

Some of City's Best Are Recognized For Their Excellence in Civil Service



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; Councilmember Janice Hahn; Award Recipient John Dwyer, Port Pilots Division, Harbor Dept.; Award Recipient Lawrence Holmes, Port Pilots Division, Harbor Dept.; Award Recipient Ronald Rogers, Port Pilots Division, Harbor Dept.; Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel; and Noel Cunningham, Director of Operations and Emergency Management, Harbor Dept.

Annual Career Service Award event shines light on great service and longevity, demonstrating the excellence the City provides.

Friday morning, May 9, in the John Ferraro City Council Chambers, Councilman Dennis Zine represented the City of Los Angeles in the annual Career Service Awards, recognizing City employees for the tremendous gifts they have given back to their bosses:

the citizens of Los Angeles.

"It gives me great pleasure to once again participate in the Career Service Awards Ceremony," Zine said. "This year, we are honoring one of the largest numbers of City employees for their exemplary service to the City of Los Angeles."

Joining him at the podium was Margaret Whelan, general manager, Personnel Dept.

The event was held in conjunction with Public Service Recognition Month.

Active! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles congratulate all the awardees for their tremendous service.

The awardees and their accomplishments (text courtesy the Personnel Dept.):

2004 Career Service Award winners:

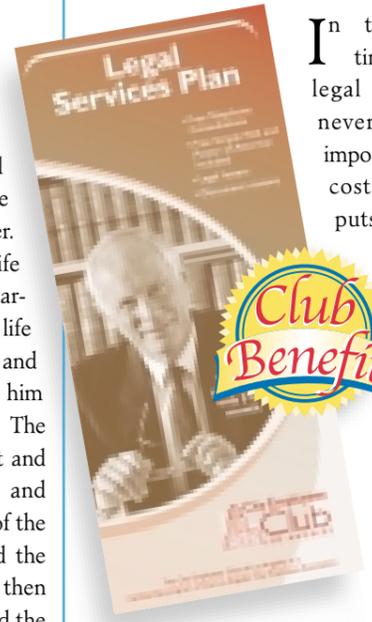
★ William Davenport, Deck Hand; John Dwyer, Port Pilot; Lawrence Holmes, Port Pilot; and Ronald Rogers, Port Pilot, Port Pilots Division, Harbor Dept.

On Aug. 10, 2002, while inbound from sea in the fog to San Pedro, the Stephen White Pilot Boat collided with a small recreational boat. The small vessel was immediately swamped and its three occupants were thrown into the water. Captain Holmes immediately threw life rings to the victims. Seeing a victim appearing to struggle in the water to reach the life ring, Captain Dwyer dove into the water and swam a life ring to the victim and swam him approximately 30 feet back to the boat. The other two victims swam to the pilot boat and were recovered by Captains Rogers and Holmes, who pulled the two victims out of the water while William Davenport operated the recovery platform winch. These awardees then began to administer first aid and stabilized the victims, awaiting the arrival of the LAFD rescue vessel. The awardees placed themselves in danger without regard to their personal safety to assist victims in distress.

See Service Awards, Page 6

New Benefit Means Legal Service Access

Need legal services but scared off by high costs? With our new Club partner, you get access to your own local attorney for only \$11 a month.



In these modern times, access to legal services has never been more important. But the costs of lawyers puts that service out of reach for most hard-working City employees.

Not anymore. The Club has joined forces with United LegalNet, to offer Club

members prepaid access to real local lawyers and legal services at an affordable price. The plan offers competent legal advice and assistance and guarantees competent, courteous and effective advice to Club members' inquiries, through their own in-house attorneys. The plan further provides a network of experienced and qualified attorneys to handle matters outside the basic membership services.

"The Club works hard to provide its members with things they really need," says John Hawkins, Club COO. "People have been asking for this kind of legal service, with local attorneys. So we went out and found an excellent partner in LegalNet."

"Imagine your own attorney for only \$11 a month. It's an excellent benefit."

"We're excited about being part of the Club family," says Paul Newman of United

See Legal Services Plan, Page 16

Mayor Emphasizes Priorities in His Annual State of the City Address



Flanked by police officers and firefighters, Mayor Jim Hahn delivered his third State of the City address at Fire Station 88 in Sherman Oaks April 19. Mayor Hahn discussed his efforts to focus on the City's priorities of increasing public safety, improving the delivery of services to neighborhoods and growing the economy by creating more housing and jobs.

Mayor Hahn also announced that his budget for next year contains funding to put

See State of the City, Page 23



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350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700
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Alive!

June 2004 • Volume 3 – No. 6

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by **John Hawkins**
 COO, The Club



Thoughts on Hats and A Special Father's Day

There's a lot of good stuff going on in the City—and the Club, of course. So let's get right to it!

First if you haven't bought the City Seal hat yet, what are you waiting for? Don't delay, because they really are going fast. Wear your City pride whenever you can! Look elsewhere in this month's issue of *Alive!* for directions on how to order.

It's easy to understand why the Department of the Month and Robert Larios' Cooking With the Club feature are two of our most popular. But what sometimes goes unnoticed is our excellent Classifieds section. There are always good bargains there, offered by your fellow Club members. Put it to good use for you! Don't forget that we offer free classified advertising to members, and if you send us a digital photo we'll put that in too.

Thirdly, have you checked out this month's feature on the Coloring Contest results? In a word, wow! The Club is delighted that so many youngsters took part. Remember that everyone who enters is a winner. Only three are picked for the big prize, but we send along a token of appreciation to all the others, too. We couldn't be happier that so many families are having fun with the feature, which we offer every three issues or so.

We know you love the Ticket Guy. But are you ready for the Events Guru? That would be Club staffer Michelle Moreno, who's starting a new column this month: Michelle on the

Move/Events 411. Like I said, there are so many good things happening in the City for you and your family to attend, that Michelle has taken on the task of putting them all together each month. Check out her column, and make sure to send her information about your event.

If you looked at the front page, you noticed our newest Club benefit, our prepaid legal services plan. All the details are in the article, so give it a read. It's a great benefit, and you should really think about signing up for it. We've been working on it for more than a year, to make it as good as we possibly can. Club members deserve nothing less.

Don't forget about our annual Club Scholarship program. Apply now; details are elsewhere in this issue.

I want to extend a few shout-outs, first to Zaki Mustafa for a job well done in managing the City employees' efforts toward the March of Dimes WalkAmerica event. It was a great success, and Zaki continued working hard in his day job at the DOT while pulling off the March of Dimes event ... and secondly to Jimmy Sparks for putting together the LAX employee appreciation barbecue. Good job!

And finally, I want to share my joy with you on the arrival of my beautiful daughter, Hannah (you'll see her photo in the Life's Important Moments page), brought into the world by my lovely wife, Kelley. Hannah joins my sons Noah and Isaiah. Trust me, there couldn't be a better way to lead me into Father's Day. Not a chance.

Happy Father's Day, everybody!



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City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398	DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 978-1636	DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655	Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Local 347	(213) 482-6660
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
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Have a number you'd like us to include? Send it in: alive@cityemployeesclub.com

Member Benefits

■ As a member of the Club you have access to a host of valuable services and products:

Discount Tickets

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- Theme parks and attractions (up to 70% off!)
- Movies - all major screens (up to 50% off!)
- Plays, musicals, the arts, sports events

Alive! Newspaper

- Births, weddings, retirements and deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- News that matters!
- Department of the Month
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information

Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
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Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check" - 14% of premiums returned in 2003!
- Pet Insurance

More Benefits

- Legal Services Plan
- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Contests, contests, contests!
- Travel Discounts
- Home Loans



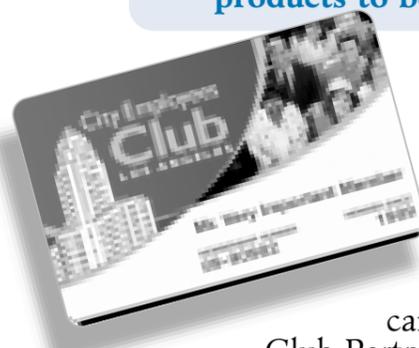
Join the Club!

All active or retired City of Los Angeles and DWP employees are eligible to become members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

To join, call
(800) 464-0452.

Enjoy all these benefits for only \$4 per month for active employees, or \$2 per month for retired employees.

Look for new services and products to be added soon!



Club Card

• Show your card and save at Club Partner businesses throughout Los Angeles.

Members Speak Out

■ **The Club's Claims department draws praise from members who have Club insurance. You should consider the Club's plans for your insurance needs, too.**

"The service is excellent. Everyone is very friendly and your service is prompt and efficient. Thank you for all your help."
— **Nancy W. Wang**

"The service is exceptional ... I'm impressed. Cecelia Camacho understood the sorrow I was going through and still kept issues at hand in perspective. She is very professional and is an asset to your company."
— **Gwendolyn McGee-Beale**

"I evaluate your service as excellent. I really wish that everyone's service was as well-run as yours. Thank you. You didn't hassle me, and you work quickly. I am an older woman who does not always have transportation and you helped me during a difficult time."
— **Jovita Perez**

"Your service was very good and efficient; you are reliable and courteous. You responded right away when I called. I got a result after I submitted the necessary documents in a very short time. Thank you."
— **Lourdes C. Ancheta**

"Your service is excellent. You have kind and courteous representatives; they explained what and why and then make suggestions."
— **Maria V. Roganvilla-Sayoto**

"Service was great and considerate. You were thorough in explaining to us all we had to do. You were considerate and extended the hand of sympathy and understanding to my sister and me."
— **Bravura L. McGee**

"The people were very prompt. They answered any question at a very trying time. Things were done for me without my even knowing that they needed to be done. I had no idea who held what policies but you took care of everything. Thank you."
— **Sandra Manhart**

"After my husband's passing it has been difficult, but your services were very timely, professional and complete. The LACEA representatives were very knowledgeable and kind. Thank you! I believe I received such service because of the upfront commitment to adequate training and reinforcement of positive behavior."
— **Virtie V. Whitson**



"The Club service is excellent. All the representatives from the Club that I spoke to, including Ms. Camacho, were all very professional, courteous and sympathetic to my loss, of which I really appreciated. Also my claim was paid promptly."
— **Adeline Grant**

"Good service! Good service, because the service was there when I needed it. Your service took care of my daughter in a very professional manner, beside the money, which does not solve the problem of bringing my daughter back. I am grateful for everything you did to help me and my family. Thank you very much Mrs. Camacho, you will always be in my heart for your help!!"
— **Derral T. Franklin**

WRITE TO US TODAY!

Send your letters by email to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or conventionally:

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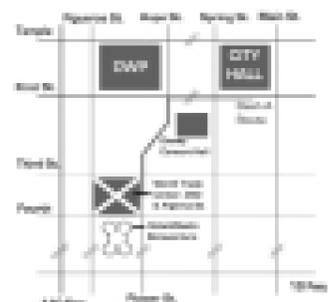
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City Employees Have Strong Showing at March of Dimes WalkAmerica Apr. 24

Hundreds of City employees from many departments participated in the March of Dimes' annual WalkAmerica

By using the phrase "only together we can make a difference," Zaki Mustafa, Senior Transportation Engineer, set a goal of City employees raising \$350,000.

Children rode the famous Griffith Park merry-go-round

free, thanks to sponsorship by the Club. As part of the day, the Club also donated prizes in the car show that accompanied the event.

Congratulations to Zaki and the dozens of departmental coordinators for a very successful event. 🎉

Here are photos from the day.



Ascencio Ramirez, Park Maintenance, 9 years.



Kids at March of Dimes.



Los Angeles World Airport, from left: Michelle Acquah, Accounting Clerk II, 12 years; and Yolana Young, Management Analyst II, 20 years.



From left: Derek McCullough; Elizabeth Lee, Treasurer's Office; Geoffrey McCullough; and Ron McCullough, Treasurer's Office, 22 years.



The Club's Ticket Guy with Club Rep Arlette Davis, Office of Accounting.



LAPD Personnel, from left: Armi Cordeta, 10 years; and Aida Quon, 20-plus years.



From the DOT: Barbara Hartsfield, Alexis Hartsfield, Paula Galindo and William Hartsfield.



Club Counselor Bev Haro with personnel from Fire Station 25.



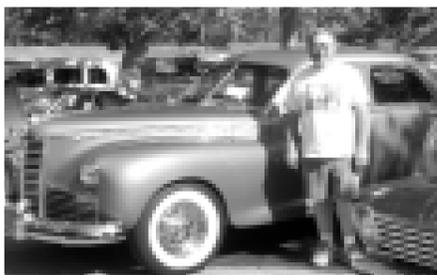
Joe De Dios, Tower Truck Operator, 28.5 years.



Nancy Wagstaff, DOT.



The LAFD Picnic Area.



Frank Gaffney, Rec & Parks, 16 years, took first place in the Hot Rod Custom class with his 1963 Chevy Nova II, and second place runner-up in the Original Restored Class with his 1946 Packard Clipper.



June Andrade, LAFD, and Zaki Mustafa, DOT.



The Car Show winners.



Brad Torres, Rec & Parks, 10 years, took third place in the Hot Rod Custom with his 1970 Chevy Corvette.



C. Holmes, Park Ranger, 15 years.



The Department of Transportation booth, from left: William, Alexis, and Barbara Hartsfield.

From right: Jesse Acosta, Building Inspector, 17 years; and his son, Evan.



Frank Gamboa, Motor Sweeper Operator, North Hollywood Yard, 24 years.



Building and Safety's Employee of the Year Otis Slaughter, 28 years; with Jim Ashby, Debra Slaughter, Jennifer Slaughter, Otis Slaughter and Andrew Adelman.



From LACERS: Caroline Lee Gutierrez with baby Ryan Gutierrez, Lynda Chiang, Jason Leung and Wai Jung.



From left: Tracy Stallings, Senior Clerk Typist, 9 years, and her daughter, Audrey; Rebecca Zamorano, Clerk Typist, 5 years, and her daughter, Angelica; Cecilia Botticella; and Mark Mariscal, Superintendent, 22 years.



From Airports, from left: Stephanie, Ashley, and Sharon Loville, 11 years; Janene Levario, 15 years; Michelle Acquah, 12 years; and Jennifer Levario.



Nancy Cammarata, LAPD.



Some of the sights from the car show.

Political Forum



Priorities in Proposed Budget Come From Citizens, Leaders

by Mayor James Hahn

To all the City employees, thank you for all of your hard work, particularly during these tight budget times. It's been a tough time for the economy. While the City faces difficult financial challenges, I am committed to partnering with the City employees to do more with less.

This year, we went straight to the people of Los Angeles to help determine our budget priorities. As part of my budget process, I met with neighborhood council representatives who overwhelmingly told me that public safety is priority one, followed by street maintenance.

Working with the City Council, general managers and many other community leaders, I developed a budget that reflects these priorities:

- Making Los Angeles the safest big city in America;
- Improving the quality of life in neighborhoods;
- Creating more economic development;
- Increasing the quantity and quality of housing; and

- Making City government more efficient and cost effective.

In the last three years, we focused heavily on improving recruitment and retention at LAPD, reinstating community policing, and bringing new leadership to the department. As a result of our efforts, violent crime went down in every category citywide last year – homicides were down 22 percent. I want to continue that momentum. My budget proposal includes funding for a modest expansion of the police force and puts dozens of additional officers back into our neighborhoods by redeploying sworn officers who are currently doing administrative jobs.

My proposed budget also delivers services that people want by funding street maintenance at record levels. We will improve twice as many miles of streets as last year.

The proposed budget also fulfills a promise that I made to create a \$100 million Housing Trust Fund to increase the quality and quantity of housing in our neighborhoods. Los Angeles is now home to the largest local housing trust fund in America.

I want to thank you all for your energy, enthusiasm and effort in serving the people of Los Angeles. Together, we are working to make Los Angeles the best city it can be and I will continue to work with you to meet our goals. ■



Mayor Hahn presenting his Fiscal Year 2004-05 Proposed Budget.



Hiring Employees Is Critical, Even During Freeze

by Dennis Zine Councilmember, District 3

Recently, as Chair of the Los Angeles City Council Personnel Committee, my actions have come under serious scrutiny. Members of the City Council, including myself, have been chastised by the local media for allowing various departments to hire additional employees while the City is under a hiring freeze. However, I believe it is important that as employees of this City, you know what is fact, and what is fiction.

A hiring freeze is not a hiring moratorium; the City is not going out of business. Taxpayers expect the police and fire departments to be ready when needed; taxpayers expect their trash to be picked up, the libraries to be open, the parks staffed, the streets and sidewalks maintained, and our trees trimmed. All that takes people.

Members of the media and the public are often unaware that many of these positions are grant-, fee- or special-fund-supported. Additionally, many of these positions are seasonal, such as pool attendants or summer athletic staff at the parks. Moreover, many of these positions actually generate revenue for the City, such as Department of Transportation traffic officers who generate more than twice their cost in parking tickets paid and vehicle

Council District 3 includes these communities:

- Woodland Hills
- West Hills
- Canoga Park
- Reseda
- Winnetka
- Tarzana

impound fees.

The City Council Personnel Committee, working in concert with the City Administrating Officer (CAO) and the Budget and Finance Committee, scrutinized each and every request for personnel. We looked at the need for the job that is to be done and the funding source to pay for the job. Every single position that was approved by the Personnel Committee, or by the City Council, was clearly justified.

The City workforce may have grown over the last 14 months by 239 people, but the total budget has been reduced by millions, and the service the City provides to its citizens has been improved. I am proud that, even in these tough economic times, our City employees continue to dedicate their lives to public service. ■

Each month, Alive! invites political leaders to speak directly to City and DWP employees and retirees. Alive! brings you these views as a public service. The opinions of those on this monthly column are independent of Alive! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.



Happy Father's Day

The Club wishes all dads a great day Sunday, June 20. Take a moment and congratulate yourself for the awesome job you do every day of the year. Best wishes from the Club for a job well done!



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Some of Best Employees Shine in Spotlight



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; Councilmember Janice Hahn; Award Recipient Clayton Hoppes, Maintenance and Construction Helpers, Harbor Dept.; Award Recipient Albert Galloway, Maintenance and Construction Helpers, Harbor Dept.; Noel Cunningham, Director of Operations and Emergency Management, Harbor Dept.; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; Award Recipient Alonzo Clark, Personnel Director III, Human Resources Division; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; James M. Okazaki, Assistant General Manager, DOT; Award Recipient, John Fong, Supervising Transportation Planner II, DOT; Wayne Tada, General Manager, DOT; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; Award Recipient Jacqueline I. Landtiser, Police Officer III, LAPD Foothill Division, with her family; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



Councilmember Dennis Zine; Award Recipient Carmen Steward, Executive Secretary II, Emergency Preparedness Department, and her family; Ellis M. Stanley, General Manager, Emergency Preparedness Dept.; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.

Service Awards

Continued from Page 1

★ Albert Galloway and Clayton Hoppes, Maintenance and Construction Helpers, Construction and Maintenance Division, Harbor Dept.

On Aug. 21, 2003, Maintenance and Construction Helpers Galloway and Hoppes observed a female jump into the harbor waters at Berth 84. The female was thrashing and flailing in the water attempting to reach the public landing when Galloway and Hoppes realized the female needed help. They quickly reached out from the public landing and pulled the female out of the water, saving her life.

★ Los Angeles Port Police, Port Dive Operations Group, Harbor Dept.; and the Los Angeles Police Dept.

The Los Angeles Port Police and the Los Angeles Police Dept., both having underwater dive units in their respective departments, recognized that no single dive unit has the resources to effectively ensure the safety of ships calling on the Port of Los Angeles, which is the third largest port in the world. The security concerns following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, made it apparent that barriers needed to be torn down and the dive units from both departments would need to work together as a single team.

This new team would be known as the Port Dive Operations Group, and its primary function is to ensure that high-risk vessels can call on the Port of Los Angeles with the knowledge that the ships and docks are free from explosive devices.

With completed training conducted by the Department of Homeland Defense, they have expanded their knowledge of various explosive devices and mines. Their service is voluntary and collateral to their assigned duties, and is performed under harsh and hazardous conditions.

In 2003, they conducted more than 30 dive operations. Several of these dive operations have uncovered other illegal activities including drug smuggling and homicide victims.

The men and women of the Port Dive Operations Group should be commended for its timeless efforts in providing this invaluable service. It continues to project the image of true professionals and sets an example for public safety divers nationwide.

★ Alonzo Clark, Departmental Personnel Director III, Library Dept., Human Resources Division.

Clark's career spans more than 25 years, starting in the Personnel Dept. He has been the personnel director for the Library since 1992. He has effectively advised the general manager and two assistant general managers, and provided for the human resource needs of the department's 1,300 employees. He has played a vital leadership role in expanding staff during the last ten years in response to a dramatic increase in service hours and the expansion of the library system.

His career includes successfully negotiated complex labor-management contracts; with the closure of dozens of libraries after the 1992 riots and the 1994 earthquake, Clark developed and implemented criteria for reassigning entire work units and hundreds of employees. Clark aggressively recruited top talent into the library profession by developing creative and innovative recruitment displays, materials and other recruitment tools that presented the Los Angeles Public Library as a first choice for potential candidates. These recruitment methods are now being used by many library systems across the country. Clark's experience and interpersonal skills, along with his training programs, make him a valuable and effective mentor. His professionalism, expertise and dedication to duty plays a significant role in the Library Department's success.

★ John Fong, Supervising Transportation Planner II, Bureau of Transit Programs, Transportation Dept.

With nearly 30 years of service, John Fong has dedicated the last 20 years with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation. Fong is known as the "father" of the Cityride program, which provides subsidized transportation services for the elderly and persons with disabilities. He was involved in the development and implementation of Cityride. More than 120,000 City residents are registered with Cityride, making it the largest program of its kind in the nation. The program has an estimated 14 million passenger trips per year. His leadership, dedication and excellent work in the area of public transportation has contributed to enhancing the quality of life for all City residents and visitors.

★ Robert Blackmer, Signal Systems Supervisor II, Dept. of Transportation.

Robert Blackmer has engaged in an inspiring 38-year career with the City of Los Angeles. He was selected to be a key team member to help guide the implementation of a new pilot project known as the Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control System (ATSAC.) He has played a pivotal role in the development of the state-of-the-art traffic control (ATSAC) systems now in place throughout the City, and continues to be and leading edge of technology as a key member of the Department of Transportation Bureau of Field Operations. He supported the ATSAC system by leading the field implementation staff during the construction of a number of additional ATSAC control areas of note the Santa Monica Freeway Smart Corridor project.

He has been a key team member in making the Department of Transportation a nationally recognized leader in applying advanced technology to improve traffic safety and reduce congestion.

It can truly be said that the state-of-the-art traffic management capabilities of the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation are in great part due to the dedication, creative ingenuity and technical ability of Mr. Blackmer during his meritorious 38 year of service.

★ Jim Holdaway, Graphics Supervisor I, Harbor Dept., Communications Service Division.

For more than 19 years, Jim Holdaway has earned the reputation as the person to go to when something has to be done, no matter what it is, no matter how short the time frame. His expertise as a videographer and photographer has come into play at many critical points, including putting himself on the line to get that perfect one-time-only shot. His professionalism and creativity are an enormous benefit to the entire department. Equally important is the image portrayed to the local communities and Jim has produced numerous publications, presentations and other communications pieces that reach this audience with the right image.

★ David Keim, Deputy Superintendent, Code Enforcement Bureau, Department of Building and Safety

David Keim began his career with Building and Safety as an assistant inspector. Throughout his 25-plus years of service, he has invaluable knowledge and experience that has enabled him to rise through the ranks to an assistant general manager position. His diligence, commitment and outstanding leadership and management skills have assisted in vastly improving the morale of staff and generally improving the efficiencies and responsiveness in delivering code enforcement services to the public. Throughout his career, he has served as an outstanding example of what a civil servant should be by demonstrating a caring and "can-do" attitude and the highest level of professionalism and dedication to duty.

★ Jacqueline Landtiser, Police Officer III, LAPD Foothill Division

After the 2002 kidnapping and subsequent murder of five-year-old Samantha Runyon in Orange County, Foothill Area Community Relations Officer Jacqueline Landtiser sought answers to what she could do to help deter future kidnappings of young children. With the assistance of her daughter Jamie Lynn Landtiser as well as volunteers and other Foothill officers, and during her off-duty hours, she created a skit that acted out how children could help themselves from being a potential victim of a kidnap suspect, and it included warnings of what they should do if a stranger approaches them. The skit was videotaped and was



From left: Councilman Dennis Zine; Award Recipient Sam Tanaka, Principal Civil Engineer/Programmer, Public Works – Bureau of Engineering; Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer, Public Works; Bradley M. Smith, Chief Deputy City Engineer, Public Works; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; Award Recipient Jim Holdaway, Graphics Supervisor 1, Harbor Department, with his family; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



Los Angeles Port Police Port Dive Operations Group receives recognition.



The Employee Development Division of the Personnel Department receives recognition.

given the name "Stranger Danger" and is continuously being used by the entire LAPD as a prevention-based tape. The videotaped skit has also been approved for use in several fundraising activities by the Children's Assault Treatment Services (CATS) from the Northridge Hospital Sherman Way campus. Officer Landtiser is to be commended for her caring, compassion, thoroughness, and the countless hours she dedicated to making this video.

★ **Gloria Pinon, Senior Clerk Typist, City Clerk, Council and Public Service**

As a staff member assigned to the Council and Public Service Division's Public Counter, Gloria has several challenging duties, including preparation and timely publication of official/public notices in newspapers throughout Los Angeles. She has consistently demonstrated firm leadership by improving existing processes, building an improved and expanded publication program, and training co-workers in new procedures. She has also saved substantial monies by examining costs and working closely with vendors to obtain the lowest publication rates, and has also identified instances where the City was overcharged and has successfully disputed the charges, leading to reimbursement. The Department's continued success is in part due to her dedication and ever-present friendly and professional assistance she provides at the Public Counter.

★ **Carmen Steward, Executive Secretary II, Administrative Division, Emergency Preparedness Department**

Carmen Steward joined the Emergency Preparedness Department in 1997 and has shown maturity, motivation, enthusiasm and professional growth during her entire tenure. As an executive secretary for the general manager, she continues to demonstrate skills far beyond her classification and departmental expectations. She conducts interviews with general managers and elected officials, as well as representatives from the public. She collects information to publish a quarterly departmental newsletter, "Synergy," which has received recognition from emergency management agencies across the country. In every situation, Carmen represents the City and department in an exemplary way.

★ **Sam Tanaka, Principal Civil Engineer/Programmer, Library and Proposition Q Bonds Programs, Public Works Department**

With a career spanning more than 30 years beginning with the City's DWP, Sam Tanaka currently works as a principal civil engineer/programmer in the Bureau of Engineering, and is responsible for approximately \$1 billion of City's current capital improvement projects. These projects include construction, renovation and expansion of 33 libraries, 20 police stations, as well as a new joint-use Emergency Operations/Police Operations/Fire Dispatch Center, and the construction of a new police headquarters facility. He has worked with a kind of diligence and integrity uncommon to most. Of particular note is his work on the library bond program, which received overwhelming voter support.

City staff and departments that have had the opportunity to interact with him respect his leadership and ability to foster an environment for his staff that enables professional growth while being able to deliver and follow-through on the projects he manages.

★ **Employee Development Section, EEO/Employment Development Division, Personnel Department**

With an average of 25 years of City service, members of the Employee Development Section, Personnel Department, form a team of dedicated training professionals. In fiscal year 2003-03, with the complete elimination of the contractual training budget, the Employee Development Section committed itself not only to quickly salvage the Citywide Training and Development Program, but also, through its efforts, enhanced the program through the development of new and replacement courses. The section employed creative and innovative ways to expand training opportunities, as well as enhance their own classroom training skills. Some of the innovative and creative ways staff expanded the Citywide training program include: provided training sessions solely to departments with large training backlogs; refocused the Training World Newsletter into a vital training tool for City employees featuring staff-written training articles; offered Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminars focused on improving City employees' quality of life; created Cityquiz, a computer-based interactive "game" designed to test employees' knowledge of the City; expanded the Personnel Department's intranet site by providing written summaries of selected in-house training courses, and added a new document resource directory. Ninety-four percent of the City's operating departments participated in the 15 training programs conducted by the Section, resulting in 5,626 City employees being trained. It is for these reasons that the entire Employee Development Section was commended for its commitment and dedication to duty. 🌟



Award Recipient David R. Keim, Deputy Superintendent, Department of Building and Safety.



From left: Councilman Dennis Zine; John E. Fisher, Assistant General Manager, DOT; Award Recipient Robert Blackmer, DOT; Anson Nordby, Principal Transportation Engineer, DOT; Wayne Tanda, General Manager, DOT; and Margaret Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



From left: Councilmember Dennis Zine; Award Recipient Gloria Pinon, and family, Senior Clerk Typist, Office of the City Clerk, with her family; J. Michael Carey, City Clerk; and Margaret Whelan, G.M., Personnel.

Global Ring Unlimited Co.

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www.globalringsunlimited.com

40% OFF Discount given to all City, DWP, Fire and LAPD personnel.



Retirees NEWS

Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Following is a list of contacts for the City and for the DWP:

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

City Retirement Counselors:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| • Edward Harding (805) 584-9417 | • Jack Mathews (310) 762-1942 |
| • Phil Skarin (818) 784-0130 | • Helen Salgado (323) 728-4930 (membership) |
| • Robert Wilkinson (818) 886-1000 | • Americo Garza (562) 928-2051 |
| • Jerry Bardwell (818) 782-5568 | • Neil Ricci (310) 394-1971 |
| • Harold Danowitz (310) 472-0224 | |

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

For Retirees By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Membership NEWS

Frances Cota is the president of the Kern River Valley Poets and Writers Club. She sent me a copy of *Reflections of the Kern*, which includes writings of her club's members. Frances is a past winner in our RLACEI Annual Poetry Contest. Retirees and spouses, start working on your entries for this year's contest.

Bob Okuda, who had been handling the handicapping for our annual golf tournament for 25 years, until he was injured in an automobile accident a year ago, has recovered enough so that he can now drive. We wish him a continuing recovery.

Ken Spiker and **Phil Skarin** have just joined the elite ranks of octogenarians, proving that a milestone is better than a tombstone

Bill Holland, former City architect, is the vice president of construction services for the URS Corp. in Los Angeles

Andres Santamaria is now the public works director of Port Hueneme.

If you have any news about a retiree that you'd like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411, or call (818) 784-0130.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Most people have a "comfort zone." It is a place that appears to be easy and comfortable, where nothing is demanded of us and where we avoid conflicts or taking risks. But, staying within your comfort zone can restrain your personal and spiritual growth. You need to search for new insights and wisdom, take some risks, reach out to someone in need and be proud of your uniqueness, worth and value. So, it will take some effort and courage to avoid becoming a captive of your comfort zone.



2005 Health Care Premium Increases Might Be Lower Than First Thought For Retirees

by Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair



Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

Ed Harding, RLACEI President, said that our next big event is our 26th Annual Retirees Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 15, at the Alhambra Golf Course. The

deadline for entries has passed, but if you call Tournament Chairman Phil Skarin at (818) 784-0130, he might have an open spot.

Harding asks you to keep August 12 reserved on your calendar for our Annual Picnic at the Grace E. Simons Lodge in Elysian Park. Picnic Chair Americo Garza has engaged the Chris & Pitts Catering Company to put on a fabulous BBQ.

Legislative Update: Ken Spiker, our elected representative to the LACERS Board of Administration, is pleased to report that the most recent estimates for 2005 health care premiums are projected to increase by 1.1 percent. Earlier estimates indicated a double-digit increase like last year. Medical renewal rates are expected to increase 1.7 percent; dental premiums are expected to decrease to 6.2 percent and vision coverage will remain unchanged.

Ken stated the new federal Medicare law probably caused the change and should have an even better impact in 2006 when the prescription drug portion of the law will be in full effect.

The LACERS Benefit and Administration Committee, which Ken is chairman, will continue to review the 19 submitted proposals, interview the finalists and will submit their recommendations to the full board in July. Presently Ken thinks we will probably keep the current providers.

Website: Hal Danowitz is working on developing a Web page for RLACEI. He expects it to be up and running by August. This will provide an additional means of communication with our members.

Membership: Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, reports that we have 8940 members. But there are several thousand



retirees who are not members who ought to be helping

Coming events:

- June 15** – Golf Tournament
- Aug. 12** – Picnic
- Oct. 14** – Annual Corporation Meeting & Elections
- Dec. 9** – Christmas Party.

to support our efforts to keep and improve our retirement benefits. Dues are just a buck a month. Call Helen at (323) 728-4930 right away and she will send you a membership application. 📧

In a World of Uncertainty, We Can Offer You a Guarantee...

... The Guarantee for People who like to win, but hate to lose.

Variable annuities are an important tool to consider for retirement planning. The benefits of investing in variable annuities include tax-deferral on any growth until you begin receiving income, guaranteed income for life and a guaranteed death benefit if you should pass away before you annuitize. While investing in a variable annuity may provide an opportunity for growth of your investment, variable annuities assess certain charges such as mortality and expense risk and administration charges, annual maintenance fees and asset management fees and are subject to risks including the potential loss of value. As a result, variable annuities, like other investments, cause some people to worry about the possibility of losing their original investment. Now there is The Guaranteed Return Option (GRO)SM, an optional benefit available with most variable annuities issued by American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation ("American Skandia") for an annual charge of 0.25% of the Account Value allocated to the Variable Sub-Accounts. GRO guarantees you won't lose your original investment if you remain invested for a seven-year period, and every seventh contract anniversary thereafter, provided GRO is still in force. With GRO, the initial investment is directed into variable sub-accounts and a portion of the account is shifted into fixed buckets only to the extent necessary to maintain the principal guarantee. Assets automatically shift back to variable accounts when conditions allow.¹

With GROSM you have:

- **Protection** – GRO guarantees initial Account Value (less any withdrawals) after seven years
- **Opportunity** – Ability to increase your guaranteed amount by locking in your contract anniversary value if your annuity increases in value. This will start a new seven-year Guarantee Period.
- **Flexibility** – Use GRO to participate in the equity market, tax-deferred. Select an appropriate, individually-tailored portfolio using American Skandia's broad investment platform.

¹The fixed investment options may be subject to a Market Value Adjustment upon early withdrawal that may increase or decrease values and benefits so that when surrendered or transferred prior to the end of the guarantee period, it may be worth more or less than the original investment.

Variable annuities are sold by prospectus. For a prospectus containing more complete information on any American Skandia variable annuity, including information on charges, expenses, risk factors and tax consequences, call 1-800-SKANDIA. The prospectus is the controlling document with regard to this product. It should be read carefully before you invest or send money.

Certain of the most volatile portfolios are not available in the GRO program. GRO is not available in all states or in products where fixed allocations are not approved. An investor may terminate the GROSM program at any time. American Skandia does not provide any guarantees upon termination prior to the end of the seven-year program. Significant or prolonged declines in the value of the variable investment options you choose may result in all or a substantial portion of your Account Value being allocated to Fixed Allocations. While this will protect the principal amount during such market declines, it may substantially reduce your ability to allocate Account Value to variable investment options, particularly during periods of market increase. Guarantees associated with the program and the fixed rate accounts are subject to the claims paying ability of American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation.

Variable annuities are long-term investment products designed for retirement purposes. Partial or complete surrenders of taxable amounts may be subject to ordinary income tax and if prior to age 59½ may result in an additional 10% IRS penalty. Early withdrawals have the effect of reducing the death benefit and cash surrender value. Annuity contracts contain exclusions, limitations, reductions of benefits and terms for keeping them in force. Your licensed Investment Professional can provide you with costs and complete details.

Variable annuities are issued by American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation and distributed by American Skandia Marketing, Incorporated. Both companies are located at One Corporate Drive, Shelton, Connecticut 06484.

American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation and American Skandia Marketing, Incorporated are both Prudential Financial companies. American Skandia Life Assurance Corporation is solely responsible for its financial condition and contractual obligations.

James Ocon,
Financial Advisor
Kevin Wright,
Financial Advisor

Wachovia Securities
16501 Ventura Blvd.,
Suite 500
Encino, CA 91436

(800) 245-9867
(818) 907-4209 or
(818) 907-4202



VARIABLE ANNUITIES, MUTUAL FUNDS AND OTHER INVESTMENTS:

7606-3 (11/03) ARE NOT FDIC INSURED ARE NOT BANK OR CREDIT UNION GUARANTEED MAY LOSE VALUE

Community Service Is Goal Of L.A. Works Day June 5

■ Save the date, and give back to the community.

L.A. Works Day 2004 will take place Saturday, June 5th. So save the date! Here's your chance to become a part of Los Angeles' largest and most exciting day of community service, which connects concerned citizens with the broader social issues of our City.

Starting at 8 a.m., thousands of volunteers representing our City's rich cultural blend will converge a few steps from Disney Hall at



California Plaza, the gathering place at the heart of our emerging "new downtown." We will fan out to play music with kids, create community art, paint schools, murals and Fire Stations, plant trees and clean up the LA River. Dozens of community sites will be transformed in a single day! This event can make a profound difference in the character of our City.

Plan on participating! 📅



L.A. Works Day 2003: Volunteers brave the morning showers and begin planting colorful gardens.



L.A. Works Day 2003: Executive Director Eric Roth addresses the crowd of 1200 volunteers as they prepare to board busses for twelve projects.



L.A. Works Day 2003: Gardening fun on Soto St.

L.A. Works Day 2003.



L.A. Works Day 2003: Volunteers begin painting colorful murals at four elementary schools in the downtown area.



HOT CLUB EVENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Angels Baseball

The Ticket Guy is at it again. He has arranged for the Club to receive excellent prices on a number of Angels baseball games.



Tickets are \$13.50 or \$6, depending on where you want to sit.

Available dates:

- Saturday, June 5, vs. Cleveland Indians
- Wednesday, June 9, vs. Milwaukee Brewers
- Tuesday, June 22, vs. Oakland Athletics

To purchase your Angels Baseball tickets, fill out order form on page 25!

Questions?
Call Mike Sandoval
(714) 940-2252.



EXCLUSIVE CLUB OFFER

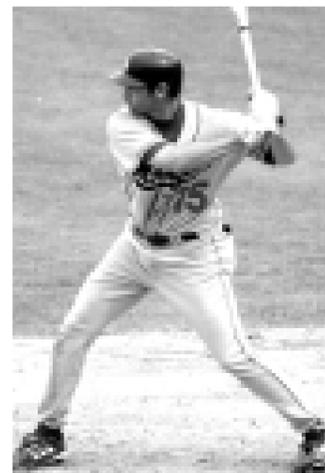
Half-Price Dodger Tickets!

Los Angeles Dodgers vs. Baltimore Orioles
Wednesday • June 16th • 7:10 pm

Inner Reserve Tickets

Reserve Level between bases
 Regular price: \$17
 Club Member
 Discount Price: \$8.50 each!

This offer is only good through the Club and there is a limited amount available so act now!



Call the Ticket Guy on the Ticket Hotline today! (888) 777-1744.



BONUS: The Olympic Torch will be on display during pregame ceremonies as it makes its tour prior to the summer games in Athens.

RETIREMENT INCOME IS NOT TAXED IN 15 STATES

Your contribution of up to \$99 will help me fight to make California the next state to be SENIOR FRIENDLY!

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ClubFest 2004

- October 3, 2004
- Sunday Afternoon
- Calamigos Ranch, Santa Monica Mountains above Malibu

Save the Date for ClubFest '04; More Space, Even More Fun

Club members should make sure to save the date for this year's edition of ClubFest, held as it was last year at Calamigos Ranch, in the hills above Malibu. It's scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 3.

Those who were lucky enough to attend ClubFest at Calamigos Ranch last year know what a great time it was: Tons of food. Tons of fun. Games, rides, raffles, families and fantastic friend-making.

Don't miss out this year: ClubFest 2004 is set for Sunday afternoon, Oct. 3, again at Calamigos Ranch. (It was such a great success!)

For 2004, we'll be expanding the space reserved for the Club at Calamigos. That means even more room for a memorable afternoon in the sun (and shade).

Watch for more details this summer in *Alive!* 📅



Last year's ClubFest was a great success. Set the date for this year's picnic: Sunday, Oct. 3.

Animal Services Offers Joy of Pets To City at Annual Pet Adoptathon

Department lowers its adoption rates for two days to encourage the legal adoption of pets.

Cute puppies, cuddly kittens and playful dogs hoped for new homes—and many received them—as the Department of Animal Services reduced its adoption rates Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2 as part of its annual Adoptathon. The event was designed to boost adoption rates of shelter animals.

Some 171 shelter animals were adopted, according to Animal Services.

Animal adoptions fees normally range from

\$38 to \$92 to cover license, vaccinations, microchipping and spaying or neutering the animal. The reduced rates enabled potential pet owners to adopt a new companion animal for \$15 to \$43 (plus \$10 dog license if applicable).

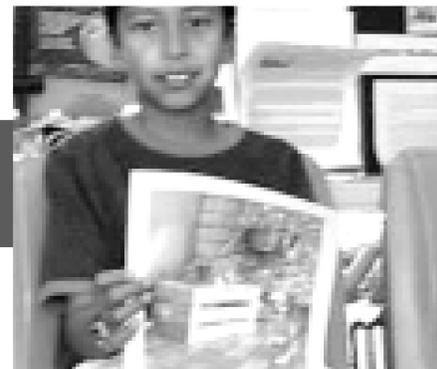
Many adoptable animals in search of new homes will also be available for adoption at the Alhambra PetsMart store located at 2568 W. Commonwealth Avenue (626-284-3390) where the same reduced rates will apply during the Adoptathon weekend.

Participating shelters included North Central, South Los Angeles, Harbor, West Los Angeles, East Valley and West Valley.

The Club congratulates Animal Services on its successful event for a very good cause. 📅



The Adoptathon event at Animal Services' North Central Shelter.



The Adoptathon event at Animal Services' North Central Shelter.

The following report was written by North Central Shelter Volunteer Sandra Levinson:

Spring and Bring a New Friend Home

The weekend of May 1st and 2nd was very special for L.A. Animal Services. This year's theme was Spring and Bring a New Friend Home - Adopt A Shelter Animal. It wasn't just any weekend, it was Adoptathon 2004! This event is held nationwide every year and the goal is to bring the community into shelters to show them the hundreds of animals available for adoption. Yes, it's true this one weekend in the year offers a reduction in adoption fees; however, the main goal is to assist people in finding a friend for life, whether it be a dog, cat, bird or rabbit. When the weekend was over, 171 animals were adopted between the six Los Angeles city shelters.

The planning had begun months ago—meetings after work, soliciting donations, posting flyers, calling volunteers to come to the shelters and generally doing lots of running around! You name it, we did it. The volunteer office was very supportive in getting the volunteer committee members what they needed from tables to helium tanks and balloons to envelopes for mailing letters asking for donations.

Before we all knew, the time had arrived. All the hard work was about to pay off. When we arrived at the shelter early Saturday morning, it was time to put up the decorations, get the volunteers oriented and get ready for the doors to open. There were people standing outside

waiting for the shelter to open to come find a companion.

It really felt like a party atmosphere and the energy levels were high amongst the staff and many volunteers. Best Friends came out to help groom dogs; our cat and dog volunteers were there to answer questions. There was an opportunity to show off dogs in the pasture (what I like to call the play yard) to potential adopters. There was a true team effort with the animal care technicians, registered veterinary technicians, clerical and volunteers all working together to make this event a success.



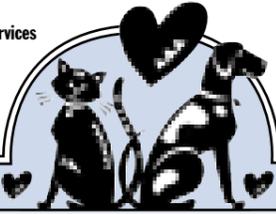
What I took from this event was it wasn't just about offering a discount to the public to adopt animals but also about bringing people into the shelter. Even if they didn't adopt an animal we had an opportunity to educate

and show them the shelter is a resource for the public and that this is a place where there are many wonderful animals waiting for good, loving homes.

Now it's time to start planning for next year!

by Jackie David, Public Information Director, L.A. Animal Services

The Pet Club



When Weather Gets Hot, Make Sure That Your Pets Have It Made in Shade

Heat stroke can afflict both dogs and cats. Short-muzzled dogs such as Pekinese, Boston terriers, bulldogs, boxers and pugs are most prone. Dogs and cats that are obese, geriatric or suffer from heart conditions are also at risk.

Here are a few safety tips to protect your animal from summer heat:

- Remember that the best place for a pet during the hot summer months is at home, where the animal can enjoy plenty of water and shade in comfortable and familiar surroundings.
- Keep indoor animals in a well-ventilated area.
- If you must keep your animal outside, make sure the animal has plenty of shade and cool, fresh water.
- Use heavy, weighted water bowls to reduce the risk of accidental spills.
- Exercise your pet early in the morning or late in the evening when temperatures are cooler.
- Feed your pet late in the evening as heat can reduce a dog's appetite.

So you've decided to take Fido for a ride and need to stop at the supermarket. You park, crack the windows open a bit to let some air in, and leave Fido in the car for what you plan will be a "few minutes." It is nice and cool inside the market and you've just got to get a couple more things. "Fido should be fine," you reason with yourself, after all, you've let the windows open a crack. Your "few minutes" has now turned into a half-hour shopping trip. In the meantime, the temperature inside your car has reached 120 degrees. Fido is in the throes of a heat stroke.

Heat strokes occur when the body's natural mechanisms of heat loss are overwhelmed. This can lead to shock, coma and death. Symptoms for heat stroke include heavy panting, increased heart rate, weakness, vomiting or diarrhea.

■ Make sure your dog is on a leash and properly tethered when enjoying the outdoors. Remember that *all* dogs have the potential to bite.

■ Make sure your dog's collar is not on too tight.

■ Never leave your animal in a car on a hot day. Even with windows left open a crack, the temperature inside a car can reach 120 degrees in less than 30 minutes.

Be aware of animal safety in the summer. If you see a pet suffering and untended in a hot car, immediately report the incident to your nearest animal shelter or to the Los Angeles Police Department.

Do not take your dog to a public beach – it is against state law and City ordinance.

Beaches are off-limits to all dogs, whether or not on a leash. The only exception is if your animal is a qualified service animal.

If you suspect heat stroke, immediately move your pet to a cool spot and quickly cool with a cold-water bath. You must bring down the animal's body temperature so that brain damage does not occur. Avoid hypothermia when cooling off your dog: reduce your pet's body temperature to a level slightly above normal (about 103 degrees). Do take your pet to a veterinarian for additional care as soon as possible.

Contact me with questions or additional comments: L.A. Animal Services: (888) 4LA-PET1 [(888) 452-7381] TTY Hearing Impaired: (877) 875-8205. Online: www.LAAnimalServices.com.

Send Questions

Feel free to send questions and concerns to me, and I'll be happy to respond to them in my column. I'm excited about this, so don't hesitate!

Write to me at: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

**Jackie David, Public Information Director,
L.A. Animal Services**



Here Come the Dinosaurs As the LA Zoo Takes Trip Back In Time

Robotic dinosaurs, fossil dig boxes, a T-rex photo spot, a dinosaur puppet show and a dinosaur maze are creating a wild way for guests at the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens to learn about dinosaurs and their living descendants.

The program, titled *Destination: Dinosaurs!*, is at the Zoo through Nov. 21.

Dinosaur "sightings" and activities will occur at three venues within the Zoo. The *Dinosaur Den* (\$2 admission) will be home to 18 dinosaurs created by Woodland Hills (and Tokyo) –based Kokoro dinosaurs. The three-fourth scale Tyrannosaurus rex will make his debut in the greater Los Angeles area. Two youngsters will join this robotic giant along with the carnivorous velociraptor. On the gentler side, "good mother lizard" Maiasaura will guard a nest of eggs and hatchlings.

Activities in the T-rex Territory include the puppet show *Harry and the Tyrannosaurus Rex*, "cretaceous crafts" for children to make and take, "celebrity" dinosaur storytelling (weekends), and a T-rex photo spot.



This velociraptor will join 17 of its prehistoric pals at the L.A. Zoo through November 21.

Zoo guests will travel through time as they journey through the Dinosaur Evolution Maze in the *Prehistoric Park*. The maze is filled with hands-on, interactive activities along the way that make these now-extinct fascinating creatures come alive.

Destination: Dinosaurs! is free with paid admission of \$9 for adults and \$4 for children ages 2 to 12 (\$2 extra charge for Dinosaur Den). The Zoo, open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura and Golden State freeways.

For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the Website at www.lazoo.org.

The "Hula Classic" Golf Tournament

**La Costa Golf Resort and Spa
Saturday June 26, 2004**

All Proceeds to Benefit Haven House

Join in the *Hula Classic* presented by Hermes & Glavin and Cohen, Miskel & Mowrey, LLP, for a weekend of fun. After 18 holes of championship golf, the awards party will feature a Western BBQ, live music and dancing, casino games, and a silent and live auction.

Register Now – Limited Player Spots Remain!

Call 310.882.0000 for more information!

Your participation will help providing a safe haven as well as the counseling and support services essential to the reconstruction of many shattered lives. With your help we can restore affected families to productive lives and secure, happy homes.





BY
Michelle Moreno,
City Events Guru

Michelle on the *MOVIE*

EVENTS

what's happening ? what's

City is Alive With Happenings, Events, Including These for Your Consideration

■ Since there's so much to do in the City, *Alive!* introduces a new column to keep you informed and help you choose.

Hello folks! My name is Michelle Moreno. Perhaps I've met some of you here at the Club headquarters or at one of the Club events.

I welcome you to the brand new and exciting Calendar of Events column that we're calling Events 411. We want it to be your guide to fun-filled times in the City of L.A. I want to be your events guru, the same way that Navin Cotton is your Ticket Guy.

Every month here in *Alive!*, I'll tell you about some great events that I think are worth your while. And maybe in return, you can write in and let me know about the events you're producing, so I can tell everybody about it. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the read.

The summer season is here ... actually the official date is June 21, but it sure does feel like summer, doesn't it? Yup, it is time to get your summer gear out of the attics, basements, closets, garages and whatever clever place you managed to cram your stuff into (mine happens to be under the bed).

So what's going on in the City? Well, a lot! You can enjoy anything from taking the family out for a day of music to taking your special someone on a romantic picnic by the Pacific Ocean. The time is here for you to enjoy what the City has to offer and more importantly... most of it is free! So go out and enjoy.

And don't forget, Independence Day is also around the corner. Have fun and be safe!

Know of any great City events?
Let me know!

I'll be happy to include your event in my monthly column. (Listings are limited to City events, with an emphasis (although not exclusively) on families. Make sure to include dates, times, locations, costs (if any) and contact information. Email me at: mmoreno@cityemployeesclub.com or call me(800) 464-0452.

June

Pershing Square Summer Concert Series

Enjoy a series of free concerts held at Pershing Square during your lunchtime or on a Sunday afternoon.

Date(s): June through late September
Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon – 2 p.m.
Third Sunday of each month: 3 – 5 p.m.
Site: Pershing Square, 532 South Olive Street, Downtown L.A.
Cost: Free
More Info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org/pershingsquare/pershing.htm

Annual Shakespeare by the Sea Presentation

Enjoy the works of Shakespeare under the night sky.

Date: Mid-June through mid-July
Thursdays through Saturdays
Time: 7 p.m. (pre-show) and 8 p.m. (show)
Site: Point Fermin Park, 807 Paseo Del Mar, San Pedro
Cost: Free
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org



Olympic Torch Relay

Come and be part of a tradition going back thousands of years.

Date: June 16
Site: TBA
More info: Go to www.usolympicteam.com or the City Website, www.ci.la.ca.us

July

19th Annual Summer Shakespeare Festival

Come for the wonderful stories of Othello, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, and more. Please call or visit the Website for show information.

Date: Through August
Site: Various venues
Cost: General Admission is free with canned food donation. First come first served.
Membership: \$250 - \$40
More Info: (213) 481-2273 or www.shakespearefestivalla.org

Fourth of July Events:

Free events sponsored by the City of L.A. Dept. of Recreation and Parks and Valley Cultural Center

Site: Hansen Dam Recreation Area, 11770 Foothill Blvd., Lake View Terrace
Time: noon – 10 p.m.
Site: Angels Gate Park, 3601 S. Gaffey St., San Pedro
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org
Time: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Site: Warner Park, 5800 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Woodland Hills
Time: 6 – 9:30 p.m.
More info: (818) 704-1358 or www.valleycultural.org

California State Firefighters' Association Doo-Wop & Rock 'n' Roll Flashback



Take a trip back into the '50s and '60s with music from the Penguins, the Mighty Echoes, the Crew Cuts, the New Chordettes and the Marvellettes. Proceeds go for training firefighters and paramedics.

Date: July 10
Site: Canyon Club, 28912 Roadside Drive, Agoura Hills
Time: Doors open at 6 p.m. and show time is 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$44.50
More info: (818) 879-5016 (purchase tickets) or www.csfa.net/Doo-Wop.asp

Meet the Grunion

Come watch the silvery fish come up on the beach to spawn.

Date: June 19
Time: 10:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
Site: Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen White Drive, San Pedro
Cost: \$5/adults, \$1/seniors and children
More info: (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrilloaq.org



Kids Swim Free Opening Day at Seasonal Pools

Brings the kids for a free day of swimming.

Date: June 19
Site: Various locations, contact your local recreation center
Cost: Free for children, 17 and younger; seniors, 65 and older; and disabled residents of all ages.
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org

Van Nuys Airport Community Open House

Explore the Van Nuys Airport and support firefighters at the same time. Free parking available at Cal State Northridge and Woodley Golf Course – free shuttle service (no on-site parking).

Date: June 26
Site: Van Nuys Airport
Cost: Free
More info: (818) 773-3293 or www.lawa.org/vny and click on "special events."

18th Annual Old Fort MacArthur Days and Artillery Show

Come and see the biggest reenactment show and living history event in Los Angeles.

Date: July 10 and 11
Site: Fort MacArthur Military Museum, Angels Gate Park 3601 S. Gaffey St., San Pedro
Time: July 10: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; July 11: 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Cost: \$10/adult, \$5/children under 12
More info: (310) 548-2631 or <http://www.ftmac.org/>

27th Annual Lotus Festival

Come and celebrate the cultures of the Asian and Pacific Islands.

Date: July 10 and 11
Time: July 10: noon – 10 p.m.; July 11: noon – 8 p.m.
Site: Echo Park 1632 Bellevue Ave.
Cost: Free
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org/grifmet/lotus/events.htm



7th Annual Music by the Sea Concert Series

Spend your Sunday enjoying and dancing to varieties of music.

Date: Sundays, July 11 – August 1
Time: Noon – 2 p.m., and 3 – 5 p.m.
Site: Point Fermin Park, 807 Paseo Del Mar, San Pedro
Cost: Free
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org

Meet the Grunion

See June listing for price and site info.

Date: July 18
Time: 10:20 p.m.-12:20 a.m.

what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?



Deadline Is July 15 to Apply for Club Scholarship Program

■ Program, for Club member or child of Club member in college, supports the Club family.

Applications are now being accepted for the Club's annual scholarship program. The program is open to all college-age Club members or their children enrolled in a full-time college program, or to be enrolled in a full-time college program in fall 2004.

Winner of the first Club Scholarship last year was Jennifer Moncayo, daughter of Cynthia Beltran, an employee in Housing, and a 28-year veteran of the City.

Jennifer is a junior and an excellent student at Loyola Marymount University in Westchester.

Here are the details:

- All Club members and children of Club members under the age 21 are eligible to apply. Club members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or University full time school in the fall semester 2004. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in fall 2004 are eligible.
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.



Jennifer Moncayo (center) poses with the Club team after being awarded the Club Scholarship last year.

The Club offers \$4,000 scholarship.

- One (1) scholarship in the amount of \$4,000 will be awarded.
- Deadline for application: 5 p.m. July 15, 2004. All applications must be physically in the Club office at that time to be eligible.
- Application packages are available online (www.cityemployeesclub.com/Scholar.asp) or in person at the Club headquarters, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Questions?

Call the Club: (800) 464-0452.

Apply today!

TICKET DEAL

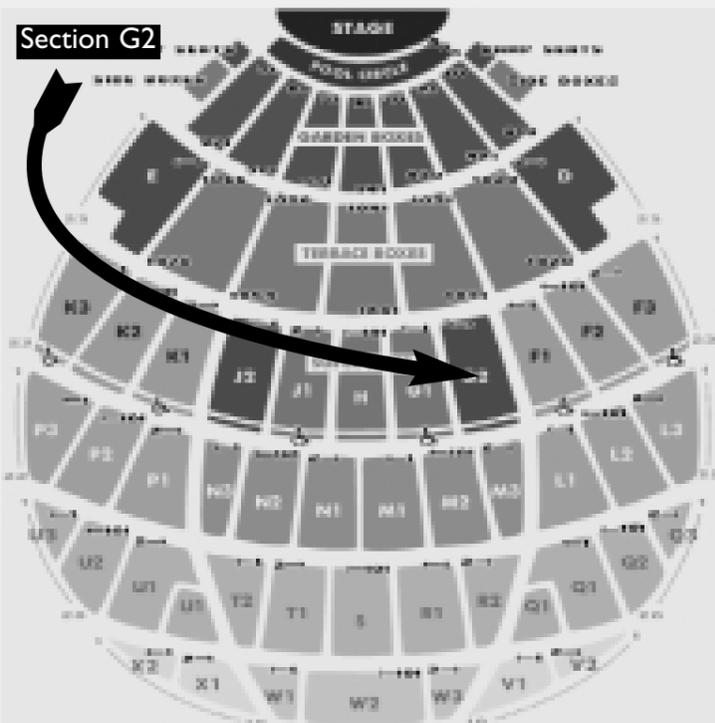
JVC Jazz Festival

at the Hollywood Bowl
Sunday 8/22/04 6 p.m.

Seating in section G2 • Price \$26 (Tickets are limited)
Payment is due upon ordering.

- SAMPLE ARTISTS:
- Jeff Lorber
 - Gerald Albright
 - Richard Elliot
 - Paul Taylor
 - Anthony Hamilton

TO ORDER, SEE TICKET EXPRESS, PAGE 47



Together, we can save a life



Build a kit.

Wrenches are just one of the many things that go into a disaster supplies kit. By assembling one for your home with the help of a list from your local Red Cross, you're taking an important step in preparing your family for the unexpected. And safer homes mean safer communities. When we come together, we become part of something bigger than us all. To learn more, contact your local American Red Cross chapter or visit www.redcross.org

TOGETHERWE Make a plan | Build a kit | Get trained | Volunteer | Give blood

Greuel, Children's Commission Emphasize Car Seat Safety for Tots

Councilmember Wendy Greuel reported on her child safety car seat giveaway and her continued efforts to distribute the seats to those families in need. In addition, Terry Ogawa, Executive Director of the Commission for Children, Youths and their Families (CCYF) reported on the Commission's Child Safety Task Force's Safety Valet program.

"Protecting our young children is protecting all of our futures," Greuel said at a press conference. "Programs like the Child Car Seat Giveaway and Safety Valet will go a long way

to providing our children with a safe and healthy childhood."

Greuel has teamed up with Keyes Automotive, the California Highway Patrol, the LAPD Valley Traffic Division, and several Valley community organizations in a child safety campaign to give car seats to families in need.

The CHP and the LAPD report that traffic collisions are the leading cause of injury and death for children 14 and under; that 50 percent of children who are placed in seats may be placed incorrectly and that up to 75 percent of child fatalities and 50 percent of child injuries could be eliminated with the proper use of car seats.

Greuel has given away 86 car seats, along with information on how to properly install and use the seats. The campaign's goal is to distribute 250 seats.

The Safety Valet program is a school-based volunteer managed drop-off program that reduces traffic congestion and accidents near elementary and middle schools.

Here are photos of the press conference. 



Tom Tavares, LAPD Central Traffic Division.



Councilmember Wendy Greuel, District 2, at the press conference.



From left: Gil J. Botello, Supervisor, Neighborhood Networks4Kids; and Terry Ogawa, Executive Director, Commission for Children Youth and their Families.



Wendy Greuel visiting with a child.

WIN \$50
Black Angus

CERTIFICATE



Contest Rules:

1. Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
2. Responses can be delivered by mail, fax, e-mail or in person (phone responses will not be accepted).
3. Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
4. The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

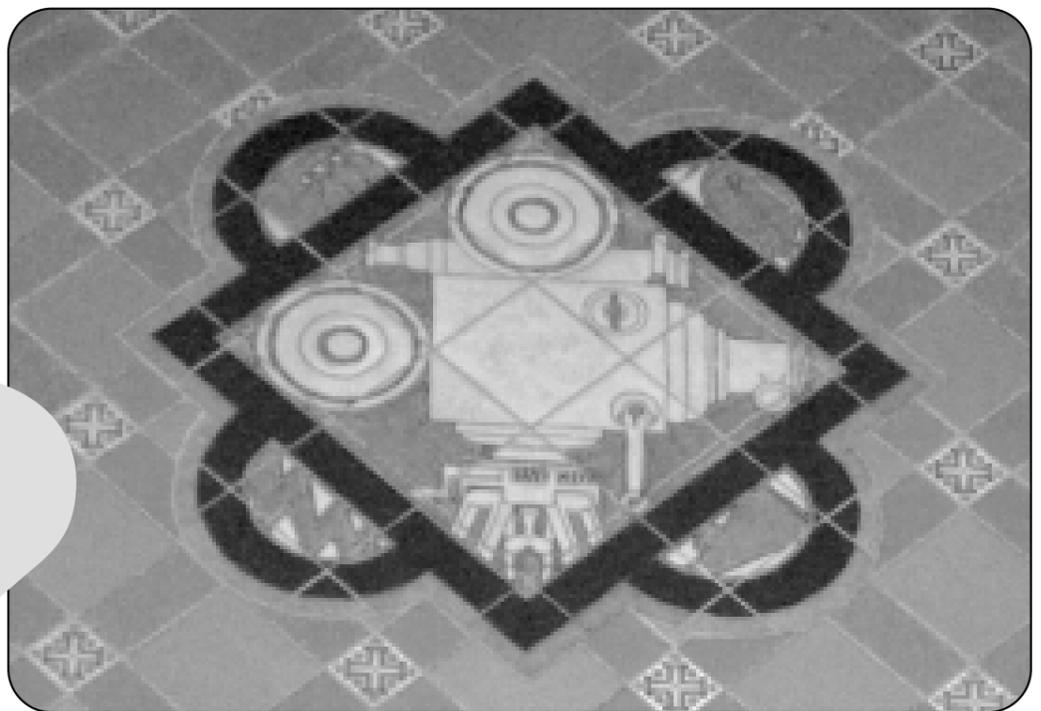
Where in LA?

Same Photo ... Great Prize

We received no correct responses from the May contest. So we'll repeat it this month. And keep offering a great prize!

Tell us what and where this is. Here's a hint: Think City Hall.

The first person to respond correctly wins a \$50 gift certificate to Black Angus restaurants!



What is this? Where is this?

The Club member who gives us the most complete, detailed description of the object related to the City of Los Angeles wins a \$50 gift certificate to Black Angus!

■ This month's deadline: June 14. See complete list of rules to the left. ■ Thanks for playing, and good luck!

Send your response along with your Club card number by e-mail (whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com), by fax ([213] 620-0598) or by surface mail (350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90071).

LAPD Asks for Cooperation to Reduce Gunfire This July 4th

As Independence Day approaches, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is launching a Citywide Gunfire Reduction Campaign. This campaign is designed to help reduce incidents of indiscriminate gunfire that have become a deadly Independence Day tradition in our City.

The Gunfire Reduction Campaign aims to advise the community that celebrating the 4th of July with gunfire will not be tolerated in the City of Los Angeles. Discharging a firearm into the air is a felony punishable by one year in state prison. Anyone arrested for discharging a firearm will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Should a stray bullet kill someone, the shooter will be arrested and charged with murder.



Many times individuals involved in celebrating holidays including Independence Day with gunfire do not realize the dangers posed in their actions. Research has found that a bullet fired into the sky can climb up to two miles and remain in flight for more than a minute. As it falls, the bullet reaches a velocity of 300 to 700 feet per second. A velocity of only 200 feet per second is sufficient to penetrate the human skull.

Over the last several years, the Los Angeles Police Department has made great strides in reducing the amount of indiscriminate gunfire that occurs during the Independence Day holiday. The successful formation and deployment of special Gunfire Reduction Task Forces, along with a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign, has dramatically reduced the threat to the community. The LAPD will again deploy additional officers and specialized teams this summer holiday season, to seek out and arrest any person firing a gun during celebrations.

The senseless death of Brian Perez and the potential for others being injured, compels the men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department to once again ask the community to celebrate the holidays safely and responsibly. Don't fire guns into the air; if you see someone committing such acts, please call the police. Remember, what goes up, will come down, and when a bullet falls back to earth, it travels at a fatal velocity.

Also, please be reminded that fireworks of any kind (including the "safe and sane" kind) are prohibited in the City of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Police Department wishes all the visitors to and residents of the City a safe and sane holiday. ■



Mayor Jim Hahn and Councilwoman Janice Hahn (center) lead the groundbreaking ceremony.

City Breaks Ground for New Fire Station 65 In South L.A.

Mayor James Hahn and LAFD Chief William Bamattre joined local dignitaries and LAFD fire officials to break ground for the new Fire Station 65, on W. Century Boulevard in South Los Angeles.

The original Fire Station 65 was one of the first built in the area and was an original horse-drawn fire company. The current property is too small to support a new or revamped fire station, so a new one is being built nearby.

The new fire station is being funded by Proposition F, approved in November 2000.



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(General Admission \$49.75 • Under 48" \$39.75 • 2 Years and Under Free)

For Tickets & Information Contact:
Navin Cotton the "Ticket Guy" (800)464-0452
 Tickets Must Be Purchased In Advance!

\$29 offer valid through 6/19/04. \$35 offer valid 6/20/04 - 1/31/05. This offer not available at the Universal Studios Hollywood Box Office. Offer subject to change without notice. Offer valid only on one-day General Admission at Universal Studios Hollywood. No exchanges or refunds. Restrictions apply. This offer cannot be combined with other offers or with per capita sightseeing tours. The Mummy ©2004 Universal Studios. All Rights Reserved. 04-LOC-2578

LAPD Communications Team Earns 'Mugs' in Annual Baker-Vegas Run

■ **Division has its best showing in 14 years in well-known running event for law enforcement agencies.**

"Our team placed and won a mug! We haven't been able to do that in 14 years!" reports Anita White, captain of the LAPD Communications Team that competed in the annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup the weekend of April 24 and 25. "Everything went great!"

The Challenge Cup Relay is the largest and most unique law enforcement race in the world, according to the event's Website. The race is a 120-mile, 20-stage foot race begin-

ning at Baker, Calif., finishing in Las Vegas.

All law enforcement agencies are invited to participate

The Challenge Cup Relay began in 1985 with 19 teams as a race for police officers to improve their physical fitness. Pulling together 20 runners per team, along with the necessary support personnel, is only the first step along the challenging path. Last year, the Challenge Cup Relay accommodated 199 teams. This event is the "Super Bowl" of law enforcement, and the champions are the best the police world has to offer.

Here is a list of the personnel that competed for the LAPD Communications Division:

Congratulations, LAPD Communications Team!



In these two photos, the LAPD Communications Division Team celebrates in Las Vegas after the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup.



LAPD Communications Team

TEAM CAPTAIN:

Anita Whited

CO-CAPTAIN:

Elise Rodriguez

RUNNERS

Anita Whited
Maureen Carr
Capt. Andrew Smith
John Horovich
Marisa Lujan
Maisha Parnell
Carlos Mejia
CT Feng
Eduardo Gomez
Lt. Stan Ludwig

Raul Recio

Scott Goldstein

Dan Basilgo

Alni Mirage

Adam Timm

Jendrix Rosales

Jed Fernandez

Gricelda Aceves

Alma Flores

Lt. Ann Barrera

ALTERNATES

Riza Bailey

Karen Brents

Kimberly Fairfax

Marcia Goodman

Joni Lacentra

Kerisha Jackson

Marcos Mendoza

Miyana Pace

Leslie Smith

Marisol Vielma

SUPPORT

Aileen Aranda

Blanche Bell

Yvette Bentley

Elana Boswell

John Craig

Mary Derby-Grant

Sharon Howze

Juandessa Johnson

Teresa Jones

Pam Liske

Jessica Loya

Elizabeth Lane

Tracy Page

Mahidi Parnell

Rebecca Pareida

Margaret Peters

Lori Powell

Sandie Rennie

D'Arcy Schroeder

Cathy Sotos

Amy Tariq

Denise Tisdell

Sarah Weick

Glenda Richardson



The LAPD Communications Division Team celebrates in Las Vegas after the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup.

New Club Benefit Offers Lawyer Access for \$11 per Month

Legal Services Plan

Continued from Page 1

LegalNet. "City employees work hard and deserve access to excellent legal counsel. We provide that and help them resolve their legal problems fast and effectively.

"LegalNet makes it easy and affordable for Club members to access legal services," Newman says. "We're designed to provide a number of resources to meet the most common legal needs that Club members are likely to experience.

"And this plan is superior to others on the market, since all basic services are handled by our own staff attorneys who have only the members' interest in mind".

The cost: only \$11 per month, through payroll deduction. That's amazingly affordable and yet provides as much service as most of the other plans on the market that cost two to three times as much, Newman says.

There are other great reasons to sign up for the Club's legal access benefit:

- Local attorneys. "This plan is locally based and therefore responsive to City employees, unlike anything else on the market," Newman says.
- Attorneys in other states, for retirees. Are you retired and living in Arizona, Nevada or another state? This new Club benefit has you covered.
- This plan is superior to other plans on the market:
 - Other plans assign one independent attorney for each member. But what happens if that attorney does not specialize in your need? Oftentimes, that results in a quagmire of referrals and administrative paperwork

that produce little results. This Club plan offers our own in house legal firm to handle all of your basic benefits under the plan, and makes a network of attorneys available to Club members for additional services.

- Other plans are tied to one law firm, for all matters. But again, if that firm does not specialize in the kind of law that the member needs, then a series of referrals and paperwork results. United LegalNet's in-house firm handles all of the members' basic legal services, negating the need for annoying and frustrating multiple referrals, and has a network of specialty providers for additional services.

- Because of internal cost and payment structures, some plans offer payment structures that many attorneys are not willing to work for. So that can force members to have to go outside the plan to hire their own attorneys from time to time, defeating the purpose of why most members sign up for the service in the first place. This new Club plan makes that unnecessary for the basic legal needs covered by membership. (For matters beyond the scope of basic legal services, our network of attorneys provides additional assistance at discounted rates as outlined in the membership booklet. However, more than 90 percent of members' issues are resolved using the basic legal benefits, Newman points out.)

Average Americans need legitimate legal representation more than they might realize. Many common situations these days require legal counsel: getting divorced, Prenuptial Agreements, Buying a home. Estate planning, Consumer warranty problems, Accidents, Adopting a child. Identity theft. Health care

decisions. And more.

Are you covered?

Studies indicate that more than half of all middle-income American families will experience a legal need within the next year, and that 61 percent of moderate-income households do not get professional legal representation when faced with a legal problem and therefore suffer unfair results in the legal system.

LegalNet offers Club members a valuable alternative to managing legal issues. LegalNet is a legal advisory plan that is like roadside assistance for your legal and financial well being.

Club members who sign up for the LegalNet benefit receive unlimited telephone access to an Legalnet attorney in California who is directly related to the plan, as opposed to an independent lawyer who may or may not specialize in your particular matter. LegalNet's telephone attorneys average 18 years of experience and can quickly help you identify your legal needs and determine alternatives. Telephone attorneys can provide you with advice on all types of common legal matters as well as provide follow-up calls and letters to third parties on your behalf. Telephone attorneys can also review documents (up to four pages) and perform simple document preparation for:

- Special powers of attorney and revocation
 - Standard will
 - Minors Trusts
 - Challenge to denial of credit
 - Promissory notes/affidavits related to personal property
 - Bills of sale related to personal property
- These basic services take care of approxi-

mately 90 percent of members' legal problems. Members can receive services valued at up to \$1,000 or more for just pennies per day for just using the plan once. Just by receiving legal advice, having a document reviewed or having the estate planning documents drafted, a member can save hundreds or thousands of dollars.

Should you require an in-office consultation, LegalNet makes in-office visits simple when they are necessary. Independent in-office attorneys will provide Club members who sign up for the plan with advice and offer a plan of action for you to address your situation (the final decision is always up to you).

Here is what some members have to say about LegalNet's service:

- "My wife and I were very concerned that we were about to take a trip overseas, and had not made a will or any arrangements to take care of our daughter if something were to happen to us. After talking to you ... it was a great relief to know that our child was taken care of. The peace of mind you provided us with certainly made our trip more relaxing and enjoyable."
- "It was a pleasure speaking with you on the phone regarding the problem I had with the prospective purchase of a new home. We took your advice and made sure the property was completely inspected. Your advice saved us thousands of dollars in repairs."
- "Your assistance in providing a local attorney to handle our claim enabled us to get our truck fixed, back wages paid and medical costs taken care of."

Ask your Club counselor today for more information. 📞



LAFD Opens Station Doors for Areawide Open House May 8

■ Fire Stations welcome neighbors for annual event.

The day before Mother's Day, the men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department welcomed friends, family and neighbors you to visit their neighborhood fire station as part of Fire Service Recognition Day.

"This popular Southern California event is our Annual Open House, when every neighborhood Fire Station in Los Angeles was open," said Brian Humphrey, LAFD spokesman. Visitors had the chance "to closely examine fire apparatus and equipment, meet their neighborhood Firefighters and Firefighter/Paramedics, learn about Fire Department career opportunities and how to be prepared for any disaster."

The theme of this year's event was "Preparedness Isn't Someone Else's Job ... It's Everyone's Job!"

Here are photos of the event.



The Herrera family exploring Fire Station No. 25.



Fire Station No. 2, from left: Fernando Jimenez, Fire Fighter/Apparatus Operator; and Cooper Kunath, Fire Fighter/Paramedic.



At Fire Station No. 25, from left: Rey Lavalles, Fire Fighter/Paramedic; Jean Paul Adagio, Engineer; Captain Henry Beltran; and Dennis Bookil, Fire Fighter.



The Herrera family exploring Fire Station No. 25.



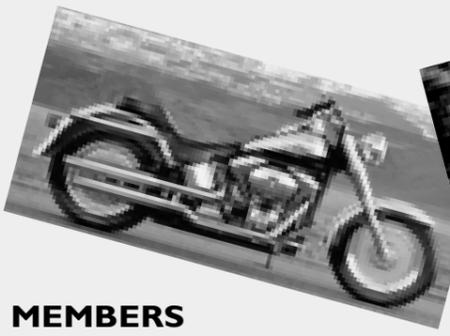
The Herrera family exploring Fire Station No. 25.



Fire Station 5, from left: Clark Hills, Fire Fighter II, 4 years (on "loan" from Mar Vista); Michael Hill, Fire Fighter II, 6 months; James Dayen Jr., Acting Company Commander, 23 years; and Ted Mayeda, Engineer, 15 years.








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From left: Ron Caudle, Jim Fry, Roscoe King and Raj Patel.



From left: Dave Keim, Ruben Perez, Bob Steinback and Mike Lee.



The team that placed third, from left: Club member Wade Markham, April Markham, Dan Flynn and Jeff Volker.



From left: New Club member Dave Lara, Mitch Englander, Veronica Bezerra and Billy Bezerra.



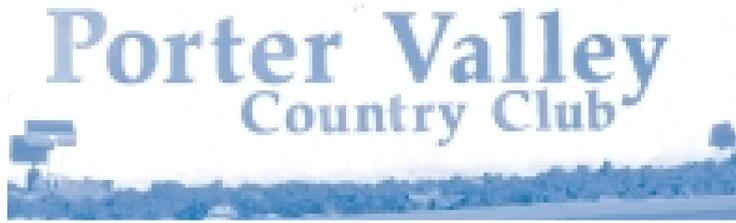
From left: Pat Heller, Pete Linderberger, Terry Flynn and Rusty Peck.



From left: Claudia Alvarez, Bruce Miller, Allen Ono and Dan Alvidrez.



From left: Sal Galindo, Vic Penera (retired City employee), Richard Holguin (retired City employee) and Lloyd Suehiro.



Building and Safety Golf Tournament Raises Money for March of Dimes



More than \$10,000 was raised for the March of Dimes by Building and Safety's 18th annual Golf Tournament, held April 19 at Porter Valley Country Club. Duffy Latham organized the good event.

The Club sponsored the hole three winner prize, and \$100 Office Depot Gift Card. Winner was Cory Nakanishi.

Other winners included (hole 16) Kenneth Seung and (longest drive to hole 16) Dave Stewart.



From left: Doug Leatherman, Mark Casey, Steve Palchanis and Mike McLay.



From left: Jack Conger, Tony McDowall, Jay Garacochea and Jeff Napier.



From left: Alan Hansen, Ricardo Arevalo, Mark Temple and Red Ward.



From left: Kenneth Seung, Ricky Seung, Mark Kessler and Eric Neddleman.



The team that placed first, from left: Kevin Smola, Clark Bowering, Ken Skinner and Wade Perry.



From left: Ron Combs and Club members John Sapone, Bill Robertson and Mark Simon.



The team that placed second, from left: Dick Wallace, Mark Berru, Larry Soskin and Steve Martinez.



From left: Don Hill, Craig Belling and Richard Castro.



From left: Andy Grenier, Dan Gemeny, Jeff Lutz and Terry Nieuwlamdt.



From left: Bob Felix, Cory Nakanishi and John Deunay.



From left: Phil Trafton, Young Cho and event organizer Duffy Latham.



From left: Tom Pope, Charles Pope and Pat Kelley.

Cheryl J. Ward Retires From the City Attorney Office After 27 Years



attorneys, implemented innovative procedures to increase effectiveness of prosecution with the LAPD, including more roll call training and greater responsiveness to crime victims through the City Attorney's office during her tenure as chief.

She served as Special Assistant District Attorney under Ira Reiner after he went to work for the county. She had oversight responsibility for several bureaus: child support, child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. She helped draft, and advocated, legislation that would allow a child victim, traumatized by sexual and physical abuse, to testify via closed-circuit television. She also helped draft legislation to outlaw the possession of child pornography.

After returning to City service, Mayor Jim Hahn appointed her to develop his legislative program, which resulted in the strongest piece of legislation ever passed to address gang criminal activity. Passed in 1988, it was called the Street Enforcement Protection Act Against Antiterrorism.

She represented the City and the department and served on several committees and agencies.

In 1992, she was appointed Assistant Manager of the Civil Liability Division. In addition to handling personnel matters and discrimination complaints, she successfully defended the City in every case she took to trial, where the City as sued for personal injury, dangerous conditions and police misconduct cases, false arrest and police shooting cases. She developed and implemented the Litigation Team Approach to handling litigation for the attorneys in the division.

She developed internship and training programs for paralegals that trained more than 200 paralegals, and many are employed today because of their experience.

In 1995, Cheryl served in the Employee Relations Division of the Civil Branch, handling employment lawsuits and administrative writs of mandamus. She advised various City departments on sexual harassment and discrimination, including racial, religious, gender and same sex discrimination, and presented staff training to assist management in taking steps to monitor the work environment and reduce the risk of lawsuits.

In 1998, she was appointed as Special Counsel and Liaison to then-LAPD Chief Bernard Parks. Working with the LAPD and newly created Police Division, she tracked police litigation, advised the Human Relations Deputy Chief, consulted with trial attorneys on theories and approaches to the defense of lawsuits. She contributed immensely to the design and establishment of the LAPD's first-ever Risk Management Review Committee.

In 2001, she was appointed Managing Assistant of the newly created Police General Counsel Division, established to respond to the specific legal affairs of the LAPD. In this position, she managed and supervised 15 lawyers.

Last year, Cheryl joined the team of lawyers at LAX, advising the Airport Police on Homeland Security issues, state and federal Constitutional issues, and employment matters. She provided airport management with expert legal advice on federal mandates and minority and women business contracting. After 27 years of dedicated and extraordinary public service, Cheryl concluded her career as

More than 300 employees attended the retirement dinner May 14 for Cheryl Ward at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown L.A. She retired as a Senior Assistant City Attorney.

She joined the City Attorney's office in 1977 and served as a Deputy City Attorney in the Criminal Branch, where she tried more than 100 misdemeanor criminal trials, responded to discovery and search warrant motions in the Law and Motion Section of Central Trials, and eventually served as a criminal appeals deputy, where she initiated and responded to criminal appeals. She was promoted to supervisor of the Central Trials Division in 1979.

In 1981, she was appointed to serve as the chief of Criminal Branch Operations. She managed more than 150 trial attorneys and more than 100 support staff personnel. She implemented regular training programs for deputies long before mandatory continuing education, developed additional training scenarios for newly hired deputies, participated in greater recruitment and outreach to minority



Back left: Christy Ammons, City Attorney; Cynthia Trammell, City Attorney; Sherry Castaneda, City Attorney; and Wendy Hightower, City Attorney. Front, from left: Cheryl Mason, City Attorney; Kim Westhoff, City Attorney; Cheryl Ward, Retiree; Carol Medina, City Attorney; Joyce Huffman, City Attorney; and Wilma Pinder, City Attorney.

and outreach to minority a public servant. The Club congratulates Cheryl Ward on her extraordinary career and wishes her much joy in her retirement. Here are photos of the retirement dinner.

From left: Jaclyn Laning; Carmen Qualls, the Cochran firm; and Belinda Stith, Council LA Unified.



L-R: William Charles, Sr. Legal Clerk; Lisa Hughes, Legal Secretary; and Molly Roff-Sheridan, Deputy City Attorney.



Cheryl Ward's Family, from left: David Granberry Sr., brother; Aurelia Hovell, sister; Shervon Pool, grandniece; Tereasa Pool, great-grandniece; Marla P. Granberry, sister; and Vivian Colon, niece.



From left: David Gascon, Retired Assistant Chief of Police; Bernard C. Parks, Councilman, District 8; and Ronald W. Bergman, Deputy Chief.



From left: Jaclyn Laning; Carmen Qualls, the Cochran firm; and Belinda Stith, Council LA Unified.



From left: Cheryl Ward, retiree; and Earl Paysinger, LAPD Deputy Chief.



Tom Hokinson, Assistant General Manager DWP and former Chief Assistant City Attorney, acted as master of ceremonies.



From left: Judge William Ormasby, retired judge; Shirley Henderson, City Attorney; Sandra Carter, Health Administrator; and Pat Shade, Retired Deputy City Attorney.



From left: Philip Lam, City Attorney; Sherri Kirk, Former Deputy City Attorney; Mark Brown, General Council Division; and Tony Miera, City Attorney Rampart Division.



From left: Cheryl Ward, retiree, and Rocky Delgadillo, City Attorney, with the certificate from City Attorney's Office.



From left: Friends Sima Aleahmad and Marsha Mouton.



Mablean Ephriam, judge on the TV show Divorce Court and former Deputy City Attorney



From left: Issa Keita, friend; Jo Keita, friend; Lee Copeland, friend; and Geoffrey Ward, Cheryl Ward's son.



From left: Jonni Chambers, Sr. Legal Assistant City Attorney; Mark Burton, Sr. Assistant City Attorney; Jeannette Barry, City Attorney Investigator; and Paul Enox, Retired LAPD.



From left: George Mallory, former City Attorney, and his wife, Brenda.



From left: Josette Moore, City Attorney; and Joyce Huffman, City Attorney.



From left: Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Bernard C. Parks, Councilman, District 8; and Angel Gomez, the Club's Member Services Manager.



Brenda Lee Eager with the band.



Winner
5 & under
YEARS OLD

Laura Reyes, 5
FAVORITE TV SHOW: Lizzie McGuire
FAVORITE SNACK: Hot Cheetos • BEST FRIEND: Mona
WHY I WANT TO GO TO LEGOLAND: I have never been there.
I want to have fun and eat cotton candy.
PARENT: Alfredo Reyes, Wastewater Treatment Mech., Public Works



Winner
6 to 7
YEARS OLD

Patrick Donatien, 7
FAVORITE TV SHOW: The Simpsons
FAVORITE SNACK: Chips
BEST FRIEND: Ian
WHY I WANT TO GO TO LEGOLAND: I like the roller coaster they have.
PARENT: Patrick Donatien, Retiree

Kassandra Ortiz, 10
FAVORITE TV SHOW: That's So Raven
FAVORITE SNACK: Hot Cheetos • BEST FRIEND: Nohely
WHY I WANT TO GO TO LEGOLAND: I have never been to Legoland and it looks fun.
PARENTS: Guillermo Ortiz, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, PW/B.O.S.S.



Winner
8 to 10
YEARS OLD

Compiled by
Lupe Medina

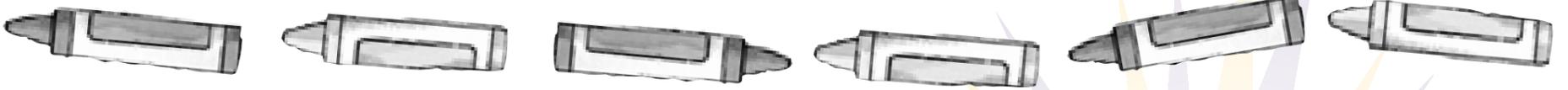
Congratulations to the WINNERS! of our Club Coloring Contest!

Congratulations to the winners of *Alive!*'s spring coloring contest. Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top three participants win four passes (each) to LEGOLAND.

Honorable Mention

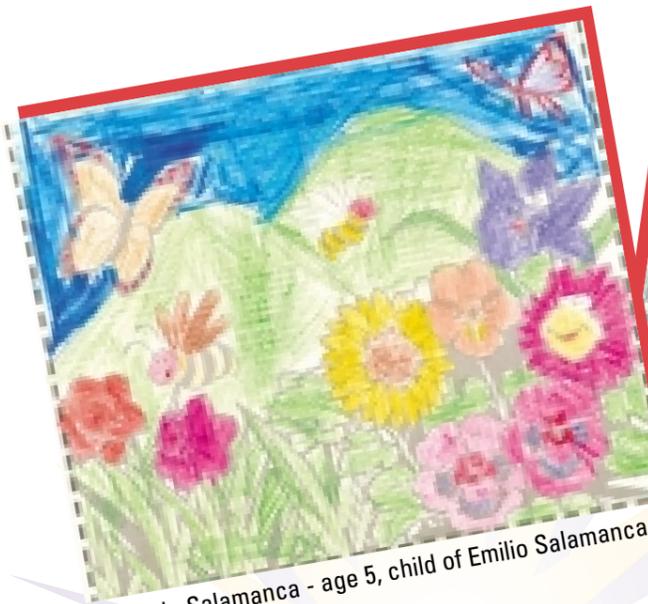
- Peter Trinh - age 5, child of Thai Viet Trinh
- Christian Hughes - age 3, child of Marinett Huges
- Briana Fierros - age 5, child of Artemio Fierros
- Amanda Salamanca - age 5, child of Emilio Salamanca
- Cameron Cheh - age 5, child James Hsu
- Valerie Truong - age 4, child of Richard Truong
- William DePrez - age 5, grand child of William G. DePrez
- Danielle Espinoza - age 7, child of Debra Espinoza
- Treavion Perkins - age 7, child of Vernell Scott
- Doshawn Franks - age 7, child of Lavann Gilyard
- Azelia Romero - age 6, child of Manuel Romero
- Muhammad Ashraf Popote - age 6, brother of Filza Popote
- DaeRon J. Ganner - age 10, child of Joann Gage
- Karen Trinh - age 6, Thai Viet Trinh
- Brandon Santizo - age 6, child of Henry Santizo
- Melissa Negrete - age 6, child of Maria Negrete
- Jefferson Ing - age 7, child of Evelyn Ing
- Alyssa Reyes - age 7, child of Robert D. Reyes
- Patrick Donatien - age 7, child of Patrick Donatien
- Emily Valenzuela - age 7, child of Emilio De J. Valenzuela
- Lita Mascorro - age 7, child of Joe Mundine
- Jean C. Aldana - age 7, child of Sonia Aldana
- Christina Sanchez - age 8, child of Tommy Sanchez
- Christopher Ruiz - age 8, child of Anne Ruiz
- Damion Donatien - age 8, child of Patrick Donatien
- Kevon Donatien - age 10, child of Patrick Donatien



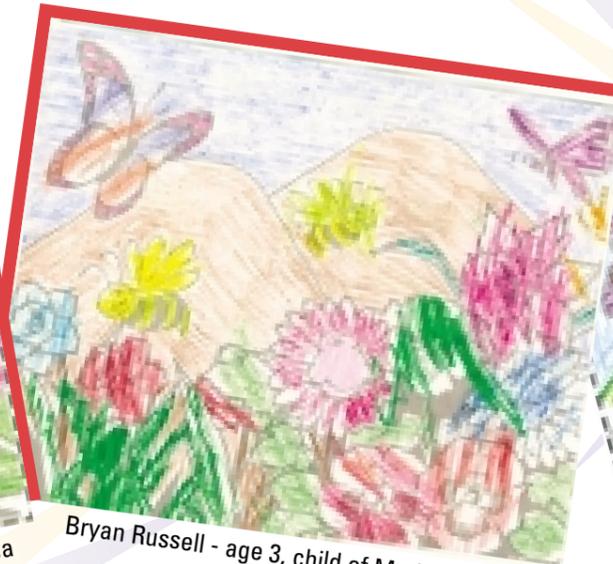


WOW!

WOW! So many great entries! Here are a few:



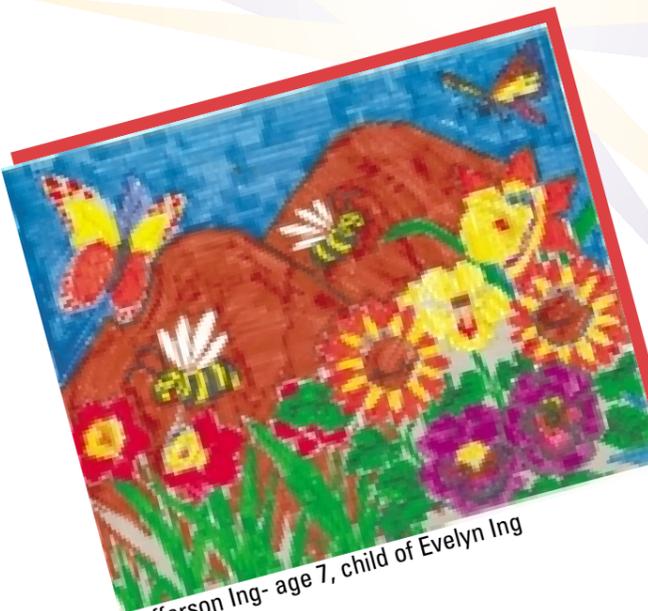
Amanda Salamanca - age 5, child of Emilio Salamanca



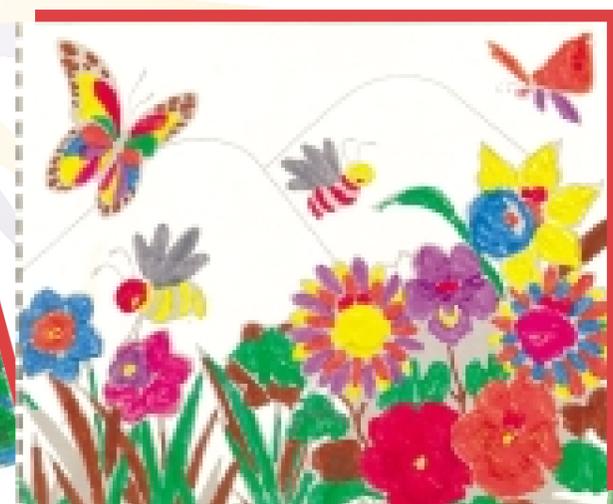
Bryan Russell - age 3, child of Marie Ushman



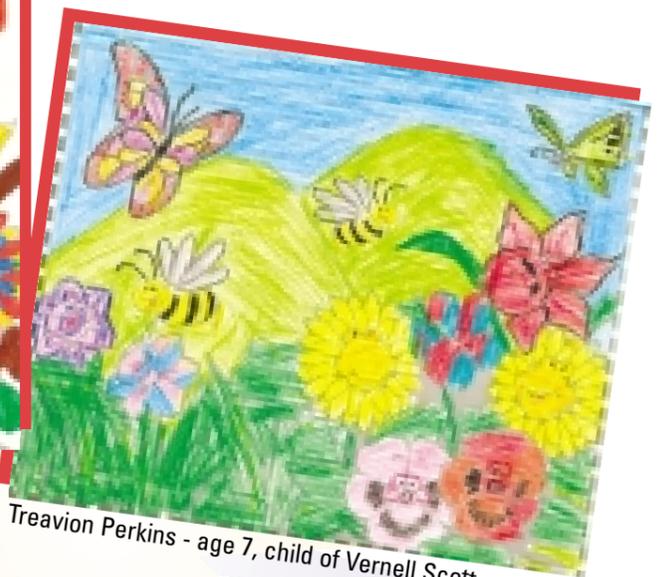
Michelle Bankhead- age 5, child of Stephanie Bankhead



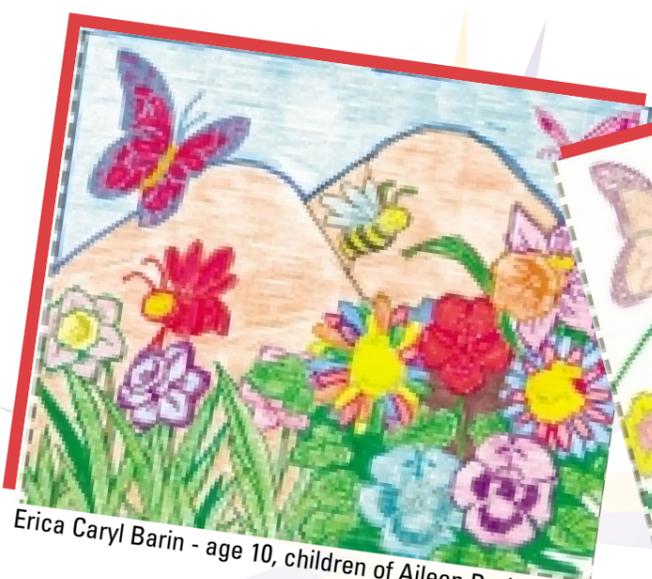
Jefferson Ing- age 7, child of Evelyn Ing



Melissa Lava- age 6, child of Amy Lava



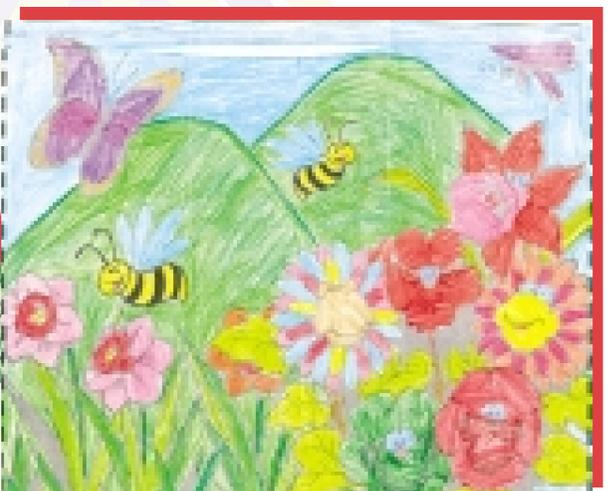
Treavion Perkins - age 7, child of Vernell Scott



Erica Caryl Barin - age 10, children of Aileen Barin



Tamara Bogan- age 8, child of Kathy Bogan



Zach Golditch- age 9, grandchild of William P. Henderson

Collin Dranow - age 9, child of William Dranow
 Julie Vasquez - age 8, child of Carlos Vasquez Sr.
 Alaysia Monson - age 8, grandchild of Alice Kirkland
 Alexia Gonzalez - age 8, child of Ruben Gonzalez
 Maya Reyes - age 9, child of Luz Reyes
 Daniella Arias - age 9, grandchild of Stephen Glaze
 Erica Caryl Barin - age 10, children of Aileen Barin
 Melissa Diaz- age 9, child of Myrna Diaz
 Elizabeth Petrossian - age 10, Child of Tamela L. Cummings
 Kassandra Ortiz - age 10, child of Guillermo Ortiz
 Lily Solis- age 10, child of Lisa Solis

Andriene Bowdan - age 9, child of Rene Teate
 Patricia Donatien - age 9, child of Patrick Donatien
 Xavier Valenzuela - age 8, child of Kathleen Bautista
 Emilio Salamanca - age 8, child of Emilio Salamanca
 Bryan Russell - age 3, child of Marie Ushman
 Michelle Bankhead- age 5, child of Stephanie Bankhead
 Mykale Bankhead- age 6, child of Stephanie Bankhead
 Claytone Goditch- age 7, grandchild of William P. Henerson
 Victoria Fuentes- age 7, child of Mario Diaz
 Tamara Bogan- age 8, child of Kathy Bogan
 Mica Jimenez- age 9, child of Valente Jimenez

Zach Golditch- age 9, grandchild of William P. Henderson
 Clarissa Faner- age 10, child of Norman Faner
 Matthew Takahashi- age 10, child of Marion Takahashi
 Jalawni Appling- age 11, child of Schala Guzman
 Jared Appling - age 6, child of Schala Guzman
 Melissa Lava- age 6, child of Amy Lava
 Valerie Troung- age 4, child of Richard Troung
 Delicia Donatien- age 9, child of Patrick Donatien
 Daniel Gomez - age 6, child of Jose Gomez Jr.
 Cami Hillman- age 5, child of Steve Hillman



Library Department Opens 68th Branch With Playa Vista Facility



Mayor James Hahn greets guests at the event.

City opens latest in its series of library branches, funded by Proposition DD bonds.

"Libraries are the most important buildings we can build in a city," said District 11 Councilwoman Cindy Miscikowski. And so the City opened its 68th branch, Playa Vista, in the burgeoning Westside community tucked between Culver City and Playa del Rey. The ribbon-cutting ceremony took place May 13.

"In ten years, people will say, 'Let's go to the community place.' They'll mean, 'Let's go to the library.' This is for all the community."

"The Los Angeles Public Library has really delivered on its promise to the citizens of Los Angeles," said Mayor James Hahn, who put himself through law school assembling helicopters in the Hughes facility just down the street, he said. "I love these openings because I love libraries. I grew up near one and used to take books out."

"This new library is everything you can imagine," said City Librarian Susan Kent.

The Explorers Color Guard of the LAPD Pacific Area led the crowd of dignitaries, children and Playa Vista citizens through the Pledge of Allegiance.

Other speakers included Lucy McCoy, president of the Board of Library Commissioners; Doug Moreland, Senior Vice President, Playa Vista; and Ka-Kit Jackie Poon, senior at near-by Westchester High School.

Students from Playa Vista and Westport Heights Elementary Schools were in attendance. ■

Here are photos of the event.



The library staff is ready for first-day visitors.



Playa Vista Senior Librarian Diana Lisignoli-Cochran, 20 years.



The ribbon cutting.



Mayor James Hahn inspects the interior of the new library.



Councilmember Cindy Miscikowski addresses the gathering.



City Librarian Susan Kent opens the ceremony.



The Explorers Color Guard of the LAPD Pacific Area lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Mayor Emphasizes Safety, Housing, Budget Priorities

State of the City

Continued from Page 1

ambulances and paramedics in every firehouse in Los Angeles.

"The people assembled here today represent all this City is—diverse, hardworking and vibrant. And the young people I see are a shining reminder of our future, a future dependent on the actions we take now. We must not let them down," Mayor Hahn said. "I have worked to make Los Angeles a fitting legacy to leave to our children. Today, I am proud to report to you that the state of our city is safer, a better place for our families and is improving every day."

"I am proud to announce that next year will see paramedics and ambulances in every firehouse in the city," Mayor Hahn added. "And they will be busy—85 percent of calls to the Fire Department are for medical emergencies, not fires. With trained medical help in every neighborhood citywide, people will be able to get help faster when they need it – this will save lives."

Mayor Hahn also spoke of his goal of making Los Angeles the safest big city in America. "Last month, I was in Washington, D.C., to lobby for more Homeland Security funding, but as I drove by the Franklin D. Roosevelt memorial, I was reminded of the danger some of us see right outside our windows," Mayor Hahn said. "Etched into the memorial's stone were the words 'freedom from fear.' What a gift that freedom would be to our City—freedom for seniors to feel safe walking down the street at all hours; freedom for parents to be secure in letting their children play in the front yard; freedom for young people to dream about a bright future."

"It's time the overwhelming majority of good, hardworking people in our city, did not have to live in fear of the criminal few," Mayor Hahn added.

Mayor Hahn highlighted his administration's efforts to keep up with Los Angeles' need for affordable housing through the Housing Trust Fund.

"To attract quality jobs, we must have quality housing that is affordable. Our city's business leaders have told me again and again—the workers that keep the economic engines running need homes they can afford on their salaries—otherwise, businesses and jobs will go elsewhere," Mayor Hahn said. "The cornerstone of my commitment to affordable housing in Los Angeles was my pledge to create an unprecedented \$100 million dollar Housing Trust Fund. Just last week I was proud to announce that we have fulfilled that pledge of 100 million—Los Angeles is now home to the nation's largest local housing trust fund."

"The nation, state and this city are amidst tough economic times," Mayor Hahn added. "City Hall—and our families—are not immune from economic forces affecting the entire globe. There are bright spots—in November, a Cal State Northridge study reported that the Valley is outpacing the state in job growth. We want to see even greater success citywide."



ITA employees helped coordinate the media needs for the State of the City Address.

Mayor Hahn also spoke of the city's efforts to work with the community, in neighborhoods citywide, to make Los Angeles a better place in which to live and work. "Bringing the community to the table is essential to meeting Los Angeles' priorities. I have heard a loud and clear message from residents and businesses across our city – you want a more responsive city government. We are listening," Mayor Hahn said. "We have heard over and over again that public safety is something that concerns people the most – and we know that by addressing public safety, jobs, housing and more revenues to pay for things like street maintenance will follow."

Mayor Hahn cited the extension of the city's Winter Homeless Shelter program, the dedication of \$2 million to pay for almost 40,000 hours of police overtime directed to Housing Authority communities, and the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning, as examples of efforts

his office has undertaken to maintain vital services despite tough economic times and less funding from Sacramento and Washington.

"By getting creative," Mayor Hahn said, "we have found solutions to save money and keep up with the city's priorities no matter what the economic situation." 🏠

Wanna be heard?

What do you think of the Mayor's State of the City address? Let us know: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Eric Robles, Special Events Coordinator.



GM of Bureau of Sanitation and Club Board member Rita Robinson.



In attendance at the State of the City Address: Michael Tortorice, Heavy Equipment, Maintenance Department, 5 years.



Councilmember Bernard Parks remarking on the State of the City Address.



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Life's Important Moments

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and digital photos to: moments@cityemployeesclub.com Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Retirements

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Virginia Acosta	Sr. Clerk Typist (LAPD)	20
Louis Archer	Sr. Construction Inspector (Public Works)	46
Garfield Banks	Building Mech. Inspector (Building and Safety)	33
Marva Batiste	Sr. Clerk Typist (LAPD)	30
Lambertus Becker	Legislative Analyst (Council)	12
Irene Best	Airport Guide (Airport)	5
Catherine Burleson	Data Process Tech (ITA)	30
Alfred Carazza	Wastewater Collection Worker (Public Works)	30
Irineo Celestino	Sr. Accountant (Rec and Parks)	13
Elmer Coleman	Electric Pump Plant Operator (Public Works)	29
Willie Conner	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	12
Henry Davis	Sr. Recreation Director (Rec and Parks)	37
Louis Dunlap	Wastewater Collection Worker (Public Works)	24
Carlos Durazo	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	16
George Fanning	Traffic Paint Sign Post (Airports)	17
Wenceslao Garcia	Warehouse Worker (Airports)	20
Edward Greenwalt	General Manager (Animal Services)	32
Alan Holvey	Clerk Typist (LAPD)	30
Patricia Huff	Sr. Management Analyst (CDD)	25
Lloyd Jackson	Gardener Caretaker (Zoo)	36
Raymond Jones	Management Analyst (LAPD)	30
Raymond Kearney	Assistant Director (Public Works)	34
Antonio Lares	Sr. Gardener (Rec and Parks)	23
Roger Lasanen	Security Officer (Harbor)	17
Ahn Ja Lee	Clerk Typist (Library)	4
Stuart Leonard	Equipment Operator (Public Works)	18
Richard Lloyd	Superintendent of Operations (Airports)	17
David Marshall	Gen. Auto Supervisor (Gen. Services)	30
Dennis McIntosh	Gardener Caretaker (Rec and Parks)	32
Manuel Mejia	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	10
Frank Mesa	Wastewater Treatment Operator (Public Works)	21
Conwell Morton	Maintenance Laborer (Public Works)	37
Michael Mosa	Background Investigator (LAPD)	16
Freddie Oliver	Police Service Rep (LAPD)	30
Orlando Ossa	Rehab Construction Specialist (Housing)	14
Betty Phillips	Management Analyst (Airports)	30
Larry Preul	Sr. Building Inspector (Building and Safety)	30
Mike Rios	Recreation Coordinator (Rec and Parks)	38
Rodolfo Rios	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	33
John Ross	Communications Electrician (ITA)	20
Donald Sanders	Sr. Accountant (Public Works)	36
Beverly Scottt	Traffic Officer (Transportation)	19
Louis Silver	Equipment Operator (Public Works)	14
Doris Smith	Secretary (LAPD)	23
Charles Sutton	Maintenance Laborer (Public Works)	26
Geraldine Tarkenton	Police Service Rep (LAPD)	29
Rolando Valdez	Special Programs Assistant (Rec and Parks)	3
James Walker	Truck Operator (Public Works)	31
Roger Williams	Sr. Recreation Director (Rec and Parks)	19
Richard Wong	Deputy City Atty (City Atty)	16
Hazel Young	Clerk Typist (Rec and Parks)	30
Betty Yan	Clerk Typist (Library)	23
Frederico Zelaya	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	17

Alive! and your City Employees Club wishes to thank each and every one of the following, who have spent many years making Los Angeles the great city it is. Congratulations, and enjoy your well-deserved rewards!

Had a Baby? We Have a Gift for You!

City employees and/or Club members: Did you just have a baby? Congratulations!

If you send in a baby photo to *Alive!* along with some basic information (name of baby, names of parents, date, your job titles), we'll be happy to run an announcement.

Plus: The Club will send you the book *My Life as a Baby* free as our baby gift!

The book is a record keeper and photo album all in one. It highlights the baby's first year, from the baby's point of view, with space for all the important information and lots of photos. It's a wonderful lifetime keepsake.

Don't delay. Send in those baby pictures and information to moments@cityemployeesclub.com



FREE! GIFT!



FREE! GIFT!

Just Married? We Have a Gift for You!

City employees and/or Club members: Did you just get married?

Congratulations!

If you send in a wedding photo to *Alive!* along with some basic information (who, when, where, your job titles), we'll be happy to run an announcement.

Plus: The Club will send you the book *Our Honeymoon: A Record Book About Our Wild Ride* free as our wedding gift!

The book is a record keeper and photo album all in one.

Don't delay. Send in those wedding pictures and information to moments@cityemployeesclub.com



Promotions

Promotions:

Send us your department, your former job title, your new job, and a sentence saying your supervisor is aware that you're sending this. Send your photo, too, plus your phone number. Send to moments@cityemployeesclub.com.

Club Partner

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Share your moments!



Births

Births: Send us the following information: full name of the newborn, date of birth, name of parents, job title of the parent(s) who work(s) for the City or the DWP, your phone number and a baby photo. Send to moments@cityemployeesclub.com



Dylan Akira Diaz, born April 21 to **Paul Jiro** and **Jessica Nava Diaz**. Grandmother is **Jeannette Diaz**, clerk typist in the Cultural Affairs Dept. Congratulations!



Hannah Sue Hawkins, born May 18 to **John and Kelley Hawkins**. John is the Chief Operating Officer of the Club.



Weddings

Weddings: Recently married? Congratulations! Share the news with your City employee family. Tell us the names of the bride and groom, the date and place of the wedding, and the City or DWP job title of the bride and/or groom. (Include a photo, too, and we'll try to print it.) Send it in! Send to moments@cityemployeesclub.com.



Sophia Sanchez and **John A. Ponce de Leon**, April 17, in a small chapel. Sophia is a police services representative for the LAPD, and John is a security officer for the Library Department and part-time student. Congratulations, Sophia and John!



New Members

The Club gives a great big welcome to these new members, who recently joined the Club:

Welcome New Members!

- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Leslie Adams | Ricardo Gonzalez | Kent Oderinlo |
| Jaima Alvarado | Caesar Gonzalez | Michael Pell |
| Warren Anderson | Jason Gordon | Tonny Pennsylvania |
| Kimberly Aviles | Marlene Greenfield | Pedro Perea |
| Gordon Balbach | Shirley Grijalva | Raul Perez |
| Jean Beauford | Richard Guarente | Carlos Perez |
| Raul Benitez | Israel Guerrero | Clemmie Phillips |
| Shane Bentley | Bessie Guy | Juan Piedra |
| Stanley Benzler | Schala Guzman | Jorge Posadas |
| Rachel Bindman | Akeia Harris | Rosa Potts |
| Marianna Black | Vannessa Heatley | Jeanne Rankin |
| James Brown | David Hwang | Evelyn Reyes |
| Gloria Cabrera | Michael Jackson | Trinidad Reyes |
| Oscar Calder | Thomas Jackson | Rodolfo Rios |
| Bryan Calhoun | Gerry Jackson | Dan Robinson |
| David Cartwright Sr. | Patricia Jacobson | Terry Rockstad |
| Jose Castro | Walter Jimison Jr. | Finencio Rodriguez |
| Willie Cater Jr. | Jason Johnson | Claudia Romero |
| Pai-Yu Chiu | Timothy Jones | Raul Rosales |
| Charles Clifton | Tyrone Jones | Arthur Rosby |
| Deborah Coffin | Marcie Jones | Lee Rosenfeld |
| Ben Cola | Ramadine Joseph | Noel Russell |
| Elmer Coleman Jr. | Ioana Junc | Eliseo Sanchez |
| Michael Conerly | Larry Keisner | Jeffrey Scott |
| Arturo Coronel | Jin Yong Kim | Chrystal Sells |
| Maria Couch | Chungsil Kim | Lisa Shaw |
| Calvin Davis Jr. | Margaret Kuhn | David Shieh |
| Wilma Dela Cruz | David Lara | Albert Sisneros |
| Fernando Delatorre | Philip Luera | Sylvia Soto |
| Tejroop Dhillon | Maria Lujan | Hariton Tamrazian |
| James Dixon | Erna Madamba | Ellen Tanner |
| Joseph Doss | Aureliano Mancilla | David Tulanian |
| Celeste Dula | Richard Manz | Robert Valdez |
| Louis Dunlap | Emil Martinez | William Valenzuela |
| Renee Escobedo | Maria Martinez | Anthony Vann |
| Jacquelyn Estrada | Don Martinez | Richard Ventura |
| Rodney Evans | Uriel Matus | Rudy Vidal |
| Jason Falske | Kane Mayer | Nicole Wall |
| Siluz Feigin | Ned McElwain | John Ward |
| Laura Filatoff | Dennis Metts | Lloyd Wickliff |
| Robert Foston | Maria Mitra | Paul Williams |
| Stella Garcia | Steven Morales | Eurine Williams |
| Leticia Garnica | Milton Morrison | David Wood |
| Elizabeth Garrett | George Negrete | Joyce Wright |
| Michael Gibson | Carolyn Nelson | Edward Xiong |
| Deborah Glover | Edris Newton | Mariaelena Zamorza |
| Richard Gonzales | Jeff Nichols | Frederico Zelaya |



In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away:

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Active Members:			L.B. Cherry	Public Works	28	Carl Peterson	Rec and Parks	18
Eric Mayer	Planning	4	Maxine Degruy	ITA	32	Matthew Petritis	Building and Safety	20
Martha Presidente	Airports	4	Robert Dewar	Public Works	36	Scott Price	Library	10
Karen Trimble	LAPD	30	Gary Drew	Treasurer	30	Paul Senia	Cultural Affairs	30
Retired Members:			Elliot Fromberg	Public Works	32	Jack Shafer	LAFD	30
Eizabeth Ascoli	Disability	12	Vernon Giddings	LAFD	20	Arden Stevens	Planning	26
Shirley Alexander	Transportation	12	John Gilmore	Public Works	32	Grace Taylor	ITA	10
Earl Aubert	Rec and Parks	30	Max Gould	Rec and Parks	22	Alfred Thierry	Airports	31
William Black	Public Works	31	Marcus Guy	Harbor	31	Duewayne Toon	Gen. Services	30
Margaret Blum	Library	32	Ernest Haahr	Harbor	19	John Wilson	Personnel	29
Granville Braud	Building and Safety	30	Evelyn Levy	Library	31	Robert Zardeneta	Neighborhood Svs.	32
Lena Brewer	Cultural Affairs	38	Olive Luedtke	Library	16	In Memoriam: We receive this information directly from the City and the DWP. But send us the name of the deceased, and we'll print the notice. Send in a photo of the deceased, too, if you have one, and include your phone number. Send to moments@cityemployeesclub.com.		
Curtis Brown	Airports	7	George McAtee	LAFD	31			
			Hatwig Meyer	Rec and Parks	28			
			Helen Murray	Library	21			

National Dispatchers Week 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1

Five Receive Commendations as Part of National Dispatchers Week

Five members of the LAPD's Communications Division received special commendations for excellence in the line of duty, as part of National Dispatchers' Week April 12 through 16.

The Club congratulates the following LAPD Communications employees for a job well done. 🏆

Here are their commendations:

Megan Peer



From left: Captain Andrew J. Smith, LAPD Communications; Councilman Dennis Zine; Megan Peer's husband, daughter and Megan; LAPD Chief William Bratton, LAPD; and Peter Di Carlo, ICSB.

Club Member Megan Peer has worked for the City for 13 years. She has been a Police Service Representative with the Los Angeles Police Department during her entire City career. Megan has worked in many capacities, such as RTO, EBO, ATO and BCC. As an RTOTO, she has helped with the monitoring and assessing of new trainees and has been an instructor for 10 years.

Megan always gives 100 percent. Her yearly rating reflects the qualities that all employees should strive for: Professional demeanor, courteous attitude and commitment to leadership. Megan has received numerous commendations for professionalism. During the Democratic National Convention, Megan was instrumental in assisting the Director of Emergency Operations in collecting, monitoring and eventually deploying the resources of the LAPD to problem spots throughout the City.

Megan understands the need for emergency preparedness. In the event of a natural disaster, she is certified by the LAFD in the City Employee Emergency Response Team. CERT training prepares her to help neighbors and coworkers in the event of a catastrophic disaster until emergency personnel arrive.

She has been married for 13 years and has a daughter, Cabrina, who is four. Off duty, Megan enjoys sailing and spending time with her family.

The Day Watch of Communications Division, LAPD, is proud to recognize Police Service Representative Megan Peer as one of its most valuable PSRs.

Andres Mendoza



From left: Councilman Martin Ludlow; Councilwoman Wendy Greuel; LAPD Chief William Bratton, LAPD; Peter Di Carlo, ICSB; Andres Mendoza, PSR; Sharon Papa, LAPD Deputy Chief; and an unidentified person.

Andres Mendoza has worked for the City since October 1994. He has been a Police Service Representative with the LAPD during his entire City career. Andres always puts forth a 100-percent effort in all positions. He is being commended for routinely going above and beyond the call of duty to help Communications Division attain its goals.

Andres has excelled as a PSR. He possesses a calm demeanor that readily allows him to exercise his leadership skills toward a successful completion of his duties. He consistently provides a positive feedback and support to trainees and other instructors in all areas of the job.

In August 2002, Andres became an instructor. Andres continues to surpass his duties as an instructor, demonstrating his knowledge, compassion and patience to new PSR trainees. Andres has been honored twice as "Employee of the Quarter" in the Communications Division. Even more impressive, he has received numerous commendations for his outstanding performance during urgent field situations.

Andres' personal achievements include an Associate of Arts degree in both criminal justice and business administration. He is married and has three children, a son 10 years old and two daughters, ages 5 and 2. Off duty, Andres enjoys softball, fishing and camping. He is very active within the community, volunteering as a coach for Little League and his church baseball team. Andres also referees for a children's basketball team at a local park.

Andres has stated that the most rewarding aspect of his job is helping his peers. It comes as no surprise that his co-workers did not hesitate to name PSR Andres Mendoza the Communications Division National Dispatchers Week Most Valuable PSR for AM Watch.

Krishunda Wallace



Krishunda Wallace, 9 years. She also received a commendation.

Since early 2002 the City of Los Angeles embarked on a program to expand the ranks of its Police Service Representatives (PSR). This effort required Communications Division to have a concerted and meaningful program in place to facilitate the successful transition and retention of trainees. Consequently, each watch was required to have in place a team consisting of qualified instructors, Radio Telephone Operators Training Officer (RTOTO) Emergency Board Operator Training Officer (EBOTO) and Training Coordinator (TCO).

In February 2001, PSR Krishunda Wallace was selected from a pool of viable candidates to be AM Watch's RTOTO. Given her willing enthusiasm and desire to make a positive contribution, her selection was essentially a no-brainer. Krishunda immediately immersed herself in the program and made it a

point to be a valuable link between trainees and TCOs. Additionally, she artfully maintained a supporting role for her instructor peers while being sensitive and respectful of their spheres of responsibility. It became readily evident that Krishunda took great pride in ensuring that the training program functioned efficiently and also anticipated glitches to the extend possible. This was reflected in the extremely minimal kickbacks from the Division's Training Unit, primarily owing to Krishunda's attention to detail.

PSR Krishunda Wallace concluded her highly successful assignment as AM Watch's RTOTO in early April. Krishunda is recognized for her attention to duty; commitment to excellence; superior interpersonal skills; and leadership skills she demonstrated as AM Watch's RTOTO.

Kristina Montenegro



From left: Captain Andrew J. Smith, LAPD Communications Captain; Councilman Dennis Zine; Kristina Montenegro's fiancé; Kristina Montenegro; mother Loretta Montenegro, also a PSR; LAPD Chief William Bratton, LAPD; and Peter Di Carlo, ICSB.

Kristina Montenegro has been employed by the City since May 2000. She readily adapted to the fast-paced environment of the Communications Division.

Supervisors have come to respect Kristina for her flexibility and willingness to work any assignment. She truly is a team player and an unselfish individual. She not only has a positive impact on her coworkers, but she also leaves a positive impact on the members of the community she serves as a 911 and non-emergency board operator.

Kristina has received many commendations for her outstanding work performance and from members of the community she serves daily. In October 2003, she assisted at the Command Post for the Simi Valley fires that burned 95,000 acres. She has participated in various fundraisers and her positive attitude raises the morale of those around her.

Away from work, Kristina enjoys hiking in the hills near the Sierra Madres. Her mother is also a PSR.

Kristina's favorite aspect of being a PSR is helping the public get the help it needs. Kristina is a valuable PSR and worthy of her honor of PM Watch MVP.

Lee Masters

Senior PSR Lee Masters has been selected as the "Most Valuable Supervisor" for National Dispatchers Week 2004. Citing his professionalism and supportiveness, employees agreed that Sr. PSR Masters is a "supreme leader."

He began his career with the City 15 years ago as an accounting clerk at the L.A. Zoo. He accepted the position of PSR in January 1990. He excelled in his new position and within three years was



Lee Masters, Senior PSR and Most Valuable PSR award winner.

appointed instructor. Masters became involved in the Communications Division, seeking assignments in various areas such as Transit Operations and Training Unit Simulator. His expertise and knowledge made him an outstanding candidate in all areas. Lee has been the recipient of numerous commendations citing his dedication to the Department.

He was appointed supervisor in September 2001. His genial demeanor and sincere concern for employees made him an often sought-after supervisor and co-worker. Lee worked several facets in the Communications Division with a willingness to share his expertise with others in an exemplary manner. Lee is an annual supporter of the LAPD Celebrity Golf Tournament.

Off duty, he enjoys sailing and all forms of motor sports both as a spectator and amateur participant. His love for jazz and the blues helped establish the Los Angeles Blues Festival. Lee has taken an individual task of raising funds for Lupus International. He also assisted in organizing a run-walk team within the Communications Division for the annual Lupus Race for Life.

His dedication to the division often goes beyond his duties as a supervisor. He stated that he has always enjoyed being able to help his peers and subordinates through his many years of experience.

Being selected as the MVP Supervisor is an honor he truly deserves.

LAX Hosts a Barbecue to Appreciate Its Employees

Los Angeles International Airport threw a barbecue May 6 at the airport to celebrate and say thanks to its dedicated employees.

The Club donated prizes for the event.

The day was especially for those Airport Employees that support the Association of Airport Employees, said Jimmy Sparks, the president of the Association of Airport Employees.

Here are photos of the event.



Rosa Potts, LAX Construction and Maintenance.



Cook for the day David Rose, LAX Fleet Maintenance.



LAX Construction and Maintenance, from left: Gary Campbell, David Breedlove and Don Martinez.



Club Counselors explaining club benefits to LAX employees.



LAX Employees in line for lunch.



Jay Berkowitz, Photographer, Publicity and Communications.



From left: Gloria Plata, Financial Services; Claire Flores, Airports; and Imelda Rufino, Airports.



Club Partner Julie Wallace of Cruise and Resorts explains travel benefits to LAX employee Pat Buckley.



Willie Bailey, LAX Const. and Maintenance.



The City Employees Club booth.



From left: Association of Airport Employees President Jimmy Sparks and AAE Vice President Leatrice Pickens.



From left: Linda Brown, LAX Human Resources; and Prasad Vigi, Airport Operations.



From left: Joseph Pape and Fidencio Rodriguez, LA County West Vector Control District.



Club Counselor Beverly Haro explains Club benefits to LAX Construction and Maintenance employee Steven Jackman.



LAX Construction and Maintenance, from left: Lawrence Calderon, Maria Vizcarra, Fernando Carrasco and Trinidad Reyes.



LAX Construction and Maintenance, from left: Bruce Pugh; John Rodgers and Steve Gardner.



From left: Joanna Diaz, Vocational Worker II; and Jose Canales, Vocational Worker II.



Club Counselor Arlene Herrero answers questions from LAX Personnel employee Sharon Johnson Payne.



Club Partner Larry Brown, Police and Fire Financial Services, Inc., talks to an LAX employee about travel deals.



Cook for the day Theodore Childress, LAX Fleet Maintenance.



From left: Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager; Uriel Madus, LAX Landscaping; and Belinda Brandon, LAX Construction and Maintenance.



From left: Jordan Bertrand; Diamond Williams; and Pride Pickens, Airports.



Club Counselor Beverly Haro explains *Alive!* to Oliver Tucker, LAX Construction and Maintenance.



Airport Police, from left: Frances E. Bellot, Bridget Nickelson and Janice Guevara.



Lance Delaney, LAX Landscaping, receives information from Club Counselor Beverly Haro.



Leslie Adams, Airport Police, poses after signing up for club membership.



Joseph Dobs, LAX Purchasing, signs up for Club membership.

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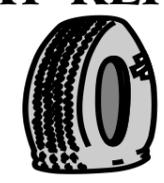
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Harbor Department Thanks Those Employees With Perfect Attendance

The Harbor Department in conjunction with the City of Los Angeles' Employee Service Recognition Month holds an annual luncheon for its employees who achieved perfect attendance during the previous calendar year. During 2003, 165 Harbor Department employees had perfect attendance. This was higher than in 2002, when 144 employees had perfect attendance. The 165 total represents 23 percent of the Harbor Department's workforce having had perfect attendance during 2003.

This year's luncheon was held during a fantastic spring day May 11 in the courtyard of the Marina Hotel in San Pedro overlooking the Cabrillo Marina, which provided for a Mediterranean style al fresco setting. The annual event is organized and hosted by Martin Chavez, the Harbor Department's Human Resources Development Officer. In addition to treating the employees to lunch, the Harbor Department also recognized seven employees who achieved ten consecutive years of perfect attendance by presenting each employee with a jacket with an embroidered Port logo. The employees honored were:

- Roy Benjamins, Engineering
- Boyd Bostre, Engineering
- James Kapel, City Attorney

- Todd McElhaney, Construction and Maintenance(C&M)-Paint Shop
- Masa Morimoto, Marketing
- Julia Nagano, Public Affairs
- Rocki Walker, Human Resources

Then the fun began! The Harbor Department held a raffle to select eight employees to receive \$500. Those lucky winners were:

- Rica Marie Viola, Property Management
- Christine Men, Treasury Management
- Kurt Ramirez, Engineering - Surveys
- Virgilio Torres, Engineering - Surveys
- Shari Hill, C&M - Administration
- Steven Mangold, C&M - Machine Shop
- Charles Miller, C&M - Equipment Repair
- Stephen Hangar, C&M - Machine Shop

The City Employees Club did not want to be left out of the fun and donated three prizes. Club Chief Operating Officer John Hawkins and Club Counselor Arlene Herrero and Club Member Services Manager Angel Gomez selected the raffle winners:

- David Bickel, Engineering - Inspections (television)
- Rosa Reynoso, Port Police (portable DVD player)
- James Davis, Engineering (stereo system)



Jacket recipients, from left: Rocki Walker; Todd McElhaney; Boyd Bostre; Bruce Seaton, Chief Operating Officer; Roy Benjamins; James Kapel; Masa Morimoto; and Martin Chavez, HR Development Officer.

This was followed by a raffle for two sets of field-level Dodger tickets, including parking passes, donated by Western Medical Group. The winners were:

- Michelle Gill, Port Pilots
- Jose Tataje, Purchasing

Pallagio Day Spa in Torrance donated a gift certificate, won by Mark Weisenberger, also from Purchasing.

The last of the raffle prizes were three \$20 Borders Bookstore gift certificates donated by the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union. Those winners were:

- Shao Yu Shao, Engineering - Test Lab
- Darleen Davis, Information Systems
- Vahik Haddadian, Engineering

Additionally, all 165 employees with perfect attendance received a Coleman one-gallon cooler with the Port's logo. This was a fun day with great weather along the waterfront with employees from the Harbor Department. With this much fun, the Club sure hopes to see everyone again next year.

And the Club congratulates all those in attendance for their great service and dedication over the past year.

Here are photos of the event. Where specified, years listed are years of perfect attendance; all other references to overall years refer to years of service to the City. 📷



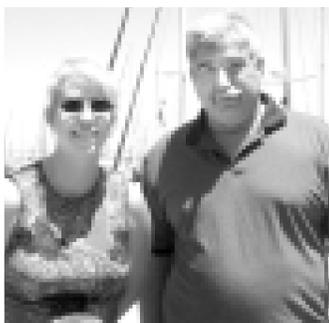
From left: Kathy Merkovsay, Risk Manager, 16 years; James Davis, Harbor Engineer, 18 years; and Teresa Henkhaus, Sr. Construction Inspector, 23 years.



From left: David Bickel, Sr. Construction Inspector, 16 years; Carlos Quintana, Civil Engineer Associate III, 15 years; Du Tran, Mechanical Engineer Associate III, 18 years; and Pablo Ninofranco, Electrical Associate, 30 years.



James Dixon, Sr. Clerk Typist, 3 years, handing the gift of a water jug to Dora McClendon, Sr. Clerk Typist, 32 years, with 14 years of consecutive perfect attendance.



From left: Linda Brown, Palagio Medical Day Spa, and Mark Weisenberger, Purchasing, two years of perfect attendance.



The \$500 winners, pictured with Bruce Seaton, from left: Kurt Ramirez, Rica Marie Viola, Christine Men, Virgilio Torres, Shari Hill, Steven Mangold and Martin Chavez. Not pictured: Charles Miller.



Fro left: Tom Capicotto, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, 30-plus years; Steven Baker, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 16 years; and Rocki Walker, Director of Human Resources, 36 years.



Damon Lankford, Security Officer, 4 years.



Bruce Seaton pulls eight lucky employees for the \$500 cash award.



From left: Tom Capicotto, Rocki Walker, Norman Arikawa, Masa Morimoto, Vahik Haddadian and Bill McCleish.



From left: Ping S. Lit, Civil Engineer, 17 years; and Dennis Ogren, Sr. MA II, 31 years.



From left: Sgt. Rosa Reynoso, Port Police, 15 years; Tam Bui, Accounting Clerk, 17 years; Emilio Macias, Architectural Associate, 20 years; and William Yocham, Port Police K-9 Officer, 4 years.



From left: Gary Gardner, Sr. Computer Operator II, 15 years; Charles Turner, Financial Manager, 4 years; and Mike Russell, Finance Analyst, 2 years.



LAFUCU donated \$20 Borders Gift Cards. Winners were, from left: Vahik Haddadian, Engineering, 1 year of consecutive perfect attendance; Darleen Davis, Information Systems, 13 years of consecutive perfect attendance; Shao Yu Shao, Engineering, 9 years of consecutive perfect attendance; and Martin D. Chavez, HR Development Officer, 9 years of consecutive perfect attendance.



From left: Jessica Bautista, Sr. Clerk Typist, 9 years; Richard Joe, Electrical Engineer Associate, 29 years; Jessie Palicte, Sr. Clerk Steno, 40 years; Carmen Bognot, Architectural Associate 4, 26 years; Pons Rongavilla, Building Mechanical Engineer Associate III, 14 years; Boyd Bostre, Architectural Associate, 24 years; and Tom Asuncion, Architectural Associate, 17 years.



Bruce Seaton, Chief Operating Officer, 23 yrs of consecutive perfect attendance; and Martin D. Chavez, HR Development Officer, nine years of consecutive perfect attendance.



Winners of the prizes donated by the Club, from left: Martin D. Chavez, HR Development Officer; John Hawkins, Club COO; James Davis, Engineering, who won a Panasonic stereo system; Sgt. Rosa Reynoso, Port Police, who won the portable DVD player; David Bickel, Engineering, who won the television; Angel Gomez, Club Member Service Manager; and Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor.



From left: Oscar Insong, Construction Inspector, 20 years; Shou-Yu Shao, Civil Engineer Associate, 25 years; Peter Ouk, Civil Engineer Associate, 10 years; and Hugo Cisneros, Civil Engineer Associate, 2.5 years.



From left: Tom Yamamoto, Port Police K-9 Officer, 10 years; Leo Stekkinger, Port Police K-9 Officer, 35 years; Captain Ralph Tracy, Port Police Captain, 21 years; and Lt. Al Rosario, Port Police Lt., 19 years.



Back, from left: Jo Ann Bambridge, Sr. Real Estate Officer, 18 years; Sue Lai, Transportation Engineer, 13 years; and Jack Chang, Civil Engineer Associate, 13 years. Front, from left: Jeanette Argentine, Wharfinger, 20 years; Linda Vigil, Asst. Chief Wharfinger, 33 years; and Lajuan Kennedy, Wharfinger, 20 years.



Martin Chavez shows the crowd the May issue of *Alive!* containing photos of the Harbor orientation.



The lunch buffet.



From left: Gloria Dowling-Sierra, Western Medical; Jose Tataje, Purchasing, one year of perfect attendance; Michelle Gill, Port Pilots, 3 years of perfect attendance; and Dr. Paz Elilat, Western Medical.



The Harbor Department's perfect attendance event.



In back, from left: Stephen John, Graphic Designer, 2 years; and Rose Kinoshita, Sr. Clerk Typist, 20 years. Seated, from left: Kedren Pilgram, Administrative Intern, 4 years; and Martin D. Chavez, HR Development Officer, 9 years of consecutive perfect attendance.

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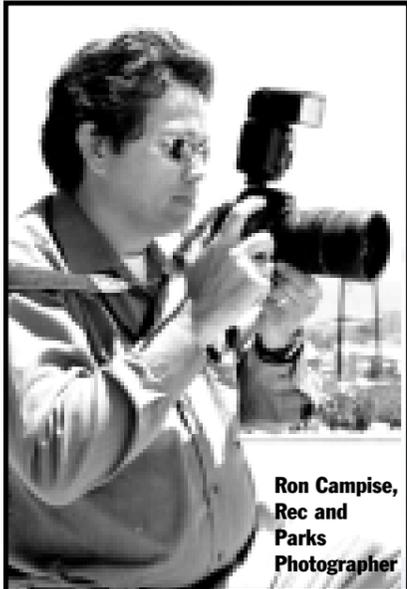
Orange

Black



Rec and Parks Photographer Focuses on the City's Beauty

■ Ron Campise started taking crime pictures for the LAPD. Now he focuses is on subjects that are more beautiful.



Ron Campise, Rec and Parks Photographer

ALL IN A Day's Work

"I've been a photographer with the city of Los Angeles for the past 10 years," says Ron Campise, a photographer with Rec and Parks. "For the first five, spent with the Los Angeles Police Department Scientific Investigation section as a field investigative photographer. My last year there, in 1998, I was awarded meritorious unit citation along with my colleagues for response to the investigation of a Bank Robbery and shootout in North Hollywood involving two machine gun wielding suspects causing havoc.

"Later, I also received an individual award for 'photograph of the year' of an officer's badge that was severely damaged deflecting a bullet shot at close range. The badge saved the officers life. I made sure the badge was photographically documented to illustrate the dangers of police work."

In 1998 a position opened up in Rec and Parks as the public information photographer. "At first I was offered and then declined the position. Lee Nichols, the Public Information director who has since retired, called me at home and convinced me to take the position. His persuasive argument entailed that both Rec and Parks and myself could benefit greatly. I could benefit from the variety of assignments, duties and level of personal responsibility it entailed. And the Rec & Parks [could benefit] from my wide range expertise in imaging."

Ron soon discovered that Nichols wasn't kidding when he boasted of the variety of assignments with the new job. "Assignments varied from facilities at Point Fermin in San Pedro on the ocean to Stony Pointe Park near the Ventura County line. Assignments including festivals, openings, special events and sporting meets need to be documented in both

stills and video format.

"In the last five years, more than 40,000 images were added to an archive of images going back to 1910 for a total collection, in one form of another, of more than 250,000 on file. One day I'll be at an opening in a coat and tie, and the next in hiking boots tromping through the trails of Griffith Park. In addition to field assignments, I handle the electronic distribution of images to requestors, both the general public and media venues. Including *Alive!*"

Ron contributed not only the photos you see here, but also the pretty pictures of the cherry

"L.A. City employees, by a vast majority, are great, wonderful, noble individuals who care about the need of the City."

blossoms in bloom in last month's issue of *Alive!*

Ron loves that he has so much interaction with other City employees.

"In going out to Recreation and Parks locations, you really get to know City employees and the public well, and all I can say is that L.A. City employees, by a vast majority, are great, wonderful, noble individuals who care about the need of the City. These virtues are mirrored by the City's populace as well.

"As an example, a few years ago I had to go to a site check of the unfinished and abandoned, partially completed Imperial Courts Recreation Center in Watts. I was told to be careful in the area due to justifiable community concerns and anger over the delays in the completion of their center. At first, I was approached by community members who wanted to know why I was photographing the abandoned center. They were slightly irate at the progress of local government in restarting the project. After listening to their complaints,

I let them know that I was there to document to condition of the building site, and that my photographs would be used to help re-start the project.

"The community members, seeing that I was there to help them, invited me to have lunch with them. One and one half years later, I attended the grand opening of the newly completed Imperial Courts Recreation and Community Center."

But taking pictures is only part of his story. He's also a budding writer.

"Currently I'm undergoing a metamorphosis into a writer, having completed in 2000 the first in a series of novels, *The Dreams of Ants*. The story entails a national security thriller. The book has been in limited publication since December 2001.

"I'm currently working since December on a screenplay, a dark comedy about a group of misunderstood but good-hearted misfit crime scene investigators who have been exiled to the graveyard shift. I have also started a second novel, a coming-of-age story centered on two friends and their families in a transitioning Boyle Heights."

But he keeps focused on his day job, delivering professionalism and progress. "This year marks the first of a completely digital imaging photographic center in Recreation and Parks," he says with pride. "We are the first completely digital photographic center in any City department. In April, more than 3000 digital images were added to the archives, and the "photo lab" of the public information center was officially changed to the Visual Media Resource Center, or VMRC.

"All in all, it's an incredible adventure working for Recreation and Parks, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have a job that many dream of."

Do you know any City employees with interesting, unusual or unique jobs? Let us know! Nominate them for All in a Day's Work: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

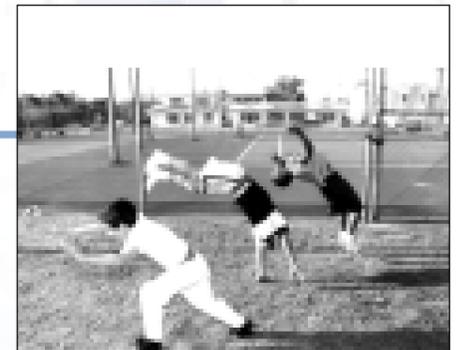


Tall ships at Winter Berth at the L.A. Maritime Museum.

Korean American Tradition Folk Dance Troop performs at the annual Salute to Recreation at Northridge Park.



The Rose Garden at Exposition Park.



Junior gymnastics performed spontaneously at the Lauren Miller Recreation Center.



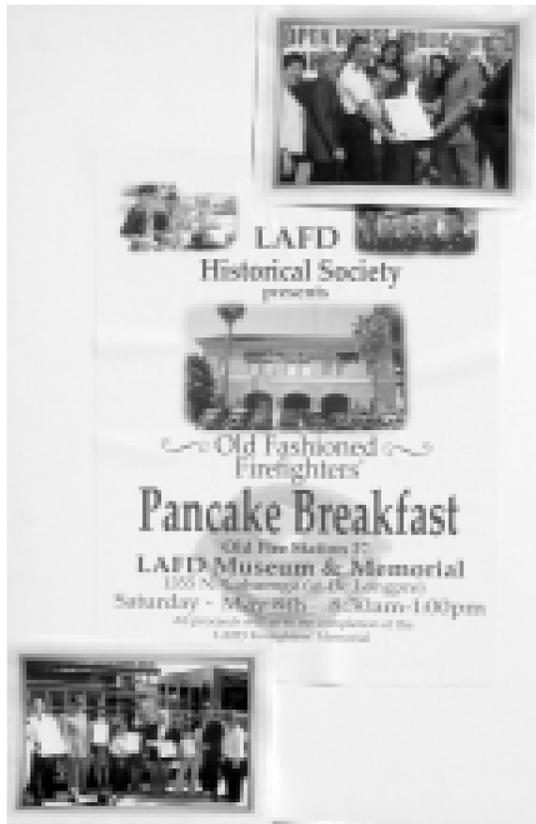
Ice Angels perform at the outdoor ice rink set up in Pershing Square in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles.

Feria de los Ninos (Festival of the Children) and its Run for Kids around Hollenbeck Park Lake.



GALLERY

LAFD Flips Over Pancake Breakfast Held May 8 at LAFD Fire Museum



The event poster.

In celebration of Fire Service Day, the Los Angeles Fire Department Historical Society presented its sixth annual "old-fashioned" Pancake Breakfast Saturday, May 8. The event was held at the LAFD's Museum in Hollywood.

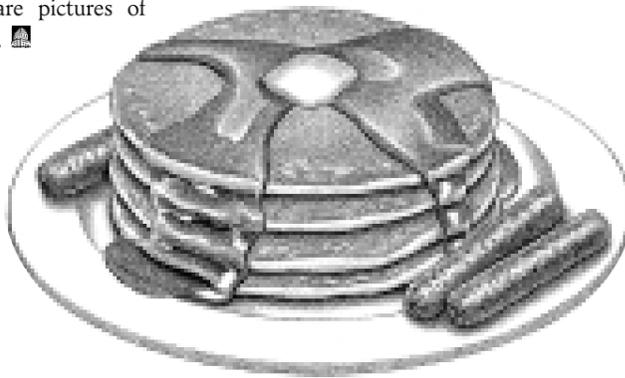
In addition to the food, there were antique fire engines, guided tours, raffles and coloring books for kids.

Proceeds benefited the completion of the LAFD Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the Museum.

Here are pictures of the event.



A firefighter enjoys breakfast with his family.



A firefighter from Fire Station 27 shows children how to use the fire truck.



Enjoying the Pancake Breakfast event.



Ralph Terrazas.



Councilman Tom LaBonge.



LAFD Chief William Bamattre.

Transfer Employees Into Harbor Enjoy Dept. Orientation Program

The Harbor Dept. held the last of its three main orientation programs (at least until July) on April 27 in Liberty Hill Plaza, and aboard the Angelina II.

This program was the last in the series that we highlighted in the May issue of *Alive!* (And we'll be there again in July for the next one.)

The Club provided the Continental breakfast, and the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union was there for a presentation.

The Club welcomes the transferred employees in the Harbor Dept. Here are photos from the event.



From left: Ronald Lin, Civil Engineer Associate, 3 years; Maria Couch, Accounting Clerk, 4 years; and James Dixon, Sr. Clerk Typist, 3 years.



From left: William Valenzuela, Gardener, 5 weeks; and David Shieh, Construction Inspector, 2.5 years.



Martin Chavez, HR Development Officer, 18 years; and Katherine Bermudez, Principal Clerk, 15 years.



From left: Jin Kim, Civil Engineer, 16 years; and Eric Keller, Civil Engineer, 14 years.



Charles Ventura, Office Engineer Technician, 3 years.



Magdalena Puentes, Clerk Typist, 6 weeks.



From left: Erna Madamba, System Analyst, 2.5 years; Melanie Jacob, Accounting Clerk, 3.5 years; and Denise Galaz, Sr. Clerk Typist, 13 years.



From left: Antonio Gomez, Sr. Construction Inspector, 12 years; Anthony Vann, Construction Inspector, 6 years; Kevin Jennings, Sr. Officer, 3 years; and Richard Manz, Sr. Construction Inspector, 4.5 years.

20 Departments Display Their Services at Annual Showcase

■ **Event held at the L.A. Mall lets City departments show their stuff.**

In honor of May being National Public Service Month, the City's Personnel Dept. hosted its annual City Department Showcase May 12 and 13. The event provides an opportunity for Departments to showcase the many services they offer to City residents and the City organization. 📷

Here are some photos of the event.



General Services Department, from left: Russell Core, Senior Personnel Analyst; Abby H. Truong, Production Planning Associate; Jessica Orona, Special Event Attendant; and John Kuo, Materials Testing Engineering Associate.



Department of Water and Power, from left: Shirlene Mills, Commercial Field Representative; and Nisan Kazman, Management Assistant.



Arlette Davis, Senior Accountant II, Office of Accounting, getting her blood pressure checked by Nurse Chen.



Owen Lin, Management Analyst, Emergency Preparedness Department.



Adriana Miranda, Information and Referral Coordinator, Department of Disability.



Information Technology Agency, from left: Leigh Smith, Video Production Coordinator, Channel 35; Scott A. Wiles, Management Analyst II; and Karen Estrada, Communications Operator.



DWP Speakers Bureau, from left: Leonor V. Garcia, Principal Clerk Utilities; and Vanessa Heatley, Field Trainer.



Office of Finance, from left: Phyllis Perkins, Management Analyst II; and Alfred Del Real, Tax Compliance Officer II.



From left: Clarence Clegg, Animal Control Officer II, and Gerard G. Lagarde, Animal Control Officer, giving information out to showcase attendees.



Department of Aging, from left: Dakarai Smith, Personnel Coordinator; and Teresa Spiers, Information and Assistance Coordinator.



Human Relations Commission, from left: Victoria Minetta, Policy Adviser; and Arturo Piña.



Emergency Preparedness Department, from left: Faye Cousin, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator I; and Carmen Y. Steward, Executive Secretary II.



Finding out more about the L.A. Zoo.



Christopher Koontz, Environmental Information Officer, Environmental Affairs Department.



Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System (LACERS), from left: Pan Gibbs, Retirement Benefits Specialist; Ruth B. Perry, Supervisor; and Anna Ingram, Disability Retirement Section.



Recreation and Parks, from left: Cari Lezcano, Public Relations Assistant; and Joycelyn S. Lee, Publicity Assistant.



Department of Animals Services, from left: Animal Control Officers Lopez and McCullough.



Cultural Affairs Department, from left: Stash Maleski, Arts Associate; and Martica Caraballo, Marketing Associate.



Germain Mendoza Jr., Senior Housing Inspector, Housing Department.



Raey Williams, Clerk Typist, Public Works/Public Affairs.



Coral Barreiro, Education Specialist, Los Angeles Zoo, with Carmen, the Brazilian Tarantula.



Housing Department, from left: Keith Gordon, Senior Housing Inspector; and Willie Andrews, Senior Housing Inspector.



Department of Personnel, front row, from left: Joyce Miller, Registered Nurse; Sheila White, Special Projects Coordinator; Linda Lanier, Citywide Training Manager; and Charlotte Pinkney, Training Analyst. Back row: Kathleen Dougherty, Occupational Health Nurse; Maria Chen, Registered Nurse; Elizabeth Jimenez-Scaggs, Management Analyst II; Raelynn Napper, Special Investigator; Audrey Atkins, Citywide Training Officer; and Sandra Atere-Roberts, Senior Workers' Compensation Analyst.

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Love Nachos? Thank Texas

■ When the chips are down, dig in and celebrate the great diversity of America.

Nachos were born in one of the Texan border towns during World War II. Soon thereafter, it was a particular favorite at the Texas State Fair for thousands of visitors in 1960s. The original nachos had all the ingredients that are found in them today...except for the melted cheese. I have nothing against melting a sharp cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese and adding that delectable cheesy flavor to a favorite meal. But if you are a seeker of traditional recipes, the ballpark gooey-cheesy version is not what the Mexican culinary forefathers intended. Then again, what's great about America is that it is the land of many variations. There should be little argument that nachos continue to rise in popular-

ity as nachos are made in most ballparks, fast food chains, American influenced Mexican restaurants, and at homes across the country.

If you're wondering what treat to serve at

Father's Day, graduation, or for other parties, nachos are perfect. It is hard to believe that there are still people today who have never had simple authentic nachos — with refried beans, real cheese and jalapeño — they can steal the scene, and they wash down well with your favorite beverage. Tiny salad shrimp, precooked at the fish counter; and leftover steak, sausage and chicken make excellent toppings.

Next time you barbecue, cook a few extra pieces so you can use them for nachos. The traditional toppings include refried beans and jalapeño, olives, salsa, lettuce, chicken, and shrimp. The variations are endless. There are hundreds of nacho recipes and only a page for *Cooking with the Club*. Here are a few that I came up with, and I tried not to leave out the cheese. 🍴



Nachos a la BBQ Chicken

Store-bought chips are convenient and keep well in the cupboard, but if you can, make chips using fresh tortillas, cut into quarters, then fried in hot oil until crispy. Or, purchase a bag of freshly fried tortilla chips from a local Mexican restaurant or market. You'll taste the difference immediately. When making nachos, remember that amounts are approximate, and just about anything goes.

INGREDIENTS

- About 4 ounces tortilla chips, or enough to cover a flat baking sheet or heatproof platter
- 2 to 2-1/2 cups diced barbecued chicken (about 12 ounces)
- 8 ounces grated cheddar, Monterey Jack
- 2 large or 3 average green onions, chopped (include green parts)
- 1 fresh jalapeño, seeds and stems removed, minced (or more to taste)
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Arrange the chips on a 12x18-inch baking sheet or equivalent. (For easy cleanup, line the sheet with foil.)
3. Sprinkle the cheese over the chips. Top with equal portions of chicken, green onion and jalapeño. Sprinkle with cumin, salt and pepper. Bake 7 to 12 minutes until the cheese melts and is bubbly. Watch closely — ovens vary and the chips can go from golden to black in seconds. Serve hot, and if desired, with guacamole or sour cream on the side.



Oh-So-Good Nachos

INGREDIENTS

- 1 package of ground beef (the amount is up to you)
- 1 can of refried beans
- 1 can of tomato sauce
- 1/2 cup chopped bell green pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 envelope of taco seasoning
- 1 cup of grated cheddar cheese (be different and use a cheese you can't pronounce)
- 1 bag of plain tortilla chips

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat oven to 350°. Cook ground beef in a large saucepan or Dutch oven. Add all ingredients but the cheddar cheese and chips to the pot and simmer for 10 to 12 minutes. While it is simmering, pour the chips into a casserole dish.
2. Spread hot mixture over the chips; sprinkle grated cheddar cheese on top and put in the oven for 20 minutes or until cheese is melted and browned.

Serves 4.



Game Day Nachos

INGREDIENTS

- 1 7-ounce package tortilla chips
- 1 8-ounce can jalapeno bean dip
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/2 cup medium salsa
- 1 8-ounce can guacamole
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 2 tablespoons chopped black olives
- 4 green onions, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Arrange a single layer of tortilla chips over the bottom and up the side of a 9-inch pie plate.
2. Spread the bean dip evenly over the chips. Bake for 10 minutes.
3. Mix sour cream and salsa in a small bowl and spoon over the bean dip. Spread the guacamole dip over the sour cream mixture. Sprinkle with seasoned salt. Sprinkle layers of cheddar, tomato, olives and green onions over the top. Serve with additional tortilla chips.

Variation: For an even fresher taste, substitute 1 can pureed black beans and 1 teaspoon chopped cilantro for the jalapeno bean dip.



Boiling Hot Black Bean Nachos

INGREDIENTS

- 1 large bag round tortilla chips
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained and slightly mashed
- 1 tablespoon vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese or Mexican blend (gourmet cheese works great too!)
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 tomato, finely chopped
- Salt and pepper

DIRECTIONS

1. Arrange tortilla chips on a large baking sheet.
2. Mix beans with vinegar and oil; spread on tortilla chips then top with shredded cheese.
3. Broil until cheese is melted and bubbly. Cool slightly, top with chopped onion and tomato, and serve.



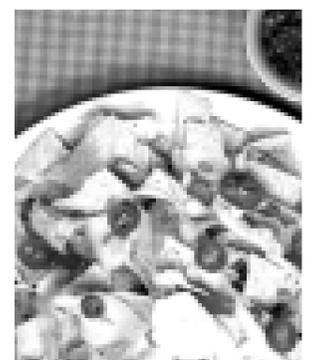
Fast Nachos

INGREDIENTS

- 4 ounces tortilla chips
- 1/2 cup taco sauce
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese (try gouda, or another gourmet cheese)
- jalapeño pepper slices, optional

DIRECTIONS

1. Place tortilla chips on a paper plate. Pour taco sauce over chips. Sprinkle with the shredded cheese. If desired, top with jalapeno pepper slices.
2. Microwave on high for 1 to 1 1/2 minutes, until cheese is melted.



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Corner



The Prince and Me
Julie Stiles (last seen in *Mona Lisa Smile*) stars as Paige Morgan, a college student in Wisconsin hoping to get in to the medical school at Johns Hopkins. Her plan is to stay focused and study to get her grades up. Meanwhile, twentyish playboy Prince Edward of Denmark, hounded by the paparazzi, decides to come to American and hide out, especially after seeing a television program that leads him to believe that Wisconsin college girls are running around topless. Eddie meets Paige and is quite taken with her. But she wants to remain focused on her studies. Will the Prince be able to "charm" her. This is a very good movie, with lots of comedy, fun and romance. Good for pre-teens and up.
— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Corner



Connie and Carla
Nia Vardalos, who wrote and starred in *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, wrote this movie and also stars as Connie. Connie and Carla (played brilliantly by Toni Collette) witness their boss being killed by a drug dealer. Fearing for their lives, the two girls take off and decide to go Los Angeles and hide out. The two pretend to be men and get jobs as "female impersonators," and then the fun and laughs really begin. I loved this movie. David Duchovny (*The X-Files*) also stars. I think teens and up would enjoy this movie. I would definitely see this again.
— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Corner



The Whole Ten Yards
Bruce Willis and Matthew Perry are adorable and there are some funny moments, but overall save your money. The story is just too corny. Better to rent this one, if you must see it. Big disappointment.
— Gail Seltzer, DWP



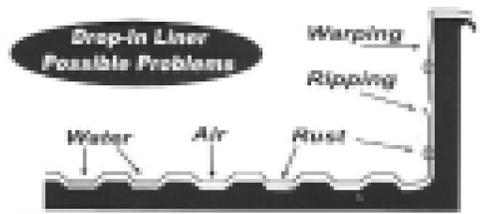
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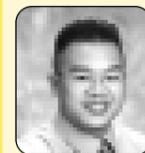
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