



MAY 2006 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Mayor Antonovich Presents \$1 Million Check for Emergency Homeless Shelter

At a recent press conference, Mayor Michael D. Antonovich (*pictured*) presented a \$1 million check to Rabbi Marvin Gross (*left*), Executive Director of the Union Station Foundation, for the construction of Union Station's new emergency homeless shelter in Pasadena.

The new facility will provide shelter and comprehensive supportive services for 60 to 70 homeless women each year. This \$1 million allocation meets the goal of Union Station's "Re-building Lives" capital campaign – which has already raised more than \$8.5 million for construction costs.



"Public private partnerships are the most effective means to address homelessness," Mayor Antonovich said. "The best results come from a joint effort of community members, service providers and other stake holders. Union Station Foundation is a successful example – it works in partnership with the community, and neighbors support the facility financially and as volunteers."

Other examples of innovative solutions for homelessness include the Santa Clarita Emergency Winter Shelter Task Force which Mayor Antonovich recently initiated. The Task Force involves the community to identify a suitable location for the winter shelter in the Santa Clarita Valley. To be effective, shelter plans must be compatible with both client needs and community concerns.

Furthermore, "the state needs to reform mental health laws to end the current 'revolving door' system," Mayor Antonovich said. "Patients are in and out of homelessness because they fail to receive the necessary medical treatment"



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EVENT CALENDAR

Ford Amphitheatre

2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East Hollywood, 90068

(323) GO-1 FORD (323)461-4673 www.fordamphitheatre.org

BWF - Big! World! Fun! Family Shows

SPR - Summer Play Readings

JUNE

- 1-3 The Wonderful Wizard of Song
- 3 When the Tigris Runs Black (SPR)
- 4 Brazilian Summer Festival
- 10 The Little Adolfs (SPR)
- 10 Gospel Jubilee
- 17 The Rise and Fall of Tropicana (SPR)
- 17 A Kaleidoscope of Years Gone By
- 23-25 & 28-July 1 2006 L.A. Film Festival
- 24 Symphonic Jazz Orchestra (BWF)
- 24 Land of Enchantment (SPR)

Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia 91007

For a list of seminars, workshops and classes, please visit www.arboretum.org or call (626) 821-4623

Los Angeles County Museum of Art 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles 90036 (323) 857-6000

www.lacma.org

Through June 4 – Contemporary Projects 10: Mrzyk & Moriceau and Felicien Rops – You Only Live 25 Times

Through June 11 – Ettore Sottsass, Designer

Music Center

135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

(213) 972-7211

www.musiccenter.org

Ahmanson Theatre

Through June 11 – "The Black Rider: The Casting of the Magic Bullets"

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

May 27-June 17 – Elliot Goldenthal's "*Grendel*" June 7-June 24 – Giuseppe Verdi's "*La Traviata*"

Mark Taper Forum

June 1-July 16-Alfred Uhry's "Without Walls" starring Laurence Fishburne

Walt Disney Concert Hall

151 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

JUNE

- 2 Evelyn Glennie
- 4 Los Angeles Philharmonic: Scheherazade

10 - "Beautiful Challenge"

Seventh Annual Law Enforcement & Mental Health Conference

Thursday June 15, 2006

The Department of Mental Health in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission, the Los Angeles Police Department; the Sheriff's and Probation Departments will sponsor the Seventh annual Law Enforcement & Mental Health Conference this year on Thursday, June 15, 2006 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia, California. The theme of this year's conference will be: "Strengthening Partnerships." At this event, law enforcement and mental health professionals, most particularly first responders to emergent situations, will gain skills and knowledge for partnering to work together and with members of the community who may be experiencing a crisis or an acute emotional disturbance. There is no charge for this half-day conference. Enrollment is limited and early registration is recommended. For more information and a registration brochure, please call the Department of Mental Health, Training and Cultural Competency Bureau at (213) 738-2318 or e-mail DMHTraining@lacdmh.org

Please join Mayor Michael D. Antonovich at his 9th annual event "Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families Past, Present and Future" Saturday, May 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Arcadia County Park 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue Arcadia 91006



Articles and other submissions to the *County* DIGEST may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

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Supervisor Molina Hosts Kids Aquatics Competition at Centro Estrella

Supervisor Gloria Molina joined Eastside parents, relatives, and friends to cheer on their preschool children at an aquatics competition and awards ceremony held at Centro Estrella in East Los Angeles. Centro Estrella – which is Spanish for Center of the Stars – was designed primarily to assist local children with special needs. It also includes family and peer support programs, mental health services (for kids and adults), an after-school enrichment program, aquatics lessons and a preschool.

ALMA Family Services provides staff to operate the Centro Estrella facility in all its capacities. The funding to run the preschool is supplied by Los Angeles Universal Preschool, commonly known as LAUP.



Supervisor Molina joins staff from ALMA Family Services and the Amateur Athletic Foundation, as well as 22 youngsters from the Centro Estrella preschool prior to the aquatics competition and awards ceremony.



Children from the Centro Estrella preschool participate in an aquatics competition as their parents look on.

Centro Estrella even boasts a special aquatics facility featuring water therapy equipment for children with special needs. Over time, the pool's purpose has evolved and it now functions as a site for "Mommy & Me" classes, senior exercise programs and swimming classes for youth. Each day, 23 youngsters enjoy the good fortune of receiving their preschool education and swimming lessons at the same location.

"The pool is one of the most cherished amenities offered on the Centro Estrella property," Supervisor Molina said. "However, it also is the most costly. So many thanks go to the Amateur Athletic Foundation for joining my office to co-sponsor the operation of the pool. But it is thanks to everybody's combined efforts that local residents – whether seniors or children – have the benefit of participating in such enriching activities directly in the East L.A. neighborhood."

To learn more about the types of services offered at Centro Estrella, call (323) 881-3799 or explore the ALMA Family Services Web site via the Internet at www.almafamilyservices.org.

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL: Jaime Meraz, Marvin Stitts

ASSESSOR: James W. Johnston, Ruth T. Maciel

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Marie E. Campos, Patsy Gant, Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal, Audrone Giedraitis, Robert S. Thomas

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Betty Y. Castellon, Willie Davis Jr., Saundra E. Miller, Hortensia Prihoda, Nicholette Y. Ward

COUNTY COUNSEL: David B. Kelsey
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Charles E. Boag IV

FIRE: Luis M. Cervantes, Dale W. Gain, Steven S. Galloway, Thomas A. Glonchak, Jeffrey L. Hunter, Thomas R. King, James A. Padgett, Douglas P. Roberts, Phillip J. Szabo, Donald L. Whisnand

HEALTH SERVICES: Brenda G. Baker, Ella M. Boykin, Delilah C. Bueno, Nancy E. Darling, Joyce M. Easley, Ray Honda, Sue Hum, Lovene Knight, Henry Llera, Alfred T. Mori, Vinod I. Patel, Donald C. Petite, Jacqueline R. Wells, Brenda L. Williams, Geneva L. Wilson, Linda J. Wilson

INTERNAL SERVICES: Dolores M. Ortiz, Patricia G. Petran, Don K. Reilly, Carol J. Shipman, Judith A. Spille

LACERA: Katharine S. Migita

MENTAL HEALTH: Barbara Leifer, Marion L. Sutherland. Michael P. Ward

PARKS & RECREATION: Frederick C. Lue PROBATION: Lawrence Cooper, Gerald W. Ivory, Gwendolyn J. Martin, Howard D. Mosley, Ollie M. Starr

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Philomene J. Swenson PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: William Beinbrech Jr., Sharon E. Cross, Christina Hicks PUBLIC WORKS: John L. Frehn, Gary Jenkins, Felipe C. Rodriguez, Stephen Scolinos

SHERIFF: Carolyn L. Davis, Kirk M. Findley, Catherine A. Kennard, Virgilio C. Magsombol, Joseph P. Mileham, Virginia A. Renty, Grace A. Taiji, Bryan Trout

SUPERIOR COURT: Lucia Busto, Dwight J. Freeland, Alfred P. Hernandez, Ollie M. Scaife, Francine M. Sharp, Evelyn Vergne

RETIREES

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Employee of the Month Public Library's

Tina R. Carwile

Tina R. Carwile has been working for the County for 16 years and is currently employed as a Librarian IV with the County Public Library, where she is assigned to the Youth Services Section. Her duties include working with staff in sixteen County libraries for the implementation of early childhood programs.



Carwile's varied career in the County Public Library

represents her wide range of interests and commitment to public service, reading and learning. As the Emergent Literacy Program Coordinator, she has had great success in managing the Family Place pilot program. This program develops a unique family-friendly library atmosphere that provides special early literacy resources for parents and their preschoolers. In addition, she helps change the layout of the children's departments to create family-friendly areas. Once that is done, toys, comfortable furniture, and other materials are selected to create a warm and inviting space for young children and their parents.

"The most fulfilling aspect of my job is seeing the excitement on the faces of the children and parents who attend the Parent/Child workshops at our Family Place Libraries. They genuinely enjoy the experience and often express gratitude for the program. I feel proud to have assisted in the implementation of such a dynamic program," Carwile stated.

During her years with the Library, Tina Carwile has served on several system-wide committees. She was chairperson of the Library's Diversity Committee which led to improvements in the Library's diversity training. She participated in a committee which developed a program designed to provide Internet training for the public, and has recently been involved in revamping the Library's Web site.

"My fondest memory is of working with my first supervisor, Mrs. Florence Bouchard, the library manager of the Victoria Park Library. I first met her when I was 14 years old and I just loved her. She always found really interesting things for me to read and seemed to genuinely care about me. I enjoyed my experience with her so much, that I became a Junior Friend of the Library to help raise money for the library. She gave me my first job as a library page at the age of 17 and most importantly a love for the library that was so strong that I wanted to be a librarian just like her. She greatly influenced my life," Carwile reminisces.



FOM

continued from page 4

In her community, Carwile has developed and conducted a series of Internet classes for adults. She has worked closely with the Gardena Friends of the Library and other community organizations to promote the library. She has served on various committees, including the Board of Directors of the YWCA of Gardena Valley and as a webmaster for the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce. She raised thousands of dollars from local organizations and businesses to support library programs.

In 2004, Carwile was nominated by her peers and named as Librarian of the Year. In the same year, she was named Director of the Year by the Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce. She is a member and past president of Altrusa International Inc. of Redondo Beach, which established and supports the school library at St. Timothy's Episcopal School in Compton.

She holds a bachelor's degree in English Literature from California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), a master's of Library Science from the University of California at Los Angeles and has a Web design certificate from CSUDH. Carwile has been married for 13 years and has a 10-year-old son, Justin.

Tina Carwile, for all your hard work and dedication, we congratulate you and wish you continued success!

Supervisor Burke Urges Depressed People to Seek Help

Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke held a news conference on April 14 to discuss three separate, but similar, family tragedies experienced by the Korean American community. These tragedies highlight a crisis and address a root cause that exists in many communities – depression.

"Individuals in most minority communities are less likely to seek help – particularly when the problems are those of depression, domestic violence, alcohol, drug or gambling abuse, legal advice or other mental health concerns," Supervisor Burke said.



Supervisor Burke addresses the crowd encouraging those experiencing depression to seek help.

To increase education, understanding and community training in the Korean American community, Supervisor Burke will be working with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), the Asian Pacific Treatment and Counseling Center, as well as other community organizations to encourage the formation of another NAMI in the Koreatown area.



Supervisor Burke speaks to the Korean media about the recent tragic events in the Korean community and the importance of encouraging depressed people to seek needed help by contacting the County's 2-1-1 information and referral hotline.

Supervisor Burke encourages individuals who are struggling with depression to contact social service agencies in their area, or simply dial 2-1-1, the County's information and referral hotline for further information and assistance. 2-1-1 services are free, confidential and available 24/7 in English, Spanish, TTY and in more than 140 other languages.

ENRICHING LIVES...

AGDAYLA

an you answer the question, "Where does the food you eat, the water you drink, and the clothing you wear really come from?" Like many of us, some of our students believe the answer is their local supermarket or clothing store. In an effort to provide clarity to the answer, representatives of the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM), including Director Kurt Floren, staged the AGDAYLA (Agricultural Day Los Angeles) event at Los Cerritos Elementary School in Long Beach.

up close. Each student had a chance to plant his or her own tomato seedling, taste locally produced honey, play with "earth" balls from the Long Beach Water District, hold real cotton bolls, and inspect animals, from rabbits to a cow, in a petting zoo.

A strong supporter of agricultural education for our students, A.G. Kawamura, Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), had the opportunity to interact with the students as they rotated through the various exhibits and demonstrations. Field Deputy Connie Sziebl represented



From left to right, Nancy Lungren, Deputy Secretary of Public Affairs, CDFA; Cine D. Ivery, Field Representative for California State Senator Alan Lowenthal; A.G. Kawamura, Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture; Kurt E. Floren, Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights & Measures and Richard Iizuka, Deputy Director, Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures.

In conjunction with both the National AG Day (March 20) and the California AG Day (March 29), the value and importance of agriculture was celebrated through AGDAYLA on March 30. The event resulted from collaborative efforts of ACWM, the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, California Women for Agriculture, and the 48th Agricultural District. The group, comprised of 475 students – from kindergarten to fifth grade –were given the opportunity to see, hear, and touch production agriculture

Supervisor Don Knabe, who wholeheartedly supported this event. U.S. Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald, State Senator Alan Lowenthal, and Long Beach Councilwoman Rae Gabelich each had representatives in attendance.

At the end of the day, it was apparent that the students, teachers, administrators, and the many parent volunteers all took with them a better appreciation of what it takes to feed and clothe all of us.



Beekeepers' Display



Fiber Display

County of Los Angeles Strategic Plans



County Vision

Our **purpose** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our **philosophy** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our shared values:

- A can-do attitude we approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- Accountability we accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Compassion** we treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- Commitment we always go the extra mile to achieve our mission.
- Integrity we act consistent with our values.
- **Professionalism** we perform to a high standard of excellence.
- Respect for diversity we value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- Responsiveness we take the action needed in a timely manner.

Our **position** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- a capability to undertake programs that have public value;
- an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation; and a pledge to always work to earn the public trust.

County Mission

To enrich lives through effective and caring service

Strategic Plan Goals

- 1. Service Excellence
- 5. Children and Families' Well-Being
- 2. Workforce Excellence

Gloria Molina

- 6. Community Services 7- Health and Mental Health
- 3. Organizational Effectiveness

Yvonne B. Burke

Public Safety

4. Fiscal Responsibility

Zev Yaroslavsky

Michael D. Antonovich Supervisor First District Supervisor Second District Supervisor Third District Supervisor Fourth District Supervisor Fifth District



RESERVATION FORM

PRE-REGISTRATION IS A MUST! RESERVATION DEADLINE BY JUNE 08, 2006

ANTONOVICH TRAIL DUSTERS

Please make checks payable to: County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation Mail Reservation Form & Payment to: Supervisor's Trail Ride, Department of Parks and Recreation, 823 Lexington-Gallatin Rd., South El Monte, CA 91733 For info call: 626.575.5526

NAME:		PHONE: ()	
TRAIL RIDE TICKETS @ \$25.00 PER PERSON:				
NUMBER OF RIDERS:	NUMBER OF NON RIDERS:		_TOTAL ENCLOSED:	

The Race Is On!

"I was chosen! I was chosen!" were the remarks shared by one of the 20 young women at the Los Angeles County Commission for Women Scholarship Reception, held annually to award \$1,000 educational scholarships to girls at risk. She continued her remarks, "As I continued to read the whole letter, I began to cry with tears of joy and happiness. After calming down and it all sunk in that I was really one of those chosen, I realized that this is something big in my life. To be in the company of the Los Angeles Commission for Women and the Board of Supervisors is a great honor and privilege, and to be a recipient of this prestigious award is nothing short of a blessing."

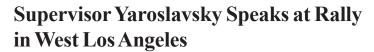
At the reception honoring these special women, her remarks inspired fellow recipients, sponsors, volunteers, family and friends on how she felt about being selected as a 2005 scholarship recipient. Following the early morning reception, certificates honoring the scholarship recipients and their achievements were presented at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors along with a scroll to Northrop Grumman, the Title Sponsor of the Commission for Women's 7th annual 5K Run/Walk and Health Expo for Girls At-Risk, which raises funds for the scholarship program.

RACE IS ON continued on page 9



Supervisor Yaroslavsky Breaks Ground at El Cariso Park

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (second from right) breaks ground for a \$9 million improvement project at El Cariso Park in Sylmar. Planned amenities include new state-of the-art play areas including a Universally Accessible Playground, ADA-compliant upgrades of the park's parking lots; picnic shelters and many other general improvements throughout the 79-acre park. Anticipated completion date for the El Cariso Park improvements project is fall 2007. El Cariso Park offers a host of recreational and sports facilities for the neighboring community, including an 18-hole golf course; softball fields; a baseball diamond; basketball and tennis courts, picnic areas and a swimming pool. Joining Supervisor Yaroslavsky, from the left, are Russ Guiney, Parks and Recreation Director; Tiffany Harris, co-founder and executive director of Shane's Inspiration, advocates for disabled people; and "Friends of El Cariso Park" member Socorro Gallegos.



Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky addresses a rally of community leaders, veterans and elected representatives to protest a plan by the federal government to auction to commercial developers a parcel of federal property on the 10-acre site of the Army Reserve facility at the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Federal Avenue in West Los Angeles.





RACE IS ON

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Commission President Karin Davalos, Commissioner Reiko Duba, Chair of the 5K Run/Walk and Health Expo, and Commissioner Yolanda Becerra-Jones, Chair of the Education Committee, welcomed the scholarship awardees at the orientation following the board presentations. Marie Wilcox, Senior Site and Undergraduate Coordinator, UCLA, spoke on "How to Succeed in College." Dr. Eloisa Gonzales, Department of Public Health, spoke on the



importance of healthy eating habits and led everyone in an exciting period of exercise as part of her "Lift off Break" to set the tone for the luncheon reception. The luncheon concluded the day's events with Susan Gillespie, Vice President of Union Bank of California, speaking on "Discovering One's Soul."

You can donate to the Girls At Risk Fund by sending checks made payable to LACCW and mailing them to 500 West Temple Street, Room 383, Los Angeles, California 90012. The next 5K Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, September 16 at the Pasadena Rose Bowl. Please consider participating. Run, walk or just enjoy the picturesque 5K course around the Rose Bowl. For details, contact Commission Staff at (213) 974-1447. THE RACE IS ON!

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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Mayor, Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County
Department of Parks and Recreation

Present the 16th Annual

Family Music Festival



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Featuring...

THE 4 KINGS
of Rhythm & Blues
Lloyd Price, Ben E. King,
Gene Chandler & Jerry Butler

Also Featuring...

Bowzer's Rock and Roll Party & The Lucky Otis Band

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2006

12:00 NOON to 7:00 P.M.

Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park 120 E. Via Verde Drive, San Dimas, CA 91773 (next to Raging Waters)

Advance Reserved Tickets \$20 (\$25 day of event)
Advance General Admission \$12 (\$18 day of event)
(children under 12 free with each paid general admission ticket)
Parking \$5.00

For information call (909) 599-8411

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RETIREES

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Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ASSESSOR: Noshy Bakhoum, Magdalene Ho **COUNTY COUNSEL:** Damaso S. Gabriel

FIRE: Edison G. Bajenaru, Thomas R. Clark, John S. Crain, Edward L. Dick, Joseph M. Kaiserski, Steven E. Kinney, Thomas G. Page **HEALTH SERVICES:** Shirley M. Brown, Patricia A. Cole, Regina Hardy, Evie Johnson, Antonio Mamaril, C M. Mistry, Gwendolyn

Williams

INTERNAL SERVICES: Rex L. Maricle

LACERA: L L. Shaffner

PROBATION: Stephen F. Harris

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Jose L. Aragon, Belinda Fischer

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Elaine Varnado

PUBLIC WORKS: Rosalinda Tandoc

SHERIFF: Martin L. Dailey, Jose F. Duran, Martha E. Garcera, Denise P. Jazak, Nanov L. Pamiraz

R. Jezak, Nancy L. Ramirez

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: Necitas V. Aguilar,

Youanness Assad

Bruce Smith: A Real Life Success Story

Bruce Smith was born to a single mother in 1980 in the City of Compton, CA. Raised in many different foster homes until the age of 17, Smith suffered years of physical and mental abuse. At 19, Bruce became homeless. He slept in a park at night and worked as a part-time counselor for foster youth, in the same park, during the day. Due to his commitment and hard work, Bruce was recruited by the Internal Services Department's Foster Youth Program at the age of 21. One year later, after successfully completing the Foster Youth Program, Smith joined the Sheriff's Department, as a Construction and Repair Laborer, earning over \$2,100 per month. At the age of 23, he started working with Digital Technicians because of his computer skills.

Currently, at the age of 25, Smith has joined a four-year Stationary Engineer Apprenticeship, working 40 hours a week in the Sheriff's Department and taking trade school classes in the evenings. During this period, he will earn:

First Year
 Second Year
 Third Year
 Fourth Year
 \$3,224.29 per month
 \$3,751.76 per month
 \$4,269.27 per month
 \$4,786.73 per month

What His Future Holds in Store

• Stationary Engineer II

\$5,174.83 per month; **\$62,097.96** per year

• Assistant Chief Stationary Engineer

\$5,962.99 per month; **\$71,555.88** per year

• Chief Stationary Engineer

\$6,468.53 per month; *\$77,622.36* per year

• Manager II, Facilities Operations & Crafts \$8,709.73 per month; **\$104,516.76** per year

• Assistant Director, Bureau Operations, Sheriff

\$9,144.75 per month; *\$109,737.00* per year

• Director, Bureau Operations, Sheriff

\$9,830.75 per month; **\$117,969.00** per year

Bruce Smith eventually plans to get a Master's Degree and become a Director.

Your future can also be as limitless as his:

- Be Focused and Ready to Change for the Better
- Have Determination and Will Power
- Set Goals and Achieve Those Goals
- Don't Give Up

YOU! Can Be the Next Success Story



Supervisor Knabe Hosts the 10th Annual Stepping In Conference

Supervisor Don Knabe recently co-hosted the 10th Annual Stepping In Conference, which was held in the City of Long Beach. Supervisor Knabe has co-hosted this event with College Hospital since its inception in 1997. This year's 10th anniversary conference had nearly 500 participants.

The Stepping In Conference was created 10 years ago to provide first responders with the on-going



training needed to deal with people who have a mental illness. The conference is especially unique in that it provides training for both law enforcement personnel and mental health professionals at the same time. This conference has also played an important role in establishing working relationships among these groups.

"The Stepping In Conference not only provides first responders with the necessary tools to do their jobs in the safest manner possible, but it also helps both mental health professionals and law enforcement personnel to better understand and appreciate the importance of the jobs that each of them do every day," Supervisor Knabe said. "This conference has been a model for other partnerships throughout the County."

Mayor Antonovich Hosts Faith-Based Community Breakfast to Encourage Adoption of County's Foster Youth

To focus the attention of the faith-based community on the nearly 21,000 children residing in foster care in the County of Los Angeles, Mayor Michael D. Antonovich hosted an informational breakfast at the Via Verde Country Club in San Dimas in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

"There are currently 600 Los Angeles County foster children seeking adoptive homes – some have no family, others have brothers or sisters who also need homes, and there are also children with special needs," Mayor Antonovich said. "The Reverend Billy Graham once said, 'If every church and synagogue in the United States took in 10 families who are on welfare, we could eliminate welfare.' If every church or synagogue in Los Angeles County would help a foster child find an adoptive home, we would have no children in foster care."

Attendees were provided information on the Church Mentor and Church Families for Waiting Children programs, as well as facts and statistics on foster children with siblings and teens in the system who need support while emancipating from County care and transitioning from adolescence into adulthood. Participants were also given orientation packages on becoming resource (foster and/or adoptive) parents, including information on basic qualifications, roles and responsibilities, application and home study processes, resources and support. For more information on becoming a foster or adoptive parent, please call (888) 811-1121.



From left to right are Dr. David Sanders, Director of DCFS; Onitsha Newsom (DCFS Emancipation Ombudsman and former foster youth); and Mayor Antonovich.

Share It

Summer Beach Bus Services

ummer is nearly here and it will soon be time to gather our beach gear and head to the shore! Public Works is making that trip easier for everyone living in several unincorporated areas. Come join the fun. How? It's easy...it's time to RIDE the SUMMER BEACH BUS! Service starts in mid June and runs through Labor Day.

Services from the following areas travel to **Santa Monica State Beach:**

Altadena
Antelope Valley
Charter Oak
East Los Angeles
La Crescenta/La Canada Flintridge
Santa Clarita Valley
Tananga Canyon (also serves Tanang

Topanga Canyon (also serves Topanga State Beach and Will Rogers State Beach)

Service from **South Whittier** to **Long Beach** has been added for this summer!

For more information on individual routes, schedules and fares, please call toll free (888) 769-1122 or visit www.LAGoBus.info.

The Altadena, Antelope Valley, and Charter Oak services are sponsored by Mayor Michael D. Antonovich. The La Crescenta/La Canada Flintridge service is sponsored by Mayor Antonovich and the City of La Canada Flintridge. The Santa Clarita Valley service is sponsored by Mayor Antonovich and the City of Santa Clarita. The Topanga Canyon service is sponsored by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky. The East Los Angeles service is sponsored by Supervisor Gloria Molina. The new South Whittier service is sponsored by Supervisors Gloria Molina and Don Knabe.









Members of the Board

Michael D. Antonovich Mayor Fifth District

> Gloria Molina First District

Yvonne B. Burke Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky Third District

Don Knabe Fourth District

Michael J. Henry
Director of Personnel

Sandra Wallace Blaydow Ombudsman/Community Liaison

> John S. Mina Managing Editor

Martina Abgaryan Editor