

# Matters

METROLINK®

September 2007

Metrolink News and Events

## Buena Park Metrolink Station Premieres

Citizens of Buena Park and Orange County, the wait is over! The Buena Park Metrolink Station will begin operations with the arrival of the first train at 4:55 a.m. on Tuesday, September 4.

To celebrate, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) will be giving away free coffee and doughnuts at the Buena Park Station on September 4. OCTA will also host a special grand-opening ceremony on Saturday, October 6. For more information about OCTA's events, visit [www.octa.net/metrolink](http://www.octa.net/metrolink).

The new station features 300 parking spaces, a unique clock tower, restrooms, and a transit-oriented development that is integrated into the complex.

The Buena Park Station will also serve as a gateway to passengers wishing to spend the day at Knott's Berry Farm and other Buena Park attractions such as Medieval Times. OCTA Bus Route 29 will pick up Metrolink riders for a direct trip to these and other attractions. Given that Metrolink Weekends adult tickets cost 25 percent less than the regular weekday fare and the OCTA bus shuttle is included with your paid Metrolink fare, there is no reason to put off your Buena Park adventure!

For more information, including new schedules that include the new Buena Park Station stops, visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).



## Metrolink Service Updates

### New Schedules

Metrolink schedules will be changing on Tuesday, September 4. Changes will affect trains on the Orange County, Inland Empire-Orange County, 91, Ventura County, and Antelope Valley Lines. Weekday schedules on the Riverside and San Bernardino Lines will not be affected by this schedule change. Weekend schedules will also change to provide expanded service.

Please visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) or call (800) 371-LINK (5465) to find out whether your train's schedule has been changed.

### Orange County/IEOC Track Upgrades

Orange County Line and Inland Empire-Orange County riders will notice a difference in their trip between Santa Ana and Orange beginning September 17. That will be the first day that the new second track between those stations will be in service. Throughout the prior weekend, Metrolink staff and contractors will have been working to connect the new track to the

existing track and connecting and testing the signal system in time for trains to begin using it Monday morning.

The new track will eliminate the last section of single track along a stretch of more than 50 miles between Los Angeles and the Laguna Niguel/Mission Viejo station. It will eliminate the need for trains to wait at either end of the existing single track for another train to pass. The connection of a new track, or "cutover," is one of the more complicated parts of railroad construction and requires great precision. For this reason, no trains will be allowed to pass through the construction area on September 15 and 16. Inland Empire-Orange County Line weekend service will be cancelled on those dates, and Orange County Line weekend service will only operate between Anaheim and Los Angeles. No replacement bus service will be available. For more information, visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) or call (800) 371-5465.

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2007 METROLINK LOS ANGELES COUNTY FAIR SCHEDULE

FROM LOS ANGELES TO SAN BERNARDINO

Table with 10 columns (Train, 304, 308, 310, 318, 326, 328, 330, 332) and 15 rows of train schedules from Los Angeles to San Bernardino.

FROM SAN BERNARDINO TO LOS ANGELES

Table with 10 columns (Train, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333) and 15 rows of train schedules from San Bernardino to Los Angeles.

FROM LOS ANGELES TO SAN BERNARDINO

Table with 10 columns (Train, 354, 358, 362, 364, 366, 368, 372, 376, 378) and 15 rows of train schedules from Los Angeles to San Bernardino.

FROM SAN BERNARDINO TO LOS ANGELES

Table with 10 columns (Train, 353, 357, 359, 363, 367, 369, 373, 377, 379) and 15 rows of train schedules from San Bernardino to Los Angeles.

FROM LOS ANGELES TO SAN BERNARDINO

Table with 8 columns (Train, 354, 356, 360, 364, 366, 370, 374) and 15 rows of train schedules from Los Angeles to San Bernardino.

FROM SAN BERNARDINO TO LOS ANGELES

Table with 7 columns (Train, 355, 359, 361, 365, 371, 375) and 15 rows of train schedules from San Bernardino to Los Angeles.

\*L\* train may depart up to five minutes ahead of schedule



## Find Your Fun at the L.A. County Fair

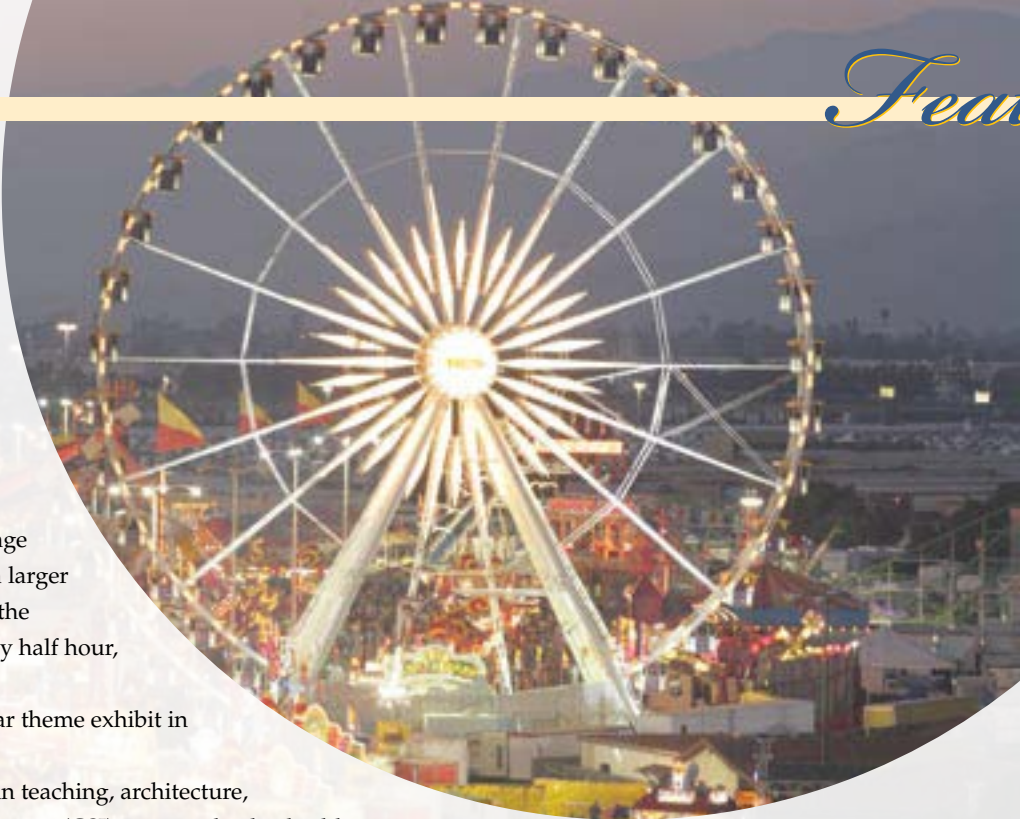
September? It must be time for the world-famous Los Angeles County Fair! Get on a Metrolink train and head out to Pomona for all the food (deep-fried Twinkies, anyone?), shopping (at the largest retail consumer show in the West!), and rides (MIDWAY!). It's all at the Fairplex in Pomona. Some highlights:

- "Winter Wonderland": This exciting mountain village will feature the ever-popular ice-skating rink and a larger snow area for sledding fun no matter how steamy the weather gets during the fair! And it will snow every half hour, guaranteed.
- "Under the Tuscan Sun": Don't miss this spectacular theme exhibit in the Flower and Garden Pavilion.
- "When I Grow Up": Here, kids can try out careers in teaching, architecture, artistry, crime-scene investigation (CSI), writing, bridge building, or cooking as a famous Food Network chef. Better yet, they'll get help creating their very own career path!

The L.A. County Fair will open its gates on Friday, September 7, and continue through Sunday, September 30. What better way to get to the fair than on a Metrolink train? San Bernardino Line trains will make special stops at the Fairplex beginning Friday, September 7. Trains will stop at the fair on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays until the fair ends on September 30. The fair will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays this year.

The L.A. County Fair will open at 11 a.m. Wednesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m. on weekends. If you are planning to take Metrolink to the fair, please remember to purchase a round-trip ticket to Pomona from the Ticket Vending Machine in the station prior to boarding your train. Passengers waiting for the train home from the fair will not be allowed to board without valid fare media. Admission tickets to the L.A. County Fair can be purchased at the admission gates.

Visit the L.A. County Fair Web site, [www.lacountyfair.com](http://www.lacountyfair.com), for a complete list of events. For more Metrolink information, visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).



## WiFi Access Available at Palmdale Transportation Center

The City of Palmdale completed a project in July that will provide wireless Internet access as a courtesy to patrons at the Palmdale Transportation Center. The project included the installation of three wireless access points in and near the center.

"The wireless Internet access at the transportation center is a great feature for our commuters as they are waiting for the bus or train," said Mayor Jim Ledford. Those who wish to use this service must bring their own laptop computer, or PDA, with a built-in wireless network card or an external wireless adapter that is 802.11b/g-compatible.

Wireless access is provided on an as-is and as-available basis. Although the city is not able to provide technical support to transportation-center patrons using this wireless service, posters with directions on how to use the service are posted at the center. Frequently asked questions and answers about this service are also on the city's Web site at [www.cityofpalmdale.org](http://www.cityofpalmdale.org).

For more information, please call (661) 267-5115.



## In Dog We Trust!

On June 12, Metrolink “went to the dogs” as 50 guide-dogs-in-training donned their distinctive green jackets for a trip to Olvera Street in downtown Los Angeles. One hundred thirty guide-dog trainers traveled to the historic spot using Metrolink, Metro buses, and light rail as part of the puppies’ training. These Guide Dogs for the Blind volunteers donate both time and resources to raise puppies that will grow up to help those who need living assistance.



## Beat the Heat with Big Brothers Big Sisters

Walk a mile for mentorship on September 23. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and the Inland Empire is organizing a one-mile *indoor* walk at the Ontario Mills Mall to raise funds to support children in need. Big Brothers Big Sisters helps children reach their potential through one-to-one mentoring relationships. Matching a qualified mentor with a child costs approximately \$1,000 per year. Fund-raising events like Beat the Heat are not only fun for all ages, they’re essential to expanding Big Brothers Big Sisters’ programs to reach more children in the community.

A vendor expo and entertainment will follow the walk. Day-of registration begins at 7 a.m.; the one-mile family fun walk begins at

8 a.m. This event is noncompetitive and open to all ages. There are no fees for standard participation, and all walkers will receive a free hour of arcade play from Dave and Busters at Ontario Mills. Each registered participant who raises \$50 or more before September 1 will receive a commemorative Beat the Heat T-shirt. VIP Walkers (those who raise \$1,000 or more) will receive special treats.

Metrolink is proud to be a sponsor of this year’s event, and invites our passengers to come out for a good time . . . and a good cause. For more information, to discuss sponsorship opportunities, or to get started fund-raising today, call Danielle Walters at (951) 781-7100 x 108. Register online at [bbbslaie.kintera.org/walk](http://bbbslaie.kintera.org/walk).

## Safety Matters—Sealed Corridor Program

On August 20, Metrolink officials announced the ground breaking of the most aggressive rail safety plan currently under way in the USA, the Sealed Corridor Program.

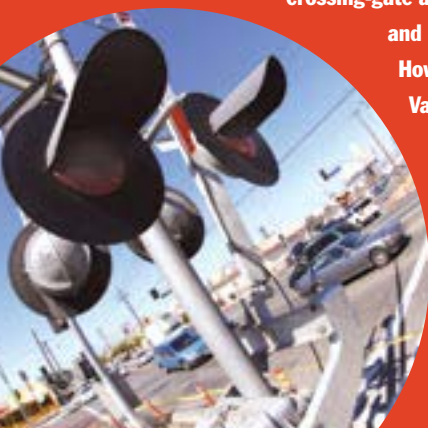
The plan targets 63 railroad crossings along 65 miles of track on the Ventura County and Antelope Valley lines. Safety improvements will be constructed at dozens of highway-rail grade crossings and along the tracks, where barriers between trains and vehicles will be upgraded and other barriers added to prevent illegal access to the

railroad right-of-way. Improvements will include four quadrant gates, longer crossing-gate arms, median separators, fencing, locked gates, and enhanced pedestrian crossings. Congressman

Howard Berman, who attended the ceremony at the Van Nuys Boulevard crossing in Pacoima, stated, “Our intention is to systematically reduce the opportunity for collisions at grade crossings.”

The integrated Sealed Corridor Program

approach has been used successfully in North Carolina. However, Metrolink will be the first commuter rail agency in the county to implement these methods in a densely populated urban setting with high volumes of both street and rail traffic. Metrolink has made grade-crossing improvements a priority since its inception in 1992, investing over \$70 million dollars to date. The agency has been a leader in enhancing rail safety and has secured \$20 million of the \$100 million needed to complete the Sealed Corridor Program designed for the Metrolink system.



# CANON

## LIVE at Union Station on September 8

Travel green and get a free night of entertainment! L.A.'s own progressive rock band, Canon, is holding a free concert to promote public transportation and environmental concerns at 8 p.m. on September 8 in the Old Ticket Room at Union Station. Metro and Metrolink are partnering with Canon to promote the free concert to bus and rail passengers. The concert is exclusive for Metro and Metrolink passengers with valid tickets. (Show your Metro or Metrolink ticket to get in.) With Metro buses and trains and Metrolink trains directly serving Union Station, the location is a very transit-friendly concert venue. And San Bernardino Line riders can take a train departing at 11:30 p.m. (after the concert), so there is no need to drive from the Inland Empire! For more information about Canon, visit [canontheband.com](http://canontheband.com) or go to [myspace.com/canon](http://myspace.com/canon), where you can hear some of their music.



## Polishing an Old Gem

For the past two years, Metrolink riders from the San Bernardino Line may have noticed the historic building behind the long green fence across the street from the Baldwin Park Metrolink Station. The Central School Auditorium, built in 1936 as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's work-relief program, was originally home to school performances, theatrical events, films, and concerts. After a 30-year hiatus, the Baldwin Park City Council renovated the historic art-deco building, and on July 21, 2007, reopened it as the Arts and Recreation Center (ARC).

ARC features various amenities such as a dance studio, an arts studio, gallery spaces, a banquet hall, an outdoor interpretive plant garden, and an outdoor amphitheater.

For the grand opening, the ARC held its first art exhibit, "Reflections of an Artist." Performers from Creative Planet School of the Arts dazzled attendees in the dance studio while chalk artists captivated Baldwin Park residents and guests.

From September 8 to November 4, 2007, the ARC is hosting a traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian called *A Magic Web: The Tropical Forest of Barro Colorado Island*. This is a unique bilingual (English and Spanish) exhibit that brings the forest closer to the public while explaining how the ecosystem works and its effects on the world.

The ARC is also the permanent home of the Baldwin Park Historical Society, which occupies 1,100 square feet of space on the first floor and provides tours showcasing Baldwin Park's rich history.

For more information regarding upcoming classes, exhibits, and special events at the Arts and Recreation Center, please call (626) 214-1601 x351 or visit [www.baldwinpark.com](http://www.baldwinpark.com).



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Certificate Application Fee (\$50)  
waived for Metrolink Riders.\*

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For comprehensive lists of our Certificate Programs, complete course descriptions and locations please visit our Web site.  
Fall classes begin September 17, 2007. Start dates vary throughout the quarter.  
\*Proof of id/ship required; limit one fee waiver per person.

For more information or to enroll:

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METROLINK MATTERS

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Published by the External Communications Department.

Printed on recycled paper with soy ink.

HW051549-8/07





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