

Public Works to Celebrate National Public Works Week

■ **Week-long event recognizes the importance of “commitment to communities.” Public is invited to participate.**

The City’s Department of Public Works (DPW) will celebrate National Public Works Week (NPWW), May 18 to 24, with recognition ceremonies, exhibits and displays of public works equipment, information fairs, and open houses throughout the city.

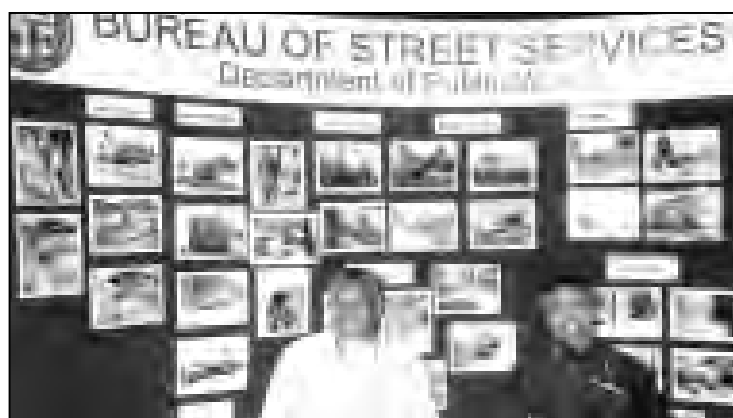
NPWW is a celebration of the tens of thousands of men and women in North America, which includes nearly 6,000 DPW employees, who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works. “Committed to Our Communities” is the national theme.

“Our goal is to reach the four million residents of Los Angeles through our school partnerships,” said Public Works Board President Valerie Lynne Shaw. Tuesday, May 21, through Friday, May 23, the DPW will staff exhibits and displays at selected Los Angeles Unified School District schools throughout the city. Exhibits will feature Public Works educational and outreach materials for students and residents. Public Works equipment and vehicles will be on display. The Public is invited to attend.

The kick off ceremony is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, May 23, at the Board of Public Works meeting, City Hall, Room 350. At that time Public Works Commissioners will recog-

nize citizens and community groups who have contributed to community enhancement, beautification, and public health and safety in Los Angeles neighborhoods.

Also on May 23, representatives of five Bureaus that make up the DPW will staff exhibits, displays and information tables in the City Hall Rotunda. Bureaus are Sanitation, Street Services, Street Lighting, Engineering and Contract Administration. “The Board of Public Works Operation Clean Sweep and the Public Works Task Force for Employee Achievement and Morale will staff displays as well,” Shaw said.



Street Services Supervisor Ned Woods (left), North Central District, and Luis Santana, Coordinating Section, at a Public Works Week event last year.

Instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association (APWA) in 1960, NPWW calls attention to the importance of public works in community life. The Week seeks to enhance the prestige of the often—unsung heroes of our society—the professional engineers and administrators who serve the public good every day with



People in line, waiting to board a service vehicle, at a Public Works Week event last year.



At a Public Works Week event last year, Edward Campbell, a Refuse Collections Truck Operator in the Bureau of Sanitation, explains to a young visitor how a refuse collections service vehicle operates.

quiet dedication.

National Public Works Week is observed each year during the third full week of May. Through NPWW and other efforts, APWA seeks to raise the public’s awareness of public works issues and to increase confidence in public works employees who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for present and future generations.

From the beginning, the selection of a Top Ten list of exceptional public works professionals has been a cornerstone of NPWW. The program has identified more than 400 men and women who reflect the highest standards of professional conduct for public works officials. These honorees have been recognized for discharging critical responsibilities in connection

to the design, construction, maintenance and/or operation of major public works projects or activities in large and small municipalities throughout North America. Often their accomplishments are particularly noteworthy in relation to the limited manpower and financial resources available to them.

The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is responsible for the construction, renovation and operation of public facilities and infrastructures, ranging from refuse collection and graffiti removal to maintenance of sidewalks, bridges, sewers and streetlights; and management of wastewater treatment plants and building design. ■

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Calling All LAFD Chefs: Get Cooking at Benefit Block Party

■ **Los Angeles firefighters: Show off your cooking skills!**

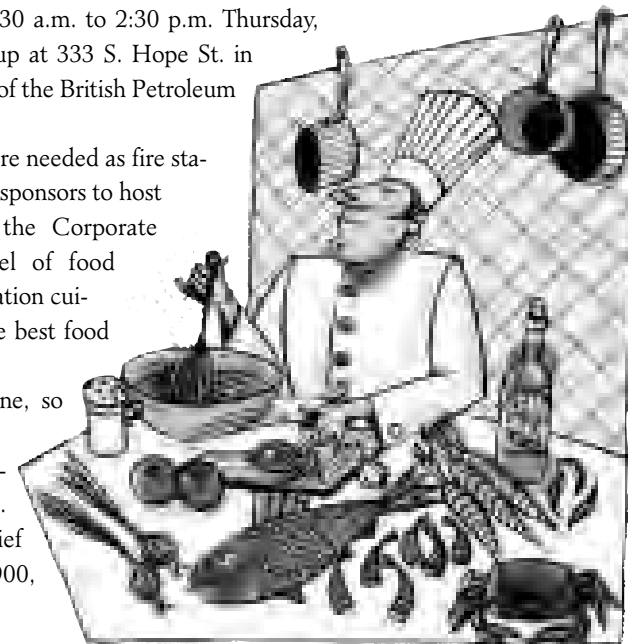
When the LAFD holds its annual Block Party, “Hope for Firefighters Day,” LAFD firefighters will team up with corporate sponsors to win the “best food booth” – and help raise money for the Widows, Orphans and Disabled Firefighters Fund.

The block party is set for 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5. The booths will be set up at 333 S. Hope St. in downtown Los Angeles, in front of the British Petroleum building.

Cooks, crews and volunteers are needed as fire stations will partner with corporate sponsors to host a variety of food booths in the Corporate Firefighter Challenge. A panel of food tasters will judge the local fire station cuisine, awarding top honors to the best food booth.

Firefighter pride is on the line, so don't miss out!

Support the fund by volunteering your time and expertise. Contact Karena Lee at the Relief Association: (213) 380-2900, ext. 215. ■



**For more information, go to:
www.hopeforfirefighters.org**