

# Club Deals!

**WOW!**  
**SEE'S CANDY**  
**HOLIDAY SPECIAL!**  
\$12.25/Pound  
See Back Cover

**FREE POPCORN**  
**AT AMC MOVIES!**  
See Page 9 for  
Offer Details

**LAST CHANCE FOR**  
**CLEOPATRA AT THE**  
**SCIENCE CENTER.**  
\$15 thru Dec. 31

# Alive!



The space shuttle  
*Endeavour* on its way  
through the streets of  
Los Angeles.



## THE CITY **One Great Endeavour**

City Departments came together for the historic landing and move of the space shuttle *Endeavour*. You've seen the photos. Now read about what City Employees did behind the scenes to make it happen.

[ See Page 18 ]

A crew from Transportation helped clear the way for the space shuttle *Endeavour* to make its way through the streets of Los Angeles. The crew (from left): James Gonzalez, Jose Almaguer Delgado, Carl Mehrabians, and Carlos Rodriguez.

Alive! photo combination by Juan Guerra and courtesy Transportation



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

## Holidays in the City!

It's that time again!

- City Events, 34
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- Club Store, 47





# Club Member Benefits

## Club Insurance

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

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

## Great Ticket Discounts

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

## Club Partner Discounts\*

### Avis Rent-a-Car

Visit [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) for discount codes and passwords!

### 1-800-Flowers

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

### Office Depot

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

### WallyPark

Show your Club membership card and save 30%.

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

# The Club Offers the Cheapest Tickets in the City



Don't be fooled by others! The Club is the ONLY association in Los Angeles to offer the cheapest tickets in the City. The Club is constantly in search of new savings to benefit it's 20,500+ club members every day.

"Club Discount King"  
Robert Larios



More Tickets and Club Discounts

[www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)

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A Message From the CEO

# City Employees Come Together for Big Move

by John Hawkins,  
President and CEO, The Club

If you were anywhere near Los Angeles over the weekend of Oct. 12-14, you couldn't miss it. On every channel and Website, on the radio and in print, the space shuttle *Endeavour* completed its final mission, landing at LAX earlier in the month and then moving ever so slowly through the City's streets all the way to the California Science Center. It was awesome!

But it struck me that we weren't hearing much about the story behind the story. Enter *Alive!*

That's what we do here. In this month's feature, you'll read about a lot of the efforts, and see some of the faces, of those who made it happen. They don't often get recognized or honored. But in *Alive!*, they do; in here, they get the glory.

An event like the moving of *Endeavour* really shows City employees at their best. Many City department were somehow involved in this project, either in a major way, or just by lending some minor assistance. Sure, I was impressed while watching *Endeavour* make its way through LA. But I was also impressed at how City employees came together to make this historic event happen. Congratulations to all.

Even though we worked hard to tell the background story, I'm sure there are some City employees who aren't mentioned or pictured here; to them we send a special shoutout. Additionally, I want to thank **Richard Lee, Jonathan Hui, Jose Almaguer Delgado, Marshall Lowe, Madeleine Flanagan, Nancy Castles, Joe Ramallo** and of course our own **Summy Lam** and **Arlene Herrero** for pulling all this information together.

Our main feature on *Endeavour* is the kind of thing that the Club does very well. In addition to showcasing you, though, we also safeguard you. It's a quieter, but no less important, task. Here at the Club, December almost always means life insurance check refunds, and that reflects on our mission to take care of City employees through our strong, affordable life insurance product. We have a lot of fun here, but safeguarding and protecting the lives of City employees is serious business. We are happy to return to those eligible the remainder of their collective



The Club's Summy Lam and Arlene Herrero, taking a break while capturing *Endeavour's* final mission.

unused insurance premiums, as we have in 81 out of our 84 years in existence. The annual refund reflects that the Club is solid, stable, prudent, well run and smart, and that Club Members who rely on us are in very good hands, indeed.

Before I conclude my last column of 2012, I want to say a special word about **Lupe Medina**, our Administrative Services Rep and the smiling, happy face most of you have seen at the Club Store. As you will read on page 28, Lupe is retiring in early January; the coloring contest on that page is her final one for the Club. Lupe, you embody the spirit of the City Employees Club – friendly, helpful, service-minded, and joyful in your work. Thank you, and please enjoy your retirement with **Red Medina** and your family. I know you will!

Speaking of spending time with family, it's December, and that means the holidays are nearly upon us. Don't forget: the many festive City events produced for your benefit (page 34); Retiree holiday events (page 14); the Club Store as the place to buy unique holiday gifts; a fantastic discount on See's Candy (back cover); and that the Club will be closed all day Dec. 24 - 25, and Dec. 31 - Jan. 1.

Which leaves just one more reminder: have a happy, safe, and rockin' holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah from the Club. Let's truly enjoy our time with our families and friends. Work is rewarding, but spending time with those we love is essential.

Until next year!

**JOHN**

[jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)

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City departments come together to move the space shuttle through the City's streets.

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## For Retirees

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# CANDY AND CHRISTMAS. PERFECT!

See's Candy, at a great Club discount.

- SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS



## IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers

<b>The Club's Main Phone Number</b>	<b>(800) 464-0452</b>
<b>The Club's FAX Number</b>	<b>(213) 620-0398</b>
City Bureau of Sanitation	(800) 773-2489
Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(213) 978-1655
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-7480
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593
Deferred Compensation	(888) 457-9460
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728
DWP Employees Association	(213) 367-3146
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361
DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106
DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
LACERS	(800) 779-8328
LA Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
LA Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
LA Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
LA Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
LA Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
LA Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
Local 721	(213) 482-6660
Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
Retired LA City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400



**Cecilia Talbot,**  
Claims Manager



**Monica Zamudio,**  
Claims Assistant

You probably won't get to meet Cecilia Talbot and Monica Zamudio very often... until you really need them. That's when their service shines. So, to assure you that you are in good hands, from time to time *Alive!* will reprint letters commending the service given by Cecilia and her excellent staff. — Ed.

### Club Members' Praise

The Club's claims service is "excellent. My life insurance request [was handled] professionally. Thank you."

— **Margarita Lara, August 2012**

The Club provides "excellent service. Everyone was very helpful, and when I had questions that concerned other departments, they were able to help and transfer me to someone else that could answer my questions. [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] was a good book to have in times like this."

— **Ines Guerrero, July 2012**

The Club's claims service was "excellent. Monica [Zamudio] was courteous, caring and speedy, and also informative. [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] was a wonderful and touching story."

— **Chris Francis**

The Club's claims service was "great! It was good to know that my father had left some money for me. The lady that I spoke with was helpful and kind to me during this time."

— **Linda Ridgeway, May 2012**

### Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work:

## Claims Paid

#### Previous 12 Months

Life Insurance/Acc. Death & Dis.	\$2,594,186
Long-Term Disability	\$1,582,377
Long-Term Care	\$376,759
Cancer Insurance	\$200,000

**Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months: \$4,753,323**



### The City Employees Club of Los Angeles

*Celebrating the Lives of City Employees*

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most. Contact an Insurance Counselor today: **(800) 464-0452**

#### It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club! Great rates on:

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

December 2012 • Volume 11 – No. 12



*Alive!* is the official publication of the **City Employees Club of Los Angeles**  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452  
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*Alive!* (USPS PP589), Volume 11, No. 12 is published monthly, 12 times per year by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.  
**ALIVE! EDITORIAL OFFICES:** 311 Spring Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA, 90013 • (800) 464-0452  
**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Annual subscription price for *Alive!* is included in the membership dues and is nondeductible.  
**POSTAGE:** Application to mail at periodicals postage prices is pending at Los Angeles, CA.  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address corrections to *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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David Jamgotchian, JJLA Associates,  
*Design and Production*

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Fire and Police Pensions

Terry Carter

*Commanding Officer of Property Division, LAPD*

Andrew Virzi Jr.

*Assistant Controller, DWP*

Vas Singh

*Revenue Management Division, Office of Finance*

#### Insurance Services Board

David Muraoka

*LAPD, Retired*

Rose Hyland

*Office of the Controller, Retired*

Marilyn Holley

*Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired*

*Alive!* does not accept advertising from persons or organizations believed to be unreliable or financially irresponsible. *Alive!* is not responsible, however, for the performance of advertisers, the delivery or quality of their merchandise or services, or the legality of any particular program. Before making any purchasing decision, we recommend you consult additional sources as needed. Please contact the Club if you have any bad experiences with an advertiser. LACEA management reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to refuse any advertisement.

## Meet the Club Team

**(800) 464-0452** Questions? We're here to help.  
Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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



John Hawkins  
*President & CEO*



Brian G. Trent  
*Chief Financial Officer*



Robert Larios  
*Vice President of Operations,*  
*"Sports Dude", "Chef Larios"*  
*and "Discount King"*

### Claims



Cecilia Talbot  
*Claims Manager*



Monica Zamudio  
*Claims Assistant*



Katie Hesselstine  
*Application Coordinator*



Jennifer Shackelford  
*Application Coordinator*

### Information Technology



Michael Anderson  
*Information Technology Manager*



Alan Bound  
*Information Technology Programmer*



Summy Lam  
*Director of Marketing*

### Club Store



Rachael Brecher  
*Club Store Manager*



Lupe Medina  
*Administrative Service Representative*



Megan Debolt  
*Club Store Services Coordinator*



Megan Evanich  
*Customer Service Associate*

### Accounting



Leigh Thompson  
*Controller*



Trinh Pham  
*Senior Accountant*

### Member Services



Arlene Herrero  
*Club Products Manager*

Accounting, Bureau of  
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the  
City Administrative Officer  
Community Redevelopment Agc  
Contract Administration, Bureau of  
Controller, Office of the  
Disability, Department on  
El Pueblo De Los Angeles  
Emergency Preparedness  
Finance  
Harbor  
Los Angeles World Airport  
Police (LAPD)



Gedina Bergstrom  
*Club Member Services Counselor*

Animal Services  
Building & Safety  
DWP  
Fire  
Recreation & Parks  
Street Lighting, Bureau of  
Street Services, Bureau of



Jackie Causillas  
*Club Member Services Counselor*

General Services  
Sanitation, Bureau of  
Transportation



Angel Gomez  
*Club Director of Sales*

Administration  
Aging  
City Attorney  
City Clerk  
City Council  
City Employees Retirement System  
Community Development Dept  
Convention Center  
Cultural Affairs  
Employee Relations Board  
Engineering, Bureau of  
Environmental Affairs  
Fire & Police Pensions  
Housing Department  
Information Technology Agency  
Library  
Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum  
Mayor  
Neighborhood Empowerment  
Personnel  
Planning  
Status of Women  
Zoo



Tiffany Sy  
*Member Services Counselor, In-house*



Noelle Kauffman  
*Club Member Services Counselor*



# Letters to the Editor

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

## LETTERS OF THE MONTH



### LAFD Museum Appreciates Story on Fallen Firefighters

We just received our copy of *Alive!* and read Gedina Bergstrom's outstanding article about this year's LAFD Memorial event [November issue]. Thanks so much for her continued support. I will certainly make sure that our Board and other members see the story she did so well with words and pictures.

– Asst. Chief Frank Borden,  
Retired, Director of Operations for the  
Los Angeles Fire Dept. Historical Society

### Another Club Scholarship Winner Says Thank You

I want to send a big thank you to Mr. John Hawkins and the City of Employees Club of Los Angeles.

I am truly humbled by your generous scholarship and it was a great honor receiving it. Thank you also for the kind words in the letter. The Joannie Mukai/City Employees Club Scholarship money helped me tremendously with books for this semester and next. It was greatly appreciated, and something I will always remember. Once again, it was an honor being a winner of this scholarship and I am truly grateful.

God bless.

– Anthony Kissinger

### Remembering Colorful Life of Board Member Martín Chavez

My thanks go to the Club and the *Alive!* staff for honoring the life of Martín Chavez. You were able to bring out the colorful life that he had in your cover story. Thank you for sharing, and my heart goes to all that knew him.

– Joe Fuentes, General Services

### Alive!'s Retiree Events Coverage, Cooking Column Call for Autograph

I want to thank Robert Larios and his staff for attending the RLACEI events throughout the year and as well as attending the LACERS Wellness Open Enrollment events recently. It was great to finally meet Mr. Larios, and he was nice enough to autograph my copy of the newspaper. My husband and I love his cooking articles!

– Thelma Jones, Retired

### Correction:

■ In an article in last month's issue concerning Public Works' new "CityWorks" TV show, in the subhead description we misstated the channel number of LA CityView, where the show can be viewed. LA CityView's channel on City cable providers is 35. We regret the mistake.

### Tony's Motor Home Sold Quickly Via Alive! Classifieds

I sold my motor home in the *Alive!* Classified section last month, and it took only a month before it was able to sell it! I didn't realize how fast I could sell it, and I got what seemed like dozens of calls on it. This was great, and I now I am looking in my garage to see what else I can sell.

– Tony Madera, Public Works

### Photo Points Out Just How Heroic Job of Firefighter Is

Whoa! That's a crazy-scary photo of the firefighter in front of the car on fire on page 17 of the November newspaper [Everyday Heroes]. My thanks to firefighter Bryan Hill for attacking the fire. I can almost feel the flames coming through my digital version of *Alive!* Great job!

– Gordon Hill, Airports

### AT&T Club Benefit Saves Jason Big on Monthly Bill

I have never written to *Alive!* before, but I wanted to let you know that I very much appreciate the things the folks at the Club do for us. I recently linked my AT&T account with the Club on the Website, and I am now saving \$40 a month on a bill that was normally \$200. What a savings! This is why I am a happy Club member!

– Jason Phillip, LAFD

### Mildred Wonders Why She Didn't Switch to Digital Edition Before

Hello all! My husband retired from the City a few years back and we are enjoying our retirement years. We have also enjoyed *Alive!* and we think it is the best paper about the City. We have recently opted out of the print edition and we see the newspaper on our computer. We have enjoyed it and have wondered why we didn't do this years ago.

– Mildred Jenkins, Retired

FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS ANSWER THE

# Question OF THE MONTH



– as collected from around the City by your friendly Club Counselors

Which gift have you received that you would re-gift?



"A fruitcake."  
– Victor Lynch,  
DWP, 7 years of  
City service



"An electric shaver."  
– Mario Aguilar,  
DWP, 6 years  
of City service



"A toothbrush."  
– Jim Valdivia,  
DWP, 7 years of  
City service



"Clothes."  
– Carlos Rocha,  
DWP, 3 years  
of City service



"Cologne."  
– Ruben Estrada,  
DWP, 9 years  
of City service



"I don't get gifts. I give gifts."  
– Marcelino Basulto,  
DWP, 11 years  
of City service



"A Crock Pot."  
– Patrick Cruz,  
DWP, 6 years  
of City service



"Collared shirts."  
– Jaime Benavides,  
DWP, 12 years  
of City service



"Gift cards."  
– Steven Valenzuela,  
DWP, 20 years  
of City service



"A toothbrush holder."  
– Kelly Thomas,  
DWP, 12 years  
of City service

This month at the Club Store • 120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012



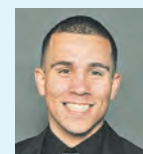
Contact Your United Agencies Reps (888) 801-5522

## Get a FREE Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Now on Thursdays! The United Agencies reps are appearing at the Club Store every other Thursday.

**Dec. 13**  
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Rosa Calderon

**Dec 27**  
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Patty Pulido



Xavier Rodriguez  
Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon  
Personal Insurance Agent



Patty Pulido  
Personal Insurance Agent

**Note:** The Club Store will be closed (all day each day) Dec. 24-25, and Dec. 31-Jan. 1 for Christmas and New Year's. Happy holidays!



CLUB MEMBERS:

# Be My Club Valentine

Send your sweetie a special Valentine ...  
to be printed in the February *Alive!*



**DEADLINE:**  
**JAN. 15<sup>TH</sup>**



**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:**

Send us a photo (high-resolution digital preferred) of you and your sweetie... or just your sweetie... and two or three sentences declaring your forever love! And we'll print as many as we can.

**SEND DIGITAL PHOTOS  
AND YOUR WORDS TO:**  
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com  
(subject line: Valentine)

**SEND PAPER PHOTOS  
AND YOUR WORDS TO:**  
City Employees Club  
Be My Club Valentine  
120 W. Second St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012



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PUBLIC WORKS

# Ready for Our Close-up

'CityWorks' TV show visits the Club.



The crew from "CityWorks" videos the Club's Robert Larios and John Hawkins.



Starting in the next edition of Public Works' innovative new "CityWorks" TV show will be... the Club!

Jackie David, Public Information Director, Public Works, and producer of the revamped "CityWorks" TV program on *LA CityView 35*, brought her video crew by the Club Store Nov. 1. Jackie, a proud Club Member, and her crew taped John Hawkins, Club CEO, and Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations, talking about how much the Club loves Public Works.

The Club's segment is slotted to air sometime soon, as part of "CityWorks" on ITA's *LA CityView 35*. Stay tuned for more information!

Find out more about "CityWorks" here:

[www.lacityworks.org/](http://www.lacityworks.org/)  
[www.facebook.com/pages/LA-CityWorks/154112134706802](https://www.facebook.com/pages/LA-CityWorks/154112134706802)



At the Club Store are, from left: Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations; Jackie David, Public Information Director, Public Works; John Hawkins, Club CEO; and John Burnes, *Alive!* editor.

CITY CLERK

## Part-Time Poll Workers Needed

City Employees can earn extra cash as poll workers next year.

Story courtesy City Clerk's Office

Next year promises to be an exciting year for the City's municipal elections! Angelenos will be electing a new mayor, a handful of new council representatives, a new Controller and a new City Attorney. This is also a great opportunity for City employees to participate and potentially extra money.

Part of the City Clerk's Election operations includes a special program specifically designed for current City employees, where employees have the opportunity to be City Employee Poll Workers (CEPs). This special pool of poll workers is trained and relied upon to step up to challenging situations on Election Day.

Due to budget constraints and staffing issues, not all City departments participate. For a list of participating departments, see contact information below.

For a CEP application, go to: [http://city-clerk.lacity.org/election/CEP\\_Application.pdf](http://city-clerk.lacity.org/election/CEP_Application.pdf)

General information: [http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/CEP\\_Information.pdf](http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/CEP_Information.pdf)

Other questions, contact Sandra Mendoza, Project Coordinator: (213) 978-0001 or email: [clerk.electioncep@lacity.org](mailto:clerk.electioncep@lacity.org)



# THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR PARTY

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**Entry:** Bring a unwrapped toy of \$20 Value or a \$20 Donation.  
All proceeds go to the Los Angeles Fire Department Toy Drive

**For Ticket Information:**  
Please contact Katey at Fire Prevention (213) 978-3649



HARBOR

# Goodbye, Sgt. Al

**Port Police Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, retires after 40 years of City service.**

*Story by Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor; Photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager*

On Oct. 28, colleagues, family members and friends gathered at the Cabrillo Marina to celebrate the retirement of Port Police Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member.

Sgt. Guerrero had more than 40 years of City service at his retirement.

Here are a few important points from his career:

- 1976: Port Warden Patrol
- 1980: Marine Enforcement Patrol
- 1984: Field Training Officer
- 1988: Marine Unit Supervisor
- 1991: Port Police Bicycle Patron
- 1997: Assistant Training Coordinator
- 1998: Training Supervisor POST Coordinator

The Club congratulates Sgt. Al on his great career, and wishes him all the best in his retirement.

*And the Club thanks Stacey Xenios for her assistance in producing this article.*



Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, 40 years of City service, with the Club's Products Manager, Arlene Herrero.



From left: Sgt. John Curry, Retired, 30 years of City service; Maria Corona, Club Member, Police Dispatcher, 24 years; and Officer Bill Paxson, Retired, 28 years.



From left: Capt. Leon Nixon, Club Member; Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, 40 years of City service; and Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, 30 years.



From left: David Bailey, Retired Training Officer, 13 years of City service; and Lt. Rosa Reynoso, Club Member, 23 years.



Officer Rudy Meza, Club Member, 31 years of City service, with his wife, Moe.



From left: Sashah Garrett, Clerk Typist, 28 years of City service; Diane Richmond-Walker, Club Member, Sr. Clerk Typist, 28 years; and Charmaine Martin, Club Member, Principal Clerk, 25 years.



From left: Sgt. Nathan Ewert, Club Member, 16 years of City service; Capt. Mike Graychik, 30 years; and Sgt. David Clements, Club Member, 10 years.



Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, receives retirement gifts.



From left: Ted Fernandez, Club Member, MA II, 23 years of City service, and Claudia and Officer Alex Castillo, Club Member, 10 years.



From left: Capt. Leon Nixon, Club Member; Lt. Kevin McCloskey, Club Member, 11 years of City service; Christine Thome, Club Member, and Mike Cabodanno, 16 years.



Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, 40 years of City service, with his grandson, Jacob, 5.



Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, receives retirement gifts.



From left: Linda Vigil, Club Member, Asst. Chief Wharfinger, 41 years of City service; LaJuan Kennedy, Wharfinger II, 30 years; Linda Jimenez, Wharfinger I, 37 years; and Capt. Al Rosario, Club Member, 26 years, with his wife, Lydia.



From left: Julie Ditucci, Club Member, Secretary, 28 years of City service; Anthony Ditucci, Manager, Vessel Operations, 23 years; and Sgt. Ralph Edwards, Club Member, 18 years, with his wife, Susan.



Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, receives retirement gifts.



Sgt. Ian Schunke, Club Member, 12 years of City service (top) with Cynthia and Det. Roberto Redondo, Club Member, 6 years.



From left: Tony Alvarado, Club Member, Security Officer, 15 years of City service; and Rebekah and Officer Nathan Blair, Club Member, 5 years.



From left: Officer Luis Bautista, Club Member, 5 years of City service; and Capt. Leon Nixon, Club Member.



From left: Jessica Bautista, Club Member, Management Aide, 17 years of City service; Mary Ramos, Club Member, Clerk Typist, 7 years; William Yocham, Club Member, SLO, 12 years; and Elizabeth and Luis Bautista, Club Member.

THIS MONTH AT THE

# Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

## Weekend Tidepool Walks

Dec. 9; 15-16; 23; 29-30  
2:30 – 4 p.m.

CMA's education staff conducts tours of the Point Fermin State Marine Park. Attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then come along on the naturalist-led ramble on the rocks to see animals in their natural habitat. Outdoor clothing and sneakers advised. Young children must be accompanied by adults. Reservations required for groups. Free, open to all.

(310) 548-7562  
Parking: \$2.

### Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

(310) 548-7410

[www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp](http://www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp)



[www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org](http://www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org)

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# Great GIFTS for everyone on your list

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 Group Code: CEC2275

**Qualifications**

- You must be at least 18 years of age
- You must be an active City or DWP Employee with a tenure of at least 6 months and an active member of City Employees Club of L.A
- You must earn at least \$20,000 a year
- You must have a bank account or credit card (to be used in case of non-payment via payroll deduction)

\*Promo valid for free shipping on select items through December 15, 2012. Promo code FSHOL12 must be entered at time of checkout for discount to be applied. Offer excludes all furniture, mattresses, grills, fitness equipment, lawn tractors, and large appliances (dishwashers, ranges, refrigeration, and washers & dryers). Offer not valid on previous purchases. Products and pricing are available while supplies last and are subject to change without notice, so call or go online for the latest offering. Individual eligibility requirements and spending limits may apply.



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## Small Popcorn Voucher with the Purchase of 6 AMC Gold Experience Tickets

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Offer good while supplies last!





The Club Has the Cheapest Tickets in the City!



# History Comes Alive!

~ Tales From the City Archives ~



by Hynda Rudd  
City Archivist (Retired) and Club Member



The Lacy Manufacturing Co. on N. Main in the 1920s.

## The Lacy Legacy

The vastly influential and pioneering Lacy family of Los Angeles is charted from 1887 to the present. *Part 1.*

By Nicholas A. "Nick" Curry

*Photos courtesy Herald Examiner collection, Los Angeles Public Library Photo Collection, Christina Rice, Acting Senior Librarian; and courtesy the author*

Richard Henry Lacy (1866-1945) was the third mayor of the city of San Marino, succeeding Col. George S. Patton Sr. (1856 - 1927), the father of the World War II general. Lacy served on the original council for 29 years, 18 of which as mayor from 1924 to 1942.

His father, William Lacy Sr. (1837 - 97) was a true entrepreneur – an architect, farmer, retailer, innkeeper, banker, manufacturer, oil pioneer, gold miner, volunteer fireman and founder of the Lacy Manufacturing Co. in Los Angeles in 1887. At one time, it was one of the largest businesses in California. Richard, along with his father and older brother William Jr., developed the Puente Hills oil fields, which also included a refinery in Chino that stretched from the San Gabriel Valley into Brea.



William Lacy atop crated oranges headed to Asia, 1927.

The Lacy family partnered in 1886 with William Rowland, who was the son of John Rowland (1791 - 1873), one of the famous 1841 Rowland/Workman-Temple party that settled a large portion of the western San Gabriel Valley. William Rowland is best remembered for the capture of the notorious outlaw Tiburcio Vasquez, accomplished while Rowland was the Los Angeles County Sheriff during the 1870s.

Later, the Lacys ventured into real estate subdivision work and gold mining interests in Baja California, where the father died in 1897 at the age of 60. He was buried there at Molino de Lacy, Punta Final, San Luis Gonzaga, Baja, CA.

There is speculation to this day as to the probable cause of death: appendicitis or possibly murder. A cenotaph (tomb or monument) was erected at Evergreen Cemetery in East Los Angeles to commemorate him.

Richard was born Aug. 14, 1866 in Bolinas, Marin County, to William Lacy Sr. and Isabella Rigg, who were both natives of London. William Lacy's parents emigrated from Ireland to London prior to the 1845 to 1848 potato famine. Richard's older brother William Jr. was also born in Bolinas in 1864 and subsequently became his business partner in future years.

William Lacy Sr. emigrated

from England to Champaign, Ill. in early 1860, where he took up farming with his brothers. On June 11, 1861 he married Isabella Rigg in Urbana, Ill. In 1863, the family moved to Bolinas (a seaside village just north of San Francisco) where William Sr. owned and operated a hotel and retail establishment until 1869. The Lacy family then moved to San Diego, where William Sr. earned his living as an architect of many residences and commercial buildings. In 1875 the family moved permanently to Los Angeles, where William Sr. co-founded with Edward F. Spence what ultimately became known as the Bank of Los Angeles. In 1883 he established the Lacy & Viereck Hardware Co. and in 1884 he co-founded the first sheet iron pipe factory in Los Angeles with John D. Hooker. This was the forerunner of the Lacy Pipe Manufacturing Co., formalized in 1887. In 1887, William Sr. was a founding member of the California Club, with several other movers and shakers of that era.

In 1898, following the unexpected death of their father the previous year, the two brothers bought out a former partner, Lemuel A. Hard, and re-organized the business under the new name of Lacy Manufacturing Co., which engaged in its original business of sheet metal manufacturing, sheet metal fabrication, steel pipes and tanks, expanding into heavy



William Lacy in 1927.

plate metal, boilers, petroleum refinery stills, storage tanks, water works appliances and the like. William Jr. was the president and Richard was the corporate secretary and vice-president. As a matter of interest, the company was located adjacent to Frank Seaver's Hy-Drill Co. (once a property of Los Angeles oilman E.L. Doheny), which manufactured anti-blowout devices for oil wells, and was also across the street from where Philippe's Original French Dip Sandwich Deli is today.

Richard Lacy married his first cousin, Maud Sullivan, in 1893 at the Church of our Savior in San Gabriel. His father (William Lacy Sr.) and the bride's mother (Charlotte Lacy Sullivan) were siblings, and in turn her mother was married to the older brother (Frederic Sullivan) of Sir Arthur S. Sullivan of the famed operetta twosome, Gilbert and Sullivan.

Maud's father died at 39 in 1877, and her mother died in 1885 at 44. Upon her father's untimely death, her uncle, Arthur Sullivan, stepped in and became the guardian and financial supporter of his late brother's family for the remainder of his life. Sullivan never married and had no offspring. In 1908 Richard and Maud settled and built their home, named "Wildwood," at 1518 Garfield Ave., on the border of South Pasadena and what would ultimately become a part of San Marino. There, they raised their family of one son and five daughters.

*To be continued.*

### About the Author

Nick Curry is a phenomenal Southern California historian. He loves chasing and compiling biographical family manuscripts of the following: the Dohenys; the Bixbys of Long Beach; the Spreckels; the William Randolph Hearsts; the Henry E. Huntingtons; the J. Paul Gettys; and the E.J. "Lucky" Baldwins.

Nick's publications with others include: *Rivers in the Desert*; *Dark Side of Fortune-The Triumphs and Tragedies of Edward L. Doheny*; *the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Biltmore Hotel*; *Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles Centennial publication*; *Bullocks Wilshire publication*; *The Culture Broker: Franklin D. Murphy biography*; and *Privileged Son: The Chandler Family of the Los Angeles Times*.

Please welcome him to *Alive!*  
– Hynda Rudd



Nick Curry



## For Retired Club Members



# The Best Years

## CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

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



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

#### Change of Address?

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

#### Have News About Yourself?

Contact Mary Beetz, call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 711.

#### Retiree Upcoming Events

Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 701 for reservations.

**Dec. 6:** RLACEI holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium

**Dec. 9:** LARFPA holiday party, 11 a.m., Sportsman's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City

#### RLACEI Website

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

#### Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM-5PM. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans. [www.lacers.org](http://www.lacers.org)

#### DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, *President*  
Phone: (626) 445-7376  
E-mail: [vincedolores@gmail.com](mailto:vincedolores@gmail.com)  
[www.dwpirees.org](http://www.dwpirees.org)

#### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Bill Quinn, *President*  
Phone: (323) 283-4441  
Fax: (626) 285-1461  
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780  
[www.larfpa.org](http://www.larfpa.org)

## Pension Concerns Exist, But LA System 'Secure'

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Ed Harding,  
RLACEI President

The City of Los Angeles has approved a second reading of a Tier 2 for the LACERS pension plan, which will become law if it is signed by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Our members should be reassured that the changes and benefit reductions in this new tier do not apply to any current retirees or active employees. The new tier will apply only to new employees hired by the City of or after July 1, 2013.

This year is almost over, and it has been six months since RLACEI members have been receiving *Alive!* instead of *El Pueblo*. I want to thank you for your continued loyal support and positive responses to this change.

However, recently RLACEI and LACERS have received numerous calls from confused retirees after receiving a LACERS Payroll

Deduction Card. As your president and having been involved with this change, let me try to clarify your concerns.

The All City Employee Benefit Service Association (ACEBSA) asked to increase our payment for *El Pueblo* for 2012. We were willing to negotiate this increase.

However, after numerous discussions and negotiations, we could not agree on an amount that would allow us to continue with our mission to protect our retirement and health benefits without a significant increase in dues to our members. Therefore, with sadness we had to end our 35-year partnership with ACEBSA.

In summary, the Los Angeles City Employees Association – the Club, with its *Alive!* publication, which you're reading now, keeps active employees and retirees updated on what's happening with City departments as well as informed with current gov-

## RLACEI

ernment issues affecting active and retired people. The Club also offers entertainment discounts.

Most importantly, this change allows RLACEI to continue with its mission – "To Preserve, Improve and to Protect our Retirement and Health Benefits." Our RLACEI members will continue to receive *Alive!* at no cost to you!

In conclusion, it is *important* to note that RLACEI is the only organization that represents you, the retiree, and has the resources to successfully continue with their mission.

On a social note, during our holiday party, to be held at noon at the Friendship Auditorium Dec. 6, our newly elected Directors will be taking their oath. Come and enjoy great music, a great lunch of BBQ ribs and chicken with all the fixings (no sandwiches) prepared by Chris & Pitts, and of course plenty of raffle prizes. See you there!



Ken Spiker

RLACEI  
Legislative Update  
by Ken Spiker

The Los Angeles City Council and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in recent years have been taking financial actions to reduce the budget deficit and to avoid bankruptcy.

Actions taken include eliminating and consolidating Departments, massive layoffs, hiring freezes, and eliminating more than 5,000 positions. The City has also required active employees to increase their retirement contribution from 6 percent to 11

percent, and sworn employees from 9 percent to 11 percent. Several tax proposals, including a half-cent sales tax increase, are being considered for the March election.

The mayor, with the assistance of the Chief Administrative Officer, is studying ways to reduce the automatic increases in retiree's benefits. Healthcare subsidies and cost of living adjustments are governed by ordinances and thus subject to change. The question remains: Are these benefits vested?

Your RLACEI Association has for many years set aside a portion

of members' dues in a special emergency fund anticipating that this benefit battle would come sooner or later. The fund will help us fight any effort to reduce our benefits by the City or the courts.

We urge those retirees who are not members of RLACEI to join us now to enjoy the many benefits.

We especially need your participation and support more so now, to protect and preserve current retirement benefits. Please contact our membership chair Helen Salgado at (800) 678-4145 x713 to learn how to become a member. The dues are only \$2.

## New Year to Bring Pension Concerns

RLACEI Legal and Policy Issues  
by Michael R. Wilkinson



Michael R. Wilkinson

How secure is my pension? This is a question that other RLACEI directors and me get asked regularly, and the answer for LACERS members is that it is very secure. The LACERS investments are strong and the City is legally obligated to make contribution payments to keep it strong in the future.

However, for cities in bankruptcy there has always been a question in the minds of some that bankruptcy might be way for a municipality to shed at least some of its obligations to a public pension plan. When the question has been asked by LACERS to its outside lawyers who are experts in this area, the answer has

always been *no!* The City must make the required contribution payments even if the City is in a Chapter 9 municipal bankruptcy.

There have been no recent examples of cities or counties wanting to test the law in this area, probably viewing it as settled and not worth the fight. The cities of Vallejo and Stockton continued to make their required contributions, as did the Orange County during its bankruptcies. However, the cities of San Bernardino and Compton have stopped making the full contribution payments to CalPERS, which provides pensions to the city employees.

CalPERS has sued, and the courts will now consider whether to follow the case law and constitutional protection for the pension plans or whether a fiscal emergency argument might sway judges to create new case

law. Most pension law experts come down on the side of preserving the obligation of the city to make the required payments, but the *Orange County Register* quoted one lawyer arguing, "... You can't pay if you don't have any money. In theory a judge can order cities to pay. But what happens after that? I don't know."

At least one law professor from the University of Minnesota Law School believes that the current legal protections for pension benefits are not guaranteed lifetime contracts, but those arguments have not been adopted by any court in the United States.

*Note: Mike Wilkinson is an RLACEI Director and a retired Deputy City Attorney who will be writing occasional articles on legal and policy issues for retirees.*



# The Best Years



Hal and Evelyn.

## RETIREMENT HELPLINE

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA and LAFUCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer's extension is listed below.

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

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

- Mary Beetz Ext. 711
- Cliff Cannon Ext. 715
- Hal Danowitz Ext. 707
- Americo Garza Ext. 710
- Edward Harding Ext. 703
- Michael Karsch Ext. 704
- Gary Mattingly Ext. 702
- Phillip Orland Ext. 709
- Neil Ricci Ext. 714
- Helen Salgado (membership) Ext. 713
- Ken Spiker Ext. 705
- Tom Stemnock Ext. 708
- Michael Wilkinson Ext. 712

Questions: Ext. 0  
RSVP: Ext. 701

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

## RLACEI:

### Officers

Edward Harding: President  
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President  
Tom Stemnock: Second Vice President  
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

### Committee Chairpersons

Mary Beetz: Publicity  
Hal Danowitz: Finance  
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation  
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating  
Helen Salgado: Membership  
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative  
Tom Stemnock: Audit and Golf

### Directors

Mary Beetz  
Cliff Cannon  
Americo Garza  
Michael Karsch  
Gary Mattingly  
Phillip Orland  
Neil Ricci  
Helen Salgado  
Michael R. Wilkinson



2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

# Jurassic Park Meets the Ritz-Carlton

PART TWO

Hal and Co. enjoy a safari before starting a new cruise.

When we made the reservations for our Rome to Singapore cruise, detailed over ten issues of *Alive!* earlier this year, we also reserved a cruise to begin six months later. This second cruise sailed from Cape Town, South Africa, to London, up the west coast of Africa, sailing again on the *Ocean Princess*. Because of the uniqueness of this itinerary we were wait-listed for a mini-suite. Don and Myrna, our traveling cousins, traveled with us. We really didn't think about the two cruises being only six months apart, and it felt like we never unpacked.

The itinerary was as follows: Cape Town, South Africa; Lüderitz and Walvis Bay, Namibia; Cotonou, Benin; Lome, Togo; Dakar, Senegal; Mindelo, Cape Verde Islands; Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; Casablanca, Morocco; Cadiz, Spain; Lisbon, Portugal; Le Havre, France; and Dover, England.

As we pick up the story, Evelyn and I are in South Africa at Botlierskop, a safari lodge about 200 miles northeast of Cape Town. It is early May, and we are staying three nights at the lodge prior to boarding the *Ocean Princess* for our 28-day cruise from Cape Town to London.

That morning was our first game drive. We received a 5:30 a.m. wakeup call and were picked up at the boat dock at 6:45 a.m. Chris was our guide and there were three other couples with us. The vehicle was a diesel-powered four-wheel drive Land Rover. It was open with a roll bar and canvas top. The weather was quite cold, and we had hot water bottles and blankets.

At our first stop we saw blue wildebeest and two white rhinoceros. So far the difference from our last safari was the closeness of the animals. We continued our drive with a Cape Mountain zebra sighting and then some impalas and kudu antelopes. We stopped for coffee, where we watched a family of giraffes. The game viewing on this safari was much more intimate. We got closer, and because the animals were used to seeing humans and vehicles, they didn't take much notice. We got back to the lodge around 9:30 a.m. for breakfast. I was impressed with the food, too. Everything was made to order, and they had a full selection of cold meats and cheeses with various fruits, and the coffee was hot.

At 11 a.m. we drove to the area where they kept three lions, a young male and two mature female sisters. Those lions were raised by humans, so they couldn't be reintroduced back into the wild. The reserve won't breed them and will care for them until they die. The current philosophy is that lions that cannot survive in the wild should not be allowed to reproduce. They hope that, over time, this will reduce the number of captive lions. Too many start as pets before the owner discovers the animal is too much to handle or too expensive to raise, and the animal winds up in a reserve. We learned that hand-raised lions are the most dangerous and unpredictable.

Our last activity that morning was a ride on the river. There was not much to see but a few birds. Then later in the afternoon we would go on another game drive.

With all the activities happening and the big breakfast, we skipped lunch.

The afternoon's game drive took a different route than the morning one, and we had a new guide named Richard. We saw black impalas, Cape Mountain zebra, ostrich, eland, and a whole family of giraffes, kudu, nyala antelope,



waterbuck, vervet monkeys and white rhinoceros.

At the end we stopped to have sundowners with the reserve's three elephants. The sundowners were great, but the elephants were shy and would not come very close to us. A sundowner is the tradition of stopping while on a game drive in the late afternoon when the sun is going down and having cocktails and small snacks in the bush with the animals. The guide brings out a picnic basket, and amazing things appear. We enjoyed an adult beverage of our choice and watched the animals as the sun set.

On the way to dinner we saw four rhinos – the two sisters we had seen before, and a mother and child.

At dinner we had warthog steak, ostrich steak and crocodile tail. The tail wasn't great like the alligator we had here before, but the two others were very good. It was an excellent meal. The lodge did everything it could to accommodate our needs and make our experience the best possible.

The weather had been better than we hoped, with no rain and patchy sunshine. It was cold in the morning, but by early afternoon it warmed up enough to wear shirtsleeves. We had the heat on in our tent and it was very comfortable.

The next day was our last full day at the lodge. We had an early wakeup call for the morning game drive, during which we played with three lion cubs. Evelyn then took a two-hour horseback game drive while I relaxed. Our tent had a front patio with chairs and a beautiful view of the small river that ran right in front. It was very peaceful and relaxing.

We left the heater overnight, and we both slept better. We were both asleep when we got the 5:30 a.m. wakeup call. We met Chris, our guide, at 6:45 a.m., and we were the only people on the drive. He took us to an area we had not



Evelyn on horseback.



## RETIREES:

## For Retired Club Members

# Enjoy These Great Member Benefits

As a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, you'll enjoy these amazing benefits:



## City Employees Club of Los Angeles

*Celebrating the Lives of City Employees*

### Full Club Membership

Through May 2013, full Club Membership\*, including:

- **The cheapest tickets in the City—UP TO 70% OFF**
- Great Club apparel and gifts
- Group-rated insurance products for purchase
- Club-exclusive events
- E-mail notices about upcoming events and promotions
- Access to Club Website
- And much more!

\* After May 2013, members must join the Club and pay the regular (reduced) rate for City Retirees to retain Club benefits.

### The *Alive!* Newspaper

Your own personal edition of *Alive!*, delivered to you each month. (Sent to all RLACEI members in good standing). Stay connected to RLACEI, and to all your Retired City friends, read about exciting City projects, take full advantage of free *Alive!* classifieds, and much more.

### For more information, contact the Club:

- [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)
- [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)
- (800) 464-0452

been to before looking for the Cape buffalo, which we never found. We went off the trail to look for the giraffes, and we stopped to have our morning coffee break watching them. Chris was very knowledgeable about the flora and birds as well as the animals. He is the third generation of a family that's been involved in animal conservation and preservation, and his family owned a game preserve nearby. We returned to the lodge in time for breakfast and then went to the lion area again. After lunch played with the lion cubs before Evelyn took another two-hour horseback tour.

There were three lion cubs, a male and two females – three weeks old and one six weeks old. They were part of an attraction called "Walk with the Lions." The lion trainer's family had raised and trained lions for four generations. We were able to "play" with them for an hour. Evelyn became mother to the three-week-old female. They were very cute, but we had to remember that they would grow to 700 pounds and always be dangerous. We learned that the lions that do not remain in the wild for whatever reason and are raised by humans and are considered the most dangerous and can never be returned to the wild. The trainer told us how they came to have these three cubs and how they and the other lions they held in captivity would never be allowed to reproduce. The hope is that, in time, there would no longer be any captive or hand-raised lions, only those in the wild.

While waiting for Evelyn to return from her horseback ride, I just relaxed on the porch. I dozed off and awakened to two rhinos just across the river.

*The ride was great. Going along were a young woman from Malaysia, the guide, and me. The horses were very responsive. I have to say the release I had to sign was very lengthy, and the riding helmet wasn't the most attractive, but we had a great time. We saw some small animals including a rock hyrax, a large tortoise and other small*

*mammals that were easily missed from the vehicles. The highlight was tracking an injured blue wildebeest that we tracked into the brush. After finding the wildebeest, our guide called the lodge and a group was sent up to assess the situation. We believed the animal was injured in the flank by another male while sparring in preparation for future fights. After two hours I was covered in trail dust; I still hadn't seen a Cape buffalo, and I was ready for the raft back to our tent. – Evelyn*

Evelyn would like to get me on a horse but it is not my thing.

The lodge was full for the weekend – there were 15 "tents" – and the dining room was full, too. We sampled wildebeest, blesbock, and koro lamb chops, along with the other courses and accompaniments. We enjoyed tasting the different animals. Prices here were very reasonable; my Jack Daniel's on the rocks was 20 rand, about \$2.50, and Evelyn had a local liquor called Amarula for 10 rand, about \$1.25. Amarula is like the national liquor of South Africa. It is made from the fruit of the amarula tree and is a little like a cross between Harvey's Bristol Cream and a chocolate liquor. We first had the drink on our previous African trip, and now Amarula is available in the United States.

The next day we drive to Cape Town. We got up at 6:30 a.m. After breakfast we met our driver, Basil. Cape Town is 240 miles southwest of George, and the drive can take about five hours, depending on the amount of roadwork going on. The road started out like a freeway that was divided in the middle with two lanes on each side; then it became a three-lane road, and then two lanes until we reached Cape Town.

Before we left, Evelyn stopped at the gift shop. In general the prices in South Africa were a little better than in the United States, especially the products made in South Africa because the exchange rate was still favorable.



Evelyn with a lion cub.



V & A Harbor Waterfront opened in 1999.

We checked in and then cleaned up from the ride. Myrna and Don arrived in the early morning, and we had agreed to meet for dinner. We called them about 4 p.m., and we took the hotel shuttle to the Victoria and Alfred Harbor Waterfront for dinner. We shopped a couple of restaurants and picked one that featured South African food. I had had so much meat over the past three days that I chose chicken, and so did Evelyn. With wine, beer and tip, the check totaled 900 rand, about \$115 for the four of us. One of the new sights at the V&A is a "flyer," a large Ferris wheel that takes you up for a view of the harbor, like the ones in London and Singapore.

Don and Myrna were still suffering from jet lag, so we returned to the hotel with a plan to meet in the morning for breakfast and then to visit Table Mountain before boarding the ship. The hotel gave us a late checkout until 2 p.m., which allowed us to leave our bags in our room until we left for the ship.

Next month we will complete our stay in Cape Town and begin our cruise.

Overall I would say our experience at Botlierskop was quite positive. We could have paid less if we had spent more time booking on the Internet. We booked through Africa Travel (an American travel company), and we met a couple at the lodge that told us that we could have booked using a South African travel agent and saved a lot of money. She gave us a name and promised to send us additional information. The experience, though not entirely a "safari" experience, was more like Jurassic Park meets the Ritz-Carlton. The animals were free to roam, except for the predators.

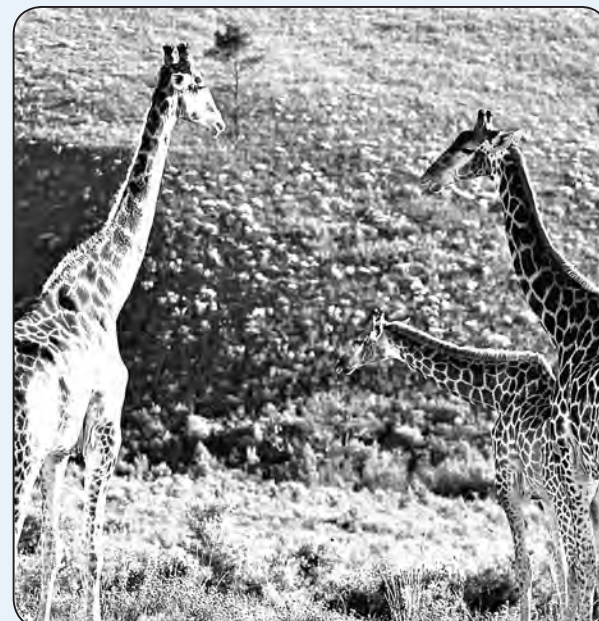
We then hit the road. We made one bathroom stop and arrived at the Westin Hotel in Cape Town at about 1:30 p.m. The ride took just under five hours. The Westin is near the V&A harbor in the Convention Center area. When we were here in 2001, only some of this area was developed. The



A zebra.



A rhino up close.



A family of giraffe.



## For Retired Club Members

### LACERS Update



By Mary Beetz, RLACEI Publicity Chair

#### ERRP Defrayals of Monthly Medical Premium Deductions End January 2013

If you currently receive a defrayal of your monthly medical premium deduction as a result of LACERS' participation in the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP), your defrayal ends January 2013. Beginning February 2013, the full amount of your monthly medical premium deduction will be subtracted from your monthly retirement allowance. To find the full amount of your monthly medical

premium deduction, visit the Retired Members homepage at [www.lacers.org/retired](http://www.lacers.org/retired) and calculate your monthly deduction by clicking the *I Want to Calculate My 2013 Medical Subsidy* link or view the 2013 Health Benefits Guide. If you have further questions, contact LACERS at 800-779-8328.

#### Open Enrollment Ends and Retiree Health Plan Changes Become Effective January 1, 2013

LACERS' Open Enrollment period ended November 15 and health plan changes can no longer be made for the 2013 calendar year. Unless there is a qualifying event, the next

opportunity to make changes to your LACERS health plan will be during the next Open Enrollment period, which begins October 15, 2013. For more information about qualifying events, contact LACERS or visit [www.lacers.org/retired](http://www.lacers.org/retired) and view the 2013 Health Benefits Guide (pages 5-6).

**Remember:** Any health plan changes you made during the Open Enrollment period become effective January 1, 2013 and your first monthly health plan premium deduction for 2013 will begin with your December 2012 LACERS retirement allowance.

## LIFE AFTER RETIREMENT

If you have:

- News about yourself, family or other retirees that you would like to share with our readers, send it and we will publish it.
- If you would like to contact a former city employee that you met or worked with, send your contact information and we will publish it so they can contact you.
- Note: Due to our Confidential Policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.
- Mail information to Mary Beetz at 137 Westmont Drive, Alhambra, CA 91801 or Email [mbeetz4841@aol.com](mailto:mbeetz4841@aol.com)

## RLACEI

### PENSION ISSUES

## Riordan Pension Proposal Has 'Flaws,' Wasn't Studied



By Michael Perez, Retired General Manager, Fire and Police Pensions

"Who pushed me?"

If you are an active or retired City employee of any of the three retirement systems, LACERS, LARFPA or the DWP Retirees Association, you are getting pushed, and pushed hard, by former mayor Richard Riordan.

He has developed a pension initiative that targets new employees and all current employees. He wants to get rid of pensions for new employees and force current employees, all of them, to make significant additional pension contributions, over and above what you now make or recently had increased. If he is successful getting this initiative passed, my fellow retirees, do you think he will look at us next?

The petition title and language necessary to put this initiative on the May 2013 ballot have been approved by the City Attorney, and Riordan plans to get the necessary signatures for the May ballot.

However, Riordan's plan has many flaws that could obliterate "claimed" savings and actually increase costs to the City, create another layer of bureaucracy, and embroil the City in lawsuits trying to implement changes. An example of one of its flaws is making current employees pay more into the pension system – decades of case law do not support this happening. But get this – he hasn't had his plan studied by pension professionals to determine what the savings will be. *What?*

This last point is hard to believe but consistent with Riordan's term as mayor. As

he left office he pushed for pension changes that enhanced the fire and police pension plan, and at the same time used pension surpluses to create a pension holiday so that the City didn't pay normal pension contributions for several years. The additional cost of the pension changes, as well as underfunding the plans for years all supported by Riordan (in the June 2001 Amendment A to the City Charter), helped put us in the situation the City finds itself in. Looking at his activity back then, Riordan didn't properly study the long-term impact of his plan. In 2001, the Fire and Police System was *overfunded!* His actions helped change that system to its current underfunded status.

It's happening again – he has an idea to help, but has not properly studied the impact of his pension initiative. If he did, he would have had a certified actuary and legal counsel with public pension experience study the proposal to ensure it does what he says it will do – save money. He now argues, don't look at what Dick Riordan did in 2001, look at the current situation and the need to address it. Who is he kidding? He screwed up in the past by not properly studying major pension changes and is doing it again.

I encourage you to become familiar with these issues. When asked to sign the petition, don't sign it, and communicate with L.A. City voters on what is really going on with this issue. The Police Protective League has more information at [http://lapd.com/blog/dine\\_and\\_dash/](http://lapd.com/blog/dine_and_dash/)

I intend to update you on this topic in future issues of *Alive!* Please let me know what you think at [Smartpensionreform@google.com](mailto:Smartpensionreform@google.com)

## RETIREES HOLIDAY PARTIES IN DECEMBER

Don't forget to attend a retiree party this holiday season!

**RLACEI:** The RLACEI's annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers event is scheduled for noon Thursday, Dec. 6 at the Friendship Auditorium, 3201

Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. There will be a light lunch (sandwiches, salad and drinks), entertainment and valuable door prizes. You must make reservations at least a week ahead: (800) 678-4145, x701. Guests welcome. Call one of the officers on the Retirees Helplines. Free taxi service can take you from the parking lot to the lodge.

**LARFPA:** For Retired Fire and Police, your Christmas party is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 9, at 12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. Contact LARFPA for more information.

And...

- 👉 **Fire Relief Association Open House:**  
Dec. 1, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.,  
815 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, 90004
- 👉 **Police Relief Association and Police Protective League:**  
Dec. 5, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.,  
1308 W. Eighth St., Los Angeles, 90017
- 👉 **United Firefighters of L.A. Open House:**  
Dec. 7, 4 – 9 p.m.,  
1571 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, 90026
- 👉 **Police Protective League Open House:**  
Dec. 4, 4 – 9 p.m.,  
Union Depot, 800 Alameda St., Los Angeles, 90012

## Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Aceves, Paul	-	DWP	-	Hengen, Judith A.	Airport Guide II	Airports	4	Reina, Phillip	-	DWP	-
Baron, Milus	-	DWP	-	Hooper, Lloyd	-	DWP	-	Robeniol, Rafael B.	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	22
Bell, William L.	Was. Treat. Mch. II	PW/Sanitation	28	Jazyk, Marie	-	DWP	-	Rodgers, John S.	Painter II	Airports	25
Booker, Samuel	Security Officer	LAPD	23	Jimenez, Benjamin	-	DWP	-	Rumsey, Steven	Clerk Typist	Finance	20
Brown, Charles	Council Aide III	City Council	7	Joe, Richard Dee	Elec. Engr. Ass. IV	Harbor	37	Salcido, Ralph	-	DWP	-
Castillo, Gilbert	-	DWP	-	Jones, Vanessa	-	DWP	-	Serwaa, Yendi	Trans. Pla. Assoc. II	Transportation	21
Caulfield, Monica	Librarian III	Library	15	Lee Ray, Gloria	-	DWP	-	Shea, Kevin	Fing. Iden. Exp. III	LAPD	21
Caverhill, Kenneth	-	DWP	-	Ling, Dolly	Secretary	Airports	10	Sioson, Redentor	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	22
Corley, Shirley J.	Sr. Comm. Opr. II	Transportation	26	Macias, Katherine	-	DWP	-	Stith, Thomas A.	Clerk Typist	Transportation	20
Crawford, David	-	DWP	-	Masters, Lee C.	Sr. Pol. Serv. Rep. II	LAPD	23	Strayhand, Deborah	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	20
Crompton, Thomas	Back. Inve. III	Personnel	7	Medellin, Mary E.	Sr. Clerk Typist	Airports	23	Thompkins, Curtis A.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	28
Cruz, Melita	-	DWP	-	Mohammad, Farooq	-	DWP	-	Tolliffe, Claire I.	Mana. Analyst II	Public Works	27
Eskridge, Patricia A.	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	34	Nerlinger, Jonathan	Back. Invest. Mgr.	Personnel	10	Toundsler, Lillian V.	Sr. Custodian II	Airports	22
Gilson, Charles	Crossing Guard	Transportation	3	Olsen, Kristine M.	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	25	Tran, Chat	-	DWP	-
Gipson, Johnny	Cement Fin. Worker	Public Works	17	Pleasant, Dvosha G.	Cust. Supervisor	Airports	22	Wallace, Joy	-	DWP	-
Gnanapragasam, W.	Delivery Driver II	Rec and Parks	1	Potts, Ernest	-	DWP	-	Welshans, Richard L.	Hvy Duty Truck Op.	Public Works	29
Goss, Donna L.	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	23	Rhynes, Larry W.	Wast. Coll. Wor. II	Public Works	23	Williams, Isaac L.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	20
Hanson, Arthur	Sr. Mech. Rep. II	General Services	35	Ramirez, George	-	DWP	-	Williams, Jimmy R.	Rec. Facility Director	Rec and Parks	35





Michael Karsch

**RLACEI  
Legislative Report  
by Michael Karsch**

**Ratings of Pension Funds**  
In early October, Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) reported in its review of 32 California cities a downgrade of nine pension bonds. While the City of Los Angeles came out in pretty good shape in contrast to other, much smaller cities, it is worth a closer look at the problems in California for a better understanding of where all of us stand. In fact, as noted by the City Administrative Officer in a mid-October report to the Mayor and Council, other cities are facing a downgrade in ratings by Moody's, but LA's general obligation bonds (GO), which are tied to the City's property tax, are likely to be upgraded by Moody's. On the negative side, the City also has Judgment Obligation bonds (JO), which have been downgraded by Moody's. A GO bond is secured by the property tax, but a JO bond (and other debt instruments) is secured by the general fund, which means that, of all of

the City's revenue sources, JO bonds are a slightly less reliable revenue source since the property tax secures the GO bonds first.

What are the problems affecting the other California cities? For starters, the general impact of the recession on local taxes, such as the sales tax, hotel tax, and business tax, have impacted many city treasuries adversely. Some areas of the state have suffered more than others from foreclosures, which mean falling property tax revenue. Moody's also points out that California has constitutional restraints on tax-raising abilities: Prop. 13 limits property taxes to no more than 1 percent of full assessed value, and Prop. 218 forces a city to get voter approval of any increase in any tax, fee or charge for general operating purposes. In addition, some cities, Stockton being one, have exposed themselves to failing enterprises, including a convention center, sports arena or other special project. Some cities have bonded their pension obligations over and over again, thus building up an insurmountable deficit.

The Reuters news service reported in mid-October that the nation's 100 largest

public pension funds have about \$1.2 trillion of unfunded liabilities and a median funding level of 75.1 percent. (The City of LA's pension funds reportedly have a funding level of 73 percent, according to City Watch.) The actuarial firm that Reuters reviewed, Milliman, concluded that this reporting was "good news." This meant that pension funds are accurately reporting funding shortfalls, and that the conclusions are not significantly different from other, earlier surveys of public pension debts.

Bloomberg news reported on a Boston College professor's book on *State and Local Pensions: What Now?* The book reviews the funding levels of most public pensions, some (40 percent) of which are in good shape (80 percent funding ratio of assets to liabilities and higher), and some (12 percent) of which are have severe funding problems, with assets of less than 60 percent of projected liabilities. The writer argues that the worst-funded plans are not being overly generous in their benefits, but they are using a funding method that is "less stringent than those used by other plans."

**Thought  
For the Day**

*December  
Birthday Wish*

This brings  
a wish for all  
The best  
that can bring  
Today, tomorrow and  
Throughout the year

When you blow the  
Glowing candles  
On your cake  
The wish you make  
Will soon be come true



Lee Kebler

**New Year to Bring  
Pension Concerns**

**By Lee Kebler,  
LARFPA Director**

We've weathered the national election and hoped to relax a little while looking forward to the New Year, but there are two large pitfalls waiting for us. First, there is former mayor Richard Riordan's pension proposal to change the pensions for all newly hired City employees from a defined benefit pension to a defined contribution pension (401k). Just a few of the changes his plan would bring are: require all employees (civilians, sworn personnel and Water and Power) to contribute one half of pension costs; provide health subsidies for members only (no spouses or family members); increased retirement ages; and COLA increases tied to investments, not salary increases.

Next, current Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa sent a letter on the fiscal

status of the City to the Council and all City Department heads, reporting on how well the City has done in overcoming the deficit but stating there was still a shortfall and that more reductions in budgets were needed. He recommended 13 areas for the City Administrative Officer to work on reducing to costs to bring the deficit down. I'm only going to mention one - the recommendation to reduce retiree benefits. This would affect our COLA and our health subsidies. This is what we are looking at to start the New Year.

I'm hoping to see you at our general meeting Dec. 5 at Grace E. Simons Lodge and/or at our Christmas party at the Sportsman's Lodge Dec. 9. For more information, call our office at (888) 288-5073.


**Christmas Party Schedule**

The Christmas season is here, and

there will be celebrations sponsored by our employee organizations. They are listed below for your information.


- Fire Relief Association Open House: Dec. 1, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., 815 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, 90004.
- Police Relief Association and Police Protective League: Dec. 5, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., 1308 W. Eighth St., Los Angeles 90017.
- United Firefighters of L.A. Open House: Dec. 7, 4 - 9 p.m., 1571 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, 90026.
- Retired Fire and Police Assn. Christmas Luncheon: Dec. 9, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sportsman's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City, 91604.
- Police Protective League Open House: Dec. 4, 4 - 9 p.m., Union Depot, 800 Alameda St., Los Angeles, 90012.

**LARFPA**



# CLUB CRUISE

## AUGUST 17, 2013



### 14-DAY CRUISE

#### FJORDS, HIGHLANDS AND IRELAND

The City Employees Club brings you another Member Exclusive event. Set sail aboard Holland America's *ms Rotterdam* as it embarks off Rotterdam, Netherlands on a 14-day cruise across Northern Europe. Enjoy some of the most beautiful and breathtaking landscapes on this amazing Club cruise special.

Room (Categories)	Price Per Person	
	Reg Rates from	Club Rates from
Inside Room (L)	\$2,579	\$2,399
Ocean View (FF)	\$2,899	\$2,499
Lanai Stateroom (CA)	\$3,799	\$3,699
Verandah Suite (BB)	\$4,999	\$4,999



**Club Members  
Get \$500  
Shipboard Credit  
by Booking Early!**

*(Must make a deposit before December 31, 2012 to get your \$500 credit)*

**Payroll deduction for this cruise is now available to all active City and DWP employees. Contact Kristy Adler at (888) 652-6400 x 101 for more information.**

**For more information on this cruise, please contact our Club Travel Expert**

Kristy Adler  
Club Travel Expert  
CRUISE and RESORT, Inc.  
kadler@cruiseandresort.com  
Tel. - (888) 652-6400, ext. 101



**For Retired Club Members**



# Retirees AROUND THE WORLD



**1 Panama Canal**

*"We traveled through the Panama Canal Oct. 19 aboard the Coral Princess. In the photo are Donna Heinz and I. It was our first time through, and we had a great time... especially with the Alive! along."*

**- Fred Alcantar Jr., Airports, Retired**

**2 Hawaii**

**Retiree Paul Hernandez** celebrates his birthday on the Prince Course at Princeville, Kauai, Hawaii.

**Paul** celebrates his birthday with his lovely wife, Lydia.

**Take the Club with you, wherever you go!**

Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: [talk-back@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talk-back@cityemployeesclub.com)

**Sending Digital Photos:**

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

**3 Mediterranean Sea**

"Well I finally did it. I took the missus for a Mediterranean cruise and remembered, most of the time, to have a copy of *Alive!* with me. I love being retired!

Here's a photograph of my wife trying to hold a copy of *Alive!* in the normally dry but now flooded Piazza San Marco (St. Mark's Square, Venice), with pigeons giving her a bad time."

**- George Cormany**

**4 Panama Canal Cruise**

**Letty Yapana, Retired, DWP**, recently returned from a 10-day Panama Canal cruise. "It was indeed a marvelous wonder of the modern world," she reports.

*"In Aruba, taken showing a natural bridge that collapsed in 2005. Natural rocks and coral."*



THIS MONTH AT THE



# Griffith Observatory

Dec. 22:

## Public Star Party

Free public star parties are held monthly with the assistance of the Los Angeles Astronomical Society and the Los Angeles Sidewalk Astronomers at the Griffith Observatory. They are a chance for the whole family to look at the sun, moon, visible planets, and other objects, to try out a variety of telescopes, and to talk to knowledgeable amateur astronomers about the sky and their equipment.

Lines for each telescope and all viewing must be completed by 9:45 p.m.

**TIME: 2 – 9:45 PM**  
**COST: Free!**

Information:  
[www.griffithobservatory.org/pstarparties.html](http://www.griffithobservatory.org/pstarparties.html)

Support the Griffith Observatory!

Consider joining the Friends of the Observatory (FOTO)

(213) 473-0879

[www.friendsoftheobservatory.com](http://www.friendsoftheobservatory.com)

City Owned. City Run. City Proud.



A celebration.



Front row, from left: Pamela Miller, Club Member; Lynn Shoda; Vincent Mossiah; Wanda Barnett, Club Member; Beatrice Kiarie; Monica Steele; Angela Ruiz, Club Member; Sung Shin Yi; and Keny Flores, Club Member. Back row: Jacqueline McCarter, Club Member; Gregory Bush, Club Member; Vik Chatterjee; Larry Poole, Club Member; and Claudette Wicker.

DWP

## Never Give Up the Fight



Enjoying the day.



Renetta Glover and Gregory Bush, Club Member.



From left: Roberto Ruiz, Club Member; Wanda Barnett, Club Member; and Rewanda Mason.



From left: Wanda Dawson, Club Member; and Kim Fogg, Club Member.



From left: Pamela Miller, Club Member; Lynn Shoda; Linda Hinojos; and Esther Perea, Club Member.



From left: Robin Haynes, Club Member; and Kimberly Smith, Club Member.



Front row, from left: Debra Romero, Club Member; Donna Anderson; Laura Lare-Hernandez; and Cynthia Jaquez, Club Member. Back: Joseph Regala; Carol Hopper; Mike Carroll; Ana Sanchez, Club Member; and Ronald Huett.

### DWP event boosts awareness of the fight against breast cancer.



Story by Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor and Wanda Barnett; Photos by Gedina Bergstrom and Gregory Bush, Club Member

The DWP's Customer Contact Center (CCC) and Revenue Recovery Group (RRG) held their third annual breast cancer awareness celebration on the John Ferraro Building (JFB) Patio. The event was held Oct. 25.

Wanda Barnett, DWP Manager, Club Member, said that the event was a huge success because of the participation of the employees. This year's theme was "Change for a Change." When we change our attitudes, we increase our awareness. When we increase our awareness, we become part of the change. The employees were also encouraged to drop their change in a pink piggy bank during the weeks leading up to the event.

Male and female employees showed their support by wearing pink or breast cancer apparel. They enjoyed a free lunch on the patio surrounded by pink balloons and featuring music provided by Martin Santillan, a CCC employee. This year's event was especially memorable because there was a short awareness program, during which a number of CCC employees shared how their lives had been impacted by breast cancer. This celebration is for them, and our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, and friends. Funds raised were to be sent to the Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation.

Wanda Barnett said that the CCC and RRG have numerous celebrations throughout the year, but the breast cancer awareness celebration is her favorite. She said, "It is an opportunity for women and men to come together in a festive environment to promote awareness and celebrate life – supporting the fighters, admiring the survivors, honoring the taken, and never, ever giving up hope."



From left: Patricia Lowry, Club Member; Beverly Thompson; Laura Lares-Hernandez; and Edith Pavia.



From left: Marlon Grandberry, Club Member; Cassandra Verkouteren, Club Member; and Eduardo Quezada Jr., Club Member.



Balloons from the party.



From left: Denise Busby, Club Member; Victoria Hightower; Sonia De La Cruz, Club Member; Krystle Pressler, Club Member; and Ruth Briones, Club Member.



Sabrena Saucer, Club Member.



Front row, from left: Doris Shelby, Club Member; Hans Delsin, Club Member; Wanda Lett, Club Member; Gretchen Klintworth; and Norma Vela. Back: Phyllis McDaniel, Club Member; and Louise Estes.



From left: George Magdaleno Club Member; Sergio Serratos, Club Member; and Leo Gurrola, Club Member.



From left: Sonia De La Cruz, Club Member; and Krystle Pressler, Club Member.



DJ Martin Santillan.



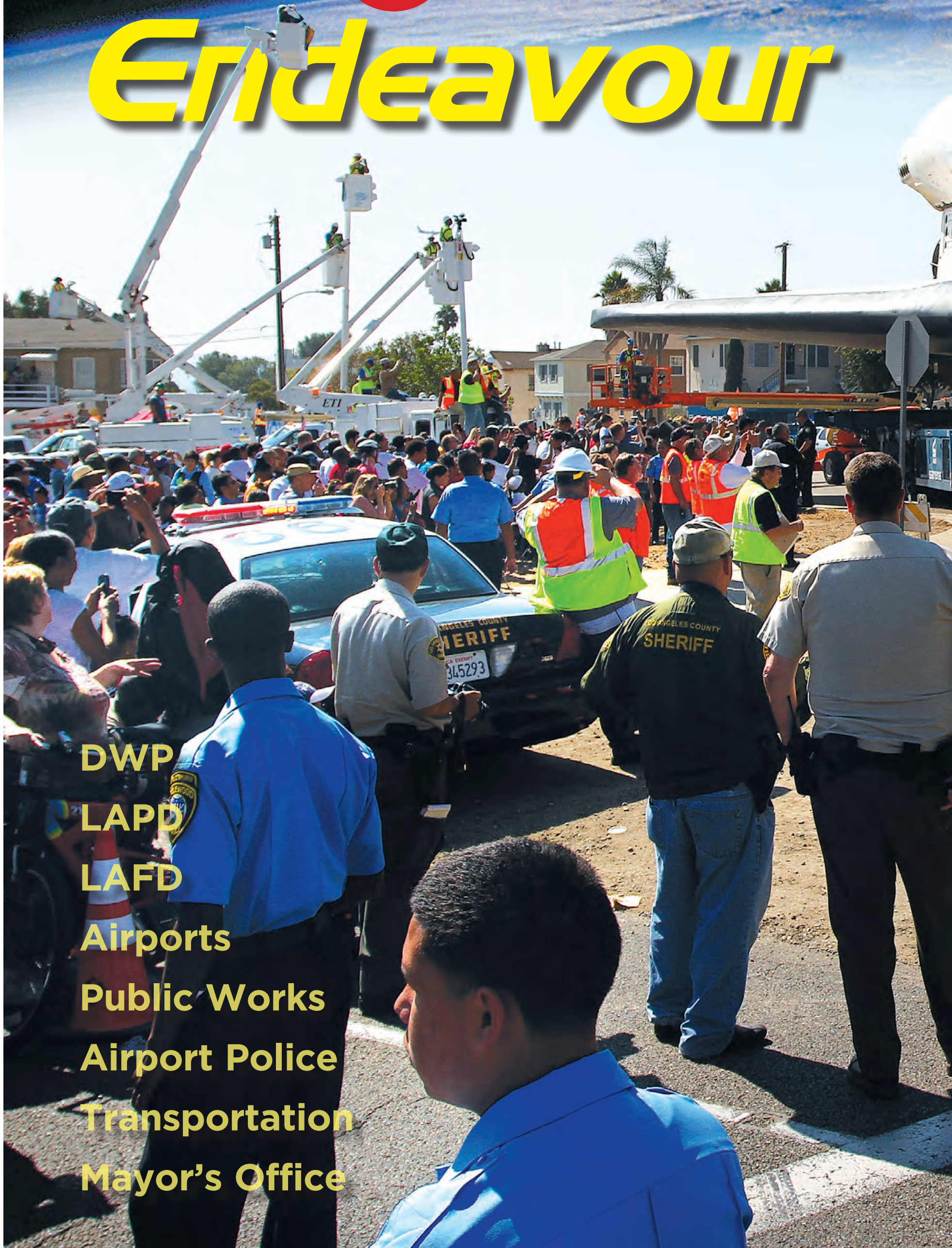
Lunch is served!



THE CITY

Mission **26**: One Great

*Enterprise*



DWP

LAPD

LAFD

Airports

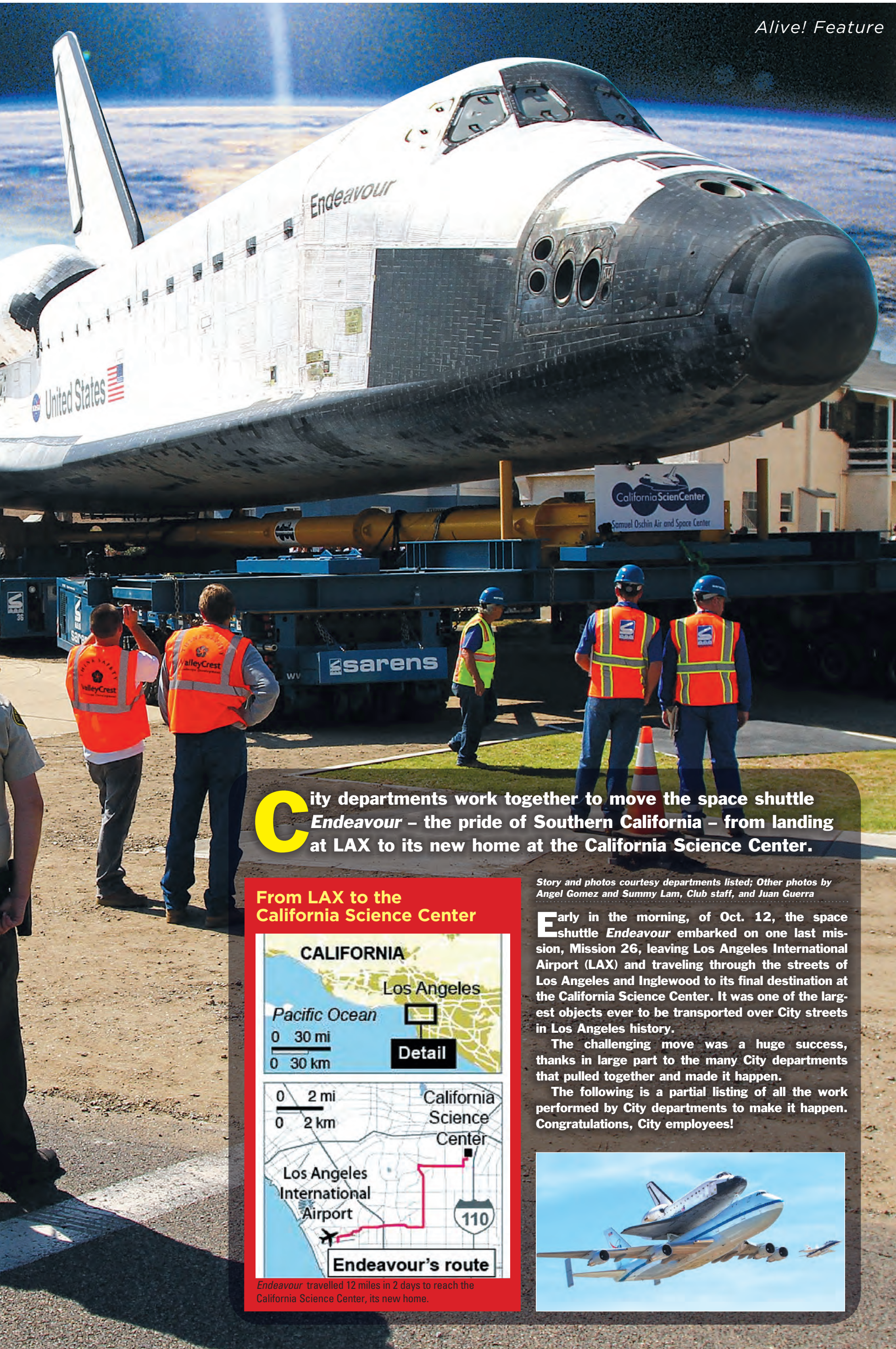
Public Works

Airport Police

Transportation

Mayor's Office





**C**ity departments work together to move the space shuttle *Endeavour* – the pride of Southern California – from landing at LAX to its new home at the California Science Center.

**From LAX to the California Science Center**



*Endeavour* travelled 12 miles in 2 days to reach the California Science Center, its new home.

*Story and photos courtesy departments listed; Other photos by Angel Gomez and Summy Lam, Club staff, and Juan Guerra*

**E**arly in the morning, of Oct. 12, the space shuttle *Endeavour* embarked on one last mission, Mission 26, leaving Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and traveling through the streets of Los Angeles and Inglewood to its final destination at the California Science Center. It was one of the largest objects ever to be transported over City streets in Los Angeles history.

The challenging move was a huge success, thanks in large part to the many City departments that pulled together and made it happen.

The following is a partial listing of all the work performed by City departments to make it happen. Congratulations, City employees!







## Mission 26: One Great Endeavour



Ted Galsim, Principal Construction Inspector, Public Works/Contract Administration.

## Public Works

Story by Richard Lee, Public Works; Photos courtesy Public Works

**P**ublic Works played a major role in Mission 26 – “The Big Endeavour” - in which the space shuttle *Endeavour* embarked upon its last mission, Mission 26. To make way, Public Works worked cooperatively with various agencies and the City of Inglewood on planning and coordinating a safe path to remove and re-install traffic signals, street lights, and other obstructions, as *Endeavour* traversed through communities.

With Public Works/Engineering leading every step of the way, the Bureaus of Street Lighting, Street Services, Sanitation and Contract Administration all played pivotal roles in working to mitigate concerns of the community, protect property, and infrastructure. The number one objective, of course, was to ensure the safety of everyone involved, including Los Angeles residents and the general public. Thanks to this hard work, the transportation of *Endeavour* was celebrated as a truly unique event in the City’s history.



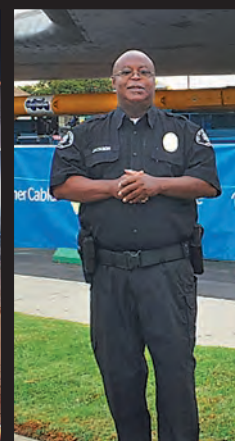
Brian Lindsey, Construction Inspector, Public Works/Contract Administration.



David Rivera, Sr. Street Services Investigator II, Public Works/Street Services.



A Public Works employee monitors the *Endeavour*'s progress.



Ron Jackson, Street Services Investigator, Public Works/Street Services.



Marcus Debose, Construction Inspector, Public Works/Contract Administration.



From left: Jose Almaguer Delgado and Feng Li.



Standing between the two trucks on the left is Manuel Anaya.

## Transportation

Information courtesy Jonathan Hui, Transportation; Photos courtesy Jose Almaguer Delgado, Transportation

### To make way for Endeavor:

- Transportation posted 1,010 temporary signs on streets throughout the route.
- Two overhead signs were removed.
- 179 permanent signposts with signs were removed.
- Transportation placed 105 Engineers and staff in the field, ATSAC Center, and Unified Command Post.
- 11 parking meters were removed.
- 223 permanent signs were removed from street lights.
- 1010 temporary signs were installed.
- 137 Traffic Officers were deployed to manage traffic.
- Transportation Engineers monitored signal timing at the ATSAC traffic control center during operational periods.
- All permanent fixtures were replaced after the shuttle passed by: signs, mast arms, signal standards, and parking meters. Temporary signs were removed after the event.
- 67 Traffic Signal Standards were removed.
- 20 other events Citywide were staffed by Traffic Officers during the shuttle movement weekend.
- 48 mast arms were removed.





# Airports/Airport Police



Airport Police Officers (from left) Justin Dabney, Club Member and Daniel Yu, Club Member, watch over the iconic aircraft as it sits in front of the United Airlines hangar. *Photo by Madeleine Flanagan.*



Monique Bell of Los Angeles World Airports' Project LIFToff signs a California Science Center commemorative banner. *Photo by Madeleine Flanagan.*



An Airport Police Officer directs traffic around LAX to ensure everything runs smoothly. *Photo by Madeleine Flanagan.*



Airport Police Motor Officer Raymond Woods, Club Member, helps ensure safety of the Endeavour. *Photo by Madeleine Flanagan.*

Story by Marshall Lowe, LAWA; Photos as indicated

Under the leadership of Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Deputy Executive Director for Facilities Management Michael Feldman, a team of LAWA personnel, including FMG engineers and technical staff under Assistant Chief Airports Engineer Glenn Ito, operations personnel under Airport Operations Chief Jeff Mort and Airport Police and security under Lt. Karen Schulz, met with representatives from NASA and the California Science Center and their contractors for almost 18 months to plan the arrival, stay and departure of the space shuttle *Endeavour* at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

The planning efforts intensified significantly in spring 2012 to build LAWA's event action plan to include security, operations, maintenance, public relations, United Airlines, volunteers, communications, with virtually every division playing a part in ensuring the success of the shuttle's safe homecoming to Los Angeles.

A success in planning and execution was accomplished by a multidisciplinary team meeting the primary objectives: maintain a safe and secure operating environment, minimize the impact on airport operations and passengers, return the airport to normal operations quickly and efficiently and minimize consumption of LAWA resources and associated costs.

LAWA personnel who played major roles – with their respective support staffs – to ensure the *Endeavour's* return to the Southland went off smoothly included:

### Unified Command Staff at LAX

The Incident Command staff consisted of a four-person team of joint commanders: Chief of Airport Operations Jeff Mort, Airport Police Capt. Tyrone Stallings, LAPD Capt. Raymond Maltez, and LAFD Asst. Chief Timothy Manning.

### Public Information

Managing Director Mary Grady and Nancy Castles, Media and Public Relations.

### Planning Section, Airport Police

CHIEF: Lt. Richard Hinkle. Situation Unit Leader: Officer Aletha Metcalf-Evans. RESOURCE UNIT LEADER: Officer Jackson Muchiri. And Documentation Unit Leader: Officer Rodney Markovich.

### Logistics Section

Asst. Chief Airports Engineer Glenn Ito and Maintenance Services Deputy Chiefs Edward Melara and Garry King.

### Operations Section

CHIEF: Airport Police Capt. Greg Staar. DEPUTY CHIEFS: Superintendent of Airport Operations Cary Buchanan and Airport Police Lt. Karen Schulz.

### Exterior Branch (Airport Police)

DIRECTOR: Airport Police Lt. Joaquin Mendez. APD STRIKE TEAM LEADERS: Sgts. Shane Kekilian, Shana Alexander and Edward Goodman and Safety Officer James Mateer.

### Interior Branch (Airport Police)

DIRECTOR: Lt. Michael Vaccareillo. DIVISION SUPERVISORS: Officer Keith Arnold and Sgt. Karla Ortiz.

### APD Strike Team

LEADERS: Sgts. Marlo Richardson and Floyd Johnson, and Officers Bill Adrian and Mechelle Thompson. TASK FORCE LEADER: Airport Operations Chief Paul Greiner.

### Special Operations Branch (Airport Police)

BRANCH DIRECTOR: Sgt. Robert Rios. K-9 TASK FORCE LEADERS: Group Supervisor Blair Lindsay and Officer Marlton Spurgeon. EMERGENCY SERVICES STRIKE TEAM LEADER: Officer Earl Shelton.

### Special Events

External Affairs Director Celine Cordero; Flight Path Director Shirley Hoffmann; Team LAWA coordinator Gaby Pacheco; LAX Customer Service Director Barbara Yamamoto; Project LIFToff coordinator Len Talan.

### Team LAWA Participants

To serve and be associated with the historical "Space Shuttle to the Streets" moment, employees joined Team LAWA to volunteer as informational ambassadors. Organized by Gaby Pacheco of LAX Community Relations, approximately 40 volunteers, including guests, worked the 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. shift at the Forum in Inglewood Oct. 13, when the *Endeavour* stopped there for a community event.

Team LAWA's volunteers included: Michelle Acquah and Donna Erie, Accounting; Ulisses Aguirre, Terminal Operations; Stella Belgarde, Facilities Planning; Monique Bell and Carolyn Nelson, Project LIFToff; Marla



Maintenance Services Incidental Crew members pause from their duties to meet pilot Tony Lombardi, center. Flanking Lombardi are (from left) Danato Campos, Charles Garner, James Miles, Dan Robinson and Tyrone LaFrance. *Photo by Nancy Castles.*

Bleavins and Jennifer Wong, Finance and Budget; Rosa Brice, Airport Development; Evelyn Brooks, IT Project Management; Karen Brown, Administration; Anita Cormier and Paula Miura, Facilities Engineering; Rose Cote and Clarence Espinosa, Business & Job Resources; Madeleine Flanagan, Michelle Irwin, Vicky Lit, Financial Reporting; Jacquelyn McMahan and Sharon Sauls, Airport Police; Ramon Olivares, Commercial Development; Jaqi Rascon and Scott Read, LAX Community Relations; and Genny Santiesteban, Maintenance Services.



Members of LAX's volunteer Team LAWA and friends who assisted the City of Inglewood during the *Endeavour's* stopover in that city. *Photo by Madeleine Flanagan.*



# DWP

Story and photo courtesy Joe Ramallo, DWP

DWP electrical crews successfully raised, removed or relocated power equipment from the route of space shuttle *Endeavour* in advance of its journey along the 12-mile route.

DWP, in coordination with other agencies and departments both in and outside the City, identified and adjusted 74 power poles to clear the way for the five-story-tall spacecraft as it moved through City streets. Some of the power poles date to the 1930s with heights of 55 feet. Some were replaced and raised to

85 feet to ensure that there was no contact with the slow-moving vessel, while others were relocated off the route completely. The pole raising and other realignments of utility lines and equipment were designed so that no power disruptions would occur.

"The utility structure that serves us was never designed to accommodate a vessel this large to move down thoroughfares," said Ronald O. Nichols, General Manager, DWP. "This was a once-in-a-generation opportunity and, helping to facilitate the *Endeavour's* move, it will be something that the DWP will look back at with pride."

Power reliability upgrades were a secondary, but important, element of the work DWP crews accomplished in switching out poles, generators and conductors.

"The *Endeavour's* move through DWP power territory allowed us a great opportunity to upgrade our power capabilities in several neighborhoods of Los Angeles. Our crews have achieved a remarkable feat with the complexity of this high-priority work," said Aram Benyamin, Sr. Assistant Manager, DWP Power System.





## Mission 26: One Great Endeavour

# The Club

Airports, LAPD, LAFD, Public Works, Mayor's Office, Transportation, DWP

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager, with additional information; Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager, and Summy Lam, Club Marketing Director

Below: Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing, and Arlene Herrero, Club Product Manager.



From left: LAFD Capt. Buzz Smith, 34 years of service, Station 96; LAFD Capt. Yo Gilkas, 26 years, MFCA; and Firefighter Mike Horst, 6 years, MFCA.



From left: LAPD Capt. Brian Johnson, 23 years of City service, Pacific; and LAPD Capt. Ray Maltez, 31 years, LAX FSD.



From left: Rodney Thompson, Chief of Operations, 12 years of City service; and Paul Greiner, Chief of Operations, 28 years, Club Member.



From left: John Salmassy, Coordinator, LAFD, 15 years of service; Michael Cunningham, Unit Commander, LAFD, 17 years; Don Tovar, Coordinator, LAFD, 17 years; and Carole Broder, Platoon Leader, LAFD, 6 years of service.



The miniature scale of the space shuttle as it moves.



From left: Sunny Patel, Engineer, 24 years of service, Public Works/Engineering; Nat Gale, Transportation Product Delivery, Mayor's Office, 3 years; Vince Jones, Deputy City Engineer, 25 years; and Mike Mullin, Sr. Policy Analyst, Mayor's Office, 23 years.



From the LAPD, from left: Sgt. John Valdez, Hollywood Station, 23 years of City service; Capt. Phil Fontanetta, CO, Emergency OPS, 33 years; and Lt. Jim Alvarez, South Bureau, 24 years, discuss space shuttle Endeavour's move.



Outside of LAPD's Command 3, from left: Capt. II Ray Maltez, Unified Incident Commander, LAPD, 31 years of City service; Capt. Greg Staar, Operations Chief, LAXPD, 27 years; Airport Police Capt. Tyrone Stallings, Incident Commander, 24 years, Club Member; LAFD Capt. David Perez, Planning Section Chief, 24 years; LAFD Battalion Chief Michael Bowman, Deputy Incident Commander, 35 years; Jeff Mort, Airside Manager, Incident Commander, Airports, 19 years, Club Member; Glenn Ito, Logistics Chief, Assistant Chief, Airports Engineer, 27 years, Club Member; and LAFD Chief Tim Manning, Unified Commander, 34 years.



From left: LAPD Capt. Rolando Solano, Liaison Officer, 23 years of service; and Inglewood PD Lt. Mike Marshall, 32 years of Inglewood service.



From the LAPD, from left: Officer III Joseph Stevenson, OWB, 6 years of City service; Officer III Jenny Escalante, Office of Operations, 10 years; Officer III Kimberly Dedmon, Office of Operations, 9 years; and Officer III Neil Wank, Office of Operations, 16 years.



From left: LAPD Capt. Ray Maltez, LAX FSD, 31 years of City service; LAPD Lt. Jiro Oka, Wilshire, 30 years; and LAPD Capt. Eric T. Davis, 31 years, CO, Wilshire.



LAPD Motor Officer Dean Schram, 26 years of City service, VTD.



From left: Eileen M. Decker, Deputy Mayor, Homeland Security and Public Safety, 3 years of City service; and Aram Sahakian, Transportation Engineer, Special Traffic Operations and Emergency Response, Transportation, 23 years.



From left: Jesus Rodriguez, Sr. Water Utility Worker, 13 years of City service, DWP, Club Member; and Eduardo Lopez, Operations Sup. Western District, DWP, 17 years.



From left: Mike Vasquez, Equipment Mechanic, DWP, 33 years of City service; and Roy Ortega, Water Utility Specialist, DWP, 25 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer II Pamela Anthony, 18 years of service, Hollywood Station, Club Member; Officer II Alejandro Fernandez, 8 years, Hollywood Station; Officer II Erik Barrera, 16 years, WLA; Officer II Ephraim Aramburo, 6 years, WLA; and Officer II German Caballero, 4 years, WLA.



*Alive! Feature*

Yvonne and LAPD Capt. II Ray Maltez, Unified Incident Commander, 31 years of service.



While the Club did not make any of Endeavour's route plans through City streets – we left that up to the professionals! – we were there to highlight and celebrate all the great work accomplished by City employees.

"Summy and I had the opportunity to ride along with Los Angeles Airport Police Officer Shawn Smith prior to the shuttle's arrival," explains Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager. "We certainly learned much about the unique aspects of aviation operations and the steps taken to ensure the passengers are safely able to travel to their destination. Officer Smith's knowledge and enthusiasm for his profession and commitment to excellence were simply exceptional. He truly went the extra mile to ensure our questions were answered."

*The Club thanks LAPD Capt. II Raymond L. Maltez, Airport Police Sgt. Harold Evans, Airport Police Officer Peter Trance, and Airport Police Officer Shawn Smith for their great assistance in producing this content.*



LAPD Motor Officers representing West Traffic (from left): David Benioff, "Chief's Favorite," 16 years of City service; Tai Y. Kingi, 17 years; Josh Sewell, 17 years; Paul Menchaca, 16 years; Anthony Stewart, 17 years; and Jason Newman, 14 years.



LAPD Motor Officer Laura Gertsen, 18 years of City service, VTD.



Capt. Keyes outside the LAX Fire Vehicle.



Airport Police Officer Ernesto Garcia, 9 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: LAPD Motor Officers John Moreno, 25 years of City service; Josh Sewell, 17 years; and Ken Van Hooser, 18 years.



From left: LAPD Motor Officer Vincent Stroway, 24 years of City service, West Traffic; Sgt. Jon Walker, 25 years; and Motor Officer John Dalbey, 25 years.



From left: LAPD Motor Sgt. Delgado, goes over some plans for the arrival of the shuttle with LAPD Officer III Howard Hsu, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, 10 years of City service.



From left: Denise Minor, Communications Info Operator, 4 years of City service, Club Member; Dawn Smith, Chief CO, 22 years of City service, Club Member and Kim Taylor, Sr. CO, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



LAPD Motor Officers from Valley Traffic, from left: Steve Rausch, 25 years of City service; Bob Quiroga, 22 years; and Phil Lebouef, 22 years.



It's a great vantage point for Airport Police Officer II Shawn Smith, Crime Scene Investigator, 12 years of City service, Club Member, as the shuttle makes its approach to the hangar.



In front of LAFD Command 2, from left: LAFD Capt. Steve Berkery, 27 years of City service; Airport Police Capt. Greg Staar, Operations Chief, 27 years; LAPD Capt. II Ray Maltez, Unified Incident Commander, 31 years; Airport Police Capt. Tyrone Stallings, Incident Commander, 24 years, Club Member; LAFD Capt. Ken Willahan, 26 years; LAFD Capt. David Perez, Planning Section Chief, 24 years; Greg Porter, Deputy Plan Section Chief, 32 years; John Drake, Operations Section Chief, 27 years; LAFD Chief Tim Manning, Unified Commander, 34 years; Jeff Mort, Airside Manager, Incident Commander, Airports, 19 years, Club Member; and Glenn Ito, Logistics Chief, Assistant Chief Airports Engineer, Airports, 27 years, Club Member.



From left: LAPD Capt. Ray Maltez, 31 years of City service, LAX FSD; LAPD Lt. Lee, LAX FSD; Airport Police Capt. Tyrone Stallings, 24 years, Club Member; and Lt. Richard Hinkle, 23 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Andre Coney, 12 years of City service, Club Member; Officer Matt Garrido, 9 years, Club Member; and Officer III Pete Trance, Bike Unit, 13 years, Club Member.



Back row (from left): Airport Police Officer Aletha Metcalf-Evans, 32 years of City service, Club Member; and Shamara Charles, Communications Operator, Airport Police, 7 years, Club Member. Front: Airport Police Officer Jackson Muchiri, 5 years, Club Member; and Airport Police Officer Alban Waters, 12 years, Club Member.



From left: Airport Police Chief Michael Hyams and LAPD Capt. Ray Maltez.



From left: Airport Police Lt. Richard Hinkle, 23 years of service, Club Member; and Airport Police Assistant Chief Ethel McGuire, 2 years, Club Member.



LAPD

# For Jaime

**Police Dept. hosts fundraiser for Officer Jaime Rubalcava, who's seriously ill.**



Story and photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager

Friends, family and coworkers gathered Sept. 19 for "An Officer Needs Assistance" event to raise funds for Officer III Jaime Rubalcava, 23 years of City service, who has been out of work battling a serious medical crisis. The event was held at the LAPD Academy.

Jaime is unable to return to work and perform SWAT, or any other police functions. He



Check-in volunteers, from left: Betty Leyva, Lorraine Lara-Garcia, Michelle Hogan, and Stephanie Leyva.

has nearly exhausted his time and faces outstanding medical bills along with a projected long recovery.

An account has been set up for Jaime at the Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union, [www.lapfcu.org](http://www.lapfcu.org), account No. 2030077 S4.63. Checks are payable to "Blue Ribbon Trust for Jaime Rubalcava." All proceeds will go to help offset medical bills.

*The Club thanks Officer Ron Terrazas, Club Member, for his assistance.*



From left: Maria Perez; Officer Mike Odle; Thanh-Nha Dunkle, Club Member; and Det. Erik Saldenberg.



The barbecue offering at the Officer Needs Assistance event.



From left: Commander Williams, Sgt. Gary Holbrook, and Dep. Chief Downing in front of an LAPD helicopter.



SWAT Officers (from left) Ramos, Goosby, Dep. Chief Downing, Bodell, and Sgt. Tim Colomey at the Weapon Station.



From left: Officer III Ossia Crenshaw, 30 years of City service; Officer III Henry Romero, 20 years; Officer III Gary Koba, 20 years; Officer III Rich Alba, 25 years; Sgt. II Tim Colomey, 15 years; Officer III Rick Anzaldo, 25 years; Officer III Wilson Wong, 25 years; Officer III Mike Messenger, 20 years; and Officer III Joe Martinez, 25 years.



From left: Officer Heath McElwee with "Benny," and Officer Eric Coffey with "Boston."



From left: Officers Steve Wills and Dan Sanchez in front of the Bear Cat.



From left: Officer III Mark Aguilar, Metro; Sgt. Andrea Balter, Metro; and Sgt. II Tim Colomey, SWAT.



SWAT Officers (from left) Corso, Bodell and Goosby at the Weapons Station.



From left: Officer Mike Messenger, 19 years of City service; Officer Jon Pultz 14 years; Officer Matt Killman, 30 years; and Officer Steve Hernandez, 14 years.

# REST INSURED



**United Agencies Inc.**  
INSURANCE

BY JEFF GELINEAU

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

## Protecting Against Online Identity Theft

I received a call recently from a car dealer in Ohio asking if I were still interested in buying a new car. I've never been to Ohio, but apparently my Social Security number has.

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your name, Social Security number or credit card number without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes.

The government estimates that as many as nine million Americans have their identities stolen each year.

This crime takes many forms. Identity thieves may rent an apartment, obtain a credit card, or establish a telephone account in your name. You may not find out about the theft until you review your credit report or a credit card statement and notice charges you didn't make – or until you're contacted by a debt collector.

Identity theft is serious. While some identity theft victims can resolve their problems quickly, others spend hundreds of dollars and many days repairing damage to their good name and credit record. Some consumers victimized by identity theft may lose out on job opportunities, or be denied loans for education, housing or cars because of negative information on their credit reports. In rare cases, they may even be arrested for crimes they did not commit.

Here are some suggestions to prevent identity theft:

- Install reputable anti-spam and anti-virus software. Most reputable anti-spam software programs today are also programmed to identify known spyware, possible malware threats and viruses that could contain Trojan horses as well. Many threats are delivered by email, specifically spam. A good anti-spam program will help reduce your risk of inadvertently opening an email that contains a threat.
- Keep your antivirus, firewall and operating systems updated. Set your computer to update the Windows system automatically for critical updates, if you're on a machine that uses Windows. This procedure can be set to run during the night or whenever you please, but it should be set to automatic updating. Set antivirus software to update daily, so that when it

scans (either scheduled scan or real time scan), that it is running with the most recent virus information.

- Be certain of *both* the source *and* content of each file you download. Don't download an executable program just to "check it out." If it's a Trojan horse virus, the first time you run it, you're already infected! In other words, you need to be sure that you trust not only the person or file server that gave you the file, but also the *contents* of the file itself.

Trojan horse attacks pose a serious threat to computer security. In today's computer world, a Trojan horse is a malicious, security-breaking program disguised as something benign, such as a screen saver, game or joke. It might send itself to everybody on your email address book or IRC channel, erase or modify your files or download another Trojan horse program designed to steal your passwords. Many Trojans also allow hackers to take over your computer and "remote control" it. Trojans have become more sophisticated in recent years, as hackers use them to scan your system for vital information (credit card numbers, SSNs, bank account numbers), and use the retrieved information to open accounts, run up huge credit card debt, or drain the bank accounts of unsuspecting victims.

Don't be lulled into a false sense of security just because you run antivirus programs. Many antivirus programs do not protect against all viruses and Trojans, even when fully up to date. It's a race between the virus creators and the antivirus cures. You need both virus protection and firewall programs to be fully protected against hackers and intruders.

Many homeowner insurance policies provide coverage for identity theft, and it can also be bought separately. We here at United Agencies would be happy to help you protect against identity theft through an insurance policy. In addition to insurance coverage, consider purchasing ongoing identity theft protection such as the product that the Club sells. It's called InfoArmor. Contact your Club Counselor, or contact Tiffany Sy, (800) 464-0452.

**Be safe and have fun!**

### About United Agencies

United Agencies is the Club's partner in helping members with their home and auto insurance, and related products. We specialize in creating personal relationships with our customers, and serving their needs in a prompt, efficient and friendly manner.

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

### Have a question?

Is there something about insurance that you've always wanted to know, but were too ashamed to ask? Maybe something that you've just always been curious about? Feel free to send me an email at [jgelineau@unitedagencies.com](mailto:jgelineau@unitedagencies.com), and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.





From left: Debbie McCarthy, Chief of West Bureau, 24 years of City service, Club Member; and Ilene Curry, Police Service Representative, 18 years.

# Thanks to The Civilians

LAPD

## Police Dept. West Bureau hosts a civilian appreciation lunch.



Christina Chan, Treasurer, PACT, 5 years of City service.



Tammy Rolle, Sr. Clerk Typist, 11 years of City service.



Ho Eun, Management Analyst II, 8 years of City service.



Story and photos by Noelle Kauffman, Club Counselor

On Oct. 18, LAPD's West Bureau Division held a civilian appreciation lunch to thank the employees for all their hard work! The delicious lunch was catered by El Pollo Pepe and included grilled chicken, beans, rice, potato salad, tortillas, chips and salsa, and soft drinks.

The Club came out to show support for the civilian employees as well as provide movie tickets as prizes for the raffle.

Congratulations to all the civilians at West Bureau! *Special thanks to Captain Ray Maltez for his invitation to this event.*



Malti Sharma, Secretary, 17 years of City service.



From left: Edwina Hunter, Secretary, 12 years of City service, Club Member; and Michelle Soria, Sr. Clerk Typist, 14 years.



From left: Zvonko Noss, Equipment Mechanic, 6 years of City service; and Steve Indzheyan, Equipment Mechanic, 13 years.



Lynda Yamamoto, Sr. Clerk Typist, 32 years of City service.



Cheryl Jones, Sr. Clerk Typist, 24 years of City service, Club Member.



Rami Davidyan, Mechanic, 10 years of City service.



Michelle Martin, Clerk Typist, 12 years of City service, Club Member.



Scott Tilley, Automotive Supervisor, 13 years of City service.



Michael Birden, Mechanic, 22 years of City service.



Top: Officer III Michael Gannon, 16 years of City service, Club Member. Bottom, from left: Officer III Joe Vasquez, 13 years; Officer III Nicolas Orozco, 16 years; and Officer II Raynay Arnold, 25 years.



Albert Nelson, PSR, 23 years of City service, Club Member.



John Garcia, Property Officer, 5 years of City service, Club Member.



Elaine Belk, Clerk Typist, 6 years of City service, Club Member.



Vick Karagozian, Auto Motor Mechanic, 14 years of City service, Club Member.



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

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

	COMPANY	(91105 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$1,482
	State Farm	\$1,339
	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	<b>United Agencies</b>	<b>\$876</b>

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



CLUB STORE

# Here Come The Refund Checks!

**The Club's Life Insurance refund for 2012 is approximately \$150,000. Are you eligible?**

Here come the refund checks... to your mailbox!

The Board of Directors has approved a Club Life Insurance refund of approximately \$150,000 to be distributed back to the eligible Club members.

The Club continues its tradition of rewarding Club Life Insurance policyholders with a return of unused premiums (total premiums collected less paid claims and expenses). The 2012 refund will be the Club's 81st refund in the Club's 84 years of existence.

The refund checks will be distributed via the U.S Mail. The checks will be mailed in late December.

"The Club's life insurance refund check is a reward for healthy living," says Brian Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer. "And we're delighted to return these monies to those eligible."

"The Club Life Insurance is all about being there when our Members are in need. "That's our first priority. And, when we can, we are happy to return that portion of the premiums

that are not needed. We've returned funds in 81 of our 84 years."

Club Members who are receiving a check refund will also receive a valuable Club Store coupon as part of the same mailing. Take advantage!

Who is eligible for the refund? Anyone who had Life, Spouse Life, Dependent Life, Retiree Life or Retiree Spouse Life Insurance in force for July 2012 is eligible for a refund.

The actual amount Members receive is determined as a percentage of the total premiums paid by an individual for the period of August 2011 through July 2012. However, those who dropped their insurance coverage prior to July 31, 2012, are not eligible for any refund.

Do you want to be eligible for next year's refund (if any)? It's simple. Purchase any Life product from the Club, and you're eligible for next year. Insure your family's future and receive a little reward each year for living!

Talk to your Club Counselor, or call the Club at (800) 464-0452.

Brian, your Club CFO says...

Life is good with another  
**Refund Check**



Brian,  
your Club  
CFO

**Your Refund Check from:**  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Washington Building  
311 South Spring St., Suite 1300  
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www.cityemployeesclub.com

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**\$150,000**

SEEN

## Around Town

By Jennifer Shackelford  
Club Application Coordinator

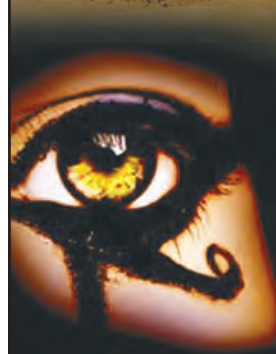
### Vacation Edition!

When visiting San Francisco, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the history of the city. From its iconic neighborhoods to its wonderful architecture, it is a fascinating place. Perhaps the most well known symbol of the city are the worlds last remaining, manually operated cable car lines. These cable cars may be famous the world over, but they are not the city's only moving museums. Begun as a tourist attraction in 1982, the Historic Trolley Festival allowed people to ride vintage street cars down Market Street during the summer. It proved so successful that it spurred development of a permanent F-line route for these vehicles which opened in 1995.

Over the years, Muni, the San Francisco

Municipal Railway, with the support of Market Street Railway, a volunteer based nonprofit, began buying up vintage street cars from around the world and restoring them. On your way to Fisherman's Wharf, you may hop aboard a street car from Boston, Cincinnati, San Diego or even from Italy. The car pictured here is one of LAs very own. A completely restored Pacific Electric streetcar.

Market street has had nearly continuous rail service since 1860, so it is very fitting that this rail line be home to a wonderful piece of the worlds history. Next time you visit San Francisco, be sure to take a ride on their Museums in Motion. For more information go to [www.streetcar.org](http://www.streetcar.org)



## CLEOPATRA THE EXHIBITION

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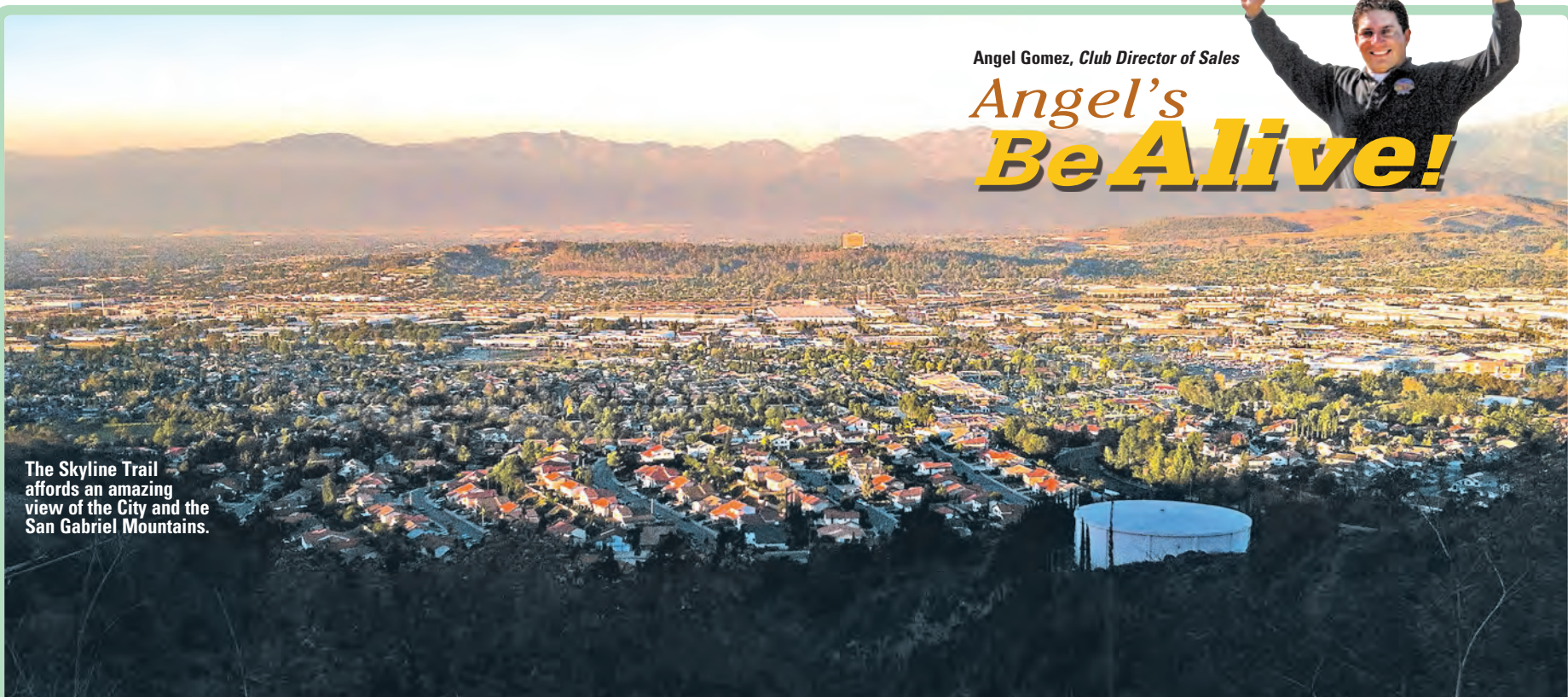
[www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)

Tickets ordered through the Club must be redeemed at the California Science Center's box office on the day of your visit. Admission tickets are timed for entry into the exhibit at 15 minutes intervals.



Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

# Angel's *Be Alive!*



The Skyline Trail affords an amazing view of the City and the San Gabriel Mountains.

## Powder Canyon — Puente Hills

### Powder Canyon

2345 Old Fullerton Rd., La Habra Heights

**Area:** 517 acres, managed as a Habitat Authority Wilderness Reserve

**Trail distance:** 2.4 miles to 7 miles

**Difficulty rating:** Moderate

**Bike time:** 2 hours or more

**Trail condition:** Dirt fire roads

**Path activities:** Walking, hiking, mountain bicycling, horseback riding, dog walking

**Directions:** From Los Angeles, take the 10 Freeway east to the south 605 freeway, and then the Pomona Freeway (60) east. Exit at Fullerton Road. Turn right onto Old Fullerton Road.

**Parking:** on Fullerton Road near Pathfinder and Harbor Blvd.

**Hours:** 7 a.m. to sunset daily

**Check trail conditions:** Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, (562) 945-9003, ext. 5



A GPS map of the hike.

### Hello again, everybody!

This month, we travel away from Downtown Los Angeles, arriving in the Puente Hills area. Powder Canyon is about 20 miles from Downtown L.A.; it usually takes about 35 minutes to get there.

The Powder Canyon trail loop actually travels through Rowland Heights, La Habra, Hacienda Heights and Schabarum Regional County Park. The area is very well groomed and has lots of shade along the ups and downs of the path. The trail intersects with Black Walnut-Powder Canyon-Nogales trails to create the loop.

The views from the Skyline Trail are amazing – you can see in all directions. Wow! What a gorgeous view! Let's begin.

The canyon is a relatively undisturbed habitat in the middle of the Puente Hills. In fact, the canyon is part of what's called the Puente Hills Significant Ecological Area, one of the last remaining natural areas in the hilly region of eastern L.A. County and one of the few with a relatively undisturbed, self-contained watershed. One of the larger canyons in the hills, Powder Canyon boasts particularly large complexes of oak woodland and oak riparian forest. The canyon's trail system links with Schabarum Trail (Skyline Trail).

The one thing to be very aware of is your time and how much daylight you have left. You may be surrounded by homes, but there is no light(s) on the trail once the sun goes down. I was lucky there was a full moon and I could see the streets from where I was (on the trail).

This is a moderate to difficult trail. Be sure to take lots of water and flashlights in case you run out of sunlight. There are lots of wildlife animals in the area; I was greeted by little rabbits, lots of birds, and a very curious owl.

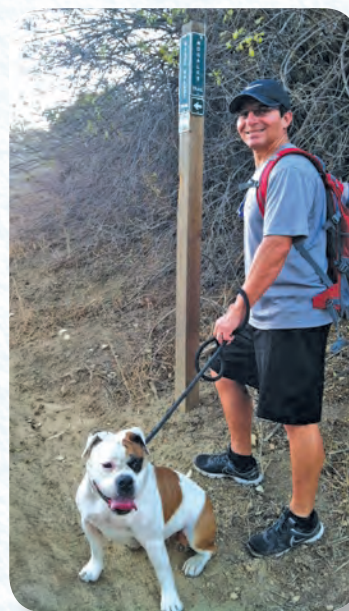
Note: Be careful and look ahead before you commit to one direction over another. Some of the paths will lead you up to the base of the electrical towers. (It happened to me. See my photo of the GPS map.)

Don't forget to bring your camera. Take plenty of photos and send them to me at [agomez@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:agomez@cityemployeesclub.com). Bring water, snacks and maybe some sunscreen.

**As always, Be Alive!,  
Angel**



There is lots of shade along the trail.



Dakota and I by the first trail marker.



A Powder Canyon kiosk with area map.



My new friend the owl looks over me.



The Schabarum trail connection, with a horse stable in the background.



Aden, Dakota and I go up a small hill.



Approaching peak of the trail, there are antennas and a building at the very top.





# Coloring with Lupe!



The *Alive!* Children's Coloring Contest  
Compiled by Lupe Medina, Administrative Services Representative

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

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

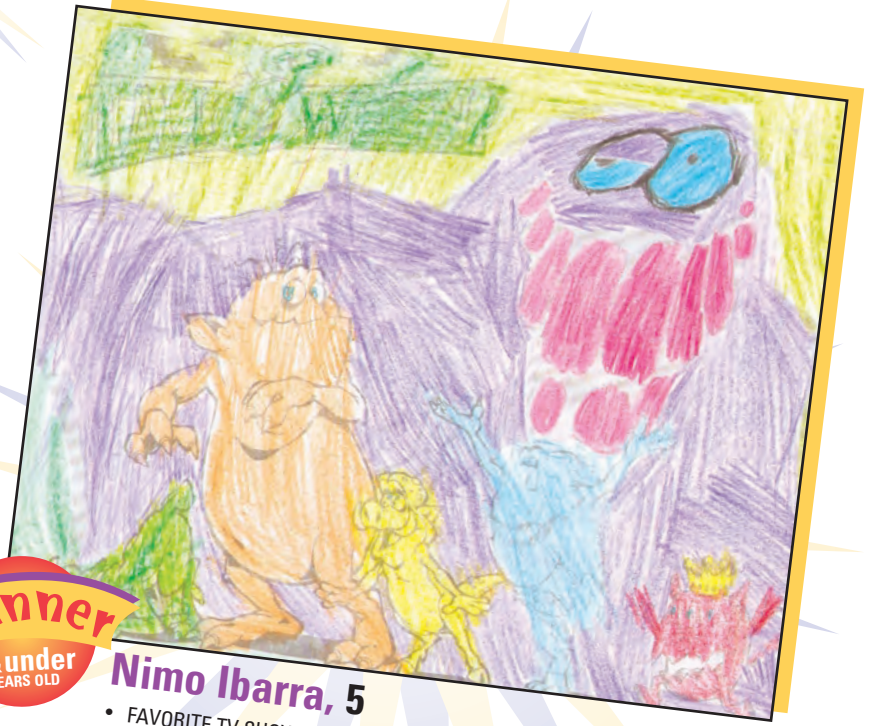
Congratulations to the winners of *Alive!*'s last coloring contest. Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top four participants win 4 Free Tickets to the Amusement Park of your choice!



**Winner**  
6 to 7 YEARS OLD

**Jessica Rodriguez, 7**

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Sprout" • FAVORITE SNACK: Grapes and carrots
- BEST FRIEND: Jackie • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Pirate dinner show because I never been there.
- PARENT: Jose Rodriguez, DWP.



**Winner**  
5 & under YEARS OLD

**Nimo Ibarra, 5**

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Sponge Bob" • FAVORITE SNACK: Fruit snacks or gummies
- BEST FRIEND: Kelan • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Seaworld so I can get splashed by the dolphins.
- PARENT: Elvia Ibarra, LAPD

## Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT	CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Emma Christopher	2	James Christopher	DWP	Elisa Ruiz	8	Robert Ruiz	DWP
Joem Fidello	2	Jaime Fidello	DWP	Lyna Vasquez	8	Edward Medina	DWP
Ryder Goss	2	Brandee Crawley Goss	Airports	Samantha Barajas	9	Miguel Barajas	Public Works
Saylor Rowley	2	Jaren Rowley	DWP	Evan Briseno	9	Nicole Briseno	DWP
Matthew Lansang	3	Leann Lansang	LAPD	Lisset Duarte	9	Mario Duarte	General Services
Jack Christopher	4	James Christopher	DWP	Aresha Echols	9	Charles Echols	Retired
Vivianna Diaz	4	Alicia Diaz	LAPD	Kaylee Gabon	9	Audie Gabon	DWP
Jacob Hillard	4	Erika Hillard	Personnel	Daisy Garcia	9	Fernando Garcia	Housing
Omar Reza	4	Guillermo Reza	Rec and Parks	Kayla Gerardo	9	Albert Gerardo	Public Works
Robert Ruiz	4	Robert Ruiz	DWP	Reyna Johnson	9	Rhonda Baychue	LAPD
Hailyn Topete	4	Paul Alvarado	Public Works	Jeff Mararac	9	Jeff Mararac	Airports
Selene Barajas	5	Miguel Barajas	Public Works	Aidan Martrossian	9	Maria Maldonado	Public Works
Madison Kuzichev	5	Alfred Kuzichev	LAFD	Samantha Melendez	9	Daniel Melendez	Harbor
Logan Swearingen	5	Jessica Swearingen	Zoo	M. Morrison	9	Michael Morrison	DWP
Nickolas Valadez	5	Jesus Valadez	DWP	Nichell Perkins	9	Kimberly Ramirez	Retired
Angelica Barraza	6	Ramon Barraza	DWP	Lucy Ruiz	9	Ignacio Ruiz	General Services
Alfonso Dado	6	Jennifer Camacho	DWP	London Wright	9	Hope Wright	LAPD
Kaitlin De la Cruz	6	Lupe De La Cruz	LAPD	Julissa Agustin	10	Norris Eaton	Public Works
Sierra De Los Rios	6	Ruben De los Rios	DWP	Rebecca Castaneda	10	Francisco Castaneda	General Services
Kiarra Hackett	6	Robin O'Dell	Airports	Janae Davie	10	April Flores	Personnel
Bree Henry	6	Tona McGruder	Airports	Vian De La Torre	10	Anthony De La Torre	Airports
Angel Q. Reza	6	Guillermo Reza	Rec and Parks	Alyssa Garcia	10	Maria Gaspar	LAPD
Christopher Rios	6	Christopher J. Rios	Public Works	Mia Lindlahr	10	Karen Rohaly	Library
Shane Rowley	6	Jaren Rowley	DWP	Justine Mejia	10	Lydia Chagolla	General Services
Landon Theurer	6	Stacy Rafer	LAPD	Faith Oak	10	Yoon Oak	DWP
Dylan Thome	6	Christine Thome	Harbor	Scott Padgilio	10	Bryan Padgilio	LACERS
Isabel Tribble	6	Sidney Skip Tribble	Airports	Kelsy Palacios	10	Edwin Palacios	Airports
Abel Trujillo	6	Lino Trujillo	DWP	Marish Rosas	10	Juan Lopez	Custodian
Irish Velasquez	6	Robert Contreras	Retired	Brandon Roberts	10	Satoru Tanaka	Retired
Jaylin Couch	7	Maria Couch	Harbor	Megan Soto	10	David Soto	DWP
Isabella Galoostian	7	Raymond Galoostian	Airports	Eduardo Aivizu	11	Elsa Rivas	Library
Alucard Hackett	7	Robin Odell	Airports	Oscar Castro	11	Manuel Castro	Custodian
Sydney Hernandez	7	Eduardo Hernandez	Gardener	Chayanne Clayborn	11	Carmen Clayborn	Housing
Isabella Jimenez	7	George Jimenez	DWP	Dalliah Dove	11	Damon Dove	DWP
Leilani Kennedy	7	Amy Willard	DWP	Kate Gabon	11	Audie Gabon	DWP
Connor Means	7	Glen Custis	DWP	Christian Granado	11	Cheryl Montantes	Airports
Brillana Munoz	7	Martha Castaneda	LAPD	Celine Millanponce	11	Manny Hernandez	Housing
Jonathan Newman	7	Nathaniel Newman	Animal Services	Manuel Vasquez	11	Edward Medina	DWP
Marius Rutkowski	7	Johnny Blanco	Retired	Paloma Bautista	12	Kathleen Bautista	Harbor
Abigail Sanchez	7	Mario Sanchez	Conv Center	Samantha Bautista	12	Sandra Bautista	LAPD
Arianna Tanaka	7	Satoru Tanaka	Retired	Abbey Gallegos	12	Leonard Gallegos	Harbor
Vickie Arujo	8	Virginia Arujo	LAPD	Marina Hughes	12	Jimmy Hughes Sr.	General Services
Kaylee Gallegos	8	Leonard Gallegos	Harbor	Rebecca Johnson	12	Leon Thomasian	Retired
Kaila James	8	Christine Khoy	Building & Safety	Shyarre Wright	12	Simboa Wright	DWP
Aidan Lorenzana	8	Reuben Sepulveda	DWP	Joseph Otoshi	12	John Otoshi	DWP
Tiara Patterson	8	Christhann Adtkans	LAPD	Kathleen Carlos	13	Renee Ramirez	LAFD
Fabiola Reza	8	Juan Reza Jr.	DWP	Alessandra Gardner	13	Renne Gardner	Housing
Briana Rodriguez	8	Arlene Hoffman	Retired	Jakiya Lloyd	13	Tracie Russell-Lloyd	Transportation
Jasmine Rodriguez	8	Jose Rodriguez	DWP	Michelle Rodriguez	13	Sandra Bautista	LAPD
Kennady Rowley	8	Jaren Rowley	DWP				



**Winner**  
8 to 10 YEARS OLD

**Peter Otoshi, 9**

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Facing the Giants" • FAVORITE SNACK: Baked apple chips
- BEST FRIEND: Emmanuel • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Disneyland because it's fun.
- PARENT: John Otoshi, DWP



**Winner**  
11 to 13 YEARS OLD

**Christen Ganotise, 13**

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I Love Lucy" • FAVORITE SNACK: Chips
- BEST FRIEND: Aliyah • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Legoland because my 2 year old brother has never been there.
- PARENT: Vitolina Ganotise, LAPD

## Goodbye, Lupe!

This month's contest conclusion marks the 38th and final Coloring Contest supervised by Lupe Medina. The Club's Administrative Service Representative is retiring Jan. 4.

"I have grown attached to my regulars entering the *Alive!* Coloring Contest," she says. "Many children were 4 and 5 when we started, and are now 10, 12 and 13 years old. I will miss the little notes and hearts they have sent me through the years!"

"The best part of this contest is that everyone is a winner. The kids get very excited when they receive a Beanie Baby in the mail.

"Thank you to everyone. It's been fun."

Good luck in your much-deserved retirement, Lupe. We will miss you!





# Club Featured Businesses

The Alive! newspaper is mailed to over 30,000 recipients each month throughout Los Angeles and beyond. The Alive! is also viewable digitally from all over the world. If you would like to feature your business below, please contact the Club at [phone number] to start your ad placement right away!

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# CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • Dec. 2012



# Champions!

Photos by Summy Lam, Director of Marketing



**Guzzlers Win the Upper Division**



**Blue Dragons Win the Lower Division**



We have two winners to the fall Club Softball League (the Club's fourth complete co-ed season), and it's the Guzzlers (Transportation) winning the upper division, and the Blue Dragons (Public Works/Street Lighting) winning the lower division.

The softball season ended with the Guzzlers winning the overall title over the LAX Jets. In a shocking result, the Blue Dragons took the lower division title by defeating a tough Hitmen team.

The championship games were played Oct. 24 at Downey Recreation Center, 1772 N. Spring St.

The championship night was filled with excitement and plenty of fans from each of the teams. The Club wishes to thank the final four teams for a wonderful season and for representing the Club and the City of Los Angeles in a positive way for the entire country to see.

Congratulations to the Guzzlers, the LAX Jets, the Blue Dragons and the Hitmen for making it to Championship Game Night!



## Basketball

Are you interested in playing basketball? The Club's next season will begin in approximately April 2013. If you have interest in playing, please contact the Sports Dude at [sports-dude@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:sports-dude@cityemployeesclub.com) or call at (800) 464-0452.

## Sign Up Mondays!

Stop by the Club Store on Mondays (8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) to sign up for any upcoming Club sports league!

- Club Soccer League
- Club Basketball League
- Club Softball League
- Running Club

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



Visit the Club Website for all sports scores, updates, and photos:  
[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)



## 2013 Firecracker 10-K and Bike Ride Race Discount!



The Los Angeles Chinatown Firecracker 5-K, 10-K, and Bike Ride is extending a discount to all Club Members! The Bike Ride will be Saturday, Feb. 23, 2013. The 5-K and 10-K races will be on Sunday, Feb. 24, 2013.

A \$5 registration discount will apply for Club Members registering through Jan. 19, 2013. Normal registration during this period will be \$35. Enter discount code of "CITY" when registering at [www.firecracker10k.org](http://www.firecracker10k.org)







# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



## 1 Eastern Europe

Here are some photos of our intrepid adventurer, **Doug Scarborough, Airports**, in Eastern Europe. You might remember Doug from our *Alive!* cover story in which he recounted his adventure to nearly the top of Mt. Everest.



"The Romeo and Juliet Bridge in Bosnia."



At Chernobyl reactor number four in the Ukraine. His copy of *Alive!* went "straight in the trash after this, along with everything I was wearing."



"The Republic of Srpska."



"Kosovo (Pristina)."

## 2 Eastern Europe

"Recently I've had the good fortune to visit my native Hungary as well as the neighboring country of Romania and Transylvania. Many beautiful and wonderful things I've seen, especially in Transylvania that had been part of historic Hungary for more than 1,000 years. Since 1920 it has been part of neighboring Romania. It's pristine and unique, and one has the feeling of stepping back in time about 50 years. Sorry folks, Transylvania is not about Hollywood's Dracula."

– **Robbie Horvath, Public Works/Hyperion**



Robbie with his friend, Peter (on the left) in front of the old cathedral, built by the famous King Matthias in the city of Kolozsvar, Transylvania.



"Jamaica."



"Transylvania."



Robbie with friends in front of the monument dedicated to the famous Hungarian writer Aron Tamas in Transylvania.

## 3 England



"This picture was taken in the Westminster area in London in front of the Sherlock Holmes Museum while visiting my daughter, Stephanie Hoffmann, who was attending the University of Westminster in London, England."

– **Shirley Hoffmann, Airports**

## 4 Nevada

Here's **Dr. Ed Krupp, Director of the Griffith Observatory, Rec and Parks**, as he continues his interesting adventures. Both photos were taken by Carol Travis.

"I was in Nevada for a long weekend in the Pahrangat Valley, east and mostly north of Las Vegas. The prehistoric petroglyphs there are plentiful, but few people go there. This picture is at a site called Black Canyon, and I accompany a figure drawn on the high rimrock. There are house rings of a village site on top of this rocky hill. The figure is typical of the very distinctive style of this region. There is no certain interpretation of this imagery, and there is no accurate date for the art. Archaeologists figure it was done between 2,000 and 500 years ago, probably by prehistoric ancestors of the Southern Paiute, who have lived in this area for centuries. For me, the trip was a search for obvious astronomical symbols, but I didn't find anything."



**Dr. Ed Krupp**  
Director,  
Griffith Observatory



"The second picture was taken at another rock art site, but the rock I have at hand has nothing to do with rock art. It is a piece of Alamo Breccia, which is found in this area. Pieces are scattered around on the ground here and there and also deposited in outcrops. This is one of those pieces. It does have astronomical significance. Geologists have argued it was formed by a major impact from space about 370 million years ago, when a shoreline of an inland sea ran through the Great Basin of North America. The impact pulverized everything, but it also probably created an unimaginably huge waterspout that lifted slurry and dropped it again over an area hundreds of miles across. The debris was also spread by tsunamis. All was re-deposited and eventually became the layer known as Alamo Breccia."

## Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

### Sending Digital Photos:

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



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



## Reviews by Fellow Club Members

## ENTERTAINMENT

## At the Movies

• In the cinema

**Here Comes the Boom**

Rated PG

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This movie has all the inspiration of *Rocky* and *Lean On Me* rolled into one. Scott Voss (Kevin James) is a worn-down biology teacher who finds himself searching for a way to keep the music program alive in the high school where he teaches. When it's announced that there is no money in the budget and that his best friend (Henry Winkler), who is also expecting a child, will lose tenure, Scott is forced to find a way to keep hope alive. Assisted by the school nurse (Selma Hayek) and a group of trainers from one of his students' gym, Scott proves that being a hero is nothing more than determination with an unselfish goal.

– Lisa Solis, DWP

**Flight**

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This excellent, highly dramatic film starring Denzel Washington as Capt. Whip Whitaker, a pilot for SouthJet airlines, is about a shockingly alcoholic substance abuser and still flies jets with an impeccable record. His luck runs out when he is faced with an emergency at 30,000 feet. The extended scene of the emergency landing seems so real and terrifying that, like *Jaws*, a lot of people might develop a phobia after seeing it. The rest of the movie takes a Martin Scorsese-like journey into Whitaker's character as he faces his demons while his union represented lawyer, played by Don Cheadle, frustratingly tries to defend him from NTSB accusations. The movie also stars John Goodman, who plays Whitaker's personal drug dealer and confidant, who provides humorous breaks from the hard look at alcoholism. A sure Oscar contender.

– Chuck Beas, DWP

**Tinker Bell: Secret of the Wings**

Rated G

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

To be honest, I am a huge fan of the Disney character Tinker Bell. Ever since I first saw her I have been drawn to her character for various reasons. Because of her popularity, Disney eventually began a Tinker Bell line of home movies, the latest being *Tinker Bell: Secret of the Wings*, for her fans to enjoy. Yes, they are decidedly geared towards younger, female fans, but I absolutely love watching them with my wife, daughter and two sons. This new film is no different and again explores more of what makes Tinker Bell such a likeable character.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**Argo**

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

*Argo* tells of the 1979 Iranian revolution, when the new government took Americans as hostages in exchange for the Shah, the former ruler. Ben Affleck directs and stars in this well-done thriller, as the CIA specialist who concocts a plan to free six Americans who escaped to the home of the Canadian ambassador.

As their plan to get them out includes making a phony Hollywood movie, Affleck enlists the help of some studio biggies. Especially wonderful is Alan Arkin, as a helpful film producer, and John Goodman as another Hollywood mogul. Drama, comedy, and history combine into a very entertaining movie.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

**Argo**

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Much has been made of the quickly developing directorial career of Ben Affleck. With *Argo* as the latest evidence, he's becoming

a director worth paying attention to. There's still some room to grow, but *Argo* is recommended.

Many *Alive!* readers undoubtedly remember the Iran hostage crisis of 1979, in which 52 American embassy workers in Tehran were held hostage for 444 days. But a handful of embassy workers escaped into Canadian hands. *Argo* tells the true, sometimes amusing and very tense story of how the U.S. government plotted to get that stray handful out of Iran.

There are some tone issues – laughter sometimes awkwardly intercut with inhuman terror, as the two sides of the story are edited together – and the movie doesn't go deep into the issues that brought on the crisis. But as a sort-of *Mission: Impossible* yarn, it's quite effective.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor**The Sessions**

Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Is physical connection a basic human right? Can we be human without it? Does it come from God, or does religion get in its way?

These are some of the questions suggested by *The Sessions*, but hardly developed. The movie, based on a true story, is about Mark O'Brien (an amazing John Hawkes), a polio victim in an iron lung in his late 30s who decides he wants to be physically intimate with a woman for the first time. So he hires a surrogate (a very exposed Helen Hunt; this is not for kids) to do the deed, with the somewhat bewildered approval of his priest (an underused William H. Macy).

This movie cries out to go a lot deeper – and go there more sharply – than it does. O'Brien really wants emotional intimacy, but no one in this movie ever quite figures that

out. And it never decides whether religion and sex can be a healthy tandem. Its creators also seem to have never known a real priest before. I couldn't help but like *The Sessions*, but that's about as far as it goes. It would have made a much more potent three-character play rather than the soft crowd-pleaser it is.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor**The Man with the Iron Fists**

Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

While *The Man With the Iron Fists* may not be the kind of movie everyone will enjoy, if you are into fun and unapologetic Kung Fu Theater-esque movies that some of you may have watched on UHF during the 1960s, '70s and '80s, this movie is up your alley. RZA (the stage name of Robert Diggis) may not be the great actor needed to support the central character in the film, but the fine cast of supporting characters, including a brilliant performance by Russell Crowe, will leave you sweating intensely as amazing martial arts fights break out often and violently. Again, this movie isn't for everyone.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**Silent Hill: Revelations**

Rated R

My Score: 1 (out of 5)

What a disappointment. I really loved the film *Silent Hill* (based on the popular video game series) and was hoping that the sequel, *Silent Hill: Revelations*, would capture the same charm and mystique of the games the way the first film did. Sadly, it failed to do so on so many levels that to call this film a part of the *Silent Hill* franchise is an insult. It was like the creative team behind this film never saw a single frame of either the previous film or any of the games to really understand what makes *Silent Hill* true horror.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

## On a Screen Near You

• Movies via DVDs, downloads and streaming

**Quest for Love (1971)**

Rated PG

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

When an experiment goes wrong, a scientist finds himself in a parallel world. In this world, he is a writer and married to a beautiful woman (Joan Collins). The marriage is failing but he falls in love with his new wife and tries to convince her that he is not the same man she married.

Great movie! My only complaint is that I would have liked it to be longer! I actually saw this movie more than 20 years ago and it has always stayed in my mind. I was thrilled to find it on DVD.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

**[REC] 3: Genesis (2012)**

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Sadly, *[REC] 3: Genesis* isn't being released on Blu-ray in the United States (the film is

Spanish), but the DVD is a fun watch as it strays from the premise of both previous films. As a standalone film in the series, it works beautifully, telling a different story than those fans of the first two films have seen. I actually didn't mind the stray in story and style and thought it was a needed break in the series before it got stale. Fans of outbreak or zombie apocalypse films would do well to watch this film. Different and unique, it is worth the purchase price.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**Batman: The Dark Knight Returns, Part 1 (2012)**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Everything you know about the modern version of Batman's history has been inspired by the epic 1986 story by Frank Miller. Now, what is arguably considered the quintessential Batman story has been brought to Blu-ray by

Warner Premiere and DC Entertainment – and they could not have done a more perfect job in adapting the story to film. The best part of it all is that they didn't try to condense the story into one film but have separated it into two parts (with part two due out in early 2013). Batman fans, you *cannot* miss this feature.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**Resident Evil: Damnation (2012)**

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

*Resident Evil: Damnation* is a great addition to the *Resident Evil* franchise. Forget the movie versions that star Milla Jovovich. While they are entertaining, they have very little to do with the videogame series. *Damnation*, and its prequel *Resident Evil: Degeneration*, actually add to the mythos that the game series has established. Beautiful and gory, CGI animation captures the viewer's attention, and the action-packed story involving fan favorite characters

Leon Kennedy and Ada Wong are sure to please longtime fans of the franchise. There are some slow points, but the final moments of the film make up for it.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**The Avengers (2012)**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Anyone who has talked to me this year knows how much I loved *The Avengers* movie. To me, it was the best comic book movie since 2008's *The Dark Knight*. Now, it is finally available on Blu-ray (and DVD) and it is a perfect collection of featurettes, extended and deleted scenes, and an amazingly funny gag-reel that just adds to an incredible superhero action flick. The amount of extras on the four-disc Blu-ray edition is really worth what you pay for, and the inclusion of a free downloadable movie soundtrack for the film is too good to pass up.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

## Your Reviews!

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

## 100 Words or Fewer

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- All reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!* (not offered to another outlet). Violations could end your ability to be published in *Alive!*
- Have fun!
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.

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

- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.



## Video Gaming

### PES 2013

Rated E for Everyone

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

If you haven't played a version of the *Pro Evolution Soccer* series since 2010, then you are missing out on the best version of the beautiful game on home consoles. This year, *PES 2013* introduces a few minor tweaks to the game that add a lot more control and autonomy to the way the individual player plays the game. Better and responsive control make the ebb and flow of the game almost match the way an actual match on the pitch is seen on television. Pick this game up now if you want a true soccer experience in your hands.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

### Medal of Honor: Warfighter

Rated M for Mature

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

*Medal of Honor: Warfighter* once again puts the players in the shoes of several TIER 1 special operatives from across the globe as they continue their war on terror. Inspired by actual combat and spec ops missions, and supervised by retired TIER 1 operatives, *Warfighter* is as realistic as it gets in terms of first person shooter video games go. The pacing may be a bit slow and generic for the hardcore FPS fans, but the intelligent and inspiring story woven by the game, as well as a top-notch multiplayer element, lifts this game to small hit status.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

### WWE '13

Rated T for Teen

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

*WWE '13* features the return of the WWE Attitude Era in which the company definitely enjoyed the perks of being a TV MA product. Fans of that era of wrestling who have grown weary of the PG product the WWE now produces are sure to enjoy that portion of the game as well as the wrestling gameplay featured in the game. I was a bit turned off by the commentary and crowd noises that interrupt the gameplay, and the new camera system takes some getting used to, but the game is a great sports entertainment game nonetheless.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

### Just Dance: Disney Party

Rated E for Everyone

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

*Just Dance: Disney Party* is a great family-friendly addition to the hugely successful *Just Dance* franchise. While I wish there would have been some downloadable tracks you could add to the game, the 25 tracks installed in the game are a nice blend of classic Disney tunes with some of today's hit kids and teens Disney artists like Miley Cyrus, Demi Lovato and Selena Gomez. Routines can be adjusted, so newbies and kids can challenge older and seasoned *Just Dance* veterans. My wife, kids and I have been really enjoying this one.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

### Torchlight II

Rated T for Teen

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

If you are looking for a fun and addictive action RPG, then consider buying *Torchlight II* by Runic Games. This randomly generating dungeon action role-playing game has some amazingly detailed game play mechanics and a fun and intuitive peer-to-peer multiplayer mode that lets you jump in and enjoy the game with friends or other players on the fly. It also has a very fleshed-out story that will leave you scratching your head as you try to unravel the mystery that has enveloped the world and begins your quest.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

### Tekken Tag Tournament 2

Rated T for Teen

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Fighting game fans: This is a definite must-buy! *Tekken Tag Tournament 2* presents a decently fleshed-out single player experience, a joyful local multiplayer offline mode and one of the best and well-designed online multiplayer modes I have seen in any game on either the Xbox 360 or PS3 consoles. Fluid and responsive controls, amazing fighting mechanics and highly detailed animations and attacks make TTT2 a fully immersive fighting game. And parents, since the *Tekken* series does not add blood in any shape or form, this game is safe for the younger teens and pre-teens to play as well.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

What are some great books, shows and sounds to watch to get into the holiday spirit? *Alive!* asked our reviewers – City Employees or retirees who send in their entertainment reviews most every month – for their recommendations.

Here are some suggestions. And thanks to all. Keep writing those reviews, 100 words or fewer!

# Alive! Reviewers Get in the Spirit

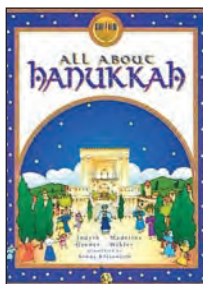


### Die Hard (1988)

Rated R

Christmas movies come and go, but for adults who appreciate the struggle of good versus evil, redemption, and besting the bad guys, there is no film like *Die Hard*! Yes, this Bruce Willis classic action film hits the terrorists where they live, and manages to make the holidays a little bit brighter. What more could you ask for?

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



### All About Hanukkah

Madeline Wikler and Judyth Groner  
Youth fiction,  
32 pages,  
Kar-Ben Publishing

Children under the age of the 10 will enjoy learning about the Hanukkah holiday with the story of the miracle of the lights, its historical background, and much more. There are interesting discussion topics as well, which will engage the whole family, one per night.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



### The Santa Clause

Rated PG

Tim Allen stars in this adorable Christmas movie as a divorced father who accidentally becomes Santa Claus. The movie has a nice combination of drama, fantasy and comedy. I always enjoy this one during the holidays, and the movie is for any age.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP



### The Santa Clause 2

Rated G

Tim Allen returns as Santa Claus, but to stay Santa he has to find a wife. Although the first is definitely the best, this movie was very enjoyable and fun.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

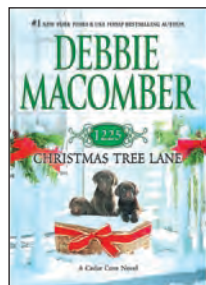


### The Santa Clause 3

Rated G

In this case, three is *not* the charm. The movie has some good moments, but overall it's not as good as the first two. But if you should be stuck in the house watching television all day, watching one after another might be fun. Merry Christmas!

– Gail Seltzer, DWP



### 1225 Christmas Tree Lane

Debbie Macomber  
Romantic holiday fiction,  
137 pages,  
Harlequin

There are surprises in Cedar Cove when Beth Morehouse, who moved to a Christmas tree farm to escape the life of divorce, finds puppies on her doorstep and finds homes for them. Beth's daughters try to re-ignite the romance between their parents, but both Beth and Kent, her ex-husband, are dating others. This is the last of the Cedar Cove series and is wittingly, charmingly funny with romance in the air.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel



### My Kind of Christmas

Robyn Carr  
Romantic holiday fiction,  
320 pages,  
Harlequin

Patrick Riordan, a Navy pilot back from surviving a mission in Afghanistan, and Angie LeCroix, who's recovering from a car accident, find love in Virgin River, Calif. This tale of two unlikely people meeting after visiting family in Virgin City at first want to spend the holidays alone but find out they want to spend the holidays together despite scrutiny from families.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel



### Christmas

Michael Bublé

The Christmas pop CD train, which had been rampaging for the better part of two decades, had seemed to be out of gas despite Josh Groban's smash, *Noel*, a few years ago. There was just not much left in the till. But then last year, the black-suit-and-tie Canadian jazz pop wonder, Michael Bublé, stepped in and released a great holiday CD to add to the canon.

There's a wealth of great material here. I love his 1940s-inspired romp on "Jingle Bells" with the London-based vocal trio the Puppini Sisters. His duet on "White Christmas" with Shania Twain updates the classic boogie-woogie of the Drifters; his "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" contains the cool quiet interspersed with big-band splats that he's know for; and he slows down Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You," making it more effective than I thought it would be. This CD is fresh, bright, respectful and romantic.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

GIVE  
CLUB  
GIFTS  
FOR THE  
HOLIDAYS.

– SEE PAGE 47



## Megan Recommends

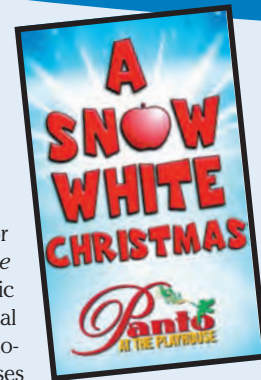
Theatre recommended by Megan Evanich, Customer Service Associate at the Club Store



**A Snow White Christmas**  
Pantomime/family musical  
Pasadena Playhouse  
Dec. 12 - 30

I have a special holiday musical for you this month! *A Snow White Christmas* is a retelling of a classic tale in the style of the traditional British family panto. A panto (pantomime) is an interactive style that uses audience participation. *A Snow White Christmas* combines magic, movies and music for a real holiday treat.

This musical includes modern tunes from Lady Gaga, Michael Jackson, Katy Perry and Bruno Mars. Stars include: Ariana Grande from Nickelodeon's "Victorious" as Snow White; Charlene



Tilton from "Dallas" as the Wicked Queen; an onscreen appearance by Neil Patrick Harris from "How I Met Your Mother" as the Magic Mirror, and a beautiful white pony named Blitzen. It's directed by Bonnie Lythgoe, whose family produces shows including

"American Idol" and "So You Think You Can Dance."

While most of my plays I review tend to be for adults only, this musical would be fun for the whole family! Tickets are available at Goldstar and [www.pasadenaplayhouse.org](http://www.pasadenaplayhouse.org)



# Holiday Happenings

## THE CLUB

### Club Holiday Schedule

#### CLUB MEMBERS:


The City Employees Club offices and the Club Store will be closed all day Dec. 24 and 25, and all day Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, to celebrate the holidays.

*Happy Holidays from the Club!*



## Tickets Make Great Stocking Stuffers!

Use the Club Website ([www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com); login required) or call the Club Ticket Hotline: (888) 777-1744; fax (213) 617-1442. Or pick 'em up at the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second St. downtown





## The Club wishes you...

Family to love you  
 Friends to lift you  
 Challenges to inspire you  
 The stars and heavens to amaze you  
 And a big smile knowing  
 That life is pretty darn good.

This holiday season, may you be given  
 All that you wish for  
 Except one thing to grow on.

### Merry Christmas Happy Hanukkah



**From the Club**  
 Celebrating the City family for 83 years.



REC AND PARKS

## Victorian Christmas at Banning

The Banning Museum dresses up for the holidays.

The community is invited to celebrate the holiday season at the Banning Museum, which decorates beautifully in Victorian style for the holiday season.

The museum's regular tour schedule applies, except for Christmas Day, when the museum is closed. Regular tours are listed below.

The Banning Museum is a Rec and Parks facility, operated in cooperation with Friends of Banning Museum, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to "Preserve History, Promote Education, and Inspire Entrepreneurial Spirit."

### Banning Museum Victorian Christmas

**Museum holiday decorations during regular museum tours:**

**Dates:** Throughout December: Tues. – Thurs.: 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.; Sat. – Sun.: 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. Closed Christmas Day

**Cost (regular tours):** \$5 (suggested donation; \$1 for children)

**Information:** (310) 548-2005 or [www.thebanningmuseum.org](http://www.thebanningmuseum.org)



# Holiday Happenings

## All Aboard for The North Pole

**Travel Town Museum in Griffith Park offers its miniature train ride to the North Pole.**

For the ninth consecutive year, Travel Town Train Museum's Travel Town Railroad in Griffith Park is hosting a unique holiday event starring Santa Claus and thousands of dancing lights and beautiful music. On weekends through Dec. 9, and then nightly through Dec. 23, families will be able to take a miniature train ride to visit Santa at his house at the North Pole.

Once they arrive they will visit with Santa, get a picture with him, if desired, then get back on the train to return home along a decorated and music-filled track. Each child will receive a candy cane and a special little gift.

While waiting for Santa the kids and parents can visit with Rudolph and one of Santa's helper elves.

This event is operated by Travel Town Railroad in cooperation with Rec and Parks. It is

a wonderful alternative to visits to the mall.

Starting at 5 p.m., families may enter the museum and board the miniature train ride at the decorated station. While waiting to board they will be entertained by a dazzling dancing light show and a special corner of the museum where snowmen live and it snows all the time!

Once aboard, they will travel past the decorated train barn and Santa's Workshop to arrive at the North Pole. There they will disembark and visit with Santa, Mrs. Claus, Rudolph and Erin the Elf. Digital photographs will be available for \$6. Families may take their own pictures if they wish. After they have finished their visit, guests will re-board the train and travel along the decorated quarter-mile of track back to the station. The Travel Town Museum Gift Shop will be open most evenings.

### REC AND PARKS

#### Travel Town Train Ride to Visit Santa

**Dates:** Through Dec. 9, and then nightly through Dec. 23 (weather permitting; trains do not operate in the rain)

**Times:** 5 p.m. until about 8 p.m.

**Where:** Travel Town Transportation Museum, 5200 Zoo Dr., Griffith Park

**Cost:** \$7 per person; infants under 18 months ride free. (Photos with Santa cost \$6 each)

Tickets are available by reservation for specific days and may be bought at the Travel Town ticket booth. Tickets will be sold to walk-ups at the gate until capacity is reached.

**Information:**  
(323) 662-9678,  
[www.griffithparktrainrides.com/content/travel-town-santa-train](http://www.griffithparktrainrides.com/content/travel-town-santa-train)

### THE CLUB

## Donate to the Toy Drive!



As part of its Club Angels program, the Club is gearing up its annual Holiday Toy Drive, held in conjunction with a number of City-related toy drives. Drop off your unwrapped toys to the Club Store soon – in the first week of December – and we'll take it from there!

It's best to bring an unwrapped toy that's not fragile. In these economic times, please be generous!

The Club Store,  
120 West 2nd Street,  
90012.



## The Club Store Is Holiday Headquarters!

**With activities and lots of great Club services, the Club Store is a perfect place to start your holiday shopping!**

Here's what's in store for you this Christmas season at the Club Store:

- ❖ **Gift Central:** Buy fantastic Club merchandise that will be great under your tree.
- ❖ **Movie tickets** make great for stocking-stuffers.
- ❖ **Decorate the Club Tree!** When you stop by the Club, write your name on an ornament (provided), representing you or your department, and hang it on our Club Christmas Tree. Join the Club family this holiday.
- ❖ **Toy Drive:** Bring an unwrapped gift to be given away as part of the Club's Toy Drive.



Great gifts.  
The Club Christmas Tree.  
Toy drive.

They're all available  
at the Club Store  
this holiday season.



*Start your holidays at the Club Store!*

The Club Store is located at:  
120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012



# Holiday Happenings



REC AND PARKS

## Holiday Chills and Thrills!

Rec and Parks-sponsored Holiday on Ice continues through Jan. 21.

A City of LA tradition, Downtown on Ice continues this holiday season. The community rink boasts a medley of free events, including a festive holiday concert series, a Winter Holiday Festival, championship skating exhibitions and “sneak preview” performances, broomball games, and more.

Celebrating its 15th season for skating under the sun and stars at picturesque Pershing Square, 532 S. Olive St., the facility is open every day (including holidays) through Jan. 21.

Framed by towering skyscrapers and stunning historical landmarks, the spacious rink has become a popular holiday destination for families, thanks to sponsorship from Rec and Parks and Councilman José Huizar.

Downtown on Ice at Pershing Square is easily accessible by car, bus or Metro. An alliance with Metro and Metrolink allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing their Metro transit receipt/pass. Montebello Bus lines also features a \$1 discount coupon available on buses. The convenient stop at Pershing Square Station makes getting there easy. Underground discount parking is available with validation.

### Downtown on Ice

**When:** Through Jan. 21

**Where:** Pershing Square, downtown at 532 South Olive, across from the Millennium Biltmore Hotel

**Hours:** Monday –Thursday, noon – 10 p.m.,  
Fri.-Sun., 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.  
Special holiday hours for Christmas, New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Day: noon to 10 p.m.

**Information:** [laparks.org/pershing-square/](http://laparks.org/pershing-square/) or call (213) 847-4970.  
[facebook.com/PershingSquareLA](https://www.facebook.com/PershingSquareLA)



Be a Part of a Club Holiday Tradition

# It's Party Pix Time

We want to print pictures from your holiday office party in *Alive!*

*Is your office having a holiday party? Here are two ways to get your holiday office party pictures into the January Alive!:*

**Take the photos yourself:**

Take the photos yourself, and send them in as soon as you can. Digital photos are always best. And make sure you give us a description of the party: when it was, where it was, and if something significant happened, let us know that, too.

If there are just a few photos, then email them to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com). But if there are a lot, then it's best to burn them onto a CD and deliver (or mail) the CD to the Club. The address is on the inside front cover. Make sure the photos are as high resolution as you can make them.

**We'll take your holiday photos for you:**

Let us know when your holiday party is, and we'll try to send a photographer. *Please note:* There are more City holiday parties than we can cover, but we will try. That's why it's best to send in your own photos. If you want us to cover your party, talk to your Club Rep (Arlene Herrero, Angel Gomez, Jackie Causillas, Gedina Bergstrom or Noelle Kauffman) or email Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations, at [rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com). *We'll do our best to get to as many parties as we can, but we can't guarantee it.* But let us know.



*See you at the party!*





# Fire Marshal Awards

Fire Prevention Bureau hands out Recognition of Excellence honors.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and award recipient Capt. d'Lisa Davies.



From left: Hoang Lee, Clerk Typist, 5 years of City service; Rosemarie Barraza, Sr. Management Analyst, 9 years; Ruthie Bernal, Inspector, 22 years of Fire service; and Kenneth Meyer, Inspector, 24 years of Fire service.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and Joseph Johnson, Inspector II, 31 years of Fire service.



Inspector I Susan Girard, Inspector I, designer of the decorations for the awards reception.



From left: Jeannie Porter, 11 years of City service, 2010 award recipient, and Katie Rosas, 6 years, 2009 award recipient.



Joseph Johnson, Inspector II, and his wife, Jennifer.



The Data Management Unit reception.



From left: Joe Johnson, Inspector II, 31 years of Fire service, and William Parker, Inspector II, 32 years of Fire service, 2007 award recipient.



Story by Tanzi Cole, LAFD, and Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor; Photos by Gedina Bergstrom

The Fire Dept.'s Fire Prevention Bureau hosted the 2012 Fire Marshal Recognition of Excellence Awards ceremony on Oct. 17 at the LAFD headquarters downtown.

At the ceremony, three people were given the Fire Marshal's Excellence Award. They were nominated by their peers and approved by the Fire Marshal.

It was great day, with many in attendance. Nice words were shared about these attendees; an excellent reception followed.

The Fire Prevention Bureau provides mitigation, code enforcement and public education, and determines when disasters occur and how we can prevent them in the future. All fire life safety systems are tested to work correctly. Enforcement makes sure businesses and communities are maintained in a safe and responsible manner. Fire education provides opportunities for community members to make their businesses and residents safer. During emergency incidents, the bureau determines if there is anything the department could have done better, to prevent future occurrences.

Here's a list of those honored at the event. *Alive!* congratulates all those who were officially recognized.

**Award Recipients:**

- Elva Davila, Clerk Typist, Environmental Unit
- Joseph Johnson, Inspector II, Legal Liaison Unit
- Capt. D'Lisa Davies, Legal Liaison Unit

**Promotions to PGA – Inspector II:**

- John Virgil
- David Miranda
- Alvarez Perez
- Clifford Anderson
- David Riles
- Gregory Stevens

**Service Pensions – 2011:**

- Capt. Terry Wortham
- Capt. Robert Holloway
- Neil Reitzell, Inspector II
- Rodolfo Martinez, Inspector II
- Herman Quaintance, Inspector II
- Steven Hofbauer, Inspector II
- Luis Jaramillo, Inspector II
- Martin Garza, Inspector II
- Aquil Basheer, Inspector
- Louie Oriegel, Inspector
- Gregory Plain, Inspector

**Service Pensions – 2012:**

- Duane Houston, Inspector
- Paul Porter, Inspector II



Capt. d'Lisa Davies and her grandson, Jadson.



Decorations from the tables at the reception – a Susan Girard creation!



The Fire Marshal Recognition of Excellence Awards Ceremony in the Board of Fire Commissioners' Room.



Mark Stormes, Fire Marshal, 35 years of Fire service.



Tanzi Cole, Fire Marshal Secretary, 16 years of City service.



Chief Dep. Daren Palacios, 31 years of Fire service.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes with the Data Management Unit, which accepted an award.

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

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

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



www.bienvenidos.org

■ This ad is possible thanks to the generosity of Terrance Yeager ■





{ Who are the people you see every day? }

# People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



## Meet Kenneth Reed.

**AGE:** "I'm 49."  
**BIRTHPLACE:** "Palmdale."  
**MARITAL STATUS:** "Single."  
**FAMILY:** "I have seven brothers and seven sisters."  
**PARENTS MARRIED OR DIVORCED?** "Married."  
**MILITARY SERVICE:** "No."  
**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** "Sometimes I spend the night in the mission, but usually it's on the sidewalk. However, it's pretty dangerous. I got robbed last night. They took everything from me while I was sleeping. There's also just too much drugs out on the streets. I'm constantly being asked if I have drugs or if I want to buy them."  
**WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "Aug. 31, 2012."  
**WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "I was living in a board and care group home in Palmdale when a new lady took charge. She started changing things around, and I didn't like it. I was there for 13 years but just didn't like the way things were going. Before that I was living with my aunt until she passed away. I need board and care because I have epilepsy and prostate cancer."  
**EDUCATION:** "I finished high school in Georgia. In fact, I actually lived in Georgia, from age 8 to 24, before coming back to Los Angeles."  
**PLAYED SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL?** "Absolutely. I played football and basketball."  
**RELIGION:** "Nope."  
**MEDICATIONS:** "Just for my epilepsy and cancer."  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Smokey and the Bandit."  
**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Columbo and McCloud. Oh, and Good Times and Maude."  
**FAVORITE ACTOR:** "Dennis Weaver and the guy who played Columbo, Peter Falk."  
**FAVORITE ACTRESS:** "Cher. I loved Cher and Sonny Bono."  
**FAVORITE CANDY:** "I love butterscotch candies."  
**FAVORITE FOOD:** "Meatloaf and spaghetti."  
**FAVORITE MUSIC:** "Country."  
**FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:** "I like it around here."  
**LAST BOOK READ:** "Gone With the Wind."  
**LAST JOB:** "A long time ago I worked at White's Super Saver grocery store. But my parents took the money I earned. I worked there for five years. I also used to work for the LA Times putting newspapers together. But that's where I had my first seizure and things didn't go so well after that."  
**FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:** "I remember riding around the grass with my brother on one of those riding lawn mowers. Most of my childhood was not fun; my blood father was very, very abusive. I started drinking alcohol at age 11, but then quit at 14. My family drank a lot, so it was very accessible."  
**LAST THING EATEN:** "I had breakfast at the mission – oatmeal, bread, water and oranges."  
**WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS?** "I have just one."  
**MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION:** "County USC [hospital]. They helped me with my prostate cancer."  
**WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$1 MILLION:** "Put it in the bank... and let it grow interest."  
**MAKE A WISH:** "I would like to have not come down to LA. I should have stayed in Palmdale."  
**ITEM ALWAYS WITH YOU:** "My cell phone."  
**MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:** "My cell phone."  
**ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:** "Look out for each other."

*The Club gave Kenneth a Bucket and a Blanket (see below), a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.*

The interview took place Nov. 13 at Third and Spring Streets downtown.

*Photos by Angel Gomez and John Hawkins.*

## Buckets and Blankets!

Join us as we help those who live on the streets with Buckets and Blankets. Donate to the cause as the Club distributes food, toiletries and blankets to those in need (blankets cost \$7 each).



**Buckets and Blankets** is produced in cooperation with the **Club Angels** program and **Creative Solutions** – Fred Fowlks and Sue Manzo, LAFD.

Contact John Hawkins or Angel Gomez, and we'll take it from there:

[jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com) or [agomez@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:agomez@cityemployeesclub.com)



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



LAPD

# They Know Beans About Chili

**LAPD, Sheriff's Dept. combine to host chili cook-off fundraiser for crime lab's Baker to Vegas team.**

Story by Noelle Kauffman, Club Counselor

On Oct. 30, the Los Angeles Regional Crime Lab held its third annual chili cook-off to raise money for their Baker to Vegas team. Participating employees brought slow-cookers full of their best chili recipes in hopes to win over the judges, while fellow crime lab employees sampled to support the cause.

The Club's very own Chef Larios participated as one of the five judges. The judging went as follows:

**Traditional Chili Category**

- First place: Leslie Thompson
- Second place: Katie Scriven

**Open Chili Category**

- First place: Joanna Law
- Second place: Nicole Venegas

**People's Choice Award**

- Tiffany Ornelas

"I tasted some awesome chili at the cook-off," the Club's Chef Larios said. "Congratulations to everyone!"

"But more importantly, it's great that they raised funds to support the crime lab's team in the Baker to Vegas rally. Thanks for the invitation."

What a successful fundraiser this was! Thanks to Meiling Cabral, Club Member, and Flynn Lamas for inviting us to cover this fun and successful event.



The judges' table, from left: The Club's Chef Larios; Learden Matthies, Criminalist, 12 years of County service; Susan Brockbank, Assistant Lab Director, 12 years of City service, Club Member; John Shaw, Chief Photographer, 23 years of County service; and Greg Matheson, Retired Lab Director, 34 years of City service.



Raymond Escobedo, Forensic Identification Specialist, 13 years of County service, sells shirts and hats to help raise additional funds for the Baker to Vegas team.



From left: Lewis Bolf, Criminalist Supervisor, 28 years of County service; Greg Page, Photographer I, 1 year of County service; and Alex Strouzer, Forensic Specialist, 23 years of County service.



From left: Cynthia Fortier, Forensic Identification Specialist, 23 years of County service; and Stephanie Tan, Criminalist, 2 years of City service.



William Moore, Criminalist III, 29 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Samantha Tosch, Criminalist, 4 years of City service; and Bradley Tom, Criminalist, 3 years of City service.



From Left: Flynn Lamas, Sr. Criminalist, 14 years of County service; Joanna Law, Sr. Criminalist, 3 years of City service; and Stacy Vanderschaft, Criminalist, 5 years of City service.



From left: Meiling Cabral, Criminalist II, 5 years of City service, Club Member; Leslie Thompson, Senior Criminalist, 4 years of County service.



Tiffany Ornelas, Sr. Criminalist, 5 years of County service.



From Left: Meiling Cabral, Criminalist II, 5 years of City service, Club Member; and Katie Scriven, Criminalist, 7 years of City service.



Nicole Venegas, Criminalist Lab Tech, 5 years of County service.

## CITY EMPLOYEES AT WORK

Here's **Galen Osborne**, Maintenance Laborer, Public Works, 17 years of City service, Club Member, performing a slurry seal on Shirley Street.  
*Spotted by Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor*

**Juan**

**Andre**

It's aerification time at Harbor Golf. At the Harbor Park Golf Course, Maintenance Dept. employees **Juan Gutierrez, Gardener Caretaker**, applies top dressing to an aerified golf green, and **Andre Branch, Gardener Caretaker**, drags sand to fill holes from the aerification. Thanks to **Dwain Henry, Lead Sr. Gardener, Rec and Parks/Harbor Park Golf Course**, for submitting the photos of these City employees hard at work!

**Do you have a photo of City Employees on the job? Send it in and we might print it! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)**

# GRAB SOME CANDY!

**See's Candy, at a great Club discount.**

- SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS

**Would you like a pen with your company's name on it? How about a coffee mug or a mouse pad?**

[We also do Family Reunions]

**Call 323-667-1985**

*"If you can imagine it, we can create it."*

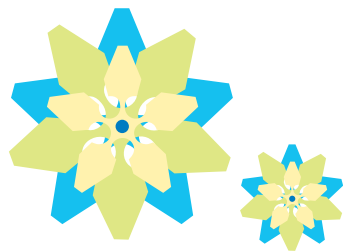
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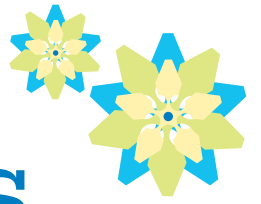
**We can print your name or logo on anything including the following:**  
Coffee Mugs, Pens, Watches, Clocks, T-Shirts, Magnets, Key Tags, Awards, Baseball Caps, Golf Items, Mouse Pads and More!

**[www.RosebudMarketing.com](http://www.RosebudMarketing.com)**





# Life's Important Moments



## Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? Get a promotion? We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or send paper notices and print photos to: Alive!, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

## Welcome New Members!

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

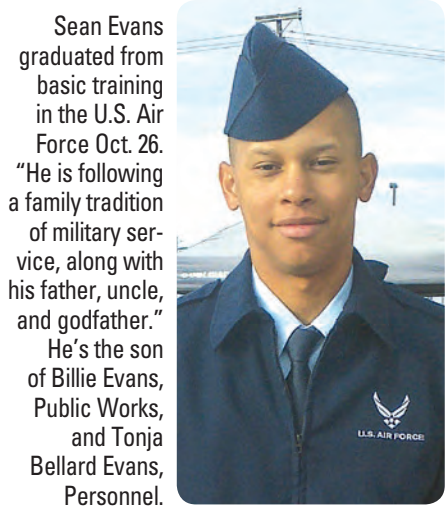
- |  |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Airports</b><br/>                 Maria Calderon<br/>                 Daniel Choi<br/>                 Alberto Gomez<br/>                 Leandra Gomez<br/>                 Lissay Ly<br/>                 Rafael Outley<br/>                 Renberto Palomeque<br/>                 Raul Reyes<br/>                 Sonya Sharp<br/>                 William Simmons<br/>                 Tierra Watkins</p> <p><b>City Attorney</b><br/>                 Raffy Astvasadoorian<br/>                 William Larsen<br/>                 Victor Martin<br/>                 Ana Muro</p> | <p>Jacqueline Turner</p> <p><b>LAFD</b><br/>                 Tom Valdespino</p> <p><b>General Services</b><br/>                 James Perry</p> <p><b>Harbor</b><br/>                 Erica Swift</p> <p><b>Housing</b><br/>                 Martha Yslas</p> <p><b>LAPD</b><br/>                 Juan Aragon<br/>                 Wusbaldob Batres<br/>                 Alan Boldman<br/>                 Roberto Bravo<br/>                 Juanita Brown</p> | <p>Jackquiline Burrough<br/>                 Guillermo Camarena<br/>                 Nobbie Carr<br/>                 Martha Castaneda<br/>                 Marleen Caudillo<br/>                 Jose Cuaresma<br/>                 Yvette Davis<br/>                 Irene Dela Rosa<br/>                 Andrew Fuentes<br/>                 Michael Gannon<br/>                 Raymond Green<br/>                 David Grimes<br/>                 Ronnesha Hunter<br/>                 Clarence Knox<br/>                 Leann Lansang<br/>                 Shannon Lopez<br/>                 Mayra Meza</p> | <p>Christopher Moore<br/>                 Daryl Mulligan<br/>                 Lazaro Ortega<br/>                 John Oliver Osorio<br/>                 Wanda Owens<br/>                 Evelyn Perez<br/>                 Javier Quinones<br/>                 Craig Rawls<br/>                 Gregory Reed<br/>                 Timothy Reyes<br/>                 Kelly Shannan<br/>                 Heidi Stoecklein<br/>                 Patricia Sutton<br/>                 Maureen Tuli<br/>                 Paul Vu<br/>                 Po-Chien Wang<br/>                 Kathy Williams</p> | <p><b>PUBLIC WORKS</b></p> <p><b>PW-Contract Administration</b><br/>                 Leodovico Obedoza<br/>                 Wendy Young</p> <p><b>PW-Sanitation</b><br/>                 Melford Oshon<br/>                 James Vaughn</p> <p><b>PW-Street Lighting</b><br/>                 Kevin Goldstein</p> <p><b>PW-Street Services</b><br/>                 Roque Argote<br/>                 Moses Merchain</p> <p><b>Rec &amp; Parks</b><br/>                 Shaquille Arellano<br/>                 Alicia Jimenez<br/>                 David Moreno</p> | <p>Jeremy Thomas</p> <p><b>Transportation</b><br/>                 Regina Donaldson<br/>                 Francisco Renteria<br/>                 Felicia Tate</p> <p><b>Retired</b><br/>                 Danilo Abalos<br/>                 Dorothy McFadgen<br/>                 Frank Noguera<br/>                 Barbara Ross<br/>                 Mattie Thompson</p> <p><b>DWP</b><br/>                 Rukshan Evans<br/>                 James Han<br/>                 Mark Hernandez<br/>                 Anthony Johnson</p> | <p>Licia King<br/>                 Richard Luna<br/>                 Joseph Maberto<br/>                 Darren Mould<br/>                 Daniel Prado<br/>                 Garrett Tatsumi</p> <p><b>Other</b><br/>                 Beatriz Cortez<br/>                 Mariana Guevara<br/>                 Barbara Guillory<br/>                 Sandra Margolis<br/>                 Veronica Mevorach<br/>                 Edvin Minasian<br/>                 Kenneth Platner<br/>                 Joanne Venditto<br/>                 Barbara Williams<br/>                 Bessie Williams</p> |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|

## Births

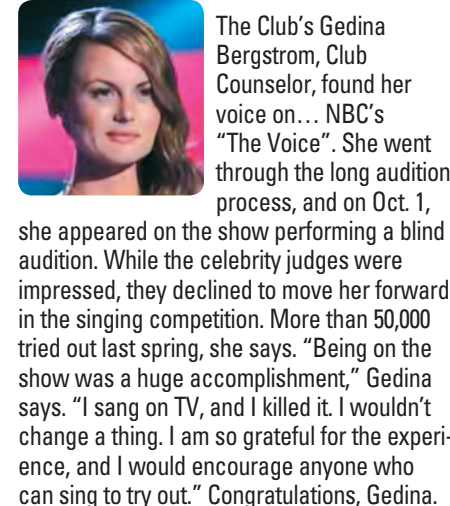


Alexander Ali Boulden, born Oct. 25 to Katrina and Alexander Boulden. Alexander Ali Boulden is the first grandson of, Dwain E. Henry, Lead Sr. Gardener, Rec and Parks, 28 years of service in the Golf Division.

## Special Achievements



Sean Evans graduated from basic training in the U.S. Air Force Oct. 26. "He is following a family tradition of military service, along with his father, uncle, and godfather." He's the son of Billie Evans, Public Works, and Tonja Bellard Evans, Personnel.



The Club's Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor, found her voice on... NBC's "The Voice". She went through the long audition process, and on Oct. 1, she appeared on the show performing a blind audition. While the celebrity judges were impressed, they declined to move her forward in the singing competition. More than 50,000 tried out last spring, she says. "Being on the show was a huge accomplishment," Gedina says. "I sang on TV, and I killed it. I wouldn't change a thing. I am so grateful for the experience, and I would encourage anyone who can sing to try out." Congratulations, Gedina.

## Military



Michael Hernandez (right) is a sharpshooter for the U.S. Army. He's the godson of Mike Perez, Retired (left). They are pictured at Ft. Jackson, S.C.

## In Memoriam

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

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Active</b><br/>                 Biggart, Thomas, DWP, 30<br/>                 Brown, Jimmie, DWP, 32<br/>                 Colombo, Helen, DWP, 13<br/>                 Dennison, Phillippa, Transportation, 22<br/>                 Hodges, Patrick, Harbor, 14<br/>                 Nocas, Andrew, City Attorney, 12<br/>                 Vega, Diane, Transportation, 3</p> <p><b>Retired</b><br/>                 Aldrete, Blas, DWP, 31<br/>                 Brambila, Luis, General Services, 31<br/>                 Brooks, Walter, DWP, 24<br/>                 Brown, Edgar, DWP, 32<br/>                 Brown, Roy, Municipal Auditorium, 22<br/>                 Buchanan, William, DWP, 31<br/>                 Callaway, Leon, Harbor, 35<br/>                 Cameron, David, Airports, 31<br/>                 Carmichael, Alonzo, Rec and Parks, 43</p> | <p>Charlton, Mary, Transportation, 7<br/>                 Cirel, Joseph, DWP, 19<br/>                 Collet, John, DWP, 35<br/>                 Corralejo, Joseph, DWP, 25<br/>                 Crooms, Van, DWP, 20<br/>                 Devezin, Lafayette, DWP, 21<br/>                 Dixon, Robert, DWP, 28<br/>                 Duffy, Jann, DWP, 22<br/>                 Escalante, Jose, DWP, 31<br/>                 Evans, Olga, DWP, 31<br/>                 Flores, Armando, Building and Safety, 41<br/>                 Foster, Curmit, DWP, 31<br/>                 Gamble, Donald, General Services, 33<br/>                 George, Martin, Public Works, 25<br/>                 Hastings Jr., Daniel, DWP, 35<br/>                 Hebert, Carlos, General Services, 15<br/>                 Hernandez, Andrew, DWP, 32<br/>                 Holmes, Lawrence, Public Works, 30<br/>                 Jackson, Arthur, Rec and Parks, 14</p> | <p>Joffe, Connie, Library, 27<br/>                 Jones, Dorothy, Building and Safety, 18<br/>                 Kinkella, Rudolph, DWP, 30<br/>                 Koeritz, Charles, DWP, 23<br/>                 Kreutz, Robert, Public Works, 11<br/>                 Kurita, Yoshio, Public Works, 23<br/>                 Lukas, Anton, LAPD, 13<br/>                 Marshall, Dennis, DWP, 35<br/>                 McPherson, Gene, Public Works, 37<br/>                 Meadows, Fred, Public Works, 24<br/>                 Meylach, Sol, DWP, 16<br/>                 Mitchell, Charles, Zoo, 35<br/>                 Mikol, Edward, DWP, 36<br/>                 Miller, Sheldon, DWP, 32<br/>                 Montgomery, Charles, Planning, 31<br/>                 Outley, Sandra, DWP, 30<br/>                 Pesqueira, Carmen, Personnel, 41<br/>                 Pettigrew, John, Public Works, 18<br/>                 Pierce, Kenneth, General Services, 23</p> | <p>Powell, Adrienne, Public Works, 31<br/>                 Ow, Everett, Public Works, 21<br/>                 Reed, David, Public Works, 10<br/>                 Reynolds, Edward, Public Works, 25<br/>                 Ross, Lanny, General Services, 30<br/>                 Rossmann, Donald, City Attorney, 22<br/>                 Ruscito, Angelo, Building and Safety, 21<br/>                 Sawyer, Elton, Public Works, 12<br/>                 Scheffler, Arlt, DWP, 11<br/>                 Thome, Frank, General Services, 12<br/>                 Thompson, Tommy, Public Works, 18<br/>                 Thun, Esau, DWP, 31<br/>                 Tomita, Toshiaki, DWP, 33<br/>                 Watanabe, Tom, General Services, 17<br/>                 White, Clayton, Public Works, 36<br/>                 Whitton, Robert, DWP, 19<br/>                 Willis, George, Public Works, 22<br/>                 Woo, Robert, DWP, 35,</p> |
|--|--|---|---|

## Graduations

Alive! is delighted to publish graduation photos of Club members and their children. Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Weddings

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

# Peace of Mind

by Tiffany Sy  
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert

## Long-Term Care and Retirement

There is a critical need in America to prepare consumers to afford the costs of long-term care. Long-term care insurance (LTCi) is designed to cover the costs associated with aging. LTCi provides benefits toward nursing care facility services, assisted living facility and in-home custodial care. There is a big misconception that health insurance or Medicare covers long-term care – it does not! Retirees can deplete their savings, assets, and retirement

income when the unexpected occurs. The need for long-term care arises and they are financially unprepared!

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles offers a group-exclusive long-term care insurance plan through Unum Life Insurance Company of America. This LTCi plan will provide a monthly benefit (\$1,000 – \$5,000) in the form of a tax-free check payable directly to the insured person to cover the cost of custodial, nursing and

assisted care. Our plan allows you the freedom to take this plan with you anywhere in the United States to any board licensed nursing care facility, assisted living facility or in the comfort of your own home.

Your age at the time of the application is also a determining factor of your premium. Our rates are fixed, which means they do not go up with age! The younger you are when you purchase the insurance, the lower your rates will be.

There is still time to lock in your rates for the 2013 calendar year on our group long-term care insurance plan for active employees, retirees, spouses and parents. Come in to the Club Store and see your benefit counselor before the end of the year for a consultation or call us for your information kit.

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



## Send Us Your Recipes!

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

# Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



## WINTER HOLIDAY KALE SALAD

Here's the final salad recipe for the year, and it ends with a family favorite called the Winter Holiday Kale Salad. Kale has seen limited uses in American cuisine, but this salad will do wonders for dinners this winter.

It has all the festive colors that most of us are familiar with, and has the kind of flavors that even the meat-and-potatoes relative will enjoy. The recipe begins with a buttermilk salad dressing that is very delicious yet so simple. It can even be used in sandwiches and wraps. Just think how well it would go with a leftover turkey or ham sandwich.

This salad can be used as a starter meal or it can be turned into a main course by adding chicken, turkey or salmon.

### Winter Holiday Kale Salad

Serves 2 to 4

#### INGREDIENTS:

##### Buttermilk Salad Dressing

- 3 tablespoons rice wine vinegar
- 1/3 cup sour cream
- 1/3 mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup buttermilk
- Salt and pepper to taste

##### Salad

- 3 cups cut kale
- 1/3 cup slivered or sliced almonds
- 1 granny apple, cubed
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup halved green beans

#### Cooking TIDBIT

You may substitute several ingredients if you don't have the others listed above:

- Sour cream – plain Greek yogurt
- Rice wine vinegar – lemon juice

#### [ A Cook's Dictionary ]



#### Kale:

Kale or borecole is a form of cabbage with green or purple leaves, in which the central leaves do not form a head. It is considered to be closer to wild cabbage than most domesticated forms.

Courtesy wikipedia.com

#### Directions for Buttermilk Dressing:



1

Place the ingredients in a whisking bowl and mix mayonnaise, sour cream, buttermilk and salt and pepper until ingredients have blended. Place dressing in refrigerator.

#### Directions for Salad:



2

Place kale, almonds, cubed apples pieces, cranberries and green beans in a large bowl. Bring out the dressing and drizzle about half the dressing onto the salad.



3

Toss the salad and ingredients lightly, coating as much as the kale as possible with the dressing. Add more dressing if it is your preference. Place on a salad dish.



4

Serve and enjoy!

### Food Quote

“Humble pie is much tastier than eating crow.”  
– **George Burns**





Lourdes Coronado as Marge from *The Simpsons*.



Deby Herdrich as Flo the Progressive Insurance Lady.



Cynthia Salas as *Dia De Los Muertos*.



Chris McNabb as Sally from *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.



Elizabeth Perales as a pumpkin lady.



Lily Gomez as an organic deviled egg.



Pauline Rios as a vampire.

## LAPD Costume Party

**9-1-1 Operators celebrate in their yearly style.**

*Photos courtesy Jean Sarfaty, LAPD Communications*

LAPD Communications Division/Valley Dispatch Center had its annual Halloween Costume Contest Oct. 31 with prizes and a costume parade featured. A delicious spooky potluck was shared by all.

Here are some of the costumes worn by various Police Service Representatives. The Metro Center also participated, but *Alive!* could not obtain their photos by press time.



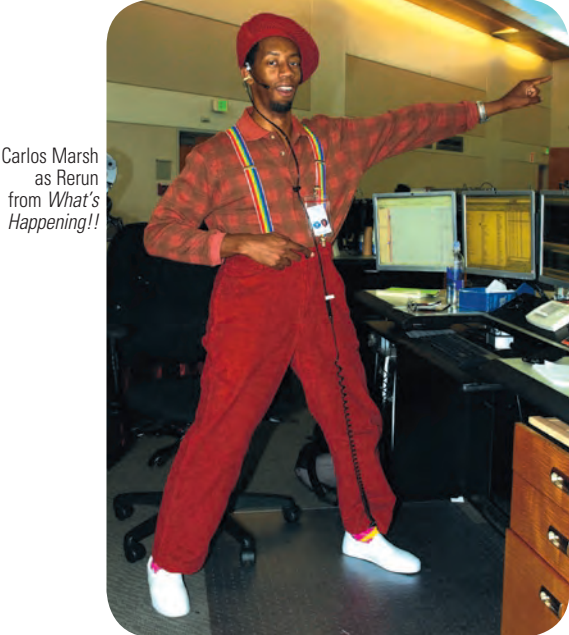
Gari Magistrado as the dog from *Wilfred*.



Sally Rayburn as a "Dancing Clown".



Wanda Williams as a cowgirl.



Carlos Marsh as Rerun from *What's Happening!!*



Cathy Sotos as an inmate.



Lorena Garcia as Wilma from *The Flintstones*.



Cheryl Garcia as a gladiator.



Jennifer Lindstrom as a witch.



Kara Adame as a hippie.



Julie Cesena as a she-devil.



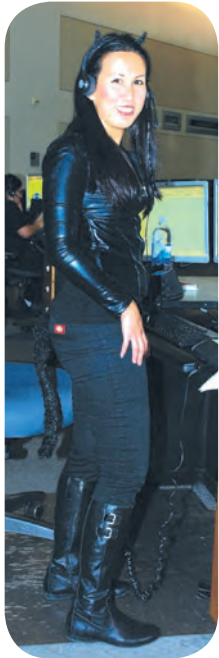
Sgt. Piceno as a fisherman.



Charlene Johnson as a she-devil.



Maria Lujan as a hippie.



Shannon Phanhong as a black cat.



Pam Liske as an "Angry Bird".



Glenda Richardson as Kim Kardashian with Kanye West.



Marissa Assaf as a modern wench.



# CLASSIFIED ADS

## Members Marketplace

### New Ads This Month!

**Free Dog:** 12 yr. old Shih Tzu, male. If interested, Charles Ella @ (818) 342-2774 or email charlesjones2@juno.com 12/12

**First Edition Book:** *Gone with the Wind*, hard cover book, written in 1936. Good condition. Asking \$1000 OBO. Lauretta Hall @ (323)751-3203. 12/12

**Kendon dual motorcycle Trailer:** Purchased 2006. Fold/standup type. Stored inside. Storage box, LED lights & moving dolly. \$2,000. Don @ (213)434-0214, days. 12/12

**Country Style Round Table:** (48" diameter x 29" H) w/ 4 chairs "As Is". Good condition & durable. \$135 OBO. Great table & chairs for the holidays! Info @ (310) 833-6801.12/12

**2008 Providence 40X Diesel RV:** 360HP Cummings 8.3 L, 5-speed Allison transmission. 35,000 miles w/3 slide outs, 5-TVs. Many upgrades, \$145K. Mike White @ (661) 904-2234. 12/12

**2007 Harley-Davidson: Screamin Eagle (cvo) motorcycle,** 750 miles. Showroom perfect. Some custom mods. 35k new. Sell for 30k. Don @ (213) 434-0214, days. 12/12

**Sofa: Corner Group w/ Ottoman** Price: \$450 OBO. Like new, 3 years old. Microfiber. Comes w/ pillows & ottoman. Rob @ (626) 827-4386. 5/12

**Vintage 1950's Bamboo Furniture:** 5-piece retro-deco set. Perfect for Tiki Room, Man Cave or Palm Springs home. Slip covered w/50's type Hawaiian fabric. Awesome condition, no tears/fading. Sacrifice at \$1,800 must downsize. More pictures available upon request. Nels @ (818) 781-1747. 5/12

**Broyhill Dining Set:** 48" X 48" glass table top w/ white base & 4 chairs. Originally bought for \$2,000. Great condition. \$700 OBO. Matt @ (818)807-4254. 2/12

**Headboard:** Queen size, solid oak 72"H x 65"W x 17"D. Four drawers, 2 lights, plug bar. Missing one mirror. Very good condition. \$175 OBO. John @ (626) 584-1302. 1/12

**For Rent:** Cozy single family Craftsman House in North Alhambra: 3BD + bonus room/1BA in desirable school district. Spacious backyard, inviting front porch, driveway & garage. Laundry room, fireplace, dining room & new flooring. Sorry, no pets. \$1400/mo + security deposit. Shubingyu2000@yahoo.com 4/12

**For Rent:** Charming House, 1BD + Den, 1BA, 1-car garage. Front & backyard w/covered patio. Glendale area of Crescenta Valley. \$1,400. Farah @ (310) 703-2897. 4/12

**For Sale:** 10 Acre property in Acton. Ready to build. Grading done. Beautiful 360 views. Utilities available. \$165K. Bill @ (661) 400-9893. 3/12

#### Household Items

**Cuckoo Clock:** Beautiful & musical 26", 8-day, hunter style, carved wood. Reduced price \$850. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12

**TV:** 50 inch lg plasma tv, needs a circuit board. Reduced price \$195. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12

**Refrigerator:** L.G. 26.5 cu.ft capacity side by side, ice & water dispensing; system-LED lighting & digital temp. Controls, like new, great bay, only \$500. Rosemary @ (951)218-4414. 11/12

**Christian Dior China:** 12 place settings, pattern "Casablanca", 5-pieces per setting, unused. \$400 each OBO. Christal @ (213) 978-6843. 4/12

**Estate Sale:** Brand new daybed & bunkbeds w/ mattresses. Like new Maytag stacked washer/gas dryer & portable A/C unit on wheels. Gloria @ (323) 737-5342. 4/12

#### Miscellaneous

**Airless Paint Sprayer:** 2750 piston pump, 25' hose, metal spray gun, simplified set-up & clean-up, 2 gal. capacity, only \$75. Rosemary @ (951)218-4414. 11/12

**Snap-on Tool Box:** Classic 78, great condition, pinstripe on side of box. 51" Wide x 21" Deep x 44" High. \$2,200 OBO. Ben @ (818)497-3394. 9/12

**Many Items:** Lexmark X2470 Color Printer \$90, Gossen Luna Pro SBC Light Meter \$100, Kodak Brownie 8 Projector \$25, Radio Shack Computer Chess Game \$25, Kato Unitrack HO Track Set w/Powerpack \$40, Polaroid Model 95 Camera \$25, Pontiac Rally Wheel Inserts (Red PMD) \$60. Info @ (213) 792-3130. 8/12

**Air Compressor:** Twin pack 5 gal 3HP115 volts, Craftsman brad nailer, air drive, new, used in my home 2 days, make offer. George @ (818) 764-2091. 8/12

**Boxing Gloves:** Plus head gear, like new. Size LG/XLG, \$85. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 7/12

**Thomas Kinkadee Art:** I have 5 paintings that I need to sell. Canvas paintings various series, 3 mountain scenes, 1 Christmas & flag over New York. Please email chalkatkmahon@aol.com & we will send more information. 5/12

**Deluxe Organ:** Upright Lowrey Genius Model G-160, w/two 44-note keyboards & 13 pedals. 36"H x 43"W x 23.5"D, 120 lbs. \$800 OBO. Christal @ (213) 978-6843. 4/12

**iPad Tablet Cleaner:** The "iSlip" & "iSlipTuFF" @ Cooper-Product.com. Free shipping. Available in 13 colors, \$8.95 to CECLA, use Discount Code: CECLA. 1/12

**Casiotone 401 keyboard:** Manual, cover, foot pedal. Mint condition \$200. Specifications, photos at "casiotonecollection.blogspot.com/2009/11/casiotone-401". Song books, Metronome available. Frances Mooney @ (310) 324-3117. 1/12

#### Travel / Timeshare

**Timeshare:** 2BD suite, sleep up to 8. Various locations including Hawaii, Mexico, Caribbean & more. Great prices ranging from \$700 to \$1500 a week depending on location & season. Charles Ella @ (818)342-2774 or charles-jones2@juno.com 10/12

**Classified Submission Deadline:**  
**12/10/2012**  
for publication in the January issue of *Alive!*

**FREE CLASSIFIED ADS**

**CLUB MEMBERS:** to place your free classified ad

send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to **classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com**

We'll run your ad in the next available issue on a space available basis. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

**Timeshare:** Mayan Sea Gardens/Acapulco 2 units, 1BD, full kit & living rm, each sleeps 4 privately. Sep 28-Oct 5 or Oct 5-12, 2012. Rent 1 unit or both, 1 wk or both. 7 nights - \$600/per unit, \$1000/both. Info @ (972) 291-2871. 8/12

**Vacation Rental:** Lake Tahoe Cabin in beautiful forest setting. 4BD/3 BA, large deck, BBQ, satellite TV. Close to beach, bike path, stables, boat launch, hiking, casinos. Jess @ (626) 797-5992. 3/12

**Timeshare:** Cancun Mexico. Fiesta Americana, 2BD, silver package. Earns 3500 pts annually. Feet from the sand, 5 minutes walk to town. Serious buyers info @ (562) 447-3189. 1/12

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

**Mountain Lake campground membership:** 2 life time. Paid \$9,000 asking \$4,500 OBO. Details @ (909) 606-5633. 4/11

**Sunset World Timeshare:** Cancun, Mexico. Sleeps 4 facing ocean. Avail: anytime except weekends of July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year. \$600/7 days Saturday to Saturday. Available starting April. Gina @ (818) 265-5940. 3/11

#### Wanted

**Wanted:** I buy all kinds of collectibles: crystal, Disney, fishing gear, military items, musical instruments, pocket knives, gold & silver. Radko, WDCC. Michael @ (626) 592-2929. 11/12

**Wanted:** Looking for a 2BD+, w/d hookup preferred, garage in San Pedro or within 5 miles. Maximum Rent \$1100. Contact: a.townsend78@gmail.com 9/12

**Wanted:** Do you have a Desert Tortoise looking for a new "approved" home? Marcell Baines @ (310) 323-5313. 7/12

**Wanted:** Female roommate w/ child ok, share 2BD apt w/pool/Jacuzzi/sports/gym. Deb @ (424) 772-8356. 5/12

**Wanted:** 35mm slide projector, Kodak Carousel 850 Auto-Focus. Harold @ (818) 892-9328. 7/11

#### Transport



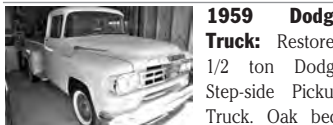
**Bass Fishing Boat:** Goldstream 18', 1973 has bait tank, 6 seats, trailer w/2 extra spare tires. Reduced price \$3,500. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12



**Bayliner Boat:** 24', 1999 cabin cruiser, loaded. Kitchen, dining, 2BD/1BA. Reduced price \$27,000. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12



**Road Bike:** 9-speed, 22" Red FELT F85. Sole owner, 100 miles total. Asking \$300. Denise @ (323) 697-8299. 10/12



**1959 Dodge Truck:** Restored 1/2 ton Dodge Step-side Pickup Truck. Oak bed. \$18,000. Jim @ (818) 825-0091. 9/12

**Wheels:** 22" Makaveli 3 piece rims w/tires. \$1500, very good condition. Info @ (310)628-3477. 8/12



**Coachmen RV 2005:** Purchased in 06 in excellent condition. 27 ft. Sleeps 8-10. 2 pop-outs, AC, 2 awnings, full bath w/extra outdoor shower. Asking \$18,000. Fernando Torres @ (562)900-9229, email: D7thson@yahoo.com 8/12



**2004 Harley Davidson:** XL1200R Sportster w/ screaming eagle kit, under 3500 miles. \$5,000. Jerry Napier @ (310) 392-2841 or jerry.napier@me.com 8/12

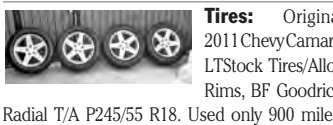


**2006 BMW 525i:** white w/ tan interior. \$14,000. Great condition, 99k miles, automatic, factory rims, professionally serviced. Fun reliable sporty car. Anthony @ (909) 964-3210. 8/12



**Campagnolo Chorus 9 Speed Group Bike Parts:** Classic Italian style, 1996 Campy Chorus Road Group. Includes brakes, cranks, bottom bracket, chainrings & ergo shifters. \$500. Contact michelle.mowery@lacity.org 6/12w

**Vintage Schwinn Unicycle:** Classic 1960's, in good condition. \$75. Contact michelle.mowery@lacity.org 6/12



**Tires:** Original 2011 Chevy Camaro LT Stock Tires/Alloy Rims, BF Goodrich Radial T/A P245/55 R18. Used only 900 miles. \$700 cash/OBO. Troy @ (213) 216-3765. 6/12

**2005 Harley Davidson:** Custom wheels, lots of chrome, air ride system. \$16K OBO. Info @ (213) 842-2648. 6/12

**2007 V-Star 1300 Touring Edition Motorcycle:** 48k FWY miles, runs perfect! Black & Chrome, new tires, cover included, gets 45 mpg. \$5,500 OBO. Bill @ (661) 400-9893. 3/12

**2001 Honda-70 Dirt Bike:** Great condition, original owner, serviced annually & well maintained. No clutch, great for beginners. \$700 OBO. Info @ (562) 447-3189. 1/12



**Custom 2004 Harley XLH 1200:** custom chromed pipes & paint, completely tricked out show bike. 27K miles. \$12,000 OBO. Juandessa Johnson @ (310) 213-3321 or tj4bj5@gmail.com 11/12

#### Cemetery Plots

**2 Cemetery Plots:** Valhalla Cemetery in North Hollywood, Lot 19 & 20, Section 470, Block H. \$7,000 for both. Thomas @ (602) 770-9389. 11/12

**2 Cemetery Plots:** Garden of Benevolence @ Rose Hills Memorial Park-Whittier, CA. 1 for \$2,500 - both for \$4,800. Peggy @ (951) 486-3767. 11/12

**4 Cemetery Plots:** For sale by owner. Adjacent. Panoramic views in Hillside Section of Forest Lawn Hollywood Cemetery. 1- Plot: \$3,500. 4-Plots: \$12,800. Jason @ (949) 466-8542. 10/12

**2 Cemetery Plots:** Side-by-side, Garden of Commemoration, Lot 515 for \$5,800 including transfer fees in Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier. Ernie or Celia @ (323) 257-8887. 10/12

**4 Cemetery Plots:** Burial plots (1-4 side by side) at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Covina, CA. In Cherished Memory Section 1617 (near the road). \$3,300 each OBO. Betty @ (626) 286-8649. 8/12

**Cemetery Plot:** Inglewood Cemetery, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, Sanctuary of Grace, 243 double capacity crypt Tier-3, \$10,000 OBO. Dennis @ (661) 433-1912. 6/12

#### Furniture

**Desk:** Mahogany wood, cute, 4 drawers on each side, case slot top, + small drawers inside when lid opens. Reduced price \$250. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12

**Dresser w/ mirror & 1 night stand.** Brand new still in the box, only wanted bed assembly. Purchased entire bedroom set for \$1500. Asking \$400 for these 3 items. John @ (626) 757-5341 or igonzlz@hotmail.com 8/12

**Leather recliner,** Thomasville. Price \$150 OBO. Rob @ (626) 827-4386. 7/12





# discount tickets available at LA City Employees Club

## december movie releases

- SO UNDER-COVER – 12/7
- HYDE PARK ON HUDSON – 12/7
- PLAYING FOR KEEPS – 12/7
- THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY (IMAX/3D) – 12/14
- GUILT TRIP – 12/19
- MONSTERS INC (3D) – 12/19
- ZERO DARK THIRTY – 12/19
- THE IMPOSSIBLE – 12/21
- CIRQUE DE SOLEIL: WORLDS AWAY (3D) – 12/21
- JACK REACHER – 12/21
- THIS IS FORTY – 12/21
- PARENTAL GUIDANCE – 12/25
- LES MISERABLES – 12/25
- DJANGO UNCHAINED – 12/25
- QUARTET – 12/28



## HOLIDAY SNOW DAYS

Nov. 23 – Dec. 31

## SAVE UP TO \$30

per ticket and receive a 2nd day FREE!

Holiday Snow Days are back Nov. 23 – Dec. 31! Play in real snow, build a snowman with LEGO® accessories and enjoy festive entertainment and décor including the World's largest LEGO Christmas tree and life-size LEGO Santa. The holiday spirit continues after the sun goes down with Winter Nights, Saturdays from Nov. 23 – Dec. 31. There will also be nightly fireworks Dec. 26-31 and our annual Kids' New Year's Eve Party!

All visits must be used before the ticket expiration date.

Discount tickets can be purchased at the LA City Employees Club (888) 777-1744.

**WINTER NIGHTS**  
NEW 5-7pm  
Saturday  
Nights  
Nov. 24 - Dec. 30



  
**LEGOLAND**  
CALIFORNIA RESORT  
LEGOLAND.com

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# THE Club Store

Prices effective 12/1/2012 through 12/31/2012.

To place an order visit us at:  
**WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM**

Ordering online is fast and easy!

	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
<b>Theatre Tickets</b>				
<b>AMC</b>				
Restricted Tickets	\$13.50	<b>\$6.25</b>	X	= \$
Good Any Time	\$13.50	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
Small Popcorn	\$5.50	<b>\$3.25</b>	X	= \$
Small Drink	\$4.50	<b>\$3.25</b>	X	= \$
Movie Pack	\$35.00	<b>\$24.50</b>	X	= \$
<i>Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drink concession and 1 small popcorn concession.</i>				
<b>California Science Center IMAX</b>				
Adult	\$ 8.25	<b>\$6.00</b>	X	= \$
Child (4-12)	\$5.00	<b>\$4.50</b>	X	= \$
<b>Cinemark Theatres</b>				
Good Any Time	\$10.75	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Galaxy Theatres – Good Any Time <span style="color:red">New</span></b>				
	\$11.00	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Harkins Movie Theatres</b>				
Restricted	\$10.00	<b>\$6.25</b>	X	= \$
Good Any Time	\$10.00	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Krikorian Theatres – Good Any Time</b>				
	\$11.00	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Laemmle Theatres – Good Any Time</b>				
	\$11.00	<b>\$6.25</b>	X	= \$
<b>Landmark Theaters <span style="color:red">New</span></b>				
Good Any Time	\$12.50	<b>\$8.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>\$1.50 surcharge for use at West LA; \$2.50 for 3-D.</i>				
<b>Pacific Theatres</b>				
Restricted	\$12.50	<b>\$6.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>\$2 surcharge for use at Groce, not valid at Arclight.</i>				
Gift Book	\$40.00	<b>\$27.75</b>	X	= \$
<i>2 unrestricted admissions, 2 medium drinks, 1 medium popcorn.</i>				
<b>Rave Motion Pictures "Rave 18"</b>				
Restricted <i>Formerly "The Bridge"</i>	\$14.00	<b>\$6.25</b>	X	= \$
Good Any Time	\$14.00	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Regal/Edwards Cinema/United Artists</b>				
Restricted	\$12.50	<b>\$6.75</b>	X	= \$
Good Any Time	\$12.50	<b>\$7.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Regency Theatres – Good Any Time</b>				
	\$11.50	<b>\$7.25</b>	X	= \$
<b>UltraStar Cinemas</b>				
Good Any Time	\$10.00	<b>\$6.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Tickets can be upgraded for 3-D, IMAX, or ETX.</i>				

## Attraction Tickets

<b>Adventure City</b>				
Adult/Child	\$14.95	<b>\$10.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Aquarium of the Pacific</b>				
Adult	\$24.95	<b>\$17.25</b>	X	= \$
Child (3-11)	\$12.95	<b>\$10.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 6/30/2013.</i>				
<b>Boomer's Family Fun Centers</b>				
All Day Pass	\$24.99	<b>\$16.25</b>	X	= \$
<b>Catalina</b>				
Island Express – Round Trip	Adult \$72.50	<b>\$60.75</b>	X	= \$
	Child \$57.00	<b>\$51.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2012. Not valid 5/26-28, 7/3-5, 9/1-3.</i>				
<b>Cleopatra at the California Science Center <span style="color:red">New</span></b>				
Adult	\$19.75	<b>\$15.00</b>	X	= \$
Child (4-12)	\$12.75	<b>\$12.75</b>	X	= \$
<i>Child ticket not discounted, must redeem at the box office for timed ticket.</i>				
<b>Davey's Locker <span style="color:red">Buy 1, Get 1 FREE!</span></b>				
Whale Watching	Adult \$30.00	<b>\$21.00</b>	X	= \$
	Child \$25.00	<b>\$17.00</b>	X	= \$
Sportfishing – 1/2 Day	Adult \$40.00	<b>\$30.25</b>	X	= \$
	Child \$29.00	<b>\$25.75</b>	X	= \$
Sportfishing – Full Day	Adult \$69.00	<b>\$56.25</b>	X	= \$
	Child \$55.00	<b>\$47.75</b>	X	= \$
<b>Disneyland/California Adventure</b>				
1-Day 1-Park	Adult \$87.00	<b>\$83.75</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-9) \$81.00	<b>\$78.00</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2013.</i>				
1-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$125.00	<b>\$114.50</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-9) \$119.00	<b>\$109.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2013.</i>				
2-Day 1-Park	Adult \$170.00	<b>\$158.50</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-9) \$158.00	<b>\$147.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2013.</i>				
2-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$200.00	<b>\$180.25</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-9) \$188.00	<b>\$169.50</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2013.</i>				
SoCal Select Annual Passport	\$269.00	<b>\$255.75</b>	X	= \$
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. Valid 170 days.</i>				
SoCal Annual Passport	\$329.00	<b>\$312.75</b>	X	= \$
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. Valid 215 days.</i>				
Deluxe Annual Passport	\$469.00	<b>\$445.75</b>	X	= \$
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. Valid 315 days.</i>				
Premium Annual Passport w/Parking	\$649.00	<b>\$616.75</b>	X	= \$
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. No blackout dates.</i>				
<b>Golf N' Stuff</b>				
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband: Norwalk location	\$30.00	<b>\$16.25</b>	X	= \$
All Park Pass: Ventura location	\$20.00	<b>\$15.25</b>	X	= \$
<b>K1 Speed Racing</b>				
Admit one	\$25.95	<b>\$15.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>This pass entitles the owner to one 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day. Minimum height requirement 4'10".</i>				
<b>Knott's Berry Farm</b>				
1-Day	Adult \$57.99	<b>\$31.25</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-11) \$28.99	<b>\$22.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2012.</i>				
<b>LA Zoo</b>				
Adult	\$16.00	<b>\$11.25</b>	X	= \$
Child (2-12)	\$11.00	<b>\$8.25</b>	X	= \$
<b>Legoland</b>				
Adult	\$75.00	<b>\$55.25</b>	X	= \$
Child (3-11)	\$65.00	<b>\$55.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2012. Comes with 2nd day free to use within 90 days of 1st use.</i>				
Sea Life Resort Hopper	Adult \$95.00	<b>\$65.25</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-11) \$85.00	<b>\$65.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2012. Pass includes admission to Legoland, Sea Life Aquarium and the new waterpark. Ticket comes with a second day free to all 3 attractions.</i>				
Annual Pass	Adult \$179.00	<b>\$169.50</b>	X	= \$
	Child (3-11) \$149.00	<b>\$139.50</b>	X	= \$
<i>Available through our website only. Pass must be activated within 90 days of purchase. Expiration 1-year from activation.</i>				
<b>Madame Tussauds Wax Attraction</b>				
Adult	\$25.00	<b>\$12.25</b>	X	= \$
Child (4-12)	\$18.00	<b>\$10.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2012.</i>				
<b>Magic Mountain</b>				
General Admission (3 and up)	\$64.99	<b>\$34.99</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 9/30/2013.</i>				

Only available online through our website as E-tickets

	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL	
<b>Attraction Tickets, continued</b>					
<b>Medieval Times</b>					
Adult	\$57.95	<b>\$43.75</b>	X	= \$	
Child (0-12)	\$35.95	<b>\$31.75</b>	X	= \$	
<i>Not valid 12/31/2012.</i>					
<b>Mulligan's Family Fun Center</b>					
All Day Pass	Adult/Child \$23.99	<b>\$16.75</b>	X	= \$	
<i>Restrictions: Pass gives 1 Adult or Child unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway and the Rock Wall. This ticket is valid Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, major holidays and everyday during the summer. Attractions vary per location. Certain height, weight, restrictions may apply. This ticket is accepted at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</i>					
Gift Certificate	\$15.00	<b>\$10.25</b>	X	= \$	
<b>Pirates Dinner Adventure</b>					
Adult	\$56.95	<b>\$36.00</b>	X	= \$	
Child	\$37.95	<b>\$27.50</b>	X	= \$	
<i>Expires 11/30/2013.</i>					
<b>Queen Mary</b>					
Adult	\$24.95	<b>\$20.25</b>	X	= \$	
Child (4-11)	\$21.95	<b>\$10.50</b>	X	= \$	
<b>San Diego Safari Park</b>					
Adult	\$44.00	<b>\$35.75</b>	X	= \$	
Child (3-11)	\$34.00	<b>\$27.75</b>	X	= \$	
2-Visit Pass	Adult \$79.00	<b>\$63.25</b>	X	= \$	
	Child (3-11) \$61.00	<b>\$48.75</b>	X	= \$	
<i>May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</i>					
<b>San Diego Zoo</b>					
Adult	\$44.00	<b>\$35.75</b>	X	= \$	
Child (3-11)	\$34.00	<b>\$27.75</b>	X	= \$	
2-Visit Pass	Adult \$79.00	<b>\$63.25</b>	X	= \$	
	Child (3-11) \$61.00	<b>\$48.75</b>	X	= \$	
<i>May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</i>					
<b>Santa Monica Pier/Pacific Park</b>					
Unlimited Wristband	\$18.95	<b>\$13.00</b>	X	= \$	
<i>Expires 1/7/2013.</i>					
<b>Sea World San Diego</b>					
1-Day	Adult \$78.00	<b>\$58.25</b>	X	= \$	
	Child (3-9) \$65.00	<b>\$58.25</b>	X	= \$	
Fun Card <span style="color:red">New</span>	Adult \$78.00	<b>\$65.25</b>	X	= \$	
	Child (3-9) \$70.00	<b>\$65.25</b>	X	= \$	
<i>Fun Card only available as an E-ticket by calling the Club Store. Must supply names and birthdates for each attendee.</i>					
<b>Speedzone</b>					
3 Hour Unlimited Pass	\$49.99	<b>\$25.25</b>	X	= \$	
<i>Unlimited use of rides and Mini-golf. Expires 1/25/2013.</i>					
<b>Universal Studios</b>					
Buy 1-Day; get 2-Days free!	Adult/Child (under 48")	\$77.00	<b>\$69.00</b>	X	= \$
<i>Expires 12/31/2012.</i>					

## Gift Certificates

<b>See's Candies</b>				
Gift Certificate (1 lb.)	\$16.90	<b>\$12.25</b>	X	= \$
<i>Limit of 12 certificates at this price. See back page for details.</i>				

## Shipping & Handling

<b>Tax</b> (only applicable to all merchandise, not on tickets)	X	8.75%	= \$
<b>Tickets: First Class Mail w/ Delivery Confirmation</b>	\$2.99	x	1 = \$
<b>Tickets: Certified Mail (requires a Signature upon Delivery)</b>	\$4.99	x	1 = \$
<b>Tickets: Priority Mail (2-3 Days)</b>	\$7.00	x	1 = \$
<b>Hats, Watches, Clothing, etc. (all merchandise)</b>	\$7.50	(any quantity)	= \$

<b>SUBTOTAL</b>						<b>\$</b>
<b>Merchandise</b>						
ITEM:	SIZE	COLOR	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL	
ITEM:	= \$					
ITEM:	= \$					
ITEM:	= \$					
ITEM:	= \$					
<b>TOTAL (please include shipping)</b>						<b>\$</b>

*\*\*Please be aware that black-out dates and restrictions may apply to the use of discounted tickets.*

To order by Credit Card visit us at  
**www.cityemployeesclub.com**

To order by Phone:  
Call (888) 777-1744

To order by Mail:  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles,  
120 West 2nd Street,  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Check or Money Order (please paper clip to order form)  
Make checks payable to City Employees Club of Los Angeles*

## Member Information

Member's name		
Home Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Work Phone	
Club Member Number		

- ALL TICKETS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES MAY CHANGE.
- DO NOT SEND CASH – ALL SALES ARE FINAL – NO REFUNDS.
- All checks and credit cards have to be issued by the member. Third party checks and credit cards will not be accepted.
- When visiting Club offices, only the first 15-minutes of parking will be validated.
- Tickets must be mailed to your home address.
- City Employees Club of Los Angeles cannot be held responsible for money or tickets lost in the mail.
- For your convenience, the Club accepts VISA or MasterCard.
- **Maximum 12 tickets per event/theatre/attraction per order.**
- Allow 3 to 7 days for delivery.





# John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins,  
Club CEO

WIN A  
**\$25** TARGET  
GIFT CARD



"This photo was taken on a recent trip to Niagara Falls just as the light show began. It was super cold out, but the view was not to be missed!"

– **Leticia Barnes, LAFD/Accounting**

**John's comment:** What a beautiful photo, Leticia. It's calming yet so powerful! Thank you!



"'Silent Night' – quite possibly the only time of the year that my niece pays enough attention to sing the iconic song. No instruments, just the participants and the angelic chords of the choir group. Happy Holidays to everyone."

– **Dominique Daito**

**John's comment:** Dominique, this is truly beautiful, and "Silent Night" is the perfect song for this picture.



"My son, Collin, and I."

– **Demian Wyma, LAPD**

**John's comment:** How cuuute! You guys are awesome!



"The view from atop Mt. Lee looking south with downtown L.A. to the left and the Hollywood Reservoir to the right."

– **Gregory Park, Transportation**

**John's comment:** What a skyline! You picked a perfect day for a shot like this. Long live Hollywood!

## RULES:

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



"It's Election Day, and our daughter, Aryel, voted for the first time. My husband, Billie and I are so proud of her for exercising her right to vote and not taking for granted all of the sacrifices that so many made for this opportunity to be possible for a young woman in 2012! Yay, Aryel!"

– **Tonja Bellard Evans, Personnel**

**John's comment:** That's right, Yay Aryel! I spent four years in the Navy to ensure we continue with our democratic process. Thanks, Ary, for making it worth it!



# The Club Store is Your Holiday Gift Headquarters

## DECEMBER Product Highlights



Stop by the Club Store today and take care of all your holiday shopping all in one place!

### More Cool Gift Ideas Available at the Club Store

- 1 City Seal Mugs**  
Available colors in Blue, Brown, and White  
\$6.50-Regular | **\$5 Member**
- 2 City Seal Clock**  
\$23.90-Regular | **\$18 Member**
- 3 Stainless Steel Travel Clock**  
\$13-Regular | **\$10 Member**
- 4 City Seal One Color Hoodie**  
Available colors in Navy and Black with sizes from extra small - XXXX Large  
\$45.50-Regular | **\$35 Member**
- 5 City Seal French Terry Hoodie**  
Available colors in Heather Navy and Salt and Pepper with sizes from extra small - XX Large  
\$48.10-Regular | **\$37 Member**
- 6 City Seal Engraved Pen**  
(Available colors and Black, Charcoal, Khaki, Navy with sizes in Small to XX Large.  
\$25.99-Regular | **\$19.99 Member**
- 7 City Seal Cap**  
One Size Fits All - Available colors in Black, Khaki, and Orange  
\$11-Regular | **\$8 Member** | **\$5 Member Sale**
- 8 City Seal Cap with Script**  
One Size Fits All - Available colors in Black, Khaki, Navy, and Orange  
\$11-Regular | **\$8 Member** | **\$5 Member Sale**
- 9 LA Hall Cap**  
One Size Fits All - Available colors in Black, Khaki, Navy, and Orange  
\$10.40-Regular | **\$8 Member**
- 10 B-15 Pilot Messenger Bag**  
Vintage Style Bags with available colors in Olive Drab, Khaki, and Black  
\$64-Regular | **\$49 Member**
- 11 Medic Bag**  
Vintage Style Bags with available colors in Khaki and Black  
\$23-Regular | **\$17 Member**
- 12 Classic Messenger Bag**  
Vintage Style Bags with additional colors selection at [www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)  
\$42-Regular | **\$32 Member**
- 13 Two Compartment Travel Case**  
Vintage Style Bags with available colors in Olive Drab and Black  
\$13-Regular | **\$10 Member**
- 14 Vintage Tech Bag**  
Vintage Style Bags with available colors in Olive Drab, Khaki, and Black  
\$24-Regular | **\$18 Member**
- 15 Vintage Organizer Bag**  
Vintage Style Bags with available colors in Olive Drab  
\$24-Regular | **\$18 Member**



Prices effective 12/1/2012 through 12/31/2012.

Order your gifts at [www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)





# The Ultimate Christmas Gift



**Club Member  
Holiday Gift Special**  
Gift Certificate for 1lb of Chocolate

**\$12.25**  
Retail Price \$16.90

Limit 12 at this price

Additional certificates can be purchased at the regular member discount price

This Club Special Expires 12/31/2012



City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
120 W. Second St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Ticket Hotline (888) 777-1744

Order your gifts at [www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)