

Weekend Outing: Head for the Beach

Looking for some affordable, hassle-free weekend fun? Leave the car at home, and take Metrolink. Weekend service is free to Metrolink pass holders, and costs everyone else 25 percent less than weekday travel. With weekend service on the Antelope Valley, San Bernardino, Orange County, and Inland Empire–Orange County lines, you can enjoy events throughout Southern California without worrying about gas costs or traffic

Hop on the O.C. Line to explore beach action and culture at the San Clemente Ocean Festival. Whether you're an athlete eager to dive into a California Waterman or Waterwoman competition, an enthusiastic spectator who'd rather watch from the sandy sidelines, or the parent of a budding angler, the free-admission Ocean Festival has something for you. Saturday and Sunday, July 18 and 19, take Metrolink to the San Clemente Pier Station, and enjoy everything the beach has to offer.

Saturday, bring the kids to the under-12 fishing clinic, the Discovery Science Center booth, or the Dolphin Dash—a series of beach runs where kids will compete with others in their age group. Adults and kids alike will enjoy the all-weekend woody-car exhibit, and you'll want to watch—or perhaps participate in?—the multi-event California Waterman and Waterwoman competition. Take a break from the athletic action to browse the weekend-long beach-themed art show on a knoll overlooking the shore. For dinner, Fisherman's Restaurant will serve hot dogs, hamburgers, and salmon for a nominal fee. Then watch the sun set during a free concert by Instant Replay, a local tribute band that covers pop hits of decades past.

Sunday will offer paddleboard competitions, a team sand-sculpture contest, and Southern California's only 5K beach run/walk. Also on Sunday is the Waterman and Waterwoman competition's premier event: a one-mile ocean swim. At 4 p.m., the finale closes with the Great Rubber Duck Race, in which rubber ducks sponsored by festival goers race through the waves.

Each year, proceeds from this community-minded festival go to scholarships for students as well as organizations such as the Junior Lifeguard program and the Boys & Girls Club. To get to the Ocean Festival, take the Orange County Line to the San Clemente Pier Station—a weekend-only stop—and you're there!

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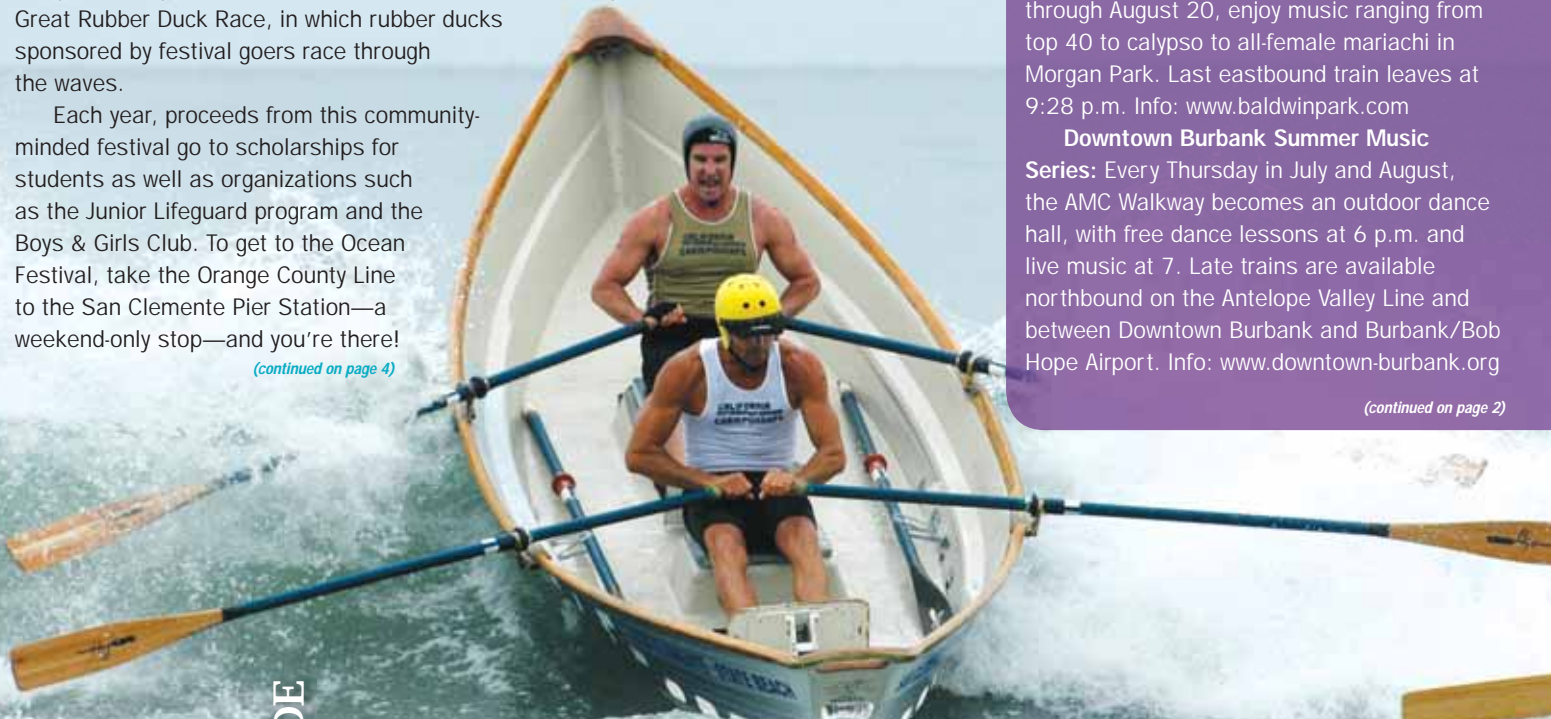
Hop Off the Train for Free Summer Concerts

There is no place like Southern California to enjoy summer. The nights are long, the weather is exquisite, and communities from Burbank to San Juan Capistrano offer free summer weekday concerts in delightful community spaces that are easily accessible via Metrolink. Here are just a few of the many free summer-concert series Metrolink communities have to offer:

Baldwin Park: Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m. through August 20, enjoy music ranging from top 40 to calypso to all-female mariachi in Morgan Park. Last eastbound train leaves at 9:28 p.m. Info: www.baldwinpark.com

Downtown Burbank Summer Music Series: Every Thursday in July and August, the AMC Walkway becomes an outdoor dance hall, with free dance lessons at 6 p.m. and live music at 7. Late trains are available northbound on the Antelope Valley Line and between Downtown Burbank and Burbank/Bob Hope Airport. Info: www.downtown-burbank.org

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...Summer Concerts (continued from page 1)

Claremont Wednesdays: Starting at 5 p.m. every Wednesday through October 18, Claremont Village is abuzz with live music, food, shopping, and kids' activities. Last westbound train leaves at 7:51 p.m.; eastbound at 9:49 p.m. Info: www.claremontwednesdays.org

Covina Summer Concerts: Through August 5, the Covina Park Bandshell will host the Starlight Concert Series on Mondays; the Celebration Series, featuring local churches' worship music, on Wednesdays; and the Covina Concert Band Series on Thursdays. Concerts start at 7:30; last eastbound train leaves at 9:35 p.m. Info: www.ci.covina.ca.us/cityview

Fontana: Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m., enjoy live music at Miller Park, including rock, gospel, and salsa. Late eastbound trains leave at 9:13 and 10:13 p.m. Info: www.fontanarecreation.org

Fullerton: Every Thursday through October, enjoy live entertainment at the Fullerton Market, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Late northbound and southbound trains are available on Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner. Metrolink monthly pass holders ride free within the station limits of their pass under the Rail 2 Rail program. Info: www.ci.fullerton.ca.us/residents/community_events/fullerton_market.asp

San Juan Capistrano Summer Nites: Every third Wednesday through September, enjoy concerts in San Juan Capistrano's Historic Town Center Park, with food, beer, and wine available for purchase. Concerts are from 6 to 8 p.m. The last southbound Metrolink train leaves at 7:48 p.m., but later southbound and northbound trains are available on Amtrak. Metrolink monthly pass holders ride free within the station limits of their pass under the Rail 2 Rail program. Info: www.sanjuancapistrano.net/events/summer_nights.html

Venues are within walking distance of the local Metrolink station. Please note that late-train schedules are limited; carefully check your itinerary against schedules at www.metrolinktrains.com.



THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® Presents ZING ZANG ZOOM™—a soaring extravaganza with a magical twist! See thrilling, soaring acrobats and daredevils. Catch the clowns,

dancers, trainers, and aerialists. It's all new and magical, with dazzling lights, powerful music, and incredible visual effects that seemingly spring to life! This show visits the STAPLES Center from July 8 through 12, the Honda Center of Anaheim July 15 through 26, and Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario July 29 through August 2.

Metrolink riders get a special deal—\$12 tickets for select seats at select performances*. Claim your discount by presenting your Metrolink, Metro, or Amtrak pass at arena box offices, visiting www.ticketmaster.com/train and entering the code TRAIN, or calling Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000 and mentioning the code TRAIN.

You won't believe your eyes when clowns are transformed and one very big part of the show disappears! And, of course, it wouldn't be complete without everyone's favorite Ringling Bros.® animals—from fantastic gymnastic dogs and horses to majestic Asian elephants and Royal Bengal tigers! It's a spellbinding spectacle filled with enchantment and illusion. So, hold on to your seat—and find your place in the fun! All ticket holders can attend the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College® on the arena floor one hour before showtime for free. Visit www.Ringling.com for more show information.

* Savings offer applies to \$15, \$20, and \$25 tickets and does not apply to Circus Celebrity™, Front-Row, or VIP seats. Limited to six tickets. No double discounts. Tickets based on availability. Service charges and handling fees may apply.



RAILROAD GRUB: KABOB

Riders who pass through Metrolink's North Main Corona Station on the Inland Empire–Orange County Line are a privileged bunch—they have easy access to one of few Persian restaurants in the Inland Empire. Kabob Hutt, located across the street from the station, offers traditional Persian cuisine served by a knowledgeable staff that takes pride in introducing Persian food and culture to Inland Empire diners.

Husband-and-wife team Lisa and Eric Abdi, both of Persian descent, opened Kabob Hutt in summer 2007 because they were tired of having to travel to Orange County to get Persian food.

Enter Kabob Hutt's bright, high-ceilinged dining room to linger over popular dishes such as shish kabobs or exotic fare like sour cherries mixed with rice or fesenjon, a stew with walnuts and pomegranate sauce. For dessert, try the baklava



HOW ON EARTH® IS HERE!

- Saturday, July 11, at 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, July 12, at 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

Honda Center of Anaheim

- Thursday, July 16, at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 17, at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 18, at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.



- Tuesday, July 21, at 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 22, at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, July 23, at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 24, at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 25, at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Citizens Business Bank Arena (Ontario)

- Thursday, July 30, at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 31, at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 1, at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 2, at 11:30 a.m.

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KABOB HUTT IN CORONA

or ice cream mixed with honey and rosewater. Stay a while on Friday or Saturday nights to enjoy live music and belly dancing. Or, if you're in a hurry, take advantage of the drive-through. You can even call from the train to place a takeout order. In the morning, Kabob Hutt offers egg plates and breakfast burritos, and at lunchtime, you can choose from a quick-lunch menu of chicken sandwiches, burgers, and wraps.

Kabob Hutt offers an extensive menu with both meat and vegetarian items, all made fresh to order with high-quality ingredients and no preservatives. Prices range from \$5 to \$18.

Kabob Hutt is open Sundays through Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Just mention that you're a Metrolink rider to receive a 10 percent discount. To get there, simply exit the North Main Corona Station and cross the street at Main.

For more information, call (951) 279-6696 or visit www.kabobhutt.com.



New Parking Option at North Main Corona

Tired of running late for the train while shuttling into the North Main Corona Station from a distant lot? Your breathless race for the train is about to end.

A new six-story parking structure with 1,065 additional parking spaces will open later this month, ahead of schedule. In addition to the parking upgrade, the station gets a new pedestrian bridge to both train platforms, a new ticket vending machine on the south platform, enhanced transit-bus access, and enhanced lighting and safety features. The Riverside County Transportation Commission funded the \$25 million project to upgrade the station, which opened in 2002.



WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS



Maria Elena Morales of La Habra is easily noticed when she boards Train 701 at Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs and takes the train to Union Station for work. Her fellow passengers call her the Metrolink Hat Lady. Fellow passenger Mark Weyant, who notes that her hat always matches that day's outfit, took this photo.

MADAME TUSSAUDS WAX MUSEUM COMING TO L.A.!

Madame Tussauds famous wax museum is coming to L.A. on August 1. Located near Grauman's Chinese Theatre and the Metro Red Line in Hollywood, this 44,000-square-foot museum will feature lifelike wax representations of Hollywood icons. Show your Metrolink ticket or pass to receive a \$5 discount on admission. For more information, visit www.madametussauds.com.

Images depict wax figures created and owned by Madame Tussauds. Madame Tussauds reserves the right to remove and/or change figures in the attraction.



SAFETY MATTERS: TICKETS WITH A MESSAGE

Metrolink regularly teams up with fellow train operators and area law enforcement to communicate a vital message: violating laws designed to protect you from the dangers around train tracks can not only endanger your life but earn you a ticket.

Directed-enforcement and officer-on-the-train events are among the most visible ways we heighten awareness about rail safety. Metrolink teams with local law enforcement and rail operators such as Amtrak, the BNSF Railway, and Union Pacific Railroad to enforce laws pertaining to drivers, pedestrians, and trespassers at highway-rail grade crossings throughout Southern California.

In directed enforcement, police or sheriff's officers stationed at crossings wait for regularly scheduled trains to activate advance-warning devices and gates. Then they watch—for the motorist racing dropping gates, for the pedestrian ducking beneath them, for the bicyclist who pedals through. Citations are issued to drivers and pedestrians for rail-related code violations such as trespassing, failing to stop at a railroad-crossing signal, and driving around lowered railroad-crossing gates.

Directed-enforcement efforts occur several times a month in different locations. On June 2, a Montclair directed-enforcement



event resulted in 34 vehicle citations, two trespassers ticketed, another 45 violations observed, and four towed vehicles.

Officer-on-the-train events provide directed-enforcement opportunities using a non-public special train operated solely to give officers riding in the locomotive's cab the engineer's view of unsafe behaviors as they occur. We sometimes invite city officials to observe the eye-opening violations, too.

Officer-on-the-train enforcements are conducted about six times a year. On May 27, Oxnard police officers participated in one, citing a total of 36 drivers and 16 trespassers during the four-hour event. Another 48 trespassers were spotted.

We believe these public-enforcement activities educate officers, city officials, and community members about how to coexist safely with trains, tracks, and stations. Our hope is that the outreach, warnings, and tickets add rail-safety advocacy voices in our communities and convince violators to change their dangerous behavior.

We'd like to use "Safety Matters" to answer your questions. E-mail us at metrolinkmatters@scrra.net with your safety-related question, using the subject line "Safety Matters," and your query will be considered for upcoming columns. We'd like to know your name, the city you live in, and the route you ride. E-mail us today!



Weekend Outing... (continued from page 1)

Alternately, you can exit at the San Clemente Station up the beach and take a mile-long walk down a beach trail to the festival.

Event prices vary, and schedules are subject to change. For more information, visit www.oceanfestival.org or call (949) 440-6141.

Metrolink Weekend tickets must be purchased before boarding, so arrive at the station at least 30 minutes prior to departure. Up to three children ages 5 and under can travel for free with a paying adult. Riders may use Metrolink monthly passes and 10-trip tickets for appropriate stations. For more information on weekend service, visit www.metrolinkweekends.com.

ANOTHER JULY WEEKEND OUTING IDEA:

■ Pioneer Family Day, Western Hotel Museum, Lancaster, July 11
Info: www.cityoflanasterca.org





Rail 2 Rail Changes Coming

Several changes to the Amtrak Rail 2 Rail Program in coming months will enable Metrolink, Caltrans, and Amtrak to continue this successful program despite budget challenges faced by Amtrak and Caltrans on the Pacific Surfliner inter-city service (subsidized by the state) and by Metrolink on its commuter-rail service.

In about 3 months:

- Amtrak one-way and round-trip tickets will no longer be valid on Metrolink trains, with the exception of trips between Union Station and Burbank Airport, and on Metrolink/Amtrak code-share trains (Ventura County Line Trains 768 and 799)
- Amtrak 10-trip and monthly tickets will continue to be valid for travel on Metrolink, and Metrolink monthly passes will continue to be valid on Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains within the station limits on the tickets or passes

At some point in the future:

- The current Amtrak 10-trip ticket will be replaced with a new version that can be purchased only from Metrolink/Amtrak ticket vending machines and must be validated prior to boarding Metrolink and Amtrak trains
- No refunds or exchanges of new Amtrak 10-trip tickets will be allowed
- Metrolink will continue to accept current Amtrak 10-trip tickets until the new validation-ready tickets are available

We will provide updates on these changes before they occur.

AUGUST 1 FARE INCREASE

As approved by the Metrolink Board in May, a 3 percent systemwide average fare increase will go into effect on August 1, 2009. This is the lowest increase in Metrolink's history in those years when the agency has raised fares.

L.A. Sparks Hit STAPLES Center

Metrolink, Metro, and Amtrak are once again partnering with the L.A. Sparks to give train riders discounts to exciting WNBA basketball. Show your valid Metrolink ticket or pass at the STAPLES Center box office for a "buy three, get one free" promotion. Discounted tickets are subject to availability. For more information, visit www.lasparks.com or call (877) 44-SPARKS.



Spamalot Looks at the Bright Side of Life

Take Metrolink to *Monty Python's Spamalot*, playing at the Ahmanson Theatre July 7 through September 6. Metrolink riders save 20 percent on tickets for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening performances.*

Monty Python's Spamalot, the popular musical lovingly ripped off from the internationally famous comedy team's most popular motion picture, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, comes to Los Angeles for the first time ever after popular runs in New York, London, and across America. Winner of three Tony Awards, including Best Musical and Best Director, the production stars Seinfeld's John O'Hurley as King Arthur and was written by Python alum Eric Idle. Be prepared to toss some cows, shake some coconuts, and always look on the bright side of life!

To get your discount, show your valid Metrolink ticket or pass at the Ahmanson Theatre box office, or buy tickets by phone at (213) 628-2772 or online at www.centertheatregroup.org (use the promotional code METROLINK).

*Subject to availability. Offer excludes front orchestra and balcony seating and previously purchased tickets.

**MONTY PYTHON'S
SPAMALOT**
A new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture
MONTY PYTHON and the Holy Grail



Root for the Angels

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim are proud to recognize Metrolink as the "Official Train Partner of Angels Baseball." Just present a valid Metrolink ticket at the Angels ticket window during regular business hours to receive \$5 off per ticket in upper-view, lower-view box, and terrace-box wheelchair seats (if applicable). This offer is valid for only the following 2009 regular-season home games: July 6-8, 23-29; August 7-12, 24-26, 28-30; September 8-13, 25-30. The discount is limited to a total purchase of six tickets per person per visit.* Both Metrolink and Amtrak trains stop at Anaheim Stadium seven days a week. Check train schedules at www.metrolinktrains.com, or call (800) 371-LINK (5465) for more information. For Amtrak schedules, visit www.amtrak.com or call (800) USA-RAIL.

*Offer is subject to availability, has no cash value, is not valid on previously purchased tickets, and is not good in conjunction with any other promotional offer.



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METROLINK MATTERS

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