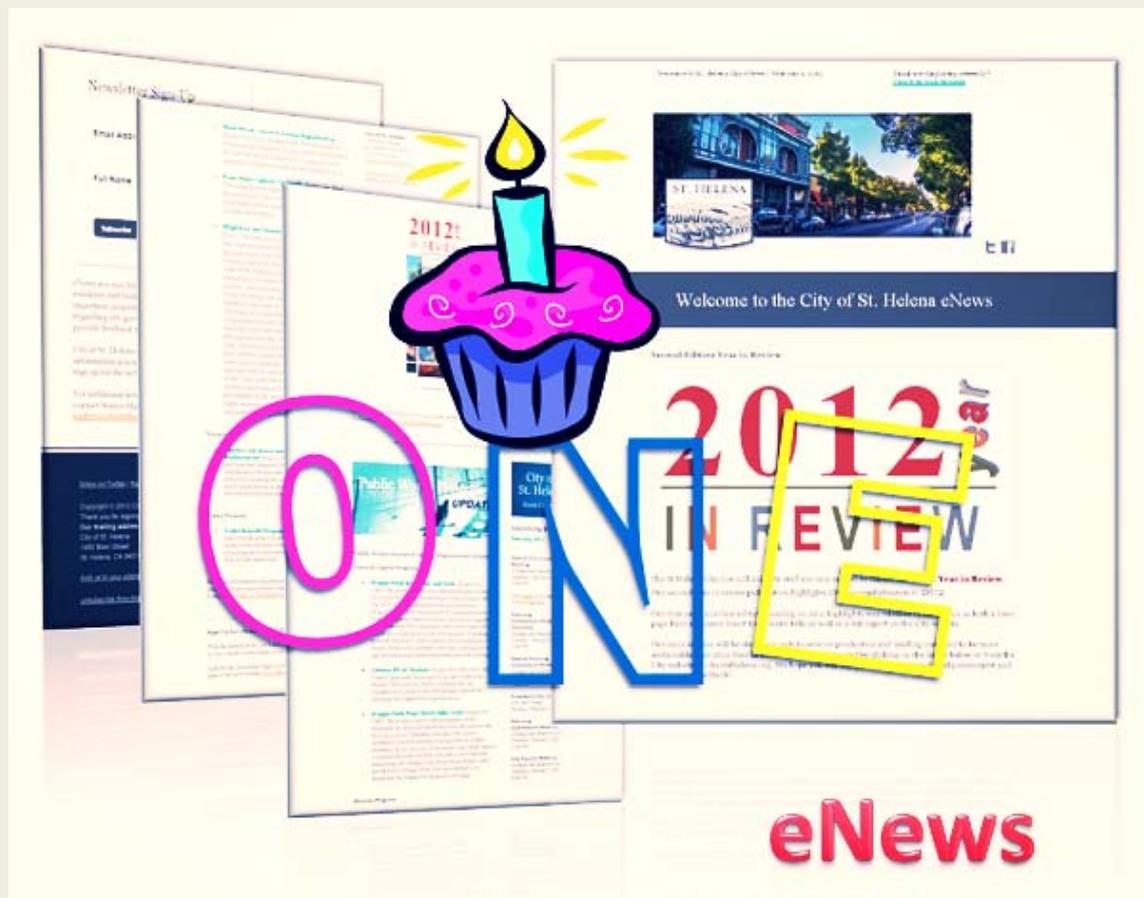


Welcome to the City of St. Helena eNews

eNews Turns One!



City Manager's Desk

We released our first eNews last year on Memorial Day Weekend. Our goal was to establish a new opportunity for the City to communicate with our residents and business community and, in turn, for you to communicate back to us. As we celebrate our first anniversary, we're thrilled with the positive reception we've received on this new endeavor.

Following a recent campaign to increase our viewership, we have increased our total subscription to just short of 2,000.

Please continue to provide us with any feedback or ideas you may have. We want to hear from YOU. I can be reached at garyb@cityofsthelema.org.

Gary Broad, City Manager

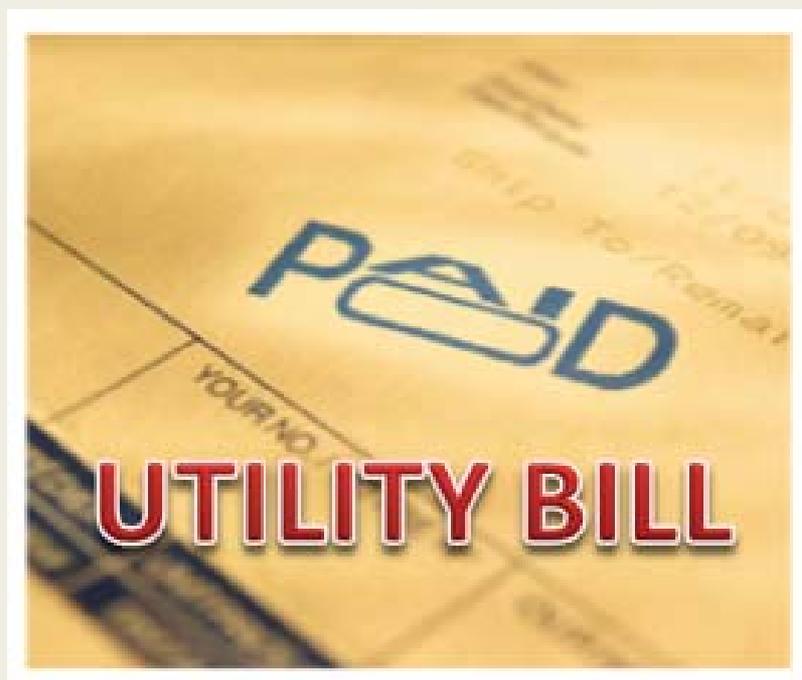
Flamingos Invade City Hall



In a scene almost out of the movie *The Birds*, St. Helena City Hall was under attack last week from a flock of pink flamingos. The Grace Episcopal Church Youth Group put together a fundraiser to support the 2013 Haiti Mission trip to build a school at an orphanage located in Fond Blanc. A local business made a \$35 donation to send the flamingos to City Hall. In turn, a \$25 contribution was required to guarantee their removal or a \$35 donation to direct them to a selected new location to keep the chain going. City Hall employees contributed \$35 to send the flamingos off to the St. Helena Public Library.

For additional information please contact Grace Episcopal Church at invite@grace-episcopal.org.

Utility Bill Scam



The Better Business Bureau says that a new utility bill scam is popping up throughout the U.S. and Canada. It involves an approach to get people to part with their money that's been growing in popularity over the past couple of years: prepaid debit cards.

The BBB reports that scammers are calling people and claiming to work for a local electric, water or gas company. The callers tell people that they're late on a utility bill and that their service will be cut off if they don't pay immediately. Then they instruct people to purchase a prepaid debit card to pay their bill and call them back with the card number. Thieves then drain the value from the card.

Scammers have turned to prepaid debit cards recently because wire transfer services have increased their fraud detection systems -- making it more difficult for them to use this once-popular method of stealing money from people. Scammers also like prepaid debit cards because they don't have to show a photo ID to collect or spend money on the cards.

City of St. Helena

Event Calendar

Upcoming Events

May 2013

St. Helena Farmers' Market
Crane Park
Friday, May 24th
7:00 AM - Noon

Memorial Day Holiday
City Hall Closed
Monday, May 27th

City Council Meeting
Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, May 28th
5:30 PM Closed Session
6:00 PM Regular Meeting

Click [here](#) to access City Council Agendas

St. Helena Farmers' Market
Crane Park
Friday, May 31st
7:00 AM - Noon

June 2013

Planning Commission Meeting
Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, June 4th
7:00 PM

St. Helena Farmers' Market

For help spotting a utility scam, the BBB offers these tips:

It's a red flag if you are asked to pay by prepaid debit card. Utility companies usually accept a check or credit card. If you pay with a prepaid debit card, the transaction cannot be reversed, according to the BBB.

Watch out for high-pressure tactics, such as threats to cut off your service unless you make an immediate payment. End the call then call the customer service number on your utility bill to ensure that you speak with a real representative.

If someone comes to your home claiming to be from your utility company, ask for identification. Do not let the person in your home if you did not schedule a service appointment. Call the utility company to confirm that it sent someone to your home.

Also, a utility bill scam that began last year has resurfaced. Utility companies in several states, including Kentucky and Tennessee, have received reports from customers who have received calls claiming that the federal government will help pay their electric bills. [Click here to learn more about this utility bill scam and how to avoid it.](#)

St. Helena's American Legion Post 199 Annual Memorial Day Ceremony



The American Legion Post 199 will hold its annual Memorial Day ceremony at the St. Helena Cemetery.

There will be a reading of the names on the veterans' memorial, the laying of wreaths to honor veterans of each war, patriotic songs and speeches from veterans and St. Helena Mayor Ann Nevero.

The ceremony is free. Commander Adam Deleon is inviting the public to a barbecue at the American Legion Hall following the ceremony.

When: Monday, May 27th
Where: St. Helena Cemetery, 2461 Spring Street
Time: 10 am

Make This Memorial Day Weekend Memorable for all the Right Reasons with our top Fire Safety Grill Tips!



Crane Park
Friday, June 7th
7:00 AM - Noon

City Council Meeting
Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, June 11th
6:00 PM

St. Helena Farmers' Market
Crane Park
Friday, June 14th
7:00 AM - Noon

Planning Commission Meeting
Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, June 18th
7:00 PM

St. Helena Farmers' Market
Crane Park
Friday, June 21st
7:00 AM - Noon

City Council Meeting
Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, June 25th
6:00 PM

St. Helena Farmers' Market
Crane Park
Friday, June 28th
7:00 AM - Noon

Click [here](#) to "Like" us on Facebook or scan the QR code below:



City of St. Helena
1480 Main Street
St. Helena, CA 94574
(707) 967-2792
www.cityofstheleena.org

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Memorial Day weekend is almost here, and most of us are planning to celebrate the unofficial start to the summer by dusting off the grill and hosting a backyard barbecue. However, there are certain precautions that should be taken in order to keep your party from heating up, and not in a good way. US fire departments respond to 8,600 home fires involving grills or barbecue's each year. Here are a few safety tips to keep the firemen from crashing your bash this Memorial Day.

Before you fire up the grill:

- 1. It's been a long winter! Check your grill for cracks, leaks, or brittleness before using.*
- 2. Make sure the grill is at least 10 feet from your home and away from railings and trees.*
- 3. Before getting a propane cylinder filled, check it for damages.*

While grilling:

- 1. Keep kids and pets away from the grill area.*
- 2. Keep alcoholic beverages away from the grill, as alcohol is flammable.*
- 3. Never leave the grill unattended.*
- 4. Never pour starter fluid over an open flame.*
- 5. Use long-handed barbecue tools and be careful if wearing loose-fitting clothing.*

When you are finished grilling:

- 1. If using a charcoal grill, let the coals cool completely before disposing of them.*
- 2. If using a propane grill, shut off the fuel at the grill and at the bottle.*
- 3. Store your grill outdoors.*
- 4. Follow the manufacturers' instructions for proper cleaning and maintenance of your grill.*

If a fire does break out:

- 1. For propane grills: turn off the burners and shut off the tank valve if it can be reached safely. If the fire involves the tank, step away from the grill and call the fire department.*
- 2. For charcoal grills: close the grill lid.*
- 3. For electric grills: disconnect the power.*

*Never attempt to extinguish a grease fire with water. This will only cause the flames to spread. It's a good idea to keep a fire extinguisher nearby in the event of a fire. However, if your personal safety or the safety of others is immediately threatened, **always** call the fire department for assistance!



Please have a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend!

St. Helena First Time Homebuyer Affordable Housing Available!



Two 3-bedroom homes with above garage detached granny units located in the Magnolia Oaks Subdivision are still available for purchase through the City of St. Helena's First Time Homebuyer Affordable Housing Program.

The homes will be priced at \$469,825. To determine if you qualify for this unique opportunity, you must attend the following workshop.

Date: Tuesday, May 28th

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Carnegie Building, 1360 Oak Avenue, St. Helena

The workshop is presented by the Housing Authority of the City of Napa and the City of St. Helena. To download the flyer and application click [here](#).

For more information, please contact Andrea Clark at the City of Napa's Housing Division (707) 257-9254 or Greg Desmond at the City of St Helena (707) 968-2749.

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