



THE CARSON
REPORT

IN MEMORIAM:

Juanita Millender-McDonald Embodied

the Ultimate Public Servant

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CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, SPRING 2007

“Relay for Life” Returns to Carson High School this Summer

Relay for Life, an overnight event that brings cancer survivors and individuals in the community whose lives have been changed by cancer, will return this year to Carson High School where it made its debut in Carson four years ago.

An event organized by the American Cancer Society (ACS), Relay for Life is held in various communities across the nation in an effort to celebrate survivorship, empower cancer patients in their fight against the disease and to raise money for cancer research.

This year's relay will take place in the track field of Carson High,

located on Main Street, from July 27 through 28.

Relay for Life began 20 years ago in Tacoma, Washington, and now, over three million Americans participate in relay events throughout the nation. Internationally, the program has also seen an increasing support, with relays now operating or planned in over two dozen nations.

During the relays, teams of people take turns walking or running laps throughout a 24-hour period. Aside from raising money through sponsorship, the event, perhaps more importantly, creates a unique spirit of camaraderie among those who

have survived or currently share the same experience.

The Carson community first held its local relay in the summer of 2004, with nine teams alternately walking the track of Carson High. The initial effort brought in \$44,000, surpassing the group's goal to raise \$25,000 from the event.

Carole Keen, event chair and lead organizer for the Carson relay, describes the experience as “much more than just a walk, but a special way to remember the loved ones, family and friends that we've lost to cancer and to celebrate those who have survived.”

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Boys and Girls Club of Carson Introduces "Fix Your Kicks" Program at Scottsdale

This spring, the Boys and Girls Club of Carson's Scottsdale Clubhouse began offering graffiti artists a more positive outlet for their creativity. Called “Fix Your Kicks,” the eight-week program allows participating teens to custom design and airbrush new athletic shoes and other apparel.

“Some of these kids have real artistic talent, and this program allows them to show their individuality and creativity right on their shoes,” said Jairo Torres, the Program Aid who introduced

“Fix Your Kicks” after learning about it from a friend who pioneered the program at the Wilmington Boys and Girls Club.

According to Torres, the program gives him the opportunity to talk to teens about how harmful graffiti is to those who have worked hard to own homes and businesses in Carson.

“It's just one of the programs the Boys and Girls Club offers to build character and teach valuable skills to the kids of Carson,” he said.

“This program has been very well received by the teens at our Scottsdale Clubhouse, so we hope to offer it at our Main Street Clubhouse in the future,” said Executive Director Kim Richards.

To donate new shoes for the program or find out other ways to support the Club, contact the Boys and Girls Club of Carson at (310) 549-7311. The public is also welcome to attend/participate in the Club's annual fundraiser, a dinner with live and silent auctions, which will take place on November 8, 2007.

Property Residents to be Held Liable for Illegal Fireworks Use

The City of Carson has amended its fireworks code to put the liability on residents of premises on which illegal fireworks are found, discharged or sold.

According to Ordinance No, 07-1372, which was an amendment to the City's existing fireworks code, residents who provide consent to selling, discharging or using fireworks in their property will be subject to the same liability or criminal penalty as the person selling, discharging or using fireworks. The City currently imposes

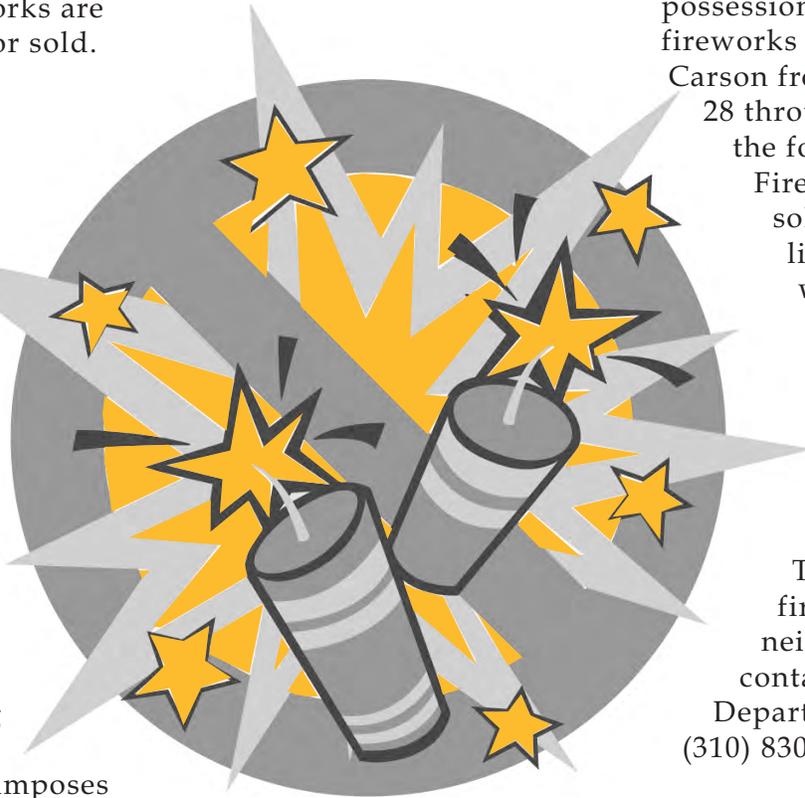
up to a \$1000 fine, the maximum fine permitted by law, for the use, sale and

possession of illegal fireworks in Carson.

The discharge, use or possession of safe and sane fireworks is only allowed in Carson from 12 noon on June 28 through 12 midnight on the fourth of July.

Fireworks can only be sold at properly-licensed stands within the City of Carson from 12 noon to 10 p.m. on June 28 and from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. from June 29 to July 4.

To report illegal fireworks in your neighborhood, please contact the Sheriff's Department at (310) 830-1123.



Outstanding Businesses to Receive Accolade at Carson's Annual Event

Five outstanding businesses in Carson are this year's honorees in the 18th Annual Carson's Business Awards Breakfast scheduled for June 27.

The awardees include 24-hour Fitness, Chili's Grill & Bar, Huff Corporation, General Mills-Yoplait, and Venni Mac's M & M Soul Food Restaurant.

This year's award ceremony will carry a theme of "Celebrate Carson" and will pay a special tribute to both new and old businesses that have made contributions to Carson by providing opportunities for family entertainment and jobs to the city's residents.

The awards ceremony is held

each year as a joint effort between the City of Carson and its Economic Development Commission to acknowledge the achievements of Carson-based companies in making contributions to Carson's economy.

For more information, please contact Economic Development at (310) 288-4800.

Juanita McDonald

In Memoriam: Juanita Millender- McDonald Embodied the Ultimate Public Servant



Google the name “Juanita Millender-McDonald” and the search engine will return about 200,000 potential matches. Which comes as no surprise, considering the kind of clout that she held as a highly-regarded member of the House of Representatives, and a seasoned public servant whose career accomplishments include many “firsts” for an African-American woman.

Her death on April 21 was reported on every major newspaper across the nation. Colleagues on the Hill issued statements, while political pundits and advocacy groups spoke out on the impact of her passing on the issues that she championed, among them women's rights, fair election process, equity for Filipino veterans and social justice. Indeed, the passing



of the seven-term California democrat described by many as a “trailblazer” left a huge void in today’s political scene. But she also left a lasting legacy.

Millender-McDonald's political career began in Carson in 1990, when she was elected to the city council. But only halfway through her four-year term, an opportunity to seek higher office came, prompting her to run for a seat in the California State



Photos of Millender-McDonald in Carson, her home city.

Assembly. But another two years later, she was once again knocking on doors, but this time, to campaign for a Congress seat representing Carson and its surrounding cities. Her efforts at seeking office have all been successful and she has never lost an election.

Sybil Brown, a longtime volunteer and a known

Donald

1938-2007



Millender-McDonald's distinction as a great public servant is an observation shared by Mary Anne O'Neal, also a former councilmember in Carson who went on to chair Millender-McDonald's senior citizens committee in the 37th District since 1999.



"She really lived up to the job of being a public servant," O'Neal stated, adding that



Millender-McDonald "raised the bar when it came to providing services to her constituents."



O'Neal and Millender-McDonald were both part of the Fannie Lou Hamer Queen Mother's Society at California State University Dominguez Hills, where they both helped promote a stronger appreciation for African-American literature among its students.

political advocate in the Carson community, was one of those who knew Millender-McDonald even before she became an elected official. The countless hours spent going from house to house, doing phone banks and brainstorming on issues pertinent to constituents has certainly given Brown the opportunity to know Millender-McDonald well enough to describe the life she lived and the legacy she left behind.

the life I lived speak for itself'."

"If I asked the congresswoman how she would want me to remember her, she would say Sybil, 'let

"She is a woman who paid her dues. She worked her way up in politics...and if we are to look at the things that she has one, we can see that she has been a great public servant and a great woman," Brown said of the late congresswoman whom she said, has become more than just a political acquaintance but also a personal friend through the years.

"She lived to serve her constituents, period." O'Neal said. "That's one thing that sets her apart from other politicians in today's society, who are only concentrating on themselves. She listened, she thought about her constituents and she delivered...all the time."

Continued on page 7

City Reiterates Warning Against Fraudulent Contractors

The City of Carson is reiterating its warning to residents to take necessary steps to avoid falling victim to disreputable contractors.

The warning is being issued in response to complaints received from residents who have been victimized by fraudulent contractors, most of whom offered prices that are lower than the going rate.

The contractors, according to complaints received by the City, collected a deposit from the homeowners, then either doesn't return to start the job, or starts the job but doesn't return to finish the work.

Residents can protect themselves by making sure that the prospective contractor is licensed, both by the State of California Contractors License Board (CSLB) and the City Business License Division. It is also important that the homeowners make sure that the prospective contractor is bonded.

For additional information on what every homeowner should know before hiring a professional for their homeowner improvement work, visit the CSLB website at www.cslb.ca.gov and read the article on "What You Should Know Before You

Hire a Contractor."

To check if a prospective contractor is licensed, please call CSLB at 800-321-2572 or the City of Carson Business License Division at 310-952-1748.



"Relay for Life" Returns to Carson High School this Summer

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The two succeeding events were held at the Home Depot Center, and each time, the amount raised through the relay remarkably exceeded the organizers' goal.

"All of us have been touched by cancer one way or another. It is great to know that through this event, we can make a difference in the fight against this terrible disease," Carole said as she recalled last year's event that brought participants to tears through the emotional

Luminaria Ceremony and the Survivors Lap.

As preparations get underway for the relay in July, Carole said their goal is to raise \$100,000, or four times the amount the group attempted to raise in their initial outing.

With 45 teams already signed up for the relay this summer, Carole is confident that this six-digit goal will be reached, if not surpassed, just like in the last three years.

To help make a contribution toward a cancer-free future, sign up now for Carson's Relay for Life by contacting Carole Keen at (310) 515-5563. Involvement opportunities are also available as volunteers and donors/sponsors.

Additional information is available at the Relay for Life website at www.acsevents.org/relay/ca/carson

ACHIEVEMENT PAGE

Mary Elizabeth Little Honored at Older American Recognitions Day

Mary Elizabeth Little is the Carson's honoree at the 42nd Annual Older American Recognitions Day held May 30 in Los Angeles.

Little, a member of the Public Relations Commission and a longtime member and past chairperson of the Carson Sister Cities Association, received a special recognition at the annual event sponsored by the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging.

A committed and enthusiastic volunteer in various community projects, Mary Elizabeth was also honored in a community brunch held at the Community Center before receiving her award downtown.

Peggy Stiles, another hardworking and dedicated community volunteer was the Special Mayoral honoree at the event.



Mary Elizabeth Little

In Memoriam: Juanita Millender-McDonald

Continued from page 5

On many instances, Millender-McDonald not only took her constituents' concerns to congress, but took it a step further by bringing dignitaries from Washington D.C. to Carson to answer her constituents' queries, help them navigate Federal laws and understand the impact of pending legislation.

Perlita Rasing, who served on Millender-McDonald's Women's Congressional Council and also volunteered on her various projects in the Carson community, was specially amazed at the late

congresswoman's contagious passion and ability to juggle project after project, and event after event, during the times that she spent in Carson.

"She was a very dedicated and a very committed person. And it's very inspiring to those of us who volunteer on her projects. With all the projects she was involved with, she made sure to still find the time to recognize her volunteers. It'll be hard to find somebody to continue the projects that she left behind."

Will Carson be the same after the death of its beloved daughter? Perhaps only time will tell. For sure, her legacy as the ultimate public servant will always be a part of the history of this young city. After all, Carson was her home. This is where her political career was born. This is where she had her first taste of public office and where many of her accomplishments will continue to benefit her constituents and fellow Carson citizens.



Police & Fire
Emergencies
911

Animal Control
Carson Animal Shelter
(310) 523-9566

Birth, Death,
Marriage Records
County Registrar-Recorder
(562) 462-2137

Building Permits
Building & Safety,
(310) 952-1766

Public Transit and
Dial-A-Ride
(310) 952-1779
Hearing Impaired
(800) 252-9040

Cable Television
Comcast
(888) 255-5789
RCN (800) 746-4726

Chamber of
Commerce
(310) 217-4590

City Hall
(310) 830-7600

Code Enforcement
(310) 952-1700, ext. 1786

Community Center
(310) 835-0212

Crime Prevention
Neighborhood Watch
(310) 516-7178

Disaster
Preparedness
(310) 952-1700, ext. 1603

Dump
Transfer Station
(310) 217-6300

Electricity
Southern California
Edison Co., (800) 950-2356

Gas
Southern California Gas Co.
(800) 427-2200

Graffiti Removal
Landscape & Buildings
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3500

Hospital
Harbor General UCLA
Medical Center
(310) 222-2345

Jobs
Job Clearinghouse
(310) 233-4888
One-Stop Career Center
(310) 518-8100

Libraries
Carson Regional
(310) 830-0901
Victoria Park
(310) 327-4830

Parking Enforcement
(800) 654-7275

Parks & Recreation
(310) 847-3570

Post Office
Main No., (800) 275-8777

Sandbags
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Sewer Clean-up
(626) 458-4357

Senior Services
(310) 952-1775
(310) 835-0212

Sidewalk Repair
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Sheriff's Station
(310) 830-1123

Street Sweeping
Street Maintenance
(310) 952-1700, ext. 3520

Telephone
SBC
(800) 310-2355

Trash Collection
Waste Management
952-1700, ext. 3508
or (310) 830-7100

Tree Trimming/
Street Maintenance
(310) 847-3520

Water
California Water Service
Company, (310) 257-1400
Southern California Water
(310) 354-1300

Youth Services
(310) 952-1788

Meetings

Meetings are in City Hall and the Community Center unless otherwise noted, and are open to the public.

City Council/Redevelopment
Agency 6 p.m.,
1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Citywide Advisory Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Thursday
(Only when necessary)

Economic Development
Commission
Noon, 1st Thursday,
Community Center

Environmental Commission
6:30 p.m., 1st Wednesday

Fine Arts and Historical
Commission
7 p.m., 1st Monday

Human Relations Commission
6:30 p.m., 3rd Wednesday

Parks and Recreation Commission
6:30 p.m., last Thursday

Planning Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Public Relations Commission
12:30 p.m., 4th Tuesday,

Public Safety Commission
6:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday

Public Works Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd Monday

Senior Citizen Advisory
Commission
4 p.m., 2nd Monday

Veterans Affairs Commission
6 p.m., 3rd Monday

Women's Issues Commission
Meeting, 6 p.m., 4th Monday

Mobilehome Park Rental
Review Board
6:30 p.m., 2nd and 4th
Wednesdays

Youth Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Wednesday

Relocation Appeals Board
(Meetings are held when
required)

Sister Cities Association
7 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Beautification Committee
5:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Elected Officials
Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem
Elito M. Santarina

Councilmember
Harold C. Williams

Councilmember
Mike A. Gipson

Councilmember
Lula Davis-Holmes

City Clerk
Helen S. Kawagoe

City Treasurer
Karen Avilla

City Manager:
Jerome G. Groomes
Public Information
Manager: Eva Gatling

Editor & Writer:
Zarah Cruz

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Victor Gastelum and
Cian Camba

The Carson Report is published by the City of Carson to provide those who live and work here with information about the city's programs, services, and issues. All questions, comments, and contributing information should be directed to the City of Carson's Public Information Office.

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<http://ci.carson.ca.us>

CITY OF CARSON POSITION STATEMENT

Carson is a vibrant city with a small town atmosphere where relationships are important. This is clearly visible throughout the community, from the stable single family neighborhoods, which make up nearly eighty percent of the city's residences, to the partnership between businesses and volunteer driven agencies which strengthen the city's remarkable social fabric.

The social composition of Carson is California in miniature. It is a city with a balanced ethnic and cultural mix living together in harmony and prosperity.

The community takes pride in the large percentage of Carson students who attend college, many to California State University, Dominguez Hills, a valuable asset to the city.

Carson's strategic position in the heart of the powerful economic engine that is Southern California attracts international corporations which recognize the city's bright future. The city's proximity to the West Coast's two major ports, as well as its intersection by four Southland freeways, makes it a major gateway to the Pacific Rim.

We, the people who live and work in Carson, take pride in our city and will continue to build relationships which ensure that future.

29th ANNUAL JAZZ FESTIVAL
CITY OF CARSON PRESENTS THE
FEATURING
LOOSE ENDS
BARBARA MORRISON
ALSO TO PERFORM
KENNY HARRIS & FRIENDS
KHAY JHAY BAND
ELISEO AND THE CARIBBEAN JAZZ BAND
B&B JAZZ ENSEMBLE
SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2007
NOON - 6 P.M.
ANDERSON PARK
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

THE CARSON

REPORT

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