

36 Press Releases were issued during 2005, as follows:

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| 9/9/2005 | Belmont's First Annual Pet Parade |
| 9/13/2005 | Belmont Festival Entertainment |
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| 11/8/2005 | City Receives State Wide Award |
| 12/7/2005 | City Hall Grand Opening |

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2005 Contact: **Nawel Voelker 650-595-7433**

Belmont Library/Belameda Park Groundbreaking Ceremony Set for January 6th

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont is pleased to announce that the groundbreaking for the new Belmont Library building and Belameda Park will occur on Thursday, January 6, 2005 at 3:30 PM. The public is invited to this ceremony.

The event will occur on the Library construction site at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas. The ceremony is scheduled to be approximately one-half hour in length and will be followed by a brief reception with refreshments.

Plans have been underway for many years to build a new, bigger and more technologically advanced Library for the Belmont community. Voters overwhelmingly approved a bond measure in March 2001 to replace the 5,000 square foot library with a new, larger one. The City Council awarded a contract for construction of this project on July 27, 2004. The project has been split into 2 phases of work. Peak Engineering of Oakland was awarded the contract for Phase I of the project, which included demolition and rough site grading, which began in September 2004. Phase I is currently winding down and will be complete in early January, as Phase II begins.

Gonsalves & Stronck has been awarded the contract for Phase II (construction of the new building and park). Nova Partners of Palo Alto is performing partial Construction Management services on the project, and Field Paoli of San Francisco is the lead design firm.

Construction is expected to take about eleven months total to complete. There is no temporary library in Belmont, but materials borrowed from the Belmont Library may be returned to any public library in San Mateo County, including San Carlos Library, Foster City Library and San Mateo City Library (Hillsdale and Marina branches).

The new Belmont Library is expected to open in Spring 2006.

###

1/3/2005 Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2005

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont is currently recruiting residents interested in serving on various City Commissions. The deadline to apply is 5:00 P.M. Friday, January 28, 2005, and the application is available on the City's website: www.belmont.gov under "City Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, 1070 Sixth Avenue, Suite 301.

There are four openings on the Planning Commission, two two-year seats and two three-year seats. The Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission reviews and takes action on planning applications, and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning and land use issues.

There are four openings on the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for two-year terms expiring on March 1, 2007. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to Belmont's Park and Recreation programs, as well as on capital improvements to the City's various parks and open space areas.

There are two openings for **Youth seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission**. The City Council will consider applications from Belmont residents who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old. Parent/Guardian consent is mandatory. These seats are for one-year terms, which expire March 1, 2006. Youth members are full voting members of the Commission.

There is one vacancy and two seats set to expire on the **Finance Commission**. The Finance Commission meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. and participates in the budget review process, serves as the audit committee for the City Council, conducts an annual review of the City's investment policy and, at the request of the City Council, evaluates proposals, programs and contracts for long and short term financial consequences. Finance Commissioners serve for three-year terms.

To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (1070 Sixth Street, Suite 301), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 28. Applicants must live in Belmont. The application process includes an interview with the City Council, with the exception of Finance Commission applicants, who are recommended for appointment by the Finance Commission itself. Interviews will be held sometime during the month of February. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413.

###

1/6/2005 Wintertime Indoor Flea Market

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2005

CONTACT: Mary Doherty – (650) 595-7439

Wintertime Indoor Flea Market scheduled for Saturday, January 29

Belmont, CA – Want to clean out all that extra stuff from the holidays? Want to do a little after Christmas shopping? Come and search for some great bargains at the City of Belmont's Wintertime Indoor Flea Market on Saturday, January 29 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Twin Pines Senior and Community Center.

"We're excited about planning this new event," said Parks and Recreation Supervisor Mary Doherty. "We hope this Indoor Flea Market will bring people together to socialize, and just maybe find some great bargains," she continued. The event is free for shoppers.

The deadline to register to sell is January 20, 2005. If anyone is interested in participating by purchasing a space to sell their items, the cost is \$20 for a space approximately 8' x 3' which includes one free table. To register call the Parks and Recreation office at 650-595-7441, and a form can be sent or faxed to you. Return all forms to: Winter Flea Market, Belmont Parks & Recreation, 1225 Ralston Ave, Belmont, CA 94002, or fax with a credit card registration form to (650) 595-7419.

For more information about this new event, the Wintertime Indoor Flea Market, please call the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department at 650-595-7441.

###

1/11/2005 Crosswalk In-Pavement Flashers Ceremony

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2005

Contact: **Ray Davis 650-595-7459**

Crosswalk In-Pavement Flashers Ceremony – January 14

Belmont, CA -- Mayor Warden will officiate a ceremony to turn on the new in-pavement flashers at the intersection of Ralston Avenue and Elmer Street on Friday, January 14th at 10 am. The ceremony is to celebrate the completion of Phase 1 of the Safe Routes to School grant to install in-pavement flashers at the intersections of Ralston Avenue at Elmer and Villa, and the mid-block crossing on Alameda de las Pulgas between IHM and Carlmont Village and the active school zone radar signs installed in the area of Ralston Middle School.

Representatives from both the Sterling Downs and Homeview Neighborhood Associations will be in attendance at the 10 am ceremony. Staff is working with the neighbors for a similar turn-on ceremony for the crosswalks on Alameda and Ralston and Villa as well as IHM and Carlmont Village.

The in-pavement flashers are the latest state-of-the-art pavement flashers that are solar powered and use wireless communication technology to active the flashers. There are no wires in the ground connecting the flashers to each other or to the pedestrian activation button. The flashers also use the latest in LED technology that emit much more light than previous models of in-pavement flashers. “We anticipate that this will significantly improve advising vehicle drivers that there are pedestrians using the subject crosswalks and improve overall pedestrian safety”, said Public Works Director Ray Davis. The City received \$372,000 in federal grant funds for the program.

The public is invited to attend the Ralston Avenue and Elmer ceremony. Any questions can be directed to Director of Public Works Ray Davis at 595-7459.

###

1/19/2005 Deadline Approaching for Commission Openings

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 19, 2005

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

Deadline Approaching for Commission Openings

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont reminds residents that the deadline to apply for openings for its various commissions is 5:00 P.M. Friday, January 28, 2005. The application is available on the City's website: www.belmont.gov under "City Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, 1070 Sixth Avenue, Suite 301. To be eligible for these volunteer positions, you must be a resident of the City of Belmont.

There are four openings on the Planning Commission, two two-year seats and two three-year seats. The Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission reviews and takes action on planning applications, and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning and land use issues.

There are four openings on the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for two-year terms expiring on March 1, 2007. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to Belmont's Park and Recreation programs, as well as on capital improvements to the City's various parks and open space areas.

There are two openings for **Youth seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission**. The City Council will consider applications from Belmont residents who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old. Parent/Guardian consent is mandatory. These seats are for one-year terms, which expire March 1, 2006. Youth members are full voting members of the Commission.

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To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (1070 Sixth Street, Suite 301), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 28. Applicants must live in Belmont. The application process includes an interview with the City Council, with the exception of Finance Commission applicants, who are recommended for appointment by the Finance Commission itself. Interviews will be held sometime during the month of February. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413, or by email at cclerk@ci.belmont.ca.us.

###

1/26/2005 Belmont and San Carlos Offer Free Disaster Prep...

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2005

CONTACT:

Sergeant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7400

Belmont & San Carlos Offer Free Disaster Preparedness Class

Belmont, CA --

The City's of Belmont and San Carlos are inviting the public to sign up for an interactive and informative class which will teach them how to take better care of themselves, their family and neighbors in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Whether it's El Nino, floods, mudslides, earthquakes, wildfires or terrorism, disasters come in all forms and severity. All are unpredictable and cause disruption of normal services.

A disaster can easily overwhelm local emergency response resources. The Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) program provides citizens with the basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills to help save lives and protect property, during the most critical time, until emergency responders can arrive.

During an eight-week course, students will receive training in emergency preparedness, fire suppression, medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology, team organization and terrorism. Upon completion, students will receive a Certificate of Completion and some basic disaster response equipment (hard hat, work gloves, goggles, vest, and more).

The course is free and open to adults, 18yrs and older. Classes will be held on eight consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning February 2nd from 7:00-9:30 PM on the second floor of the San Carlos Library, 610 Elm Street, San Carlos.

For more information and to register for the class, contact Christy Tinney at the San Carlos Police Department, 802-4164.

###

Solar Energy Presentation

BELMONT, CA – The February 8, 2005 Belmont City Council meeting will feature a presentation on a variety of issues related to solar energy. Representatives from PG&E, the non-profit Grid Alternatives, and Recycleworks (the County of San Mateo) will present an opportunity for community members and City leaders to increase their knowledge on solar energy. Topics ranging from the benefits of solar energy to current trends in renewable energy policies are expected to be included in a thirty-minute presentation.

The presentation was arranged at the request of the Belmont City Council. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm at the Belmont Senior and Community Center in Twin Pines Park. Community members are encouraged to attend Council meetings in person, or view the proceedings on television (cable channel 27).

###

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 1, 2005

CONTACT:

Officer David Lashley (650) 595-7400

Pedestrian Safety Decoy Program to be Held at Locations of new Lighted Crosswalks

Belmont, CA –

On Thursday February 3, 2005 between the hours of 10:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. the Belmont and San Carlos Police Departments will cooperatively conduct pedestrian decoy enforcement in the City of Belmont.

“The purpose of this pedestrian decoy program is to target unaware and discourteous drivers who fail to yield the right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks,” explained Officer Lashley. “The officers involved in the enforcement will use this opportunity to educate the driving public about pedestrian rights of way, and related traffic laws,” Lashley continued.

The police departments will be monitoring driver compliance as police personnel, in plain clothes, cross the roadway in marked crosswalks which are equipped with LED pavement lights. The locations; Ralston Avenue at Elmer Street, Ralston Avenue at Villa Avenue and the mid-block crossing on Alameda de las Pulgas between IHM School and Carlmont Village Shopping Center were specifically chosen as they are where new in-pavement flashers were recently installed, using monies from a Safe Routes to School grant. “We anticipate that this technology will significantly improve advising vehicle drivers that there are pedestrians using the subject crosswalks and improve overall pedestrian safety”, said Public Works Director Ray Davis.

2/7/2005 Belmont Permit Center Fax Number Changed

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2005

CONTACT: Dan Rich – (650) 595-7408

Belmont Permit Center Fax Number Changed

Belmont, CA –

Several telephone numbers for City of Belmont departments, as well as the FAX number for the Belmont Permit Center were changed abruptly by SBC. Last week, a few phone lines in City Hall were no longer operating, including one in the Police Department and the Permit Center's FAX line. The major effect is on the Permit Center, where building permits applications are received by FAX. As a result of SBC's action, the Permit Center FAX number has changed to 637-2986.

“We are most concerned about the impacts on our organization, and our customers,” said Information Services Manager, Valerie Harnish. “Unfortunately, this was out of our control.” Staff is in the process of changing forms and documents that contain the old fax number.

If the community has any questions, please feel free to contact the Permit Center's phone line at (650) 595-7416.

###

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 10, 2005

CONTACT: Valerie Harnish – (650) 595-7446

Belmont Phone/Fax Numbers Back to Normal

Belmont, CA –

Several telephone numbers for City of Belmont departments, as well as the FAX number for the Belmont Permit Center were changed abruptly last week. With the help of SBC, and cooperation of another local company who had been assigned the City's numbers, all lines have been restored to their previous numbers.

Last week, a few phone lines in City Hall were no longer operating, including some in the Police Department and the Permit Center's FAX line. The major effect was on the Permit Center, where building permit applications are received by FAX. "SBC has been responsive to this situation once the problem was identified," said Information Services Manager, Valerie Harnish. "The City would also like to thank the company that agreed to relinquish those numbers back to us! Because this company was so cooperative, we were able to restore all the numbers to what they originally were." Staff no longer needs to go through the process of changing and reprinting forms, letterhead, business cards, etc.

The Belmont Permit Center's FAX line is back to (650) 595-7479. If the community has any questions, please feel free to contact the Permit Center's phone line at (650) 595-7416.

###

3/2/2005 State of the City

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2005

CONTACT: Dan Rich – (650) 595-7409

Annual State of the City Event Set for March 17

Belmont, CA --

Mayor Dave Warden will present his State of the City Address on Thursday, March 17 at the Iron Gate restaurant, beginning at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon, sponsored by the Belmont Chamber of Commerce and the City, is \$32 per person and the community is invited. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 595-8696 by Thursday, March 10.

Mayor Warden's presentation will have a theme titled "Lucky to Be in Belmont." "I feel very lucky to have grown up in Belmont and to serve on the City Council," stated Mayor Warden. "My address will highlight some of the things we should all be proud of in Belmont. Saint Patrick's Day is a good day to celebrate our City."

###

3/7/2005 Fatal Shooting on US 101

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Fatal Shooting on US 101**

Case #: 0503-0325

Location: S/B Hwy 101 at the Ralston Ave off-ramp, Belmont

Date: 3/6/05 Time: 1405hrs

EVENT

The Belmont Police Department, in conjunction with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office and the California Highway Patrol, is currently investigating an officer-involved shooting by California Highway Patrol officers, which occurred on Sunday March 6, 2005 on the Ralston Ave exit from southbound Hwy 101. The incident is currently under investigation, but the following is known at this time.

On March 6, 2005, at approximately 1:20 PM a South San Francisco Police Department officer attempted to make a traffic stop on a silver 1992 Toyota truck, driven by a suspect wanted in connection with a felony domestic violence incident which had just occurred in that city. A pursuit ensued, going from the city streets of South San Francisco to US 101 southbound. The pursuit continued southbound on Hwy 101 where CHP units took over the pursuit from the South San Francisco Police. The pursuit continued south to Whipple Ave, Redwood City, where the suspect turned around and fled northbound on Hwy 101.

The pursuit went north to Brisbane, where the suspect again turned south on Hwy 101. The pursuit ended at approx. 2:05PM when one of the tires on the suspect's vehicle blew out as he approached the Ralston Avenue exit. The vehicle left the roadway and crashed into a drainage ditch on the right shoulder. After the collision, the suspect immediately exited the vehicle and made several verbal threats to the officers and threw rocks at CHP officers. At one point the suspect picked up a large chunk of concrete or large rock and aggressively advanced toward the officers. The suspect ignored repeated commands to stop by CHP officers. As the suspect continued to advance on the CHP officers, he threatened them with the object and shots were fired. The suspect was pronounced dead at the scene.

The name of the suspect is being withheld pending positive identification by the San Mateo County Coroner's Office and notification of next of kin.

Anyone who witnessed either the pursuit or the events at the Ralston Avenue exit is asked to call Belmont Police at (650) 595-7400. More information will be released as it becomes available.

3/16/2005 Free Spring Compost Giveaway

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Marc March 16, 2005

CONTACT: Kathleen Phalen – (650) 595-7469

FREE SPRING COMPOST GIVEAWAY APRIL 2

BELMONT, CA – The City of Belmont, RethinkWaste, and BFI have teamed up to provide free compost on Saturday, April 2, 2005 between 8 AM and noon. Residents may take up to 1 cubic yard of compost (about six full garbage cans) at no charge from the Belmont City Hall Parking Lot as long as the supply lasts. Belmont residents are reminded to bring shovels, gloves, containers and proof of Belmont residency. “BFI makes this compost from the residential yard waste collections. The natural decomposition of these organic materials produces a dark, nutrient-rich soil amendment,” said City Engineer Kathleen Phalen.

According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, approximately 40 percent of California's waste stream consists of compostable organic materials, including yard trimmings, grass clippings, food scraps, and woody debris. By participating in BFI's curbside collection of yard trimmings, Belmont residents put these valuable resources back into use as rich compost, suitable for general landscaping and as topsoil for lawns. “Segregating yard trimmings for composting reduces nutrient runoff to our creeks and the Bay, thereby promoting better water quality. Returning the compost to back to gardens and landscaping the closes the recycling loop and provides a alternative to synthetic fertilizers,” said Phalen.

Gardeners may also be interested in the RecycleWorks backyard and worm composting programs. These County of San Mateo programs offer home composting workshops and bins. For more information call 650.802.4349 or email info@rethinkwaste.org.

###

3/16/2005 Noise Control Public Workshop

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2005

CONTACT: Craig Ewing – (650) 637-2908

PUBLIC WORKSHOP SET FOR NEW NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont City Council is considering adopting new controls on unwanted noise and a public workshop is set for Thursday, March 24, 2005 to consider the issue. The workshop will be held in the Belmont Senior and Community Center from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and the community is invited to attend and provide input.

Presently, the City has controls on noisy construction, barking dogs, loud parties, chickens & livestock, and excessive acceleration (squealing tires). “One of the purposes of the workshop will be to identify other sources of unwanted noise that could be subject to enforcement. The workshop will also consider the options for enforcement, including how to effectively address after-hours noise problems (nights and weekends),” explained Craig Ewing, Planning and Community Development Director. The City Council is expected to formally consider potential changes in late Spring.

###

3/25/2005 Coed Softball League

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2005

CONTACT: Mary Doherty (650) 595-7439

Fun for Adults and Kids in Belmont

Belmont, CA --

As kids are having fun with Spring Break, don't forget to look to the City of Belmont for classes starting before the new Summer Activities Guide comes out in April. For Adults, we have a new Friday night Recreational Coed Softball League forming. We still have some space available for your group that could form a team. "It's a great team-building experience for companies or groups of friends who want to spend some time together. It's also a great way to get exercise after a busy week, as the sun is setting over hills, and the days get warmer," said Recreation Supervisor Mary Doherty, "Parks Superintendent Henry Ruspil doesn't miss a season, even though he spends plenty of work time at the field."

Don't delay in contacting Belmont Parks & Recreation if you're interested as the league will be starting April 14th and money must be in by April 1st.

There may also be a spot left for your men's league. Check with us if you have a team raring to go.

Call (650) 595-7441 for more information and forms to be sent to you.

###

3/25/2005 Community Service and Leadership Award

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2005

CONTACT: Dan Rich (650) 595-7408

City of Belmont Student Community Service and Leadership Award

Belmont, CA --

Nominations are still being accepted for the first annual City of Belmont Student Community Service and Leadership Award. The award will go to a graduating student of Notre Dame de Namur University for contributions made to Belmont and the greater community. “The student will be someone who has consistently demonstrated a sense of personal responsibility and commitment towards the community,” said Police Chief Don Mattei. This award was developed as a result of the recommendations approved by the Council in the NDNU Advisory Board Report from last year.

The Award Criteria are:

- The student is currently an undergraduate or graduate student at NDNU and is graduating at the end of the school year.
- The student has participated in a range of different involvement activities on and or off campus.
- The student has participated on a volunteer basis in these activities in the Belmont and greater community.

[Nominations](#) and supporting documentation can be found on the City of Belmont website by going to www.belmont.gov, clicking on “Press Releases,” and should be submitted to City of Belmont/NDNU Working Group, c/o Chief Mattei, Belmont Police Department 1215 Ralston Avenue, Belmont, CA 94002 by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, March 30, 2005. “It is the hope of the committee that the award would be given out at graduation by the mayor,” Mattei added.

###

Press Release

For Immediate Release

March 29, 2005

CONTACT:Officer Peter Lotti
(650) 595-7400

Safety Belt and Child Safety Seat Checkpoint

Belmont, CA -- On March 31, 2005, the Belmont Police Department will be hosting a seatbelt checkpoint with the assistance of officers from San Carlos Police Department. The checkpoint will be held in the 1400 block of Alameda de las Pulgas. The checkpoint is scheduled to start at 10:00 am and last until 3:00 pm.

“The purpose of the seatbelt checkpoint is to target drivers who fail to wear their seatbelts or have passengers in their vehicle who are not properly restrained,” explained Officer Peter Lotti. In addition to the seatbelt checkpoint, employees from both San Carlos Police Department and Belmont Police Department, who are nationally certified in child passenger safety, will be there to assist drivers with car seat installation and routine checks of child restraint seats.

“Most crashes occur within five miles of home. Wearing a seatbelt and using child safety seats is one of the most effective actions a person can take to protect themselves and their loved ones from injury in a traffic collision,” continued Lotti.

Belmont Police and San Carlos Police Departments both offer free child safety seat inspections. Please contact your Police Department if you would like to schedule an inspection of a current child safety seat or to receive instructions for a first time installation.

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 29, 2005

CONTACT: Dan Rich – (650) 595-7408

The City of Belmont to have Address and Email Changes

Belmont, CA –

In anticipation of the opening of the renovated City Hall, City buildings will have a physical address change and also a change in email addresses, as of April 1, 2005. “Completion of this project has been a long time coming,” said Interim City Manager Dan Rich. “We are very excited that the entire civic center campus will have the Twin Pines Lane address. We also thought this was an appropriate time to introduce the new, easier email addresses.”

The new email extension for City employees will be @belmont.gov, replacing @ci.belmont.ca.us, and the following address change for City buildings will take effect as of April 1:

| Building Name | Old Address | <i>New Address</i> |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|
| City Hall* | 1070 Sixth Ave. | One Twin Pines Lane |
| Police Department** | 1215 Ralston Ave. | One Twin Pines Lane |
| The Manor Building | 1219 Ralston Ave. | 10 Twin Pines Lane |
| Creekside Studios | 1221 Ralston Ave. | 3 Cottage Lane |
| The Cottage | 1225 Ralston Ave. | 7 Cottage Lane |
| Twin Pines Senior and Community Center | 1223 Ralston Ave. | 20 Twin Pines Lane |
| Parks and Recreation Office | 1225 Ralston Ave. | 30 Twin Pines Lane |
| The Lodge | 1241 Ralston Ave. | 40 Twin Pines Lane |

* Tenants on the ground floor (Chamber of Commerce, Dr. McDonald, D.D.S. and Harris and Associates) will maintain the 1070 Sixth Avenue address.

** Police will remain in their current building until the end of Phase II, expected to be this summer.

Both addresses and emails will be acceptable for a period of time. Information about the official opening of the renovated City Hall with the new entrance on Twin Pines Lane will be forthcoming in April.

###

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2005

CONTACT: Dan Rich – (650) 595-7408

City Hall to Close in Preparation for Move

Belmont, CA -- After 18 months of construction, the renovated Belmont City Hall building will open for business on Monday, May 2, 2005. As a result, several City offices will be temporarily closed to facilitate moving to their permanent locations.

The Permit Center, Public Works Department, Community Development Department and the City Clerk's office will be closed as of noon on Thursday, April 28 and all day on Friday, April 29. The City Manager's office and Human Resources will be open but available by phone and email only. Belmont's Police Department, Finance and Parks and Recreation operations will remain open and fully functional during this time.

City Hall offices at One Twin Pines Lane will reopen on Monday morning, May 2 at 8 a.m., with the following office locations:

| <i>Service</i> | Suite | Phone |
|--|----------------------|--------------|
| Cashier / Information / Business Licenses | 100 | 595-7436 |
| City Clerk / City Council | 375 | 595-7413 |
| City Manager | 340 | 595-7408 |
| Community Development | 110 | 595-7417 |
| Finance – City Treasurer | 40 Twin Pines Lane * | 595-7436 |
| Human Resources | 330 | 595-7452 |
| Information Services | 365 | 595-7446 |
| Parks and Recreation | 30 Twin Pines Lane | 595-7441 |
| Permit Center (Planning, Building) | 110 | 595-7416 |
| Police | 10 Twin Pines Lane * | 595-7400 |
| Public Works | 385 | 595-7425 |
| <i>* no change from current location: will move to permanent location at the end of Phase II, in about 3 months.</i> | | |

When the new lobby on Twin Pines Lane opens, the north driveway from Sixth Avenue will be opened and the south driveway will be closed.

A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3 at 9:00 a.m.

###

4/27/2005 City Hall Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2005

Contact: **Dan Rich 650-595-7408**

City Hall Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Set for 9 AM on May 3

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont is pleased to announce that a ribbon-cutting for the new Police Department/City Hall building will occur on Tuesday morning, May 3 at 9 a.m. The public is invited to this ceremony.

The event will occur at the new entrance to City Hall at One Twin Pines Lane. The ceremony is scheduled to be approximately 20 minutes in length and will be followed by a simple reception.

Plans have been underway for many years to move the Police out of their current “temporary” facility into a larger and seismically secure building.

In October 2003, Thompson Pacific of San Rafael was awarded the contract for the retrofit, renovation, and expansion of City Hall, in order to make it an essential services building for the Police Department. Harris & Associates of Concord is the Construction Manager, and KMD of San Francisco led the design team on the project.

The ribbon-cutting celebrates the end of Phase I and the reopening of the building. A new Permit Center will be located on the ground floor and the City will now have a dedicated Council Chamber.

A community “open house” and celebration is being planned for this summer at the conclusion of Phase II of the project, when the Police move into their permanent offices.

City Hall will be closed at noon on Thursday, April 28 and all day April 29 to allow staff to move offices.

###

4/28/2005 Wildfire Awareness Week

Contact: James Palisi, Fire Marshal
South County Fire Authority
(650) 802-4252
jamesp@scfa.dst.ca.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South County Fire Authority: WILDFIRE AWARENESS WEEK, MAY 9-15

*Fire Authority Urges Homeowners, Communities
To Get Ready for Fire Season, Become Fire Safe*

San Carlos, CA. (April 29, 2005)— The South County Fire Authority is urging homeowners in Belmont and San Carlos to get ready for fire season again. Between May 9th and the 15th is Wildfire Awareness Week. This annual campaign is to remind people to take necessary steps to reduce the risk of wildfire damage and to act in a fire safe manner. “Resident’s living in the Hazardous Fire Areas (HFA) in the Belmont and San Carlos hills as well as the surrounding areas have a clear choice: “Be fire safe”. This means clearing and maintaining a defensible space around your property. “This is to give firefighters better than normal chance to save properties in danger by a wildfire and to also provide a safe zone to fight the fire,” said Jim Palisi Fire Marshal with the South County Fire Authority.

It used to be that a defensible space was to be from 30-feet to 100-feet, but recent changes to the state law now requires a minimum of 100 feet or to the property line, as to reduce the amount of ignitable vegetation that pose a threat to structures. This does not mean a ring of bare dirt, but includes a fire resistant landscape, removal of dead/dying branches from trees, cut the grasses down to a height of 4 to 8 inches, remove clutter from the exterior of the home, and keep the roof and gutters free of dead leaves.

Homeowners can assess their home’s defensibility by using the homeowner’s checklist at the following web sites: www.smcfiresafe.org and www.firesafecouncil.org.

“This Campaign to create a fire safe community one house at a time and can be done year round, not just before and during fire season”, Palisi said. Residents are encouraged to also visit their local fire station for packets of information on maintaining a Firesafe environment both inside and outside the home.

4/28/2005 Jack Crist Named Interim City Manager

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2005

CONTACT: Dan DeSmidt – (650) 595-7412

Jack Crist Named Interim City Manager

Belmont, CA --

The City Council announced Tuesday night, April 26, that they have selected Jack Crist as Interim City Manager, taking over for Dan Rich who will leave next month to become City Manager of Campbell.

Crist retired as City Manager in Modesto last year after serving in that position for four years. Prior to that he was Deputy City Manager in Sacramento for fourteen years. He was also the Finance Director for Sacramento for ten years.

“We were all very impressed with Mr. Crist and his qualifications. We think he will be a good fit for our organization and help keep things moving forward,” said Mayor Dave Warden.

Crist has Bay Area ties as well, attending San Jose State University, and living for a short time in Daly City and the south bay. Referring to Belmont, Crist said, “I can understand why people love it here. It looks like a beautiful community and I’m looking forward to spending the next few months here.”

Crist will start on a part time basis next week while he winds down other professional obligations and will ramp up to full time sometime in early June. He is expected to serve as Interim City Manager until around the end of the year or when a permanent City Manager is named.

###

5/24/2005 Belmont Wins Finance Award Again

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2005

CONTACT: Thomas Fil – 595-7435

Belmont Wins Finance Award Again

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

This is the thirteenth time Belmont has received the award.

The award is for the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. Belmont's CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including full disclosure.

"Belmont has a long history of superior financial reporting. This award is reflective of the City's commitment to sound financial planning and reporting. It is a testament to the value of following a comprehensive set of financial policies adopted by the City Council and the hard work of a dedicated staff," said Thomas Fil, Finance Director.

The GFOA is a non-profit professional association serving approximately 16,000 government finance officials.

###

5/25/2005 Belmont Police to Receive AED's

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2005

CONTACT:

Sergeant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7400

Belmont Police to Receive Automated External Defibrillators

Belmont, CA --

On Tuesday May 17, 2005, at Belmont City Hall, the Belmont Police Department will be awarded four ReviveR Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) as the 5th national recipient of the ReviveR Provider AED Police Grant Program. The program, created by Cintas Corporation, was designed to boost national efforts to get lifesaving technology into the hands of police officers, often the first to respond to life-threatening, cardiac emergencies. Additional grants will be awarded quarterly through 2006.

AEDs are sophisticated computer-driven medical devices that deliver an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart. The processors in the device are programmed to judge whether defibrillation is needed and prompt the aid-giver when to administer a lifesaving shock. According to American Heart Association research results, some communities where Public Access Defibrillation programs have been implemented have seen average survival rates for out-of hospital cardiac arrest improve as much as 50 percent.

“By putting these AEDs into service, the Belmont Police Department will be able to supplement the existing cardiac emergency responses capability, provided by South County Fire and the County EMS system” said Belmont Chief of Police Donald Mattei. “Frequently, Belmont Police Officers are first on-scene to medical emergencies and the addition of AED units to our new Police Facility/City Hall and to our patrol units will greatly benefit our community” Mattei added.

The Belmont Police Department plans to keep one of the AED units in the Police Department Facility with the other three units being deployed in the field with police patrol units. Belmont will be the fifth law enforcement agency in San Mateo County to deploy AEDs.

Presentation Event:

Tuesday May 17, 2005

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Belmont City Hall Lobby

One Twin Pines Lane

Cintas officials will join Police personnel and members of the City Council for a demonstration of the new lifesaving equipment.

###

6/10/2005 Council Chambers Ribbon Cutting

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2005

**CONTACT: Karl Mittelstadt -
(650) 595-7443**

-- MEDIA ALERT --

What: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – New Belmont City Council Chambers

**When: Tuesday, June 14, 2005
7:30 p.m.**

Where: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, California

Who: Welcome by Mayor Dave Warden

Ribbon-cutting with the City Council

City Council meeting will follow ribbon-cutting

Photo Opportunities: Ribbon-cutting by City Council prior to City Council meeting.

###

7/8/2005 Election Season Set to Begin

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2005

CONTACT: Terri Cook – (650) 595-7414

Election Season Set to Begin

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont will hold a General Municipal Election on November 8. Three seats on the five-member Council will be up for election, and each is a four-year term to serve until November of 2009.

Candidate packets, including nomination papers and other statutory forms, will be available to any interested candidate beginning Monday, July 18, and the deadline to file papers as a candidate is Friday, August 12. If an incumbent has not filed nomination papers by 5:00 P.M. on August 12, further nomination of candidates, other than incumbents, for such elective office will be received until 5:00 P.M. on August 17. These dates are set by Election Code and cannot be waived.

The City will conduct an orientation for all declared candidates after the filing period closes in August.

Nomination papers must be picked up **in person by the prospective candidate (not his/her representative)** from the City Clerk in Suite 375 at City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, during regular business hours (8 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.). “Although an appointment to take out papers is not required, it is highly recommended to ensure that I am available to review the paperwork with the candidate. This process can be a little overwhelming, especially for a newcomer,” said Terri Cook, Belmont City Clerk. “I like to sit down and review each document to ensure the prospective candidate is familiar with all of the required forms.” To be a candidate for City Council, you must be a registered voter in the City of Belmont.

The City Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. Council Members serve on other local and regional committees.

Members of the City Council are paid a small stipend.

For more information or to make an appointment for picking up a nomination packet, please contact the City Clerk’s office at 650-595-7413.

The deadline to register to vote for the November election is October 24.

###

7/13/2005 First Annual Belmont Festival

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 11, 2005

CONTACT: Mary Doherty – (650) 595-7441

Charmaine Hope – (650) 595-8696

First Annual Belmont Festival in the Park September 17 and 18

Belmont, CA – The City of Belmont and the Belmont Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to participate in our 1st annual Belmont Festival in the Park. This unique first-time event is a blending of two very successful past events: the Belmont Chamber of Commerce's Community Fair and the long-running City of Belmont's Twin Pines Art & Wine Festival and is set for September 17 & 18 in the beautiful Twin Pines Park, 1225 Ralston Avenue. The festival hours are Saturday from 10:00-6:00 and Sunday from 10:00-5:00. Through this partnership, we will be able to offer a larger venue with a wider variety of entertainment for every age and interest while taking advantage of the exclusive and beautiful Twin Pines Park for a completely enjoyable experience.

"We're excited about a new partnership and a newly invigorated festival this year," said recently retired Parks and Recreation Director Karl Mittelstadt. "The festival has a number of new components this year, all of which will make for a wonderful community and family event," he continued.

The Belmont Festival will feature over 100 vendors, including artists, local businesses and non-profit organizations, as well as the popular game booths, chili cook-off, new pet parade, non-stop musical performances; including the Madison Blues Band, the Jack Aces, the Charles Armstrong student performers and Community Street Jam, terrific food and wine, Little Pines, a children's interactive art area and much more! Our city residents turn out in force to enjoy the entertainment on our two stages and shop for unique and creative items, play games with the children as well as gather with friends and neighbors.

This is a great opportunity to increase your presence in and connect with the community. Please *join us as a sponsor*. There are varying levels available ranging from Platinum (\$5000) to Friend of the Festival (\$100). As a sponsor, your organization will be acknowledged and publicized in our newsletters and promotional materials and on the City and Chamber's websites. Your level of sponsorship determines the amount of publicity you will receive.

In addition, we are opening up the business promotion booths to Chamber and non-Chamber members this year. This is the first time ever that local businesses are able to participate in this unique event! Please visit our website at www.belmontchamber.org or call us at 650-595-8696 for sponsorship and booth information.

It's a great time to join with us, as we have many new features this year. We have a new partnership; an improved artists association, an expanded media program, and a new look for our advertising. Net proceeds from the event go toward supporting the programs and activities of the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department and the Belmont Chamber of Commerce. The event also serves as a major fundraiser for many of the non-profit groups that participate.

We invite you to join us on September 17th and 18th for a spectacular weekend of music, family, games, food, art and plenty of community spirit. Thank you very much for your support of the Belmont Chamber of Commerce and the City of Belmont.

For more information about the Belmont Festival in the Park please call the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department at 650-595-7441, the Belmont Chamber of Commerce at 650-595-8696 or visit www.belmontchamber.org.

###

7/14/2005 City Planning Director Resigns

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2005

CONTACT: Jack Crist – (650) 595-7408

City Planning Director Resigns

Belmont, CA –

City Planning and Community Development Director Craig Ewing announced yesterday his resignation from the City of Belmont. He has accepted a position as Director of Planning Services for the City of Palm Springs.

Ewing has been the Planning Director for Belmont since November 2000. During his tenure, Ewing instigated or oversaw a number of projects and programs, including:

- The Lot Merger Program in the San Juan Hills
- The City's Visioning Program (involving seventy community leaders)
- The Economic Development Strategy for the City of Belmont
- The opening of the Permit Center

"There are a lot of experiences and lessons I take away from my time in Belmont," said Ewing. "However, what I will remember most is the cooperation and good will that I found among the entire staff. The commitment to public service found in Belmont's government is something in which the community should take genuine pride."

Ewing's last day with Belmont is August 12. Interim City Manager Jack Crist is expected to designate an Interim Planning Director so the effects to the community will be minimal. "Craig is a solid municipal planner who has made a fine contribution to this community. I hate to see Craig leave and I reluctantly accepted his resignation. We will miss Craig, but wish him all the best in his future professional career," said Crist.

###

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2005

CONTACT: Jack Crist – (650) 595-7408

Carlos deMelo Named Interim Community Development Director

Belmont, CA --

Interim City Manager Jack Crist announced last week that he has named Carlos deMelo as Interim Community Development Director, taking over for Craig Ewing whose last day with the City of Belmont was Friday, August 12. "Carlos knows the City and the department well and we are confident he will keep things moving forward," said Mayor Dave Warden. "Carlos has always impressed me with his commitment to providing excellent customer service," he added.

DeMelo has served as Principal Planner since February 2000. Prior to that, he worked in the City of Daly City for eight years. In recognition of his background and experience, the excellent work he has done for the City of Belmont in the past, his commitment to customer service excellence, and his evidenced enthusiasm for the opportunity to serve as the Interim Director, Jack Crist appointed deMelo to the position effective August 13, 2005.

"I am looking forward to the challenge, and keeping the department working smoothly during this period of transition," said deMelo. "We have a good staff here in the Community Development department, and I want to make sure progress continues as we build on quality service to the community," he continued.

"I have complete confidence in Carlos's ability to do the job" said Planning Commission Chair Kenn Parsons. The interim assignment is expected to last six to eight months as the City also continues its search for a permanent City Manager.

###

8/23/2005 1st Annual Belmont Festival in the Park (9/17-9/18)

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 23, 2005

CONTACT: Mary Doherty – (650) 595-7441
Charmaine Hope – (650) 595-8696

First Annual Belmont Festival in the Park September 17 and 18

Belmont, CA – The City of Belmont and the Belmont Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to participate in our 1st annual Belmont Festival in the Park. This unique first-time event is a blending of two very successful past events: the Belmont Chamber of Commerce's Community Fair and the long-running City of Belmont's Twin Pines Art & Wine Festival and is set for September 17 & 18 in the beautiful Twin Pines Park, 1225 Ralston Avenue. The festival hours are Saturday from 10:00-6:00 and Sunday from 10:00-5:00. Through this partnership, we will be able to offer a larger venue with a wider variety of entertainment for every age and interest while taking advantage of the exclusive and beautiful Twin Pines Park for a completely enjoyable experience.

"We're excited about a new partnership and a newly invigorated festival this year," said recently retired Parks and Recreation Director Karl Mittelstadt. "The festival has a number of new components this year, all of which will make for a wonderful community and family event," he continued.

The Belmont Festival will feature over 100 vendors, including artists, local businesses and non-profit organizations, as well as the popular game booths, chili cook-off, new pet parade, non-stop musical performances; including the Madison Blues Band, the Jack Aces, the Charles Armstrong student performers and Community Street Jam, terrific food and wine, a dunking booth, kids jump houses, clowns and more! Our city residents turn out in force to enjoy the entertainment on our two stages and shop for unique and creative items, play games with the children as well as gather with friends and neighbors.

There is still time to become a sponsor! There are varying levels available ranging from Platinum (\$5000) to Friend of the Festival (\$100). As a sponsor, your organization will be acknowledged and publicized in our newsletters and promotional materials and on the City and Chamber's websites. Your level of sponsorship determines the amount of publicity you will receive. Thank you to all of our generous sponsors so far. Media Sponsors: K-101 and KKSF Radio, The San Mateo County Times, Daily Journal and Penny Saver; our Platinum sponsor, Mid Peninsula Water District; Gold Sponsors: Nikon Precision, Inc. and Tavarez Orthodontics; Silver Sponsors: Norcal Waste Systems of San Mateo County, Nelson Staffing Solutions, Charles Armstrong School, Allied Waste Services (formerly BFI) and Autobahn Motors; and Bronze Sponsors: Crippen & Flynn Carlmont Chapel, Notre Dame de Namur University and Wittwer Chiropractic Center.

In addition, there are still a few business promotion booth spaces and game booth sponsorships left available to both Chamber and non-Chamber members this year. This is the first time ever that local businesses are able to participate in this unique event! Please visit our website at www.belmontchamber.org or call us at 650-595-8696 for sponsorship and booth information.

It's a great time to join with us, as we have many new features this year. We have a new partnership; an improved artists association, an expanded media program, and a new look for our advertising. Net proceeds from the event go toward supporting the programs and activities of the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department and the Belmont Chamber of Commerce. The event also serves as a major fundraiser for many of the non-profit groups that participate.

We invite you to join us on September 17th and 18th for a spectacular weekend of music, family, games, food, art and plenty of community spirit. Thank you very much for your support of the Belmont Chamber of Commerce and the City of Belmont.

For more information about the Belmont Festival in the Park please call the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department at 650-595-7441, the Belmont Chamber of Commerce at 650-595-8696 or visit www.belmontchamber.org.

###

9/9/2005 Belmont's First Annual Pet Parade

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 8, 2005

CONTACT: Grace Saggau (650) 595-7470

Belmont's First Annual Pet Parade September 18

Belmont, CA – The Belmont Chamber of Commerce and the City of Belmont would like to invite you to participate in the new Pet Parade at the 1st Annual Belmont Festival in the Park. All ages are welcome to participate. The parade will begin at 12:00 noon on Sunday, September 18th in Twin Pines Park. Staging for the parade begins at 11:30 in the parking area just west of the new front entrance to City Hall, 1 Twin Pines Lane. All pets must be on leashes or in secure carriers. There is no fee and registration is not necessary.

Belmont's own K-9 Officer Nitro will be the Grand Marshal for the parade. Goodie bags will be handed out to parade participants thanks to generous donations from Dolly's Treasures of Carlmont Shopping Center, Wysong and Pet Sport USA.

Peninsula Humane Society/SPCA, Belmont Bowser Club, Nor Cal Golden Retriever Rescue and Golden State Greyhound Adoption will be present at the parade. Belmont Park & Recreation Department's new dog training instructor will be available to answer questions on dog training. There will also be a photographer there to take a picture of you and your pet.

We hope that you can join us and be a part of the parade or come watch the parade in beautiful Twin Pines Park and stay to enjoy the 1st Annual Belmont Festival in the Park.

For more information on the pet parade please the Belmont Parks & Recreation Department at 650-595-7441.

###

9/13/2005 Belmont Festival Entertainment

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2005

CONTACT: Mary Doherty (650) 595-7439

Entertainment at the 1st annual Belmont Festival in the Park

Belmont, CA - The Belmont Chamber of Commerce and the City of Belmont announces the varied lineup of entertainment for its 1st annual Festival in the Park, in Twin Pines Park on September 17 & 18th. From Big Band to Belly Dance; hip-hop performers to rock and roll, clown, pet parade, and much more; we confidently say we have something for everyone this year.

Many of the performers have local roots like guitar virtuoso Michael Madigan, and the Diffa Dance Tribe belly dance troupe; some are returning acts to the Festival from the familiar party band Jack Aces, the fabulous P.S. Performers dancers to last year's newcomer the Stanford Jazztet, bringing jazz, funk and latin fusion to the Festival. The Madison Blues Band has promised lots of new tunes to get the crowd moving as well as S.F. Bay Jazz bringing their sounds to round out our variety. Look for the complete entertainment lineup in our Festival program insert in the Daily Journal newspaper on Saturday, Sep. 17th.

For those desiring more physical entertainment, we will have a rock-climbing wall from Planet Granite and a number of inflatable play structures for the kids! Come visit our radio station sponsors each day, KKSF on Saturday and Star 101.3 (K101) on Sunday; see how we've expanded the Festival onto Sixth Avenue and find lots of free parking at nearby Caltrain. It's the place to be on the Peninsula on September 17th & 18th; free admission and lots to see, do and hear!

For more information on the Festival, please call the Belmont Parks & Recreation Department at 650-595-7441 or the Belmont Chamber at 595-8696.

###

10/25/2005 Belmont HR Director Resigns

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2005

CONTACT: Jack Crist – (650) 595-7408

CITY HR DIRECTOR RESIGNS

Human Resources Director Deirdre Dolan has announced her resignation from the City of Belmont. She has accepted a position as Human Resources Director for the City of Burlingame.

Dolan has been the Human Resources Director for Belmont since March 2001. During that time, she also provided human resources services for South County Fire Protection Authority.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure with the City of Belmont, and have especially enjoyed serving the outstanding employees that work for both the City and the Fire Authority. Belmont has provided me with tremendous learning experiences, and I greatly appreciate the career opportunities the City has afforded me.”

“Deirdre Dolan is a consummate professional who has done an outstanding job for me this past year. The City of Belmont will miss her contribution to the ‘City Team’, but wishes her well in her new endeavor with the City of Burlingame.” said Interim City Manager Jack Crist, “Belmont’s loss is Burlingame’s gain.”

Dolan’s last day with Belmont is November 4. Crist is expected to appoint an Interim HR Director to fill the gap.

###

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**October 31, 2005 CONTACT: Sergeant Patrick Halleran
(650) 595-7400**

***Belmont Adopts Amendments to its City Code
Relating to the Parking & Storage of Recreational Vehicles & Trailers
on Public Streets & Public Right of Way***

Belmont, CA --

On Tuesday, October 25, 2005 the Belmont City Council adopted amendments to Section 14 of the Belmont City Code – Motor Vehicles & Traffic. Specifically, the amendments involved the parking and storage of recreational vehicles on public streets & public rights of way.

The following is a partial list, summarizing some highlights of the amended code sections:

- Commercial vehicles exceeding ¾ ton cannot be parked on city streets or public right of way at any time, unless they are making deliveries.
- Recreational vehicles, commercial vehicles, campers, camper shells or mobile homes shall be not be used for human habitation while parked on a public right-of-way.
- Recreational vehicles, trailers, boats, boat or personal watercraft trailers or any combination, may be parked on a public street or right of way for a maximum of 72 hours for loading, cleaning, and routine maintenance/repair.
- Trailers of any kind may only be parked on a public street or right of way if attached to a motor vehicle.
- Vehicles over six feet six inches tall or more than 25 feet in length shall not be parked on a pubic street for more than 72 hours, for the purpose of loading, cleaning, and routine maintenance/repair or with permission of the police department for visitor parking not to exceed 10 days.

The Belmont Police Department will observe a 30-day grace period, during which warnings will be issued in lieu of citations, to allow residents time to get used to the new regulations. Full enforcement will begin on December 1, 2005. Citations issued under these new sections will carry a \$30.00 fine.

The full text of the ordinance, including exact wording and other regulations not shown here, is available in a tri-fold pamphlet from the Belmont Police Department and at the City of Belmont web site www.belmont.gov

###

11/8/2005 City Receives State Wide Award

For Immediate Release

November 8, 2005

League Contact: Adrienne Schmeling, (916) 658-8278

City Contact: Donald Mattei, (650) 595-7421

CITY OF BELMONT RECEIVES STATEWIDE AWARD

The League of California Cities selected the City of Belmont as a 2005 Helen Putnam Award winner. The 2005 award winners were honored during the League's annual conference at the San Francisco Moscone West Convention Center last month, and will be presenting the award to the City Council at their meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2005.

The city of Belmont received the grand prize in the category of Public Safety for its Belmont Safe Schools. In 1999, the Belmont Safe Schools program was developed between Belmont Police Department and the city's public and private schools to facilitate communication and disaster preparedness planning. All have trained together to prepare the schools for emergency situations. Plans include student evacuation and shelter. Cell phones and radios purchased through funds raised by Belmont's Chamber of Commerce and a City of Belmont grant provide direct links between schools and police. By planning emergency response and teaching skills, Belmont school personnel, students and parents have gained confidence without fear in their ability to achieve security and safety for the children.

The Helen Putnam Award for Excellence program recognizes outstanding cities that deliver the highest quality and level of service in the most effective manner possible.

The award is given annually in 10 categories of: effective advocacy, intergovernmental relations and regional cooperation; housing programs & innovations; enhancing public trust, ethics & community involvement; community services & economic development; planning & environmental quality; internal administration; public safety; public works, infrastructure & transportation; Ruth Vreeland award for engaging youth in city government and League partners award for excellence. Of the 146 nominations submitted in 2005, 27 cities were honored with awards.

Established in 1898, the League of California Cities is a member organization that represents California's incorporated cities. The League strives to protect the local authority and autonomy of city government and help California's cities effectively serve their residents. In addition to advocating on cities' behalf at the state capitol, the League provides its members with professional development programs and information resources, conducts educational conferences and research, and publishes *Western City* magazine.

12/7/2005 City Hall Grand Opening

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 7, 2005

Contact: Jack Crist 650-595-7408

City Hall Grand Opening Ceremony and Council Reorganization Set for December 13

Belmont, CA –

The City of Belmont is pleased to have a Grand Opening for the community to celebrate their new Police Department/City Hall building on Tuesday, December 13 beginning at 5 p.m. “The Grand Opening will begin with tours of City Hall and there will be prizes and refreshments. A short ceremony will follow and then go directly into the City Council meeting and reorganization,” said City Clerk Terri Cook. The public is invited to this ceremony.

The event will begin in the lobby of City Hall at One Twin Pines Lane and will be open for tours from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. There will be a short Ribbon Cutting Ceremony scheduled for 6:30 p.m., which will include the unveiling of the framed version of former City Clerk Jim McLaughlin's poem "Belmont," which was recently adopted as the official poem for Belmont. The City Council will hold its Reorganization meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. During the Reorganization, the City will bid farewell to two outgoing Council Members, Dave Bauer and George Metropulos, and swear in two new Council Members, Bill Dickenson and Warren Lieberman as well as returning Council Member Coralin Feierbach.

The City Council agenda will include the formal certification of the November 8, 2005 election in which 73.43 percent of the voters approved Measure F. The ordinance that Measure F enacted requires voter approval of any future amendments to the zoning ordinances governing the HRO districts, or the General Plan land use designation HROP (which collectively constitute the City's Hillside Development Standards), if such amendments would allow increased development densities in hillside areas. The ceremony will conclude with the installation of the new mayor and vice mayor. A simple reception will follow.

Plans were underway for many years to move the Police out of their old “temporary” facility into a larger and seismically secure building.

In October 2003, Thompson Pacific of San Rafael was awarded the contract for the retrofit, renovation, and expansion of City Hall, in order to make it an essential services building for the Police Department. Harris & Associates of Concord is the Construction Manager, and KMD of San Francisco led the design team on the project.

The Police Department and Permit Center is located on the ground floor and the City now has a dedicated Council Chamber. “You can't imagine how happy I am to see this project completed,” said Mayor Dave Warden, “After 20 years of false starts, we finally have a safe new City Hall and a new Police Station.”

###