



## Arbor Day! March 9, 2016

This holiday was first observed with the planting of more than one million trees in Nebraska and is now observed throughout the nation and the world.

Trees reduce the erosion of topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife. Trees are also considered a renewable resource, giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and other countless wood products.

The City of Martinez has been recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as Tree City USA and desires to continue its tree-planting practices.

## PINE MEADOW

### *Special Meeting*

The City Council will hold a Special Meeting on March 9, at 7:00 p.m. to consider repeal of Resolution 031-15, a Resolution Calling and Giving

Notice to holding a General Municipal Election to be held November 8, 2016 and requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Contra Costa to conduct said Election; and submit to the voters an election as requested in the Petition relating to a Referendum Against the Resolution passed by the City Council, Resolution No. 009-15 submitted February 17, 2015, with respect to a 25.9 Acre Property Located at 451 Vine Hill Way (Pine Meadow) from M-OS/RF (Mixed Use Open Space Recreation) to a Combination of R-7.5/PUD Overlay (Single Family Residential: Minimum 7,500 Square Feet Per

Dwelling Unit/Planned Unit Development Overlay) and a PUD Plan to allow development of 99 Single Family Homes.



Regular Council Meetings will now start at 7:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers

## did you KNOW

### JUROR PARKING

The City welcomes over 200 new jurors every week. We hope you take time to visit our shops and restaurants. We suggest that

jurors park in the long term parking meter zones (or in the County parking lot off Mellus Street.) Many of these 10-hour zones are located within a short walk of the Courts.

[View Map](#)

# MARTINEZ



## NO-COST ENERGY AND WATER UPGRADES FOR RESIDENTS OF MARTINEZ

The City of Martinez is excited to bring Rising Sun Energy Center's California Youth Energy Services (CYES) Program to Martinez residents for the 3rd year in a row. The CYES program provides residents with no-cost energy and water conservation services through a partnership with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Contra Costa Water District, and the City of Martinez. The City of Martinez receives additional program support from lead local sponsors, Tesoro Foundation (\$10,000) and Republic Services (\$5,000).

Since 2000, Rising Sun has provided "Green House Calls" to over 33,700 residents throughout the Bay Area and Central Valley. Last summer, CYES serviced 248 households in the City of Martinez. CYES provides paid job opportunities to local youth, 15 to 22 years of age. The youth "Energy Specialists" are trained and qualified to provide their community's residents with the no-cost Green House Call service. CYES provides services to all community members regardless of income with a focus on serving hard-to-reach residents, including renters, low-to-moderate income households, seniors, and non-English speaking households. The program helps the City reach its Climate Action Plan goals, while also helping to address California's drought.

Clients who receive the Green House Call rave about their experience:

*"I thought I was doing pretty good with energy but learned there are still ways to improve. Most of the information I received was easy and cheap to implement. I just hadn't known about it before. Thanks Rising Sun!"*

*"The two youth represented your organization in the most professional manner. They were courteous and respectful. They were very knowledgeable and answered all questions we had."*

Green House Calls will begin July 6th and run through August 11th, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Reserve your spot now. Contact us today and start saving on your energy and water bills!

Call 510.665.1501 ext. 5 to schedule your Green House Call, or sign up online at [www.risingsunenergy.org/programs/green-house-call-residents/](http://www.risingsunenergy.org/programs/green-house-call-residents/)

For more information about Rising Sun and its programs, visit [www.risingsunenergy.org](http://www.risingsunenergy.org)

## FUNDING FOR NON-PROFIT'S

The City has long been a supporter of local non-profit organizations that serve the Martinez community. To help achieve this objective, the City Council adopted a "Community Groups Funding Program" in March 2007. The City is now accepting applications from community organizations for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2016-17, which starts July 1, 2016.

Application forms are available by clicking the link below, and at the City Clerk's office (Martinez City Hall) at 525 Henrietta Street. Please note that completed and signed applications for Fiscal Year 2016-17 must to be submitted by 3 p.m. on Friday, April 15th to the City Clerk's office, or scanned and sent via email to [mcabral@cityofmartinez.org](mailto:mcabral@cityofmartinez.org). Applications will be reviewed by City staff, considered by the Budget Subcommittee and forwarded with recommendations to the City Council.

A total of \$7,500 from the General Fund was approved to support this program last year, and 10 local organizations were approved to receive community grants.

### Funding Policy and Application



# Message from the Chief of Police

February 14, 2016 the police department made the transition to a new Neighborhood Policing Area structure. The Neighborhood Policing Areas (NPA) have been in existence for some time, but we have modified the geographic boundaries so that we now have 4 areas for patrol. Each area has four officers assigned, along with a police sergeant, across the seven day a week, twenty-four hours a day schedule. At any given time, there is one officer in each area responding to calls as well as following up on neighborhood problems affecting the community.

If you need to contact officers in your area, you can email the group directly. For more information on your NPA, the officers assigned, and how to contact them please visit [http://www.cityofmartinez.org/depts/police/neighborhood\\_policing\\_areas.asp](http://www.cityofmartinez.org/depts/police/neighborhood_policing_areas.asp)

As far as crime trends, the cities of Martinez, Concord, and Pleasant Hill are seeing an increase in thefts of Ford F series trucks. The main Ford vehicles being targeted are the F-250, F-350, and E-350 (van). The ignition lock is being damaged to start the vehicles. We have been working with neighboring police departments on this issue, but there are a few things that you can do to try to prevent these types of thefts:

- 1) Make sure that your vehicle is locked and secured
- 2) Use an anti-theft device such as the "Club"
- 3) If you have a car alarm, make sure it is on and armed when you lock up the vehicle
- 4) If you notice people looking into cars in your neighborhood and it looks suspicious or out of the ordinary, call dispatch (925-372-3440) immediately to report it
- 5) Park in well lit areas if possible

When offenders are looking for things to steal, they often assess the risk versus the reward. If it looks risky because they have to do more work to complete the theft or because residents are calling the police because they are behaving suspiciously, they may decide that it isn't worth the reward. Let's work together to make it difficult for anyone to commit a crime and report suspicious behavior when you see it.

Other recent crime trends include "Shoulder Surfing" at ATM machines. Suspects will try to peek over the shoulder of a person using an ATM machine to try to see their PIN number. Please be aware of your surroundings and if you feel uncomfortable at an ATM machine because someone is intruding into your personal space, walk away, and give us a call. If you can let the dispatcher know about the behavior you see that appears suspicious and can provide a description of the person, it can go a long way in preventing someone else from being victimized.

We are happy to announce that we have made headway in hiring and are on track to have two new dispatchers starting in March. One of the new hires, Megan Magers-Rankin, currently works in our Records Unit and we are proud of her successful completion of the Dispatch hiring process. We also have three officers in the final stages on the hiring process and if all goes well, we should have them on board within the next 30 to 60 days. Once all of these employees are hired, they will have to go through an extensive training process over the next 6 months before they can work independently. Once we have the new hires on board we will provide more details on each one of them to help introduce them to our community.

We had quite a bit of police activity over the month and the following is a snapshot of some of the activity...

[Read More...](#)



## COOLCALIFORNIA CHALLENGE THE FINAL STRETCH

Martinez CoolCalifornia Challenge participants continue to impress us with their sustainability efforts! Participating households have made a difference in the community by upgrading to energy-efficient lightbulbs, installing faucet aerators, committing to running only full loads of dishes in the dishwasher, and by taking many other actions. The final day of the CoolCalifornia Challenge is March 30th, so we have just under a month to maximize points and move up the leaderboard. We think that Martinez participants have what it takes to out-compete other cities, including our neighbor Benicia, for a place among the top five cities.

Every action taken and point earned will help Martinez receive a larger portion of the \$150,000 Challenge prize money to go towards a City sustainability project. The City's tentative plan is to utilize the money it earns to enhance and preserve our downtown with trees suitable for the downtown area. More information to come as the Challenge comes to a close and we find out how much prize money will be awarded to the City.

Over 80 Martinez households have signed up for the competition so far, and there is still time for more to register. Sign up and invite your friends to join at [www.CAChallenge.org](http://www.CAChallenge.org). Participants can easily earn points by taking action and tracking it on their Challenge Dashboard. Check out the [Point System breakdown](#) to see how to earn more points.

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## 2016 MARTINEZ YOUTH BASEBALL PARADE

The 20th Annual Youth Baseball Parade will be held Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. and begins at the City Hall Plaza, 525 Henrietta Street. Athletes and coaches from Martinez Baseball Club and Martinez Youth Baseball and Softball Association will march down Alhambra Avenue, turn right on Main street and continue to Las Juntas Street. Teams and coaches will be introduced by local celebrity, Harriett Burt. Alhambra Avenue will be closed to traffic between Jones and Main Street for approximately 25 minutes. Main Street will be closed to parking from 9 am – 12 pm. and traffic 10 am – 12 pm. Following the parade, Martinez Youth Baseball and Softball league will hold team pictures and a barbecue lunch at Waterfront Park. For more information, call Martinez Recreation at 372-3510.





**MARTINEZ MINI MOTORLAND**  
 Saturday, April 2, 2016 • 10 am – Noon  
 John Muir Amphitheater, Taratino Drive  
 Ages 2 – 5 years old

Martinez Recreation is creating an interactive town for electric ride-on, big wheels and tricycles at Waterfront Amphitheater. Youngsters will stop for gas, order a snack at the drive-thru window, fish, have their nails done, wash their vehicles, camp and more. New drivers can practice parking, stopping and backing up. Martinez Police Explorers will fingerprint children and provide traffic control and even traffic court. It's safe, fun and self-contained. Parents bring a camera and your child's favorite riding toy. Snacks will be served. Driver's licenses and additional licenses, coupons and cards are provided. Cost is \$10 per child. **MUST PRE-REGISTER.** No dogs and no gas powered vehicles! Contact Martinez Recreation, 372-3510.

*Looking for a Getaway with  
 Martinez Senior Center?*

Are you feeling **LUCKY?**

Well look no further! Come sign-up for an overnight trip to Atlantis Casino Resort Spa Sunday, May 15 – Monday, May 16, 2016

**Trip Highlights:** Games and prizes on the way to Reno, continental breakfast served on the way up, rest stop in Auburn on the way to and from, one-night deluxe accommodations at the Atlantis Hotel, a movie and lunch served (sandwich, chips and drink) on the return trip.

**Trip Includes:** Deluxe motor coach (American Stage) transportation, Atlantis player card and buffet voucher before exiting the bus (\$20 free slot play loaded on your player card, \$20 buffet voucher for the Toucan Charlie's Buffet.) Drivers gratuity is included, and luggage handling. Cost: \$99 pp double/\$198 single. Tour Escort: Lynn Shelton.

Make checks payable to "Evelyn Shelton." Sign up at the Martinez Senior Center.



# Calendar of Events

- March 2 | Wednesday**  
 Zoning Administrator ..... 4:00 p.m.
- March 9 | Wednesday**  
 Planning Commission ..... 7:00 p.m.  
 City Council..... 7:00 p.m.
- March 15 | Tuesday**  
 Parks, Recreation, Marina & Cultural Commission ..... 7:00 p.m.
- March 16 | Wednesday**  
 Zoning Administrator ..... 4:00 p.m.  
 City Council..... 7:00 p.m.
- March 22 | Tuesday**  
 Planning Commission ..... 7:00 p.m.

## City Council Meetings

Regular City Council Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Meetings are televised on Friday, following Wednesday's meeting on Public Access Channel 28 (U-Verse Channel 99) at 7:30 p.m.

## Contact Information

- Building .....(925) 372-3550
- City Clerk.....(925) 372-3512
- City Hall .....(925) 372-3500
- Engineering .....(925) 372-3515
- Event Information.....(925) 372-3463
- Finance/Water .....(925) 372-3575
- Water Emergency
  - Operating Hours .....(925) 372-3587
  - After Hours (Police Dispatch)....(925) 372-3440
- HR Job Hotline .....(925) 372-3513
- Parks & Recreation.....(925) 372-3510
- Police/Non-Emergency.....(925) 372-3440
- Planning .....(925) 372-3515
- Public Works.....(925) 372-3580
- Senior Center.....(925) 370-8770

## Martinez Elected Officials

- Rob Schroder, Mayor
- AnaMarie Avila Farias, Vice Mayor
- Lara DeLaney, Councilmember
- Debbie McKillop, Councilmember
- Mark Ross, Councilmember
- Richard Hernandez, City Clerk
- Carolyn Robinson, City Treasurer

# MARTINEZ



City of Martinez  
 525 Henrietta Street  
 Martinez, CA 94553

[www.cityofmartinez.org](http://www.cityofmartinez.org)



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