Newsbriefs

SMART CROSSWALK

A new SMART crosswalk was installed at the intersection of Beverly Boulevard and Vendome Street in Los Angeles.

- The intersection has a long history of accidents and near-accidents. A fatality was recorded at that intersection in August 1999.
- SMART crosswalks have underground sensors that know when pedestrians are waiting to cross the street, and the signal is triggered.

PICO-UNION LIBRARY

Officials broke ground in September on the soon-to-be Pico Union Library, in the 1000 block of Alvarado St. in Pico Union.

- The 12,5000-foot facility will be equipped with an array of services, including computer terminals, multiple database access points and a community meeting room.
- It will become the first library branch in the Pico-Union area.

CANOGA PARK LIBRARY

A contract was let for the construction of a new Los Angeles city branch library at 20939 Sherman Way in Canoga Park.

- The site for the library is vacant.
- The Canoga Park branch library is one of 33 planned new libraries funded as part of a $178 million bond issue, passed in 1998.

YOUTH WEBSITE

Mayor James Hahn introduced a Website he helped create that identifies youth-related programs and activities in Los Angeles.

- The Website is part of the Mayor's Los Angeles Safe Neighborhood Action Plan.
- The programs highlighted on the site include traditional after-school recreational sports, homework assistance, specialized leadership training and art- and science-related programs.
- Click on the site: www.lacity.org/mayor/youth/set1.htm

Around the City

NEW MAP WEBSITE

The City of L.A.'s Information Technology Agency has released a comprehensive map and information page on the City of Los Angeles.

- There is a wide range of maps and information available at the site.
- Click on: www.imapla.lacity.org

JOB WELL DONE

LAPD officer Brian McClary, of the Valley Traffic Division, was recognized by Councilmember Jack Weiss for making more than 1,000 DUI arrests in McClary's career with the department.

- "Officer Brian McClary has made the streets safer," Weiss said. "On behalf of the City Council, I would like to thank him for all his work."
- "Thank you so much, but it's just my job," McClary said.
- He is a fifth-generation LAPD officer. His father was an LAPD detective for 25 years, and his mother worked as an LAPD police service representative for 37 years. Members of the McClary family have served in LAPD since 1901.
- Recent statistics from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), show that, nationwide, 17,448 people were killed last year in alcohol-related traffic crashes. In California, of 3,753 total traffic deaths, 1,401 were alcohol related (37.3%).

OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Operation Clean Sweep Division granted 184 projects and disbursed close to $900,000 in funding this past year as part of the Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) project, Board of Public Works President Valerie Lynne Shaw announced today.

- "We want people to start thinking now about neighborhood improvement projects that can be undertaken next year utilizing the Neighborhood Matching Fund," she said.
- The Neighborhood Matching Fund program is a partnership between the City of Los Angeles and neighborhood-based organizations. The program provides cash grants to neighborhood groups that undertake local improvement projects. For every dollar requested through the fund, the community group must provide a comparable match.

LUCKY NUMBERS

On August 21, the LADWP Customer Call Center team of lottery players successfully hit 5 out of 6 numbers, including the Mega number! Each of the 18 people listed split a $1,420 jackpot. And no, we're not telling you who they are.

SEE THE LIGHTS

The Department of Public Works Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), in conjunction with Councilmember Tom LaBonge (Council District 4), are scheduled to activate a new street lighting system in Spaulding Square October 26, in conjunction with the Spaulding Square Neighborhood Association's Harvest Festival.

- "The Bureau worked diligently with the community to see this come to fruition, including installing the lights with our own crews," said Board of Public Works Commissioner Janice Wood. "This is a good example of what can be achieved when communities partner with the City of Los Angeles."
- The project includes installation of 34 ornamental historic streetlights to complement and enhance the existing modern streetlights. The benefiting property owners agreed to pay the full cost of installation and increased maintenance to enhance the aesthetics of their neighborhood. The lighting system is bounded by Sunset Avenue to the north, Fountain Avenue to the south, Fairfax Avenue to the west, and Stanley Avenue to the east. Construction costs totaled $140,000.

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