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**2011 "Why I Like Carson"
Poster-Design
Contest Winners**



Police & Fire Emergencies 911

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Carson Animal Shelter
(310) 523-9566

Birth, Death, Marriage Records
County Registrar-Recorder
(562) 462-2137

Building Permits Building & Safety,
(310) 952-1766

Public Transit and Dial-A-Ride
(310) 952-1779
Hearing Impaired
(800) 252-9040

Cable Television
Time Warner Cable
(888) 892-2253

Chamber of Commerce
(310) 217-4590

City Hall
(310) 830-7600

Code Enforcement
(310) 952-1700, ext. 1786

Community Center
(310) 835-0212

Crime Prevention
Neighborhood Watch
(310) 847-7481

Disaster Preparedness
(310) 952-1700, ext. 1603

Dump
Transfer Station
(310) 217-6300

Electricity
Southern California Edison Co., (800) 950-2356

Gas
Southern California Gas Co.
(800) 427-2200

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Landscape & Buildings
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3500

Hospital
Harbor General UCLA Medical Center
(310) 222-2345

Jobs
Job Clearinghouse
(310) 233-4888

Libraries
Carson Regional
(310) 830-0901
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
(310) 327-4830

Parking Enforcement
(800) 654-7275

Parks & Recreation
(310) 847-3570

Post Office
Main No., (800) 275-8777

Sandbags
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Sewer Clean-up
(626) 458-4357

Senior Services
(310) 952-1775
(310) 835-0212

Sidewalk Repair
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Sheriff's Station
(310) 830-1123

Street Sweeping
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Telephone
AT&T
(310) 515-7979

Trash Collection
Waste Management
952-1700, ext. 3508
or (310) 830-7100

Tree Trimming/ Street Maintenance
(310) 847-3520

Water
California Water Service Company, (310) 257-1400
Golden State Water Company (800) 999-4033

Youth Services
(310) 952-1788

Meetings

Meetings are in City Hall and the Community Center unless otherwise noted, and are open to the public.

City Council/Redevelopment Agency 6 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Citywide Advisory Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Thursday
(Only when necessary)

Economic Development Commission
8 a.m., 1st Thursday,
Community Center

Environmental Commission
6:30 p.m., 1st Wednesday

Cultural Arts Commission
6 p.m., 1st Monday
(only when necessary)

Human Relations Commission
6:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday

Parks and Recreation Commission
6:30 p.m., last Thursday

Planning Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Public Relations Commission
12:00 p.m., 4th Tuesday

Public Safety Commission
6:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday

Public Works Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd Monday

Senior Citizen Advisory Commission
4 p.m., 2nd Monday

Veterans Affairs Commission
6 p.m., 3rd Monday

Women's Issues Commission
6 p.m., 4th Monday

Youth Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Wednesday

Historical Committee
6:30 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Beautification Committee
6:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Utilities Users Tax Oversight Committee
(only when necessary)

Mobilehome Park Rental Review Board
6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Relocation Appeals Board
(only when necessary)

Community Civic Engagement Board
6:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Sister Cities Association
6:30 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Elected Officials

Mayor
Jim Dear

Mayor Pro Tem
Julie Ruiz-Raber

Councilmember
Elito M. Santarina

Councilmember
Mike A. Gipson

Councilmember
Lula Davis-Holmes

City Clerk
Helen S. Kawagoe

City Treasurer
Karen Avilla

City Manager
David C. Biggs

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Zarah Cruz

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The Carson Report is published by the City of Carson

to provide those who live and work here with information about the city's programs, services, and issues.

All questions, comments, and contributing information should be directed to the City of Carson's Public Information Office.

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<http://ci.carson.ca.us>

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY TREASURER

The City of Carson has established a Fraud Hotline to fight fraud and protect taxpayer's dollars. The Hotline is an option for anyone wishing to anonymously report illegal or unethical activity on the part of the City, its officials, employees, contractors or vendors. The Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and interpreters are available in 20 different languages.

Calls placed to the Hotline are confidential and handled by a third party vendor. You do not have to give your name and your call is not recorded through the use of recording devices, caller identification equipment or any other means.

The City of Carson has taken a pro-active step against fraud by establishing the Hotline. In the event that you become aware of unethical, illegal or irresponsible activity, don't ignore it. Call the Fraud Hotline toll-free telephone number at 1-877-7 HOT TIP or 1-877-746-8847.

CITY OF CARSON POSITION STATEMENT

Carson is a vibrant city with a small town atmosphere where relationships are important. This is clearly visible throughout the community, from the stable single family neighborhoods, which make up nearly eighty percent of the city's residences, to the partnership between businesses and volunteer driven agencies which strengthen the city's remarkable social fabric.

The social composition of Carson is Californian miniature. It is a city with a balanced ethnic and cultural mix living together in harmony and prosperity.

The community takes pride in the large percentage of Carson students who attend college, many to California State University, Dominguez Hills, a valuable asset to the city.

Carson's strategic position in the heart of the powerful economic engine that is Southern California attracts international corporations which recognize the city's bright future. The city's proximity to the West Coast's two major ports, as well as its intersection by four Southland freeways, makes it a major gateway to the Pacific Rim.

We, the people who live and work in Carson, take pride in our city and will continue to build relationships which ensure that future.

Students Showcase Talent in Art Through “Why I Like Carson” Contest



Red, white, and green are just some of the colors used by Carson elementary and middle school students in their art, inspired not only by the holiday season, but by their civic pride, as they participated in the 2011 “Why I Like Carson” Poster-Design Contest.

Nearly 96 students answered to the challenge of expressing their pride in

their city through art, of whom 26 were selected as winners for designing posters illustrating what they like about living in Carson.

On December 12, the winning students – and their masterpieces – took center stage in a special awards ceremony held at the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center at Carson. The winners took home cash prizes ranging from \$150 to \$50, medals, and certificates from the City of Carson and other elected officials from the Federal, State, and Los Angeles Unified School District.

“Why I Like Carson” is an annual contest founded by former Councilwoman Mary Anne O’Neal in 1996. Local students from grades 3 through 8 are invited to answer the question “Why I Like Carson” through different medias. This year, the

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2011 “Why I Like Carson” Poster-Design Contest Winners

3rd Grade		
1st	Jordan McZeal	St. Philomena School
2nd	Ariana Acosta	232nd Place Elementary School
2nd	Monique Acosta	232nd Place Elementary School
3rd	Eric Caday	232nd Place Elementary School
HM	Danielle Dagdagan	St. Philomena School
4th Grade		
1st	Rainier Getuaban	Broadacres Avenue Elementary School
2nd	Arynn Ponce	St. Philomena School
3rd	Lea Casiles	St. Philomena School
HM	Sarah Tucker	At-large
5th Grade		
1st	Kwansuni Levi	Dolores Street Elementary School
1st	Eden Tupuola	Dolores Street Elementary School
2nd	Michelle Hernandez	St. Philomena School
3rd	Caitlin Adams	St. Philomena School
HM	Rachel Sanchez	Bonita Street Elementary School
6th Grade		
1st	Beatrice Filart	St. Philomena School
2nd	Felicia Tacto	St. Philomena School
3rd	Anthony Sanchez, Jr.	Caroldale Learning Community
HM	Alyssa Abena	Caroldale Learning Community
7th Grade		
1st	Stephanie Del Rosario	St. Philomena School
2nd	Richelle Caday	Stephen M. White Middle School
3rd	Bernadette Goluya	St. Philomena School
HM	Joenna Yaya	Stephen M. White Middle School
8th Grade		
1st	Kateryn McReynolds	St. Philomena School
2nd	Dani Dorsky	Caroldale Learning Community
3rd	Mia Darby	Stephen M. White Middle School
HM	Jefferson Matthew Perez	St. Philomena School

Carson Bans Smoking in Certain Outdoor Areas

Carson City Council recently passed an ordinance regulating smoking in certain outdoor places, including streets and sidewalks, restaurants, and common areas of an apartment building, among others.

Ordinance No. 11-1481, passed unanimously by the City Council on December 6, will take effect on January 21 and will impose a \$100 fine for violators.

Under California law, smoking is prohibited in all enclosed workplaces, including restaurants and bars with six or more employees, within 20 feet of the entrance of a public building and in state-owned vehicles. The city’s ordinance will expand the State ban, and make Carson’s smoking ordinance one of the most restrictive among California cities.

The specific outdoor areas where smoking will be prohibited include:

- Service areas of both publicly and privately owned properties designed to be used to receive a service, such as streets and sidewalks, automatic teller machines (ATM), ticket lines, bus stops or shelters, mobile vendor lines or taxi stands.
- Dining Areas, which refers to any area of a restaurant, including streets and sidewalks available to customers and employees to consume food or drink.
- Common areas of apartments or other multi-residential dwelling including paths, courtyards, playgrounds, swimming pools, parking lots and picnic areas.

- Public events held either in public or private properties.
- All places of employment.

The smoking ban in certain outdoor areas is an effort by the City Council to curb the public’s exposure to the known health hazards of secondhand smoke, which claims as many as 73,000 deaths among non-smokers in the United States each year.

Cities with smokefree laws see appreciable reductions in hospital admittances for heart attacks on the months and years after such laws are passed.



Carson to Become Future Home of Porsche Experience Center: Upcoming Driving Skills Course is One of Only Five Worldwide



Rendering of the Porsche Experience Center in North America to be built in Carson.

The City of Carson will become the future home of the Porsche Experience Center Los Angeles, a specialized vehicle experience center, the company announced during a press event at the LA Auto Show in downtown Los Angeles on November 16. The project is one of only two to be built in North America, and only one of five in the world.

The project will be located on a 53-acre parcel just off of the I-405 freeway, where the Dominguez Hills Golf Course is currently located, and extends to Main Street on the west and the Los Angeles County Department of Water and Power right of way on the south. The property, which sits mostly on a closed landfill is currently owned by Watson Land Company, and leased to Porsche.

Porsche Cars North America, in its application to the city, described the project as a state-of-the-art driving skills course, consisting of two courses for driving and hazard-avoidance demonstrations, driving simulators, a human performance center to be used for promoting proper

driving posture and testing the drivers' vision and coordination, a showcase for cars, a retail facility for high-performance auto parts, and a restaurant, among others. Groundbreaking is anticipated to take place in the summer of 2012.

"We are very excited Porsche has selected the City of Carson as the site of its new Porsche Experience Center Los Angeles. With the Carson facility being one of only five such sites in the world, we are adding another iconic venue in our city, furthering our goal of becoming a destination city. We are looking forward to working closely with Porsche on the timely review and approval process to meet the company's plans," City Manager David Biggs said, in reaction to the Porsche announcement.

"Carson's close proximity to four freeways, and convenient location near three major airports, makes us the perfect location for this kind of project, which expects to draw visitors and customers from across the nation and abroad. We are proud that we are able to offer

Porsche this prime location and that such a high profile and prestigious company has confidence in the city to provide first-class service to meet their needs," he added.

The other Porsche Experience Centers include the original Porsche Experience Center at the legendary Silverstone Circuit in Great Britain and Centers in Leipzig, Germany and Shanghai, China. In May, Porsche announced North America's first Porsche Experience Center, to be built as part of the company's new U.S. headquarters complex in Atlanta, Georgia.

The City of Carson will serve as lead agency in the entitlement process, which will require Planning Commission and City Council review and approval. A remedial action plan on the site will be undertaken by Watson Land Company under the oversight of the California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC).

Construction of the project is estimated by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation to generate an estimated \$45.5 million in additional economic output in Southern California. The ongoing operations of the Porsche Experience Center Los Angeles are expected to create a total of 135 jobs with labor income of \$6.8 million. Ongoing operations will generate \$22.5 million in economic activity annually in Southern California.

Porsche foresees the new Southern California facility, which will be twice the size of the Atlanta Experience Center, to be a center of excellence for vehicle and human performance education -- from track experiences and driver training to car culture events. Southern California is currently one of the largest Porsche markets in the United States.

Driving enthusiasts can sign up for sessions with highly trained Porsche

driving consultants, while new drivers can enroll in programs that teach technique for navigating today's challenging roadways. There will also be special programs for kids to ensure that even young enthusiasts get an early start in the art of automobile appreciation. Facilities, including track access, dining and conference spaces, will also be open to car clubs, corporate clients, and other special groups.

"Helping enthusiasts feel and connect with their vehicle's full potential through intelligent engineering has always been a part of the Porsche philosophy," said Detlev von Platen, President and CEO of Porsche Cars North America. "Now, we are excited to turn dreams into reality for all driving enthusiasts by creating a safe, exhilarating environment for experiencing the pleasure of being in the driver's seat."

Millions of residents and visitors will have easy access to the Porsche Experience

Center: at LAX alone, over 59 million travelers passed through the airport in 2010. Another 15 million consumers reside within a 50-mile radius from the facility, and even more are based within a few hours travel time by car, including Orange and San Diego counties, California and major markets to the North.

"Our mission is to help everyone who loves automobiles and car culture to experience the pure joy, the art, and the science of driving," said James Taylor, Porsche Experience Center General Manager.

"Whether you want to experience the latest Porsche models like the new seventh-generation Porsche 911, upgrade your personal performance as a racer or athlete, or host a car club event or a product launch, we look forward to working with customers to create a memorable program."



Aerial view of the project which will be built on a 53-acre parcel located near the intersection of the 405 and 110 freeways.

Home of Local War Veteran Gets Critical Repairs through “Homes for Heroes” Program

The official launch of the Homes for Heroes Program by the Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) and The Home Depot Foundation happened in Carson last November at the house of 87-year old World War II veteran Herman Smith who was chosen as the first of 25 veterans to receive assistance to get the critical repairs done on his home.

HFH GLA, The Home Depot Foundation and veteran volunteers from the U.S. Air Force spent one full day making safety repairs on fence and roof of the Smith household as part of its “Celebration of Service” campaign to honor U.S. servicemen and women. The Smith home, where Herman and his wife Blondean had lived for 17 years, had a leak in the roof and the entire home had poor insulation, resulting in a high electricity bill. One day, after an exercise class at the



Herman Smith (4th from right) and his wife Blondean are flanked by “Homes for Heroes” volunteers during the launch of the program in Carson in November. Smith is the first veteran to receive assistance through the program.

Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center, Blondean saw a “Homes for Heroes” flyer and immediately contacted the organization to seek help. After nine months, she received word that their

home has been selected. “We are ecstatic, happy, and really proud of everything that happened,” the Smiths said, while the volunteers worked on their home. The couple is especially grateful that the much-needed repairs

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International Sculpture Garden to Get its First Monument

City officials led over a hundred people in a groundbreaking ceremony on November 5 to kick-off the construction of the first monument that will be part of the City of Carson’s International Sculpture Garden.

The first monument, a 7 ft. bronze figure mounted on a 6 ft. granite pedestal is that of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, national hero of the Philippines. The sculpture is a work of renowned Filipino sculptor Toym De Leon Imao, and is a gift from the Republic of the Philippines to the City of Carson. The monument will be unveiled in a special ceremony in the spring.

In 2010, the Carson City Council

approved the creation of an International Sculpture Garden at the grassy area across the east parking lot of the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center to showcase public art representing Carson’s cultural diversity, and reached out to various nations to seek works of art. In addition to the Republic of the Philippines, two other nations – the Republic of Azerbaijan and Japan -- have expressed interest in donating an art piece for Carson’s Sculpture Garden.

Rizal, who was executed by firing squad in 1896, was a primary proponent of peaceful reforms in the Philippines during the Spanish regime.

He was a scholar, a writer, an anthropologist, and a polyglot who mastered 22 languages, and hailed as a martyr by the Filipino people for paving the way for its independence from Spain.

Monuments of Rizal stand in eight U.S. cities including Juneau, Alaska; Kauai and Lihue in Hawaii; Chicago, Illinois, Orlando, Florida; Cherry Hill in New Jersey, New York City and Seattle, Washington. Rizal monuments also stand in other parts of the world, including Argentina, Belgium, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain and Switzerland, among others.

New Southbound I-405 Ramp Now Open to Motorists

The new on-ramp to southbound Interstate 405 has opened to motorists on December 1.

Work is continuing in the loop ramp area of the interchange, with additional paving taking place this month. This stage of construction work is expected to be completed by the end of January 2012 and motorists can expect another traffic control change at that time.

The City of Carson and Caltrans continue to work on the Leonardo Bridge, across the Torrance Lateral Channel, and are currently in the process of placing precast, concrete girders. The reconstruction of the northbound ramps, and the replacement of the bridge rail across the Dominguez Channel Bridge on Avalon Boulevard are also in full swing.

Those traveling through the area are reminded to “slow for the cone zone” as workers will continue these activities adjacent to traffic.

The \$19 million Avalon Boulevard interchange modification at the I-405 freeway project started in August 2010 and involved realigning and improving existing ramps, adding a new southbound I-405 on-ramp, widening of 213th Street Bridge, constructing a new bridge to access to The Boulevards project.

The project also involves building eight retaining walls and a sound wall, construction of Leonardo Drive, and widening Avalon Boulevard. The entire project is expected to be completed by May 2012.



“Why I Like Carson” *continued from page 3*



Pictured above is a depiction of Carson’s city seal as interpreted by Kateryn McReynolds, an 8th grader from St. Philomena School.

students have been asked to respond to the question through poster design. Illustrations on the posters varied from familiar sights in Carson, including places they like to visit, and the cultural diversity in Carson, which the city is known for.

“The happiness and diversity inspired my design on my poster,” said

St. Philomena’s 6th grader Beatrice Filart, whose poster won first place. “When I learned that I was one of the winners, I was very happy and thankful.”

Others students like 6th grader Anthony Sanchez, Jr. of Caroldale Learning Community, portrayed the future of Carson by drawing a generation tree.

While many of the winners will be putting their cash winning in the bank and saving it for college fund, some will be giving to others this holiday season.

Eighth grader Jefferson Matthew Perez from St. Philomena will be donating his cash prize to the less fortunate, while 5th grader Michelle Hernandez will be using her cash prize to buy presents for her parents on Christmas.

By participating in the contest, many students like Perez learned that hard

work pays off and in the process of designing their poster, they gained an appreciation for the city they live in.

“I was happy to have had the opportunity to participate,” said Perez. “I learned how to truly appreciate our city”, he added.

The contest is an annual project of the Public Relations Commission and made possible through the generosity of Carson’s corporate community. This year’s sponsors are bp Carson Refinery, California Water Service Company, LNR Property Corp. (The Boulevards at South Bay), Edco Disposal Services, ETEC Consulting Group, Diana’s Restaurant, Nationwide Environmental Services, Ocean Blue Environmental Services, Inc., See’s Candies, Thomas Safran and Associates, Waste Management, and Watson Land Company.

CWC Annual Scholarship Program Now Open



Frances Cottrell, CWC Scholarship Chair and Wilma Wilson, President, and nine of the 15 scholarship recipients pose for a souvenir photo at last year's scholarship luncheon.

The Carson Women's Club (CWC) is now accepting applications for its annual scholarship program.

Last year, scholarships were granted to 15 deserving students from the California Academy of Math and Science, Carson Harbor Teacher Preparatory Academy, King/Drew Medical Magnet High School, Torrance High School, View Park Preparatory High School and to nine continuing students.

Karina Michelle Simpson, Grace J. Agnes, Steven Dine, Tracey Allen Harris, Krizelle N. Magdirila, Desiree Nicole Mays, Deniza Alarcon Sabio, Chelsea R. Sangalang, Kayla J. Thomas-Cole, Aliso Lui Togia,

Omobolanie A. Adeniran, Britney Enrique Carpenter, Munachismo Yvette Ezumah, Maissa Zulum and Christopher Charles Payton, all received \$1,000 scholarship.

Continuing college students Lauren C. Hamilton, Tina Lu Booker, Denise Aleman, Karina Alvarez, Jeniffer Bacolores, Samantha Dizon, Asia Taylor Hundley, Briana B. Little and Sara Mariel Villegas, all received \$500.

For more information on how to qualify for the Carson Women's Club scholarship, please contact Frances Cottrell, scholarship chairperson at 310-635-3726.



Cottrell with the nine continuing students who also received scholarship from CWC.

Homes For Heroes *continued from page 6*

are coming in such a timely manner, right before the winter season, so they wouldn't have to worry over a leaky roof and cold temperatures inside the poorly-insulated house.

The Homes for Heroes program focuses on providing homeownership opportunities for veterans and their families, as well as assisting existing veteran homeowners with critical home repairs. Low-income veterans and military spouses in need of assistance are encouraged to apply for the Homes for Heroes Program.

With a \$30 million grant from the Home Depot Foundation, HFH GLA has plans to continue to make critical home repairs to the homes of 25 veterans and their families. According to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, about 1.5 million veterans are considered at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks, and dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.

"Because of the high amount veteran homelessness, we wanted to do something special for those who have done so much for our country," said Alison Hart of the HFH GLA, adding that this is the organization's priority to ensure a safe, decent and affordable housing for all veterans in Greater Los Angeles.

"It's always great to tie in emotional thoughts and put them to work. It's also nice to share the commitment that the Home Depot Foundation has and put it into reality," said Bryce H. Yamauchi, PAC Central PRO Manager for the Home Depot Foundation. "Mr. Smith took the time to serve our country. It's nice to be able to give to those who gave to us," added Yamauchi.

For more information on the Homes For Heroes Program, please call (310) 323-4663.