

Art Takes Off

PAGE 10

Alive!



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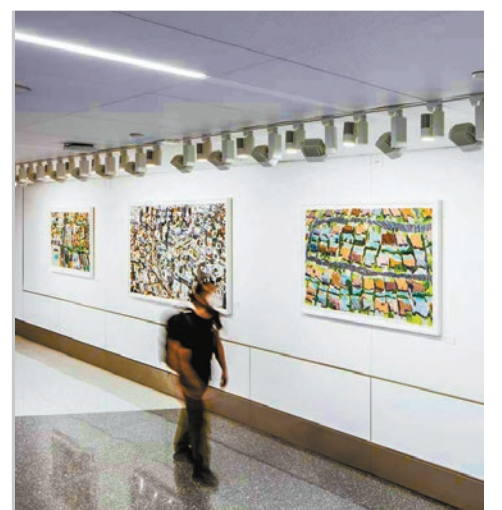
The Out of the Blue gallery above Ticketing, Terminal 7

Out of the Blue, curated by John David O'Brien.

Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.

BELOW, FROM LEFT: Your Body Is a Space That Sees, Lia Halloran. Technicolor Pandemonium, Renée Fox. Overlay/layover, Susan Logoreci. All three in Terminal 1.

Photos by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.



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The Art of Living

Two subjects piqued my interest in this edition of *Alive!* – one involving an extremely busy airport where some things are worth slowing down for; and the other about a woman who will not slow down even as she reaches the century mark.

I did not imagine they were related, but now I am convinced they are. Together they exemplify the art of living.

First, our beautiful cover story, artfully arranged by *Alive!* designer **David Jamgotchian** from images supplied by our friends at Los Angeles World Airports and Cultural Affairs, demonstrates LAWA’s professional commitment to an outstanding customer experience. As passengers we think we do not have time to gaze at an airport’s walls, but the art put together by LAWA Art Program Director **Sarah Cifarelli** proves otherwise. It is beautiful! I say thanks to LAWA and Cultural Affairs for going the extra mile for the benefit of our City and the world. Please enjoy it while you travel.

The other story involves the unstoppable **Carrie Gabriel**, Retired from several different City departments, who turned 100 in January. Our friend **Beverly Clark** from the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) brought Carrie to our attention by writing about her twice in these pages. I was more than honored to attend



Retiree Carrie Gabriel at her 100th birthday party, accepting a congratulatory plaque from Club CEO Robert Larios.

Carrie’s milestone party and celebration of the life she continues to lead. Congratulations, Carrie.

On we go ... I was touched by the remembrance written by Retiree **Betty Uyeda** about someone she hardly knew –

ROBERT’S BLOG

by Robert Larios, CEO, The Club



Gordon Brooks. Then there is Retiree **Ben Alirez’s** first novel ... a Rec and Parks food drive ... likely our first female Fire Chief, **Kristin Crowley** ... four LAPD Officers who saved a pilot who crashed ... hundreds of other LAPD personnel stepping up for the family of a fallen brother ... and so much more good news. Is this what it feels like to come out of a pandemic? I hope so.

Quickly, I congratulate **Regner Globus**, who retired from Harbor after 31 years of City service. Regner also served his fellow City employees by participating for many years on the Employees Club board. Thank you, Regner.

I am proud to bring you the news of this month in print and on the web. We do this to return value to our many Members and celebrate your lives. Don’t forget to take the time to notice the art all around you, and enjoy the days as they lengthen toward springtime.

¡Gracias por leer!




At a recent Mobile Team site visit.

Schedule a Mobile Team site visit:

To schedule a site visit, contact Lupe Lira, Club Store Manager: (213) 819-0350, or mobile@employeesclub.com

Follow Club social media for Mobile Team site visit dates as they are scheduled.

For your continued safety:

- The Mobile Team brings and wears safety gear.
- The Mobile Team is accepting only outdoor set-ups for now.

See you soon!



CLUB MOBILE TEAM

Site Visits Are Back!

Club Mobile Team is ready to visit City worksites safely with gear, tickets, insurance, more. Say hi to the Club ... in person again!

The Club never stopped working for its Members during the pandemic. But now that the coast is clearing, so to speak, it’s time to revisit our Members and Members-to-Be at sites and yards.

The Mobile Team is ready to visit your worksite Tuesdays through Thursdays. We can’t wait to see everybody again!



Cultural Affairs / Airports



Art Takes Off

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The Letting Go, Debra Scacco, Terminal 7. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs.

COVER STORY:

Art Takes Off 10-13

Cultural Affairs and Airports create one of the country's busiest art galleries.

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NEW THIS MONTH ONLINE!

alive.employeesclub.com

Cooking with the Club

Chef Larios explores Vietnamese flavors with a One-Pot Pho-Style Beef Meatball Soup

Stay warm this winter!



Library Top 10

See what your fellow Angelenos are reading, watching and grooving to.



John's Picture Perfect

All the winners from this month's contest on an open theme.



The Club Is ...

Celebrating the work and lives of California municipal employees since 1928.



The Club Is 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.

Contact the Club

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

help@employeesclub.com
(800) 464-0452

Physical Club Store Hours:

Monday – Friday
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.



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John Burnes, *Editor*
David Jamgotchian, *JILA Associates, Design and Production*

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In addition, the Club strives to publish only those elements that are produced by the Club itself, are in the public domain, or whose rights have been negotiated.

Club Members who have questions on these points may write to: Info@employeesclub.com

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Pay Tribute to Your Mom!



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. Your tribute will also appear on *Web Alive!*, starting just before Mothers Day.

Send in your digital photos and your message now!

To submit, go to:
alive.employeesclub.com/mothersday



Tell Us More About Mom

As part of our Mother's Day messages feature, we're asking for a little bit more:

Tell us more about Mom – what makes her special, a funny or heartbreaking story, a unique memory, a personal tidbit ... **you tell us.**

You'll see a second text box when you submit your regular Mother's Day photo and message. (*Note: We might not be able to print all of them. And we're placing a limit of 100 characters, so use them wisely.*)

DEADLINES:

APRIL 15: to appear in print and online

APRIL 29: to appear online only

Give to a Food Drive

Sanitation's Recycling Program hosting a Citywide food drive.

Times: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. through March 4

PUBLIC WORKS: Public Works/Sanitation and Environment's City Facilities Recycling Program (CFRP) is collecting non-perishable foods (including canned food, food in jars, packaged food and shelf-stable beverages and foods) in a charity effort.

Donated food will be provided to the St. Francis Center and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, local agencies that provide support to our unhoused neighbors and low-income individuals.

The drive runs through March 4. Donated items can be dropped off at all Sanitation yards. Please be generous! ■



LOCATIONS:

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
 1149 S. Broadway - Lobby
 Los Angeles, CA 90015

EAST VALLEY DISTRICT YARD
 11050 Pendleton St.
 Sun Valley, CA 91352

WEST VALLEY DISTRICT YARD
 8840 Vanalden Ave.
 Northridge, CA 91234

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT YARD
 452 San Fernando Rd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90031

WEST LA DISTRICT YARD
 2027 Stoner Ave.
 Los Angeles, CA 90025

SOUTH LA DISTRICT YARD
 786 S. Mission Rd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90023

HARBOR DISTRICT YARD
 1400 N. Gaffey St.
 San Pedro, CA 90731

WASHINGTON YARD
 2649 E. Washington Blvd.
 Building B
 Los Angeles, CA 90023



From left: Capt. Alex Vargas; Retired PSR III Lourdes Varas; and Retired Det. Vince Carreon.

Goodbye, Lourdes



Lourdes Varas
 Photo courtesy @lapd_vargas

LAPD: On Feb. 10, Lourdes Varas, PSR III, retired from LAPD/Communications. She retires with 33 years of City service, including 29 with the LAPD and four in other City departments.

Congratulations, Lourdes! ■



Grand Savings

On the Grand Canyon Railway!

Go to the Club Website for details:
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Tributes and Thanks

Retirement system honors employees, Retirees during virtual holiday party.



LACERS: During the Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System's (LACERS) annual holiday party, held virtually in December (and covered in the January *Alive!*), the department honored many of its employees who were nominated by other employees for their helpfulness during the difficult 2021 calendar year.

Host was Gabriel Perez, Benefits Specialist, 16 years of City service. General Manager Neil Guglielmo, Club Member, spoke to employees during the event.

Normally, LACERS honors employees with its Guiding Principles awards at the end of the year, but since most everyone was working remotely, there was little opportunity to have enough shared experiences to come up with a list of candidates for the annual award. Nominations and voting were not held last year.

Instead, LACERS did something different – it asked all its employees to name a co-worker or group that made their job or life better over the past year, and a meaningful or impactful experience or connection they had with a Member that left them feeling inspired, appreciated, valued or proud.

More than 70 people and experiences were mentioned. LACERS then invited employees to recount those people and experiences in video form.

In addition to the testimonial videos, LACERS also honored three who were about to retire (and now have), and then honored those with service anniversaries. Those honored as they retired were Alex Rabrenovich, Chief Benefits Analyst, 32 years of City service, Club Member; Lita Payne, Assistant General Manager, 31 years, Club Member; and Rico Rafols, Benefits Analyst, 15 years.



Those celebrating service anniversaries were:

- **15 years:** Rico Rafols (now Retired), Kimberly Baldwin and Bernadette Molina
- **20 years:** Thomas Ma, Amy Petrique, Maria "Melani" Rejuso, Todd Bouey, Fon Leidig, Veronica Flores, Pearl Fregoso, Karen Freire, Andy Chiu, Wendy Johnson, Veronica Sanchez and Brittany Cotton
- **25 years:** Kristal Baldwin, Patricia Gonzalez, Edeliza Fang and Dale Wong-Nguyen
- **35 years:** Kelly Dickinson

Congratulations to the Retirees, those celebrating service anniversaries, and the people who made LACERS' 2021 a better experience for all coworkers. ■

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Life Savers

Four Officers honored for saving a pilot's life.



Councilman Tony Cardenas (center) with Sgt. Joseph Cavestany and Officers Christopher Aboyte, Robert Sherock and Damien Castro. Photo courtesy Montague Charter Academy

LAPD: On Jan. 26, four LAPD Officers who saved a downed pilot's life were honored for their heroic act by Congressman (and former Councilman) Tony Cardenas and the Montague Charter Academy Elementary School.

The four Officers – Sgt. Joseph Cavestany and Officers Christopher Aboyte, Robert Sherock and Damien Castro – pulled the unidentified pilot out of the cockpit of his small private plane that experienced mechanical failure and landed on Metrolink railroad tracks in Pacoima. Only moments later, a Metrolink train collided with the downed plane. Their quick actions saved the man's life.

Congratulations! ■



LACERS

LOS ANGELES CITY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS:

Are You Ready for Retirement?

Here are some current programs to help with your planning.

Webinars: Learn about your retirement options and benefits at an upcoming Planning for Retirement webinar, hosted by the LACERS Member Engagement team. Register via your MyLACERS account. Upcoming dates include:

- Thurs., March 10 (9 a.m.)
- Tues., March 15 (4:30 p.m.)
- Sat., March 19 (9 a.m.)
- Sat., April 9 (9 a.m.)
- Tues., April 19 (4:30 p.m.)
- Thurs., April 28 (9 a.m.)
- Thurs., May 12 (9 a.m.) (Tier 3)

Application Portal Demonstration: Take time to learn about LACERS' exciting new Retirement Application Portal (RAP)! Visit lacers.org/applying-retirement for more details and sign up for an upcoming RAP Demonstration webinar at 11 a.m. Tues., April 5 via your MyLACERS account at <https://mylacers.lacers.org>.

Applying for Retirement Online: Members are encouraged to submit their retirement application 60 days before their retirement date when using LACERS' new Retirement Application Portal (RAP). The RAP is a great asset to LACERS Members that helps to streamline the retirement process. While the filing period is within 30 to 60 days of your retirement date, starting your application early and submitting it on the first day you can at the 60-day-prior mark, will allow for a couple of benefits. These include having ample time to discover any complications and address them without having to move your retirement date, as well as ensuring LACERS staff has time to meet your retirement date request.

For example, if your desired retirement date is March 26, 2022, you would aim to submit your retirement application in the portal on Jan. 25, 2022. For more information, please visit lacers.org/applying-retirement.

FOR RETIREES:

LACERS Well Events Coming Up

Register for these virtual events below through your MyLACERS account or by calling LACERS. If you need assistance, email LacersWell@lacers.org Space is limited for each event so be sure to sign up early. To view additional dates and information, visit: lacers.org/lacers-well-events

Mom's Computer Technology Class
Mom's Computer will be hosting monthly technology classes throughout 2022 starting at 3 p.m. Wed., March 9. These classes help members navigate the changing technology landscape and offer tips on using computer, smart phones/tablets, internet, and more.

Fitness Made Simple: Exercise Class
Why just talk or dream about exercise when we can "Make Fitness Simple?" Join Coach Sean Foy at 9:30 a.m. Wed., March 16 he helps you train in the comfort and convenience of your own home to realize your personal health and fitness goals!

Brain Health Class
Alzheimer's Los Angeles (ALZLA) is hosting monthly brain health classes, the next being held at 2 p.m. Wed., March 23. The mission is to improve the lives of local families affected by Alzheimer's and dementia by increasing awareness, delivering effective programs and services, providing compassionate support, and advocating for quality care and a cure. Both Active and Retired Members are welcome at this event.

Aging Mastery Program
LACERS' five-week, twice weekly Aging Mastery Program is scheduled three times this year: at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in March, June and September. This fun, innovative program empowers you to take key steps to improve your well-being. You will learn about healthy eating and hydration, sleep, financial fitness, advance planning, and more.

FOR RETIREES:

Tax Information for City Retirees

LACERS is sharing information related to taxes for City Retirees. That information is below.

LACERS 1099-R Forms
LACERS has completed its mailing of 1099-R tax documents to Retirees and beneficiaries for the 2021 tax year. Please note that 1099-Rs are sent only to the address on file with LACERS. Therefore, if you have recently moved or changed your address, update it with LACERS as soon as possible by submitting a Change of Address form that is accessible at lacers.org/forms.

Don't want to wait for the mail? Save time by viewing and printing your 1099-R via your MyLACERS online account at <https://mylacers.lacers.org>.

Have questions about your 1099-R form? Watch LACERS' 1099-R tax form video on LACERS' YouTube channel at youtube.com/lacersyoutube

Reminder: Tax Form 1095-B and Form 1095-C
Tax season is here, and as you prepare to file this year, please be aware that you may receive one or more forms providing information about the healthcare coverage that you had or were offered in the previous year.

Although proof of health insurance is not required for 2021, most retirees will receive a Form 1095-B, which is sent to them directly from either the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or their health plan carrier through LACERS (i.e., Kaiser Permanente or Anthem Blue Cross). Some retirees may receive both a Form 1095-B and Form 1095-C if they retired within the last year; one will reflect their LACERS coverage and one will reflect their City of Los Angeles coverage while working.

Please do not contact LACERS if you do not receive your form(s) as LACERS does not generate or have access to them. You may request a duplicate directly from your health insurance carrier.

For questions about using Forms 1095-B and 1095-C to file your taxes, please consult with your tax adviser or the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).



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Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor
(at the Club Store)
tsy@employeesclub.com
Ext. 202



Cheryl Martin
Member Services Counselor
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Ext. 136



Phone and virtual meeting appointments available.

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LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. ('Employees Club of California') is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. No. is 0B98000.



ABOUT 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," CEO Robert Larios 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."



Eligibility requirements:

- All Club Members and their spouses of any age; and children, grandchildren, step-children, foster children and nieces and nephews 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 2022. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2022 are eligible.
- 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 and submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2022. 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.

Apply for Club's Mukai Scholarship

Application is now available. Deadline is 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2022.

The 2022 Joannie Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 20 awards of \$500 each, is now accepting applications.

Application and Eligibility

The scholarship program has simplified the application process into one step to include determining of eligibility. Those eligible include Club Members; their spouses; their children, grandchildren, step-children, and foster children; and nieces/nephews who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2022. There is no age limit for Member or spouse, but all others must be under 25.

Deadline

All materials must be completed on the *Alive!* Website and submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2022. Winners will be notified by July 31 before school starts.

The Club Cares

"It is a vital part of the Club that we give back to support the future success of our treasured young people," said Robert Larios, Club CEO. "We encourage all those eligible to take advantage and apply."

"The Joannie Mukai Scholarship Program is one of the most important ways we celebrate the work and lives of municipal employees," said Association CEO John Hawkins. "Joannie would

be delighted at the level of scholarship and volunteerism applicants show every year." ■



Apply Today
on the *Alive!* Website:
alive.employeesclub.com/scholarship
DEADLINE
11:59 p.m.,
June 30, 2022



Send questions to the Club Scholarship Committee:

scholarship@employeesclub.com
or call: (213) 873-1843

Cynthia Ozuna, daughter of Correctional Officer Marcos Ozuna, Retired, State of California, received a stipend last year as part of the Mukai Scholarship Program.



Two Rise

Police Dept. promotes two from within.

LAPD: Congratulations to two in LAPD leadership who were recently promoted.



Commander Craig Valenzuela

Commander Craig Valenzuela

On Feb. 7, Craig Valenzuela was promoted to Commander – Assistant Commanding Officer, now stationed at Operations, Valley Bureau. He comes from Metro where he was a Captain, and he has 26 years of City service.



Sgt. Roxanne Flores

Sgt. Roxanne Flores

Last Nov. 17, Roxanne Flores was promoted to Sergeant. She worked at Metro for seven years and served as the Division's injured-on-duty coordinator. ■



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DIRECT LINE FOR CLUB MEMBERS



Home and Auto Insurance Services provided for members of the **EMPLOYEES CLUB**

Get a **\$50 Arco Gas Card** For Club Members if they purchase by March 31

We also have great rates on Homes, Boats, Motorcycles, RV's, Rental Properties and Apartment Buildings.

A FREE Benefit to members of the Employees Club

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.

The Cheapest tickets in the state are at the Club!

Go to the Club Website for details:
www.employeesclub.com

Deadline Soon for Grown-Up



Coloring Contest

Hey Club Members, the deadline is soon for this year's Grown-Up Coloring Contest, so get out your crayons, sparkles and whatnot, and send in your entry. So get coloring, and have fun!

Download coloring art, see rules and instructions at: alive.employeesclub.com/grown-up--coloring-contest/

Entries due by March 11

PART 24

Scenes From a Pandemic

Alive! continues its documentation of City employees as they take a multitude of measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are entries from the Club and the City Twitter feeds about City Employees and Club Members at work during this trying time.

Public Works/StreetsLA



"We are excited about fielding a Zero Emissions tree-planting crew later this year. Today our UFD crew 032 tested out @ROUSHcleantech F650 stake bed truck delivering 18 trees being planted in @CD12LA. Not only are the trees helping our planet, so too will our trucks. @LACityDPW"

Jan. 19

City Council/Mike Bonin



"Over the weekend, the CD11 team partnered with West L.A. Boy Scouts Troop 1 for a beach clean up at Will Rogers State Beach. Thank you to Rowan who organized his fellow scouts and the many volunteers who helped throughout this beach cleanup!"

Jan. 31

LAPD/Capt. Lillian Carranza



"Thank you Commissioner @SteveSoboroff for visiting us at the @LAPDHQ #SuperBowl Command Post. All is a Code 4! #IMT1 #LAPD"

Feb. 12

Public Works/StreetsLA



"Today our Urban Forest crews 076 & 081 are trimming trees on Degnan Blvd from MLK Jr Blvd to Stocker St in #cd10 @mridleythomas StreetsLA- showing our @LACity trees a little love on Valentines Day. @LACityDPW"

Feb. 14

Council/LAPD/Flores



"Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez spent time with each and every team member at the @LAPDHQ #SuperBowl Command Post. Her thanks & appreciation for our team's work was warmly received by all! Thank you for stopping by to check out IMT3 in action Ma'am! @MRodCD7 #GoRams"

Feb. 13

Photos courtesy LAPD social streams

A Fitting Farewell

Funeral, fundraiser honor the memory of Officer Fernando Arroyos.



LAPD: A large-scale funeral service was held Feb. 2 for slain LAPD Officer II Fernando Arroyos at Forest Lawn Cemetery in the Hollywood Hills.

Officer Arroyos, 3 years of City service, was shot and killed while off-duty Jan. 10, officials said. He was killed as he took police action when three men attempted to rob him at gunpoint while he and his girlfriend were house hunting in unincorporated Los Angeles County. Officer Arroyos directed his girlfriend to safety as the men opened fire on him. He was taken to a local hospital where he died from his injuries.

Officer Arroyos is survived by his mother, stepfather and girlfriend. He had three years of service with the LAPD, was stationed at Olympic Division, and was a Club Member.

Earlier, on Jan. 16, colleagues at Olympic Division held a fundraiser to pay for funeral expenses. As his death occurred off-duty officially, his family was responsible for funeral and other costs, according to media.

Rest in peace, Officer Arroyos. And thanks to those who rose above the tragedy to help take care of his family. ■

At the funeral service of Officer II Fernando Arroyos Feb. 2 at Forest Lawn Cemetery in the Hollywood Hills.



At the fundraiser for slain Officer II Fernando Arroyos Jan. 16 at Olympic Division



Alive! Feature

Cultural Affairs / Airports

Art Takes Off



Two City departments team up to produce the ambitious LAX Art Program, which has turned the airport into one of the country's most visited art galleries.



Paper on Wheels, Hadiya Finley, Terminal 1. Past exhibit. Photo courtesy Panic Studio LA.

Quick: which is LA's most visited art gallery? The Getty? The Broad? LACMA? Are you sure?

They are all impressive, and we love them. But consider: In 2019, the year before the pandemic, LAX handled more than 88 million passengers. In various

years before that, LA's biggest art museums drew maybe 10 million per year, as best we at the Club can calculate.

But wait, you say. LAX is, well, an airport. (And a great one.) But look around while you're getting your Starbucks and pulling up the boarding pass on your phone – there is fine art everywhere. Last year, 2021, LAX presented 119 different artworks in 18 different exhibits (some permanent, some limited-time).

The impressive LAX Art Program, the product of two City departments working together – LA World Airports and Cultural Affairs – and a local gallery, has turned LAX into a strong presenter of vibrant west coast contemporary art. LAX is often the only view of this vital art scene that visitors will ever experience, and the LAX Art Program takes that responsibility very seriously. (The program also includes performance art and music, which have been limited during the pandemic.)

In these pages we're showcasing the art at LAX that you may have missed, and encouraging you to look again.

(One important note for those wanting to experience the art firsthand: Your visit will have to be travel-related. Entry to LAX is allowed only for airline passengers and persons meeting, accompanying or assisting them, and airport personnel whose employment requires their presence. LAX is closed to the general public 24 hours a day, seven days a week.) ■



Tour the Galleries

Come along on a tour of the extensive and excellent artwork on exhibit at LAX.

- Most of this art is behind security, and LAX is not open to non-travelers or their hosts.
- These aren't all the exhibitions currently on display, just selections.
- Descriptions and captions are complete or excerpts courtesy LAX Art Program.

LA Rhapsody – Super Moon/Opus No. 1

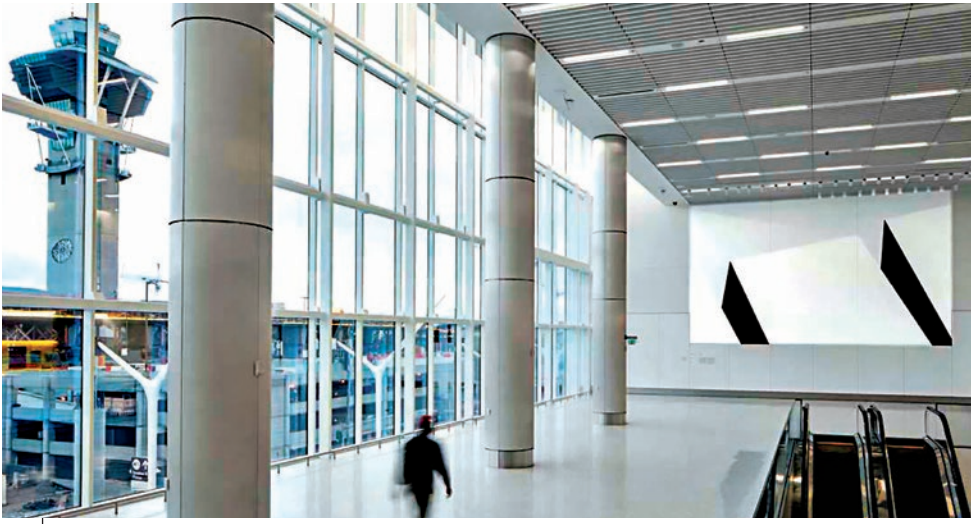
Karchi Perlmann
LOCATION: Level 3, post-security

▶ Upon first encounter, *LA Rhapsody* portrays a majestic view of the city, but closer inspection reveals that the artwork serves as a platform to examine the daily life of the city. It exposes a multichotomous world where the iconic, the privileged, the mundane and the underrepresented coexist within a stone's throw.

"LA Rhapsody – Super Moon / Opus No. 1," by Karchi Perlmann. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of a large panoramic photo on a wall in an airport terminal.



LAX Terminal I



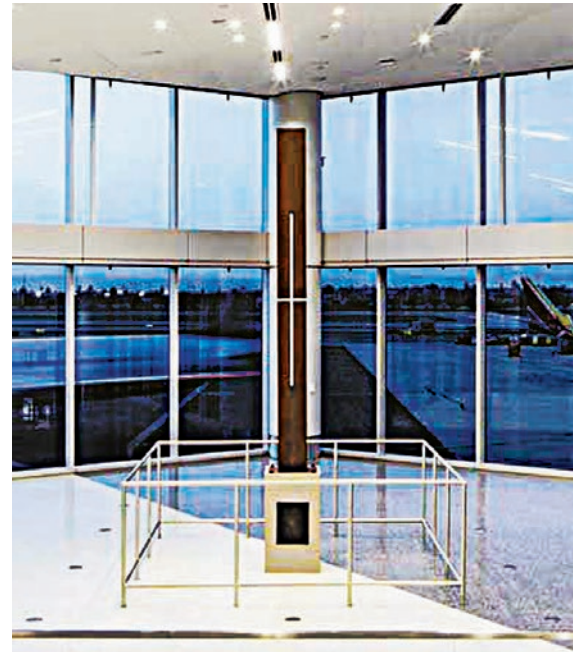
Opening

Tofer Chin

LOCATION: Level 3, pre-security

▶ In this light-filled lobby, viewers may observe how the mood of this site-specific mural changes throughout the day, creating a space to contemplate rigidity versus fluidity. Upon further reflection, one may consider what is seen and not seen, shifting one's perception to discover a doorway based upon a keyhole perspective of seeing only a portion of something, yet knowing more is beyond.

"Opening" by Tofer Chin. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of a black, white and grey geometric mural in an airport lobby.



Floating Lady IV

Tony DeLap

LOCATION: Departures Level, post-security

▶ Gracing the large, airy bus portal, the sculpture is an abstract illusionary work that challenges the viewer's perception of form. Composed of a Corten steel column bisected by a spine of clear acrylic, the 11-foot-tall artwork highlights DeLap's facility with geometric shapes and life-long interest in magic as the upper portion of the column appears to mysteriously float atop the lower segment.

"Floating Lady IV" by Tony DeLap. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of a sculpture with the airfield viewable from the windows behind it.



Your Body Is a Space That Sees

Lia Halloran

LOCATION: Gate 9, post-security

▶ Los Angeles artist Lia Halloran combines ink and light to celebrate women's contributions to science. Her large-scale cyanotypes recall telescopic views of the night sky, captured in photographic emulsion on glass plates in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and used by a group of female astronomers to make extraordinary discoveries about the universe.

"Your Body is a Space That Sees" by Lia Halloran. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of display case with artwork and framed prints on a wall.



About the LAX Art Program

The mission of the LAX Art Program is to present diverse and memorable art experiences to enhance and humanize the travel experience at LAX and the LAX FlyAway bus terminal in Van Nuys. Featuring local and regional artists through temporary exhibitions, permanent art installations and cultural performances, the Art Program provides access to an array of contemporary artworks that reflect and celebrate the region's creative caliber.

The LAX Art Program began in 1990 and has grown to include rotating art exhibitions, permanent public art installations and music and cultural performances to enhance and humanize the travel experience. Los Angeles World Airports has been partnering with the Dept. of Cultural Affairs for more than 17 years, during which time LAX has presented more than 150 art exhibits featuring hundreds of artists from Los Angeles and the surrounding region.



Craft in America: LA Scenes, various artists, curated by Emily Zaiden and Alex Miller. Terminal 1. Photo courtesy SKA Studios LLC.

The program presents up to 20 exhibitions a year in collaboration with Cultural Affairs to create vibrant public spaces at the airport.

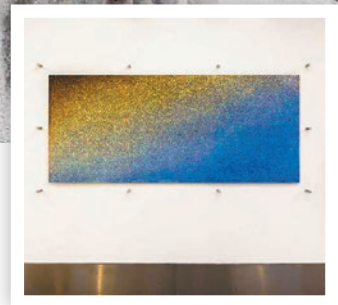
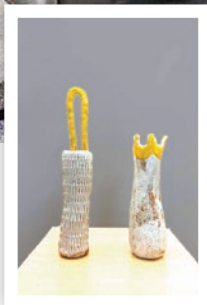
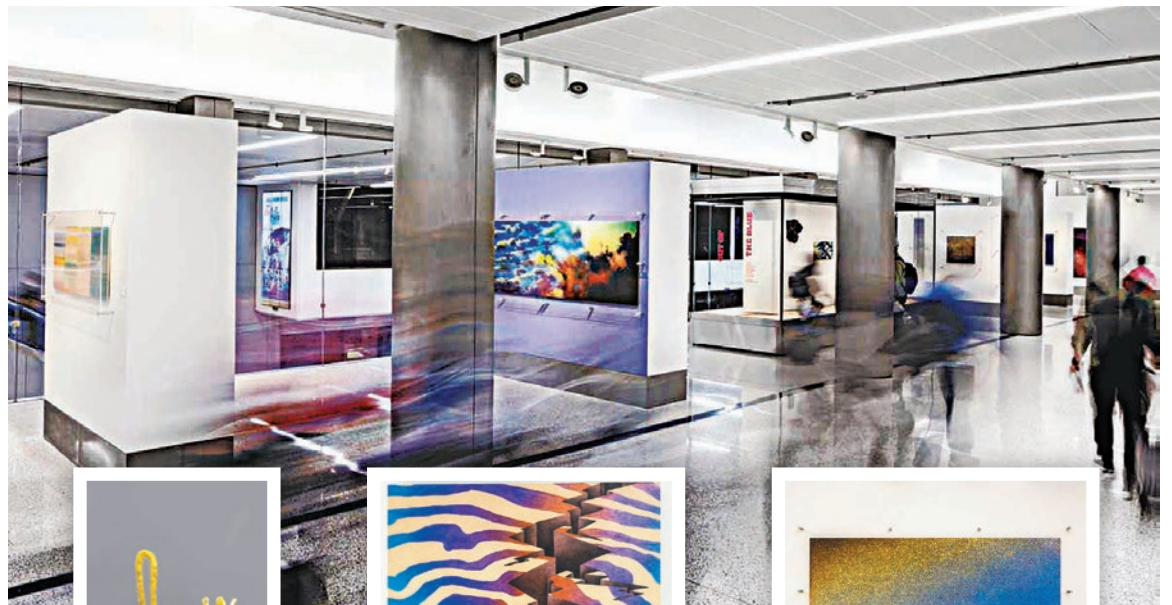
Exhibition sites are located at departure and arrival areas that serve both the traveling public and visitors alike. These intersecting sites of engagement provide the first experiences of contemporary Southern California art as travelers enter Los Angeles, and they offer the final artistic impression as travelers return home.

The LAX Art Program proudly features Southern California artists and curators working in the field today, resulting in exhibitions and installations that reflect the identity of Los Angeles—its aspirations, its values, and its imagination.

In 2021, the program displayed 18 exhibitions containing 119 artworks from paintings to sculptures and even a sound art installation that presents a tapestry of compositions reflecting Los Angeles' acoustic offerings.

A committee has been formed to begin to develop, curate and produce art for the airport's massive Landside Access Modernization Program consisting of a people mover and stations, new terminal buildings and bridges, and remote parking structures and a consolidated rental car facility. One percent of the total budget of the Landside Access Modernization Program is reserved for public art. ■

LAX Terminal 7



Out of the Blue

John David O'Brien (curator)

► *Out of the Blue* references perceptual attentiveness to visual components of art, specifically color and form. The seven artists in this exhibition investigate these elements to delve into their own perceptions. Once they have created a residue of that experience, it is left for you, the viewer, to unravel and relive in your own imagination. The question is, what do you see?

"Out of the Blue" curated by John David O'Brien. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of art gallery and display case with passengers walking by.



The Letting Go

Debra Scacco
LOCATION: Ticketing

► *The Letting Go* investigates the complex relationship between past and future, leaving and staying. Artist Debra Scacco's work questions the singularity of origins, history's impact on destinations, and our layered relationship with the space between. Formed from a world map and composed of 20,000 feet of rope, this complex web connects the seven continents to major bodies of water and detached landmasses, rendering visible the traces of the journey.

"The Letting Go" by Debra Scacco. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of a mostly blue rope installation on a grey wall in an airport terminal.



The Portrait Project

Eileen Cowin
LOCATION: Terminal 7-8 Connector

► Rushing through the airport to check bags, going through security, boarding the plane, we do not always pay attention to the employees helping us. The person checking us in could also be a mother, father, sister, maybe a poet, artist, fisherman, entrepreneur. This series of portraits highlights the people who work in various capacities at LAX and explores their diverse identities and characteristics.

"The Portrait Project" by Eileen Cowin. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of a vinyl mural of a portrait photograph in an airport terminal.

LAX Tom Bradley International Terminal



Tumbleweeds

Pontus Willfors
LOCATION: Post-security

► *Tumbleweeds* is a site-specific installation that features hand-crafted, botanical sculptures manipulated from wood. Inspired by the tumbleweeds found in the northeastern part of Los Angeles County that extends into the Mojave Desert, this installation manifests artist Pontus Willfors' ongoing investigation into nature and culture. More specifically, Willfors' work questions our human existence in relation to the natural world by examining a paradox: are humans part of nature or separate?

"Tumbleweeds" by Pontus Willfors. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Installation view of display case with sculptures inside.

The Friendly Skies

Diana Thater
LOCATION: West Gates North Window

► *The Friendly Skies* (2021) features a photograph by artist T. Kelly Mason of clouds over Los Angeles captured from an airplane as it approached the city. The installation freezes the windows in a forever holding pattern of daylight, and establishes a new, celestial dimension of space and time woven between the sky outside and the air inside the terminal. The seamless interaction of these three distinct, yet friendly, skies suggests that travelers from all around the world can bask in a similar peaceful coexistence. Exhibition curated by Megan Steinman.

"The Friendly Skies" by Diana Thater. Photo by SKA Studios LLC., courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports and City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Exhibition curated by Megan Steinman.



LAX Past Exhibitions **NOW CLOSED**

Douglas Fir Reclaimed

Pontus Willfors
LOCATION: Terminal 3 Arrivals Hallway, Baggage Claim

► Pontus Willfors created *Douglas Fir Reclaimed* from 405 two-by-four planks of Douglas fir that were reclaimed from a teardown in Los Angeles. Willfors vertically mounted the boards of varying lengths, side by side, creating a long plane of wood against the wall. With the timbers assembled as a giant, 90-foot wooden canvas, a life-size image of a Douglas fir tree is visible across the surface, horizontally stretching the expanse of the wall.

Photo credit: PanicStudio L.A.



Laurel Canyon, Chaparral Habitat: Native Flora and Fauna

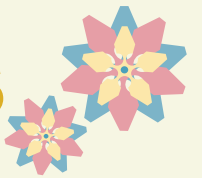
Cathy Weiss
LOCATION: Terminal 3 Arrivals Hallway, Baggage Claim

► Cathy Weiss' installation features large-scale, boldly colored woodcut prints inspired by the indigenous wonders of Laurel Canyon in the Hollywood Hills.

Photo credit: PanicStudio L.A.



Life's Important Moments



Share your news... and send in a photo!

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. We love to share your good news.

Send your photos and text online:
alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments



- Births**
- Weddings**
- Graduations**
- Special Achievements**
- Military Service**
- Tell Their Story**

Retirements

View retirements online at: alive.employeesclub.com/retirements-202203

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City in Jan. 2022. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Aguilera, Daniel Phillip	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	19	Henkhaus, Teresa	Pr. Construction Insprtr.	Harbor	40	Rafols, Oliva	Pr. Accountant	Econ/Wrkfc. Dev.	20
Albers, Frank Henry	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Harbor	41	Hollis, Robert L.	Security Officer	Airports	32	Rafols, Rico	Benefits Analyst	LACERS	15
Ayrapetyan, Ela M.	Child Care Associate	Rec and Parks	6	Huerta, Julie Wichmann	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Harbor	35	Rauhut, Richard Roy	Port Pilot	Harbor	21
Bautista, Kathleen M.	Sr. Administrative Clerk	Harbor	36	Ishimaru, Cindy K.	Exec. Admin. Asst.	Harbor	37	Rebal, Virginia R.	Human Resources	LADWP	N/D
Bedlion, Curt C.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Jaramillo, Maureen	Labor Relations	LADWP	N/D	Richard, Tracy R.	Mgmt. Analyst	LAPD	33
Blue, Yolanda T.	Maintenance Laborer	Airports	20	Jaramillo, Ralph M.	Power New Business	LADWP	N/D	Rondinella, Barry A.	Director, Airport Ops.	Airports	4
Board, Nina M.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Jimenez, Daniel Jesus	Plumber	Gen. Services	16	Rumpf, Marshall Alan	Sr. Bldg. Mech. Insprtr.	Bldg. & Safety	36
Bondoc, Catherine C.	Chief Accountant	Econ/Wrkfc. Dev.	30	Jones, Renell Marie	Administrative Clerk	Public Works	22	Sharp, Michael Robert	Electrical Mechanic	Harbor	28
Briggs, Jeffrey A.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Juarez, Arthur J.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Shelly, Robert Thomas	Sr. Build. Mech. Insprtr.	Bldg. & Safety	20
Cappa, Mary Ann	Librarian	Library	19	Karimi, Zeinab	Database Architect	Harbor	30	Shelton, Earl D.	Security Officer	Airports	18
Cardamone, Janie Marie	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Harbor	41	Koeller, Vincent L.	Benefits Specialist	LACERS	37	Shu, Xiao Qiu	Librarian	Library	30
Castillo, Gloria	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Koh, Thomas Y.	Sr. Systems Analyst	Library	16	Soo Hoo, Ken K.	Comm. Eng. Associate	Harbor	14
Comisari, Albert E.	Building Insprtr.	Bldg. & Safety	26	Lam, Kenneth C.	Comm. Eng. Assoc.	ITA	19	Stewart, William James	Park Activity Monitor	Rec and Parks	2
Dawson, Michael Patrick	Sr. Electrical Insprtr.	Harbor	31	Lee, Sam	Structural Eng. Assoc.	Bldg. & Safety	9	Story, Michael D.	Civilian Security Officer	LAPD	33
Dominguez, Alfonso S.	Sr. Construction Insprtr.	Harbor	36	Livera, Shawnie L.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	23	Thomas, Steven F.	Bulk Power	LADWP	N/D
Dunlap, Leslie	Sr. Plumber	Harbor	15	Loftin, Chuck H.	Asst. Park Svcs. Attend.	Rec and Parks	8	Tsovanayan, Gagik	Comm. Electrician	ITA	18
Evans, Andre Dion	Traffic Officer	Transportation	31	Lopez, Gabriel	Plumber	Public Works	30	Velasquez, Joe	Sr. Building Insprtr.	Bldg. & Safety	35
Felix, Rosario	Administrative Clerk	Public Works	17	Lorenzana, Leticia Elliot	Personnel Dir.	Harbor	43	Walsh, David M.	Chief Harbor Engineer	Harbor	37
Flanagan, Thomas M.	Sr. Wastewater Treat. Op.	Public Works	9	Magee, Charlotte A.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Weaver, James Douglas	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	14
Fowler, Frankie Bernice	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	23	Marroquin, Susana Cynthia	Custodian	Gen. Services	14	Wei, Kelvin K.	Programmer/Analyst	Harbor	27
Frey, Thomas M.	Sr. Park Maint. Supv.	Rec and Parks	29	Martinez, Alfonso	Municipal Officer	LAPD	31	Williams, Kolin S.	Equipment Mechanic	LAPD	16
Fuentes, Beatrice	Admin. Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	22	McClung, Darren Charles	Survey Party Chief	Harbor	33	Wong, Chun Kwok	Transportation Eng.	Transportation	24
Gallegos, Leonard	Construction Insprtr.	Harbor	33	Morgan, Dusty	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Wong, Hak Ning	Port Electrical Mech.	Harbor	30
Gibbs, John Patrick	Equipment Mechanic	LAPD	16	Morimoto, Masashi	Dir. of Port Marketing	Harbor	37	Woodson, Alvin Wayne	Building Repairer	Rec and Parks	15
Globus, Regner	Property Manager	Harbor	31	Navarro, Miguel	Wastewater Coll. Wrkr.	Public Works	19	Yogi, Phyllis Junko	Sr. Personnel Analyst	Harbor	34
Gomez, Rafael	Garage Attendant	Airports	33	Nelson, Kirby K.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	Yoshioka, Steve K.	Sr. Construction Insprtr.	Harbor	33
Gonzalez, Jaime L.	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D	Nguyen, Thomas Michael	Systems Programmer	Harbor	20				
Grossi, Chris	Sr. Civil Engineer	Harbor	32	Olds, James H.	Audit Mgr.	Harbor	13				
Gutierrez, Gerald	Heavy Duty Truck Oper.	Public Works	15	Piccardo, Carmelita E.	Energy Dist.	LADWP	N/D				
Harvey, Douglas E.	St. Services Supv.	Public Works	30	Rabrenovich, Alexander	Chief Benefits Analyst	LACERS	32				

N/D = not disclosed

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
ACTIVE		Doucette, Michael J.	Airports 11	Markham, Patricia M.	N/D N/D
Chaplin, Leslie H.	LADWP 16	Ellis, Linda G.	LADWP 25	May, Douglas M.	Harbor 35
Fontamillas, Jesus G.	Public Works 22	Erlandson, Irving T.	N/D N/D	Mendiola, Jose G.	N/D N/D
Guerrero, Guadalupe	Rec and Parks 23	Escalante, Jessie T.	LADWP 31	Moore, Timothy A.	Bldg. & Safety 18
Johnson, Robin P.	LADWP 32	Faisy, Don	LADWP 30	Moore, Wanda L.	N/D N/D
Lynum, Rita	City Attorney 20	Fernandez, Fred R.	N/D N/D	Nelson, Richard L.	LADWP 21
Rodriguez, Omar E.	Airports 26	Funk, Rose M.	N/D N/D	Newhard, Robert D.	N/D N/D
Torres, Noe	ITA 16	Giles II, Kempilton L.	LADWP 26	O'Dell, Robin E.	Airports 24
Ward, LT	Airports 14	Gonzalez, Juana	LADWP 19	Ogle, Susan F.	Rec and Parks 15
		Guillemette, Homer W.	Harbor 32	Orosco, V. Tirado	Public Works 41
		Hanna, Pamela G.	Animal Services 32	Owens, William K.	Public Works 24
RETIRED		Harris, Richard B.	Rec and Parks 32	Ponce, Filena D.	Airports 17
Avery, Earl W.	LADWP 27	Harris, Ronald C.	Public Works 43	Portolese, Giuseppe	General Services 8
Alexander, John H.	Airports 12	Hayes, Leslie	LADWP 35	Protesta, Roland B.	Housing 29
Arevalo, Danny F.	Public Works 30	Hays, Lu Ellen	LADWP 34	Rendon, Honorato O.	LAPD 22
Barbarino, Michael A.	N/D N/D	Hoeberg, Charles H.	LADWP 21	Reyes, Victor	Rec and Parks 21
Brooks, Sammy J.	N/D N/D	Hudson, Ivory P.	Public Works 17	Ross, Faye B.	N/D N/D
Burrell, Wayne D.	N/D N/D	Jackson, Thiren D.	Public Works 13	Sawyer, Rose B.	LADWP 34
Canales, Luis M.	Airports 18	Jellison, Ramon L.	N/D N/D	Scottini, Lawrence E.	Airports 8
Chavez, Pedro O.	LADWP 33	Jordan, Linda A.	LADWP 45	Sepulveda, Luis O.	N/D N/D
Claiborne, Wilford	N/D N/D	Kawashita, Joseph K.	LADWP 38	Shimatsu, Rokuro R.	N/D N/D
Codina, Frank R.	LADWP 40	Kellotat, Marcia D.	N/D N/D	Sifuentes, Ricardo	N/D N/D
Cornell, David	LADWP 29	Kelly, Quinon D.	Public Works 30	Telles, David M.	Public Works 33
De Bruin, Joan A.	Cultural Affairs 18	Levin, Arthur M.	Zoo 46	Wallace, T. Patricia	ITA 30
Derrick, Kim H.	General Services 22				

N/D = not disclosed

Help Us Tell Their Story



Every month, *Alive!* publishes the names of those current or retired City Employees who have died. But who were they?

Did you know them? If you worked with any of these people, knew a story or two about them or were related to them, consider writing to *Alive!* and letting us know. Tell their story!

- Write a few sentences or paragraphs
- Send in a photo, if you have one
- Let us know your name and connection to the deceased
- Send your memories to: talkback@employeesclub.com
Subject line: *Tell Their Story*

Photos courtesy Retired Capt. Dave Storaker and Capt. Alex Vargas

In Remembrance



Gordon Brooks

Library, 36 years of City service

Remembrance written by Betty Uyeda
Retired, ITA, 15 years of City service

As I enter my 10th year as a member of the Employees Club of California, I received the February 2022 issue of *Alive!* the other day. I was saddened to see that the section "In Memoriam" listed a familiar name, L. Gordon Brooks. This must have been Gordon Brooks, I thought sadly, seeing that he served 36 years in the Library.

Gordon worked at the Central Library for some or all of the years I was there from 1976 to 1986. We did not have too many conversations, maybe because I was a young Clerk-Typist, and he was a professional Librarian. We did not work in the same section, but because he roamed the book stacks throughout the Central Library, our paths naturally crossed.

Gordon belonged to a special "elite" group of librarians at Central - he was a SCAN Librarian. The acronym stands for Southern California Answering Network. Formed in the late 1960s, SCAN was headquartered at Los Angeles Public Library and was the last recourse in Southern California for difficult reference questions that needed to be answered. SCAN was supported by federal funds for library services.

Before the convenient days of the World Wide Web and Google, anyone seeking information on anything from businesses to health advice to homework assistance to puzzle solutions heavily depended on the Library for its books, newspaper clippings, indexes, encyclopedias, guides, maps, and so on. Gordon was one of the many subject specialists who made up SCAN.

My memory of Gordon is of him standing by a shelf holding an open book and being deeply immersed. He was someone I did not know well at all, yet after more than 40 years what resonates is the quiet kindness he bestowed upon me.

Out of curiosity I speedily conducted "arm chair" Internet research. I uncovered that the game of chess was a lifelong avocation for Gordon - he presided over the Santa Monica Bay Chess Club; he voluntarily organized local area championship tournaments; and at the Arcadia Chess Club he competed in 732 games in a span of 20 years. I learned that in 1967 he was on staff at the Central Library, and on the job he equally demonstrated activism - he was on a committee that soon became the Librarians Guild and a chartered union in the AFL-CIO by 1968.

These discoveries about his life allow me to come to the conclusion that Gordon Brooks led a very impactful life.



Gordon Brooks (left) accesses the SCAN equipment (the same task Betty Uyeda mentions in her essay) at the Central Library, 1984. With Gordon (Social Science Specialist) are David Gonnella (Library Assistant, center) and Evelyn Greenwald (Director). Photo courtesy the American Library Association Archives

Rich Retires

Lt. II Rich Thomas retires from LAPD Communications.

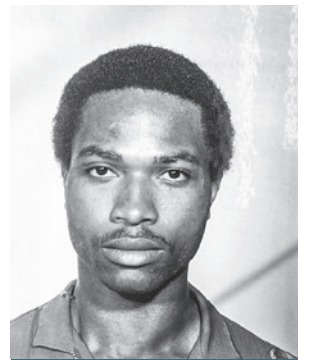
LAPD: Lt. II Rich Thomas retires from LAPD Communications.

A retirement event was held Jan. 19 for Lt. II Rich Thomas, who retires from LAPD/Communications after 38 years of City service.

His last shift was Jan. 1.

He was assigned to LAPD/Communications for five years and overall LAPD for 38 years. He also worked three years for the Berkeley, Calif. Police Dept.

Congratulations, Lt.! Have a great retirement. ■



38 years of service.



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



Hawaii

John Burnes, *Alive!* editor, and Dearbhla McNulty spent the holidays in Hawaii, safely. Aloha!

Letter From England, Pt. 4

Capt. Michael Barnes, Retired, Harbor, traveled to the land of his birth, England, post-vaccination.



King Alfred's Poster

The Ancient, Friendly Town of Winchester

If you are visiting England for the first time or passing through London's Heathrow Airport to catch a cruise ship from Southampton, the lovely picturesque city of Winchester might be a perfect destination. I suggest you get to Terminal 2 and catch the National Express coach for a one-hour ride along the M3 motorway to central Winchester. After a long flight, the last thing travelers want is to struggle with your luggage on the Underground or hire an overpriced car rental driving through traffic on the "wrong" side of the road. Coach tickets can be bought in advance online, and my advice is to always pay the small extra fee in case your flight is delayed.

Winchester is a city, but it feels more like a bustling market town. Apart from great historical interest, Winchester has been voted as the top place to live in England. This accolade is due in large part to the friendly ambience and low crime rate. It is a city geared up for tourism with a broad range of accommodations - Mercure Winchester Wessex Hotel, centrally located in the high street area, offers cathedral views and an assortment of coffee shops where we enjoyed tasty cakes and a quick caffeine and sugar

boost (!) while we sat listening to street buskers.

The Old Vine pub stands at the end of the Square near a tree-lined path leading to the cathedral entrance. Many restaurants are offering patrons alfresco dining. We enjoyed something different when we tried the Stable Pizza, which specializes in unusual pizzas, and a pint (or two) of real Somerset Cider. After our lunch we took some time to wander around Great Minster Street and the Square. We came upon the 24 bollards that are painted in the style of famous artists, like Henri Matisse, Piet Mondrian and Jackson Pollock.

Entering Winchester by coach at the eastern end of the Broadway you're met with a striking statue of King Alfred the Great standing in the center of the road facing toward the center. The coach stops adjacent to the statue; from there it is a two-minute walk to the impressive Gothic Revival-styled Guildhall and Tourist Information Office beside the beautiful Abbey Gardens' well-tended flower borders alongside the river.

When the Romans invaded Britain under Caesar in AD 43, they made Winchester their capital city named Venta Belgarum. Later the invading Saxons called the Roman settlement Venta Caester or Marketplace of the Belgae, which then became...



Winchester Visitor Information Center in the Gothic looking Guildhall.

The adventures of Michael Barnes continue page 21



Take *Alive!* with you, wherever you go!

- Snap a high resolution photo of you holding *Alive!*
- Go to: alive.employeesclub.com and click "SEND TO ALIVE!" in the menu. You'll find a convenient online form to send your text and pics for publication.

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

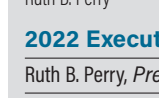
RLACEI

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



Ruth B. Perry

2022 Executive Board of Directors

- Ruth B. Perry, *President*
- Beverly J. Clark, *First Vice President*
- Mark Blunk, *Second Vice President*
- Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, *Treasurer*
- Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, *Secretary*

RLACEI DIRECTORS
Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

Beverly Anderson, Director	Ext. 702
Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, Treasurer	Ext. 718
Mark Blunk, Audit Chair	Ext. 704
Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director	Ext. 716
Dennis Harding, Entertainment Director	Ext. 706
Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, Secretary	Ext. 719
Tom Moutes, Health & Legislative Director	Ext. 710
Ruth B. Perry, Membership Director	Ext. 717
Elizabeth Torres, Director	Ext. 703

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 to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.
EMAIL: 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 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 or
Phone: (800) 678-4145 ext 716

RETIREE EVENTS

- April 14, 2022 Spring Fling**
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Grace E. Simons Lodge
1025 Elysian Park Dr.
 - June 2, 2022 Tom Stemnock Annual Golf Tournament**
Shotgun 7 a.m. Alhambra Golf Course
630 S. Almansor St. Alhambra
 - Aug. 11, 2022 Annual Picnic**
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Grace E. Simons Lodge
1025 Elysian Park Dr.
 - Dec. 15, 2022 Annual Holiday Party**
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Dr.
- Reservation Line:**
RLACEI events (800) 678-4145, ext. 70

FROM THE 19TH HOLE

Review: Las Vegas Golf Club Course

By Mike Perez, RLACEI Golf Committee Chair



Mike Perez

I recently had the pleasure of joining my friend of decades, Steve King (Retired from the LADOT), for a round of golf at the Las Vegas Golf Club course minutes away from the strip. We used to play basketball and softball (on the Intergalactic), but ahem, that was a couple of minutes ago.

The Las Vegas Golf Course is fairly flat; a few of the holes are bordered by streets, but most are not. I played in the fall, and the weather was perfect – polo shirt, beautiful blue skies, puffy white clouds and snow-covered mountains in the distance. There’s a huge driving range, hitting off mats, and the facility is well organized and in good shape. The course is 5,917 yards playing from mid tees. One of the holes I liked best was number 3, a 98-yard par-three over water and backed by four bunkers.

The course was designed in 1938 by famous golf course architect William P. Bell and still provides wide fairways, generous greens and many stunning backdrops. Timing the round to finish at dusk – well you know – you can catch some incredible views.

I’d certainly play this course again, but I also wanted to bring up a course Steve mentioned called Bear’s Best in Las Vegas.

The Bear was Jack Nicklaus, one of the best golfers of all time, who also designed golf courses around the world. These courses are the inspiration for the 18 holes of Bear’s Best in Las Vegas. The



course is near Summerlin, at 11111 W. Flamingo Rd. in Las Vegas. I couldn’t play the course but I did visit it, and it looks amazing. The practice facility is wide, long and full of healthy grass. Many of the holes have views of Vegas, so a round includes incredible vistas. Vegas has quite a few courses, so let me know of any you recommend!

If you don’t have time for a round, try the TaylorMade Golf Experience on Las Vegas Boulevard near the airport. It has a double deck driving range if you just want to hit that, but you can set up a time to try out clubs and get fitted. In addition, it has a nice little par-three course. Being near the airport, there’s wind and the planes fly overhead, but what a great time to practice shots into the wind!

Keep it on the short grass. ■

1st Annual Tom Stemnock Memorial Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 2, 2022

The 1st Annual Tom Stemnock Memorial Golf Tournament sponsored by the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc., will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2022 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. Free range balls at driving range until 7:15 a.m. • SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

- The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$75 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 Monday, May 23, 2022.
- Send check and registration form to: RLACEI, P.O. Box 86264, Los Angeles, CA 90086.
- For questions, please call Ruth Perry at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 717 or email Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org

2022 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Amount Included \$ _____ \$75 for RLACEI and City Employees Club Members
\$80 for all others
\$25 for luncheon only

Make checks payable to RLACEI. NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

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

— RLACEI CONTINUES PAGE 18

LACERS BOARD UPDATE

LACERS Adopts New Benchmark for Private Equity

by Michael R. Wilkinson, LACERS Commissioner
 Email: MikeWilkinson4LACERS@gmail.com



Michael R. Wilkinson

When I sit down to write this column every month, I do what I can to keep from “getting deep in the weeds,” becoming too preoccupied with details or complexities of how our pension plan is run. However, every now and then I see a reason to break one of my rules. Like today, when I want to cover how we evaluate performance in one of our most profitable asset classes, private equity.

Private equity covers a wide range of investments that have the potential for very high returns. However, unlike publicly traded securities, there is no daily pricing of private equity investments that can be used as a good yardstick (benchmark) for investment performance comparisons.

Why is this so? First, let’s look at what we are doing and why. The LACERS Board and investment staff want a good yardstick to measure performance. For instance, if the asset class is big U.S. companies, then we use the Standard and Poors S&P 500 index as that asset class benchmark. Stocks of the largest 500 publicly traded U.S. companies are in that index, and their prices are readily available. This is a straightforward approach used to compare and evaluate the investment performance of LACERS’ investment managers that use strategies and skill to actively buy and sell some of those same stocks, with the goal of outperforming that S&P 500 index benchmark after fees.

There is nothing directly comparable for private equity, so we have been using a custom benchmark – the Russell 3000 index *plus* an additional three percent. The Russell 3000 index is comprised of the largest 3,000 U.S. stocks. We added three percent as an additional investment performance hurdle as a “liquidity premium,” to compensate for private equity investments being locked up for years. In other words, we expect private equity’s investment performance to outperform the Russell 3000 index by three percent.

Since the timing of valuations between securities in public equity markets and the more difficult-to-price private equity holdings are often out of sync, the result can sometimes be very misleading.

A good example is LACERS’ recent private equity one-year return for the period ending Sept. 30, 2021 of 56.79 percent. This exceeded our benchmark by 21.05 percent. While we are pleased by this result, we understand that part of the magnitude of the outperformance was driven by the timing of the valuations.

The opposite market climate can also give inaccurate readings. There have been and will continue to be occasions in which private equity investments lagged valuations or are equal to or underperforming those in public markets. In those situations, the Russell 3000 plus three percent sets a very high bar that makes nearly all private equity investments look less attractive.

Another limitation of using the Russell 3000 index plus three percent as LACERS’ private equity benchmark is that this index is made up solely of publicly traded U.S. companies. However, approximately 23 percent of LACERS’ private equity portfolio is invested in *non-U.S.* companies.

The LACERS Board approved a joint recommendation from our general investment consultant, NEPC, and our private equity consultant, Aksia ToreyCove Partners, to begin using the Cambridge Global Private Equity and Venture Capital Index as a private equity benchmark. It is a better representation of LACERS’ private equity portfolio and provides a robust, meaningful universe for peer group comparisons. ■



A New 2022
 RLACEI Event!

Spring Fling



Come join the fun!

Thurs., April 14, 2022

11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Grace E. Simons Lodge
 1025 Elysian Park Dr.
 Los Angeles, Calif. 90012



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

Proof of Vaccination and Mask Required

RSVP: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 701 – no later than April 1, 2022

Limit one (1) RLACEI member plus one (1) guest at no cost.



RLACEI 2022 SPRING FLING EVENT RESERVATION

NAME _____

PHONE (_____) _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: 1 or 2 (check one box)



Email this information by April 1 to: contact@RLACEI.org or
 Mail to: RLACEI, P.O. Box 86264, Los Angeles, CA 90086



Correction

In the RLACEI Spring Fling notice in last month’s issue, we listed the RLACEI contact phone number incorrectly. The correct number for reservations is (800) 678-4145, ext. 701. We apologize for any difficulties you might have experienced in making reservations for this fun event, and we encourage you to try again, if you haven’t already. – Ed.

Refer a Friend, Get a \$25 Target Gift Card

Let your fellow City Retiree friends know about the great benefits of being an RLACEI member. Encourage them to call (800) 678-4145, ext. 717, or visit the Website at RLACEI.org, to join today!

- 100 gift cards are available to be won.
- Refer a Friend Campaign begins January 1, 2022.
- Once they join RLACEI and mention you, the gift card is yours!

What are you waiting for? Refer a friend today!

Looking for a Board Member With Computer Skills

Computer savvy RLACEI Board Director needed! Experience and skills in Webpage maintenance, Facebook management and extensive Microsoft Office proficiency particularly wanted. Other computer skills greatly appreciated.

If you enjoy working with and assisting City retirees, join us.

For more information on this position contact:

Dennis Harding at: (800) 678-4145, ext. 706
 Email: Dennis.Harding@RLACEI.org or
 Beverly Clark at: Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org

Follow RLACEI on Facebook



Connect to RLACEI on Facebook, and you’ll be eligible to win a \$5 gift card for See’s Candies or Starbucks or one RLACEI reusable cloth bag. Prizes will go to the first 150 to like the RLACEI Facebook page.

YOU COULD WIN!



How to enter

CURRENT RLACEI MEMBERS: Follow us on Facebook

OTHER CITY RETIREES: Join RLACEI and like us on Facebook

February Winners

New RLACEI Members – Welcome!: Judy Mirto

Following RLACEI Facebook Page: David Leatherman and Ray Serna

Congratulations for joining RLACEI and our Facebook page! Follow RLACEI here: www.facebook.com, and search for “RLACEI”

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.
RLACEI
 — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

RETIREES ON THE MOVE

She's a Retiree on the Move.

(Pt. 3)

Celebration: Carrie Turns 100!

By Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

Photos by Summy Lam, Club VP of Marketing

In the last two issues, we chronicled Carrie Adelia Gabriel, an amazing Retiree on the move and an L.A. historical figure, as she turns 100.

It was an honor to represent RLACEI in the celebration of Ms. Carrie Gabriel's 100th birthday at her home Jan. 28. Joining in the celebration were her son, Robert Rainey; Club CEO Robert Larios and Vice President of Marketing Summy Lam; my husband, David Clark; and Ms. Gabriel's long-time friend for over 60 years whom she supervised for several years, Mrs. Letty Herndon and her husband, James.



From left: Beverly Clark, First Vice President, RLACEI; Carrie Gabriel; and Club CEO Robert Larios.



Carrie Gabriel with her son, Robert Rainey.



Carrie Gilbert (right) with her longtime friend, Letty Herndon.

Carrie's home was adorned with balloons, flowers and birthday decorations. Robert Larios presented her with a beautiful plaque from the Club. RLACEI provided Carrie a chocolate birthday cake, her favorite, and a variety of balloons including three large purple balloons with the number 100. RLACEI Director Liz Torres created a personalized birthday card to commemorate this celebration.



Carrie Gabriel with the birthday cake supplied by RLACEI.

Carrie received a certificate of recognition from Mayor Eric Garcetti, a resolution from the Los Angeles City Council, a letter of congratulations from Gov. Gavin Newsom and many cards and letters from dignitaries, friends and family from across the country. She did not want a big celebration due to pandemic restrictions, but that did not stop several well-wishers from stopping by to congratulate her and drop off tokens of love and appreciation.

Carrie says, "I'm still riding high on cloud nine!" She thanks all who celebrated with her and wished her a happy birthday. ■

RETIREES UPDATE



Tom Moutes

The Structure of The LACERS Board

by Tom Moutes, RLACEI Legislative Director

Email: Tom.Moutes@RLACEI.org

With Mayor Eric Garcetti likely heading off to India in the near future, it's a good time to review the structure of the LACERS Board of Administration.

The LACERS Board consists of seven members:

- Four are appointed by the mayor (one of whom is required to be a LACERS Retiree);
- Two are elected by active LACERS members; and
- One is elected by Retired LACERS members.

The Board members are appointed to fixed five-year terms and have staggered end dates at the end of fiscal years.

The four appointed Board members frequently are replaced fairly shortly after a new mayor comes into office. Often, a new mayor will replace board members on higher profile City commissions before getting around to the LACERS Board, but traditionally the time does come for new appointments.

Because the mayor does get to appoint a majority of the LACERS Board, the selection and vetting of the proposed commissioners should be very important to LACERS members. This is especially true for the appointed Board member who is a LACERS retiree, as this position presumably was created to help provide some balance between the appointed and elected Board members.

As the appointed Board members tend to be replaced with each new mayoral administration, it's important to have experienced elected commissioners during these times of transition. It takes time – usually a couple of years – for new Board members to fully understand their roles and the various retirement concepts they need to grasp. While the learning process is taking place, it is the experienced commissioners – usually the elected ones – who must be extra vigilant for the protection of our hard-earned retirement benefits. ■

A Pandemic Novel

Retiree expands short story into a book.

LADWP: Late in 2020, LADWP Retiree Ben Alirez wrote a short story about the pandemic, and the story was published in *Survival: Tales of Pandemic*, an anthology published by the High Desert California Writers Club, to which he belongs.

"It was my intention to see the short story become a full-length novel," he tells *Alive!* "Well, I'm happy to say that after 20 long months, I have finally completed it."

Well done, Ben!

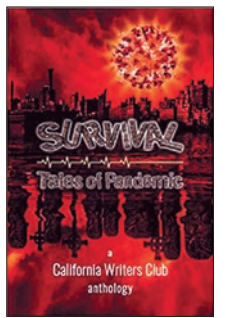
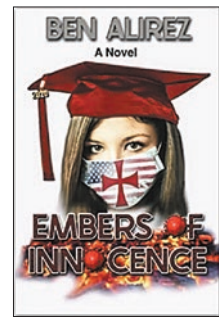
His new book, *Embers of Innocence: A Novel*, centers around three protagonists who are experiencing the onset of the pandemic and its impact on their lives. And since the story takes place in Southern California, there are some references to eating establishments in and around Los Angeles or sports teams.

Writing it "was quite challenging, certainly equal to anything I've ever undertaken while working in the City," he continues. "But it was a labor a love from start to finish."

"Without question, writing continues to give me that sense of purpose I lost after retiring. And the fact that I can share messages of hope through my writing is just another way I can continue to be a civil servant (of sorts)."

Ben retired from the LADWP in July 2018 with 33 years of City service.

The book is available on Amazon. Ben hopes to also offer an e-book in the near future. ■



Ben Alirez holds the anthology, *Survival: Tales of Pandemic*, published by the High Desert California Writers Club, in December 2020. He wrote a short story that was included in the anthology; the short story formed the basis of his new novel.



Ben Alirez, Retired, LADWP, has self-published *Embers of Innocence: A Novel*.

Goodbye, Janna

Janna Sidley, Harbor's General Counsel out of the Office of the City Attorney, retired Feb. 11 after 19 years of distinguished City service.



Janna Sidley

CITY ATTORNEY: In 2019, Janna was named Government/Municipal General Counsel of the Year by the Los Angeles Business Journal.

She was also appointed to the state of California's "Little Hoover" Commission, an independent state oversight panel. The Commission investigates state government operations and policy, and through reports and legislative proposals, makes recommendations to the Governor and Legislature to promote economy, efficiency and improved service in state operations.

Prior to joining the Port, Sidley served as a Deputy City Attorney in the City Attorney's Office from 2003 to 2013, and as assistant U.S. Attorney in the Criminal and Civil Division at the U.S. Department of Justice from 1998 to 2002. She also previously served as the Deputy Director in the Office on Violence Against Women from 1997 to 1998, and as the Deputy Director of the Office of Press Advance at The White House from 1995 to 1996. She holds a law degree from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles and a bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

Congratulations on your retirement, Janna. ■

Janna Sidley received the 2019 *Los Angeles Business Journal* Leaders in Law award.



Changing of the Chief

Chief Terrazas to retire; Fire Marshal Crowley nominated.

LAFD: On Jan. 18, Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Council President Nury Martinez announced that Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas will retire after nearly 40 years of City service, and that Kristin Crowley, a top deputy with 25 years of City service, has been nominated as its next Chief. At press time, she awaits confirmation by the City Council. Her current title is Acting Administrative Operations Chief Deputy and Fire Marshal. If confirmed, she will be the City's 19th Fire Chief and the first woman to ever lead the LAFD.

"Throughout her distinguished career, Kristin Crowley has proven her brilliance, determination and bravery on the job again and again," said Mayor Eric Garcetti in a statement. "She's also shown this City her heart, with her tireless commitment to helping students access life-changing educational opportunities. There is no one better equipped to lead the LAFD at this moment than Kristin. She's ready to make history, and I'm proud to nominate her as the Department's next Chief."

Crowley is a 22-year veteran of the LAFD who has moved seamlessly through the ranks, proving her credibility and character along the way. She made history as the Department's first female Fire Marshal and is the second woman to earn the rank of Chief Deputy.



Fire Marshal Kristin Crowley

Chief Deputy Crowley, who serves as program director for the LAFD's youth development program, has played a key role in ensuring that more than 1,000 LAUSD high school students continue in their education.

In her current role, she helped to develop a five-year strategic plan to identify areas of growth within the Department and foster culture more open to change. As Chief, she plans to work to both deepen existing efforts and create new mechanisms to foster equity and inclusion in the Department.

"I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to be the next Fire Chief of the Los Angeles City Fire Dept. and to lead the Department into the future," Crowley said in a statement. "As the Fire Chief, if confirmed, I vow to take a strategic and balanced approach to ensure we meet the needs of the community we serve. We will focus our efforts on increasing our operational effectiveness, enhancing firefighter safety and wellbeing, and fully commit to fostering a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture within the LAFD. Thank you, Mayor Garcetti, Council President Martinez, and Chief Terrazas for entrusting me to lead and to work with the dedicated women and

men of the finest department in the world."

men of the finest department in the world."

Chief Terrazas, who was sworn in as L.A.'s Fire Chief in 2014, was the first Latino to serve in that role. A 39-year veteran of the Department, Chief Terrazas helped steer the City through some of its greatest challenges, and brought about meaningful advancements and innovations within the Fire Department.

Early in his time leading LAFD, Chief Terrazas oversaw the rebuilding of the Department, which had stopped hiring new firefighters for five years as a result of the Great Recession. In 2015, he successfully reorganized the Department into four bureaus – the first restructuring of LAFD in 50 years, which helped to enhance accountability and improve service delivery.

Chief Terrazas also launched and implemented a variety of innovative initiatives, including Advanced Provider Response Units, Alternate Destination Response Units, and Fast Response Vehicles, efforts that enable firefighters to go beyond simply bringing patients to emergency rooms. Chief Terrazas has also made diversity a top priority – for the first time in department history, 51.4 percent of firefighters are now people of color. Since 2014, the Department has maintained a steady



Chief Ralph Terrazas

increase in the number of hired sworn women at LAFD. Of the current sworn force, more than half of those who are currently employed were hired on in the last eight years, and nearly 10 percent were brought on in 2021.

Under his leadership, the LAFD supervised the City's free public

COVID-19 testing and vaccination programs, which has administered nearly 4.86 million tests and approximately 1.43 million vaccinations to date. The City of L.A.'s testing effort was the nation's largest municipal testing program and tested more than 40,000 Angelenos per day at its peak.

"It was a privilege to serve as the Fire Chief of this world-class Department," said Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas. "For nearly eight years, we made considerable strides in technology, implemented innovative ways to respond to emergencies, and became a model for other agencies. Chief Crowley is an exemplary leader and has been successful at every position, and I expect her success to continue as the next Fire Chief."

The Club congratulates Chief Terrazas on a noteworthy career, and congratulates Chief Crowley in anticipation of her confirmation. ■

Celebrate With Cheryl!

Popular Club Counselor Cheryl Martin is turning 63 next year and celebrating in Greece. Sign up now to join the fun!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Travel dates: Oct. 13-21, 2022 (nine days)
- Starting price: \$4,069, double occupancy, including air and hotel
- Deposit: \$99 down with monthly payment arrangement, or \$500 down per person at the time of reservation.
- Final payment date: Aug. 4, 2022
- Important notes: Travelers must have their passport information at time of booking. First-come, first-served basis. Seats are limited.

Mykonos ... Santorini ... and mainland Greece! Head with Cheryl Martin for a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the Aegean in October 2022.

"Celebrate my 63rd with me in Greece!"

EMAIL: cmartin@employeesclub.com
PHONE: (213) 819-0794



To register and for more information, go to: www.grouptoursite.com/cherylmartin
Reservation tour number 70295428



MYKONOS

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John's Picture Perfect Contest

The Club's online photo contest, organized by Association CEO, John Hawkins

This month's contest theme: **Work 'Gear'**

The Club's online photo contest, organized by Association CEO John Hawkins, has a monthly theme. For March, we're stepping away from an open theme and going with work "gear." That can be vehicles, boats, machines, uniforms, offices, colleagues, really anything that belongs to the City, State, County or school district. But don't forget to make the image beautiful – not just showing gear. Send us something awesome!

Submit your best photos, and be in the running for a prize.

DEADLINE: March 15

Submit your photos online here:
alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect

Club Members only.
Good luck!



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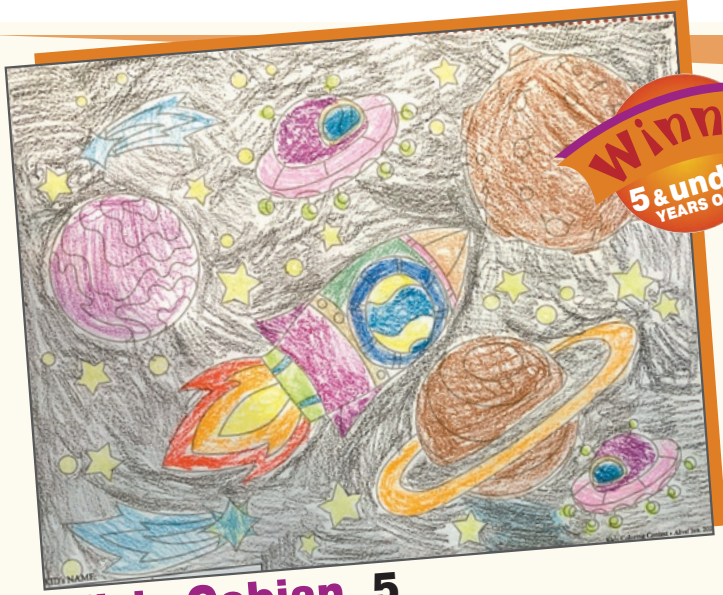
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Olivia Cobian, 5

BIRTHDAY: July 7 • BEST FRIEND: Jett • FAVORITE SNACK: Fruit, especially peaches
 FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Muppet Babies" • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE SAN DIEGO
 ZOO: I want to see my favorite animal, a cheetah! • PARENT: Paul Cobian, Public Works



Chris Valadez, 7

BIRTHDAY: Sept. 4 • BEST FRIEND: Julian • FAVORITE SNACK:
 Oreo Cookies and milk • FAVORITE TV SHOW: anything with dinosaurs
 WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC:
 Never been there • PARENT: Jesus Valadez, LADWP



Jc'lon Perkins, 8

BIRTHDAY: April 23 • BEST FRIEND: Terrace • FAVORITE SNACK:
 Welch's fruit snack • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Teen Titan" • WHY DO YOU
 WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC: I want to see a starfish
 PARENT: Evelyn Fitzpatrick, Retired



Belle Hernandez, 13

BIRTHDAY: Feb. 15 • BEST FRIEND: Nellie • FAVORITE SNACKS: Unicorn
 Poop • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Malcolm in the Middle" • WHY DO YOU
 WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC: To take my imaginary friend,
 Nellie to an amusement park • PARENT: Mark Hernandez, LADWP

Coloring with The Clubs

**Congratulations to the
WINNERS!**
of our Club Coloring Contest!

Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top four participants win **4 tickets to the Aquarium of the Pacific**

Look for our next contest in April online at:
alive.employeesclub.com/kidscoloringcontest

Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT.
Claire Milos	3	Keri Milos	LADWP
Sydney Mayede	3	Emily Mayede	General Services
Grayson Portillo	4	Kroscheska Portillo	Library
Isabella Durand	4	Henry Durand	PW/Sanitation
Belle Kwan	5	Shirley Ly	Library
Chase Virzi	5	Andrew Virzi	LADWP
Christopher Kanayama	5	Richard Kanayama	LADWP
Sophia Wilson	5	Brandon Wilson	LADOT
Wesley Merritt	5	Charlotte Merritt	Retired
Alyssa Macias	6	Leslie Macias	LAPD
Bryce Roberts	6	Kirby Nelson	LADWP
Mila Zarakian	6	Artin Zarakian	Building and Safety
Audrey Mayede	7	Emily Mayeda	General Services
Allison Tiet	7	Than Tiet	LADWP
Maddox Martinez	7	Joshua Martinez	Rec and Parks
River Gray	7	Richard Gray	PW/Sanitation
Scarlett Casimiro	7	Robert Casimiro	LAPD
Violeta Alvarado	7	Antonio Alvarado	LAPD
Dominic Izza	8	Primo Izza	LADWP
Dylan Soto	8	Juan Soto	LADWP
Emma Tiet	9	Than Tiet	LADWP
Matthew Coop	9	Wesley Coop	LADWP
Noah Machuca	9	Ricardo Machuca	City Attorney's Office
Angie Lindsey	11	Rita Lindsey	LACERS
Aracely Mata	11	Javier Mata Jr	LADWP
Leah Serna	11	Eusebia Serna	LADWP
Collins Sousa	12	John Sousa	Airport Police
Makenzie Jensen	12	Albert Jensen	LAFD
Belle Hernandez	13	Mark Hernandez	LADWP
Camila Doublesin	13	Daniel Doublesin	Public Works
Joel Duarte	15	Mario Duarte	Retired

Print and Online Schedule

Alive! has moved half of its children's coloring contests online.

In the printed *Alive!*:

January (winners published in March)
 July (winners published in September)

In the online edition of *Alive!*:

April (winners posted in June)
 October (winners posted in December)



Alive!**AROUND THE WORLD****Letter From England, Pt. 4
Continued from page 15**

Wintancaester, followed by today's name for the city, Winchester.

Four hundred years later in AD 407, with the Roman Empire crumbling, the last Roman legions were withdrawn from Britain and the country fell into a dark age. Hosts of invaders and settlers followed, including Germanic migrants, the Jutes from the Jutland peninsula (modern-day Denmark), the Angles from Angeln in southwest Jutland and the Saxons from northwest Germany. These tribes formed their own small kingdoms; most of these kingdoms survive to this day and are better known as the English counties Kent (Jutes), East Anglia (east Angles), Sussex (south Saxons), Middlesex (middle Saxons) and Wessex (west Saxons).

King Cenwalh of Wessex built the first church in Winchester, which became a cathedral in 660. St. Swithun is buried outside the cathedral upon his request, and legend has it that when an attempt to move his body was made, it began to rain and continued to rain for 40 days and nights, giving rise to the saying:

St Swithn's day, if thou be fair, St Swithn's Day, if thou bring rain. For forty days it will remain.

St. Swithn's remains were eventually moved 100 years later, with no reports of rain! However local people still believe that if it rains on St Swithn's day, then it will continue to do so for 40 days.

Winchester was attacked and plundered regularly by the Vikings until the 9th century, when King Alfred removed the old Roman street plan and designed a new one. The new plan was easier to defend and would protect the city's prosperous wool trade.

During the Norman Conquest (1066), William the Conqueror ordered the old cathedral be pulled down to make room for a new one farther south. Many of the old Saxon kings' tombs were moved into the new cathedral. Over the centuries, the cathedral has grown into one of the largest Gothic cathedrals in Europe (the impressive Duomo di Milano in Italy is the largest), but it does have the longest nave (the central part of the cathedral) or the longest overall length.

Among the cathedral's most famous occupants are Jane Austen; Edmund Ironside; Cnut the Great, King of England, Denmark and Norway; and King William Rufus.

Next to the cathedral sits the oldest continuously running school in Britain, originally built to educate poor scholars in 1382, and where today you will find The Pilgrims' School, a private boarding school. Many successful and famous people have studied there, including Britain's current Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, whom some believe will be the next Prime Minister. The school has one of the earliest hammer-beamed buildings known as Pilgrim's Hall, which is still used by the school's Senior Commoners for choir rehearsals. Near to the school and a short walk from the cathedral is the historic and cozy Wickham Arms pub, where you can have a drink whilst sitting on the old wooden Pilgrims School desks whilst looking at the amazing number of historical objects dotted all over the walls.

In nearby Great Hall of Winchester Castle hangs a replica of the legendary King Arthur's round table, built in the 13th century and later painted on the order of King Henry VIII while taking a rest between wives. King Henry had the names of Arthur's knights added to the table along with a Tudor rose in the middle as a nifty piece of propaganda.

Other places of interest to visit are the City Museum on the corner of Great Minster Street; the High Street's Buttercross stone statue with its many steps and intricate figures; and the city's Water Mill, to the north of the city. The mill has been newly restored and is driven by the River Itchen that runs through the city and it is still milling corn by waterpower today.

Twice a month on Saturday there is a large farmer's market, with more than 100 stalls mostly specializing in local food, plants, and wares. In July, Winchester hosts the annual Hat Fair, the UK's longest running festival for street artists and entertainers. The final day of the fair wraps up with a huge picnic at the city's North Walls recreation ground.

Walking around the city's narrow cobblestone side streets with their dark gothic architecture, or standing outside some of England's oldest pubs at night, it isn't difficult to imagine the way people lived between fear, famine, war and the Black Death all those years ago.

Back to the present and on a lighter note, Academy Award winning actor Colin Firth is from Winchester and was educated at Montgomery of Alamein School (now Kings' School). The Bangkok Bistro, a restaurant he regularly visits, offers The Colin Firth Curry on its menu.

For more local news, myths, and legends, take a seat at the bar in Alfie's pub opposite the Guildhall. Between pulling pints for thirsty customers, the bartender entertained us with the humorous story of King Alfred's sword on the statue outside the pub. According to legend, if a female virgin of at least 16 years walks around the statue three times in a clockwise direction, King Alfred will lower his upraised sword. Well considering that the large statue stands in the middle of a traffic roundabout, this alone makes it a difficult and dangerous act to perform. There may have been a little tongue in cheek to this story as the bartender was Irish!

Tip: There is a direct National express coach and train service to Southampton, with easy access to one of the four cruise ship terminals in Southampton, or direct to Victoria Bus and London's Waterloo train station.

Stop procrastinating; travel while you still can.

Cheers! from next door, and to gossip and see all the latest fashion. Novelist Mary Shelley spent many hours there writing her classic, *Frankenstein*. Ironically, under a plaque in her honor, outside the restaurant, in a vault, sits an underground electrical substation that delivers thousands of volts of power to central Bath! Jane Austen is another renowned author who also found the Grand Pump Room a perfect observation spot, collecting ideas... two of her novels. The author enjoying taking her afternoon tea in the Pump Room restaurant or attending swamis under the crystal chandeliers in the stunning grand ballroom of the octagon Assembly room building. Look for the plaques posted along the sweeping Royal Crescent and Queens Square, where you will find the names all the famous people who lived there through the years.

Between the Roman Baths and Pulteney Bridge, standing on the ancient cross roads of river and land is the stone Guildhall Market, dating back to 1359. In the center of the market is an interesting small stone pillar (Nail) said to be where the saying "cash on the nail" originated. The story is that the cash transactions between merchants and tradesmen were binding if taking place over the top of the stone pillar (Nail).

Pulteney Bridge is one of only three bridges in the world where buildings continue to operate for merchants and shoppers, with the oldest being Florence's Ponte Vecchio on the river Arno, built in 1345. After Ponte Vecchio is the Kramerbrücke Bridge in the German city of Erfurt over the Gera River and built in 1510. Number three is Bath's graceful Pulteney Bridge over the River Avon, constructed in the 1770s by Scottish architect Robert Adam.

Pulteney Bridge is a wonderful example of Georgian architecture and was a pleasure to stroll along from our Air B&B in the early evening to check out the city's nightlife. There is a small set of steps going down to the river bank on the southwest corner, accessing a towpath and side entrance to the rugby grounds. A peaceful respite can be found in the garden of the Boater Pub by the river. We enjoyed a pint while listening to the weir and admiring the magnificent stone features of the Pulteney Bridge.

Bath has now become the culinary center for southwestern England, and we found a wide variety of places to eat, including the oldest bake house (circa 1483), home of the famous Sally Lunn Bun (a semi-sweet bread). We also discovered a tearoom offering the world's best Cornish pastries, and a really nice Spanish Casa de Tapas with outstanding Rioja red wine. Along the way we enjoyed Joya, an award-winning five-star Italian restaurant, where they serve a great antipasto piccolo, house linguine and a fine bottle of Nero d'Avola. Our favorite was the Green Park Brasserie, offering great cocktails and nightly live jazz in a former 1870s Victorian railway station booking hall.

Our visit to Bath concluded on a crisp Saturday afternoon visiting the local rugby ground, where we watched two local teams battle it out before a full outdoor stadium. Unlike other ball sports requiring dozens of players constantly taking a rest, rugby is played between two teams of 15 players – 45 minutes each way – with an oval-shaped ball and played on a rectangular field called a pitch. The field has H-shaped goalposts at each end; there are no motorcycle helmets, no excessive body armor worn, with only male private parts protected and a couple of extra players in reserve in case of any broken limbs. Post-game, the home team hosts the visiting team to drinks and revelry at the club house. If you ask any Brit who has played the game, this is the best part of the match – no animosity, just camaraderie and respect for a game well played. Rugby is a game played by gentlemen, while football (soccer) is a game played by hooligans.

As always, travel while you can, and stay safe.