



**Summer 2002  
June**

**Volume 12  
Number 2**



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**In this issue**

*TransMachine* ... 2  
*New Businesses* ..... 2  
*Council Chamber Upgrade* ...3  
*New Employee*..... 3  
*Food Finders* .....4  
*Meals on Wheels* .....4  
*United Way* ..... 4  
*Outstanding Older American*...4  
*Graffiti Walk* ..... 5  
*Looking Good, Lomita* .....5  
*Beautification Program* ..... 5  
*Museum Volunteers*..... 5  
*Free phone access*.....6  
*Pet License/Vaccination* ..... 6  
*Student Exchange* ..... 6  
*Chamber Director* ..... 6  
*Meeting Calendar* .....7  
*Council Corner*.....7  
*Commission Openings*..... 7  
*Sheriff/Fire Barbecue* ..... 8  
*Important Phone Numbers*....8



The annual Founder's Day Celebration will once again be held at Lomita Park, 24428 Eshelman Avenue with fun, food and entertainment from 10 am to 10 pm.

**Shows/Exhibits**  
 Antique Car Show  
 Karate demonstration  
 Dance performances  
 Cultural Programs  
 ... and much more

**Food**  
*Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Pizza, BBQ,  
 Ice Cream and more!!*  
 All you can eat spaghetti dinner  
 will be served from 6—8:30 pm.  
 Dinner includes spaghetti, salad,  
 roll, dessert and drink for only \$6.  
 For tickets and info call 539-1399.

**Fireworks Display**  
 starts at 9 pm  
**Kiddie Rides**  
**Raffles / Prizes**

**Live Bands**  
 and  
 musical  
 entertainment

Don't miss the **pancake  
 breakfast** Sunday morning  
 immediately following the  
 Lomita 5000 run/walk  
 and awards ceremony!!

**Activities**  
 Moon Bounce  
 Mini Golf  
 Fun Jump  
 Games of Skill  
**New this year:**  
**Rock Climbing**



**9th Annual 5K Run/Fun Walk**

**Sunday, June 30 at 8 am in front of City Hall**  
 \$15 pre-registration \$20 after June 26  
 Ribbons for all race finishers  
 Award ceremony and raffle drawing

Registration forms are available at City Hall, the Library, Lomita Park the city's website (<http://www.lomita.com/cityhall/>), in the registration booth on Founders Day (Lomita Park) or starting at 6 am on race day

**Net proceeds from this race will benefit Lomita's non-profit associations.**



*City Officials*

**Mayor  
Margaret Estrada**

**Councilmembers:  
Ken Blackwood  
Susan Dever  
Tim King  
Bob Steinbach**

**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.

**TransMachine Learning Center Project Discontinued**

In a letter dated March 25, 2002, Tom Ross, President of the TransMachine Foundation announced that the project has been discontinued. Located adjacent to the Lomita Railroad Museum, TransMachine was proposed as a high-tech interactive transportation learning center for both children and adults.

According to Mr. Ross's correspondence to the city, the following items have contributed to the Foundation's decision:

- ◆ "The original red car envisioned for the project is no longer available. A replacement car was located in Colorado, but restoration costs proved to be excessive.
- ◆ The construction of two classrooms for teaching purposes, in lieu of using the red car for teaching as originally envisioned, would have resulted in significant cost increases.
- ◆ Originally the historic red car was to be the focal point of the learning experience, enhanced by technology. Without the red car, the concept of the original project is significantly compromised, and the interest level by students and educators diminished.
- ◆ Curriculum development costs were much higher than anticipated.
- ◆ The tragic events of September 11, 2001 have changed the face of philanthropy in America. Thus, the likelihood that other corporations could be found to significantly support the project following Honda's providing initial seed and construction funds is extremely thin. This inability to find outside donors makes the project's long-term future decidedly uncertain. "

City Administrator Odom: "Although we regret the loss of a high-profile transportation learning center in the heart of the city, we will continue our efforts to develop the 1/2 acre lot for the expansion of the Railroad Museum for the education and enjoyment of the public.

**The City of Lomita welcomes the following new businesses:**

Getting Down to Business	Accounting Services	2439 Lomita Blvd.	539-1754
Enterprise Rent-a-Car	Automotive Rentals	2230 P.C.H.	539-1939
Pablo Smog	Automotive Sales	26122 S. Western Ave.	530-3338
American Auto Repair	Automotive Sales	24716 Crenshaw Blvd.	539-3950
Sathia Automobile Industries	Automotive Repair	2018 Lomita Blvd #9	530-7122
Corey's Landscaping	Construction Services	25426 1/2 Feijoa Ave.	539-0090
A-1 Plumbing	Construction Services	2327 1/2 246th Street	530-2266
Sorris Inc	Cutter Sharpening Services	2150 Lomita Blvd.	544-0991
Flowers by Maribel	Florist	1827 P.C.H.	539-2927
Le Couch Potato	Furniture	2116 P.C.H.	534-1476
Lenny Dayrit, DDS	Medical Field—Dentist	1961 P.C.H.	539-7240
American Health Equipment	Outdoor Product Sales	2321 P.C.H.	515-6321
Hurst-Gauci Real Estate Co.	Real Estate Sales	25110 1/2 Narbonne Ave.	856-5730

## A new face (and voice) at City Hall

If you called City Hall lately, chances are it was Ana Martin who answered the phone. Ana joined the City of Lomita in April as Steno Clerk II. Some of her other duties include greeting visitors, providing administrative support to city staff, and acting as secretary to the Traffic Safety Commission.

Ana worked for TRW, a major aerospace company, for the past 17 years in various clerical and administrative positions. She earned an AS degree in Office Administration from Los Angeles Harbor College after graduating from Gardena High School.

Ana lives with her husband and four year old son in Carson. Her hobbies include handcrafting chocolate party favors, rubber stamping and tole painting.

About working for the city, Ana says "I always told myself that if I would ever leave my previous position, I would come to work for the City of Lomita. Boy, was I lucky."

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## Council Chamber Upgrades Completed

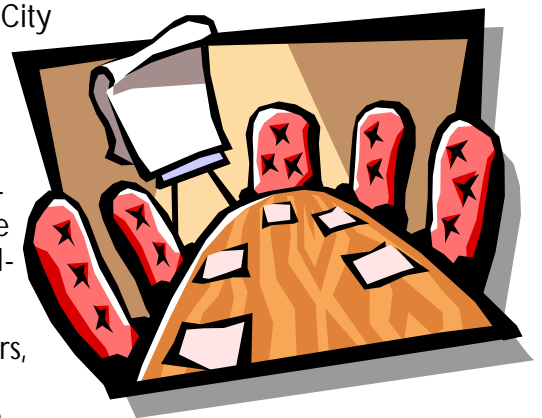
On April 15, 2002 Lomita City Council meetings returned to the City Council Chambers. The facility is now readily accessible to physically disabled users. Both staff and public areas have been modified for this purpose. Individuals wanting to participate in the City Council meetings will find floor areas, chairs and a microphone area labeled with the standard blue and white signage used for identifying disabled accessibility. A wireless microphone will be placed at the counter top adjacent to the lectern microphone where users have always addressed the council or commissions.

The sloped flooring, which had acted as a barrier for disabled users, has been leveled off. In the front row of audience seating, two chairs on each side were removed to allow for two wheelchairs, one on each side, to rest comfortably. Also, two semi-ambulatory seats are labeled. These seats have an arm that swings open to allow for easier seating for disabled patrons.

The council dais itself now has a ramp that provides access should any councilmember or commissioner serve their duty while temporarily or permanently disabled. The carpeting and audience seating have also been upgraded to provide for a more aesthetically pleasing and comfortable feel for the audience.

Next time you visit City Hall, you will notice a new automatic sliding door has been installed at the atrium entry.

We hope these changes are welcomed by the public and will ultimately lead to a more conducive environment for citizen observation and participation.



*Gregory McPherron  
Housing and Block Grants Director*

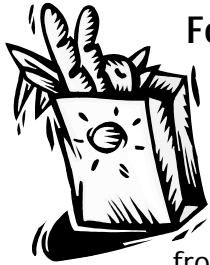
LOMITA CARES



LOMITA CARES



LOMITA CARES



### Food Finders—Feeding the Needy

Food Finders is a non-profit organization dedicated to feeding those in need. Food along with other essential items is collected from local produce growers, restaurants, grocery stores, bakeries, etc, and distributed to over 200 agencies— among them shelters, senior centers and children's homes.

Aside from being tax deductible, your food donations will help the city meet its state mandated waste diversion goal. Lomita is the lead agency in a regional grant to promote awareness and participation in the program.

There are two ways you can get involved in this worthwhile program—either as an individual, collecting and delivering food or as a business contributing food and other essential items. For more information, contact Chris Fischer at Food Finders (562)598-3003.

### Meals on Wheels—Update

In the last edition of the Newsline we asked you to become involved in the "Meals on Wheels" Program. Thanks to a large publicity effort in several cities, 28 new volunteers have offered to help out. A second route was started in Lomita, and at this time "Meals on Wheels" serves 20 Lomita seniors with nobody remaining on the waiting list.

#### Thanks to all those who responded!

The organization welcomes donations and still needs substitute drivers and cooks. Call Mary Helen at 542-3434 if you can help.

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In a recent fund drive for United Way of Greater Los Angeles, employees for the City of Lomita contributed a total of \$2,698!!



### Maxine Burkhammer — Outstanding Older American

City Council selected Maxine Burkhammer as Lomita's Outstanding Older American for 2002. Her many involvements in volunteer activities attest to her commitment for the betterment of the community. Since retiring from a 32-year career with the Post Office, Maxine has not rested.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Lomita Kiwanis Club, Maxine is actively involved in many of the club's programs, such as the Adopt-a-Highway program with the sponsored youth members and the Kiwanis Scholarship Trust.

Maxine is a member of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for the City of Lomita and a volunteer for the Lomita Railroad Museum Foundation, working countless hours at annual community events such as Founder's Day and the Golden Spike Day. She also delivers "Meals on Wheels" to Lomita seniors and puts the Council agenda on the local government access channel.

Maxine Burkhammer is a well-known figure at her local church as well. She serves as Treasurer for the St. Margaret Mary Women's Society, helps with the annual toy give away to the needy and works a booth during the Lomita Fair. As a volunteer for the Little Company of Mary Hospital, Maxine assists with the annual Festival of the Trees holiday event. And as if all this was not enough, last year she took on a new challenge – she learned to prepare income taxes and now assists local seniors and low-income families with their annual tax returns. Even in her spare time, while watching TV in the evenings, Maxine continues her community service, crocheting lap blankets for a local nursing home.

Maxine and her husband, Richard raised 6 children in the Lomita area and now enjoy their six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Congratulations, Maxine, Lomita is proud of you!**

LOMITA CARES



LOMITA CARES



LOMITA CARES

## Looking good, Lomita

The city held its 3rd annual National Arbor Day Celebration on April 20. Over 300 girl scouts, boy scouts, school and church groups with members of the community worked very hard to plant new trees and clean up sections of the city. They planted a total of 71 trees on 246<sup>th</sup> Place, 247<sup>th</sup> Street, Moon and Ober and cleaned tree wells on Narbonne Avenue from Pacific Coast Highway to City Hall and on Lomita Boulevard from Eshelman to Pennsylvania.

A very special thank you to Lani Marshall (Girl Scout Leader and Event Coordinator) for all the hard work she put into this event as well as all the volunteers that participated, the Tree Committee, city staff, Coung Dinh from West Coast Arborist and his crew.

The city also thanks the sponsors— Linda's Beauty Boutique, 7/11 Store, Vons, Camelot, Albertson's, Cerritos College, Tracy Traina, the Lomita Women's Club and Dole Products.

*Virginia Lortz, Field Services*



## Beautification Program

On Monday, May 13, 2002, students from the Nishiyamato Academy of California participated in the city's beautification program. Sponsored by City Council and under the supervision of Christine Villarreal, the city's Community Services Officer, volunteers removed weeds and litter from the parkway at the corner of 243rd Street and Narbonne Avenue.

The beautification program focuses on improving the city based on voluntary compliance with city codes and maintaining a positive relationship with the community. To become involved, call Christine at 325-7110 ext, 120.



## Museum Volunteers Wanted

The Lomita Railroad Museum Foundation is always looking for volunteers to help out with the following: staffing booths at community events, prepare mailings or perform general office work, research and write grants. If you want to help,

please call Monika at 325-7110.

To volunteer at the museum, call Alice at 326-6255.

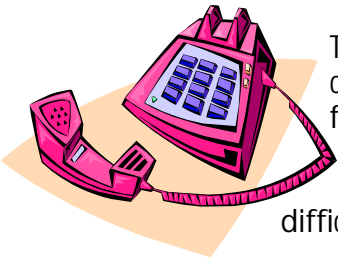
## "Follow Me, I'm Gang and Drug Free Walk"

The Lomita Public Safety Commission will hold its twelfth annual "Follow me, I'm gang and drug free" walk on May 31, 2002 at Lomita Park. Fifth graders from Eshelman Avenue Elementary School, Lomita Magnet School and St. Margaret Mary School rallied against gangs and drugs, supported by the Sheriff's Department, the Fire Department and the City. The program included displays, demonstrations and guest speakers. Donations from private and community organizations were used to purchase lunch and prizes for a poster contest.

The Committee would like to thank the following sponsors:

**A-1 Coast Rentals, Sterling of Lomita Auto Body, Gamby's Mortuary, Moine Bros., Rolling Hills Car Wash, Lee's Tires, Supreme Muffler, Exxon Mobile, John Peri Beauty College, Ace Shell, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Szechwan Chinese Food, Kenneth Kloss, Sharon Wantz, Mr. & Mrs. Parta Zebeljan, Hide-A-Way, Melissa Prince, Bob Hargrave, M & A Property Management, Warren & Gertrude Cable.**

## FREE phone access for impaired persons



The California Telephone Access Program offers free help for persons with temporary or permanent impairments which makes using the phone difficult.

Eligible impairments include speech disability, low vision and blindness, as well as mobility and cognitive problems. For more information on this program, call 1-800-806-1191 or pick up an application form at City Hall.

## Low cost animal vaccination clinic



Wednesday, July 10 from 7 to 8:30 pm  
24300 Narbonne Ave. - behind City Hall

You can renew your pet license at this time. Be sure to bring proof of spay/neuter to receive reduced license rate.

Note: Dogs must be on a leash adequate to safely control the animal and cats must be in a carrier.



## Animal License Renewal

Don't forget to renew your cat and dog license **before August 15, 2002**. After that date, you will be charged a penalty. Licenses can be renewed by mail or at City Hall. Cats are required to have licenses, even if they are indoor animals.

For pet license information or any other animal complaint, such as excessively barking dogs, please call Animal Control at 523-9566.

## Homeowners Beware!!

Before you have any construction or repair work done on your property, make sure that the company has a State Contractor's as well as a city business license.



For further information please contact the Business License Department at 325-7110, ext. 139.

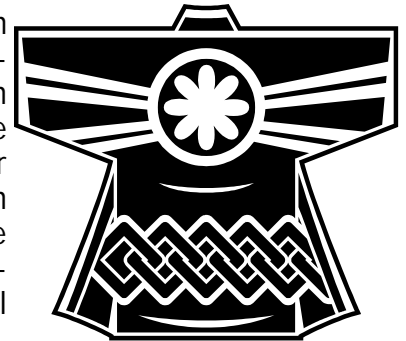
## Student Exchange Program

The Lomita Sister City Association announced that ten students will be representing the city this summer in a Student Exchange Program in Takaishi, Japan, Lomita's Sister City.

The students are Beth Borchart, Tara Falk, Bryan Hoff, Gretchen and Kyle Kamrath, Esther Ku, Kewal "Kay" Lalwani, Jessie Mendoza, Kevin and Robert Morihisa. Accompanying the students on their three week trip will be their adult leader, Shirley Endo.

Lomita's affiliation with Takaishi began in October 1981. Since then, more than 90 local students have had the opportunity to visit Japan. Through student, adult, art, and cultural exchanges with Takaishi, Lomita hopes to help foster worldwide understanding, communication, and brotherhood. The Association offers Student Exchange Program participants a unique and extraordinary opportunity to expand their personal horizon while acting as worldwide ambassadors for their community and country.

To be eligible for the exchange program students must be 16 — 22 years of age, live or work in Lomita, or perform community service work in Lomita; carry a grade point average of 2.0 or better, be interested in learning about Japanese customs, culture and language and be a legal US resident.



## Chuck Taylor named New Chamber Director

The Lomita Chamber of Commerce has a new Executive Director—Chuck Taylor, former Lomita Councilmember and Planning Commissioner.

Chuck grew up in San Pedro and has lived in Lomita for the past 28 years, where he and his wife Dottie raised their three children. After retiring from the Daily Breeze in 1993, Chuck went to work for Senator Betty Karnette until 2002.

His in depth knowledge of Lomita paired with his recent experience dealing with statewide political and economic issues prepared him for his current position at the helm of the Chamber.

For further information on the Lomita Chamber of Commerce or to join call 326-6378.

# COUNCIL CORNER

*Since February of 2002,  
the City Council:*

- ◆ Presented Certificates of Appreciation to: Greg McPherron, Housing and Block Grant Director, for overseeing the improvements to City Council Chambers; Ron Ferstadt for serving on Traffic Safety Commission; and Paul McCabe, Mark Waronek and Beth Graves for serving on CDAB.
- ◆ Presented Certificates of Appointment to: Mark Waronek (Planning); Andriana Burkhammer and Efren Servino (Traffic); Albert Assayag, Melissa McCray and Beth Graves (Public Safety); Eva Ford (RRMuseum); Linda Fisk and Marybeth Gilbert (Parks) and Jonathan Clotworthy (CDAB).
- ◆ Approved Memorandum of Understanding/Agency Shop Rules with Lomita City Employees' Association.
- ◆ Received a \$10,500 check from So. Cal. Edison for energy conservation retrofits for traffic signals.
- ◆ Approved participation in the South Bay Communities and Affiliates Energy Efficiency Program.
- ◆ Approved the following traffic improvements on PCH: left turn phasing for Oak and Walnut; "Keep Clear" signs for Cayuga and Appian Way.
- ◆ Approved purchase of internally illuminated street signs for Pacific Coast Highway
- ◆ Appointed Kara Gehersky as youth member to the Railroad Museum Board and Stacy Bernal to the Community Development Advisory Board
- ◆ Approved red curb on south side of 241st Street and 25025 Doria Avenue.
- ◆ Approved use of funds from LA County Regional Parks and Open Space.
- ◆ Purchased a graffiti removal vehicle
- ◆ Held quarterly meeting with Sheriff's Department.
- ◆ Approved agreement with Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ Approved the Special Events Ordinance.
- ◆ Approved personnel rules for city employees.
- ◆ Proclaimed May 1 as Loyalty Day.



## Community Development Advisory Boardmembers

We are looking for two volunteers to serve on the Community Development Advisory Board.

The seven members are appointed by the City Council for 2 year terms and serve in an advisory capacity in matters pertaining to Community Development. Additionally, the Board reviews, plans, develops and monitors programs funded by the Community Development Block Grant.

The Board meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at City Hall.

Applicants must be registered to vote in the City of Lomita.

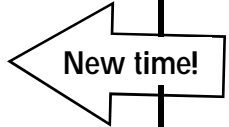
Call 325-7110 to request a Commission Application form or download one from our website at [www.lomita.com/cityhall](http://www.lomita.com/cityhall).

# 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 Monday, 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, 6:00 PM
<i>The following community organizations also meet at City Hall:</i>	
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.





24300 Narbonne Ave., Lomita, CA 90717

PRSR-STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 100  
LOMITA, CA

ECR-WSS

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 (CalMet)**  
212-3496
- Anti-Gang/Graffiti**  
325-3694
- Emergency Numbers**  
Sheriff, Fire,  
Paramedics, Ambulance  
**Dial 911**
- 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.

## 7TH ANNUAL BARBECUE HONORING SHERIFF AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

**Lomita Park, 24428 Eshelman Avenue  
Saturday, August 17 - 11 am to 4 pm**

Program starts at 11:30 am

Lunch served from 11:30 am to 1 pm

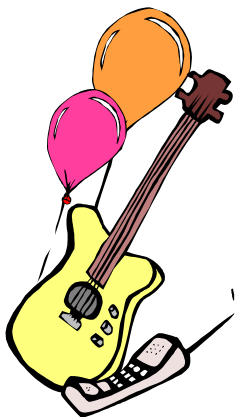
Join us for delicious chicken and ribs,  
soft drinks, ice cream and popcorn

\$2 per person + \$1 for soft drinks (no refill)

No reservation needed

Limited to the first 800 participants

Tickets may be purchased at Lomita Park  
or City Hall



Activities include face painting, games, bingo, foam, free raffle, fun jump, exhibits/equipment from the Sheriff and Fire Departments including a replica of the NY fire truck used during the 9-11 tragedy

Music provided by Unlimited Source Band

### Special raffle!!

Win a trip for two to Hawaii, \$400 cash or a DVD player  
6 tickets for \$5—available at City Hall and Lomita Park

### Drawing at 3 pm

Winners need not be present to win

Call 325-7110 for more information

In a cost saving effort, the Recreation Schedule of Classes and the Newline will now be mailed out together. This means that the Newline will be delivered about two weeks early and the last page "News from the Parks Department" has been eliminated.