

# Alive!

Retired LAPD Officer  
III Gerald Legaspie  
was one of 8,000 City  
Retirees personally  
contacted by the Club.

## The Club Calls



# Every Single Retiree

*'Thanks,  
Club!'*

31 callers from the Club and  
RLACEI connect with all 8,000  
Retired members personally,  
the biggest phone project  
in the Club's history.  
The message:

***You matter.***

**— SEE PAGE 8**



## 8,000 calls in 15 days!

Club Counselor Tiffany  
Sy reached out to Officer  
Legaspie as part of the proj-  
ect. Tiffany was one of 31  
callers from the Club.

Alive! photo by Juan Guerra

Cheap Tickets. Insane Service. Affordable Insurance.



Employees Club of California  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## How to Help

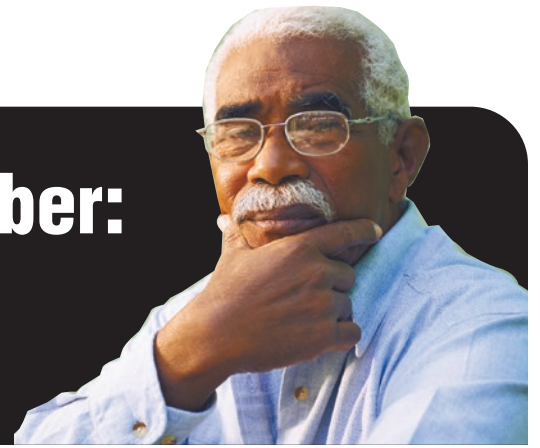
Club Angels is reaching out  
to assist City Employees in  
need. Donate if you can.



— See page 10



# The Club is telling every retired member: You matter.



## JOHN'S BLOG

by John Hawkins, President and CEO, The Club

### Working Into Month Two

How is everyone doing during the pandemic? Are you okay? Feeling a little nervous, or a lot nervous? If I know Club Members, I'm guessing that you're lending a hand or two to help the recovery in some way, either as an essential worker or in your personal life. Checking on neighbors ... calling relatives ... making masks ... that's the kind of people you are.



This essential RCTO kept working during the COVID-19 pandemic.

When something unexpected happens – you get a flat tire or you experience an earthquake, or even a global pandemic, let's just say – the initial shock stuns you. But eventually, you get on your feet and get to work making things better. The City's essential workers kicked into the hard work of helping LA recover. In this, *Alive!*'s

second month of unprecedented coverage of the coronavirus pandemic, we show some of the work you're doing for the City.

The Club, too, rolled up our sleeves to take on a project of historic scale – we paired with the RLACEI retirees association to call all 8,000 Retired Members to make sure they were okay, to get them what they needed, and to tell them in no uncertain terms that they mattered to us, and to the world. It's one of the most important projects we've ever done. Tough times can often bring out your best, and I'm proud of our team of 31 callers who over 15 days made the magic happen with some very hard work. Read about the project in this month's cover story, and then get ready to read about an even bigger project in next month's paper and Website.

**If you are experiencing hardship, please contact us. We're here for you. Write to us: [help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com)**

In this second month of the pandemic, the Club continues working hard at home for our Club

Cover photo subject Officer III Gerald Legaspie, Retired (left) and *Alive!* editor John Burnes.



Members. We're keeping up many of our essential services, and we're also looking forward to the day when we can return the others to normal – visiting with City Employees, heading out on the road with the Club Store on Wheels, cheering on Club Sports, resuming our popular social media contests, and so forth. All that will happen when the officials and the scientists tell us it's safe to proceed.

Until that time, I'm proud to report that the heartbeat of the Club – serving our Club Members – is alive and well.

Please keep your families safe. If you're an essential frontline worker, we have your back. And through all this, I still wish you a very happy spring.

—JOHN

# Send in your Father's Day tributes!



## High-Fives for Dad!

Pay tribute this Father's Day ... with a photo and message of respect, honor and love, published in *Alive!* in print and/or online.

In our June issue, we'll print a photo of you and your dad (or just your dad) ... and a two- or three-sentence message of Happy Father's Day from you. Then you can take your copy of *Alive!* and show him what he means to you.

Act quickly, as our June issue is fast approaching.

### DEADLINES:

**MAY 21:**  
published in print  
and online

**JUNE 18:**  
published online only

To submit your Father's Day tribute, go to:

[www.alive.employeesclub.com/fathersday](http://www.alive.employeesclub.com/fathersday)





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**Get more *Alive!* news at [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)**

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 Smart Move ..... Web

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**Your Fellow City Employees Need Help**

During this virus pandemic, some City Employees and their families are facing hardships. Club Angels, the charity started by staff members of the Employees Club, invites you to join our efforts to help.

**— SEE PAGE 10**

**Read *Alive!* on the Web!**

[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

**THIS MONTH ONLINE**

**John's Picture Perfect**

See the winners from this month's photo contest.



**Club Deals**

See who got a great Club deal while staying at home.



**Cooking With the Club**

A Spam recipe that's perfect for staying at home!



**It's Not Too Late ... Online!**

**Pay Tribute to Your Mom**

There's still time to pay tribute to your mom this Mother's Day ... with a photo and message of lifelong love, published in *Alive!* – online and on the Club's social media channels.

**Deadline: May 7. Hurry!**

**To submit, go to:** [alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday](http://alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday)





# Alive! is now its own Website ...

Yes! *Alive!* is now a great new Website ... and a streamlined, more portable version of the paper you've come to know and love, delivered to your door!

**GO TO: [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)**

## The Club: Here to Help

Club 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.

### Email us at:

[help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com)

if you have an event you want an event covered in *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance.

Or call us at: (800) 464-0452

### In-house Counselors

#### At Club Headquarters



**MaryAnn Urdiales**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 159



**Cheryl Martin**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 136

#### At the Club Store



**Tiffany Sy**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 202

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## LAPD

# Thanks, Dispatchers!

LAPD hosts local celebration of National Dispatchers Week during the coronavirus emergency.

The LAPD celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week – popularly known as National Dispatchers Week – April 12-18, honoring its dispatchers with ceremonies and honors. There were no open houses at the Valley and Metro Communication Centers, as City facilities are closed to outsiders during the pandemic.

In 1992, President George H. Bush established National Dispatchers' Week to honor police dispatchers for providing vital emergency services to their community nationwide. The LAPD has been celebrating it ever since.

Usually, the Club celebrates National Dispatchers Week. But because of COVID-19, the event been less public. The Club, honoring Safer at Home, was not able to join some of our favorite Club Members during this annual celebration honoring them.

Instead, we'll borrow from LAPD Communications Division's social media feeds, plus we'll include images organized by PSR Jean Sarfaty, Club Member.

Thanks, Dispatchers, for all you do to keep us safe!



National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week: April 12th - April 18th, 2020, recognizes the first of the first responders! Always heard but never seen. Your dedication does not go unnoticed, especially during these unprecedented times. Thank you to our heroes in headsets.

— LAPD Communications Division, April 12 (taken pre-pandemic)



Norma Espinoza-Cato, Administrative Employee of the Year, with Chief Michel Moore.



Monica De La Torre, PSR 3 of the Year, with Chief Michel Moore left



Sgt. Alex Peraza, Sworn Supervisor of the Year (right), with Chief Michel Moore.



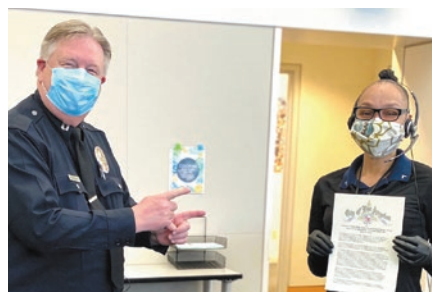
Michelle Gonzaga, PSR 2 of the Year, with Chief Michel Moore.



Frank Duarte, Administrative Employee of the Year (right), with Chief Michel Moore.



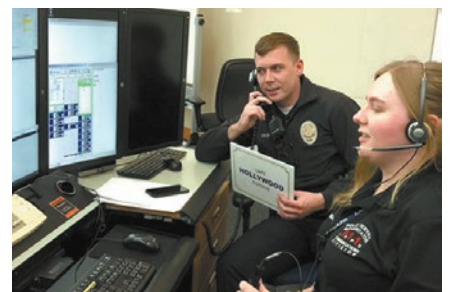
From left: Chief Michel Moore and Sgt. Alex Peraza demonstrate the new greeting method – elbows. Chief Michel Moore.



"Assistant Chief B. Girmala visited Communications Division today and presented the Humanitarian Award to PSR 3 Ariana Jordan-White and Police Officer of the Year Award to P3 Rosheen Rosenblum (while maintaining social distance practices, of course)." LAPD Communications Division, April 15



Tracy Beverly, Sr. PSR of the Year, with Chief Michel Moore.



"Today marks the first day of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week! It's often forgotten that behind the radio of our Officers, there are men & women working 24/7 to direct us and keep us safe. Thank you all! (And yes this photo was taken pre #COVID19!!)" LAPD Hollywood Division, April 12



Larry Gates, PSR 3 of the Year.



Josh Peer, Sr. PSR of the Year.



"It's National Dispatchers Week, and I'm proud to be a 911 dispatcher for LAPD. #NPSTW #NPSTW2020" Stephanie Burkhart, Club Member, retweeted by LAPD Communications Division, April 14

"As we continue National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, we celebrate Thank a Dispatcher Tuesday. Ask how you can join our team! #NPSTW #NPSTW2020" LAPD Communications Division, April 14 (taken pre-pandemic)



**CORONAVIRUS**

# A Reflection

## Bobby the Brave

by Ben Alirez



**Ben Alirez**, who retired from the DWP in July 2018 with 33 years of City service, has focused on developing his creative writing. “I’ve always loved to write,” he tells *Alive!* He’s been working on a two-part young-adult novel about a young boxer struggling with the loss of his brother, and co-authored a young adult novel, “Brothers in Arms,” in 2004. He also contributes to a writing club in the Inland Empire. “I write what’s on my heart at the time they occur,” he tells us. “With this crazy pandemic, I was moved to bring some levity to the circumstances.”

Ben submitted the following, and we reprint it here. Thanks, Ben!

**“And so this verse in Ephesians tells us to put on the full armor of God,” Grandpa explained, “and to be strong in the Lord and His mighty power.”**

As the older gentleman looked over at his precious grandson, he noticed the undeniable anxiety and fear on his face. “What’s the matter, Bobby? You didn’t like the message I read?”

The young child shrugged in sadness.

“What is it, little guy?”

“I’m scared, Grandpa,” he admitted. “I saw the news when I was eating my cereal.”

The elderly man grinned in understanding, scratching his head some. “Can I let you in on a little secret?”

The boy’s eyes were wide as saucers. “Uh-huh.”

The grandfather leaned in close. “Now don’t you go tellin’ Grammy,” he whispered, “but I’m a little scared, too.”

“Really?”

“Well sure. You wanna know why?”

The boy nodded.

“Cause it’s natural to be scared about something we don’t understand.”

“Ohh.”

“But you know what else?”

The boy shook his head this time.

“There are very smart people working in Los Angeles to fix this whole thing. And I have a good feeling they’re gonna figure it out pretty soon.”

“So what do we do then?” asked Bobby.

“What we’re doing now,” Grandpa confirmed.

“Spend time together. Practice this thing they call physical distancing.”

“I don’t know what that means, Grandpa. I just feel like I’m on the biggest timeout ever.”

The grandfather laughed at the notion. “Yup, that’s pretty much what it is, Bobby.”

Bobby’s eyebrows furrowed as another thought crossed his mind. “And Jasmine and Lizzy said

there’s cooties everywhere.”

Grandpa crossed his arms out front. “That’s about right too. Some people are getting sick. Some real, real sick.”

“You mean, like cooties are fer real? Like at my school when a girl touches me?”

The grandfather suppressed a laugh. Instead, a wistful smile stretched across his face. He couldn’t help but rejoice at the innocence of youth and days when life was so much simpler. “I got a feeling you might feel differently in a few years, but you got the general idea. No, what we’re talking about here are super cooties, and near as they can tell, they mostly affect grammies and grandpas and people who are not as strong as they used to be. Not so much kiddos like you or strong people like your mommy and daddy.”

The boy’s head tilted to one side. “So why does everybody have to stay home from school then? Well, not Joey. He lives next door and he’s home schooled.”

“Well ... because the super cooties are real sneaky like, you see, and they can hide on people and they might not even know it. Then, when the cooties see a person with white or grey hair—or no hair like me—they jump out and cause lots of problems. But ... if we don’t go out unless we absolutely have to, we might not ever get the cooties.”

“Oh.” Suddenly the grandchild looked all about him in confusion. Not satisfied, he pulled on the collar of his shirt and looked down at his chest and stomach.

Grandpa shook his head, himself confused. “What’s happening here?”



“I’m making sure they’re not hiding on me,” the boy said sternly. “I don’t want them jumping on you, Grandpa.”

“I appreciate that, Bobby,” he chuckled.

“Say, I’ll be r-i-g-h-t back.” The boy raced out of the room and bounded back in seconds—this time adorned in a plastic helmet, sword, and shield. A look of conviction was on his face.

Grandpa raised an eyebrow. “Whoa, watcha got there?”

“It’s my armor!”

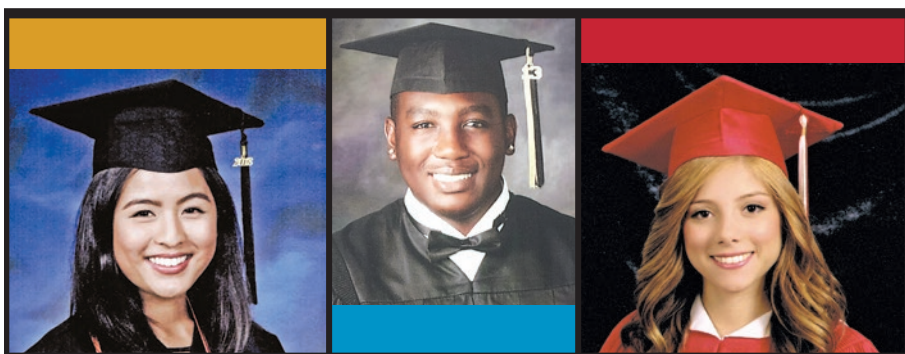
“I can see that. What’s it for?”

“For fighting super cooties. I’m gonna be brave and strong for you, Grandpa, just like the verse in, uh, seasons says.”

The grandfather was moved deeply by his grandson. He extended his arms out and the child fell into them.

“I love you, Bobby Boy.”

“I love you too, Grandpa. Say, how would you like to be my horsey?”



## Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

**Club members:** Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school... high school... or college? Send us a photo, and we’ll publish it in *Alive!*

**Make sure you tell us:**

- The name of the graduate.
- The school from which they graduated. If a college, tell us their major.
- Their future plans (briefly)
- The name and department of the Club member they’re related to, and how they are related



To send a digital photo and your message, go to: [alive.employeesclub.com/graduations](http://alive.employeesclub.com/graduations)

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cmartin@employeesclub.com  
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# 2020 DWP Retiree Campout

Tue., Sept. 29 – Tue., Oct. 6



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## CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the Employees Club of California

# We'll Be Back!

Missing Club Sports? So are we! We'll be back when masking up, putting on the gloves, flattening the curve and being safe at home are about softball, not battling the pandemic!

Seriously, though ... Club Members have written the Sports Dude (also known as Club COO Robert Larios) asking if there will still be a Club Sports League when the City opens up again.

Yes indeed! We love celebrating your lives, and Club Sports is a great way to do that.

So for now, sit tight. Essential workers, keep doing your thing, and others, please stay safe with your family at home.

Until then, enjoy some softball and basketball photos from previous years.

See you again when all this clears!



### SOFTBALL PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK!

The Club has hundreds of great action shots from this season and last on our Facebook page, and a season video on the Club's YouTube channel. Enjoy!

**Read  
Alive!  
on the  
Web!**



[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

## United Agencies Inc. INSURANCE

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# Life's Share Your Life's Moments Important Moments

Submit digital photos and text online:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments](http://alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments)

## Retirements

## Graduations

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City this month. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Allen, Scott Paul	Sr. Equip. Mechanic	LAPD	29	Lemus, Sergio A.	Painter	Rec and Parks	30
Andrews, Amel	Maint. Laborer	Public Works	13	Lesel, Dov S.	Asst. City Attorney	City Attorney	45
Angeles, Eduardo A.	Sr. Asst. City Att.	City Attorney	17	Lewis, Monica L.	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	35
Anthony, Mary Lee	Admin. Clerk	Public Works	28	Lewis, Russell B.	Mgr.	Airports	37
Arden, Thomas R.	Shift Sup. Wastewater Treat.	Public Works	33	Lewis Jr., Rayfield	Refuse Coll. Truck Dr.	Public Works	32
Arora, Ved	Power Trans.	DWP	N/D	Lontok, Ignacio Z.	Env. Compliance Insp.	Public Works	24
Avila, Joseph	General Mgr. Office	DWP	N/D	Loy, Randall	Power Trans.	DWP	N/D
Ballin, Mario	Maint. Sup.	Rec and Parks	30	Lujan Stresak, Sandra	Admin. Coordinator	City Attorney	20
Baluyot, Dennis	ITS	DWP	N/D	Luna, Frank	Metering Services	DWP	N/D
Barraza, Rosemarie I.	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	LAFD	32	Marlow, Charles	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D
Barrett, Steven F.	St. Services Sup.	Public Works	31	Martin III, Reginald W.	Wastewater Treat. Op.	Public Works	12
Beatty, Anna	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Martinescu, Ionela	Gardener Caretaker	Airports	14
Bell, Martha Laura	Prog./Analyst	ITA	33	Marzett, Wayland Kirk	Wastewater Coll.Sup.	Public Works	33
Benavidez, Lora	Exec. Admin. Asst.	LAFD	30	Massabki, Raffi A.	Civil Engineer	Public Works	35
Bermudez, Rafael	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	6	McCormick, Brian	Wastewater Mgr.	Public Works	31
Bernal, Manuel	Director	Housing	10	McCray, Cynthia	Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	38
Bernal, Robert I	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Housing	34	Mcandrews, Jacqueline	Sr. Police Service Rep	LAPD	32
Boose Marchman, Diane	Police Service Rep	LAPD	30	McCollum, Ronald	Traf. Mark/Sign Supt.	Transportation	35
Botnik, Michael	ITS	DWP	N/D	Mendivil, Edward	Traffic Off.	Transportation	25
Braden, Teresa A.	Airport Guide	Airports	6	Metzler, Janet	Sr. Librarian	Library	44
Bruce, Roger L.	Bldg. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	33	Miller, Dennis Earl	Plumber Sup.	Airports	14
Burris, Bert W.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	14	Miranda, Salvador	Refuse Coll.Truck Op.	Public Works	31
Buchanan, Lawrence	Power Trans.	DWP	N/D	Mitchell, Edward J.	Sr. Electrical Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	31
Cao, Pascal Lon Thanh	Air Cond. Mech. Sup.	Gen. Services	19	Mok, Bruce	Environ. Engineer	Public Works	33
Carandang, Raul	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D	Moody, Carol L.	Secretary	Airports	31
Carlos, Jose Trinidad	Comm. Electrician	LAFD	33	Moore, David Phillip	Automotive Sup.	LAPD	28
Carlos, Marinela	ITS	DWP	N/D	Moshkar, Mehrdad	Transportation Eng.	Transportation	30
Casey, Thomas	Power Planning	DWP	N/D	Munoz, Patricia	Personnel Records Supv.	Personnel	33
Catalano, Jeffrey	Environ. Spec.	Public Works	17	Murphy, Margaret A.	Pr. Librarian	Library	22
Chan, Linda Y.	Admin. Clerk	Library	32	Murray, Thomas Dinh	Sr. Wastewater Treat. Op.	Public Works	13
Chavez, Roberto P.	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	LAFD	12	Myers, Randy	Water Operations	DWP	N/D
Clark, David	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Nakamoto, Taiji	Sr. Gardener	Airports	34
Clark, Derrick D.	St. Services Worker	Public Works	19	Nguyen, Sohn Truong	Sr. Systems Analyst	ITA	30
Coleman, John H.	Bldg. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	31	Ortega Alvarez, Maria	Custodian	Airports	15
Cooke, Allen D.	Tree Surgeon Sup.	Public Works	42	Otero, Henry	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D
Crowder, Diana	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	12	Park, James	Power Planning	DWP	N/D
Culpepper, Gregory L.	Equip. Mechanic	Gen. Services	29	Payne, Ralph	Power Supply	DWP	N/D
Davis, Paul	Environ. Sup.	Rec and Parks	20	Pointer, Diana Michelle	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Fire/Police Pen.	32
Dawson, Ga Von Elaine	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	30	Posten, George	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D
De Anda, Elizabeth	Exe. Admin. Asst.	LAFD	39	Pusateri, Doreen M.	St. Services Invest.	Public Works	36
De Luna, Patricia	Sr. Legal Asst.	City Attorney	32	Quebec, Celestina	Council Aide	Council	17
Devera, Mary Jean C.	Sr. Sys. Analyst	Public Works	40	Quenon, Loretta M.	Chief Mgmt. Analyst	Gen. Services	25
Dizon, Ernie Quizon	Accounting Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	13	Rak, Zdzislaw	Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	25
Dolliole, Troy	St. Services Super.	Public Works	36	Ramirez, Richard L.	Drill Rig Operator	Gen. Services	34
Donohue, Marissa F.	Secretary	Personnel	38	Reed, Gregory M.	Detention Off.	LAPD	30
Drake, Terry V.	Masonry Worker	Rec and Parks	30	Reinosa, Adan	Budgets/Fin. Planning	DWP	N/D
Eder, Darrel	Power Trans.	DWP	N/D	Rendon, Frank David	Constr./Maint. Supv.	Harbor	30
Eder, David J.	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Eco/Wrkfr. Dev.	30	Rodarte, Guadalupe N.	Comm. Exec. Asst.	Empl. Relations Bd.	36
Ellis, George Bernard	Refuse Coll.Truck Op.	Public Works	31	Rodas, Julio Ibarra	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	5
Evans, Percy	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Romero, Raul Saldana	Park Services Attend.	Rec and Parks	6
Farrell, Thomas	Power Constr.	DWP	N/D	Rozak, Bruce A.	Building Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	30
Fernandez, Jose Luis	Mech. Helper	Public Works	31	Ruiz, Federico	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	26
Fisher, Gilbert	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	S. Catanzarite, Estella	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Eco/Wrkfr. Dev.	33
Fong, May K.	Secretary	Public Works	34	Salaices, Joe D.	Supt. of Operations	Rec and Parks	37
Formanes, Ernesto	ITS	DWP	N/D	Samarini, Debra Lynn	Sr. Storekeeper	Gen. Services	32
Frost, Steve	Power Trans.	DWP	N/D	Samonte, Romulo S.	Structural Eng.Assoc.	Public Works	26
Garcia, Marc	Real Estate	DWP	N/D	Sandoval, Carmelina	Human Resources	DWP	N/D
Gatchalian, Romulo Lopez	Sr. Accountant	Gen. Services	14	Santiago, Victoria A.	Chief Accountant	Public Works	25
Gonzalez, John	Business Support	DWP	N/D	Sarni, Olivia Ann	Custodian	Gen. Services	16
Graham, Lisa	Customer Billing	DWP	N/D	Sarullo, Michael J.	Pr. Civil Engineer	Public Works	30
Griffin, Errol A.	Sr. Labor Rel. Spec.	CAO	19	Satake, Eiko	Pr. Tax Compliance Off.	Finance	30
Gropp, Kevin D.	Helicopter Mech.	Gen. Services	27	Sheldon, Thomas	Power New Business	DWP	N/D
Grube, Gloria Esperanza	Police Admin.	LAPD	41	Sherick-Bright, Angela	Admin. Asst.	Gen. Services	34
Gurrea, Mediatrix A.	Legal Secretary	City Attorney	18	Shrikian, Zohrab	Sr. Systems Analyst	Public Works	30
Gutierrez, Camille	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Strub, Robert	Water Operations	DWP	N/D
Herr, Jeffrey A.	Arts Mgr.	Cultural Affairs	29	Stuart, Demetra Kaye	Admin. Clerk	Airports	15
Hess, Marc	Mech. Repairer	Rec and Parks	32	Supernor, Martha E.	Special Investigator	Personnel	8
Hirschhoff, Jeffrey M.	Equip. Mechanic	Gen. Services	29	Tamimi, Belal Bassam	Environ. Eng.Assoc.	Public Works	28
Hollinshead, Michelle	Police Service Rep	LAPD	30	Terry, Mike	Energy Distribution	DWP	N/D
Howard, Thomas E.	Airport Police Off.	Airports	30	Thomas, Craig Steven	Security Off.	LAPD	19
Humphrey, Michael	Sr. Systems Analyst	LAPD	21	Thorsell, Jeffrey R.	Sheet Metal Worker	Gen. Services	30
Ibarra, Elsa Margaret	Ch. Election Clerk	City Clerk	3	Tilley, Robert L.	Admin. Clerk	Airports	15
Irani, Mehino A.	Child Care Director	Rec and Parks	27	Torres, Martha	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	31
Isjp, Sonia Garcia	Accounting Clerk	Public Works	30	Trumpler, David	Power Constr.	DWP	N/D
Jackson, Dylan	St. Services Sup.	Public Works	36	Tuttle, Richard	Water Operations	DWP	N/D
James, Brenda	Customer Service	DWP	N/D	Valensi, James E.	Boat Captain	Harbor	17
Jancu, Marie Angela	Legal Asst.	City Attorney	11	Van Eps, John Arthur	Equipment Mechanic	Gen. Services	25
Jiron, Robert S.	Wastewater Coll. Wrk	Public Works	29	Varalayay, James L.	Systems Analyst	Public Works	25
Johnson, August L.	Sr. Traffic Sup.	Transportation	31	Vasquez, Frank	Maint. & Constr. Helper	Gen. Services	14
Jones, Timothy	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Vega, Steven	Sup.	Public Works	18
Kaliniecki, Antoni	Mech. Eng.Assoc.	Public Works	29	Villegas, Robert C.	Air Conditioning Mech.	Rec and Parks	30
Keen, Donald	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Walker, Marlene L.	Recreation Asst.	Rec and Parks	6
Khemalaap, Suchitra	Accounting	DWP	N/D	Wang, Thomas S.	Systems Programmer	Airports	30
Kinoshita, Rose S.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Harbor	36	Welling, Kent W.	Civil Engineer	Public Works	30
Kitchens, Charles	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D	Williams, Eldora E.	Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	34
Kutas, Michael	Constr. Insp.	Public Works	20	Williams, Richard E.	Legislative Asst.	City Clerk	32
Lacount, Frankie M.	Refuse Coll.Truck Op.	Public Works	25	Winfrey, Gregory	Sr. Security Off.	Airports	16
Lanyan, Martin Kian	Mat. Test Eng. Assoc.	Gen. Services	10	Woldemariam, Tsegalem	Development Off.	Housing	20
Laroux, Thomas P.	Plumber	Public Works	33	Woods, Brenda K.	Wrks. Comp. Claims Asst.	Personnel	20
Latier, Sam D.	Admin. Clerk	Library	12	Wu, Deng Fu	Systems Programmer	Harbor	20
Lau, Wai Kwong	Office Eng.Tech.	Bldg. & Safety	33	Yoshimura, Dan Akira	Director	Personnel	34
Law, David T.	Systems Analyst	Housing	17	Yu, Stanley Fun	Rehab. Constr. Spec.	Housing	18
Lee, Suet Har Anita	Systems Analyst	Council	30	Zamora, Patricia A.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	42

N/D = not disclosed



**Karah Wiseman** graduated from Cal State Bakersfield, majoring in liberal studies with a concentration in diversity. She plans to pursue a career in construction management. She's starting with Hensel Phelps as a field engineer and is the granddaughter of **Dale Roll, Retired, DWP.**



**Andrew Burkhardt** graduated from Valencia High School in Santa Clarita. He's an Eagle Scout and plans to attend the College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita majoring in theatre arts and technology. He's the son of **Stephanie Burkhardt, LAPD/Communications.**



**Shawn Lamont Jackson Jr.** graduates from Venice High School this spring. He plans to continue his education in the fall at Santa Monica College, majoring in sociology. He's the son of **April L. Davis, DWP,** and grandson of **Phyllis M. Massey, Retired, Airports.**

## In Memoriam

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

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
<b>Active</b>					
Duarte, Kenny	Rec and Parks	N/D	Gerola, Christian	N/D	N/D
Hanson, James	Rec and Parks	15	Gomez, Damian	Convention Ctr.	10
Moreno, Adan	Public Works	6	Grady, Daryl	DWP	35
<b>Retired</b>			Hager, Dorothy	DWP	13
Alvarado, Gloria	N/D	N/D	Hei, Yu Yu	DWP	21
Anderson, Sven	DWP	26	Higa, Bob	DWP	34
Aubry, Cheryl	Housing	26	Howe, Terry	DWP	39
Aquino, Lamberto	LAPD	34	Ishihara, James	DWP	17
Baker, Harold	N/D	N/D	James, Ira	Transportation	1
Baquet, Dean	DWP	31	Johnson, Michael	Public Works	37
Barba, Gil	N/D	N/D	Jordan, Percy	N/D	N/D
Bennett, Irene	N/D	N/D	Klink, Richard	Rec and Parks	36
Breaux, John	DWP	32	Kim, Jay	DWP	30
Briscoe, James	DWP	36	Krottinger, Nathan	N/D	N/D
Burke, David	DWP	33	Lindsey, Clarence	DWP	27
Cole, Donald	DWP	32	Luna, Elvera	LAPD	26
Collins, Richard	DWP	29	Mitchell, Martin	N/D	N/D
Colpitts, John	DWP	14	Morehead, Daniel	LAPD	17
Crawford, Barbara	N/D	N/D	Moreno, Olivia	Airports	12
Culotta, Albert	DWP	21	Mortensen, Robert	DWP	24
Donaldson, Charles	DWP	31	Myers, Julian	N/D	N/D
Donina, Levio	DWP	28	Norris, William	N/D	N/D
Duncan, Darlene	N/D	N/D	Oliver, Elliott	DWP	32
Fancher, Gerald	DWP	13	O'Toole, Edward	DWP	31
Fooks, Barbara	DWP	29	Phillips, John	N/D	N/D
			Pierre, Don	N/D	N/D
			Polkinghorne, Warren	DWP	32
			Powell, James	N/D	N/D
			Purser, David	N/D	N/D
			Rice, Otholean	N/D	N/D
			Roth, Charles	DWP	22
			Russ, Harold	DWP	16
			Sanchez, Edward	City Attorney	11
			Shoemaker, Dorothy	N/D	N/D
			Sies, Patricia	N/D	N/D
			Singleton, Charlene	Public Works	30
			Smith, Joe	DWP	35
			Smith, Sherian	Public Works	12
			Smurr, Raymond	DWP	38
			St. Amant, John	DWP	18
			Tillman, Donald	N/D	N/D
			Thigpen, Jerry	DWP	31
			Thompson, Lillian	DWP	36
			Trejo, Ricardo	Gen. Services	11
			Villareal, Daniel	N/D	N/D
			Walters, Rita	Council	13
			Weintraub, Emma	N/D	N/D
			Westbrooke, James	Public Works	16
			Wethington, Matthew	DWP	28
			Wharton, Charles	DWP	30
			White, Kenneth	N/D	N/D
			Wight, Paul	DWP	35
			Williams, Keith	N/D	N/D
			Won, Eugene	N/D	N/D

N/D = not disclosed

## Share Your Life's Moments

Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details to:

[alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments](http://alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments)





## The Club

# Every Retir



### Joe Bradley, Retired

Here's Joe Bradley, with rice and beans delivered by Club Store Manager Lupe Lira. (Lupe set down the rice and beans and then stepped back so that she could maintain six feet of social distancing.)

### The Club and RLACEI complete their historic Club 'Care Calls' to every single Retired member individually.

What began as a response to public comments in the media that reduced the lives of seniors to an economic equation has now become Club history.

Club CEO John Hawkins heard those comments and was upset. In response he wanted to reach out to every single Retired Member to let

them know that they matter. Club staff and the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) quickly got on board, and the phone calling and personal outreach started in a project called Club "Care Calls."

The phone calls to reach all (approximately) 8,000 Retired members began in late March and were completed in mid-April. Club "Care Calls" was the biggest one-on-one outreach in the Club's history.

"It's the biggest, most ambitious outreach in the Club's 92-year history to our beloved Retired Club Members," said Club CEO John Hawkins. "And yet it's also our most personal. Our Retirees matter to

### William Lillenberg, Retired, Planning



When *Alive!* visited with William for photographs (and kept six feet away due to social distancing), William said, "Wow, you came out to see me."

"I don't need anything. My family takes care of me and brings me anything I need. But not everybody has family like I do. It's good to check."

William has quite a City family – two sons, Kevin and Mark, are Retired from the LAFD; one daughter, Amy, is Retired from the LAPD. A grandson, Joshua, is a current LAFD Captain.

"Thank you for coming out to see me."

### Vivian Reyes, Retired

Vivian was extremely joyful that the Club call wasn't a solicitor looking to bait her into coronavirus telemarketing donation.

"Well, since you asked," she said, "do you have any See's Candies in the backroom? I'd love some." The Club sent her some See's Candies.

### Ava Stevens, Retired

Ava was beyond happy to hear from the Club when we called. "Thank you for taking the time to call," she said. "I wasn't aware how much the Club cared, and I look forward to hearing from you again."

### Officer III Gerald Legaspie, Retired, LAPD

"Thanks for coming down," Officer Gerald Legaspie said as *Alive!* arrived (and kept our distance) to photograph him outside his house. He was glad the Club had called all Retirees to check on them, and to see if they needed anything.

"I was surprised that anyone would call, but it was good to hear from the Club," he said. "They asked how I was doing, and if I needed anything. I'm doing okay." Officer Legaspie requested a few small things, and the Club delivered them.

"It was very nice of you to call. It was a really great project."





# ee Matters

Below: Club Counselors Tiffany Sy (left) and Dalila Vielma were among the 31 Club staff members who contacted 8,000 Retired Club Members in 15 days. Amazing!



**8,000 calls in 15 days!**

us, to the City and to the world. We wanted our Retired members to know that.

“The stories and reactions we heard from our seniors were moving to me and to all of us.”

Club callers also asked what the seniors needed immediately. In response, the Club arranged for and sent necessities including paper towels, toilet paper, facemasks, tissues, candy, groceries, beans, rice, ramen, and many other items.

“Looking back on it, it was one of

our most important projects ever,” Hawkins continued. “As we said in every phone call, thanks for being part of the Club family.”

Retired Club Members who

require immediate assistance can reach our callers at [help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com) (If it’s an emergency, dial 9-1-1).

**Below are just some of the comments we’ve received. Comments of a more personal nature, and there were many, are being kept confidential.**

## Meet the CALLERS

Here’s a list of the Club staff who called all 8,000 Retired members to check on them. The project, which was accomplished in 15 days, was the biggest outreach in the Club’s history.

Gedina Bergstrom

Edith Bon

Megan Eckert

Isabel Fernandez

Clara Flores

Jeanette Gadut

Mariana Guevara

Natalia Guevara

Hannah Hawkins

Isaiah Hawkins

Noah Hawkins

Arlene Herrero

Noelle Kauffman

Lupe Lira

Marcus Martin

Genesis Martinez

Ezequiel Martinez

Danny McAlinden

Irene Mendez

Monique Mendez

Jacob Mendez

Dylan Noel

Aidan Sewell

Tiffany Sy

Sierra Thompson

DeAngelo Thompson

Leigh Thompson

Mary Ann Urdiales

Dalila Vielma

Monica Zamudio

Angelica Zapata-Monge

# Thanks, callers!

### Coming Next Month:

### Calling All Members!

This just in – with the successful completion of the Club “Care Calls” project – calling all Retirees – the Club has just embarked on an even bigger project. The Club has begun calling all 50,000 active Club Members, individually, to see how you’re doing and what you might need. (Maybe you’re already gotten all call.)

— We’ll have more about this project in the next *Alive!*



**Christy Sherrod, Retired, DWP**

“I was really surprised then I received the call. I appreciate the call so much. Thank you.”

*Posted on the Club’s Facebook page. Pictured (above) with Club COO Roibert Larios.*

### Bob Cutler, Retired, Public Works

“I was surprised to get the phone call,” Bob said. “A good surprise. I’m thankful that the Club did not forget about me. It’s not a bad idea to see if we’re still alive!”

Bob volunteers locally in the South Bay to help people prepare for job interviews. He says his volunteering project is on hold right now because of the pandemic, but he hopes to get back to volunteering soon.

“*Alive!* is my best connection to the City,” he says. “It keeps me in touch. So thanks for doing that.”

Because of the phone call, “I’m glad to know that somebody knows I’m out here,” he continued. “Keep doing that. My retirement (income) is enough, but not for everyone. They need the Club.”

### Alvin Williams, Retired, LAFD Truck Operator

“Thanks for thinking of me,” says Alvin Williams, who retired in 1987. “Getting your call was a good surprise!”

“Nobody else (outside his family) has called to see if I was okay. I feel good about your call. It’s nice to have that help.”

“Thanks for thinking of me. I’m glad you didn’t forget about me.”

### Firefighter Carla Chatman,

Retired, LAFD

“Sounds like a care package!” Carla said to Club Counselor Dylan Noel. “I was happy you weren’t a telemarketer trying to sell me a COVID-19 survivor kit.”

Carla had all the essential supplies and didn’t need anything at the moment. “I’m healthy and making my daily runs to the grocery store masked up, gloved up looking like a bandit during senior hours!”

“I am doing well. I am so happy you called me.”



**Nancy Hammoudian, Retired**

“I just want to say thank you for receiving a phone call to check on all of us,” Nancy wrote. “That was so nice!”

“Secondly, I am enjoying receiving *Alive!* every month. I really like that you are mailing out the paper. It’s much easier for me to read as a hard copy than on my iPad.

“I also just wanted to submit a photo of me enjoying the paper while following Mayor Garcetti’s Stay at Home orders in my backyard, which I refer to as El Patio Glen in Valley Glen, Calif.

“Thank you for all your kindness, discounts, news and a great *Alive!* newspaper.”



## THANK YOU!

Here are two ways you can give back, by sharing your story and by donating to help your fellow City Employees:

# Share

## Share Your Story

The Club wants to know how you're keeping the City safe during this historic moment of fighting COVID-19, the coronavirus.

**What's your story?** What are you doing (or have done) to keep the City running? It could be part of your team's emergency response, or your emergency duty, or your personal stories. It's all important.

**Please share with us:**

- your dept./division's emergency duties
- your emergency duties
- your personal stories

We'll publish your eyewitness account and your stories in *Alive!* in print and online, and in the Club's social media. We're recording your extraordinary efforts for all time.

Nobody else is telling your stories like the Club will. We've got your back.

**To share your story, go here:**

[aliveemployeesclub.com/covid-19-stories-form-city-dwp](http://aliveemployeesclub.com/covid-19-stories-form-city-dwp)

# Give

## Your Fellow City Employees Need Help

During this virus pandemic, some City Employees and their families are facing hardships. Club Angels, the charity started by staff members of the Employees Club, invites you to join our efforts to help.

"Club Members have been very generous since we launched this campaign," said Arlene Herrero, Club Angels President. "But we know there are a lot of Club Members who are hurting at this time, and we're in touch with many of them. We encourage anyone to give -- even a \$10 donation helps as these add up. So far, help has been provided to employees coming from Library, Transportation, LAPD, Harbor, Airports, Rec and Parks, Personnel, DWP, Building and Safety, LACERS and General Services.

"On behalf of all those we've



already helped, and those we will in the future, I say thank you."

We encourage City Employees and everyone to contribute to the Club Angels fund we've set up through its GoFundMe page. Donations go to City Employees in need; Club Angels and the Employees Club earn nothing from the transaction. Donations might be tax deductible; consult your tax professional.

**Please be generous.**

**Go to: [ClubAngels.org](http://ClubAngels.org)**



"We stay home for family."  
Mikayla Sprague, Data Processing Coordinator, and Alan Bound, Business Analyst



"We stay home for healthcare workers."  
Citlali Bon IT Coordinator, and Edith Bon-Sanchez, Data Processing Coordinator



"I stay home for my elderly relatives and all of those who are still out there providing us with necessities!"  
Danny McAlinden, Sr. Accountant



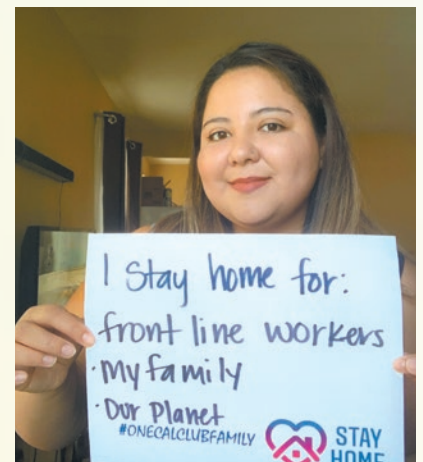
"We stay home for our mom (Nani), who turns 87 today! Happy birthday, Rosalia!"  
Madeline Ramirez, Retired, DWP, posted the photo (above) of her mother, Rosalia Lopez Torresola, to the Club's Facebook page."



"We stay ... home for ... family."  
Genesis Martinez-Flores, Customer Service Rep (from left); Angelica Zapata-Monge, Customer Service Rep; Megan Eckert, Tickets and Benefits Procurement Associate; and Rebecca Debolt, Data Processing Coordinator.



"I stay home to flatten the curve."  
Kelley Hawkins, wife of Club CEO John Hawkins



"I stay home for front-line workers, my family and our planet."  
Guadalupe Lira, Club Store Manager



"I stay at home for the vulnerable population."  
Aidan Sewell, Customer Service Rep



"I stay home for the world."  
Monica Zamudio, Claims Administrator





# The Club Works From Home

We know many Club Members are considered essential workers and have continued working from your regular workplace. We honor you! Other City employees are able to work from home.

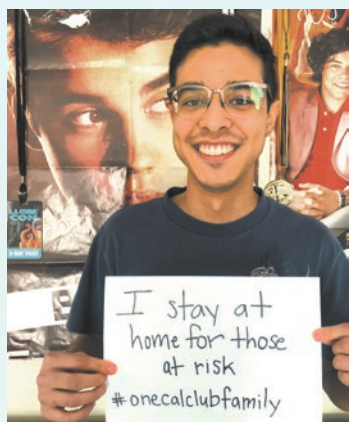
Under the City's Safer at Home order, the Club immediately closed the headquarters and physical Club Store downtown and continued to work at home.

On social media, Club employees declared who they're staying home for. Here are some of their portraits.

**Families of Club Members, feel free to post your own with the hashtag #OneCalClubFamily**



"I stay home so one day we can leave our house again!"  
Summy Lam, Director of Marketing



"I stay home for those at risk."  
Jacob Mendez, Customer Service Rep



"I stay home for my grandmother."  
Arlene Herrero, Vice President of Business Development



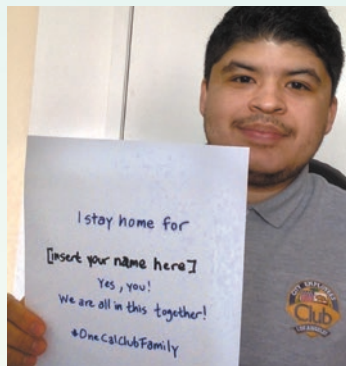
"I stay home for my best friend who is immuno-compromised."  
Isaiah Hawkins, Customer Service Rep



"I stay home for Club Members."  
Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer



"I stay home for humanity!"  
DeAngelo Thompson, Club on Wheels



"I stay home for [insert your name here]. Yes, we are all in this together!"  
Ronald Cortez, Assistant Quality Assurance Analyst



"I stay home for the love of my family, and our family nurses."  
Cheryl Martin, Club Counselor



## Caring for Club Members

Here are some ways the Club has your back during these uncertain times.

### Insurance Premiums

If for any reason you have a hardship paying your Club Life Insurance, Long Term Care, Long Term Disability, or any other Club-related premiums, please contact us immediately at **(800) 464-0452 x 121** or at **help@employeesclub.com**

### Insurance Claims

The Club's claims department is available by phone and through email to help you complete your claim. If you have the Club's Group Rated Life Insurance, Long Term Disability, Long Term Care, Accident, or any other Club insurance product, please **contact Monica Zamudio at (800) 464-0452 x 122** or at **help@employeesclub.com**.

### Club Store Online

While the Club's physical store remains closed, the online Club Store is open, but because of the City's Safer at Home directive, we are unable to ship online merchandise at this time. If you have a previous order, we'll contact you. Tickets are still being shipped, but supplies are limited. If you have questions, contact the Club at **help@employeesclub.com**

### Honor Your Mom, Dad in *Alive!*

Whether you're with Mom or Dad all the time or you can't be there this year because of Safer at Home ... honor them for Mother's Day and Father's Day with a photo tribute in *Alive!* (There's still time to submit your photo and message for Mom for online posting. Submit by May 7.) Submit Mothers Day here: **alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday**  
Submit Fathers Day here: **alive.employeesclub.com/fathersday**

### Feature Your Canceled Event in *Alive!*

Was your City retirement luncheon or open house canceled because of COVID-19? Was your child's graduation canceled? Don't let the pandemic ruin the special moments in the lives of your family and coworkers. Send in the text and photos to *Alive!*, and we'll publish them for you.  
**alive.employeesclub.com/CelebrateYourEvent**





**Alive! FEATURE PANDEMIC 2019-2020**

# Scenes From a Pandemic **PART 2**

Look for more *Scenes From a Pandemic* next month.

*Alive!* continues its documentation of City employees as they take a multitude of measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and keep LA safe. (The first part was in our April 2020 issue.) Here are entries from the Club and the City social media feeds about City Employees and Club Members at work during this trying time.

## Transportation



“For the safety of all Angelenos we’ve deactivated pedestrian push signals starting in neighborhoods with high pedestrian activity so that crosswalks have automatic walk cycles. Look out for these new signs in locations where this change is in effect.”

April 16

## Harbor



“Acting Navy Secretary @SECNAV met with Los Angeles Councilman @JoeBuscaino, #PortofLA Executive Director Gene Seroka and @LAPortPolice Chief Tom Gazsi onsite at the @USNavy #USNSMercy hospital ship for an overview of the City’s @COVID19 preparedness measures.”

March 31

## Mayor’s Office



“We created LA Protects because saving lives is our #1 mission during this crisis. Our new partnership with universities & companies to 3D print materials for medical workers is part of that mission. We’re doing everything we can to keep doctors & nurses safe as they save lives.”

April 5

## Airports



“Thank you @TzuChiUSA for the generous donation of surgical masks, gloves, and sanitizers for our Officers. #PracticeSocialDistancing #CommunityPartnership #StayStrong #ServingTheAviationCommunity #LAXPD #AirportPolice”

Airport Police, April 4

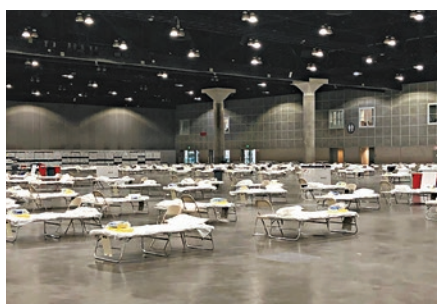
## City Council



“This weekend my Field Deputy Angel Izard volunteered with Urban Partners Los Angeles to help distribute groceries. Every Saturday, doors are open from 7-12pm for food distribution to vulnerable seniors and are in need of volunteers. Sign up at: [urbanpartnersla.org/volunteer/](http://urbanpartnersla.org/volunteer/)”

Councilmember Paul Koretz, March 30

## Convention Center



“Our Medical Relief Center at @ConventionLA will begin receiving patients next week to ease the burden on local hospitals. Thank you to @LAFD, @LAPDHQ, @CAL\_FIRE, @CalGuard, @CountyofLA, our state partners and healthcare professionals for leading these operations.”

Mayor/Convention Center, April 6

## LACERS



“LACERS members come first! Even with Covid-19 keeping everyone sheltered in place, the LACERS board does not stop conducting business for our members’ sake. Yeah ... virtual board meetings.”

Annie Chao, March 26

## LAPD



“250 lbs. of pure heart. Officer Nick Ferrara has been using his own money to buy food for those in need. ‘Every time I see someone who’s over 60 I think of my parents, and I wonder, if I had an Officer help my parents, what would I want that Officer to do.’ We are in this together.”

LAPD HQ, April 2



“Delivering groceries to our community.”

LAPD Mission Station, April 17

## Public Works/Sanitation



“50 trailers were dropped off at Hansen Dam from Northern Calif. to be used for our unsheltered Angelenos. @LACitySAN staff came out over the weekend to help relocate 50 of them.”

March 31

## Planning



“City Planning Director Vince Bertoni participated in a panel discussion facilitated by @ulilosangeles earlier today. He outlined how City Planning has adapted operations during #COVID19 to support LA’s economic growth and to bring more #housing.”

April 16

## Public Works/Street Services



“StreetsLA has now approved operational plans for 24 #FarmersMarkets, to help prevent the spread of covid19. See the list at [streetsla.lacity.org/covid](http://streetsla.lacity.org/covid). Eat well and stay #SaferAtHome.”

April 1



Airports created and displayed a series of signs for travelers describing the department’s efforts to keep them safe and protected.

At LAX, April 3

## Library



Taking its place among local institutions, Los Angeles Public Library offered backgrounds for Zoom conference calls. Download them here: [lapl.me/adrhXef](http://lapl.me/adrhXef)



**CLUB ANGELS**

# Apply for Club's Mukai Scholarship Now

We've updated the eligibility rules due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fill out your application now for the Joannie Mukai Memorial Club Scholarship on the *Alive!* Website. Deadline for entry is noon June 30, 2020.

The 2020 Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 20 awards and is named after the late Club Board Member Joannie Mukai, is now accepting applications.

The scholarship process has been moved up a month, to better facilitate notifying the awardees before they return to school in the fall. All materials must be completed on the *Alive!* Website by noon, June 30, 2020.

Club Scholarship applications have been simplified, for greater ease in filling them out. They are available for completion directly on the Website.

The Club expects to give each recipient a stipend of \$500.

Those eligible include Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2020.

**Update this month:** If you've been accepted at a four-year university for this fall, but the school has decided to remain closed until January 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic, that's okay. You're still eligible for the Club Scholarship.

The Joannie Mukai Club Scholarship program is part of the Club Angels outreach, which reflects the scholarships' nature of giving back.

### Eligibility requirements:

- All Club Members and their spouses, and children of Club Members under the age of 25, are eligible to apply. Club Members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or university full time in the fall semester 2020. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2020 are eligible. *If the school of your choice expects to remain closed until January 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic, you're still eligible for Club Scholarship consideration.*
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.

- Scholarships are expected to be awarded in equal amounts of \$500 (each).

- **Deadline:** Applications must be completed online at the *Alive!* Website by noon June 30, 2020. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.

- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.

- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Send questions to the Club Scholarship Committee: [scholarship@employeesclub.com](mailto:scholarship@employeesclub.com) or call: (213) 873-1843.



Kwamesha Ross received a stipend as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.

Oman Lopez received a stipend as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.

Applications are available for online completion directly on the *Alive!* Website at: [alive.employeesclub.com/mukaischolarship](http://alive.employeesclub.com/mukaischolarship)

**DEADLINE**  
**Noon, June 30**

### About Joannie Mukai



Joannie Mukai.

Joannie Mukai was a pioneer as the LA Port's Director of Construction and Maintenance. A passionate supporter in the Employees Club and longtime Club Insurance Board Member, she died in March 2010. The Club's annual scholarship program was named in her honor. "She believed in education and training, and in preparing for success," Club CEO John Hawkins said. "That's what the Club Scholarship is all about, and we're delighted to name it after her. It's a perfect way to keep her memory alive."





# Send in your Mother's Day Tributes

There's still time to pay tribute to your mom this Mother's Day ... with a photo and message of lifelong love, published in *Alive!* – online and on the Club's social media channels. Submit your picture and a two-or three-sentence message of Happy Mother's Day using our online form.

**To submit, go to:**  
[alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday](http://alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday)

Send it in now! **HURRY!**

**DEADLINE:**  
**MAY 7: to appear online**

DEADLINE EXTENDED:  
MAY 7: to appear online



## Alive! is now its own Website ...

Yes! *Alive!* is now a great new Website ... and a streamlined, more portable version of the paper you've come to know and love, delivered to your door!

**GO TO:** [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)





Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

# RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Ruth B. Perry, President  
Terminal Annex  
P.O. Box 86264  
Los Angeles, CA 90086  
PHONE: (800) 678-4145, ext. 717  
EMAIL: Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org  
ON THE WEB: www.RLACEI.org



### 2020 Executive Board of Directors

Ruth B. Perry, President  
Beverly J. Clark, First Vice President  
Phil Orland, Second Vice President  
Harold Danowitz, Secretary/Treasurer

### RLACEI DIRECTORS

Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

Cliff Cannon, Audit Director, Ext. 715

Beverly J. Clark,  
Publicity Director, Ext. 716

Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary/Treasurer, Ext. 707

Dennis Harding,  
Entertainment Director, Ext. 704

Ed Harding,  
President Emeritus, Ext. 703

Michael Karsch,  
Legislative Representative, Ext. 706

Tom Moutes, Director, Ext. 708

Phil Orland, Golf Director, Ext. 709

Ruth B. Perry,  
Membership Director, Ext. 717

Neil Ricci, Director, Ext. 714

Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, Director, Ext 718

Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, Director, Ext 719

### RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE:

(800) 678-4145, Ext. 0

For retirement assistance, call the Retiree Hotline and leave a message. A Director of RLACEI will return your call and assist you with your concerns.

### RLACEI WEBSITE

Visit the RLACEI website [www.RLACEI.org](http://www.RLACEI.org) to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.  
EMAIL: [Contact@RLACEI.org](mailto:Contact@RLACEI.org)

### MAILING ADDRESS:

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.  
Terminal Annex  
P.O. Box 86264  
Los Angeles, CA 90086

### Change of Address?

Please notify Ruth B. Perry, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 ext. 717 or [Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org](mailto:Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org) for a change of address or to add or change your email address. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, LAPCU, and LAFUCU as applicable.

## Send in your Interesting

**NEWS Contributions!**

Contact **Beverly J. Clark**, Publicity Director  
Email: [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org) or  
Phone: (800) 678-4145 ext 716

## 2020 RETIREE EVENTS

Golf Tournament - Thurs. 6/11  
Summer Picnic - Thurs. 8/6  
Holiday Party - Tues. 12/8

### RESERVATION LINE:

RLACEI: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 701

## Retirees on the Move

By Beverly Clark, RLACEI Publicity Chair

# Meet Sharon Williams



Sharon J. Williams retired from the City of Los Angeles in 2009 after more than 34 years of service.

She has worked in various departments, including Personnel, Building and Safety, General Services, the LAFD, Airports, and Recreation and Parks. Sharon's last position was with the Office of Finance as an Executive Assistant.

As a retiree, Sharon has become an entrepreneur and put her talents

to work as the owner/operator of Sharon's Paint for Fun, a painting business similar to "paint and sip," offering individuals the opportunity to step outside of their comfort zone and try something different while relaxing in the comfort of their own home, or a location of their choice.

"Painting on canvas has been one of my passions since early childhood," she says. "I find it very therapeutic and thought that this would be a perfect way for those who are 'sheltered in place' during this pandemic quarantine to offer online painting sessions for those who may be bored, lonely or just looking for a hobby."

Sharon offers painting sessions online twice a week – at 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays. Those who are interested in joining the sessions will need their own supplies and can join Sharon in a relaxing painting session in the comfort of their home. The sessions last about 1 to 2 hours, depending on the painting subject.

Log on to [facebook.com/sharon.richardwilliams](https://facebook.com/sharon.richardwilliams) and join in the fun. Check for notifications the previous day or the morning of for additional details.

Sharon's hobbies are painting, of course, drawing, playing the piano, singing, reading and sewing.

Since retiring, Sharon has continued to stay as busy as ever. As the wife of a pastor for the past 23 years, Sharon has been dedicated to the members and operations of her church by coordinating many ministries and events, including the Women's Ministry and Annual Women's Prayer Breakfast; Supporting Our Youth Ministry and Scholarship Program; the Annual Spelling Bee and Essay Contest; Annual Arts/Craft Days; the Price is Right (financial awareness for youth); Annual Reality-Check Finance Seminar for adults; and handling the business needs of the church. She is also a licensed minister.

Sharon has been married to Pastor Nathan A. Williams for 36 years and has three adult daughters, one son-in-law and four grandchildren.

She enjoys and looks forward to their annual trips to the East Coast and the South to visit relatives.

Sharon is a member of the Gardena Valley Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows' Sisterhood and a LACERS Well Champion (Harbor Region).

Her words of wisdom for retirees or those about to retire: 1) know what your monthly expenses are; 2) budget your projected income; and 3) enjoy your time.

**What was the smartest thing you did to prepare for retirement, or did you plan on retiring when you did?**  
"I bought back maternity leave time and got advice from retired relatives."

**What do you miss or don't miss about your years of service to the City of Los Angeles?**

"I miss the connection with some of my co-workers."

**As you reflect on your City career, would you have done anything differently?**

"No changes. I enjoyed my City career. I worked in seven different departments with a lot of great people. It was a great experience and I gained a lot of knowledge. I should write a book!"

**How do you fill your days?**

"I attend the Los Angeles Bible Training School, babysit, go to movies and shop."

**If you could change one thing about retired life, what would that be?**

"I would travel more with family."

Sharon has been featured in Cultural Affairs' annual African Heritage Month Calendar six times over the past seven years.

### For more information on painting:

Email: [jsharonart@yahoo.com](mailto:jsharonart@yahoo.com)

Website: [Paintwithsharon.weebly.com](http://Paintwithsharon.weebly.com)

Online Painting Sessions: [Facebook.com/Sharon Richard-Williams](https://facebook.com/SharonRichardWilliams) (2 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays)



## A Note on COVID-19

### To Our RLACEI Retirees from the RLACEI Board:

As we enter into another month of "shelter-in-place" and "safer at home" quarantines, we hope that everyone and their families are staying safe and taking all precautions necessary to stay healthy. It seems like ages ago when we lived freely without a second thought as to whether we should or could leave the house and wearing a facemask was for those who were highly contagious. Now we must consider how close we can stand next to each other and be mindful not to congregate in groups larger than 10. In a matter of weeks, life has dramatically changed.

The Board suggests that during this time of social inactivity that you discover a hobby or a hidden talent and enjoy. **Please** continue to stay connected with family and friends.

## RLACEI 2020

# Summer Picnic

Open to all Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. members!



Thursday, August 6, 2020

\* 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

RSVP to (800) 678-4145 Ext. 701



## Are you an RLACEI Member?



Members of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. are invited to attend all RLACEI events, such as the annual member picnic and holiday party.

Check your pension statement for the "Retired LACEI" \$3 monthly deduction. If it's there, you are an RLACEI member!

If not a member, call (800) 678-4145 x717 or visit our website at [RLACEI.ORG](http://RLACEI.ORG) and join today! Don't miss out on RLACEI events!





Michael R. Wilkinson

## Meeting Remotely, LACERS Board Frees Up More Cash

**LACERS Board Update**  
By Michael R. Wilkinson

Before we get to the LACERS Report, I want to mention the difficult time we all have ahead in dealing with the novel coronavirus outbreak. We may be affected ourselves or our friends and family may be fighting this disease. Many of us may have first responders as family members working to protect us all.

The LACERS Board of Administration recently held its first meeting under the governor's stay at home order via teleconferencing. It was a little strange to be hooked up via a computer using Zoom software and able to see the fellow board members and staff, but not be in the same room. However, the LACERS staff did a great job with the technology, and the meeting went smoothly.

There was an important action taken to help the LACERS investment staff respond to the volatility of the financial markets. The Board approved increasing the maximum amount of cash in our investment portfolio from 2 to 5 percent. Why is this important? In normal times LACERS is fully invested in diversified investments and keeps enough cash for paying the retirees (yes, this is important!), capital calls for investments and other expenses as well as a reasonable cushion for unexpected events.

However, the current turbulent markets encouraged Chief Investment Officer Rod June to request the change in the cash allocation so that there will be enough cash to handle eight months of our cash requirements. The staff will use only the amount of the authority that is needed.

The argument against having a very high cash allocation when it is not necessary is that it is a drag on the investment returns since a cash account is very stable, but has a very low rate of investment return compared to other investment classes such as stocks, bonds and private equity.

The change is viewed as a temporary measure and will be reviewed in six months to decide if it is still needed. This review will ensure that we continue to get the highest investment returns that are prudent. ■



Tom Moutes

## Emergency Preparedness: LACERS Was Ready!

**HEALTH BENEFITS UPDATE:**  
By Tom Moutes

More than ten years ago, LACERS began planning for a disaster. Staff worked on plans for how to respond to a very localized event impacting just the building LACERS is in. Staff also developed plans for a regional disaster like an earthquake and even worked on a plan for how to handle a pandemic, during which some staff could not report to work and the ones who could report in needed to take appropriate hygiene and distancing measures.

Much thought went into these emergency plans, especially from a technology perspective. Staff ensured critical information could be accessed remotely and made sure retirement checks could be processed. Staff also ensured that investment functions could be carried out and that LACERS contractors had emergency plans in place.

But there is one thing you know when you are performing disaster planning – you will never guess and prepare for the exact emergency you actually will face. The idea behind all of the planning is to try to have adequate resources available and some idea how you might deploy those resources when disaster strikes.

From all appearances, LACERS has done a great job implementing its disaster plan in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. To be sure, LACERS response has had to be incremental, as you cannot plan perfectly for a specific disaster scenario. But LACERS had many of the necessary resources in place and an idea of how to roll them out thanks to good planning and preparation.

Great job, LACERS!



Michael Karsch

## Coronavirus Making Pensions Outside LACERS Unstable

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT:**  
**Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch**

Well, what more can one comment on the past month's disastrous slide into recession due to the COVID-19 virus? We are in perilous times, with people out of work, businesses closing up for good, restricting social activity to one's house, hoping to avoid catching the virus, etc. But for us Retirees, we have our pension checks and our healthcare for which we are truly thankful. As I have told my children and grandchildren, government jobs give you protection, which makes for a good life. Most did not heed my advice, sadly, but we do have freedom of choice.

Some notes I have saved are interesting relative to pension plans' viability – how are the employers handling it?

- In Illinois the Exelon Corporation in Chicago plans to inject \$541 million this year into its defined benefit plan for all subsidiaries (per Pionline.com). Their corporate support for the same plans in 2019 was \$356 million. They were taking care of their employees.
- In New Mexico via the Associated Press, the State Senate approved a proposal aimed at shoring up that state's overextended pension fund for about 110,000 government workers and retirees. The measure is addressing an unfunded liability of \$6.6 billion.
- In California's private sector, the McClatchy newspapers (*Miami Herald and Kansas City Star*, among others) filed

for Chapter 11 bankruptcy due to problems in their pension funds and related worries in financial strength. The newspaper group has operated for more than 160 years. It is expected to transfer management of the \$1.4 billion pension plan to the U.S. Government's Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. The chain had built up a solid pension fund over the years but recently the newspaper industry overall has suffered serious revenue losses to the online draw of the internet. Workers will still get their pensions, but it is likely that the pensions will be less than expected.

A mid-March article in *City Journal* had a subtitle stating: "As investors flock to bonds to avoid risk, pension plans face shrinking returns." Low bond rates are becoming "more normal." There is fear in the bond market, normally a recourse for investors leery of stock market declines, that the bond market also is offering less promise. This means an increased likelihood of a recession. The bond market picture is dimmed by the coronavirus sledgehammer to the economy, but bond yields were already trending down for other reasons, per *City Journal*. Bond yields are now negative. The report states that the current environment of low interest rates and negative bond yields is especially hard on retirement accounts. As reflected in a recent *Wall Street Journal* article in its Business and Finance section, "investors fear the worst is yet to come." ■



## 1st Annual Tom Stennock Memorial Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 11, 2020

The 1st Annual Tom Stennock Memorial Golf Tournament sponsored by the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc., will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2020 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 \$70 for RLACEI & City Employees Club members. All others pay \$80, which includes greens fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Alhambra Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$25.00.
- Those interested in participating must complete the reservation form and mail it with your check made payable to: **RLACEI** by Thursday, May 28, 2020.
- Send to Phil Orland, Chairman, RLACEI, Terminal Annex, P.O. Box 86264, Los Angeles, CA 90086. **For any questions, call Chairman Phil Orland at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 709.**

### 2020 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$70 for RLACEI and City Employees Club Members  
Luncheon Only: \$25 \$80 for all others

**Make checks payable to RLACEI.**

**NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!**

#### FOURSOME

Name	Golf Shirt Size (Circle Size)	Member RLACEI	Member City Club	Guest
1. _____	M L XL 2XL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. _____	M L XL 2XL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. _____	M L XL 2XL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. _____	M L XL 2XL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**(check all that apply)**







# Happy Mother's Day

From the Club



"Happy Mother's Day! We love you forever and always."  
**Sara Richardson, LAPD**



"Mom, fourth from left, one granddaughter and all her four daughters. We miss you Mom; you're our family's heart, rock and prayer warrior."  
**Lourdes Owen, Retired, General Services**

— COMING IN MAY —  
**MOTHER'S DAY ON WEB ALIVE!**  
It's not too late to publish a photo of you and your mom (or just your mom)... and a two-or three-sentence message of Happy Mother's Day. Submissions received by May 7 will appear on Web Alive!  
**To submit, go to:**  
[alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday](http://alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday)

"To a wonderful mother who has been there every step of the way."  
**Debora Fore, Retired, LAPD**



"To Kelley, the most awesome mother in the world! *Vous serez pour toujours dans mon coeur et celui de nos enfants.*"  
**John Hawkins, Club CEO**



"I love you, Mom!"  
**Cheryl Tabbi, Rec and Parks**



"I miss you, Mom! Happy Mother's Day!"  
**Valerie Lockhart, Retired, LAPD**



"Happy Mother's Day. We love you."  
**Lorenzo Sandoval, LA County/Probation**



"Mom, through your example, we continue to learn the depth of family and faith. We love you. Anna, Katy, Hallie."  
**Anna Burton, Harbor/Port Police**



"Happy Mother's Day to the best wife and mother that anyone could ask for. You take incredible care of Henry and me, and for that we are grateful."  
**Capt. Yoomi Tom, LAPD**



"Happy Mother's Day, Vanessa – the best mother and grandmother in the world."  
**Capt. II Chris Bustamante, LAFD**



"Mom, every day should be Mother's Day! You taught all seven of your children to do the best they can, no matter what the job or status, and to treat people just as we would want to be treated. Thank you, Mom; you are my hero!"  
**John Hawkins, President and CEO of the Club**



"Happy Mother's Day, Camill! You are the best wife, mother and grandmother a family could have! We love you!"  
**George Benjamin Jr., Retired, Public Works/Street Maintenance**



"Happy Mother's Day, Mom! To the most amazing mother in the world. I love you so much."  
**Lisette Garcia, LAPD**



"Mom, I love you. Kisses to heaven."  
**Erika Ochoa, Animal Services**



"Happy Mother's Day to the best mother of all mothers on this Mother Earth. All kidding aside, love you, Mom."  
**Eduardo Hernandez, Rec and Parks**



"Ma, thank you for all you do for me. You are my rock. Love you!"  
**Vincent Carlin, General Services**



"The first Mother's Day without you, Mom. You're loved and missed beyond measure. Love, your daughters, sister, granddaughters, extended family and friends."  
**Amber Klesges, Harbor**



"This is a five-generation picture of my grandmother, my mother, me, my daughter, and my granddaughter. This picture is everything."  
**Shannon Phillips, LA County**



"Wishing a Happy Mother's Day to my mom, Gail Wilson – a retired Los Angeles Housing Authority employee who's a great mom and granny. Love you, Drea."  
**Andrea Wilson, Public Works/Street Services**



"To the greatest inspiration, through our ups and downs, you are always there to support me through it all. I will always love you."  
**Kenneth McDonald, General Services**



"Happy Mother's Day, Mom. I love you very much. This was the last photo that my mom and I took together. Happy Mother's Day to all mothers."  
**Baron Greenhouse, Retired, DWP**



"At your favorite restaurant, where they seat you right away despite a 90-minute wait. They know who rules! Happy Mother's Day, Mom. You're the best ever."  
**John Burnes, Alive! editor**



"Happy Mother's Day!"  
**Robert Larios, Club COO**

"Precious, loving, nurturing, fun and rambunctious – we call you Mom, and we love you! Happy Mother's Day, Darling!"  
**Pablo Serrano, Public Works/Sanitation**



"Happy to be able to spend more time with the greatest mom in the world. For Lisa English, who retired from the DWP after 38 years of service!"  
**Karl Guder, Retired, General Services**



"Thousands of miles we are apart. Happy Mother's Day, dear Ina. Pray that God Almighty, give us a longer life to see each other again. God bless you."  
**Miriam Cruz, Harbor**



"Happy Mother's Day, Mom! We love you bunches and bunches."  
**Martin Lopez, DWP**