



MARCH 2016

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

L.A. County Helps Launch 100K Opportunities

An Initiative to Employ L.A. County's Youth

The 100,000 (100K) Opportunities Initiative, a coalition of more than 30 top U.S. companies including FedEx, Nordstrom, Papa John's, Pizza Hut, Starbucks, Sprinkles, Taco Bell, Target, TOMS, Walmart, and more, kicked off a long-term effort to connect Los Angeles County's more than 200,000 youth ages 16-24, who are disconnected from school and employment, to meaningful job opportunities and resources. The employer coalition partnered with more than 30 government and community-based organizations, including L.A. County, the City of Los Angeles, the Alliance for Children's Rights & Los Angeles Opportunity Youth Collaborative, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, UNITE-LA, Los Angeles Unified School District, and Leaders Up, to bring this one-of-a-kind Opportunity Fair and Forum to the Los Angeles Convention Center on February 11, 2016.

Since launching in August 2015, the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative has partnered with local government and community-based organizations to develop similar events in Chicago and Phoenix. The 100,000 Opportunities Initiative plans to hire at least 100,000 Opportunity Youth nationwide by 2018.



The Los Angeles Opportunity Fair and Forum brought together nearly 4,000 youth to interview with more than 30 leading employers, practice their interview skills, learn to build a compelling resume, connect with a range of social services, obtain information to further their education, and receive coaching on the completion of their job applications. Companies made over 1,000 job offers on the spot, which was almost as many as the events in Chicago and Phoenix combined.

Supervisor Knabe attended the 100K Opportunity Fair and Forum, where he met with attendees and conducted mock interviews with youth. "From mock interviews and on-site job training to free make-overs and dress clothes, and the on-the-spot hiring, the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative's youth job fair was one of the most incredible events I have ever attended," said Supervisor Knabe. "Helping our youth find employment is one of my top priorities, and I was proud to meet so many kids walking out of their interviews with multiple job offers."

The event also reflected a robust collaboration among multiple County departments. Community and Senior Services was joined by the Department of Human Resources, Department of Children and Family Services, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, Department of Public Social Services, and the Office of the Public Defender in providing information, resources, and

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Calendar of Events

Los Angeles County Museum of Art

(323) 857-6010

www.lacma.org

Through March 20 – Frank Gehry

Through July 31 – Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Medium

Through May 29 – Japanese Paintings: Figures from Life, Figures from Allegory

Center Theatre Group

(213) 628-2772

www.centertheatregroup.org

Ahmanson Theatre

Through May 1 – A Gentleman’s Guide to Love & Murder

Kirk Douglas Theatre

Through April 3 – Women Laughing Alone with Salad

Mark Taper Forum

April 5 through May 15 – Father Comes Home from the Wars

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Through April 3 – Madame Butterfly

April 15 through April 17 – Complexions Contemporary Ballet

June 17 through June 19 – Compagnie Kafig

Grand Park

www.grandparkla.org

(213) 972-8080

April 16 – LAUSD Grand Arts Festival

April 22 – Earth Day LA

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday – Lunchtime Lunch Trucks

Every Wednesday and Friday – Lunchtime Yoga

Walt Disney Concert Hall

www.laphil.com

(323) 850-2000

March 30 – Music 101 The Spark: Musical Ideas

March 31 through April 2 – From Bach to Schubert

April 1 – Mack Avenue Superband

April 3 – Organ Recital: Thomas Trotter

Visit <http://hr.lacounty.gov> for information on employment opportunities with the County of Los Angeles



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Check out the DIGEST at
<http://hr.lacounty.gov/county-digest/>



*by Christopher Metchnikoff, M.D.
Physician Specialist, Internal Medicine
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center*

A Healthy Mouthful

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Healthy People 2020 initiative to improve the health of all Americans, here is why you need to remember to brush and floss your teeth and visit your dentist regularly.

- Oral diseases ranging from dental caries (cavities) to oral cancers cause pain and disability for millions of Americans.
- The impact of these diseases does not stop at the mouth and teeth.
- A growing body of evidence has linked oral health, particularly periodontal (gum) disease, to several chronic diseases, including diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.
- In pregnant women, poor oral health has also been associated with premature births and low birth weight.
- These conditions may be prevented in part with regular visits to the dentist.
- In 2007, only 44.5% (age adjusted) of people age two and older had a dental visit in the past 12 months, a rate that has remained essentially unchanged over the past decade.

Health Impact of Oral Health

Oral health is an essential part of staying healthy.

- Good oral health allows a person to speak, smile, smell, taste, touch, chew, swallow, and make facial expressions to show feelings and emotions.
- Poor oral health has serious consequences, including painful, disabling, and costly oral diseases.
- Millions of Americans are living with one or more oral diseases, including dental caries (cavities); periodontal (gum) disease; cleft lip and palate; oral and facial pain; and oral and pharyngeal (mouth and throat) cancers.
- Gum disease, in particular, is associated with diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.
- In pregnant women, gum disease is also associated with premature births and low birth weight.

- Many of these oral diseases may be prevented with regular dental care.

Understanding Oral Health

Good self-care, such as brushing with fluoride toothpaste, daily flossing, and professional treatment, is key to good oral health.

- Health behaviors that can lead to poor oral health include tobacco use, excessive alcohol use, and poor dietary choices.
- Barriers that can limit a person’s use of preventive interventions and treatments include limited access to and availability of dental services, lack of awareness of the need for care, cost, and fear of dental procedures.

For more information, including a list of low-cost dental centers located throughout Los Angeles County, please visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ohp/ppplistsings.htm>.

Lancaster Boasts County Public Library’s First Career Online HS Graduate

Congratulations to Kevin Gallarzo, 20, of Lancaster for graduating from high school through the County Public Library. Gallarzo completed this educational milestone using the Library’s Career Online High School services. To celebrate, a graduation ceremony was held for him at Lancaster Library. Barbara Custen, Assistant Director of Public Services, presented Gallarzo with an official high school diploma. Library Commissioner Waymon Roy made formal remarks. Richard Groom, Staff Assistant to Fifth District Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, presented Gallarzo with a signed scroll from the Board of Supervisors. Gallarzo has decided to continue his education and enrolled at his local community college in February. Congratulations, Kevin!

To learn more about Career Online High School and other learning opportunities offered by the County Public Library, visit colapublib.org.



I Found a Baby Wild Animal, What Do I Do?

Department of Animal Care and Control

Let's examine a scenario: You are walking your dog and he pulls you to a bush. You bend down to see what he is sniffing and find a baby opossum. Now, what do you do? This article will discuss the do's and don'ts of wild animal handling.



It's baby season! You are likely to find young or baby birds, opossums, raccoons, squirrels, and other wild animals in the next few months as this is the baby season. Wild animal mothers like to hide their babies in burrows, nests, bushes, or hideaways to keep them safe from predators. These hideouts may include your home and the land around it.

It's a myth that wild animals will abandon their young if human scent is on them; however, minimize handling of wild animals for the following reasons:

- Wild animals aren't used to humans and can be very stressed in our hands.
- Our natural oils can damage the animal's feathers or hair coat, making it difficult for them to fly or keep dry.
- Many wild birds are small and fragile. Even when we are gentle, it's easy to accidentally harm them.

"But the wild baby has been left alone for some time..."

- Some wild animal mothers will leave their young for up to 24 hours while they hunt for food.
- Wild baby birds learning to fly will fall from their nest. Rarely do these birds need to be rescued as mom will help them in this lesson.

If you need to move the baby wild animal:

- You can prepare a small cardboard box with some newspaper or tissue and hang it in a tree or hide it in a bush.
- If the animal is in a high traffic area, moving the animal to a neighboring bush or tree is recommended.
- Do not feed the animal unless advised by a professional. This could damage their intestinal tract or cause unnecessary trauma.

Ultimately, the take-home message is to leave the wild animal alone. The best chance of a wild animal surviving is with their mother. When bringing a wild baby animal to a shelter or rehabilitation facility, their chance of survival is decreased. Mother teaches the wild animal lessons in life that cannot be taught by humans. If at all concerned, feel free to contact your local L.A. County Animal Care center or Wildlife rehabilitation center for assistance.

A Very Special Retirement



Who's a good boy? Tahoe's been a good boy as part of the Agricultural Commissioner's Detector Dog Program. Like all dogs in participating California counties, Tahoe was rescued. After being screened and trained, including training with Inspector II Rogelio Carranza, Tahoe went to work among air cargo and checking shipments and parcels on sorting belts and

in trucks, sniffing out fruits, vegetables, and other plant material being improperly and illegally shipped. He has

helped the Commissioner's Pest Exclusion Division staff in their mission to intercept exotic insects and other invertebrate animals, invasive weeds, and plant diseases harmful to everything from residential gardens to commercial agriculture.

Tahoe was adopted on March 1, 2016 by a woman named Cathy who knows Tahoe and Inspector Carranza from working at a shipping facility. Her family was heartbroken when their black Labrador died in June 2015. Her husband is permanently disabled, and he, Cathy, their 6-year-old child, and a 7-year-old Labrador will be plenty of company for Tahoe as he enjoys his retirement inside their house with doggie-door access to the backyard.

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services for the youth in attendance. Additionally, over 200 participants registered to vote at the available voter registration booth.

Supervisor Don Knabe commended the 100,000 Opportunities Initiative and participating County departments at the February 9 Board of Supervisors meeting, where he presented Starbucks and LeadersUp with 5-signature scrolls. The Board approved a motion on February 9 introduced by Supervisor Knabe declaring February 2016 as LeadersUp Month and launching the First 100 Initiative, which will utilize existing federal and local youth jobs resources to subsidize the first 100 work hours for youth internships.

CSS will implement the First 100 Initiative as part of its L.A. County Youth Jobs Program, which is on track to provide employment opportunities for 12,000 youth this year, through a collaboration between the Board of Supervisors, diverse County departments, the City of Los Angeles, seven L.A. County Workforce Development Boards, and countless public and private sector employers.

“The 100K Opportunities Fair and Forum on February 11 was a huge success. It is extremely rewarding to see our County’s future leaders take advantage of the myriad resources presented to them at the event. This event has created relationships with dozens of employers and has increased our momentum towards upcoming programs and events that will provide even more job opportunities for youth,” stated Cynthia Banks, Director of the Department of Community and Senior Services.

The Opportunity Fair and Forum initiated positive relationships with dozens of employers that will allow CSS to coordinate similar events moving forward. CSS will build on the momentum generated by this event to provide additional employment, training, and support services to L.A. County’s opportunity youth, in collaboration with the Board of Supervisors, diverse County departments, and numerous external partners.

Working for You

Department of Public Health

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable deaths and disease, including heart disease, emphysema, and many forms of cancer in the U.S. Although we have made progress to reduce the rates of smoking, more than one million adults continue to smoke and approximately 9,000 lives are lost each year in Los Angeles County as a result of smoking-related disease. As we continue to move toward tobacco-free communities in L.A. County, there are several things that we can do together:

- Prevent youth from using tobacco.
- Help current tobacco users who want to quit.
- Protect everyone from secondhand smoke where they work, live and play.

March 18 is Kick Butts Day, a national day of activism that empowers youth to resist tobacco marketing and stay tobacco-free. While traditionally aimed at youth, this day is also a great opportunity to support adults who want to quit smoking. If you, a family member, or a friend want to take that first step, you can get help from the California Smoker’s Helpline at 1-800-NO-BUTTS (1-800-662-8887) or the Department of Public Health sponsored web resource www.laquits.com. In addition, Public Health’s Tobacco Control and Prevention Program works on a number of initiatives to promote and support policies that reduce the availability of tobacco products to adolescents and seeks to reinforce social norms that discourage smoking among adolescents and young adults.

Public Health offers the following tips on living tobacco free:

- Prepare a quit plan to keep you focused and motivated.
- Learn how to handle cravings. Identifying triggers can help you manage and control the urge to smoke.
- Ask your friends and family to support you while you quit smoking.
- Know the benefits of quitting for you, your family, friends and coworkers.

For more information please visit us online at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

46th Annual Blue Ribbon Children's Festival

Simultaneous Outdoor Hip-Hop Dance on The Music Center Plaza

More than 18,000 fifth graders from all over Los Angeles County participated in the 46th Annual Blue Ribbon Children's Festival with a simultaneous performance of a Hip-Hop dance on The Music Center Plaza. The Festival, California's longest-continuing free arts education program, provides students with the opportunity to attend a live performance at The Music Center for free and then perform a special piece choreographed just for them. For many students, the Festival is their first opportunity to experience a live performing arts event.

The Festival is presented by The Blue Ribbon of the Music Center, the premier women's support organization of The Music Center. Founded by Dorothy Chandler in 1968, The Blue Ribbon is committed to giving students access to the best of the performing arts from a young age.

Participating schools receive curriculum materials, background on the performing companies, and classroom activities to help prepare students for the performance. Educators teach their students about audience etiquette, what to watch for during

the performance, history and terminology, as well as the choreography for their dance performance. This year, students explored the history of Hip-Hop culture, learning how it evolved with influences not only from the East and West Coasts, but also from many different ethnic groups in the U.S. Students saw music and dance performances in the iconic Dorothy Chandler Pavilion by both Black Violin and Rennie Harris RHAW.

According to Julie Goldsmith, president of The Blue Ribbon, the totality of the Festival is key to its impact. "From engaging in the curriculum and their in-classroom rehearsals, to witnessing a live performance and performing themselves, children who participate in The Blue Ribbon Children's Festival are tremendously enriched by their deep dive into the arts. Despite the roller coaster ride that arts and music programs have experienced in schools over the years, we have remained steadfast, opening the eyes of more than 830,000 students in Los Angeles to the power of the performing arts."





Share Your Heart Share Your Home

*Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent
Department of Children and Family Services*

Two Brothers in Need of Their Happily Ever After

Even though St. Patrick's Day is over, we have two brothers looking for their very own pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Meet Michael age 10 and Ezra age nine, two wonderful boys in search of their forever family. Michael and Ezra are handsome young men of French Canadian and Caribbean descent. Both are active, athletic and outdoor-enthusiasts. They both love to ride skateboards, play video games, and go to the beach. Michael is the oldest and has been described as "wise beyond his years." His caregivers state that he is more like an adult than a child and this is probably due to his early neglect in life. He is somewhat of a night owl but his foster family has been working on establishing a new routine for Michael. Michael loves going to Starbucks for a treat and loves to earn money. He is quite the little business man, doing chores and other odd jobs to save up for things he wants. Ezra is the charming and personable little brother. He is a loving boy who likes to give and receive affection. He is described as helpful and very funny. He also loves to play football and hopes to someday play in a league. Opposite of his brother, he loves to be the first one up to start the day! These brothers are in search of their forever family. Can it be yours? Call (888) 811-1121 to learn more about adopting these brothers today.



Photo: Lauren Marsolier

DHR's Wellness Corner

Bringing you inspiration from around the County

Healthy Goals, Healthier Lifestyles

By Lisa Rose (Parks and Recreation)

The Countywide Fitness Challenge has encouraged me to attain to my goal to become a healthier person and lead a healthier lifestyle. My family and I enjoy walking and bike riding as a part of these healthy goals. We have participated in the Fitness Challenge for the last five years. These weekend activities are varied and fun and the enthusiasm shared by employees and their families is motivating. I was team captain for our work place team, "We Jiggle When We Giggle." We also started a walking group that uses our break or lunch time to complete a one- or two-mile track around our maintenance yard.

This past year, I have dropped 10 pounds and feel better than ever. What a difference! I achieved this goal mostly by bringing my own lunches to work and having tea instead of sodas. I still allow myself a treat of Dr. Pepper or A&W Root Beer when out with my friends and family, but I try to limit foods that have low nutritional value and too much sugar.

I feel better, more fit, and more energetic thanks to these lifestyle changes and the motivational encouragement from the Countywide Fitness Challenge. My family is eating better and living a healthier lifestyle. Keep these programs coming.



Lisa Rose (right) and her family.



Brush clearance improves the chances that a structure will survive a wildfire.

Are You Ready for Wildfire?

Los Angeles County is a beautiful place to live, but it doesn't come without risks. Fire is, and always has been, a natural part of this landscape. Fire season is year-round, requiring firefighters and residents to constantly be on alert for the threat of wildfires. Wildfires are often fueled by dry vegetation and driven by hot, dry Santa Ana winds, making them extremely dangerous and impossible to control.

The Ready! Set! Go! program teaches individuals who live in high-risk wildfire areas how to best prepare themselves and their properties against fire threats.

The Ready! Set! Go! program has three components:

- 1. Ready:** Be ready. Take personal responsibility and prepare so your home is ready in case of a fire.
 - Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home.
 - Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home with fire-safe construction measures.
 - Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe place.
 - Plan an escape route. Make sure you and you loved ones are familiar with the route.

- 2. Set:** Situational awareness. Pack your emergency items, and keep up-to-date with information on any fires from the Fire Department and local news media.
- 3. Go:** Act early! Follow your Personal Wildfire Action Plan.
 - Doing so will not only help keep you safe, but it will allow firefighters to best maneuver resources to combat the fire.

The Fire Department encourages residents to take personal responsibility for preparing their property and family for wildland fires. For more information on Ready! Set! Go! and to develop your Personal Wildfire Action Plan, visit fire.lacounty.gov.

QPC in DC



Third District Quality and Productivity Commissioner Shawn Landres, left, confers with David Wilkinson, White House Director of the Office of Social Innovation and Civic Partnerships, during a recent visit to Washington, D.C. Landres discussed the County's Annual Leadership Conference scheduled for May 26, 2016 and received an update on the White House's "Pay for Success" initiative, which has been spearheaded in the County by Supervisor Don Knabe.

Rideshare L.A. County!

from the CEO/Office of Workplace Programs

Do you currently drive to work alone but have considered a Rideshare option? Well, now is the perfect time to convert from drive alone to Ridesharer.

The County Employee Rideshare Challenge is officially underway and will reward three lucky County employees who convert from drive alone to permanent Ridesharer by June 30, 2016, with a brand new iPad Air 2 tablet. To participate or get more information, please contact your departmental Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC) or visit the Rideshare website at www.rideshare.lacounty.gov.

Employees interested in participating for a chance to win an iPad Air 2 tablet must register with their ETC to be eligible to win. Take Pride. Share the Ride.

Retirees

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after their many years of service to the County of Los Angeles:

45+ Years

HEALTH SERVICES: Frances L. Wilson-Holla
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Andrew Payton
SUPERIOR COURT: Paulette C. Givens

40+ Years

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Helen Chan, Saundra Warr-Fuston
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Diane H. Reush
HEALTH SERVICES: Maria M. Allagheband, Elvia Angulo, Jorge B. Diaz, Allan P. Hander, Nathaniel S. Jordan, Nina S. Manalansan
INTERNAL SERVICES: Susan L. Davis, Kyung Y. Oak, Thomas J. Travis
PARKS & RECREATION: David Acosta, Earl Ellis
PROBATION: Regina Salas
PUBLIC DEFENDER: Janice A. Kent
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Bari S. Banks, Debra L. Kissinger, Frances Navarro-Ross, Evelyn N. Whitten
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Antoinette R. Osborne
SHERIFF: Marie Cobbs, Jody L. Thurstan
SUPERIOR COURT: Mona L. McClure

35+ Years

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE: Lena Jones-Perez
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Rhelda C. Randle-Shabazz
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Kathryn J. Montiel-Verdugo, Lynette E. Rogers, Reid A. Rose, Steven E. Weiss
HEALTH SERVICES: Gloria Bradley, Olga H. Chin, Pedro De Los Reyes, Elsie B. Escareno, Chester Glover, Ruth Young
HUMAN RESOURCES: Robert Meyers
INTERNAL SERVICES: Larry C. Cook, Marilyn M. Jones, Socorro Ley, Brad L. Taylor
MENTAL HEALTH: Elizabeth Eberhard
PARKS & RECREATION: Jeff B. Jones
PROBATION: Lena M. Virgil
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Ferra Kimble, Nha C. Le, Alberena Sheppherd, Jacqueline Smith
SHERIFF: Albert Diaz, Ramon J. Holland, Catherine J. Phifer, Betty J. Smith

30+ Years

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Marco Figueroa, Stella Kwok, Shiao Y. Lee, Rico Ortiz, Franceta Tyus
FIRE: Russell J. Barbarino, Deryl L. Fort, John A. Jones, Gabriel G. Ramirez, Manuel Robles, Robert Seals
HEALTH SERVICES: Wei-Wei Chang

INTERNAL SERVICES: James J. Chung, Rosa Lopez, Hoang-Lien T. Pham
PROBATION: Carl D. Moore
PUBLIC LIBRARY: In A. Paik
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: David L. Kissinger
PUBLIC WORKS: Rudy G. Aguero, Hamid Emami
REGIONAL PLANNING: Gloria A. Taylor
SHERIFF: Daniel M. Bartlett, Jerome D. Edwards, Raymond Leyva, Terry R. Main, William B. Morris, Dennis B. O'Connell, Mark G. Richards, Raymond S. Roth, Mark R. Stephens, Mark W. Stevens, George A. Tillman
SUPERIOR COURT: William A. Allen, Sandra S. Williams

25+ Years

ASSESSOR: Diosdado A. Gutierrez, Jr., Benjamin G. Pascual, Felicisimo A. Reyes, Josefina G. Robes, Clarinda Y. Sampson
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Primo A. De Guzman, Diana Parhms
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INTERNAL SERVICES: William A. Tonkin, Thomas L. Walton
MENTAL HEALTH: Osazuwa Omede
PARKS & RECREATION: Peter Grecu
PROBATION: Blanca E. Andrade, Linda R. Flemister
PUBLIC HEALTH: Fatima C. Alix, Suzanne M. Bostwick, Balbir Dhillon, Yue-Tat Lau, Robert Miodovski, Kasturee Mohapatra
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Manuel Avila, Gerardo Chiquito, Mila Fermin, Gloria Garcia, Martha Guillen, Andranik Hartenian, Maria L. Horvath, Benny Huynh, Carolyn J. Johnson, Sosi Mzrakyan
PUBLIC WORKS: Roger Kohlenberger
SHERIFF: Craig A. Berger, Bienvenida S. Cristobal, Joseph N. Fleischmann, Deanna J. Gibson, David G. Kolowski, Paul E. Terrazas, Louise S. Wong
SUPERIOR COURT: Bertha Guerrero, Shirley M. Padlo, Keo Senesombath, Mary K. Tollack

Did You Know?

*There are 53,402 full-time, permanent, female employees in the County.
 That's 59.3% of the County workforce.*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

PRESENTS

★ 19TH ANNUAL SALUTE TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2016, 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE AT 11:00 AM

- ★ VETERANS' BENEFITS, SERVICES
- ★ LIVE MUSIC; FOOD VENDORS; CHILDREN'S AREA
- ★ FREE HAIRCUTS; MANICURES; HEALTH SCREENINGS
- ★ VINTAGE AIRCRAFT FLYOVER AND SKYDIVERS
- ★ WALL OF REMEMBRANCE- BRING A VETERAN'S PHOTO TO DISPLAY
- ★ ARCADIA VIETNAM WAR MONUMENT DEDICATION AND FIELD OF HONOR DISPLAY
- ★ PET ADOPTIONS

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