



Summer 2008 Newsletter

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**Friday, August 1**

12th Annual Feria Agostina. 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. El Rescate is hosting a community event that honors the Salvadoran Culture with Son Caribe, Maggie y su Son 7, La Sonora Internacional. Wilshire Blvd. from Alvarado to Corondelet, and Park View Street from 7th Street to 6th.

**Wednesday, August 6**

Juan Manuel Barco y Conjunto at Levitt Pavilion-MacArthur Park Summer Concert Series. 7:30 p.m. Accomplished guitarist performs tejano style songs about the migrant worker. 2230 West 6th Street. Los Angeles, CA 90057. [www.levittla.org](http://www.levittla.org) (213) 384-5701

**MacArthur Park Concerts Strike a Chord with Community**



Want to enjoy soulful rhythms while the sun sets? Or dance to compelling Latin dance beats? Or enjoy Grammy-nominated live music with your family picnic?

You can enjoy all this for free at the **MacArthur Park** bandshell, thanks to the 2008 Summer Concert Series made possible by the Levitt Foundation.

"We are very lucky to live in one of the most diverse communities in the world right here at MacArthur Park," said Reyes, who recently joined hundreds of music lovers to kick off 50 free summer concerts at the bandshell. "Through music, we can explore and learn about each other's cultures."

The concerts continue through September 14 at **The Friends of the Levitt Pavilion-MacArthur Park**. The line-up includes Grammy-nominated artists and emerging talents from more than 40 music genres representing five continents.

The complete concert schedule is available at [www.cd1.lacity.org](http://www.cd1.lacity.org). For more details, visit [www.levittpavilionlosangeles.org](http://www.levittpavilionlosangeles.org).

**Reyes Greens L.A. With Vista Hermosa Park**

**Friday, August 8** 7 p.m. bird walk | 8 p.m. film (Wild America).  
Audubon Film Fridays at Debs Park  
4700 North Griffin Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90031.  
[www.laaudubon.org](http://www.laaudubon.org)  
(323)221-2255

**Saturday, August 16** 10:00 a.m.  
Peace in the Northeast Community - March and Resource Fair. Join march to Victory Outreach in Eagle Rock.  
Highland Park Adult Senior Citizen Center, 6152 N. Figueroa St. to 4160 Eagle Rock Blvd.  
[voeaglerock@yahoo.com](mailto:voeaglerock@yahoo.com)  
(323) 258-7878

**Saturday, August 16** 7:30 p.m.  
Royal Crown Revue at Levitt Pavilion-MacArthur Park Summer Concert Series -Neo-swing infuse classic American swing, jazz and rock  
2230 West 6th Street. Los Angeles, CA 90057.  
[www.levittla.org](http://www.levittla.org)  
(213) 384-5701

**Wednesday, August 20** 7:30 p.m.  
Mariachi Reyna de Los Angeles at Levitt Pavilion-MacArthur Park Summer Concert Series - America's first all female mariachi  
2230 West 6th Street. Los Angeles, CA 90057.  
[www.levittla.org](http://www.levittla.org)  
(213) 384-5701

**Friday, August 22** 7 p.m.  
bird walk | 8 p.m. film (Whale Rider).  
Audubon Film Fridays at Debs Park  
4700 North Griffin Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90031.  
[www.laaudubon.org](http://www.laaudubon.org)  
(323)221-2255

**Sunday, August 31** 7:30 p.m.  
Lula & Afro Brazil at Levitt Pavilion-MacArthur Park Summer Concert Series - Joyful drummers, upbeat dancers, and playful musicians  
2230 West 6th Street. Los Angeles, CA 90057.  
[www.levittla.org](http://www.levittla.org)  
(213) 384-5701



Councilmember Reyes welcomes the community to a jewel of nature in downtown Los Angeles - **Vista Hermosa Park**.

"The new park provides an outlet for relief in a densely-populated community that needs it," said Reyes, who celebrated the opening with hundreds of locals, leaders and nature lovers last month. "The park provides a place for people to sit and contemplate nature. An athletic field for fun and sports. And an outdoors classroom space for teachers to conduct science classes."

Vista Hermosa Park is located at 1st and Beaudry in downtown Los Angeles next to the new **Edward R. Roybal Learning Center**.

A natural park, Vista Hermosa is self-sustaining and collects and circulates runoff water. It also features an International Federation of Association Football (FIFA)-regulation soccer field, science classes and green roofs on bathroom facilities and offices.

"We are fortunate to have this partnership with **Los Angeles Unified School District** and the **Santa Monica Conservancy** to think innovatively and design a park that serves multiple needs," said Reyes.

### A Cool Pool on a Hot Summer Day



Councilmember Reyes offered locals one more way to beat the heat when he joined with the **Westlake** community and City leaders to open the **Miguel Contreras Learning Complex Pool** for the

summer.

The Miguel Contreras pool, at 322 Lucas Ave., is open to the public from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Swim classes, including advanced swim lessons, water aerobics, lifeguard lessons and a program for special-needs students, will also be offered at the pool between 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on weekdays. Summer hours end August 29. Information: (213) 240-3800.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **Reyes Welcomes Community to Police Station Grand Opening**



Councilmember Reyes invites residents to join him and City leaders to the Grand Opening of the first police station in his district. **The celebration will take place Sept. 4 at 9 a.m. at the new Los Angeles Police Department Station – Rampart area at 1401 W. 6th St. (at Loma Drive).**

"This police station is long overdue in one of the most densely-populated communities in the nation," said Councilmember Reyes, who, with the community, helped fight to secure nearly \$30 million for the new station.

"More than 300,000 people will benefit from this investment," he said. "Fighting crime is not an easy job. It involves a community effort and officers that love to give of their time. That's why your decision to become involved with LAPD is so important."

### **A Safe Haven for Kids in Lincoln Heights**



Dozens of children, parents and City officials joined Councilmember Reyes to celebrate the opening of the **Downey Child Care Center** in **Lincoln Heights**.

The \$2 million project features one large classroom broken up into numerous learning centers, computer workstation, outdoor patio activity area, kitchenette and security system.

The center, at 229 S. Ave 18, is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Information: (323) 227-7752.

### **Plastics, the 'Graffiti of the L.A. River'**



*Paper or plastic?*

Bring your own bag, says Councilmember Reyes. He is calling for the public's help in reducing the plastic and polystyrene that trash our City, especially the L.A. River.

"Plastics have been the graffiti of the Los Angeles River for decades," he said.

With this in mind, Reyes introduced policies to help clear plastic bags and polystyrene from our neighborhoods and waterways.

Reyes' plastic bags resolution, unanimously approved by the City

Council, calls for a Citywide plastic bags ban in 2010, if the state has not imposed a fee of at least 25 cents by then. Consumers would have a choice to use their own canvas bags, which earns a 5-cent credit at some stores, or pay a 25-cent green fee for a paper, compostable or biodegradable bag. The money generated would help fund an education campaign.

Reyes also spearheaded a polystyrene food packaging ban at all City facilities, effective July 1, 2009. This policy applies to public facilities such as the City's buildings, parks and libraries, as well as events on City properties. It does not apply to private businesses like restaurants, retail and grocery stores.

City officials estimate that Los Angeles consumers use 2.3 billion plastic bags each year. An estimated 5% of plastic bags are recycled statewide, according to the City's **Bureau of Sanitation**.

### Reyes Gets 'Dream Team' Ready To Help Keep L.A. River Clean

As part of his ongoing efforts to revitalize the **Los Angeles River**, Councilmember Reyes is getting ready to roll out the **Los Angeles River Keepers**.

The small team of young adults will help pick up trash, wipe out graffiti and maintain healthy vegetation along the Los Angeles River. The group will also gain valuable leadership training and environmental education.

The River Keepers program provides job opportunities for underemployed or unemployed local residents ranging from 18-21 years old.

### Reyes Joins Fellow 'Trolley Dodgers' on new Dodgers Trolley



(Photo: Los Angeles Department of Transportation)

Dodger fans can now enjoy home games without the high gas prices, traffic or \$15 parking by boarding the free **Dodgers Trolley** shuttle.

Fans can learn more about the Trolley service on the Dodger

website at [www.dodgers.com/trolley](http://www.dodgers.com/trolley).

Reyes secured \$70,000 in City funds for the trolley to provide free, efficient transit for Dodger fans and also improve the quality of life for residents nearby.

Shuttle service is available through September 25, the last home game this season. The Trolley will run, though less frequently, during the game.

### Reyes, Community Spruce Up Solano Canyon



Councilmember Reyes joined dozens of volunteers on a recent Saturday morning to bag trash, plant trees and remove graffiti in **Solano Canyon**.

About 60 volunteers gathered at the Solano Canyon Community Garden for the **Solano Canyon Community Clean-up**.

They represented **Clean and Green, Aztecs Rising, Central City Action Committee**, the **Solano Canyon Community Garden Association** and **Team Reyes**, the Councilmember's staff.

If you would like a community clean-up in your neighborhood, or want to participate in a future clean-up, call Reyes' office at (213) 485-0763.

### Carwasheros Receive Backing from L.A. City Council



Councilmember Reyes and car wash workers, or carwasheros, celebrated a milestone recently when City Council unanimously approved Reyes' resolution calling for just wages and safe working conditions.

Reyes' motion urges car wash workers and car wash owners to reach a just and decent agreement for all parties involved. The resolution followed a press conference organized by the **Carwash Worker Organization Committee of the United States Steelworkers (CWOC-USW)**.

The resolution comes on the heels of a **Los Angeles Times** report on the car wash industry which revealed that some carwash workers are paid wages as low \$1.63 an hour and lack protection from hazardous chemicals.

Many carwashes have been cited for violating child labor law, paying less than minimum wage, or failing to provide workers with health and safety protection.

### Neighbor of the Month



**Name:** Pedro A. Hernandez

**Occupation:** Retired, Department of Sanitation

**Neighborhood:** Pico-Union

**CD1 Claim to Fame:** Pedro helped capture the man convicted of arson for burning down St. Thomas the Apostle Church of Pico-Union in June 1999. The 99-year-old church suffered \$2 million in damages. Pedro also has helped educate immigrants about their new home, about how the government works and to get involved in their community.

**I have lived in CD1 for** 42 years.

**What I love most about my neighborhood:** Everything.

**Favorite CD 1 Restaurant:** El Padrino Salvadoran Food (Pico and Mariposa)

**First Pet:** A little dog, Koky

**Favorite book:** Prefers newspapers

**Hobbies and Interests:** Going to the beach, dancing.