TRAPEZE SCHOOL NEW YORK LANDS AT 
THE SANTA MONICA PIER

Already boasting colorful characters, rides, games and fun, the circus atmosphere at the Santa Monica Pier gets a shot in the arm when the Trapeze School New York (TSNY) opens for business on May 10.

“The Santa Monica Pier is an incredibly beautiful place to be. We can not imagine a more wonderful home for this amazing activity,” said TSNY co-founder Jonathon Covant. “In addition to classes that are open to the public, we will have student recitals and professional shows that everyone will enjoy.” But catching a great show isn’t the best part, says Jonathon. “The drama of someone flying for the first time, their triumphs and struggles are endlessly fascinating.” It’s uplifting—no pun intended!

Covant, a native Californian, comes from a varied background that includes stunt work, professional dance, and human developmental research. He founded the school with partners Anne and Dave Brown after seeing that, facilitated properly, flying serves as a powerful tool in expanding peoples’ views of what they are capable of doing. It also provides a super cardio workout, tones muscles, develops balance and is a fun activity to share with family and friends. “We have simple goals here at Trapeze School New York,” says Jonathon “Opening people's minds to new possibilities, keeping things safe and having a great time doing it.” This will be their fifth location—they have other schools in New York City, Boston and Baltimore.

The open-air school will be nestled between Pacific Park and the Playland Arcade, offering great visibility for passersby to watch the trapeze in action. And if you’re so inclined you can get in on the action yourself—classes will be offered for everyone from first-timers to advanced flyers. There are multiple-class discounts, group classes, workshops, special events and even birthday party packages! For more information, please visit the TSNY web site at www.trapezeschool.com or visit the Pier in person.
**OCEAN STAGE**

**Emcee** Tommy Lee
Tommy Lee, coordinator of the Music Center’s DANCE AT THE MUSIC CENTER and ACTIVE ARTS programs, will bring some downtown flavor to the Ocean Stage.

*12:00 – 12:45*

**Ballet Folklorico Nueva Antequera**
This critically-acclaimed intergenerational ensemble brings to life the indigenous music and dances representing the seven regions of Oaxaca, Mexico.

*12:45 – 1:00*

**City Welcome and Sustainable Quality Awards**

*1:45 – 2:30*

**Fishtank Ensemble**
Fishtank Ensemble serves up a unique and worldly musical mélange. With Romanian folk music at its core, the band melds flamenco, Swedish folk music and klezmer reminiscent of the sultry cafés of Bucharest and Gypsy caravans.

*2:35 – 2:35*

**Announcement of TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES Poster Contest Winner**

*3:15 – 4:00*

**DAFRA West African Dance & Drum Ensemble**
DAFRA West African Dance & Drum Ensemble hails from Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Ivory Coast and the United States. DAFRA will perform and teach songs and dances representing the rich tapestry of Africa.

*4:00 – 4:10*

**Announcement of Raffle Ticket Winners**

*5:00 – 6:00*

**Dengue Fever**
This Los Angeles-based, Cambodian-flavored psychedelic pop music has created quite a sensation, garnering global media attention and international acclaim. Front woman Chhom Nimol’s hypnotic stage moves, based on traditional dances, and entrancing khmer lyrics have earned this band a cult following.

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**YOUTH STAGE**

**Emcee** Joe Hernandez-Kolski and DJ Jedi
Dynamic duo Joe Hernandez-Kolski & DJ Jedi (Emmy winners for “Outstanding Youth Programming” for DOWNBEAT SHOWDOWN, the televised version of Downbeat 720) will be the Youth Stage emcee and DJ.

*1:00 – 1:30*

**Virginia Avenue Park’s Hip-Hop Dance Group & Soul Real Band**
Based at the Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center, these local youth bring a fresh vision to old school hip-hop moves and soul music.

*1:30 – 1:40*

**re:Fashion Catwalk**
Be front-row fabulous at this earth friendly fashion show while checking out the couture created at the re:Fashion Workshop: Season 2. Guiding us through the mode du jour will be Howard Seth Cohen, proprietor of MR. MRS., a weekly salon featuring fashion forward art and clothing.

*2:35 – 3:00*

**John Adams Middle School (JAMS) Jazz Band**
Enjoy the swinging sounds of the JAMS Jazz Band, a dedicated after-school performing group that has played at venues throughout Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

*3:15 – 4:00*

**re:Fashion Catwalk**

*4:15 – 4:45*

**Downbeat 720 High School Talent**
Downbeat 720 is LA’s premier open stage for high school performers sponsored by the City of Santa Monica. Some of the city’s most talented poets and musicians will be performing.
WORKSHOPS

10:00 – 4:00
re:Fashion Workshop: Season 2 with Ann Closs-Farley
Create your own fabulous fashion with this award-winning costume designer along with industry professionals using day old newspapers, and be the star of the fashion show as you strut your stuff in one of the many fashion shows happening throughout the day.

11:00 – 4:00
Scratch Art & Spin Art with Scratch Academy
Take your sonic skills for a spin and learn to scratch your way to DJ greatness at the SCRATCH ART workshop. You can also create a work of art on a piece of vintage vinyl at the SPIN ART workshop.

11:00 – 5:30
Octopus’s Garden with Santa Monica Public Library
Create treasures, sea creatures and underwater fantasies from the mountains of junk mail and magazines that clutter daily life.

11:00 – 5:00
The Nutty Recycler’s Amazing Trash Puppetry Factory with Poli Marichal of 18th Street Art Center
Give new life to discarded items by fashioning them into a puppet.

11:30 – 5:30
People, Cats, Dogs and Whatever Else with Asuka Hisa of Santa Monica Museum of Art
Using recycled die cuts and materials from past museum programs, create a whimsical collage about you and your favorite four legged friends.

11:00 – 5:30
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Program and times subject to change

A free family festival featuring world music and dance on solar powered stages, recycled couture, earth friendly workshops, a free bicycle valet, a global marketplace, international cuisine and much more…

ZERO WASTE
The festival continues following zero waste principles to minimize the garbage that normally goes into landfills and maximize recycling. The event will be powered by renewable energy with both stages operating on solar power. Interactive displays, information booths and demonstrations at the Eco Zone shed light on local and global environmental issues, illuminating how residents can make a difference. Bring your old cell phones and other small electronics for reuse at California Recycles.

ECO ZONE
Explore environmentally smart solutions to daily living: California Recycles, California Wildlife, The Environmental Defenders, Fundraising Green, Heal the Bay, North East Trees, Rediscover Center, Sustainable Investment Services, Sustainable Works, Wilderness Fly Fishers and Santa Monica City Departments and Divisions – Community Maintenance, Environmental Programs, Water Pollution Prevention, Water Resources, Solar Power and Solid Waste.

TOWN SQUARE
Meet the people committed to making Santa Monica shine: The City Department’s and Divisions: Big Blue Bus, Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica, City Attorney’s Office, City Clerk’s Office, Civil Engineering & Architecture, City TV, Commission for the Senior Community, Community Corporation of Santa Monica, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Cultural Affairs, Cultural & Community Services, Fire Department, Latino Resource Center, Planning and Community Development, Rent Control Board and Social Services Commission, along with other great community organizations such as: Connections for Children, Emperor’s College of Traditional Oriental Medicine, Ocean Park Community Center, Project Vote Smart Bus, The Eli and Edythe Broad Stage and Edye Second Space at Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center, Saint Joseph Center, Santa Monica Pier Restoration, Santa Monica Public Library, Santa Monica Playhouse, Step Up on Second and Southern California Aquatic Masters.

GLOBAL CAFE
Sample a range of international cuisine: Buongusto Gourmet Ice, Cha Cha Chicken Caribbean Cuisine, Green Truck, Groundwork Coffee Company, Jody Mornon Italian Sausage, Mama’s Hot Tamales, May’s Thai Food, Mike’s Food Festival, Mort’s Mobile Gourmet and Severn Corn.

MAKE ARTS

PRESENTED BY
The City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division, Community & Cultural Services Department, the Santa Monica Arts Commission, the City of Santa Monica Environmental & Public Works Management Department.

SPOONORED BY
CityTV of Santa Monica-Media Sponsor, Wachovia, Sparkleets, Whole Foods, Western Bagel, Patagonia, Watt Management, Cushman & Wakefield, Cabo Developers, Tribeca West.

PRODUCED BY
Community Arts Resources (CARS) 213.385.0605 – www.carsla.net

HOW TO GET THERE
Clover Park is located at 2600 Ocean Park Blvd., between Cloverfield Blvd. and 28th Street. Free and ample parking is available. Revelers are encouraged to take public transportation. Santa Monica’s Big Blue Bus Line #8 serves Clover Park. You can also walk or bike. This year’s festivities include a free and safe bike valet. Clover Park is wheelchair accessible. For assistance with accessibility accommodations, please contact the Cultural Affairs Division at least one week prior to this event at (310) 458-8350; TTY (310) 458-8696; or email smarts@smgov.net. For more festival info, visit www.arts.santa-monica.org. All events are free and scheduled rain or shine.

Saturday
May 10, 2008
11am – 6pm

Clover Park
2600 Ocean Park Blvd.
Free Admission
Free Parking
Info: 310.458.8350
TTY: 310.458.8696
www.arts.santa-monica.org
K

WATER NEWS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Keep saving water Santa Monica! Together we’ve saved over 260 million gallons of water (enough water for 1,600 families for a year) since July 2007. Southern California is still facing serious water supply shortages. Even with the recent rains and snow in California, we need to continue conserving water to ensure adequate supplies for the remainder of this year.

Santa Monica is offering a number of ideas and programs to assist residents and businesses in using water more efficiently and reducing demand. These efforts are among the strategic goals in Santa Monica’s Sustainable City Plan, which calls for a 20% reduction in citywide water consumption by 2010.

Following are some innovative techniques that increase efficiency, reduce water consumption, and save money:

- **IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS:** Adjust your sprinkler controller for spring conditions. To find out how much water your garden needs and when to water, go to [www.bewaterwise.com/calculator.html](http://www.bewaterwise.com/calculator.html).

- **WASHING MACHINES:** Santa Monica water customers get $100 rebates for purchasing efficient front-loading washing machines. The new machines save natural gas, electricity and up to 5,000 gallons of water per year. Further, the machines clean more effectively, are easier on your clothing, wring more water from your clothing for shorter drying times and are quieter than conventional washers.

- **RAINWATER HARVESTING:** Rebates from $40 to $500 are available to Santa Monica water customers who redirect rain gutter systems to landscaped or non-paved surfaces or install rain barrels or cisterns.

- **GRAYWATER SYSTEMS AND Drip Irrigation:** The city recently published guidelines for graywater (non-hazardous sewage from baths, showers, laundry and sinks) and drip irrigation, which directs water to the root zone of your plants without unnecessary water waste. Guidelines were developed to assist homeowners or commercial properties in converting existing spray irrigation to water efficient drip irrigation systems, saving up to 50,000 gallons/year. Landscape grants of up to $20,000 will be available in July 2008 to fund water-friendly landscaping projects that use systems like these.

To learn more on reducing your water use visit [www.smepd.org](http://www.smepd.org) or call (310) 458-8459.

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SNOWY PLOVER NOT ONLY RESTING, BUT NESTING!

The Western Snowy Plover has found a champion in city staff, biologists, local residents and members of the Audubon Society! Every year, a small preserve for this species (federally classified as “threatened”) is established on the beach north of the Pier where as many as 20% of the county’s plover population spends the winter months eating and resting to build up fat reserves.

Now, volunteer observers working with biologists are seeing signs indicating that the plovers may be trying to nest on the beach, making it the first nest in L.A. County in nearly 60 years!

The birds lay small, sand-colored eggs in depressions that they scrape out in the sand, making the nests almost impossible to see. In order to give them the best possible chance of successfully producing chicks, the city is working with the California Department of Fish & Game and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to protect the portion of the preserve where the nests may be by enclosing it with additional fencing for the next few weeks.

In 2005, the City became the first community in Los Angeles County to provide a protective preserve for the plover. Each winter the plovers are monitored by a group of volunteers organized by the Santa Monica Bay, Palos Verdes, and Los Angeles Chapters of the Audubon Society. The efforts are sponsored by the city and the California Department of Fish & Game Office of Spill Prevention and Response.

To learn more about this program or to volunteer to help the plover, visit the LA Audubon online at [www.laaudubon.org](http://www.laaudubon.org).
For almost four years, the community has debated its future through the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) planning process. Now, the results of the community dialogue, particularly the 13 widely attended community workshops held this past year, can be seen in the draft LUCE plan, available later this month at City Hall and all library branches as well as at www.shapethefuture2025.net.

Public hearings on the draft plan will be held by the Planning Commission in May and the City Council in June.

At issue has been the central question of how best to keep and improve our quality of life and the character of our neighborhoods and not be overtaken by congestion. According to the Sustainable City Plan, the city must begin to address root causes, rather than symptoms, and evaluate the long-term impacts of its decisions. It acknowledges the interconnectedness of its policy decisions. This philosophy informs the LUCE recommendations, as well as the six key values identified by the community:

- **Neighborhood Preservation & Enhancement** The focus of the plan for the vast majority of the city’s areas will be to protect and improve the residential neighborhoods.
- **Integration of Land Use & Transportation** In a departure from past planning efforts, the LUCE inextricably links land use decisions to transportation recommendations, focusing new residential and commercial uses only in the vicinity of existing or proposed transit corridors.
- **Proactive Congestion Management** The city must proactively work towards reducing auto trips through a comprehensive network of bus, bike and pedestrian pathways; transit connections; new street classifications; Transportation Demand Management districts; and criteria for measuring results. This strategy is designed to provide better alternatives to the car, particularly for employees commuting into Santa Monica.
- **Public Benefit** Future development must offer the city and the neighborhoods benefits such as open space, childcare, arts and community gathering spaces and infrastructure. The greatest incentives will encourage affordable and workforce housing.
- **Urban Character & Form** New buildings must be of high architectural quality and contribute to the community.
- **Sustainability** LUCE is a complete strategic plan integrating land use with the elements of sustainability, including transportation, resource conservation, housing and economic development. LUCE also anticipates the arrival of Exposition Light Rail in 2015, and has influenced the Expo Authority’s plans for both track and station locations at Bergamot Station and downtown.

For more information, visit www.shapethefuture2025.net or call (310) 458-8341.

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**BEACH GREENING COMING YOUR WAY**

A new patch of green has sprouted up in the beach parking lot at 2030 Barnard Way!

Funded in part by the Clean Beaches Initiative (Costa-Machado Water Act of 2000) from the State Water Resources Control Board, the design incorporates a special turf that can be used for recreation but will also help filter storm water runoff and can support car parking when necessary. Solar powered irrigation is provided as well as a monitoring system that will test the storm water for pollutants before and after passing through the turf. This demonstration project also reduces the impact of heat generated by asphalt surfaces on the surrounding environment.

The Beach Green will be available for informal play and recreation most days of the year. During peak beach use periods, the gates will be opened for parking (approximately six days annually). If successful, this project may provide a model for communities all along the California coast.
Summer is here and it's cooking time! Show off your grilling skills at AIRPORT, CLOVER, MARINE and VIRGINIA AVENUE PARKS. Barbecuing is not permitted at parks that do not have city-installed grills, or at the beach.

The “splash pads” at VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK and DOUGLAS PARK have been turned on! It's a fun way to cool off the kids this summer!

The annual pond cleaning at DOUGLAS PARK has been completed. During the cleaning, all the animals that call the pond home were carefully relocated to temporary facilities and have now been returned to the pond. An assortment of aquatic plants will be added in early summer to help maintain a healthy, chemical-free pond system.

The fencing and wind screen around the tennis courts at OCEAN VIEW PARK were recently upgraded. You can reserve a court by calling (310) 394-6011.

Bring the kids to MARINE PARK... the swing set is back in action!

PARK RANGERS in city parks are here to help! They can assist in emergency situations, report criminal activity, and monitor permits for filming, events and field use. They can also cite for animal regulation and parking lot violations. You might see them on foot, on bikes or in their city vehicles. Please be sure to say hello, ask a question, or report a problem!

The trash valet service will once again operate in busy areas of the BEACH this summer. To help reduce litter, our valet team will come by with big bags and offer to take away your trash! The program is offered Friday through Sunday and holidays from 3:30-8:00 p.m. We’re doing our part, please do yours!

This is the first in a series of articles about the history and facts of Santa Monica’s prized open space system. With its trails, trees, landscaping and spectacular views, Palisades Park may very well be Santa Monica’s greatest natural and recreational treasure. For that we can thank city pioneers Senator John P. Jones and Colonel Robert Baker. In 1891, they deeded the land that became known as Linda Vista Park to the City of Santa Monica with the stipulation that it remain a public park in perpetuity. This monumental gift preserved public access to the beach, another one of our city’s greatest assets. When Linda Vista Drive was renamed “California Incline” in the early 1900s, the name of the park was changed as well. Stretching from the Santa Monica Pier to just north of San Vicente Boulevard, the park is popular with strollers, joggers and tourists and is a favorite movie and TV filming location.

Palisades Park was revitalized as part of the Beach Improvement Group Project in 2000. Totaling just over 26 acres, it features a rose garden, a pergola, public art, a Veteran's Memorial, cannons left from 1861, the Millennium Wall (with time capsule), unparalleled views and access to the shore at the Broadway and Montana Stairs. The Park is also the site of the Senior Recreation Center and Camera Obscura, and has a plaque designating it as the symbolic end of historic Route 66. It is now also home to two underground structures designed to catch and treat urban runoff before it reaches the bay.

The park was designated a City Landmark in 2007, ensuring that its character will be preserved and enjoyed for generations to come.

WHAT’S NEW IN PARKS AND BEACHES?

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MOST VULNERABLE HOMELESS PEOPLE IDENTIFIED

Help is on the way for Santa Monica’s most vulnerable homeless people. A recent survey of people living on the streets helped determine each individual’s “Vulnerability Score”, a calculation that predicts an individual’s likelihood of dying on the streets unless permanently housed based on quantifiable variables, including length of homelessness and physical and mental health issues. Having this information helps the city and its partner agencies prioritize future efforts and initiatives aimed at reducing street homelessness by focusing efforts on housing the ten most vulnerable people as quickly as possible.

Forty-two percent, or 110 of the 261 people surveyed had at least one high-risk condition. The most vulnerable person is a 49-year old white male with a chronic health condition, who grew up in foster care and came to Santa Monica 30 years ago.

Now, efforts are underway to assist him and the nine other most vulnerable and long-term homeless as quickly as possible. Once the initial ten are housed, efforts will be directed towards housing the next ten most vulnerable people.

For additional information, go to homelessnessaction.smgov.net.
IS YOUR DOG “STREET LEGAL?”

Karen greets Ruby, a boxer mix, who is proudly leading her owner into the animal shelter office. Ruby’s owner is hoping to add another canine companion to their household, but Karen notices something missing from Ruby’s rhinestone-studded collar. “Where is Ruby’s license tag?” she asks. Ruby’s owner says she’s had all her shots and shows a gold name tag in the shape of a bone. Karen explains the difference between a name tag and a dog license, and points out that a dog without a license tag is like a car with no plates or registration.

By law, all dogs must be registered with their local animal control agency and must display a visible license tag in public. The unique number stamped on each license tag allows animal control to quickly determine the owner of a lost dog; the majority of lost pets found with no identification are never reunited with their owners.

First-time dog licenses must be obtained in person at Santa Monica’s animal shelter, located at 1640 9th Street. Annual renewals can be processed by mail. A valid rabies certificate, proof of sterility (if applicable), and proof of residency is required. The current dog license fee is $15.50 for dogs that have been spayed or neutered, and $51.70 for dogs that are not. To assist with the cost of spay and neuter surgery, the City of Santa Monica offers residents cash vouchers, and will refund the current year’s license fee after a dog is spayed or neutered. Dog license fees help local agencies maintain full-service animal shelters and to provide for local rabies control.

Shelter hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, except Sundays, noon to 5:00 p.m. and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call (310) 458-8595.

MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Over a quarter of adult Americans are affected by mental illness each year. It could be a close family member, a colleague at work, or the teller at your bank, but chances are good that you know someone with a mental health condition. Mental illnesses include depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia and bipolar disorder (also known as manic depression), and are found in every sector of the population. Although mental illness can be frightening, it is usually treatable with lifestyle changes and the right support from the community, medical professionals, family and friends. Visit www.whatadifference.org for more information about how to support loved ones and members of the community who are facing these challenges.

If you are experiencing a change in mood or other symptoms that are interfering with your life, seek help from your medical provider and refer to these organizations for information or help:

SUICIDE PREVENTION: 911 or 877-7CRISIS
MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION: National Alliance for Mental Illness www.nami.org
National Institute for Mental Health www.nimh.nih.gov

MUNICIPAL ELECTION IS NOVEMBER 4

Santa Monica’s next municipal election is November 4, 2008, when four council seats, two positions on the rent control board, three on the College Board of Trustees and three plus one partial term on the Board of Education will be vacant or up for reelection. Interested candidates are invited to attend a workshop held by the City Clerk’s office, where they will receive nomination papers and learn about the election process. The same session is offered at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:30 p.m. on July 14 in Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street.

As a reminder, the last day to register to vote in the upcoming election is October 20, 2008. For information on the workshop or any election-related topic, call the City Clerk’s Office at (310) 458-8211.

SEE SPOT RUN

With a valid license, dogs and their people are welcome to exercise and play off-leash in these city parks:

- Airport Park 1301 Airport Ave.
  - 0.83 acres, separate areas for large and small dogs
- Joslyn Park 633 Kensington Rd.
- Separate areas for large and small dogs
- Memorial Park 1401 Olympic Blvd.
- Dog run
- Pacific Street Park 145 Pacific St.
- Dog area

Visit www.smgov.net for more information.

A FEW LESS TRUCKS, A LOT LESS WASTE

A few less trucks in the alleys, a lot less waste in the landfill! City Council recently awarded commercial collection services to the city’s Solid Waste Management Division, which will provide trash removal and an array of recycling services to an estimated 1,400 additional commercial customers. The transition from private waste haulers to city service will be complete by the end of this year.

While most “trash” is recyclable, many businesses in Santa Monica have not had a convenient and cost-effective way to recycle waste products until now. The Solid Waste Management Division offers one-bin recycling of most items, and special services including high-volume cardboard and food waste recycling.

Our goal as a sustainable city is to be recycling 70% of the city’s waste by 2010, and ultimately to achieve zero waste. Solid Waste Management looks forward to working with its new commercial customers and will increase education efforts to help businesses save money and the environment by recycling.

For more information, call the Solid Waste Management Division at (310) 458-2223.
**BIG BLUE BUS — STILL HOT AT 80!**

After celebrating the opening of the Transit Store, record increases in ridership and an 86% on-time performance rating, the Big Blue Bus shows no signs of slowing down as it heads into its 80th year! The Big Blue Bus kicked off with an anniversary party on April 14 at the Third St. Promenade. Special features included the Blue Notes musical group playing transit-themed tunes, VIP speakers and the premier of “80 Years in 8 Minutes”, a video history and future vision of public transit in Santa Monica – screened on board a vintage bus!

Big Blue Bus also announced the “Bus of the Future” contest, a unique partnership with the Art Center College of Design in which students will incorporate ideas supplied by the community into designs for the ultimate bus in the year 2025. The designs the students create will be available for viewing and evaluated by a VIP panel of judges at the Alt Car Expo on September 26. All ages are welcome to participate in designing the “Bus of the Future” by simply visiting www.BigBlueBus.com/BotF.

The celebration continues at the Santa Monica Festival on May 10. Contribute your ideas to the “Bus of the Future” contest, spin our Wheel of Fortune and take the kids for a tour of the display bus.

Then, Big Blue Bus will support the festivities at City Hall for Bike to Work Day on May 15 (see box) by offering newly updated bike maps, lessons on how to use bus bike racks, and free gifts for bike riders. Big Blue Bus lines 3,4,8,9 and the Tide Ride will get you and your bike there!

Then, on June 19, de-car for the day to join Big Blue Bus in supporting national “Dump the Pump” day. More details to come on all events at www.bigbluebus.com

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**BIKE TO WORK DAY IS MAY 15**

The City of Santa Monica joins L.A. County Metro in celebrating Bike-to-Work day on Thursday, May 15. Try biking to work that day – it’s good for you, good for the planet, and you might even get to work or home a little faster!

You can also win “fabulous prizes” when you visit metro.net/biketowork and pledge to bike to work on May 15! City Hall will offer a “pit stop” on the morning commute for all cyclists, with refreshments and free goodies and gifts starting at 7 a.m.

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**SANTA MONICA PIER AQUARIUM LECTURE SERIES**

**Marine Biologist Ed Ricketts subject of lecture at Santa Monica Public Library**

**Wednesday, May 14, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**MLK Jr. Auditorium, Santa Monica Public Library**

Heal the Bay’s Santa Monica Pier Aquarium and the Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence hosts an evening with Eric Enno Tamm, author of *Beyond the Outer Shores*. Tamm will discuss the life and work of legendary marine biologist Ed Ricketts. Tamm’s book chronicles Ricketts’ pioneering research on the ecological implications of the collapse of the sardine fishing industry; his attempts to catalogue tidal organisms along the entire Pacific coast, and his collaborations with his friends, authors John Steinbeck and Joseph Campbell. (Ricketts was the inspiration for Steinbeck’s hard-living marine biologist character “Doc” in the novel *Cannery Row*.) Tamm’s lecture is one in a series sponsored by the Aquarium and the Ocean Sciences group, known as COSEE-West. Registration is required. For more information, please visit www.healthbay.org/smpa or call (310) 393-6149.

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**BIG BLUE BUS GETAWAYS!**

**25TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**

Strawberry Meadows of College Park, Oxnard, CA

This multifaceted celebration of the region’s agricultural heritage serves up a menu of live entertainment on two musical stages, over 300 arts & crafts exhibitors and 50 food booths with your favorite strawberry fare. Proceeds benefit more than 40 Southland charities.

*Saturday, May 17, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.*

$38 adult/senior; $35 children ages 5-12

**SAN DIEGO ZOO**

Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

*Saturday, June 14, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.*

$49 adult/senior; $44 children ages 5-12

**VIEJAS CASINO AND OUTLET CENTER**

Alpine, CA

Players can choose from 2,500 of the most popular slot machines and more than 80 table games including blackjack, pai gow and Caribbean stud poker.

Viejas Casino also houses an off-track betting facility, bingo pavilion and six restaurants. Across the street, Viejas Outlet Center is home to favorite brand names like Polo Ralph Lauren, GAP, Guess and Nike. Viejas Casino also offers an aerial view of the city.

*Saturday, July 19, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

$35 adult/senior (ages 18 and up)

Ticket prices include round-trip transportation and admission; meals and other activities not included. All getaways depart from Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd. For more information or to purchase tickets visit blue: the transit store located on the Transit Mall at 223 Broadway, just west of the Promenade, call Big Blue Customer Service at (310) 451-5444 or visit www.bigbluebus.com
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

**Saturday, June 21, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at Virginia Avenue Park**

People of all ages are invited to join in the free 16th annual Juneteenth Celebration. This event memorializes the day in 1865 when the last slaves were informed of their freedom as granted by the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. Santa Monica’s action-packed celebration will include multi-cultural music and dance performances, gospel, jazz and blues, comedy, storytelling, martial arts and boxing demonstrations. A children’s court with face painting, game booths and activities, and an “open mic” talent showcase are also part of the day’s festivities. It is not to be missed!

For more information, contact Virginia Avenue Park at 310-458-8688, or LaVerne Ross and the Juneteenth Committee at 310-451-8124 or 310-908-4554.

CONCERTS AT THE SANTA MONICA PIER

**SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES**

*May 4 through June 22, 2:00 p.m.* Get down to the Pier for the best in local music—blues, rock, Latin and R&B from groups such as Lisa Haley and the Zydecats, Tom Nolan, and Westside Crew.

**TWIRL AT THE TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES**

*Thursdays, June 26 through August 28 7:30 p.m.* The most popular free concert series in Southern California returns to the Santa Monica Pier for its 24th season, featuring an all-star lineup of eclectic musical artists. Watch for details in SeaScape or visit www.santamonicapier.org.

CITYWIDE READS CONTINUES IN MAY

It’s not too late to join Citywide Reads, a community reading program that invites everyone in Santa Monica to read and discuss Jim Lynch’s novel *The Highest Tide*, an engaging coming-of-age story with interesting characters and vivid descriptions of marine life appealing to young and old readers alike.

**AN AFTERNOON WITH JIM LYNCH** The award-winning author of *The Highest Tide* presents a reading and discussion, followed by a book signing. Co-sponsored by the Santa Monica College Associates.

*Sat 5/17, 3:00 p.m.* Santa Monica College Pavilion, 1900 Pico Blvd.

**BOOK DISCUSSIONS** Trained volunteer facilitators lead these free public book discussions

- **Sun 5/4, 2:00 p.m.** Joslyn Park Craft Room, 633 Kensington Rd.
- **Thu 5/8, 6:30 p.m.** Santa Monica Pier Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk
  *(The Aquarium will be open after its regular hours to host the discussion.)*
- **Sat 5/10, 1:00 p.m.** Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.
- **Mon 5/12, 7:00 p.m.,** Main Library Multipurpose Room
- **Tue 5/13, 7:00 p.m.,** Barnes & Noble, 1201 3rd Street Promenade
- **Fri 5/16, 2:00 p.m.,** It’s A Grind, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

**BLOG** Share your thoughts on www.santamonicacitywidereads.blogspot.com.

Sponsored by the Santa Monica Public Library, with support from the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, the Santa Monica College Associates, California Center for the Book, and community, educational and business partners.
Over the next ten years, individuals aged 60 and older will comprise the largest age group of Santa Monica residents. Just in time for Older Americans Month, the new Evaluation of Services for Older Adults assesses the needs of current seniors while preparing for the future. Based on the input of hundreds of local seniors and service groups, the report includes recommendations for improved services and recreation opportunities, and provides direction for future program innovation. Steps are already underway to update current programs at the Senior Recreation Center and increase accessibility of services.

Keep an eye on SeaScape and CityTV for information on ways to participate in this ongoing plan. To obtain a copy of the evaluation report, call the Human Services Division at 310-458-8701 or visit [http://human-services.smgov.net](http://human-services.smgov.net).

**WISE & Healthy Aging Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Receives Grant**

The Archstone Foundation has awarded a three-year $270,000 grant to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program of WISE & Healthy Aging to look after the well-being of residents in unlicensed facilities and provide education for organizations that may be placing residents in unsafe environments.

All of WISE & Healthy Aging Ombudsman staff and volunteers are certified by the California Department of Aging and have completed a state-mandated training program and field internship. They conduct regular, unannounced facility visits to see residents, advocate on residents’ behalf with facility staff and administrators, and identify and resolve issues and complaints.

Anyone interested in becoming an ombudsman and serving seniors living in facilities in the community may contact WISE & Healthy Aging at 1-800-334-9473.

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**City of Santa Monica Residents: Register Now!**

**FREE Lamp Exchange!**

**Why Trade?**

- Cut your energy usage by 70%, while saving up to $250.
- Halogen lamps burn as hot as 1,000ºF and are responsible for hundreds of fires.
- You must pre-register.
- First come, first served! While supplies last.
- Your choice of black, white or satin nickel.

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**CIVIC AUDITORIUM CELEBRATING 50 GOLDEN YEARS**

From Academy Awards and concerts to rock shows and surf film festivals, the Civic Auditorium has seen it all. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the community facility located at the corner of Pico & Main. Do you have a fond memory of the Civic? If so, we want to know! Please visit the Civic Auditorium booth at the Festival to share your story, or email civic@smgov.net.

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**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

For detailed and up-to-date information on these and other projects that may affect your commute, please visit [WWW.KNOW4UGO.SMGOV.NET](http://WWW.KNOW4UGO.SMGOV.NET) or call the city's automated information system, “City Hall On Call.” Dial (310) 458-8999, press 1, and enter Message No. 716. TTY: (310) 458-2243. The following projects are scheduled to be underway this summer:

- **ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE AT SANTA MONICA STATE BEACH**
  - Through May 23, 2008
  - Beach Parking Lot 10 closed—use the beach bike path or park in Beach Lot 9.
- **BIG BLUE BUS CAMPUS EXPANSION (1620 6TH STREET)**
  - Through August 2009
  - No public parking on east side of 6th Street south of Colorado Avenue
  - No public parking and no pedestrian access on west side of 7th Street, between Colorado Avenue and Olympic Boulevards.
- **COLORADO OCEAN RELIEF SEWER PROJECT**
  - Through May 2008
  - Westbound Colorado Avenue closed at 2nd Street.
  - Eastbound Colorado Avenue reduced to one lane between Ocean Avenue & 2nd Street.
  - Southbound 2nd Street will be closed at Colorado Avenue.
  - Pedestrian access around the work area is maintained.

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Main Library

Children’s Summer Reading Programs: “Catch the Reading Bug”
- Reading Club – For Independent Readers: Sign ups begin June 16 at the Main Library and all branch locations.
- Read-To-Me Club – For ages 2 to 6: Sign ups begin June 16 at the Main Library and all branch locations.
- Teen Summer Reading Program: “Metamorphosis @ Your Library”
  - Teen Reading Club – For grades 6-12: Transform your mind with this year’s Teen Summer Reading theme! Sign ups begin June 16 at the Main Library and all branch locations.

Fairview Branch

OCEAN PARK BRANCH

Library Corner

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library

601 Santa Monica Boulevard
(310) 458-8600

Hours:
Mon.-Thur., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Fri.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sun., Closed

Fairview Branch
2101 Ocean Park Boulevard
(310) 450-0443

Montana Avenue Branch
1704 Montana Avenue
(310) 829-7085

Ocean Park Branch
2601 Main Street
(310) 392-3804

Hours:
Mon.-Thur., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Fri.-Sat., 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sun., Closed

All city libraries are wheelchair accessible. To request a disability-related accommodation, call the library at (310) 458-8600 (TDD 310-395-8499) at least three business days in advance. The Main Library is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

CALL FOR OUR SCHEDULE OR VISIT US AT WWW.SMPLKIDS.ORG

Main Library

Our Little Blue Planet: Paul Tracey uses music to show how to care for our planet. Ages 5 & up. Thu 5/1, 7:00 p.m. Children’s Activity Room

“Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing.” Presented by Morgan-Wixon Theater. Ages 5 & up. Sun 5/4, 2:00 p.m., MLK Auditorium.


Design a Bag: Decorate a canvas bag with fabric paint and other items. Grades 6-12. Mon 5/19, 4:00 p.m.

Fairview Branch Library

15 de Mayo Fiesta: Celebrate 15 de mayo. Spanish stories and songs. Jueves, 5/1 a las 7:00 p.m. (Thu 5/1, 7:00 p.m.)

International Folk Dancing with Jane Glaser: Celebrate cultures of the world through dance. All ages. Sat 5/3, 2:30 p.m.

Ocean Park Branch Library

May Mischievous Puppet Show with Mr. Jesse: Ages 3-7. Tues 5/6, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.
LONG-RANGE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

MAJOR MATTERS EXPECTED TO COME BEFORE CITY COUNCIL IN MAY AND JUNE

- Annual homeless services review and update
- Study sessions for FY08-09 budget
- Review of policy governing events in the 1550 PCH parking lot
- Public hearing on the Draft Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE)
- Expo Light Rail Update & Downtown Station
- Development Agreement for the Civic Center Village Residential Project
- Ordinance regarding use of Promenade benches
- Ordinance prohibiting smoking in common areas of multi-family developments

The long-range nature of this list means that some items may not be heard in the month originally scheduled, as new matters emerge and agendas are re-worked. No item will come to Council before the date originally published. Also available on-line at www.smgov.net.

CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA AND CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The City of Santa Monica's Virginia Avenue Park is hosting a free Cinco de Mayo Fiesta and Classic Car Show on Sunday, May 4 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Come sing and dance to a fabulous entertainment line-up including MARIACHI ESTRELLA DE JALISCO, a group that will make you shout “Ahua”; WESTSIDE CREW, a 10-piece Latin, R&B and Funk band westsiders love to dance to; BALLET FOLKLORICO HERENCIA MEXICANA, local youth dancers; and DANZA DE LA PLUMA, Oaxacan indigenous dance. The emcee will be award-winning performance artist Maria Elena Gaitan. Also featured are children's Mexican arts and crafts, carnival games and delicious food including tacos, tostadas, quesadillas and fresh fruit juices by Frida Taqueria in Santa Monica.

Back by popular demand is the Classic Car Show, organized by Andrew Gomez with support from Biar's Keystone Bodyshop, High Rollerz Limousines, and Hallo Construction. The car show will feature classic, vintage and muscle cars, low riders, trucks and specialty vehicles. Car show exhibitors will compete for The Mayor's Choice Trophy and the Chiefs’ Trophy judged by Santa Monica Police Chief Timothy Jackman and Santa Monica Fire Chief Jim Hone. Trophies will also be awarded for “Best in Class” in various categories.

Virginia Avenue Park is located on Pico and Cloverfield in Santa Monica. Visitors and neighbors are encouraged to walk, bicycle or park for free at Santa Monica College “Structure A” at the corner of Pico and 17th Street. A Big Blue Bus chartered for the event will shuttle attendees from Santa Monica College at Pico and 16th Street eastbound and back at Pico and 22nd Street eastbound. Directional signs will be visible at the college on Pico and 17th Street. Virginia Avenue Park is served by Blue Bus Line No. 7 and is accessible for persons with disabilities.

For more information or to request a disability-related accommodation, please call (310) 458-8688 or TTY: (310) 458-8696.

SANTA MONICA FESTIVAL  Continued from page 1

Families have an opportunity to create fabulous new fashions from recycled newspapers at the RE:FASHION WORKSHOP, SEASON 2 with award-winning costume designer ANN CLOSS-FARLEY and then strut their earth-friendly creations on the catwalk at fashion shows scheduled throughout the day. Other workshops will be led by the SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY, 18TH STREET ARTS CENTER, the SANTA MONICA MUSEUM OF ART, and SCRATCH ACADEMY.

Throughout the day, satisfy your tastebuds at the GLOBAL CAFÉ and find something special for Mom at the INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE, featuring chic contemporary crafts from local artists and global cultures.

The festival is held at Clover Park. Plenty of free parking is available, and the bike valet is back! So get ready to think globally, taste locally, shop green and revel with a cause at this year’s Santa Monica Festival!