

External Affairs Update

Community Connection

'Spark of Love' Toy Drive Continues at LAX



Once again this year, the Los Angeles Fire Department has partnered with ABC 7 to collect toys and sports equipment for the “Spark of Love” drive. At LAX, you will find a collection box located in the first aid center at the Tom Bradley International Terminal, and other airport stakeholders are also collecting items for the campaign this year. Above are two of the LAFD bike paramedics who are based at LAX, Alexander Gorme, left, and Shawn Lenske. LAX stakeholders who would like to help out by providing space for a collection box may call the on-duty firefighter at the first aid station at 424-646-9114.

'Home for the Holidays USO Show' Welcomes Home USO Regional President/USO West Bob Kurkjian, Honors USO Supporters



In commemoration of Bob Hope's legacy of entertaining our service members, the Bob Hope USO joined with its entertainment and philanthropic partners to host, "Home for the Holidays USO Show" at The Wilton Theatre last Monday. Those honored for their support of the organization included Jim Lee, co-publisher and chief creative officer of DC Entertainment, who was presented with the Spirit of Hope Award, and Northrop Grumman, which was presented with the Patriot Award. The event also served as a homecoming for Bob Hope USO President Bob Kurkjian, who returned from deployment overseas, and will now serve as the USO Organization's Regional President of USO West. Daughter Linda Hope represented the legendary entertainer Bob Hope, and LAWA Strategic Advisor Bob Gilbert represented the airport at the show.

LAWA recognizes and supports the valuable services and programming the USO provides to current members of the military and their families across the globe. With the force of over 30,000 volunteers, the organization serves as the link that keeps our service members connected to family, home, and country throughout their service to the nation, thanks to dedicated volunteers and donors.

LAX Kiwanis Club Honors Club President Joe Houston with 'Distinguished Service Award'



Last week, LAX Kiwanis Club members and External Affairs team members attended the LAX Kiwanis Club Holiday Mixer at the Renaissance Hotel. As part of the festivities, Club President Joe Houston was presented with the Distinguished Service Award for his dedication and outstanding service during his two-year term from 2017 to 2019. From left to right: LAX Community Relations team member Teresa Braden, LAX Director of Community Relations Maria Tesoro, Club President Houston, Director of Communications for the Landside Access Modernization Program Stephanie Sampson, and LAX Kiwanis member James Frazier.

LAX Community Relations Supports US-Vets, Inc. Inglewood Toy Drive



US VETS Inglewood is hosting a toy and gift card drive for veterans and their children at the nonprofit's facility, located at 733 S. Hindry Ave. Inglewood, CA 90301. LAX Community Relations has partnered with them to bring comfort to the holiday season by collecting donations of new, unwrapped toys for children ages 5 – 15, as well as gift cards for the veterans.

For badged LAWA employees: Collection bins have been placed on Skyview floors: 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, which will be available through Monday, December 16. We will deliver all donations to US Vets, Inc. in time for their Holiday celebration on Tuesday, December 17. You can also contact Clarence Espinosa at cespinosa@lawa.org or Mary Kim at mkim2@lawa.org to make other arrangements.

For non-LAWA employees: If you are interested in giving a gift card or a new unwrapped toy, please contact Clarence Espinosa at cespinosa@lawa.org or Mary Kim at mkim2@lawa.org. Thank you for your support this holiday season!

LAX Pets Unstressing Passengers Therapy Dogs Bring 'Cups and PUPs' Event to Van Nuys FlyAway Bus Terminal



On Wednesday, seven Pets Unstressing Passenger (PUPs) therapy dogs and their human companions arrived at the Van Nuys FlyAway bus terminal in support of the program's annual "Cups and PUPS" event. The PUPs spread cheer with the Guest Experience team as LAWA team members passed out free coffee, treats and chances to win prizes by spinning a wheel. What a fun way to start a FlyAway trip! For more information on the FlyAway, including schedules and destinations, visit <https://www.flylax.com/flyaway>.

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