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HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
METROLINK!

October 06

METROLINK®

atters

Metrolink News and Events

## Los Angeles Grand Avenue Festival

The streets of downtown Los Angeles are having a party, and you're invited! The third Grand Avenue Festival will take place on Saturday, October 7, 2006. Local restaurants, theaters, art schools, museums, and other organizations will showcase the culture, food, and entertainment offerings of downtown Los Angeles.

The festival, which will be held on Grand Avenue over five city blocks between Temple and 4th Street from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., will showcase the outstanding offerings of downtown L.A., including the following:

- **"A Taste of Downtown L.A."** hosted by the Downtown Center Business Improvement District. Sample delicious creations from notable restaurants, including Ciudad, Kendall's Brasserie, Pete's Café, Noe, Spring Street Smoke House, and Pinot Grill.
  - The annual **Music Center Family Festival** will feature art-making opportunities for children, music, storytelling, and cultural dances at the Music Center Plaza. Festival goers can also participate in the Music Center's Active Arts programs, including Drum Downtown, Sing Thing, and Flute Choir on Grand Avenue.
  - **MOCA, The Museum of Contemporary Art**, will offer free admission for all to the current exhibition, gallery tours, and art workshops for families.
  - Visit the **Walt Disney Concert Hall** and hear daKAH Hip Hop Orchestra with special guests.
  - **Grand Performances** and *City Beat* will present Kinky on the Grand Performances Stage.
- Metrolink's San Bernardino, Antelope Valley and Orange County



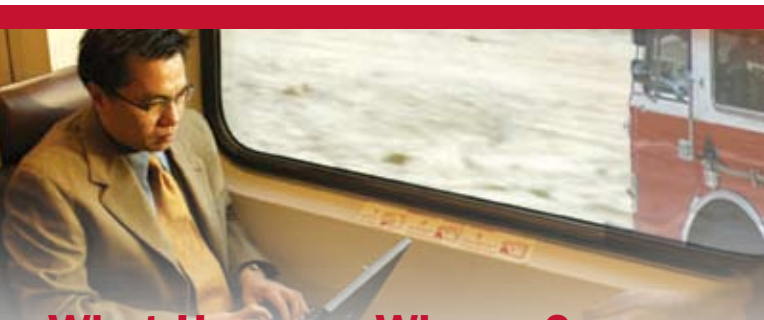
Line Saturday service trains are your key to all the fun! Why drive and pay for parking when Metrolink can deliver you to Union Station and then with your Metrolink ticket you can take the Metro Red Line subway one stop to all the festival action?

Most performances and events are free; tickets may be required for some venues. For more information on the Grand Avenue Festival, including activity schedules, please call the Downtown Center Business Improvement District at (213) 624-2146, or visit [www.downtownla.com](http://www.downtownla.com).

For Metrolink schedules and ticket prices, go to [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) or call (800) 371-LINK (5465).







## What Happens When...?

**Imagine this:** you are relaxing in your regular seat on board the Metrolink train destined for your home station, deep in your evening nap. You awake to the sound of your train as it is involved in a trespassing or grade-crossing incident. The conductor announces over the intercom that you will be delayed for a while. You may wait on board for some time before your train continues its trip to your home station. Meanwhile, what is happening outside the train might be a mystery to you.

It is important to understand that the safety of our passengers is always our top priority. Usually, the safest place for passengers following an incident is on board the train. During this type of emergency, the conductor does his/her best to communicate as often as possible regarding the delay to the passengers on board the train.

Several agencies have roles in the process unfolding outside of your train. Here is a summary of what usually occurs before the train can be released:

- The conductor immediately assesses the scene and provides information to the Operations Center. The Operations Center contacts the appropriate agency for emergency response.
- Emergency responders assist any injured persons involved in the incident. These first responders have been trained to know what to expect when they approach an emergency on the Metrolink right-of-way.
- Local law enforcement conducts an investigation. The investigation usually consists of interviewing the train crew and any witnesses. Investigators inspect and diagram the incident scene. (Metrolink provides law-enforcement officers with Grade Crossing and Collision Investigation (GCCCI) classes to prepare them to conduct a grade-crossing investigation.)
- If the incident occurs at a highway-rail grade crossing, a signal maintainer provides information from the crossing equipment to verify that it was working properly. If the engineer used the emergency-braking system, a track inspector inspects the track. The train equipment and wheels are inspected.
- If the incident resulted in a fatality, the coroner is called to the scene to investigate the incident. If necessary, a biological-hazard clean-up team cleans the train.

Other recovery issues that may result in delays are limited access to the right-of-way, train derailment, or damage to the rail bed or the operating equipment.

If significant delays are expected, alternate transportation options are arranged by the Operations Center as soon as possible. Commonly, a bus bridge is arranged through one of our member transportation agencies. Bus bridges may be difficult to arrange during peak traffic times. Unfortunately, there are no available trains or crews on standby to travel to an incident location to transport passengers. All Metrolink equipment is used for our regular service or is out of service for scheduled maintenance.



## Tracking the Leads

If you are one of the many Metrolink passengers that commute to Los Angeles Union Station, you may have noticed construction activity near the tracks as you approach the passenger loading and unloading platforms. This construction will improve the "leads," which are the tracks just past the turn from the Los Angeles River, allowing more trains to enter and leave the station in a shorter time.

Union Station has had four "lead" tracks that all trains use as they travel to or from Union Station. Located just to the west of the Los Angeles River, these four leads then branch out into the tracks that serve the Union Station platforms. When your train has to make a short stop when approaching the platforms, it is usually waiting for traffic on one of the four leads to clear out, allowing your train to then proceed. When the construction is completed in early November, a new, fifth, lead track will have been added to the system.

On November 3, just after the evening commute "rush hour" (6:30 p.m.), the Centralized Track Control (CTC) system in the station will be shut down for two weeks for upgrades and addition of the new lead track in the system. Since CTC controls the switching between tracks, which is how trains move from one track to another, these switches will

## What Does Metrolink Mean to

Last month, we announced the "What Metrolink Means to Me" photo contest. We accidentally published an incorrect e-mail address for submitting photos. The correct e-mail address is [photocontest@scrra.net](mailto:photocontest@scrra.net).

In order to allow everyone a chance to participate, we are extending the deadline for submission of photographs to **October 16, 2006**, and changing the prize to a free February 2007 Metrolink monthly pass. Entries already submitted will still be considered.

As a reminder, the following rules for this contest apply:

1. Photos must have been taken specifically for this contest; images that have been published elsewhere are not eligible.
2. All photos must be submitted no later than **October 16**. Mail-in submissions must have a postmark date of **October 16** or earlier to be considered for entry.
3. Your photo must contain an image of a Metrolink train's interior or exterior.
4. There must be at least one person in your photo.
5. Photos with objectionable or offensive content will be rejected.
6. Photos submitted must be original works, owned by you; you must possess all rights to reproduce and distribute submitted photos.
7. Digital photos must have a minimum resolution of 300 dots per inch (dpi) or a minimum size of 1 megabyte.
8. Physical photographs must be glossy (no matte finish) and at least 4 inches by 6 inches.



have to be operated by hand. Trained Metrolink switchmen, coordinating with the Metrolink Operation Center, will be responsible for making sure that your train ends up on the correct track.

Once the upgrade is complete, Metrolink will have to test all of the possible track configurations that a train moving to or from Union Station may travel on. This comes to over 220 possible route combinations, each requiring at least an hour of testing. Metrolink is planning to have the new system finished and tested in time to reactivate CTC on November 17, 2006.

What will this mean for passengers who travel through Union Station? Metrolink is anticipating delays for all trains during those two weeks of up to fifteen minutes, which may occasionally be longer should unforeseen circumstances arise.

We apologize for the delays and any inconvenience you may encounter as a result of the construction. Once completed, the new fifth lead will help trains avoid traffic delays at Union Station, as well as set the stage for additional improvements in the years ahead.

For more information about the construction or Metrolink in general, please call Metrolink at (800) 371-LINK (5465).

## You?

9. Photos may be submitted via regular mail or e-mail.
10. If you wish to have your photos or disks returned, you must include a self-addressed, reply-paid envelope with your entry.

Fill out the entry form below and send it to **Metrolink Matters, PHOTO CONTEST**, 700 S. Flower Street, Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA 90017, or e-mail your photo to [photocontest@scrra.net](mailto:photocontest@scrra.net). Be sure to type "PHOTO CONTEST" in the subject line, and include the information below in the text of your e-mail.

### Metrolink Photo Contest

Photo Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description of Photo: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Stations: Boarding \_\_\_\_\_ Destination \_\_\_\_\_

All winners will be contacted by phone. By submitting your photo, you, and any person in the picture, grant Metrolink permission to reproduce said photo in both print and online media.

The February monthly pass will be mailed to the winner of the contest in January, and will be good for travel between the stations specified in the winner's entry form.

## RAIL 2 RAIL Blackout Dates Coming in November

Due to the overwhelming popularity of Amtrak service during the Thanksgiving Holiday period, Metrolink Monthly Passes will not be accepted as valid fare media on Amtrak trains on the following dates in November:

**Wednesday, November 22**

**Thursday, November 23**

**Sunday, November 26**

If you plan to use Amtrak service on those dates, please plan ahead and purchase a regular Amtrak ticket prior to boarding.



To find out more about the RAIL 2 RAIL program, which allows Metrolink Monthly Pass holders to ride Amtrak trains within the boundaries of their pass, visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) and click on the RAIL 2 RAIL button just below the Metrolink system map. For Amtrak information, schedules and ticket prices, visit [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com) or call (800) USA-RAIL.



## The Trains, They Are A-Changin'

You may have noticed a change in the Metrolink car you normally ride. In order to increase safety and security, the small trash receptacles located on the lower level of each car across from the water fountain are being removed. Panels will be placed over the former trash receptacles in all cars over the next two months. The two large trash containers located on the mezzanine level in the front and rear of each car will still be available for your use.



## Station City News

### Bluesapalooza and Thunderfest

On October 14, the streets of downtown Covina will come alive with classic cars and mellow blues as two events come together as one for the first time! Thunderfest, a car fanatic's dream come true, and Bluesapalooza, a celebration of all things bluesy, have joined to form an event that you have to see to believe.

As a sponsor of Bluesapalooza and Thunderfest, Metrolink invites all of our riders to come out for this free event, which will include the following:

- 60 cars—including contemporary race cars, custom cars, historic race cars from the National Hot Rod Association's Wally Parks Museum—as well as custom show motorcycles and an array of Harley-Davidson motorcycles
- Food, craft, and business vendors at Civic Center Park from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- A health and fitness fair at the south end of the event (closes at 7 p.m.)
- A children's activity center provided by Home Depot and Thematic Attic

For more information on Bluesapalooza and Thunderfest, call (626) 358-7271.



Between San Bernardino Rd.  
& Badillo St.

**Bluesapalooza,**  
**1-9 p.m.**

**Outdoor Street Stages**

#### Citrus Avenue, Downtown Covina

##### Jammin Blues Stage—Cottage/Citrus

1-4 p.m. Rick Shea & the Losin' End  
5-8:30 p.m. Left Rogers Blues Band

##### First City Credit Union Stage—Civic Park

2-5 p.m. Chico's Bail Bonds  
6-9 p.m. The Federales

##### Cruise with the Blues Stage—College/Citrus

(Health Fair)

1-3:30 p.m. Michael John & the Bottomline  
4:30-7 p.m. Blue Mama

##### Thunder Alley Stage—Citrus/Badillo

2-5 p.m. Rhythm Kings  
6-8:30 p.m. L.A. Blues

#### Indoor Stages

##### Nick's Taste of Texas, 545 N. Citrus Ave,

6-10 p.m. TBA

##### Rude Dogs, 114 N. Citrus Ave.

1-4 p.m. Pork Chop Tom & Nighthtrain  
5-8 p.m. Whiteboy James and the Blues Express  
9-12 p.m. Sin Twin Rhythm & Blues Revue

##### Casa Moreno, 223 N. Citrus Ave.

3-6 p.m. David Leon & the Lil' jugs  
7-10 p.m. Jumpin' Jack Benny

##### Fret House, 309 N. Citrus Ave.

1-3 p.m. Doug MacLeod  
3:30-5:30 p.m. Stan West  
6-8 p.m. Les Johnson Blues Band

## The Ten Tenors

**The Ten Tenors are a new musical force. Since the moment they burst upon the stage in Germany in 2001, The Ten Tenors have been seen by over 77 million people on four continents, selling out shows and winning hearts with their unmistakable charm, camaraderie, and vocal prowess in opera, pop, rock, and more. Now, the internationally acclaimed singing phenomenon brings their lavish celebration of vocal power to Los Angeles for the very first time!**

**For a chance to win one of five pairs of tickets to The Ten Tenors' opening-night performance on Tuesday, October 24, at the Pantages Theatre, simply fill out the entry form below and mail it by October 13, 2006, to Metrolink Matters, The Ten Tenors Contest, 700 S. Flower Street, Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA 90017.**

### The Ten Tenors Contest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

METROLINK RIDERS CAN SAVE \$20 ON SELECTED TICKETS TO THE TEN TENORS

Please use discount code TENOR when ordering online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). Discount offer applies to Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday evening performances only. Discount applies to top-price tickets only, excluding first 24 rows of center orchestra section and first 8 rows of center mezzanine section. Subject to availability; not valid on previously purchased tickets; no refunds or exchanges; limit 8 tickets per order. Offer valid from 10/6 to 10/22.

## Vote for ROVER!

Metrolink riders from Riverside County can now cast their votes the easy way, with the Registration, Outreach, Voting, and Education Resource (ROVER) mobile voting venue. This amazing education, outreach and early voting vehicle will be visiting four Riverside County Metrolink stations October 25 through November 1.

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) has joined with the Riverside County Registrar of Voters to bring ROVER to Riverside County voters. Financed by a grant from the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, this custom built vehicle is a 34-foot long, air conditioned, completely self-contained polling venue. Fully equipped with touch screen voting equipment, a full complement of voting materials and a wheelchair lift, ROVER will allow the Registrar of Voters to bring Riverside County's popular "Early Voting" program to locations not currently served by static polling locations.

### ROVER Station Schedule

Date	Time	Polling Location
October 25	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Riverside Downtown Station
October 26	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	North Main Corona Station
October 31	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	La Sierra Station
November 1	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Pedley Station

### METROLINK MATTERS

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