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October 18, 2007

The Portantino Press:

News from Assemblymember Anthony Portantino

District Events: Children's Health Forum, College Workshop Day, Identity Theft Conference ~ Bills Signed and Vetoed ~ Bella turns six ~ More on Driving



Dear Catherine,

As your elected representative, I feel that it's my responsibility to provide services and information that will increase the quality of life across the 44th Assembly District. I encourage you to attend the following events that I'm pleased to host throughout the district and to share this information with your friends and neighbors.

Anthony

Children's Health Forum

As the father of two great children and as a man who's been challenged by weight issues all my life, I feel that it's important to focus attention on children's health in California. I am very excited to be holding my first Children's Health Forum at Washington Middle School this Saturday, October 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The forum will include speakers and demonstrations on childhood diabetes and obesity and will provide helpful information on preventing and dealing with these diseases. We also have a great Resource Fair available all day long with many Community Organizations and Health Partners on hand to offer important information and helpful give-a- ways. Continental breakfast and a light lunch will be included. All are welcome and there's no cost, thanks to our generous sponsors, AT&T and the City of Hope. Washington is located at 1505 N. Marengo Avenue in Pasadena and the event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

College Workshop Day

The greatest opportunity for our children to get ahead in life is to attend college; however I know that many of our students are unsure how to get started in their pursuit of higher education. In order to help students to connect with crucial information to get them started on that road, I am pleased to invite students, parents and mentors to attend my College Workshop Day on Saturday, October 27th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Eagle Rock High School, 1750 Yosemite Dr, Los Angeles. Attendees will: Learn how to apply for financial aid, Learn about the requirements for UC's, CSU's and CC's, and more. Our community partner, the Campaign for College Opportunity, has generously provided an opportunity for students in attendance to enter a drawing for a \$500 college scholarship! Additionally, a light lunch will be

provided.

Identity Theft Conference

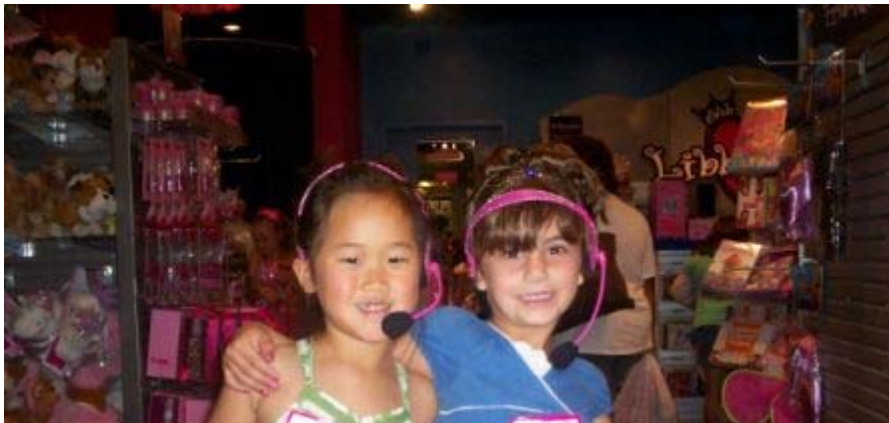
As a member of the Assembly Committee on Public Safety, I am acutely aware that many of our neighbors, friends and family members are vulnerable to the dangers of having their identity stolen and all but destroyed. In order to shed much needed light on many scams and frauds that target innocent and unsuspecting citizens, I am proud to host an Identity Theft Conference on Saturday, November 3, 2007 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Duarte City Hall in the Community Center located at 1600 Huntington Blvd., in Duarte. Speakers from the following agencies will provide information and updates on identity theft and fraud: California Department of Consumers Affairs - Office of Privacy Protection; Contractors State License Board, Statewide Investigative Fraud Unit; California Banker's Association; and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. I encourage you to attend to learn how to protect yourself and those you care about.

Bills Signed and Vetoed

I'm ecstatic that the Governor signed AB 34 establishing California's first public umbilical cord blood collection program. The Governor also signed my bill to extend survivor benefits to the families of fallen federal firefighters. I was also very pleased that my bill to garner significant financial aid for community college students was signed into law. By signing AB 702, the Governor put into law a bill that protects the legacy of many of the golden age performers of Rock & Roll and the consumers who pay to see live performances. I want to thank John "Bowzer" Bauman of Sha Na Na for bringing the Truth in Music Act to my attention.

I was very disappointed that the Governor vetoed AB 1413. AB 1413 asks the California State University to have more transparency in its executive compensation practices. At a time when the CSU budget is being balanced on the backs of students, CSU top administrators are receiving exorbitant raises. The Governor also vetoed my Workforce Needs Assessment bill. It made sense to me to determine our specific workforce needs for the next two decades so we can tailor curriculum to meet those needs. In spite of strong business and chamber support, the Governor vetoed this bi-partisan bill.

Bella turns six



Bella had her 6th birthday party on Sunday. It nearly wore me out - seventeen princess' doing the limbo and having a great time. I was designated the videographer. What a hoot.

Sofia and Driving

Still no license! And, thank you for the many e-mails with advice. I'm actually going to take a three hour father-daughter driving course sponsored by one of the major car manufacturers designed to create parent-child bonding and a great teenage driver. I can tell you that Sofia isn't thrilled about spending three hours with me on the same course but the word I've heard from folks who know about the "driving expectations" course is that it's well worth the time. I'll fill you in after we take it.

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Margaret Mead - "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

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