



# LCF Vista

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

WINTER 2023

## La Cañada Flintridge Honors Its Hometown Heroes

La Cañada Flintridge celebrated its first year of participation in the Hometown Heroes Program to recognize the community's men and women who are currently serving or are veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

Residents were given the opportunity to nominate service members to have their photos featured on light pole banners around the City. The banners serve as a way to recognize and commemorate the many sacrifices of service members in the community.

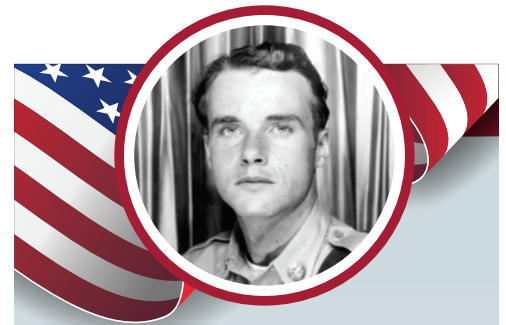
Here is a look into some of LCF's very own Hometown Heroes:



United States Army, Infantry  
Lieutenant Christopher Motia is currently deployed supporting Operation Inherent Resolve. He comes from a family of veterans and is continuing his family legacy. It is only fitting that his birthday also falls on Veterans Day!



United States Navy, Lieutenant  
Mark Kindhouse is currently deployed to a combat zone in Africa. His sacrifice and dedication to service are both inspiring and humbling. Although he will not see his banner this year, it will serve as a reminder for his wife and sons that he is not alone in his journey.



United States Army, W. Donald Foley is 93 years young and stands as one of the oldest living veterans in LCF, proudly serving during the Korean War. Beyond his valiant service in the military, Mr. Foley's life story is punctuated by another remarkable feat—a daring act of heroism that saved two young lives. His dedication to safeguarding others shines as a beacon of inspiration to all who have the privilege to know him.

This program provides a living tribute to our City's military personnel and acknowledges their hard work and dedication in keeping our nation safe. La Cañada Flintridge is proud to honor past and present community members for their valor.

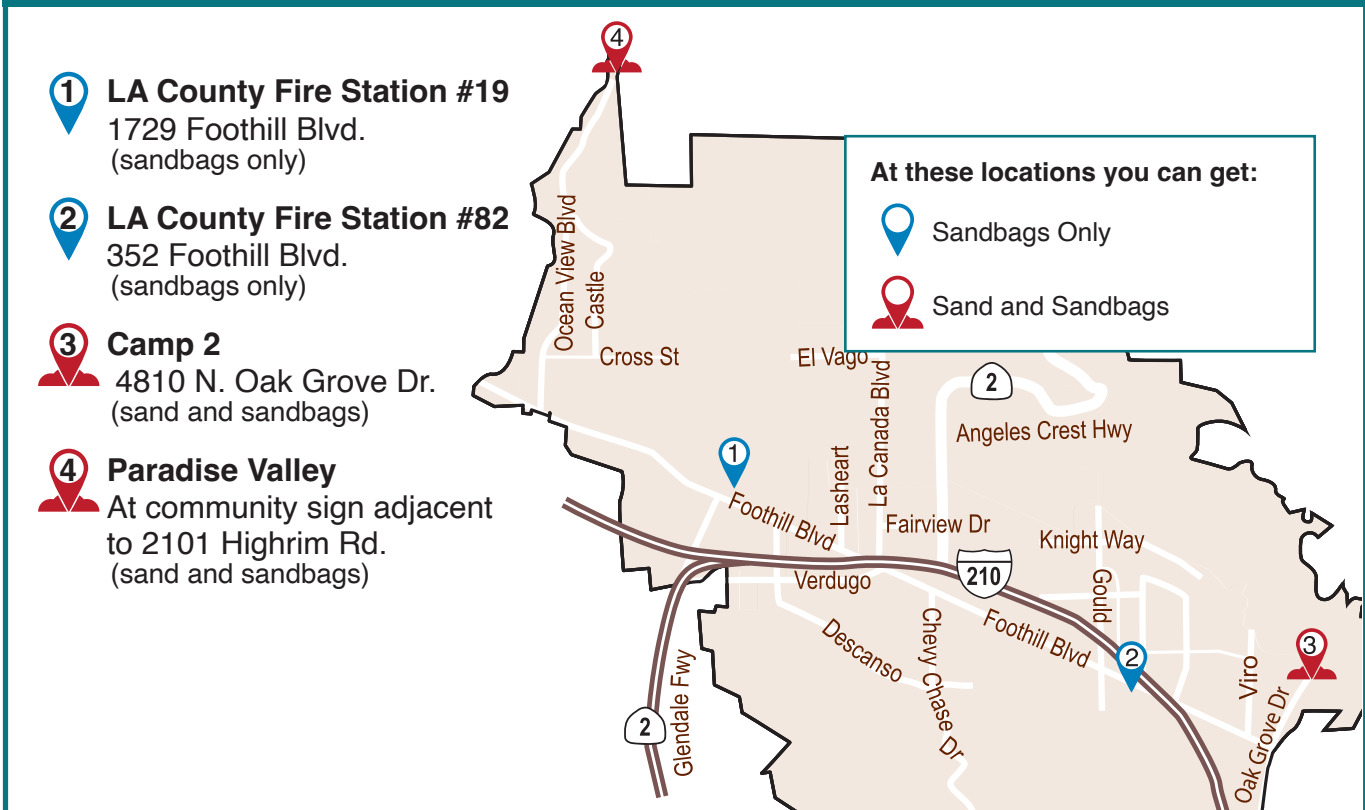
# Stay Safe and Dry This Winter Season



For many, the holiday season involves traditions, time with the family and gift exchanges. This time of year, it's also important to take preventative measures to protect your home and prepare for the winter weather. Check out these helpful tips to keep this holiday season a joyous one:

- 1 Leave your travel plans off social media. Instead, tell a trusted neighbor when you will be away, or enlist the help of the Crescenta Valley Sheriff Station's Vacation Patrol Check program by visiting the station. Call Crescenta Valley Sheriff Station for more information, (818) 248-3464.
- 2 Protect your packages by bringing deliveries into your home as soon as possible.
- 3 Place a temporary "stop mail delivery" through the USPS for extended leave of absence. Stop into the local post office or visit the USPS website—it's EASY!
- 4 To prevent electrical fires, inspect your holiday decorations for any frayed cords and use timers for your lights. Avoid daisy chaining holiday lights as much as possible.
- 5 If the power goes out during a storm, use flashlights and battery lanterns instead of candles or gas lanterns to prevent fires.
- 6 If needed, take advantage of the City's sandbag distribution locations. Sandbags can be stacked to decrease the likelihood of adverse effects from excess water runoff.

To help residents prepare for the rain, the City of La Cañada Flintridge provides 24-hour access to sand and sandbags at the following locations.







## Rebate Program Offers Residents Incentives to be Safe

The City of La Cañada Flintridge encourages residents to safeguard their homes—and through a new security camera rebate program—there is an opportunity to protect your home and save money.

On a first-come, first-served basis, residents who install a security camera and provide proof of installation and purchase can receive up to a \$100 rebate from the City on a qualifying purchase (camera only, installation costs are not qualified for the rebate).

To participate, residents must meet the following guidelines:

- Be a current La Cañada Flintridge resident with proof of residency on a valid government-issued ID
- Provide a current utility bill that matches the name and address on the proof of residency ID
- Own or rent the residence where the security camera is installed
- If renting, provide a signed letter from the property owner giving consent to the installation
- Limit one camera per address

Eligible residents can apply to be consider for the \$100 rebate by completing the following steps:

Submit an application online at [CityOfLCF.org/public-safety](https://CityOfLCF.org/public-safety)

- Upload proof of residency on a valid government-issued ID
- Upload a current utility bill that matches the name and address on the proof of residency ID
- Upload proof of purchase AFTER the program went live on November 13, 2023
- Upload photo of the opened devices with the serial/model number visible
- Upload proof of installation with a date stamped photo showing installation took place after November 13, 2023

For more information regarding this program made possible by the City Council's allocation of \$15,000 in rebate opportunities, visit [CityOfLCF.org/public-safety](https://CityOfLCF.org/public-safety).



## LCF Seeks Input on Climate Action Plan

In compliance with State law, LCF has a Climate Action Plan (CAP), which is in the process of being updated to set new programs and standards.

Since September 2022, the City has partnered with Blue Strike Environmental to update the CAP to assess vulnerability to climate-related impacts and build resilience to current and future climate threats.

The City has documented the progress of this effort online at [CityOfLCF.org/ClimateAction](https://CityOfLCF.org/ClimateAction). Residents are invited to visit the site to see all of the latest information, view draft documents and fill out a short community survey to provide input on this important issue.

For more information about this effort or to join the City's mailing list for environmental-related content, please contact Susan Koleda at [skoleda@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:skoleda@lcf.ca.gov) or call (818) 790-8881.



## Stay Alert Through Your Local Neighborhood Watch Program

Protecting the community of La Cañada Flintridge remains a top priority for our City, and it's especially important for residents to remain vigilant during the holidays. By taking proactive measures to help prevent crime before it happens, you'll help ensure that this holiday season is a joyous and safe time for our community.

The Neighborhood Watch Program, a partnership between the City and Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station (CVSS), aims to increase safety and security in local neighborhoods through proactive education, communication and action. The City's Community Liaison and retired CVSS Deputy Eric Matejka, trains neighborhood watch groups to achieve these goals. The programming includes a review of neighborhood and community crime trends and the distribution of handouts and tips to keep your home safe.

If you would like to initiate or revitalize a watch group in your neighborhood, contact Eric Matejka via email at [ematejka@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:ematejka@lcf.ca.gov) or leave a message at (818) 583-4311.

If you see something, say something. Report suspicious activities to the Sheriff's Department by calling (818) 248-3464.

## Welcome New City Staff

Look out for new faces in City Hall!

The City of La Cañada Flintridge is pleased to welcome Lauren Serrano as the new Permit Technician in the Building and Safety Division and extend congratulations to Valeria Virgen on her promotion to Management Aide in the Finance Department.



Lauren is a recent graduate of the University of California, San Diego, where she studied Urban Studies and Planning. As Permit Technician, she will be part of the team assisting property owners and contractors in obtaining building permits in the City.



Valeria has her masters in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and was the City's former Administrative Services Intern. As Management Aide, Valeria will be the point of contact for all City Hall visitors and callers inquiring about City processes. In addition, she will assist the Finance Department with various policy implementation and procedures.



# Housing Element Update

The La Cañada Flintridge City Council approved amendments to the General Plan Land Use Element, Zoning Code, Zoning Map and Downtown Village Specific Plan as part of its implementation of the adopted 2021-2029 Housing Element.

Formally adopted at the September 19 Council meeting, the actions now promote more housing development than ever before. The new zoning allows for an additional 684 housing units, of which 612 accommodate affordable housing units, in compliance with State law.

“After public meetings with the Planning Commission, study sessions and workshops, we are proud to see this update coming to fruition,” said Director of Community Development Susan Koleda. “For the last two years, the Community Development Department has been working hard to balance State requirements with the character of the community to create a Housing Element that meets resident desires.”

With the implementation of updated zoning, the current draft of the Housing Element is under review by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

For information and updates on La Cañada Flintridge’s Housing Element, visit [CityOfLCF.org/housing-element-update](http://CityOfLCF.org/housing-element-update).



## Ring in the Holiday Season With La Cañada Flintridge

’Tis the season to celebrate the holidays with cherished community festivities hosted by local organizations.



### Festival in Lights

*December 1, 4-6:30 p.m. at Memorial Park*

The La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce & Community Association and the City of La Cañada Flintridge invite you to the 29th annual Festival in Lights! Travel to a winter wonderland with real snow, a live reindeer and an appearance from Mr. and Mrs. Claus.



### Enchanted Forest of Light

*November 19-January 7, 5:30-10 p.m. at Descanso Gardens, tickets required*

Enjoy a nocturnal wonderland as you stroll through an interactive light display experience at Descanso Gardens. A town of magical “stained glass” creations, sparkling installations and more will provide a unique sensory holiday experience.



### Holiday Ceramic Sale

*December 9-10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the LCF Community Center parking lot*

Find the perfect holiday gift for your loved ones while supporting local artists and the LCF Community Center at the Annual Holiday Ceramic Sale!



### Christmas Tree Removal

*December 26-January 18*

LCF, Republic Services, Athens Services and NASA Services provide residents free recycling of Christmas trees. Take advantage of this service by placing your trees on the curb on your regular collection day. Be sure to remove decorations and cut trees over six feet in half.





# Local Municipal Election in March 2024



The next City of La Cañada Flintridge General Municipal Election will be held on March 5, 2024, for three seats on the City Council. The City's election is being consolidated with the presidential primary election conducted by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

The nomination period begins at 7 a.m. on Monday, November 13, and closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, December 8. If nomination documents from an incumbent are not filed by 5 p.m. on December 8, the nomination period will be extended until 5 p.m. on December 13, for persons other than the incumbent. For more information and updates, visit [CityOfLCF.org/city-clerk/elections](http://CityOfLCF.org/city-clerk/elections).

Recruitment and selection of Vote Centers is underway. A list of locations will be made available 30-40 days before Election Day at [Locator.LAVote.gov/locations/vc](http://Locator.LAVote.gov/locations/vc).

For more information about the election, please contact Tania Garcia, City Clerk, at [tgarcia@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:tgarcia@lcf.ca.gov) or call (818) 790-8880.

## CITY INFORMATION

The City Council meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, One Civic Center Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011.

City Hall will be closed on December 22, 25, 29, (Christmas Eve observed, Christmas Day, New Years Eve observed), January 1 (New Years Day) and January 15 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

### City Council

Rick Gunter – Mayor  
Michael T. Davitt – Mayor Pro Tem  
Kim Bowman  
Keith Eich  
Teresa "Terry" Walker

### City Hall

One Civic Center Drive,  
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

Administration: (818) 790-8880  
Finance: (818) 790-8880  
Community Development: (818) 790-8881  
Public Works: (818) 790-8882  
Building and Safety: (818) 790-8651

### City Staff

Daniel Jordan - City Manager  
Adrian R. Guerra - City Attorney  
Kelly Wine - City Treasurer  
Tania Garcia - City Clerk  
Patrick DeChellis - Director of Public Works  
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development  
Alex Kung - Director of Finance  
Arabo Parseghian - Director of Admin. Services

### Public Safety

Sheriff's Station: (818) 248-3464  
Fire Station 82: (818) 790-4686  
Fire Station 19: (818) 249-1562

City Hall Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Building & Safety Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., Fri: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Website: [www.CityOfLCF.org](http://www.CityOfLCF.org)

## WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Stay current on news and events by following the City of La Cañada Flintridge on social media.

 [Facebook.com/ CityOfLaCanadaFlintridge](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfLaCanadaFlintridge)

 [Twitter.com/TheCityOfLCF](https://twitter.com/TheCityOfLCF)

Sign up for the LCF Bulletin (monthly e-newsletter) by scanning the QR code



### Contact Your City Council

Terry Walker – [twalker@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:twalker@lcf.ca.gov)  
Richard B. Gunter III – [rgunter@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:rgunter@lcf.ca.gov)  
Keith Eich – [keich@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:keich@lcf.ca.gov)  
Michael T. Davitt – [mdavitt@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:mdavitt@lcf.ca.gov)  
Kim Bowman – [kbowman@lcf.ca.gov](mailto:kbowman@lcf.ca.gov)