

32 Press Releases were issued during 2006, as follows:

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>TITLE:</u>
1/12/2006	Belmont Seeks Commission Openings
1/30/2006	Deadline Extended for Commission Openings
2/21/2006	Carjacking Suspect and Sketch
2/22/2006	Sewer System Improvement
3/7/2006	Library Grand Opening
3/10/2006	Internet Predator Arrested
3/10/2006	Permit Efficiency Task Force
3/10/2006	Finance Certificate of Achievement
3/14/2006	Pedestrian Right of Way Enforcement
3/16/2006	Free Compost for Belmont Residents
3/29/2006	Interim City Manager Named
4/10/2006	Solo Vehicle Collision
4/21/2006	Library Opening
5/2/2006	Fire Season 2006
5/8/2006	Flea Market
5/11/2006	Summer Opportunities in Belmont
5/30/2006	Belameda Park Grand Opening
5/30/2006	Finance Commission Openings
6/20/2006	Belameda Park Saturday Grand Opening
7/19/2006	Belmont Festival
8/11/2006	Belmont Festival in the Park
8/17/2006	Interim City Manager Named
8/25/2006	Web streaming of Council Meetings
9/9/2006	Belmont Police Win CHP Award for Traffic Safety
10/31/2006	Sandbags available for Belmont residents
11/15/2006	Belmont Fire Protection District Assessment
11/16/2006	Automated Inspection Telephone Line
11/21/2006	Belmont's 11th Annual Breakfast with Santa
11/29/2006	Belmont City Hall Holiday Closure
11/29/2006	Jack Crist Named Belmont City Manager
12/5/2006	Belmont Activity Online Registrations
12/11/2006	Streamlined Permit for Photovoltaic System

1/12/2006 Belmont Seeks Commission Openings

## **NEWS**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 12, 2006

**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 27, 2006, and the application is available on the City's website: [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

There are three openings on the Planning Commission for three-year terms expiring March 1, 2009. 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 three openings for adult seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission for two-year terms expiring on March 1, 2008. 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, 2007. Youth members are full voting members of the Commission.

There are two vacancies 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 (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 27. Applicants must live in Belmont. 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.

1/30/2006      Deadline Extended for Commission Openings

# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2006

**CONTACT:** Terri Cook – (650) 595-7413

### **Deadline Extended for Commission Openings**

*Belmont, CA* -- In order to create a larger pool of candidates for its various Commissions, the City of Belmont has extended the deadline to Friday, February 3, 2006, at 5:00 P.M to apply for Planning, Parks and Recreation (Adult and Youth seats), and Finance Commissions. The application form is available on the City's website: [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

"Although the City Council has received new applications for each of the commissions, a number of incumbents are not seeking reappointment, so having a sufficient pool of candidates from which the Council can choose is important," stated City Clerk Terri Cook. "The most critical need is the Planning Commission, which currently has one vacancy due to a resignation in December, and the three incumbents, whose seats are terminating, are not seeking reappointment. Therefore, there will be four vacant seats to fill." Each of the commissions has at least one incumbent who is not seeking reappointment.

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 ([www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov)) or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, February 3. Applicants must live in Belmont.

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

2/21/2006 Carjacking Suspect and Sketch

**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

Type of Incident: **Robbery Suspect**

Case #: 0602-0897

Location: Belmont and San Bruno

Date: February 14, 2006 Time: Afternoon

---

**EVENT**

Police detectives from San Mateo PD, Belmont PD and San Bruno PD are working with investigators from the FBI to identify a man thought to be linked to a string of robberies on the Peninsula last week. The first incident occurred in the early afternoon when a Redwood City woman was carjacked at gunpoint in the 300 block of Oxford Way in Belmont. The same assailant later used that that stolen Mercury Sable during a robbery at a gun store in San Bruno where a shotgun was stolen. The stolen car was recovered the next day in Millbrae.

The same suspect is also thought to be responsible for the bank robbery that occurred the same day at the US Bank in San Mateo.

In each case the suspect is described as a white male in his 20's, unshaven, 5'8"- 6'0", medium build. Police are releasing a sketch of the suspect wearing a baseball cap backward, as he did in the San Mateo and San Bruno case. In the Belmont case he did not wear a cap and was described as having short brown hair.

Investigators consider this man armed and dangerous. Anyone with information about his identity should contact and one of the following detectives:

Belmont PD

Det. Tony Psaila

650-595-7400

San Bruno PD

Det. Sgt. Tim Mahon

650-616-7100

San Mateo PD

Det. Steve Robinson

650-522-7663

A tip line is also available for anonymous reports at 650-598-3000.

[Copies of the sketch](#) can be obtained by accessing the City of Belmont web page at [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) and going to the *press release* section.

By: Det. Sgt. Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 02/21/06 Time: 1700 hrs

Authorized By: Capt. Ed Wood  
Date: 02/21/06 Time: 1730 hrs

2/22/2006 Sewer System Improvement

Press Release

Contact: Thomas Fil  
Phone: (650) 595-7435  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 21, 2006

**CITY OF BELMONT RAISES FUNDS FOR SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

Belmont, California - February 21, 2006 - On Wednesday, February 15, 2006, the City of Belmont sold \$7.5 million of revenue bonds to fund improvements to the City's sewer system. The issue was sold at an average interest rate of less than 4.35% to Wells Fargo Brokerage Services. Proceeds of the issue will be used to construct improvements to the City's sewer system, including rehabilitation of the system's collection pipelines and pump stations. The improvements will lessen the intrusion of storm water during rainy periods and should produce cost savings to the City's more than 8,300 customers.

"We were delighted with the extremely low rates offered on these bonds, and believe that those rates are clear indications that the credit markets believe in the sound financial operations, stable economy and quality of the management here in Belmont," said Thomas Fil, Belmont's Finance Director. "Not only were the rates very attractive, but there were five different investment firms actively bidding for the bonds," he continued.

Wells Fargo Brokerage Services has reoffered the bonds to the public at yields ranging from 3.15% in the year 2007, to 4.48% in the year 2035, the last year of the loan.

The bonds are repayable from the fees that the City charges its customers for sewer service, and have no claim on other assets of the City. The City last raised sewer rates in July 2005.

3/7/2006 Library Grand Opening

# NEWS

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 7, 2006

**CONTACT:**Nawel Voelker(650) 595-7433

### *Library Grand Opening-Saturday, April 29, 2006*

*Belmont, CA--*On Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, the entire community is encouraged to celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Belmont Library and Belameda Park.

Some of the features of the new Library and Park are a 20,000 square foot building, including a technology center, homework centers, over 65 computers, playground, a children's story time center, an outside courtyard and a small café.

The event will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony, Mayor's speech, entertainment, refreshments, and, most importantly, the Library's first day of service to the community!

Mayor Phil Mathewson quotes, "This is a great and very successful public-private partnership. After being rejected for funding by the State, the citizens of Belmont have really pulled together, along with private donations, to make this Library a reality. The City of Belmont has outdone itself in its endeavor to provide an outstanding Library and Park for the community, especially one that has been completed as promised."

Please join the City of Belmont and the San Mateo County Library in this special event. Doors will open for business on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 9:30am. The Library and Park are located at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas.

3/10/2006 Internet Predator Arrested

## PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

---

Type of Incident: **Internet Predator Arrested** Case #: 0603-0552  
Location: City of Belmont Date: March 10, 2006 Time: 0700 hrs  
Arrestee: Nilesh "Nick" Govind 28 yrs San Carlos  
Charges: 664/288 (c) (1) PC - Attempt lewd act with a minor

---

### EVENT

Investigators from the Belmont Police Department set up a sting operation in the early morning hours that resulted in the arrest of a San Carlos man (Nilesh Govind) who had arranged over the internet to exchange money for specific sex acts with a person whom he thought was a 15 year old girl. Fortunately, the person he was exchanging emails with was actually a Belmont PD investigator who was tipped off to the predator's craigslist ad by a local parent earlier in the week. That ad offered money for high school girls willing to meet with the 28 year old man and be his "girlfriend" for an hour.

Govind has no known prior arrests and is not a registered sexual offender. Govind was booked into San Mateo County jail on the above charges. "This should serve as a reminder to all parents to diligently monitor their children and their computer habits. We are fortunate that our investigators were able to step in and catch this predator before he could victimize our community," said Captain Ed Wood.

By: Det. Sgt. Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 03/10/06 Time: 1230 hrs

Authorized By: Capt. Ed Wood  
Date: 03/10/06 Time: 1230 hrs

3/10/2006 Permit Efficiency Task Force

NEWS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2006

CONTACT: Carlos de Melo (650) 595-7440

Permit Efficiency Task Force Implementation

Belmont, CA – The City of Belmont is implementing the first round of its Permit Efficiency Task Force (PETF) recommendations. This task force developed a series of recommendations over the course of six months of study in the summer and fall of 2005, concluding with City Council direction to implement various components of the study to improve the City's development review process and customer service efforts.

The first three recommendations that have been implemented are as follows:

- The "Availability of Appointments with Senior Planning Staff & City Officials" - this reinforces the already-occurring opportunity for appointments to be scheduled with the Community Development Director and other City Officials (as necessary) to discuss potential complex, controversial, or high-profile projects prior to an applicant assembling the required checklisted information for such projects. The intent of the meeting(s) is to identify potential policy implications and early guidance at the outset of the development review process.
- The "Opportunity for Scheduling Optional Pre-Application Meetings" - this will allow applicants to meet with staff when they are assembling project materials to have a "check-in" to confirm direction/progress on application requirements prior to submittal to the City. This meeting is necessitated for development review applications that are defined as a complex project (i.e. new commercial/industrial building or residential subdivision), new single or duplex dwelling project, or if the project is located within the City's HRO-2 (Hillside Residential/Open Space) District.
- The scheduling of "Building/Zoning Seminars" - These workshops, designed for the owner-builder, would focus on the entitlement aspects of construction starting with the planning process for Single Family Design Review, assembling the documents necessary for obtaining a building permit, and continuing through to the required inspections as the construction project evolves. The seminars would give a potential applicant an opportunity to learn about the City's development review requirements, provide handouts of printed materials, and offer tips/guidance from City Staff. Staff expects the seminars to be conducted on a twice-yearly basis, with the first one occurring in Summer (July) 2006.

Subsequent PETF recommendations will be “rolled out” within the coming months, which will include clarified checklist information for project submittals, improved handout materials, and streamlined “application packets” for distribution to the customer.

For further information regarding the Permit Efficiency Task Force recommendations and implementation timelines please contact Carlos de Melo, Community Development Director, at (650) 595-7440, or Mark Nolfi, Chief Building Official, at (650) 595-7422.

# NEWS

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 9, 2006

**CONTACT:** Thomas Fil (650) 595-7433

### **Belmont Finance Department Awarded**

#### **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**

*Belmont, CA* – A certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the **Finance Department of the City of Belmont** by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial GFOA panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 16,000 government finance professionals, with offices in Chicago IL and Washington DC.

Finance Director Thomas Fil states that this is the eighth consecutive year that the City of Belmont has received this prestigious award.

3/14/2006 Pedestrian Right of Way Enforcement

## Press Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

**DATE: CONTACT:**

**3/14/06 Officer Pete Lotti (650) 595-7400**

*Pedestrian Right-of-Way Enforcement*

On Wednesday, March 15, between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. the Belmont Police Department will undertake a cooperative effort focusing on pedestrian safety by conducting pedestrian decoy enforcement.

“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 Lotti. “The officers involved in the enforcement will use this opportunity to educate the driving public about pedestrian rights of way, and related traffic laws,” Lotti continued.

The police department will be monitoring driver compliance as city volunteers cross the roadway in marked crosswalks. The pedestrian decoy enforcement will be held in the area of Ralston at Villa Avenue and in the area of the 1000 block of Alameda De Las Pulgas in Belmont. There will also be enforcement on Ralston Avenue at Elmer Street in Belmont, and possibly in the 1500 block of El Camino Real.

For additional information or questions contact Traffic Officer Pete Lotti at (650) 595-7400.

By: Traffic Officer Pete Lotti

Date: 3-14-2006 Time: 0900 hours

Authorized By: Sergeant Patrick Halleran

Date: 3-14-2006 Time: 0900

3/16/2006 Free Compost for Belmont Residents

# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2006

**CONTACT: Diane Van Zant 650.595-7460**

### **Prepare Your Garden for Spring with Free Compost**

*Belmont, CA* – It's springtime, and that means gardening. Back by popular demand, [RethinkWaste.org](http://RethinkWaste.org), Allied Waste and the City of Belmont teamed up to give away compost on Saturday, April 1, 2006. The compost is made from yard trimmings, which make up more than half of California's municipal waste, collected at the curb, and composted at a local composting facility. Residents may take up to 1 cubic yard of compost (about six full garbage cans) at no charge at the Belmont City Hall/Twin Pines Parking Lot between 8 AM and 12 PM as long as the supply lasts. The compost is ideally used as an amendment to enrich soil for lawns, gardens, ornamental plants, trees, and potted plants.

Composting, nature's way of recycling, is the controlled decomposition of organic material such as leaves, twigs, grass clippings, and vegetable food scraps. "Compost" is the valuable, nutrient-rich soil product that results from proper composting. Composting helps to keep the high volume of organic material out of our landfills and turns that material into a useful product.

Proper management of yard trimmings reduces the nutrient runoff to wetlands and the Bay, thereby promoting better water quality. Additionally, by applying compost to yards, we are putting organic resources into our soil, providing a non-chemical alternative to fertilizers.

Not only is curbside yard trimming collection available to residents for large-scale composting, but also backyard and worm composting are additional options. Free home composting workshops and reduced-priced bins are available through RecycleWorks, a program of the County of San Mateo.

Belmont residents are reminded to bring shovels, gloves, containers and proof of Belmont residency.

About RethinkWaste.org: The South Bayside Waste Management Authority/RethinkWaste.org is a regional agency, formed in 1982 to help local communities manage and reduce waste.

3/29/2006 Interim City Manager Named

# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2006

**CONTACT:** Joni Stallings – (650) 595-7408

### **Maureen Cassingham Named Interim City Manager**

#### ***Belmont, CA --***

The City Council announced last night, March 27, that they have selected Maureen Cassingham as the new Interim City Manager, taking over for Jack Crist, whose last day is March 29. Jack has served as Interim City Manager for the past year and is embarking with his wife on a six-month cross-country trip in his fifth-wheel RV.

Cassingham served as the City Manager for Los Altos Hills for the past five years. She has also been City Manager in Lafayette and Villa Park in Orange County, and Interim Assistant City Manager for City of Pittsburg. Cassingham served as the executive director of the Cal State Hayward Foundation and the associate director of the World Affairs Council of Northern California.

“We are all excited to have Maureen on board. The Council thinks she will be a good fit for our organization and help keep things moving forward” said Mayor Phil Mathewson.

Ms. Cassingham will begin in Belmont on Friday, March 31 and is expected to serve as Interim City Manager until August or when a permanent City Manager is named.

4/10/2006 Solo Vehicle Collision

## NEWS

Type of Incident: **Solo Vehicle Collision - Fatality**

Case #: 0604-0568

Location: 1300 blk Ralston Ave, Belmont

Date: 4/10/06 Time: 0945hrs

---

### EVENT

On Monday, April 10, 2006 @ approx. 9:45AM, Belmont Police and South County Fire responded to a report of a vehicle which had crashed through the fence of a residence in the 1300 blk of Ralston Ave. Upon arrival, Officers found a white, 1984 Mercedes 190 sedan in the backyard of the residence. Officers found an unresponsive elderly female in the driver's seat. In spite of resuscitation efforts by both Police and Fire personnel, the victim age 93 yrs of San Carlos, was pronounced deceased at the scene. The name of the victim is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The cause of the collision is under investigation, but the following is known at this time. The victim was visiting a residence in the 800 blk of Miramar Terrace. Her vehicle went off the end of the driveway at the rear of the residence and down the hillside behind the property. The vehicle traveled approx. 375' down the hillside and came to rest in the rear yard of the residence on Ralston Ave. No one else was injured in the collision. The vehicle was removed from the property at approx. 1:45PM.

By: Sergeant Patrick Halleran  
Halleran

Authorized By: Sergeant Patrick

Date: 4/10/06 Time: 1530hrs

Date: 4/10/06 Time: 1530hrs

4/21/2006 Library Opening

## NEWS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 21, 2006

**CONTACT:** Nawel Voelker (650) 595-7433

### **Library Grand Opening - Saturday, April 29, 2006.**

The entire community is encouraged to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Belmont Library next Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>!

The new Library features a 20,000 square foot building, including a technology center, homework centers, over 65 computers, playground, a children's story time center, an outside courtyard and a small café.

The event will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony, Mayor's speech, entertainment, refreshments, and, most importantly, the Library's first day of service to the community!

Please join the City of Belmont and the San Mateo County Library in this special event. The ceremony will begin at 9:30 AM on Saturday, April 29, 2006 and doors will open for business at 10:00 AM, with events such as continuous Library tours, children's' story times, and musical entertainment planned throughout the day and through Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, as well. The Library is located at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas.

5/2/2006 Fire Season 2006

*NEWS RELEASE*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 2, 2006**

**CONTACT: Fire Marshal, Jim Palisi (650) 802-4255**

**South County Fire Protection Authority**

600 Elm Street  
San Carlos, Ca 94070-1309  
(650) 802-4255 Fax (650) 592-4714

**FIRE SEASON 2006**

FIRE SEASON.....it's rapidly approaching! With meteorological indicators suggesting a hot and dry summer the fire danger this year is very worrisome. As we do every year, the South County Fire Authority is urging Belmont and San Carlos residents to clear brush and grasses to a minimum of 30-ft to 100-ft from their homes, as to create a defensible space. The break should not be to bare dirt.

Mowing grasses and weeds 4"-6" inches in height will reduce the hazardous fuels and reduce the spread of wildfires. Low growing fire resistant vegetation is also encouraged to be planted around the home. Removing dead and dryer brush around the home should be done in the same fashion as with the grasses. Removing dead and dying tree limbs six to eight feet from the ground should also be done to create this defensible space. Removing pine needles and other debris from your roof and gutters is also a critical measure in protecting your home from a fire.

The South County Fire Authority will be out in force this fire season inspecting homes to make sure they are complying with Local and State Fire Codes, which call for structures to have a 30-ft minimum clearance from hazardous and combustible vegetation. Please contact the South County Fire Authority for any information regarding wildfire awareness and creating a defensible space around your home at

(650)802-4255. Also, all residents should be aware that fireworks are illegal in The City of Belmont and San Carlos, including the fireworks advertised as safe and sane.

5/8/2006 Flea Market

## NEWS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 8, 2006

**CONTACT:** Mary Doherty – 595-7439

*Annual Flea Market in Belmont*

*Belmont, CA* - Unique shopping alert! The annual Belmont Flea Market at Barrett Community Center field, 1870 Ralston Ave in Belmont is almost here. This event, hosted by Belmont Parks & Recreation Department, will be held from 9:00 am – 2:30pm on Saturday, June 3rd with free admission. Buyers mark your calendars for this not-to-be-missed event! “It’s always a great opportunity to find a treasure” says regular Flea Market attender, Karen Leonoudakis.

Of course you also get to benefit our environment, as we try to recycle one man’s trash into another man’s treasure, rather than going to the dump!

There are still a few spaces available for vendors. Take the opportunity to clean out and clean up. You get to make space for yourself, get some money for a trip, or those new items you’ve been eyeing, as well as let someone else enjoy something that’s just taking up space at your home. Call Parks and Recreation at (650) 595-7441 for the application, or see your new Summer Activities Guide

5/11/2006 Summer Opportunities in Belmont

## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2006

**CONTACT:** Mary Doherty – 595-7439

#### Summer Opportunities in Belmont

*Belmont, CA* - As the days get more beautiful, and you think of summer, remember all the fun activities hosted by Belmont Parks & Recreation Department to help make your summer fun and memorable. Besides our creative, energetic staff that make our Day Camp, Young Explorers and pool program the essence of summer, we have many new and returning camps and classes. For Parent/child interactive classes, we have Mommy/Daddy and me Yoga (ages 3-5), or Messy Art or Messy Science (ages 2-6). Our Family Treasure Hike introduces you to the fun new hobby, geocaching, with an expert guide and gets family members hiking together. Our popular Babysitting class returns to give your or see your 12-18 year old some skills and possible job opportunity. Some of our new camps we've brought to Belmont are 'Stomp' style rhythm and instrument Music camp, or Rocking to the 50's. Our new drama program includes Acting Playground (ages 6-8 or 8-12) and Drama Kazam, as well as a Theater games class the week school gets out! We have our Visual Arts Camp returning every week, with rotating instructors. Many sports camps include our new Lacrosse or Volleyball camp in July, as well as Baseball, Dance, Gymnastics, Ice Skating, Rock Climbing, Sports, Soccer Camps.

For Adults, we have new opportunities with Feng Shui (Remodeling home), Go After Your Dream (reviews available in our office), Mixed Martial Arts, Photography, Sports Performance Mindset, Boxing, Fencing, Tennis, fitness and dance classes, taught by outstanding instructors. Even more opportunities for Adults over 55 such as Safety Day, Variety show and many other ongoing programs, fitness, music and others. Try something new, or come back for some old favorites, but get out and get moving this summer! Don't forget our upcoming Flea Market, Summer Concerts, Pasta and Pirate fundraiser for Senior Services and Adult Softball leagues. For more information check your new Summer Activities Guide or call us at (650) 595-7441.

5/30/2006 Belameda Park Grand Opening

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 30, 2006

**CONTACT:**Thomas Fil- (650) 595-7435

## **Belameda Park Grand Opening - Saturday, June 24, 2006**

On Saturday, June 24th, the entire community is encouraged to celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Belameda Park at 10:00am.

Some of the features of the new Park are beautiful landscaping, a playground, picnic tables and benches, a BBQ pit, and paved pathways circling the Library Building, all surrounded by Belmont's historical Oak Trees.

The event will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony, Mayor's speech and light refreshments.

Please join the City of Belmont in this special event for the community. The Park is located at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas.

5/30/2006 Finance Commission Openings

## **NEWS**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 30, 2006

**CONTACT:**Terri Cook, City Clerk – (650) 595-7413

### **BELMONT SEEKING FINANCE COMMISSION APPLICANTS**

The City of Belmont is currently recruiting residents interested in serving the City's Finance Commission. The seven-member 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. A background in finance or accounting is helpful and recommended, but not required. Applicants must be residents of Belmont.

There are currently two vacancies to fill. For additional information on the duties of the Finance Commission, or the Budget process, please contact Thomas Fil, Finance Director at (650) 595-7435. To receive an application, please contact the City Clerk's office at (650) 595-7413, or visit the City's website at [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov). The deadline for application is 5:00 p.m. Friday, June 30. Interviews with the City Council will be held in early or mid-July.

6/20/2006 Belameda Park Saturday Grand Opening

## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 20, 2006

**CONTACT:** Thomas Fil - (650) 595-7435

### **Belameda Park Grand Opening - Saturday, June 24, 2006**

*Belmont, CA* – Hey Kids-there's a new park in town!!! Join us Saturday, June 24th, to celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Belameda Park at 10:00am.

The beautiful new park adjacent to the new library is ready for play and features an awesome new playground, beautiful landscaping, picnic tables and benches, a BBQ pit, and paved pathways circling the Library Building.

The event will feature a ribbon cutting ceremony, balloons, entertainment from 10-11 a.m. and FREE refreshments.

Please join the City of Belmont in this special event for the community. The Park is located at 1110 Alameda de las Pulgas.

7/19/2006 Belmont Festival

## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2006

**CONTACT:** Mary Doherty – (650) 595-7441

Chamber of Commerce – (650) 595-8696

### **Save the NEW dates for the Belmont Festival – September 30, October 1**

*Belmont, CA* – The City of Belmont and the Belmont Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to participate in our 2nd annual Belmont Festival in the Park. This unique event has blended the 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 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1st in beautiful Twin Pines Park, Twin Pines Lane off Ralston Avenue in Belmont. The festival hours are Saturday and Sunday from 10:00-5:00. Through this partnership, we are 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 expanding the festival further into the Park and adding a 'green component' that will emphasize new ways to recycle, reduce waste and conserve energy.

The Belmont Festival will feature over 100 vendors, including artists, local businesses and non-profit organizations, as well as the popular pet parade, chili cook-off, games, climbing wall and non-stop musical performances (including steel drums!) , new food vendors and much more! Our city residents turn out in force to enjoy the entertainment and shop for unique and creative items, play games with the children as well as gather with friends and neighbors.

For business, 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 have business promotion booths for Chamber and non-Chamber members this year! Please visit our website at [www.belmontchamber.org](http://www.belmontchamber.org) or call us at 650-595-8696 for sponsorship and booth information.

It's a great time to join with us. 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 30<sup>th</sup> & October 1st 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](http://www.belmontchamber.org).

8/11/2006 Belmont Festival in the Park

## NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Diane Griest, Ph.D., APR

Belmont Chamber of Commerce  
(650) 595-8696

August 11, 2006

**Belmont Festival in the Park** offers weekend fun for everyone Saturday and Sunday, September 30 & October 1 at Twin Pines Park (Ralston & 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues, Belmont) from 10 am. to 5 p.m. Browse through over 100 booths and displays from artists, craftsmen, businesses and non-profit organizations. Enjoy a children's interactive play area, the Scholastic Book Fair, the popular pet parade, climbing wall, jump houses, game booths, and so much more! Delight in the musical performance entertainment -- including Pan Montuno Steel Drum Band and The Jack Aces band. And, check out our newest feature: We're "greening the Festival" with natural/organic products and information on reuse and recycling.

Hungry? Please your palate with a terrific variety of food selections, wine, margaritas and salsa, fresh popcorn, root beer floats, snow cones and all the traditional festival foods. Sunday, get ready for the famous **Chili Cook-off** where you can begin tasting at 12:30 p.m. The chili is prepared by several teams of chefs determined to make their chili the 'Best of the Fest'.

### **Special times:**

Pet Parade, noon, Saturday

Chili Cook-off, 12:30 pm Sunday

The City of Belmont and the Belmont Chamber of Commerce co-sponsor this event in a partnership that now offers a wider variety of entertainment and delights than ever before. Whether 8 or 80, you'll find fun for attendees of all ages!

Thanks are extended to our **major sponsors:**

**Platinum level:** Mid-Peninsula Water District;

**Silver level:** Allied Waste Systems, Autobahn Motors, Charles Armstrong School,  
NORCAL Waste Systems, Provident Credit Union,  
Skylawn/Chapel of the Chimes, Vivace Restaurant.

**Bronze level:** Crippen & Flynn Carlmont Chapel, John Robert Powers Modeling Agency  
and Sequoia Hospital.

Join us in Belmont for this special opportunity to shop for unique and creative items, play games with the children, savor the food, and gather with friends and neighbors. It's the perfect setting to participate in end-of-summer activities you'll remember!

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

8/17/2006 Interim City Manager Named

.

## **NEWS**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 17, 2006

**CONTACT:** Joni Stallings-(650)595-7408

### **Terrence Belanger Named Interim City Manager**

**Belmont, CA** -- The City Council announced last night, August 16, 2006, that it has selected Terrence Belanger as the City of Belmont's new Interim City Manager. Mr. Belanger is taking over from Maureen Cassingham, whose last day was July 31st. Maureen served as Interim City Manager for four months.

Mr. Belanger served as the City Manager for Yorba Linda, California, until he retired in November 2004. He has also been City Manager in Diamond Bar, Rolling Hills and Brea. He recently served as the Interim City Manager for City of Calimesa, from September 2005 through December 2005. Mr. Belanger has also served in various staff and department head positions in Union City, Costa Mesa, Brea, Pasadena and Diamond Bar.

"We are all excited to have Terry on board. The Council thinks he will be a good fit for our organization. He will assist in the search/recruitment of a permanent City Manager and several other important issues that the Council would like to have completed. We expect him to keep things moving forward" said Mayor Phil Mathewson.

Mr. Belanger began working for Belmont on Monday, August 14th. He is expected to serve as Interim City Manager until December or until a permanent City Manager is named

8/25/2006 Webstreaming of Council Meetings

## NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2006

CONTACT: Valerie Harnish – (650) 595-7446

### BELMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS LIVE ON THE WEB

Beginning with the August 8th City Council meeting, citizens can now watch Belmont City Council meetings live over the Internet, or access past archived meetings at their own convenience.

From the City's homepage [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) by clicking on "Live City Council Webstream", citizens will have the ability to watch live webstream video of the Council meetings from their computers, even if they are out of town. Valerie Harnish, Information Services Manager states, "While the meetings will continue to air on Cable Channel 27, this opens access to our public meetings to many of our citizens who may not have access to channel 27. During the live webcast the meeting agenda item currently under discussion is listed directly below the screen."

By the afternoon following the meeting, the video will be archived for a year, thus giving web visitors 24 x 7 access to meeting information. The archived videos are available on-demand. Citizens will be able to view specific portions of council meetings by clicking on selected agenda items and going directly to that portion of the meeting. The streaming video viewer is like a regular video player, there are features that allow for fast forward to a particular item of interest. This will be a very helpful tool for anyone who is interested in what's happening in Belmont's City Government.

To access internet meetings from the City's website, computers need to be running Windows 2000 or XP with 256 mb ram minimum, Quicktime™ viewer 6.1 or newer, 2.0 MHz processor, sound card, and a high speed internet connection. Computers below these specifications or using dial up connections still have the ability to connect to the meeting and listen to the audio portion of the meeting.

9/9/2006 Belmont Police Win CHP Award for Traffic Safety

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

September 8, 2006 CONTACT: Sergeant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7400

***Belmont Police Win CHP Award For Traffic Safety***

*Belmont, CA --*

The Belmont Police Department has been awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 2005 California Highway Patrol – Law Enforcement Challenge, for police departments of 26-50 sworn officers.

The California Law Enforcement Challenge is a competition between similar sizes and types of law enforcement agencies. It recognizes and rewards the best overall traffic safety programs in California . The areas of concentration include efforts to enforce laws and educate the public about occupant protection, impaired driving, and speeding. Agencies submit an application (usually in a three ring or presentation binder) which documents their efforts and effectiveness in these areas. The winning safety programs are those that combine officer training, public information and enforcement to reduce crashes and injuries within its jurisdiction.

“We are very proud to win this award, which would not have been possible without the hard work by the men and women of this department” said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. “Traffic is a significant community issue and our officers work very hard to proactively address problems” Mattei added.

The work on Belmont’s submission to the Challenge, was completed by Traffic Officer Peter Lotti. Ofc. Lotti and Chief Mattei attended an awards ceremony yesterday in Sacramento, where Belmont’s award was presented by CHP Commissioner Michael Brown.

10/31/2006 Sandbags available for Belmont residents

# Notice

October 31, 2006

CONTACT: Department of Public Works – (650) 595-7427

## Sandbags available for Belmont Residents

The Belmont Public Works Department is providing a limited supply of filled sandbags for residents. The sandbags may be picked up at the following location 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- Outside the Corporation Yard (110 Sem Lane) under covered shelter.

Residents, particularly those who live in areas that regularly experience some flooding, are strongly encouraged to pick up sandbags to ensure they are prepared for possible flooding.

**Residents may obtain up to 12 bags per Belmont address.**

Sandbag information can also be found on the City's website at [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov).

Public Works staff has the following suggestions for residents to prepare for the rainy season:

- ✓ Clean gutters and down spouts to assure proper water run off away from the home.
- ✓ Do not block the gutters, creeks, drainage canals, or catch basins with trash or debris.
- ✓ Store unused sand bags in a dry or covered area. Sandbags are not watertight and will absorb water. This makes them very difficult to move when wet.
- ✓ Trim vegetation back from curbs and gutters and use the BFI yard waste can for leaves to help keep drain inlets clear during the rainy season.
- ✓ Contact the Public Works Department at 595-7427 if you observe any significant blockage of leaves or other debris in gutters, creeks, or drainage canals.

11/15/2006 Belmont Fire Protection District Assessment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2006

CONTACT: Terry Belanger – (650) 595-7408

Thomas Fil – (650) 595-7435

Belmont Fire Protection District Assessment Ballot Fails

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Fire Protection District Assessment Ballot was not successful. The District has been conducting a property owner assessment election which commenced on September 29 and ended on November 14, 2006.

The voting was by mail-in ballot, from the property owners within the Belmont Fire Protection District. The counting of ballots began at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 15. The counting of the ballots concluded a short time ago.

The success or failure of the assessment is determined by the total property value voting for and the total property value voting against the measure. The following are the results of the assessment election:

Number of ballots submitted = 3335

Those voting YES by property value = \$195,901.47, which represents 41% of the value of the property owners voting.

Those voting NO by property value = \$276,769.45, which represents 59% of the value of the property owners voting.

This means that the Fire Protection District assessment will not proceed as the majority of votes protested imposition of the assessment. Ironically, strictly based on the number of ballots submitted, 1,920 property owners voted YES (58%) and 1,387 property owners voted NO (42%).

Those interested in learning more about the results of this assessment election should contact Terry Belanger, Interim City Manager, or Thomas Fil, Finance Director.

Monday, December 11, 2006

CONTACT: Mark Nolfi – (650) 595-7450

### **Belmont Permit Center Streamlines & Reduces Fees For Photovoltaic System Permits**

The Belmont Permit Center has streamlined the permit process for the installation of a photovoltaic system. A typical photovoltaic installation involves the roof mounting of modules called “arrays” that convert sunlight to electrical current. An inverter then changes the direct current from the arrays to alternating current. This “surplus of current” can typically offset residential and commercial electricity consumption needs for a building, resulting in cost savings to the property owner over time. A photovoltaic installation is subject to the requirements of both the electrical and building codes, which are established by the State of California.

Belmont has outlined the State requirements in a handout, which is available at the Permit Center. If an applicant provides the necessary information to confirm their project will meet those requirements, a building permit is issued on the first visit. This has allowed fees to be lowered to cover a minimum amount of time to plan check, inspect and administer the project. For a typical photovoltaic installation, the fee is \$370.00. This cost is comparable to the lower 25% tier of Bay Area cities permitting fees.

For more information contact Mark Nolfi, Building Official, at (650) 595-7450.

12/5/2006 Belmont Activity Online Registrations

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2006

CONTACT: Grace Saggau (650) 595-7470

Belmont Winter/Spring Activity Guide

Introduces Online Registrations:

200 Activities and Programs for All Ages

Featured In Latest Guide

You can now sign up Online for Belmont Parks & Recreation programs, classes and activities. With just a few clicks of the mouse, Belmont residents can register day or night for Winter/Spring recreation classes that offered by the City of Belmont's Parks and Recreation Department

Read class descriptions, register and pay for preschool classes, adult dance lessons, health and fitness activities, senior programs and much more. Register at your convenience from any computer connected to the Internet - registration is available now 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To use the online registration option, look for the "Recreation Activities" link on the Belmont City website (<http://www.belmont.gov/index.asp>), or go directly to the registration site at:

<http://activenet4.active.com/belmontparksandrecreation/>.

The Belmont Parks and Recreation Department offers 200 classes per season including art, dance, music, sports, fitness, cooking and educational topics. A complete list of Winter/Spring classes can be found in the Belmont Parks and Recreation Department's Winter/Spring Guide to Activities and Programs, which was mailed to all Belmont residents and distributed to City of Belmont community centers and the Belmont Library. The Winter/Spring recreation class schedule can also be viewed online at:

<http://www.belmont.gov/subContent.asp?CatId=240000217>.

In addition to the new online system, Belmont's Parks and Recreation classes are still available for registration by mail or fax. Registration is also available in person at the Parks and Recreation offices at 30 Twin Pines Lane starting Dec. 15th.

11/29/2006 Belmont City Hall Holiday Closure

## **Notice**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 29, 2006

**CONTACT:** Terry Belanger – (650) 595-7408

### **Belmont City Hall to Close**

***Belmont, CA--City administrative offices will be shut down from December 25 through January 1. The following offices will be completely closed:***

- **City Clerk**
- **City Manager**
- **Community Development**
- **Finance (including business licenses)**
- **Human Resources**
- **Information Services**
- **PermitCenter(including building inspections)**
- **Recreation Administration**

***Police will be fully operational. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For other Police matters, please call 595-7400. Parks and Public Works crews will be on duty but administrative staff will not. For Park or Public Works emergencies, call 595-7400. The Belmont Senior and Community Center will be closed during this week, and the Belmont Community Learning Center (Day Care) will remain open on its regular holiday schedule.***

11/29/2006 Jack Crist Named Belmont City Manager

# NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 29, 2006

CONTACT: Terry Belanger – (650) 595-7408

## **Jack Crist Named Belmont City Manager**

*Belmont, CA --*

The City Council announced Tuesday night, November 28, 2006, that they have selected Jack Crist as Belmont's permanent City Manager. The permanent position has been filled with interim City Manager's since Jere Kersnar left in 2005.

Crist was interim City Manager for Belmont from May 2005 until March 2006.

Previously, Crist was City Manager in Modesto after serving in that position for four years. Prior to his time in Modesto, Crist was Deputy City Manager in Sacramento for fourteen years. He was also the Finance Director for Sacramento for ten years.

"Jack is back!" said outgoing Mayor Phil Mathewson, "We are thrilled to have Jack back in Belmont. He is someone who will be able to jump right back in the saddle."

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. To the Belmont City Council last night Crist said, "My last tour here was the highlight of my career."

Crist will start in Belmont on January 8, 2007.

11/21/2006 Belmont's 11th Annual Breakfast with Santa

# NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2006

CONTACT: Grace Saggau (650) 595-7470

## **Belmont's 11th Annual Breakfast with Santa**

*Belmont, CA* - The City of Belmont Parks & Recreation Department would like to invite you to participate in the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Breakfast with Santa event to be held on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Twin Pines Senior and Community Center. All ages are welcome to participate and pre-registration is required, as the event does fill up. The event will begin at 10am, though doors will open at 9:45am to allow kids more time to eat. Children under 10 will get their picture taken with Santa, and receive a gift from him. We will have the marvelous magician, David Wilson formerly of Romper Room, to entertain kids and adults alike with his dramatic show. The Teri Nash dancers will perform some of their delightful dances before David takes the stage.

The week before and during the event we'll also be collecting gently used coats and jackets for men, women and children to be donated to local agencies that give them to people in need. We also request you bring canned food to fill the Second Harvest bins for distribution to local people in need. This is our 3rd year to run the "One Warm Coat" drive and canned food for the Second Harvest food collection.

For more information on these events, check out the new Winter/Spring Activity Guide, on its way to your home, or call the Belmont Parks & Recreation Department at 650-595-7441

11/16/2006 Automated Inspection Telephone Line

## NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2006

CONTACT: Mark Nolfi – (650) 595-7450 Valerie Harnish– (650) 595-7446

### **Implementation of Automated Inspection Telephone Line**

The Belmont Permit Center has implemented an automated inspection telephone line for the scheduling of inspections with the Building, Planning and Public Works Departments. The interactive voice response system gives property owners and contractors the freedom to schedule inspections 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The system has been well received and gives users the option of speaking with a “live” person during regular business hours if they so desire.

The interactive voice response system is the first of three “eVision” communication modules designed by Tele-Works, Inc. that the City will implement over the coming months. The other two modules are “*Automated Citizen Information System (ACIS)*” and “*First Responder*”.

*ACIS* is a module that allows citizen access to general information or to respond to current issues. This module organizes City programs and services in an information index; this call center will allow citizens to report non-emergency conditions, receive topical information or respond to a survey. Access to this module will be through any communication device (phone, web/email, TDD/TTY, fax, PDA). *ACIS* has a mechanism to contact and update the citizen on the status of their request or concern.

*First Responder* is a communication tool capable of sending coordinated audio information in the same manner as *ACIS*. This module contains two components, *SelectAlert* and *Web Broadcast*.

- *SelectAlert* is a personal alert and subscription manager for citizens, business owners and clients of the City. Subscribers can select if they would like notification from the City and how they would want that notice delivered. *SelectAlert* organizes these preferences automatically and the City determines the content and timing of the delivery.
- *Web Broadcast* is a subscription service that can publish information and news notices to the City’s website and send out to a customer’s RSS-based desktop alert. It can be used for community outreach, emergency alerts, delinquent account notification or public polling.

For more information on any of these new City services, you may contact Valerie Harnish, Information Services Manager, at (650) 595-7446 or Mark Nolfi, Chief Building Official, at (650) 595-7450.