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**Renaissance  
Pleasure Faire  
April 9<sup>th</sup> - May 22<sup>nd</sup>  
\$10 - \$16**

**SEE PAGE 47**

*For Club members only!*

Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist, Public Works/Sanitation, holds a honeyhead turbot, a species she uses in her research on emerging threats. (She threw this little guy back in the ocean.)

# Tracking the New Threats

Steroids and pharmaceuticals are the latest threats to our oceans. Fish, like this honeyhead turbot, are helping Public Works' Toxicity Unit track them down.

- SEE PAGE 24



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120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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# Alive!

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Produced by John Hawkins

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\*This offer expires March 31, 2011 and is available only to members with one 1, 2 and 3 credit. A minimum 20% down payment (or combination of vehicle equity and down payment) is required. Offer valid on in-branch auto loans only. Maximum term is 60 months. Payment example: \$20,000 vehicle price with a 20% down payment leaves \$16,000 for financing. \$16,000 financed at 2.99% APR for 60 months is \$289.00 per month. This offer may not be combined with any other promotions and is not available for refinancing existing WPCCU loans. The credit union will not finance cars that are older than 5 years and/or have more than 80,000 miles. All other WPCCU lending standards apply. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

\* A Message From the CEO \*

# Old Habits Very Draining to Ocean

by John Hawkins  
President and CEO, The Club

When I was a kid, I used to think that the storm water drain in the street was like a trashcan.

During our *Alive!* interview this month, I remembered thinking that. And it came neatly to the point of this month's cover story – emerging threats to our oceans include a lot of stuff that we shouldn't be throwing down the drain, like steroids, pharmaceuticals, pesticides and the like. When I was a kid, that's what I used to think, too.

But thank goodness not anymore.

The team we focus on this month – Sanitation's Toxicity Unit, part of the Environmental Monitoring Division of Public Works – is in the early stages of tracking all that stuff. It's so new to the monitoring industry that the federal government hasn't issued measuring standards for what's acceptable, and what isn't. But the City team, lead by newcomer **Dawn Petschauer**, Water Biologist, engages in special studies from time to time to see what's out there, and report her findings to research collaboratives. Let's hope the research dollars pick up to allow Dawn, **Stan Asato**, good friend **Curtis Cash** and their crew to continue tracking this bad stuff, and letting everyone know the environmental dangers tossing stuff down the drain, or through runoff, etc. (And a special thanks to Dawn for helping us brush up on our chemistry. Wow, that was a lot of syllables! Great stuff!)



Club CEO John Hawkins and Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist I, in the Public Works labs at Hyperion Treatment Plant.

As I write this, we just had a great annual meeting downtown. You can read the story in this month's issue, but suffice it to say, the Club is in excellent health, with a large, solid membership base; strong financials; a great board of City Employee leaders; and terrific service. Those have been the administrative goals of the Club for 83 years now and counting, and I'm happy to report nothing has changed – we're still the excellent, model association we were set up to be. Thank you to all of our members, for your continued confidence in the way we're celebrating your lives. And thank you, too, to our Chief Financial Officer, **Brian Trent**, whose chief responsibility is to keep us financially solid. And we are very much that. Good job, Brian!

Here's a big Club shoutout to regular *Alive!* contributor **Ken Kochakji**, Retired, Transportation, who regales us with his running and charitable adventures; we include his content in our Best Years section as often as we can. This month, Ken has submitted his military memories, and we're going to see if others out there are interested in submitting theirs, too. We think it's a terrific idea; send in some snippets, and we'll see how much we can print.

Meanwhile, **Rachael Brecher**, **Arlene Herrero** and the Club gang are cooking up the usual collection of great Club events, offers and promotions. We have another awesome Magic Mountain party – a Club exclusive night – coming up in May. We have another Long-Term Care Open Enrollment period coming up, this time for DWP Employees (our first one, for City Employees last year, was a huge hit). And don't forget about that Club Cruise. The reservations are coming in now, and I can tell you that I will be there with my wife, Kelley, and the Hawkins family. It's going to be great, with all that culture – and food! What are you waiting for? Put that deposit down now.

It's almost spring now, and that means more Club softball and basketball, and all sorts of other Club activities. Keep on living your lives, and thank you for letting the Club celebrate them!

# JOHN

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)

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The newspaper of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles



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## Alive! Behind the Scenes

Alive! Cover Photo



Angel Gomez,  
Director of Member  
Services, The Club

Kneeling on a Public Works/Sanitation research vessel docked for the day in San Pedro, Club Photographer and Member Services Director Angel Gomez snaps a photo of Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist I.



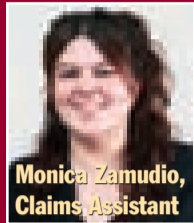




**Cecilia Talbot,  
Claims Manager**

You probably won't get to meet Club Claims Manager Cecilia Talbot very often... until you really need her. That's when her service shines.

So, to assure you that you are in good hands, from time to time *Alive!* will reprint letters commending the service given by Cecilia and her excellent staff. — Ed.



**Monica Zamudio,  
Claims Assistant**

**Service From The Heart...  
When You Need It Most**

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most.



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles Celebrating the Lives of City Employees.

*Great Service, When You're in Need*

"Our [Club] service rep was very professional and efficient. The service she promised I would get came through in time. She said I should expect it. I was very grateful. The followup was very excellent. At this difficult time in my life, it meant so much."

— Luberta Cliff, July 2010

The Club's claims service was "prompt, kind and understanding. They are organized and educated about the needs of people at a time of loss. Thank you very much for such

a wonderful gift -- the author of the book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* explains the facts of life in a candid way."

— Peggy Johnson, April 2010

The Club's claims service is "one of a kind. I can't remember the last time I dealt with someone as helpful, friendly and compassionate. Cecilia is truly a Godsend, a blessing to know."

— Robert Galvez, April 2010

"Monica was extremely helpful. My mother's claim was handled immediately, which reduced the stress of paying for medical and funeral expenses. I am deeply grateful for the compassionate attitude and efficiency. We all have a purpose in this life. My mother was to bring joy and love to all who knew her. This is a beautiful book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* and very comforting during these difficult times. Thank you!"

— Antoinette Fierro, April 2010

**Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work**

**Total claims paid to Club Members so far in 2011: \$421,625.08**

**Claims paid:**

Life insurance claims paid this month: **\$129,561.49**

Life insurance claims paid this year: **\$0.00**

Long-term disability claims paid this month: **\$264,476.09**

Long-term disability claims paid this year: **\$0.00**

Long-term care claims paid this month: **\$27,587.50**

Long-term care claims paid this year: **\$0.00**

Cancer insurance claims paid this month: **\$0.00**

Cancer insurance claims paid this year: **\$0.00**

**Trust your insurance needs to the Club. Contact an Insurance Counselor today: (800) 4640452**

*It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club!*

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Term Life Insurance
- Long-Term Care
- Pet Insurance
- Auto Insurance
- Long-Term Disability
- Cancer Insurance
- Legal Services



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Your life and well-being are important to the Club. Get peace of mind with the Club's strong insurance programs:

- Group Rated Term Life Insurance (\$10,000-\$300,000)
- Auto and Homeowners Insurance Call Toll Free (888) 801-5522
- Group Rated Spouse Life Insurance (\$10,000-\$300,000)
- Group Rated Long-Term Disability
- Comprehensive Long-Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000-\$50,000)
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance

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The cheapest tickets in town to theatres, amusement parks, and events! Go to [cityemployeesclub.com](http://cityemployeesclub.com) or call (888) 777-1744

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Call the Club for discount codes and passwords!

**1-800-flowers**

Save 15%. Call the Club for discount code and password!

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Save up to 40%. Call the Club to activate your credit card.

**WallyPark**

Show your Club membership card and save 30%.

\*Visit [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) for more discounts.

**Meet the Club Team**

These are the faces behind the Club. Our staff is dedicated to helping our members receive the maximum benefit from their membership. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions about your Club, our counselors are ready to help.



**Member Services**



Tiffany Sy  
Member Services  
Counselor, In-House



Angel Gomez  
Director of  
Member Services



**Eboné Moses**  
Club Member  
Services Counselor



**Arlene Herrero**  
Club Products  
Manager



**Brent Urban**  
Club Member  
Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of  
Animal Services  
Building & Safety  
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the  
City Administrative Officer  
City Attorney  
City Clerk  
City Council  
Community Redevelopment Ag  
Contract Administration, Bureau of  
Controller, Office of the  
Convention Center  
Cultural Affairs  
Disability, Department on  
DWP-Administration  
DWP-Energy Services  
DWP-Financial Services Executive  
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DWP-Water Aqueduct District  
DWP-Water Services  
El Pueblo De Los Angeles  
Emergency Preparedness  
Finance  
Housing Department  
Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum  
Los Angeles World Airport  
Mayor  
Planning  
Street Lighting, Bureau of

Administration  
Aging  
City Employees Retirement Sys  
Community Development Dept  
General Services  
Employee Relations Board  
Engineering, Bureau of  
Environmental Affairs  
Fire  
Fire & Police Pensions  
Information Technology Agency  
Library  
Neighborhood Empowerment  
Personnel  
Recreation & Parks  
Sanitation, Bureau of  
Status of Women  
Street Services, Bureau of  
Transportation  
Zoo



John Hawkins  
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent  
Chief Financial  
Officer



Robert Larios  
Director of Operations  
"Sports Dude"

**Accounting**



Leigh Thompson  
Controller



Trinh Pham  
Senior Accountant



Katie Hesseltine  
Application Coordinator



Jennifer Shackelford  
Application Coordinator

**Claims**



Cecilia Talbot  
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio  
Claims Assistant

**Support**



Noelle Kauffman  
New Projects  
Coordinator

**Information Technology**



Michael Anderson  
Information Technology  
Manager



Alan Bound  
Information Technology  
Programmer



Summy Lam  
Director of  
Marketing

**Club Store**



Rachael Brecher  
Club Store  
Assistant Manager



Lupe Medina  
Administrative Service  
Representative



Megan Debolt  
Club Store Services  
Coordinator

**(800) 464-0452**

Questions? We're here to help.  
Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

# LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## LETTERS OF THE MONTH

### For Stuart, Ferrari Can't Make Up for Lack of *Alive!* Valentine



Hey *Alive!*, thanks for getting me in big trouble. My wife was browsing through your latest issue of *Alive!* Suddenly I heard her grumbling, and then I could see steam coming from her ears. I could tell a volcano was about to blow, so I quickly asked what the matter was. She thrust her finger towards your Valentine feature and sternly asked, "Where's my Valentine?!" So, needless to say, the pink Ferrari just wasn't enough without a Valentine posting in *Alive!* Next year I'll be on top of it! Legally in love,

– Stuart Robles, PTW

### For Nate, It's Still the 100th Issue, And He Still Enjoys It

Congratulations, John [Hawkins] and the crew [on *Alive!*'s 100th issue, January]. I like this newspaper quite a bit. I don't have much time to read it but I save every one to read, sometimes a month late. But it's always fresh and interesting. I really like the articles about departments and who's doing what.

Civil Service goes back a long ways in my family. My grandfather, whom I never met, was a Civil Engineer on many projects, both in the United States and Asia before World War II.

– Nate Hall, General Services

### Chef Larios Helped Keep This Club Couple's Love Alive!

Re: Chef Larios' Lobster and Scallop Fettuccini Alfredo: This is what my husband prepared for me on Valentine's Day. This was "the best." We both enjoyed it with salad and red wine. Thanks for sharing!

– Frosie Deramos-Keller, Club Member

Hi Frosie, you're welcome... and you're not the only one who reported to us that they made Chef Larios' latest creation, and experienced magic. Glad it worked! – Ed.

### See's Candy Discount Was One Sweet Deal for Larry

Hi there, Club: I just wanted to let you know that I really appreciate being able to buy your discount tickets online. No other association that I belong to allows you to do that.

Oh, and the See's Candies gift certificates I bought at the Club's Website for my wife and mother-in-law scored me some serious points. Keep up the good work; it's really making a difference for us working stiffs!

– Larry Simmons, DWP

Hi Larry, you're welcome. It turns out that the Club's recent See's Candy promotion was one of our most popular ones in recent memory. We're delighted that so many Club Members took advantage. – Ed.

### Mary Rose Surfaces to Gush About LAFD Divers and Gear

Hello boys! Well, I have to tell you that I was really impressed with your latest issue of *Alive!* I had no idea that the Fire Department had divers... and the gear they had, wow, it reminded me of my pearl-diving days up there in Monterey! One day before I make my way to the big blue yonder, I would love to hitch a ride on Fireboat #2; what an impressive rig. Well, that's it for today, tell those handsome firemen you featured that Mary Rose Wilkens said "hi." Ciao!

– Mary Rose Wilkens, Retired Club Member Extraordinaire

## Correction

- In last month's "History Comes *Alive!*" feature (which was part two of Hynda's columns on African American architect Paul R. Williams), we failed to give a proper photo credit to the image of the Signature Building at LAX. The photo is credited to Roy Hankey, Los Angeles Public Library.

## QUESTION

## of the Month



– Collected by Rachael Brecher, Club Store Assistant Manager

Rachael at the Club Store asks Club Members fun questions when they visit to purchase tickets or great Club apparel and gifts. So, stop by and join in the fun!

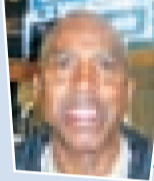
## What is your favorite Club benefit?



"Amusement park tickets." "The cancer plan."  
– Cecilia Talbot and Monica Zamudia, Club Claims Dept., 13 years/1 year of Club service



"Movie tickets."  
– Jackie Goldberg, Retired, 8 years of City service



"Movie tickets."  
– Carl Jones, Transportation, 32 years of City service



"Receiving the e-newsletter each time there is an awesome discount I can take advantage of."  
– Sammy Lam, Club Director of Marketing, 11 years of Club service



"Discounted movie tickets, because I like to take the family every other month."  
– David Aquirre, General Services, 28 years of City service



"Discounted tickets."  
– Leigh Thompson, Controller (The Club), 9 years of Club service



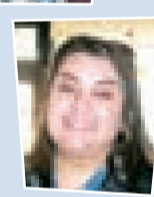
"Enterprise car rental discounts, and City seal shirts."  
– John Hawkins, Club CEO, 15 years of Club service



"Discounted L.A Galaxy tickets."  
– Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations, 13 years of Club service



"Wally Park. I use them all the time and love their services."  
– Angel Gomez, Club Director of Member Services, 12 years of Club service



"The staff."  
– Lorena De La Torre, General Services, 16 years of City service

# The Club Store

120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012



## Get a FREE Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

### APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE

Representatives from Club partner, United Agencies will be at the Club Store:

<b>Mar. 4</b>	8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.	<b>Mar. 18</b>	8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
	Rosa Calderon		Rosa Calderon
<b>Mar. 11</b>	8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.	<b>Mar. 25</b>	8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
	Patty Pulido		Patty Pulido

Your United Agencies Reps: (888)801-5522



Rosa Calderon, Personal Insurance Agent



Patty Pulido, Personal Insurance Agent



Rose Rangel, Personal Insurance Agent



Suzanne Egli, Personal Insurance Mgr





# FRESH SNOW

## Club Member Exclusive **Lift Tickets \$45**

Regular Price \$65

**Lifts Now Open**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S CLOSEST WINTER RESORT

# mountain HIGH

**Get a free Mt High sticker with every order!**

Angel Gomez,  
Director of Member Services  
Testing out the snow at  
Mtn High's Silverspur Run.

**BUY TICKETS NOW!**

**Bypass the ticket booth and go directly to the lifts with these Club lift tickets!**



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# CLUB SPORTS



News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • March 2011

**Come meet Robert Larios, The Sports Dude**



## Introducing: Sign Up Mondays!

Stop by the Club on Mondays to sign up for any upcoming Club sports league!

Starting in March, the Club's Sports Dude, Robert Larios, will be setting up Sign-Up Mondays at the Club Store. Club athletes and wannabes are invited to come to the Club Store on Mondays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for any of the following:

- general information on any current or upcoming Club Sports league;
- rules and guidelines;     ■ registration packets
- all the Club Sports chit-chat you can handle!

During March, Sign-Up Mondays will be accepting registrations for:

- Club Co-Ed Softball Season 3 (Summer 2011)
- Club Basketball Season 3 (Spring 2011)

**Stop by and join in the fun!**

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
6	7	8	9	10	11	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



## Join the Club Basketball League!



### Hoop It Up for Season Three!

Calling all City hoopsters – and hoop stars! Join the upcoming third season of the Club Basketball League.

All Club Members are eligible to join. (For now, the league is for men only.) League memberships are paid for by the Club.

"We have had two great seasons of Club basketball," said the Club's Sports Dude, Robert Larios. "Come on aboard for Season Three.

"With great fans coming by to cheer on their favorite team, plus great competition, the Club's basketball league is full of energy and good times. Come on out and show your stuff!"

The past two seasons of Club basketball have been played at the Expo Sports Complex in Exposition Park. Other venues are possible.

Games may be played at 7, 8 or 9 p.m. Thursdays. Playoff and championship games are planned, to match the championship games from the first two seasons.

"It's another great service the Club provides," the Sports Dude says. "So sign up!"

All participants must be Club Members in good standing.

Contact Robert Larios, the Sports Dude, for registration information:

- sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452, ext. 134     ■ www.cityemployeesclub.com



## Join the Club Softball League!



### It's Softball Time Again!

With the Dodgers and Angels officially in spring training, you know it's time to get organized for the 2011 Club Softball League Season!

The first two Club Softball League seasons were a huge hit, with ten teams battling it out for the Club Cup. Get in on the fun for 2011! Fill in your applications now.

For 2011, the Club Softball League is expected to start in June. So get those applications in! Applications are available at the Club Store and Service Center.

### Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- All players must be Club Members in good standing, spouses of Club Members, or must have been part of the same City Employees team the year before the Club took over the league (2008)
- It's all in good fun!
- Parks/fields are still being determined.
- The Club is looking for City teams in the Harbor area! Speak up, and perhaps we'll be able to field a league division in the Harbor area.

**See you on the diamond!**

Contact Robert Larios, the Sports Dude, for registration information:

- sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452, ext. 134     ■ www.cityemployeesclub.com





# John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

**WIN \$25** Target Card  
 NEXT DEADLINE: March 15  
 Happy Snapping!



"My grandson pointed out this stinkbug to me and, lucky for us, I had my little point-n-shoot camera in my pocket. This picture was taken here in Laguna Hills, and yes, I did relocate this cute little guy to the bushes after I took this picture. I have the responsibility of teaching my grandson to respect all of God's little creatures."

- Tom "Tag" Garber

**John's comments:** The perspective and detail you captured is quite amazing, Tag. It would be impressive even if you had used your high-end camera. Thanks, as always!



"I just love this picture I took in the rainforest in Washington this summer. It's all in the eyes of the viewer."

- Rick Ryan, DWP

**John's comments:** This is a very nice shot - nature at its creative best. Thank you, Rick!



"Spaghetti: No degree in the world can prepare an engineer for this. This is one of many power/telephone poles situated in a remote province in the Philippines. Talk about a troubleshooting nightmare."

- Dominique Daito

**John's comments:** Dang, a troubleshooting nightmare indeed! Thanks to the DWP, we won't be seeing anything like that here in the great City of Los Angeles!



"I am submitting this shot I took of the sunlight coming through this old door in a warehouse. I didn't have a tripod, so I put my camera on the floor and slowed the shutter speed down, and this is what I ended up with."

- Carlos Rodriguez, Plumber, Housing

**John's comments:** Carlos, this is pretty awesome photo. They look like laser beams. And the angle from where you shot the picture is *perfect*; sometimes not having the ideal equipment at the time spawns a whole new creativity. Nice work!

## RULES:

- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to:  
 Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*,  
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles,  
 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, **please send the full, original digital file yourself**, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: [pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com)
- 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.



LAFD, LAPD

# Shave the Date

It's time for St. Baldrick's! Two fire stations will be used for the head-shaving fundraiser against childhood cancers.



From last year, Mike Cunningham, Fireman, FS 66B.

On Sat., March 12, Los Angeles City Fire and Police personnel – and other City Employees, too – will participate in their eighth annual combined St. Baldrick's event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

The locations are: Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd. in North Hollywood; and Fire Station 112, 444 S. Harbor Blvd., Berth 86, in San Pedro.

The event features a free pancake breakfast, a blood and bone marrow drive, childwatch registration, and more. Entertainment will be provided by magicians, balloon artists, face painters and local radio stations. And as always fire and police apparatus will be present for children to explore and for photo opportunities.

Participants and helpers are needed to staff this event. If you are able to help, please contact Lt. Greg Doyle at (818) 634-6127; Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240; or LAFD Engineer Sean Kennedy, (626) 664-8711. If you would like to be a "shavee" or you are interested in pledging, you can sign up at [www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org).



## St. Baldrick's Info

- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Personnel (all are welcome, though)
- What:** Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research
- When:** Saturday, March 12, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Where:**
- LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood;
  - Fire Station 112, 444 S. Harbor Blvd., Berth 86, San Pedro.
- Why:** To raise money to fight childhood cancer
- How:** Sign up or donate at [www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org). Click on "Find an Event," and locate Los Angeles, Fire Station 89 or Fire Station 112.

**For more information:**

For more information, contact Lt. Greg Doyle, (818) 634-6127; LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240; or LAFD Engineer Sean Kennedy, (626) 664-8711.

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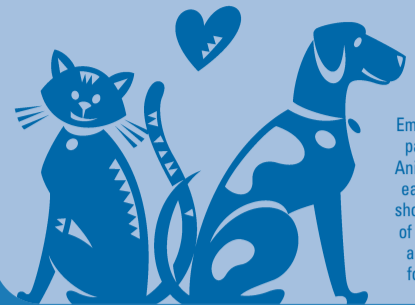
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# the pet club

Your friend is waiting for you!



The City Employees Club partners with Animal Services each month to showcase some of the pets that are available for adoption.

## This Month's Pets For Adoption:

### Kayla

Kayla is a 1-year-old German shepherd mix. She's a very happy dog with lots of love to give. Kayla likes other dogs and loves people. She loves to play with balls and toys and would make a wonderful addition to any family!

**ID #A1180841:** West Valley Animal Care Shelter



### Jett

Jett is a 3-year-old neutered black Lab mix. His owners moved and could not take him with them. Jett likes other dogs, loves walks and already knows how to sit. He's a very friendly guy and would make a great family dog!

**ID #A1183224:** West Valley Animal Care Shelter.



### Mickey

Mickey is a 1-year-old neutered terrier mix. He is a very happy peppy puppy who loves people and likes other dogs. Please adopt this lovebug!

**ID #A1178766:** West Valley Animal Care Shelter.



### Max

Max is a 1-year-old neutered longhaired black tabby. His polydactyl feet add to his lovability. Max is a very sweet boy that loves to be the center of attention and also likes other cats.

**ID #A1180342:** West Valley Animal Care Shelter



### Snowflake

Snowflake is a 2-year-old neutered all-white domestic shorthair cat with piercing blue eyes. He loves to explore and will be your best friend for a belly rub. He would make a wonderful addition to your home!

**ID #A1184588:** West Valley Animal Care Shelter.



### Meet your New Hope coordinator!



All of these animals are available at the West Valley Animal Care Center, 20655 Plummer St., Chatsworth, CA 91311. **Stella Sullivan** is the New Hope Coordinator: (818) 756-9325.

To see more animals available for adoption, please visit [www.laanimalservices.org](http://www.laanimalservices.org)

# Don't gamble with your paycheck.

**A serious injury could devastate your  
finances. Protect your  
paycheck with the Club's  
Long-Term  
Disability Insurance.**

- Did you know that the most common reason for a home foreclosure is a long-term disability?
- It makes no sense to risk your family's financial wellbeing. Protect it!
- The Club's Long-Term Disability Insurance protects your paycheck, whether your injury takes place on the job or off.

**Affordable.  
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Strong.**

**Sign up for the Club's Long-Term  
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**While you still can.**

**Call your Club Counselor:  
(800) 464-0452  
[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)**





THE CLUB

# Banner Year for the Club

Big achievements, strong financials for the Club in 2010... and, as always, a dedication to great service.

The Club's 83rd annual meeting, held Feb. 15, was a celebration of everything that the Club is, including membership, service, discounts and fun. And all the official reports brought great news – a continual strong membership base, a renewed and stable board, all financial goals met and awards for outstanding merit.

The annual lunch was held in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

### Strong Foundations

Robyn Wilder, Fire and Police Pensions and Club Board President, began the business portion of the afternoon by asking for a moment of silence at the deaths last year of Club board members Joannie Mukai and Michael Leighton, both long-time annual meeting attendees.

Then Robyn announced:

- the Club's membership base now exceeds 18,600 members;
- the Club achieved more than 100 percent of its membership income goals and 96 percent of its insurance goals; the Club has more than \$2 billion of insurance in force; and
- during its Long-Term Care open enrollment period for City employees last fall, the Club enrolled more than 1,200 new policies, a significant achievement.

Robyn then presented the new board, which was accepted unanimously and then sworn in. The Club Board for 2011 is:

- Robyn Wilder, President;
- Andrew Virzi;
- Regner Globus;
- Vas Singh;
- Martín Chavez; and
- Terry Carter.

### Recognition for Great Club Service

The Club is all about great service to City Employees, and the second half of the luncheon was dedicated to recognition of exemplary service.

### President's Award

*President's Award*, given to a Club Employee: John Hawkins, Club CEO, announced the winner of the President's Award, giving it to Club Claims Administrator Monica Zamudio. "It takes someone very special to be able to deal with death and disability on a daily basis, yet she does it, and has never once faltered from providing caring comfort to members in their worst of times," John said of Monica. "You have set the bar high for all employees of the Club by being an inspiration and an example for the rest of the staff. But most importantly, you have given our Club members the ultimate in customer service."



Monica Zamudio, the Club's Claims Assistant, receives the President's Award from Club CEO John Hawkins.



The new Club Board, from left: Vas Singh, Robyn Wilder, Regner Globus, Terry Carter and Martín Chavez.

### Club Excellence Award

*Club Excellence Award*, given to a Club partner: Ed Harding, President of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI), was given one Club Excellence Award for his tireless efforts to engage retired City Employees in programs and events. "Ed has been a very good friend to the Club ever since its creation nine years ago," John Hawkins said. "His tireless efforts to engage Retired City Employees in events and programs does not go unnoticed. He embodies what the Club strives for, to celebrate the lives and work of City Employees, both active and retired. And by his side you will always find his trusty sidekick and biggest fan, Martha."

"Ed, the support you give the Club by not only inviting us to all your events but by publicly acknowledging the good works of the Club, is greatly appreciated."



Ed Harding (right) receives the Club Excellence Award from Club CEO John Hawkins.

A second award went to Hal Danowitz, who has contributed 65 "Adventures With Hal" travel columns for publishing monthly in *Alive!* "Hal entertains our 20,000 members each month with flair, humor and travel tips. And he too has a sidekick – Evelyn, Hal's wife has been known to annotate many of his stories with the same flair but with a different kind of humor," John Hawkins said. "Together they are truly a dynamic duo. In addition, you'll always see Evelyn's picture in his articles, as a testament to how much of a true partnership they are."

"Hal, I remember the day we talked and agreed to run your column. And 65 times you have turned in your article on time, and most importantly you have never failed to entertain. Thank you Hal, for helping us celebrate the lives and work of City Employees!"

### Club Rep Award

*Club Rep Award*, presented by Club Director of Operations Robert Larios, went to Lorena de la Torre, General Services. "[She] exemplifies excitement and enthusiasm and most importantly, she is shaping a difference. She does this when she goes to work, when she is around fellow employees, when she visits the Club Store. You can say she is doing it in small steps, one day a time – but over the course of months and years... she is shaping a difference in the Club and in the City of Los Angeles in a gigantic way," Larios said. One example of the difference she makes was noted: She suggested that the Club create a donation box for those featured in the well-known *Alive!* column "People We See." The Club has implemented her idea.



Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations, gives the Club Rep Award to Lorena de la Torre.

### Finally, a Video

On a final note, the Club presented a fun video, put together by Director of Marketing Summy Lam, to introduce each Club staff member to the attendees.

Congratulations to the Club for an excellent 2010. Here's to an even greater 2011!



Hal Danowitz ("Adventures With Hal") receives the Club Excellence Award from Club CEO John Hawkins.

## Life's Important Moments

# Share your 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 **high resolution photos** with the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!*, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012



## New Members

### Welcome New Members!

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

#### Airports

Juan Arrellano  
Abtenenciana Gutierrez  
Blanca Juarez  
Aldo Mendoza  
Antonio Paz  
Michael Schuetta

#### City Clerk

Christina Sanders

#### CDD

Michelle Rose

#### LAFD

Patrick Butler  
Mario Guillen  
Sir Habersham IV  
Brian Jones

Gregory Plain  
Mark Stormes

#### General Services

Pablo Montes

#### Harbor

Bryn Low  
Joe Maldonado

#### Housing

JaTiara Fuller

#### Convention Center

Hector Gonzalez  
Xavier Watkins

#### Library

Rodolfo Fernandez

#### LAPD

Edgar Andalis  
Sarah Chacon

Talia Chism  
Mark Chong  
Shawn Duke  
Beth Hicks  
Sabrina Magana  
Ruby Malachi  
Michael McComas

Ivan Minsal

Ola Oliver  
Evelyn Perez

Brian Pratt  
Jeff Quinton

Luis Rivera  
Amy Sundquist  
Adam Timm  
Mynor Ventura

#### PUBLIC WORKS

#### PW-Contract Administration

Paul Hatley  
Pablito Velasco

#### PW-Engineering

Jim Varalyay  
Eddie Arreola

#### PW-Sanitation

Jose Gonzalez  
Edward King

Celia Medina  
Edgardo Perez

Bobby Perry  
Juan Rivas

Rodolfo Torres  
Rodolfo Torres

#### PW-Street Lighting

Rodney Chamberlain  
Roy Lujan

#### Rec and Parks

Luis Alvavuco  
Fatimah Henry  
Randall Smith

#### Transportation

Helen Christenson

Leif Curioso

Demetra Lee

Jorge Lopez

Phyrith Reth

Debra Sandhu

Rene Uribe

Rebeca Vincente

Jesse Williams

#### DWP

Jose Ancheta  
Muriel Garcera  
Veronica Grillen  
Dinah Jackson  
Gregory Park

#### Zoo

Kimberly Garcia  
Celia Hernandez

#### Other

Eric Beebe  
Shaun Eastman  
Roberto Garcia  
Daniel Grout  
Lydia Olivares  
Frank Valenzuela  
Michael Zeman



## In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away. The number after the name indicates years of service.

#### Active

Carney, Rolland, DWP, 8  
Dorsey, Kelvin, Airports, 3  
Ortega, Cruz, DWP, 5  
Sinderhoff, Duane, Public Works, 16  
Watson, Ronald, DWP, 33

#### Retired

Aquino, Gracia, Public Works, 9  
Aratani, Lily, DWP, 17  
Armoudjian, Kevork Yeghia, General Services, 17  
Bailey, Norman, DWP, 25  
Baines, Charles, Transportation, 30  
Bedwell, William, DWP, 30  
Benefield, Elaine, Housing, 33  
Benton, Lizzie, General Services, 26  
Bird, George, CAO, 22  
Blackhurst, John, City Council, 22  
Blake, Willie, DWP, 34  
Brown, John, General Services, 24  
Cheadle, Charles, Neighborhood Services, 26  
Chee, Calvin, DWP, 41  
Cooper, Viola, Library, 11  
Douglass, Roosevelt, LAFD, 29  
Eby, Clifford, DWP, 25  
Edwards, Mattie, Airports, 23  
Elizondo, Crisanta, LAPD, 44  
Fitzgerald, James, DWP, 40  
Garcia, Maria, Library, 11  
Griffie, Gaylin,  
Not Disclosed, Airports, 32

Harris, John, DWP, 25  
Hermanson, Bernard, DWP, 25  
Holland, Charles, Transportation, 30  
Hood, Donald, DWP, 30  
Hudspeth, George, Public Works, 32  
Ibsen, Alvina, DWP, 33  
Jackson, Wilfert, DWP, 22  
Jambor, Carol, Public Works, 26  
Kehoe, Arthur, Public Works, 28  
Key, Delmar, Public Works, 35  
Lemos, Arthur, DWP, 30  
Lott, Laverne, DWP, 19  
Marquez, Michael, DWP, 26  
Mason, George, Animal Services, 31  
Milner, John, General Services, 31  
Miranda, Louis, DWP, 28  
Morgan, Ronald, DWP, 20  
Murphy, James, Airports, 25  
Olguin, John, Rec and Parks, 42  
Ramirez, Fidel, Public Works, 12  
Sabasta, Tony, Harbor, 30  
Schaller, Carole, LAPD, 27  
Smith, Asa, Public Works, 31  
Smith, Elaine, LAPD, 11  
Stevens, Charles, LAPD, 16  
Tarango, Esiquiel, Public Works, 6  
Watkins, Myrtle, Public Works, 32  
Weisjohn, Phyllis, Library, 37  
Willauer, James, DWP, 13  
Yamashita, Harry, General Services, 25  
Young, James, DWP, 31



"Please announce the passing of my husband, Gaylin Eugene Griffie. He passed away Monday, Dec. 27, 2010. He retired from the Los Angeles City Department of Airports in 2008 after 32 years of service with the City of Los Angeles."

— Margaret Griffie, widow

# Peace of Mind

## Check Up on Your Deductions

Here at the City Employees Club, we offer plenty of options to pay for your insurance benefits including the convenience of payroll/pension deductions. The benefit of automatic deductions from your paycheck offers the convenience of not having to write and mail a check every month. This being the case, it is easier for you to assume your benefit coverage is fine and your payment will be deducted as expected. Even so, it's important to pay attention to them. Would you notice if your ongoing deductions stop unexpectedly, or if the deduction amounts adjust without notice? What happens when you accrue so many deductions that you've forgotten what

you've signed up for? For starters, you can contact the City Flex office or DWP benefits office for clarification.

It is important to know your deductions and what those acronyms represent on your pay stub. For example, if you have insurance with the City Employees Club, you will see a deduction code of "LACEA 41." You are always welcome to contact us for clarification of your benefits and request a statement. The benefit statement will include a breakdown of your benefit coverage and monthly premiums. It is a good idea to do this on an annual basis to assess sufficient coverage and protection for you and your family.

One of the issues I face every week is a lapse in coverage without the member's knowledge. This can be avoided by periodically checking your benefits. If we catch it in time, we can reinstate benefits. Unfortunately, when the benefits have lapsed and too much time has passed, the plan will cancel, and it is often too late for reinstatement. To obtain your benefits again, you would have to reapply and be subjected to medical underwriting. Going through medical underwriting is an evaluation of risk taken by the insurance carrier. The carrier has the right to decline coverage if there has been debilitating changes to your health, and you will not be able to attain the benefits you once had.

Some of you who are out on disability, retired or have transferred to a DWP/City department will experience a lapse in your deductions. You will have to contact each organization you have benefits with to ensure appropriate billing. Lastly, please make sure we have your most current contact information to avoid issues as such and to continue your subscription of *Alive!*

Contact me at  
[info@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:info@cityemployeesclub.com)





## Graduations



Tiffanie Winfield graduated from Grambling State University with a bachelor's degree in business management and marketing. While on campus, she became a member of Phi Beta Lambda, Delta Sigma Theta, Sigma Alpha Pi honor society, and a board member of the NAACP. She's the daughter of Terri Winfield, Executive Administrative Assistant, Public Works/ Engineering, and Gregory Winfield Sr., Treatment Plant Operator, Los Angeles County Sanitation District. "We thank those of you who prayed and wished her well as she conquered her goals in life."

## Special Achievements



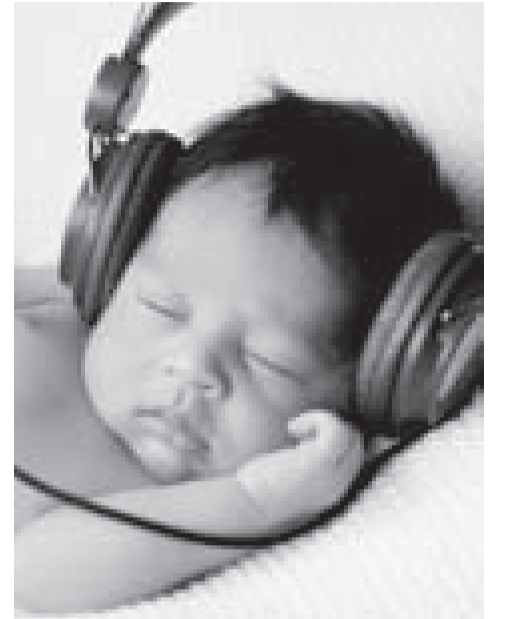
Joshua Chavez earned the Boy Scouts' highest honor, receiving the rank of Eagle Scout Dec. 9. His family is honored and extremely proud of his great accomplishment. The *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* featured Joshua's project in a story Feb. 10, which detailed organizing the cleanup and painting the playground equipment of Duarte's Glen Miller Park. Joshua is the nephew of Martín Chavez, Harbor, and Club Board Member; and the stepson of Gary Valles, Public Works/Sanitation.

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? Send to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



Devon Marie Millager has recently been accepted into Sigma Alpha Lambda at San Diego State University. Sigma Alpha Lambda is a national leadership and honors organization dedicated to promoting and rewarding academic achievement and providing members with opportunities for community service, personal development and lifelong professional fulfillment. Her parents, Eddie and Kyle, are both long time City Employees. Eddie is a Communications Electrician, ITA, and Kyle is the business manager, Library. Congratulations, Devon!

## Births



Noah Diego Olivares, born Dec. 1 to Daniel and Helen Olivares. Helen is a Mechanical Engineer Associate III, DWP.

Have a photo of a recent newborn? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

# Life's Important Moments

# Share Your Good News!

Everyone reads Life's Most Important Moments in **Alive!** Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Has someone in your family had a quinceañera? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

Send digital photos (as high a resolution as you can send) to: [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)  
**OR** send paper photos (please don't send the only one you have!) to:  
 Life's Moments - **Alive!**  
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**We're looking for:**

- Weddings
- Babies
- Graduations
- Quinceañeras
- Special Achievements
- **Alive!** in the Military

## Weddings

Have a photo of a recent wedding? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Quinceañera

Have a photo of a recent quinceañera? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Military



Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send us a photo - either formal or on duty, along with your name, City department and relationship to the subject. Send photos to **Alive!** in the Military, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Send digital photos to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Babby, Charles	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Aging	25	Haggstrom, Richard	Trans. Engineer Assoc. II	Transportation	5	Petisme, Rodolfo	Detention Officer	LAPD	20
Barmus, Peter	Sr. Build Mech. Inspector	Building & Safety	22	Hayden, Debra	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	13	Rivera, Maria	Crossing Guard	Transportation	11
Bejarano, Anthony	Security Officer	Airports	21	Jackson, Cynthia	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	23	Robinson, Rita	General Manager	Transportation	33
Benton, Lizzie	Pr. Rec Supervisor II	Rec and Parks	25	Jaramillo, Corine	Finance Coll. Inves. III	Finance	25	Ruben, Jacqelen	Occupational Trainee II	General Services	18
Carmignani, William	Veterinary Tech	Animal Services	11	Jedlicka, Patricia	Mgmt. Analyst II	LAPD	15	Temblador, Julian	Ref. Coll. Truck Oper. II	Public Works	14
Cooper, Mary	Dep. City Attorney III	City Attorney	19	Miller, Keith	Contr. System Eng. IV	Public Works	26	Walker, Betty	Crossing Guard	Transportation	13
								Weaver, David	Maint. Supv. III	Airports	23

# Sprint wins top two!



Two of the best phones on the market: Samsung Epic™ 4G and HTC EVO™ 4G voted PC World's best. Only from Sprint. Only on the Now Network.™ Use them with discounts for employees of City of Los Angeles.



**Save 20%**

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*"America's Best Smartphones"*  
— PCWorld, September 9, 2010

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Sprint Govt Account Executive  
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Geoff.Jaime@sprint.com

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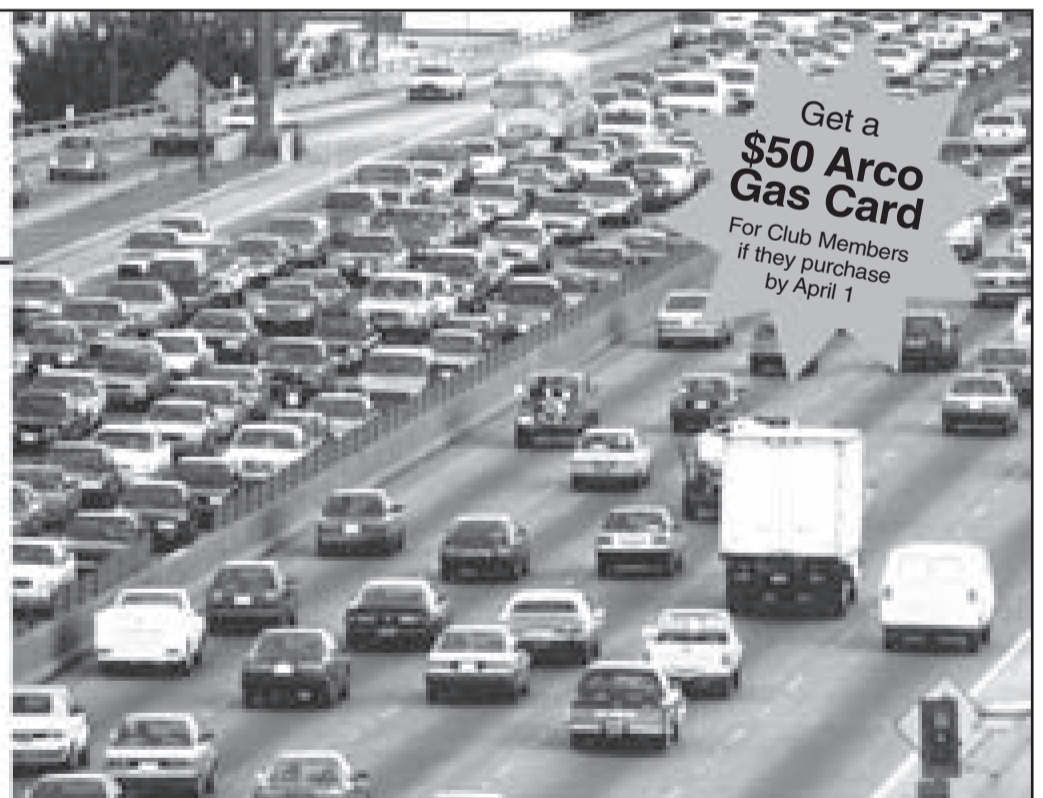
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A FREE Benefit to members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles



Get a  
**\$50 Arco Gas Card**  
For Club Members  
if they purchase  
by April 1

When it comes to their auto insurance, United Agencies has been serving hundreds of Club Members for years. We provide a high level of personal service, with some of the lowest rates in California. Come experience the difference in service you get when you say, "I'm with the Club!"

Take a look at how **United Agencies** stacks up against the competition!

	COMPANY	(91106 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$1,482
	State Farm	\$1,338
	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	<b>United Agencies</b>	<b>\$876</b>

These insurance products are brought to you by the Club's Partner, United Agencies, Inc. CA Lic. # 0252636. United Agencies represents Mercury Insurance Group, as well as Chubb Insurance, Hartford, Fireman's Fund, Progressive, Civil Service Employees Insurance, Allied, Safeco, Travelers, Unigard and Encompass.



CLUB INSURANCE

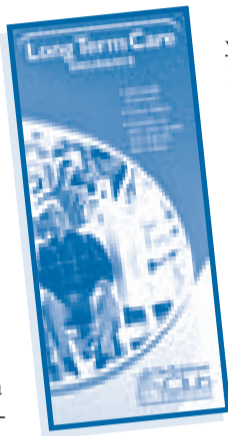
# DWP Open Enrollment for Long-Term Care Insurance

Coming soon! This rare opportunity for Active DWP Employees to apply for Long-Term Care insurance – with a high chance of acceptance – runs May 1 to June 30.

Everyone should have Long-Term Care insurance. And from May 1 to June 30, the Club will be hosting an open enrollment period for Active DWP Employees to sign up!

An open-enrollment period means that most of those who apply for this affordable product will be accepted. Don't miss the chance – the Club hasn't had a DWP Open-Enrollment period for Long-Term Care insurance since 1999. So be sure to take advantage!

What is Long-Term Care insurance? It's insurance that pays you from \$1,000 up to \$5,000 per month, depending on which plan you apply for, should you or a loved one become incapacitated over a long period of time. The policies pay you for up to four



years (if the one covered is in a facility) or eight years (if the one covered is at home). The policies pay the insured, so there's no need to send receipts back and forth to the insurance company.

Rates are affordable. There are some restrictions to who will be accepted into the plans. But most will be. It's a rare opportunity for Active City Employees to take advantage.

The Club's Open-Enrollment Period for Long-Term Care insurance takes place May 1 through June 30.

Talk to your Club Counselor today!



## Long-Term Care Seminars Set!

...for DWP employees.

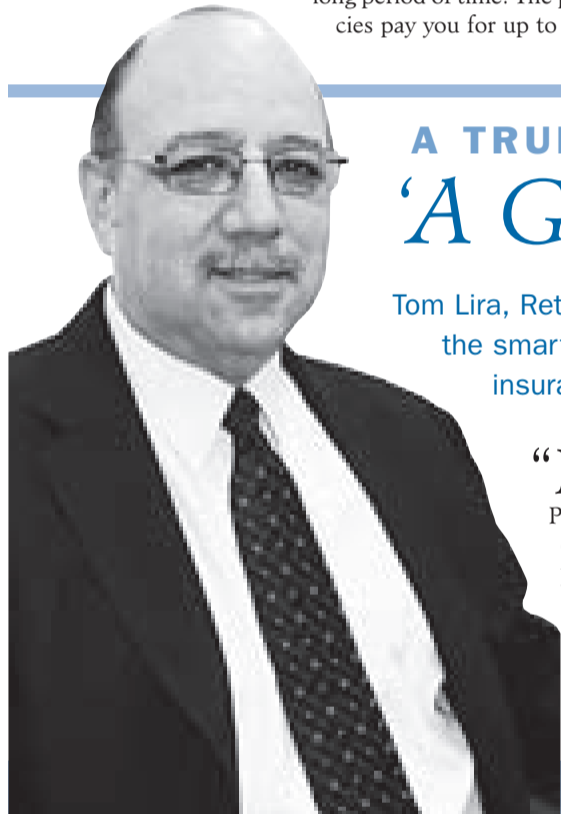
**Long-Term Care Open Enrollment seminars planned:**

April 28 • May 5, 19 • June 2, 16

9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Kyoto Grand Hotel,  
120 S. Los Angeles St. downtown.

*No reservations necessary.  
DWP employees only.  
More seminars to be announced soon.*



### A TRUE STORY: 'A Great Move'

Tom Lira, Retired Sr. Premier Account Manager, DWP, did the smart thing when he signed up for Long-Term Care insurance with the Club.

"My wife's side of the family has an illness, and there was a 50 percent chance of her getting it," explained Tom Lira, Sr. Premier Account Manager, DWP, Retired, who worked for the City for 37 years. "I wanted to be prepared for that. So I signed her up for [Long-Term Care insurance] 13 or 14 years ago.

"It was a great move."

His decision was a smart one, as his wife eventually did become sick, and required Long-Term Care.

"Long-Term Care insurance was definitely a good idea," he said. "There was that chance of something happening

with the illness. Signing up for long-term care insurance took away a lot of stress. It made things simpler and easier for me. It took away a lot of problems."

A smart move to take care of his wife will become a smart move for himself, too.

"I'm going to sign up for it myself, too. I want to make sure that if anything were to happen to me, there'd be no hardship on the rest of my family."

The process couldn't have been better.

"At the Club, Cecilia was very helpful" during the filing process. "And [the insurance company] was very helpful and did all the research. They were very comforting."

Tom's smart move really paid off. It can for you, too. Sign up for Long-Term Care insurance; talk to your Club Counselor.



Questions? Call the LTC Hotline!  
(213) 225-1796

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BECOME A BOTTLE BABY FOSTER PARENT!**



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**You heard that right  
– a Club Cruise  
around the  
Mediterranean!**

– SEE PAGE 30



# Special Holiday Party Section

# The City Parties!

It's an annual *Alive!* tradition!

## Part 3

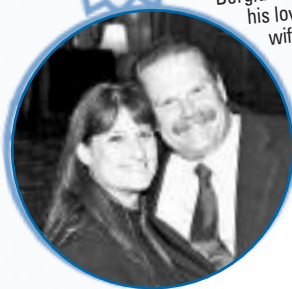
All across the City, you celebrated the holidays. And *Alive!* was there! Here in March, *Alive!* continues its coverage of the City Social Season 2010, with stories and photos from Club staff ... and sent in by you, too.



Hostesses Chris Rose-Beatty, Gloria Ojeda and Elena Asucan.



Hostesses Michi Slaughter and Paula Weissman.



Host Chris Berglund and his lovely wife.



From left: Mark, Robert Hernandez, Tyrone Jew and Brandon Park.



Nancy Godfrey and her husband, Alex.



Jeff Jantz and his lovely wife dancing to the tunes of the D.J.



From left: Tri Nguyen, and Elena and Keith Straughter.

## LAPD Info. Tech

Story by Chris Rose-Beatty, LAPD

LAPD's Information Technology Bureau and Division celebrated its holiday party Dec. 10 at the Los Angeles Athletic Club downtown.

A dinner buffet was served, there was a gift exchange and raffle prizes were given away. One of the major prizes was a 42-inch HD flat screen TV, which was won by our own Police Officer Cynthia Dominguez. There was also dancing to the sounds of a D.J., and our own Rhonda Johnson started the evening by singing a song. The night was filled with fun and enjoyed by all IT employees and their family and friends.



Lily Wren and her family.



Marilyn Wong and her daughter, Karen.



Mike Humphrey and Jerri stealing a smooch with his wife.



Elias Tirado and his wife, Lizette.



Stephen Gee and his wife, Azucana.



Gabe and his wife, Priyanthi.



From left: Christine Pham and Cynthia Dominguez, best work buddies. Cynthia won the grand prize, a flat-scren T.V.



From left, bottom: Onisha; John Kong and his wife, Christine; Cristina; Greg Williams; and Lorean Soo Hoo. Top: Mark Ampil, Annette Arredondo and Rick Prevencio.



Adriane Jepsen and her husband, Frank.



Evening host Stephen Lim.



From left: Sanjoy Datta and Jacqueline Souvinette.



Sal Romero and his girlfriend, Dulce.





# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

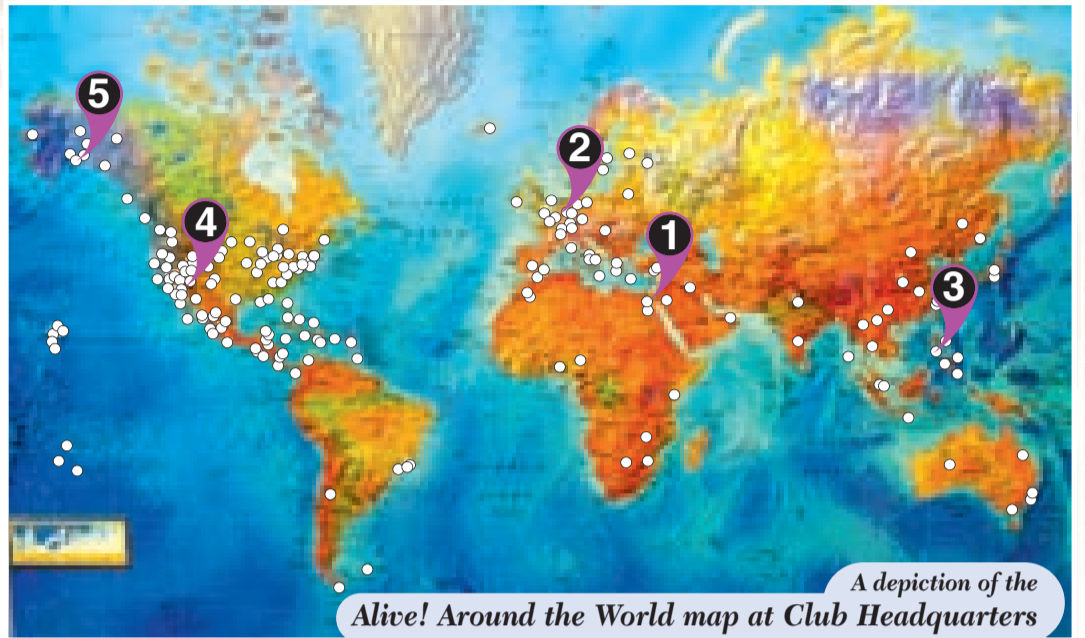


1

## Egypt

"Here's a picture of me in Cairo, Egypt, at the monument of the only female ruler, Hatsheput. I took a trip to Cairo Dec. 28 to Jan. 6, with the Watts Learning Center Charter School where my son, Hunter Echols, attended. They travel abroad every two years. Travel is done by raising funds for two years to pay for the children's fare. This trip is a wonderful experience, and gives you a different perspective about the world outside of the United States. We made it back just in time."

- Laronda Echols, Airports



A depiction of the Alive! Around the World map at Club Headquarters

When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print. We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!

Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of Alive! with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

2

## Netherlands



Gina Enrile-Caguiat, Retired, Public Works/Engineering, recently took a trip to the Netherlands. "This wooden shoe is all over the market in the Netherlands. I had a feeling I was in Shaquille O'Neal's shoes." At the Rotterdam Market.

3

## The Philippines



With my nephew, Michael Faner.

Cultural Center in Manila.

"Here are a few pictures from my vacation last month in the Philippines. Here I am at The Aguinaldo Mansion, Kawit, Cavite."

- Norman Faner, DWP

4

## California

Dr. Ed Krupp in Temecula. "One of my brothers and I took my mother for a hot-air balloon ride on her 87th birthday, Sept. 18. She is next to me, on the left. My sister-in-law and nephew are behind us."

- Dr. Ed Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory, Rec and Parks



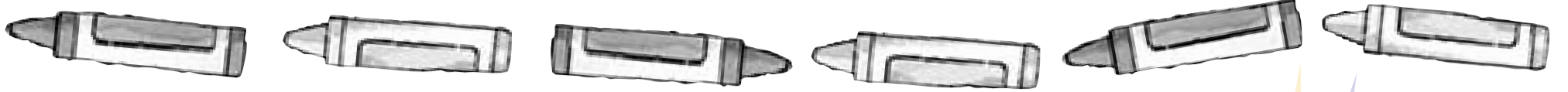
5

## Alaska



"Here I am standing on the balcony to our stateroom. This is our first stop on a seven-day cruise to Alaska. I was very excited, and Alaska was so beautiful. We did lots of shopping and eating. The ship was full of passengers from all over the United States. I am looking forward to cruising to the Hawaiian Islands soon."

- Lovely Bell, Retired, Transportation



# Congratulations to the WINNERS!

of our Club Coloring Contest!

Congratulations to the winners of *Alive!*'s last coloring contest. Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top three participants win 4 Free Tickets to the Amusement Park of your choice!

Look for our next contest in the April edition of *Alive!*



**Winner**  
5 & under  
YEARS OLD

### Carter Lam, 5

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Fear Factor"  
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Chocolate Granola Bar  
 • BEST FRIEND: Lily  
 • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Disneyland because it has my favorite ride called "Pirates of the Carribean".  
 • PARENT: Tom Lam, Police Service Rep/LAPD.

**Winner**  
6 to 7  
YEARS OLD

### Priscilla Alvarado, 7

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "iCarly"  
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Cookies and Milk  
 • BEST FRIEND: Samantha  
 • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Knott's Berry Farm because of Camp Snoopy.  
 • PARENT: Steve Alvarado, Truck Driver Boss/Public Works.



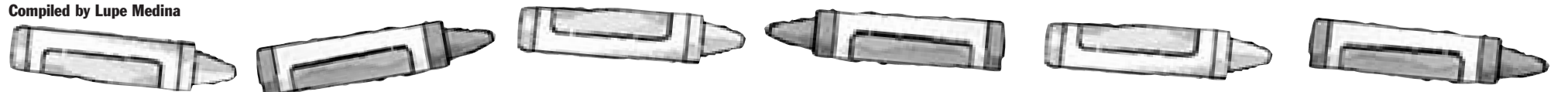
### Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Sierra Hernandez	3	Manuel Hernandez	Housing
Omar Reza	3	Guillermo Reza	Rec and Parks
Logan Swearingen	3	Jessica Swearingen	Zoo
Gracie Deniz	4	Maria Deniz	Public Works
Angel A. Reza	4	Guillermo Reza	Rec and Parks
Jack Rigney	4	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Lily Rigney	4	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Samantha Bohorquez	6	Rick Bohorquez	Housing
Jamie Lopez	6	Ozzie Lopez	CDD
Fabiola Reza	6	Juan Reza	DWP
Marcos Sandoval	6	Noe Sandoval	DWP
Mikhail Morrison	7	Michael Morrison	DWP
Elisa Ruiz	7	Roger Ruiz	DWP
Mia Sestich	7	Michael Sestich	Retired
Paul Barrera	8	Mark Barrera	General Services
Tara Lam	8	Cynthia Lam	LAPD
Zachary Oghigian	8	George Oghigian	General Services
Peter Otoshi	8	John Otoshi	DWP
Josalynn De Florencio	9	Alex De Florencio	DWP
Arely Navarro	9	Julio Navarro	General Services
Aileen Rodriguez	9	Monique Rodriguez	Library
Isaac Truong	9	Richard Truong	City Clerk
Benjamin Aguirre	10	Raymond Aguirre	Harbor
Aryanna Curiel	10	Jennifer Curiel	Animal Services
Sienna Garcia	10	Carlos Garcia	DWP
Kevin Kohles	10	Christopher Kohles	DWP
Gabriela Navarro	10	Julio Navarro	General Services
Joseph Otoshi	10	John Otoshi	DWP
Jesus Reza	10	Juan Reza	DWP
Julia Rodarte	10	Manuel Mendoza	Retired

**Winner**  
8 to 10  
YEARS OLD

### Samantha Bautista, 10

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "iCarly"  
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Hot Cheetos  
 • BEST FRIEND: Desiree  
 • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: I want to go to Disneyland because there's fun rides there.  
 • PARENT: Sandra Bautista, Sr. Detention Officer/LAPD.





ZOO

# Zoo Hops Into Spring

Easter weekend set for Spring Fling.

Story and photo courtesy L.A. Zoo.

The Los Angeles Zoo's annual three-day event, Big Bunny's Spring Fling, features bunny-related crafts and activities including the Be-a-Bunny Ear Craft and Funny Bunny Face Painting. Children can also pet fuzzy-wuzzy bunnies and plant their own carrot seeds to take home. In addition (for a nominal fee), Big Bunny will be available for souvenir photos.

The event takes place Easter weekend, April 22 through 24, 2011, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$14 for adults and \$9 for children ages 2 to 12. This event is free with paid Zoo admission. The Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the L. A. Zoo Web site at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org).



THE CLUB

# Cruise With The Club

Have you heard about the greatest Club event ever – a Mediterranean cruise? Act by May 31, and get the best Club deal!

This October, get ready to cruise Club style! And if you act now, you can lock in an excellent rate and a great Club benefit!

Introducing the 2011 Mediterranean Club Cruise, a fantastic 12-night adventure aboard Holland America's *Nieuw Amsterdam*.

See Barcelona, Monte Carlo, Rome, Greece, Venice... and more.

If you book before May 31, you can get \$500 in shipboard credit, courtesy the Club! See page 30 in this issue for all the details. Don't delay!



It's time for a Magic Mountain Private Party!

May 13

\$15!

– SEE PAGE 48


## LOS ANGELES WOMEN POLICE OFFICERS AND ASSOCIATES (LAWPOA)

Presents  
**LAWPOA 2011 Professional Training and Development Symposium**


Kyoto Grand Hotel and Garden  
120 South Los Angeles Street  
Los Angeles, 90012

March 22, 2011 0630 - 0730: Registration  
0730 - 1630: Conference

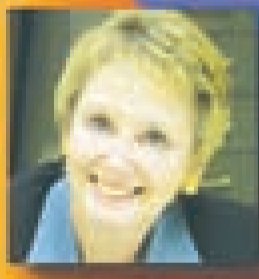
**Seats are limited - Register early!**  
Discount hotel rates to attendees - \$110.00 / night  
(includes breakfast, overnight parking, internet)  
Parking rate: \$12.00




**Author, Lecturer,  
Jerry Rossmore**  
"Rising to the Top: Knowledge Equals Power"



**Author, Lecturer, Consultant,  
Dr. Gary Janke**  
"Workplace Learning"



**Author, Lecturer,  
Tina Lewis-Rome**  
"Influence, how to get it and how to use it"



**Author, Coach, Consultant,  
Dr. Linda Nallesh**  
"Bridging the Generational Divide at Work"

Conference Fees (includes registration and continental breakfast)

Prior to February 28, 2011		After February 28, 2011		Day of Conference	
Non-LAWPOA Members	\$ 50	Non-LAWPOA Members	\$ 60	Non-LAWPOA members	\$ 20
Members	\$ 40	Members	\$ 50	Members	\$ 10

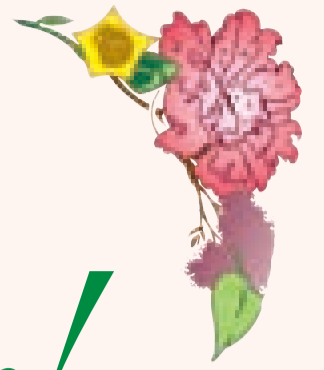
REGISTRATION:

NAME:  DAY OF ASSIGNMENT:

ADDRESS:  SERIAL #:

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:  NON-MEMBER  MEMBER

For additional information: LAWPOA Hotline (213) 228-9126  
Send: P.O. Box 537067, Los Angeles, CA 90053  
Fed. Tax Number is EIN #953688161



# Pay Tribute to Your Mom!

*Moms love tributes.  
It's the least you can do, after all  
she has done for you!*



"Mom, thank you for being the most awesome mother a man could ask for. I hope I will be as good of a father as you were a mother. I love you!"



Happy Mother's Day, Mom, for the best mom in the world, after 34 years, enjoy your retirement [she was a Typist with the City!] You definitely deserve it!



Mom, I love you very much. Happy Mother's Day! Thank you for everything!"

**CLUB MEMBERS:** Pay tribute to your mom this Mother's Day... with a photo and message of lifelong love, published in *Alive!*

In our May issue, we'll print a photo of you and your mom (or just your mom)... and a two or three sentence message of Happy Mother's Day from you. Photos can be either print or digital. Send it in now!

- Send in a print or digital photo of you and your mom (or just your mom). Send **high resolution** digital photos to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com). Send print photos (or drop them off in person) to the Club Store at 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Include a message of Happy Mother's Day (up to three sentences).
- Deadline: April 15.**



**LAFD and LAPD PROUDLY PRESENT**

**St. Baldrick's Foundation 2011**

Shaving the Way to Conquer Kids' Cancer

**SATURDAY, MARCH 12th**  
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**TWO LOCATIONS!**

**FIRE STATION 89**  
7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd.  
North Hollywood, CA 91605

**FIRE STATION 112**  
444 S. Harbor Blvd., Berth 86  
San Pedro, CA 90731

"WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET.  
WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE."  
-SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

Join us with your family as we shave our heads to raise money for childhood cancer research! Enjoy a free IHOP pancake and sausage breakfast! Participate in our blood and bone marrow drive! Be entertained by magicians and face painters!

To register as a shaver or donate please visit:  
[www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org)

**IHOP RESTAURANTS**   **SHELL**   **PROVIDENCE Blood Donor Center**   **City of Hope**

For additional information please contact:  
Fire Station 81: LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu (323-890-4240) / Engineer Rick Najera (818-409-4901), LAPD Lieutenant Greg Doyle (818-434-8127)  
Fire Station 112: LAFD Engineer Sean Kennedy (323-664-8711) / Firefighter Zack Robinson (714) 370-5179

**Act now for a great Club Cruise bonus!**

— SEE PAGE 30



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These are standard equipment included in \$35 (month) (\$1,000.00) 97' hours. The security system includes the property of Bay Alarm. Sign and alarm is owned by property of Bay Alarm. Other equipment may vary. The price and conditions are subject to change. Bay Alarm is not responsible for any damage to property. Bay Alarm is not responsible for any damage to property. Bay Alarm is not responsible for any damage to property.

**BE MY CLUB**  
*Valentine*  
MENDING HEARTS



"My forever Valentine, thanks for the smiles."  
- Alfredo Mendo



"To my Princess Isabella, I loved you yesterday. I love you today. I will love you tomorrow. Mommy and Papa are so proud of you. Happy post-Valentine's Day!"  
- Rodney Bernaldo, Management Analyst II, Public Works/Sanitation

We apologize! Due to an error by the *Alive!* editor, these two entries did not appear in our February "Be My Club Valentine" feature. You were concerned to make sure they got in. You did everything right - they came in on time, but the editor just blew it big time. We know how important these were to you, and so to Rodney and Alfredo, we apologize. So here they are.

**Don't Just Take Our Word For It**



APRIL HOFF  
MEMBER SINCE 2002

**MEMBER FEEDBACK**

... I was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of Breast Cancer. After the diagnosis, I called the claims department at The City Employees Club, and in just two weeks I received \$30,000. Having this policy pay as quickly as it did brought me a tremendous amount of relief, and eased much of the stress I was experiencing. Because claim was paid as cash, I used the money to spend a week in Hawaii and bonded with my sister.

April Hoff  
M. PH.D.  
Communications  
LAFD

**The Cancer Plan That Pays You CASH!**

With the Cash Cancer Plan from Kanawha Insurance Company, you will receive a cash payment upon first diagnosis of internal cancer or malignant melanoma.

- ✓ **Cash Benefit:** Use it for any purpose.
  - Doctors, hospitals, cancer treatment, home health care
  - Transportation to and from treatment facilities, child care
  - Day to day living expenses such as mortgage or rent, utilities, groceries, or credit card payments
- ✓ **Pays In Addition** to other insurance you own
- ✓ **Benefit Choices:** \$10,000, \$20,000, \$25,000, \$30,000, \$40,000, and \$50,000
- ✓ **Available** to spouse and child(ren)
- ✓ **100% of Your Premium Will Be Returned To You**  
When you purchase the Return of Premium Benefit (ages 18-64) and after 20 years if no claims are paid.
- ✓ **Guaranteed Renewable:** Coverage is renewable for life if premiums are paid on time.
- ✓ **Easy to Enroll - No Medical Exams!**  
Just complete an application and mail it in today.



**Contact the CLUB Today**  
**To Find Out More On How the Cash Cancer Plan Can Help You!**



**Apply Today**

**City Employees Club**  
(800) 464-0452  
info@cityemployeesclub.com



# Juanita Cooke Trail

— Laguna Lake Park in Fullerton

A view of the Juanita Cooke Trail.

**H**ello again, everyone!

This month, I wanted to choose a path with no hills, lots of shade and plenty of trees, so that everyone can take part. I found the Juanita Cooke Trail in Fullerton. The trail is pretty flat and has lots of trees along the way.

The best place to start is at the Laguna Lake Park in Fullerton. You can park your car right next to the lake and start exploring from your very first step. This trail has lots of activities from beginning to end – you can walk, jog, bike, horseback and even fish. If you like to fish, look no further than the lake. You can bring all your fishing gear and relax while your family goes ahead

and walks the trail. We had a lot of fun walking through the trail. This trail has it all joggers, bikers and even horseback riders. The trail is only about 2.5 miles long.

Laguna Lake is guaranteed to please park visitors, whether they are nature lovers, hikers, joggers, equestrians, bicyclists or fishermen. Park guests can picnic in the park area just below the dam; stroll around the lake on hard pack dirt trails, or depending on the time year, cast a line for rainbow trout, catfish, bass or bluegill. Laguna Lake Park also serves as the site of the Equestrian Center. Home to the Fullerton Recreation Riders, the center is furnished with riding rings, show rings, and grandstand seating.

## History

The trail is named for Juanita Cooke, who once served as a liaison for the Fullerton Recreation Riders, a local equestrian group that helped get the trail built. A plaque posted at West Valley View Drive gives the history of the trail. Also posted at this location is the route of a 12-mile mountain bike ride around Fullerton. Yet another trail, the Bud Turner Trail, named for another Fullerton Recreation Riders leader influential in making a trail a reality, connects to the greenbelt. Together, these two trails provide a refreshing space for all trail enthusiasts.

## The Hike

The Juanita Cooke Greenbelt is a wonderful escape from the often-busy streets and highways of Orange County. This 2.5-mile trail in Fullerton connects some of the area's quiet neighborhoods with the downtown area, making it a great commuter path as well. The wide mulch and dirt surface makes this trail ideal for equestrian, pedestrian and bike use alike.

Setting out from the northern trailhead at Laguna Lake Park, you will pass through some established neighborhoods. The scents provided by the flowering shrubs, citrus trees and the rest of the surrounding lush vegetation is a delightful bonus. As the trail approaches bustling downtown Fullerton, it crosses high above an active railroad corridor.

As you follow the trail, you will find after about a mile that the trail becomes a regular street. Just keep going until you reach West Bastanchury Boulevard, and go up the steep incline to continue back on to the trail.

When you reach Laguna Road and the trail appears to come to an abrupt stop, cross the road and follow Morelia Place (directly across the street from the trail) for



Fishing in Laguna Lake.



# Juanita Cooke Trail

3120 Lakeview Dr., Fullerton

**TRAIL END POINTS:** Laguna Lake Park to North Euclid, and W. Valencia Mesa.

**COUNTY:** Orange County

**TRAIL LENGTH:** 2.5 miles (one way)

**TRAIL CATEGORY:** Rail-trail

**TRAIL SURFACES:** Woodchips, dirt

**TRAIL ACTIVITIES:** Horseback riding, mountain biking, walking.

**DIRECTIONS:**

To reach the Laguna Lake Park endpoint from Highway 91 (the Riverside Freeway) in Fullerton, take the Euclid Street exit. Head north on Euclid Street for about 4 miles to Lakeview Road. Turn right (east) on Lakeview Road and go 0.5 mile to Hermosa Drive. Turn right (east) on Hermosa Drive and go 0.1 mile to Lakeside Drive. The northwest entrance to Laguna Lake Park is at this intersection.



Angel Gomez, Director of Member Services

Send your photos to me at [agomez@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:agomez@cityemployeesclub.com). I would love to see them!



Aden and Angel Jr. find a beautiful log bench and take a short break.



Angel Jr. and Aden find a makeshift fishing pole.

BELOW: Kathy, Aden and Angel Jr. with our new friends, Sweetie Pie and Getaway.



Aden is happy to see the end coming up soon.



Angel Jr. finds a trail marker.



Aden wants a piggy-back ride from his brother, Angel Jr.

a few hundred yards of on-road travel. At the intersection of West Bastanchury Boulevard, cross this busy street and pick up the mulch and dirt trail once again on the other side. The last stretch of the trail is especially wide. Neighbors on both sides of the trail have put in beautiful landscaping, including lush gardens and high palms. Near Harbor Boulevard, very close to downtown Fullerton, the trail ends. Just to the left of the trail endpoint is a large Orange County courts parking area that can also be used by trail-goers.

As you walk the last section of the trail, you will see the Fullerton Court on your left, and then the trail ends. However, if you want to start at this location (N. Harbor and N. Berkeley), you can begin here. Or if you started at Laguna Lake, this would be the halfway mark.

I really enjoyed this short trail. When we finished, we decided to go south on Harbor Boulevard and refuel at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

Thanks again for reading *Be Alive!* If you know of any places you would like me to visit, please send me an email.

**Special Note:** Although the trail's official north end is at Hermosa Drive near Laguna Lake, the path continues north until it is interrupted by the Coyote Creek channel. A rough informal path goes as far north as Imperial Highway, where the railroad spur still exists and there is a signalized grade crossing.

Don't forget to bring your camera and take plenty of photos. Send them to me at [agomez@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:agomez@cityemployeesclub.com).

**As always,  
be safe and *Be Alive!*,  
Angel**

Angel Jr. adds jumping to the list of activities you can do at the park.



# On the Trail of the **New**



Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist I, collects specimens aboard the City's *La Mer* monitoring and research vessel.

**Steroids, pharmaceuticals, pesticides and other pollutants are seeping into our oceans. Dawn Petschauer is the City's newest and best weapon in tracking these chemicals of emerging concern.**

- Prescription drugs
- Steroids
- Over-the-counter meds
- Personal care products
- Veterinary medicines
- Pesticides

*Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager; and courtesy Public Works*

Have you ever thought about what happens when you throw old prescription medications down the drain? Or what happens when pharmaceuticals are released from your body? Probably not, but Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist I, Environmental Monitoring Division, Public Works/Sanitation, does.

And the evidence she collects during special studies suggests that these compounds may be potentially harmful to marine life.

**These medications include:**

- Prescription drugs including hormones (birth-control pills, estrogen replacement drugs, etc.), antidepressants and antibiotics;
- Over-the-counter medications including pain relievers (aspirin, ibuprofen, etc.), cold/flu remedies, and antiseptics (germ-killing liquids);
- Personal care products (toiletries, cosmetics, etc.); and
- Veterinary medicines.

Another strong culprit in emerging threats is modern pesticides. To avoid runoff pollution, pesticides were reformulated. But now, those new pesticides that contain pyrethroid are also a threat.

These threats are so new that there are no testing standards. And they

are in such trace amounts that the traditional measure – parts per million – isn't tiny enough. Now it's parts per billion, or even parts per trillion.

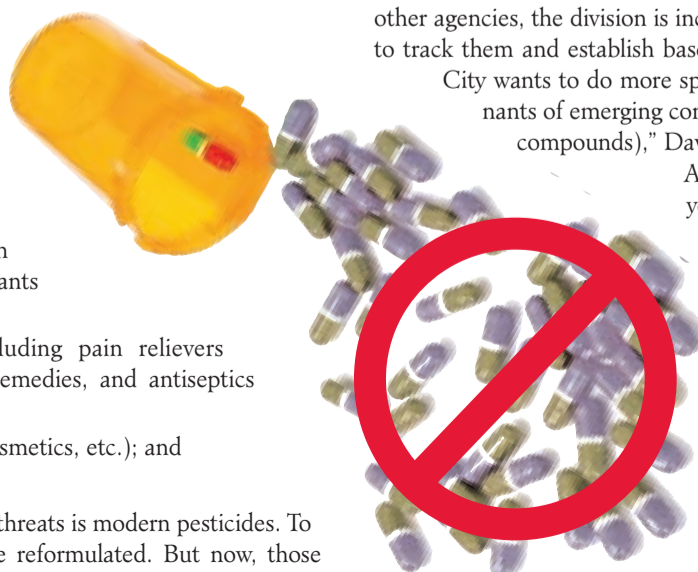
As the City's watchdog group is primarily a monitoring division – to monitor the water as a condition of Hyperion Treatment Plant's permit to operate – most of the work the division does is to monitor for known (traditional) pollutants that can be tracked against known levels of contamination.

But in efforts that are part of specific studies in cooperation with other agencies, the division is increasingly looking at new threats, trying to track them and establish baseline standards of contamination. "The City wants to do more special studies on these CECs (contaminants of emerging concern) and EDCs (endocrine disrupting compounds)," Dawn says.

And the division is involved in convincing you to not pour your unused pharmaceuticals down the drain!

As tracking these new pollutants is fairly recent, it has only just begun to be included in training programs. Dawn Petschauer's Master's degree thesis was on this very subject, and so she is the City's default expert in tracking these pollutants.

Starting on page 26, we'll describe how the Environmental Monitoring Division goes about its work helping to track the new threats. ■





# Contaminants



Collecting specimens is part of the Environmental Monitoring Division's monitoring function. This is similar to the type of collection that goes on when tracking the new threats.

## THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW

### Restrain the Drain

On Tuesday, Feb. 1, Club CEO John Hawkins and *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed Stan Asato, Water Biologist III and supervisor of the Toxicity Unit, and Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist I and City expert on emerging threats to ocean water. The interview took place near the unit's labs at Hyperion Treatment Plant.

**ALIVE!:** First, thanks for showing us around on the boat, and then in the lab. Tell us about the toxicity division. What's your purpose, and how do you do what you do?

**STAN ASATO:** The toxicity testing unit determines the toxicity of the effluent of the city's different treatment plants.

**Effluent is...**

**STAN:** Treated wastewater or treated sewage. The state issues a permit for the treatment plants to discharge effluent into the ocean. And before plants [like Hyperion] can discharge it, they have to make sure that it's not toxic. That's our primary duty - to make sure that the treatment plants meet the standards that the state has put on the City treatment plants.

**How do you go about testing that?**

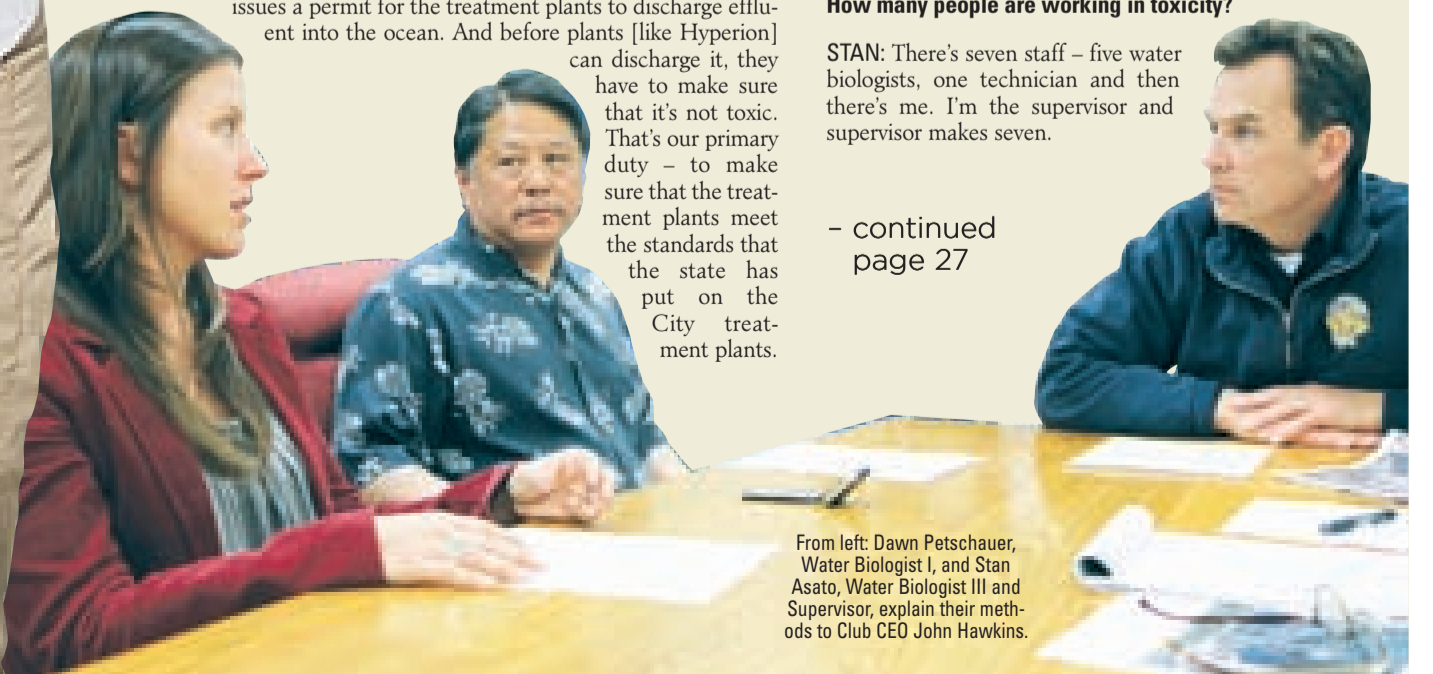
**STAN:** We do it through what is called toxicity tests. You have two different types of toxicity tests. You have acute toxicity test, where you measure whether or not the animal can survive in the effluent for a certain amount of time. And then there's chronic toxicity testing, which looks at whether and animal can grow, develop normally, or reproduce successfully.

**How many people are working in toxicity?**

**STAN:** There's seven staff - five water biologists, one technician and then there's me. I'm the supervisor and supervisor makes seven.

- continued page 27

From left: Dawn Petschauer, Water Biologist I, and Stan Asato, Water Biologist III and Supervisor, explain their methods to Club CEO John Hawkins.



Public Works

# Tracking the New Threats

As part of special research projects, the Environmental Monitoring Division tracks the new threats. Here's how:



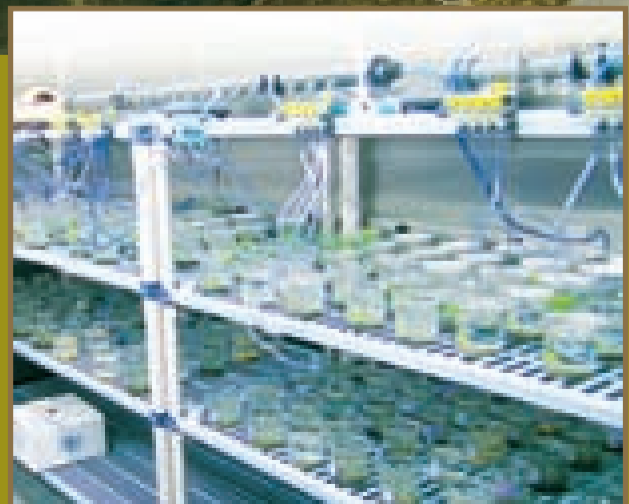
## Doing the Research

Most of the daily activities of the Environmental Monitoring Division involve monitoring the ocean for known contaminants. But from time to time, they are called on to assist in special research projects to track the new pollutants. Here are summaries of two recent research projects; more special studies on emerging threats are scheduled for 2011.

### Ballona Estuary Sediment Evaluation

This special study aimed to determine the compound that was causing the heightened toxicity in the sediments in the Ballona Creek as it neared the ocean in Playa del Rey. The study found that the culprit were pyrethroid, a common constituent of pesticides.

Water Biologists from the Sanitation's Environmental Monitoring Division collect samples during last year's Ballona Sediment test, which found traces of pesticides at the bottom of Ballona Creek.





The New Contaminants *Alive! Feature*



**Endocrine-Disrupting Compound Test**

This study exposed lab-raised adult fathead minnows to two different strengths of treated wastewater (effluent) that is discharged from the Hyperion Treatment Plant outfall into the ocean (effluent). The purpose was to see if these effluents could affect the genes of the fish.

The fish were also exposed to estradiol, a natural estrogen. This study was done in cooperation with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) and the JWPCP (Joint Waters Pollution Control Plant).



Dawn Petschauer (bottom) conducts research during the Toxicity Unit's study on Endocrine-Disrupting Compounds.



Tracking the New Threats, continued page 28

**“We saw...high levels of female reproductive hormones, specifically in male fish”**

**THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW**

- continued

**Emerging Threats**

**So that's what you do most of the time here in the Environmental Monitoring Division. But let's talk about the work that you're doing with emerging threats. When did the City start looking at new threats to the ocean?**

DAWN: Well, legacy compounds such as DDT and PCBs, which were more or less some of the first endocrine disruption compounds, have been monitored by the City for some time now under the [treatment plant] permit. The newer threats, I believe, started with my Master's research, where with the help of the City of Los Angeles, I looked at the potential impacts of environmental steroids, both natural and synthetic, on the physiology of flatfishes.

**While you were at Cal State Long Beach.**

DAWN: Yes. And from there [the Toxicity Unit has] facilitated other research incorporating these newer contaminants, including sediment toxicity testing. We participated in a regional sediment study in '07, and we continue to monitor sediment toxicity in the Ballona Wetlands annually. We are also participating in the NOAA [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration] mussel watch program this year.

**It's natural that the City would have a young person on this because this is what they're teaching in schools now. Is that right?**

STAN: I think it is. I think Dawn has studied the emerging ones, that's why there's a concern because those are the relatively new ones. There are also the legacy ones that she's mentioned. We've always known about DDT and PCBs. What they're finding out [now] is when they started reducing those numbers, other compounds replaced them. For example, DDT was the most common pesticide. But, because DDT was banned one of the alternatives is pyrethroids. Now they are finding that pyrethroids are very common in a lot of areas.

DAWN: It's just now they we are able to detect them. Analytical methodologies have limited us in the past because these emerging contaminants are found in the environment in such trace amounts, like parts per billion or parts per trillion, much lower than the amounts that we were finding some of the older legacy compounds. Now that we have the means to detect them, we're trying to understand if they are "new" or if we just weren't able to detect them before.

**Is it safe to assume, then, that because you are finding these things at much smaller levels – per billion or per trillion, that they would then be that much more powerful and strong? Because they're having really bad effects at much, much lower levels?**

DAWN: I don't know if we could say that each one of the constituents that we're finding are having severe impacts, but, I think, they're definitely under consideration for concern. But yes, the amounts that are being found in the environment are small...You find smaller amounts, but yes the potencies of some of these newer compounds are thought to be pretty high.

**So they can be potent.**

DAWN: In very, very small quantities? Yes.

**Does the federal government have standards that you're supposed to be looking for with these emerging threats?**

STAN: It's so new that the government is trying to set up limits and standardized procedures for investigating these emerging compounds.

**But they're not even sure what the end result problem is going to be. It may or may not be serious?**

STAN: Yes.

DAWN: Yes.

STAN: That's where academia and then the public are going to have to become involved to see if there is a problem. And then the government will know where to set some of these limits.

DAWN: Because there's no standardized methodology right now, we don't have a way to implement a feasible procedure into our current monitoring program. What they're trying to do with some of the newer technology like microarrays is look at the genetic level instead of the traditional focus which has been on the phenotypical level, which refers to changes in eye color or sex, for example. [With the newer technology], they can run a tissue sample of, say, a fish, and the microarray can analyze say 16,000 genes at once to look for genetic impacts that may or may not result in changes in an individual's phenotype per se, but may still result in physiological effects.

**How long might it take for all of the standard operating procedures to settle out?**

DAWN: It's really in its infancy.

**If you had to compare yourself to other monitoring units throughout the country or the world, are you leading the way, in the middle or behind the trend?**

STAN: We're a monitoring group, so we're supposed to monitor what the City discharges. But when these [emerging] compounds come up we have to be involved in it. There's an agency called the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project [SCCWRP.] They're a joint powers agreement agency that the City helps support that does a lot of the initial investigations. We work with them. And we try to work with them to develop protocols. Groups like that are doing more of the leading. They were set up specifically to address those kinds of concerns. We're probably somewhere in the middle.

**But, you're part of that team.**

DAWN: Yes.

**Culprits and Effects**

**In layman's terms what are the concerns that you're seeing out today?**

DAWN: In my research and other', we saw high levels of female reproductive hormones, specifically in male fish. And in some cases that led to things such as finding ovarian tissue in male testes; in production of vitellogenin, which is an egg yolk protein that shouldn't be in a male fish at all. So what we call feminizing effects is more or less what we were seeing, or what other research showed.

Outside of that, just in general, any sort of bioaccumulation of one or more pollutants can cause problems, especially if you see it in a recreational or commercially used fish, something that we would eat.

**Where are these coming from? What is the public doing that's causing that to happen?**

DAWN: There are a variety of sources and pathways. Anything that's a large-volume discharger that receives wastewater [like the Hyperion Treatment Plant] has the potential to be discharging them in the oceans. You can also get it from storm water, urban runoff. The storm water interacts with medicated feeds that can later get into river streams and other systems. They will later discharge into oceans. But, what's becoming more important now is

- continued page 29

Public Works

Tracking the New Threats  
- continued from page 27

Lab Work

Fish needed for studies on emerging threats are either caught at sea, or lab-reared and purchased by the City for research purposes. Lab work, therefore, is critical to tracking the emerging threats. Here are a number of the labs used to track these new contaminants; the labs are used for normal everyday monitoring, too.



Dawn holds a master culture of water fleas, which are lab-reared and maintained for subsequent toxicity tests pursuant to the City's NPDES permitted monitoring program.



Dawn Petschauer performs a chronic toxicity test on a species of water flea for Public Works' Tillman freshwater reclamation plant in Van Nuys.

**“No drugs down the drain’ is very crucial. It should be all of our individual missions to make sure, to be aware.”**



Dawn and Club CEO John Hawkins tour one of the five environmental chambers used to perform the chronic and acute toxicity tests.



Water quality measurements (e.g. salinity, pH, dissolved oxygen) are performed using probes throughout the duration of the toxicity tests.



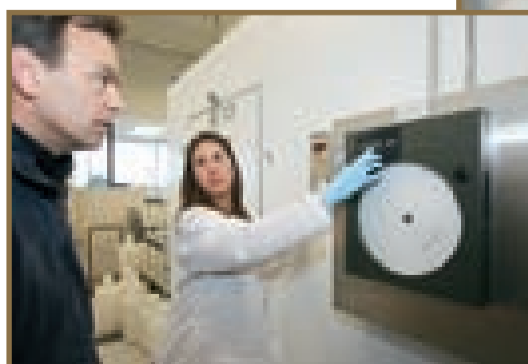
ABOVE: Some of the testing equipment used to perform the toxicity tests.



ABOVE: An incubation chamber used to grow their green algae stock, used to feed lab-reared water fleas.



Toxicity Supervisor Stan Asato watches as Dawn Petschauer explains to Club staff Angel Gomez and Brent Urban how to distinguish the sex of one of their invertebrate test species, *Haliotis rufescens*, the red abalone.



LEFT: Temperature recording charts monitor the temperature of the individual chambers to ensure EPA guideline compliance.



BELOW: Dawn Petschauer and Club CEO John Hawkins showcase one of their lab-maintained red abalone.



Dawn Petschauer explains to Club CEO John Hawkins how they measure the cell density of a freshwater unicellular green algae.



## Getting Past the Filters

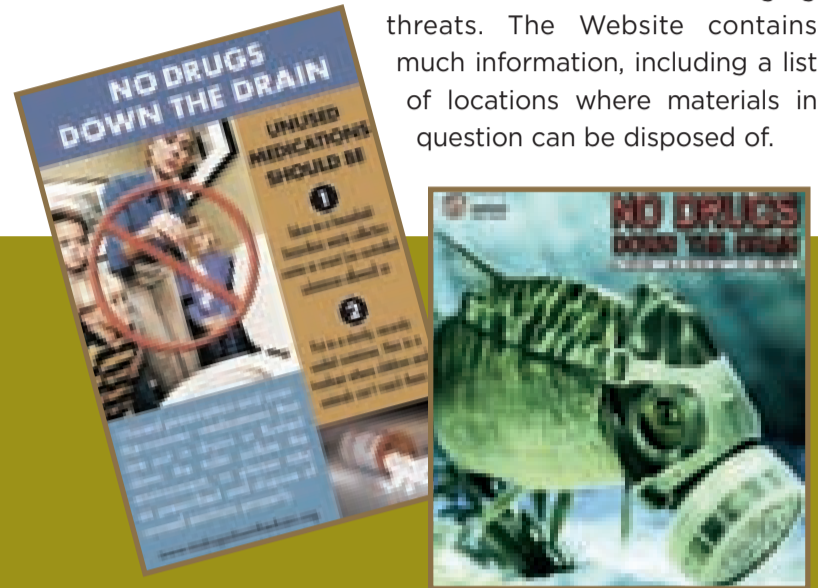
These round scrubbers are the last main filtration for the effluent (treated wastewater) before it is discharged to the ocean five miles offshore. They were designed for — filtering traditional pollutants measured at parts per million — however, they were not designed to filter out these newer chemicals of emerging concern, detected at levels as low as parts per billion or some at parts per trillion.



## Public Awareness

Finally, Sanitation's Environmental Monitoring Division helps spread the word about the dangers of improper disposal of medicines and personal care products.

The campaign, titled "No Drugs Down the Drain," educates consumers as to the proper disposal of those elements that are considered emerging threats. The Website contains much information, including a list of locations where materials in question can be disposed of.



For more information, go here:  
[www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org)

### THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW - continued from page 27

domestic application — household sewers and septic, recreational activities. All of those indirectly or directly discharge in the ocean.

#### What would some examples be?

DAWN: Natural steroid hormones; synthetic hormones like ones that are found in birth control pills; pharmaceuticals; and personal care products.

#### The pills we take?

DAWN: Anything: The soaps that you wear, that you wash off in the sink — we see them, too.

STAN: Even ibuprofen is detected in some samples.

DAWN: They're finding caffeine.

STAN: Naproxen.

DAWN: Lipitor is a huge problem now. Triclosan, which is an antifungal agent in antibacterial soaps, is a known endocrine disruptor.

#### Really?

DAWN: Yes. There's lots of it. We don't have any sort of way of modulating or quantifying all of our household usage because we don't know. But it goes directly in. And correct me here, but wastewater treatment facilities weren't intended to remove items like that. Our facility wasn't meant or intended to get rid of them. We're looking at other ways of trying to remove them and stay ahead of the game.

STAN: Exactly.

#### And these compounds aren't breaking down first?

DAWN: Not technically, and that's another problem. When [some of them] go into our bodies, for us to get rid of them and not store them in our fat, our body metabolizes them or changes them. Sometimes the byproduct of what's coming out is far worse than the actual parent compound.

#### Because the body is processing it so it can eliminate it.

DAWN: Exactly.

#### Is there a big glaring thing — something specific — that we're putting out there right now that stands out like a sore thumb?

DAWN: Well just because it's out there doesn't necessarily mean that it's having the highest impact. Without really knowing what all the potencies are, I don't think I

can answer that. But anything that we're finding out there in increased frequency warrants investigation, certainly.

Hormones were a big concern. They generated a lot of public awareness, and we certainly found problems with them. But they're turning out that they may or may not be such a concern now, just because our treatment facility seems like it does a pretty decent job of getting rid of them. So it may not be a concern necessarily for us.

Storm water and urban runoffs can be a different story. Pesticides right now are the primary concern.

#### Pesticides more than hormones?

DAWN: Yes, at this point because of the potency, because of the inability for us to monitor it.



From left: Dawn Petschauer, Stan Asato and John Hawkins.

STAN: A lot of times the pesticides don't go through the treatment plant. That's the runoff she's talking about. They get washed down the street or washed into a creek. They never go through the treatment plan unless the person takes it and actually physically puts it in their toilet to dispose of it. But if it's sprayed on your plants and then it washes off the plants, it washes down the street, it never gets treated at all.

We don't do storm water testing. But we do look at some of the areas that the storm water will end up in, like Ballona Creek. It appears that Ballona Creek has quite a bit of pesticides in the sediment.

#### Are there natural toxins that are ending up in the wastewater treatment stream? The stuff that's entering into the ocean — does it scare you?

DAWN: Well, that we're aware of it is a positive way to look at it. Back with legacy compounds, most people had no idea what they were, and there was unlimited dumping. The fact that we're taking a fast-forward approach and actually addressing the concerns and trying to utilize ways of modifying it makes me feel better about it.

STAN: And this, too — The [Hyperion Treatment] Plant has gone from primary treatment to partial secondary to full secondary [treatment]. There's been a great improvement in Santa Monica Bay around the discharge area. Now that they've gotten rid of the bad stuff, they're able to see some of the little changes that are going on.

#### You've taken care of a lot of the big things and now you're starting to be able to focus more of your time and effort and energy into some of the smaller ones.

STAN: Yes.

#### In 10 years, you're going to have a multitude of things you're going to be able to identify that you weren't today. It never ends.

STAN: It never ends. But the whole goal is monitoring—we're constantly monitoring to make sure that things wither are getting better and are not going to get worse as it did in the past.

### What You Can Do

#### What can people do?

DAWN: Public awareness is crucial. I think domestic applications are going to be the next major concern because there's no way of investigating or understanding what people are using.

Parabens are another compound that's been a big problem. You find them in lotions and detergents. And they're a chemical concern. If you just turn over any sort of product you're buying and get a better idea of what you're actually putting in the environment and what you're putting on yourself realistically and your children, then everyone can do their own individual proactive decisions to help in the long run.

#### Do you have any little tips?

DAWN: Parabens are big. Biodegradables are obviously a huge good. "No drugs down the drain" is very crucial. It should be all of our individual missions to make sure, to be aware. Read the information that's out there.

I think the next step is to get some sort of feasible collection or take-back service. If we could take the medications back that people don't want, we'd be able to eliminate some of the stuff [that gets into the ocean].

#### When I was kid, I thought the storm drain — I'm not even going to tell you.

STAN: Oh, go ahead.

DAWN: Come on.

#### I thought it was like a trashcan.

DAWN: Everyone does.

STAN: It's very common.

#### I remember just driving by and throwing stuff in. And now I think: Did I know where it was going? And I would go to the beach and swim!

STAN: Yes.

Yes. But I don't want people to think that the ocean is in really bad shape and everything is dying I've actually seen things get much better. Things are getting better because of modern technology, and because of people starting to care. People are amazed how fast the recovery is. The recovery has been incredible.

#### Well, thank you both very much!

DAWN: You're welcome.

STAN: Yes, you're welcome. ■



# 2011 Mediterranean Cruise

12-night cruise from Barcelona to Venice on board the Nieuw Amsterdam

*Club Signature Event*

## OCT 3, 2011

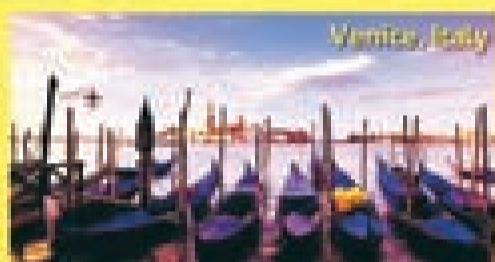
Ship Sails From - Barcelona, Spain  
and Ends in Venice, Italy



### 12 Night Adventure



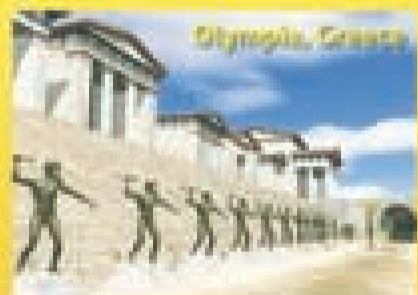
Barcelona, Spain



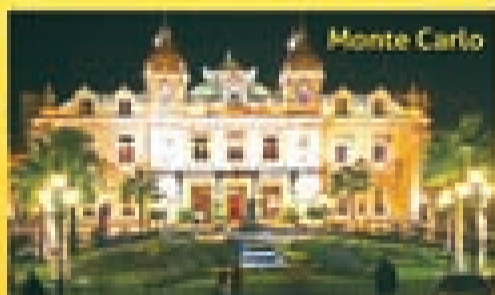
Venice, Italy



Messina, Italy



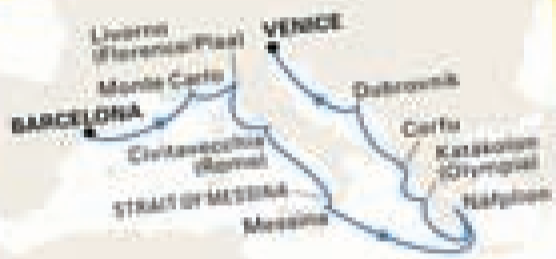
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#### Price Per Person

Room	Reg Rate	Club Rate
Inside Room	\$2,219	\$2,099
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Ocean View	\$2,639	\$2,519
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3rd /4th guest sharing a cabin pay \$99  
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Earn Shipboard Credit by Booking Early!	You Get
Book between (March 1, 2011 - May 31, 2011)	\$500
Book between (June 1, 2011 - July 1, 2011)	\$100



PUBLIC WORKS

# African-American Heritage

Michelle Brown puts together a display of African-American heritage.



Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Counselor

In honor of Black History Month/African American Heritage Month, Michelle Brown, Principal Clerk, Public Works/Sanitation, organized an African American Heritage exhibit for Public Works/Sanitation. More than 20 people within the Bureau of Sanitation contributed exhibits to display in the lobby at Media Center Drive. The exhibits ranged from a family tree, tracing all the way back to the early 1800s, to a social commentary of African-American contributions to popular music.

Next year, Michelle hopes to double the amount of participants and continue to donate the exhibits to local museums. The Club applauds the efforts of Michelle and those in her department who contributed to such an extraordinary exhibit. We look forward to attending the event again next year!



Michelle Brown, exhibit organizer, with the exhibit she helped to create.



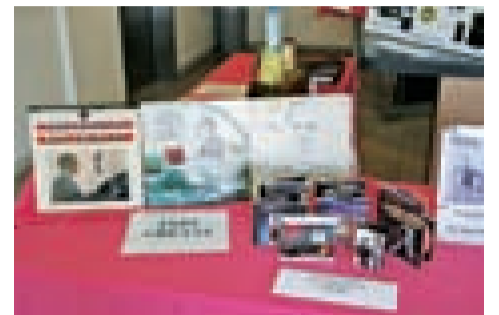
Michelle Brown displaying cottonseed, part and parcel of the exhibit.



Myra Salazar, winner of the trivia question, "Where is the Los Angeles Central Library located?"



"Castles and Forts," by Stephanie Roberts.



"Jazz Greats," by Steven Boyd.



"The Higgins," by Theo Higgins, Club Member.



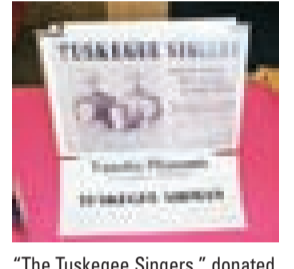
"Diana Ross," by Michelle Brown, Club Member.



"African Masks," by Stephanie Roberts.



"Dad's First Hair Cut," by Janet Wilson.



"The Tuskegee Singers," donated by Vanclee Pleasants, great-grandfather of Michelle Brown.



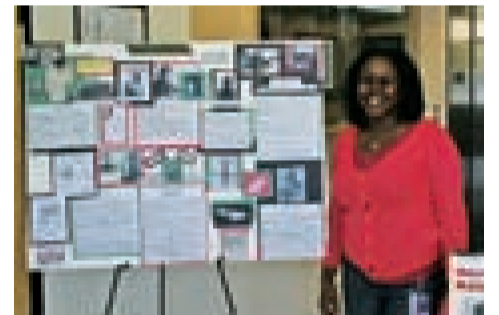
Diandra Ortiz, WESD, was able to answer the trivia question, "Name a Ray Charles song other than Georgia." She won a prize donated by the City Employees Club.



Chari Curtis, Club Member, next to her exhibit, "Our Dear Barack Obama."



France Liu, winner of the trivia question, "In terms of numerical order, what number is president Barack Obama?"



Chari Curtis, Club Member, next to her exhibit, "Great African-American Contributions."

LAFD

## Firefighter/Paramedic Glenn Allen

# A Hero Falls

Memorial service is held Feb. 24 for Glenn Allen.

Story and headshot courtesy LAFD; Photos by Michael Corral

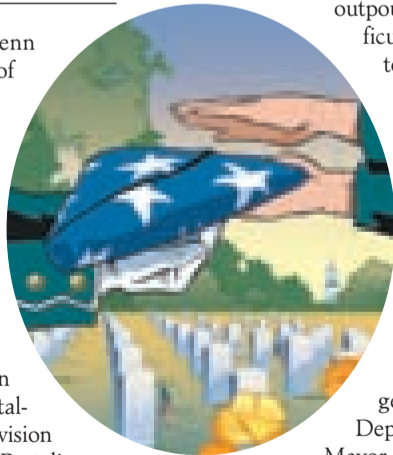
Firefighter/paramedic Glenn Allen, a 36-year veteran of the LAFD, died Feb. 18 from injuries suffered during a fire/rescue incident Feb. 16.

Memorial services were held for Firefighter Allen at his home Fire Station 97 on Feb. 24, and in downtown Los Angeles Feb. 25.

On Wednesday Feb. 16, ten fire companies, one heavy rescue, one USAR unit, seven rescue ambulances, seven battalion command teams, one division command team, three EMS Battalion Captains, and one arson unit responded to a reported structure fire in the Hollywood Hills.

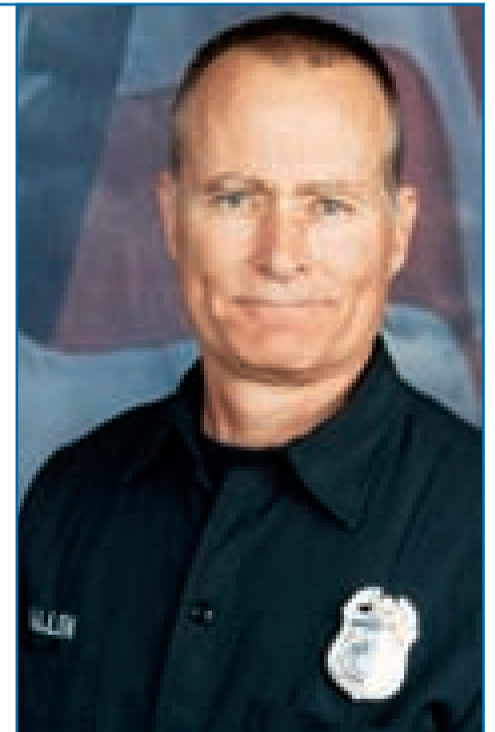
While Firefighters were performing their sworn duties, a partial ceiling collapse occurred, causing injury to four Los Angeles Firefighters and two Los Angeles County Firefighters. One of the injured from the City, Glenn Allen, succumbed to his injuries Feb. 18.

As dictated by Fire Department policy, a formal and detailed investigation is under way to determine the exact nature of the cause of injuries sustained, as well as the precise cause and manner of the Firefighters death.



The Allen family and the Los Angeles Fire Department have received a tremendous outpouring of support during this difficult time. Your Firefighters wish to thank those who responded and express our deepest appreciation for all the kind words and gestures that have been provided.

Glenn L. Allen was a Firefighter/Paramedic for more than 36 years and last served at Fire Station 97. He is the 61st Los Angeles Firefighter to have died while directly involved in emergency operations during the Department's 125-year history. The Mayor of Los Angeles has ordered all City flags lowered to half-staff in Firefighter Allen's honor.





# CITY EMPLOYEES CLUB OF LOS ANGELES

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City Employees Club is proud to provide UNUM Long Term Care Insurance to our members.



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# History Comes Alive!

Tales From the City Archives



by Hynda Rudd  
City Archivist (Retired)  
and Club Member



At the ceremony where the Hollywood sign area was saved from developers.

Photos courtesy the Trust for Public Land.

“An advertising billboard on Mt. Lee, in the hills overlooking the film capital, [was] erected in 1923. The sign is 50 feet high, 450 feet long, weighs 480,000 pounds, and cost \$21,000 to construct. It was designed to promote Harry Chandler’s real estate development named Hollywoodland (the sign’s original wording).... It was lit by 4,000 20-watt bulbs.... The last four letters were removed by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce in 1945.” Pitt, Leonard and Dale. *Los Angeles A to Z: An Encyclopedia of the City and County*. 1997. Page 207.

In February 2010, Councilman Tom LaBonge and officials from the Trust for Public Land (TPL) announced the launching of a \$12.5 million fundraising campaign to preserve the view of the Hollywood sign, expand Griffith Park and save 138 precious, pristine acres from residential development. The TPL had an agreement to purchase the land from the owners for the \$12.5 million due in mid April to prevent the building of luxury estates next to the sign. This new project became known as the “Save Cahuenga Peak.”

Since 2001, Tom LaBonge had been working on this project to acquire the land known as Cahuenga Peak, which was on the market for private residential development for \$22 million. His intent was to maintain hiking and recreational areas for future generations of Angelenos. Tom enlisted the TPL to raise the money for the acquisition.

The organization had until mid-April 2010, to purchase the land for \$12.5 million under agreement with the owners. About half of the funds were raised by various sources, including the Tiffany & Co. Foundation, which donated \$1 million. To raise public awareness for raising the remaining \$6 million of the asking price, the Hollywood sign was covered with the message ‘SAVE THE PEAK’ for a weekend.

Jay Dean, Chief Marketing Officer of TPL, said at the time, “We are getting support from the Hollywood community and from the Tiffany Foundation, but we need support from anyone who cares about the Hollywood or parks and open space. We only have two months to go.” Michael J. Kowalski, chairman and CEO Tiffany & Co., in reference to the Hollywood sign, said: “[It] is an American icon that holds a unique place in the nation’s collective imagination and the cultural history of Los Angeles.”

In late April 2010, there was a press conference held by TPL President Will Rogers, Chris Baumgart of the Hollywood Sign Trust, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Councilman Tom LaBonge. They announced that a \$900,000 donation came in from Hugh

Hefner of Playboy Enterprises to close the \$12.5 million deal to save the Hollywood sign. At the press conference, it was revealed that the parcel of land would be preserved and annexed to Griffith Park.

Tom LaBonge stated his thanks to the TPL, the Hollywood Sign Trust and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for their assistance. He gave a special thanks to Gov. Schwarzenegger “to a man, who, like me, loves nature, loves people and provided great strength to bring us to this point.”

## Tom LaBonge and the Hollywood Sign



■ City Councilman and Club Member  
Tom LaBonge fought to keep the  
L.A. icon in public hands.

What has not been known by many of the citizens of this City is that as far back as 1978, the Hollywood sign, as it looks today, came about because Hugh Hefner was the one to raise money to rebuild it. As a big fan of the sign, Hefner came forward again in 2010 with his \$900,000 that brought forth the closing of this current dramatic Hollywood sign story.

The fundraising campaign was launched over President’s Day weekend when the Hollywood sign was covered temporarily with a message “Save the Peak.” The two earliest

and largest donors to this effort were Los Angeles philanthropist Aileen Getty and the Tiffany & Co. Foundation. “I thank Hugh Hefner and Aileen Getty for their critical contributions, along with everyone whose generous spirit moved them to join the campaign to save one of America’s most famous urban spaces,” said Michael J. Kowalski, chairman and CEO of Tiffany Co. “The threat to its existence underscores the need for partnerships like ours with TPL who can work together to protect our cultural assets for future gen-



The group celebrating the saving of the Hollywood sign area included Jon Mukri, General Manager, Rec and Parks (far left); Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge (third from left); and Hugh Hefner (in hat, center).



A group that was instrumental in saving the Hollywood sign area.

erations.” Ms. Getty, longtime Hollywood resident, said, “I’m proud to have supported TPL’s efforts in conserving this magical place.”

Hollywood leaders donated \$3.2 million, including major donations from (to list a few) the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, CBS Corporation, the Lucasfilm Foundation, NBC Universal, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Steven Spielberg, Twentieth Century Fox, Warner Bros., The Walt Disney Company, and others. Some Hollywood individuals gave on their own: Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson, and Norman Lear. Many neighborhood groups raised money to donate. Others sold baked goods to donate money. The involvement was incredible.

But the man who initiated and carried the spirit from the onset onward was our very own Tom LaBonge from the Fourth District. Thank you so very, very much for all your enthusiasm and hard work.

# REST INSURED



BY JEFF GELINEAU  
Vice President of United Agencies,  
The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner



## Insuring Things On the Move

Do you know what a floater policy is? Most people don't, but if you have any valuable jewelry, you will want to read more.

The term began hundreds of years ago, when insurance companies were asked to insure goods on sailing vessels. As the property was not located at any one particular location, it was written on a "floater" policy that covered it wherever it went.

We still use the same term today to describe coverage for an item that doesn't stay at one location. You will see them referred to as floaters, PAF (personal article floaters), or schedules. Your homeowners policy covers only your contents that are generally within 500 feet of your home. Jewelry, for example, often travels with you wherever you go, so is ideal to be covered on a "jewelry floater."

Homeowners policies will generally include a small amount of coverage "off premises," but they fall short in providing sufficient insurance limits on important items. If you have a larger than normal collection of items, or items that are extraordinarily expensive, you should consider a floater for these items.

Scheduling items of exceptional value rounds out a sound insurance program. Overlooking that option can result in unhappiness in the event of a loss. Shortfalls in the homeowners policy can be solved by scheduling specified property for its full value and provides better coverage for those items.

The need for a schedule begins with the special limits listed in homeowners policies for specific classes of valuable personal property. These limitations are sub-limits within the personal property insurance amount that appears in the policy declarations, not in addition to it. They apply to the total of similar objects involved in a loss, not separately to each object.

Special limits are similar in most homeowners forms, but it is advisable to check the specific form used by your insurance company. In general, the classes of valuable property that should not be overlooked and the special limits to which they apply include:

- \$250 sub-limit for money; bank notes; bullion; gold other than goldware and gold-plated ware; silver other than silverware and silver-plated ware; platinum; coins and medals. (So basically, if you

have an expensive set of silverware handed down from your grandmother, you should get additional coverage for it!)

- \$1,500 sub-limit for: securities; stamps; tickets; letters of credit; notes other than bank notes; personal records; accounts; deeds; evidence of debt; passports; manuscripts.
- \$1,500 for watercraft including trailers and equipment; trailers not used with watercraft; and electronic devices operated from electrical systems of motorized vehicles or watercraft, or used for business purposes away from your home. (Many people have trailers, canoes or kayaks that are quite expensive. Even if it doesn't have an engine, it's still a boat, and subject to a \$1,500 limitation).
- \$2,500 sub-limit for loss by theft of jewelry, watches, furs and precious and semi-precious stones.

Another big benefit of a floater is that it provides coverage on the valuable items for their full value (established by bills of sale and appraisals), and for loss from practically any cause except for a few reasonable exclusions. The coverage is much broader than on the homeowners policy, and they don't "depreciate" the payment.

Floaters can be added by endorsement to homeowners policies for:

- Jewelry
- Furs and garments trimmed with fur
- Cameras and related equipment
- Musical instruments and related equipment
- Silverware, silver-plated ware, goldware, gold-plated ware and pewterware
- Golf equipment
- Fine arts
- Stamps and other philatelic property
- Coins and other numismatic property

Another major benefit of a schedule is that it covers property wherever it is taken by you, including, for example, on vacation abroad.

Periodically reviewing your homeowners coverage will minimize the likelihood of underinsurance arising from outdated appraisals and inadequate limits of insurance. Such a review also will reveal recent purchases of additional objects that warrant a floater.

**Be safe and have fun!**

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Check out our City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website at [www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub](http://www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub). This website lists the upcoming visits we'll be making to City Department meetings where you can ask us any question in person, and get an instant quote!

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Feel free to send me an email at [jgelineau@unitedagencies.com](mailto:jgelineau@unitedagencies.com), and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

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## AIRPORTS

# 2 New Airport Police

Airport Police swears in two new Police Officers.

Story by Sgt. Belinda Nettles, Airport Police;  
Photo by Officer Darrius Lewis, Airport Police

Two new police officers joined the ranks of the Airport Police following their graduation Jan. 28 from the LAPD Academy in downtown Los Angeles. Airport Police Asst. Chief Michael Hyams attended their graduation and performed the swearing-in ceremony. Capt. Tyrone Stallings of the Airport Police Command Staff was also present.

The graduates are Jacqueline Zambrano and Omir Garcia. Zambrano who was selected as the class secretary by her academy peers provided guidance over class projects.

"It is an honor to swear in these fine new

Airport Police graduates from the Los Angeles Police Academy," Asst. Chief Hyams said. "Both officers embraced their academy experience, and we're pleased to have them join our Airport Police family, and support our critical mission."

The next step for the officers is to complete a six-month field training program. During the training program, new officers will be assigned to a Field Training Officer (FTO) before they are released and assigned to the Patrol Services Section. The Airport Police Division is the fourth largest law enforcement agency in Los Angeles County with more than 1,200 law enforcement, security and staff personnel.

The Club congratulates Officers Zambrano and Garcia for their joining the ranks of the Airport Police.



From left: Officer Omir Garcia, Ass. Chief Michael Hyams, and Officer Jacqueline Zambrano.



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# Party at the Mountain!

**Magic Mountain Private Party. May 13.**

**\$15!**

**— See Page 48**



For Retired Club Members



# The Best Years

FOR RETIREES ONLY



By Mary Beetz,  
RLACEI Publicity Chair

## City Retiree Associations:

### DWP Retirees Association



**Dolores Foley, President**  
Phone: (626) 445-7376  
E-mail: vinmar@altrionet.com

### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association

**James R. Wilke, President**  
Phone: (323) 283-4441  
Fax: (626) 285-1461  
E-mail: larfpa@pacbell.net or  
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780

### Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



**Ed Harding, RLACEI President**  
www.rlacei.com  
Contact him: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 703  
or via E-mail:  
postmaster@rlacei.com

### Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 713, or write to her at 8372 Arnett Dr. Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Also notify LACERS.

### Have News About Yourself?

Contact Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 709.

## RLACEI UPCOMING EVENTS:

Here's a listing of all the RLACEI events, dates and locations for 2011:

**April 14:** General meeting, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. 11:30 a.m., meeting 1 p.m.

**June 9:** Golf tournament, Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, 630 S. Almansor St., Alhambra. Start: 7:30 a.m., lunch 12:30 p.m.

**Aug. 11:** Annual picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Los Angeles. 11:30 a.m.

**Oct. 6:** Annual corporation meeting and elections, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. 11:30 a.m., meeting 1 p.m.

**Dec. 1:** Holiday party, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. Noon.

Call (800) 678-4145, ext. 701 for reservations.

## RLACEI:

# Health Plan Statements Coming This Month

### President, Ed Harding reports:

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

"Congratulations to Tom Moutes, LACERS' newly appointed General Manager.

"On Dec. 17, at a special meeting, the Board of Administration of LACERS appointed Tom Moutes as General Manager. The Mayor confirmed his appointment, and on Feb. 1, the City Council confirmed the appointment and was sworn in by the City Clerk. Tom will be administrating the City of Los Angeles Pension

System for approximately 43,000 members and beneficiaries. Our RLACEI Directors and I are very pleased with Tom's appointment. Congratulations, Tom!

"Li Hsi, Chief Management Analyst, was promoted to Assistant General Manager to fill the vacancy that Tom Moutes created. Li was appointed Feb. 2. Congratulations, Li!

"We look forward to working with Tom and Li.

"April 14 at 1 p.m. will be our first General Membership Meeting for 2011 at the Friendship Hall on Riverside Drive. An update of retirement benefits will be discussed. And a LACERS' representative will be there to answer any questions or concerns.

"Be sure to call and make reservations for a good lunch. More than 40 door prizes will be raffled."

### LACERS Update by Mary Beetz:



Mary Beetz

#### New for 2011: Health Plan Confirmation Statements Mailed to Retired Members in March.

"LACERS retired members who are eligible to receive a subsidy and who are enrolled in a LACERS health plan will receive a LACERS Health Plan Confirmation Statement in March. The statement will include 2011 health plan selections based upon LACERS current information, as well as important health legislation updates and health plan reminders. Retired members should contact LACERS at (800) 779-8328 immediately if any information that appears on their Statement is incorrect.

#### "SafeGuard Dental HMO Is a MetLife Company

"In 2008, MetLife Insurance Company acquired SafeGuard Health Enterprises, Inc. Because SafeGuard Dental HMO is now a subsidiary of MetLife, SafeGuard

Dental HMO subscribers may occasionally receive dental plan mailings from MetLife as part of their normal course of business.

"Note: MetLife does not issue ID cards to their MetLife Dental PPO subscribers. However, MetLife and LACERS can provide generic ID cards upon request.

#### Closing the Medicare Part D Drug Coverage Gap ('Donut Hole')

Beginning last Jan. 1, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act requires pharmaceutical manufacturers to provide a discount on brand-name drugs once retirees enter the Medicare Part D coverage gap (a.k.a. the "Donut Hole"). As a result, once retired members with Medicare Part D (and their medical plan) pay \$2,840 or more for prescription drugs during a plan year, they will see a 50 percent reduction in their co-pays for brand-name prescrip-

tion drugs for the rest of that year.

#### Reminders for Medicare Enrollees

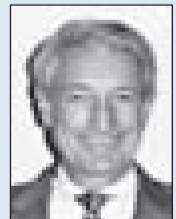
"To maintain their LACERS medical plan coverage, retired members enrolled in Medicare are required to:

- Pay their Medicare bill in full, including any applicable Medicare Part B and Medicare Part D Income-Related Monthly Adjustments Amounts;

- Not enroll in a non-LACERS Medicare plan while enrolled in a LACERS Senior Plan. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services only allows retirees to enroll in one Medicare plan (i.e., a LACERS Senior Plan, which already includes Medicare Part D).

"Failure to adhere to these requirements will result in the termination of LACERS medical plan coverage.

### Meet New RLACEI Board Member Michael R. Wilkinson



Michael Wilkinson

"Michael retired from the City Attorney's office last year, after 34 years of service, mostly with the City Attorney's Office. The last nine years, Michael worked as a Deputy City Attorney in the

Retirement Benefits Division as a legal adviser and trial lawyer to LACERS Employees' Retirement Plan, the Department of Water and Power Employees' Retirement Plan and the Fire and

Police Retirement Pension Plan.

"Michael is looking forward to working with RLACEI to continue to ensure a successful retirement for our members and beneficiaries."

#### RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit the RLACEI Website at [www.rlacei.com](http://www.rlacei.com) to find the latest retirement news. If you find it helpful, or have suggestions for improvement, call Hal at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 707.

#### Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second Street, second floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans.

# The Best Years

## ADVENTURES with HAL!



Don and Myrna at the International Café.

2010 Club Excellence  
Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary, RLACEI

### Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, and LAFCU.

**City Employees Retirement System:**  
(213) 473-7200

### RLACEI Retirement Counselors and Retiree Helplines: (800) 678-4145

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Phil Skarin	Ext. 709
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Stemnock	Ext. 708
<b>RSVP:</b>	Ext. 701

**DWP Retirement Plan Office:** (213) 367-1722

### RLACEI:

#### Officers

Mary Beetz: Publicity Chair  
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer  
Edward Harding: President  
Michael Karsch: Treasurer  
Phil Skarin: Director  
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President  
Tom Stemnock: Second Vice President

#### Committee Chairpersons

Hal Danowitz: Bylaws  
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation  
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating  
Helen Salgado: Membership  
Phil Skarin: Publicity and Parliamentarian  
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative  
Tom Stemnock: Audit  
Tom Stemnock and Phil Skarin: Golf

#### Directors

Mary Beetz  
Americo Garza  
Michael Karsch  
Neil Ricci  
Helen Salgado  
Phil Skarin  
Michael R. Wilkinson



## Time Between the Shores

### ■ Part 2 of Hal and Co.'s cruise to the 50th state.

*Evelyn and I are aboard the Golden Princess, sailing to Hawaii on a 14-day cruise from San Pedro. Don and Myrna, our cousins, are with us. It will take us four days to sail to Hilo, our first stop. We pick up the story on our second day at sea.*

On the first day, we played duplicate bridge and finished fourth out of seven teams. Not bad for us. The conditions for playing are not good – we are in the Bernini dining room, with bad lighting and no water or coffee. I have informed the Captain's Circle Coordinator, and she said she would inform the cruise director. We will see what happens today.

We had cocktails in our cabin before dinner last night. There was lots more room in the mini-suite on this ship, the *Princess*, than the Veranda cabin on the Holland-America line. We had a nice meal at the Crown Grill, one of the two specialty restaurants. Service was good and the food was okay. I thought the steak (a rib eye) was not as good as Holland-America's, but was worth the extra \$5 we paid. The regular price is \$25, but we had \$20 credit because of American Express. We brought our own bottle of wine, a Silver Oak 2002 cabernet, and it was great. Corkage fee was \$15.

After dinner, we found our way to the Vista Lounge and listened and even danced to the sounds of Big Band music of the 1930s and '40s.

We saw the 10:15 p.m. show in the Princess Theater. The singers and dancers did a production show of Latin music called *Caliente*. We sat in the second row and it was too close, but we did enjoy the show.

We got up this morning, the second day, about 7 a.m. We were to have our first Pilates class at 9 a.m. I wanted to eat breakfast before the class, so I went to the buffet while Evelyn headed straight to the gym.

I decided to eat light and had pickled herring and smoked white fish with a bagel and cream cheese. They were just great, as far as I was concerned. I have learned to be selective in what and how much I eat while cruising. You can always go back for more.

Before Pilates, I did 30 minutes on a bike. The Pilates instructor was very good, and we really worked up a sweat.

Afterward, I showered and ended up in the Internet room to write my notes for the day and check my e-mail.

I was meeting Evelyn for lunch at noon, and we were to play bridge that afternoon. The weather was still overcast, but much warmer. They were saying that, by tomorrow, we were to have sun. In that case, I wanted to sit by the pool.



Evelyn aboard the ship.

There was sushi for lunch, which was not worth eating. I found out later that *Princess* does not serve any raw seafood, so all the sushi has to be cooked like a California roll. I tried the pizza, which was just okay – too much grease for me. I finished with a hot dog, which was good.

Yesterday, I visited the Captain's Circle hostess to see if I could improve the conditions for bridge, and when we played that second afternoon, we did have water to drink. I also got a call from the cruise director, wanting to know if everything was okay, explaining their procedures. It was very nice of him to do that, but it didn't really have any effect on the bridge accommodations.

When we boarded, Evelyn and I received priority tender boarding passes to be used when the ship used tenders to go into port – you don't have to wait in line to board the

tenders, but they did not provide any for Don or Myrna. I found out that we had received ours from the public relations dept., so I asked if we could have two for Don and Myrna, which, after some confusion, they did supply them for us.

Evelyn and I signed up for a Chef's Table dinner, which cost \$75 per person, and I received a message that we needed to meet tomorrow at 10 a.m. in the dining room to review the requirements.

The seas were very calm, just a slight roll of the ship. The sun was out for a while that afternoon, and the temperature is in the high 70s.

The ship holds 2,600 passengers, and we had been told that many were from foreign countries, including China.

Tonight was to be the first formal dress-up night. We would have cocktails in our cabin and then go down to meet the Captain, before having dinner at 7:30 p.m. The show that night was "The Comedy of Steve Moris," who performed with the Beach Boys for more than 20 years. After drinks, we went to the Piazza where they were taking formal pictures, and you could meet the Captain. After Evelyn and I took pictures, we had a 7:30 p.m. reservation for dinner. We never saw the Captain.

The food and service had been very good, as good or better than Holland-America (HAL) in the dining room. I liked the buffet for breakfast; it did not seem to have the large selection that HAL had, but I was able to eggs-to-order quickly, and the bagels and toast were ready and warm. This was not always the case on HAL. I haven't tried the buffet for lunch yet, but Evelyn didn't think it had as good a selection as HAL. There is an ice cream station, which has soft serve chocolate or vanilla, either in a cone or cup with toppings.

After dinner we all were tired, so we skipped the show and just went back to our cabin.

The next morning, Evelyn and I decided to eat breakfast after we worked out, then attended the meeting on the Chef's Table Dinner, and then skip lunch. We would be





doing the wine tasting at 3 p.m., and that should hold us until dinner.

The Chef's Table meeting was to explain the event. There were two other couples and us. The Maitre'd (dining room manager) had us sign a waiver because we were going to be in the galley during dinnertime. There was also a set of rules on what you could wear. The dinner takes almost 4 hours and is cooked by the head chef. There were to be four dinners on this cruise, with four or five couples per dinner. The cost was \$75 per person, which included premium wines.

After the meeting, I lied by the aft pool. This was my first chance to relax by the pool. Evelyn decided to sit on the balcony and read. I decided to go by to the cabin at 2 p.m. to get ready for the wine tasting.

The wine tasting was held in the Canaletto Dining room. We sat at a table for six. There was a newlywed couple from Wales and mother and daughter from Sacramento. We tasted six wines, which were paired with hors d'oeuvres. The last wine was Robert Mondovi, Napa Reserve Cab. The experience was good.

Don and Myrna played bridge, and we sat on the balcony, enjoying the fine weather. Temperature was in the 70s, and it was nice and sunny.

Later we had drinks in the Piazza before dinner. After dinner we went to the Wheelhouse Bar to listen to music and dance. We then saw the 10:15 p.m. show in the Princess Theater -- illusionist Alexander. I

think he was pretty good, but I dozed thought most of the show.

Morning came again; I had breakfast early and then worked out for 45 minutes until it was time for our third Pilates class at 10 a.m. We played bridge that afternoon. Tomorrow we were going to reach land in Hilo. In case you missed it, sea days tend to lend themselves to a routine. It was another day in paradise, more or less.

I began to form an impression of this cruise. The ship has 2,600 passengers, which may be too many for me. The outside area has lots of deck chairs and a good number of pools. The bars do get crowded, but that is to be expected. The buffet area is too small and badly designed. A lot of people got in each other's way. Breakfast has been okay, but lunch seemed to be a bust. The best lunch food seemed to be the International Cafe. We had lunch there today, and it was very good.

We played duplicate bridge in the afternoon, and Evelyn and I came in third in east/west, not bad for beginners.

After dinner, we sat in the Promenade Lounge and listened to Kathy Phippard, who plays the piano and sings your requests. She had a very large inventory of songs, between the 1930s to current ones. We really enjoyed her and will make it a point to see her again.

In our mail this evening was an invitation to visit the Ship's bridge, a very rare invitation in this day and age.

Tomorrow morning we docked in Hilo, our first stop in Hawaii. That's next time.

# Moutes Appointed GM

■ Council confirms Thomas Moutes as General Manager, LACERS.

Story and photo courtesy LACERS



Thomas Moutes, with 26 years of City service, is sworn in as General Manager, Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System, by City Clerk June Lagmay.

LACERS — The Los Angeles City Council confirmed the appointment of Thomas Moutes as General Manager, Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS), at its meeting Feb. 1 in a unanimous vote.

The LACERS' Board of Administration appointed Moutes at a special meeting Dec. 17. He had been Interim General Manager since October 2010. Prior to October, he was LACERS Assistant General Manager, a posi-

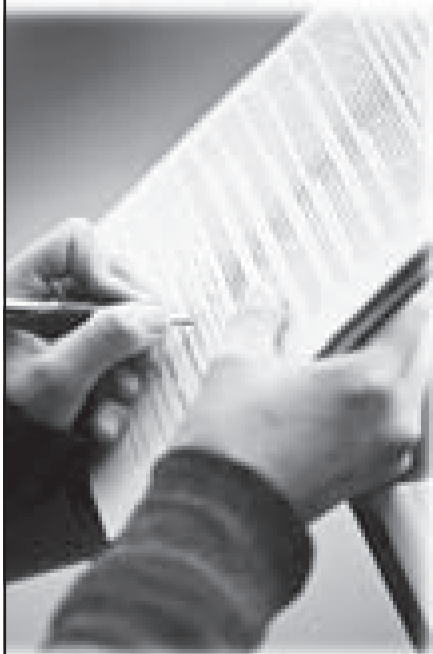
tion he has held since 2007, where he has been instrumental in the day-to-day operations of the Department. Joining LACERS in 2001, he served as Chief Management Analyst, heading the Retirement Services and Administrative Services Divisions, prior to becoming the Assistant General Manager.

LACERS administers the City of Los Angeles' pension plan to approximately 43,000 members and beneficiaries. LACERS' portfolio is currently \$10.7 billion.

For Retired Club Members

CLUB MEMBER SERVICE **FREE**

## Free Notary Service



When you need a notary service, there's never any charge. It's just one of the great services to Club Members.

Free notary service available during normal business hours at the:

Club Store and Service Center  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles 90012  
TEL: (888) 777-1744

Appointments are highly recommended; availability to walk-ins is limited.



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
**Celebrating the Lives of City Employees.**

### Healing Children

Bienvenidos is a compassionate community of care dedicated to healing children and their families.

### Strengthening Families

Our vision is of a society in which every family can provide a loving, healthy and secure home where children can grow and thrive.

### Transforming Communities

By empowering those we serve to lift themselves up and change their lives, Bienvenidos is helping build healthier families, brighter futures and more vibrant communities.



www.bienvenidos.org

■ This ad is possible thanks to the generosity of Terrence Hooper ■

The Best Years

# MILITARY MEMORIES

Here are some Armed Forces memories by retired Club Members of the Club.

## Ken Kochakji, Retired, Transportation:

"Here are photographs of my Artillery Battalion three miles from Czechoslovakia in 1968. We had to stay out in a mountainous forest for three weeks until the alert was called off. We had two Sergeant Missiles armed with nuclear warheads ready to fire [upon] President Johnson's command. Thank God nothing ever came of it."



"I'm the one leaning over the truck."



"Bathing out of my helmet, was the only option I had."

Do you have a military memory? Send in a few paragraphs and a few pictures to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Background on the Soviet 1968 Invasion of Czechoslovakia:

Soviet troops marched and tanks rolled down Wenceslas Square in Czechoslovakia's capital to crush a reform movement known as Prague Spring. Alexander Dubcek's attempts to create "socialism with a human face" are often seen as historical and ideological forerunners to Mikhail Gorbachev's reform policies of glasnost and perestroika in the 1980s in the USSR. The events of 1968 shattered many illusions about socialism and the Soviet system, both in Czechoslovakia and in the West.

## 33rd Annual Retirees Invitational Golf Tournament



The 33rd Annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees Invitational Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course with a "Shotgun Start" at 7:30 a.m. The course is located at 630 South Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801. Check-in is at 7:00 a.m. SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

- The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$65 for R.L.A.C.E.I., City Club and All City Employee Benefits Service Association members (\$75 for all others) and includes green fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Almansor Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$25.
- Those interested in participating must complete the reservation form and mail it with their check payable to **"R.L.A.C.E.I."** by **May 31st** to: Tom Stemnock, Chairman, 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604. For any questions, call Chairman Tom Stemnock at (818) 487-6789.

### 2011 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$65 for R.L.A.C.E.I. and City Employees Club Members. (\$75 for all others)  
 Luncheon: \$25

**Make checks payable to R.L.A.C.E.I.**

### NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

#### FOURSOME

	Member R.L.A.C.E.I.	Member A.C.E.B.S.A. or City Club	Guest
<b>(check all that apply)</b>			
Name			
1. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Reservation deadline: Thursday, May 31st. Mail completed reservation form and check to:  
 Tom Stemnock, Chairman  
 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604, (818) 487-6789

## RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

Mary Beetz, RLACEI, received a letter from **Earl Rogers, retiree from the Engineering Department**. He writes that he is enjoying his retirement years doing what he loves, painting landscapes and portraits in oil. He and his wife are now living in Bellingham, Wash.



{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 36 in a series.



# People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

## Meet Ruben Murillo.



**AGE:** "I'm 51."

**BIRTHPLACE:** "I was born in Belen, New Mexico."

**MARITAL STATUS:** "Single."

**FAMILY:** "I have one brother and one sister. My brother was killed, and I'm not sure if my little sister is still alive."

**MILITARY SERVICE:** "No."

**WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "Twenty-five years ago. I broke up with my girlfriend, and my life went downhill from there."

**EDUCATION:** "I made it all the way to my senior year at Western New Mexico University. I was going to get a degree in business administration."

**FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:** "I was really close to my grandfather. I remember going hunting with him in the snow in New Mexico."

**AWARDS OR MEDALS:** "I had some awards from boxing."

**RELIGION:** "I was born a Catholic."

**DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS?** "I have lots of friends. Steve Blackwell, for one."

**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** "All over the place, under bridges on the sidewalk."

**WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD?** "I was working in the mines in New Mexico. I was working 12 hours a day. But then I got hit by a truck, lost my girlfriend and was too injured to work. That was 25 years ago."

**FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:** "I really like Montebello. It's a nice town."

**FAVORITE SPORT:** "I really like boxing."

**FAVORITE ACTOR:** "Vincent Price and Peter Sellers."

**FAVORITE ACTRESS:** "Jane Fonda."

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Man of a Thousand Faces."

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Get Smart."

**FAVORITE CANDY:** "Spree."

**FAVORITE FOOD:** "I love Mexican food: burritos, tacos, tamales, enchiladas."

**FAVORITE MUSIC:** "I like Spanish flamenco – classical Spanish guitar."

**WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?** "I don't remember the title, but it was by Mark Twain."

**ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:** "Stay healthy, and keep an open mind."

**LAST THING EATEN:** "I had some barbecued ribs from the Smokehouse."

**WHO OR WHAT ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST HELP TO YOU?** "LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) Council."

**IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?** "I wish I could have my mother back. She died 10 years ago."

**IF YOU HAD \$1 MILLION, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT?** "I'd buy property and a home and would help needy children."

**IF YOU WERE THE MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES, WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO HELP THE HOMELESS?** "Provide more shelter and living spaces for the homeless, and the General Relief needs to go up from only \$221 a month."

**WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN FIVE YEARS?** "Hopefully in my own apartment or condo and healthy. Right now I have a blood clot in my right lung. I have a bleeding ulcer and a brain tumor in my left lobe. My dad used to beat me when I was a kid, causing many of my medical problems."

*The Club gave Ruben shaving cream, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and some bottled water.*

The interview took place Feb. 18 downtown and was conducted by Club staffer John Hawkins.

*Photos by Angel Gomez*

## How to Help

You can make a difference.

Donate items to "People We See," and the Club will deliver them to an upcoming subject. Great items include socks, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, toilet paper, hand wipes, shaving cream and razors. Just drop them off at the Club Store (120 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, downtown Los Angeles), and we'll take it from there.

We want to thank Lorena De La Torre for providing socks.



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, Director of Member Services Angel Gomez and New Project Coordinator Noelle Kauffman, introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }

# Newsbrief

## LAFAYETTE PARK GRAND OPENING:

Rec and Parks, Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA), and the Everychild Foundation announced Feb. 17 the opening of the \$9.8 million Lafayette Park Recreation Center. The 15,000-square-foot eco-friendly facility, designed by the award-winning firm Kanner Architects, features brand new multipurpose classroom spaces, a technology lab and a state-of-the-art gymnasium.

The Lafayette Park Recreation Center is a result of the historic public-private partnership between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and HOLA to transform Lafayette Park into a versatile campus that will provide exceptional academic, arts, recreation and athletic programs to the surrounding underserved community. The project materialized in response to demands by a growing neighborhood whose needs outgrew the existing 3,700 square foot senior center. In 2006, Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager, Rec and Parks; Mitch Moore, Founder of HOLA; and Tony Brown, HOLA Executive Director; met to discuss their common interest: to create a model public-private partnership to build out and sustain parks and recreation centers in underserved areas. The location for this ambitious project was Lafayette Park in the heart of LA's Rampart District. From that meeting spawned an idea: since both organizations were serving the same popula-

tion, the Department of Recreation and Parks and HOLA would come together to transform the park into something that would invigorate the neighborhood and improve the lives of its residents.

"The Department of Recreation and Parks and Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA), have formed an innovative partnership between a public agency and a non-profit organization both dedicated to supporting local community needs. This partnership not only provides educational, cultural, athletic, and arts programming for numerous local residents, but allows for the successful fundraising effort to renovate, and expand the Lafayette Recreation Center," said Jon Mukri, General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. "This newly renovated, state-of-the-art, LEED recreation center will house joint Recreation and Parks, and HOLA programs covering a myriad of activities benefiting the children throughout the community. I am very proud of this partnership and the many things we have accomplished together."

"We've brought together some of the best in class partners and individuals to help solve larger societal problems and we expect the results to surpass any individual effort out there," said Tony Brown, Executive Director, HOLA. "This is a tangible roadmap for rebuilding a stronger community able to solve present day and future challenges."

Together, Mukri and Brown imagined a public space in a contemporary way that would create a

new paradigm of the public park. Rec and Parks and HOLA formed an unprecedented partnership and set out to raise additional funds that would be needed to not only complete this ambitious project, but also add new learning spaces and many other state-of-the-art enhancements. In 2007, they achieved their goal by combining Prop K, Prop 12 and Quimby funds with a private \$1 million dollar gift from the Everychild Foundation. Over \$2 million were raised from the private sector funds from not only the Everychild Foundation but also the W.M. Keck Foundation, Weingart Foundation, Skirball Foundation, Anthem Blue Cross Foundation and the Los Angeles Lakers Youth Foundation. The money raised has enabled the Department of Recreation and Parks and HOLA to provide expanded programming support so that thousands of at-risk youth will receive exceptional classes and programs for free in addition to a variety of affordable low cost high quality classes for all ages.

"HOLA's long success in keeping children out of gangs, in school and engaged in positive activities convinced us that they would make excellent use of our grant dollars with the Lafayette Park project," said Jacqueline Caster, Founder and President of the Everychild Foundation.

The newly rebuilt and expanded center will allow Rec and Parks and HOLA to significantly increase the number of neighborhood youth served in 2011 by more than 60 percent. Together

they will reach 2,300 youth annually, nearly 1,000 more than can be served today. The new and improved Lafayette Park Recreation Center will provide kids with alternatives to unhealthy behaviors by offering hope and inspiration in lieu of gangs, crime and disenfranchisement. Local families will be able to utilize the new center, as they would a safe backyard, a comfort that so many in the community do not have. In addition, HOLA will combine its free academic, arts and sports programs with City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks' activities and classes. Underserved youth will benefit from new recreational facilities that will include a field turf soccer field, state-of-the-art gymnasium, wireless computer lab, classrooms, and community meeting rooms. The community will have access to HOLA's art studios, fine arts library, dance studio, digital media center and educational learning centers. What's more the gymnasium will bear the Lakers logo on center court and host annual basketball leagues and clinics.

The eco-friendly building is designed to meet the objectives of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design is on track to be the first City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks LEED certified building. The building's LEED features include the use of recycled and sustainable materials as well as glass on a large portion of the gymnasium's north wall to provide natural light and ventilation.

## Club Cruise:

The  
greatest  
Club  
Event  
ever!

— See  
Page 30



### Personal Finance Series

## Financial Management Basics

What Are You Doing To Secure Your Retirement Dream?



Financial Management Basics is free to Active LACERS Members. It will help you:

- Develop money management skills
- Get out of debt
- Increase savings
- Gain control of credit cards
- Improve credit scores

The course also covers retirement planning and information about:

- LACERS defined benefit retirement plan
- LACERS Larger Annuity Program
- The City's Deferred Compensation plan

### Financial Management Basics

Tuesday, April 19, 2011 – 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

LACERS  
360 E. Second Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Interested Active LACERS Members can sign-up for this course on [www.LACERS.org](http://www.LACERS.org) or by calling (800) 779-8328. Space is limited, so RSVP early.

Reserve your seat today.



Financial Finesse practices an unbiased approach to financial education so course instructors will not be selling or recommending specific products to workshop attendees.





## HARBOR

# Gotcha!

Port Police uncover counterfeit electronics operation, seize \$10 million in fake goods, stolen merchandise and bank receipts.

Story courtesy Port of Los Angeles

More than \$10 million in counterfeit electronics, stolen merchandise and bank receipts were recovered as a result of a cargo theft investigation initiated by the Port Police. Counterfeit Apple products have been seized, a downtown Los Angeles counterfeiting operation behind the fake goods was shut down and felony charges have been filed against two suspects.

The counterfeit goods included electronics that resembled Apple iPods and iPhones. The electronic devices were shipped from Asia, then falsely labeled and packaged in Los Angeles. The \$2.5 million in stolen goods that were recovered include electronics, toys and blankets stolen from various locations in Los Angeles County and the Inland Empire.

"Our layered, multi-agency approach to security and theft investigations led to success in this

significant discovery," said Port Police Chief Ronald Boyd, Club Member. "We're proud of the teamwork that happens on a continuous basis to thwart consumer fraud, keep our Port safe and enable our agencies to pursue cases to fruition and criminal prosecution."

"Our standing as the largest shipping container port in the country is in no small part predicated on the security we can offer our clients," said Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. "Counterfeiting takes jobs and revenue away from our City's coveted creative industries and other legitimate businesses, and it will not be tolerated."

Port Police worked on the investigation as part of the Cargo Theft Interdiction Program (CTIP), a California Highway Patrol initiative that includes participation from the Port Police and the City of Vernon Police Department. The counterfeit investigation is being jointly conducted by Homeland Security Investigations (HIS) and Port Police. The Border Enforcement



Some of the counterfeit items seized as part of the Port Police's sting operation.

Security Taskforce (BEST), comprised of federal, state and local agencies, also played a role in the investigation.

The case stems from a stolen cargo investigation that led the Port Police to several downtown Los Angeles locations in December and January. During searches of the locations, Port Police discovered counterfeit products with an estimated


street value of more than \$1.4 million, stolen goods worth approximately \$2.5 million and bank account receipts that indicate profits from the sale of counterfeit merchandise estimated to be more than \$7 million.

Two brothers, both from Los Angeles, have been charged in the case, according to the Port report.



## Personal Finance Series

### Investing Basics: Increasing Retirement Income



*I finally understand the other options available to fund my retirement.*

In the Investing Basics: Increasing Retirement Income workshop you will learn about making the right long-term investment choices.

- Learn how to research the right investments for you
- Decipher your mutual fund statements
- Get a better grasp of your personal investment style

### Investing Basics: Increasing Retirement Income

Tuesday, April 19, 2011 – 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**LACERS**  
360 E. Second Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Interested Active LACERS Members can sign-up for this course on [www.LACERS.org](http://www.LACERS.org) or by calling (800) 779-8328. Space is limited, so RSVP early.

Reserve your seat today.



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## REC AND PARKS

## Banning Fundraiser Set for April

Friends of Banning Museum to Hold Annual Fundraiser on April 2, 2011

Friends of Banning Museum announced that its annual fundraising event, the Wisteria Regale, will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, 2800 Via Cabrillo Marina, San Pedro.

This festive evening will feature a silent auction, dinner, hosted bar, live music and dancing. A highlight of the event will be the crowning of the Wisteria King and Queen: two Banning High School students who presented the winning entries in an essay contest held by Friends of Banning Museum. Each winner will also receive a scholarship for their achievement.

Reservations are required for the Wisteria Regale, and the cost is \$150 per person. Please call Friends of Banning Museum at (310) 548-2005 for further information or to make a reservation. Reservations can also be made via The Banning Museum website, [www.thebanningmuseum.org](http://www.thebanningmuseum.org). For guests who may wish to make this event part of a getaway weekend, the Doubletree Hotel is offering a special room rate on April 2nd for those attending the Wisteria Regale. Please contact the hotel directly at (310) 514-3344 for more information.

Proceeds from the Wisteria Regale will assist Friends of Banning Museum, a non-profit corporation, in its mission to "Preserve History, Promote Education, and Inspire Entrepreneurial Spirit."

The Banning Museum is a facility of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks and is operated in cooperation with the Friends of Banning Museum.



# REVIEWS BY FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS

# ENTERTAINMENT

## MOVIE REVIEWS



### Black Swan

Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Natalie Portman plays Nina, a ballet dancer in the New York City Ballet who wins the lead in *Swan Lake*. Nina is perfect for the role of the delicate White Swan, but gradually she loses her grip on reality as she

attempts to master the role of the evil Black Swan.

Die-hard ballet fans might enjoy *Black Swan*, and Natalie Portman is excellent in the role, but it's hard for the rest of us to appreciate the parallel and very melodramatic stories of *Swan Lake* and Nina's descent into madness.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

### Black Swan

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

I'm with you, Lou. This movie is not really about dance at all. How many great dance sequences are there? There's the final one, as the Black Swan makes her twirly, triumphant entrance. But I'm not sure it was real – more like special effects – and that's about all I remember.

Nina struggles to find her inner Black Swan, uh, bad girl; to let go, as they say. But if only there were more shades of the descent to experience, and I don't mean listening to the amplified cracking of her toe knuckles, or the heavy, expressionist, bombastic and hilarious score as she gives into her feelings for a fellow dancer (Mila Kunis). *Black Swan* is a lot more like *Psycho* than *The Red Shoes* or *White Knights*; and a lot less like *Psycho* than Roger Corman with a much bigger budget.

— John Burnes, *Alive!* editor



### The Dilemma

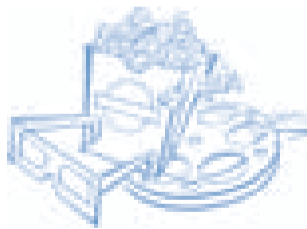
Rated R

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

Vince Vaughn and Kevin James are best friends and business partners. Vaughn witnesses James' wife as she is having an affair, and his dilemma is whether or not tell him.

This film is both comedy and serious drama, and unfortunately for the very talented cast, including Jennifer Connelly and Wynona Ryder, it fails as both. Adding further frustration to this bipolar movie is that it is directed by Ron Howard, who should know how to make a good film. Save your precious time and money; skip *The Dilemma*.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



## DVD Reviews



### Stripes (1981)

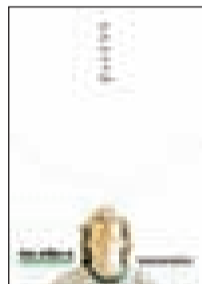
Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Bill Murray plays John Winger, who works at a dead-end job, convinces his friend Russell Ziskey to join the Army and, after graduating, they become involved in an Italian spy mission and romantic

interests. Murray is excellent, playing Winger as a joke-cracking comic who never laughs at his own jokes. His dry humor fits the role perfectly, and his performance ensures the script never feels forced, even with mud wrestling and a secret urban assault vehicle as key plot points. All of the supporting actors are stellar, and this film holds up well upon multiple viewings.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



### Greenberg (2010)

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Ben Stiller stars as Greenberg, a middle-aged ex-rock musician who returns to Los Angeles to housesit for his brother. Greenberg is a social misfit who takes advantage of his friends and, through

showing his emotions and true feelings, makes everyone angry. His personality disorder is examined, but the film does not moralize or portray him as a bad guy. This film is a dark comedy that touches on suicide, drug use, sexual themes and

vulgarity. It's smart and interesting, and contains Ben Stiller's finest performance to date. All supporting actors are great, most notably Rhys Ifans' nuanced performance as Greenberg's sober ex-bandmate. I highly recommend it.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



### Red (2010)

Rated R

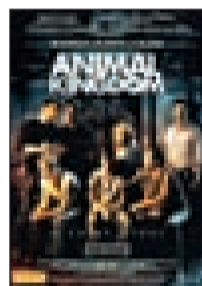
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

*RED* stars Bruce Willis, who plays a retired black ops CIA agent trying to adjust to a normal life and find love when he learns that a hit has been placed on him. His personnel file has been marked

"RED" – retired, extremely dangerous. So he enlists the help of his old team, which has Morgan Freeman, John Malkovich and Helen Mirren, to find out why he has been targeted.

This is action comedy movie that I thought was quite cute and a delight to watch.

— Gwen Lew, DWP



### Animal Kingdom (Australia, 2010)

Rated R

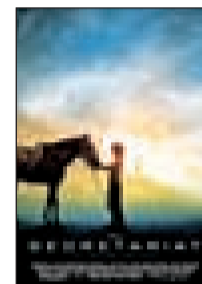
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Seventeen-year-old Josh's mother dies from a heroin overdose. He goes to live with his grandmother, Smurf (Jacki Weaver), and her sons. He learns

that Smurf is the smiling, cheerful and cold-blooded matriarch of a brutal crime family, being hunted down by the police. Grim, violent and brilliantly acted, *Animal Kingdom* is riveting to watch. However, some of the more violent scenes are almost too brutal to take.

Weaver won the 2010 Golden Globe for best supporting actress. Guy Pearce plays the head of a Melbourne Anti-Crime Police Squad attempting to rescue Josh while taking down the family.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



### Secretariat (2010)

Rated PG

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

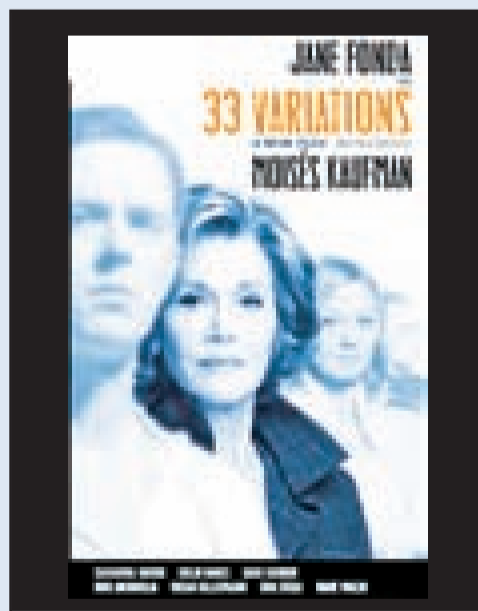
*Secretariat* stars Diane Lane as Penny Cheney Tweedy, owner of the champion horse named Secretariat, and John Malkovich as the horse trainer Lucien Laurin. Both Ms. Lane and Mr.

Malkovich did an excellent job in this true story movie about the world's greatest racehorse. It's one of Disney's best movies.

This is a true story that takes place in the early 1970s. Penny is a housewife/mother who grew up on a horse ranch but had to move away to be with her husband and family. After her mother dies, she goes back to the ranch to be with her father and take care of business. Her brother wants to sell the ranch, but she believes otherwise. The rest is history.

— Gwen Lew, DWP

## Theatre Reviews



### 33 Variations

Play

Abmanson Theatre through March 6

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

The *only* reason I went to see this show is because of Jane Fonda, who received a Tony nomination for the role when she did it on Broadway. And Jane did not disappoint! When she is on stage, she owns it and commands your attention and interest.

The story itself really was not for me; I much prefer musicals or comedies. Although I did wonder if this drama were based on true facts or not, and I do believe it is. The entire cast was superb in their roles, but Jane is the reason to see this.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

## Book Reviews



### Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers

Mary Roach

Nonfiction; 304 pages

W.W. Norton and Co.

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

*Stiff* explores the life and use of cadavers as research tools in U.S. schools. Author Mary

Roach bravely visits a number of medical schools to view dead bodies used for plastic surgery, medical research and forensics. She explores the history of the use of cadavers in medicine and body snatching, providing dark but funny excerpts from journals and newspapers from the 18th and 19th centuries. The book is written with a humorous slant, which makes it palatable, even for after-dinner reading. The subject matter of how cadavers help society and science is morbid, but also somewhat unusual and titillating. I enjoyed Roach's writing style, and recommend it to anyone interested in medicine.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

## Your Reviews

You can be a reviewer! Have you just seen a great movie or DVD? Read a great book? Been to a great play or musical? Write a brief review. It's easy! See the instruction box.



## 100 Words or Fewer

Here's how to submit your review. *Alive!* accepts entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer. We might not print them all, especially if we receive multiple reviews for the same movie or DVD. Follow these rules:

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- All reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and

- exclusive to *Alive!* (not offered to another outlet). Violations could end your ability to be published in *Alive!*
- Have fun!
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.

- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: **My Score: X (out of 5)**.
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).

- Submit your review to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.



## Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

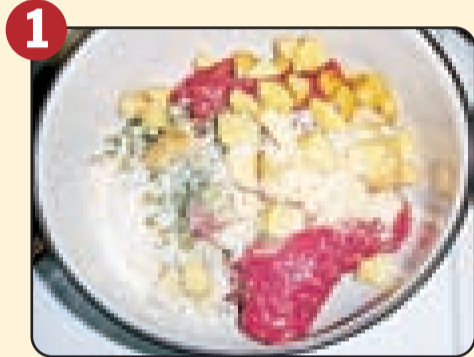
# Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



## Irish Meatloaf

### DIRECTIONS:



1 Preheat the oven to 375F. Place the ground beef in a bowl and add ingredients: the bread-crumbs, diced onion, ketchup, yellow mustard, Worcestershire sauce, crushed juniper berries, chopped chives, parsley, oregano, beaten egg, salt, pepper and diced potatoes.



2 Begin mixing ingredients to the ground beef – wash your hands before handling the product. Wash your hands afterward as well.



3 Add your butter or olive oil to the loaf pan and apply to all sides of the inside of the pan. Then add the ground beef mixture and press down to create a level top surface.



4 Place in the oven and let bake at 375F for about 60 to 75 minutes. Take the meatloaf out of the oven and let cool for about 20 minutes before serving.

I was in downtown Los Angeles one Saturday and was approached by a few members from the Department of Airports about making a meatloaf recipe available in *Alive!* I promised to make it for the March newspaper, not realizing that the March edition traditionally has an Irish overtone to it. So I set out to find an Irish Meatloaf recipe – if it even existed.

Meatloaf is a dish that exists in many countries aside from the United States, from Denmark to Macedonia. Each country has its own variation, adding herbs or spices that change the flavor of the meatloaf. In my research to discover one from Ireland, I discovered that... it is not particularly common there. However, I did locate one, and it is below. It has juniper berries (optional, of course). If you can't find some at the market, do without it. The recipe also calls for butter and potatoes, which sounds like it belongs to the region. While I am not entirely sold on the idea that this is a true Irish dish, it still is very tasty and will go well for dinner St. Patrick's Day or any other day.



### Irish Meatloaf

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 oz. butter (you may substitute with olive oil)
- 5 oz. breadcrumbs
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 lb. minced beef
- 1 tbsp. ketchup
- 1 tbsp. yellow mustard
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp. crushed juniper berries (optional)
- 1 tbsp. finely chopped chives
- 1 tbsp. finely chopped parsley
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 1 egg, beaten
- Sea salt and pepper, to taste
- 1 cup diced potatoes

Makes 4 Servings

#### Cooking TIDBIT:

If you don't want to use butter, olive oil will work as well.

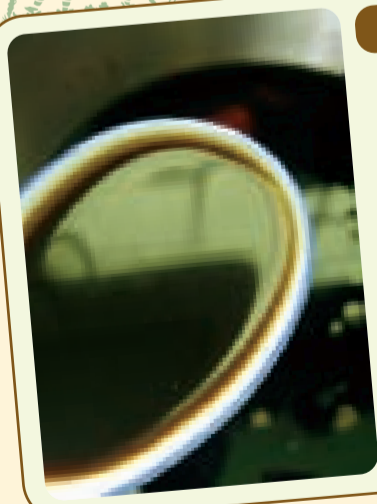


### [ A Cook's Dictionary ]

#### Worcestershire Sauce:

Though this condiment was originally developed in India by the English, it takes its name from the fact that it was first bottled by in Worcester, England. It's a thin, dark, rather piquant sauce used to season meats, gravies, soups and vegetable juices, and as a table condiment. Worcestershire's formula usually includes garlic, soy sauce, tamarind, onions, molasses, lime, anchovies, vinegar and various seasonings.

– From the *The New Food Lover's Companion*, Sharon Tyler Herbst, 1995, Barron's Educational Series.



5 Plate a slice and add a little parsley for presentation, and enjoy!

## Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



**Food Factoid:** "As a kid, my family's menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it."

– Buddy Hackett

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- Mars Needs Moms: 3/11
- Paul: 3/18

Tickets can be redeemed at any AMC Theatres® location including Century City 15, Burbank 16 and Universal CityWalk 19.



**\$7.50** AMC Gold Experience™ tickets EACH Up to a 44% discount off regular ticket price!\*

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Alive! Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

Portable Pet Crate: Never used, 3'D x 2'H x 2'W. Has removable pan. Paid \$125, asking \$75. Call Richard @ (818) 399-9730. 3/11
For Rent: Inglewood, single family dwelling, 2BD/1BA, living room, dining room, back yard & detached garage. Recent upgrades. Quiet community. Call Char @ (323) 600-4615 after 7:00pm. 3/11
For Rent: 2 BD house. Near Long Beach, sharp, clean, near school & freeway. \$1,450/mo. Call for appointment @ (562) 537-5972. Sec 8 ok. 3/11
For Rent: House in La Crescenta, 3 BD/1.75A in nice & quiet neighborhood, upper Glendale. Good schools, walk to Crescenta Valley High School. \$2,100/mo. Call (818) 621-7758. 3/11
Monterey Bay Timeshare: \$875, 2 BD/2 BA, kitchen, fp, bbq, pools, etc. Dates: 7/25/11 - 8/1/11 (Monday to Monday, 7 nights). Sleeps 6 max, however 4 adults is comfortable. Terry @ (818) 769-3382. 3/11
Sunset World Timeshare: Cancun, Mexico. Sleeps 4 facing ocean. Available anytime except weekends of July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year. \$600/7 days Saturday to Saturday. Available starting April. Gina @ (818) 265-5940. 3/11
Cemetery Plot: Valhalla Memorial Park, Sec 2530, Lot C-Track 6618, 10621 Victory Park, N. Hollywood, 91601. \$3500 or OBO. Call (661) 251-0362. 3/11



Mobile Wheelchair: Excellent condition collapsible for easy transportation. \$800 O.B.O. Call Mark @ (909)322-5140 or tspgtr@msn.com. 12/10



MGA 20 inch girl's bike: custom seat, grips, bell & light. Like new. \$85 OBO. Info @ (310) 408-6431, any time. 11/10

Bombay Chests: 3 excellent condition Bombay Chests. Beautiful decorative designs w/3 to 5 drawers. Each \$350. Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 10/10

Curio Cabinet: Excellent condition oak 2- piece curio cabinet w/glass doors, decorative w/curved legs. Has original key for locking. Great for displaying collectibles! 48" W x 18" D x 6' H. \$350 OBO. Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 10/10

Weslo Cadence C42 treadmill: 2 years old. Great condition. \$65. Judy @ (909) 800-0414. 9/10

Hammond Organ: dual-key board, antique. FREE to good home. Mickey Miner @ (310) 833-9997 or David Miner @ (310) 519-8113. 8/10

Handmade oak Loft Bed with Desk and Bookcase: 43" wide x 81" long. Same size as twin bed set, great for smaller rooms. Birch drawers are dovetailed with sliders. Must see to appreciate. \$1000 OBO. Nancy or Jim @ (818) 340-8059. 8/10

Homes/Rentals/Land

Vacation rental in Big Bear Lake: 3 BD/2 BA house located in the village of Big Bear Lake, CA, near the lake. Fully furnished. Contact John Long @ (909) 837-8347. 2/11

Room For Rent: Inglewood, furnished LG bdrm in 3BD/3BA home. Own bath, house privileges, pool, gated community, wifi, quiet, close to all. Responsible & clean person. Avail 2/1/11. References required. \$900/mo. Marilyn Williams (310) 674-3536, sissygal7m@yahoo.com 2/11

Room For Rent: Whittier home w/extra large bedroom. Next to 605/60 Fwy, next to Ca. Country Club Course. Firefighter home w/18 yo son. Excellent location & many upgrades. Fully furnished w/new Queen BD set. Use of kitchen/laundry facilities. \$500/month w/\$500 security deposit. John @ (626) 757-5341 or jgonz-zlz@hotmail.com 2/11

For Sale: Mobile Home, canyon & ocean views, San Clemente north, Orange County. Large lot, 3BD, separate dining & large living area w/views. Senior park w/pool, sauna, spa, exercise room, etc. \$299,000. Beth Larranga: rosell@caltech.edu 1/11

For Rent: 1BD/1BA front unit of 4-plex in Inglewood near Inglewood Ave/ Manchester Blvd. \$900/mo. Marco @ (310) 946-5066. 12/10

For Rent: Lovely apartment in Inglewood (4-units). 1BD/1BA, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. Upstairs unit. New paint, carpet, windows & fixtures. Very quiet. 82nd/Crenshaw. Close to public transpo. Info @ (310) 365-1868. 12/10

For Rent: Clean 2BD home w/garage. 1 block to bus stop & close to 710 freeway. \$1,500/mo. (310) 678-5510; (310) 877-2201. 12/10

Kauai: Ocean-front resort close to airport on secluded 25 acres available year round! Ocean-view from lanai. Relax at the pool or travel to snorkeling beaches (20 min.) or the island in an hour. Mention City of LA. kauaivc@gmail.com or (424) 218-6808. 12/10

For Rent: 2BD/1BA (3 Units), hardwood flrs, laundry, in Pico/Fairfax community. Lovely neighborhood centrally located. Public transportation, shopping & restaurants nearby. Info @ (310) 980-9415. 11/10

For Rent: \$695, furnished Redondo Beach bedroom in 3BD/2BA townhouse; shared bath. 1.2 mile walk to beach. Available now for a female in female household. Full house privileges, low utilities, street parking, free wifi & laundry. \$695 security deposit, 6 mo. lease. Peggy @ (310) 617-7436, for photos. 11/10

For Rent: Condo in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. 7-Day Getaway for only \$895. Has full kitchen, is a couple of blocks from town & on the beach. Info @ (562) 301-2940. 10/10



For Rent: 1 BD apt. near First/Alvarado, 10 min. from downtown, close to schools, parks, markets, stores, St. Vincent Hospital. Newly cleaned, painted & repaired, one-car garage. No pets; 1-yr. lease. \$750/month. Info @ (323) 919-1163. 10/10

For Sale: 2-story home w/hillside views, Eagle Rock. Hrdwd floors, 2-car attached garage. Upstairs: 2 BD/2 BA, living room w/fireplace, formal dining w/balcony, kitchen w/ nook. Downstairs: 2 private entrances, 2 BD/1 BA, den w/fireplace, kitchen & spacious porch. Flat front & rear yards. 2224 sq ft; 6 miles from JFB. MLS#10-473669. Susan @ (323) 344-9489. 10/10



For Rent: studio apt. in Highland Park. 5-10 mins. from Police Academy, off Pasadena Fwy. Near markets, stores, MTA and Gold Line. Courtyard. Hardwood floors, much new. Street parking. No pets; 1-yr. lease. \$700/month. Info @ (323) 919-1163. 10/10



For Rent: Condo in Palm Springs - for rent weekly or weekends. Gated community, 8 swim pools, tennis court, near shopping, restaurants & Spa Casino Resort. Rates @ (562) 301-2940. 10/10

For Rent: Spacious Townhouse in Ontario. 3 BD, 2.5 BA, dining & laundry room, & attached garage. Large enclosed outdoor patio. \$1400. Info @ (562) 322-6972. 10/10

Household Items

Mowers: 2 Hondas, 1 year old. Great condition. \$300 each. kaufmankk@verizon.net 2/11

Maytag Washer & Dryer: Top of the line, in excellent condition, \$245. Larry @ (818) 883-5870. 2/11

Leather Jacket: Brand new, 2XL, men's official #8 Team Dale Jr. Earnhardt Inc. New w/tags, retail \$300. Made by Wilson's Leather, Chase Authentics; sponsors stitched on, Budweiser, Bass Pro Shops, Gillette. \$150 OBO. Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 10/100

Kenmore Dryer: Super capacity, like new, hardly used \$150. Info @ (562) 301-2940. 10/10

Miscellaneous

Polygraph: Discount to city employees, www.ldbpolygraph.com 2/11



Ganoderma is often regarded as the King of the mushroom world, mainly because of its healing properties. Now you can enjoy a delicious and healthy drink that not only awakens and refreshes you each day but also provides long-term health benefit as well. (818) 325-5529; www.henrik.organogold.com; henodot@yahoo.com 2/11

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

MEMBERS: to place your free classified ad send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com We'll run your ad in the next available issue on a space available basis. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

Enjoy ATV & m/c riding in our area but no one to ride with? Making list of families interested in camping & riding together. Rick (DWP) @ (805)433-3195 or email: rhinohd@dslex-treme.com. 12/10

Ballroom Dancing: Beginners, intermediate & advanced. Wednesday's - 7:00pm - 9:00pm The Gallery, 122 N. Market Street, Inglewood 90301. Group workshops too! Contact: Dance instructor/coordinator Erick Weaver @ (310) 351-5303. 10/10

Scenic Flights Over LA: Fly Ricchiazzi Aviation, LLC over the city of LA for a spectacular aerial tour. See local landmarks such as Downtown LA, Dodger Stadium, Rose Bowl & much more. Based at El Monte Airport (EMT). Reserve today. (818) 415-7253. 9/10

Feng Shui onsite consultation: by retired City employee. American Feng Shui Institute certified report package include rooms, occupants, goals, health, buy/sell analysis. Peter @ (310) 854-8952. 9/10

On-site Taco Bars for your special events. Treat your guests to mouth watering tacos! Info @ (562) 884-6069 for pricing & booking. 9/10

Travel / Timeshare

Escondido Timeshare for sale. Studio suite 1 Bdrm; sleeps 4 w/ full kitchen; overlooks 18 hole golf course. \$3,000. Brad @ (626) 297- 2924. 11/09

Collectibles

ESTATE SERVICES - Appraisal or Liquidation of Fine Art, Collectibles and Coin & Stamp Collections. Michael @ (626) 592-2929.

Wanted

I purchase: Coins, Stamps, WWII Items, Hunting/ Pocket Knives, Trains, vintage tools, Fishing reels & lures, Almost anything old! Collections or single items. Michael @ (909) 592-4332 1/10

Vintage stereo/Radio equipment, Receivers. Marantz, Yamaha, etc. 1975 and older. Call (805) 300-2147 7/09

Wanted: Your Childhood Barbie Dolls and Clothes. I collect dolls from 1959 - 1966 and pay top dollar! I will buy 1 - 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases. Anything vintage Barbie! Cheryl @ (818) 771-4835.

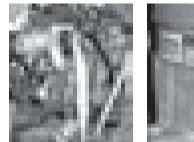
Wanted: YOUR TOY TRAINS, any age, any size. Mike @ (818)-831-0846.

Autos / Motorcycles / Boats

Mazda 626 LX: 1999, 4 door, clean interior, green color, 140,000 miles (salvage). No major accident reported, runs great, moving out of town. \$1,700. Shaq @ (404) 209-2492. (2-8pm). 2/11



Mercedes Benz C230 2005 red, automatic, power everything, perfect condition, 87,000 miles, no accidents, always garaged. \$13,499 OBO. Info @ (818) 314-2113. 2/11



Truck parts for 1995 Chevy: One air-conditioner part & one exhaust system part. If you can figure out what they are & offer a negotiable price, call Marieta @ (626) 912-6195. 1/11

1996 Oldsmobile Ciera SL: "as is", 118K miles, maroon color, V6, very clean, power windows, 4 door, tinted windows. Runs great! \$2,000 (Kelley Blue Book). Linda @ (310) 833-6801. 1/11

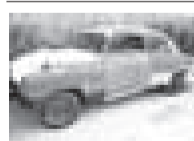
1997 Ford Mustang: Green coupe, clean beige leather interior, power windows & locks, automatic transmission, A/C c/d player w/MP3 input, well maintained, 161,500 mi. \$2,200. Art @ (626) 991-9054. 12/10



2008 Dodge Avenger: great condition, 37K miles, automatic, A/C, power windows & doors, mp3-jack, blue-tooth enabled, tinted windows, no accidents, gas-saver 4-cylinder, \$9K. Brent @ (310) 420-0092. 12/10

Motorcycle: 2005 Yamaha YZ250T1 off road bike. Seldom used, in great condition & runs perfectly. Stored inside & continually maintained. \$2,800 OBO. Gary @ (818) 522-5531. 10/10

2003 Chevy Pick Up truck : 1 ton 4 dr duramax diesel duelly allison trans 5,500 miles w/2004 lance 11 1/2 ft camper w/slideout dinette. Delia @ (562) 698-3928. 10/10



1950 Chevy Fleetline: 2 door, solid floors, straight body, no motor or transmission. All patch panels have been done. Includes seats & inner window moldings. \$2200 OBO. Everett @ (818) 339-2092. 9/10

1989 Mercedes: New tires, moon roof, \$2,300 OBO. Mr. K @ (310) 637-3949. 9/10

1966 Chevrolet C10: shortbed fleetside, wood bed floor, 235 engine, 6cyl. 4 speed on column. Rebuilt eng. w/2,000 mil. new battery. No dents, chrome rims, needs paint. \$6,000. Hugo @ (818) 361-6150. 9/10

1971 Ford Torino: good project car, needs some minor body work, in running condition, has a rebuilt 351. \$4000 OBO. Fernando @ (323) 346-7821 or (323) 222-3886. 9/10



2005 Custom Harley "Fatboy": 4,300 miles, custom paint, 95 inch w/power commander, Vance & Hines Headers, Lost of chrome & Accessories, \$15,995. Pete @ (626) 646-7285. 9/10



2006 Forest River Toy Hauler: 2 pop-outs, dual AC, generator, much more, excellent cond. \$31,500. Gerald @ (661) 948-1962. 9/10



2008 Mercedes R350, 18K miles. Like NEW, excellent condition, under warranty. Harman Kardon sound, dual-rear dvd system, moon roof, parking sensors, extras. \$36,000. Shelley @ (213) 688-3232. 9/10

Cemetery Plots

4 Cemetery plots: Reduced!!! Rose Hills, \$14,000 for 4 plots. Willing to trade for pickup truck of equal value. (323) 382-2405. 9/10

Electronics/Computers

TV: 27" Sony Trinitron, great picture. \$50 OBO. kaufmankk@verizon.net 2/11

Apple Macbook Pro: Core Duo Laptop computer. 1.83 ghz, 1.5GB RAM, 80GB HD, 15" 128VDRAM 10.5.8 OSX. Great condition, will sell for \$1,000. Orig price was \$2,500 w/upgrades. Larry @ (818) 521-3517 or trueblue22@sbcglobal.net. 12/10

Polaroid 7" LCD TV widescreen, under cabinet w/ DVD-CD player AM/FM radio & remote. \$125. Regina @ (323) 754-8382. 2/10

Canon Pixma IP 4300 Printer in box with disk/instruction & ink. Like new, asking \$60. Contact Frankie @ (818) 340-3059. 8/10

Furniture

Drawer Chest: Solid wood, 78 x 32 in. \$100 OBO. (310) 408- 6431. 2/11

Exercise Machine: Elliptical Pro-Form 15-5S, good condition, asking \$250 but will take a reasonable offer. Jaime @ (310) 955-8871. 1/11

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# City Employees Club Store

## Monthly Featured Merchandise

Available Exclusively to Club Members

### Products of the Month

<p><b>\$65</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Stainless Steel Watch</p>	<p><b>\$64.99</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Women's Classic Service Watch</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Leather Seal Wallet</p>
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### Club Accessories

<p><b>NEW</b></p> <p><b>\$5 - \$9.99</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Ceramic Mugs</p>	<p><b>\$12.99</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Stainless Steel Travel Mug</p>	<p><b>\$8</b></p> <p>City of Los Angeles with Script</p>
<p><b>SALE</b></p> <p><b>\$7</b></p> <p>City of Los Angeles Tie Bar</p>	<p><b>\$34.99</b></p> <p>City of Los Angeles Computer Bag</p>	<p><b>\$5</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Seal Key Chains</p>

### LA City Department T-Shirts

<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>ANIMAL SERVICES</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Animal Services Department</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>BOSS</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Bureau of Street Services</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>DOT</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Department of Transportation</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>LADBS</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Department of Building and Safety</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>LARD</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Housing Department</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>LAWA</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>World Airports</p>
<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>ITA</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Information Technology Department</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>HARBOR</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Harbor Department</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>G.S.D.</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>General Services Department</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>REC &amp; PARKS</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Rec &amp; Parks Department</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>LOS ANGELES CITY <b>D.P.W.</b> DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Department of Public Works</p>	<p><b>\$10</b></p> <p>City of Los Angeles Department Hats</p>

### Club Apparel

More Merchandise Selection at [www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)

<p><b>\$8.99</b></p> <p>City of Los Angeles Kids T-Shirt</p>	<p><b>\$10</b></p> <p>Women's Los Angeles City Classic T-Shirt</p>	<p><b>\$25</b></p> <p>Women's Los Angeles City Embroidered Seal Button Shirt</p>	<p><b>\$30</b></p> <p>Women's Los Angeles City Full Zip Polar Fleece</p>	<p><b>\$17.99</b></p> <p>Women's Los Angeles City Embroidered Seal Long Sleeve T-Shirt</p>	<p><b>NEW</b></p> <p><b>\$35</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Seal Heavy Sweatshirt</p>
<p><b>NEW</b></p> <p><b>\$45</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Embroidered Seal Heavy Jacket</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Classic T-Shirt</p>	<p><b>\$15</b></p> <p>DWP Classic Long Sleeve T-Shirt</p>	<p><b>NEW</b></p> <p><b>\$25</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Embroidered Seal Dress Shirt</p>	<p><b>NEW</b></p> <p><b>\$37</b></p> <p>Los Angeles City Heather Sweat Shirt</p>	<p><b>\$12</b></p> <p>DWP Seal T-Shirt</p>







# MAGIC MOUNTAIN EXCLUSIVE PARTY

**WE BOUGHT OUT THE PARK!**  
JUST FOR CITY EMPLOYEES CLUB MEMBERS & GUESTS.

**Friday  
May 13  
6pm - Midnight**

**ALL YOU CAN  
EAT & DRINK  
OPTION\***

**\$25**

**CLUB MEMBERS  
EARLYBIRD  
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**PRICE GOES UP AFTER APRIL 15TH**

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Be the first to hear about our Earlybird Special! Order your tickets today to ensure MAXIMUM SAVINGS! Ticket prices will go up after April 15th. Get your tickets now before they sell out!!

(Limited to 10 tickets per member).

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