



Equity & Expansion



Dear Friends,

As we work to expand our vaccine efforts, I am committed to ensure our communities get their fair share. The Antelope Valley has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the county and we must immediately do more for our residents. At our Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, our Board approved my motion to identify solutions to meet the AV's unique needs. To begin, we will be deploying FEMA mobile vaccination sites to make vaccines accessible to neighbors who don't have another site nearby. I've also asked the Department of Public Health to consider opening a Kaiser site, creating a mass distribution site, and increasing doses at community sites in the Antelope Valley.

Additionally, beginning Monday, L.A. County will begin to provide the vaccine to

three additional sectors, totaling 1.8 million workers in education and childcare, food and agriculture, and first responders and law enforcement. Currently, Los Angeles County has nearly 500 vaccination points set up. On average this year, we have received more than 174,000 doses per week for our county of 10 million people. As of this week, we have received just over 1.8 million doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, and just over 1.6 million doses have been administered to our frontline health care workers and residents 65 and older. Furthermore, in a few weeks, we will have the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which is administered in one dose and doesn't have to be stored at such cold temperatures like the other two. Importantly, it was found to be 100 percent effective in preventing hospitalizations and deaths. As we continue to protect our families and friends against this virus, our latest vaccine efforts are certainly a light at the end of the tunnel.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn'.

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Fifth District

Reopen Recreation



The pandemic has proven that parks are an important place for residents to seek refuge, rest, and recreation. In many of our neediest areas, the Department of Parks and Recreation is the sole provider of affordable and accessible youth recreation and after school programs. At this week's meeting, our board approved my effort to restore parks funding to increase access to facilities and resources, including rehiring staff, reopening aquatics facilities, sports clinics, and open space, and resuming the Parks After Dark summer program. Additionally, as of today, updated state guidance allows all outdoor youth and adult recreational sports to practice, train, and compete.

[Participate in Parks programs.](#)

[Get the latest on reopening.](#)

In Loving Memory



"15,000 & More: A Plethora of Light and Darkness" beautifully and heartbreakingly pays tribute to those we've lost to COVID-19 and reminds us that we can find hope and healing together. Thank you to Connie D.K. Lane for your stunning installation for Glendale Library, Arts, and Culture.

Engage with this powerful tribute.

Innovative Housing



At our Board of Supervisors meeting this week, I introduced a motion that looks to identify commercial real estate property left vacant because of the pandemic that could be repurposed for long term affordable housing as well as critically needed temporary housing for people experiencing homelessness. This effort will serve vulnerable residents while also supporting local businesses through innovative strategies to leverage public-private partnership. The pandemic has exacerbated problems for our most needy residents, but it has also presented us with creative new opportunities to serve them.

[Read more about this innovative effort.](#)

Transit On-Demand



The GO! Santa Clarita transit service is back and better than ever. Residents in Fair Oaks Ranch, Canyon Country, Newhall, and Needham Ranch can use this on-demand service to get to local destinations, including College of the Canyons, CalArts, the Child and Family Center, Metrolink stations, Old Town Newhall, and more. This is a great and affordable resource for only \$2.

[Check the map and download the app.](#)

Free Fresh Food



Join my team and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank at our grocery giveaway on Tuesday, March 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Santa Anita Park (Gate 5). Please tell your friends and neighbors in need to ensure they are fed as we continue to combat COVID-19. Additionally, if you want to get involved, you can lend a hand or donate to the cause.

Get or give food.

Town Hall

*Learn about vaccine supply, tiers, &
the evolving vaccination plan.*

COVID-19 VACCINE DISTRIBUTION TOWN HALL MARCH 2 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Join over Zoom or Facebook Live



ASSEMBLYMEMBER

Laura Friedman

DISTRICT 43



Kathryn

BARGER

5th District Supervisor • County of Los Angeles

On Tuesday, I'm joining Assemblymember Laura Friedman and Dr. Paul Simon, the Chief Science Officer of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, for a town hall meeting about the COVID-19 vaccine. I encourage our communities to attend to ask questions and get the latest information.

Tune into the meeting.

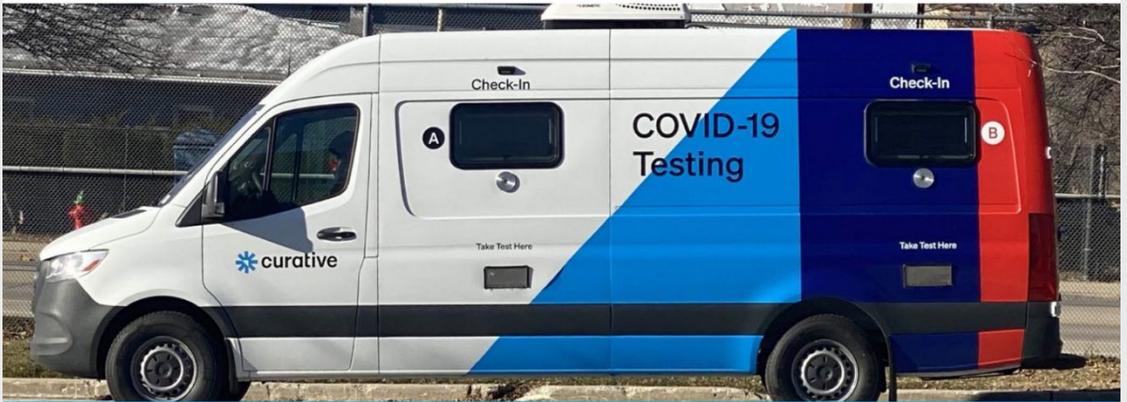
More Enforcement



The alarming number of illegal marijuana grows in the Antelope Valley and illegal cannabis dispensaries in the San Gabriel Valley are concerning and too common. I'm asking county departments to study best practices from other jurisdictions and report back on ways we can strengthen enforcement efforts to shut down these operations.

[Learn more about this effort.](#)

Testing & Flu Shot



Saturday, February 27, 2021

9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Iglesia Ni Cristo - Church Of Christ
Chapel Parking Lot
558 Pillsbury Street
Lancaster, California 93534

 facebook.com/CurativeInc
 [@curativeinc](https://instagram.com/@curativeinc)
 [@curative](https://twitter.com/@curative)

Our communities are tasked with combating both COVID-19 and the flu. Curative is hosting a free mobile clinic in Lancaster on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. I encourage our residents to sign up to stay healthy.

[Sign up for a slot to get a shot.](#)

Decathlon Champs



First Place

Academic Decathlon

MARK KEPPEL



This week, Mark Keppel High School students marked their second consecutive hard-fought victory as [Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon](#) champions! Congratulations also to San Gabriel High School, Alhambra High School, and Saugus High School, who will advance to the state competition as well. We're so proud of our Fifth District students for this incredible accomplishment.

[Watch the awards ceremony.](#)

Gardening Webinar



Just in time for spring, the Department of Public Works is hosting a series of smart gardening webinars throughout March. There are classes to help you start composting, practice water-wise gardening, try organic gardening, or opt for small space gardening. Whether you have a green thumb or have never picked up a shovel, this free resource is a fun and informative way to spend an hour.

[Get to gardening.](#)

Peer Mediation



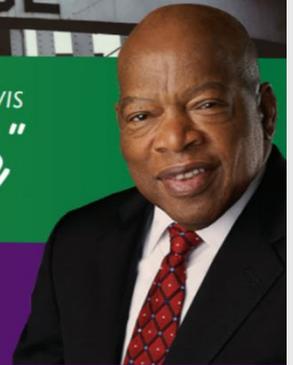
PEER MEDIATION INVITATIONAL

EDMUND PETTUS BRIDGE

2021 THEME INSPIRED BY THE LATE CONGRESSMEMBER JOHN LEWIS

"Getting into Good Trouble"

WJC's Peer Mediation Invitational (PMI) usually takes place at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Court in Pasadena. This year, PMI will be a virtual event.



Western Justice Center is hosting their annual Peer Mediation Invitational next week. On March 1, 3, and 5 from 3 to 4:30 p.m., students will learn about policy changes, building a movement, and the importance of uplifting the people in their community. This is the perfect event for students who are interested in peer mediation and furthering dialogue at school.

[Sign up your student.](#)