



N E W S L I N E

**Spring 2001  
March**

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Number 1**



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**ROTATING ELECTRICAL OUTAGES IN LOMITA**

In the face of impending blackouts, there are steps that all of us can take as consumers of electricity to conserve and reduce energy costs, such as:

- ◆ *Do not use nonessential appliances, such as dishwashers, washers and dryers during peak hours. Peak hours in Winter are between 6 and 9 am and 4 and 7 pm.; in Summer between noon and 6 pm.*
- ◆ *Close drapes and blinds to keep out direct sunlight during hot periods*
- ◆ *Do not use evaporative coolers/humidifiers and air conditioners at the same time*
- ◆ *Install weather stripping and caulking around windows and doors*
- ◆ *Clean or replace your air conditioner's filter regularly*
- ◆ *Set your air conditioning thermostat no lower than 78 degrees on hot days and your heating thermostat no higher than 60 degrees*
- ◆ *Check and clean refrigerator coils (check owner's manual first)*
- ◆ *Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents.*

**In a blacked out intersection, the same rules apply as at a four way stop. You must come to a complete stop, then proceed carefully.**

Southern California Edison advised the City on January 30 that rotating electrical outages could occur in Lomita at any time. A rotating outage is a temporary and scheduled electric outage that lasts an hour or more. Edison contacts the media each time a Stage 3 Emergency is declared.

In the event of a controlled outage different neighborhoods in Lomita may be impacted differently, since not all areas are on the same circuit. This means that



*Continued on page 5*



*City Officials*

**Mayor  
Ken Blackwood**

**Councilmembers:  
Margaret Estrada  
Tim King  
Bob Steinbach  
Ben Traina**

**City Newsletter to  
Inform  
Community**

Lomita Newslines is published by the City to provide information about City programs, services and issues.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.  
Please contact:

Monika Martinez  
Newslines Editor  
Lomita City Hall  
24300 Narbonne Ave.  
Lomita, CA 90717  
or call  
325-7110.

**Personnel Changes at City Hall**

Michael O'Connor left Lomita after being City Administrator for just over 2 years. He will be working as the new Deputy County Executive Officer for the County of Riverside. We wish him well in his future endeavors and thank him for his service to the community.

In January the City Council appointed Mr. Ray Griest as the Interim City Administrator. Mr. Griest retired from his post as City Manager for the City of Big Bear City in 1997. He worked in municipal government for 25 years, many of them in the South Bay Area (Redondo Beach, Carson and Lawndale).

The Housing and Community Development Department lost their Community Development Specialist on February 9. Stacy Bernal will be working for Boeing Satellite as a Facilities Administrator. The Department thanks her for her years of excellent spirited service and wishes her well in her future career. Mr. Amelio Bello will take over her position on a temporary basis.

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**City Administrator's Letter to the Community**

Dear Fellow Citizens of Lomita,

My name is Ray Griest. For the next six months or so I will be working for the City as your Interim City Administrator. During my relatively short stay in this community, I look forward to meeting and working with as many of you as possible. Your willingness to get involved in the operation of your government can have a big impact on your community. There are capital projects and development issues currently being considered that provide you with an opportunity to have a voice in shaping the future character of your City. To its credit, the City appears to be well positioned to deal with these issues. Your elected officials and staff are working hard to make Lomita the kind of community it can be and that you want it to be. I hope that you will join us in helping to write what promises to be an exciting chapter in Lomita's rich history as a city. Let me conclude by saying how proud I am to be here and to have this opportunity to serve you as part of the Lomita City family.

With warmest regards,

*Ray Griest, Interim City Administrator*

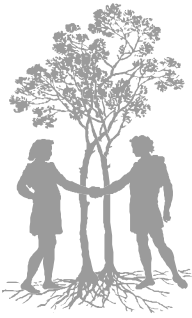
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**Lomita's Employee of the Year**

This year's "Employee of the Year" award was presented to Salim Asnadi, Senior Maintenance Worker for the Parks Department. The presentation was one of the highlights of this year's City Holiday Dinner for commissioners and employees.

Salim is a proud father of two daughters and lives with his family in Torrance. He has worked for the City of Lomita for 18 years and is acknowledged by his colleagues as one of the hardest working, most dedicated and respected city workers. The Parks and Recreation Department is very proud and grateful to have him as part of their team.

***Congratulations, Salim !***



### Arbor Day Cleanup

Lomita's annual Arbor Day celebration in conjunction with *Looking Good Lomita* is planned for Saturday, April 28, 2001. *Looking Good Lomita* is a city-wide cleanup program started by local Girl Scout leader Lony Marshall. In addition to Girl Scouts and Brownies, Harbor Christian Church Youth Ministries under the direction of Youth Minister Tatsuo Akamine will pick up trash, weed the tree wells, remove graffiti and plant trees.

The celebration starts at Lomita Park with an award presentation for "Tree City USA" to the City of Lomita from the Department of Forestry. An arborist from West Coast Arborists will demonstrate proper tree planting procedures and distribute pamphlets on tree selection, planting and trimming. After the volunteers have completed their cleanup tasks around the city, they will be treated to lunch at Lomita Park.

If you can help by donating items such as plastic trash bags, disposable gloves, drinks, food and raffle prizes for our volunteers, please contact Lony at 615-5525, or Chris at 325-9830. We hope to receive donations of lots of flowering bedding plants which will be planted in the tree wells along Narbonne Avenue and Lomita Boulevard. This will not only beautify the area but also keep the weeds from coming back.

### Free Tax Assistance

for qualified Seniors and low income persons at Lomita City Hall 2nd Floor Tuesdays and Thursday 9 am—3 pm

**For appointment call 325-6410**  
*Walk-ins are welcome*



### Library Book Sale

Saturday, March 31  
9 am—2 pm  
In front of Lomita Library  
24200 Narbonne Avenue



### Farmer's Market Survey

The City intends to bring back the Farmer's Market to the area in front of City Hall. Before this can happen, we would like to know how the community feels about this weekly event. Please take a moment to fill out the following questionnaire and mail it back to: Chris Yoxsimer, Parks and Recreation Department, P.O. Box 339, Lomita, CA 90717.



Are you interested in having a Farmer's Market in Lomita? Yes  No

Which of these days and times would be most convenient? Please number your selection from 1 to 3 with 1 being the most convenient. Please mark an X next to the date(s) you would not be able to attend.

Sundays, 10 am—2 pm \_\_\_\_\_ Fridays, Noon—4 pm \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesdays, 10 am—2 pm \_\_\_\_\_

What products would you be most likely to buy: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you or your community organization can volunteer to help with the market, please indicate your name, address and phone number.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

## Trash Collection Update

### Trash

Starting early in March, CALMET will provide 32-gallon trash containers to all residential service recipients. These containers will be gray in color. If you need more than one container, you may use your own trash containers or purchase additional containers from CALMET at a nominal fee.

### Recycling

Also in early March, CALMET will begin providing 32-gallon trash containers to all residential service recipients. These containers will be blue in color. Should you need more than one container, please contact CALMET.

### Composting

In order to encourage composting of green waste, CALMET is offering free composting bins to any resident who completes a composting class that will be provided by CALMET. Contact the Recycling Coordinator at 325-7110, ext. 119 or watch for a listing of these classes which will be listed in the Newsline.

### Green Waste

Beginning early in March, CALMET will be delivering 32-gallon Green Waste containers to all residents. These containers will be green in color. Grass clippings, leaves, wood chips, sawdust, garden trimmings, small branches, dead plants and fruit and vegetable peelings can all be placed in this container.



### Holidays

No trash collection will be scheduled on Sundays or observed holidays (January 1st, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas). When a Holiday is observed on a regular collection day, collections during the week in which the Holiday is observed may be delayed one day.

## Lomita RECYCLES!!



Residential and commercial solid waste collection by CALMET, formerly Metropolitan/Shubin, will continue to emphasize the recycling of solid wastes. The City of Lomita encourages the recycling of these materials.

The following items should be recycled:

**Metals:** Aluminum cans, scrap metal, metal foil and coat hangers; steel, bi-metal and tin cans

**Glass:** jars and bottles

**Plastic:** Types # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; plastic shopping bags, all items marked with the recycling logo

**Please rinse out used containers prior to recycling.**

**Paper:** newspapers, magazines, computer paper, corrugated cardboard, paperback books, junk mail, cereal and other food boxes, paper shopping bags, juice boxes and milk cartons, envelopes, Tetra Pak ©, waxed cardboard, and non-metallic wrapping paper.

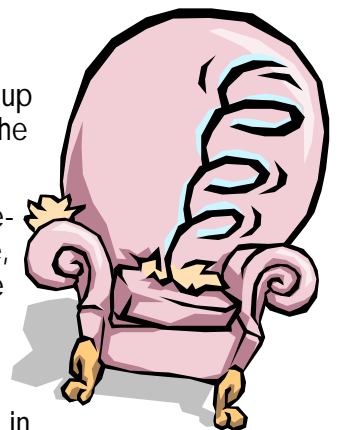
## Large Item Pickup

The next large item pick-up has been scheduled for the week of April 2nd.

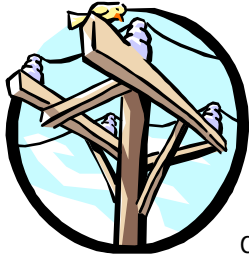
Large items include household appliances, furniture, carpets, mattresses, white goods, oversized yard waste such as tree trunks (if no larger than two feet in diameter and four feet in length) and similar large items discarded from residential and commercial premises that contract with CALMET.

Green Waste may not be bundled and placed for collection as part of the large item trash pickup.

CALMET provides additional large item pick-ups on demand throughout the year. They will respond to pick-up requests within three collection days. For fees and more information, contact CALMET at (310)212-3496.



Continued from front page



your neighbor across the street may not have power when you do or vice versa.

A single Edison "circuit" can serve up to 2,000 customers. If your power is out for substantially more than the time announced you may call to request that a troubleshooter be called out to investigate.

Edison has also advised that it cannot guarantee uninterrupted service to customers with special circumstances such as those on life support. However, the Company does keep track of "critical care" customers who cannot be without electrical service for more than two hours according to the SCE's Medical Baseline Program.

You may contact SCE at the numbers listed below for assistance with the following:

*Medical Baseline Information 1-800-684-8123*

*Emergency Services 1-800-611-1911*

*Energy Savings Programs 1-800-736-4777*

*General Information 1-800-736-4555*

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## TransMachine Learning Center Comes to Lomita



The past, present and future of transportation soon will come to life at TransMachine.

Housed in a replica of an electric rail passenger car, TransMachine will be a unique transportation learning center for children and adults. Visitors to the interactive learning center will learn about transportation through multimedia presentations and specially designed, computer-based curricula.

The TransMachine is made possible through a unique, public-private partnership between American Honda, the City of Lomita and the Lomita Railroad Museum Board. American Honda has donated \$2 million to the project as part of their commitment to education and community involvement.

The high-tech learning center will benefit 32,000 K-12 students and 3,000 visitors per year. School-based field trips, afternoon classes and public tours will provide an ongoing supply of aspiring engineers and designers. Young engineers will be encouraged to learn, explore and imagine.

Currently, a replica of an early 1900's electric rail passenger car is being built in the state of Washington. In the Summer of 2001, the car will be transported to California and placed by crane on the museum expansion site. The car will be outfitted with state-of-the-art computer hardware and software programs and a multi-media learning center and courtyard will be built adjacent to the car.

During the Fall of 2001, curricula and programs will be tested and refined. Then, in the Spring of 2002, the TransMachine will be open for all to experience and enjoy.

Watch for upcoming TransMachine events including delivery of the car, ground-breaking and grand opening ceremonies. **ALL ABOARD!!**

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## 3rd Annual Little League Parade in Celebration of Opening Day

March 10 at 11 AM

from Lomita Park to Fleming Middle School

Narbonne High School Marching Band and Fleming Band and Drum Corps  
Grand Marshalls: Jane Harman/George Nakano

## Become a permanent part of the Railroad Museum

The Lomita Railroad Museum Foundation is dedicated to the expansion of the museum. You can help us build the new museum by sponsoring an engraved paving brick with your name, your business or organization or in memory of a loved one. Bricks will be placed in prominent locations on the museum grounds.

These paving bricks (7 1/2" long x 3 1/2" wide x 2 1/4" deep) can be engraved with your personal inscription by making a \$100 contribution to the Lomita Railroad Museum. Three lines of up to 15 characters each (including spaces) are available for inscription. Each line will be centered on the brick. A 50% discount is available for minimum orders of 10 bricks by the same person.

The Lomita Railroad Museum reserves the right to approve the appropriateness of all wording. If you have any questions, please call Monika at 325-7110.

**Don't miss this unique opportunity to become a vital part of the Lomita Railroad Museum.**

### Some samples of inscriptions:

Smith Plumbing

The Smith Family

In memory of  
Bill Smith  
1900—1981

The Smith Family  
Mary, John, Bill  
Ann and Jamie

Happy Birthday  
Uncle Mike

Girl Scout  
Troop 2270



*The inscribed brick will look somewhat like this*



### Inscribed brick order form

(Please type or print clearly)

Enclosed is my check for \$100 payable to the **Lomita Railroad Museum Foundation**.  
I would like my brick inscribed as follows:

-----  
-----  
-----

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to: Lomita Railroad Museum Foundation  
P. O. Box 339, Lomita CA 90717**

## COUNCIL CORNER

*Since November of 2000,  
the City Council:*

- ◆ Presented Certificates of Appreciation to: Gabriella Rodrigues and Lauren Morales for volunteer work and a city plaque to former Public Safety Commissioner Helena Smith
- ◆ Elected Ken Blackwood as Mayor and Margaret Estrada as Mayor Pro Tem
- ◆ Applied for Releaf 2001 tree planting grant
- ◆ Adopted an urgency ordinance declaring a moratorium on building new or expanding existing hotels and motels
- ◆ Selected projects for state grant for railroad museum expansion
- ◆ Accepted a bid of Engineered Plumbing for \$717,554 for water project on Pennsylvania Avenue
- ◆ Approved additional \$60,000 funding for façade improvement program
- ◆ Conducted a quarterly meeting with the Sheriff's Department and several meetings dealing with commercial corridors
- ◆ Hired Mr. Ray Griest as Interim City Administrator
- ◆ Approved purchase of pressure washer & dust control vacuum
- ◆ Approved bid for bike path and slurry seal on Eshelman Ave.
- ◆ Approved one way signs on Appian Way
- ◆ Appointed Crystal Actkinson to the Traffic Safety Commission
- ◆ Reappointed Mike Cozzolino, Jim Ryan, Steve Smith, Harvey Tafel to RR Museum Board and Jim Gazeley to Parks Comm.
- ◆ Approved \$2,800 for Lomita Little League and \$250 for Gaucho Baseball Team
- ◆ Denied Preschool at 25833 Appian Way and cell phone antenna site at 2347 PCH
- ◆ Accepted proposed CDBG projects for FY 2001/02
- ◆ Approved block wall with opening & sidewalk on 251st Street
- ◆ Passed parking restrictions near Fleming Middle School
- ◆ Adopted ordinance prohibiting meat cutting plants in Zone M-C

### Look what's new on the web!!

If you haven't done so lately, log onto the Internet at <http://www.lomita.com/cityhall>. Thanks to two dedicated and talented volunteers, Brad Duerre and Brad Miyasato, both Lomita residents, the city web page has experienced a major overhaul of both design and content.

You can find updated links to city departments and county, state and federal agencies, City Council agendas and minutes, past issues of the Newsline, a calendar of events and much more. Some of the new features include a highly efficient search engine, surveys you can e-mail back to us and forms to download. In the future, Brad and Brad plan to "put a face on Lomita" by adding photographs of city officials, staff and buildings. They also want to include maps, construction projects, and local businesses.

Email your web page comments to: [m.martinez@lomita.com](mailto:m.martinez@lomita.com) or mail them to the Newsline Editor, P.O. Box 339, Lomita, CA 90717.

Lomita Community organizations who would like to publicize their special event on the Internet, should access <http://www.palosverdes.com/calendar/>.

## Calendar

*The following meetings are held at the  
Lomita City Hall, 24300 Narbonne Avenue, Lomita  
Phone: 325-7110*

City Council -----	1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 PM
Planning Commission -----	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Parks & Recreation Commission -----	4th Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Traffic Safety Commission -----	4th Monday, 7:00 PM
Museum Board -----	2nd Monday, 7:00 PM
Community Development Advisory Board -----	3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Public Safety Commission -----	4th Wednesday, 7:00 PM

***The following community organizations also meet at City Hall:***

Sister City Association -----	3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Women's Club -----	2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM

City Hall offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:15 AM to 4:30 PM.

**Attention Postal Patron**

**Important Numbers**

- Lomita City Hall**  
325-7110
- Chamber of Commerce**  
326-6378
- Library**  
539-4515
- Lomita Sheriff Station**  
539-1661
- Lomita Park**  
326-0140
- Railroad Museum**  
326-6255
- Water Department**  
325-7114
- Field Services**  
325-9830
- Emergency Water Service**  
538-6370
- Animal Control**  
523-9566
- Animal License (City Hall)**  
325-7110
- Rubbish Collection (Metropolitan)**  
212-3496
- Anti-Gang/Graffiti**  
325-3694
- Emergency Numbers Dial 911**  
For Sheriff, Fire, Paramedics, Ambulance
- Sheriff Complaints**  
800-698-8255
- Shopping Cart Retrieval**  
800-252-4613

Note: In any emergency, if above numbers do not respond, Dial 0 and inform operator of the emergency.

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

The Lomita Parks and Recreation Department is accepting registrations for the Spring 2001 session beginning **March 1, 2001 at 9 am** at the Recreation Center.  
**Exception:** Crafts and Cooking for Tots will register on March 19 at 9 am.

- |                               |                                       |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Cooking (ages 8 -14)          | Crafts and Cooking for Tots (3 and 4) |
| Ballet, Tap and Jazz (8 - 14) | Belly Dancing (6 to 13)               |
| Ballet (2 - 4) (4 -6)         | Karate (6 and above)                  |

**Adult Cultural Programs**

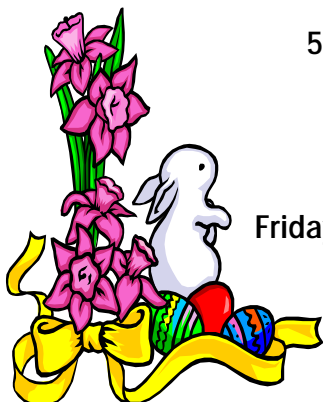
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|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Country and Western Dance | Karate             | Belly Dancing    |
| Mexican Folk Dancing      | Polynesian Dancing | Flamenco Dancing |

**Youth Sports programs**

- |                      |                        |                       |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ice Hockey (6 to 12) | Ice Skating (3 to 5)   | Gymnastics (3½ - 8)   |
| Tennis (4 to 16)     | Archery (10 and above) | Coed Soccer ( 4 - 14) |

**5th Annual Youth 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**  
 Saturday, April 21 for 8 - 15 year olds

**Easter in Lomita**



**Friday April 13 4:30 pm** Easter Egg Coloring Contest (2 - 14)

**Saturday April 14**

- 9:00 am Easter Hat Parade (All ages)
- 9:30 am Easter Egg Hunt (1 - 14)
- 10:00 am Easter Coloring Contest (2 - 14)

For more information  
 at 326-0140  
 call the Parks & Rec. Staff

**Giant Spring Craft Faire and Boutique**

**Saturday, March 31 - 9 am -3 pm City Hall Lawn, 24300 Narbonne**

The Lomita Women's Club is hosting this semi-annual craft faire featuring many specialty items. Take advantage of this opportunity to shop for Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day and other special occasions. Handicapped parking is available.

**Attention, Crafters** Booth spaces are still available for \$20 each.  
 For additional information contact Linda Fisk at 539-2599.