

CITY OF MONTCLAIR

Montclair Civic Center
5111 Benito Street
Montclair, CA 91763

September 27, 2012

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Edward C. Starr, City Manager

SUBJECT: CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT: September 21-27, 2012

➤ **CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENTS**

- Last week, Governor Brown signed a major overhaul of the state's \$19 billion workers' compensation insurance program—SB 863. The bill is designed to reduce workers' compensation costs for California businesses and governments while increasing benefits to workers injured on the job. The Governor said statewide changes were needed because the cost of workers' compensation insurance has risen from \$14.8 billion to \$19 billion for California in the past two years. Supporters said by making the system more efficient and limiting litigation, SB 863 will save \$1 billion next year and allow increased payments to disabled workers. Opponents, including some chiropractors and attorneys for injured workers, argued that limiting litigation would mean fewer benefits for people who are unable to return to work.

Approved by the Legislature on the last night of this year's legislative session, SB 863 will increase benefits to permanently disabled workers by \$860 million a year while giving employers a break on insurance costs. Without the new law, members of the state insurance fund faced an 18 percent increase in workers' compensation insurance premiums.

The legislation makes substantial reforms to the century-old system in which businesses buy insurance or self-insure to provide medical care and compensation to workers who injure themselves or fall ill on the job. The bill changes how benefits are calculated for injured workers, creates a binding arbitration process to resolve coverage disputes, and eliminates coverage for conditions that most commonly lead to lawsuits, including insomnia and mental-health problems.

The measure also aims to prevent lawsuits by establishing a binding independent review system to resolve medical disputes and shortens the time line for approval of treatment from two years to three months.

Central components of the legislation include:

- ✓ Cost reductions achieved through tighter claims management
- ✓ Establishing reasonable, achievable time frames for claims resolution
- ✓ Creating a lien process that is accountable
- ✓ Stemming unnecessary "add-ons" to claims for sexual dysfunction, sleep disorders, and mental-health issues typically used to increase the permanent disability award
- ✓ Provide better access to care for injured workers
- ✓ Establish fee schedules and other cost-saving changes.

Many local governments, including Montclair, are self-insured for workers' compensation insurance and will realize minimal economic impact from the new law.

➤ **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

- On Monday afternoon, the Montclair Community Collaborative's 16th Anniversary celebration event, themed "Sweet 16—A Celebration of Collaboration," was held in the Council Chambers. The event was attended by more than 60 people including Mayor Paul M. Eaton, Council Member John Dutrey, Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, and San Bernardino County 4th District Supervisor Gary Ovitt.

In addition to an overview of MCC's accomplishments and a status update on MCC's strategic plan and various programs, the following organizations and individuals who have been instrumental in promoting MCC's mission were recognized: Peggy Cartwright of Chaffey College, Melanie Barbee of Western University of Health Sciences and Cal Poly Pomona, BMS Practice Solutions, and Assistance League-Operation School Bell.

A photo collage is included on Page 7.

- Yesterday was Montclair Day at the L.A. County Fair. City personnel from all departments proudly rode in the afternoon parade. Later, a celebration was held for Montclair's Community Heroes, City volunteers Ron Foss and Hollis Judkins. A photo collage is included on Page 8.

The Fair ends this Sunday. There is still time for to purchase discounted tickets from the Recreation facility and the Senior Center. Adult tickets are \$10 and child tickets (6-12 years old) are \$6. Children 5 and under are free. Tickets must be purchased with cash only.

➤ **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Officers Amanda Holloway and Andy Graziano assisted Serrano and Vernon Middle Schools with their second annual Bully Awareness Campaigns last week. Daily events held to reinforce the anti-bullying message included a flash mob by students on Wednesday at Montclair Plaza, attended by Ryan Hollins of the Los Angeles Clippers. To view Ryan's message on video, click on the following link: <http://www.nba.com/clippers/video/2012/09/25/HollinsAntiBully20120925mov-2227993>

Other activities included poster and essay contests and discussions regarding the lyrics of the song, *She's Falling*, written by 15-year-old Hayley Reardon in reaction to a victim of bullying.

To signify "We Stand United against Bullying," Vernon Middle School students formed a U. S. flag, and Serrano Middle School students held a U.S. flag and formed "Spartans for Peace."

Assemblies were held at both schools on Friday morning, September 21. Guest speakers and dignitaries included Mayor Paul Eaton, Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Raft, Council Member John Dutrey, Assembly Member Norma Torres, Police Chief Keith Jones, and Wendy Medina from the office of Senator Gloria McLeod. Special guest at both assemblies was Dennis Powell of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Photos are featured on Pages 9-11.

➤ **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- On Saturday, October 13 from 8:30 a.m. to noon, the Montclair Fire Department will host its Annual Open House and Pancake Breakfast at Fire Station No. 1, located at 8901 Monte Vista Avenue. The Montclair Fire Fighters Association will host the pancake breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at a cost of \$3 per plate. Guests will be invited to take a tour of the Fire Station and see the Firefighters in their "home away from home."

Fire apparatus will be on display as well as urban search and rescue equipment and emergency services equipment. Fire prevention information and demonstrations will be available to attendees, and various City and local services and product vendors will be on site. During the open house, guests will have the option of receiving fire safety training, having their

pictures taken with a Firefighter, and observing and experiencing a live auto extrication demonstration.

The Open House coincides with the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Fire Prevention Week. The NFPA annually sponsors a fire prevention campaign in October to stress the importance of fire safety education and to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. This year's theme, "Have 2 Ways out," focuses on home fire escape planning and having two ways out of every room.

Parking for attendees is available at the Police facility (located catercornered to Fire Station No. 1) at 4870 Arrow Highway.

A flier is included on Page 12.



➤ **PUBLIC WORKS/SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

- Now that back-to-school season has ended, retailers are gearing up for the holidays, which some analysts predict will be better than last year.

The Chicago-based company, ShopperTrak, which analyzes foot traffic as well as sales at the leading malls, expects U.S. retail traffic will climb 3.3 percent in November and December, with actual sales getting a 2.8 percent bump. ShopperTrak expects apparel to be especially strong, with sales rising 4 percent and foot traffic advancing 3.5 percent. However, the company believes things will not be as busy in the electronics aisles. An 8 percent decline in foot traffic is anticipated but sales will increase 1.5 percent, mainly due to online purchases.

While November and December typically account for 20 percent of annual retail sales, this year's calendar is providing stores with some lucky breaks including a 32-day long stretch between Black Friday and Christmas (providing for a few extra shopping weekends) and Hanukkah falls 11 days earlier this year.

ShopperTrak's prediction follows 34 of the past 35 months of the year over year U. S. retail sales growth, and is a more positive prediction than last year, when foot traffic declined 2.2 percent from the prior year. ShopperTrak founder Bill Martin writes, "Our shopper visit data tells us consumers are visiting more stores than last year. This influx of traffic will

present opportunities for retailers to convert these visitors into buyers, especially with the extended holiday season."

Let us hope this news translates into a great shopping season for Montclair's business community.

ECS:spa

*"Once in a while you have to take a
break and visit yourself."
~ Audrey Giorgi*

OCTOBER 2012



01	City Council Workshop Council Chambers	5:45 p.m.
01	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
03	Community Action Committee Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
05	Youth Talent Show Montclair Community Center	6:00 p.m.
08	Planning Commission Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
09	City Manager's Staff Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
15	Code Enforcement Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	6:00 p.m.
15	City Council Meeting Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
16	Human Services Division's Health Fair Montclair Community Center	9 a.m. - Noon
17	Candidates' Forum Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
18	Safety Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	9:00 a.m.
18	Public Works Committee Meeting City Hall Conference Room	2:00 p.m.
22	Planning Commission Meeting City Hall Conference Room	7:00 p.m.

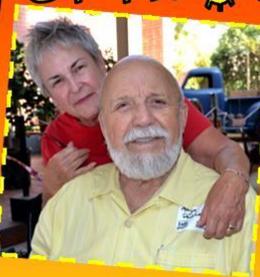


Montclair Community Collaborative 16th Anniversary Celebration



September 24, 2012

Montclair Day at the Fair



September 26, 2012

BULLY WEEK CAMPAIGN PHOTOS



Dennis Powell of the Los Angeles Dodgers with Serrano Middle School students



Serrano Middle School Spartans – Aerial photograph taken by Ontario Police Department Airship



Aerial photograph of Vernon Middle School students – "We Stand United against Bullying"

SERRANO SCHOOL ASSEMBLY



Seated, from left, are: Chief Keith Jones, Mayor Paul Eaton, OMSD Board Member Kris Blake, Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Raft, L.A. Dodger Dennis Powell, Assembly Member Norma Torres and rep Alfonso Altamirano, and Senator McLeod rep Rufino Bautista.

ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
HOSTED BY THE MONTCLAIR
FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
8:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
\$3.00 DONATION PER PERSON
DONATIONS BENEFIT A LOCAL CHARITY

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE
UNIT EXHIBIT

AUTO EXTRICATION DEMONSTRATION

FIRE APPARATUS DISPLAY

FIRE PREVENTION INFORMATION,
DISPLAYS, AND DEMONSTRATIONS

VARIOUS SERVICE/PRODUCT
VENDORS AND DISPLAYS

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS UNIT EXHIBIT

FREE PHOTOS FOR CHILDREN

STATION TOURS

MONTCLAIR FIRE DEPARTMENT

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 13, 2012

8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

8901 MONTE VISTA AVENUE

FOR MORE INFO. CALL: (909) 447-3540

PARKING AT POLICE STATION (4870 ARROW HWY.)



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND PARAMEDIC SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

No one likes to think they will need paramedic assistance or emergency services, but each year thousands of Montclair residents call 9-1-1 for medical help. By simply subscribing to the EMS Subscription Program, you will save as much as \$387 per visit for paramedic emergency responses. It is an easy way to protect yourself, your family, and employees from the unanticipated cost of emergencies, while helping to maintain the quality of the paramedic program in the City of Montclair. For more information about this program or to download an enrollment form, please visit: <http://www.cityofmontclair.org/depts/fire/ems/program.asp>.

