

Thank You, Veterans



Dear Friends,

Our veterans have courageously served our country and protected our freedom. It's a duty and privilege to do our part to thank them for their service and sacrifices. At the Board of Supervisors meeting on Nov. 1, I introduced three motions, unanimously approved by the Board, that support and honor veterans in our County.

One of my [motions](#) develops ways to better serve veterans across L.A. County, including the ever-growing aging veteran population. About 65% of veterans in the VA system are 65 and older, so it's important that we prioritize this group. Veterans deserve to receive the services they've rightfully earned, and I am committed to bridging that gap.

We must also connect veterans to education and career pathways. Once they return home, veterans can maximize the skillsets and knowledge they gained in the military, which are assets that contribute to a secure future and to our workforce. My [second motion](#) encourages our County departments to give preference to veterans for job opportunities and expand the County's Veteran Internship Program. This motion will also help disenfranchised veterans, such as those who are minorities or are LGBTQ+, who often face additional hurdles accessing resources. As we see an increasingly diverse military, our employment efforts will need to take special care to help each veteran successfully reintegrate into our communities.

I wholeheartedly believe we cannot allow our service members to risk their lives in active duty and then fail them once they return home. My [third motion](#) explores funding so we can offer specialized training to first responders so they're better equipped to help veterans and military personnel they encounter who are in mental health crises or experiencing homelessness. The training teaches first responders how to identify veterans in crisis, learn to stabilize and secure the situation, utilize de-escalation strategies, respond to veterans' needs, and offer resources for next steps.

As a visual reminder of our support, Los Angeles County is participating in [Operation Green Light](#). This effort encourages us to show our commitment to veterans by illuminating our civic buildings and spaces green between Nov. 7 and 13. By shining a green light, County governments and residents remind veterans that they are seen, appreciated, and supported. Coupled with this display of solidarity, I will continue to advocate for support and services that uplift veterans

To all of our veterans and their families, we thank you and we honor your service and sacrifice. Happy Veterans Day.

If you'd like to connect with resources for veterans, visit my [website](#).

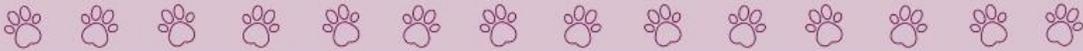
Best wishes,



Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Fifth District

Pets of the Week



Finn



Axel

Looking for a perfect pet? Meet Finn and Axel, who are both two-year-old Siberian Huskies. These four-legged friends are currently staying at the Palmdale Animal Care Center. If you'd like to meet them, you can stop by the center between 2 and 5 p.m. any

[Pick your perfect pet.](#)

Faith Leaders



As we work to serve children and families in need, it's crucial for L.A. County to be a good partner to our faith communities who are already doing so much for their neighbors. This week, I gathered leaders from different faiths to begin a dialogue about how we can better collaborate. I was grateful for their perspective and look forward to our ongoing partnership to uplift residents.

[Read about my work with faith partners.](#)

Youth Commissioners



The Los Angeles County Youth Commission was created to empower and listen to young people who have firsthand experience engaging with our County's systems. I was grateful to meet with my Fifth District youth commissioners this week to hear about their passion and vision to serve the next generation, especially with housing resources and mental health services.

[Check out the commission.](#)

Investing in Health



Each year, the USC Arcadia Hospital Foundation Crystal Ball raises funds to invest in the health of our community. Last Saturday, we honored the extraordinary philanthropy and generosity of my friend Paul Rusnak. During the event, we also fundraised for the robotic surgical technology at USC Arcadia Hospital so they can continue to offer exceptional care to patients.

[See what's underway.](#)

Fun & Pancake Flipping



It's always a pleasure to connect with town councils, who are wonderful representatives and advocates for their community. Thank you to the Crescenta Valley Town Council for inviting me to join you for a morning of fun and pancake flipping on Saturday. I'll be your griddle master any time!

Collaborate with the council.

Faster Transit



Every day, [Metrolink](#) takes thousands of vehicles off our highways and local roads. We have many more opportunities ahead that will make public transit even more convenient and accessible. On Wednesday, we broke ground on the Burbank Junction Speed Improvement Project, which will make it faster for people in Los Angeles County to commute on the Antelope Valley Line, seamlessly bringing residents from home to work and back.

[Read up on the project.](#)

Toluca Lake Chamber



This time of year invites us to reflect on all we've accomplished and look ahead with hope for what's in store. Thank you to the Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce for inviting me to join you on Wednesday to share about my commitment to uplift businesses in L.A. County. I was grateful to meet with their members to hear about their priorities and the efforts they have underway. We gathered at the Garry Marshall Theatre, hence the funky backdrop!

[Connect with the chamber.](#)

Partnering with ANCA



I am grateful for my ongoing partnership with the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) Western Region. I met with their Board this week to discuss their priorities for the community. We share a commitment to expanding housing, mental health services, and homelessness resources for seniors.

Advocate with ANCA.

Salute to Patriots



This week, the [Santa Clarita Valley Chamber](#) held their annual Salute to Patriots event at the [SCV Senior Center](#), where they honored six veterans from the community. I nominated Retired Lieutenant Colonel Fred Gesin and was excited to see he was chosen as one of the honorees. He is pictured above with his wife Janet and my field deputies Stephanie and Natalie. Fred is an Army veteran and is now an active volunteer in the Santa Clarita community. He participated in the Volunteers on Patrol program with the Sheriff's Department for 12 years and now volunteers at the SCV Senior Center helping with administrative assistance and serving on the Veterans Committee. We are so grateful for his dedication to a lifetime of service!

[Access resources for veterans.](#)

Family Fun



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

HARVEST FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 15 - 23, 2022

YOU'RE INVITED! JOIN US FOR CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS THAT INCLUDE FOOD TASTING, DANCING, MUSIC, CRAFTS, CHILDREN'S STORY CORNER AND FAMILY GAMES.

SPACE IS LIMITED AND IS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS. PLEASE CALL THE PARK OFFICE FOR A SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES.

Get in the autumn spirit at your local L.A. County Park! Head to a Harvest Festival near you for food, crafts, story time, games, music, and more.

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 5 to 8 p.m.

Charter Oak Park

Thursday, Nov. 17, 5 to 8 p.m.

Crescenta Valley Park

George Lane Park

Loma Alta Park

Pamela Park

Friday, Nov. 18, 3 to 6 p.m.

Castaic Sports Complex

Dexter Park

Richard Rioux Park

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Tuesday, Nov. 22, 5 to 8 p.m.

Stephen Sorensen Park

Val Verde Park

Wednesday, Nov. 23, 5 to 8 p.m.

Jackie Robinson Park

Pearblossom Park

Play at your park.

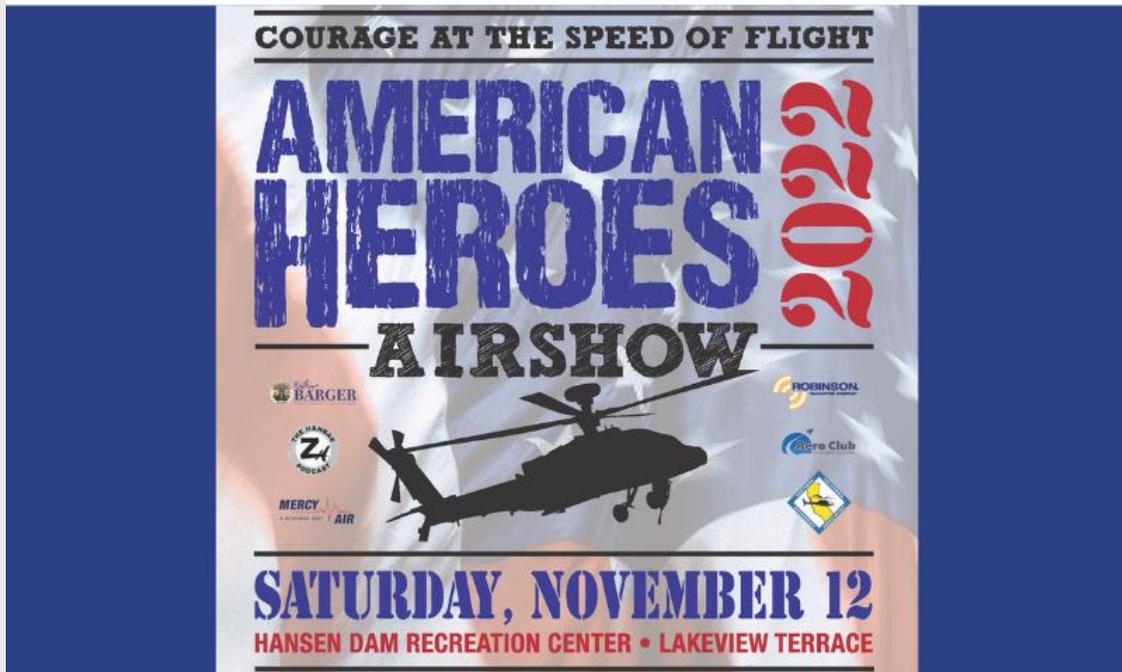
Celebrating Art



Through her art, Corita Kent championed love, hope, and justice. As an artist and educator, she challenged inequality and pushed boundaries, and her work remains powerfully relevant today. Join the [Corita Art Center](#) for Corita Day on Saturday, Nov. 19 for a family-friendly celebration including art making, music, holiday shopping, food, and

Buy tickets for Corita Day.

Heroes Airshow



Celebrate Veterans Day weekend at the American Heroes Airshow. Enjoy exciting flight demonstrations and displays, and even climb aboard to get a bird's eye view of the event with a helicopter ride. Attendees will also get to learn about careers in public safety and access information about emergency preparedness for your family or business. The event is at Hansen Dam Recreation Center in Lakeview Terrace on Saturday, Nov. 12. Admission and parking are free.

Attend the event.

Lifeguards Needed



L.A. County Aquatics is hiring! If you're interested in becoming a lake lifeguard, swim exams are approaching in December. Exams will be held at the Arcadia Park pool on Saturday, Dec. 3 and at the Castaic Aquatic Center on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. After passing the exam, applicants must complete the training academy. Candidates will be able to apply for jobs at Castaic Lake, Santa Fe Dam, and Bonelli Park.

[Get more information.](#)

[Apply to be a lifeguard.](#)

Childcare Grants

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CHILDCARE PROVIDERS
RECOVERY GRANT**

**GRANTS
STARTING AT
\$15,000**

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Lacountyprgrant.submittable.com



**APPLY THROUGH
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

Has your childcare business been impacted by the pandemic? Through the Childcare Providers Recovery Grant Program, the Los Angeles County Development Authority will issue grants to more than 500 licensed childcare providers. Grants begin at \$15,000 for licensed Family Childcare Homes and \$40,000 for licensed Childcare Centers. Applications open Nov. 15, 2022 and close Feb. 14, 2023. If you have any questions, call (213) 600-1908 or email cprgrant@communitypartners.org for more information.

[Be notified when the application goes live.](#)



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 120
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
