

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Surf Bard

Annual Shakespeare by the Sea program returns to Pt. Fermin Park in June.



Last year's Shakespeare by the Sea presented a production of *Love's Labour's Lost*.

Photos by M. Elliot

Two Shakespeare plays headline the 2010 season of Shakespeare by the Sea.

The comedy *Twelfth Night* and the tragedy *Julius Caesar* open at Pt. Fermin Park in San Pedro in June. Shakespeare by the Sea is partially sponsored by Cultural Affairs. Admission is free.

The City portion of the program's schedule is:

Twelfth Night

Set in the make-believe country of Illyria where "nothing that is so, is so," *Twelfth Night* is a madcap comedy filled with mistaken identities, cunning plans and miraculous discoveries.

- June 10-12, 24 and 26; 8 p.m. (7:30 p.m. pre-show)



Last year's Shakespeare by the Sea presented a production of *As You Like It*.

Julius Caesar

In one of the earliest of his Roman plays, Shakespeare explores the opposing dynamics of democracy and tyranny. *Julius Caesar* is a swift and enthralling political thriller where ambition and patriotism go head to head.

- June 17-19, 25; 8 p.m. (7:30 p.m. pre-show)

You are invited to bring your friends, pack a picnic and settle in under the stars this summer for Shakespeare's classic comedies. It can get chilly by the sea at Pt. Fermin, so dress accordingly. Bench seating is available, but you are welcome to bring chairs or blankets.

Point Fermin Park is at 807 Paseo del Mar, San Pedro.

Information: www.shakespearebythesea.org/

Newsbriefs

FEEDING NEW METERS:

In May, Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa and Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Club Member, announced the installation of 10,000 new coin and card parking meters to provide more convenient and reliable service and more revenue for the City.

"Broken meters frustrate drivers and cost the City too much lost revenue," said Mayor Villaraigosa. "Instead of carrying a bagful of quarters to feed the meter, drivers will now be able to pay quickly and conveniently with a credit card."

"A modern city needs modern technology. These smart meters will allow people to park with greater ease and pay with a swipe of the card," said Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Club Member. The installation of new meters began with 200 that were unveiled in Los Feliz. Transportation estimates that the 10,000 coin and card meters will generate an additional \$1 million to \$1.5 million annually in net meter revenue.

"Transportation is excited to be installing 10,000 new parking meters that accept coins as well as credit/debit cards. This will make it more convenient for Los Angeles residents and visitors to park at meters on City streets," said Rita L. Robinson, General Manager.

Upon the completion of the installation of the 10,000 new meters, approximately 37 percent of the City's 40,000 meters will have been upgraded. These modern meters will generate more than 50 percent of the City's parking meter revenue.

Through a pilot project, approximately 500 upgraded meters have previously been installed and operating in the City. Meter revenue has increased nearly 40 percent on average where card and coin meters are installed.

The new meters are also able to call for repair if they are vandalized or malfunction. If a coin and card meter needs service, it sends a wireless message to a technician, improving the efficiency of repair to return failed meters to service quickly.

The new meters operate with a solar battery. After all 10,000 are installed, the City will have the most solar powered individual parking meters in the country.

"By reusing our existing poles and using clean solar power, these new coin and card meters are a win-win for customers, the City, and the environment," Mayor Villaraigosa added.

The meters are uniquely designed to replace just the top portion of the meter, reusing the existing pole and base. They are stronger and more vandal-proof than the old coin meters.

Transportation anticipates installing all 10,000 of the new meters by July 1. The new meters accept Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

Drivers are required to pay to park at every meter, and if payment is not accepted at a meter the driver must use another form of payment or find another meter to avoid a citation. A display on each meter provides information about the hours and rates for the meter. Also a sticker outlining the City's rules will be applied to each new meter.

Parking meters in the City cost between \$1 to \$4 per hour, depending on the location and demand in the area.

PAL MENTORS:

The LAPD's Police Activity League (PAL) Rampart branch was one of 135 selected throughout the country to receive federal grants for its mentoring training program for adult volunteers.

Rampart PAL's training program took place in May at the Rampart Community Police Station. The program is run by Rampart Officer Larry Covington and Rampart PAL Mentor Coordinator Cherie Hudson.

The U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. provided program awards to 135 PAL chapters for mentoring programs. LAPD Rampart PAL is honored to have been selected as one of the 135 grant recipients for this exciting program. PAL staff recently participated in a two-day national training for the development and implementation of the PAL's new mentoring program.

The mentoring program involves recruiting volunteer mentors who will be matched with a youth mentee. (Mentees will be recruited from one of LAPD Rampart's existing youth programs including Jeopardy and JIPP.) Volunteer mentors agree to meet with their mentee at program sites for at least one hour per week for a one-year commitment. Besides offering friendship and a listening ear, mentors and mentees will engage in a variety of fun and meaningful activities individually and in groups.



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