

Employees Club of California | Vol. 21 • No. 6 | June 2022



PUBLIC WORKS: Street Services' Cool Neighborhood Project – pavers and Urban Forestry teams working together – is innovating to lower LA's temperature.



– SEE PAGES 10-11

ABOVE FROM LEFT: Josue Ocampo, Tree Surgeon, 5 years of City service, Club Member; Hadar Rahav, President, Creative Paving (contractor); Greg Spotts, Chief Sustainability Officer, 13 years; District 8 Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson; StreetsLA Executive Director Keith Mozee, 33 years; and James Hawkins, Supervisor II, 32 years, Club Member.

Planting a new tree in South LA.

Crews apply the cool pavement.

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One Cool Club

What a genius idea! That was my thought in researching our cover story this month: cooling the street pavement and adding more shade trees to help Los Angeles reduce the City temperature. I observed the Cool Neighborhoods LA project being put into action at a press event in South LA six weeks ago or so. That is next-level joined-up thinking, in my mind, and I am glad we can bring you that story in *Alive!* this month. (We thank **Paul Gomez** at StreetsLA for his assistance.)



Club CEO Robert Larios (right) with (from left) Rudy Villafana, Tree Surgeon Assistant, 5 years, Club Member, and Samuel Varo, Tree Surgeon Assistant, 2 years of City service, Club Member.

There is little doubt our world is warming up. With Cool Neighborhoods LA, StreetsLA fights back, and it is taking that innovation to each corner of LA. Well done, StreetsLA! Out-of-bounds thinking pays dividends.

But I appreciated another aspect to the "coolness" of the event: Everywhere I looked, I saw the Club. Very cool indeed! Just look at these names who play outsized roles in Cool Neighborhoods LA: **Craig Shaw**, **James Hawkins**,

Rudy Villafana, Sam Varo, Josue Ocampo, Nikki Ezhari, David Miranda, Stephen Duprey, Luis Torres, Jose Gonzalez, and perhaps even others I am sorry to have missed — it was a speedy morning! That is only one project, on one morning. Club Members, feel proud that world-class innovation is being led by fellow Club Members. Impressive!

One note on Craig Shaw: This most impressive person has been a Club Member since he was 16. *Sixteen!* That would be the youngest Club Membership signup I am aware of. (Were you younger than Craig when you joined the Club? I would love to hear from you!) Craig was, and is, a very wise man, I would say!

Back to Baker to Vegas

I am delighted the world is getting back to normal, one step at a time. I offer this as proof this month: Baker to Vegas coverage in *Alive!* That is





From left; Club CEO Robert Larios; Greg Spotts, Chief Sustainability Officer; Craig Shaw, General Superintendent II, Club Member; and James Hawkins, Supervisor II Club Member

what we do best! Thanks to the Club's **Arlene Herrero** and **Dylan Herrero** for their impressive reporting skills. Also worth mentioning is the RLACEI's Spring Fling. Socializing again — *carefully* — felt very good. I give a shoutout to **Ruth Perry** and **Beverly Clark** for putting it together.

Finally, welcome to summer! May it bring you closer to your family and your purpose.

¡Gracias por leer!

abert ariss

CLUB MOBILE TEAM Site Visits Are Back!



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

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

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

For your continued safety:

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

See you soon!



At a recent Mobile Team site visit

Mobile Team Schedule

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

Harbor Boys and Girls Club

100 W. Fifth St., San Pedro June 1, July 6, August 3 • 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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

Schedule A Mobile Team Site Visit

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



COVER STORY:

The Cool Team

Public Works/Street Services' Cool Neighborhood team uses innovative paving, Urban Forestry to lower LA's temperature.

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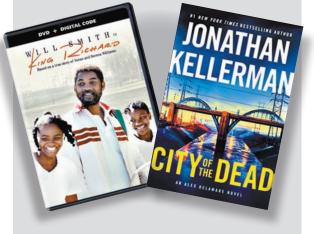


Rest Insured

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 – all the winners from this month's contest on the theme "on two wheels."



Rosebud Marketing7



- Saras

Cooking with Club

Chef Larios dives under the sea to prepare a pesto shrimp and couscous bowl.



On Web Alive!

aliveemployeesclub.com/cooking-pesto shrimp-and-couscous-bowl

— with Chef Larios



The Club Is Here to Help

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

Contact the Club

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

help@employeesclub.com (800) 464-0452

Physical Club Store Hours: Monday – Friday

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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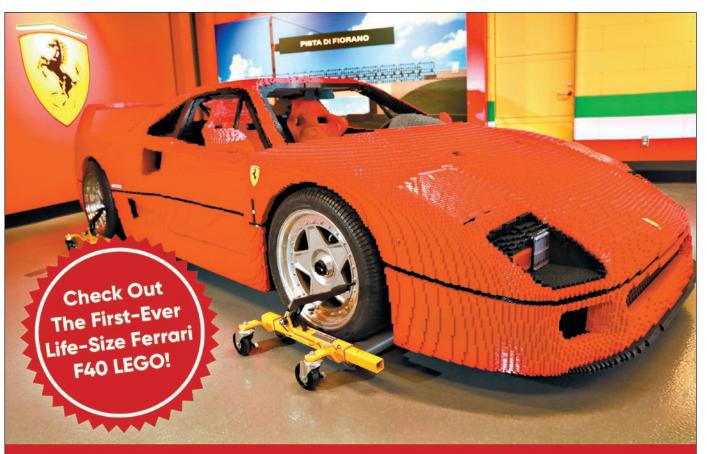
LACEA Board Terry Carter, Commanding Officer, Property Division, LAPD Phillip Chou, Principal Utility Accountant, LADWP Andrew Virzi III Manager of Accounts Payable and Taxes, LADWP Capt. Danny C. Wu, LAFD

Employees Club Board Marilyn Holley Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired Rose Hyland, Office of the Controller, Retired Phillip Orland, Rec&Parks, Retired David Muraoka, LAPD, Retired Rita Robinson, County of LA, Retired Andrew Virzi Jr., DWP, Retired

The opinions expressed in articles, photos, images and responses contributed to the *Alive!* newspaper and Website, video and social media by those outside the Club staff and vendors are of the contributors, and not the Club. While the Club aims to publish materials that are exceedingly enjoyable and enhancing to Membership as part of the value we return to Club Members, outside materials do not necessarily reflect those of the Club, its staff and vendors or its Members

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

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



CLUB MEMBER DISCOUNT

The new LEGO® Ferrari Build & Race attraction is here! The digital racetrack will allow guests to race their own LEGO Ferrari against other cars for the fastest lap. Use your creativity and imagination to build, test and race!



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GO TO: alive.employeesclub.com/kidscoloringwinners



NOW HIRING



Join the Team That Values Municipal Employees

APPLY TODAY!



The Employees Club of California (the Club) is hiring a **Customer Service Representative.** Good pay. Good people. Good cause. Apply today... or pass it along!

Go to LinkedIn to apply: https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/ view/3084381955/ or photoscan the QR code. (You'll need a LinkedIn profile.) Or go to www.linkedin.com, search for "Employees Club of California," click VIEW PAGE, click JOBS, click on the job post. Or email your resume to glira@ employeesclub.com. After receiving your resume, we'll contact you for more information, if needed.

ABOUT THE JOB Customer Service Representative (Retail Operations)

EMPLOYER:

Employees Club of California (the Club) 311 South Spring Street, Suite 1300 Los Angeles, CA 90013

POSITION OVERVIEW:

Qualifications/Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Contributes to a high energy, fast paced environment that provides Members (customers) with an entertaining, fun and dynamic experience.
- Consistently treats all members and staff with respect and contributes to a positive work environment.
- Must be a team player who is able to work well with other people and take direction from the retail manager.
- Reliable, professional, computer literate, energetic, friendly, and self-motivated.
- Must be able to submit verification of legal right to work in the United States.
- Must be at least 18 years of age.

- Must have a valid California Driver's License AND able to drive company vehicles, i.e. vans, trucks, trailers and other large motorized vehicles.
- Must have current automobile insurance coverage: minimum 100/300 auto insurance policy.
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 lbs.
- Must be able to be work outside and at various times of the day or night when assigned.
- Must be able to follow company safety rules and all other company policies.
- Maintain a clean and safe work environment.
- Able to travel to work locations in Carson, downtown Los Angeles, and others when assigned.
- Other duties as assigned.

PROFILE:

The Customer Service Representative is a staff member of the Club retail division. This position represents and supports the Club's mission "Celebrating the Work and Lives of Municipal Employees" in California.

Employment is subject to background check. An Equal Opportunity Employer.

EDUCATION:

High School Diploma or equivalent. College Degree welcomed.

SCHEDULE:

Typically Monday – Friday 8:30am-5:00pm; may also include scheduled appointments at various California locations at any time of the day or night.

SALARY RANGE:

\$20/hr. Firm + BONUSES

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

- Full-time employment
- Personal Time Off
- Membership in the Club
- Pension, 401K
- Education Reimbursement
- Company attire
- INSURANCE AND OTHER COVERAGE: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, Long Term Care, Long Term Disability, Short Term Disability, Critical Illness, Legal Services, Identity Theft Protection



The Club...

gives you real buying power with the cheapest tickets in the state.

Thanks, Custodians!

Chief Moore thanks Custodians assigned to Police Dept.

GENERAL SERVICES/LAPD : On March 3, LAPD Chief Michel Moore publicly thanked 12 General Services Custodians who are assigned to the Police Dept. He thanked those who work day and night to keep LAPD facilities in proper working order and to express his gratitude for them. The Custodians he thanked included Maria Puebla, Irene Santana, Maria Hernandez, Silvia Valladares, Alberto Aldana, Byron Pocon (Sr. Custodian), Eddie Cromwell (Supervisor), Alejandra Lopez, Antonio Gutierrez, Willie Carreon, John Chavez, Ahmed Walko and Allen Hunt. ■ Happy Mother's Day From the Club

One more...

As part of last month's annual Mother's Day photos and messages, we inadvertently missed this lovely entry. We send our apologies to Officer Rosa and her mom, and presume they had a beautiful day. – Ed.



GREAT BENEFITS!

Well done, Custodians!

The Club thanks Cristina Flores and Valerie Melloff, General Services, Club Members, for their assistance.



Chief Michel Moore (center) with Custodians, from left: Maria Puebla, Irene Santana, Maria Hernandez, Silvia Valladares, Alberto Aldana, Byron Pocon (Sr. Custodian), Eddie Cromwell (Supervisor), Alejandra Lopez, Antonio Gutierrez, Willie Carreon, John Chavez and Ahmed Walko. Not pictured: Allen Hunt.

"There's nothing like a mother's love to give me all the strength I need to succeed. Thank you, Mom. I love you!"

Officer Rosa San Martin, Airport Police





STAY CONNECTED FOR YOUR BEST RETIREMENT

ARE YOU RETIRED **OR PLANNING TO RETIRE SOON?**

Let's keep in touch! It is important that the Club has your personal email address and phone numbers so that you do not miss out on important information regarding your Membership and insurances.

Email info@employeesclub. com or call (800) 464-0452 to speak with a Customer Service Representative to update your current contact information.

The Employees Club of California can assist you in making the retirement process seamless.

WHAT IS LONG-TERM CARE

designed to pay benefits for some

you need supervision or assistance

with basic activities of daily living

(ADLs), including bathing, eating,

You may need this kind of help fol-

lowing an accident or illness such

as a stroke - because of older age

supervision due to a cognitive dis-

and frailty, or because you need

order like Alzheimer's disease.

continence, dressing, toileting,

ambulating and transferring.

of the expenses you may incur if

(LTC) INSURANCE?

Long-term care insurance is

If you have insurance benefits with the Club, or are a Club member only, it is important that you speak with a Club **Retiree Counselor right away.**

The great news is that Club Membership for Retirees can be conveniently deducted from your pension. As a Retiree, you are entitled to group-rated insurance

benefits such as life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, prefuneral planning, long-term care, and our popular legal plan by MetLife. Enjoy the most of your new beginning by allowing the Club to guide you through the retirement process.

Make an appointment with our Retirement Specialists today! Do not wait! As you age, your health changes and can affect your eligibility for the plan. Lock in your rate today!

This month, we are highlighting the importance of having long-term care insurance. Read below on why it makes so much sense.

Congratulations on your Retirement and be well!

LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE, AND WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE IT

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)

Schedule an appointment today with a Club Retirement Counselor, and be ready for your best retirement.



Retired or retiring Soon?

Call for a FREE insurance benefits consultation with a Member Services Counselor:



Noelle Kauffman

Director of Sales

CA LICENSE NO: 0H45598



Cheryl Martin (800) 464 -0452, EXT. 136 Work cell: (213) 819-0794 CA LICENSE NO: 0C12823

Tiffany Sy (800) 464-0452, EXT. 202 Work cell: (213) 440-8270 23 years of insurance experience 20 years of insurance experience CA LICENSE NO: 0D75348

2022 Events

- June 4 **Annual Picnic** (LADWP Association) Canceled/pandemic
- Oct. 1 **Annual Fall Meeting** (LADWP Association) Canceled/pandemic
- Dec. 10 Annual Holiday Celebration

(LARFPA) Sheraton Universal Hotel 333 Universal Hollywood Dr. Universal City

Contact Information

Employees Club of California

Club contact: help@employeesclub.com

LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. (Employees Club of California) is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. is #0B98000.

LACERS LOS ANGELES CITY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS:

ARE YOU READY FOR RETIREMENT? HERE ARE SOME CURRENT PROGRAMS TO HELP WITH YOUR PLANNING:

WEBINARS

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

> Sat., June 4 (9 a.m.) Tues., June 21 (4:30 p.m.) Thurs., June 30 (9 a.m.)

APPLICATION PORTAL DEMONSTRATION

Take time to learn about LACERS' exciting new Retirement Application Portal (RAP). Visit lacers.org/applying-retirement for more details and sign up for an upcoming RAP Demonstration webinar at 11 a.m. Tues., May 3 or noon Wed., June 29 via your MyLACERS account at mylacers.lacers.org.

APPLYING FOR RETIREMENT ONLINE

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

For example, if your desired retirement date is Aug. 27, 2022, you would aim to submit your retirement application in the portal on June 23, 2022. For more information, please visit lacers. org/applying-retirement.

LA 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 (LAREPA) (888) 288-5073 membership@larfpa.org

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) See page 16





CLUB ANGELS CORNER Help Others In 2022

You can help your fellow Club Members through Club-related charity.

help with day-to-day expenses, post-discharge medical care and college expenses.

consult your tax professional. Club Angels is a separate charity begun by Club staff.

Donations to Club Angels go to City Employees in need; Club Angels and the Employees

Club earn nothing from the transaction. Donations to Club Angels might be tax deductible;

Battling Rare Illness

Cynthia Billingslea, LADWP, writes to tell us her cousin, Antonice Collins, a high school senior, became partially paralyzed in less than an hour from an unexpected auto-immune disease. Antonice has been in the hospital since late March and missed her high school

prom; she hopes to be released in time for her graduation and then attend college in the fall.

Cynthia has set up a GoFundMe page for Antonice to

Club Angels is providing Antonice with funding.



Above, from left: Antonice Collins and her cousin and guardian, Cynthia Billingslea, LADWP.



Thank you for your generosity.

How you can help:

Donate directly to Antonice's

GoFundMe account – go to **gofundme.com** (search for Antonice Collins) or photoscan the QR code.



Donate to Club Angels to give to a variety of Club-related causes behind the scenes. Mail your check, made payable to Club Angels, to:

> Club Angels 311 South Spring Street, Suite 1300 Los Angeles, CA 90013

For more about Club Angels, go to clubangels.org

Club Angels Charity is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization filed under Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. TIN: 45-4735809.

'And You Gave Me Clothing'

Sanitation's clothing drive donates 75 tons of clothes to the poor.

PUBLIC WORKS :

On May 5, Sanitation and Environment concluded its spring clothing drive by delivering more than 75 tons of clothes it had collected, sorted and folded to the St. Francis Center of Los Angeles downtown. The clothes are aimed to help those in LA's unsheltered neighbors.

The clothing drive ran





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



This month's contest theme: **Flags**



The Club's online photo contest, organized by Association CEO John Hawkins, has a monthly theme. For the July issue of *Alive!*, we're looking for images of flags. Send us something awesome!

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

DEADLINE: June 13

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

March 7 through April 29.

We say, well done to the Sanitation and Environment clothing drive crew.



Sanitation and Environment clothing drive team members deliver some of what they collected to the St. Francis Center downtown





"Happy Father's Day to the hardest working dad. We love you!" - Matthew Luster, Rec and Parks



"Thank you for all you do for us! We love you! Ernest, Gerardo and Daniel" -Gerardo Garcia, Public Works/Street Services



"Three generations: Dad, two sons and grandson. Blessed beyond words." Pablo Serrano, Public Works/Sanitation and Environment



Happy Father's Day, Dad! We are grateful for who you are and all you do! We hope to be like you one day! Love, Justin, Jeremy and Jordan' -Aaron Williams, Public Works/Street Services



Happy Here are the personal messages sent to Alive! by some very loving and grateful children who wanted to pay tribute to their dad. **Father's Day**

Send in your Father's Day tributes!

GO TO: alive.employeesclub.com/fathersday

It's not too late! Pay tribute to your dad, granddad or the dad in your family, and surprise him on his day on the Alive! Website and social media!



"I miss you and love you, Dad." Samuel Perez, LADWP



DEADLINE:

JUNE 16

to appear online

"Always caring, always supportive, always full of joy. Happy Father's Day to my old man, William Durand! We love you always!" - Henry Durand, Public Works/ Sanitation and Environment



"My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed

in me. He is the inspiration behind the badge

I wear today.

- Officer Renee Morales, LAPD

could ask for! We love and appreciate you every day. Happy Father's Day." - Kelly Kennon, ITA



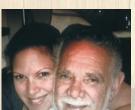
"Happy Father's Day to the best dad and best papa ever! We are all so grateful for you and everything you do for our family. We love you so much."

For Charles Garcia,



"Happy Father's Day, Papa! I love you very much. Thank you for all your support and love. See you in Boston!" Rodney Bernaldo, Public

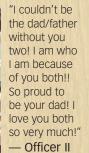
Works/Sanitation





to the man who paved the way for my life. ¡Feliz Día del Padre! - From Club CEO





"You gave me your blessing

to take your daughter's hand in marriage, and now you are the

proud grandpa of our baby girl.

Happy Father's Day,

we love you.'

– Elizabeth Sua, DMV, State

of California

Thank you for always going above and beyond every day for our family. For always supporting, understanding and loving us. We love you! - Your girls" — For Jorge Estrada, LADWP



Thank you for all the love and support you have given us. You've given unconditional love and have always been there. You are amazing, and we miss you." – Tanya Sanchez, Public Social Services, LA County

Retired, Public Works/ Sanitation and Environment



"Happy Father's Day! Thank you! We Love You! <3 Julie, Juanello James and Julian" — Juan Jimenez, **General Services**

"I love you, Dad. I am

everything I am because of you. My first Father's Day without you, but the lifetime memories you planted in my heart live 4ever."

- Officer Glorycella Garcia, LAPD

"Dad, dedicated and devoted to family, friends and freedom!" - Mark Gonzalez, Corrections and Rehabilitation, State of California



Anselm Yu, LAPD

"Having you for a father is the best gift I could ask for. Being a Kellogg is gr-r-r-reat!" - Jessica Kellogg, Superior Court, Alameda County



Final Call for Club Scholarship '22 Applications

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



on the *Alive!* Website: alive.employeesclub.com/scholarship

DEADLINE 11:59 p.m.,

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

Application and Eligibility

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

Deadline

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

The Club Cares

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

"The Joannie Mukai Scholarship Program is one of the most important ways we celebrate the work and lives of municipal employees," said Association CEO John Hawkins. "Joannie would be delighted at the level of scholarship and volunteerism applicants show every year."

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- All Club Members and their spouses of any age; and children, grandchildren, stepchildren, foster children and nieces and nephews of Club Members under the age of 25; are eligible to apply. Club Members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or university full time in the fall semester 2022. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2022 are eligible.
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.

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

- Scholarships are expected to be awarded in equal amounts of \$500 (each)
- Deadline: Applications must be completed online at the Alive! Website and submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2022. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.
- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.



Club Scholarships

ABOUT JOANNIE MUKAI

Joannie Mukai was a pioneer as the LA Port's Director of Construction and Maintenance. A passionate supporter in the in March 2010. The Club's



annual scholarship program was named in her honor. "She believed in education and training, and in preparing for success," Club CEO, Robert Larios said. "That's what the Club Scholarship is all about, and we're delighted to name it after her. It's a perfect way to keep her memory alive."

Put your graduation photo in Alive!

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

Make sure you tell us:

The name of the graduate.



Natalie Moore: **Top Engineer**

Engineering's Natalie Moore is honored.

PUBLIC WORKS : Natalie Moore, Engineer on the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project, is the 2022 recipient of Engineering's Rory M. Shaw Outstanding Employee Award.

Natalie is one of the lead members of the Bureau of Engineering's team managing the construction of the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project. Alive! featured her as part of our in-progress look at the bridge project in June 2018.

Congratulations, Natalie, from the Club!



The cover from Alive! June 2018

Employees Club and Association longtime Board Member, she died

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

To send a digital photo and your message, go to: alive.employeesclub.com/graduations





In June 2018, Alive! pictured Natalie and the Engineering team that's building the massive Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement project. (Titles and years of service were accurate at that time.) Front row, from left: Eunice Lee, Civil Engineer, 12 years of City service; Natalie Moore, Civil Engineering Associate II, 11 years; and Julie Allen, Principal Civil Engineer and Project Manager, Sixth Street Vladuct Replacement Project, 26 years. Back: Karen Keal, Structural Engineering Associate III, 3 years; Laura Mojica, Sr. Management Analyst, 29 years; Julia Moye, Sr. Civil Engineer, 13 years; and Gary Lam, Sr. Civil Engineer, 17 years. All work for Public Works/Engineering.

PUBLIC WORKS

ALIVE! FEATURE

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Vice President of Marketing, and courtesy Public Works



With Club CEO Robert Larios (center) are (from left) Jose Gonzalez, Tree Surgeon Supervisor III, 22 years of City service, Club Member; and Jesus Vieyra, Maintenance/Construction Helper, 2 years.



At one of the newly planted trees in South LA are (clockwise, from top left): Jose Gonzalez, Tree Surgeon Supervisor III, 22 years of City service, Club Member; Samuel Varo, Tree Surgeon Assistant, 2 years, Club Member; Rudy Villafana, Tree Surgeon Assistant, 5 years. Club Member:

Street Services' *Cool Neighborhoods LA* team — Cool Pavement and Urban Forestry crews – is innovating to lower LA's temperature.

s the globe's temperatures rise according to experts, LA's Public Works is innovating to cool off LA neighborhoods, one street and grove at a time.

The second phase of **Cool Neighborhoods LA**, restarted last October, is bringing the project to an additional eight neighborhoods.

Cool Neighborhoods LA– comprised of the Cool Team (transformative repaving and urban forestry) – is an initiative bringing 200 blocks of cool pavement and nearly 2,000 new trees to eight neighborhoods across Los Angeles' hottest residential areas.

"The skyrocketing temperatures on our streets is an equity issue that puts local communities on the front line of the climate crisis," Mayor Garcetti said at the time. "Our hottest and most vulnerable neighborhoods are our top priority when it comes to climate action, and this program is about taking action in ways that will make a direct impact on people's daily lives."

Cool Neighborhoods LA began in 2019. It combines several cooling strategies to help lower temperatures and add shade in L.A.'s hottest and most vulnerable communities. The new iteration of the program brings more than 60 lane miles of cool pavement and nearly 2,000 trees to eight neighborhoods, including Pico Union; Westlake South; North Hollywood; Canoga Park; Sylmar; Vermont Square; South Central; and Research has shown that cool pavement reduces ambient temperatures by reflecting more sunlight and absorbing less heat during the day. Studies have also shown that cool pavement has the greatest impact when paired with new trees.

The first phase of Cool Streets LA was designed to advance the goals of Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal by piloting 10 cool streets projects by 2025. The cooling impacts in Cool Neighborhoods LA will enable the City to meet a number of additional goals, such as: reducing urban/rural temperature differential by at least 1.7 degrees by 2025 and 3 degrees by 2035; increasing tree canopy in areas of greatest need by at least 50 percent by 2028; and installing cool pavement material on 250 lane miles of the City's streets.

Mayor Garcetti also helped spearhead an ordinance that requires all new roofs built after 2020 to be cool roofs, which help lower the ambient temperature of city streets.

Paving the Way

The progress the project has already achieved is clear to see, even from space. Space Station thermal cameras gazing down on LA can see the temperature differences between the streets that have the new pavement and tree canopies, and those that do not. It's not just the streets that are cooler, it's entire neighborhoods.

White pavement materials replace traditional asphalt. "We've built our cities like ovens," Greg

and Josue Ocampo, Tree Surgeon, 5 years, Club Member.

Boyle Heights.

Spotts, Club Member, Chief Sustainability Officer

Cool Neighborhoods LA in Action

Over the last few years, Public Works' StreetsLA has been rolling out its Cool Neighborhoods LA project – innovative heat-reflective paving plus sustainable tree canopies – to lower the temperatures of LA areas.

Here's the Next Phase Urban Cooling Program in action:



Planting a new sapling as part of the Cool Neighborhood press event in South LA are (top row, from left): Greg Spotts, Chief Sustainability Officer, 13 years of City service; StreetsLA Executive Director Keith Mozee, 33 years; and District & Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson. Bottom: Rudy Villafana, Tree Surgeon Assistant, 5 years, Club Member; and Josue Ocampo, Tree Surgeon, 5 years, Club Member.

Northeastern San Fernando Valley







"This innovative program [Cool Neighborhoods LA] is a great example of how the City and StreetsLA can reduce the urban heat island effect in Los Angeles" – Keith Mozee, Executive Director, StreetsLA

and Executive Officer, StreetsLA, was quoted as saying. "We've largely been using the same materials we have been using since World War II. We need a large-scale change."

Cool Neighborhoods LA is that change. While limited to repaving of streets at this point, even that can help cool entire neighborhoods. White surfaces can keep a neighborhood cooler. The correct materials, and strategic placement, are critical to the project's success; the City uses data sets and geothermal mapping to know precisely where to place the white pavement and new trees for maximum effectiveness.

LA is the first jurisdiction in California and perhaps in the country to install cool pavement coating on a public street, Spotts said. And creating sustainable tree canopies is a big part of the solution, too; the Green New Deal hopes to increase the canopy by Cool Neighborhoods LA is about three principles at once: sustainability, equity and workforce development. The Urban Cooling Committee within StreetsLA brings together engineers, landscape architects and pavement and tree specialists to find the best approach for solutions that no individual discipline can create on its own. That's the

classic STEM approach to problem solving – thinking between the silos.

LA's Cool Neighborhoods LA project is partnering with Phoenix, Tucson, Philadelphia and other cities to exchange data and best practices.

"This innovative program is a great example of how the City and StreetsLA can reduce the urban heat island effect in Los Angeles, using a holistic approach that integrates new pavement technology, greening that broadens the tree canopy overhead, and more bus shelters and shade structures,"



said StreetsLA Executive Director Keith Mozee at a press conference that brought Cool Neighborhood teams to South LA.

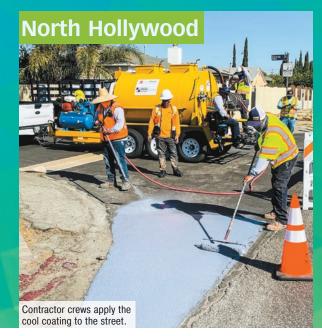
In the end, he said, "Cool Neighborhoods LA is about people. Our folks deserve it."

On these pages, *Alive!* shows you the Cool Neighborhoods LA team installing its innovative project on the streets of LA, keeping us all a little cooler in the process. ■

Some information in this article came from the

50 percent by 2028.

Solutions Journalism Network.



Northwestern San Fernando Valley



The Next Phase Urban Cooling Team's Urban Forestry Division uses a Roush Cleantech F-650 stake bed truck to deliver 18 saplings to build the tree canopy.



RESULTS OF THE BIG RACE

STATEWIDE

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Vice President of Business Development; Photos by Dylan Herrero



More pics on web *Alive*! alive.employeesclub.com



follow vehicle

RUNNERS CHECK

From left: Retired Sgt. Bob Hickly; PSR II Betty Lu; PSR II Alicia Alvarez, Club Member; PSR II Mirian Ajanel, Club Member; and PII Alyssa Quiroz, LAPD Security Services Division.

Runner's check-in instructions





Runners make sure to secure the chip within their baton.



Club celebrates 18 years of sponsoring teams in this legendary desert footrace.

The 38th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay returned after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The race was held in the desert and ending in Las Vegas April 9-10.

This amazing footrace is an annual event for public safety organizations throughout the world. The relay race is a 120-mile, 20-stage footrace between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas and is considered the "Super Bowl" of law enforcement; the champions are the best, in terms of physical fitness and logistics the police world has to offer. The race was created by and is managed by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, and the Employees Club is grateful for their leadership.

Some 216 teams competed in this year's race. Overall winner was the LA County Sheriff's Dept. Elite Running Team, which finished in 13 hours, 23 minutes and 27 seconds

The Club sponsored a great mix of six teams this year somewhat fewer than in pre-pandemic races, and the Club is proud of each and every one of them:

- State of California/Dept. of State Hospitals-Metropolitan.
- LADOT.
- LAPD Communications/LAPD Security Services Division (they joined forces). This team mugged - they came in fifth in their category. They ran in honor or Sr. PSR Ray Guerrero and Security Officer Dexter De Los Santos.
- LA County Probation, a team that also mugged.
- LA Port Police.
- LA Airport Police, a team that also mugged.

More evident at this year's race were AED units within the follow (support) vehicles. Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Calgary Police Canada were among the only international teams in attendance.

This year, the event also had a new host hotel and finish line - Rio Las Vegas. Verizon Frontline Response Team was deployed along the racecourse where they provided critical communications to the medical professionals and race organizers. The runners this year faced temperatures exceeding 100 degrees F. during the day; at one point, the entire race was stopped for a helicopter and medics to respond. Seventeen participants required medical transportation.

Notable finish times as well as how the Club's sponsored teams finished:

- Team 156 LA Port Police finished at 19:31:09 without a penalty. Although they did not bring home a mug, "We finished at our expected overall time," said team captain Jose Verbera.
- Team 117 LA Airport Police finished at 17:39:57 and earned a mug.
- Team 178 LADOT finished at 21:07:52. They did not earn a mug and suffered a 10-minute penalty. 2022 marked their 14th year of putting a team together to participate.
- Team 127 LAPD Communications joined forces with LAPD Security Services, finishing at 18:33:38. The team earned a mug with no penalty. According to team captain Lidia Marcial, "We ran to honor Sr. PSR Ray Guerrero for LAPD Communications and Security Officer Dexter De Los Santos.'
- Team 66 LA County Probation finished at 17:53:44, earning a mug and finishing sixth overall in their mixed category.
- Team 256 California Dept. of State Hospitals/ Metropolitan finished at 22:27:58, and did not earn a mug.
- Overall winner was the LA County Sheriff's Dept. Elite Running Team, followed by Team 2 LAPD Dept. Team, finishing at 13:33:41. Team 8 Riverside County Sheriff's Dept. #1 Team finished at 14:17:12

The same scenario could be seen with the women's teams, where Team 61 LA County Sheriff's Dept. Women took first in the category, finishing at 16:17:13, followed by Team 43 LAPD Women, who finished at 16:23:38. Following was Team 221 Riverside County Sheriff Women's team in third place within their category, finishing at 18:12:01.

LA County Sheriff Alex Villanueva was at the finish line to congratulate many LASD runners. LAPD Police Chief Michel Moore who also was on hand at one of the start times to fire the starting pistol.

service as Leg 1 Runner from Team 60 Harbor Station: and P3 Officer Ray Nonora, 30 years of service, Club Member.

Hitanukulkit, 25 years of

Team 66 LA County Probation Officer Carla Alfaro on Leg 1.



Team 127 Mirian Aianel Club Member, on Leg 2.



From left: Club Members P2 Josh Paxton, 7 years of City service; Port of LA Police Chief Tom Gazsi; and P2 Isaias Hinojosa,

6 years.



From left: Team 66 LA County Probation's Carla Alfaro, 16 years of service; Rebecca Rios, 5 years; and and Lisa Ramos, 5

Investigations runner puts up a smile when they see the Club photographer on the racecourse

SAVE THE DATE: Next year's Baker to Vegas race will take place April 1-2, 2023.

Thanks to all who participated and contributed to another memorable Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, and specifically: Sgt. Latisha Vargas, LADOT; Officer Jose Verbera, LA Harbor; Gus Marroquin, LA County Probation; Officer Daniel Gardea, LA Airport Police; Lidia Marcial, LAPD Communications; Jeff MacDuff, State of California Metropolitan State Hospital, and Rick Santos, race coordinator.



Team 178 runner Florin Costriscau flashes a big smile as he spotted the Club camera on the racecourse

years.

BAKER TO VEGAS 2022





Team 156 Officer Dustin Sandoval, Club Member, gives his "thumbs up" as he sees the Club photogra-pher on the racecourse.



Team 187 LASD Homicide. Team 131 LAPD Pacific on the racecourse.



Metropolitan Officer Steve Parra gives his "thumbs up" when they see the Club.



Team 156 runner waiting for an incoming runner at the exchange point.



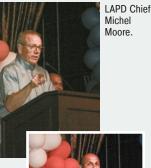
Team 127 LAPD Communications/Security Services Div. Sr. PSR Eddie Gomez, Club Member.



Last-minute briefing and words of encouragement from KNX radio host Pete Demetriou.



Team 178 LADOT follow vehicle support is all smiles for the Club photographer.











Team 178 LADOT runner Florin Cotriscau as he checks in with his fol-



Team 176 LAPD Van Nuys.



Support for Team 156: Sashah Brown, Port Police, 17 years of City service, Club Member; Brittany Crowder, LA County DMH, 16 years of service; and SLO William Yocham, 22 years, Club Member.



Team 261 DMV Investigations.



Honor Guard from US Customs and Border Protection, Tucson Operations Office, led by Deputy Commander Maria Garcia.





Member, is greeted by his



61

Club Member.

Representing Team 178

LADOT was Dawn Gentle,













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/lifesmoments



Births

Weddings

Graduations

Military Service

Special Achievements

Retirements

View retirements online at: alive.employeesclub.com/retirements-202206

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Ailahverdian, Eddy	Security Services	LADWP	N/D	Hanna, Randa M.	Exec. Admin. Asst.	LAPD	23	Persic, Peter V.	Dev. & Marketing Dir.	Library	30
Alvarez, Sonia	Sr. Civil Engineer	Public Works	29	Hanson, Nancy L.	Animal Keeper	Rec and Parks	10	Ponce, Joseph L.	Police Officer	Airports	25
Anderson, Diana Corinne	Sr. Benefits Analyst	Fire & Police Pen	s. 30	Hass Jr., Albert A.	Security Services	LADWP	N/D	Price, Jordan M.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Andujo, Victor M.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Haywood, Barbara J.	Exec. Admin. Asst.	Library	41	Quiroz, Tommy	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Ariosa, Rebecca Renia	Sr. Systems Analyst	Bldg. & Safety	33	Hotchkis, Neil Thomas	Plumber	Public Works	29	Randolph, Roy W.	Metering Services	LADWP	N/D
Ayers, Linda D.	Messenger Clerk	Library	36	Isaia, Antonio	City Planning Assoc.	Planning	22	Reyes III, Cecil	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Ayers, Lionel Q.	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D	Isobe, David Y.	Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D	Ringel, David J.	Corporate Services	LADWP	N/D
Bakker, Thomas A.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D	Johnson, Jeffrey Alan	Traffic Officer	Transportation	20	Rodgers, Sharon M.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Airports	12
Banks, Raymond D.	Sr. Safety Eng./Elevator	s Bldg. & Safety	30	Kaplan, Michael S.	Deputy City Attorney	City Attorney	23	Ruiz, David A.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D
Bautista, Alvin Z.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Kaur, Apparjit	Commun. Eng. Assoc.	ITA	9	Rushton, Kim Mattinson	Chemist	Public Works	28
Bescos, Brad Scott	Sr. Build. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	21	Kidder, Curtis S.	Asst. City Attorney	City Attorney	16	Saginian, Arthur G.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D
Buesa, Anna M.	Exec. Admin. Asst.	LAPD	28	Kolb, John Charles	Warehouse& T/R Worker	Public Works	30	Salas, Ernie J.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Carrillo, Araceli	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Lee, Jeffrey C.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Salazar, Victor	Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D
Carter, Theresa Lerma	Police Admin.	LAPD	32	Lembke, Charles R.	Water Quality	LADWP	N/D	San Agustin, Meliton Y.	Safety Engr. Press Ves.	Bldg. & Safety	
Castellanos, Laura Alicia	Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	30	Lewis, Roosevelt	Custodian Supervisor	Gen. Services	20	Schneider, David K.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Chan, David C.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Lieberman, Mark T.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Schultz, James M.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Choi, Steven S.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	18	Lorenzo, Vladimir Deleon	Environ. Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	35	Sherrill, Charles S.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Coulson, Richard K.	Asst. General Mgr.	Gen. Services	34	Lucatero, Arcelia	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	6	Springett, Christine	Planning Assoc.	Planning	10
Daisley, Antonio R.	Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D	Malosh, Denise M.	Administrative Clerk	LACERS	22	Stargell, Margaret	Police Service Rep	LAPD	32
Davis, Debra E.	Sr. Administrative Clerk	Public Works	24	Manick, Steven A.	Sr. Systems Analyst	Airports	29	Stoker, Brian Francis	Emergency Mgt. Coord		30
Dennis, Charlene Rita	Systems Programmer	ITA	30	Mastrocovo, Michael Frank	Supervising Criminalist	LAPD	30	Strong, Alvinette	Council Aide	City Council	10
Duran, Linda Helen	Administrative Clerk	El Pueblo	26	MacDonald, Brett A.	JFB/Facilities	LADWP	N/D	Sy, Mary Agnes Fama	Management Analyst	LAPD	16
Evangelista, Daphne	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	McMahon, Kathryn E.	Police Service Rep.	LAPD	18	Tam, Wing Kwong	Sr. Environmental Eng.	Public Works	40
Frausto, Manuel A.	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	9	Merrick, Renee Opal	Police Service Rep	LAPD	19	Ting, Hsiao Ling Tobo, Jaime O.	Architect Bus Operator	Public Works	27
Fujii, Daryl H.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Mitchell, Janet C.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Vasquez, Gilbert L.	Water Operations	Airports LADWP	30 N/D
Garcia, Ernest V.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Mucha, Richard D.	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D	Vaughan, George W.	Security Services	LADWP	N/D
Garcia, Rigoberto	Signal Syst. Electrician	Transportation	16	Nevarez, Apolonia C.	Recreation Asst.	Rec and Parks	8	Veasey, Ollie L.	Wastewater Mgr.	Public Works	35
Gierst, Eric. V.	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D	Noriega, Diana Lopez	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	34	Velez, Ana Rita	Administrative Clerk	LAPD	33 34
Gillett, Dana Denise	Police Service Rep	LAPD	36	O'Hara, Cindy L.	Systems Programmer	Bldg. & Safety	30	White, Wayne B.	Energy Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Glade, Eddie M.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Onorato, John	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks		Winston, Cynthia M.	Sr. Personnel Analyst	LAPD	20
Gomez, Jacqueline Z.	Pr. Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	36	Palka, Laura C.	Management Analyst	Airports	34	Wright, David E.	Plumbing Inspector	Bldg. & Safety	
Gray, Fern Ruth	Custodian	Airports	16	Patterson, Shirley A.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Wyndon, Ruddy A.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Gutierrez, David	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Perez, Robert Hurtado	Sr. Administrative Clerk	LAPD	32	,,			
Hall, Eric S.	Security Officer	LAPD	15	Perry, Denice C.	ITS	LADWP	N/D			N/D = not dis	

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

	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE		DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE		DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE		DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
ACTIVE			Cabelli, Marvin	N/D	N/D	Huck, Patricia Ann	LAPD	16	Post, Homer V.	Rec and Parks	13
Arnold, Yoko Dee Dee	Transportation	17	Campos, Juventino	General Services	s 18	Huddleston, R.T.	LADWP	32	Rico, Benjamin H.	Harbor	18
Espinoza, Jesus F.	Public Works	8	Cayton, Fernando C.	Public Works	25	Jones, Curtis J.	Transportation	7	Ramos, Aurea	Airports	30
Flores, Juan Carlos	LAPD	2	Coons, Caesar	Public Works	17	Juan, Stanley B.	LADWP	30	Remolino, Alfonso E.	LADWP	32
Gaydowski, Roy "Todd"	City Clerk	35	Damaso, Romulo F.	LADWP	27	Juanillo, Rolando B.	Housing	14	Rodriguez, Dan	Public Works	32
Lisman, John N.	LADWP	13	Davidian, Alex	Public Works	32	Krayem, Mohamed Z.	Public Works	17	Ryan, Robert J.	LADWP	31
Martinez, Maria E.	LADWP	26	Dekraai, Walter J.	N/D	N/D	Kipp, Frederick A.	N/D	N/D	Sears, Roger A.	LADWP	35
Thomas, Daryl G.	LADWP	19	Davis, Arlette	Public Works	35	Krone, Martin Jay	LAPD	15	Simmian, Mary L.	LADWP	25
Villarreal, Tommy J.	Transportation	32	Domingo, Hector F.	LADWP	33	Lamb, Norman R.	LADWP	12	Smith, James E.	Public Works	13
Wade, Clifford G.	Airports	17	Edison, Robert C.	N/D	N/D	Lawson, Robert A.	N/D	N/D	Stallworth, J.F.	N/D	N/D
Wates, Barry W.	LADWP	19	Elliott, Gene C.	N/D	N/D	Leonard, Jerry M.	LADWP	22	Strull, Jeanne	LADWP	30
			Espinosa, Ignacio	Airports	28	Lopez, Louis C.	LADWP	34	Sugimoto, Henry T.	N/D	N/D
RETIRED			Foster, Otis E.	LADWP	30	McCormack, John G.	N/D	N/D	Sullivan, Margaret J.	Animal Service	s 30
Andrzejewski, Florence	LADWP	27	Garrison, Andrew T.	N/D	N/D	McGrath, Nora E.	N/D	N/D	Tripp, Carl L.	N/D	N/D
Ayala, Antonio	N/D	N/D	Garza, Jesus H.	N/D	N/D	Meighan, Lea	LAPD	15	Valastro, John A.	LADWP	38
Baker, Zella M.	LAPD	35	Geich, Ignatio B.	N/D	N/D	Moe, Mary I.	N/D	N/D	Van Holton, Daniel E.	LADWP	32
Baysic, Benjamin C.	Public Works	28	Hawlish, Gloria F.	LADWP	30	Moore, Theodore R.	N/D	N/D	Weiss, Stephen D.	LADWP	20
Brown, Dorothy S.	LADWP	14	Henry Jr., Norman M.	LADWP	30	Murrell, Joseph R.	LADWP	12	Wilkerson, Gerald F.	Transportation	38
Bruce, Lawrence B.	LADWP	48	Higgins, Thomas L.	LADWP	33	Myles, Dianne	Public Works	40	Yturri, John W.	N/D	N/D
Bujanda, James G.	Public Works	20	Horton, James B.	N/D	N/D	Pickens, Raleigh H.	LADWP	33	Zavala, Alfonso	Public Works	24

N/D = not disclosed

Wedding



Rachel Lancaster Acosta Barnes and Christopher Tavlarides, May 7 at the Greek Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Long Beach, followed by a reception at the

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles. Rachel is the daughter of Rebecca and Capt. Michael Barnes, Retired, Harbor and *Alive!* travel writer. (May 7 is the shared birthday of both Rachel and her mom, Rebecca.) "We wish you good health," says the proud father.



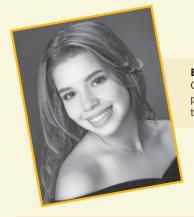
Graduations

Kai Johnson graduated from Highland High School and plans to attend a junior college while continuing his desire to play basketball. He hopes to be recruited for a division 1 college where he will finish. He's the son of Kelley Johnson, Security Officer, Airport Police.



Janelle Apusen graduated from Mayfair High School and plans to attend UC Santa Barbara in the fall, majoring in microbiology. She looks to become a virologist. Janelle is the **daughter of Sgt. Joann** Calderon, Transportation.

Kai Rongavilla Cruz graduated from Gabrielino High School in San Gabriel and plans to attend UC Santa Cruz, majoring in mathematics. He has several City connections: He's the son of Elvis Cruz and Maria Rongavilla Cruz, Public Works/Engineering; grandson of Ponciano Rongavilla, Retired, Harbor, and nephew of Dominic Rongavilla, Housing.



Elisa Ruiz graduated from the Granada Hills Charter High School and plans to pursue psychology at San Diego State University. She's the **daughter of Robert Ruiz, LADWP**.

Goodbye, Todd

Photos by the Club and courtesy LA City Historical Society

Todd Gaydowski, longtime historian, passes away.

CITY CLERK: Roy "Todd" Gaydowski, Records Management Officer in the City Clerk's Office and noted historian, passed away April 12. He was the longtime head of the Records Management Division, overseeing the City Archives. He was 54 and had 35 years of City service at his death.

Todd was the longtime president of the Los Angeles City Historical Society.

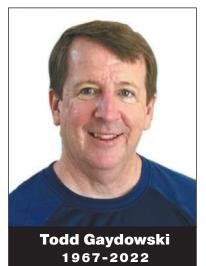
He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Elizabeth, and children Nicholas, Amanda and Samantha, and his mother, Linda Ledger.

In 2006, Todd and the LA Historical Society presented the Club with a Special Recognition Award.

For a more complete obituary or to donate to a memorial fund, please go to <u>www.lacityhistory.org</u>. The Club is grateful to the

LA Historical Society for the information on this page.

The Club sends its condolences to Todd's family and former coworkers.





The Los Angeles Fire Department Historical Society Museum & Memorial cordially invites you for the unveiling of two plaques honoring

> Tom LaBonge Former City Councilmember, 4th Council District

> > and

Frank W. Borden Director of Operations, LAFD Historical Society

Saturday, June 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Fire Department Historical Society Museum & Memorial 1355 N. Cahuenga Blvd, Hollywood, California 90028

Please RSVP by June 1 at LAFDHSevents@gmail.com Park at the CNN Building 6430 W. Sunset Blvd \$10 with validation (enter on Cahuenga)



Aaron Jordan Williams graduated from Summit High School in Fontana. He plans to attend Cal State San Bernardino in the fall, majoring in computer science. He's the son of Jody and Aaron Williams, Public Works/Street Services.





Leanne Ashley Vergara Ejercito graduated from Bishop Alemany High School in Mission Hills. She's in the Lifeguard Academy for the City of LA, and plans to attend Cal State Northridge in the fall, studying biology. She hopes to be a medical doctor of ophthalmology. She's the daughter of Analyn Vergara, LAPD, and the granddaughter of Leon Ejercito, Retired, Public Works.

Todd Austin, EOW

Sr. PSR Todd Austin passes away after 23 years of City service.

LAPD: Todd Austin, Sr. PSR II and police communications instructor and innovator, passed away May 2 after a long illness. He was on active duty as a police dispatch supervisor.

He began serving the City in 1999. During his time, he trained employees, managed floor operations as a supervisor, and became Officer-in-Charge of the Training Unit and the Operations Support Unit. He spearheaded many projects, including a major cut-over of the Computer Aided Dispatch system as well as the call-taking system. He also introduced Text-to-911 to the City in December 2017.

The Club sends its condolences to Todd's family and co-workers. ■

IOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

Information courtesy LAPD

Todd Austin

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

RLACEI

CONTACT INFORMATION

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

2022 Executive Board of Directors

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	Mark Blunk, Second Vice President	
Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, Secretary	Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, Treasurer	
	Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, Secretary	

RLACEI DIRECTORS

Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension	
Beverly Anderson, Director	Ext. 702
Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, Treasurer	Ext. 718
Mark Blunk, Audit Chair	Ext. 704
Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director	Ext. 716
Dennis Harding, Entertainment Director	Ext. 706
Nancy Hammoudian, RLACEI Director	Ext. 705
Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, Secretary	Ext. 719
Tom Moutes, RLACEI Director	Ext. 710
Ruth B. Perry, Membership Director	Ext. 717
Elizabeth Torres, Director	Ext. 703

RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 0

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

RLACEI WEBSITE

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

MAILING ADDRESS:

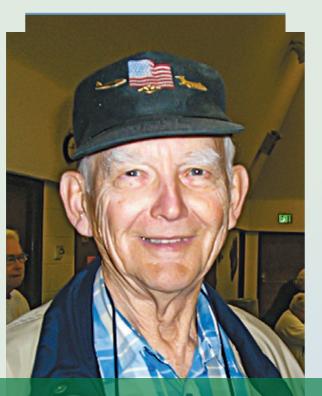
Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc. **Terminal Annex** P.O. Box 86264 Los Angeles, CA 90086

Change of Address?

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



Send in your Interesting ews **Contributions!**



embers of RLACEI and the RLACEI Board send condolences to the family and friends of longtime member John Shadle, who passed away March 14 at the age of 99. He would have turned 100 this December.

For Retired Club Members

Until recently, just before the pandemic when many events were canceled, John was an active participant in RLACEI events. Members looked forward to seeing him and having him share his City experiences and adventures as a photographer.

John started with the City in 1966 and retired in 1986. He worked 20 years in Building and Safety as a Photographer, where he took many aerial photos for the City, which are now in the City Archives.

He and his wife Marguerite were married for 54 vears.

To his family and friends, we share in your loss and are grateful for his contributions.

John Shadle 1923-2022

A TRIBUTE

John Shadle was an extraordinary man and a kind soul.

John was a photographer for the City of Los Angeles and worked with them from 1966 to 1986. He served as a Photographer for the Los Angeles Department of Building & Safety; *he would tell stories about taking countless aerial photos – which* allowed him an incredible eye when it came down to capturing memories and history on film!

My favorite memory? His sense of humor. I'll never forget how often we would make jokes about how much better digital cameras are today than his 35-millimeter film camera.

I am honored to have known John. My condolences and heartfelt thoughts are for his family.

- Robert Larios, Club CEO



John and Marguerite Shadle at a pre-pandemic RLACEI holiday party.

May he rest in peace.

LACERS BOARD UPDATE

LACERS Starts Process For 2023 Health Plan

Beverly J. Clark

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

RETIREE EVENTS

June 2, 2022 Tom Stemnock Annual Shotgun 7 a.m.

Golf Tournament Alhambra Golf Course 630 S. Almansor St. Alhambra

Aug. 11, 2022 Annual Picnic 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Grace E. Simons Lodge 1025 Elysian Park Dr. Location Subject to Change

Dec. 15, 2022 Annual Holiday Party 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Friendship Auditorium 3201 Riverside Dr.

Reservation Line: RLACEI events (800) 678-4145, ext. 701

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



The LACERS Benefits Administration Committee is directing LACERS staff and its health consultant, Keenan & Associates, to begin the process to approve the 2023 medical, dental and vision contracts. I know, it

seems it was only yesterday that we finished open enrollment for the 2022 plan year.

This year, LACERS is undergoing the somewhat more streamlined Request for Renewal Process with our current carriers rather than the more involved Request for Proposal Process. This route was taken because of the timing and the crush of other projects such as the RFP for the health and welfare consultant.

The process begins by sending out a Request for Renewal to each carrier asking about any new and additional programs and the cost as well as alternative pricing. Then the staff and Keenan evaluate the responses and critically analyze the method to come up with the premium proposal. After additional negotiation, the final proposal is sent to the Benefits Committee, which I chair, and finally to the full Board of Administration.

LACERS has been successful in improving the health plans while keeping the premiums under control. The 2022 total health and welfare program is \$149.9 million in premiums. The average premium change is far less than the trend rate for other plans over three years. LACERS premiums went down 0.5 percent, while the average was an increase of 6.9 percent per year over the three-year period.

Some of the improvements to our plans over recent years include free gym memberships, meals sent to homes, transportation to medical appointments, and medical alert devices.

LACERS will continue to work closely with staff and the consultant to improve the LACERS Well program and to tailor it to improving members' health. This also has the added benefit to lower the premium costs so that we can provide better health plans for less cost.

Some goals for the new plan year are:

- Getting performance guarantees, which would trigger penalties on security breaches
- Increasing funding for our very popular LACERS Well program, and
- Minimize the impact of COVID-19.



MEET YOUR BOARD A look at RLACEI Board Members

Nancy Hammoudian, RLACEI Board Member

By Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

Beverlv J. Clark

Meet RLACEI'S newest Board Member, Nancy Hammoudian. Nancy was installed at the RLACEI general membership meeting, held April 14 at Grace E. Simons Lodge.

Nancy began her City career with Recreation and Parks at the LA Zoo as an Accounting Clerk in 1983 and retired in 1995. She was promoted as an Accounting Records Supervisor to Building and Safety in West LA and Van Nuys, and worked downtown as needed.

Nancy has been married to her husband, Vrej, for 40 years. They have two daughters, Sirelle and Rakelle. Sirelle is married to husband Brett Kendall.

During retirement, Nancy has taken up several hobbies, including home wine making with her husband, using wine grapes from her backyard and from friends. She is also a newsletter editor for a home wine



Nancy Hammoudian and her husband, Vrej.

for various events. Nancy says, "Although I've been retired for quite a few years, I have remained friends with several of

of Vartan.

my City co-workers." Nancy is passionate about

maker club, Cellarmasters LA.

Other hobbies include garden-

ing, traveling for wine tasting

co-leader and a district repre-

sentative and adviser for the

national organization Daughters

Board to help protect Retiree

benefits and enthusiastic that

RLACEI brings Retirees together

She joined the RLACEI

Nancy is also a bible study

and visiting vineyards.

helping and serving others. She loves to bring family together by opening her home to family and friends for social gatherings.

Her life verse is: "He who refreshes others will himself be refreshed." – Proverbs 11:25 ■



Anti-Social Distancing

By Dennis Harding, RLACEI Director

If there is any silver lining in the dark cloud of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has to be the implementation of social distancing: What a

blessing it has been to those curmudgeonly types who border on being anti-social.

Now, I don't think I'm completely an anti-social type ...more in the category of a loner. If unavoidable I can engage almost anyone in a social gathering. Heck, I can be downright charming at times, however, you can bet I won't go looking for those opportunities!

The beauty of the social distancing edict has given those of us who prefer to be loners a reprieve from those who prattle on and on about nothing of import. No more do I have to hear someone's life story in the grocery line. I now have a built-in excuse to stay far enough away from the parade of daily walkers on my street to avoid having to be unwillingly dragged into trite conversations. Too much of such contact can lead to unwanted familiarity that, who knows, could lead to unwanted home visits that would disrupt my peaceful existence. Bah humbug!

The best news is that even when the social distancing requirements are rescinded, the government has made so many people frightened of being too close to others that they will still keep their distance. This will be devastating to those people who will have an unfulfilled need to engage perfect strangers in unwanted conversation. But personally, I welcome being uninformed about others' personal lives. I naively believe that should remain private.

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

Let your fellow City Retiree friends know about the great benefits of being an RLACEI member. Encourage them to call (800) 678-4145, ext. 717, or visit the Website at RLACELorg, to join today! 100 gift cards are available to be won. Once they join RLACEI and mention you, the gift card is yours! What are you waiting for? Refer a friend today!

RETIREES UPDATE



City's Budget Process: A Follow-Up

by Tom Moutes, RLACEI Director Email: Tom.Moutes@RLACEl.org

Last month, I wrote about two things Retirees should watch for in the City's budget process: the projections of City retirement contributions; and the projected City budget deficits for fiscal year 2022-23 and beyond. As of the writing of this article, the mayor has proposed a budget for the next fiscal year and the City Council budget hearings have begun. The news from the budget hearing has been very positive on these two items.

The Projections of City Retirement Contributions

While the City's annual contribution to LACERS is expected to increase by \$31 million next fiscal year, that is more than offset by an expected \$55 million decrease in the City's contribution to Fire and Police Pensions (LAFPP), for a net total decrease to the City of \$24 million.

BURANCA' **RLACEI 2022** Summer Picnic

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





11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Grace E. Simons Lodge 1025 Elysian Park Dr. Los Angeles, CA 90027



Further, the City's projections of its contributions to the pension funds over the next five years decrease each year. Of course these projected decreases are based on many assumptions, including but not limited to the investment returns of LACERS and LAFPP and the City's payroll on which the contribution projections are based. Said differently, if the investment returns are significantly lower than expected and/or the City's payroll is much higher than expected, the resulting pension contributions could increase beyond what is currently expected.

The Projected Budget Deficits for Fiscal Years 2022-23 and Beyond

The mayor's proposed budget contains surpluses for next year and the following three years! This year and the last fiscal years, the City has been flush with cash thanks to the federal government's American Rescue Fund (ARF). There was some concern that not having more ARF proceeds in the coming years, the City might end up back in deficit situations. However, the upcoming City budgets look to be structurally sound at this point.

The rosy budget outlook could change depending on several factors such as inflation, lower-than-expected revenues and/ or higher than projected costs, but at least for now, the outlook appears good.

Overall, the City's finances seem to be looking good, which is great news for active and Retired City employees!

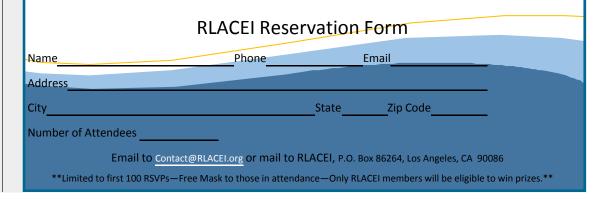
Location may be subject to change.

RSVP to (800) 678-4145 EXT. 701

RSVP no later than July 27, 2022. RLACEI member plus one (1) guest at no cost.

No additional guests allowed at this time due to attendance limitations and social distancing requirements

We look forward to seeing you!



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

RLACET For Retired Club Members

Follow **RLACEI** on Facebook



Connect to RLACEI on Facebook, and you'll be eligible to win a \$5 gift card for See's Candies

or Starbucks or one RLACEI reusable cloth bag. Prizes will go to the first 150 to like the RLACEI Facebook page.

YOU COULD WIN!



How to enter

CURRENT RLACEI MEMBERS: Follow us on Facebook

OTHER CITY RETIREES: Join RLACEI and like us on Facebook

May Winners

New RLACEI Members -Welcome!: Tracy Edwards and Mei Ong Following RLACEI Facebook Page: David Bares Terry Berg Yvette Burney Julie Cuttrell Cecelia Galvez Sue Gordon Anita McKinnev Carolyn Moore Gloria Moore Susan Ozawa Cathi Pearson Lisa Smock Geri Vasquez Bernard Wilson

Referral Winner: Dorothy Tamashiro.



Beverly Clark and Liz Torres. Back: Tom Moutes, Dennis Harding, Beverly Anderson and Mark Blunk.



Beverly Clark, RLACEI First Vice President and Publicity Director, with Robert Larios, Club President and CEC



From left: Armando Tapia, Retired, Public Works/Street Service, 31 years of City service, with his wife, Alice; Mellie Deom, Retired, Mayor's Office, 31 years, and her husband, Bill Deom; and Dennis Harding, RLACEI Entertainment Director and Nominating Committee Chai

From left: Arlette



Club CEO Robert Larios and Director Mark Blunk



RLACEI President Ruth Perry and Board Director Nancy Hammoudian



More than 70 attend as **RLACEI** returns to social fun after the pandemic.

By Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

The Spring Fling held at Grace E. Simons Lodge April 14 brought together friends that have not seen each other for more than two years - since the pandemic began in 2020.

Great times! It was a wonderful day to come together and socialize with friends, enjoy the weather and share each other's company.

Everyone, including Board members, was excited to mingle again with safety in mind. A delicious boxed lunch was provided. and most of the attendees left with a little extra gift from raffle drawings. Gas cards and gift cards were provided by RLACEI, LAFCU, and the Club to make the event more exciting.

In attendance were more than 70 RLACEI members and guests. The Club provided Retiree apparel and insurance information with Robert Larios, Club President and CEO; Summy Lam, Vice President of Marketing; Cheryl Martin, Member Services Counselor; and DeAngelo Thompson, Customer Service Rep, on hand to serve our members. In attendance from LACERS were Commissioner Michael Wilkinson, Assistant General Manager Dale Wong-Nguyen and Chief Investment Officer Rod June, who provided an update on LACERS. Robert Aguirre, representing the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union, was unable to attend, but he generously provided several \$25 Target gift cards to give away!

During the general meeting portion of the event, updates from RLACEI President Ruth Perry, LACERS, LAFCU and the Club were provided. Nancy Hammoudian was nominated and approved unanimously by members in attendance to serve on the RLACEI Board.

Everyone had an enjoyable time and are preparing for the next event to be held in August.



Thanks for the referral!

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

Become an RLACEI Member

RLACEI is dedicated to advocating for retiree interests. We are over 5,500 strong! Members of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. enjoy all RLACEI events such as the golf tournament, 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 x717, or visit our website at RLACEI.ORG and join today!

Menard, Retired, LADWP, 32 years of City service; Robert Larios, Club CEO: and Betty Porter. Retired LADWP 27 years









From left: Loucin "Lucy" Artinian, RLACEI Treasurer; Beverly Clark, RLACEI First VP and Publicity Director; and Verkin "Vicki" Keoseian, RLACEI Secretary

From left; Cathy Bushey, Retired, LAPD, 30 years of City service Lynn Trotter, Retired, LAPD, 31 years; Betsy Melanson, Retired, LAPD, 28 years; Cathi Pearson, Retired, LAPD, 31 years; Jeanetta Adams, Retired, LAPD, 33 years; Jill Woo, Retired, LAPD, 32 years; and Yul Johnson, Retired, LAPD, 32 years.

From left: Aarie Martinez Retired, Public Works/Contract Administration. 30 years of City service; and Mill umbang, Retired, General Services 24 years.



From left: Diana Medina, Retired, Public Works/ Accounting, 37 years of City service, with her husband, Alfonso, Retired, LA County, 34 years of County service; and George Gonzalez, Retired, Rec and Parks, 42 years of City service. vears

From left: Anthony Vann, Retired, Harbor, 17 years of City service; Bonnie and Joe Zamora, Retired, Public Works/Contract Administration, 25 years; and Ruth and Fred Kong, Retired, Public Works/Contract Administration, 33

Law Is New Digital Chief Story and photo courtesy Airports

Ian Law appointed as **Chief Digital Transformational Officer.**

AIRPORTS: On May 9, Ian Law was appointed Chief Digital Transformation Officer for Airports. Chief Executive Officer Justin Erbacci made the appointment.

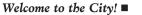
Law will oversee Airports' Information Management and Technology Group and Guest Experience and Innovation. Prior to his appointment at Airports, he served as Chief Information Officer at San Francisco International Airport, where he led the award-winning Information Technology team. During the pandemic, he led industry initiatives to enable public access to important airport-related COVID-19 information at more than 300 airports worldwide and spearheaded an effort with international airports and airlines to make airport COVID-19 testing and vaccination services information more accessible to passengers.

Law previously also held several external advisory and consultancy roles at the U.K. government, focused on technology procurement and public service reform and transformation. He led outsourcing and supply chain advisory businesses



at KPMG U.K., working with international clients. Law serves as vice-chair of Airport Council International World's Airport Information Technology Standing Committee. He previously served on the International Air Transport Association's working group on autonomous vehicles and airport automation. He is an industry contributor on the American Association of Airport Executives' Airport Consortium on Customer Trust Program.

Law has a bachelor of science degree in computer science from University College Cork, Ireland, and an MBA from Cranfield School of Management, England.





Congratulations! Robert Larios, Club President and CEO, honors Club Members

with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.



Venus L. Franklin, LADOT, retired after 30 years of City service.



Lorraine L. Gonzalez, LADOT, retired after 17 years of City service.



The Club...

celebrates the great things you're doing at work and at home.



Hello, We're Sanitation

Ambassador program shares the recycling message.

PUBLIC WORKS: Public Works' Sanitation and Environment has been re-introducing its Ambassador Program over the last several months. They recently set up their booth at Sanitation's Earth Day celebrations in late April.

The Ambassador Program, a group of Refuse Collection Truck Operators, presents the Sanitation and Environment message of recycling to the public at a variety of events and locations.

Look for a more complete story on Sanitation's Recycling Ambassador Program in a future Alive!



The Sanitation Recycling Ambassador Program takes part in Sanitation's Earth Day event in Griffith Park.



Take Alive! with you, wherever you go!

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

Sanitation and Environment clothing drive team members deliver some of what they collected to the St. Francis Center downtown.

Thanks to Rodney Beverly, Supervisor, Recycling Ambassador Program, Club Member, for submitting. 🔳





Ambassador Rodney Beverly and a quest at the dedication of the entrance to Historic Filipinotown.



The Recycling Ambassador Program tent at the dedication of the entrance to Historic Filipinotown.

lebit.

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