



## City Manager's Message



Like other cities around the State, the current economic times have strained our budget and in turn have forced our City and its employees to make great sacrifices that have not been easy on anyone.

The 2009-10 fiscal year began with a nearly \$3.5 million deficit, which was mainly due to the recession's impact on consumer spending resulting in a steep decrease in sales tax revenue. Due to this deficit, City officials were forced to make difficult budget decisions. This included implementing furloughs, reducing existing staff salaries and benefits, applying layoffs and making city-wide operational reductions.

In an effort to improve the situation, the City made mid-year budget adjustments that have been made as part of a Budget Recovery Action Plan, which will allow for a more balanced new fiscal year; one without a deficit for 2010-11.

In addition, the El Monte City Council recently approved the extension of furlough days for two of its four bargaining units in order to save more money. This extension of furlough days will save the City an estimated \$364,500.

Thanks to the sacrifices made by our City employees and Police Department, El Monte is indeed headed in the right direction once again. We are very grateful to all those who took part in furlough days and continue to thank them for the relief they have brought to the City and all its residents.

While we still face difficult times ahead, by continuing to work together, I believe we will be able to weather this ongoing storm. We want to assure the community that we will remain prudent in our spending.

The City of El Monte is working very hard to meet all expenditure projections for this year and we are doing everything in our power to fulfill our budget goals while remaining dedicated to the residents and employees of the City of El Monte.

Thank you,  
René Bobadilla, P.E., City Manager

## El Monte Council Member appointed to Los Angeles State Building Authority

El Monte City Council Member, J. Gomez, was recently appointed to the Los Angeles State Building Authority (LASBA), one of several Joint Powers Authorities in California. Formed more than 30 years ago, LASBA is a three-person body established to plan, finance and oversee the construction and management of state office facilities in downtown Los Angeles. Currently, LASBA oversees two buildings, the Ronald Reagan State Office Building and the Junipero Serra State Office Building.

Appointed by the Director of the Department of General Services at the State of California, Gomez will join the board in administering the bonds that were used to pay for the construction of both the Ronald Reagan State Office Building and the Junipero Serra



### CITY COUNCIL

**André Quintero**  
*Mayor*

**Patricia Wallach**  
*Mayor Pro Tem*

**Juventino "J" Gomez**  
*Councilman*

**Emily Ishigaki**  
*Councilwoman*

**Norma Macias**  
*Councilwoman*

**Henry Velasco**  
*City Treasurer*

**Lorene Gutierrez**  
*City Clerk*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce Morning Networking Meeting

DATE & TIME:

Wednesday, May 5, 7:30 a.m.

LOCATION:

Edwards Steak House,  
9600 Flair Drive  
El Monte, CA 91731

ADMISSION:

\$10

#### El Monte Sister Cities Youth Association Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

DATE & TIME:

Saturday, May 15, 8-12 p.m.

LOCATION:

4249 N. Peck Rd.,  
El Monte, CA 91731

ADMISSION:

\$5

#### El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce Chamber Mixer

DATE & TIME:

Wednesday, May 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Von's Credit Union  
4455 Arden Dr.  
El Monte, CA 91731

ADMISSION:

State Office Building. As a member of LASBA, Gomez will also assume some responsibility for the sale and possible lease back of other such state properties in an effort to reduce some of the expenditures of state bonds.

"I'm truly humbled and honored that I have been selected to this appointment by the State of California," said Gomez. "It is an important responsibility that I have been handed, one that I take very seriously. I will work with my fellow members of the board to best serve this position for the State of California."

Gomez was sworn in to his seat on the Los Angeles State Building Authority at the El Monte City Hall Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 7 at 12:30 p.m. His first LASBA meeting took place on April 15, where the board addressed the possible retirement of the Lease Revenue Bonds associated with the financing and construction of several state buildings.

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## Acting Deputy City Manager of Community Services Appointed to California Commission on Aging



Marian Last, Deputy City Manager of Community Service for the City of El Monte, has recently been appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the California Commission on Aging. Currently serving as Acting Deputy City Manager, Last has worked for the City of El Monte for more than 35 years, previously serving as Senior Services Manager from 1978 to 2010. As a new committee member for the Commission on Aging, Last will continue to maintain her current role as Acting Deputy City Manager.

"It is a great honor to be selected by the Governor to this Commission," said Last. "I have many years of experience in public service and am confident that I can apply that experience to successfully fulfill my duties in my new role."

Established in 1973, the California Commission on Aging is comprised of 25 commissioners; 19 appointed by the Governor, three appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, and three by the Senate Rules Committee. All Commissioners serve three-year-terms in these volunteer positions.

Last graduated from Pitzer College in Claremont with a double major in Political Science and Sociology and from California State University of Long Beach with a major in Educational Psychology. She holds a license in Marriage and Family Therapy and is Nationally Board Certified as a professional counselor by the American Psychotherapy Association. Last is also a co-founder of the Project Sister Family Services Center, founded in 1973, and was a consultant at the University of Southern California Gerontology Center from 1978 to 1982.

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## El Monte Aquatic Center's Arrow Dive Club Competes in Nationals

The El Monte Aquatic Center's Arrow Dive Club recently returned from a trip to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where six El Monte divers competed in the 2010 Spring West Junior Olympic Nationals Competition. The competition, which took place April 9-11, proved a success for the young divers, as the team earned three medals competing against approximately 240 other divers at the National meet. The meet was held at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center.

"It is a great accomplishment that our young divers have achieved, to not only compete, but succeed in this national competition," said J Gomez, El Monte City Council Member. "We are very proud of the entire Arrow Dive Club and look forward to all of the success they will continue bringing to the City."

Spread across three age groups, the Nationals competitors consisted of Christian Herrera and Ivan Ip, both of whom competed in the 12-13 boys division; Siayo Li and Alisha Mah, who competed in the 14-15 girls division; and Emily Boyd, the team's oldest member, who competed in the 16-18 girls division. With the top 12 finishers in each event earning a medal, El Monte boasted three medals as Siayo Li placed sixth in the three meter event and Alisha Mah placed eighth and ninth in the

\$5-Chamber Members  
\$10-Non-members

### 13th Annual Los Angeles County Memorial Day Celebration: "Remembering our Veterans & their families, past, present and future."

DATE & TIME:  
Saturday, May 29,  
10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.  
LOCATION:  
405 S. Santa Anita Ave.  
Arcadia, CA 91006

### Memorial Day Ceremony

DATE & TIME:  
Monday, May 31, 9:00 a.m.  
LOCATION:  
Gateway Park - Corner of Santa Anita  
and Valley Blvd.

### Memorial Day Holiday (City Hall offices closed)

Date: Monday, May 31

### El Monte Public Library

3224 N. Tyler Ave.  
El Monte, CA 91731

· Teen Program

DATE & TIME:  
Every Wednesday of the month,  
3:15 - 5:00 p.m.

· Bilingual Story Time

DATE & TIME:  
Every Saturday of the month,  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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## Internet Crimes

We live in a digital age, with information and services readily at our fingertips. Unfortunately, with such technology come viruses and Internet scams. With an endless amount of internet scams carried out every day, every time we log onto our computer, we are at risk. For that reason, it is important to familiarize yourself with the new age of Internet scams so that you can better protect yourself against them.

Internet scams are widespread and there are a multitude of different types out there. From e-mail to banking, scams can be disguised as anything from an e-mail from a friend requesting money to business ventures promising wealth. Many of these scams originate on other continents and are routed through various foreign countries so that they are seemingly impossible to trace, causing many jurisdictional obstacles for law enforcement entities.

three meter and one meter events respectively.



## Cheer Jamboree 2010 is a Great Success

Spirit was on full display in the City of El Monte as the Parks and Recreation Division of the Community Services Department recently held its 25th Annual Cheer Jamboree. The full-day event, which was held at the Bernie Boomer Gymnasium at Lambert Park on Saturday, April 17, was attended by more than 500 cheerleaders, parents, coaches and spectators. Among the many attendees were Mayor Pro Tem Patricia A. Wallach, Councilwoman Emily Ishigaki, City Manager Rene Bobadilla, Interim Deputy City Manager for Community Development, Minh Thai and Community Services Commission Vice Chairperson Ron Ishigaki.

"Turnout for the event was spectacular and the girls did a wonderful job performing and competing throughout the day," said City of El Monte Councilwoman Emily Ishigaki. "From the fantastic performances to the enthusiastic audience, the event was all around a great success."



Kicked-off with a performance of the Star Spangled Banner by El Monte Police Detective Roger Cobian, the event had participants from four City Park teams; Fletcher, Lambert, Mt. View and Zamora, which collectively make up the Park Cheer Program. Fletcher Park captured the Sweepstakes Trophy as well as 1st Place in the Cheer Performance Competition. Fletcher also took home the Spirit Stick, another award, from this year's event. Zamora Park earned 2nd Place honors in the Cheer Competition while Mt. View Park and Lambert Park claimed 1st and 2nd Place in the Freestyle Routine Competition. Several parents were also recognized throughout the day for their significant contributions to the Park Cheer Program.

Special thanks to the Public Works/Maintenance Division for their help and support, especially to Volunteer DJ Eric Bernal and Volunteer Video Technician Javier Sotelo. Congratulations to Cheer Coordinator Veronica Meza and the entire Park Cheer Program staff for making the 25th Annual Cheer Jamboree such a success.

Consequently, many of the perpetrators of such scams go unprosecuted for long periods of time and are free to victimize others until they are caught.

As an internet user, there are simple steps that you can take to avoid and even combat these scams. It is best to perform any transactions face to face or, at the very least, to call the bank, business, or person you are communicating with for verification before releasing any personal information. Also, use hard lines for monetary transactions and never release your social security number or credit card number through wireless venues. Keep in mind that your bank and credit card companies already possess the information necessary to conduct business with you and should not ask you to verify certain information, such as complete account numbers with security codes or complete Social Security numbers. It is also important to never open unfamiliar e-mails, and instead delete them.

By abiding by these guidelines, and always staying vigilant of suspicious activity, you can help protect yourself from Internet fraud.

## What Happens When You Call 911?

9-1-1 should only be used when there is a life-threatening emergency or a crime in progress.

When you dial 9-1-1, a police dispatcher will ask you several questions. The questions being asked may seem unnecessary, but it is very important to give the dispatcher as much information about what is happening as possible.

The dispatcher will want to know four primary pieces of information. These include: what happened; where is the emergency happening; when did the incident occur; and who is involved? In addition, the dispatcher will ask for the suspect(s) description, any vehicle description, whether the suspect has fled the scene, and if so, which direction he or she went. By asking these questions, the dispatcher can assist you by providing information to the responding officers. The more information the dispatcher has about your situation, the better equipped the police will be able to help you.