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Newspaper's First Woman City Editor and the Sensational Stories She Covered Explored in Photo Exhibit "The First with the Latest! Aggie Underwood"

**Photo exhibit on view through Jan.10, 2016,
At Central Library, Downtown Los Angeles**

Los Angeles, Oct. 1, 2015 — The influence of the nation's first woman city editor at a major metropolitan newspaper, the Los Angeles Herald Examiner's Agness "Aggie" Underwood, is explored through imagery from some of the most disturbing stories she covered during her 40-year career. "The First with the Latest! Aggie Underwood, the Los Angeles Herald, and the Sordid Crimes of a City" is now on view at the Central Library's History & Genealogy Department through January 10, 2016.

Using images drawn from the Los Angeles Herald Examiner photo collection archived at the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL), the free exhibition, co-sponsored by Photo Friends and LAPL, highlights sixteen infamous crimes in the City of Angels, from the Marian Parker kidnapping to the notorious Black Dahlia case.

Joan Renner curated the exhibit and wrote the 148-page companion catalog, available for purchase at the Library Store and on Amazon. Christina Rice, Senior Librarian, LAPL Photo Collection, edited the catalog.

"I want visitors to this exhibit to be inspired by Aggie Underwood's remarkable career as a reporter. I hope they are motivated to dig deeper into L.A.'s unique history; and there is no better place to begin a journey through time than Central Library and the photo collection," said Renner.

Rice added, "This exhibit is a fantastic opportunity not only to explore the story behind photos in our Herald Examiner collection, but to also shine a light on Aggie Underwood, whose contributions to the reporting of this city are no longer so well known."

Peter Persic, Public Relations & Marketing Director

Renner is a writer, social historian, and board member of Photo Friends. Her blog, *Deranged L.A. Crimes®*, recounts true tales of murder, mayhem, political corruption, and celebrity scandal from the 1920s to 1970s. She will release a new book “*Deranged L.A. Crimes from the Notebook of Aggie Underwood*” in Fall 2015. Visit www.derangedlacrimes.com for more information.

Photo Friends is a nonprofit organization that supports LAPL’s Photograph Collection and History & Genealogy Department, and strives to improve access to the collections and promote their holdings through programs, projects, exhibits, and books. Find more information at www.photofriends.org/. Numbering over 3 million images, the LAPL Photo chronicles the history of Los Angeles and is a world-renowned visual resource. Over 105,000 images are available to view at <http://photos.lapl.org>.

A 2015 recipient of the nation’s highest honor for library service — the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than 6 million books, state-of-the-art technology accessible at www.lapl.org, and more than 18,000 public programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.

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