

Holiday Happenings

CLUB STORE

Donate Your Toys

Be a part of this Club holiday tradition by donating toys to the less fortunate.

This year, more than ever, your generosity is really needed to help children in the City celebrate the holidays. So consider joining in the Club's annual Toy Drive.

As part of the Club Angels program, the annual Club Toy Drive, in conjunction with the Central City Police Boosters toy drive, is gearing up your accept your toys for those in need.

Collections run through Friday, Dec. 5 at the new Club Store and Service Center, or through your Club Counselor. Club Members are asked to contribute an unwrapped toy to the cause.

The drive is spearheaded by the LAPD Central City Police Boosters. In the past, some of the toys were distributed to City Employees in hardship, too.

This is the sixth year that the Club has participated in the Central City Police Boosters holiday toy drive, and each year the drive collects more toys. More than 112 toys were collected last year; that includes toys donated by Club staffers and Club Members such as your-

self. With your help, the Club hopes to collect even more.

The Club thanks you in advance for your generosity.



Last year's toy drive distributed more than 112 toys to families in need. Won't you help spread Christmas cheer this year to those who need it? Pictured during last year's Club Toy Drive were Club staffers (from left) Marla Fisher, Claims Assistant; John Hawkins, CEO and President; the Ticket Guy; and Jessica Segura, Merchandise and Ticket Sales Coordinator.

REC AND PARKS

Great to Skate

Downtown on Ice skates into downtown for its 11th season.



L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice

Hours: Open every day Nov. 20 – Jan. 19

Monday – Thursday: noon to 10 p.m.

Friday – Sunday: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Special Extended Holiday Hours:

Dec. 19 – Jan. 11 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

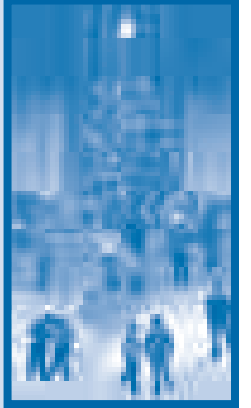
Open Thanksgiving Day: 2 to 10 p.m.

Open Christmas Day: Noon to 10 p.m.

Open New Year's Day: Noon to 10 p.m.

Price: One hour skating session \$6; skate rental \$2. Group and party rates available.

Information: (888) LA-PARKS (527-2757) or visit www.laparks.org and click on Pershing Square.



Santa, Meet Demi

Santa's Holiday Parade extends to a full day with Winterfest street festival, which includes Disney star Demi Lovato.



At last year's Santa's Hollywood Parade.



At last year's Santa's Hollywood Parade.

Santa's Hollywood Parade – the annual Hollywood Christmas Parade that was re-created last year – will expand in 2008 to a day-long festival Nov. 30, it was announced in October by City Council President Eric Garcetti and Councilmember Tom LaBonge.

The 2008 Hollywood Holiday will include Winterfest, an all-day street festival featuring a free Radio Disney performance by Hollywood Records recording artist and Disney Channel actress Demi Lovato. Ms. Lovato stars with the Jonas Brothers in Disney's *Camp Rock*, and her album *Don't Forget* debuted at number two on the Billboard 200 chart when it was released on Hollywood Records in September. The festivities will also include a parade featuring marching bands from across the country, equestrian units, floats and Santa Claus.

"This year's Hollywood holiday festivities will bring family entertainment to the boulevard in a fresh, exciting format," said Council President Garcetti. We are very pleased to announce we are working with Radio Disney and the participation of some of today's hottest young talents like Demi Lovato. It's going to be a great way to start the holiday season."

"I'm very happy to keep this great holiday tradition in Hollywood," said Councilmember LaBonge. "The Hollywood Santa Parade brings

so much excitement to young and old. Long live the Hollywood Santa Parade!"

"The Radio Disney team is proud to be part of our community's Hollywood Santa Parade tradition and this year's Winterfest. We look forward to showcasing the multi-talented teen sensation Demi Lovato in concert and seeing our listeners at the event," said Natalie Eig, Station Manager, Radio Disney AM 1110.

Winterfest will run from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and will be located on Hollywood Boulevard at Highland Avenue. The family event will feature games, food and a stage where event-goers can watch performances by Radio Disney favorites, including Demi Lovato. The City of Los Angeles, Lift Up America, and the Hollywood Youth Foundation are presenting

sponsors of Winterfest, which will include a special "VIP" area for more than 1,000 children who participate in Los Angeles-area programs for underprivileged youths.

At 5 p.m., the Hollywood Santa Parade will begin at the corner of Hollywood and Highland. Grandstand seats are available for \$35 and discounts are available for groups of 25 or more. The City of Los Angeles has contracted with Hollywood's Santa Parade LLC to produce this parade. There's more information at www.hollywoodsantaparade.com.



Demi Lovato.

The LA Kings Downtown on Ice celebrates its 11th season at Pershing Square when it opens Nov. 20, and is open for business every day through Jan. 19.

Admission price is \$6 (skate rental is \$2). Scheduled special events include:

- free youth hockey clinics
- a free concert series
- a free Winter Holiday Festival
- weekend Kids Zone interactive entertainment
- an outdoor Cityscape Art Gallery Exhibit
- and more.

Sponsors include Rec and Parks, the Los Angeles Kings and Councilmember Jan Perry (9th District).

Sometimes hailed as the Rockefeller Center of the west, the Pershing Square rink is framed by towering skyscrapers, trees and stunning historical landmarks.

Centrally located in the heart of the City of Angels, the facility is easily accessible by car, bus

or rail. Rewarding commuters, a collaboration with Metro, Metrolink and Montebello Buslines allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing a coupon available on all mass transit lines. The convenient stop at Pershing Square Station makes getting there easy. Underground discount parking is available with validation.

For more info and a detailed session schedule go to www.laparks.org or call (213) 847-4970.



Olympic star Dorothy Hamill will help open the 11th season of L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice.

ZOO

It's Raining Reindeer

Zoo trots out the 'reindeer' for holiday family fun.



From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, reindeer fly into the LA Zoo for a visit of sunny Los Angeles during its annual Reindeer Romp.

Children will delight in this holiday event, especially when they see how close they're allowed near the tamed animals. Their keepers

will answer questions about these peculiar little deer, and even assist families in making their own pair of reindeer antlers to take home with them.

The rest of the zoo will be open during these nights, too, so visitors can watch as animals get their holiday treats during the weekends.

This yearly tradition delights young and old. Guests can visit live reindeer, as well as enjoy hands-on arts and craft activities for children of all ages. Visitors can also enjoy entertainment, shopping and more.

Reindeer Romp runs from Nov. 22 through Jan. 1 during daily zoo hours. Closed on Christmas Day. Guests can be one of the first to view the new Zoo's new Campo Gorilla Reserve, where they can discover a group of lowland gorillas in a lush tropical habitat.

L.A. Zoo Reindeer Romp

When: Nov. 27 – Jan. 1

Admission: Free with regular zoo admission

Information: www.lazoo.org

Holiday Happenings

DWP

Half a Million Holiday Lights, and Green Ones

DWP's annual Holiday Lights Festival in Griffith Park continues its green effort.

The DWP once again presents its holiday drive-through favorite, but now with greener options.

The DWP Light Festival returns to Griffith Park beginning Nov. 21, and running through Dec. 30. Last year, the DWP switched to energy-efficient LED bulbs, saving energy. Plus, the DWP now offers walking-only nights, plus a bicycle night. And parking shuttles will be available.

The 13th annual DWP Griffith Park Holiday Light Festival runs along a one-mile segment of Crystal Springs Drive and has become a holiday tradition that attracts more than half million visitors each year.

This festival symbolizes DWP's proud history and shared legacy of service to the people of the City. It is also made possible through the generous support of the Los Angeles Visitors and Convention Bureau (LA Inc.), Transportation, the Zoo, Airports, Autry National Center, Automobile Club of Southern California and CalTrans.

To demonstrate the DWP's continuing commitment to a "greener" LA, the Holiday Light Festival will be a pedestrian only and "vehicle free" event Nov. 25 through Dec. 7. Visitors may park at the L.A. Zoo parking lot or the parking lots on the south side of the festival near the Merry-Go-Round, or the lots near the pony rides. Parking will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Walkers are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and to dress warmly to walk the full one-mile route each way. It is also recommended that walkers have outerwear, as it can get chilly.

■ **'Walking Only' Nights:** The festival is "going green" and introducing "walking only" nights from Wed., Nov. 21 through Sun., Nov. 25, from 5 to 10 p.m. The festival route will be closed to vehicles on these nights. Visitors will be able to park at the L.A. Zoo parking lot. Guests can exit Zoo Drive off of the Golden State 5 Freeway north and park in the L.A. Zoo lot. You will be adjacent to the walking route. There are no shuttles on the L.A. Zoo side of the festival route.

■ Additional parking is available on the south side of the festival off of Los Feliz Boulevard. Guests can enter on Los Feliz Boulevard and Crystal Springs Drive. Parking is available at the Pony Ride, as well as the lots near the Merry-Go-Round. Visitors who park on the south side of the festival route will be able to



Last year at the DWP Light Festival.

take shuttle buses to the walking entrance of the festival. The shuttles will make stops at all of the parking lots on the south side of the festival. Shuttle stop signs will be posted. The DWP encourages visitors to the "walking only" nights to wear warm clothes and comfortable shoes, as the entire festival route is one-mile in length one-way and it can get chilly in the park. It is estimated that a "walking only" visit will take guests about 90 minutes, so visitors are encouraged to come early for parking and to enjoy the full festival. It is advised to not arrive later than 8:30 p.m., as it might be difficult to view the entire festival by walking prior to the 10 p.m. closing.

■ **A 'Vehicle Free' Celebration:** To celebrate the festival's "vehicle free" nights, there will be an educational mini fair area Dec. 5-7 for all to enjoy, featuring information on family activities and healthy nutrition, as well as some tasty treats.

■ The traditional route of driving, walking and shuttles will run Dec. 8 through 30. The shuttle buses will be available weekends and Dec. 19-30. Walkers on these days will enjoy the walking path. Both options are accessible from the Los Angeles Zoo parking lot.

■ **Traditional Festival Experience:** The Light Festival will be open from Nov. 26 through Dec. 30 from 5 to 10 p.m. in its traditional format. Visitors can drive through the festival, entering at Los Feliz Boulevard and Crystal Springs Drive, or guests can walk the festival on the walking path. Guests who would like to walk the festival, may park at the L.A. Zoo parking lot.

■ Shuttle service will also be available on Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2; 7, 8 and 9; and 14-30. Shuttle users may park at the LA Zoo parking lot.

■ **Spark of Love Toy Drive:** This is the season to share. Please help make the holiday a little brighter for a needy child. Donate a new, unwrapped toy for the Los Angeles Fire Department's annual Spark of Love Toy Drive. Bins and a crew are available to receive your donation at the festival entrance.

13th Annual DWP Holiday Light Festival

When: Nov. 19 – Dec. 30 (traditional drive-through Nov. 26 through Dec. 30, from 5 to 10 p.m.)

Bike Night: Nov. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Walking-Only Nights: Nov. 21-25.

Address: Griffith Park, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., Los Angeles

General Information: (323) 913-4688, ext. 9.

Admission: Free.

Shuttle (Zoo Parking Lot): Thanks to Transportation, a shuttle bus will depart continuously from Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2; 7, 8 and 9; and 14-30.

REC AND PARKS

All Aboard for Santa

Travel Town Museum in Griffith Park offers its miniature train ride to the North Pole ... and it starts earlier this year.

For the sixth consecutive year, Travel Town Train Museum in Griffith Park is hosting a unique holiday event starring Santa Claus and thousands of dancing lights and beautiful music. On Nov. 24, 25 and 30, and then again Dec. 1-2; 7-9; and every evening starting Dec. 13 through 23, families will be able to take a miniature train ride to visit Santa at his house at the North Pole.

Once they arrive they will visit with Santa, get a picture with him, if desired, then get back on the train to return home along a decorated and music filled track.

While waiting for Santa the kids and parents can visit with Rudolph and one of Santa's helper elves.

This event is operated by Travel Town Railroad in cooperation with Rec and Parks. It is a wonderful alternative to visits to the mall and is a perfect addition to a Holiday Evening

in Griffith Park before or after the DWP's spectacular Festival of Lights.

Starting at 5 p.m. on the evenings detailed below, families may enter the museum and board the miniature train ride at the decorated station. While waiting to board they will be entertained by a dazzling dancing light show and a special corner of the museum where snowmen live and it snows all the time!

Once aboard, they will travel past the decorated train barn and Santa's Workshop to arrive at the North Pole. There they will disembark and visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus, Rudolph and Erin the Elf. Digital photographs will be available for \$5. Families may take their own pictures if they wish. After they have finished their visit, guests will re-board the train and travel along the decorated quarter-mile of track back to the station. The Travel Town Museum Gift Shop will be open most evenings.

Travel Town Train to the North Pole

Dates: Nov. 24-25; 30; Dec. 1-2; 7-9; and nightly from Dec. 13 through 23 (weather permitting; trains do not operate in the rain)

Times: 5 until about 8 p.m.

Where: Travel Town Transportation Museum, 5200 Zoo Dr., Griffith Park

Cost: \$7 per person; infants under 18 months ride free. (Photos with Santa cost \$5 each.)

Information: (323) 662-9678



Banning Museum Goes Victorian

Banning Residence presents its annual Victorian Christmas celebration.



The community is invited to welcome in the holiday season with the annual and festive Victorian Christmas celebration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 6 and 7 at the Banning Museum, 401 East M St. in Wilmington. Admission for the event will be \$5 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under. Please call the Banning Museum for further information about the event at (310) 548-7777 or visit us on the web www.banningmuseum.org

Much research has been done to ensure that the museum will reflect realism in decor and display a re-creation of a "Victorian Christmas: The Spirit of Giving." In addition to tours of the museum, visitors will enjoy free transport on a horse-drawn trolley between the museum and Drum Barracks Civil War Museum as well as specially planned old-fashioned activities. Visitors can enjoy the Stage Coach Barn for Victorian-style crafts, enjoy strolling Victorian entertainment and complementary cookies and hot cider and a visit from jolly St. Nick!

Lunch is available for purchase in the sunken patio. Visitors can browse through the Norris Museum Shop, which will be filled with gifts, ornaments and holiday decor.

The museum is a facility of Rec and Parks and is operated in cooperation with Friends of Banning Museum.

■ **November Preview:** The Norris Museum Shop at the Banning Museum presents a holiday preview from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat., Nov. 8, and Sun., Nov. 9 in the Norris Museum Shop, 401 East M St. in Wilmington.

Visitors can be the first to see the Norris Museum Shop at its brightest! The holiday season is upon us, and the museum shop is prepared with this year's dazzling array of treasures. During this very special weekend, the Norris Museum Shop will offer spectacular gift items, ornaments and seasonal décor. For further information please call the Norris Museum Shop at (310) 548-2000.