



## Supervisor Knabe Seeks To Create Thousands of Local Jobs

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, is seeking to create as many as 10,000 temporary jobs in the County of Los Angeles, thanks to funding available in the Federal Stimulus Package. Supervisor Knabe introduced legislation recently that would utilize over \$100 million in federal funding to create subsidized employment opportunities in County departments, private sector employers, non-profit organizations, and in cities across the County of Los Angeles.

“There is a limited timeframe when this federal funding is available, so we have no time to waste to make sure our unemployed residents can benefit from the thousands of jobs we can create right here in the County of Los Angeles,” said Supervisor Knabe. “Our local unemployment rate is hovering around 10 percent and we have a major opportunity to help our residents by creating immediate jobs, thanks to this funding.”

The goal of the motion is to place 10,000 unemployed local workers in financially subsidized positions from May 2009 through March 2010. The funding would come from the federal Emergency Temporary Aid for Needy Families Contingency Fund and would provide a minimum of \$100 million to the County to create temporary jobs. The federal portion of the funding provides 80 percent of the subsidy, and the County would have to provide a 20 percent share.

“Subsidized employment is one of the major priorities of this fund, and we intend to take full advantage of the significant network we have in place to provide training and employment to ensure this funding gets out the door and put towards jobs,” said Supervisor Knabe. “We cannot do this alone - we will be engaging both our County Workforce Investment Board, as well as the other eight Workforce Investment Boards across the County to help us employ these people.”



Under Supervisor Knabe’s motion, the County’s Chief Executive Officer will determine the feasibility of creating and coordinating employment opportunities that are possible through the available federal funding.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Volume 41 Issue 4

Events Calendar.....	2
Stay Healthy, Active and Play at County Parks Facilities.....	3
Information About the Hiring Freeze.....	3
RETIREES.....	4
Antonovich Tours New Courtrooms at MDA Courthouse.....	5
Molina Serves 500 at Family Shelter.....	5
ENRICHING LIVES: County Pollworker Application.....	6-7
Famous Red Diamond Returns to Natural History Museum.....	8
Ridley-Thomas Highlights His First 100 Days in Office.....	9
One Child At a Time Celebrity Basketball Game.....	9
County Launches March of Dimes Campaign.....	10
Safeguarding Foster Youth From Identity Theft.....	10
The 47th Annual Renaissance Faire and Artisans Market.....	11
Share It: Property Tax Reassessment Services.....	12



**Please be advised that the City of Los Angeles has established a 24/7 General Information hotline number regarding the Swine Flu: (800) 439-2909**

# EVENT CALENDAR

**Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and the County of Los Angeles Present: The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual “Remembering Our Veterans: Past, Present and Future”**

Saturday, May 23, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Arcadia County Park  
405 S. Santa Anita Avenue  
Arcadia, CA 91006  
(626) 967-1441  
(909) 394-2264

**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 Boulevard, Los Angeles 90036**

(323) 857-6000  
[www.lacma.org](http://www.lacma.org)

**Art**

Through June 7 - Franz West, To Build a House You Start with the Roof: Work, 1972–2008

Through October 4 - Pompeii and the Roman Villa: Art and Culture around the Bay of Naples

**Music**

Sundays Live – Every Sunday at 6 p.m.

For more information on LACMA’s Music Programs, please call (323) 857-6115

**Music Center  
135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012**

(213) 972-7211  
[www.musiccenter.org](http://www.musiccenter.org)

**Walt Disney Concert Hall**

[www.musiccenter.org](http://www.musiccenter.org)

**Los Angeles Philharmonic**

[www.laphil.com](http://www.laphil.com)  
(323) 850-2000

**Center Theatre Group**

[www.centertheatregroup.org](http://www.centertheatregroup.org)

**Ahmanson Theatre**

Through May 31 - Ain’t Misbehavin’  
June 9-21 - Dame Edna: My First Last Tour

**Mark Taper Forum**

Through May 17 - Lydia  
May 28 to July 12 - Uncle Vanya

**Kirk Douglas Theatre**

Through June 7 - Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo  
July 5 to Aug 2 – Heddatron

**Los Angeles Opera (performances in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion)**

[www.losangelesopera.com](http://www.losangelesopera.com)

May 21-June 21 - La Traviata

**Los Angeles Master Chorale**

[www.lamc.org](http://www.lamc.org)

May 31 – Sierra: Missa Latina

**Natural History Museum**

**900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007**

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



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

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(213) 738-2352

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Available online at: [dhr.lacounty.info](http://dhr.lacounty.info)

**WeTip WELFARE FRAUD**

**1-800-87-FRAUD**

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

## Stay Healthy, Active and Play at County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Facilities

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined his fellow board members and the County's Department of Parks and Recreation in launching the second phase of the "Play for Life!" campaign, which promotes and encourages youth, families, seniors and everyone in between to be healthy, stay active and play at the many County of Los Angeles Parks and Recreation facilities.



This year's campaign features real people who use County recreational facilities and encourage other members of the community to do the same by taking part in the many fun and healthy, low-cost or free activities and programs available to them.

For more information, please visit the Department of Parks and Recreation's Web site at <http://parks.lacounty.gov>.

### Information About the Hard Hiring Freeze

On Tuesday, February 10, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) William T Fujioka recommended, and the Board of Supervisors approved, a hard hiring freeze for all departments, exempting only critical health and safety positions, as well as a freeze on non-essential services and supplies and fixed assets. In an effort to address the serious current year fiscal problems facing the County as a result of the state's budget crisis and a projected County shortfall in fiscal year 2009-10, the freeze for hiring and appropriation is likely to continue through next fiscal year, as well.

The biggest change to the hiring process requires that all

hiring requests be approved by the CEO, unless the item is considered 'exempt' from the freeze. To be considered exempt from the freeze, the item must be a critical health or safety position and be included on the Hiring Freeze Exemption List. The Hiring Freeze Exemption List was developed through the collaborative efforts of CEO analysts and their counterparts in departments, and was included as part of the Guidelines and Procedures memo that was sent out to all Department Heads on February 24, 2009.

For more details about the guidelines and procedures and to view the memo that went out to all Department Heads, please visit <http://lacounty.gov>.

# RETIREES

*Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 40 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:*

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Louis C. Bethley  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** John P. Bernardi  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** David B. Morrison  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Larry C. Anthony  
**LACERA:** Janis A. Miller  
**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Charles Herndon  
**PROBATION:** Robert R. Johnson  
**PUBLIC HEALTH:** Yolanda Galvan  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Karolyn Cook, Gloria J. Dillard, Joanne Ferlisi, Rosemarie F. Kennedy, Carol M. Walker  
**SHERIFF:** Barry A. Fisher

*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:*

**ASSESSOR:** Richard J. Urrico  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:** Lurma Walton  
**CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES:** Linda D. Nickles, Patricia A. Wood  
**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Lorraine Harper, Sharon L. Langley, Cipriano Llanes, Lois V. Shirk, David Sprattling  
**COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES:** Marcos Shamas  
**COUNTY COUNSEL:** Raymond G. Fortner, Jr., Dennis M. Gonzales, H.A. Nicklin  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** R D. Murphy  
**FIRE:** Kenneth L. Atkins, Charles W. Badder, Mark A. Jacobs, Julius LeFlore, W D. Rexwinkel, Michael J. Williams  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Peter Allen, Rosa L. Benitez, Melvin J. Brewster, Michael E. Castro, Thomas Draper, Lewis C. Dodd, Alice D. Echols, Michael D. Gail, Michael Gilman, Susanna Lee, Martha L. Lundy, Aileen S. Minobe, Charles J. Riggio, Isidora Salcido, Robert J. Salinas, Reynaldo Solis, Blanquita Valenzuela, Arnie C. Vince Cruz, Margaret Wai  
**HUMAN RESOURCES:** Robin A. Suarez  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Ann M. Flowers, Timothy D. Fowler, Esther J. Green  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** Theodore Capuano, Leona June Molner  
**PARKS AND RECREATION:** Minerva King  
**PROBATION:** Orby C. Hickman, Mpinduzi Khuthaza, Robert Tannahill, Bertrand Todd

**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** James M. Gidlow  
**PUBLIC HEALTH:** Kathleen D. Cole, Michael Griego  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Rose Garcia  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Antoinette Brady, Grace Cosme, Sandra J. Fort, Dorothea G. Manns, Jennie G. Perez, Josephine Rhodes, Cleo Robinson, Gloria J. Washington  
**PUBLIC WORKS:** Dorothea A. Barcela, Dean D. Efstathiou, Mark S. Hill, Rodney H. Kubomoto, Arturo P. Ortega, Manuel A. Villa  
**REGIONAL PLANNING:** Joy A. Campbell  
**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Cardella A. Knight, Jacqueline E. Lee  
**SHERIFF:** Frances H. Alcala, Randy J. Amiel, Timothy W. Bowman, Robert D. Campbell, Ronald Escandon, John A. Franklin, James K. Harrell, Roy M. McLaurin, Steven A. Miller, Michael D. Pippin, Karen Y. Tatum, Christopher L. Walker, Anthony B. Yelverton  
**SUPERIOR COURT:** Linda Markmiller  
**TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR:** Henry Roman, Paulette R. Thomas

*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:*

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES:** Julia L. Chen, Alfonso C. Oliván  
**CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES:** Alice Solorzano  
**CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Lan Nguyen  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Africa P. Anacleto  
**FIRE:** Jon M. Collins, David E. Coulter, Gordon D. Dudley, David C. Gehr, Stephen G. King, Richard R. Langlotz, Robert A. Serabia  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Ida M. Bradley, Eunice Casas, Lilliam C. Flores, Patricia M. Flores-Griff, Jessica Gorospe, Virgil J. Henry Jr., Norman G. Hubbard, Linda Lucero, Uraisri Somrang  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Helen K. Tsai, Irene Y. Wang  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Eliamar Baeza, Margarita Gabat, Truc T. Nguyen  
**PUBLIC WORKS:** Randine M. Ruiz, Joe D. Chairez  
**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK:** Nenita M. Adalin  
**SHERIFF:** Joe M. Carrion Jr., Louisa B. Chabot, David B. Clark, John T. Cleary, Robert R. Corrales, Joseph G. Gonzalez, James K. Harrell, Jimmy M. Jackson, Richard W. Jeanson, Rickey Stamps, Vincent N. White, Betty J. Wilcox  
**TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR:** Annette B. Watkins

## Supervisor Antonovich Tours New Courtrooms at MDA Antelope Valley Courthouse

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined Judges Thomas White and Lisa Chung (*below*) to tour the new courtrooms at the Michael D. Antonovich (MDA) Antelope Valley Courthouse.



Last year, Supervisor Antonovich secured funding for two additional courtrooms to be built at the courthouse to reduce hardship placed on the families, prosecutors and others who had to travel great distances to outlying courts to have their cases adjudicated.

On October 23, 2003, after years of lobbying and not taking “no” for an answer, Supervisor Antonovich helped open the doors to a new courthouse for the Antelope Valley — located on Avenue M at 42011 4th Street West. In honor of his efforts to secure a courthouse for the Antelope Valley, a panel of Superior Court Judges and other local officials named the courthouse the Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse.



*Supervisor Antonovich with deputies assigned to the MDA Antelope Valley Courthouse.*

## Supervisor Molina Serves 500 at Family Shelter as Part of County’s Cesar Chavez Community Service Week

*“We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community.... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own.”*

– Cesar Chavez

“Helping and Serving Others” was this year’s theme for the County’s Eighth Annual Cesar Chavez Community Service Week which took place from March 30 to April 3. During this week, County employees volunteered in the community, and collected food for needy families. On March 31, the day of Chavez’ Birthday, Supervisor Gloria Molina held a special presentation at the Board of Supervisors’ meeting at the Hall of Administration.

To kick-off the County’s Service Week, the East L.A. Library held a Cesar Chavez Birthday party with the Trio Monte Carlo. In response to the Salvation Army’s report of an increase in requests for housing and food from families suffering from the economic downturn, Supervisor Molina and her staff cooked a meal and served families at the Salvation Army’s Bell Shelter.



“During these difficult economic times, our families and communities are leaning on the County family now more than ever. We are pleased to continue our annual tradition of volunteering instead of taking a paid holiday.” said Supervisor Molina. “I also encourage County residents to join us by finding ways in which to help others in need or to volunteer in their communities.”

Last year, County employees donated a total of 23,000 pounds of food through the Chavez Week food drive in partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, with collection of food items at 234 sites.

# ENRICHING LIVES...



## COUNTY EMPLOYEE POLLWORKER APPLICATION MAY 19, 2009 – STATEWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION

Please print clearly and fill out completely

EMPLOYEE	NAME: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____ <small>(FIRST) (MIDDLE) (LAST)</small>																							
	HOME ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____																							
	HOME PHONE: _____ CELL/ALTERNATE PHONE: _____																							
	E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____																							
	CAN YOU SPEAK AND UNDERSTAND A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH? YES _____ NO _____ If YES, WHAT LANGUAGE ? _____	Have you served as a pollworker before? YES _____ NO _____																						
	DEPARTMENT NAME: _____ DEPARTMENT #: _____																							
	PAYROLL TITLE: _____ EMPLOYEE #: _____																							
	WORK ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____																							
OFFICE PHONE: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____																								
<b>ARE YOU A MAPP MANAGER?</b> <small>(MANAGEMENT APPRAISAL PERFORMANCE PLAN PARTICIPANT)</small> _____ Yes _____ No If yes, you do not need supervisor approval.		<b>WHICH POSITION WOULD YOU LIKE TO FILL?</b> _____ INSPECTOR _____ NVC DIRECTOR _____ CLERK (Please refer to description on back before making a selection)																						
I CERTIFY THAT I AM A REGISTERED VOTER IN CALIFORNIA: SIGNATURE: _____ INDICATE COUNTY OF REGISTRATION: _____ LOS ANGELES _____ OTHER: _____		<b>WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE IN ANY OF THE HARD TO RECRUIT AREAS LISTED BELOW?</b> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>_____ Azusa</td> <td>_____ Palmdale</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Beverly Hills</td> <td>_____ Park La Brea</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Boyle Heights</td> <td>_____ Pasadena</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Burbank</td> <td>_____ Pomona</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Carson</td> <td>_____ Redondo Beach</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Culver City</td> <td>_____ San Pedro</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ East Los Angeles</td> <td>_____ Santa Monica</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Glendale</td> <td>_____ Sherman Oaks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Mar Vista</td> <td>_____ South Los Angeles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>_____ Monterey Park</td> <td>_____ Torrance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>_____ Wilmington</td> </tr> </table>	_____ Azusa	_____ Palmdale	_____ Beverly Hills	_____ Park La Brea	_____ Boyle Heights	_____ Pasadena	_____ Burbank	_____ Pomona	_____ Carson	_____ Redondo Beach	_____ Culver City	_____ San Pedro	_____ East Los Angeles	_____ Santa Monica	_____ Glendale	_____ Sherman Oaks	_____ Mar Vista	_____ South Los Angeles	_____ Monterey Park	_____ Torrance		_____ Wilmington
_____ Azusa	_____ Palmdale																							
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_____ East Los Angeles	_____ Santa Monica																							
_____ Glendale	_____ Sherman Oaks																							
_____ Mar Vista	_____ South Los Angeles																							
_____ Monterey Park	_____ Torrance																							
	_____ Wilmington																							

SUPERVISOR	NAME: _____	TITLE: _____
	WORK NUMBER: _____	FAX NUMBER: _____
	E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____	
	DEPARTMENT # _____ SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____	
	COMPLETE AND FAX THIS APPLICATION TO (562) 868-3457. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 800-815-2666 OPTION 7	

RR/CC OFFICE USE ONLY– MAY 2009– JH	
SUP: <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u>	Voter ID: _____ Lives out of County: _____ Yes _____ No
Home PCT: _____	Assigned PCT: _____
Initials: _____	Date: _____
Position: <u>NVC Director</u> <u>Asst. NVC Director</u> <u>Inspector</u> <u>ML Clerk</u> <u>Clerk</u>	

**ATTENTION L.A. COUNTY EMPLOYEES!!!**

**EARN YOUR SALARY PLUS EXTRA CASH!  
BE A POLLWORKER ON MAY 19, 2009!**

**★ ABOUT THE POSITIONS/ DUTIES**

- **INSPECTOR (\$100):** Responsible for supervising the precinct on Election Day, complete **mandatory** in-class and online training sessions and pick up/drop off Election Day supplies. Prior pollworker experience preferred.
- **NVC DIRECTOR (\$100):** Serve in a location with more than one precinct and direct voters to their voting location.
- **CLERK (\$80):** Assists Inspector with processing voters on Election Day. May be requested to accompany Inspector to drop-off supplies.

**★ ABOUT THE COUNTY EMPLOYEE POLLWORKER PROGRAM**

- Receive regular salary for the day PLUS a pollworker stipend (see above).
- Receive an additional \$25 bonus for attending a training class.
- County Pollworker must be a U.S. Citizen, 18 years or older, a registered voter in California and must have supervisor approval on their application.

**★ HOW TO APPLY**

- Fill out application an fax to 562-868-3457.
- Apply online via the intranet at [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net).
- Pollworkers will be placed at a convenient location and are highly encouraged to work in hard to recruit areas (areas are listed on application).

**★ HOURS**

- Arrive to set up the polling place by 6:00 a.m.
- Polls open at 7:00 a.m.
- Polls close at 8:00 p.m.
- Closing polls and counting ballots takes about 90 minutes.

**IMPORTANT:** If there is an emergency situation and you cannot make it on Election Day, alert the RR/CC ASAP. Please call the County Pollworker Unit at (800) 815-2666 Option 7.

**County of Los Angeles**



*Strategic Plan*

Enriching Lives  
locounty.gov

**County Mission**

- **To enrich lives through effective and caring service**

**County Values**

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

- **Accountability** – We accept responsibility for the decisions we make and the actions we take.
- **Can-Do Attitude** – We approach each challenge believing that, together, a solution can be achieved.
- **Compassion** – We treat those we serve and each other in a kind and caring manner.
- **Customer Orientation** – We place the highest priority on meeting our customers' needs with accessible, responsive quality services, and treating them with respect and dignity.
- **Integrity** – We act consistent with our values and the highest ethical standards.
- **Leadership** – We engage, motivate and inspire others to collaboratively achieve common goals through example, vision and commitment.
- **Professionalism** – We perform to a high standard of excellence. We take pride in our employees and invest in their job satisfaction and development.
- **Respect for Diversity** – We value the uniqueness of every individual and their perspective.
- **Responsiveness** – We take the action needed in a timely manner.

**Strategic Plan Goals**

1. **Operational Effectiveness:** Maximize the effectiveness of the County's processes, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public services.
2. **Children, Family and Adult Well-Being:** Enrich lives through integrated, cost-effective and client-centered supportive services.
3. **Community and Municipal Services:** Enrich the lives of Los Angeles County's residents and visitors by providing access to cultural, recreational and lifelong learning facilities programs; ensure quality regional open space, recreational and public works infrastructure services for County residents; and deliver customer oriented municipal services to the County's diverse unincorporated communities.
4. **Health and Mental Health:** Improve health and mental health outcomes and efficient use of scarce resources, by promoting proven service models and prevention principles that are population-based, client-centered and family-focused.
5. **Public Safety:** Ensure that the committed efforts of the public safety partners continue to maintain and improve the safety and security of the people of Los Angeles County.

Gloria Molina    Mark Ridley-Thomas    Zev Yaroslavsky    Don Knabe    Michael D. Antonovich  
 Supervisor, First District    Supervisor, Second District    Supervisor, Third District    Supervisor, Fourth District    Supervisor, Fifth District

# Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

## Famed Red Diamond Returns to Natural History Museum

*Los Angeles' Kazanjian Foundation Brings Storied Gemstone Back Through May 29*

The “Kazanjian Red” drew thousands of visitors when it first appeared at the Museum last October. It left four months later, stopping in Carlsbad, California where it was scrutinized by gem experts at the Gemological Institute of America. Now, the diamond has returned for a second engagement in the Museum’s Gem and Mineral Hall. It will be on view through May 29.

Though there are many diamonds with a pink hue, true blood-red diamonds are the rarest of gems — only three large stones are known to exist. Of that trio, none has as fascinating and exciting history as the Kazanjian Red. Found around 1927 in the diamond fields of South Africa, the red diamond was a sensational discovery. During World War II, it was stolen in Arnhem during Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, and hidden in a salt mine with other looted treasures. When it was recovered by American soldiers, it was initially mistaken for a ruby.

The diamond’s original owners did not survive the war and the gem was eventually sold. It passed through several hands, including those of mining entrepreneur Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, until it was purchased by a private collector in 1970. There, it remained hidden until 2007 when it was purchased by Los Angeles-based Kazanjian Bros. Inc. This is its first exhibition in the U.S.

Also on loan from the Kazanjian Foundation is a sparkling cache that has been dubbed the Hollywood Jewels Collection, now on display in the Hall of Gems and Minerals near the entrance to the Gem Vault. It includes treasures from old and new Hollywood: an emerald and diamond

brooch once owned by Faye Dunaway; a bejeweled compact given to Carole Lombard by Clark Gable; the Edwardian era (ca. 1910) tiara worn by Madonna in her wedding to Guy Ritchie and a gold and diamond collar necklace given to actress Terry Moore by Cary Grant, who once said that Grant gave her the gift in appreciation for letting him cry on her shoulder during his divorce.

Four of the world’s largest sapphires carved into Presidential busts by Kazanjian Bros. Inc. today reside in the Oval Office of the White House. Gifted by the Kazanjian Foundation, they are considered the “Crown Jewels of America.”



Founded in 1918, Kazanjian Bros. Inc. is an Armenian family business that started in New York, established a Los Angeles salon in 1928, and moved to Beverly Hills in 1969. James Kazanjian’s lifelong search for unusual and exquisite gems took him all over the world. During his worldwide travels, he was able to acquire jewels from the Maharajahs in India, the largest rubies and sapphires in the world, and other historical jewels from a variety of luminaries. Through the display and sale of private jewelry collections, the company’s Kazanjian Foundation raises funds for scholarship programs for underprivileged youth.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is located at 900 Exposition Boulevard. The Museum is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$6.50 for students and seniors; and \$2 for children 5-12. For 24-hour Museum information, please call (213) 763-DINO or visit [www.nhm.org](http://www.nhm.org).

## Supervisor Ridley-Thomas Highlights His First 100 Days in Office

March 10 marked Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' 100<sup>th</sup> day in office. During this period, he has addressed several issues of importance to residents of the Second District, including healthcare, employment, and public safety.

On his second day in office, the Supervisor took action to jump-start the reopening of Martin Luther King, Jr. Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center (MLK-MACC), his top priority. William T Fujioka, the County's Chief Executive Officer, was directed to prepare a report designed to expedite the project.

Accentuating his theme of "Making a Difference: Empowering Communities and Delivering Results," the Supervisor has taken steps to bring County government closer to its residents in his continuing effort to increase civic participation.

He recently instructed Fujioka to seek state legislation that would immediately remove the restriction that limits regular Board of Supervisors meetings at the Hall of Administration in Los Angeles. His motion included identifying potential funding for hosting quarterly board meetings in other cities in the County and exploring meeting during late afternoons and evenings to maximize public participation.



*Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas answers questions from the press in front of MLK-MACC.*

### The Department of Children and Family Services Second Annual



**"One Child at a Time Celebrity Basketball Game"**  
hosted by  
**Katt Williams**

**Saturday, July 18 – 3 to 6 p.m.**  
**USC Galen Center 3400 Figueroa Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90007**

**Early Bird tickets - May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup> - \$12.50**  
**After June 14<sup>th</sup> \$15.00 / July 18<sup>th</sup> \$20.00.**

**To purchase tickets, please call Info Line at 213 739-6210**

**Benefits DCFS Family and Children's Services Trust Fund**  
**and**  
**One Child at a Time Scholarship Fund**

Visit our Web site  
[www.facebook.com/dcfslacounty](http://www.facebook.com/dcfslacounty)  
[www.myspace.com/ocaat](http://www.myspace.com/ocaat)

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## County Launches March of Dimes Campaign

Supervisor Don Knabe launched the County's 2009 March of Dimes charitable giving campaign during a recent kick-off breakfast at the Music Center. Last year, the County team raised more than \$370,000 to help the March of Dimes. The mission of March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. March of Dimes researchers, volunteers, educators, outreach workers and advocates work together to give all babies a fighting chance against the threats to their health: prematurity, birth defects and low birth weight. The funds will be used for important research on premature births and education programs for young mothers.



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## Safeguarding Foster Youth from Identity Theft and Providing Additional Support for Emancipated Youth

To safeguard foster youth from identity theft, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich to ensure additional measures to strengthen a recently passed state law which safeguards emancipated and foster youth from identity theft. "Identity theft is a serious crime that affects all segments of society," said Supervisor Antonovich. "However, our County's emancipated foster youth, striving to establish productive lives, are especially vulnerable."

Supervisor Antonovich's motion directs the County's Chief Executive Officer, Director of Children and Family Services and the Chief Probation Officer to report back to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days, and quarterly thereafter, on the scope of foster youth identity theft in the County of Los Angeles and the effectiveness of measures taken to address this problem.

The law, which originated from Assembly Bill 2985 by

Assembly member Bill Maze (R-Visalia), requires County welfare departments to request credit checks for foster youth who are 16 or older and provide referrals to credit counseling organizations if the credit check discloses any negative information.



Additionally, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Supervisor Antonovich's motion supporting Assembly Bill 12, the "California Fostering Connections to Success Act." This bill will improve outcomes for young people through age extension in California, where state research shows one in four former foster youth faces incarceration within two years of leaving the system and one in five become homeless within 18 months.

"Cutting off kids at age 18 is government-sanctioned child abuse. We wouldn't do it to our own children – we should not do it to our foster children," said Supervisor Antonovich. "Cost concerns of doing nothing will be outweighed by future costs of incarceration, homelessness, long-term dependence on public assistance, and even death."

## The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Renaissance Pleasure Faire and Artisans Market Returns to Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area

The 47th Annual Renaissance Pleasure Faire, “Where Fantasy Rules!” returns to the County of Los Angeles Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, a unit of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, maintained and operated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, through May 17 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.



The Renaissance Pleasure Faire embodies the 16th Century Elizabethan period by presenting a true English port-town faire and marketplace where guests can experience 1,200 theme characters and guild members throughout 20 acres of shaded pavilions and thoroughfares. The Faire takes place during weekends through May 17, with over 2,000 costumed performers bringing Shakespeare’s England to life with parades crossing the Faire throughout the day and 13 stages of continuous entertainment spread around the village.

Throughout the Faire, there are around 150 craft artisans, hand powered rides, games, hearty English ales, fine wines, and over 100 gourmet foods are available to ensure a full day of revelry, shopping, and fun.



The Los Angeles County Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area is a beautiful 836-acre park that includes a lake, green foliage and plenty of parking. It is located right off the Irwindale exit of the 210 Freeway, just east of where the 210 and 605 freeways cross. Ticket prices at the Box Office are \$25 for adults, \$15 for children ages 5-12 (children under 5 are always free) and a discounted price of \$22.50 for military, students and seniors (62+). For discount advance tickets, please call (877)772-5425 or visit [www.RenFair.com](http://www.RenFair.com) and print tickets today at Click-n-Print.

# Share It



## Message from Pastor Herrera Director of Consumer Affairs Regarding Property Tax Reassessment Services

Thank you for contacting us about the solicitation you received from a property tax reassessment service. It has been widely reported that the property values of single-family homes and condominiums throughout most of the state have been declining. While the declines in the County have not been as dramatic as those in other parts of the state, property values have dropped in most areas of the County. As a result, many companies are sending these kinds of solicitations to take advantage of unsuspecting consumers.

Be aware that you do not need to pay a company for these services. The County Assessor's office has reviewed over a half-million County of Los Angeles properties bought between July 2003 and June 2008 to determine if they need to reduce the assessed value due to falling home prices. This was done free of charge.

The Assessor's office will send letters by the end of June to all 500,000 owners whose homes were reviewed to notify them of the results. If the home qualified for a reduction, the Assessor will reduce the value of the home and notify you by mail. Check the Assessor's Web site at [assessor.lacounty.gov](http://assessor.lacounty.gov) to see if your home was part of the review.

If your home was not part of the review, you can submit a Decline-In-Value Reassessment application to the Assessor's office free of charge. Contact the Assessor at (888) 807-2111 or [assessor.lacounty.gov](http://assessor.lacounty.gov) for the application and more information.

Various private companies are sending mailings to property owners offering their services to pursue a reduction in their property taxes. These companies may charge hundreds of dollars to file for a reduction in value on behalf of the property owner. Some companies are even imposing late fees if the application is received after an arbitrary deadline. Be aware that solicitations from private companies offering to pursue a reduction in property taxes must clearly indicate that they are **NOT** a government agency and that their services are **NOT** approved or endorsed by any government agency. Failure to provide such notice is a violation of California law.

If you have already paid these fraudulent companies, call the Department of Consumer Affairs' Real Estate Fraud Program at (800) 973-3370 to file a complaint.

*Submit a Decline-In-Value Reassessment application to the Assessor's office free of charge. Contact the Assessor at (888) 807-2111 or [assessor.lacounty.gov](http://assessor.lacounty.gov) for the application and more information.*



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