

The Portantino Press:

News from Assemblymember Anthony Portantino

**HIV/AIDS ACTION SUMMIT ~ AIDS WALK ~ TOUGH BUDGET
YEAR EXPECTED ~ JOHN EDWARDS CAMPAIGN NEEDS YOUR
HELP ~ SOCCER SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE ~
WORLD SERIES**



Dear Friends,

It's been a busy couple of weeks. My office held our first Children's Health Forum at Washington Middle School. Thank you AT&T, City of Hope and PUSD, for working with us on this important public health issue. I also worked with the Campaign for College Opportunity on a college readiness fair at Eagle Rock High School. Thank you Principal Velasco and Mr. Williams for your assistance and participation.

Over the last two weeks I've attended conferences on K-12 education, foster youth and general state issues. I was also very pleased to attend a forum on civic investment in our public schools, coordinated jointly by eleven different community organizations working with the Pasadena school district. Several excellent city-school partnership models were highlighted for a packed and engaged PUSD community.

Frankly, I was a little bit tired at the end of last week. Ellen and I actually got away (without the girls) for three days in northern California. Neither of us do "relaxing" well but it was great to hang out and recharge our batteries!

Anthony

San Gabriel Valley HIV/AIDS Action Summit:

Progress & Opportunities

I am very excited to be co-hosting with City of Hope the San Gabriel Valley HIV/AIDS Action Summit on December 5th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Cooper Auditorium located on the City of Hope Campus. HIV and AIDS have stricken our nation and the world with horrendous results; it knows no borders and is an equal opportunity destroyer. Coming right on the heels of World AIDS Day, this will be a prime opportunity to increase awareness that this disease continues to devastate many communities, will provide updates on the latest research being done locally, will educate on what efforts are available locally and regionally in the fight against this

insidious disease, and will identify action items for local communities, government and organizations to educate and mobilize. In addition to other discussions, we will focus on the impact of AIDS in communities of color.

Speakers include Dr. Alexandra Levine, former Chair, Research Committee for President Clinton's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS; Dr. Michael Gottlieb whose report in 1981 became the official start date of the HIV/AIDS epidemic; Dr. John Rossi and Dr. John Zaia, experts in HIV/AIDS clinical treatment and research; Yvonne Benson, MSW, Executive Director of AIDS Service Center Pasadena and Cesar Portillo, Vice President of Strategic Development at BIENESTAR. Attendees will participate in establishing goals for future action in advocacy, education, treatment and research. Resource tables hosted by local and regional agencies and organizations will be available.

To RSVP or obtain additional information about this event, please contact my district office at (626) 577- 9944. There is no charge for this event, however space is limited so reservations are recommended. I look forward to seeing you there!

POSADA

On Dec 1st, AIDS Service Center & the City of Pasadena will host the 20th annual Posada AIDS Walk to coincide with World AIDS Day and the opening of the Holiday season. Walkers will begin in the courtyard of One Colorado in Old Pasadena and end in front of the newly renovated Pasadena City Hall for an interfaith closing ceremony of music and inspiration. Along the way, walkers will visit historic buildings, cultural sites and entertainment venues and will view a moving display of panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

In keeping with tradition, I will once again host a team in the walk. Please join my family and friends as we walk to help raise funds for the AIDS Service Center and bring awareness to World Aids Day. Join TEAM PORTANTINO by going to <http://posadaaidswalk.org/home.html> and click on "Join a Team" on the right hand side of the page. Fill in your information and choose TEAM PORTANTINO from the team menu. You can make a personal donation or participate through a pledge drive to allow others to donate.

Registration begins at 2 PM on December 1, 2007 at One Colorado in Old Town, however our team will plan on congregating at about 3:30 p.m. as the venues will not open till 4 p.m. We will start our walk around 3:45 to 4 p.m. and will attend the closing ceremony at 6:30 p.m.

All proceeds from Posada benefit AIDS Service Center. ASC, commemorating 20 years of service, provides housing services, transportation, comprehensive case management, mental health services and advocacy to over 1,200 clients and their families throughout Los Angeles County each year. In addition, ASC reaches 7,000 community members annually through HIV prevention and education services.

If you have any questions about TEAM PORTANTINO, please call Bill Hackett at (626) 705-2180 or (626) 577- 9944.

- [Join Team Portantino!](#)

TOUGH BUDGET YEAR EXPECTED

Governor Schwarzenegger has announced plans to ask for a 10% budget reduction for the balance of this year. The non-partisan Legislative Analyst's Office expects there to be a 10 billion dollar budget deficit next year.

JOHN EDWARD'S CAMPAIGN

Next month I'm going to take some time and travel to Iowa to walk precincts for John Edwards. As you may know, I was the first elected official in California to endorse former Senator John Edwards to be our next President. I feel that John Edwards has the most progressive platform, is leading the way with substantive policy proposals on critical issues facing our nation, and has the best chance to win in November 2008. I've never been to Iowa and I believe there are too many critical issues at stake to not have Senator Edwards become our next President.

There are easy opportunities to help the Edward's presidential effort right here in the 44th Assembly District! Call centers will be set- up beginning in December and all it takes is a few hours of your time to speak with friendly, active Democratic voters. Organizers will provide a script you can use to help you discuss why John Edwards is the best candidate for President in 2008. With your advance commitment today, the campaign will be ready to hit the ground running to get out the vote for John Edwards. PLEASE SIGN UP NOW!!!! Send an e- mail to: edwardsphonebankers@gmail.com and be sure to include your name and phone number. John Edwards and our country need your help!

SOCCER COMES TO A CLOSE



I had fun watching my favorite soccer team this year, Bella's Purple Mermaids. The five and six year olds are quite amazing as they progressed through the year. Bella even had some goals, two in her last game of the season.

SERIES

WORLD



I got in trouble with Ellen for taking Sofia out of school for a World Series game. I had a once in a lifetime opportunity to go to Game 4 in Colorado and I took my sixteen year old. From what her friends have told me, she had a good time. I'm the last one to know. I enjoyed the game and a great time with my daughter.

"At a desk where I sit, I have learned one great truth. The answer for all our problems

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