

## REC AND PARKS

## Griffith Obs. Takes the Cake

In honor of its 75th anniversary celebration coming up in May, Observatory takes part in TV "Cake Off."

Story courtesy Rec and Parks

Griffith Observatory was featured in an all-new season of TLC's "Ultimate Cake Off" March 1. The hour-long special episode titled "Griffith Observatory" celebrated the renowned



The Griffith Observatory.

national leader in public astronomy and featured Dr. E.C. Krupp, Director of Griffith Observatory, as the special client judge.

In the Griffith Observatory episode, "Ultimate Cake Off's" three contestants competed to create the winning cake that best represents the combined theme of the Observatory's 75th anniversary and a special birthday celebration "Cosmic Conjunction 2010: Diamond Nights\*Northern Lights," a gala fundraiser to be hosted May 15 by Friends of the Observatory.

"Ultimate Cake Off" pits three professional cake artists against each other as they create edible masterpieces in hopes of winning \$10,000 and having their cakes featured at a marquee event.

For more information on "Cosmic Conjunction 2010: Diamond Nights \* Northern Lights," see [www.friendsoftheobservatory.com](http://www.friendsoftheobservatory.com) or call (818) 419-4413.

## POLICE

## Congrats, Jim!

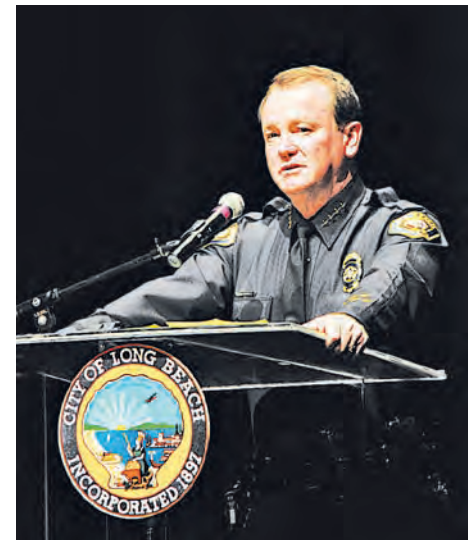
Longtime LAPD leader and Club Member Jim McDonnell becomes the Long Beach Police Chief.

*Alive!* gives a special shoutout to longtime Club Member and good friend Jim McDonnell, who after a long and distinguished career with the LAPD, left the City to become the new Chief of the Long Beach Police Dept. Jim was sworn in March 13 at the Terrace Theater in Long Beach.

Nice going, Jim!



Jim McDonnell, longtime Club Member, is sworn in as the new Chief of the Long Beach Police Dept.



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\* American Cancer Society, Surveillance Research, 2004.

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## Newsbriefs

### ROSE GARDEN OPENS:

Exposition Rose Garden had one new type recommended to grow in 2010 when it reopened March 16 following its annual winter pruning. The addition is "Easy Does It" and it was picked by the All-American Rose Selections organization as the best rose for the upcoming season. For more information about the 2010 winning rose, go to [www.rose.org](http://www.rose.org).

In addition, one unnamed type that will be the only 2011 rose of choice was among the 140 styles of this flower at the garden, which is home to about 5,600 rose bushes in all. Exposition Rose Garden is at 701 State Dr. (near the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and the University of Southern California). It's open daily from 8:30 a.m. to dusk through December, with no charge for admission. The pruning period is from January 1 to March 15, during which time the facility is closed.

For 80 years, Rec and Parks has operated and maintained the rose garden, which is visited annually by thousands of Los Angeles area residents and tourists, and is a peaceful location with a backdrop of downtown skyscrapers.

The rose beds are oval-shaped and surrounded by grass, and are arranged around a delightful central fountain, with charming gazebos. This combination of features makes the Rose Garden a popular place for weddings and other celebratory events, and a location for photos and filming, all of which require a permit.

For more information about Exposition Rose Garden, call (213) 763-0114, or go to [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org) and select Horticulture Centers and Gardens.

### PEDESTRIAN SAFETY:

The LAPD has begun a pedestrian safety and crosswalk enforcement program.

The department announced at a news conference March 11 of its increased program to enhance pedestrian safety and crosswalk enforcement.

The program is intended to promote pedestrian safety through enforcement of the rules of the road pertaining to vehicle versus pedestrian violations as part of the Pedestrian and Child Safety Campaign. The goals of this operation are to improve pedestrian safety by changing hazardous pedestrian and driver behaviors, especially those near schools, and to reduce injuries, death and property damage associated with these types of collisions.

Information: (213) 486-5910.