



THE GREEN SCENE

West Creek Park Grand Opening



West Creek Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

“It’s always an occasion for celebration when we can dedicate a new park.” With those words, Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, joined Department Director Russ Guiney and about 100 local residents, city officials and Department employees in dedicating the new 16.8-acre West Creek Park in Valencia on January 15, 2010.

The \$4.5-million Quimby Park, built by Newhall Land, contains a multitude of amenities: two playgrounds, an amphitheatre, a par course, a basketball court, two group picnic shelters with tables and braziers, multi-use turf area, office space, restrooms, pathways and sidewalks and extensive landscaping.

Funding for the first year will provide for new positions, including park maintenance seven days a week and a full-time recreation services supervisor position.

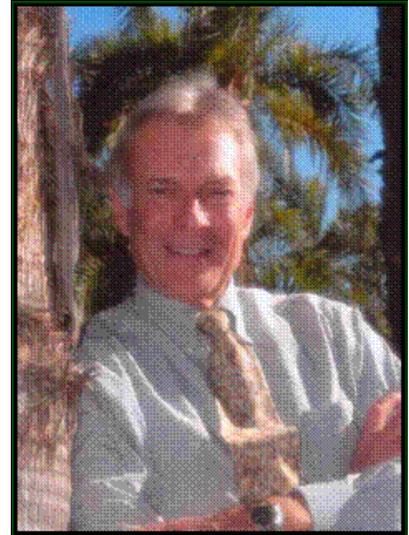


West Creek Park Picnic Areas

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Greetings from the Director

2010 is rapidly moving along as we are already well into the third month of the year! Many may think that the winter months are Parks and Recreation's "slow" season, but our department has been busy as usual, with exciting changes and developments. Take a moment to read about the newest addition to our parks facilities, West Creek Park in the North Agency. It's a privilege to be able to say that even during these difficult economic times, we are able to add to the resources available for the residents of Los Angeles County. We continue to think outside the box for ways to save money and be more efficient and I encourage you to continue to send your efficiency ideas to any Efficiency Initiative Committee Member for consideration. Your idea could be just what our Department needs!



Russ Guiney, Director

Also, make sure to take part in this year's Census. Read the article about the Census and resources to ensure you and your family are counted!

2010 Census Update



Every 10 years, as mandated by the U.S. Constitution, our nation conducts a census; an effort to count every person living in the United States.

The three main things to remember about the Census:

- **It's** Important
- **It's** Easy
- **It's** Safe

The County of Los **Angeles** has launched a new website to educate and motivate residents to take part in the upcoming 2010 Census by completing and returning their census questionnaire.

Residents can learn why it's important to take part in the count. With the slogan "You Count!" and in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau, the goal is to increase participation in the 2010 Census and achieve a complete and accurate count. If you would like more information please visit the County of Los Angeles Census website at <http://www.census.lacounty.gov>, or the United States Census 2010 website at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>.

**Welcome New Arboretum and Botanic Garden
Chief Executive Officer
Richard Schulhof**



The Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden welcomed the new Chief Executive Officer Mr. Richard Schulhof in October of 2009.

A California native, Mr. Schulhof joins the Department of Parks and Recreation with a stellar resume that includes his work experience as a graduate from Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum in Boston, where for the last seven years he served as Deputy Director. Prior to that, Mr. Schulhof was also the Executive Director of Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge, one of our other beautiful gardens within the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Schulhof created new programs supporting science education in both Boston and Los Angeles schools, and through collaboration with school districts and private foundations, his programs have offered teacher training, field trips and in-class instruction.

Mr. Schulhof also works with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Park Service, in which he has launched programs interpreting historic landscapes. Mr. Schulhof earned an undergraduate degree in landscape architecture from U.C. Berkeley and Masters Degree in public garden administration from the University of Delaware and forestry from Harvard University.

"The Los Angeles County Arboretum is an outstanding resource largely because of strong community participation and partnership. Our future depends on continuing to grow public services and encouraging increasing levels of involvement and support—along with our staff and volunteers, I very much look forward to the challenge." Mr. Schulhof states.

Mr. Schulhof brings to the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden a strong commitment to public education and a strong interest in serving urban communities.

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation and the Regional Facilities Agency is honored to have Mr. Richard Schulhof on our team, and we know he will continue his wonderful contributions at the Arboretum for numerous years to come.

Welcome Richard!

Service Anniversaries

October 2009 Honorees

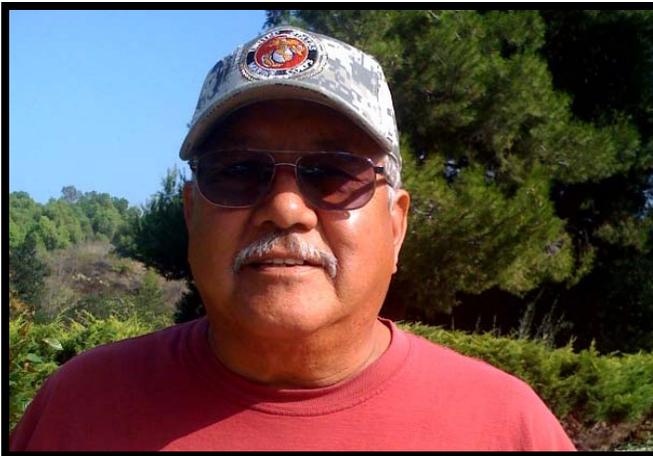
25 Years of Service



Cathy Carrillo-Cox
Management Secretary III
Administrative Services Agency



Melinda Mayoral
Assistant Regional Recreation Director
East Agency



Guadalupe Ruiz Jr.
General Maintenance Worker
Regional Agency

20 Years of Service



Perlita Flores
Program Manager I
Regional Park and Open Space District



John Rumney
Power Equipment Operator
Regional Facilities Agency

Service Anniversaries

October 2009 Honorees (Continued)

15 Years of Service

Xavier Miranda
Welder/Fitter
East Agency

10 Years of Service

Jose A. Contreras
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
East Agency

Richard Flores Jr.
Irrigation & Lawn Specialist
South Agency

Miguel Adame
Cement & Concrete Worker
South Agency

Bernardo Velazco
Grounds Maintenance Worker
Kenneth Hahn Regional Park

November 2009 Honorees

35 Years of Service



Ruben Olguin
Grounds Maintenance Worker
Regional Facilities Agency
Whittier Narrows Regional Park

15 Years of Service

Yvette Maufas
Recreation Services Manager
South Agency
El Camino District

Frank Moreno
Departmental Planner II
Planning & Development Agency

Mark Ladd
Assistant Superintendent
Regional Facilities Agency
Hollywood Bowl

Happy Anniversary!

10 Years of Service

Moises A. Guillen
Heavy Truck Driver
Special Operation Section
Regional Facilities Agency

Salene Limon
Senior Secretary III
Administrative Services Agency
Budget Section

Le Tran
Accounting Technician II
Administrative Services Agency

Brian Reeve
General Maintenance Supervisor
Regional Agency Construction

Robert Perez
General Maintenance Worker
Regional Facilities Agency
San Dimas Nature Center

Service Anniversaries

December 2009 Honorees (Continued)

45 Years of Service

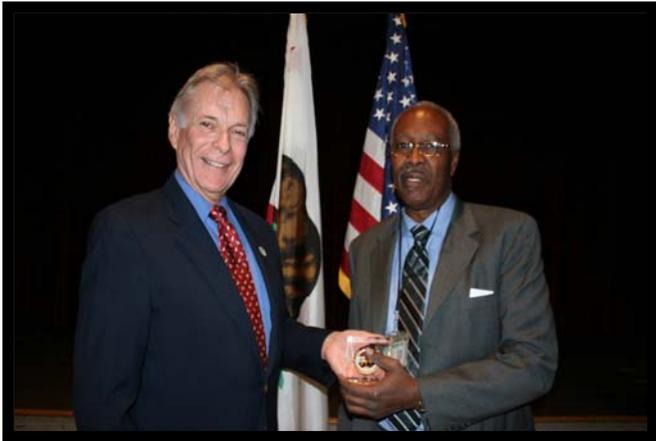


Larry Lee
Golf Director
Administrative Services Agency
Golf Division



Gilbert Ramirez
Grounds Maintenance Worker I
Regional Facilities Agency
Whittier Narrows

40 Years of Service



Dale Hall
Regional Operations Manager
Regional Facilities Agency



Jeffery Annoreno
Recreation Services Supervisor
South Agency

Rod Wallace
Regional Grounds Maintenance Director
North Agency



Service Anniversaries

December 2009 Honorees (Continued) 35 Years of Service



Harry Essex
Senior Grounds Maintenance Worker
Regional Facilities Agency
Kenneth Hahn



Gonzalo Chacon
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
North Agency

30 Years of Service



Judy Benavidez, Landscape Contract Monitor
Special Districts

20 Years of Service

Chabraji "Leila" Sharma
Senior Typist Clerk
Executive Office



15 Years of Service

Dennis Miller
Senior Grounds
Maintenance Worker
Regional Facilities
Agency
Whittier Narrows

10 Years of Service

Janet Villalobos
Staff Assistant I
Administrative Services Agency
Management Services

Linda Dickerson
Recreation Services Leader
East Agency

Curtis Ward
Procurement Assistant I
Administrative Services Agency
Procurement Section

Jose Noriega
Cement and Concrete Worker
North Agency
Construction

Cheryl Hazama
Senior Typist Clerk
Regional Facilities Agency
William S. Hart Park

Jeffrey Taylor
Senior Grounds Maintenance Worker
Regional Facilities Agency
Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park

Gary Stevenson
Grounds Maintenance Worker I
South Agency

HIGH FIVE!

For Those Who Go Above and Beyond...

To: Gail Farber, Director
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

In December 2009, the Sayre Fire and the early season storms of 2009 filled the May Debris Basin with silt, debris and sediment. The drainage channel that runs through El Cariso Golf Course and into the Pacoima Wash was the recipient of this debris and sediment, which caused flooding of the golf course and the course of the El Cariso Park walking path.

Since last winter, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works employee **Cung Nguyen** has been instrumental in helping with the clean-up projects, and also adding the golf course channel to his list of "hot spots" to monitor during and after storms.

The recent storms in December caused the channel to overflow and spread debris against our newly installed fence. Cung and his crews went to El Cariso that evening to fix the problem and reported in the morning that the water had subsided and that the culverts were functioning as designed.

Please pass along our thanks to Cung.

Russ Guiney,
Director

County of Los Angeles
Department of Parks and Recreation

The Department of Beaches and Harbors would like to recognize the **Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) staff** for their professional and outstanding service. We especially would like to recognize **Mr. Arnaldo de la Paz**, the Program Manager responsible for our Department's grants.

The RPOSD was extremely responsive in assisting us with completing the 1992 Proposition A grant agreement for the Will Rogers Access Improvement Project. Their assistance will allow us to complete this important project before the next summer beach session. Your Staffs' professionalism and helpfulness is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your excellent service.

Santos H. Kreimann, Director

County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors

The Department of Parks and Recreation and Golf Division has never been better. **Jorge Badel** and **Mike McMonegal** have helped run one of the busiest golf departments in the United States. Your Junior Golf Instruction is immensely fine tuned and I don't believe it is being done anywhere else in the Country. The kids have fun, they are comfortable at the course, and I believe they will be customers in the future. Perhaps my comments may be helpful even in a small way, because I come with no bias other than long experience and love for this great game of golf.

Len Kennett
Lifetime PGA Member
Lakewood, CA

GIVE Someone a HIGH FIVE!

Do you know someone in our Department who deserves special recognition? Maybe you were on a tight deadline and that person helped you meet it. Maybe you were having a tough work day and that person helped you beat it. You know who those people are, the ones who go above and beyond. Help us recognize them. Email their name and a short paragraph of why they deserve a High Five! to iperius@parks.lacounty.gov and we'll do our best to include them in the High Five! column of The Green Scene.



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Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

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Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Department of Parks and Recreation

Russ Guiney
Director

John Wicker
Chief Deputy Director

Kaye Michelson
Special Assistant

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