



THE 2009 "WHY I LIKE CARSON" ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

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Students Foster Community Pride through "Why I Like Carson" Contest

Twenty-seven Carson students grades three through eight were recognized in an awards ceremony held in December for the outstanding essays they have written on the subject "Why I Like Carson."

Each year, close to a hundred essays are submitted by students from Carson to express the variety of reasons why they like the city they live in. Winners selected by a panel of judges are then recognized in a special ceremony where they receive cash prizes, medals, and certificates of recognition from the Carson City Council and elected officials representing the United States House of Representative, the California Senate and Assembly, the County Supervisor's Office and the Los Angeles Unified School District School Board.

The winning essay-writers all demonstrated their creativity in enumerating the various reasons why they like Carson. Jermaine Drake and Antoinette Webb, both 8th graders from Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School agree that they love Carson because of the many "parties, events and celebrations" that take place throughout the year and the "many activities for both children and adults."

Damian Nihipali and Frank

Guerrero, 6th graders from Andrew Carnegie Middle School, particularly like the "mixture of cultures" in Carson and the possibility of learning new things from another culture.

The safety of the parks and the streets of Carson also impressed many youngsters, including Regina Endoso, a 4th grader from St. Philomena School, and Sa Peapea, an 8th grader from Stephen White Middle School.

Restaurants also made the list of many of the youngsters such as Elizabeth Ogan, a 4th grader from St. Philomena School, and Stephanie Ortiz, an 8th grader from Stephen White Middle School, who both enumerated their favorite restaurants throughout Carson. The "Why I Like Carson" contest is a brainchild of former Councilmember Mary Anne O'Neal, who initiated the project in 1996. Since then, the project has been embraced by local schools and even students who

live in Carson but attend schools outside the city. The program offers students the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity and at the same time foster pride in the city they live in.

The "Why I Like Carson" contest is an annual project of the City of Carson's Public Relations Commission. The cash prizes received by the winning students are donated by local businesses. Sponsors of the 2009 "Why I Like Carson" contest include the California Water Services, Carson Companies, Diana's Restaurant, LNR Property Corp.(The Boulevards at South Bay), and Watson Land Company. ■

2009 "Why I Like Carson" Essay-Writing Contest Winners

Grade	Place	Name	School
3rd	1st	Ian Leiu	232nd Place Elementary School
	1st	Marissa Gomez	Dolores Street Elementary School
	2nd	Alexis Pacheco	232nd Place Elementary School
	3rd	Victoria Walker	232nd Place Elementary School
	HM	Regan Galinato	St. Philomena School
4th	1st	Regina Endoso	St. Philomena School
	2nd	Aaron Miller	Dolores Street Elementary School
	3rd	Sean Phorn	Dolores Street Elementary School
	HM	Elizabeth Ogan	St. Philomena School
5th	1st	Tiana Mueller	Carson Street Elementary School
	2nd	Rachel Mendoza	Dolores Street Elementary School
	3rd	Maddie Guzman	Bonita Street Elementary School
	3rd	Susana Lopez	Dolores Street Elementary School
	HM	Washington Soto	Bonita Street Elementary School
6th	1st	Frank Guerrero	Carnegie Middle School
	2nd	Xochitl Pereira	St. Philomena School
	3rd	Damian Nihipali	Carnegie Middle School
	HM	Joseph Worthington	At-large
7th	1st	Paola Meza	St. Philomena School
	2nd	Leila Riego	Stephen White Middle School
	3rd	Dominique Cole	Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School
	HM	Naomi Gregorio	St. Philomena School
8th	1st	Sa Peapea	Stephen White Middle School
	2nd	Isaac Hawkins	Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School
	3rd	Stephanie Ortiz	Stephen White Middle School
	HM	Jermaine Drake	Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School
	HM	Antoinette Webb	Glenn Hammond Curtiss Middle School

Applications Now Accepted for Student Cultural Exchange Visit to Japan in Summer

The Carson Sister Cities Association (CSCA) is seeking students interested to participate in a two-week student exchange visit to its sister city Soka, Japan this summer. The 2010 Student Cultural Exchange visit will take place from July 24 through August 9.

To be eligible for the student exchange program, students must be between 16 and 21 years old at the time of travel and a full-time high school or college student, maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.5 for either the last three semesters or last six quarters. Applicants must also be a

member of the CSCA and must submit proof that they reside in Carson for at least one year.

The student exchange program was started in 1979 to offer young people the experience of living in a foreign country and the opportunity to gain an understanding of a foreign culture through various educational activities throughout their stay. Over 25 student exchange visits have taken place between Carson and Soka ever since the sister city relationship was established 30 years ago.

Students who will be selected for the exchange will be staying with host families during their visit to Soka, but must be responsible for half of their airfare and all their personal travel expenses.

Applications for the program may be picked up from the Public Information Office at Carson City Hall, 701 E. Carson Street, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. or may be downloaded from the City's website at <http://ci.carson.ca.us>. Applications will be accepted until May 3.

For more information, please call (310) 952-1740. ■

City of Carson Wins Award of Excellence for Design of Hemingway Aquatic Center

The City of Carson Parks and Recreation Department has won the Award of Excellence for facility design of the Hemingway Aquatic Center.

Hemingway Aquatic Center is being recognized for its excellence in its design to promote community participation in recreational experience, strengthening the community image, sense of safety, cultural unity, and protection of environmental resources.

The new aquatic center sits on a two-acre property, has a 6-lane lap pool that goes from three-



Hemingway Aquatic Center

and-a-half to nine feet, two waterslides and a kiddy pool with spray features. It also has shade shelters throughout and ample deck spaces for lounging. The new Aquatic Center also includes an office building,

restrooms, locker enclosures and a parking lot for pool patrons.

The Hemingway Aquatic Center opened in July 2009. It is located at 16605 S. San Pedro Street in Carson. ■

Carson Aims to Hit 100,000 Po

The City of Carson expects its population to hit the 100,000 mark when the 2010 Census count is complete. To achieve this, the City is calling on its residents to ensure a complete count by answering and returning the questionnaire that it will receive from the US Census Bureau as early as March.

Carson's call to its citizens is an echo of the call to action of the United States Census Bureau for every resident of the nation to be counted in 2010. The census is a count of everyone - people of all races and ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens -- residing in the United States.

The U.S. Constitution requires that a national census be taken once every 10 years to show state population counts and determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the boundaries of legislative districts. The first census was taken in 1790.

To ensure a complete count, the City has established a Complete Count Committee (CCC) and partnered with various entities in the community, including churches, businesses and non-profit organizations in a grass roots effort to spread awareness on the importance of a complete count.

In the last Census 10 years ago, Carson's official population count was just slightly under



90,000, but the City believes that its population has greatly increased since.

A complete census count is important because it determines the annual distribution of more than \$300 billion in government funding for critical community services including location for schools, roads, hospitals, job training, retail stores, child-care, senior citizen centers, new housing developments and more. It also generates thousands of community jobs across the country.

James Christy, Regional Director of the US Census Bureau in Los Angeles describes the 2010 Census as the "vehicle through which our responses turn into the foundation of our democracy and, our voice in government, access to billions of dollars worth of decisions and perhaps more important, our role in defining the America of future generations."

The Census Process

As early as March 8, the US Census Bureau will start mailing questionnaires to households,

asking for information that is accurate to the household as of April 1, 2010. Households will be asked to provide key information, including whether a housing unit is rented or owned, the address of the residence, and the names, genders, ages and races of others living the household.

The 2010 Census Questionnaire has only 10 questions, which is one of the shortest questionnaires in history and takes just 10 minutes to complete. Households that do not respond to the initial questionnaire will receive a second form, and households that still do not respond will be called or visited by a Census worker.

Assurance of Confidentiality

In these times where privacy and identity theft are considered critical issues, the Census Bureau issues an assurance that all information collected by the Bureau is strictly confidential. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's census questionnaire responses with anyone, including federal agencies and law enforcement entities. No court of law - not even the President of the United States - can have access to individual responses.

Census workers must pass both security and employment reference checks. In addition, they are sworn to secrecy, and

IT'S IN OUR HANDS

pulation Mark in 2010 Census

violation of confidentiality of responses calls for a fine and prison term. The data collected from the census and is kept in safeguarding for 72 years.

Census workers who come to households to follow-up on families that fail to turn in their forms can be identified by a census badge and bag. However, if members of a household are suspicious about individuals who identify themselves as census workers, they are advised to call their local police for verification.

Questionnaire Assistance Centers

A 2010 Census questionnaire language assistance guides are available in a variety of languages. Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QACs) can also assist those unable to read or understand the questionnaire. QACs in Carson are available between March 19 and April 19 at the following locations:

Carson City Hall:

701 E. Carson Street

Carson Community Center:

801 E. Carson Street

Veterans Sports Complex:

22400 Moneta Avenue

To make sure that the QAC is open, please call (310) 952-1700, ext 1044 prior to visiting to these locations.

Large-print questionnaires are available to the visually impaired upon request, and a Teletext Device for the Deaf (TDD) program will help the hearing-impaired.

For more information about the 2010 Census, go to 2010census.gov ■

Si usted necesita ayuda para llenar su Cuestionario del Censo 2010, favor de visitar los siguientes Centros de Ayuda del Cuestionario, que están abiertos en ciertas horas del día entre el 19 Marzo al 19 Abril.

Favor de llamar al (310) 952-1700, ext 1044 para asegurarse que el QACs estará abierto antes de visitar estas ubicaciones.

Kung kailangan niyo ng tulong sa pagsagot ng inyong 2010 Census Questionnaire, magsadya sa mga Questionnaire Assistance Centers, na bukas sa iba-ibang pagkakataon mula ika-19 ng Marso hanggang ika-19 ng Abril.

Tumawag sa (310) 952-1700, ext 1044, upang makasigurong bukas ang QAC.

Did you know...

- That many government decisions are based on data collected from the census?
- That our community will be missing out on Federal and State funds if the census count is not accurate?

Do your Part to Ensure a Complete Count.

Fill-out and Return Your 2010 Census Questionnaire.

Carson is Counting on You!!!

It's in our hands
www.census.gov/2010census

¿Sabias que...

- Muchas decisiones de gobierno son basadas en datos recaudados por el censo?
- Que nuestra comunidad perdiera fondos federales y estatales si los datos recaudados por el censo no son exactos?

Haga su parte para asegurar un censo completo.

Llene y regrese su cuestionario del Censo 2010.

Carson cuenta con usted!!!

It's in our hands
www.census.gov/2010census

Alam mo ba...

- Na karamihan ng mga desisyon ng pamahalaan ay batay sa impormasyon na nakolekta sa census?
- Na ang ating komunidad ay di makakatanggap ng angkop ng pondong pang Pederal at Estado kung ang bilang ng census ay di tama?

Gawin ang Inyong Bahagi upang Makatiyak na ang Ating Bilang ay Tama. Sagutan at Ibalik ang Inyong 2010 Census Questionnaire.

Ang Carson ay Umaasa sa Iyo!!!

It's in our hands
www.census.gov/2010census

The Boulevards at South Bay on Schedule Despite a Soggy Winter

Wet weather from a strengthening El Niño that has battered southern California in recent months has not stopped progress for The Boulevards at South Bay, the city of Carson's 168-acre, mixed use, retail and residential project now in development on the south side of the 405 freeway between Del Amo and Avalon Boulevards. With the recent rain, storm water controls are actively being implemented according to Tetra Tech Inc., the firm retained by LNR Property Corporation and Hopkins Real Estate Group to implement and monitor remediation for the site. Tetra Tech's Program Manager for the project, Javier Weckmann, shared that, "the need for draining off storm water is anticipated and planned for in any development. But in the situation of a landfill project like The Boulevards, plans were prepared early on. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) helped review and monitors the implementation of the project Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, also known as a SWPPP." The DTSC is a department of the State of California Environmental Protection Agency and the lead regulatory agency for the project. Storm water controls are now being implemented for The Boulevards as a part of the immediate and future needs

of the project to ensure that storm water is handled correctly and properly drained off of the site.

Final preparations are also underway for The Boulevards landfill cap construction and



Workmen implementing storm water erosion controls.



Vertical gas well construction underway at The Boulevards site.

the placement of the geosynthetic liner after the rainy season ends. A sample of the actual liner material, which is a thick plastic sheeting made of a substance known as LLDPE (which is short for linear low-density

polyethylene), that will stretch across major parts of the project surface, has been on display to the public at all community forums hosted by the City.

In preparation for the actual liner installation, 18 of the vertical landfill gas extraction wells have been installed in the open areas of the project that are not planned to have buildings or slabs constructed on them. These gas extraction

wells are part of the overall landfill gas collection system that will consist of approximately 240 vertical wells and 120 horizontal wells.

Residents with questions about construction activity are encouraged to call the project information line at (310) 956-5942 or toll-free at (866) 928-4566 and relate concerns or ask questions. For more information about The Boulevards at South Bay, visit www.BoulevardsatSouthBay.com. ■

**The Boulevard at South Bay Community Meeting:
April 28, 2010 • 6 p.m.**

**Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald
Community Center**

Carson's Foreclosure Prevention Awareness Initiative Saves Families and Communities

More than six million families could face foreclosure over the next three years with the current foreclosure crisis that is affecting the entire nation. Because of the turbulent economy, falling property values, rising health care and living expenses, millions of families have been falling behind in their mortgage payments and eventually ending up in foreclosure.

Carson has not been immune to this crisis. According to DataQuick, a provider of real estate information, in 2009, there were 106 foreclosures compared to 26 in 2008. Because foreclosures can destabilize

neighborhoods and community health, many cities have established foreclosure prevention initiatives.

To help address the crisis in Carson and to demonstrate its commitment to its residents, the City established the Carson Foreclosure Prevention Awareness Initiative (CFPAI) to assist homeowners to reduce home mortgage foreclosures and the impact of foreclosure on Carson families and neighborhoods.

Through this initiative, the City connects residents with resources to help protect homes from foreclosure. CFPAI provides

important tips to avoid foreclosure; how to locate HUD-approved housing counseling assistance; understanding mortgage delinquency; preparing to meet with the loan servicer and housing counselor, as well as important information about avoiding and reporting loan modification scams.

For more information about CFPAI, please visit the City of Carson Foreclosure Prevention Awareness Initiative website at <http://ci.carson.ca.us/carson-preventforeclosure.asp> or visit the Economic Development Office at One Civic Plaza, Suite 500 Carson, CA 90745, or call (310) 233-4800. ■

City Establishes Historical Committee

The City of Carson has recently established a Historical Committee whose function is to advise the City Council on all matters related to the history of the city.

The committee, which has none members, is tasked with

providing the City Council with a recommendation on creating a written history of the city. In addition, the committee is also expected to make recommendations with regard to policies and guidelines for designating buildings and sites as historic monuments.

Under the resolution that established the committee, the Historical Committee is a temporary body that will dissolve upon the formation of a Historical Society, a membership-based non-profit association. ■

City Council Adopts Mandatory Water Conservation Measures

The City of Carson has adopted mandatory water conservation measures in response to the lingering statewide water shortage and drought.

As part of the conservation measures, watering or irrigating of lawn is restricted to once within a 24-hour period, and is prohibited between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

In a resolution adopted in late 2009, the City Council also calls for the use of a hand-held bucket or a hose with a shut-off nozzle when watering lawns, washing down hard or paved surfaces and vehicles.

The resolution also recommends that establishments that serve beverages only serve drinking

water when requested, and that dish wash spray valves be used by restaurants and food preparation establishments to conserve water. It also encouraged commercial lodging establishments to offer its guests the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. ■



Public Information Office-Carson
701 E. Carson Street, Carson, CA 90745

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U.S. POSTAGE
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Long Beach, CA
Permit No. 905
ECRWSS

POSTMASTER : DATED MATERIAL. *Please deliver promptly.*

C o m m u n i t y C o n n e c t i o n s



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
Time Warner Cable
(888) 892-2253

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) 847-7481

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

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
AT&T
(310) 515-7979

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
Golden State Water Company
(800) 999-4033

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 6:00 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 12:00 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 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 6:30 p.m., 2nd TuesdayZ

Elected Officials

Mayor
Jim Dear
Mayor Pro Tem
Lula Davis-Holmes
Councilmember
Elito M. Santarina
Councilmember
Mike A. Gipson
Councilmember
Julie Ruiz-Raber
City Clerk
Helen S. Kawagoe
City Treasurer
Karen Avilla

City Manager:
Jerome G. Groomes

Public Information:
Manager: **Zarah Cruz**
Editor & Writer:
Zarah Cruz
Graphic Designers:
Carlos Esquivel
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.
Address: 701 E. Carson St., Carson, CA 90745
Tel: (310) 952-1740
Fax: (310) 549-1466
E-mail: Zcruz@carson.ca.us
Website/E-newsletter subscription:
<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 Californian 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.

"¡Si Se Puede!"
A TRIBUTE TO
CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ
Saturday,
March 20, 2010 at
Dominguez Park
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Free! All ages

Food, Entertainment,
Guest Speakers, Car Show,
Boxing Exhibition

PEACE MARCH
STARTS AT 9 a.m.

For more information,
call (310) 549-3962

