

# County DIGEST



JANUARY 2007 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky's Remarks as Chairman of the Board for 2007



This past year was a very tumultuous and challenging one, but there are many accomplishments the Board can point to with pride thanks in large measure to the skilled and dedicated employees of our County.

The County today is in the best fiscal condition in at least 25 years, and it's no accident. Our Board has maintained its basic philosophy of living within our means, treating our employees fairly and protecting the taxpayers' hard-earned dollars. Our reserves are healthy, and we have set aside sufficient resources to deal with rainy days, of which there has been no shortage. Our bond ratings are as high as they have been in years, and our Chief Administrative Officer and the rest of our County managers are to be commended for implementing our programs efficiently and responsibly.

With the change in leadership in Congress and a new Speaker in the House of Representatives from our state, hopefully, we can have a little more influence over what happens on health care finance and policy in Washington. At the state level, too, our partnership with the Legislature has to be very high on our list of priorities.

Chief among these must be a renewed focus on our probation and juvenile justice programs, two of the most serious issues we face. In addition, the infrastructure bonds which voters approved this past November offer this County a tremendous opportunity to fund significant transportation improvements through the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the regional transportation agency on which my Board colleagues and I serve. We have new opportunities to improve and increase our housing stock, thanks to the passage of another statewide bond measure, which will complement the unprecedented \$100 million investment our Board has made toward addressing our local homeless problems and the need for expanded and improved services to assist that population.

Clean water and resource protection, too, received voter funding approval, which offers us an opportunity to make significant progress in the areas of coastal protection and water quality. These must be our top environmental priorities in the coming years.

I want to thank my Board colleagues in advance for what I know will be a year of productive accomplishment, and look forward to working with you in the months ahead.

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# EVENT CALENDAR

## **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](http://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](http://www.lacma.org)

### **Music**

March 19 - Expressionism in Motion: Schoenberg, Stockhausen, and Beyond by Argento Chamber Ensemble

### **Exhibitions**

Through Feb 25 - Picasso's Greatest Print: The Minotauromachy in All Its States

Through Mar 4 - Magritte and Contemporary Art: The Treachery of Images

## **Music Center** 135 N. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012 (213) 972-7211 [www.musiccenter.org](http://www.musiccenter.org)

### **Ahmanson Theatre**

Feb 6 - Mar 18 - Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?  
Mar 28 - May 6 - Twelve Angry Men

### **Dorothy Chandler Pavilion**

Feb 10 - Mar 4 - Mahagonny  
Feb 24 - Mar 18 - Tannhauser  
Apr 28 - May 26 - The Merry Widow  
May 4 - May 20 - Porgy and Bess

### **Mark Taper Forum**

Through Feb 18 - '13', a new musical  
Mar 15 - Apr 29 - Distracted  
May 10 - Jul 1 - Yellow Face

### **Kirk Douglas Theatre**

Through Feb 11 - Dogeaters  
Feb 12 - "A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening"  
Mar 31 - May 13 - Sleeping Beauty Wakes  
Jun 17 - Jul 15 - A Waitress in Yellowstone

## **Walt Disney Concert Hall** 111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012 (323) 850-2000 [wdch.laphil.com](http://wdch.laphil.com)

### **February**

4 - Paco de Lucia  
5-6 - Mehta and Israel Philharmonic  
8-11 - Lang Lang plays Chopin  
11 - Organ Recital: László Fassang  
15-18 - Brahms' First and Second  
18 - Venice Baroque Orchestra  
22-24 - Brahms' Third and Fourth  
25 - Burt Bacharach  
27 - Chamber Music: All-Brahms program

### **March**

2-4 - Tchaikovsky's Fourth  
8-11 - Slatkin conducts The Planets  
13 - Alfred Brendel in Recital  
16-18 - Haydn and Beethoven  
17 - The Music of Brahms  
18 - Organ Recital: Paul Jacobs

### **Los Angeles Master Chorale**

Mar 3 - Shout: Luckman Jazz Orchestra joins the Chorale for Mary Lou Williams' Mass  
Mar 25 - Awaken: Christopher Rouse world premiere  
Apr 22 - Ignite: Haydn and Ramirez  
Jun 3 & Jun 7 - Lift: Beglarian, MacMillan and Pärt

## **Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County** 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles

For a list of events, please visit [www.nhm.org](http://www.nhm.org) or call (213) 763-3466.

**WeTip WELFARE FRAUD**

**1-800-87-FRAUD**



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

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## Supervisor Molina Announces Weekly East L.A. Farmer's Market

Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina is pleased to announce that Farmer's Markets are being held in East Los Angeles each Saturday from 8 a.m. to Noon (rain or shine) along East 1<sup>st</sup> Street between North Rowan Avenue and South Ditman Avenue. All produce sold are organic. Visitors will also enjoy live music, cooking classes, and a family-friendly atmosphere. Merchants along 1<sup>st</sup> Street have made ample public parking available in the large lots behind their stores. The first East L.A. Farmer's Market was held on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – and over 500 people attended within the first hour! Best of all, the popularity of the East L.A. Farmer's Market continues to grow each weekend. Much credit for the success of these events goes to Ms. Pompea Smith of SEE-LA, who partnered with Volunteers of East Los Angeles and Supervisor Molina's office to bring the East L.A. Farmer's Market to fruition. For more information, call (323) 263-4462 or send an e-mail to [volunteersofela@aol.com](mailto:volunteersofela@aol.com).



*Visitors enjoy festive atmosphere of the East L.A. Farmer's Market.*

**Celebrating  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Holiday - January 15**

Visit <http://dhr.lacounty.info>  
for information on  
employment opportunities  
with the  
County of Los Angeles

**Why wait? The DIGEST is also  
available online at  
<http://dhr.lacounty.info/county.pdf>**

- Contractor Improprieties
- Abuse of Work Hours
- Missing Equipment
- Computer Fraud
- Vendor Fraud
- Internet/E-mail Abuse
- Missing Cash
- Management Improprieties
- Other Improper Activities

**STOP FRAUD**

**REPORT IT!**

**Los Angeles County Fraud Hotline**  
[www.lacountyfraud.org](http://www.lacountyfraud.org)  
 E-mail: [hotline@oci.co.la.ca.us](mailto:hotline@oci.co.la.ca.us)  
**1-800-544-6861**  
 You may remain anonymous • 24 hours a day • 7 days a week

Write to: Los Angeles County Fraud Hotline  
 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Unit 51  
 Alhambra, CA 91803-4737  
 Fax: 1-626-457-9797

Sponsored by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

# RETIREEES

*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:*

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:** Diane Shamhart  
**COMMUNITY & SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES:** Eula M. Brown

**FIRE:** Frederick L. Graves, Lenard T. Guillen, Robert A. Lafever

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Ethel M. Bailey Mitch, Diana F. Crispi, Thelma Hernandez, Wandell Jackson, Wilma J. Johnson, Marlene M. Katchur, Vidya S. Kaushik, Norma I. Matlock, Theresa Nolen-Davenport, Fatram Norman, Vivian J. Pennicooke, Maria M. Sanchez, Connie Santos, Lorraine M. Smith

**INTERNAL SERVICES:** John C. Walker

**MENTAL HEALTH:** Mary B. Fulton, Mercy C. Sanchez, Mattie J. Scott, Kathryn B. Johnson, Linda B. Liu, Aurthuree Williams

**OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY:** Charles B. Butler Jr.

**PROBATION:** Wilhelmeana Greene, Winifred Jackson

**PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM:** Arturo Aguirre, Diania Bullock-Lymo, Daniel S. McGinley, Ernest Sahakian,

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Gail M. Dickens, Emmetta J. Dupree

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Thomas M. Alexander, Yvonne M. Bratcher

**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Beulah Jemison

**SHERIFF:** Michael L. Becker, George O. Grein, Emaline F. Harris, Gwendolyn M. Robinson

**SUPERIOR COURT:** Harold E. Baran, Mary D. Garcia, Clarence L. Harper, Tanya D. Schmich

*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:*

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Olivia Baker

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Janice Owens

**FIRE:** Francisco J. Lopez

**HEALTH SERVICES:** Teiichiro Fukushima, Leonard E. Ginzton, Arnold Leon, Delores Perryman, Wilma Powell, Marvelito M. Unite, Chhaya Dhara

**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Franklin K. Yang

**LACERA:** Shirley S. Davis

**PROBATION:** Jo-Ann Harper, Michael D. Tischler

**PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM:** Evelyn Mathieu

**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Ky N. Duong, Marion E. Perry

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Floyd L. Sutterfield

**SHERIFF:** Harold H. Baldwin, Patrick D. Quinn, Tommy R. Zeller

**SUPERIOR COURT:** Delores Moore, Regis E. Taylor

## Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Event Schedule



Household Hazardous Waste Collection events are FREE and open to all residents of the County of Los Angeles for household waste. Small businesses with hazardous waste may qualify for the City of L.A.'s Small Quantity Generator Program.

The City of Los Angeles operates Permanent HHW Collection Centers which are available to accept HHW waste from all residents in the County (<http://www.lacity.org/san/safe.htm>).

A new permanent HHW Collection center is now open in the Antelope Valley. Find out more at the Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center Web site at <http://ladpw.org/epd/avecc/>

Events are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted:

2/3/07 (Sat) - Santa Fe Springs HHW Collection Event, Rio Hondo College Fire Training Academy, 11400 Greenstone Avenue, Santa Fe Springs 90607

2/10/07 (Sat) - Claremont HHW Collection Event, Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Avenue, Claremont 91717

2/17/07 (Sat) - Gardena HHW Collection Event, Hitco Carbon Composites, 1551 West 139<sup>th</sup> Street, Gardena 90249

2/24/07 (Sat) - Gateway Corporate Center, 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive, Diamond Bar 91765

3/3/07 (Sat) - Marina del Rey HHW Collection Event, Dock 52 Parking Lot, Fiji Way, Marina del Rey 93535

3/10/07 (Sat) - Glendale HHW Collection Event, Glendale City Streets, 780 Flower Street, Glendale 91201

3/17/07 (Sat) - Rosemead HHW Collection Event, Southern California Edison Company, 2131 Walnut Grove Avenue, Rosemead 91770

HHW

*continued on page 11*

## “I Stand with Magic: Campaign to End Black AIDS”

On December 1, 2006, Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Earvin “Magic” Johnson, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, and Abbott Vice President, William Dempsey, announced the national launch of the “I Stand with Magic: Campaign to End Black AIDS” to help reduce new HIV infections in the African-American community by fifty percent over the next five years. The program addresses much needed awareness, prevention and treatment of HIV in the African-American and other minority communities.



*Supervisor Burke with Laila Ali, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Earvin “Magic” Johnson and Curtis Conway at the national launch of “I Stand with Magic: campaign to End Black AIDS”*

Earvin “Magic” Johnson, diagnosed with HIV 15 years ago, has partnered with Abbott Laboratories to fight against the HIV epidemic in African-American and minority communities, by encouraging African-Americans of all ages to get tested. He said, “I have seen the numbers of HIV infections continue to rise in the minority community and the time is now to take action in helping to lower those numbers. The ‘I Stand with Magic’ program encourages African-Americans of all ages to stand with me and fight HIV/AIDS by getting tested, getting test results and encouraging at least four friends or family members to do the same.”

The rate of AIDS diagnoses for African-Americans is approximately 10 times the rate of Caucasians and almost three times that of Hispanics. AIDS disproportionately affects African-American women, with a diagnosis rate 23 times that of Caucasian women. In 2002, HIV/AIDS was the leading cause of death among African-American women between the ages of 24 and 54.

Supervisor Burke encourages the community to join and “Stand with Magic” in this collaborative effort to end Black HIV/AIDS. For further information, go to [www.istandwithmagic.com](http://www.istandwithmagic.com).

### Los Angeles County Commission on Insurance Releases New Web Page

After a laborious process, it is with great pride that the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors and the Commission on Insurance release the Commission on Insurance Web page which can be accessed 24 hours a day by logging onto <http://www.lacic.org>.

This comprehensive Web page provides a Welcome and Overview that explains the role of the Commission on Insurance and a Bio Page with photographs and listing of current Commissioners. Visitors can keep abreast of Commission activities by accessing the extended and valuable links to the Commission’s calendar, minutes and agendas. Additionally, these very important links can provide vital information during a time of emergency and following a major event.

The Web page provides information on members of the Commission, as they are nominated by the Board of Supervisors

and selected on the basis of experience or knowledge in the area of consumer insurance which includes automobile liability, homeowners, health and earthquake insurance. The Commission on Insurance is accountable to the Board of Supervisors and to the communities that they serve.

We are equally proud to provide all residents of the County of Los Angeles with this indispensable resource in meeting their insurance informational needs. Additionally, the viewers can access the “contact us” feature and provide us with constructive feedback that will enable us to further enhance our Web page.

This represents the first step in our ongoing efforts to provide the public with essential information on the Commission on Insurance. Please join us by experiencing with us this new and informative informational-resource.

# ENRICHING LIVES...

## DCFS-Community Mentor Collaboration Seeks Mentors for South Bay Foster Youth

The Department of Children & Family Services' (DCFS) Torrance Office has partnered with the South Bay Community Partnership Council to coordinate and implement a community-based mentor program for foster youths called the South Bay Mentors Coalition. The program is now actively seeking adult volunteers in the South Bay community (from Inglewood to the Palos Verdes Peninsula) to become mentors as a means to help local foster youth become successful adults. Mentors provide the youth with exposure to a positive range of opportunities and life experiences along with serving as role models - validating and encouraging the youth's abilities, talents and potential.

The minimum suggested commitment for volunteers is one year, with eight hours of in-person contact and one to two hours of collateral contact (such as e-mail and telephone) per month with the youth or on the youth's behalf. "A little quality time can make a lasting impact," said Jan Springer, a Coalition mentor volunteer.



# County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan



## County Vision

*"Enriching Lives"*

Torrance Regional Administrator Harvey Kawasaki said the program offers volunteer mentors a great avenue to give back to their community by providing foster youth with a connection to a caring adult.

"As these kids come of age and exit the foster system, this program will be invaluable for them to successfully transition to adult society. Most people who live here don't realize the South Bay area is home to thousands of children who are living apart from their families because of abuse, neglect or other unfortunate circumstances," he said.

A foster child's connection to an adult can make a big difference. Eighty-one percent of the youth feel that talking with adults helps reduce teen pregnancy. Fifty-three percent credit mentors with improving their ability to avoid drugs and 59 percent of mentees see their grades and/or attendance improve after they received help from their mentor.

Youth who participate in mentor programs are generally between the ages of 12 and 18. They may be academically lagging or high achievers. They may be in a stable placement or may have experienced a succession of caregivers. Most have little or no support system other than their social workers, foster parents or group home staff. All can benefit from some guidance and feedback from a respected and caring adult.

Mentor orientation meetings will be held on February 6th and 21st in the South Bay area for those who want to learn more about mentoring a foster youth. If you are interested in attending one of these orientations to learn about becoming a mentor, please contact Marsha Morton, DCFS Mentor Liaison, at (310) 972-3129.

For more information, log onto the Web site at [www.Mentors4FosterYouth.org](http://www.Mentors4FosterYouth.org).

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         | 6. Community Services                |
| 3. Organizational Effectiveness | 7. Health and Mental Health          |
| 4. Fiscal Responsibility        | 8. Public Safety                     |

Gloria Molina  
Supervisor  
First District

Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor  
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor  
Third District

Don Knabe  
Supervisor  
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich  
Supervisor  
Fifth District

## Supervisor Burke Hosts 800 Foster Youth at “Spark Of Love” Toy Giveaway

On Monday, December 18, 2006, Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, in collaboration with KABC TV’s annual “Spark of Love” campaign, the County of Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Radio Disney, and The Bridge Cinema de Lux Theater, hosted over 800 youth from the Second District for a toy giveaway and special viewing of Santa Clause III.

In attendance were over 800 Second District children in the County of Los Angeles’ Foster Care System, members of the Los Angeles City Fire Department, over 150 DCFS and community volunteers and, of course, Santa Claus. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa also stopped by for this great holiday event.



*Supervisor Burke with L.A. Sparks basketball player, Lisa Leslie at the ‘Spark of Love’ Toy Giveaway.*

Hundreds of toys were given to the children, courtesy of KABC TV’s annual “Spark of Love” campaign, where firefighters from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties collaborated to collect new, unwrapped toys and sports equipment for the under served children in local communities. Last year alone, “Spark of Love” collected over 600,000 toys within all five counties.

## Supervisor Antonovich Hosts Cars ‘n’ Kids Event to Promote Safety for Young Drivers

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and Pat Hines, Executive Director of “Safe Moves,” hosted Cars ‘n’ Kids, an event geared towards promoting safety among young drivers. Hines was recently endowed with a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety and will be utilizing the grant to combat the dangers of unsafe driving by teens.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, 37 teens between the ages of 13-18 were killed in the County of Los Angeles last year and over 2,000 were injured. Based on miles driven, teenagers are involved in three times as many fatal crashes as all drivers. The crash rate for 16 to 17 year olds is four times higher than for experienced drivers.

“We salute the Cars ‘n’ Kids program that has provided over 2,000 workshops and 500 driver simulation classes for nearly 400,000 Middle and High School students in Los Angeles County,” said Supervisor Antonovich. “These vital classes stress safety and common sense when a teenager takes the wheel.”



## Supervisor Knabe Attends the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual “Art of Rancho” Art Show

Supervisor Knabe, The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation and The Amigos Fund recently hosted the art show’s 10th anniversary at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

Forty-four Rancho artists participated along with family, friends and art lovers from throughout the County of Los Angeles. At Rancho, the County’s professional and support staff are world-renowned for offering hope to people whose lives have been shattered by a disabling illness or injury.

“The Art of Rancho is a constant reminder that regardless of our challenges, we can truly realize the power of our dreams,” said Supervisor Knabe.



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## Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities Releases New Web Page

After a year-long process, it is with great pride that the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors and the Commission on Disabilities release the Commission on Disabilities Web page which can be accessed 24-hours a day by logging onto <http://laccod.org>.

This comprehensive Web page provides a Welcome and Overview that explains the role of the Commission on Disabilities and a Bio Page with photographs and a listing of current Commissioners. Visitors can keep abreast of Commission activities by accessing the extended and unique links to the Commission’s calendar, minutes, agendas and special events. At the click of a button, our Web page provides access to services of interest to the disabled community such as Living Independently in Los Angeles (LILA), The Disability Rights Legal Center, the Los Angeles City Department on Disability, YouRABLE, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Governor’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. There is also a link to the Bill Tainter Scholarship Program that provides educational scholarships to graduating high school students with disabilities who wish to pursue a college education. When accessing this link, visitors can obtain information about the Tainter Scholarship program and the application process. There is also information on how a charitable donation can be made to this worthy cause.

This release represents the first step in our ongoing efforts to provide the public with essential information on County Commission programs and services. In the near future, we plan to release new Web pages for the Sybil Brand Commission and Domestic Violence Council, as well as to upgrade current Commission for Women and Business License Commission Web pages.

Whether you are able or disabled, we hope that you will visit <http://laccod.org> where you will find a vast array of information and services to assist members of the disabled community and their families.

*“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”*

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## County Develops New Job Opportunities for Military Veterans

The County of Los Angeles plans to assist local military veterans with employment opportunities under a plan developed by Supervisors Don Knabe and Michael D. Antonovich. The program, approved recently by the Board of Supervisors, directs County departments to begin internship programs for veterans including employment outreach, new hiring protocols and educational opportunities.

As part of this effort to provide veterans with employment opportunities within the County, the Director of Personnel will develop recruitment strategies specifically designed to attract veterans having either the training, education and/or requisite life skills needed by the County. The Chief Administrative Office will modify job classifications where needed.

“There is a disproportionate unemployment rate in our region for recently discharged veterans,” said Supervisor Knabe. “It is my hope that this program will connect these men and women and their useful skills with employment opportunities within Los Angeles County.”

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## Supervisor Antonovich Announces Nuisance Abatement Team and Expansion of Graffiti Removal Services for the Antelope Valley

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and the Department of Public Works Director Donald L. Wolfe announced the development of a new nuisance abatement team and expansion of the County’s Graffiti removal services for the Antelope Valley communities.

“Deterioration of the community spreads like a cancer, decreasing the quality of life and sense of neighborhood pride. Without intervention, the neighborhood that was once vibrant is destroyed,” said Supervisor Antonovich.

Funding to create two nuisance abatement teams, one committed solely to the Antelope Valley, was secured by Supervisor Antonovich. Led by the Department of Public Works, the nuisance abatement or “NAT” teams, involve multiple County departments. The purpose of these “NAT” teams is to improve and strengthen code enforcement and prioritize property rehabilitation throughout the Fifth District.

The County’s code enforcement team has had tremendous results. Since 2006, 318 cases have been investigated and 211 of those cases have been resolved. In one example, two properties located north of the City of Lancaster have been cleaned up. These properties were not only blighted: they were a threat to public health.

In addition to the “NAT” teams, Supervisor Antonovich recently committed funding to enhance his long standing “zero-tolerance” graffiti removal program. In the past, the County’s programs targeted those communities where graffiti was a particularly troubling problem. “Because graffiti is impacting more communities, I committed to expanding the “zero-tolerance” graffiti removal for all unincorporated areas in the Fifth District,” added Supervisor Antonovich.



## Supervisor Antonovich Greets 2007 Rose Parade Royal Court

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich welcomed the 2007 Rose Parade Court to his office for breakfast before honoring them at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

The 118th Annual Rose Parade, themed “Our Good Nature,” took place January 1, 2007 with Grand Marshal George Lucas leading the way for 45 floats, 23 equestrians, 20 bands and three special units.

Pictured from left to right are Princess Sue Park of La Canada, Princess Christina Barsamian of La Canada, Rose Queen Mary McCluggage of Pasadena, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Princess Kaitlin Terpstra-Sweeney of Pasadena, Princess Anessah Giroux of Altadena, Princess Blair Ramirez of Altadena, and Princess Danielle Vine of Altadena.



## Supervisor Yaroslavsky Dedicates Orange Line Canoga Station and Park-And-Ride Lot

Pictured from the left are Councilmember Wendy Greuel; Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; MTA CEO Roger Snoble (behind); Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky; Kymberleigh Richards, Metro San Fernando Valley Service Sector Governance Council (behind); and Councilmember Dennis Zine, who gathered to cut the ribbon and celebrate the official opening of the new Metro Orange Line Canoga Station and a 611-space park-and-ride facility in Canoga Park. The facility completes the first phase of the Metro Orange Line Busway, “the Valley’s shortcut” between the North Hollywood terminus of the Red Line subway and Warner Center in Woodland Hills. Chairman Yaroslavsky called the opening of the new station “our holiday gift for Valley commuters,” and noted that the Canoga station will provide a launch point for future Orange Line extensions such as a proposed link to Chatsworth. The Canoga Station is the 14<sup>th</sup> station on the cross-valley transitway and the sixth park & ride lot on the line. For further information on the Metro Orange Line, click [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net).



**HHW**  
continued from page 4

3/24/07 (Sat) - Manhattan Beach HHW Collection Event, Northrop-Grumman Space Technology, Aviation Boulevard and Marine Avenue (northwest corner), Manhattan Beach 90230

3/31/07 (Sat) - Long Beach HHW Collection Event, Long Beach Veterans’ Stadium, Clark Avenue and Conant Street, Long Beach 90706

For more information, please visit the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works site at [www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com).

# Share It

## Natural History Museum's Dynamic Discussion and Live Music Series

—First Fridays at the Natural History Museum—

Series on “The Diversity of Life” presents provocative public forums and live performances inspired by biodiversities in the natural and the cultural worlds.

Participants include: Science writer Margaret Wertheim, MacArthur Award-winning paleontologist Geerat J. Vermeij, musicians The Life Force Trio, Hu Vibrational, Natural History Museum curators and more.

The Natural History Museum stays open late for its monthly *First Fridays* series of evening events featuring engaging original discussion, film, live performance and curator-led tours on February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 1.

Created to engage the public in an open, dynamic and thought-provoking dialogue, this Winter/Spring *First Fridays* series is entitled “The Diversity of Life.” The interactive series presents a cross-section of contemporary perspectives on aspects of biodiversity and how it relates to our cultural world and daily lives. Upcoming *First Fridays* will treat biodiversity from six different perspectives, including shifting habitats, environmental “hot spots,” the economics of ecology, climate change, migration and the complex ocean environment. Each themed evening features a curator-guided tour through one of NHM's galleries, a moderator-led forum with today's top thinkers, scientists, environmentalists and authors followed by live performances by acclaimed musicians and DJs.

“*First Fridays* at the Natural History Museum is really environmental culture in the making,” said Vanda Vitali, the Museum's Vice President of Public Programs. “Our upcoming *First Fridays* events directly engage the community, featuring live, audience-led debates that encourage visitors to contribute questions and concerns to the discussion. Guests can continue the debate afterwards in our In/ter/act space or experience performances by provocative artists from a variety of musical disciplines.”

*First Fridays* events include:

Friday, February 2, 2007 (extended Museum hours to 10:00 p.m.): **Full House**

Guided Tour/Presentation (5:30 p.m.): Dr. Bill Estrada

Discussion (6:30 p.m.): Hope Tschopik Schneider, Margaret Wertheim, Charles Ofria

Performances (8:00 p.m.): TBA

This evening takes a look at “places on earth with an extremely high density of diverse species. NHM History Curator Dr. Bill Estrada provides a curator-guided presentation before Hope Tschopik Schneider, Margaret Wertheim and Charles Ofria, Michigan State University Director of the Digital Evolution Lab,



discuss how digital technology can illuminate these complex natural environments — and how this research can provide insight to urban environments like Los Angeles.

For a detailed description of March 2, April 6, May 4 and June 1 programs, please call (213) 763-DINO or visit the Natural History Museum's Web site at [www.nhm.org](http://www.nhm.org).



### Members of the Board

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