

An Environmental Affair

Volume 15, Issue 8

August 2004

Los Angeles Says Goodbye to Juanita Tate

The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department was established in 1990 to advise the city on environmental issues and provide a centralized source of environmental information. The Environmental Affairs Department seeks to protect and enhance the environmental quality of life for residents, workers and visitors in the City of Los Angeles.

Juanita Tate was a strong and selfless individual with a vision of a safe, clean, and vibrant environment for all. Throughout her life, she strived to bring that vision to life. A lifelong activist, Executive Director of Concerned Citizens of South Central Los Angeles, and a Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Commissioner, Miss Tate died on July 5th at the age of 66. During her lifetime, she fought to improve her city, especially by getting pollution out and housing and opportunity in to South Los Angeles.

An advocate for environmental justice and community building, Juanita Tate understood that the environment is more than just the trees, pollution, waste, and animals around us, but is in fact the backbone of our communities. She understood the environment to include our homes, schools, safety, and opportunities. With this holistic understanding, Juanita worked tirelessly to improve the environment that we all share. Her efforts ranged from promoting recycling to removing lead in homes to increasing educational opportunities. Her three children, nine grandchildren, and her fellow activists at Concerned Citizens of South Central Los Angeles will continue her work, but there will never be another Juanita Tate.



Juanita Tate was a hero for Los Angeles and its environment

Upon moving to Los Angeles to care for her father in the early 1980s, Juanita met a group of community residents who mobilized the community to stop an incineration facility from opening in residential South Los Angeles. The communities gathered against the potential emissions from the huge incinerator and remained united in improving their community throughout the decades to come. Juanita joined in the early years of Concerned Citizens of South Central Los Angeles and eventually became the organization's Executive Director.

Under Tate's leadership, Concerned Citizens not only removed toxic lead from South Los Angeles buildings, but also built more than 300 units of affordable housing to enhance the community. She also brought a major grocery store to a section of Los Angeles desperately lacking any real supermarkets. Concerned Citizens has built soccer fields and implemented programs to foster closer relations between Latino and African American youth. The South-

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Children's Health Study

Numerous studies have shown that children are far more sensitive than adults when exposed to toxins and pollutants. Growing and developing children can suffer permanent health damage when exposed to toxic materials. For this reason ambient air quality standards are set by the Air Resources Board to make sure sensitive populations, including children, are protected. In the past, most studies on how air quality affects the health of these populations have focused on short-term exposure to high concentrations of pollutants. Now, more research is looking into the long-term effects of chronic air pollution, which can help to determine the best practices for ensuring healthy communities (www.arb.ca.gov/research/health/healthup/healthup.htm).

Since 1992, the California Air Resources Board has been studying the effects of four major air pollutants on children's health in 12 Southern California locations. In communities ranging from San Luis Obispo County to San Diego County, 5,500 children have participated in the program – most of whom entered in the fourth grade and were monitored until high school graduation. Concentrations of ozone, nitrogen dioxide, acid vapor, and particulate matter were continuously monitored in each location, as well as intermittently in students'

homes and in their schools. Additionally, every spring students received a family questionnaire to identify factors that might affect individual health.

The major findings of the study were presented in June 2004 by the California Environmental Protection Agency (<ftp://ftp.arb.ca.gov/carbis/research/health/healthup/june04.pdf>). The study found that children might be more susceptible to the effects of air pollution because their lungs are still developing, they breathe more air (in relation to their body size) and they tend to spend more time outdoors engaged in physical activity. The research also indicated that higher school absences due to respiratory illness were reported on days with high levels of ozone pollution. On the positive side, children who moved to areas of lower particulate matter concentrations experienced improved lung development. This study demonstrates that air quality can impact respiratory health in children and that the negative effects of air pollution can be offset with improvements in ambient air quality.

Air Quality Facts

Children living in communities with higher concentrations of nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, and acid vapor have lungs that develop and grow more slowly and are less able to move air through them. This decreased lung development may have permanent adverse effects in adulthood.

(<http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/chs/CHSfact.pdf>)

Ways to improve the air your children breathe: a) **use safe paint**- many respiratory problems in both children and adults have been associated with recent interior painting. Be sure that you use brands that are safe and non-toxic. b) **grow plants indoors to help filter air**- several varieties of indoor houseplants actually will help improve the quality of the air in your home.

(www.care2.com/go/z/6217)

What else can you do for children's health and to clean the air? Rollerblade, ride the bus, skateboard, recycle, make sure your car is running properly, and turn off unused televisions, radios, and lights.

(Continued from page 1)

Central People's Federal Credit Union also was established thanks to Tate's advocacy.

Miss Tate came from extremely humble beginnings. She raised and provided for three children as a single-parent in a housing project in Philadelphia, all while giving back to her community. Her accomplishments and dedication earned her the NAACP Legacy Award, the Western Center for Law and Poverty Community Service Award, the California Community Foundation's Unsung Heroes Award, and the State of California Legislature Woman of the Year Award, among others.

A member of the Environmental Affairs Commission since 2002, Juanita Tate was a key contributor to the City's brownfields revitalization and development programs in South Los Angeles. We are incredibly thankful for her many years of dedicated service to the residents of Los Angeles. She will be sorely missed.

Breathe Easier

Are you interested in improving your health, one breath at a time? Then check out the American Lung Association's website at <http://www.lungusa.org>. You can get valuable information about your lungs, programs to help smokers quit, methods of coping with asthma and hay fever, or join a "Better Breather Club." Sign up to receive ALA's free on-line newsletter or learn about research being conducted in your community.

EAD Secures Over \$500K in Funding for the City of Los Angeles

The Environmental Affairs Department recently accepted funding awards in excess of one-half million dollars on behalf of the City of Los Angeles from the Air Quality Management District's Multiple Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) Local Government Match Program. This funding will be used to address local air quality issues by reducing emissions from mobile sources operated by the City in a variety of ways.

The funding includes a grant of \$29,032 for the purchase of videoconferencing equipment for the Bureau of Sanitation. This equipment will facilitate less City vehicle use by City staff who will be able to attend meetings and conferences via video rather than by traveling in a car to and from meeting sites. Another grant for \$40,000 to purchase one liquefied gas refuse collection truck and one compressed natural gas (CNG) street sweeper for Los Angeles World Airports will help to mitigate vehicle emissions from maintenance vehicles being used at our City's airports. A third grant of \$480,000 for the purchase of 21 CNG street sweepers for the General Services Department will increase our already fast growing fleet of clean street maintenance vehicles, further reducing the levels of emissions from street services vehicles in our neighborhoods.



CNG street sweepers like the one above keep both our streets and air clean

EAD is very pleased to continue in its role of seeking out and acquiring outside funding to ensure that the City of Los Angeles continues to receive grant funding assistance. This funding will enable the City to continue to lead the way in terms of acquiring alternative fuels vehicles for our local government fleet. For more information please check-out the alternative-fueled vehicles sections of our website at <http://www.lacity.org/EAD/EADWeb-AQD/AFVehicles.htm>.

\$\$\$ FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES \$\$\$

Visit <http://www.lacity.org/ead> for more grant opportunities.

Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences The Directorate for Geosciences of the National Science Foundation supports research and education in the Earth, ocean, and atmospheric sciences. The primary goal of the Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences (OEDG) program is to increase participation in the geosciences by underrepresented groups. An important but secondary goal is to strengthen understanding of geoscience and its relevance to modern society among broad and diverse segments of the population. Specifically, the OEDG program supports activities that increase the number of members of underrepresented groups that:

- Are involved in formal pre-college geoscience education programs;
- Pursue bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in the geosciences;
- Enter geoscience careers; and
- Participate in informal geoscience education programs.

For more information about grant awarding, and to read more about the OEDG, visit www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04590/nsf04590.htm; to learn more, contact Dr. Jacqueline E. Huntoon, Program Director for Diversity and Education, Directorate for Geosciences, at (703) 292-8500, or by email at jhuntoon@nsf.gov. Letters of intent are due by **September 14, 2004**.

Surdna Foundation seeks to prevent irreversible damage to the environment and to promote more efficient, economically sound, environmentally beneficial and equitable use of land and natural resources. Please visit www.surdna.org for application information or call (212) 557-0010.

Captain Planet Foundation funds and supports hands-on environmental projects for children and youths interested in solving environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. Please visit www.captainplanetfdn.org for details and an application, or write to Captain Planet Foundation, One CNN Center, Suite 1090, Atlanta, GA 30303.



Home Depot — Community Grant Program provides assistance to non-profits that direct efforts toward forestry, ecology, green building

design, clean-up, recycling, and lead poisoning prevention. This grant is for non-profits only. For more information contact your local Home Depot store manager or visit www.homedepot.com and search for "community involvement" or call 1-800-430-3376.

The California Community Foundation accepts grants year-round for projects that seek to revitalize low-income neighborhoods. Funds will support the development, rehabilitation and beautification of affordable housing and living areas, and will support the establishment or maintenance of safe recreation areas and parks, including community gardens. Please visit www.calfund.org or call (213) 413-4130.



Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools 2003 National Symposium The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), in cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), is offering a significant training opportunity for environmental health professionals working in city, county or state health or environmental protection agencies, or individuals that have been active with community groups working on school health and safety issues. The USEPA will host their 5th Annual Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Tools for Schools National Symposium, December 2-4, 2004, in Washington, DC. **IAQ Tools for Schools** is a nationwide initiative to help school officials assess, resolve, and prevent indoor air quality problems and reduce exposure to asthma triggers in school facilities. An awards ceremony will be held to honor schools with exemplary IAQ programs. **NEHA will select up to thirty people for training in Washington, DC, with all expenses paid. Letters of interest must be received by August 13, write to:**

Larry Marcum, Manager
Research and Development
National Environmental Health Association
720 South Colorado Boulevard
South Tower – Suite 970
Denver, Colorado 80246-1925

All applicants must include their e-mail address on the application. Any questions regarding this project should be addressed to Susan Jerles who may be reached at (303) 756-9090 ext. 310.

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EACH MONTH:

(EAD recommends contacting event sponsor prior to the event)



Family Adventures: 2004 Adventures in Nature Summer 2004 Natural History Museum & Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits. Explore Earth's creatures, features, and cultures through hands-on experiences, behind the scenes tours, and fun activities. Adventures in Nature gives children, grades Pre-K through 8, the opportunity to explore a wide variety of fascinating museum topics through active encounters that spark their natural curiosity and creativity. To find out more about Adventures in Nature, visit the Natural History Museum website at www.nhm.org or call (213) 763-ED4U.

Down-by-the-River Walks, Friends of the Los Angeles River and the Sierra Club are sponsoring monthly walks along the banks of the LA River. Join them at 3:30 pm on the third Sunday of each month for an informal, leisurely, hour-long walk. The walk is canceled if it rains. For more information visit the FoLAR website at www.folar.org, or call Joe Linton at (213) 381-3570



Afternoons in the Lab, Cabrillo Marino Aquarium's

education staff and volunteers are available every Wednesday from 3-5 pm to answer questions and involve students of all ages in exploring local marine life in the hands-on Discovery SEA Lab. Activities cover a wide range of scientific fun. The science education afternoon is free and opens with a different theme each week. Groups should make reservations. For more information call (310) 548-7562, or visit www.cabrilloaq.org.



Go Wild About The Los Angeles Zoo Summer Program This two-month summer festival features kid-friendly entertainment, educational activities, and much more, including extended hours every day, July 3 through September 6, from 10 am to 6 pm. The Los Angeles Zoo is located at 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles. For more information, call the Zoo at (323) 644-6400, or visit their website at www.lazoo.org.



Adventures with a Ranger Join a State Park Ranger to explore the many wonders of the Santa Monica Mountains. Free. Walks take one hour. Begins at 9 am. Meet Saturdays at Point Mugu State Park, or Sundays at Leo Carrillo State Park. For more information, call the State Park Headquarters at (805) 488-1827.

Smart Gardening Workshop, The Los Angeles Countywide Yard Waste Program hosts Smart Gardening workshops

The EAD website, located at www.lacity.org/EAD, contains updated information on this month's events. To ensure your event is included in our monthly newsletter, submit information to the editor by the 10th of each month prior to publication. After the 10th, events can be entered into our website calendar only. The EAD reserves the right to edit all submittals and does not necessarily endorse the events listed. All events are subject to change, so call listed event contacts to verify information.



year-round. Topics covered include backyard and worm composting, grass recycling, and water-wise gardening. For more information, call (888) CLEAN-LA or visit www.smartgardening.com. For more information call the Bureau of Sanitation at (213) 473-8228.

Amigos de Bolsa Chica offer free public tours of the wetlands for individuals the first Saturday of each month. Visitors who arrive between 9



and 10:30 am will be led on a 1 1/2 hour tour which makes 5 stops along the walkbridge and loop trail. Trained tour guides discuss bird identification, ecology, endangered species, early history and current status. For more information visit <http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org>, or call (714) 840-1575.

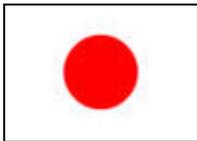
THIS MONTH:
(EAD recommends contacting event sponsor prior to the event)

Fri and Sat, Aug 7-8

Celebrate a Taste of San Pedro with the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Los Angeles. In addition to culinary offerings from over 20 local restaurants, a children's area, live music, rides, classic car show, and the beautiful setting promise fun for the whole family. For more information visit www.tasteinsanpedro.com, or call (310) 832-7272.

Fri Aug 7 though Sun Aug 17

64th Annual Nisei Week cultural festival in Little Tokyo. Queen Coronation, Grand Parade, Drum Gathering, Tofu Festival and more. For more information visit www.niseiweek.org or call (213) 687-7193.



Fri thru Sun, Aug 13-14

37th Annual Watts Summer Festival One of the longest running African American cultural festivals promoting cultural awareness for children and families using arts, crafts, theater presentations, music, food and fashion. Takes place Friday through Sunday from noon to 8 pm at 10950 South Central Avenue. Free. Sponsored by the Watts Summer Festival, Inc. For more information, contact the



sponsor at www.wattsfestival.org or call (323) 789-7304.

Sat, Aug 14

Explore Palos Verdes with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. This easy 2-hour walk will explore the Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park and Machado Lake, the last wetland in this part of the South Bay. Walk leaders will help you examine its combination of marshes, coastal sage scrub and water habitats. Local Native Americans, the Tongvas (later called Gabrielinos), were thought to have had one of their largest permanent settlements here. From the five-way intersection of Vermont/Gaffey/Anaheim Streets, go east on Anaheim toward the 110 Freeway and make an immediate left after the intersection into the park (one can also go north on Vermont from its intersection with Anaheim Street and take the first right turn into the park area. Bear right and drive east through the parking lot). Cosponsored by the City of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation and the Park's Advisory Board. For more information, visit www.pvplc.org, or call (310) 541-7613.



The Great Sand Sculpture Contest Teams of co-workers, families and friends compete against each other to build unique sand creations in multiple prize categories. FREE to spectators. Sponsored by the City of Long Beach. For more information, call (562) 570-8920 or visit their website at www.lbparcs.org. Takes place from 9 am to 4 pm at Belmont Shore Beach in front of Belmont



Pool at Granada in Long Beach. The contest is a part of the Long Beach 71st International Sea Festival. To sign on as a competitor, call Fred Khammar at (562) 434-1542.

Sat and Sun, Aug 14-15

18th Annual Block Party and Arts Festival This San Pedro tradition celebrates music, food, and interactive arts activities for the whole family. Free. Takes place Saturday from 11 am to midnight, and Sunday from 10 am to 6 pm at 1003 South Beacon Street in San Pedro. Sponsored by the Beacon House Association of San Pedro. For more information, call (310) 514-4940 or visit their website at www.beaconhouseassociation.com.

Tue Aug 17

Learn to Fish with the Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation. This program is designed to offer a fishing experience to the youth of Los Angeles. Children, ages 8 and up, will learn how to rig lines, tie and bait hooks, and cast their rods. Youth will also learn about environmentally responsible fishing and the State of California fishing laws. Please call to reserve your day and time for this 3 hour class. You may enjoy the morning (9am-noon) or the afternoon (1-4pm) session. The cost is \$5 per individual, with all equipment and bait included, so all you have to do is call to reserve your space and meet at the Pier. Call Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park at (310) 548-7728, ask for John or Max. **Also offered August 23.**



Sat Aug 21

Nothing but Sand, Beach Cleanup with Heal the Bay.

This event is held at Dockweiler Beach and is free and open to all. Meet at the north end of parking lot 1, near the intersection of Imperial Highway and Vista del Mar. Cleanup runs from 10 am to noon. For more information visit www.healthebay.org or call (310) 453-7927.



Sat and Sun, Aug 21 and 22

Sunset Junction Street Faire

One of the largest street fairs in Los Angeles will feature live music, ethnic food, and unique crafts to celebrate the spirit of Los Angeles. \$6 donation for Youth at Risk Program. The fair takes place both days from 10

am to 11 pm between 3600 and 4600 Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles. Sponsored by the Sunset Junction Neighborhood Alliance. For more information, visit www.sunsetjunction.org or call (323) 661-7771.



Tiki Beach Festival From sunrise to sundown participants can enjoy an old-fashioned beach party that will feature live entertainment, a classic car show, a BBQ cook-off, a kite surfing exhibition, catamaran rides and movies on the beach after dark. Admission is FREE. The Festival takes place at Belmont Shore Beach at Granada in Long Beach. For more information, contact the City of Long Beach Depart-

ment of Parks, Recreation, and Marine at (562) 570-8920, or visit their website at www.lbparks.org.

Sun Aug 29

Kids 'n Critters Day The Montrose Shopping Park Association celebrates their annual event for children. Activities include games, animal adoptions, magic show, and an exotic animal petting zoo. Held on the 2200 block of Honolulu Avenue in Montrose, free for all. For more information visit www.shopmontrose.com, or call (818) 248-3889.



Indoor Air Quality

When thinking about clean air and your health, its not just outdoors with its vehicle and industrial pollutants one needs to worry about, but also the air inside where we live and work. Indoor air pollution can cause eye, nose, and throat irritation; respiratory infections and bronchitis; lung cancer, headaches and other ailments. Pollutants found indoors typically come from cigarette smoke, fireplaces, paints and solvents, aerosol sprays and cleansers, pesticides, and exposed insulation. The first thing one can do to limit indoor air pollution is to watch and limit the use of these products and look for environmentally friendly products.



In addition, keeping your gas appliances properly adjusted and cleaned, having your heating and air conditioning service cleaned and serviced, increasing ventilation and air flow in your home or office, and purchasing carpet with no or low formaldehyde content can all help keep you and your family safe and healthy. Also, remember to never leave your car idling in an enclosed space like a garage, take plants outside before applying any pesticides, and, if possible, smoke outside and away from children.

You can learn more about indoor air quality at www.healthhouse.org/iaq/pollute.asp.

Help the Environmental Affairs Department Help the Environment!

Sign up to receive an online announcement of *An Environmental Affair* and then access the monthly edition at www.lacity.org/ead. It's no fuss, no hassle, and you will be a big help in saving paper!

To receive the announcement, send us an e-mail with your request at eadinfo@mailbox.lacity.org, and be sure to include your full name!



HOTLINE CONNECTION

The Environmental Information Center (EIC) serves as a referral source to the community. Our hotline connection offers a list of the most frequently requested numbers. If the number you need is not listed, please contact the EIC at **(213) 978-0888**. You can also visit our website at <http://www.lacity.org/ead> and click on *Environmental Information Center*.

One Call to City Hall
3-1-1

Air Quality

Calidad del aire
South Coast Air Quality Management District
(800) 288-7664

Asbestos

Asbestos
Environmental Hygiene
(626) 430-5440

Bulky Item Pick-up

Recogida de articulos grandes
L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation
(800) 773-2489

Hazardous Waste Disposal *Desem-*

bolso de materiales peligrosos
L.A. County Dept. of Public Works
(888) 253-2652
L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation
(800) 988-6942

Housing and Building Complaints

Las quejas de construccion y albergar
Housing Code Enforcement
(213) 367-9411

Illegal Storm Drain Dumping

Depositos en los drenajes de desagües
Stormwater Management
(800) 974-9794

Indoor Air or Mold Concerns

Aire interior ó preocupaciones de moh o
Environmental Hygiene
(626) 430-5440

Lead Poisoning

Veneno del plomo
National Lead Information Center
(800) 424-5323

Leaf Blowers

Sopladores de hojas
Leaf Blower Complaint Line
(800) 996-2489

Mosquitoes

Infestaciones de mosquitos
L.A. West Mosquito Abatement
(310) 915-7370

Recycling

Reciclaje
City of L.A. Public Works Dept.
(800) 773-2489

Smoking Violations

Infracciones de fumar
Office of the City Attorney
(888) 333-0730

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Environmental Affairs Department
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