



HERB J. WESSON, JR.
COUNCILMEMBER

10th
DISTRICT

Eye on the Tenth

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HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember
Tenth District

GOOOOAAAAAALLLLLLLLL! SOCCER FEVER HITS THE TENTH

Councilmember Wesson is proud to represent the many diverse communities within CD10. This June and July when soccer fans throughout Los Angeles celebrated one of the most popular spectator sports in the world, we in CD10 were right there with them.

From Koreatown...

The Korean American community celebrated the Korean National Soccer Team's participation in the World Cup competition by once again organizing the "Korean American World Cup Cheer Event". The event provided all Angelenos an opportunity to watch the games on large outdoor video screens at two locations in CD10. To thank them for their generosity, Councilmember Wesson invited members of the Korean American community to City Hall and presented them with Certificates of Recognition for the outstanding contributions they made to the community.



Councilmember Wesson and Council President Eric Garcetti welcome the Ethiopian Sports Federation of North America to the City of Los Angeles

...to Little Ethiopia

On the other side of CD10, Little Ethiopia and the Ethiopian Community hosted the 23rd Annual Ethiopian Soccer Tournament during the week of July 2, 2006 – July 8, 2006. Councilmember Wesson presented the sponsors of the event, the Ethiopian Sports Federation of North America, with a Resolution welcoming them to the City of Los Angeles. Over 60,000 people attended the week long celebration, which was held in Little Ethiopia, at the Coliseum and other venues throughout the city.

These community-sponsored events strive to bring awareness and cross-cultural understanding of the diverse cultures in Los Angeles and build a bridge of mutual respect and appreciation of one another's history and culture.

So, all together now: Olé...olé...olé...olé!

Councilmembers Wesson and LaBonge and members of the Korean American community give a "World Cup Cheer" at City Hall



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TAKING CARE OF THE TENTH

\$50,000 REWARDS OFFERED IN RESPONSE TO SENSELESS TRAGEDIES



Councilmembers Wesson and Weiss with the family of Ana Interiano announcing the \$50,000 reward

Ana Interiano

Councilmember Wesson and Councilmember Jack Weiss of CD5 announced a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of those responsible for the death of 16 year-old Ana Interiano.

On Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at 12:50 p.m., Ana was shot to death while walking home from summer school with her friends. Ana was struck down by an assailant who exited a white Ford Explorer and fired several rounds into an alley near Robertson Boulevard and Cadillac Avenue, in the La Cienega Heights area. She was rushed to the hospital but died later that day.

“We need the public’s help in bringing the person who is responsible for this terrible act to justice. We don’t want this assailant on our streets,” said Wesson. “This tragedy underscores the fact that creating a safe community will require more effort and commitment from our entire community. We all have a stake in this effort.”

“Someone knows who killed Ana Interiano, and this reward should give them another reason to come forward,” said Weiss. “Knowing what happened will give some peace to her family, and with this information we can take a violent killer off the streets before he kills again.”

Anyone with information about the shooting or who

may have been in the area of Robertson and Cadillac at the time of the shooting is requested to call Detective Ron Phillips of the Los Angeles Police Department, who is leading the investigation. He can be reached at (310) 444-1520.

“This tragedy underscores the fact that creating a safe community will require more effort and commitment from our entire community. We all have a stake in this effort.”

Roni Hardy

Councilmember Wesson also announced the City Council’s authorization of a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension, and conviction of the individual responsible for the death of Roni Hardy, a local attorney who was the victim of a fatal gunshot wound on the evening of Monday, June 5, 2006. Mr. Hardy was 49 years old and is survived by his wife Laura Hardy and three children.

Mr. Hardy was fatally wounded when, around midnight, he exited his home on 24th Street and Cimarron Street to retrieve some papers from his vehicle. A suspect armed with a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun walked up to Mr. Hardy, shot him and fled the scene southbound on Cimarron Street. Mr. Hardy was taken to the hospital and was pronounced dead the following day.

“This senseless killing is a tragedy for our entire city. We must all come together to help apprehend the perpetrator of this terrible act,” said Wesson.

The LAPD is seeking the public’s help in obtaining information from anyone in the area of 24th Street and Cimarron Street at approximately midnight on Monday, June 5, 2006. The investigation is being conducted by LAPD Southwest Division Detectives Ed Clark and Stacey Szymkowiak who can be reached at (213) 485-2417.

Taking Care Of The Tenth (cont.)**SOUTH ROBERTSON TOWN HALL MEETING**

In light of the recent shooting and tragic death of Ana Interiano in La Cienega Heights, on Tuesday, July 18 the South Robertson Neighborhood Council hosted a Town Hall Meeting to “Stop the Violence” at the Palms Fellowship Hall. Councilmember Wesson, LAUSD Board Member Marguerite LaMotte, Los Angeles Schools Police Chief Manion, LAPD Captain Carol Aborn and LAUSD Local District 3 Director of Operations Lainey Rogers answered questions from community members.

Councilmember Wesson announced several initiatives which his office is undertaking to improve the safety of the residents of La Cienega Heights. Per his request, LAPD has increased enforcement in the area; the street lights in the La Cienega Heights community have been increased to 150 watts; additional lighting has been added to the alleyways with the wattage also increased to 150 watts. He has also accelerated a previous plan to repave the alleyways in La Cienega Heights, which will provide easier maneuverability for police and emergency personnel. To further aid law enforcement, his office is currently working with the City Attorney to place the street addresses on the backsides of the property, which



Councilmember Wesson shares his concerns with members of the La Cienega Heights community

face the alleyways. These are in addition to his motion, approved by Council, to offer a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the Interiano murder.

Herb also committed to convene a meeting with the gang intervention and prevention teams in the area as well as law enforcement to address public safety issues in the area.

**WIPE OUT:
CD10 ASSISTS IN GRAFFITI REMOVAL**



Councilmember Wesson and Captain Aborn prepare the crew for a day of clean-up

On Saturday July 22 Councilmember Wesson and his staff joined LAPD Captain Carol Aborn, the City Attorney’s office, the La Cienega Heights Community Group, and the South Robertson Neighborhood Council in a community graffiti paint out and clean-up.

Community members and CD10 staff wore their painting clothes and, with rollers and paint in hand, painted over graffiti throughout the neighborhood.

In light of the recent shootings in the neighborhood it is important for community members to participate in painting out graffiti in the alleyways and streets in the La Cienega Heights neighborhood.

Thanks to all the volunteers, the Clean and Green crews and Jessie Thymes and Fred Leeds Management who provided lunchtime pizza for the volunteers.

Taking Care Of The Tenth (cont.)**KINNEY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY MEETING**

On July 6, 2006, Councilmember Wesson hosted a meeting with members of the LAPD's Southwest Division and residents of Kinney Heights at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library to discuss public safety concerns and quality of life issues in and around the area.

Councilmember Wesson announced the City Council's approval of two Wesson motions that are of particular interest to Kinney Heights residents: a motion to fund a "smart crosswalk" at Arlington Avenue and 24th Street; and a motion to offer a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for shooting Kinney Heights resident Roni Hardy.

Residents expressed concern about speeding cars along Gramercy Place, the condition of the streets, tree trimming services, abandoned cars and filming in the area.

Based on these concerns and the Council office's assessment of needs in the area, several actions have been taken at the Councilmember's direction:

Several abandoned cars in the area were cited and removed;

Potholes along Gramercy Place and side streets were filled;

23rd from Gramercy Place to Arlington Avenue and



Per Councilmember Wesson's direction, Street Services trim the trees in the Kinney Heights area

24th from Cimarron to Gramercy have been repaved; Trees were fully tree trimmed rather than the customary partial trimmings;

Several alleys in the area were cleaned;

A long-damaged guard rail at 23rd Street and Arlington has been repaired;

CD 10 staff will work with Film LA to minimize the inconvenience to the residents around filming locations.

Other projects are in the works including an upgrade in street lighting for a 50 percent increase in brightness and an assessment of how to slow traffic down in busy

SAFER CROSSINGS

Councilmember Wesson has obtained funding to install a traffic light and a "smart crosswalk" at two locations in Council District 10 which have proven to be extremely dangerous to area residents.

In response to the tragic death of Demariya Grant, a nine year old boy who was struck down and killed by a hit and run driver while crossing Rodeo Road with his brother, a traffic light will be installed at Rodeo Road, between Rodeo Lane and Farmdale Avenue.

The "smart crosswalk" will be at the intersection of 24th Street and Arlington Avenue. An intersection crossed frequently by children to visit the Benny Potter Park and the recently restored South Seas House.

"Smart crosswalks" have a sensor system imbedded in the pavement which causes beacons surrounding the crosswalk to flash and alert approaching drivers that pedestrians are crossing the street.

"The new stop light and the smart crosswalk will save lives. I am pleased that the City Council has adopted my motion to appropriate the funds needed to increase the margin of safety for the residents in our community," said Wesson.

Councilmember Wesson's staff will be working closely with the Los Angeles City Department of Transportation which will be installing the stop light and the smart crosswalk.

Taking Care Of The Tenth (cont.)**SoRo ADOPTS FIRE-STATION**

Fire Station 58 and SoRO neighborhood kids pose for a "family" portrait

On June 12th 2006 The South Robertson Neighborhood Council officially adopted Fire Station 58 at 1556 South Robertson Boulevard. This relationship between the members of the South Robertson Neighborhood Council and the firefighters who live and work at the station around the clock will enhance the quality of life for the community.

SoRo Co-chairs Bette Billit and Jon Liberman were joined in their celebration by representatives from the Mayor's Office, Councilmembers Weiss and Wesson's offices as well as Fire Chief William R. Bamattre, Battalion Chief Klein, Captain Herrera and Firefighters from Fire Station 58.

Students from Shenandoah and Canfield Elementary School recited "The Pledge of Allegiance" and Hamilton High School Music Magnet Students sang "God Bless America" for community members representing Crestview, Beverlywood, Regent Square, Reynier Village. Every attendee received a copy of the "Calendar of Courage" on behalf of the Miracle Mile Civic Coalition.

This adoption marks the beginning of SoRo's commitment to work on emergency preparedness. If your community group would like to adopt a fire station you can contact Captain Calvillo at (213)978-3820.

WESTERN HEIGHTS BARRIERS

July 22nd was not just another typical Saturday in CD10. On this scorching hot summer day, Councilmember Wesson and his staff canvassed the entire Western Heights community to conduct a door-to-door survey to talk to the residents and find out how they really feel about the street barriers. Many doors were knocked and many responses were noted.

Residents of the Western Heights community are invited to Councilmember Wesson's District Office (1819 South Western Avenue) to attend a special meeting hosted by the Councilmember on August, 15th at 7:00p.m., where he will announce his decision on the street barriers.

THANK YOU, LAFD, FROM CD10

During the month of July, CD10 staff participated in ride-a-longs with the Los Angeles Fire Department. The ride-a-longs were informative and reinforced the staff's appreciation of what the LAFD crews do to protect Angelenos.

A special shout-out to the crews at Fire Stations 26, 34, 58, 68 & 94. Thank you from the crew at CD10!

VICTORIA AVENUE FILMING

Councilmember Wesson received a letter and petition from the residents of Victoria Avenue regarding the filming which was scheduled to shoot from June 19, 2006 to September 8, 2006 along 1156 South Victoria Avenue. This community complaint led Herb to facilitate a meeting between the neighbors, Film LA, the agency which provides film permits to filming companies, and the filming applicant.

As a result of the meeting, held on May 24, 2006, Film LA has denied the filming permit at 1156 South Victoria Avenue. In addition, the comments and concerns raised by the community at this meeting prompted CD10 and Film LA to re-evaluate the special conditions required for filming on Victoria Avenue. The new conditions will be based on the concerns voiced at the community meeting.

The Councilmember thanked the residents of Victoria Avenue for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend the neighborhood meeting.

Taking Care Of The Tenth (cont.)**AT YOUR SERVICE**

Councilmember Wesson has directed the Department of Street Services to undertake and complete several projects in CD10. Councilmember Wesson wants to ensure he can provide his constituents with the best available city services.

Street Services have applied “slurry seals” in the Cherrywood, Leimert Park, Crenshaw Manor, Jefferson Park, Wellington Square and West Adams neighborhoods.

Slurry seal is an environmental conscious process and maintenance preservation sealing coat that is produced from old, discarded tires and doubles the life of a residential street from 20-25 years to 40-50 years.

City vehicles have also been repaving surfaces on Coliseum Street from Crenshaw to Rodeo Road. In addition to the new street, red curbs, crosswalks and lane markings are repainted.

Other streets repaved were 2nd and 3rd Avenues from Montclair to 30th Street; 6th, 5th, 4th Avenues from Montclair to Jefferson Boulevard; 30th Street from 4th Avenue to 7th Avenue; Washington Boulevard from Western to Normandie Avenues; and Arlington Ave from Jefferson Boulevard to 37th Street.

West Adams residents voiced concern over the constant cruising and speeding on their streets. Councilmember Wesson responded to these concerns by instructing the Department of Transportation to install speed bumps along 25th Street from 10th Avenue to 13th Avenue.

Along with street repairs, Councilmember Wesson has also directed city services to trim the vegetation of alleyways to reduce the fire hazard and the removal of bulky illegally dumped items such as, shopping carts, sofas, and car parts in various “hotspots” in CD10.



Virginia Road is a favorite site for illegal dumpsters. Virginia Road after city services responded to Herb's directive

COMMISSION RECOMMENDS HISTORICAL MONUMENT STATUS FOR GRAMERCY PLACE PROPERTIES

The City's Cultural Heritage Commission met on July 6th and recommended Historical Monument status for two properties located at 1409 and 1415 South Gramercy Place respectively. Councilmember Wesson introduced two motions in February, 2006 which began the process of designation.

The Cline Residence and Museum, located at 1409 S. Gramercy Place, is an early 20th Century eclectic Spanish-Moorish revival home built in 1903. The Dennis and Farwell architectural firm designed the home, as well as other important landmarks in the City including the Magic Castle in Hollywood and the Hall of Letters at Occidental College.

The Statton Residence, located at 1415 S. Gramercy Place, is an early 20th Century Gothic Revival/Tudor Revival home built in 1911 at the height of the Arts & Crafts era in architecture. This home is associated with one of Los Angeles' most important architects, Frank Tyler, whose work in other parts of the City have been deemed historically significant.

The recommendations for Historical Monument status have now been sent to the City Council for final approval.

Taking Care Of The Tenth (cont.)**NO SALE:****THE 10th DISTRICT QUALITY OF LIFE TASK FORCE STOPS ILLEGAL VENDORS**

The 10th District Quality of Life Task Force was out in force in the month of July taking care of CD10. On Tuesday, July 25th, led by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), the 10th District Quality of Life Task Force along with the Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services Investigation and the Department of Transportation (DOT) responded to several constituent complaints regarding the lack of available parking in the Normandie Avenue and Washington Boulevard area due to a group of unlicensed auto dealers utilizing the parking spaces to illegally sell their vehicles. The State of California prohibits selling cars without a license on public streets by other than that of the registered owner.

The operation impounded 12 vehicles, handed out 3 citations and 20 warning tags. One person was arrested during the operation and later released. Councilmember Wesson plans to dispatch the Task Force throughout CD10 to stop these illegal vendors.



Got to go! The 10th District Quality of Life Task Force taking care of business

On July 26, the Task Force joined the LAPD, the District Attorney's Office, Neighborhood Prosecutors South West Area, Bureau of Street Services Investigations & Enforcement Division, Department of Building and Safety, Department of Health Services and the Department of Sanitation.

The operation targeted and removed illegal fruit vendors from schools and other public areas in the 8th, 9th, and 10th Council Districts.

The Task Force is one of the initiatives Councilmember Wesson has implemented to increase and enhance the quality of life in the 10th District.



Under arrest! The Task Force are authorized to issue warnings, citations, and enforce arrests

During the operation, many residents and business owners personally expressed their appreciation of the Task Force and the work being accomplished.

A special thanks to the team leaders: Commander, Stephanie Wheaton – DMV; Senior Investigator, Rodney W. Lucas - Bureau of Street Services; and Sargent Carl Jones – DOT.



Out of business! The Task Force closes an illegal food vendor

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

WESSON'S FIRST CITY BUDGET



Councilmember Wesson, Mayor Villaraigosa and the City Council unveil the City's new budget

The Los Angeles Police Academy was the site for Mayor Villaraigosa's signing of the city's \$6.67 billion budget for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year. The budget represents an 11 percent increase over last year's budget. Councilmember Wesson's first budget as a member of the City Council also decreases the city's deficit and provides for the hiring of 1,000 new police officers.

Councilmember Wesson applauds the budget's addition of 1000 new police officer hires

The budget:

- Expands library hours
- Makes an important investment in summer jobs for our youth.
- Increases funding for street repairs, synchronizing street lights, and placing traffic officers at the busiest intersections.
- Expands recycling and the planting of one million trees.



"HIRE-LA 18-24"



Councilmember Wesson recently joined Mayor Villaraigosa and other city officials in thanking private sector employers for their participation in the City's "Hire LA 18-24" program. Together these employers have committed to providing over 2,000 jobs for our young adults.

"Hire LA 18-24" is the private sector component of the city's 2006 Summer Youth Employment Initiative and provides young adults 18-24 with full and part-time employment opportunities. Potential employers or young adults interested in a job can contact Hire LA 2006 at 1-800-FOR-A-JOB or at their website: www.hirelayouth.com.

Councilmember Wesson thanks the employers and employees who have participated in the "HIRE-LA 18-24" program

ALERTS & BULLETINS

CALLING ALL SENIORS!!



Councilmember Wesson invites all senior citizens to attend the 2nd Annual 10th District Senior Expo

On Thursday, August 17, 2006, Councilmember Wesson will host the 2nd Annual 10th District Senior Convention and Healthcare Expo. The event will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center located at 1201 South Figueroa Street.

Registration will begin at 8:00a.m. with a continental breakfast followed by informative programs and seminars from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The remainder of the afternoon will consist of a luncheon, raffles, entertainment and an opportunity for seniors to visit the many vendor exhibits. The Expo ends at 1:30 pm.

Contact your local senior center or call our district office at (323)733-8233 for further information.

So ya'll wear your cowboy hat and come on down for a rip, roarin' good time!

GRIDLOCK TIGER TEAM UNLEASHED TO RELIEVE TRAFFIC CONGESTION



Going...going...gone. The "Gridlock Tiger Team" on the prowl

Councilmember Wesson joined city officials in announcing a new initiative to relieve traffic congestion along major streets with peak-hour curbside parking restrictions. The Department of Transportation has created the "Gridlock Tiger Team" rapid response that tows cars that are parked illegally and block rush hour traffic.

Our busiest streets are most heavily congested during the peak-hours of 7:00 am – 9:00 am in the mornings, and 4:00 am – 7:00 pm in the evenings. To ease the congestion, parking restrictions have been implemented. However, there are those who choose to overlook these restrictions. The Gridlock Tiger Team will ensure that

violators of these curbside restrictions will no longer be allowed to block traffic. Their vehicles will be cited and towed. The fines are heavy. The citation fee is \$65, the towing fee is \$144 in addition to a storage fee of \$33 each day until the fines are paid and the vehicle is claimed by the owner.

Wilshire Boulevard, CD10's most heavily congested street, is the first street to see the "Gridlock Tiger Team" in action.

Let's keep Los Angeles moving. Obey all traffic and parking laws.

Alerts & Bulletins (cont.)**COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION GRANT WORKSHOP**

On Thursday September 28, 2006, the City of Los Angeles' Office of Community Beautification will be hosting a Community Beautification Grant (CB Grant) Workshop at Councilmember Wesson's District Office located at 1819 South Western Avenue. The workshop will begin at 6:00p.m. Facility parking lot is available behind the building. Please enter through Manhattan Place.

Interested parties are encouraged to attend the workshop to learn about CB grants. CB Grant is a competitive annual matching grant. Community groups

can receive up to \$10,000 to complete a project that will benefit the community.

The CB Grant workshop covers the grant process in detail and offers tips on submitting a competitive proposal. The workshops are also a great opportunity to meet other community members and the Community Beautification staff. The workshops are free and no reservations are necessary.

For applications, which will be provided at the workshops, or more information, please contact the Community Beautification Office at (213) 978-0226 or visit them on line at www.laocb.org.

ADOPT-A-PET

WOOF! Councilmember Wesson finds a good home for one very happy and lovable pup

On the first and third Friday of each month, Councilmember Wesson presents an animal for adoption from one of the many City of Los Angeles Animal Shelters.

All pets are groomed and examined by a veterinarian and include a personality test. For more information on pet adoption, please contact 888-4-LAPET1 or 888-452-7381.

ANIMAL SERVICES SHELTER**HOURS OF OPERATION:**

Monday & Holidays: Closed

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am to 7pm

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday: 8am to 5pm

Sunday: 11am to 5pm

www.laanimalservices.com

SIDEWALK RECONSTRUCTION 50/50 VOLUNTARY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The City of Los Angeles offers residents the opportunity to assist with and expedite sidewalk repairs in their neighborhoods.

Through the Sidewalk Reconstruction 50/50 Voluntary Partnership Program, participating residents pay 50% of the reconstruction costs and the City will contribute the matching funds. The program includes concrete sidewalk reconstruction, tree trimming, tree root pruning and repair of affected sprinkler system if required.

Benefits of the program:

- No permit or inspection fees
- Workmanship guaranteed for 5 years
- Work performed according to the latest specifications
- Sponsored locations are assured that sidewalk reconstruction will be completed within the fiscal year

For more detailed information contact the Bureau of Street Services at (818) 374-6853 or (818) 374-6857.

HERB HONORS

LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL BAND & COLOR GUARD: GO ROMANS!



Strike up the band & the color guard! Los Angeles High is LAUSD's band & drill team champs

Herb Wesson recognized the Los Angeles High School Band and Color Guard presenting them with a congratulatory resolution signed by the Mayor and all City-elected officials during a Van Nuys City Council Meeting in June. The Los Angeles High School Band and Color Guard is the premier high school band in the City of Los Angeles.

Under the leadership of Band Director Mrs. Darnella

Davidson, the Los Angeles High School Band and Color Guard has won 16 consecutive LAUSD Band and Drill Team Championship titles.

In 2005, the 55 member band became the first LAUSD high school to win the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association 1A Division Field Championship.

LACES: ONE OF THE NATION'S 100 BEST

Newsweek magazine recently named the 100 best high schools in the United States and CD10's own Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies (LACES) was ranked 45th.

This year's graduating class consisted of 204 students; 80 percent of which are headed to 4 year colleges and universities. LACES Academic Performance Index score of 822 is the highest within LAUSD. Since the year 2000, LACES has maintained the highest percentage for average daily attendance. Newsweek previously recognized LACES educational excellence in 1998, 2000, and 2003.

Councilmember Wesson congratulates Principal Margaret Kim and the dedicated staff of LACES



Herb Honors...

U.S. MARINES: THE FEW. THE PROUD. THE BRAVE.

Councilmember Wesson presented commendations to two Marines, SSGT Jose J. Umana and LCPL Richard Figueroa, for their heroic attempts to save a family from a burning home on June 27, 2006. Mayor Villaraigosa, representatives from LAPD, the Fire Department, their fellow Marines and the family of the victims were also on hand to pay tribute.

Councilmember Wesson thanked them for their heroic actions, selflessness and bravery. Their zealous initiative, courageous actions, exceptional dedication to duty and distinctive accomplishments are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon themselves, their units and the United States Marine Corps.

They are an inspiration to us all!



Councilmember Wesson commends SSGT Umana and LCPL Figueroa for their heroic actions

LA'S BEST SCIENCE WINNERS: 5-4-3-2-1-BLAST OFF!



Councilmember Wesson along with his colleagues on the City Council welcomed twenty elementary school students from LA's BEST science teams to City Hall.

The students took top honors at the 15th Annual LA's Best Celebrate Science Fair and earned a scholarship to attend a 3-day child/parent camp at the U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama.

Councilmember Wesson with future CD10 NASA trainees from Coliseum Elementary: Tayelor Turner, J'son Spears, JeNae McDonald, and Katherine Gonzalez

GBL : SHE SHOOTS, SHE SCORES!

The Girl's Basketball League (GBL) Sports & Technology Corporation, a non-profit organization was founded in October, 1997 by Sherri and Marvin Pegues. It began with three dedicated coaches and eight girls, but by the end of the season, over forty girls had been recruited. The GBL now has two hundred fifty young girls from age six to sixteen at Rancho Cienega for basketball, computer training, mentoring, career planning and a college preparatory program.

Today the girls are the 2005-06 AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) Nationals Champions (at 11 and under) and the other team is the 2005-06 YBOA (Youth Basketball of America) National Champions and the #1 Team in the State and #1 Seed at this year's National Championship.



Basketball Champs! The GBL shows off their trophy to Councilmember Wesson

OUT & ABOUT

“MAGIC” IN THE TENTH



Councilmember Wesson welcomes Earvin “Magic” Johnson and Starbucks to CD10

A few months ago Councilmember Wesson welcomed the Coliseum Center to CD10. On June 16, 2006, Councilmember Wesson welcomed the newest resident to the Center, the Magic Johnson Starbucks.

Housed in the former Holiday Bowl Coffee Shop, Starbucks worked closely with the developer and the Cultural Heritage Commission to preserve many features of the historic building including the terrazzo floors, existing walls, ceiling shape and light fixtures.

The new Starbucks’ lobby area features a mosaic tile art piece, “Let’s Meet at The Bowl” by Richard and Yolanda Wyatt, completed with assistance from the City of Los Angeles’ Cultural Affairs Department as well as a welcoming inscription from Earvin “Magic” Johnson and Howard Schultz, President of the Starbucks Coffee Company.

The front patio features a blond slate commemorative ‘bowling lane’ with black highlights representing bowling pins framed by a black pebble garden with bamboo, grass and decorative rocks.

Joining Councilmember Wesson and Earvin “Magic” Johnson at the grand opening ceremonies were Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City Attorney Rocky Delgado, State Treasurer Phil Angelides, Leo Thomas of Starbucks, and the West Adams/Baldwin Hills Career WorkSource Center.

As he had done with the other tenants, Councilmember Wesson presented Earvin “Magic” Johnson with an authentic Holiday Bowl commemorative bowling pin trophy.

GRAMERCY COURT RE-OPENS



Councilmember Wesson celebrates the re-opening of “Gramercy House”, a home for young single mothers.

Councilmember Wesson was honored to take part in the re-opening celebration of Gramercy Court on June 22, 2006. Gramercy Court, a subsidiary agency of People Assisting the Homeless (PATH).

PATH has developed a two-year transitional housing program, whose primary target are young mothers between 18 and 24 years old, who have been emancipated by the foster care system and have ended up being homeless.

Gramercy Court provides these women and their children with safe, affordable housing, along with counseling, on-site childcare and parenting classes. The objective is to enable these families to develop the stability, confidence, and coping skills needed to sustain permanent housing.

The success of Gramercy Court’s program is evident by the fact that none of the mothers who have successfully completed the program has had her children become second-generation foster youth.

Out & About (cont.)

OFFICER ROBINSON: 1st AFRICAN-AMERICAN FEMALE MOTORCYCLE COP



Councilmember Wesson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to LAPD Officer Bridgette Robinson, the first African-American female motorcycle officer in the history of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Bridgette Robinson graduated from the Los Angeles Police Academy December 23, 1996. Upon graduation from the Los Angeles Police Academy Recruit Robinson worked in West LA Traffic Division, Hollywood Division and Vice. On May 4, 2003, Officer Robinson joined the West Traffic Division Safety Unit as a motorcycle officer.

Top Cop! Councilmember Wesson congratulates Officer Robinson and her colleagues

SoRo STREET FESTIVAL

Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr. joined the South Robertson Neighborhood Council and SoRo Inc. in the 9th Annual SoRo Festival on Sunday June 4th on Robertson Boulevard.

Councilmember Wesson talked to residents and neighbors who stopped by for fun and entertainment. There were booths that included local businesses, non-profits, corporations, city services and religiously affiliated groups as well as Camp SoRo. Over 1,100 elementary school students from SoRo elementary schools participated in the student art contest.

Councilmember Wesson and his wife, Fabian, enjoy the festivities at the SoRo Festival



GOOD SAMARITAN DONATES GRAND PIANO



Councilmember Herb J. Wesson Jr. and Ms. Vikki Evans from Los Angeles Music Week (LAMW) were proud to assist with the donation of a Sherman Clay grand piano by Mr. Patrick Murphy to the Music Department at LACES Community Magnet School. The piano had been in Mr. Murphy's possession for over 35 years. Rather than sell the piano, he decided to donate it and contacted LAMW to select a recipient. LACES was chosen as the recipient.

A special thanks to Mr. Murphy and the Los Angeles Music Week.

Councilmember Wesson with staff and students of LACES thank Mr. Murphy for his generous gift

Out & About (cont.)

OATH OF OFFICE



Councilmember Wesson officiates over the swearing in ceremonies for the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel and the Korean American Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles

Councilmember Wesson was invited to administer the oath of office installing the 2006-2007 officers of the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP) and the Korean American Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles (KACCLA).

Founded in 1972, LAABP has been an important advocate for equal employment opportunity within the city's workforce. The organization annually honors recently appointed African American city executives and public administrators. At the event, LAABP presented \$15,000 in college scholarships to thirteen students. The LAABP honored Herb with their community service award thanking him for his years of public service.

After swearing in the new officers for KACCLA, Councilmember Wesson thanked KACCLA for its continued leadership and dedication to the Korean American business community and the City of Los Angeles.

Since 1971, KACCLA has united established Korean American businesses and organizations with up and coming Korean Americans to exchange ideas, provide guidance and strengthen the Korean American community.

Congratulations and good luck to all the new officers.

2ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR AND STREET FESTIVAL



The 2nd Annual Community Health Fair and Block Party was sponsored by Mel's Fish Market, Mothers in Action and the Los Angeles Sentinel. This 2nd Annual event featured live music, information booths, a petting zoo and train rides.

Mel's Fish Market provided free catfish lunches to the visiting neighbors. Councilmember Wesson thanked Mel's Fish Market and Mothers in Action for their continued dedication to the community.

Councilmember Wesson with participants in the 2nd Annual Community Health Fair & Block Party

Out & About (cont.)

YAMAZAKI MEMORIAL COMMUNITY GARDEN



A garden grows in CD10! Councilmember Wesson and community members welcome the Yamazaki Garden

Neighborhood Council and Boy Scout Troop No. 693 in providing the resources and labor to clear the grounds, build flower beds, and lay the irrigation lines. The garden was created for the benefit of area residents.

One of the oldest churches in our community, St. Mary's was founded by Japanese Americans in 1907, and remains predominately Japanese American. St. Mary's will celebrate its centennial anniversary in 2007.

Councilmember Wesson recently joined parishioners of the historic St. Mary's Episcopal Church and area residents in dedicating the new Yamazaki Memorial Community Garden, a living memorial to the first Vicar and Rector of the parish, the Reverend John Misao Yamazaki.



Councilmember Wesson takes a tour of the garden

Under the leadership of their Rector, the Reverend Alix Evans, St. Mary's joined with the Koreatown

JEFFERSON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE

On Saturday June 3, 2006, Councilmember Wesson joined Jefferson Park neighbors, friends, volunteers and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Service (LANHS) to celebrate Neighborhood Pride Day 2006. About 100 people turned out to clean yards, alleys, remove graffiti and paint three homes.



"We're jamming!" Master drummer Herb "Sticks" Wesson joins the Monty Alexander Band to entertain the Jefferson Park residents



Herb poses with the proud neighbors of Jefferson Park

LANHS and its community partners--City National Bank, Union Bank, Kaiser Federal Bank, State Farm Insurance, Beverly Hills Association of Realtors and Rainbow Nursery--provided volunteers for the community clean-up.

*Out & About (cont.)***SOUTH SEAS HOUSE GRAND OPENING**

Councilmember Wesson officially opens South Seas Gardens

Councilmember Wesson joined residents of the West Adams and Arlington Heights neighborhoods, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council (UNNC), West Adams Avenues Association (WAAA), West Adams Historical Association (WAHA), City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks for a ceremonial opening of the South Seas House front garden.

The South Seas House is a renovated landmark serving as a recreational community center for the Benny H. Potter West Adams Avenues Memorial Park.

Recreation and Parks staff worked with designer Renee Gunter to develop a Xeriscape garden. UNNC and WAAA sponsored the purchase of plants. This garden plan is characterized by installing draught tolerant plant life requiring little moisture and reducing water consumption thereby saving money.

The garden design features a river rock bed along with a City of Los Angeles Name Plaque, Recreation and Park signage and a memorial observation bench.

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT IN THE TENTH****THEATER IN THE TENTH: THE ACTORS' GANG**

The Actors' Gang has successfully completed its first season of residency in the historic Ivy Substation located in CD10 and its 25th season of providing affordable and accessible theater to the residents of Los Angeles. To honor this momentous event, Councilmember Wesson presented the Actors' Gang with a congratulatory resolution which was signed by Mayor Villaraigosa and all of the City's elected officials.

This season, The Actors' Gang Youth and education programs to elementary and high school students doubled in size and in 2006-07, will expand to a year round program that will include middle schools. The Actors' Gang was also invited to Athens, Greece, a sister city of Los Angeles, to perform their world premiere production of George Orwell's "1984", adapted by Michael Gene Sullivan and directed by Founding Artistic Director, Tim Robbins.

The Actors' gang is currently performing William Shakespeare's "Love Labor's Lost," directed by Simon Abkarian. Performances will continue until September 16, 2006. The Actors' Gang is located at 9070 Venice Boulevard. For more information, call (323) 838-4264 or visit their website at www.theactorsgang.com.

HOLLYWOOD COMES TO THE TENTH

Optimus Prime and Bumble Bee were in the Kinney Heights neighborhood during the month of June filming stunts and special effects for "E7-Transformers The Movie." Directed by Michael Bay the movie is reportedly budgeted at \$150 million and produced by Dreamworks Productions. "E7-Transformers The Movie" will be released in Summer, 2007.

PARTING SHOTS



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