News Release

Agencies Come Together to Recognize Maynard Lenhert's Public and Community Service

MONTCLAIR, CA . . . . . The City of Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, and West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District join together to honor and celebrate the lifetime of public and community service of Maynard Lenhert. A 64-year Montclair resident and tireless community leader and volunteer, Lenhert passed away on August 20, 2012, at the age of 89.

**Maynard "Mac" Lenhert
1923 – 2012**

Lenhert, known affectionately as "Mac" throughout the Montclair community, served for nearly 24 years on the Montclair Planning Commission, having first been appointed in October 1988. In 1999, Lenhert was named Montclair's Community Hero by the *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*, and four years later he was recognized by the Montclair City Council as the City's Volunteer of the Year.

Lenhert's volunteerism in the community is legendary, from his decades as a reserve officer for the Montclair Police and Code Enforcement departments and the San Bernardino County Sheriff early in his life, to his advocacy for increased elderly support and his work with local and regional senior citizen organizations in his later years. Among the many local organizations to which he belonged, Lenhert was a Charter Member of the Kiwanis Club of Montclair since its founding in 2000, and he remained an active member of the club for 12 years, volunteering his personal time supporting the programs of the club.

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"Mac often mentioned he first became a resident of what is now known as the Inland Empire in 1945 and could recall in great detail the changes that he saw occur in the ensuing decades," said Montclair City Mayor Paul Eaton. "Mac had a passionate enthusiasm for community participation and volunteerism, even as advancing age and occasional health maladies slowed him down. Mac's long-time presence and contributions to the City and community will be greatly missed."

Montclair Councilmember Leonard Paulitz remembered his good friend, saying "I enjoyed working with Maynard and he will be sorely missed. We were a team helping each other out by supporting each other's dedication and commitment to the community through various programs and projects." Paulitz served as Maynard's campaign manager and treasurer when he ran for the Water District Board and together they worked on laying the foundation of a community garden in partnership between the City of Montclair and Monte Vista Water District.

Lenhert was first elected to the Monte Vista Water District Board of Directors in 1999, and he represented his constituents on the Board for 13 years, right up to the time of his death. He was appointed Board Vice President in 2007 and served on the Board's Engineering, Finance, Public Information, and Management Assessment committees during his nearly three terms in office. Lenhert also represented the District on the Water Facilities Authority Board of Directors and to the Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts. He received a Certificate of Completion in Special District Board Leadership and Management from Special District Institute in 2001.

"Maynard took great pride in representing the District and worked tirelessly to promote our mission and services in the Montclair community," said Board President Sandra Rose. "The District is a better place because of Maynard and we honor his service and friendship."

Lenhert served the residents of Montclair as their Trustee at the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District since 2004. As a long-standing member of the Board of Trustees, Lenhert's contributions to the District were numerous. His insight and experience gained from the Water District Board, code enforcement, and community organizations provided him with the ability to look at issues from a multi-disciplinary perspective.

"Lenhert helped form the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District into the success it is today," said District Manager Min-Lee Cheng, Ph.D. "Maynard Lenhert was a strong, determined, and caring person. His enthusiasm and dedication to the protection of the public is a rare and valuable thing. The District and its employees have lost a mentor and, most importantly, a friend."

Lenhert served in the U.S. Army during World War II and worked in local citrus groves in the 1940s and 50s. Lenhert retired in 1983 after 40 years of service working as an instructor, contract administrator, and inspector for General Telephone (now Verizon) and GTE. He taught Red Cross CPR and First Aid classes, as well as a "55 Alive" mature drivers class at the Montclair Community Center. Lenhert loved walking with the Montclair Plaza Walkers, and was an avid train collector and opera fan.

Lenhert is survived by three children and five grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at Bethany Baptist Church in Montclair on September 6 at 1:30 p.m., with a reception following the service at the Montclair Civic Center.

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The City of Montclair incorporated in 1956 as a general law city and is located at the westernmost edge of Southern California's Inland Empire in the County of San Bernardino. A full-service City with a population of 37,000 and growing, it is home to a regional shopping center, transcenter and an auto center.

Monte Vista Water District, formed in 1927, provides retail and wholesale water services to a population of over 130,000 in the communities of Montclair, Chino Hills, and portions of Chino.

The West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, founded in 1983, is a public health agency providing mosquito and other disease vector management for the communities of Chino, Chino Hills, Montclair, Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga.