

MANAGING EDITOR
VERONICA HENDRIX

KELLIE HAWKINS
INTERIM
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

COMMISSIONERS

SUSAN FOGEL
PRESIDENT

KATIE BUCKLAND
VICE PRESIDENT

BOARD MEMBERS

ROCIO CÓRDOBA

DOMINIQUE
DIPRIMA

HELEN HAN

FRANCILLE RUSAN
WILSON

LILIANA PÉREZ

**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

YWAR 2
Conference

Commissioner 2
Profile

Community 2
Corner

Community 3
Spotlight

Just The Facts 3

Legislative 3
Update

Beauty Expo 4

LA Woman

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

MARCH 2008

El Pueblo's New Assistant General Manager

Dianna Martinez-Lilly is the Assistant General Manager for El Pueblo.

She attended San Diego State University where she earned a degree in Physical Education and also a teaching credential. She is married, with four children whose ages range from 7 to 29. And she is a proud grandmother.

Dianna joined the City last year in November. Prior to joining the City, she worked for the California State Parks where she was recently involved in the design and development of two new urban parks in Chinatown and Lincoln Heights.

She brings a diverse skill set to her new post including a strong background in environmental planning and policy; a culturally sensitive approach to architectural design; education acuity from her experience as a Principal at a state-wide charter high school, and community engagement. But she also brings something else to the City, a unique

perspective about sacred, historical and culturally significant public spaces. Dianna is a Luiseño Indian.



Dianna Martinez-Lilly

Her rich experience of growing up on a reservation as a child have uniquely equipped her with the cultural competency and sensitivity that has made her a real asset to the City.

"My grandfather was the Chief of our tribe," said Dianna. "But I grew up watching strong women who took on large roles in our tribe." The role that she has taken on as Assistant General Manager of El Pueblo is pretty large too. She is responsible for the operation of El Pueblo's forty-four acre park in-

cluding special events; education and outreach programs; and property management of the many historic buildings, museums, outdoor plazas and the Mexican marketplace on Olvera Street.

"More than 2 million visitors and 30,000 school children visit El Pueblo to learn about the birth place of Los Angeles each year, said Dianna. "I want to make El Pueblo not just a destination point but a recreation point. And we are looking at partnerships and new technologies to bring an experiential component to your visit."

The multi-year project that is posed to do this called REMAPPING LA. According to Dianna, the broad strokes are this: it will allow visitors to explore the history of the City through personal digital technologies such as cell phones and GPS devices, to mention a few. It will be the next generation of historic engagement.

March is Women's History Month

March is recognized as National Women's History Month. The annual observance began in 1981 when the United States Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women's History Week. In 1987, at the request of the National Women's History Project, Congress expanded the week to a month. Each year the Congress issues a resolution and the President issues a proclamation recognizing March as National

Women's History Month.

Since 1988, the City of Los Angeles has observed Women's History Month by presenting the Pioneer Women Awards to recognize women leaders whose accomplishments have contributed to the "strength and vitality of the City."

The Pioneer Women Awards is a collaborative project with Office of the Mayor and the fifteen

members of the Los Angeles City Council who each select a woman to represent their respective council districts.

This year the event will be held on Friday, March 28, 2008 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Council Chambers. The public is invited. We hope you will join us in celebrating women who have made a difference. Happy Women's History Month.

YWAR Healthy Relationships Conference Attracts Over 200 Students



Actress Tichina Arnold (center) talks with YWAR students from Patton High School

The Young Women: from Adversity to Resiliency (YWAR) Program held its 4th Annual Healthy Relationships Conference on Thursday, February 21, 2008. Over 200 students from all twelve YWAR schools throughout the City of Los Angeles gathered at the California Science Center.

Actress Tichina Arnold from the television show "Everyone Hates Chris," gave a moving and honest talk about overcoming challenges and striving for success. Jeff Carr, Director

of the City's Gang Reduction Youth Development Office, spoke about how empowering young women makes a difference in their lives and the lives of others.

Students were pleasantly surprised by a visit from Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa, who delivered an inspiring speech, stressing the importance of self-respect, perseverance and courage in the lives of young women.

Students had a full day of workshops led by experts in

various fields, including violence intervention, youth justice, non-violent parenting, and healthy relationship building. In addition, they experienced an interactive theatrical presentation by a group of youth from the Santana House, a program provided by the Violence Intervention Program.

Students from the Youth Advisory Board from Independence High School delivered an interactive workshop on the important topic of Teen Dating Violence.

Commissioner Profile



Commissioner Dominique DiPrima

Commissioner Dominique DiPrima was appointed to the board in 2005 by Mayor Villaraigosa. She is the co-host and co-producer of the early morning radio talk show, "The Front Page" on Los Angeles radio station KJLH 102.3-FM, which tackles issues of interest to the Los Angeles African American community.

Commissioner DiPrima is a radio talk veteran, with a stint as Host and Producer of "Street Science with Dominique DiPrima" for almost nine years on 100.3 FM, which garnered her several awards. She

also served as Community Action Director at KKBT.

Before her radio career, Commissioner DiPrima was a television host for San Francisco NBC affiliate KRON-TV. She has garnered five Emmy Awards, six Parents Choice Awards, an Ollie and the SAG/AFTRA American Scene Award for positive portrayals of women, the disabled, senior citizens and minorities.

Commissioner DiPrima is a dedicated community activist. She has been recognized for her work in promoting dia-

logue between ethnic groups and for social justice advocacy. She was the Director of the acclaimed Summer of Success violence prevention program in Baldwin Village in 2003 and 2004. She is on the board of directors for The Community Coalition in South Los Angeles.

Commissioner DiPrima is currently the COO of YeYe Productions, a South L.A. film/video production company she runs with her husband Guillermo Cespedes. YeYe Productions specializes in work for independent artists and community organizations.

Community Corner - Events and Resources

Ending Violence Against Women Policy Summit, March 12, 2008. One-day seminar will be held at the California Endowment, 1000 Alameda Street, Los Angeles from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you want to be a part of this call to action to eliminate violence against women, visit <http://www.endviolenceagainstwomen.org/> for more information. **Join Controller Laura Chick** for

the next installment of her Women's Dialogue Series, **"Women Researching Women," March 13, 2008, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 3rd Floor, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles. Refreshments and time for networking. **To R.S.V.P. send an email to miriam.jaffe@lacity.org.**

National Association of Women Business Owners

– Los Angeles (NAWBO-LA) 22nd Annual Leadership & Legacy Awards Luncheon will be held on Friday, **March 14, 2008, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. It is expected that over 1,200 women business owners, community leaders, media, dignitaries and celebrities will be attending. Call (213).622-3200 or visit <http://www.nawbola.org/>.

If you have a story, commentary, idea or an event you'd like to submit, email us at csw@webmaster.org or call us at (213) 978-0300.

Community Spotlight: New Economics for Women



Maggie Cervantes
Executive Director

New Economics for Women (NEW) was founded in 1984 by a group of women leaders. Their mission was to reduce poverty by creating opportunities for women and children. NEW addresses the

issues that single parent families and female-headed households face. NEW's Executive Director Maggie Cervantes sums it all up by saying, "We offer a safe place for women and their families to strive and we help their dreams come true."

NEW provides safe and affordable housing combined with on-site child-care, educational workshops, social programs and job training. NEW has set a standard of excellence in affordable housing nationwide. NEW provides 600 units of housing on 8 sites in Los Angeles. NEW has also opened 2 charter schools, built 2 community centers, and a senior housing community.

NEW offers a financial literacy program, first time homebuyer program, and a home preservation program. NEW also operates a transitional home for mothers ages 15-24. The women who complete the program are able to move into one of NEW's housing units. In 2005, NEW opened a Business Growth Center to empower minority and women owned businesses in Los Angeles. Since its start, the center has helped over 50 women start and expand their own businesses.

What's next you ask? NEW is looking to expand its financial literacy program to help low-income families create assets.

For more information about New Economics for Women call (213) 483-2060 Fax (213) 483-7848 or visit: www.neweconomicsforwomen.org

Just The Facts - Women's Health and Nutrition

March is also National Nutrition Awareness Month...Here are some facts on women's health and nutrition:

- The leading cause of death for women in LA County is Coronary Heart Disease.
- In LA County, 28% of women are overweight and 20% of women are classified as obese.
- Only 18.3 percent of women in LA County consume 5 or

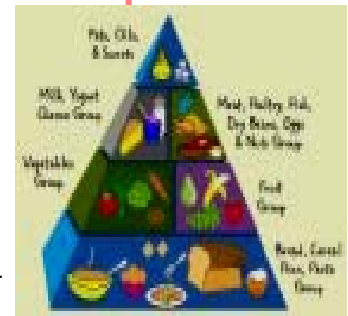
more servings of fruits and vegetables a day.

- 43 percent of women in LA County report that they do not engage in physical activity throughout the week.

Here's some tips to keep you healthy:

- Eat Calcium rich Foods! Consuming calcium-rich foods daily may aid weight loss in obese women and minimize bone turnover.

- Eat Fruits and Vegetables! It's better to eat more complex carbohydrates (vegetables, fruits and grains) than simple carbohydrates found in sugar.
- Eat Breakfast! Skipping breakfast can increase eating throughout the day, contributing to weight gain.
- Exercise! Women of all ages can benefit from just 30 minutes of physical activity 5 times a week.



Arm yourself with the facts about sound nutrition

Commission's Legislative Action

The following legislative bills were recently heard and supported by the LACCSW board of commissioners:

H. R. 4054 & S. 2347 – Prevention Through Affordable Access Act. This measure will amend Title XIX of the Social Security Act to restore and protect access to discount drug prices for university-based safety-net clinics. Serena Josef, on behalf of the Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project of Los

Angeles County, urged the board to adopt its resolution. Ms. Josef stated that affordable access to birth control is important to women's health.

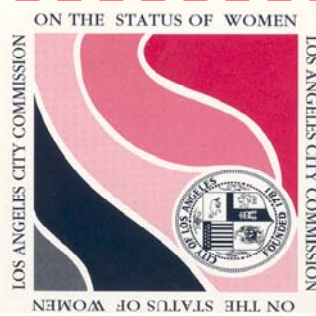
H. R. 819 – Prevention First Act - Authored by Rep. Louise Slaughter on February 5, 2007, this bill expands access to preventive health care services that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

S.1843 - Fair Pay Restoration Act - This bill was introduced on July 20, 2007 by Senator Edward Kennedy. S.1843 seeks to amend Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1964 to clarify that an unlawful practice occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice.



The most effective way we advocate for women and girls is through the legislative process.

LA Woman



Managing Editor: Veronica Hendrix

Editorial Assistant: Carolyn Reed

Contributing writers: Rayshell Chambers

Julie Heifetz, Satin White

LACCSW

200 N. Spring Street, Suite 2111

Los Angeles, Ca 90012

Phone: (213) 978-0300 Fax: (213) 978-0309

Email: csw@webmaster.lacity.org

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

March 6, 2008 NCJWC/LA, N. 543 Fairfax Avenue,

(between Beverly and Melrose) LA 90036,

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

April 4, 2008 City Hall Room 1010

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women was established by ordinance by the City Council and Mayor in 1975. In 1980, the Commission was made a permanent department of City government.

The Commission assists in assuring to all women the opportunity for full and equal participation in the affairs of City government and promotes the general welfare of women in the Los Angeles community. The Commission is authorized to:

INFORM AND ADVISE the Mayor and City Council of the needs and problems of women in the City of Los Angeles, with special emphasis given to women in City government

INVESTIGATE problems and conditions affecting women adversely, and

RECOMMEND programs which offer to women in the City of Los Angeles, a greater opportunity and ability to pursue life choices without discrimination

PROPOSE methods of alleviating inequities in pay and job opportunities between men and women

PROMOTE awareness of changing life patterns, opportunities and responsibilities of women

MAINTAIN an active liaison with citizen groups concerned about identifying and removing obstacles to the development of a woman's full potential.

Cut it Out Campaign: Commission Revolutionizes 2008 Beauty Revolution Expo

When the 2008 Beauty Revolution Expo came to Los Angeles last month, salon & spa professionals, nail technicians, makeup artists, beauty school owners, students and apprentices from all over the southland, and beyond, crowded into Convention Center to hear the latest beauty industry techniques and advances from a myriad of exhibitors and workshop presenters.

Expo participants not only learned about cutting and styling trends from the Orient, speed waxing, medi-pedi's, or how to incorporate modern wellness services into their business to mention a few, they learned about something they didn't expect to encounter at a beauty expo: how to talk to their clients about domestic violence. This was the first time this kind of information was made

available at the expo.

Julie Heifetz of the City Commission on the Status of Women and Olivia Rodriguez, Executive Director of the County Domestic Violence Council were among the many exhibitors at the Beauty Revolution Expo who talked with many expo attendees about how their businesses could get involved in the **Cut It Out** Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign.

Cut it Out is a nationwide effort that mobilizes beauty professionals to take a stand against domestic abuse by making resource materials available at their business locations. The campaign was launched locally by the City and County commissions last year.

Since beauty professionals are often a sounding board for their

patrons, the **Cut It Out** Campaign provides them with resources and training so they can give information to their clients about preventing violence in their homes or where to get help if they are victims of abuse. For more information about Cut It Out, contact the Commission office at (213) 978-0300.



Julie Heifetz, LACCSW
Olivia Rodriguez, Domestic Violence Council