



## Dear Residents

I'm pleased to present the Spring 2006 Edition of *City Highlights*. In this issue, we celebrate *Senior Month in West Hollywood* and have included a calendar of scheduled events and activities that will be fun for our Seniors.

We also invite you to join in the festivities planned in celebration of the *5th Annual Russian Cultural Month*. It's a unique opportunity for us to learn more about the rich cultural and artistic heritage of the Russian-speaking members of our community.

As the days become longer and we enjoy a later sunset, it's a time to be ever-vigilant about our personal safety. On Page 8, we have provided *Spring Safety Tips* to help you and your family stay safe.

One of the great aspects of my job is the opportunity to work with the many smart and talented people who work for the City of West Hollywood. In this issue, we shine the spotlight on two employees: Long Thu, Parking Operation Engineer in the Transportation and Public Works Department and Leslie Isenberg, Social Services Administrator in the Human Services Department. They both exude the energy, enthusiasm and dedication to public service that is vital to providing high-quality City services.

On behalf of the West Hollywood City Council, I hope that you are able to attend some of the exciting events we have planned. I look forward to seeing you out and about!

Sincerely,

Paul Arevalo,  
City Manager

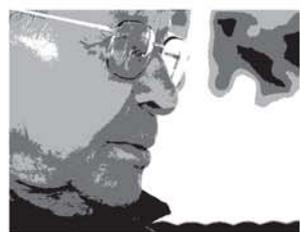
### WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL

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**PAUL AREVALO** | CITY MANAGER

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**TAMARA WHITE** | EDITOR  
**HELEN J. GOSS, ESQ.** | EXECUTIVE EDITOR



## May Marks Annual Celebration of Senior Month in West Hollywood

**May 2006** marks the City of West Hollywood's annual Senior Month. Throughout May, the City of West Hollywood's Senior Advisory Board and Senior Activity Programs of the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center present a wide variety of Senior activities, classes and events with a few specifically created to celebrate Seniors, a group that comprises 18 percent of the City's population.

The special publication *Senior Moments* will share the voices and works of Seniors in the community. Filled with short stories, poetry and fiction, the publication is written and edited by Seniors. The publication is free and will be available at the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center in Plummer Park and West Hollywood City Hall. For more information, call (323) 848-6403.

The cable show *Senior Buzz* will air throughout the month of May on Citychannel 10 on Adelphia Cable. The May edition of *Senior Buzz* will include guests such as Marina Berkman, Director of the West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center (WHCSC), and Lida Soulikhan, Activities Coordinator for WHCSC. Citychannel programming will focus on Senior Month events in West Hollywood as well as the Medicare Part D program.

For more information on events throughout Senior Month, please view the Senior Activities Calendar in this section or visit: [www.weho.org](http://www.weho.org)

## Long Thu Is Doing His Part to Take the City's Parking Technology to the Next Level

Some people are known for going the extra mile, for Long Thu, Parking Operation Engineer for the City of West Hollywood's Department of Transportation and Public Works, it's a way of life — literally. For the past two years, Thu has participated and successfully completed the Honolulu AIDS Marathon. Thu trains for this grueling 26.2 mile race almost year round, beginning his training in April until race day in December. In 2005, all of Thu's hard work paid off — he improved his time significantly, dropping an hour off of his previous finish to complete the course in only 5 hours and 40 minutes, "My time still isn't that good," he said modestly. "The professionals finish in a little more than two hours." Only four months later, Thu competed in the Los Angeles Marathon in March and dropped his time to 5 hours and 8 minutes.

Despite his enormous amount of drive and resilience, Thu is the type of guy who isn't keen to broadcast his accomplishments. A graduate of Cal State, Long Beach, with a degree in civil engineering, in 1997, while still in college, Thu began interning with the Los Angeles County Public Works Department. This was followed by a year working at an outside firm. He then interned with the Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation Department, and finally, the City of West Hollywood's Parking Division. Since 2000, Thu has been a full-time employee with the City of West Hollywood. "I have a great boss, Oscar Delgado," said Thu. "I want to thank him for giving me the opportunity to assist him on a variety of projects and making the City a great place to work."

Thu's enthusiastic work ethic keeps him pushing forward both in his marathon training as well as at work. "We are always looking for new ways to improve the City," he said of the new Pay-by-Space system spearheaded by his department. "It's very hi-tech and not many other cities have this parking technology," he said proudly.

The new machine that he's speaking of is a state-of-the-art system that was installed along Sunset Boulevard in front of the Sunset Plaza as a test pilot in May 2005. Thu is responsible for helping to institute the new device and handled trouble-shooting through the initial stages. What makes the machine so special is that it accepts debit or credit card payments. The new meters remind registered users via cell phone when meter time is nearly up, and

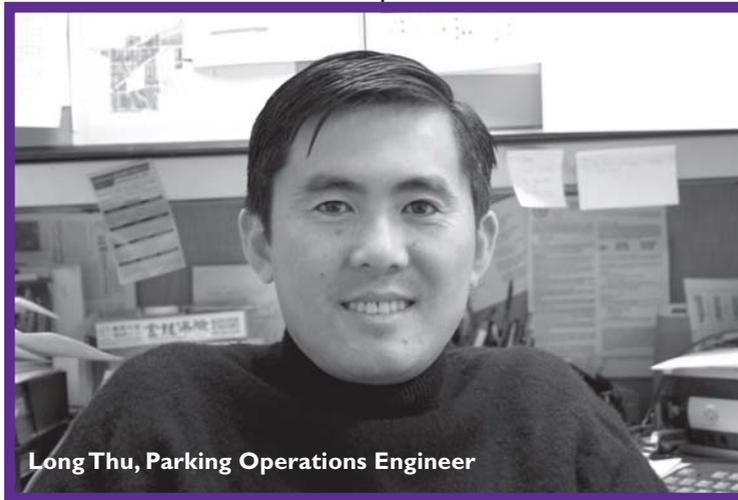
meter time can be extended through cell phone payment.

In addition to working with the Pay-by-Space system, Thu's day-to-day responsibilities include overseeing the City's on-street and off-street metered parking programs including conducting field investigations to determine the installation of signs and parking meters,

analyzing parking demand and supply throughout the City, and designing parking layouts and signage.

Thu was raised by a single mother and his grandparents after fleeing his native Cambodia. It is presumed that Thu's father died in the infamous Killing Fields in Cambodia. A family man, Thu enjoys dining out and sampling various cuisines, as well as checking out the latest movies, especially in the company of his mother, Kim.

Despite juggling family time with his busy schedule of working for the City, Thu said that next he may focus on competing in either the Disneyland Half Marathon or a full marathon in Florence, Italy later this year. If so, Thu will soon be back to his rigorous marathon training program. A man of few words, and plenteous actions, one thing is undeniable: Long Thu's drive is inexhaustible, with the type of work ethic that makes the old adage ring true, "There are no traffic jams when going the extra mile. . . ."



**Long Thu, Parking Operations Engineer**

## Last Phase of Holly Hills Storm Drain Project Underway

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works has begun the final phase of construction on the Holly Hills Storm Drain Project. The Holly Hills Storm Drain Project will alleviate flooding in the project area and improve vehicular and pedestrian safety on streets during and after moderate to heavy rain storms.

Construction of the final phase of the Holly Hills Storm Drain Project will take approximately 1½ years and will occur on Rosewood Avenue (between La Cienega Boulevard and Orlando Avenue) and Orlando Avenue (between Rosewood Avenue and Waring Avenue). Because of the high groundwater conditions, much of the work will be done using state-of-the-art microtunneling techniques, instead of open trench construction.

The intersection of Rosewood Avenue and Orlando Avenue will be closed to through traffic for approximately a year. Signage will specify information regarding detours through the neighborhood. The County is working closely with the schools in the vicinity of the construction project as well as sending notices to the surrounding residents.

County Inspector Daryl Hamilton will be on site throughout the construction and is available at (323) 782-1820 to address any community concerns. Additionally, any construction concerns can be discussed with L.A. County's Construction Supervisor, Sam Assoum, who can be reached at (626) 458-3197. If an immediate response is required due to an emergency, Daryl Hamilton or Sam Assoum can be reached through L.A. County's 24-hour Emergency Telephone Number at (800)675- 4357.

## City Encourages Residents to Dispose of Needles Safely

In an effort to increase awareness that “sharps” such as hypodermic needles, syringes and lancets are hazardous and considered medical waste, the City of West Hollywood is one of the first cities in the state to introduce a **Sharps Disposal-by-Mail System** to help residents dispose of used sharps in a safer, more responsible manner.

Used needles and other personal medical instruments often end up in the general trash where they pose a health hazard to both solid waste collection personnel and the general public. Due to the public health and environmental issues associated with inadequate “sharps” disposal, City residents were sent a postcard to redeem at designated participating pharmacies for a free, postage-paid disposal kit which can hold up to 300 pen needles or lancets, or up to 100 syringes. When the container is full, the user can simply put it in a pre-paid mailer and take it to the nearest post office. The containers will be received by Sharps Compliance, a company that will destroy the used needles in accordance with applicable federal regulations.

For more information about the City's Sharps Disposal-by-Mail program, call Jan Harmon at (323) 848- 6499.





## West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center

The West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center (WHCSC) provides a full range of comprehensive social and recreational services for Seniors.

The WHCSC is a non-sectarian program of Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles and is funded by the City of West Hollywood.

The WHCSC, which is in the Community Building at Plummer Park, located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, serves adults 55 and older, from active to frail, those with disabilities of any age, and

gives support to families of Seniors. Professional and paraprofessional volunteers provide a full range of comprehensive social and recreational services. The Center is designed to enhance well-being, promote

independence, empower and enrich the lives of the City's Seniors. Services include counseling and mental health support, telephone reassurance, crisis intervention, case management, information and referral service to other programs. Participants are also offered assistance with filling out forms, advocacy, support groups, an older adult companion program, services to older adults in HUD buildings, and legal assistance.

Recreational, physical and educational activities are provided through the Center's Activity Department. Events are planned jointly with staff and older adults to meet the distinctive, cultural needs of the community. The West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center Activity Department provides these activities to enhance health and well-being, provide socialization, and opportunities to remain active in the community.

This includes exercise programs, games such as bridge, scrabble, life history writing, water color painting, classes in Russian, Russian-American Vocal Ensemble, Russian Literature Club, Conversation Cafe, monthly field trips, and educational lectures.

For more information contact (323) 876-1717 or visit [www.jfsla.org](http://www.jfsla.org)



### WEST HOLLYWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER

**Population Served:**

Seniors, People With Disabilities

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday through Thursday  
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Walk-in Intake Hours:**

Monday through Friday  
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Monday through Thursday  
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Languages Spoken:**

English, Spanish, Russian

**Referrals Required: No**

**Cost of Services: No Charge**

**Insurance Accepted: No**

### WEST HOLLYWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER ACTIVITY DEPARTMENT

**Population Served:**

Seniors, People With Disabilities

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday through Thursday  
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Walk-in Intake Hours:**

Monday through Friday  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Monday through Thursday  
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Languages Spoken:**

English, Spanish, Russian

**Referrals Required: No**

**Cost of Services: Fixed Fee**

**Insurance Accepted: No**

# Heat Alert for Seniors

Higher temperatures are a part of the upcoming summer season, but over the last few years it seems that not a summer goes by without a fatal heat wave striking some parts of the country. Seniors especially are at risk from heat-related health problems. These conditions can range from mild discomfort to full-fledged emergencies. Below are tips to help Seniors comfortably manage the summer heat.

✦ **Use an air conditioner** to keep rooms cool. If air conditioning is unavailable, open windows on opposite ends of the house or building to cross-ventilate and increase air flow. Additionally, move Seniors to the coolest area of the house or building.

✦ **Regularly attend to individuals** who are most at risk for heat-related illnesses, including elderly persons with heart, circulatory or pulmonary conditions. Many medicines, including those used for heart conditions, depression and allergies, also can make a person more susceptible to heat stress.

✦ **Encourage Seniors to drink more fluids.** Because of decreased thirst awareness, Seniors do not always know when they need fluids. They should drink fluids on a regular basis rather than only when they are thirsty.

✦ **Ensure that elderly persons** are wearing light-colored, loose-fitting clothing that allows the body to release heat.

✦ **Shade windows** exposed to direct sunlight.

✦ **Keep an eye out** for Seniors with signs of discomfort.

✦ **Additionally**, all Seniors and their caregivers should be aware of heat-related illnesses, including:

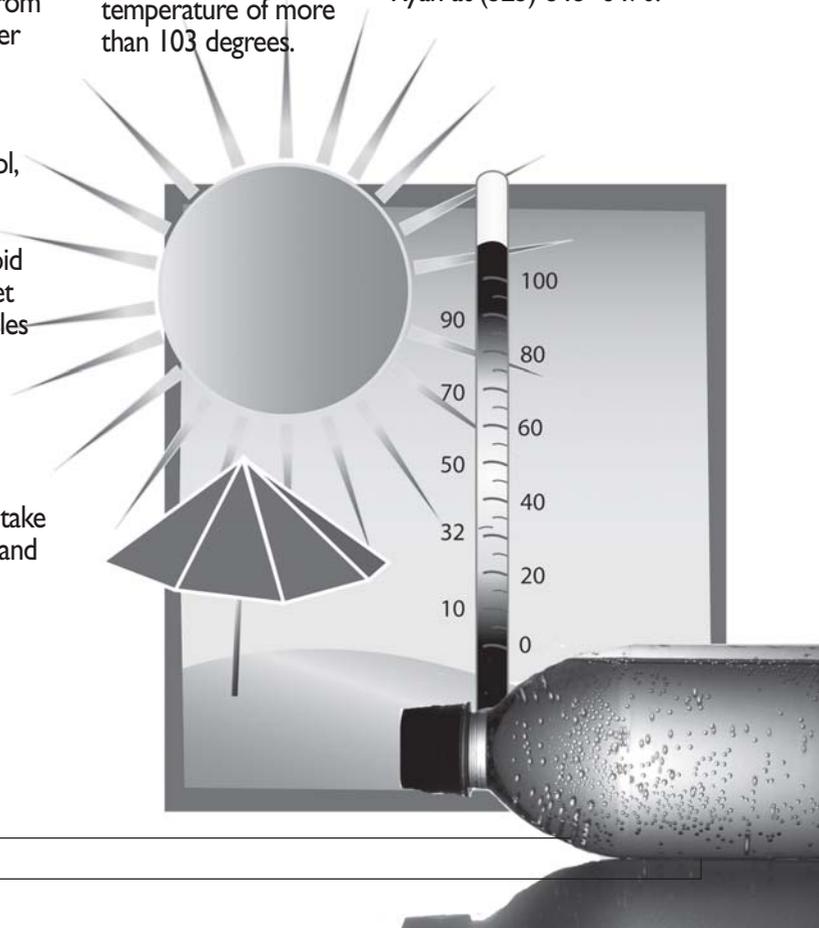
✦ **Heat Exhaustion** is produced by the loss of normal fluids and salts in the body and results from exposure to heat, either indoors or outdoors. Some of the common symptoms of heat exhaustion include cool, clammy skin; a body temperature of up to 103 degrees; weak, rapid pulse; shallow and quiet respirations; and muscles that may be tense or contracted.

✦ **Treatment** includes keeping the individual quiet, resting in a cool place and increasing intake of cool, non-alcoholic and non-caffeinated fluids. Consult a physician immediately.

✦ **Heat Stroke** is a more serious heat-related illness resulting from direct exposure to high temperatures or the sun. Heat stroke commonly affects individuals who are debilitated or fatigued. Symptoms include dizziness, weakness, nausea, spots before the eyes, ringing in the ears, bright red dry skin, rapid, strong pulse, and body temperature of more than 103 degrees.

✦ **Treatment** includes cooling off the individual, removing clothing, applying cool cloths, and giving him or her a sponge bath. Direct the individual to the nearest hospital emergency room as soon as possible.

For more information regarding ways Seniors can protect themselves against the heat, please contact Rich Ryan at (323) 848- 6470.



## EVENTS

### Senior Health Fair

**Wednesday, May 10, 2006 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Community Center at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. Free event  
Call (323) 876-6820 to make reservations for lunch.

TTY for hearing impaired: (323) 848-6486.

*This is our 5th annual Senior Health Fair featuring lectures, presentations, health screenings and more than 50 community organization booths. Complimentary lunch will be provided.*

### Senior Awards Luncheon

**Tuesday, May 16, 2006 • 11 a.m.**

The Bel Age Hotel Grand Ballroom, 1020 N. San Vicente Blvd. \$5 donation  
Call (323) 876-1717 for reservations

*Join West Hollywood Seniors in honoring outstanding Senior community members at this annual luncheon and dance.*



### Senior Advisory Board Meeting and Reception

**Wednesday, May 24, 2006 • 2 p.m.**

Community Center at Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. Rooms 5 and 6.

Free event  
Call (323) 848-6510 for more information.  
TTY for hearing impaired: (323) 848-6486.

*Participate in the City's Senior Advisory Board's discussions of important community issues affecting Seniors. Refreshments will be served.*

## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Senior Buzz

Tune in to "Senior Buzz," a program for Seniors, by Seniors on Citychannel 10.

*Topics include: Senior Month Activities, Volunteer Month and the Medicare Part D program.*

### Senior Moments

An annual publication of writings by Seniors in our community. For information, please contact the Social Services Division at (323) 848-6510 or TTY for hearing impaired (323) 848-6496.

## EXCURSIONS

### Over the River & Through the Woods

**Thursday, May 18, 2006**

Glendale Centre Theatre  
Bus leaves at 6:30 p.m. from Santa Monica/Martel parking lot for an 8 p.m. show  
Located in Glendale  
\$20 members/  
\$25 non-members

*A successful young executive is offered a lucrative job in another state. His grand-parents will go to any length to keep him from moving. As their ridiculous schemes mount, the laughs get bigger and bigger.*

### Heritage Square Museum

**Thursday, May 25, 2006**

Bus leaves at 9:30 a.m. from Fountain/Vista parking lot  
\$15 members/  
\$20 non-members

*Heritage Square Museum is devoted to the preservation, restoration and interpretation of Southern California's rich and culturally diverse history. The museum's collections, exhibitions, programs and events present the story of everyday life in Southern California from the years 1850 to 1950.*

**LECTURE SERIES**

**Lecture 1**

Cardiovascular Health, presented by Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

**Day:** Thursday, May 18, 2006

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Place:** Room 2

*An educational lecture on cardiovascular disease, monitoring blood-pressure and maintaining low cholesterol levels.*

**Lecture 2**

Emergency Preparedness, presented by staff from the City's Public Safety Division

**Day:** Tuesday, May 23, 2006

**Time:** 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**Place:** Room 6

*Learn how to prepare yourself, family, friends and pets for a disaster. Obtain information on how to build a personalized first aid kit.*



**Lecture 3**

The Forgetting, a documentary presented by the Alzheimer's Association

**Day:** Friday, May 26, 2006

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 12 noon

**Place:** Room 1 & 2

*A 90-minute award-winning documentary produced by PBS about Alzheimer's disease, research, treatment and care giving. The film will be followed by an educational discussion.*



**Additional excursions, lectures and classes take place throughout the year. Please contact the West Hollywood Comprehensive Services Center Activities Department for more information: (323) 876-1717.**

## Leslie Isenberg, Touching the Lives of the City's Seniors

Leslie Isenberg is a graduate of U.C. Santa Barbara, and has a master's degree in social work from UCLA. She has worked with the City since 1995 when she started in the Public Safety Division as a graduate school intern. In 1997, Isenberg was hired as a permanent full-time employee, and in 2003 she was hired into the Social Services Division for her current position

as a Social Services Program Administrator.

In the role of Social Services Program Administrator, Isenberg plays an integral role in all Senior Month activities and focuses on reaching out to those in the community who are most in need. This includes Seniors, people who are homeless and people with disabilities. In addition to Senior Month, Leslie oversees a variety of community oriented events, including: Disabilities Awareness Month, and Breast Cancer



**Leslie Isenberg,  
Social Services  
Program Administrator**

Awareness activities. Isenberg also serves as one of the agency monitors that oversee City-funded programs including the West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center for Seniors and People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), which provide a myriad of services for their targeted demographics. Most recently, Isenberg wrote the application for the National Organization on Disability award in which the City of West Hollywood is being awarded a \$20,000 cash prize, and will serve as a model of inspiration for many other communities throughout the country.

When asked about the work she does for the City, Isenberg responded, "I love the work that I do. I have the opportunity to work everyday with intelligent, creative and funny people."

Outside of the office, Isenberg enjoys spending time with her husband and two daughters, ages 7 and 3. In her spare time she likes gardening, cooking and swimming.

# Spring Safety Tips



Los Angeles County has recently seen an increase in street robberies including within the City of West Hollywood. As we move into spring and summer months when people are out walking more at night, residents are encouraged to stay alert to prevent becoming victims of crime. The following robbery prevention tips are offered as a way for everyone to work, play and live safely in West Hollywood.

**PLEASE BE SAFE,  
NOT SORRY!**

For more information, call the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station at (310) 855-8850 or the City's Public Safety Division at (323)848-6414.

## Avoid Walking Alone On The Street At Night

- Use well-lighted streets.
- Walk near the curb — away from shrubbery where someone could be hiding.
- Walk against traffic, so that cars cannot surprise you from behind.
- Keep an arms length away from strangers.
- If you think someone suspicious is approaching you or following you, cross to the other side of the street and head for the nearest public place.

## Don't Make It Obvious That You're In Unfamiliar Territory

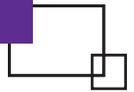
- Giving the appearance of not paying attention and not being alert is what suspects look for in a victim.
- Stay sober enough to be able to take care of yourself. Criminals see drunken persons as easy prey.
- Walk briskly and with confidence.

## At Night, Avoid Public Parks, Vacant Lots, Alleys and Areas With Excessive Trees and Bushes

- Know which stores and other public places are open along your route.
- Don't hesitate to run back to where you came from to get help.
- Look for anyone "hanging" around your car or your path to your car.
- Have your keys in your hand and be ready to open the car door.

## Street Robbery Do's and Don'ts

- Obey the robber's instructions.
- Don't carry your purse loosely around your shoulder.
- Keeping cash in a separate money clip or pouch will allow you to hand it over without sacrificing your credit cards, identification, and personal papers.
- Release the purse. Do not risk personal injury.
- Consider carrying mace or pepper spray.
- Avoid carrying a purse and keep a wallet in your pocket instead.
- Never wrap a purse strap around your wrist; forcible removal could result in serious personal injury.
- Make a mental note of the robber's appearance, i.e. height, weight, hair color/style, clothing, etc.
- If possible, take down the vehicle license plate number, a description of the vehicle, and the direction the robber is fleeing.
- Then call 9-1-1 immediately!



## **The City of West Hollywood Receives National Organization on Disability Awards**

The City of West Hollywood has been selected as the winner of the 2005 Accessible America Awards Competition. The winning City receives a cash award of \$20,000 to recognize and encourage disability accessibility and opportunity. The Accessible America Award is presented on behalf of the National Organization on Disability, and is presented to honor those who display outstanding dedication and commitment to promote the full participation of people with physical, sensory, and mental disabilities in all aspects of community life.

West Hollywood is being honored as a model for its focus on disability issues and its successful design of programs, services and facilities that are accessible to people with disabilities.

In particular, the City demonstrates an exceptional commitment to offering their citizens with disabilities full and equal opportunities to participate in the life of their community, including access to jobs, education, religious worship, voting, transportation, housing, emergency preparedness planning and services, and the entire range of social, recreational, cultural, and sports activities.





You're invited to celebrate the  
City of West Hollywood's  
**5th Annual Russian  
Cultural Month**  
through May 21, 2006

Russian Cultural Month is a month of family friendly special events and performances celebrating the rich culture and heritage of the more than 300,000 members of Southern California's Russian-speaking community. Join more than 10,000 guests throughout the month as we share Russian-American culture — including art, music, literature, food, entertainment, and business. The 5th Annual Russian Cultural Month will culminate on Sunday, May 21, 2006 with a day-long Festival and Gala Concert at West Hollywood Park!

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SCHEDULE

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free, do not require reservations, and are presented in both Russian and English. Most, but not all events, will be held at the Plummer Park (Fiesta Hall), located at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood.*

**Los Angeles  
Classical & Folk  
Musicians**

**Saturday, May 13, 2006  
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Plummer Park  
Fiesta Hall**

Music is central to the Russian culture which has produced many of the world's greatest artists. This evening is a chance to experience the rich musical talent of Los Angeles based Russian-American classical and folk musicians.

**This is Not Jeopardy??**

**Sunday, May 14, 2006  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Plummer Park  
(Great Hall)**

"Who? What? Where? When?" is one of the most popular Russian TV game shows. The game was created by one of the television show hosts in 1975 and since that time has become one of the most watched TV shows in Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union. This game is similar to "Who wants to be a millionaire?" Teams will compete in front of the audience finding answers to questions sent by viewers from all over the country. The most interesting questions are pre-selected by a special committee. It's the ultimate battle of talent and knowledge! Guests are welcome to both watch and participate. Presented by the Club of Writers of Greater Los Angeles. More information at [www.Znatoki-LA.com](http://www.Znatoki-LA.com) (Website in Russian only)





## OF EVENTS

### **Fusion!**

Music from LA's Hottest Young Russian-American Bands

**Sunday, May 14, 2006  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Plummer Park  
(Fiesta Hall)**

Experience a sensational evening of performances by some of LA's hottest Russian-American rock bands!

### **Russian Theater Night**

**Friday, May 19, 2006  
7:30 p.m.  
West Hollywood Park  
Auditorium**

American Russian Theater Players presents a special evening of Anton Chekhov's classical short plays, "The Festivities" (Yubilei) and

"The Swan Song" (Lebedinnaya Pesnya), performed by American and Russian actors in English. co-sponsored by Communities Information Service, Inc.

### **Children's Art Exhibit**

**Through May 30th  
Plummer Park  
(Community Center)**

### **Russian Cultural Festival**

**Sunday, May 21, 2006 • 11am to 8pm  
West Hollywood Park**

Don't miss out on the culmination of the 5th Annual Russian Cultural Month at the RUSSIAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL in West Hollywood Park! The Festival is FREE and includes a day of entertainment, music, food sampling, Russian crafts and jewelry, numerous exhibitors by local businesses, and MORE!

### **Children's Show in the West Hollywood Park Auditorium**

**11am-1pm  
Sponsored by the  
Children's Dream  
Foundation**

Local Russian-American children's groups will don sumptuous costumes and perform children's songs, folklore, dances and more from the different Republics of the Former Soviet Union.

### **Russian Cultural Festival in West Hollywood Park**

**11am-6pm  
Food! Music! Numerous  
Businesses & Exhibitors!**

Entertainment! Arts! Crafts! Jewelry! Join us for this sampling of local businesses, Russian food, souvenirs, arts and crafts, local performers, bands and so much more. Learn about the culture of LA's Russian-speaking community!

### **Gala Concert in West Hollywood Park Auditorium**

**6pm-8pm**  
Russian Cultural Month will conclude with a magnificent concert featuring a special guest star...to be announced!

For complete event descriptions, updates and more visit: [www.weho.org/russianculturalmonth](http://www.weho.org/russianculturalmonth) or call (323) 848-6501.



## Save the Date for the City's 5th Annual Book Fair

The City of West Hollywood and LA Weekly are hosting the 5th annual **Fall Into Reading** Book Fair which will take place on **Sunday, September 17, 2006** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at **West Hollywood Park, 647 North San Vicente Boulevard** in West Hollywood. The event attracts more than 300 authors, poets, actors and performers and more than 25,000 guests.

In recent years, the event has attracted a diversity of authors including novelist Clive Barker best known for horror classics such as *Hellraiser* and *Candyman*; best-selling author Neil Gaiman; Newbury-medal winner Cynthia Kadohata; former *Baywatch* actress Pamela Anderson; attorney Christopher Darden; comedian/satirist Bill Maher; Jasmine Guy; leading fiction author Bebe Moore Campbell; Luis Rodriguez; Pulitzer-Prize winner Jane Smiley; Holly Robinson Peete; ex-Nixon White House whistle-blower John Dean; and many more.

The Book Fair will include diverse programming for all ages and interests including teens, Seniors, members of the

LGBT community, political panels, literary activities for pet owners and a variety of other attractions. The Book Fair will also feature a poetry salon, various types of performances, storytelling, book signings, celebrity readings and many activities for families with children.

For aspiring and new writers, the West Hollywood Book Fair offers an array of workshops that include tips from industry professionals on subjects such as how to land a literary agent, and pointers on writing your first novel. Author panels on subjects like "Books to Film" and "How to Market and Promote Your Book" are also popular attractions. Another great program offered at the Book Fair is "West Hollywood Writes." This program gives local West Hollywood writers an opportunity to sell or sign their books, plays, collected works of poetry and more. For more information, contact Roz Helfand at (323) 848-6515 or visit: [www.weho.org/bookfair](http://www.weho.org/bookfair) For the hearing impaired, please call (323) 848-6496.

