



STRAIGHT TALK *REPORTER*

Newsletter of the Straight Talk Television Show

www.StraightTalkTV.com

Volume 3 Number 5

September/October 2008

POLB To Hold Green Port Fest Open House October 4

The Port of Long Beach will be holding its **Green Port Fest '08 Open House** on **Saturday, October 4** from 10am to 3pm at the Port Administration Building. The Greater Long Beach community is invited to participate and come see the Port and how it operates.

Festivities will feature **boat and train tours, exhibits and displays, food treats, entertainment** and more. And it's all free! Last year, more than 5,000 people attended this annual celebration of the Port's commitment to the environment and the community.

Highlights of the Green Port Fest Open House include:



- **Boat trips** scheduled every hour will take passengers on tours of the Port of Long Beach.
- **Free train tours** will depart from a special station throughout the day. Hop aboard a Metro-link rail car and see how cargo moves by train into and out of the Port.
- **Interactive displays** will show how the Port protects wildlife, reduces air pollution and improves security.
- Check out **security equipment**, patrol boats, robot demonstrations and canine partners. Meet officers from the Port Harbor Patrol, U.S. Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection who protect the Port.

(Continued on Page 3)

Long Beach Marathon To Include CSULB Campus



Dr. F. King Alexander is President of California State University, Long Beach.

More than 18,000 runners, walkers and cyclists are expected to compete in the **24th Annual Long Beach International City Bank Marathon** events to be held on **Sunday, October 12, 2008.**

The course for the marathon, nationally known for its scenic mix of oceanside views and city landmarks, has been enhanced this year with the addition of the picturesque campus of California State University, Long Beach.

The university has exciting plans to have their cheerleaders, the pep band, and the school's mascot welcome runners as they enter the campus. Bands, athletic teams, Greek organizations and student groups will line the course and cheer, with the school awarding prizes to the groups showing the most spirit.

CSULB President **F. King Alexander** said, "Cal State Long Beach has a tradition of being a place where people come to test their skills and to strive to do the best they can. Our university is very excited to host those who will be participating in the Long Beach International City Bank Marathon. We promise them a beautiful location every step of their way

(Continued on Page 5)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **Assembly Candidates on Show**
- **Guest Column by Jim Hankla**
- **Sy Hersh Coming to CSULB**
- **Summer Fun Photo Spread**
- **Guest Column by Mayor Foster**
- **Palm Springs Follies**



(See Page 10)

Pub. Note: With this issue the *Reporter* expands to 12 pages, including 4 new pages of color. Thank you for your support.

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Port (continued from page 1)

- Get a **hands-on look** at sea anemones, starfish, sharks and other sea life at the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific's touch-tank.
- See **heavy equipment** such as the giant "top picks" and "yard hostlers" used to move cargo around Port terminals.

The **Entertainment Stage** will feature the best of local Long Beach entertainment, including music, dancing and other performances throughout the day.

Children can visit the **Arts and Crafts Activity Center**, the Bounce House and Slide, or sit for a face painting.

Parking is free at the Queen Mary. Shuttle buses, running throughout the day, will take visitors from the Queen Mary parking site to Green Port Fest. For more information about Green Port Fest '08 visit www.polb.com/portfest or call (562) 590-4121.

James C. Hankla

James C. Hankla is President of the Board of Harbor Com-

missioners. He was appointed to a six-year term on the Board in 2003, and is now serving his second one-year term as President. In that capacity, he presides over the Commission's weekly Board meetings, makes committee appointments and acts as chief spokesperson for the Port. He has championed the Port's Green Port Policy, a model for sea-ports around the world, and led the development of a Clean Air Action Plan which was adopted jointly with the Port of Los Angeles.



Before coming to the Port, Mr. Hankla served as Long Beach City Manager for 12 years, and then headed the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, completing the \$2.4 billion rail project on time and on budget.

He has received many professional and community honors and served on numerous boards, including International City Theatre, the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific and the Boy Scouts.

Jim Hankla will be our guest on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of September 14 & 21. Also, see his Guest Column on the next page.

Assembly Candidates on Straight Talk



Bonnie Lowenthal
Democratic Candidate
for Assembly, 54th A.D.

The two candidates competing for the open 54th Assembly District seat will make a joint appearance on the Straight Talk show airing in Long Beach on **Sunday, October 12 at 7pm** on Charter Cable Channel 3. The show will repeat Wednesday and Thursday at 7pm.

Democrat **Bonnie Lowenthal** and Republican **Gabriella Holt** will join host **Art Levine** to discuss the issues facing the district and the state. Each candidate will have the opportunity to make an opening and closing statement as well as to ask a question of the other.

The 54th Assembly District embraces most of the city of Long Beach, all of Signal Hill, San Pedro, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Es-

tates and Catalina. The seat is open because the incumbent has been termed out.

Gabriella Holt
Republican Candidate
for Assembly, 54th A.D.



Due to extreme gerrymandering, very few Assembly or State Senate seats in California are competitive. Most are "safe" for either the Democrat or the Republican.

The 54th A.D. is one of the few districts where, despite a modest Democratic registration advantage, both candidates have a realistic opportunity of winning. The seat has been held by both a Democrat (the incumbent, **Betty Karnette**) and a Republican (**Steve Kuykendahl**).

Bonnie Lowenthal and Gabriella Holt will be our guests on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of October 12 & 19.

Thought of the Month

In matters of principle, stand like a rock. In matters of taste, swim with the current.
—Thomas Jefferson



A Green Port for Long Beach

by

James C. Hankla

President, Board of Harbor Commissioners

In January 2005, the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners, a five-member appointed commission that oversees the Port of Long Beach, made a bold promise to the Long Beach community -- the landmark **Green Port Policy**.

Our charge was to **dramatically reduce port-related environmental impacts** while maintaining the economic benefits of international trade in the community. The Green Port Policy provided that framework, defining an aggressive ethic of environmental protection and sustainability in every aspect of our operations.

Today, three years later, the Green Port Policy has established the Port of Long Beach as a **worldwide leader** in the seaport environmental movement. We have harnessed imagination, cooperation and technological innovation to make this happen.

Imagination came first. The Commission and Port staff worked together, in partnership with such agencies as the Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Board and South Coast Air Quality Management District, to envision a future where the Port's impact on the environment would be dramatically reduced and in some cases eliminated. Looking ahead to the future was a key component of the groundbreaking **Clean Air Action Plan**, a joint program to cut air pollution from all port sources by 50 percent by 2012.

Cooperation came next. The Port of Long Beach works with hundreds, if not thousands of business interests, and we depend on their cooperation to achieve environmental results. To give one example of this, we instituted the "Green Flag" program, which rewards oceangoing vessels for reducing their speeds (and

thus their emissions) while in the harbor area. The Green Flag program has achieved about 95 percent participation by shipping lines and is reducing air pollution from visiting ships by nearly 600 tons a year. In addition, the Port has signed "Green Leases" with some terminal operators that require environmental improvements such as electrical power for ships at berth -- requiring ships to shut down their diesel-fueled engines. We've pushed for tougher federal and state laws, such as the California Air Resources Board's newly adopted mandate that all ships use cleaner, low-sulfur fuels in their main and auxiliary engines starting next year.

Technological Innovation followed. Our shipping terminals have already cut pollution from yard tractors by 50 percent through the use of cleaner technologies and fuels. Through our new Clean Trucks Program, we are offering generous subsidies for truck drivers to buy or lease alternative fuel or clean diesel trucks that are 80 percent cleaner than trucks on the road today. We are the testing ground for tomorrow's technologies, such as a "bonnet" system to capture and treat pollution from ships' smokestacks. We're helping to fund new innovations such as the world's first hybrid tugboat. And we're now considering a zero-pollution magnetic levitation ("maglev") train system to shuttle cargo between the Port and near-dock railheads.

I'd like you to come see all this for yourself -- at our October 4, **2008 Green Port Fest**. Once a year the Port rolls out a "green" carpet for the Long Beach community -- a free, family event where we open our doors to showcase and explain everything we're doing to improve the environment as we support the economy while improving the quality of life for all of us.

Seymour Hersh To Be 2008 CSULB Distinguished Speaker

Pulitzer Prize winning journalist **Seymour Hersh** will be the 2008 CSULB Distinguished Speaker. Mr. Hersh will give his address on **Wednesday, October 15, 2008** at 2pm at the **Carpenter Performing Center** on the CSULB campus.

The address will be preceded by a **Sponsor Reception and Luncheon** at The Pointe at the Walter Pyramid starting at 11:30am.

Professor **Art Levine**, founder and director of the Distinguished Speaker Series said, "We are delighted to have as our second CSULB Distinguished Speaker a man of the caliber and reputation of Sy Hersh. Students, faculty, staff and members of the community will have the opportunity to hear one

of the great investigative journalists of our generation."

Hersh recently wrote a cover story in the New Yorker Magazine about possible Bush Administration plans to attack Iran. A former reporter for the New York Times, he has published seven books and been the recipient of numerous awards, including **The National Book Critic Circle Award**.

Tickets for the Distinguished Speaker Series program are \$40 with advance purchase (\$45 at the door). Sponsor Tickets, which include the luncheon and preferred seating at the address, are \$100 each and Sponsor Tables of 10 are \$1000. For further information or to purchase tickets call **(562) 985-5673** or email **alevine@csulb.edu**.

Marathon (continued from page 1)

through our campus, and our students and others will make sure to let them know they're welcome."

This year's event includes a **Full-Marathon**, **Half-Marathon**, recreational **Marathon Bike Tour**, the **Run Forrest Run 5K** and the **Kids 1 Mile Fun Run**. All participants will receive an event t-shirt and a race goodie-bag. Finishers in the Marathon, Half Marathon, and Bike Tour will also receive a commemorative Finishers Medal. In a continuing tradition, wheelchair and handcycle participants can compete in the full marathon.

A two-day **Health & Fitness Expo** will be held in connection with the race at the Long Beach Convention Center on **Friday, October 10** from noon to 7pm and **Saturday, October 11** from 9am to 6pm. More than 100 exhibitors will highlight the latest in the running, health and fitness industry. Admission is free.

All athletes are required to attend the Expo to pick up their race packets and to register for any of the marathon events. There is **no race-day registration** or packet pickup.

On race day, the **Michelob Ultra Finish Line Festival** will take place on the Marina Green at Shoreline Drive. The Festival will feature **live music, food and fun**, and is a gathering place and viewing area for friends, family and guests of all participants. More than 30,000 fans are expected. The Festival is free to the public.

The marathon is run by **International City Racing** whose principals are **Bob Seagren**, an Olympic gold medalist and **John Parks**. ICR specializes exclusively in the development, management and implementation of endurance, health and fitness events.



The Title Sponsor for the marathon is **International City Bank**. Founded in 1984, ICB is a full service banking institution serving the needs of the Long Beach community. Services include commercial lending, cash management, business deposit services and a full range of business banking products.

For more information about the Long Beach International City Bank Marathon, call **(562) 427-4606** or visit www.runlongbeach.com.

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Straight Talk Host/Executive Producer **Art Levine** and Producer/Director **Ron Petke** await the arrival of some 60 guests for the Straight Talk Night at the Armada Baseball Game. As you can see, Ron is an avid reader of the Straight Talk Reporter.



Art, pictured with the Armada Mascot "Arby," after throwing out the first pitch at the Armada Baseball Game against the Calgary Vipers at Blair Field on Friday, July 25.



Long Beach Mounted Police members (l. to r.) **Mary Lou Ballentine, Jim Griffin, Mary Vineyard, Wayne Meeks** and **Andy Vineyard** are pictured with their First Place Award from the Calgary Stampede. They were honored later by Long Beach Mayor **Bob Foster** and Vice Mayor **Val Lerch** in front of an enthusiastic crowd at Blair Field attending the Straight Talk Night at the Armada Game.



The Long Beach Mounted Police and their golden palomino horses stand at attention with the Colors for the playing of the Canadian and American National Anthems at the Armada Baseball Game against the Calgary Vipers.



The half-million dollar AquaLink hydrofoil takes residents and visitors for a great 20 minute boat ride from Alamitos Bay to the Queen Mary to Rainbow Harbor for a modest \$3 fare.



The Elm Street Band performs at the wonderful Concerts in the Grove series at CSULB, sponsored by the 49er Alumni Association.



Taryn Waters relaxes in the Lifeguard Chair during the “up to two hours” wait for Sunday brunch at Schooner or Later, the popular waterfront restaurant facing picturesque Alamitos Bay.



Tom Harmon (center) and the Fifth Wheel Bluegrass Band brings smiles to the faces of shoppers at the Farmers Market, held every Sunday from 9am to 1pm at Alamitos Bay.



Julie Meraz, Nancy Zaby, and Cat Kerdoon enjoy a Sunday sunset on the patio at McKenna’s on the Bay, with musical entertainment as an added bonus.



Joe Campbell and Hal Ratliff play Sunday evenings at McKenna’s on the Bay. Their classic rock n’ roll music, combined with a beautiful setting, attracts a loyal and enthusiastic audience.



USC starting quarterback **Mark Sanchez** (center) pictured with (l. to r.) **Charlie Grantham, Diane Coles, Jim Ware** and **Art Levine** at Trani’s Restaurant.



Football great **Jeff Severson** and his Singing Safety Band entertain a Sunday afternoon crowd at Buster’s Beach House with their lively country western music.

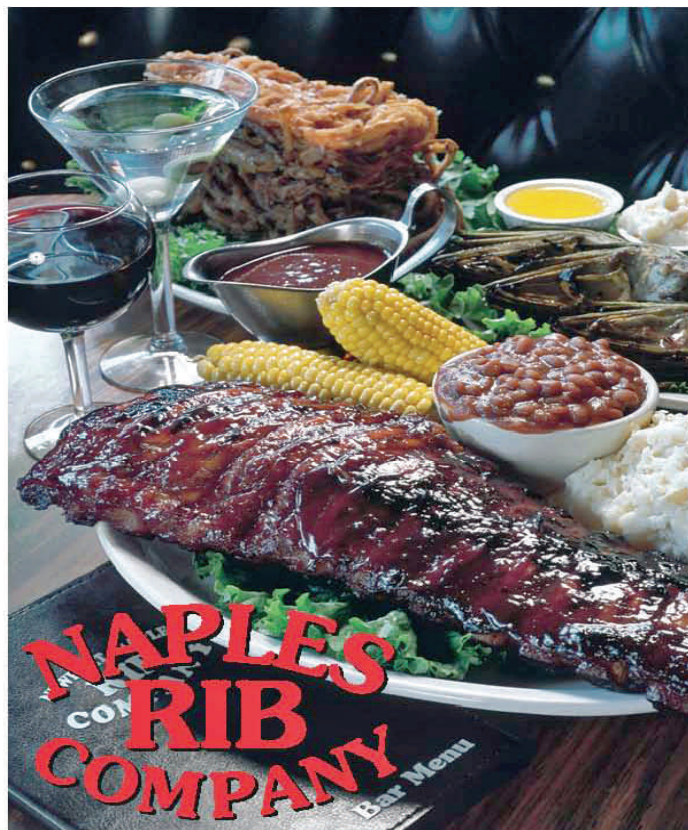


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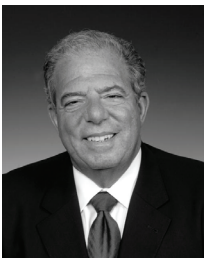
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Investing in Our City

by
Bob Foster
Mayor, City of Long Beach

Long Beach has more than 400 miles of streets in disrepair – that's the distance between Long Beach and San Francisco. Every day we wait it gets more expensive -- and if we don't act soon, we may never be able to catch up. It's like the old TV commercial: "Pay me now, or pay me later." On November 4th, Long Beach voters will have the opportunity to invest in our City by **voting yes** on the **Infrastructure Investment Act**.

Long Beach residents know that our infrastructure problems are not just confined to streets, but include aging libraries and community centers, overflowing storm drains, inadequate police and firefighter facilities and crumbling sidewalks.

City staff, along with independent advisors, completed a full assessment of Long Beach's infrastructure needs. They found that the City has an unmet need of **\$57 million per year**, or approximately \$571 million over the next 10 years.

On November 4th, voters can enact a **special parcel tax** that would be dedicated to funding our infrastructure needs. The tax would amount to **\$120 per year** for all single-family residences, and would be dedicated to pay only for infrastructure improvements. Senior and disabled residents would be exempt from the tax. To become law, this ballot measure needs to be approved by 2/3 of Long Beach voters.

The ballot measure would address our needs all across the City, and every area of Long Beach will receive a significant benefit.

Here's what residents of Long Beach will get for their money:

- Repair or replacement of 400 miles of streets, 163 miles of sidewalks and 75 miles of alleyways;

- Construction or rehabilitation of 28 fire stations, a police substation and academy, 4 health facilities, 35 community centers, 3 parks, 7 libraries and a main library;
- Improvement of water quality by upgrading more than 28 miles of storm drains and 3,000 catch basins;
- Acquisition and/or restoration of wetlands and open space.

It's important to remember that under state law special taxes like the one proposed by the Infrastructure Investment Act can be used **only** for specific purposes. *This special parcel tax would be dedicated exclusively to infrastructure.* Future Mayors or City Councils would be unable to use the funds for purposes unrelated to infrastructure. The Infrastructure Investment Act also creates a *Citizens Oversight Committee* to set priorities for projects, and is subject to annual independent audits by the City Auditor.

My experience in the public and private sectors has taught me that no organization can thrive without investment. Much of the infrastructure we use today was built by the "Greatest Generation," and it is now time for our City to again make that kind of dramatic investment.

Please join me, former Governor George Deukmejian and the Long Beach Firefighters Association in **support of the Infrastructure Investment Act on the November 4th ballot**, so our City can finally invest in itself and address this critical issue in a direct and comprehensive manner. **I need your help to build the Long Beach of tomorrow.**

Mayor Foster will be our guest on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of September 28 & October 5.

Straight Talk Reporter

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Palm Springs Follies To Open 18th Season

The Fabulous Palm Springs Follies will open their 18th season on **October 28, 2008** in the historic **Plaza Theater** in downtown Palm Springs, with the show running through May 17, 2009.

The Follies celebrate the music and dance of the 30's, 40's and 50's, with a **cast ranging in age from 56 to 85 years "young."** The show features lavish Broadway caliber production numbers and plays five days a week. The Follies are famous for their **legendary line of long-legged lovelies** and for their unparalleled Impresario, **Riff Markowitz.**

The theme of this season's extravaganza is **"Get Your Kicks,"** and it will travel down Route 66 via music, dance and comedy. Known variously as "The Main Street of America" and "The Will Rogers Highway," the famed highway embodies the legend and lore of the early to mid-20th century American experience.

The Follies also feature unusual variety acts from around the globe. This year's show includes **Irina Markova** and her Russian canines, and an encore engagement of everyone's favorite ventriloquist, **Mr. Sammy King** and his funny

feathered friend, "Francisco."

In addition, various stars will join the show during different parts of the season:

- **Freda Payne**, the hit songstress will perform her million-selling *Band of Gold* October 28 - December 31, 2008.
- **Susan Anton** the "Muriel Cigar Girl" who gained stardom in film, Las Vegas showrooms and the Broadway musical stage will appear January 7 - March 7, 2009 and again May 13 - May 17, 2009.
- **John Davidson**, the multi-talented actor who starred in Broadway's *State Fair* and hosted such hit TV shows as *That's Incredible* and *Hollywood Squares* appears March 10 - May 9, 2009.



You will never forget your **"Night at the Follies,"** which is why more than 3 million guests have seen the show over the past 17 years.

For tickets or further information call the Box Office at **(760) 327-0225** (beginning September 22) or go to www.psfollies.com.

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The Port of
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