



# Back to School



Dear Friends,

As many communities head back to school, I'm grateful for the opportunity to share some resources available to ensure students and parents have the tools and tricks they need to succeed. [AT&T has affordable Wi-Fi and free installation](#) for families who are distance learning. For those navigating new technology, Los Angeles Unified School District has a tech hotline available at 213-443-1300 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday to answer questions. They also have a student and family wellness line at 213-241-3840 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday through Friday to provide support for mental health, immunizations,

health insurance, food, housing, enrollment, and more. Our [Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health has incredible, comprehensive resources](#) for families who need extra support as they start this semester as well. [The Los Angeles County Library has digital homework help and tutoring](#) available for any student who needs guidance, whether you're a kindergartner, an adult learner, or anywhere in between.

Some of our local school districts are making creative back to school videos to celebrate students. [Palmdale School District](#) began their first day by inviting students from across the city to gather on one video call. [Brightwood Elementary](#) in Alhambra also made a sweet video montage with the help of the PTA. Plus, [Alhambra Unified is hosting a Community Conversations series](#) in September and October to share about priorities and problem solving for the school year.

There are also resources for teens and adults. I recently participated in College of the Canyons' virtual career summit, which provided great information for students preparing for the workforce and shared about opportunities for county careers. You can still [watch the summit and learn about those resources](#). And, it's never been a better time to head to college in your own community. As a graduating high school senior or first-time, full-time college student of any age in Los Angeles County, your admission to any Los Angeles Community College District school is guaranteed for two years with FREE tuition! Take a look at the enrollment [welcome kit](#) to learn more about this incredible opportunity.

While this year has held so much uncertainty, we can say for sure that our students are being cared for and supported by parents, teachers, districts, and community organizations. Together, we will make this a season where students thrive.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathryn Barqer

# Lake Fire Update



The Lake Fire continued to impact our Lake Hughes community this week, burning more than 28,000 acres and destroying 12 structures. As of Friday afternoon, the fire was 52 percent contained. Over the course of the week, the Red Cross provided hotel stays to 25 clients who were forced to evacuate. Thankfully, residents in the northeast portion of Lake Hughes were able to return home on Friday morning. Meanwhile, the Department of Animal Care and Control provided medical care, lodging, and lots of love for 60 animals whose families were affected by the Lake Fire, including horses, ponies, dogs, cats, goats, sheep, pigs, and even a peahen!

For those who want to learn more about the Lake Fire, there is a virtual community meeting this evening at 6 p.m. [on Facebook](#) where you can ask questions.

As fire season intensifies, please remember to have an emergency plan in place and an emergency kit prepared. When you're ordered to evacuate, be sure to bring

phone and charger. Stay up to date during an emergency on social media with [my office](#), the [L.A. County Fire Department](#), the [Sheriff's Department](#), and the [Red Cross Los Angeles Region](#).

[Get the latest on the Lake Fire.](#)

[Prepare your wildfire action plan.](#)

# Business Resource



Series Begins on  
**Wednesday**  
**SEPTEMBER, 2**  
**2:30 P.M.**

 SANTA CLARITA VALLEY  
Chamber of Commerce

**COVID RESOURCE**  
WEBINAR SERIES

I am proud to partner with the Santa Clarita Valley Chamber of Commerce to host their highly-anticipated and much-needed COVID Resource Webinar Series. Our goal is to sustain, uplift, and empower local businesses. The Chamber created original content featuring incredible speakers and timely information. Mark your calendar for September 2 when Regional Health Officer Dr. Frank

[Tune in for the series.](#)

# Celebrating 95



The east San Gabriel Valley community came together to honor U.S. Marine Corps veteran Carl Harstine with a parade on his 95th birthday! Thank you to Carl for his service and thanks to his neighbors and Athens Services for celebrating him on his special day.

[Watch highlights from Carl's big day.](#)

# Livestock Auction



For the first time, the annual Kiwanis Junior Livestock Auction in the Antelope Valley will be virtual! Bidding opens today and closes August 28. There will be special live stream bidding on August 27 plus add-on bidding available through August 31. This year's event has more than 300 animal entries including pigs, lambs, cows, goats, and rabbits. Last year, the Junior Kiwanis set a bidding record of \$800,000 that went to support local youth. With a wider reach online, they're hoping for another great turnout.

[Start bidding.](#)

# You Count



Calling all chalk artists! Encourage your neighbors to complete the census by writing messages in chalk in your driveway and sidewalk. If you're a professional artist, you can even get paid for your work by emailing flores\_esmeralda@laco.e.edu or calling (562) 774-6991. Have your social media handles, bio, previous art work, and your sketch for the census project ready.

Please remind your friends that time is running out to complete the census as census workers are making the rounds in our neighborhoods. To avoid a visit, fill out your census form today. Call 844-330-2020 to complete the census by phone.

[Help your community count.](#)

# Relief for Renters

**LA COUNTY  
COVID-19**

**RENT  
RELIEF**

**VISIT  
211LA.ORG  
OR CALL 2-1-1**

**ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS**

**AUGUST 17  
TO  
AUGUST 31**

- Eligibility based on income
- Financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Open to LA County renters, with the exception of City of Los Angeles residents

There is still one week remaining to submit applications for the \$100 million L.A. County Rent Relief program. This effort aims to serve more than 9,000 households and will be one of the largest programs in the nation. Those who are currently at 30 percent of the median income can receive up to \$10,000 and those who are currently at 50 percent of the median income can receive up to \$7,500. To ask questions or apply, call 2-1-1.

[Apply for rent relief online.](#)

# Give Your Input

Public hearings  
on proposed  
service changes.



To make transit better in L.A. County, Metro wants to hear from you. Tune in for a virtual public hearing between August 19 to 27 to learn more about the NextGen Bus Plan.

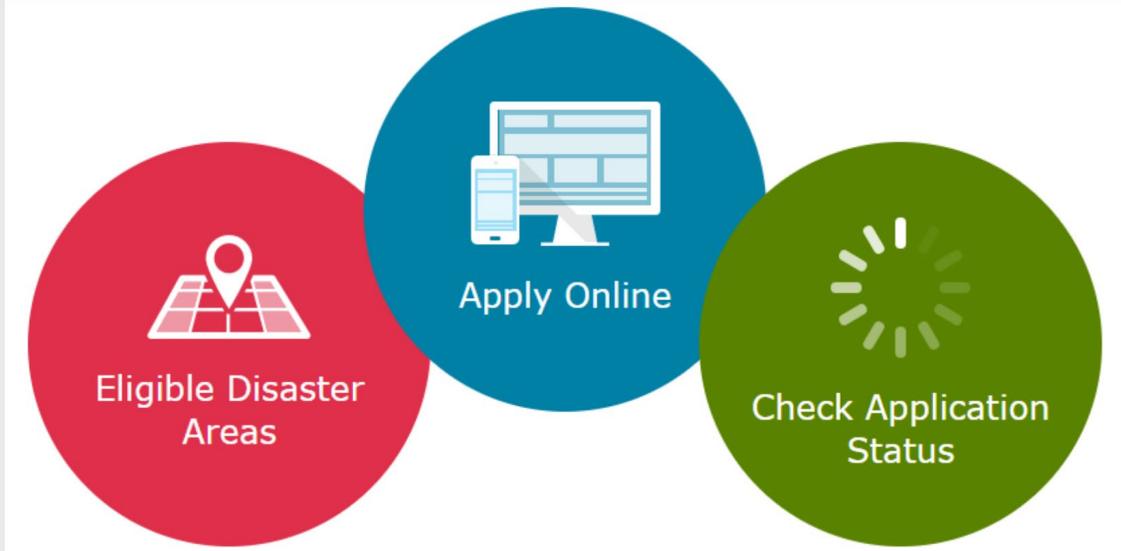
[Lend your voice.](#)

# Disaster Loans



## Disaster Loan Assistance

Federal Disaster Loans for Businesses, Private Nonprofits, Homeowners, and Renters



The deadline for the U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loan has been extended to September 16. Loans up to \$2 million can be used to repair or replace property damaged during the civil unrest in May for businesses of all sizes, most nonprofits, homeowners, and renters. SBA is also lending additional funds to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent, or minimize future damage.

[Get a loan.](#)

# Heat Wave

## Conserve Energy at Home



3-10 pm



Overnight & early morning to pre-cool your home

### 5 TIPS TO REDUCE ENERGY USAGE AND HELP PREVENT POWER OUTAGES

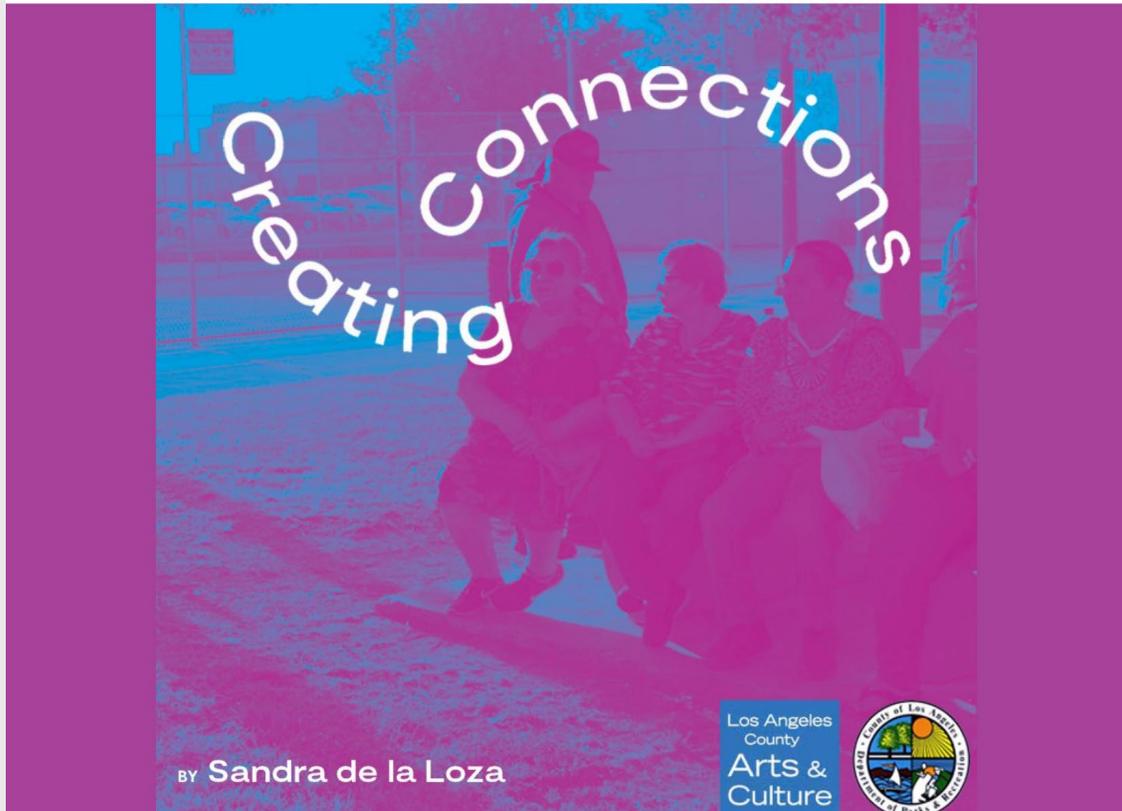


1. Pre-cool your home overnight & in the morning by turning A/C down to 72 degrees
2. Keep A/C at 78 degrees or higher during peak hours, 3-10 PM
3. Avoid use of major appliances during peak hours
4. Turn off all unnecessary lights
5. Sign up for alerts at [flexalert.org](http://flexalert.org)

It's going to be another hot weekend across L.A. County. When we limit our energy use, we have a better chance of avoiding a power outage. Keep your home cool overnight so it stays bearable throughout the day and avoid using appliances and lights when you can.

[Stay cool and sign up for alerts.](#)

# Artist-in-Residence



Over the last year, creative strategist Sandra de la Loza embarked on her artist residency at the Department of Parks and Recreation. During that time, she developed Creating Connections, an arts and culture framework and toolkit that establishes standards for arts programs in our county parks. Through the toolkit, de la Loza aims to make space for the stories, struggles, and dreams of residents and encourages creative expression as a means for transformation. She found that the themes of community, food, nature, and wellness lend themselves to deepen relationships between people and places.

Create and connect.

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**Downtown:**

500 W. Temple St. #869  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-5555

**Antelope Valley:**

42455 10th Street West, Suite 104  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
(661) 726-3600

**East San Gabriel Valley:**

615 E. Foothill Bl. Suite A  
San Dimas, CA 91773  
(909) 394-2264

**Santa Clarita Valley:**

27441 Tourney Rd. Suite 180  
Santa Clarita, CA 91355  
(661) 287-3657

**San Gabriel Valley:**

215 N. Marengo Ave. Suite 120  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
(626) 356-5407

**San Fernando Valley:**

21943 Plummer St.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311  
(818) 993-5170

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