

# THE CARSON REPORT



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# Emergency Announcements Available Soon Through Reverse 911 System

Carson residents and businesses will soon receive emergency announcements via telephone through Reverse 911, a new alerting system that the City of Carson recently acquired.

The new system, which is expected to be fully-operational by March 1, will enable the City to convey warnings or updates throughout the Carson during an emergency situation or a public safety incident within the community.

All AT&T landline customers in Carson are automatically in the Reverse 911 system. However, cell phone owners and TTY/TDD customers or those who have Internet phone service (VOIP) must first register their numbers, beginning March 1, to take advantage of the system.

The Reverse 911 system, funded through a \$130,000 grant recently received from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), will replace the Community Alert Network (CAN), which the City of Carson has been using since 1991 to notify its citizens of any chemical incidents in the community.

The new telephonic alert system interfaces with the latest communication technology and will have an expanded notification service to also include man-made and natural emergencies. The new, state-of-the art system has a calling capacity that will allow Carson's entire population to be notified in less than an hour.

To register your cell phone, TTY/TDD or VOIP phone,

please log on to the City of Carson's website at <http://ci.carson.ca.us>, or contact Information Services Division at (310) 830-7600, ext. 1193.



## City Council Approves Installation of Audible Traffic Signals in Carson

The City Council has approved the purchase and installation of audible traffic signals to meet the needs of visually-impaired pedestrians in Carson.

The audible traffic signals will be installed on a trial basis in five locations in the city, namely at the following intersections:

▲ Avalon and Del Amo Boulevards

▲ Main Street and Torrance Boulevard

▲ Carson and Main Streets

▲ Avalon Boulevard and Carson Street

▲ Del Amo Boulevard and Leapwood Avenue

The new traffic signals will generate sounds to guide visually-impaired pedestrians

in crossing the street at a signalized crosswalk. The total cost of the five audible traffic signals is \$12,500.

The December 13, 2006 City Council action to approve the installation of audible traffic signals stemmed from recommendations of both the Public Safety Commission and the Public Works Commission.

# Main Street Median Landscape, Carson Park Improvements Now Complete

The City of Carson has recently completed two major improvement projects in the city at a total combined cost of over \$800,000.

The projects, include the median landscaping of Main Street, from Carson to 223rd Street, and the rehabilitation of the existing irrigation system at Carson Park. Both projects were completed last December.

The median landscaping project involved the construction of 2,500 lineal

feet of raised medians along the street centerline from Carson Street to 223rd Street. The project completed the remaining "gap" in landscaped medians along Main Street, as part of the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP).



*The Main Street and Carson Park projects were both completed in December.*

## Carson's DUI Coverage to Expand with New Grant Funds

The City of Carson, through the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Carson Station, is expected to embark on an effective education and enforcement program to curb drunk driving in Carson after receiving grant funds from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

The \$163,014 federal grant, will allow deputies from the Carson Sheriff's Station to effectively target alcohol-related traffic violators and aggressive and unsafe drivers through its Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and to continue its pro-active law enforcement efforts in the area of traffic safety.

Through the enforcement program, the Station aims to make Carson's roadways a safer place to travel by reducing the number of illegal street racers, unlicensed drivers, driving under the influence (DUI) and aggressive drivers from the city streets.

The grant money will allow the enforcement team to work on an overtime basis, and put a greater focus on traffic issues. It will also fund an educational component designed to increase the community's awareness on the hazards of DUI and aggressive/unsafe driving.

Sgt. Russel Shapley of the Carson Sheriff's Station noted

that to date, the Station has made more than 1,300 DUI arrests through more than 250 DUI checkpoints conducted on a regular basis. "We view this as more than 1,300 lives saved," he said, adding that the checkpoints also resulted in the screening of close to 280,000 individuals.

"Hopefully each person that was screened drove away with a little more awareness of our efforts and of the hazards of driving under the influence."

For more information on Carson Station's traffic enforcement program, please contact Sgt. Shapley at (310) 830-1123.

# Diversity Tops Reasons Why

Carson's distinction as "the most diverse city across the nation," was not lost on Carson's school children as they identified diversity as the top reason why they love their city.

Each year since 1996, when former Councilmember Mary Anne O'Neal founded the contest, local students from grades 3 through 8 are challenged to answer the question "Why I Like Carson" through a variety of media. For the most recent contest, the students were asked to respond to the question through an essay.

Close to a hundred students rose to the challenge, of whom 26 were selected the

best essay-writers, and were honored in a Hawaiian-themed awards ceremony held on December 14. All winners took home cash prizes, gift cards, medals, and certificates of commendation from the City of Carson and other elected officials.

Carson's multi-cultural population indeed provides young children an outstanding learning experience that is unique to Carson.

"I love to be able to hear different languages being spoken and have the chance to try different types of foods from all over the world without leaving my city,"

says Carnegie Middle School 7th grader Stephanie Finley in her essay, which earned her a second place award.

"Carson is like a bowl of fruit salad with flavors fused and thus tastes better," says Jason Bonsol, an 8th grader from St. Philomena who took the first place award in his grade level. The students all agree that diversity is the strength of the city, but to Mayzene Manu, it is more than just Carson's multi-cultural environment, but "the great deal of respect for one another" that makes Carson a wonderful place to live.

Carson's numerous restaurants and stores, parks, programs and city events

## *And the 2006 "Why I Like Carson" E*

### 3rd Grade

1st Place  
2nd Place  
3rd Place  
H.M.

Dennis Phipps  
Nataly Barba  
Natalie Rivas  
Molly Martinez

Carson Christian School  
Broadacres Avenue School  
Broad Avenue Elementary  
Carson Street Elementary

### 4th Grade

1st Place  
2nd Place  
3rd Place  
H.M.

Jennifer Baysa  
Kristian Daquila  
Jakkilyn Bondad  
Vickie Roan  
Kai Watson

Caroldale Learning Community  
St. Philomena Catholic School  
Caroldale Learning Community  
St. Philomena Catholic School  
Broadacres Avenue School

### 5th Grade

1st Place  
2nd Place  
3rd Place  
H.M.

Isaak Manai  
Mayzene Manu  
Kyrine Rivera  
Ana Flores

Bonita Street Elementary  
Dolores Street School  
Carson Street School  
Ralph Bunche School

# Local Students Like Carson



The "Why I Like Carson" contest winners pose for a souvenir photo at the end of the Hawaiian-themed program on December 14.

infinite reasons to like Carson. But be it the people, the food or the fun places to be, Kristian Daquila, a 4th grader from St. Philomena sums it all up by comparing Carson to a one-stop-shopping mall where you can find everything you need around you."

The "Why I Like Carson" contest is an annual project of the Public Relations Commission. Prizes for the 2006 "Why I Like Carson" contest winners were donated by BP Carson Refinery, California Water Services, Chili's Bar and Grill, Diana's Mexican Food Products, Seafood City, See's Candies and Watson Land Company.

weren't unnoticed by the essay-writers who enthusiastically enumerated their favorites, such as GoKart World, Chili's, the various afterschool programs

at city parks, SouthBay Pavilion, Unity Day... and the list goes on. In the eyes of these youngsters who represent the future of Carson, there truly are

## Essay-Writing Contest Winners are...

### 6th Grade

1st Place	Alexander Torres	St. Philomena Catholic School
2nd Place	Zayana Ross Stephanie Finley	Stephen White Middle School Carnegie Middle School
3rd Place	Uchechi Karen Joshua	Curtiss Middle School
H.M.	Pamela Amigable	Stephen White Middle School

### 7th Grade

1st Place	Abraham Orozco	Stephen White Middle School
2nd Place	Gabriela Rios	Stephen White Middle School
3rd Place	Marielle Cabatingan	St. Philomena Catholic School
H.M.	David Bacallo	Caroldale Learning Community

### 8th Grade

1st Place	Jason Bonsol	St. Philomena Catholic School
2nd Place	Elizabeth Gonzales	Stephen White Middle School
3rd Place	Janei Hawkins	Carson Christian School
H.M.	Claire Trinidad	St. Philomena Catholic School

# Registration for Summer Youth Program Set

The City of Carson will be accepting applications for this year's Summer Youth Program from March 12 until May 3.

The Summer Youth Employment Program is an annual program which places the local youth ages 16-18 in summer jobs with companies throughout Carson.

Registrations are open from 3-6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays at the City of Carson Employment Development Division (Job Clearinghouse), located at One Civic Plaza Drive, Ste. 200 in Carson.

To participate in the program, applicants must bring the following during registration:

- Proof of age: Documents may

include birth certificate or California Identification Card showing date of birth. Applicants must be at least 16 years old and no older than 18 on July 1, 2007.

- Proof of Carson residency: Documents may include school report card, California ID or California Driver's License. (Parent's Driver's License, California ID, utility bills or letters from friends will not be accepted.)

- Social Security Card (original)

- Proof of at least 2.0 (or "C") grade point average (GPA) for the last two full-semester report cards

- If applicant is under 18, a parent or legal guardian must be

present to sign application and to complete the registration process.

- Youth who have previously worked in this program are not eligible to participate again.

For many years, thousands of Carson youth have been placed in summer jobs through the program. Aside from the income they earn from the summer job, the program also provides the youth with the appropriate training on everyday activities in the workplace, as well as exposure on future careers available to them.

For more information, please contact the Employment Development Division at (310) 233-4888.

## !Si Se Puede!

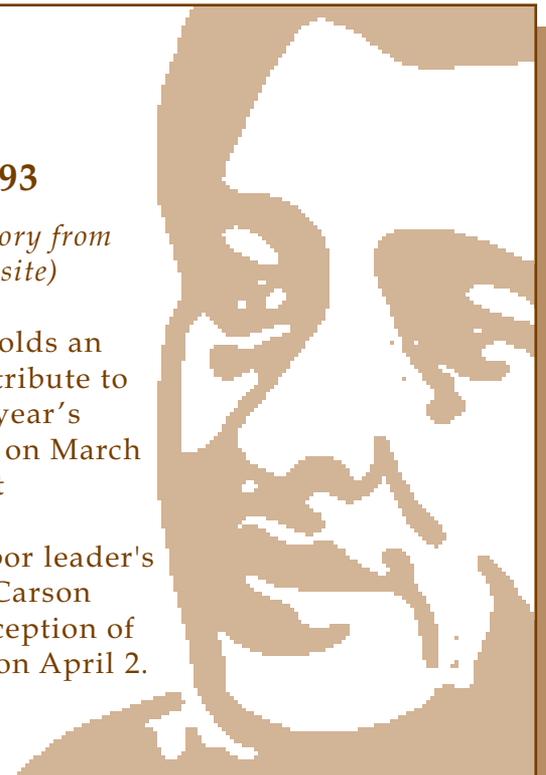
# Who is César Chávez?

**Born: March 31, 1927 • Died: April 23, 1993**

César Chávez was a Mexican-American labor activities and leader of the United Farm Workers. During the 20th century, he was a leading voice for migrant farm workers (people who move from place to place in order to find work). His tireless leadership focused national attention on these laborers' terrible working conditions, which eventually led to improvements.

*(Source: America's Story from America's Library website)*

The City of Carson holds an annual event to pay tribute to César Chávez. This year's event will take place on March 24, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Dominguez Park. In observance of the labor leader's birthday, all City of Carson facilities with the exception of parks will be closed on April 2.



# WiN Offers Free Customer Service and Computer Training for Residents

The Workforce Investment Network (WiN) is providing free customer service excellence and computer trainings to Carson residents who wish to enhance their skills or become computer literate.

The customer service excellence workshop is designed to provide customer service representatives and salespeople with the techniques they need to satisfy even the most difficult customers. Participants will

learn and practice the six steps to customer satisfaction through an effective role playing and discussion sessions.

The workshop is available to individuals or Carson businesses who wish to fire up their staff to meet customer expectations.

The computer boot camp will provide participants with 20 hours of hands-on instruction over a four-day period, covering Microsoft Windows,

Word and Internet, and introduction to Excel. Participants, who will receive a Certificate of Computer Literacy at the end of the program, will also learn to save files, format a resume, send and receive e-mails and do a job search on the Internet.

Both trainings are ongoing and offered at no charge. For information about class schedule or to enroll in either workshop, please call the WiN at (310) 518-8146.

## Don't Delay, Prepare Today! An Emergency Preparedness Guideline for Landslides

Burn areas, canyons, hillsides, mountains and other steep areas are vulnerable to landslides and mudslides. You can reduce the potential impacts of land movement by taking steps to remove yourself from harms way.

▲ Develop a family plan that includes out-of-state contacts and evacuation routes.

▲ Store emergency supplies and an evacuation kit that includes important documents and irreplaceable items such as photographs or other family mementos.

▲ Monitor the amount of

rain during intense storms (more than 3 or 4 inches per day can trigger mudslides).

▲ Look for geological changes near your home such as new springs, tilted trees or new holes on hillsides.

▲ Remember: Make your health and safety and that of your loved ones your top priority.

For more information, please call the City of Carson Emergency Services Division at (310) 830-7600, ext. 1603 or the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management at (213) 974-1166

or go to [www.espfocus.org](http://www.espfocus.org).

Source: *Emergency Survival Program Newsletter*





**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 Hotline**  
(310) 847-8300

**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**  
Jim Dear

**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Julie Ruiz-Raber

**Councilmember**  
Elito M. Santarina

**Councilmember**  
Harold C. Williams

**Councilmember**  
Mike A. Gipson

**City Clerk**  
Helen S. Kawagoe

**City Treasurer**

Karen Avilla

**City Manager:**

Jerome G. Groomes

**Public Information**

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**Editor & Writer:**

Zarah Cruz

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Carlos Esquivel,

Victor Gastelum and

Cian Camba

## 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.



**Carson Sister Cities  
Association  
Student Cultural  
Exchange Program to  
Soka, Japan  
July 21-August 6, 2007**

**To learn more, please  
call (310) 952-1740**

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. **Address:** 701 E. Carson St., Carson, CA 90745  
**Tel:** (310) 952-1740  
**Fax:** (310) 549-1466  
**E-mail:** Zcruz@carson.ca.us  
**Website:** http://ci.carson.ca.us

**THE CARSON**

# REPORT

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