

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

Employees Club of California | Vol. 22 • No. 9 | September 2023



Alive!



PUBLIC WORKS

Clean Sweep

Catching up on the progress of StreetsLA's Center for Green Innovation.

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At the Center for Green Innovation at StreetsLA's North Hollywood Yard are Brent Jones, Superintendent of Cleaning, StreetsLA; and Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director and Chief Sustainability Officer, StreetsLA.



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ROBERT'S BLOG
 by Robert Larios, CEO, The Club

Sustaining a Story

We at *Alive!* had intended to catch up with the sustainability gurus at StreetsLA's Center for Green Innovation since it was first created last year at the end of the pandemic. We decided to wait until a safer time. We did not know it, but when we reached out in June to new-ish Chief Sustainability Officer **Ana Tabuena-Ruddy**, we lucked into some pretty



At the Center for Green Innovation at the StreetsLA North Hollywood Yard are (from left) Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director and Chief Sustainability Officer, StreetsLA; Brent Jones, Superintendent of Cleaning, StreetsLA; and Club CEO Robert Larios.

good timing. We are delighted we waited!

First, the Center was testing the country's first fully electric street sweeper at that very moment, and there was but a two-week window to observe it. We landed right in the middle of it.

Then, the Center made the decision to purchase that first EV sweeper while we were producing the story; the purchase ceremony with Councilman **Bob Blumenfield** took place literally after our photo shoot. (Credit goes to Club COO and ace photographer **Summy Lam** for getting it done in remarkably efficient time!)

One slight hiccup gave us literal pause – our photo shoot was postponed at the last minute due to a job action called by City unions a few days in advance. We worked deftly around that.

We thank and recognize everyone at the Center – you can see them photographed in the story – who helped make our visit happen by clearing the way for the photo space we needed. We also honor Ana, **Brent Jones, Michael Cox** and



Officer Evan Houser and Jessica Lee holding son Nicholas Houser.

Alex Lozano for updating us on the Center's activities, and **Dan Halden, Paul Gomez** and **Stephanie Clements** for pulling it all together. (A special shout-out goes to Ana's mother, **Isabelita Tabuena**, who reads us every month!)

Birth of a Great Photo

My favorite item this month announces the birth of **Nicholas Houser**, son of **Jessica Lee**, Public Works/Sanitation, and **LAPD Officer 3 Evan Houser** (you can see the joyous photos on page 23). The second photo is, to my mind, the first time we've run a birth photo including two parents both wearing their City uniforms. Magic! Thank you, Jessica, for thinking of us. (Club Members: Send us your life-event photos. There's no better way to share your good news with colleagues. It is one of the best ways the Club can honor you for your service.)

Worth Considering

You are not here by accident. You have a special reason for being alive. Accept it and live with purpose. Every day, know that you are valuable and were made to do something important in this world.

¡Gracias por leer!

Robert Larios

#ClubMobile Schedule*

The Club Mobile Team will bring Club benefits and authentic Los Angeles City apparel for purchase at Club prices (hats custom-made on site). It's one of the best ways for staff to feel appreciated. Your employees will be grateful!



Schedule a Site Visit

Contact **Lupe Lira, Club Store Manager:**
 (213) 819-0350, or mobile@employeesclub.com

The Mobile Team sets up in the Harbor area the first Wednesday of every month:

Wednesdays: Sept. 6, Oct. 4, and Nov. 1
Harbor Boys and Girls Club
 100 W. Fifth St., San Pedro • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

ADDITIONAL VISITS:

Wed., Sept. 6
Public Works/StreetsLA
 Van Nuys Yard
 15145 Oxnard St.
 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Tues., Sept. 12
Library
 Central Library
 630 W. Fifth St.
 7 – 10 a.m.

Wed., Sept. 13
Harbor
 Wilmington Waterfront Park
 W C Street
 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 16
LA County
 Asian American Employee Association Fish Fry
 1234 Valencia Ave.
 Hacienda Heights
 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wed., Sept. 20
General Services
 Chevy Chase Yard
 3900 Chevy Chase Dr., Bldg. A24
 7 – 10 a.m.

Wed., Sept. 27
Harbor
 C&M Yard
 500 Pier A St.
 7:30 a.m. – noon

Sat., Sept. 30
LA County
 Fun Mania
 1600 Rosemead Blvd., South El Monte
 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Mon., Oct. 2
Public Works/Sanitation
 North Central Yard
 452 N. San Fernando Rd.
 6 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



At a recent Mobile Team site visit.

ATTENTION SUPERVISORS:
 Raise employee morale! Bring the Club to your worksite!

Follow Club social media for other days, times and locations as they are scheduled:



#ClubMobile is cashless!

For your convenience, now accepting:



For your continued safety: The Mobile Team is accepting only outdoor set-ups for now.

* Mobile Team site visit dates are subject to change due to the pandemic. Make sure to check with your supervisor to confirm dates and times, up to and including on the scheduled day itself.



Clean Sweep

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Get more *Alive!* content at alive.employeesclub.com

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NEW THIS MONTH ONLINE!

alive.employeesclub.com

Rest Insured

See the Club's claims paid this month and feel confident in your Club insurance purchase.



Library Top 10

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



John's Picture Perfect

John's Picture Perfect – see all the winners from this month's contest with the theme "football!"



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#ClubMobile
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Meet the Club Team

The Club Team is here to help you receive the full power of your Membership and bring value, financial confidence and fun to your families. We honor your hard work and service! How can we help you? Contact us, and we'll be in touch with urgency. It's our promise to you!

Contact our help desk for all your Club needs:
help@employeesclub.com

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 Tuyet Pham Senior Accountant
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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

The Club Store Online
 Open 24/7: **employeesclub.com**

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The Boys and Girls Of Summer

ALIVE! SAW THIS BEAUTIFUL PHOTO ONLINE AND THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE IT, TOO.

LAPD: "With sunset vibes and crime-fighting strides, LAPD beach patrol is where the action meets the horizon—embracing the beauty of the sunset while keeping our shores safe," the post wrote. As summer 2023 ends, we thank and honor the men and women Officers of the LAPD who patrol our beaches. And of course we also recognize our Rec and Parks Lifeguards at Cabrillo Beach, and all who keep us safe for summer. ●

Welcome, Officer

Story and photo courtesy Harbor

PORT POLICE WELCOMES NEW OFFICER OROZCO.

HARBOR: Officer Carina Orozco has become the newest Port Police Officer, after her graduation July 28 from the LAPD Academy. She now begins a field training program, which includes a swim assessment and self recovery from a patrol boat. Congratulations on your graduation, Officer Orozco, and welcome to the City! ●



Officer Carina Orozco

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Summy Lam, Club COO

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New GM Staycee Dains visits a City animal shelter.

Dains Makes Gains

Story and photo courtesy Animal Services

ANIMAL SERVICES: Three weeks into the role as General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, Staycee Dains has completed visits to all six City animal shelters as she continues to assess the shelters to implement change to make Los Angeles the most humane City in the country.

"When I was confirmed as General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, beginning right away with our goal to make LA the most humane City in the country," she said in a statement. "Over the last three weeks I have made it my top priority to visit each of our City's shelters to observe the conditions of our animals and facilities, and speak to staff, volunteers, and customers.

"I appreciate the valuable time spent and input received from staff and volunteers as I made my way through each facility, noting areas of success as well as where we will need improvements. The over-capacity crisis hitting every shelter nationwide is apparent in Los Angeles, and continues to take a toll on the animals, staff, and volunteers. In a collective effort with staff and volunteers, we will confront this crisis.

"L.A. is in a unique position to change the landscape of animal welfare, not only for our city but across the nation. We are the second largest city in the United States, and one with a reputation for generosity and creativity when it comes to the animals we share the City with. Our combined love and care for animals and people can strengthen our programs, improve our shelters, and ensure safety for our community.

"I plan to continue reaching out to stakeholders for their input and support as we move forward together to make L.A. better for both people and animals."

Well done, Staycee! ●

READY FOR RETIREMENT



Resources for Club Retirees and Those About to Retire



YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO INSURANCE

by Noelle Kauffman, Club Director of Sales CA LICENSE NO: 0H45598

Long-Term Care Insurance Is Asset Protection. Find Out Why Long-Term Care Is Vital!

'Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else.' –Fred Rogers

Hello Retirees!

Congratulations on your years of service with the City and the completion of a beautiful career. However, this is not the end, it is the beginning of something new ... which means you must plan for this new season of life!

First step: If you have not contacted the Club yet to complete a form to have your Club Membership and/or insurance deducted from your pension, please do so ASAP! Even if you are not newly Retired, please call (800) 464-0452 or email help@employeesclub.com and let us know that you are a Retiree and need to complete a pension form. Never worry about a

bill or late payment: Pension deduction is the most convenient and easiest to handle of the deductions offered to Club Members.

Second step: Protect your hard-earned savings and assets and protect your family.

- Long-Term Care and Life Insurance are must-have insurances as a Retiree.
- Long-Term Care is asset protection, and Retiree Life Insurance provides financial help in the form of a death benefit or supplement for loss of income.

Do not be a burden to yourself or your family. Find out how below!

Long Term Care Insurance protects your assets and income from the costs of care.

According to a medically reviewed article from 2022, approximately 70 percent of seniors will need some type of long-term care.

Long-Term Care Insurance is Asset Protection

What is long-term care (LTC) insurance?

Long-term care insurance is designed to pay benefits for some of the expenses you may incur if you need supervision or assistance with basic activities of daily living (ADLs), including bathing, eating, continence, dressing, toileting, ambulating and transferring.

You may need this kind of help following an accident or illness such as a stroke – because of older age and frailty, or because you need supervision due to a cognitive disorder like Alzheimer's disease.

Here's why you need Long Term Care Insurance from the Club:

- Your premiums are conveniently deducted through your pension
- Affordable Club Member-only group rates
- Group rates are locked in at the age you apply
- Coverage is available to you, your spouse/domestic partner, parents and grandparents
- Available payout benefits range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per month

- Your plan pays a monthly benefit directly to you, as opposed to most other programs that pay out on a reimbursement schedule
- Choose from four plans: 1) long-term care facility; 2) professional home care; 3) total home care, and 4) simple inflation protection.
- Available terms: four-year nursing facility/eight years in home. Also available: 10 year nursing facility/20 year in home* (Home care benefit pays out at 50 percent)

Retirees Peace of Mind: Life Insurance Tailored Just for You!

Why would a Retiree need life insurance? Does anyone rely on your income as a Retiree?

- A life insurance payout can help pay for things such as your final expenses, outstanding debt, or the loss of any income you were still providing to your loved ones.
- Life insurance can also be used to replace all or a part of your spouse's pension benefits.

- Have peace of mind knowing that your loved ones will be taken care of in the event of your passing.
- Coverage is available for Members, spouses, and dependent children.
- Benefits range from \$10,000 to \$50,000.
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance is also available – no health ques-

tions or medical exams. Benefits range from \$10,000 to \$150,000.

Speak to a Retiree Specialist today for guidance on Long-Term Care and Life Insurance and prepare for the beginning of your best retirement!

Do not wait. While you may be healthy today, a change in your health may decrease your chances of getting approved.

Club Life Insurance Designed for Retirees

Spring cleaning also means evaluating the coverages you have on yourself and your spouse to ensure peace of mind and protection.

Let's Discuss Retiree Life Insurance

A life insurance benefit can help pay for things including final expenses, outstanding debt and loss of income.

Life insurance can also be used to replace all or a part of your spouse's pension benefits.

Have peace of mind knowing that your loved ones will be taken care of

in the event of your passing.

The Club provides Group Rated Term Life Insurance for its Members, convenient payroll deduction, and an in-house claims department that works directly with your loved ones to make sure the claims process is as seamless as possible.

Did you know that, as a Retiree, you are entitled to other Club benefits including Long-Term Care Insurance, Funeral Pre-Planning, and the popular MetLife Legal Plan?



Contact the Club today to speak with our Retiree Specialist for guidance on life insurance and other Retiree benefits.

Retired or Retiring Soon?

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Cheryl Martin

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2023 Events

Sept. 6 LARFPA Membership Meeting

San Antonio Winery
737 Lamar St.
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

\$30/\$40 admission

Deadline: Aug. 22

Reservations, information:
events@larfpa.org

Contact Information

Employees Club of California

Club contact:
help@employeesclub.com

Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) (City Dept.)

(800) 779-8328
lacers.services@lacers.org

LADWP Retirees Association

Dolores Foley, *President*
(949) 388-1206
vincedolores@gmail.com

Fire and Police Pensions (City Dept.)

(844) 885-2377
pensions@lafpp.com

LA Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)

(888) 288-5073
membership@larfpa.org

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)

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Bryan to CIO

BRYAN FUJITA TRANSFERS FROM LACERS TO BECOME LAFPP CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER.

FIRE, POLICE PENSIONS: Bryan Fujita is the new Chief Investment Officer for the Los Angeles Fire and Police Pensions Dept. The appointment was made in June.

After an extensive search for a new Chief Investment Officer (CIO) by EFL Associates, Fire and Police Pensions General Manager Joseph Salazar selected Bryan as the new CIO, replacing Ray Joseph, who resigned from Fire and Police Pensions in May 2022.

Bryan will lead LAFPP's investment team managing nearly \$30 billion in assets. He brings more than 22 years of both public and private investment experience to LAFPP, serving the last 10 years as the Deputy Chief Investment Officer at the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS).

Previously, Bryan served as Corporate Treasury Associate at the Walt Disney Company, managing equity and fixed income investments of the company's then \$4.5 billion pension fund. He also served as Client Banking Investment Executive and Assistant Vice President of Wealth Management at Wedbush Securities, managing investment portfolios for high net worth clients.

Fire and Police Pensions administers the defined benefit retirement plan for all sworn (Fire, Police, and certain Port Police and Airport Police) employees of the City of Los Angeles. The fund is currently valued at more than \$29.4 billion in assets and serves more than 26,600 members and beneficiaries. ●

Congratulations, Bryan, on your new appointment!

Story and photo courtesy Fire and Police Pensions



Bryan Fujita

A monthly photo from the Alive! archives looking back at the men and women whose hard work helped build a better LA. Thank you!

Throwback Thumbs Up

FROM NOVEMBER 2015:
 On Daly Street, Public Works/Sanitation and Environment staff removes trash as part of Operation Clean Sweep. The crew included (their titles at the time, from left) Russell Zamora, Superintendent II; Jose Garcia, Assistant Manager; and Exempt Maintenance Laborers Onei Chaul, Seasha Torres (kneeling) and Mark Melgar. Standing in back is Steve Reed, RCTO II.

John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Association President

See more Picture Perfect winners and contest rules.

This month's WINNER!

- Stephanie Burkhart, LAPD

This month's theme was: Football

"I discovered USC when I spent the Fourth of July on Catalina Island; the marching band opened up the parade. Then I discovered USC football! I love the food, Traveler, watching the game live and getting decked out in USC colors. Fight on!"

John's comment: It helps that many in the Club are USC alumni, including yours truly! From an image perspective, I enjoy how you got so much information in one frame, without overloading it. It's well composed, the depth is impressive, and ... oh, forget all that. Let's face it: It's USC, and that works for me! Fight on! (Any who disagree, submit a photo!)

JULY 2023: Red, White and Blue

This picture was taken at Plitvice Park, Croatia. I was trying to capture the catwalk and the surrounding bluish water. The white clouds and lady in red make this picture one of my favorite shots."

- Larry Campita, Retired, Controller

John's comment: Your photo might not have been patriotic for July, Larry, but the theme was red, white and blue, and you submitted a truly beautiful shot. I have been to Croatia but not to this spot, but I must put it on my list to visit next time. The simplicity of the composition is its secret power. Well done!

The next photo contest theme:

Autumn (fall)

DEADLINE:
Sep. 15

Submit your best photos online here:
alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect/
 Club Members only. Good luck!

ENTER TO WIN
\$25 AMAZON
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Submit your best photos, and be in the running for a prize.

JULY 2023: Red, White and Blue

"Taken from my brother's fishing boat off the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii. Kite foil boarding at top speed. My title is "Red Kite, White Clouds and Ocean Blue."

- Alex Andrews, Building and Safety

John's comment: Whoa, Alex, what a stunner. The colors are saturated, and the waves so textured that it really made me feel the challenge that this foil-boarder is facing. Thanks for submitting, and all of us, I ask we send a quiet wish for Hawaii right now. Beautiful land, devastated and down, but Lahaina on Maui has our best thoughts and hopes.

August 2023: Playing Outdoors

"My grandson and son-in-law enjoying a warm summer day in the pool."

- Ron Campos, Retired, LADWP

John's comment: I love so much about this awesome photo, Ron ... but what brings my eye back over and over is the face on your grandson: complete trust and fully in the moment. No fear, no regrets, a model for us all. Thanks for submitting!

Holdovers
From Previous
Contests

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

Captain's Log

Traveling with Capt. Michael Barnes,
Retired, Harbor



Letter From Italy, Pt. 2 Milan: Fashion, Food and Football

Milan is, without a doubt, my favorite Italian city, from the Duomo di Milano, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world, to the Villa Belgiojoso Bonaparte, a true Neoclassical wonder that will blow your mind. The city is visited by more than eight million people a year who shop, eat and visit the countless museums to view works of art like Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper or attend a football (soccer) match.

Few sports stadiums in the world can boast holding more than 80,000 spectators, so being surrounded for 90 minutes by chanting, singing fans is impressive and deafening, as Milanese fans are extremely passionate about their soccer teams, compared to the pretty sedate way sports fans in the USA cheer on their teams. The San Siro Soccer Stadium, officially named the Giuseppe Meazza Stadium, is Milan's soccer mecca and is home to not one but two international teams, A.C. Milan and Inter Milan. A.C. Milan was founded in 1899 by two

English expats, and Inter Milan was founded in 1908 following a dispute with A.C. Milan for not employing foreign players.

But Milan is known for more than just soccer; there are incredible shopping and fashion establishments like the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II, Italy's oldest shopping gallery that's housed within a four-story double arcade in the town center; it's named after Victor Emmanuel II, the first King of the Kingdom of Italy. Here you will find luxurious Italian designer boutiques and cafes, plus most major brands like Dolce & Gabbana, Armani, Bottega Veneta, Etro, Missoni, Miu Miu, Moschino, Prada, Valentino, and Versace, to name a few, or at the Quadrilatero d'Or (otherwise known as the Golden Triangle) in Zona Montenapoleone, Milan's most expensive and prestigious shopping street alongside via Manzoni, via della Spiga, and Corso Venezia. But beware, you will need bottomless pockets to shop here! Milano Fashion Week occurs every February and September, and is a glamorous showcase promoting Italian fashion to a world audience through "sfilate" (runway shows) and designer showrooms. Unfortunately, these shows are exclusive invitation-only events, forbidden fruit reserved for industry insiders, VIPs and wealthy clients; sadly, I was not on this year's invitation list!

Over many years of visiting Milan, I have come to the conclusion that all Italian men are fashion-conscious, with a simple dress code of keeping it smart, clean and simple, and most importantly, clothes must fit your shape perfectly. No point in having drainpipe trousers if you have a 44-inch waist.

While visiting the Galleria and feeling a little peckish, I took the elevator hidden behind its small museum up to a unique pizzeria called I Dodici Gatti (The Twelve Cats). This little gem is tucked away amongst the glass rooftop supports of the Galleria and serves the best pizza in Milan, in my opin-



Sempione (Simplon Gate) with its Arco della Pace (Arch of Peace) in Milan.

ion. Legend has it that long ago, an old lady lived near the rooftops of the Galleria and cared for a couple of black cats; when she died, the cats had 12 black kittens whose descendants protect the rooftops of the Galleria from vermin today. Believe it or not, there is a Starbucks just around the corner in Piazza Cordusio, which came to Italy in 2018 and opened up in the 2,300-square-meter (25,000 sq. ft.) historic Poste building, with everything pertaining to coffee; there is even an adult beverage bar, protected by very large security guards at the entrance.

Very few places in Italy are more than 100 miles from the coast, so fresh seafood is readily available. Trattoria del Pescatore has to be my favorite restaurant in Milan, and it specializes exclusively in Sardinian seafood. Its Lobster Catalina is a twist on a traditional recipe of the Sardinian coastal town of Alghero (whose second language is Catalan – hence the name). This dish is to die for. At the end of the meal, offering fresh pecorino Sardo cheese and an iced shot of traditional Sardinian Mirto liquor is traditional. Delicious.

Paris has champagne, Berlin has schnapps, but Milan is the capital of the aperitif, even though some say it was Turin that created this elegant form of drinking in the 1930s. Milan's wealthy and affluent demanded more sophisticated drinks, so nightclubs and bars took up the challenge by inventing more and more concoctions. My favorite is called a "Mistake," like Negroni, but made in a huge glass with Prosecco, gin, Campari bitter, and a touch of sweet red vermouth to coat the glass. Milan never stops experimenting. The city will have just the right adult beverage for you in gin, vodka, brandy; you name it.

It is a little-known fact that the world-famous Michelin restaurant guide lists a fifth of its entire world-starred restaurants in Milan. They are all on my bucket list.

Take the hop-on hop-off bus from the cobbled Piazza del Duomo for regular tourist stuff.

Eat, drink, and be merry whenever and wherever you can.

Esulta il capitano.



Milan soccer fans celebrate a victory.



Milan's 15th century medieval Castello Sforzesco.

Vienna



Jim Roberts, Retired, LADWP, and his lovely wife, Magda, celebrated their 30th anniversary at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, Austria. Jim is wearing an LADWP hat.



Send in a travel picture holding Alive!

- Snap a high resolution photo of you holding Alive!
- Go to: alive.employeesclub.com/alivearoundtheworld
You'll find a convenient online form to send your text and pics for publication.

Images courtesy Public Works; Renderings by Hargreaves Jones.



Renderings of the Sixth Street Park, now under construction.

A Park for the Bridge

ENGINEERING, REC AND PARKS BREAK GROUND ON GAME-CHANGING PARK UNDERNEATH SIXTH STREET VIADUCT.

PUBLIC WORKS • REC AND PARKS: City officials broke ground Aug. 5 on a large park project under the recently opened Sixth Street Viaduct. The project is known as PARC – the Sixth Street Park, Arts and River Connectivity project.

The park, which sits beneath the recently completed Sixth Street Viaduct, is expected to include seven acres of open space on the east side of the Los Angeles River in Boyle Heights and five acres of space in the Arts District on the west side. The park is expected to include grass fields, picnic areas, a splash pad, sports fields, event space, a dog park, a skate park and a café and restrooms, among other features.

The Bureau of Engineering is managing the project, with assistance from Rec and Parks. Landscape architecture firm Hargreaves Jones is leading the design.

We told you about this exciting development back in June 2018 in our cover story about the Sixth Street Viaduct project. Gary Lam, Sr. Civil Engineer and PARC Manager, contributed to our extensive interview.

Construction is expected to last two-and-a-half years.

The Club is looking forward to the new Sixth Street park! ●



Deborah Weintraub, Chief Deputy City Engineer, Public Works, and Gary Lee Moore, Retired, City Engineer, at the groundbreaking.

2 Legends Retire

TONY GIOIELLO, SOHEILA SAJADIAN RETIRE AFTER MORE THAN HALF-CENTURY OF SERVICE.

HARBOR: The week of July 21, the Harbor Dept. bid fond farewells to two leaders and executives – Tony Gioiello, Deputy Executive Director of Development 43 years of City service; and Soheila Sajadian, Director of Debt and Treasury Management 20 years. Tony and Soheila retired after making indelible marks on Harbor’s management and operations.

SOHEILA SAJADIAN

During her tenure at the Port, Soheila oversaw the issuance of \$2 billion in debt to fund an array of capital projects and refinancing of the Harbor’s debt that resulted in total savings of \$175 million on a present-value basis. Due in large part to her diligence, Harbor has enjoyed a AA and AA2 bond rating, the highest assigned to any U.S. seaport operating without tax support.

TONY GIOIELLO

Tony Gioiello began his City career as a Student Worker in the Construction Division and worked his way to top. Through hard work and commitment, he was promoted to Deputy Executive Director of Development.

During his tenure at the Port, he has overseen key terminal and waterfront infrastructure and facilitated the adoption of innovations that helped advance the Port technologically. He has been recognized for his leadership during one of the largest and transformative capital expansion eras in the Harbor’s history. As a pillar of the executive team, he led Harbor to heights that saw it busier, cleaner and safer than ever.

Due to his longevity and dedication, the Harbor threw Tony a retirement party July 20. Some historic and retirement party photos from Tony’s career are below.

The Club congratulates Tony and Soheila for their stellar dedication to the Harbor and to Los Angeles. And special thanks go to Rachel Campbell for her assistance in producing this article. ●



Tony Gioiello and Soheila Sajadian



Tony Gioiello, date unknown.



Tony received an LA County proclamation from Janice Hahn, County Supervisor, Club Member.



From left: District 15 Councilman Tim McOsker presents a proclamation from the City Council to Tony Gioiello.

Larios In the City

By Robert Larios, Chief Executive Officer



Robert Larios, Club President and CEO, honors Club Members with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.



Benjamin D. Cook

LADWP

Retired after 36 years of City service. (He retired July 1, 2023.)



Michael A. Patterson

Harbor

Retired after 20 years of City service. (He retired Jan. 15, 2015.)

FREE! * CLUB RETIREMENT PLAQUE



Retiring soon?

Get started here:

Receive your own personalized Club Retirement Plaque, free! (Must be a Club Member for at least five consecutive years.)



* a \$499 value!

EMPLOYEES AT WORK



As observed by Dearbhla McNulty, Club Social Media Manager

Look who Club Social Media Manager **Dearbhla McNulty** ran into last month – **Jeffrey Person**, Wastewater Treatment Mechanic, 6 years of City service, Club Member; **Justin Traylor**, ML, 6 months; and **Rahim Mitchell**, Mechanical Helper, 8 years, Club Member! The three, based out of Dorris Place on Riverside Drive, were doing routine maintenance at Plant 648 in Playa del Rey. Great to see you!



Arlene Herrero
Vice President of Business Development

Arlene on the Scene

Alive! follows the Club's Arlene Herrero, Vice President of Business Development, as she meets Club Members.

July 27

LACCEA

On July 27, Arlene attended the LA County Chicano Employees Association's summer scholarship and board installation reception. The Employees Club has sponsored the LACCEA scholarship program for the last 10 years.

Also attending the scholarship reception and board installation was former Club Board Member Selwyn Hollins, Director, LA County Internal Services Dept.



Arlene Herrero, Club Vice President of Business Development, and former Club Board Member Selwyn Hollins, LA County Internal Services Dept.

Aug. 11

LA County Public Works Safety Awards

Arlene and the #ClubMobile team were out by 5:45 a.m. Aug. 11 at the LA County Public Works' Westchester Yard Safety Awards! Arlene welcomed 23 new Members to the Club. Club Retail Operations Manager Lupe Lira debuted LA County hats as worn by LA County Public Works Director Mark Pestrella.



From left: Arlene Herrero; Mark Pestrella, Director, Public Works, LA County; and Club Retail Operations Manager Lupe Lira.



Nearly done: LAFD Capt. Danny Wu, Club Board member, holds his daughter as he's being shaved by LAFD Chief Kristin Crowley.

Story and photos by Rebecca DeBolt, Club Customer Service Representative

Shaving the Day

ANNUAL ST. BALDRICK'S FUNDRAISER IS ANOTHER SUCCESS.

LAPD/LAFD: The 21st annual local St. Baldrick's fundraiser returned Aug. 5 to the Vineyards at Porter Ranch for another great year supporting the fight against childhood cancers.

The St. Baldrick's head-shave event – a local fundraiser managed by members of the LAPD and LAFD that's part of a national charity – returned for its second year in person after a pandemic hiatus.

St. Baldrick's invites people to have their heads shaved bald, and to raise sponsors for their endeavor. The event raises funds nationally to fight childhood cancers.

The event included a free breakfast, face-painting and rides for the family, live music, and more.

Councilmember John Lee and the Council District 12 office sponsored the event. Original Co-Organizers of the LAPD/LAFD event were Retired LAFD Capt. Waldie Brangham and Retired LAPD Lt. Greg Doyle. This year's co-organizers were LAFD Capt. Danny Wu, Club Board Member, who took over in 2007, and LAPD Det. Nick Sinclair, who took over in 2015.

Local organizers say they have raised more than \$1 million over the previous 20 years. The Club has been an official sponsor annually.

Congratulations to the local organizers and everyone who participated in this great annual event! ●



LAPD, from left: Officer 3 Kristin Dimich, 12 years; and SLO Sean Taylor, 10 years.



LAFD Fire Chief Kristin Crowley, 24 years of City service (center), says hello to the crowd.



Shaved: Brian Morrison, Emergency Services Division, LAPD, 30 years of City service.



LAFD, from left: Kenny Breskin, Engineer, 33 years of City service; Jason Hing, Deputy Chief, 33 years; Chief Kristin Crowley, 24 years; Suey Tiengerd, Firefighter, 21 years; and Adam Knabe, Battalion Chief, 20 years.



LAPD, from left: Officer Rene Gonzalez, 20 years of City service; and Officer Eric Esturban, 21 years.



Officer Adam Edgar, LAPD, 1 year of service, sits in the chair to have his head shaved by Chief Michel Moore.



LAPD Dep. Chief Alan Hamilton, Valley Bureau, is confident as he's having his head shaved.




From left: Jaime Perez, Firefighter, LAFD, 7 years of City service; Dep. Chief Alan Hamilton, Valley Bureau 33 years; Councilman John Lee; Chief Michel Moore, LAPD, 42 years; Officer Adam Edgar, LAPD, 1 year; and Kevin Lumada, Firefighter/Paramedic, LAFD.



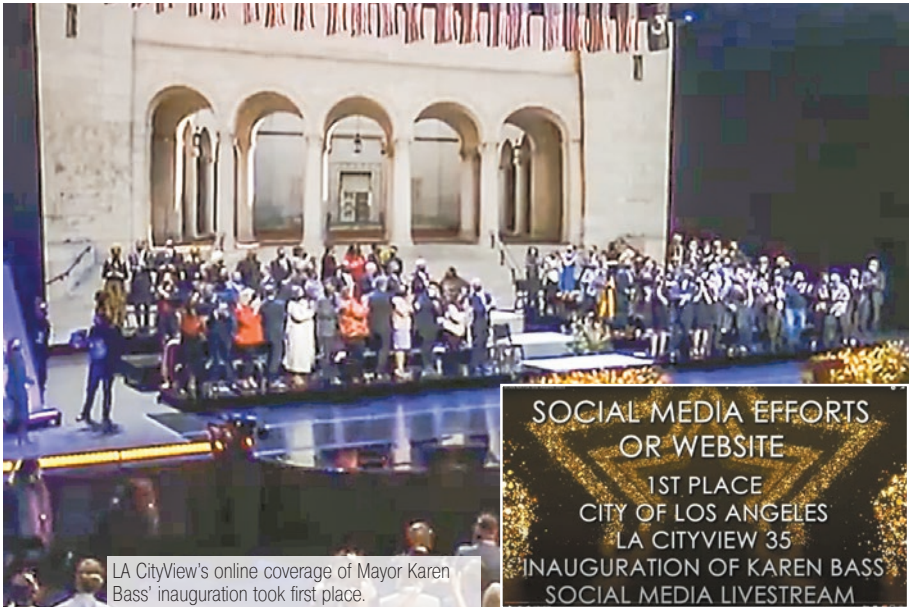
LAPD, from left: Officer Javier Garcia, 15 years of City service; Commander Brian Morrison, 30 years; Officer Edwin Dominguez, 29 years, with Duchess, 9 years of bomb detection service; Bomb Tech Officer Rick So, 15 years; and Darth Vader, whose heart has been turned and is now far more favorable to positivity.

Happy Birthday, **LA!**

On Sept. 4, Los Angeles turns 241 years old (we were founded Sept. 4, 1781). It's looking good for 242, thanks to all City employees who work hard every day making LA the best it can be. ●



Story courtesy SCAN NATOA



LA CityView's online coverage of Mayor Karen Bass' inauguration took first place.

SOCIAL MEDIA EFFORTS OR WEBSITE
1ST PLACE
 CITY OF LOS ANGELES
 LA CITYVIEW 35
 INAUGURATION OF KAREN BASS
 SOCIAL MEDIA LIVESTREAM

Video Winners

CITYVIEW 35 WINS MULTIPLE AWARDS IN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COMPETITION.

ITA: ITA's LA CityView Channel 35 won big at the recent SCAN NATOA STAR Awards, a regional government competition.

The winners, among more than 200 entries, were announced June 29.

LA CityView Media's Channel 35 was recognized for excellence in multiple categories, receiving 13 awards for producing video content for CH35 and social media efforts for both @CityofLosAngeles and @LACityView35 social platforms.

Channel 35 received wins on multiple genres from producing the City of Los Angeles Inauguration of Karen Bass (in the categories of Live Events and Social Media Streaming), LA Currents Series (Documentary-profile), Your City Hall with Councilmember Paul Krekorian (Documentary-Social), to Ethnic category and more.

The STAR Awards recognize excellence in government programming in California and Nevada. The virtual award ceremony can be viewed at: STAR Awards 2023

The Club congratulates the entire LA CityView35 team on their huge win!



DOCUMENTARY - PROFILE
1ST PLACE
 LA CITYVIEW MEDIA CH 35
 LA CURRENTS :
 MAYOR ERIC GARCETTI

CityView Channel 35's "LA Currents" weekly news show took first place, with host Maria Hall-Brown interviewing then-Mayor Eric Garcetti.

Photos by JuanCarlos Chan and Stephanie Chitica, Rec and Parks



The competition between City departments really heated up during the Dragon Boat Races!



Lotus Festival

POPULAR SUMMER FESTIVAL BLOOMS FOR 42ND YEAR.

REC AND PARKS: The Lotus Festival returned to Echo Park Lake July 15 and 16. This year's festival honored the people and culture of Indonesia.

The Lotus Festival returned in person in 2022 after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

The Lotus Festival originated in 1972 and is one of the City's largest festivals and a celebration to promote awareness and understanding of the contributions by the Asian and Pacific Islander people to our culture and to the local and surrounding communities.

A variety of entertainment, Asian food and drinks, booths, artwork, handmade crafts, an eco-friendly area, a children's courtyard, and other activities were offered. The event also brought back the widely popular Dragon Boat Races with teams of people paddling across Echo Park Lake.

As happens every year, many City departments competed against one another in the Dragon Boat races. (We understand ITA's LA 35 came in second in its heat to the Mayor's Office!)



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- No long term contracts so you can switch fitness centers and cancel when you need.

No Long Term Contracts





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The success of the Lotus Festival depends on many Rec and Parks employees working hard to create a successful event. Well done, all!



LA City Controller Kenneth Mejia helps kick off the Lotus Festival.

City Controller Kenneth Mejia's office staffed a booth.



Catching up on the progress of StreetsLA's Center for Green Innovation.

Photos by Sammy Lam, Club COO; and courtesy StreetsLA

In the middle of the pandemic - Feb. 15, 2022 - StreetsLA introduced its Center for Green Innovation as part of LA's growing response to the climate crisis.

The Club has been eager to catch up with the sustainability team to find out more details. Turns out the wait was worth it, as in the interim, the Center tested the country's first fully electric street sweeper and evaluated its effectiveness for future purchase.

At introduction, the Center included the City's first two hybrid-electric street sweepers and the infrastructure to support it, including a solar-powered charging station and maintenance, a Roush clean tech hybrid Ford F-650 stake-bed truck.

Under Mayor Karen Bass and the City Council, StreetsLA

along with its Public Works partners and other City agencies continue to work on implementing and developing new initiatives and programs that are helping the City reduce its carbon footprint and address climate change.

Since its inception, the Center has continued its progress, including more battery-electric vehicles, more battery electric tools, and many other initiatives. We promised our readers we would publish a more in-depth look of the Center's first year, and that forms this month's feature story.

The Club thanks Dan Halden, Paul Gomez, Stephanie Clements and Ana Tabuena-Ruddy for setting up our first visit to the center. ●



INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

The Center for Green Innovation is adopting major equipment innovations in its drive toward 100 percent carbon-free, renewable energy by 2035. Major equipment toward that goal includes:

— more innovation page 14

Launching the Center for Green Innovation



Keith Mozee, Executive Director and General Manager, StreetsLA, wanted an EV street sweeper and requested the manufacturer to build one for StreetsLA to test. StreetsLA tested the first one and bought it.



One of two plug-in hybrid street sweepers and the Beam solar-powered recharging station at the North Hollywood StreetsLA yard.



Some members of the North Hollywood Yard EV crew, from left: Alex Avalos, Street Services Supervisor; Mark Santa Maria, Motor Sweeper Operator; Juan Barragan, Heavy Duty Truck Operator; Armando Gutierrez, Motor Sweeper Operator; Hector Romero, Street Services Supervisor, Phillip Loquet, Motor Sweeper Operator; Brent Jones, Superintendent of Cleaning; Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director and Chief Sustainability Officer; Tonatiuh Barragan, Street Services Worker I; and Tim Hammersly, Equipment Operator.

They stand in front of some of the Center's green equipment, including (from left) an Elgin Broom Bear CNG/plug-in hybrid sweeper (StreetsLA operates two of these); a Ford F-150 Lightning EV pickup truck, the first in the City; and one of several EV bike lane street sweepers made by Dulevo of Italy.

Sustainable Maintenance

The *Alive!* Interview

On July 25, Club CEO Robert Larios and *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed four City employees who are managing StreetsLA's sustainability efforts for project status updates to the EV Sweeper test and the overall Center for Green Innovation. The interview subjects were Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director and new Chief Sustainability Officer, StreetsLA, 11 years of City service; Michael Cox, Division Manager, Street Maintenance, 34 years, Club Member; Alex Lozano, Equipment Specialist, StreetsLA, 39 years, Club Member; and Brent Jones, Superintendent of Cleaning, StreetsLA, 26 years. • The interview was conducted via Zoom.

Thanks everyone for joining our chat today to update us on your current sustainability efforts at StreetsLA.

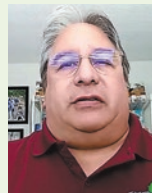


Ana Tabuena-Ruddy: Thank you for asking. By the way, I read *Alive!* all the time. My mother subscribes. When I visit her, that's when I get caught up on the City news.

That's great! Who's your mom?

Ana: Isabelita Tabuena. She was an Analyst with the LAPD, and is now Retired.

Congratulations and thanks to her on her City career.



Alex Lozano: My favorite part of *Alive!* is reading Robert Larios' recipes in there [as Chef Larios]. I've tried quite a few of them. They're really good!

That's music to my ears, for sure! I appreciate the support. I try to make those recipes easy to make, using ingredients that you would find in your own pantry. Sometimes recipes can be very elaborate. And then, for me to publish the recipe, it has to taste good. As long as it meets those three criteria, I feel I've made a successful recipe.

Alex: Keep it up, Robert. I really enjoy them. I've had some really good meals out of your recipes.

Thank you. Now we move on – tell us the path you took to your current position. Ana?

Ana: Sure. I started my career in the City as a Landscape Architect and worked my way up that classification, including as a Project Development and Interagency Coordination Manager, where I led my team in bringing more than \$300 million in multi-

benefit streetscape projects before I was selected for my current position.

Michael?



Michael Cox: I started as a Maintenance Laborer, was promoted to a Street Services Worker, then to a Motor Sweeper Operator. And then into supervision and management.

Alex?

Alex: I started with the City as an Equipment Mechanic. I was hired first by the Police Dept. to work on patrol motorcycles. And then I moved on to the General Services, where I became a Sr. Equipment Mechanic and then an Equipment Specialist I. In 1986, I transferred to the Bureau of Street Services where I've been since 1989.

Brent?



Brent Jones: I started as a Maintenance Laborer at Airports. I was promoted to Maintenance and Construction Helper, then from there I was promoted to Motor Sweeper Operator; from there to Heavy Equipment Operator; from there to Supervisor; and then on to my current position as a Superintendent.

THE ELECTRIC SWEEPER

Can you give us the status of the EV street sweeper that you've been testing? How's that been going?

Alex: Let's start a few years ago: We purchased two little Dulevo EV sweepers to sweep the bicycle lanes that the City's been building. So we have a little bit of experience with the electric sweepers. Those are from Italy.



At the Center for Green Innovation at the StreetsLA North Hollywood Yard are (from left) Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director and Chief Sustainability Officer, StreetsLA, 11 years of City service; Brent Jones, Superintendent of Cleaning, StreetsLA, 26 years; and Club CEO Robert Larios. In the back is the Beam solar-powered EV charging system; after a trial period, StreetsLA has ordered 10 more Beam systems for other yards.

The EV sweeper was the brainchild of our Director, Keith Mozee. He convinced Broom Bear to develop and build an electric street sweeper, a full size electric street sweeper. We're testing it now. There's only one in existence. This is the prototype, although it's put together so well, you'd swear it was a production unit. We're in our week number two (at time of interview) of our prototype review. Right now they're using telemetry to record the performance of the sweeper. They bring it in at night, and the manufacturer makes adjustments to help it perform a little better.

The first in the country?

Alex: There are one or two other electric sweepers that run on hydrogen fuel cells and so forth, but the one we're testing is the only fully electric street sweeper.

Did you instigate this process, or did they approach you?

Alex: We've been buying Elgin Sweepers for quite a few years now. They run on compressed natural gas. But Keith really wanted to be the first to have a total battery electric sweeper; I give him the credit. He approached Broom Bear and asked them if they could develop it. They had developed the hybrid type of

PUBLIC WORKS Clean Sweep

INNOVATION

North America's First Fully Electric Street Sweeper



Keith Mozee, Executive Director and General Manager, StreetsLA, speaks at the purchasing ceremony. It was his initiative to create and test North America's first fully electric street sweeper.



On Aug. 10, StreetsLA purchased the first fully electric Elgin Broom Bear street sweeper in the country.



Some members of the City team that bought North America's first fully electric street sweeper, from left: Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director and Chief Sustainability Officer, StreetsLA; Keith Mozee, Executive Director and General Manager, StreetsLA; Bob Blumenfield, Councilman; and Tony Royster, General Manager and City Purchasing Agent, General Services, Club Member.



Councilman Bob Blumenfield (third from left) hands an official purchase order from the City of LA to representatives of Elgin, the manufacturer of the EV street sweeper. Thus, LA will own the first fully electric street sweeper in the country. With Councilman Blumenfield is Ana Tabuena-Ruddy, Assistant Director of StreetsLA and Chief Sustainability Officer at right. In the left background is Tony Royster, General Manager and City Purchasing Agent, General Services, Club Member. (StreetsLA had been testing the first unit for a few weeks before the purchase.)

The *Alive!* Interview — continued from page 13

sweeper, and we purchased a couple of those so that we could get experience with the battery-operated broom and pump and water systems, and so forth. He kept working with them and encouraging them, and now they've got this full-battery electric sweeper. It's on a totally different chassis but it's got a lot of safety advantages that the old sweepers didn't have.

Ana: Keith requested it from the manufacturer back in 2015.

Alex: Yes.

Has it been rotating it around the City? Or just on specified routes? How have you decided where to use it?

Brent: It's been through various routes through our North Central and East Yards.

The main thing with these sweepers is to test and see how long that battery lasts. So far, it's been pretty good.

Is there one central place to charge it, or do you have places to charge it throughout the City?

Brent: We're using a charger at the yard where we're keeping it. It makes it through the day with no problem. It will last a shift and a half, about 12 hours. It's doing pretty good.

How are the numbers so far?

Brent: We've had it only for about a week [at the time of the interview], so we don't really have a lot of numbers to report, but the battery is lasting for the whole shift, and we're happy with that.

Sounds like you like its possibilities.

Brent: Yeah. So far, we're happy with it. It's living up to our standards from what we expected it to do.

Alex: The manufacturer is still gathering data with their telemetry to report on how many tons, say, of CO2 that the sweeper saved and also how much particulate matter has been saved since it's a battery electric versus diesel. It's in the tons, maybe a couple of tons of CO2.

Wow.

Alex: If we were to use this over the span of a year, it could get into the hundreds of tons of CO2 saved, especially the particulate exhaust that comes out of the exhaust pipe of an engine. Even a clean burning engine like CNG has got some unburned hydrocarbons, some carbon monoxide, some oxides of nitrogen NOX. This sweeper doesn't produce any of that. It's pure battery electric. So whatever pollutants it generates, it's generating it at the power plant, not in the battery. It has no tailpipe.

How many sweepers are in your fleet, by the way?

Alex: Approximately 135.

Wow, it's impressive to think how many tons of CO2 would be saved if you multiplied that one vehicle over 135 in the fleet.

Alex: Yes!

Ana: It will be interesting to see as the weather gets hotter and someone's using air conditioning in the cab, how much that affects the length of the charge.

Alex: Yes. It has air conditioning. But this particular battery pack is twice the size of a normal battery pack. They've really put in a lot of extended range on this sweeper.

Michael: With the weather we've had in the last couple weeks, they're already using the AC on it.

Did you have to train drivers specially to use it?

Michael: The biggest thing in training involves charging it. But other than that, the operation is just as normal as our other sweepers, and no change in the staffing.

The only real training we have done is the charging aspect – showing them how to hook up the charger, when to charge it, and so forth.

Brent: If you look at the EV sweeper and compare to our CNG sweepers, everything from the cab back is identical. The sweeping aspect is identical, so they didn't have to learn anything really on that part of it. It's just the charging.

Alex: The street sweeper itself is very familiar to our

sweeper operators. They just have to be mindful that they're not running a diesel engine or a natural gas engine. They have to remember to plug in at the end of their shift, and check the battery level before they leave in the morning to go sweep again.

Are there other cities looking at the EV sweeper? Are they anxious to hear your data and what you've found?

Alex: The City of San Diego tends to follow us very closely with the technology that we're using.

Is there a difference in noise level between the EV versus the old sweepers?

Brent: The only noise you hear from the electric sweeper – and that's when it's sweeping – is the brooms on the ground. You do hear a slight hum like most electric vehicles have, but other than that, it's very quiet other than the brooms turning on the ground.

Pretty incredible.

Update: At a press conference on August 10, City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield and city officials announced the purchase of the electric sweeper. StreetsLA is appreciative of the work and support of the Mayor's Office, City Council, and partner agencies in securing the sweeper as City continues greening its fleet.

CENTERING ON THE CENTER

In the middle of the pandemic, StreetsLA created the Center for Green Innovation at the North Hollywood Yard. It looked like you were centering a lot of your sustainability efforts into that office. Can you update us on the Center?

Ana: Sure, The Center for Green Innovation is a hub where we can test things before we deploy them throughout our different yards. We use information or lessons learned in that yard and then try to replicate them in our other yards. The Center was motivated by former Mayor Eric Garcetti and his Green New Deal.

One thing that we started over there is the Path to Zero Emissions. We're also looking into other things like Greening Our Yards, et cetera. So for that yard, we installed a Beam charging station, so I don't know if you guys are familiar with that one. It's a transportable off-grid EV charging station. If a location does not have existing electrical infrastructure to be able to handle a charging station, we are able to use the Beam equipment because it's transportable. We can move it around to different yards if we need to. Our operations folks gave us some feedback on it and they said that it's working well, so because of that we just recently placed an order for 10 more Beam systems, and we're distributing that all over our different yards – we're picking locations where there's no existing electrical infrastructure.

How does the Beam system work?

Ana: It's solar-powered. If a yard currently does not have existing infrastructure, we can use the Beam for that purpose. Let's pretend all our fleet is now EVs; we would have to find a way to charge our vehicles. Once we have all the yards upgraded to have infrastructure, we can still use it for emergency situations if the grid was to go down for example.

Right.

Ana: We would be able to continue functioning. The Beam will serve its purpose more than just as a temporary solution while we upgrade our yards.

When do you expect to see the Beam systems you've ordered?

Ana: There's a three- to four-month lead time before we're going to see them. That will perfectly align with the delivery of the 16 new EV trucks that we've ordered.

What are the 16 new EV vehicles that are coming in?

Alex: Ford F150 Lightning pickups. We have one already. We were the first department in the City to have it. We've got 16 more of those on order. We also have a flatbed truck for tree planting that should be delivered in another couple of months. I've got a battery electric tree trimming truck on order, too.

PUBLIC WORKS Clean Sweep

The *Alive!* Interview — continued from page 14

Ana: Yes.

Alex: To trim the trees. We're really starting to get the ball rolling here. Because of COVID-19, there are still a lot of supply chain problems and issues. Trying to get little parts – relays and different components to complete the trucks and to complete the order – has been an issue for us. But we're working through it and exercising patience.

Ana: 10 of the 16 EV trucks that Alex mentioned are for Street Maintenance, and the rest are for Urban Forestry. The flatbed and the tree trimming trucks are also for Urban Forestry Division.

There's no going back. This is the way.

Ana: Definitely.

OTHER INITIATIVES

What other initiatives are centered in the Center for Green Innovation?

Ana: We have five innovations and sustainability focuses. The first being Path to Zero Emissions – upgrading our fleets and upgrading our tools and equipment so that they're battery charged. We're looking at our gas leaf blowers, for example and other tools.

And then there's Circular Economy, where we're looking into recycling materials and reusing them to give them another life. We also completed a white paper feasibility study on converting tree waste into a biochar product that can be used as soil amendment for better tree health. It could also be used for capturing stormwater pollutants and potentially – though this needs more investigation and study – as a bitumen additive for asphalt, so that it can withstand extreme heat temperatures. So those are our circular economy efforts.

There's Greening Our Yards, an initiative to upgrade yards to support sustainability efforts. Digital Everywhere is our initiative to update protocols and processes to be computerized so we're all digitally connected and be more efficient. And then Sustainable Streetscapes is our focus on nature-based solutions like increasing biodiversity, with the goal of converting 14 million square feet of medians in the City into California-native plantings and installing efficient irrigation systems, while supporting pedestrian and bike-friendly access. Those are all our innovation and sustainability initiatives.

Is there any industry that's moving faster? It seems like municipal departments like LA's are leaders in a lot of this technology that is really happening. I don't think our municipal departments are getting nearly enough headlines for the work that you're doing.

Ana: We have a great team of folks at StreetsLA, and you're getting a glimpse here in this interview. Everyone's moving the needle in their own divisions, and I think StreetsLA is leading that.

CHALLENGES AND MISSION

What are your challenges in trying to bring more sustainability to the City of LA?

Ana: It always comes down to two things. Funding and the personnel to deliver the work. We try to work with what we have and get creative. For this fiscal year, we are grateful to Mayor Bass and City Council for funding the purchase of our EVs.

Alex: It's like what Ana said. We try to spend smart. We try not to go down too many dead-end alleys by buying something that hasn't been proven or it might not work out for us. There are a lot of things we could buy just to try it out, but we try not to do that. We try to plan ahead and try to think things through, formulate a plan and then execute it and spend the funds wisely.

Ana: StreetsLA is a first responder. We always have to keep in mind that, as first responders, we may have to be available 24/7. The charging technology is not quite there yet where we can charge in 10 minutes and then get a truck out to an emergency site. As technology tries to keep up, we're ready to move forward, but technology still needs to catch up with the type of operations that we have.

How does the Center address Public Works' mission for sustainability and promise to grow the City's sustainability abilities?

Ana: I think other cities look to us for innovation, and our vendors really take it to heart when we give them feedback, and respond by making changes to their products. It's important that we do things very carefully and thoughtfully in moving forward with testing and development. We are tasked with moving things forward, and we do.

Are there any initiatives that you're looking at incorporating down the road, so to speak?

Ana: We're pursuing a variety of big and small initiatives. We're looking at converting our existing turf medians that are water guzzlers into biodiverse California-native medians. We're looking into technology for efficient irrigation systems. And to continue updating our fleets into EVs. We have much equipment that still needs conversion, so we continue to work on that. Another effort is looking at piloting e-bikes with a small cargo hold and a roadway scanner for bike lane inspections. An inspector can bring barricades in the cargo for instant implementation, as needed. We're also looking at using sustainable materials to replace existing gear and tools, where possible. And here's a simple one – we just implemented a virtual business card to reduce paper waste, so that now people can just scan a QR code to have all our information there; it automatically goes into someone's contact list. Simple things like that.

Another one – this is dreaming big, which I mentioned earlier, is the biochar white paper feasibility study. We just shared that information with the Departmental Chief Sustainability Officers. There is interest with the Bureau of Engineering because they're working on a decarbonization study. There's also interest within Sanitation because that could be used for stormwater pollutants and odor removal.

Overall, it's important that our Bureau continues to deliver our services without interruption while still looking at innovations. There won't be any delay that affects our services just because we're testing new things out.

FAVORITE PROGRAMS

What's been your favorite part of the sustainability initiatives so far?

Ana: I really like hearing feedback from our crews who are testing the equipment. They mention how quiet they are. If they're testing some of their tools, they aren't disturbing the public. I like that. That's just one thing.

Michael: Getting the feedback from the crews or the individuals working on a project or product. It shows they're really thinking about what we're trying to do and they're not just treating it casually.

Brent: It's knowing that we, as the City of Los Angeles, are the innovators. We are the City that everybody in the world looks at to be the first ones to do something. They look at us as testers. And then they usually follow suit. That makes me feel good to know that we are the ones that everyone else is looking up to.

Alex: The most fun part for me is to see people, who are set in their ways, seeing new ways. For instance, the chainsaws we use to trim the trees. The old chainsaws required the user to pull a cord to start it, and it would make a wing-ding-ding-ding kind of a noise. We bought some battery electric chainsaws, and the guys were looking at them saying, "These are never going to work." The first couple we tried didn't work very well. But now we've found one that works terrific, and they love them because they're quiet and cut really well. When the battery starts to get low, they just change batteries and then they're ready to go again. They take the depleted battery and they plug it in right there at their truck. The users don't have to mix gasoline and oil. They don't have to deal with any of that. It's a very-high-quality chainsaw and it's quiet. Like Ana says, we're not disturbing the public anymore. That's just one example. We also have an electric breaker, like a jackhammer. You know what those sound like. We've got one that's battery electric and it's quiet and powerful. It improves the lives of the people of Los Angeles, and that's really ultimately what we're here to do.

A PASSION FOR PROGRESS

Well, here's the signature *Alive!* interview question: What do you love about what you do?

Ana: I enjoy bringing a systems thinking approach to my work – making sense of the whole instead of just its parts. Many people think the beginning and end of a project, like the groundbreaking or the ribbon-cutting, is the goal. But what comes after – the daily operations of maintenance and repair – is really the ultimate goal. These daily operations are so critical for the City; without them, nothing else can exist. Maintenance is sustainability.

I'm also fascinated by our role as first responders. We really play an important role.

And that StreetsLA folks are just wonderful people to work with. When we need to triage something, everybody gathers together. It's teamwork. We experienced that at the beginning of this year when we had the storms with all the potholes. Everybody across divisions banded together and helped us out.

Brent: It's pretty simple. It goes back to my days when I was in Resurfacing. I like to see a beginning and an end. So when you get to a street in resurfacing, you see a bad street and then when you're done, it's a brand new street. As a Superintendent over Cleaning, I see a dirty street, and when the sweeper passes by, it's nice and clean. I like that aspect of it.

And then also what Ana just said – I like the teamwork and the fact that I can call another division if I need assistance with something, and they can call me if they need assistance. If they need a sweeper, they can call me and I can provide assistance for them.

Michael: I enjoy working with people and meeting people. My day-to-day interactions with my colleagues and other agencies have been great for me. I'm a people person. I know Brent's laughing because he always says that I'm the one who's always shaking hands and kissing babies.

I've got almost 35 years of service, and I love seeing how things have evolved and changed and improved. We've gotten a lot better in some areas. I was a Sweeper for many years. To go into a route and see that it's clean, I love knowing I had something to do with that. And even now, as I ride through the City, I see potholes being repaired that I physically requested. It's fixed. I enjoy seeing that and knowing that I'm part of it.

Thank you all for taking time today to update us about your contributions to sustainability in LA.

Ana: Thank you for making this such a pleasant experience for all of us.

Brent: Take care, you guys.

Michael: Take care.

Brent: Bye, everybody. ●

INNOVATION

Hybrid Plug-In Street Sweeper



StreetsLA operates two hybrid CNG/plug-in street sweepers.

INNOVATION

Bike Lane EV Street Sweeper



StreetsLA operates several fully electric bike lane street sweepers to keep bicycle lanes clean and clear. These units are made by Dulevo in Italy.



A hybrid plug-in street sweeper is ready to recharge at the Beam solar-powered charger.



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

RLACEI

For Retired
Club Members

CONTACT INFORMATION

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ruth B. Perry

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

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- Beverly J. Clark, *First Vice President*
- Mark Blunk, *Second Vice President*
- Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, *Treasurer*
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- Mark Blunk, *Audit Chair* Ext. 704
- Beverly J. Clark, *Publicity Director* Ext. 716
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- Elizabeth Torres, *Entertainment Director* Ext. 703
- Leonard Torres, *Director* Ext. 707

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 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 Ann Seales, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 ext. 706 or Ann.Seales@RLACEI.org for a change of address or to add or change your email address. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, LAPCU, and LAFCU as applicable.



Beverly J. Clark

Send in your Interesting News Contributions!

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

RETIREE EVENTS

Sept. 14 Annual Picnic
Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Dr.
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Dec. 14 Holiday Party
Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

RLACEI EVENTS RESERVATION LINE:

Call: (800) 678-4145, ext. 701
Or email: contact@rlacei.org

Due to staffing, telephone confirmation cannot be provided.



RLACEI 2023 Annual Picnic

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

Join today!

(To join RLACEI, call (800) 678-4145 EXT. 717)

Thursday, September 14, 2023

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Friendship Auditorium • 3201 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90027

RSVP to (800) 678-4145 EXT. 701 no later than September 10, 2023.

RLACEI picnic is **FREE** with no cost.
No admission fee. Time.
Win prizes!
Win prizes!
Win prizes!



Sorry!
REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS NOW
CLOSED

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Number of Attendees _____

Email to Contact@RLACEI.org or mail to RLACEI, P.O. Box 86264, Los Angeles, CA 90086

****Limited to first 100 RSVPs—Free Mask to those in attendance—Only RLACEI members will be eligible to win prizes.****

RETIREES UPDATE

by Tom Moutes, *RLACEI Director* • Tom.Moutes@RLACEI.org



Tom Moutes

Do You Know IRMAA?

In this case, IRMAA is not the nice lady next door; it's the nasty surprise you receive when you reach age 65 and find out you are paying more for your healthcare each month than you were before. This extra payment, or Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA), is a surcharge the federal government extracts from you for the pleasure of being in a Medicare health plan. Currently, these IRMAAs range between \$164.90 and \$560.50 per month based on your income! Depending on your Medicare eligibility, LACERS will reimburse the smallest monthly amount the feds charge – currently, that's the \$164.90 amount. The IRMAA amounts can change every calendar year.

Based in part on a request by RLACEI, the LACERS staff and board have been studying the IRMAA reimbursements. When the federal government first initiated IRMAA charges in 2007, the monthly amounts were comparatively small – ranging from \$93.50

to \$168.66 per month. While the lower amount has “only” gone up by about 75 percent, the upper IRMAA amount has more than tripled! This means that Retirees who paid FICA taxes while they were working, and therefore have both Medicare A and B, are still only eligible for a monthly IRMAA reimbursement at the lowest-tier rate – currently \$164.90 – even though their IRMAA charge may be much higher. Those Retirees who did not pay the FICA tax while working are only eligible for Medicare B and are currently not entitled to any IRMAA reimbursement from LACERS.

The LACERS Board commissioned an actuarial study to determine the potential costs associated with providing more than the “basic” IRMAA reimbursement, currently, \$164.90, to age 65-plus Retirees with Medicare A and B. Subsequently, the Board authorized the staff to conduct educational/listening sessions. RLACEI was well represented at both the virtual session and the in-person session.

Based on the staff reports and listening sessions, it is likely the LACERS staff will be recommending some type of

reimbursement or other fix for Medicare B-only Retirees and an enhanced amount of reimbursement for Retirees with Medicare A and B. (These articles are written a month in advance, so it is possible by the time this appears in *Alive!* the staff report will already be out.)

Even if the LACERS staff recommends enhanced reimbursements, that would just be the first step of the process to make this happen. The LACERS board would need to recommend the enhanced reimbursements to the City Council and mayor, and those entities would have to approve the proposals. This likely will not be an easy process and it will take all of us, with RLACEI leading the way, to weigh in on this expected proposal. *That means every LACERS member, whether Retired now or hoping to retire later, should submit public comments to the LACERS Board and especially to the City Council if the item is submitted for consideration.* There is strength in numbers, and, through a very large response, we can show we are paying attention and we care about our financial future and the futures of our fellow LACERS members. ●



LACERS BOARD UPDATE

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

Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Reports Earnings On Private Equity

The LACERS Board and investment staff use a mix of investments to support long-term growth with everything from traditional stocks and bonds to alternative investments such as private equity. The board aims to meet our assumed rate of return of 7.0 percent using a mix of investment types.

Private equity investment is a class that promises high returns, but its performance can vary from year to year. The report we have received from our private equity consultant, Aksia, is for the most recent period ending Sept. 30, 2022. The current board policy commits 16 percent of the plan assets to private equity, and the actual exposure for this period is 18.9 percent. The target exposure is approximately \$3.2 billion, while the actual exposure is \$3.8 billion.

The private equity program returned (internal rate of return, IRR) the following:

- 0.20 percent for one year;
- 21.9 percent for three years;
- 17.9 percent for five years;
- 14.7 percent for ten years;
- 13.6 percent for 20 years; and
- 12.4 percent since inception (1995).

The one-, three- and five-year returns beat the benchmark, while the other lagged the benchmark.

The benchmark has evolved over the years using an index of publicly traded stocks plus a risk premium. The benchmark is now pegged to the Cambridge Associates Global Private Equity and Venture Capital Index.

An important feature of a successful private equity program is to keep making regular investments and not try to time the market. Regular investing makes sure that we don't miss the opportunity to invest in very profitable markets when prices are depressed. It is easy to identify these investment opportunities looking in the rear-view mirror, but not so simple to look at the investment world going forward.

The LACERS program is mature, meaning it has been in operation for years, and many investments are in the distribution phase in which they are distributing more money than they are receiving in contributions to the investments. This results in the investment being "cash flow positive," which provides money for meeting the pension roll, making new investments and other pension expenses. The LACERS plan has been cash flow positive for most of the past ten years. ●



MEET YOUR BOARD

by Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

A look at RLACEI Board Members

Beverly J. Clark

Leonard Torres RLACEI Board Member

Leonard Torres has joined the RLACEI board as its newest board member. Leonard was officially sworn in at the July board meeting after a unanimous vote.

Leonard Retired in 2021 from Personnel as a Sr. Personnel Analyst after 35 years of City service. During his City career, he worked in various departments: Recreation and Parks, Mayor's Office, LA Zoo, LA Convention Center, Building and Safety, LACERS, and lastly Personnel.

As far as activities as a Retiree, he says, "Besides hiking and discovering new places to eat, I'm addicted to Pickleball and plan to be a LACERS Champion for the sport."

Why Did You Join RLACEI?

"I wanted to be a part of an organization that served as a watchdog for retirement benefits and promoted activities to stay connected with fellow Retirees."

Welcome, Leonard, to the RLACEI Board of Directors!



Leonard Torres

Become an RLACEI Member!



RLACEI is dedicated to advocating for retiree interests. We are over **6,300** strong! Members of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. enjoy all RLACEI events such member picnic and holiday party with FREE membership to the Employees Club with access to all group benefits (insurance, discounts, etc.).

Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 706, or visit our website at RLACEI.ORG and join today!



RLACEI MEMBERS

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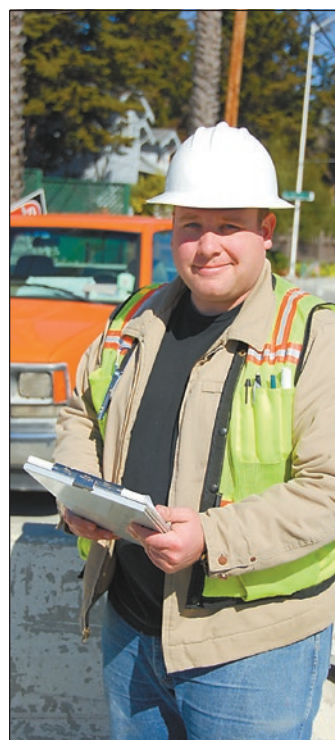
Call (800) 678-4145 x717 or visit our website at RLACEI.ORG

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: Beverly Anderson at: Beverly.Anderson@RLACEI.org or (800) 678-4145 ext. 702



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Cooking with the Club

Photos: Patty M. Larios

with Chef Robert Larios



Spicy Peruvian Chicken

With Loaded Rice, Pickled Jalapeño, and Creamy Salsa Verde

Introducing Peru's latest gift to the world: Peruvian roast chicken with a creamy salsa verde sauce. Imagine tender, succulent chicken, perfectly spiced to delight your taste buds. And let's not forget the incredible sides: garlicky rice infused with tomatoes, scallions and a zesty splash of lime.

But the true superstar of this dish? The creamy sauce that will take your meal to the next level. Bursting with tangy lime and a spicy kick from pickled jalapeños, it's the perfect drizzle for every mouthwatering bite.

¡Buen provecho! *Chef Larios*

Spicy Peruvian Chicken

With Loaded Rice, Pickled Jalapeño, and Creamy Salsa Verde

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 scallions
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1 jalapeño
- 1 lime
- 1 tomato
- 1 tablespoon fajita spice blend (read "Cooking Tidbit" below)
- 1 chicken stock concentrate
- ½ cup jasmine rice
- 10-ounce chicken cutlets
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1.5 tablespoons sour cream
- Salt and pepper (to taste)
- ¼ teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon cooking oil
- 1 tablespoon butter (unsalted)

DIRECTIONS: Prep time is 15 minutes

Serves 2



1 Preparation: First, the ingredients: Fresh produce is always the best, so let's wash and dry our vegetables. For the garlic, we need to peel, mince or grate it and separate a small amount for later. We'll chop our scallions finely, separating the white parts from the green. For our jalapeño, let's slice it thinly into rounds after removing the ribs and seeds to reduce the spiciness. Then we zest and quarter our lime. Lastly, we need to dice our tomato into half-inch pieces.



2 Cook the Rice: Now, let's move on to our rice. In a small pot, melt 1 tablespoon of butter over medium heat and add the white parts of the scallion, the remaining garlic, and 1 teaspoon of fajita spice blend. We'll cook these until they're softened and fragrant. Then we add our rice, stock concentrate, water, and a pinch of salt. When it boils, lower the heat, cover the pot, and let it simmer until the rice is tender. Keep it covered off the heat until ready to serve.



3 Pickle the Jalapeño: While the rice cooks, we can pickle our jalapeño. In a microwave-safe bowl, combine the jalapeño slices, juice of half the lime, a bit of sugar, and a pinch of salt. Microwave this for 30 seconds and set aside to pickle, stirring occasionally.



4 Cook the Chicken: For the chicken, pat it dry with paper towels and season it with the remaining fajita spice blend, salt and pepper. Heat some oil in a large pan over medium-high heat, then add the chicken and cook until it's browned and cooked through. Transfer it to a cutting board to rest.



Save on Hello-Fresh Deliveries

Join Chef Larios by making your own HelloFresh meals delivered to your home. Sign in to the Club website and access your Entertainment/My Club Deals to receive 16 free meals with promotional purchase, including free shipping on the first box!



5 Make Creamy Salsa Verde: Next, let's make our creamy salsa verde. Remove the jalapeño from the pickling liquid but keep the liquid. We'll mince the jalapeño, reserving a few rounds for garnishing. To the bowl with the reserved garlic, we'll add mayonnaise, sour cream, a squeeze of lime juice, a big pinch of lime zest, and some minced jalapeño. If you prefer it spicy, add a splash of jalapeño pickling liquid. Add water slowly until the mixture reaches a drizzling consistency, and season with salt and pepper.



6 Finish and Serve: To finish, fluff the rice with a fork and stir in the tomato, half the scallion greens, remaining lime zest, a squeeze of lime juice, and as much remaining minced jalapeño as you prefer. Season it with salt and pepper. Slice the chicken thinly and divide the rice between bowls, topping each with the chicken slices. Squeeze juice from the remaining lime over the chicken, drizzle everything with the creamy salsa verde, and garnish with the remaining scallion greens and jalapeño rounds.

Remember, the chicken is fully cooked when its internal temperature reaches 165° F.

Cooking Tidbit -Boost your cooking speed by swapping in store-bought pickled jalapeños. No need to worry about making them from scratch. And don't feel obligated to stick with the fajita spice blend. Get creative with a lemon pepper or any other seasoning blend that tickles your taste buds for your chicken dish.

IN MEMORIAM

CUONG CHAU

Sr. Recreation Director II
Rec and Parks
1972-2023

Rec and Parks held a memorial service Aug. 13 for beloved employee Cuong Chau, Sr. Recreation Director II, who died July 6. He was 50 and had served the City officially for 24 years.

The Rec and Parks memorial service was held at the Cabrillo Beach Bath House in San Pedro. Chau served in many recreation centers, including Cheviot Hills, San Pedro, Sherman Oaks, East LA and others.

The funeral program included the following:

"Cuong Chau was a man of wisdom and service.

"He was a true lover of food, travel and life.

"His radiant smile, his sharp wit and his good nature brought joy and happiness to all those he knew.

"Cuong Chau was a Dodgers fan, and he loved his Super Bowl squares – but there was nothing he loved and adored as much as coaching volleyball. Coach Chau led the Girls Volleyball program at Gabrielino High School for more than 25 years, leading the team to 21 league championships and numerous playoff wins.

"He also founded and ran the San Gabriel Starlings chapter, providing quality volleyball to those who may not have otherwise had access. He served as not only a coach, but also a mentor, a father figure and friend to students, staff and families.

"Chau, as he was known to many throughout the City, served the City of Los Angeles Dept. of Recreation and Parks for 30 years. He was beloved by each and every one of the communities he worked with. From San Pedro to Sherman Oaks to East L.A. to Cheviot Hills – Chau took every site he worked at and made it a family.

"He was a leader, an adviser, and someone everyone could count on. He mentored countless coworkers and youth across the City. His imprint is immeasurable.

"Cuong Chau made friends and allies wherever he went. Whether it was giving people nicknames, taking them out for a meal, or lending a listening ear – he showed compassion and enthusiasm toward everyone he met.

"His generosity, warmth and good humor will be deeply missed."

A posting on the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center read:

"Chau was the heart and soul of Cheviot Hills Recreation Center.

"He joined the Cheviot Hills RC family in 2015 and was beloved by the community, the West Region and the City of LA Dept. of Recreation and Parks.

"He brought CHRC much growth and prosperity in his time here, and led us through some of the darkest days when he managed the emergency shelter during the pandemic.

"Chau was a man of wisdom. He was a leader, a mentor, a jokester, a coach and a true friend. He was a lover of food, people, and life."

Chau's work trajectory:

- November 1994: Recreation Assistant II (Glassell Recreation Center)
- July 1994: Assistant Youth Employment Specialist II (SYETP)
- October 1999: Recreation Coordinator (Alpine Rec Center)
- December 2003: Commendation for Acting Director in Charge (Ardmore Recreation Center; Seoul International Park)
- 2005: Ross Snyder Recreation Center
- January 2006: Sr. Rec Director
- December 2008: Commendation (Kick it in the Park) Cabrillo Beach
- December 2008: Commendation (Fourth of July event) Cabrillo Beach
- 2011: Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Recreation Center
- 2015: Cheviot Recreation Center
- 2022: Notice of Commendation

The Club offers condolences and sympathy to those who knew and loved Chau. The Club thanks Club Board Member Jackie Koci Tamayo, County of Santa Clara, and Sonia Young Jimenez, Superintendent, Rec and Parks.



Operations West Valley
"Terrific National Night Out! Tonight, we're a community to celebrate partnership, safety and neighborhood policing."

Photos courtesy LAPD

A Night Out to Build Community

POLICE DEPT. CITYWIDE TOOK PART IN NATIONAL NIGHT OUT.

LAPD: On Aug. 1, several divisions of the LAPD took part in National Night Out, a nationwide event that brings community and law enforcement together for building the neighborhood, sharing crime prevention tips, and having some family fun. In the past, more than 32 million people nationwide were reported to have participated in 9,600 communities in all 50 states.

Many LAPD areas and divisions took part. Here are some images from the evening.



Chief Michel Moore
"National Night Out in Southeast Area led me to meet these young bakers. Sheenway Bakery teaching the next generation for the last 50+ years. The pumpkin bread was delicious!"



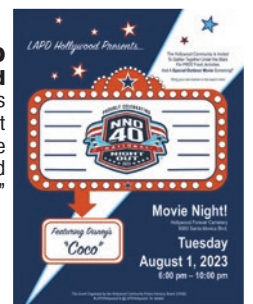
Assistant Chief Al Labrada
"Happy National Night Out! Tonight we came together as a community to celebrate safety and unity. Let's build stronger bonds with our neighbors to make our neighborhoods even safer."



Commander Lilian Carranza
"National Night Out with community, Capt. James Roberts – LAPD Rampart. Together we are making communities safer, more caring places to live." Also LAPD Central, LAPD Hollenbeck.



LAPD Wilshire
"Wilshire National Night Out. We appreciate our community partners."



LIMITED EDITION PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

ADORH II

THE STAGE PLAY
WDP BY LADY Y SMITH
CHOREOGRAPHY BY QUEJONNE CROSS

Amare Perkins
Anthony Smith
Georgi McKinney

Rubyn Warren
Reginald Green
Richard Neal II

Kobbi Frey
AD Gigi Refro
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TICKETS at EVENTBRITE \$25 - GROUP 10+ SPECIAL GIFT



Mila Pulido, 4

BIRTHDAY: Jan. 8 • BEST FRIEND: Alice • FAVORITE SNACK: hot dogs • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Bluey" • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO KNOTT'S BERRY FARM: The rides are fun. • PARENT: Barbara Nobregas, Retired



Sophia Wilson, 6

BIRTHDAY: Dec. 27 • BEST FRIEND: Violet • FAVORITE SNACK: Slim Jim • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Bluey" • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO KNOTT'S BERRY FARM: To have fun. • PARENT: Brandon Wilson, LADOT



Daniella Gonzalez, 9

BIRTHDAY: Feb. 1 • BEST FRIEND: Elize • FAVORITE SNACK: chips, candy, fruit • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Sam & Cat" • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO KNOTT'S BERRY FARM: Because it's fun there and I'd like to go with my family. • PARENT: Joanna Medina LADWP



Angie Lindsey, 13

BIRTHDAY: July 5 • FAVORITE SNACKS: Machi Boba • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Miraculous: Tales of Ladybug and Cat Noir" • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO KNOTT'S BERRY FARM: Because it would be a great way to spend time with my family. • PARENT: Rita Lindsey, Retired

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 Knott's Berry Farm**

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

Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT.
Mia Correa	2	Danielle Mero	Council
Miles Ochoa	2	Mario Ochoa	Animal Services
Gino Tripple	4	Anthony Tripple	LADOT
Lanie Soto	4	Juan Soto Funes	LAPD
Leonardo Hernandez	5	Ruben Hernandez	Public Works/ Sanitation
Natalia Diaz	6	Alex Diaz	LADWP
Oliver Gonzalez	6	Fernando Gonzalez	LADWP
Camila Berumen	7	Oscar Berumen	LAPD
Imani Morgan	7	Allen Morgan	Public Works/ Sanitation/ Liveability
Mica Flores	7	Leriza Flores	LADWP
Adil Valdovinos	8	Mauricio Valdovinos	LAPD
Alyssa Macias	8	Leslie Macias	LAPD
Coleton Ross	8	D'Arcy Ross	LAPD
Emma Solis	8	Mike Solis	LADWP
Emma Cooper	8	Milton Hicks	Retired
Juliet Hernandez	9	Eduardo Hernandez	Rec and Parks
Nathan Rodriguez	9	Wendy Rodriguez	Comm. Invest. Families
River Gray	9	Richard Gray	Public Works/ Sanitation
Violet Alvarado	9	Tony Alvarado	Harbor

Print and Online Schedule

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)





Terry and Jim's ranch under the huge Wyoming sky.

Farm Living Is the Life for Terry

TERRY CARTER, RETIRED, BUILDS A NEW LIFE IN WYOMING.

LAPD: Terry Carter, Retired, LAPD and Club Board Member, is building an amazing life with her husband, Jim; grown son, Michael; daughter, Carlee; ... and nine cows (one a calf), 26 chickens, 36 meat chickens, 9 ducks and four pigs. Quite a menagerie!

Terry and Jim live in Cheyenne. Son Michael graduated from college and is now a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force, headed to Malstrom Air Force Base, Montana. Carlee has spent this summer in France.

With all those animals on the grand American prairie, does she recommend retirement?

"Absolutely!"

Well done, Terry, Jim and family. Keep us updated on your menagerie! ●



Terry Carter (left) with husband, Jim; son, Michael; and daughter, Carlee.



Terry and Jim's newest calf.

Scenes from the ranch.



FOR ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS

LACERS Sets Temporary Hours - 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

LACERS welcomes all current and Retired City employees to its new headquarters at 977 N. Broadway. Temporary hours are now in effect: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. No appointments are needed.

A current government-issued photo identification or City employee badge is required to enter the building except when attending public meetings of the LACERS Board of Administration. Also, parking is not available at the building. Paid parking lots, public transit, and street parking are available nearby.

Additionally, online options will continue to be available to you. Use the LACERS' Secure Document Upload found at lacers.org/secure-document-upload to submit forms or required documents, visit our website at [LACERS.org](https://lacers.org) to obtain benefits information; log onto your MyLACERS account at <https://mylacers.lacers.org> to view your account details; and visit the found LACERS' YouTube channel at youtube.com/lacersyoutube where you can find a wealth of benefits videos. Stay up to date on LACERS announcements by checking our website periodically at [LACERS.org](https://lacers.org), contacting us by email at lacers.services@lacers.org, and by phone at (800) 779-8328. ●

FOR RETIRED MEMBERS

Open Enrollment For 2024 Is Coming

LACERS Health Benefits' Open Enrollment is planned for Oct. 16 – Nov. 16, 2023. Open Enrollment will be Retired Members' opportunity to enroll in a health or dental plan, change their plan or add dependents, with changes becoming effective Jan. 1, 2024. The Open Enrollment materials will be mailed in early October and will be available at lacers.org/open-enrollment.

For Members under age 65 and non-Medicare, your Open Enrollment packet will include a Health Plan Statement, Open Enrollment Overview, and instructions on accessing the 2024 Health Benefits Guide online.

For Members aged 65 and older with Medicare Parts A & B or B only, your packet will include a Health Plan Statement, Open Enrollment Overview, and a 2024 Health Benefits Guide.

For Members who are non-Medicare but whose dependent has Medicare A & B, a Health Benefits Guide will be included in your packet.

LACERS is excited to announce that the Anthem Medicare Supplemental plan will be available in 2024. More information about the benefits of this plan will be published in the 2024 Health Benefits Guide in October. Members wishing to enroll in this plan must complete and submit enrollment forms to LACERS during the Open Enrollment period.

The 2023 LACERS medical and dental plan options listed below will continue for 2024. Please remember that your vision plan is part of your medical plan.

Medical Plans Available: Anthem Blue Cross HMO (CA only), Kaiser Permanente HMO/Senior Advantage (CA only), SCAN Health Plan (CA only), UnitedHealthcare (CA, AZ, or NV), Anthem Blue Cross PPO/Medicare Preferred PPO (nationwide), and the new Anthem Medicare Supplemental plan (nationwide).

Dental Plans Available: DeltaCare USA HMO (CA or NV) and Delta Dental PPO (nationwide).

Vision Plans Available: Anthem Blue View Vision (for non-Kaiser Permanente Members), Kaiser (for Kaiser Permanente Members).

ATTEND AN OPEN ENROLLMENT MEETING

Beginning Thursday, Sept. 14, Retired Members may register via their MyLACERS account or by calling LACERS at (800) 779-8328 for the following Open Enrollment meeting dates and locations:

VIRTUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT MEETINGS

Anthem Blue Cross	Oct. 18, 2023	10 a.m.
Kaiser Permanente	Oct. 19, 2023	10 a.m.
UnitedHealthcare and SCAN Health Plan	Oct. 25, 2023	10 a.m.
Delta Dental	Oct. 26, 2023	10 a.m.
Anthem Blue Cross (repeat)	Oct. 31, 2023	2 p.m.

IN-PERSON OPEN ENROLLMENT MEETINGS

Almanson Court 700 S Almanson St. Alhambra, CA 91801	Nov. 2, 2023	10 a.m.
DoubleTree Hotel 222 N Vineyard Ave. Ontario, CA 91764	Nov. 7, 2023	10 a.m.
Airtel Plaza Hotel 7211 Valjean Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91406	Nov. 9, 2023	10 a.m.

Registration is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, visit the LACERS website at lacers.org/open-enrollment or scan the QR code below with a smart-phone. ●



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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*

Below is a listing of those who Retired from the City. To all we say, welcome to the best years!

We honor the people who have spent their working lives building, managing and imagining a better LA, and are now Retired. We thank and appreciate all you have done!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Adame, Michael J.	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	34	Hart, Veronica J.	Human Resources	LADWP	N/D	Prendergast, Jean M.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D
Alcala, Ron	Fleet Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	Hernandez, Carmelo V.	Tree Surgeon Sup.	Public Works	31	Reyes, Marivic	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D
Alexander, Stephen	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Higareda, Esperanza	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Reynoso, Angeles M.	Exe. Admin. Assistant	Rec & Parks	34
Angeles, Edgardo O.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Hoeven, Robin D.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Reynoso, Jose J.	Equipment Mechanic	LAPD	15
Baldenegro, Carlos C.	Civil Engineer	Harbor	30	Holloman, Michael	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Richards, Raymond	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D
Bell, Kelvin A.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Huff, George R.	Security Service	LADWP	N/D	Richardson, David K.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Beltran, Sylvia O.	Corp. Strategy	LADWP	N/D	Jafar, Harun A.	Auditor	Airports	22	Robles, Henry A.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D
Bertrand, Loletta A.	Supply Chain Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	James, Scott R.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Romero, Javier A.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Bosco, Joseph L.	Env. Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D	Jarel, Raquel S.	Management Analyst	LADWP	38	Ronda, Ralph A.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D
Brackett, Wayne M.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Johnson, Jaimi A.	Scenario Dev.	LADWP	N/D	Ruiz, Roberto F.	Water Quality	LADWP	N/D
Braxton, Tracy M.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Jones, Dianna G.	Env. Engr. Assoc.	PW/LADWP	30	Saenz, Jesse F.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Briasco, Scott M.	Power New Business	LADWP	N/D	Jones, Keith E.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Saldana, Jose A.	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	24
Brockman, Steve W.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Kaplan, Vincent A.	Facilities	LADWP	N/D	Sanchez, Adolfo	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Burnett, Daniel A.	Sr. Custodian	Gen.Srvcs.	32	Kaporis, Konstadino	Env. Engineer	Public Works	31	Sanchez, Nina L.	Retirement Plan	LADWP	N/D
Bush, Gregory L.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Kendall, Kevin G.	Admin. Clerk	Finance	24	Sanchez, Patrick A.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Cabasac, Jessie R.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	33	Kidane, Tewelde A.	Construction Insp.	Airports	19	Sanders, James C.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Cabrera, Teresa L.	Power Exec. Office	LADWP	N/D	Kishlansky, Aaron D.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Santos, Cheryl A.	Corporate Health	LADWP	N/D
Calvache, Lilly	Human Resources	LADWP	N/D	Kishlansky, Robert I.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Santos, Grace P.	Librarian	Library	18
Cameron, Frank F.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec & Parks	6	Kung, Anne B.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Schultz, Paul R.	Power Ext. Energy	LADWP	N/D
Campbell, Julian F.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Kurowski, Kenneth J.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D	Schussler, Russell P.	Power O&M	LADWP	N/D
Castillo, Henry T.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D	Le, Loc N.	ITS	LADWP	N/D	Schuster, David W.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Chan, Russell H.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	34	Lee, Gerald G.	Fleet Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	Schweers, Troy D.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Chan, Tony H.	Power Engineering	LADWP	N/D	Lee, Victor J.	Fleet Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	Sedlacek, Concepcion P.	Energy Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Chavez, Michael E.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Leong, Jeffrey K.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Serna, Keryn A.	Power New Business	LADWP	N/D
Chu, Peter W.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Linard, Andrew L.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Siewert, David B.	Power Executive Office	LADWP	N/D
Chua, Arenato E.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D	Lockett, John A.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D	Sindayan, Lucina D.	Power Engineering	LADWP	N/D
Cook, Benjamin D.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Lopez, Jorge M.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec & Parks	16	Smith, Gwendolyn E.	Management Analyst	Airports	8
Costello, David J.	Power Safety	LADWP	N/D	Lyons, Sharon E.	Power New Business	LADWP	N/D	Smith, Sandra E.	Human Resources	LADWP	N/D
Crawley, Tom E.	Electrical Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	21	Madden, Wayne M.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Spease, Bruce E.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Davis, Jude P.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	Manns, Michael A.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Suleiman, Samer S.	Civil Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	33
De Simone, Elizabeth	Water Quality	LADWP	N/D	Mar, Elizabeth	Corporate Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	Suzuki, Isamu	Gardener Caretaker	Rec & Parks	13
Delatorre, Monica A.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	27	Martin, Keith C.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Tan, Alexander T.	Power Construction	LADWP	N/D
Delgado, Kenneth F.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Matlock, Barbara J.	Power Executive Office	LADWP	N/D	Tan, Gensheng J.	Internal Audit	LADWP	N/D
Demma, Steven F.	Power Safety	LADWP	N/D	McArthur, Darlene	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Tenborg, Ronald L.	Fleet Svcs.	LADWP	N/D
Demos, Nick L.	Power Engineering	LADWP	N/D	McKinney, Malou I.	Human Resources	LADWP	N/D	Thompson, Howard M.	Security Officer	Airports	28
Digioia, Steve S.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	McLaurin, Araina A.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Thomburg, Luther L.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Donofrio, Frank R.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	McNeil, Cameron T.	ITS	LADWP	N/D	Tolar, George T.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D
Dorsey, Dennis P.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Mejia, Nelson O.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Torres-Medina, Janet	Corporate Health	LADWP	N/D
Duarte, George	Light Equip. Op.	Rec & Parks	32	Mendoza, Richard M.	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	34	Tran, Doc V.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D
Dubruiel, Charles A.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Mendoza, William A.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	Tripp, Christopher S.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Dungca, Elena B.	City Attorney	LADWP	N/D	Milutin, Boris	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Tsui, Dennis K.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D
Eckstrom, Charles W.	Environmental Spec.	Housing	7	Montalvo, Luis	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Turpin, Howard A.	Security Officer	Airports	30
Enriquez, Linda A.	Facilities	LADWP	N/D	Montgomery, Matthew	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Umukoro, William	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D
Fick, Robert M.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Moore, Makito A.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D	Ungson, Juan A.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Fisher, Linda S.	Recreation Sup.	Rec & Parks	26	Morales, Richard M.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	Vargas, Kenneth G.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Fisher, Shannon J.	Meeting Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	Motallabi, Abolhassan	Power System	LADWP	N/D	Villa, Francisco T.	Management Analyst	Public Works	14
Flores, Irma	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Myers, Chester R.	ITS	LADWP	N/D	Ward, Maria E.	Event Attendant	Gen.Srvcs.	10
Fogg, Kim M.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Nakamura, Darin Y.	Park Maint. Supv.	Rec & Parks	37	Whites, Richard A.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D
Folstad, Richard W.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Nakamura, Glen S.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Williams, Gloria L.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Galvez, Carlos A.	Custodian	Gen.Srvcs.	35	Nunez, Jesus G.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Wilson, Allen B.	Build. Repairer	Rec & Parks	8
Ghaly, Deena R.	Ethics Officer	City Ethics Comm.	9	Obregon, Laura D.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Wooding, Michael K.	Facilities Svcs.	LADWP	N/D
Giesregen, Dane M.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Oregon, Nicholas R.	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	Woods, Warren D.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Gong, Leland M.	Corporate Health	LADWP	N/D	O'Hara, Joseph M.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Yang, Paula L.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Gonzales, Andrew B.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Pabicon, Suzanne J.	Power Engineering	LADWP	N/D	Ybarrondo, Gary Lee	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec & Parks	9
Gonzalez, Albert R.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Paris, Ekundayo	Delivery Driver	Gen.Srvcs.	3	Young, Dwight D.	Electrician	Gen.Srvcs.	6
Gould, Vanessa B.	Chief Forensic Chem.	LAPD	31	Parra, Luis D.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D	Zachery, Reginald J.	Mayoral Aide	Mayor's Office	22
Goya, Kevin Y.	Metering Svcs.	LADWP	N/D	Patton, Anna M.	Heavy Duty Truck Op.	Public Works	16	Zamora, Alicia	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D
Gunn, Bruce N.	Energy Dist.	LADWP	N/D	Pickett, Anthony S.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D				
Harrison, Ralph E.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Pitts, Phillip C.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D				

N/D = No Data

* NOTE: If you wish to have a listing deleted from our online posting of Retirement notices, please email us at admin@employeesclub.com, stating the name and department of the Retired person. The request must come from the actual Retired person. We derive our lists from official public records provided by the City and LADWP.

In Memoriam

We honor those who have passed away and recognize their lifelong service to the City of Los Angeles. Their lives mattered to our City and our region. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of the following current and Retired City employees who were reported to have passed away.

ACTIVE			RETIRED		
DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	NAME
Rec and Parks	24	Chau, Cuong C.	LADWP	34	Lopez, Eva M.
Public Works	3	Heidary, Navid	N/D	N/D	Luke Jr., Riley J.
Planning	20	Hendricks, Nicholas T.	Public Works	10	Madden, Sandra D.
LAPD	16	Kirmani, Ata	N/D	N/D	Maguire, Michael J.
LADWP	32	Loeser, Jeanette E.	N/D	N/D	McLaurin, Doris E.
Transportation	26	Mathews, Reginald E.	N/D	N/D	Monette, David
Public Works	13	Mendez, Gerardo	LADWP	24	Nye, Roger E.
			Transportation	29	Orzechowski, Walter B.
			Bldg. & Safety	21	Petrish, Kristine M.
			Gen. Services	25	Reichert, Glenn E.
			LADWP	34	Sandoval, Ruben A.
			City Attorney	11	Sauls, Willie R.
			LADWP	21	Sedwick-Griffin, Karen D.
			LADWP	29	Shono, Tadaaki T.
			Public Works	22	Slocum, Jim R.
			LADWP	24	Stone, Eugene A.
			N/D	N/D	Tamashiro, Dorothy H.
			Rec and Parks	37	Thomas, Gus
			LADWP	38	Vayner, Leonid
			Public Works	34	Watters, Royal A.
			LAPD	33	Williams, Jack W.
			Zoo	8	Wright, Helen L.

N/D = No Data

Births



Nicholas Houser, born July 26 to **Jessica Lee**, Wastewater Operator 1, Public Works/ Sanitation and Environment, Tillman Water Reclamation Plant; and **Officer 3 Evan Houser**, LAPD Valley Traffic Division. Grandma is **"Lala" Marianne Angeles**, Retired, Housing. "My husband's first Papa duties, cutting the umbilical cord," Jessica writes. Congratulations to all, and the Club welcomes "third-generation" City employee Nicholas to the City family!

Salute to Veterans

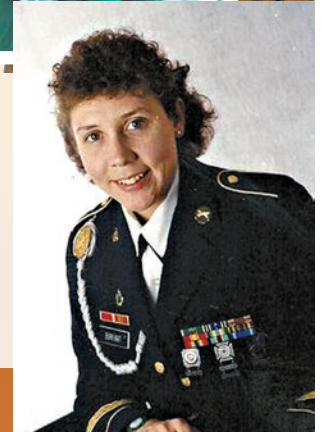
Honor the Veteran in your life – family, friend or yourself – for Veterans Day!

In our November issue, we plan to post your photos and messages of the person in your life who has served our country (in uniform, if possible), to honor them for their service. We'll publish in print and online for Veterans Day, Sat., Nov. 11, 2023.

DEADLINES:

In print and online: Wed., Oct. 18

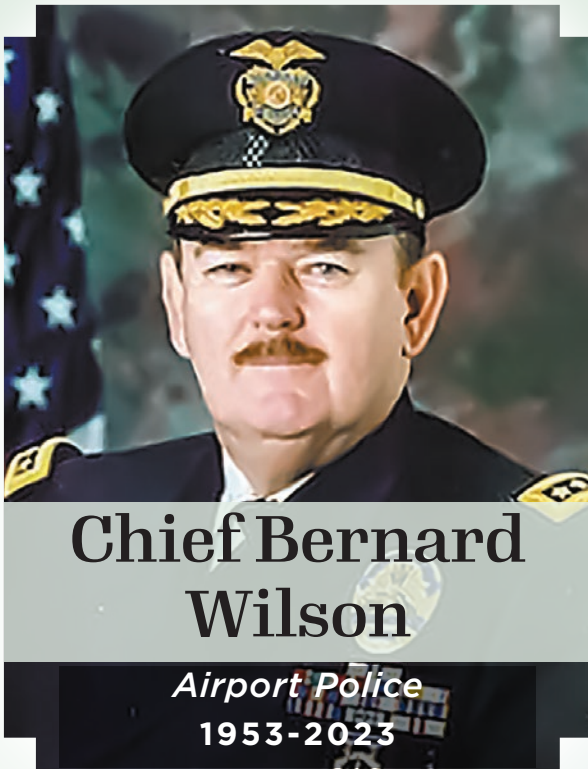
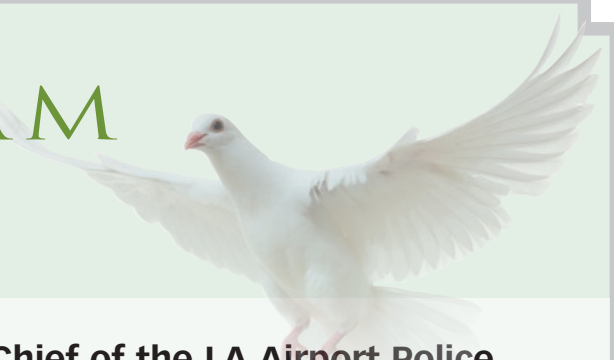
Online only: Wed., Nov. 8



Send in your images and messages at:
aliveemployeesclub.com/veterans/

Thank you for your service!

IN MEMORIAM



Bernard Wilson, Retired Chief of the LA Airport Police Dept. and longtime Officer, passed away June 14 in Nashville. He was 70.

Chief Wilson headed the Airport Police from 1999 to 2005, when he retired. He was a career-long Club Member.

"The Los Angeles Airport Police mourns the passing of its esteemed retired leader, Chief Bernard J. Wilson, whose visionary leadership transformed the division from a security force into a state-certified police division," wrote current Chief Cecil Rhambo in the department's monthly bulletin. "Chief Wilson's dedication and innovative approach led to the creation of specialized units such as Dignitary Protection, K-9, and Motorcycle Units. His profound

impact on the department's evolution and commitment to safety have left an indelible mark on Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and its surrounding communities."

"To merge his love of aviation and police work, Bernie joined the Los Angeles International Airport Police Dept.," his widow, Diane, told *Alive!* "Bernie started out as a patrol officer at LAX in January 1979. He always felt that those first two years of being a Patrol Officer were the best years of his career," she continued. "He loved going undercover, driving around the airport, going to court – he never lost a case, helping people, and especially catching the bad guys.

"Bernie was rapidly promoted through the ranks to Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and then Chief. During that time, he was responsible for the safety of more than 140 million travelers annually. Bernie earned and was awarded the Supervisory and Management Executive Certificates – the highest awards the California Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission offers," she said.

Chief Wilson served as a key decision maker for numerous major crisis incidents, including airplane crashes, labor disputes, bomb threats, natural disasters, industrial accidents, major crime events, and terrorist incidents; most significantly 9-11. He instructed hundreds of Police and Security Officers from around the world in aviation security, terrorism and traveler victimization.

"Under Chief Wilson's guidance, the Los Angeles Airport

Police underwent a remarkable transformation, transitioning from a security force to a fully certified police division," Chief Rhambo wrote. "This transition elevated the professionalism, capabilities and responsibilities of the division's Officers ... This achievement bolstered public trust and strengthened collaborative relationships with other law enforcement agencies."

Chief Rhambo continued:

"Chief Wilson implemented comprehensive training programs, emphasizing situational awareness, de-escalation techniques, and community policing strategies. By fostering strong relationships with the local community, Chief Wilson ensured that the Los Angeles Airport Police was responsive to the needs of the diverse populations it served. Chief Wilson's legacy is one of safety, professionalism, and a dedication to building bridges between law enforcement and the community.

"The passing of Los Angeles Airport Police Chief Bernard J. Wilson leaves a significant void in the law enforcement community," Chief Rhambo concluded. "His legacy of excellence, innovation and community engagement will continue to shape the future of the Los Angeles Airport Police leaving an enduring impact on airport security practices nationwide."

Outside the Department

"Even though Bernie had an enviable career in law enforcement, was active in Civil Air Patrol and served in his church as a Subdeacon, he never lost sight of the fact that his family was the most important thing in life," his widow, Diane, recalled. "Some people knew him as a Police Officer, a pilot, an enlisted man, a civil air patrol officer, a clergyman, or a family man; others knew him as a problem solver, mentor, life advice giver, a Trivial Pursuit expert (except for that sports wedge), a dinosaur, a camp director, Girl Scout leader, and a Cossack, but no matter the capacity in which you knew him, he was always there to be a friend.

Biography

Bernie Wilson was born in Preston, England on Jan 19, 1953. He served in the United States Army. He was active in Civil Air Patrol for more than 50 years and was accorded a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

"He loved being a Club Member," his widow, Diane, said. "He read every issue of *Alive!* and looked forward to receiving it."

Celebration of Life Oct. 8

A local celebration of his life is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 8, at the LAX Flight Path Museum, 6661 W. Imperial Highway, LA. All who knew him are invited.

A funeral was held June 21 at St. Ignatius Orthodox Church in Brentwood, Tennessee.

He always read every issue and looked forward to receiving it.

In lieu of flowers, donations be made to Officer Down, a nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring America's fallen law enforcement officers and their families (www.odmp.org) and/or your favorite charity. ●



Bernard Wilson and his family.

May he rest in peace.



A recent photo of Chief Bernard Wilson in retirement.



Bernard Wilson served in the U.S. Army and the Civil Air Patrol.



Los Angeles Airport Police Oath of Office Ceremony, March 7, 2003, for Sgt. Randall Blayney (left, now Retired)

The Club sends its deepest condolences to his widow, Diane, his family, and all those who called him Chief, friend, or both.

The Club thanks Janice Guevara, Retired, Airports, for helping us produce this obituary.