

2015 Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson





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) 952-1786

Community Center
(310) 835-0212

Crime Prevention
Neighborhood Watch
(310) 847-7481

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

Dump Waste
Management
(310) 328-0900

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

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

Graffiti Removal
Landscape & Buildings
(310) 847-3500

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

Jobs
Career Center
(310) 952-1762

Libraries
Carson Regional
(310) 830-0901
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
(310) 327-4830

Parking Enforcement
(800) 654-7275

Parks & Recreation
(310) 847-3570

Post Office
Main No. (800) 275-8777

Sandbags
Street Maintenance
(310) 847-3520

Sewer Clean-up
(626) 458-4357

Senior Services
(310) 952-1775

Senior Recreation
(310) 835-0212

Sidewalk Repair
Street Maintenance
(310) 847-3520

Sheriff's Station
(310) 830-1123

Street Sweeping
Street Maintenance
(310) 847-3520

Telephone
AT&T
(310) 225-3028

Trash Collection
Waste Management
(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

Meetings

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

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

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

Beautification Commission
6:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Economic Development Commission
8 a.m., 1st Thursday,
Community Center

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

Cultural Arts Commission
6 p.m., 1st Monday
(only when necessary)

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

Youth Commission
7 p.m., 2nd Wednesday

Historical Committee
6:30 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Utilities Users Tax Citizen's Budget
Oversight Committee
(only when necessary)

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

Relocation Appeals Board
(only when necessary)

Community Civic Engagement Board
6:30 p.m., 2nd Tuesday

Sister Cities Association
6:30 p.m., 4th Wednesday

Elected Officials

Mayor
Albert Robles

Mayor Pro Tem
Elito M. Santarina

Councilmember
Lula Davis-Holmes

Councilmember
Jawane Hilton

Councilmember
Donesia L. Gause

City Clerk
Jim Dear

City Treasurer
Monica Cooper

Interim City Manager
Ken Farfising

Assistant City Manager
Cecil Rhambo

Editor:
Margie Revilla-Garcia

Graphic Designer:
Victor Gastelum

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: mrevilla@carson.ca.us
Website:
<http://ci.carson.ca.us>

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY TREASURER

The City of Carson has established a
Fraud Hotline to fight fraud and protect
taxpayer's dollars. The Hotline is an
option for anyone wishing to anonymously
report illegal or unethical activity on the part of
the City, its officials, employees, contractors
or vendors. The Hotline is open 24 hours a day,
7 days a week and interpreters are available in
20 different languages.

Calls placed to the Hotline are confidential
and handled by a third party vendor. You
do not have to give your name and your call
is not recorded through the use of recording
devices, caller identification equipment or any
other means.

The City of Carson has taken a pro-active
step against fraud by establishing the
Hotline. In the event that you become
aware of unethical, illegal or irrespon-
sible activity, don't ignore it. Call the Fraud
Hotline toll-free telephone number at
1-877-7 HOT TIP or 1-877-746-8847.

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 percent-
age 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 power-
ful 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.

Songco sisters win the 2015 Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson Scholarship Pageant of Excellence



"I believe a physician who implements health policy can create a positive influence in their community," says Stacy. After graduation, Stacy plans to pursue a Master's degree in Business Administration or a Master's degree in Public Policy. She wants to pursue studying medicine in term of a population management style approach and hopes to help improve healthcare delivery.

"My older sister (Stacy) is my biggest influence and inspiration. She played a huge role in shaping my high-spirited, outgoing, and loquacious personality," says Avey.



Stacy also wants to be a researcher, a mentor, and improve the quality of health care for patients of multicultural backgrounds.

"My commitment to communities like my own is linked to my personal background. Carson is a medically underserved community. Language barriers, overcrowding at Harbor-UCLA Hospital and lack of affordable healthcare benefits discourage many immigrants from visiting a physician," says Stacy.

Avey currently attends California Academy of Mathematics and Science (CAMS). Her interest in engineering and mechanics was motivated by her father who she says schooled her about different tools and utility while he repaired appliances.

Pursuing her interest in math and science, Avey Songco attended several camps and has even begun some college courses. Even though Avey has been identified with a moderate scoliosis, she still remains physically active by participating in school sports.

"I remember having to drop out of the long jump event at my first track meet

What's good news if you haven't got a sister to share it with? For Stacy and Avey Songco, winning the 2015 Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson Pageant of Excellence is a major accomplishment that they will share together for the rest of their lives.

Born into a working class family here in Carson, Stacy is a graduate student attending UCLA School of Medicine. She has co-authored a policy on Medicaid Expansion to advocate for healthcare access for marginalized populations.

During her spare time, Stacy loves playing musical instruments and formed a band with three of her classmates in graduate school several months ago. Stacy also runs and weightlifts to stay fit. She enjoys watching musicals and meditates to relieve pressure from her schoolwork.

And just like her sister, Miss Teen Carson 2015 winner, Avey Songco, also loves to play musical instruments during her pass time. She like to make beats and play the keyboard.



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Undiscovered Attraction: Bixby Marshland/Birdwalk Right in Carson's Backyard



Did you know that Carson has its very own 17-acre marshland that you can visit every first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and also by appointment?

If your answer is what is a marshland anyway and what can I see there? Here are some facts....

What is a marshland?

A marsh is a tract of soft, wet land usually containing grass or rushes. The Sanitation District's Marshland consists of various habitats that receive water from the Wilmington Drain. Wetlands are unique because of their role as an



"ecotone," or transition area, between terrestrial (land) and aquatic (water) environments.

Bixby Marshland Background:

The Sanitation Districts have restored and enhanced this marshland for the benefit of its neighbors. The history of the marshland goes back many, many years when much was of the land in this area was a low-lying fresh water marsh.

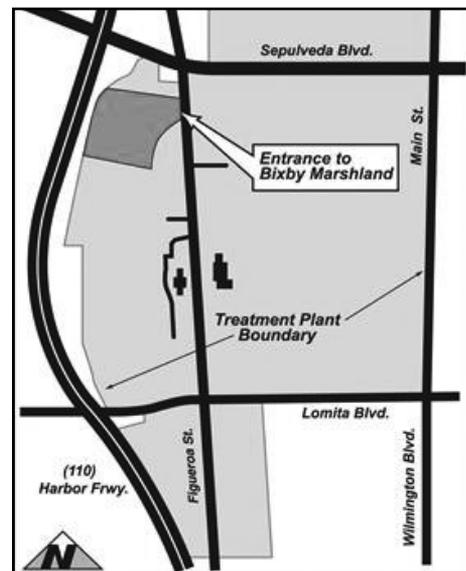
Over the years, much of the marsh was destroyed due to developments. The Sanitation Districts and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works rescued this area from the developments in the 1970s.

Over time, non-native plants thrived at the site and native plant health declined. The marshland has now been rejuvenated and a large variety of native plants have been planted to restore the marshland's health and increase its value to wildlife.

Why Are Wetlands Important?

Wetland habitats are home to 43% of federally listed endangered and threatened species. They provide habitat for birds, animals, amphibians, invertebrates, fish, and a diverse group of plants.

Aside from providing habitat, wetlands are sometimes called "the



kidneys of the landscape" because they receive water that rushes off the land during storms. In the wetland, water is cleansed of sediments and pollutants before it slowly enters the ocean or underground aquifers.

What to See at the Bixby Marshland Today:

There are currently 110 various species of plants at the marshland, of which 73 are native. Some of those familiar plants include willow, sycamore, and cottonwood trees; rushes, sedges, mulefate, sage, coyote brush, Artemisia, and desert grape.

There are also a total of 69 bird species at the marshland. Some of the bird species include ducks, herons, egrets, coots, red-winged blackbirds, swallows, sparrows, finches, hawks, kestrel, hummingbirds, black phoebes, common yellowthroats. Fishes, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles can also be found at the marshland.

The Bixby Marshland is located on the Southwest corner of Figueroa Street and Sepulveda Blvd. in Carson. The tour of the marshland is open to the public and admission is free. For more information, please call (562)908-4288 ext. 2301 or visit www.lacsd.org. ■



Captain's Corner

by Captain Chris Marks



The Holidays are quickly approaching, and so are opportunist thieves. If you are purchasing merchandise on-line, keep in mind that opportunist thieves drive throughout our community looking for unattended packages sitting at front doors. A few simple steps can save the loss of your purchase.

- 1) Track the delivery of your package through the tracking service offered by the delivery company.
- 2) Try to be home during the delivery; if you won't be home, make plans to prevent the package from sitting in the open.
- 3) Ask a family member, friend, or neighbor to pick it up for you.

If you are at a shopping center and must leave items unattended in your car, place your items completely out of view. Always remember to lock your car and do not leave electronic devices visible. This may sound simple. Our volunteer explorers canvass shopping centers and find many cars unlocked or with visible electronic devices. We will be sending out more reminders and crime prevention tips in the coming weeks through Nixle, Facebook, and Twitter, as well as performing our "Don't Become a Victim Operations." Please follow us for more information.

Suspicious Activity. Nobody knows your neighborhood better than you. If you see something suspicious, call us. That's our job, and that's the way we prevent crimes and apprehend criminals. Some common crimes that are occurring throughout the South Bay are thefts of catalytic converters. Catalytic converters

are attached to your vehicle's exhaust system. They are stolen and sold to scrap yards for their precious metal value. Thieves typically look for vehicles that sit higher from the ground such as SUV's and trucks because they can easily slide underneath the vehicle. With just a battery powered saw, the catalytic converter can be stolen in less than a minute. You can help prevent these thefts by parking your vehicle in a well-lit area, installing an alarm that activates on motion, and keeping an eye out. If you hear a noise late at night that sounds like cutting, chances are it could be a catalytic converter theft in progress.

With the prediction of a wet winter coming, this is a good time to ask yourself if you are prepared for a disaster. Are you prepared to go without services like electricity and water for a week? If such an event were to occur, emergency supplies will immediately be consumed. You should always be prepared to sustain your household for several days. As a simple step toward preparation, please consider adding additional food and water to your shelves the next time you are shopping. There is a simple method known as "copy canning" that is an easy way to build your food storage without costing you much more than you already spend. Consider this, the next time you make a shopping list and decide to buy a canned food you already eat, let's say chicken noodle soup and tuna. Instead of buying one can of soup and one can of tuna, buy two. And after you use the one can, when you return to the store, instead of buying just one can to preplace the soup or tuna, buy two. Pretty soon you will have enough stored food, which you will eventually use anyway, to last through an emergency. This is an effective way

Emergencies 9-1-1

Calls for Service (310) 830-1123

Watch Commander (310) 830-1123

Community Relations (310) 847-8386

Visit our website at www.carson.lasd.org

to build food storage for an emergency. What about water? Do you drink soda? The next time you finish using a liter bottle of soda, thoroughly clean and rinse the bottle, then fill it with water and store in a cool dry place. Collect enough bottles to sustain your residence for at least a week. There are many simple ways to prepare your household. Search the internet or start by going to the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management's Guide at <http://lacoa.org/pdf/emergencysurvivalguide-lowres.pdf> or <http://www.ready.gov/water>.



Lastly, we want to thank all of the community volunteers -- **MB Nursery, Carson Sheriff Station Support Foundation, and the City of Carson** for assisting us in replacing the grass from the front of our station with a drought tolerant landscape. Our water bill has been reduced by 70%! This would not have been possible without the help of our community volunteer program and the leadership of Mr. Sai Momoli. ■

The State of the City is good, but at the Mayor's State of the City Address he vowed that 2016 would be "fantastic."



The State of the City Address is an opportunity to sum up the past year's achievements and accomplishments, and share a glimpse into next year's agenda," said Carson's Mayor. "I, however, want to do something a little different today. I want to begin by asking you to imagine that I'm at next year's progress report and I believe that I will declare that the state of this city is, in a word, "fantastic."



"This City Council is unwavering in our partnership with the business community and our residents," Mayor said. "It is my hope the business community will step



Carson Chamber Board Member Michael Stewart joined by a representative from PROLOGIS.

up and help the city at this time of need. Carson is my past. Carson is my present. Carson will be my future," he added.

Development is booming. Hundreds of new housing units are in the works. The first movie theater in decades opened recently at the SouthBay Pavilion, reconstruction of downtown infrastructure has begun, and the City is moving forward to bring a major development to a 157-acre vacant lot in our community.

"I feel lucky and fortunate to have the unwavering support of the City Council and employees. I want everyone to know that the City Council is 100 percent committed to putting the best interest of our residents and the business community above all else." ■

The Porsche Experience Center Los Angeles, a 52-acre luxury vehicle test-driving facility, will open in 2016, said Carson's Mayor. City officials also expect to find out early next year whether the National Football League owners will approve a



Representatives from Thomas Safran and Associates.



**Before you sell
your home,
consider this...
Residential Property
Report Program:
Improving Carson
Neighborhoods
for 16 years**

Since 1999, the City of Carson has issued over 10,000 Residential Property Reports. This process has resulted in thousands of safer homes that meet current City codes. In addition, the program could be one of the reasons responsible for increased property values in Carson for the past few years.



All property owners who sell a residential property including single-family dwellings, condominiums and apartments within the City of Carson are required to obtain an approved Residential Property Report from the Building and Safety Division before the close of escrow. The residential property report inspections are aimed to improve the safety of homes that are sold. The program corrects major safety violations such as illegal conversion of garages to living space and unpermitted room additions. The program also insures every house sold in Carson has proper electrical outlets in garages, water heater strapping, and smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

The City of Carson advises all homeowners to obtain permits for all work done on their properties. If you are not sure a permit is needed for your improvement, please call the Building and Safety Division. We will be happy to help you. In addition, if you are considering selling your home, it is best to apply for the Residential Property Report as early as possible. Planning ahead allows plenty of time to perform the necessary corrections and reduces the stress and unnecessarily delays in the transaction process. You can apply for the Residential Property Report by completing the application which can be obtained at City Hall, Building and Safety Division, located at 701 E. Carson Street or from the City's website: http://ci.carson.ca.us//department/communitydevelopment/res_property_report_ord.asp.

The residential property report application fee is \$150.00 for one or two units and an additional \$25.00 for each unit over two.

The following are the general steps to obtaining an approved report:

- Obtain, complete and submit a Residential Property Report application, site plan and pay the related fee to the Building and Safety Division.
- Schedule and obtain a Residential Property Report (RPR) inspection with Building and Safety Division.
- If violations are observed by the inspector, it is the seller's responsibility to correct all noted violations and schedule a follow-up inspection after completing the corrections.
- If no violations are noted by the inspector, an approved Residential Property Report is issued and is available for pick-up within ten business days from the Building and Safety Division.
- Provide the buyer a copy of the approved report prior to transfer of title (close of escrow) and submit the signed Buyer's Acknowledgment Form to the Building and Safety Division.



City staff is a phone call away to help you at any step in this process. Please contact the Building and Safety Division at 310-952-1766 or the Planning Division at 310-952-1761. In addition, your realtor is also a good resource. ■

City of Carson Campaigns for Breast Cancer Awareness the Entire Month of October



The City of Carson together with the Carson Citizens Cultural Arts Foundation presented the very first Women's Health Conference and Business Expo titled, "It's All About Me", as part of the month-long National Breast Cancer Awareness campaign to educate the community about breast cancer awareness on October 16.



who provide love and support and also acknowledges the innovative, lifesaving work of doctors, researchers, and other medical professionals.

"On behalf of a grateful City, we give special thanks to Councilwoman Lula Davis-Holmes for her leadership of this event and the Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign," said City of Carson Mayor Albert Robles. ■

The City of Carson's month-long advocacy for Breast Cancer Awareness kicked off at the Jazz Festival On October 3 at Anderson Park

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, celebrated during the month of October, is a time to increase awareness and to raise funds for research into breast cancer's cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure. The campaign also offers resources, information and support for those affected by breast cancer, recognizes their family and friends

followed by a Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on October 11 at Veterans Park and culminated with the Women's Health Conference and Business Expo on October 16.

The City of Carson and the Carson Citizens Cultural Arts Foundation has raised over \$5,000 in its fundraising efforts.



Scholarship Pageant of Excellence

continued from page three

because my back began to hurt from the repetitive landing on my heels. I really wanted to continue this event, so I put in hard work at practice until my back had finally adjusted. A quote that powers me through many of my hardest and hopeless moments is a quote from Eric Thomas that, "If you want to succeed as bad as you want to breathe, then you will be successful," says Avey.

Avey aspires to attend Stanford University after high school because it is one of the top engineering and business schools in the United States. While growing up, Avey also participated in many fundraising events to raise money for her church where she says she got to practice her skills in marketing.

When asked what she plans to do with her scholarship win of \$2,000, Avey says that she plans to use it to ease the financial burden of her college tuition. "This will give me a head start on my future and take me one step closer towards my goal," says Avey.

The Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson Scholarship Pageant of Excellence was held



Little Miss Princesses of Carson shared the spotlight on stage with the Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson pageant contestants as part of the Little Miss Carson Princess program.

in the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center on August 28 of this year.

"All the contestants of the 2015 Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson have already built a firm foundation for success simply by competing," said Carson's Mayor Albert Robles. "All of them are winners. They have gained the value of confidence, self-worth,

discipline, magnetism of character, as well as the rewards of cooperation and fruitfulness of perseverance," added Robles.

The crowned 2015 Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson each received a \$2,000 scholarship fund, in addition to many other prizes. Both will represent the City in various city events until 2016 when a newly crowned Miss Carson and Miss Teen Carson succeeds them. ■

Filipino-American History Month

continued from page six

In 1965, Larry Itliong led the successful "Great Delano Grape Strike" to protest the low wages and miserable working conditions. In 1966, he led the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee and merged with the National Farm Workers Association led by Cesar Chavez to form the United Farm Workers union.

In 1970, Larry Itliong founded and became the president of the Filipino American Political Association (FAPA), the first national political Filipino American organization and a crucial alliance between Filipino professionals with 30 active chapters throughout the United States.

On October 2010, Carson City Council passed a resolution establishing October



25 as Larry Itliong Day in Carson. On June 30, 2015, Assembly Bill 7 (AB 7) was signed into law by Gov. Brown establishing October 25 as Larry Itliong Day in all of California.

"The City of Carson is the first city to recognize the contributions of labor union leader Larry Itliong. We are proud to have this annual event and proud to have been instrumental in the movement to

get AB 7 passed in Sacramento to have October 25 recognized as Larry Itliong Day throughout California," said City of Carson Mayor Albert Robles. "On behalf of a grateful City, we give special thanks to Mayor Pro Tem Elito M. Santarina for his leadership in getting Carson to be the first City in the Country to recognize Larry Itliong Day," added Robles.

Filipino American History Month Celebration is an annual event during the month of October in the City of Carson. The events are done in collaboration with Mutch Cariño of Maxx Promos, Confederation of Filipino American Associations, Philippine Independence Day Foundation, Filipino Community of Carson, Filipino American Chamber of Commerce-South Bay Los Angeles Area, and Kayumanggi Lions Club. The events were also presented in partnership with ABS-CBN, TFC, Lifestyle Network, ANC, Star Kargo, and My Remit. ■