

South Bay Cities

Featuring the Weekly Newspapers of Hawthorne, Inglewood and Lawndale

Hawthorne Press Tribune
The Weekly Newspaper of Hawthorne

Inglewood News
The Weekly Newspaper of Inglewood

Lawndale Tribune
AND LAWDALE NEWS
The Weekly Newspaper of Lawndale

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Mayor Tom Bradley is Back Home



The LAX Art Program welcomes the bronze bust of Mayor Tom Bradley back to Tom Bradley International Terminal after being removed in 2020 due to construction in anticipation of the Automated People Mover. The sculpture was created by artist Serge Sarkis and gifted to LAX in 1987 by Mayor Tom Bradley. Located at the entrance of the terminal, the sculpture had greeted international travelers to Los Angeles for over 30 years. The sculpture has undergone conservation and care by the teams at Modern Art Foundry, Carnevale & Lohr, and Sculpture Conservation Studio, and will be installed in its new location within the terminal in late 2023, ready to once again welcome the world to Los Angeles. Photo courtesy LAX.

May The Workforce Be with You

By Ron Sokol

There is real concern about a possible rescission in our future. While jobs still seem available today, and the unemployment rate is relatively low, the specter of a serious economic downturn, job losses, and the ripple effects is creating many apprehensions. Well, there's hope!

Over forty years ago, the South Bay Workforce Investment Board came into existence. The continuing efforts made by the Board and the resources it provides to the young and old, advantaged and disadvantaged employees and employers, are substantial. The goal of the Board remains plain and straightforward: "Putting people to work; helping business succeed."

Jan Vogel, CEO of the Board for over forty years, told me: "We are working more than ever to upgrade skills, so if the rescission hits and more are laid off, we can seek to assist them in transitioning into other opportunities. We also provide workshops, financial management, and assist people in applying for benefits."

Some of the details: The Board is a private, non-profit organization, which is a party to a joint power agreement with 11 cities in the South Bay: El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Torrance, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and Carson.

The Board has over 50 members representing a wide array of business, labor, education, and economic development. Its programs are implemented through four One-Stop Business

and Career Centers in Inglewood, Carson, Gardena, and Torrance.

One of the significant aspects of the Board is that it is both pro-employee and pro-employer. Through grants, courses, training, written materials and facilities, the Workforce Board seeks to help young and old find their way to good work and in turn, help employers

enhance their operations. One example only: Just last week, the Board announced that as a result of working in collaboration with the California Department of Rehabilitation, it has secured a contract valued at approximately \$1.1 million to train as many as one hundred individuals with disabilities to qualify for

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Weekend Forecast

Friday
Sunny
61°/44°



Saturday
Sunny
63°/44°



Sunday
Mostly Sunny
61°/45°



West Basin Invites Students to Participate in Water is Life Art Contest

The West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) announced the launch of its 2023 Water is Life student art contest and calls on local students to develop creative artwork that inspire water conservation in our communities. West Basin is accepting artwork submissions starting January 10 until the deadline on Friday, March 17, 2023 at 5PM. Contest information is available at www.westbasin.org/waterislife.

"As historic drought conditions persist for a fourth year, West Basin calls on all student artists to think about the importance of our precious and limited water supply. We look forward to seeing students' beautiful artwork and renewing our inspiration to conserve water," said West Basin Board President Donald L. Dear.

This year, qualified teachers can request a free classroom art supply set (valued at \$80) and an in-person or live online art lesson to support their students' submission

efforts. Limited art supply sets and art lessons are available. Art lesson reservation form, art supply set request form, and updated contest guidelines in English and Spanish are available online at www.westbasin.org/waterislife.

Fifteen student winners (one grand prize winner and four honorable mentions in each elementary, middle, and high school grade category) will be selected by a panel of judges in April 2023. Each winner is awarded a new Apple iPad, with Grand Prize winners additionally receiving a digital stylus pen and \$25 Apple Store gift card.

The contest is a collaborative water education program in partnership between West Basin and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan). Winning artwork from West Basin's local contest will advance to Metropolitan's regional competition and may be featured in the agency's 2024 student artwork calendar. •

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Lawndale High School Honors a Star Player



Lawndale Cardinals are proud to honor Chimezie Metu with the retirement of his #4 jersey. Chimezie plays for the Sacramento Kings of the National Basketball Association. We are so proud of all of your accomplishments. Once a Cardinal always a Cardinal. Photo courtesy Lawndale High School.

Workforce

from front page

work experience assignment at LAX.

The Board has received national awards for its exemplary performance in workplace development activities. Also, I would be remiss if I did not mention that the Board provides guidance to young people on college and career choices. This has included field trips to local college campuses, including UCLA, USC, and Chapman

Jan Vogel is rightfully proud of what the Board has done and is doing, "We are always looking to develop new ways to help businesses stay where they are and to keep the South Bay one of the most productive places in our state. This includes TSE,



CEO Jan Vogel

which stands for Transitional Subsidized Employment, by which the Board provides entry-level workers for businesses located anywhere in LA County. We will cover ten months of wages."

Before becoming Executive Director, Jan Vogel was involved in job training in economically disadvantaged areas, including for young people who had dropped out of high school. He also taught classes to help individuals obtain their GED. You might say he is a "natural" for the role.

Another good piece I learned about the Board: Inglewood and Hawthorne each had extra office space being used for storage.

Each office location is now a thriving Teen Center, thanks largely to the Board's efforts. In fact, Hawthorne's Teen Center just celebrated its 14th Anniversary. This is one way the South Bay Workforce Board takes steps to modify the playing field, so that people have resources available to them, can learn more, enhance their skills, and in turn, businesses can prosper while opportunities increase.

So, now do you feel a little better about the future of our South Bay? It is very reassuring to see what the Workforce Board has done and is continuing to get done. All right then, I will say, "May the Workforce Be with You!" •



Hawthorne Teen Center Awards



Successful trainees