

# The LAKE LOS ANGELES NEWS

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## Living Springs "Sparks of Love" continues...

By Sharon Toyne  
(Continued from last week)

Living Springs "Sparks of Love" at Christmas celebration shows the generosity of many people.

"The merchants are also very caring," Al Toyne said, "We had a hiccup this year though. We had all of these families signed up. We turned the names in to Toys for Tots via Stephen Sorensen Park by the deadline, the first week of December, but found out five days before our Toy Give-away, that Toys for Tots had not received our list.

We began to pray for a miracle! A big one came from the Sparks of Love Toy Drive in Los Angeles. They heard about our dilemma, and jumped right in to rescue us."

For 19 years, ABC7 and firefighters from Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties, along with the Los Angeles City Fire Department, have joined forces to run the Spark of Love Toy Drive. Their campaign collects new, unwrapped toys and sports equipment for the underserved children in communities like ours. The workers of the Spark of Love Toy Drive collect toys in the five counties and then distribute them locally.

Last year alone, Spark of Love collected over 500,000 toys within all five counties. The Los Angeles Firefighters ignited a spark of love in the children's hearts of Lake Los Angeles, there's no doubt about that! They donated 101 wonderful toys for the boys and girls in our small town. The church would like to personally thank those who made this happen: Ken Kondo, L.A. County Office of Emergency Management; Maria Melton, L.A. County Dept. of Children & Family Services; Teresa Samanigo and Darth Kemp of ABC7. "They displayed what Christmas is all about - Giving, peace and joy!" remarked Pastor Al.



Lake LA News photos by Sharon Toyne  
*Deborah Howard and Allison Mova have fun filling the bags with the donated toys from generous donors of the Spark of Love Toy Drive and local Lake L.A. residents.*



*The Living Spring workers took time for each child, making it very personal and exciting.*

*A joyful little boy (right) beams while holding his gift. Shown with him is his happy father.*



*May all be blessed during the new year 2012!*



*Pastor Sharon Toyne double-checks each gift for appropriate age and gender.*

## Metro and Caltrans announce public meetings for the proposed 63-mile High Desert Corridor

Four community update meetings are scheduled Jan. 24, 26, 31 and Feb. 1 in the Antelope Valley and Victor Valley. The Victorville meeting on Jan. 31 is scheduled to be streamed live on metro.net/HDC, making the meeting available for viewing and accessible for online public participation.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) are hosting four community update meetings for the High Desert Corridor (HDC) project.

The proposed 63-mile corridor under study to link Antelope Valley with Victor Valley is currently in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/EIR) preparation phase, which began in late 2010. The HDC project proposes construction of a new east-west freeway/ expressway linking State Route SR-14 in Los Angeles County with SR-18 in San Bernardino County.

**Lake Los Angeles:** Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2012, 6 - 8 p.m., Twin Lakes Community Church, 17213 Lake Los Angeles Ave., Palmdale, CA 93591

**Palmdale:** Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012, 6 - 8 p.m., Larry Chimbole Center, 38350 Sierra Highway, Palmdale, CA 93550

For those unable to attend a meeting in person, the Victorville meeting on Jan. 31 is scheduled to be streamed live on metro.net/HDC, making the meeting available for viewing and accessible for online public participation. Link directly at [www.ustream.tv/channel/metro-high-desert-corridor](http://www.ustream.tv/channel/metro-high-desert-corridor)

For additional background and information, a live webinar of a discussion on the status of the High Desert Corridor study presented Nov. 4 can be reviewed online at <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/18305407>.

## GOVERNOR NEEDS A NEW HORSE – NOT A NEW SADDLE FOR A DEAD HORSE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – Governor Brown, who has proposed a 7% increase in his FY 2012-13 budget, is once again asking voters for more tax increases when the state's economy remains stalled by already high taxes and slow growth.

"Threatening voters with draconian cuts in public safety and education if they don't approve his tax increases is a typical scare tactic used by bully politicians who have failed to initiate reforms and improve government efficiency," said Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

"The Governor fails to recognize that when you have a dead horse, you need a new horse -- not a new saddle," he added. "The Governor needs to tackle civil service reform and initiate structural reforms, not continue business as usual. Abuses in the antiquated civil service system are currently paying two prison doctors, Dr. Jeffery Rohfling and Dr. Radu Mischuu, who were responsible for inmate deaths, over half a million dollars a year just to sort mail and review files in storage. This is an outrage."

A sample of the vital structural reforms needed include:

- Consolidating Franchise Tax Board and the Board of Equalization to save \$100 million annually;
- Consolidating Medi-Cal, Calworks and Food Stamps to save \$4 billion, including \$1.5 billion in state general funds over five years;
- Biennial renewal of driver's licenses to save \$1.2 million;
- Cut the bloated California State University system bureaucracy which now has more administrators than full-time faculty. Between 1975 and 2008, the number of faculty members rose by 3% to 12,019 while the number of administrators rose 221% to 12,183;
- Implement a 2-year budget;
- Adopt a part-time legislature; and
- Repeal term limits.



## Lake LA Library



The Los Angeles County Library in Lake Los Angeles is a very active and pro-active library. One of the amenities of this community that unite us as one community is our lovely library. Check it out!

To check on future events: [www.colapublib.org/lib/lakelocalosangeles](http://www.colapublib.org/lib/lakelocalosangeles)  
Mary MacTaggart is our Community Library Manager.

**OUR HEROES STAY CONNECTED...**  
1st Lieut. Heather Frazier  
1st Lieut. Aaron Frazier  
SR Airman Jeffrey Toyne  
All active military personnel from Lake L.A., CA 93535, 93591 can receive a weekly electronic copy of LAKE LA eNEWS anywhere in the world by sending their name, email address, branch and discharge date to:  
[lakelanews@joycemediainc.com](mailto:lakelanews@joycemediainc.com)