

AEROGRAMME

NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS

LAWA, Zoo Pact Proving Successful

A long-term partnership that began in late September between Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and the Los Angeles Zoo is already proving successful in many ways. It is reducing costs for both City departments; diverting “green waste” from landfills; protecting coastal dunes areas; contributing to sustainability goals; and feeding exotic animals one of their favorite foods reminiscent of their native homelands.

The arrangement began with LAWA’s implementation of its \$3-million Coastal Dunes Improvement Project, located on 48 acres of land near the northwest corner of LAX between the airport’s north airfield and Dockweiler State Beach. Acres of invasive acacia trees are being removed by airport maintenance workers from the project area. Instead of LAWA transporting this “green waste” to a City recycling site, zoo workers now collect the plants on a weekly basis to feed the zoo’s primates, giraffes, elephants, rhinoceros, and other hooved animals. According to zoo staff, almost every part of the acacia tree is edible to one kind of animal or another.

“This project will increase the native plants on the 48-acre site, which was rezoned for nature preserve uses in 1994 by the City of Los Angeles,” said LAWA

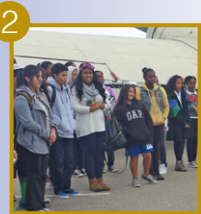
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ACACIA AGREEMENT – Discussing the success of the partnership between Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and the Los Angeles Zoo for the removal of acacia trees in the LAX Coastal Dunes Improvement Project area are from left: LAWA Environmental Services Division Manager **Robert Freeman**, **Keven Copley**, Los Angeles Zoo; **Howard Putnam** and **John Spencer**, LAWA Maintenance Services; Environmental Specialist II **Peggy Nguyen**; and **Henry Williams**, LAWA Maintenance Services.

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My Best Shot

Milestone Years

CITED FOR SERVICE – Eleven Los Angeles World Airports employees who reached either 30 or 40 years of City service between July and December 2013, were recognized for their accomplishments during a February 13 departmental staff meeting. Four of the honorees present during the event were, from left: **Annie Cormier**, 40 years; and **Elizabeth Hair**, **Richard Witte** and **Patricia Martin**, 30 years. Not pictured are: **Richard Connolly**, **Vivian Howell**, **Ernesto Jalomo**, **Bridget Laday**, **Andrea Paris**, **Tyrone Session**, and **Kiyoshi Watanabe**, 30 years.



Jay Berkowitz

Students Shadow LAWA Staff at LAX



JOB SHADOWING – More than 130 students from schools in the surrounding area participated in LAX’s annual Job Shadow Day, part of a nation-wide event dedicated to giving young people real-life “job shadowing” experiences in aviation-related and aviation-support careers at major airports. At LAX, students job shadowed their hosts in the fields of accounting, airfield operations, aviation services, aviation law enforcement, business administration, cargo, engineering, environmental management, human resources, information technology, and public relations. Above, Airport Police Officer **Efren Orlanes** describes work in aviation law enforcement.

20 Students Shadow VNY Aviation Experts

Twenty high school students learned about aviation careers from hands-on activities at Van Nuys Airport (VNY) during Job Shadow Day in partnership with the Junior Achievement organization.

Flora Margheritis, chief of operations at VNY, said, “It was a pleasure being able to speak to the students about the Van Nuys Airport. Programs like Job Shadow Day allow us to give students an inside look into the aviation industry that they otherwise wouldn’t receive. Hopefully, we sparked the interest of students to pursue an aviation-related career.”

Job Shadow Day is a national campaign that gives young people a new perspective on their studies through hands-on learning and a one-day mentoring experience. Students are paired with a mentor, whom they “shadow” throughout the day to experience how the skills they learn in the classroom can be applied to the real world. This event also provides an opportunity to introduce future employees to the vast array of careers available in the world of aviation.

“I enjoyed sharing my personal experiences and showing the students the various jobs available in aviation,” said Cindy Goodfellow of Aerolease. Lety Miranda, MP Aero, added “We not only need to educate younger generations about how vital the aviation industry is to the Los Angeles region, but to also expose students to the myriad career opportunities available to them.”

Students were first treated to an airport tour before shadowing various VNY businesses.

Other participants included Bob Hoover’s Jet Center, Castle and Cooke Aviation, Clay Lacy Aviation, Fire Station 114, North Valley Occupational Aviation Center, ROTOR FX, Skybird Aviation, TWC Aviation, and various airport units, including facilities maintenance.

Yamamoto Leads Effort For Special Olympics

Los Angeles will be the global stage for more than 7,000 athletes from 170 countries competing in the Special Olympics World Summer Games from July 21 through August 2, 2015. In addition to these athletes competing in 25 sports, 3,000 coaches, 500,000 spectators and 30,000 volunteers will participate in these activities. A large contingent of participants will come to Los Angeles through our airports.

In addition, as a precursor, Special Olympics Southern California will host the Special Olympics Summer Games Invitational from June 4-9 this year – providing a perfect opportunity to test and prepare for the 2015 World Games. Three hundred athletes and 100 coaches from across the U.S. are expected.

“This is a monumental undertaking requiring a great deal of logistical coordination that will touch on nearly every corner of our organization,” said LAWA Executive Director **Gina Marie Lindsey**. “To lead this effort, I am appointing **Barbara Yamamoto** as Special Olympics Director to coordinate all the various LAWA efforts necessary to support the Special Olympics.”

Yamamoto will work with the following, in addition to any others involved in this event:

*Airport Police - Deputy Chief **Michael Hyams***

*Airports Development – **Tim Ihie***

*Capital Programming & Planning – **Larry Rolon***

*Commercial Development – **Denise Sample / Marisa Katnich / Elias Constantinides***

*Emergency Management – **John Kinney / Paul Herrera***

*Facilities Maintenance & Construction / Maintenance Services – **Howard Horning***

*Government Affairs – **Mark Adams***

*Information Management & Technology – **Mariel Wroe***

*Maintenance Services – **Manny Cheng***

*Operations – **Viji Prasad / Kelly Baca-Broer***

*Public Relations – **Amanda Parsons***

*Regulatory Compliance – **Selena Birk***

Lindsey thanked staff in advance “for supporting this effort and for working with Barbara to successfully roll out the welcome mat to the world’s largest sports and humanitarian event to create a world that is not dominated by those who are excluded, but by those who are included.”

LAWA/Zoo Partnership

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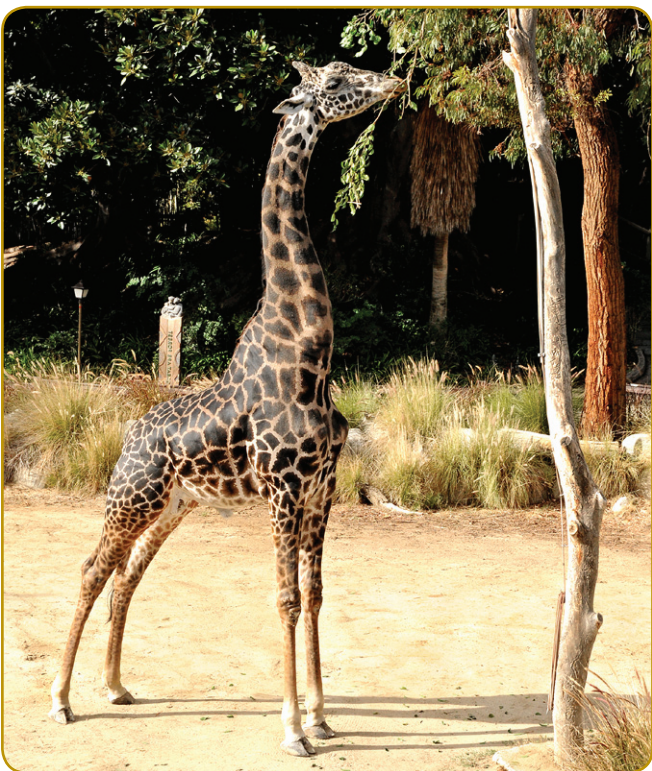
Marshall Lowe

WORKING TOGETHER – Henry Williams, LAWA Maintenance Services landscaping unit, left, and Kevin Copley, Los Angeles Zoo, work together to remove invasive acacia plants and get them to the Zoo.



Marshall Lowe

REMOVING BRANCHES – John Spencer, LAWA Maintenance Services landscaping unit, assists with the process of getting the acacia to the Zoo.



Courtesy of L. A. Zoo

SUMPTUOUS FEAST – Giraffe and Lesser Kudi eat acacia plants at the Los Angeles Zoo.

Environmental Services Division Manager **Robert Freeman**. “This is a great example of LAWA working with the local community and other agencies to achieve a very positive environmental outcome. Preservation of the entire 307-acre LAX Coastal Dunes area is part of LAWA’s overall commitment to environmental stewardship at LAX.”

“It’s always great when City departments can work together cooperatively,” said Jeff Holland, curator of mammals at the Los Angeles Zoo. “Since October, our animals have definitely benefited from the additional supply of acacia. Our giraffes may be the one species that benefit the most from the browse in general. The more acacia we are able to provide them, the better their health will be. It’s always a challenge to provide these animals with the large amounts of browse they would naturally find in the wild, so it’s nice to have the increased supply provided by LAWA.”

After completion this year of the LAX Coastal Dunes Improvement Project, continued maintenance of that area plus regular removal of acacia trees and plants from the entire 307-acre site will provide an on-going source of acacia for zoo animals,” said Environmental Specialist II **Peggy Nguyen**.

The LAX Coastal Dunes also includes a 200-acre habitat preserve established in 1986 to protect the federally-designated, endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly.

“We were removing acacia regularly from the adjacent El Segundo Blue Butterfly Preserve,” said **Ralph Morones**, director of LAWA’s Maintenance Services Division. “We trucked those plants to the City’s recycling center, but since we discovered the needs of the zoo, it can all be delivered there.”

According to Freeman, the variety of acacia found in the LAX Coastal Dunes Preserve site is one of the world’s most significantly invasive species. It is known to take over grasslands and abandoned agricultural areas worldwide, especially in moderate coastal and island regions where mild climate promotes its spread. Acacia is among several non-native and/or invasive plants, including ice plant, sea lavender, castorbean, Russian thistle, jade plant, coreopsis, wild mustard and radishes, and palm trees that must be removed as part of the dunes-preservation program.



Courtesy of L. A. Zoo

Interim Personnel Reassignments Made

LAWA Executive Director **Gina Marie Lindsey** made interim personnel re-assignments on January 31 following the announced retirement of Deputy Executive Director **Mike Feldman**, “in order to facilitate a smooth transition and keep LAWA moving in a direction consistent with our future needs.”

The re-assignments took effect immediately.

Cynthia Guidry has been appointed as Interim Deputy Executive Director and will oversee the Capital Planning and Programming group as well as the following functions:

The Maintenance Services Division under **Ralph Morones** will report through **Dave Shuter** to **Jackie Yaft**, Deputy Executive Director for Operations & Emergency Management.

Facilities Management and Engineering under **Jeff Smith**, will report directly to Guidry, with these exceptions:

The Facilities Maintenance Division under **Rick Connolly** and the Central Utility Plant operation under **Brian**

Pendleton will report through Shuter to Guidry.

The Facilities Information Resources group, currently under Engineering Technical Support and managed by **Paul Burns**, will report to **Dom Nessi**, Deputy Executive Director of Information Technology.

The Environmental Services Division under **Robert Freeman** will report directly to **Lisa Trifiletti** in Capital Planning and Programming.

The Regulatory Compliance and Standards Division currently managed by **Selena Birk** in Operations will report through Deputy Executive Director Comptroller **Wei Chi** to Deputy Executive Director **Samson Mengistu** in Administration.

“Chief Operating Officer **Steve Martin** has been charged with working through additional refinements in each division, to do so with the person newly accountable for the reassignments and to complete the assessment/ recommendation process in the next 60 days,” Lindsey said.

ARRIVALS

Los Angeles World Airports welcomes the following new employees:

Alfredo Fajardo and **Rene Morales**, Building Operating Engineers, Central Utility Plant

Devin Feldman and **Ngan Lee**, Airport Police Officers I, Airport Police – Sworn

Mariella Freire Reyes, Senior Personnel Analyst, Human Resources

Jesus Gonzales, Painter, Maintenance Services – Building Repair

Neslin Hak, Systems Analyst II, IT Planning & Client Support

Justin Hargrove, Mechanical Helper, ONT – Maintenance Services

Wanda Harris, Systems Analyst II, Financial Management Systems

AEROGRAMME

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My Best Shot



HANDS UP! – Juan Francisco, IT Infrastructure Division, took this photo of his relatives' puppy while visiting them in Guatemala. The puppy was photographed in the unique position – for a dog – of simply lying on his back with his paws in the air while just enjoying the day's sunlight.