Reminder:** The last day to register to vote is October 24. Voter registration forms are available at City Hall, 2175 Cherry Avenue. The last day to request an Absentee Ballot is November 1.



Artist's rendering of proposed Police Station

Police Department Staffing

The City Council has approved funding for two new Police Officers for the current budget year. In addition, it is anticipated that funding will be provided to hire two new officers per year during fiscal years 2006-07 and 2007-08. The addition of six officers will bring the total

number of sworn patrol personnel up to 38. This is the number recommended in the Blue Ribbon Committee Report presented to the City Council in June 2005. We are currently recruiting to fill two Police Officer and two Dispatcher/Jailer vacancies.

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in learning more about these employment opportunities, please check the City's website at www.ci.signal-hill.ca.us or call (562) 989-7385.



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Pacific Crest Development



The Anastasi Development Company's Pacific Crest development along Cherry Avenue recently opened. The three townhome models are ready for tours but don't wait too long; the 30 3-bedroom units are expected to sell out quickly.



Thank you, Supervisor Knabe!

The Signal Hill Library recently received a \$6,000 grant from Supervisor Don Knabe's office. This grant will be used to fund workshops throughout the year, which will provide training for our student workers and volunteers enabling them to improve the literacy/mentoring programs offered year-round by the Library.



Cityview Development

Urban Pacific Development Company's Cityview development off Pacific Coast Highway and Orizaba Avenue has been redesigned. The new design features 81 townhome-style condominium units with tuck-under garages. The three floor plans include 38 2-story units, 27 3-story units, and 16 4-story units. The overall height of new 4-story units is six feet lower than the height of the 3-story townhome over a subterranean parking structure in the previous plan.



Home Depot



Construction for the new Home Depot at California Avenue and Spring Street is well underway! The concrete panels for the 115,058 sq. ft. store are up and work on the enclosure for the 24,244 sq. ft. garden center is in progress.



Las Brisas Phase II Update

The Los Angeles Community Design Center was recently notified that its tax credit funding application was approved. Construction plans were submitted in mid-August with construction slated to begin in November 2005.



Fiscal Year 2005-06 Budget

In June, the City Council adopted the 2005/06 fiscal year budget. General Fund revenues are estimated at \$15,414,660 while operating expenditures are expected to total \$15,970,300.

The budget was prepared in a conservative manner regarding its revenue estimates and no new programs were added. This was done in response to the continuing issues with the State budget and the high levels of local revenues to be taken by the State to balance their budget. The State, in an effort to reduce the size of their deficit, will raid the treasuries of local government. The City's budget assumes that the State will take away \$493,276 in FY 2005/06. Also Proposition 57, approved by the voters in March, will allow the State to take 25%, \$2.6 million, of our sales tax. Known as the "triple flip," the State promises to replace the sales tax with property taxes, which they did during Fiscal Year 2004-05. The provisions of Proposition 57 will remain in effect until the State's bond obligations have been satisfied. Sales tax represents 72% of our General Fund revenues and totals \$10.9 million in this budget. Additionally, the State will take \$786,357 from the City's Redevelopment Agency for the Education Reimbursement Augmentation Fund (ERAF). The budget also assumes that the State will backfill \$415,000 in Vehicle License Fee (VLF) revenues, which the State did last fiscal year.

The budget provides for two new Police Officers, a new part-time Parking Control Aide and a part-time Library Aide. Total part-time personnel actually decreased because of the City's decision to privatize its Crossing Guards.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Capital projects totaling \$4,399,250 are planned for this fiscal year. These include:

- New Water Well No. 9 Phase 1 and 2 Acquisition and Site Development
- Gundry Reservoir Roof Replacement
- General Sidewalk repairs throughout the City
- Slurry seal of various streets throughout the City.
- The Hamilton Bowl Trash Reduction Project - install trash nets on the Hamilton Bowl outfalls to reduce trash entering the LA River.
- Orange Avenue Signal Upgrades Phase 1
- Cherry Avenue – 19th Street to PCH pre-construction
- Signal Hill Park Renovation
- Sunset View Park Addition
- Hillbrook Park Improvements
- Signal Hill Park Basketball Court Resurfacing
- City Yard Office re-roof
- City Hall customer counter renovations



New Water Disinfection Treatment

The construction of a new roof over the Gundry Reservoir and Sand Basin facility will require the facility to be placed out-of-service for approximately five months, beginning September 2005. During this time, the City will purchase water from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) to address the City's water needs. As a result, on September 19th, the City will change its water disinfection treatment from chlorine to chloramines. As with chlorine, chloramines are safe to drink; however, the chloramines must be removed or neutralized for dialysis patients and aquatic animals. In addition, chloramines may also have an effect on the chemical balance in swimming pools and spas. For more information on this change in disinfection treatment, please call Fred Sims, Public Works Superintendent, at (562) 989-7251.



A New Library

As part of the Civic Center plan adopted in 2002, the Signal Hill City Council recently approved funding for a new library facility. A building plan developed during a grant funding effort will be used to design the new Signal Hill Public Library. Included in the plan are separate areas for children, teens, adults, families and groups. There will be a local history room where documents relating to the City's development can be gathered together and made available for the public. The new library will also have display areas for local artists, programming to support reading enrichment for all ages, more new books about "hot topics", easy access to the library and its services, and comfortable, quiet places to read. Public access to computers and computer training will be a vital part of the new facility. Look for more news about this exciting new project in future issues of City Views.



Hillbrook Park Improvement



Renovations are planned for Hillbrook Park. A new gazebo structure will be installed, the restroom facility will be removed and replaced with a new picnic area, a rubberized tot-lot surface will be installed, the lower tot-lot will be eliminated and new turf and an

irrigation system will be added. Construction is scheduled to start in the fall.



EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Grant funds are being used to prepare a human health risk assessment at the Las Brisas Phase II site. The risk assessment is being conducted to secure approximately \$2 million of funding from the County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission.

In addition, site assessments were conducted on expansion sites within the Auto Center. Assessments included Phase II environmental assessments, methane assessments, and human health risk assessments.

For more information on the City's EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant, call (562) 989-7375.



"ICE" In Case of Emergency Campaign

Your cell phone is an important tool in calling for emergency services. It can also provide critical information to first responders about whom to contact on your behalf in case of an emergency. A worldwide campaign called ICE – In Case of Emergency – has been launched, to ask everyone to enter an ICE into your cell phone address book. This will help emergency personnel quickly locate next of kin or other emergency contact persons. An example of an ICE contact is:

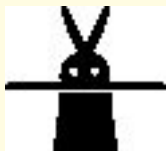
ICE – John Doe (555) 555-1212

You can make as many ICE entries as you want in your cell phone, and also consider adding ICE entries into your computer address book and your land-based phone directory.



COMMUNITY SERVICES UPCOMING EVENTS

Call (562) 989-7330 for more information



Deluxe Magic Show

Wednesday, October 5, 3:30 p.m.
Signal Hill Park Community Center

1780 E. Hill Street

Children of all ages will enjoy magician, David Skale, one of Southern California's top children's magicians, at the Signal Hill Park Community Center. Unexpected problems always seem to happen in Dave's show. Dave struggles to cover up one mistake after another, which the kids, of course, catch. When things finally do work, Dave is as surprised as everyone else. This wacky magic show features tons of laughs, loads of audience participation and fun.



Halloween Carnival

Monday, October 31, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Signal Hill Park Basketball Courts

1780 E. Hill Street

Trick-or-Treat; fill your bags with tasty treats! For a happy and safe haunting, join us for games, prizes, food, and more at the annual Halloween Carnival. Prizes will be awarded for costumes. Admission fee is \$2 per child and adults are free when accompanied by a child.

Author Talk, Naomi Hirahara, Gasa-Gasa Girl

Monday, October 24, 7 p.m.

Signal Hill Park Community Center

1780 E Hill Street

Join the Friends of Signal Hill Library for their quarterly Author Talk, October 24, 2005, when Naomi Hirahara will speak about her latest book, Gasa-Gasa Girl, a mystery set within the Japanese-American subculture of New York City. She has written other books, both fiction and non-fiction, about the Japanese-American experience, and of special interest to local history buffs, she has written about the Japanese gardeners who formed a part of Signal Hill's history.

Singing the Way to Reading

Wednesday, November 16, 3:30 p.m.
Signal Hill Park Community Center
1780 E. Hill Street

Join "Aunt Sandii" as she creates an enthusiasm for reading by tying in some of the most beloved children's literature with children's folk songs. Join the library crowd for this fun, entertaining and interactive program.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 10, 9 - 11 a.m.
Signal Hill Park Community Center
1780 E. Hill Street

Tickets go on sale November 3

Children ages eight years and under, along with their parents, will enjoy a fabulous breakfast, assemble a holiday craft, watch a puppet show and have their picture taken with Santa. Tickets go on sale beginning November 3. This event is limited to the first 100 registrants and sells out quickly each year.
Call 989-7330 for information.

RESIDENT

\$9 for children

\$5 for adults (breakfast only)

NON-RESIDENT

\$14 for children

\$10 for adults (breakfast only)

REGISTRATION BEGINS:

Thursday, November 3

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

Monday, December 5



The Claus Family

Wednesday, December 21, 3:30 p.m.
Signal Hill Park Community Center
1780 E. Hill Street

Spend your Merriest Holiday Season with the Claus Family. This program is designed to play down the commercial aspects of the holiday season and emphasize the caring and loving qualities that make the holidays truly special. Join the Claus Family while they tell traditional and new stories for the holiday season and lead songs and dances for all children from 1 to 92

Kids Kamp

Before, After School, and Extended Care
Signal Hill Youth Center
Monday-Friday, 6:45 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Signal Hill Youth Center
1780 E. Hill Street

Kids Kamp is a state licensed childcare program for before and after school care and during track breaks. Kids Kamp provides a well-rounded recreation program for school aged children in Head Start through Fifth Grade. Call 989-7329.

**Please note: October 31 Kids Kamp will close at 5:30 p.m.*

Youth Sports Basketball

Residents Register December 5
Non-resident Register December 6
Registration closes December 16
Signal Hill Park

For all of the young basketball enthusiasts, basketball leagues will be offered to boys and girls ages 5-12. Games begin in January and co-ed teams are offered for youth ages 5-9 years of age. Teams will be formed to participate in Rookies, Minors, and "C-E" divisions. Games will be played in Long Beach and weekly practices will be held at Signal Hill Park. Call 989-7334 for more information.

Teen after School Program

Tuesday & Thursdays
September 13 through December 15
5 – 7 p.m.
Las Brisas Community Center &
Calbrisas Park

Need somewhere to go after school? Come join us for the Teen Program where activities are designed to provide a variety of recreational activities for middle and high school aged youth, 13-17. The program offers homework time, arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor games, sports, and a variety of special events. To get more information and to be added to the teen mailing list, call (562) 989-7334.

After School & Saturday Recreation Program

Calbrisis Park
September 13-December 15
Tuesday, 3 - 5 p.m. and Thursday, 2 - 5 p.m.

Discovery Well Park
Saturday, 12-4 p.m.

Signal Hill Park
In front of Youth Center
M, T, W, F, 2:30 – 5 p.m.
Thursday, 1:30-5 p.m., Saturday, 12-4 p.m.

Join the Signal Hill “Park Kids” program and enjoy fun and exciting recreational activities. The program operates during after school hours and on Saturdays and is for youth ages 6-12. Scheduled activities include arts and crafts, games, sports, special events, and excursions (fee). Friendly staff members organize interactive activities for youth to experience a quality recreation program. General supervision is provided and children are free to come and go as they please. The program is FREE.

Millennial Bricks

The Friends of Signal Hill Library encourage you to engrave your name, a special date, the memory of a loved one, or other tribute at the Hilltop Park name plaza. Your tax deductible contribution will help support our Library and its programs. Bricks start at \$50 for one line of engraving, \$75 for two lines, and \$100 for three lines. Call (562) 989-7330 for an order form.

Senior Excursions

“ELIZABETH HOWARD’S CURTAIN CALL DINNER THEATRE”

Thursday, December 15
Departs: 4:45 p.m. Return: 11 p.m.
Cost: \$36 Resident/\$41 Non-resident
Includes meal, show, coffee, dessert, and tip

“ROSE PARADE FLOAT VIEWING”

Tuesday, January 3, 2006
Departs: 7:15 a.m. Return: 1 p.m.
Cost: \$21 Resident/\$26 Non-resident
A visit to Pasadena to view the Rose Parade floats.

“PALM SPRINGS FOLLIES”

Thursday, February 16, 2006
Departs: 8:15 a.m. Return: 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$50 Resident/\$55 Non-resident
Time for lunch on your own, shopping, and gambling.
Showtime 1:30 p.m. Enjoy a three hour song and dance extravaganza.

Winter Wonderland Park Program

December 19-December 30, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Signal Hill Park, in front of Youth Center

Wondering what the kids can do for winter break? General supervision will be provided for special holiday activities, arts and crafts, games and sports. Children may come and go as they wish. Program is FREE except excursions. Closed 12/26/05.

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12-8 p.m.
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed Sunday and Holidays

Library Story Time

Signal Hill Library
1770 E. Hill Street

Every Friday, 10 a.m. Preschool Children 3-5
Every Saturday, 11:30 a.m. Children 5-12

Living with Urban Wild Life

Wildlife (skunks, opossums & feral cats) have adapted well to our neighborhoods. To help reduce conflicts with them, practice these safety guidelines and encourage your neighbors to do the same. Feeding wildlife is a violation of the Fish and Game Code. Those doing so are considered “harassing” wildlife and may be cited. If you or your neighborhood is experiencing an increase in wildlife or if you would like to schedule an educational workshop on “Living with Urban Wildlife,” please contact the Community Services Department or Animal Control at (562) 989-7330.

- Never feed wildlife.
- Feed your household pets indoors.
- Secure trash cans with lids that clamp shut.
- If wildlife strays into your garage, leave a door to the outside open so it may exit on its own.
- Remove debris and brush piles.
- Keep pet doors closed at night.
- Keep fruit trees picked and fruit off the ground.
- Eliminate outdoor sources of water.



Classes

Pre-School and Youth

Pre-Jazz Funk Dance

Ages 3-6 years Fee: \$30/5 classes
Wed., 9/21 – 10/19 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. or
Fri., 9/23 – 10/21 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Designed to introduce beginning dancers to jazz, hip-hop funk, and movement.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Jazz Funk Dance

Ages 5-8 years Fee: \$30/5 classes
Wed., 9/21 – 10/19 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. or
Fri., 9/23 – 10/21 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Basic jazz dance and hip-hop funk moves.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Pre-Ballet/Creative Movement

Ages 3-6 years Fee: \$30/5 classes
Tues., 9/20 – 10/18 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Intro to basic ballet steps, plus more.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Beginning Ballet

Ages 7-11 years Fee: \$30/5 classes
Tues., 9/20 – 10/18 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Learn basic ballet positions.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Ballet/Tap Combo

Ages 3-6 years Fee: \$30/5 classes
Mon., 9/19 – 10/17 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Basic steps in both styles of dance.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Beginning Jazz

Ages 7-11 years Fee: \$30/5 classes
Mon., 9/19 – 10/17 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Jazz dance movements to the latest hits.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Beginning/Advanced Karate

Ages: 6 years and up Fee: \$32/5 classes
Tuesday, 9/27-10/25 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Students will learn the basic fundamentals of self-defense.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Parent & Me Gymnastics

Ages: 18 mos. – 3 years Fee: \$48/6 classes
Monday, 9/19 – 10/24 10:0 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
Child will develop coordination and perform basic stunts with parent.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Beginning Gymnastics

Ages 3 - 5 years Fee: \$48/6 classes
Thurs., 9/22 – 11/3 5 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.
Ages 6-11 years Fee: \$48/6 classes
Thurs., 9/22 – 11/3 6 p.m. - 6:50 p.m.
No class 10/20.
Tumbling time and fun.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Adult Classes

eBay for Beginners (Space Limited)

Ages 18 Years + Fee: \$54/6 classes
Wed., 9/21 – 10/26 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. or
Wed., 2/22/06 – 3/29/06 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Learn to navigate in eBay.
Location: Signal Hill Library

Beginning MS Word 2000 (Space Limited)

Ages 18 years+ Fee: \$44/4 classes
Wed., 1/11/06- 2/1/06 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Learn to create, save, retrieve, organize, print and delete documents.
Location: Signal Hill Library

FITNESS

Tai Chi/Chi Kung

Ages 18+ years Fee: \$45/7 classes
Mon., 9/12 – 10/24 7 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.
Internal energy through soft, flowing movements.
Location: Discovery Well Park

Sponsors and Volunteers

Is your organization, business, or group looking for volunteer opportunities or to sponsor a community event? If so, the Community Services Department wants to talk to you! We are in need of volunteers to operate the game booths during the Halloween Carnival and assist in Breakfast with Santa Claus. Organizations can also be a sponsor for a cost of \$40 plus three volunteers per booth. For more information, call Community Services at (562) 989-7330.

City Hall

2175 CHERRY AVENUE

Business Hours

Monday-Thursday.. 7:30am-5:30pm


Friday 7:30am-4:30pm

City Hall (General) 989-7300
 City Council 989-7301
 City Treasurer 989-7310
 Administration & City Clerk 989-7305
 Business Licenses 989-7316
 Community Services 989-7330
 Signal Hill Park 989-7325
 Kids Kamp Office 989-7329
 Crime Stoppers 989-SAFE
 (▲ 7233)
 Finance 989-7310
 Jobline 989-7385
 Library 989-READ
 (▲ 7323)

Personnel 989-7307
 Planning/Community
 Development 989-7340
 Police 989-7200
 Public Works 989-7351
 Service Requests 989-7250
 Redevelopment Projects 989-7370
 Water Billing 989-7315
 Water Quality Info 989-7250

EMERGENCY/PARAMEDICS "911"
 Chamber of Commerce 424-6489
 Long Beach Animal Control 570-PETS
 (▲ 7387)

Long Beach Gas Dept.
 (New Service) 570-5700
 (Emergency) 570-2140
 Long Beach Unified
 School District 997-8242
 Signal Hill Disposal 597-0608
 So. California Edison
 New/Emergency (800) 684-8123
 Charter Cable (866) 499-8080

 Toll-Free

Facility Locations

City Hall 2175 Cherry Ave.
 City Yard 2175 E. 28th St.
 Library 1770 E. Hill St.
 P.R.I.D.E. Bureau 1919 E. Hill St.
 Police Dept. 1800 E. Hill St.
 Signal Hill Park, Youth Center &
 Community Center 1780 E. Hill St.
 Calbrisas Park 2451 California Ave.
 Hillbrook Park 1865 Temple Ave.
 Reservoir Park 3315 Gundry Ave.
 Hilltop Park 2351 Dawson Ave.
 Raymond Arbor Park 1881 Raymond Ave.
 Discovery Well Park 2200 Temple Ave.
 Alvarado Elem. 1900 E. 21st St.
 Burroughs Elem. 1260 E. 33rd St.
 Signal Hill Elem. 2285 Walnut Ave.



City Council/Commission Meetings

CITY COUNCIL:

Mayor **Edward H.J. Wilson**
e-mail: ewilson@ci.signal-hill.ca.us

Vice-Mayor **Larry Forester**
e-mail: lforester@ci.signal-hill.ca.us

Councilmember **Tina Hansen**
e-mail: thansen@ci.signal-hill.ca.us

Councilmember **Michael J. Noll**
e-mail: mnoll@ci.signal-hill.ca.us

Councilmember **Ellen Ward**
e-mail: eward@ci.signal-hill.ca.us

COUNCIL & REDEVELOPMENT

Meeting: 2nd & 4th Tuesday Monthly
 Time: 7 p.m.
 Place: Council Chambers
 Replays: Ch. 17, Everyday
 7 a.m., 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

City Holidays

CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Friday, November 11, 2005
 Veterans' Day
 Thursday, November 24, 2005
 Thanksgiving Day
 Friday, November 25, 2005
 Friday after Thanksgiving
 Monday, December 26, 2005
 Christmas Day Observed
 Monday, January 2, 2006
 New Year's Day Observed
 Monday, January 16, 2006
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Meeting: 1st Wednesday Monthly
 Time: 5:30 p.m.
 Place: Council Chambers

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday Monthly
 Time: 7 p.m.
 Place: Council Chambers

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting: 1st Wednesday Monthly
 Time: 6 p.m.
 Place: Council Chambers



Agendas are posted on
 the City's website,
www.ci.signal-hill.ca.us

City Views

News from the City of Signal Hill
 2175 Cherry Avenue
 Signal Hill, CA 90755



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