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Public Works

Waste Not

Sanitation's Traci Minamide is leading the City into a future of innovative wastewater recycling and clean water operations.

SEE
PAGE
20



Traci Minamide, LA Sanitation's Chief Operating Officer, 33 years of City service, at the City's Hyperion Treatment Plant, one of the biggest water reclamation plants in the country.

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

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Cheaper Is Better! Start Saving!

SEE PAGE 38

Here Are

The Four Most Important Things You'll Ever Need.

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A Message From the CEO

Toward a Cleaner Future

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

Treating the City's wastewater is probably not something you think about a lot ... unless of course you work for Public Works, or you're otherwise interested in how cities work.

But that's why the City employs a bunch of very smart people in our LA Sanitation department. While we go on presuming that water treatment is being handled, the professionals are stopping to think – what is the best way to treat the water? Is it enough just to scrub it a little and pump it into the ocean?



From left: Club COO Robert Larios; Sanitation COO Traci Minamide; and Club Director of Marketing Summy Lam overlooking the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant and the Pacific Ocean in Playa del Rey.

Not anymore, by a long shot. The City of LA is way beyond that. LA is on a constant mission to try to reclaim as much of the wastewater as possible, and even to create energy out of the operation, and make a statement about how to live sustainably. They are *on* it, as people say these days. And they're doing a great job.

That's what I learned from reading the in-depth interview this month with **Traci Minamide**, LA Sanitation's Chief Operating Officer and one of the top female Sanitation professionals in the world. The City is in good hands with experts like Traci figuring out how to make a better, cleaner world. I learned a lot, and I hope you do, too.

Moving on ... to one of my favorite stories of the year, our Baker to Vegas recap. It's our 14th year of sponsoring teams in this incredible event that seems to grow every year. The relay race is a 120-mile, 20-stage footrace between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas created and managed by our friends at the Los Angeles Police Rotary and Athletic Club. We're grateful for their leadership.



LA County Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Club Member, and Club Director of Product Development Arlene Herrero, at this year's Baker to Vegas in Las Vegas.

I want to give a shout-out to our own crew of Baker to Vegas "participants" – **Arlene Herrero**, Club Director of Product Development; **Dalila Vielma**, Club Counselor, and photographer **Daniel Wang**. They cover this long, arduous weekend every year in an incredible way, really, like no other publication I know. Of course their effort isn't quite as daunting as that of the runners (!), but their job is harder than you might think. Their effort exemplifies how the Club celebrates the lives of City employees in amazing ways. We don't know any other way to do it except the best we can. Enjoy!

Speaking of law enforcement, I want to mention the retirements of three LAPD notables who have helped us big time over the years. First, I'm sure you've heard about **Chief Charlie Beck**, who retired in late June. But I also want to mention **Det. Supervisor Scott Walton**, Club Member and leader the LA Police Emerald Pipes and Drums band, which we featured on our cover a few years ago. (Fun story!) And then there's **Sue Brockbank**, Assistant Lab Director of the LAPD Crime Lab, who helped us in *many* ways during our years-long series on the lab. We wish them the best and hope to have more on their retirements in future issues.

Have you applied for a Club Scholarship? Don't wait! The deadline is the end of this month.

This summer, don't forget to take advantage of all the special Club Store offers and benefits! Save money, have fun, and give your family something to remember forever ... without paying full price.

I wish all our Club Members and our Veterans a very Happy Fourth of July. Forever may we stand!

JOHN



IN THIS ISSUE *Alive!* July 2018

- 20-27** **Cover Story: Waste Not**
Public Works/Sanitation is leading the way toward water reclamation and a green environment.
- 6** **Goodbye, Jaime**
Jaime Medina, DWP, retires after 35 years of City service.
- 9** **Club Scholarship**
Application deadline for the Joannie Mukai scholarship is the end of July.
- 18** **Retirees Golf Tourney**
RLACEI hosts annual golf tournament.
- 30-34** **Baker to Vegas**
The Club is there for the 34th running of the Baker to Vegas law enforcement team run.
- 40** **9-1-1 Operator of the Year**
PSR Andres Mendoza is honored with award by LAPD Capt. Dave Storaker.

Baker to Vegas



SEE PAGE 30-34

Sections & Columns

- Adventures With Hal 14
- Alive!* Around the World 10
- Be *Alive!* 8
- Behind the Scenes 3
- Cabrillo Aquarium This Month 40
- CEO Column 3
- Classifieds 43
- Club Coloring Contest: Kids 35
- Club Store 47
- Club Team and Counselors 4
- Cooking 41
- Deaths 36
- Graduations 37
- Larios In The City 46
- Letters 7
- Library Top 10 29
- Lives Important Moments 36
- Mobile Team 7
- New Club Members 36
- Observatory This Month 46
- Picture Perfect 28
- Retirees Section 12-19
- Retirements 19
- Smart Move: CBLife 39
- Special Achievement 36
- Sports 42
- Ticket and Gift Discounts 45
- United Agencies at the Club 5

City Department Coverage

- Citywide**
- Club sponsors eight teams in a successful 2018 Baker to Vegas footrace 30-34
- Club**
- Application deadline for the Joannie Mukai scholarship is the end of July 9
- Put the deals powered by Entertainment® to work for you 22
- DWP**
- Jaime Medina retires after 35 years of City service 6
- LAPD**
- PSR of the Year goes to Andres Mendoza 40
- Rec and Parks**
- Banning Museum to host barbecue, concert fundraiser 29
- Lotus Festival returns to Echo Park Lake 42
- Zoo**
- Roaring Nights for grown-ups continues with three more events 11

For Retirees: Best Years.....Pages 12-19

Advertiser's Index

- DWP Community Credit Union 2
- LEGOLAND 44
- Rosebud Marketing 39
- Corporate Jewelers 44
- United Agencies 40
- Club Featured Businesses** 9
- Corporate Jewelers
- Entertainment Book
- Rosebud Marketing
- United Agencies
- Zebit

Behind the Scenes



Traci Minamide, Chief Operating Officer for Public Works/Sanitation, is photographed at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant by Summy Lam, the Club's Director of Marketing.



Alive! Cover

July 2018 • Volume 17 – No. 7

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 Since 1992: **\$94,773,523**

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Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work:	Previous Month	Grand Total Since 1992
Life Insurance	\$195,837	\$58,110,797
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- Short-Term Disability



Cecilia Talbot,
 Director of Claims,
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Monica Zamudio,
 Claims Administrator

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Club Members' Praise

The Club's claims service "was quick and effortless, which made things easier. With so much going on – emotions, family and plans – any effortless activity makes life easier after a family member dies. Thank you so much for the book [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*]. The employees were kind, especially Monica Zamudio. Thank you."

– **Guadalupe Fierro,**
 November 2017

With the Club's claims service, "I received excellent attention and service. Thank you for caring. After I didn't remember my paperwork in a timely manner, Monica Zamudio went above and beyond to see that I received my benefit. Her kindness and sensitivity were deeply appreciated. A special thank you to Monica. The book and story [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] is so special. It traversed from youth to adults."

– **Sara Cook,**
 October 2017

Meet the Club Team

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.

Email us at: help@cityemployeesclub.com

if you have an event you want covered in the *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance. Or call us at: (800) 464-0452

Member Experience Team

 Noelle Kauffman Manager of Member Services Ext. 105	 Angel Gomez Mobile Man, Uniforms Guy agomez@cityemployeesclub.com	 Noah Badgett Club Mobile Team	 Noah Hawkins Club Mobile Team	 Gedina Bergstrom Member Services Counselor Ext. 107	 Dalila Vielma Member Services Counselor Ext. 137	 Jeanette Gadut Member Services Counselor Ext. 110	 Sophia Hawkins Member Services Intern Ext. 104	 Raul Miranda Salsodo Customer Service Representative	 Cesille Castillo Customer Svc. Rep.	 Genesis Martinez-Flores Customer Svc. Rep.	 Angelica Zapata-Monge Customer Svc. Rep. Intern
 Heidi Arnest Member Services Counselor	 Randy Budihas Member Services Counselor	 Bill Cimarusti Member Services Counselor	 Lucas Everett Member Services Counselor	 Steven Lambert Member Services Counselor	 Rick Lawrence Member Service Counselor	 JoAnn Ridens Policy Processing Manager	 Sheldon Sklar Member Services Counselor	 Mia Sulak Member Services Counselor	 Megan Smith Member Services Counselor	 Scott Sulak Member Services Counselor	 Kati Yniguez Member Services Counselor

Tickets and Retail Operations/Club Store

 Mariana Guevara Director of Tickets and Retail Operations	 Megan DeBolt Manager of Tickets and Retail Operations	 Guadalupe Lira Club Store Manager	 DeAngelo Thompson Customer Svc. Rep.	 Mia Victoria Garcia Customer Service Associate	 Dylan Noel Customer Service Associate	 Cristina Ramos Customer Service Associate
--	--	--	---	---	--	--

Marketing & Advertising

Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

In-house Counselors

At Club Headquarters

Cheryl Martin
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 136

MaryAnn Urdiales
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 159

At Club Store

Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 202

Team Leaders

 John Hawkins President & CEO	 Brian Trent Chief Financial Officer	 Robert Larios Chief Operating Officer, "Discount King", "Sports Dude", and "Chef Larios"	 Arlene Herrera Director of Product Development
-------------------------------------	--	---	---

Accounting

 Leigh Thompson Controller	 Trinh Pham Senior Accountant	 Clara Flores Accountant	 Yaressy Raymundo Accounting Assistant
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------	--

Claims

 Cecilia Talbot Director of Claims, Member Advocate	 Monica Zamudio Claims Administrator
--	--

Database Management / IT Team

 Alan Bound Business Analyst	 Petros Khachatryan IT Developer	 Citlali G. Bon IT Coordinator	 Ronald Cortez Data Processing Coordinator	 John Monahan IT Developer	 Edith Bon Data Processing Coordinator	 Mikayla Dooley-Sprague Data Processing Coordinator	 Rebecca Platero Data Processing Coordinator	 Prathima Vaisya IT Developer
------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	--	----------------------------------	--	---	--	-------------------------------------

City Employees:
Let's Talk

Clear advice from the Club's insurance experts.



Does anyone rely on your income? If so, you need life insurance!



Cheryl Martin
Member Services Counselor
cmartin@cityemployeesclub.com
Ext. 136



MaryAnn Urdiales
Member Services Counselor
murdiales@cityemployeesclub.com
Ext. 159



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor
tsy@cityemployeesclub.com
Ext. 202

Contact the Club's Life Insurance experts for an application.

Phone appointments and walk-ins available.

(800) 464-0452

Don't forget these BENEFITS
(they're really important, too):

Club Long-Term Care Insurance

Club Long-Term Disability Insurance

Club Critical Illness Insurance



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

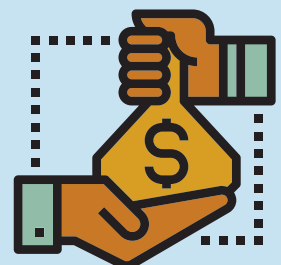
GET LIFE INSURANCE TODAY.

Here's why:

- Think about your mortgage, children's tuition, funeral expenses and serious unforeseen expenses
- You should be covered for at least four to five times your salary
- Life insurance pays in addition to your City benefits and any individual life insurance policy you have in force
- The Club Difference: The Club has in-house claims experts to assist with paperwork and ensure your benefit arrives as soon as possible

With the Club's Life Insurance:

- You can choose to apply for \$10,000 to \$500,000 of coverage
- Your spouse/domestic partner can apply for up to Member's coverage
- Dependent coverage is available
- It's portable: If you leave the City for any reason, the coverage goes with you



Did you know?

The Club has an annual refund check!

After claims and expenses are paid each year, the leftover life insurance premiums are divided up and given back to policyholders!

This Month At The Club Store

120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

Get a FREE Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Contact Your United Agencies Rep:

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Your United Agencies Reps

Get a **FREE \$50 fuel card** when you sign up for a United Agencies policy!

The United Agencies reps are appearing at the Club Store on select Thursdays:



Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent
July 12:
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Rosa Calderon
Personal Insurance Agent
July 19:
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



From left: Jaime Medina, Retiree, with Robert Larios, COO of the Club. Robert presented the Club's retirement plaque.



Lupe and Red Medina.



Jaime Medina received his service pin.

DWP

So Long, Jaime

Jaime Medina retires from the DWP after 35 years of City service.

A retirement party was held March 29 for Jaime Medina, Power Systems Engineering, after 35 years of City service.

The party was held at Luminarias restaurant.

Congratulations, Jaime, on your retirement! Enjoy!

Special thanks to family members Terry Medina, Lupe Medina and Red Medina.



From left: Darryl Brown, with Charles Bragg presenting a plaque to Jaime Medina.



From left: Jaime Medina and Gary Hulsey, with presentation of recognition.



Jaime Medina, Retiree, and his wife, Terry.



Jaime Medina received a certificate of appreciation and recognition.



Darryl Brown hosted the retirement party.



The Medina family.



Jaime Medina's retirement party poster.



Manny Haro (at the table) and Richard Musgrove on the right.



The Medina family, with staff in the background.



From left: Jeff Firestone and Jaime Medina, Retiree.



Join the Fun, Save \$175!

SEE PAGE 38

Letters to the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Chermaine Tours City, Meets Dad

What I love about this City is this man right here – my dad, Bill Todd, a Retired LAPD Officer. He was downtown covering a movie shoot.

He influenced me to work for the City. He instilled in me since I was a young girl that this is a good way to take care of myself and a good way to live a happy and healthy life. He is definitely the reason why I fell in love with the City of Los Angeles. He taught me to be proud to work here in Los Angeles. And the best part is, I just may run into him from time to time while I'm at work.

This City has been good to me. Thank you, City of Los Angeles.

– Chermaine Fontenette, Ambassador, Public Works/Sanitation



Chermaine Fontenette, Ambassador, Sanitation, with her dad, Retired LAPD Officer Bill Todd.

Sixth Street Bridge Project Brings Together Best of the City

There have been some great stories in the newspaper, but the one on the Sixth Street Bridge is in our family's opinion, the best one yet. There was a wealth of information and explanation on what to expect once the bridge construction is finished. My kids and I read the story at least three times, and then we decided to take a look at it in person as we drove by many of the parts that were under construction. We are all in awe at the size and complexity of the human element that is involved. In a way it makes me feel proud to be a City employee and ultimately proud of the people who are working on this project. From my kids and me, we thank them.

– Gerald Jimenez, LAPD

Entertainment Discount App Put Savings in His Hand

My thanks to the Club for saving me money with the Saver's Guide mobile app, Powered by Entertainment. It is easy to use and I can take it anywhere. I travel quite a bit and I know that my access to restaurants and stores are there for me when I need them. So far, I have saved about \$120 in just two weeks. I bet others have saved two or three times more, that considering how easy the Entertainment Saver's program is to use. That is definitely money saved and more in my pocket. Thank you to the Employees Club for always taking care of employees.

– Julie Hartford, DWP

Club Retirement Plaques Convey A Well Executed City Career

When I visiting the Employees Club store on Second Street, I happened to come when Robert Larios was presenting a plaque to an employee who was about to retire from the City. It was nice to see people there witnessing the ceremony, and there was also a photographer taking photos. Mr. Larios also asked that I be part of the people to witness the ceremony. I can see that with each word that Mr. Larios said to the retiring employee, she became more emotional and eventually had tears of joy. I could see that it meant so much to her. I want to thank the Club and Mr. Larios for making employee lives better and happier.

– Richard Loomis, General Services

There Are Hundreds of Club Benefits for Working Families

There are so many benefits and service at the Employees Club that I find it impossible for anyone to claim there is nothing that we can use to save money or protect our family. From savings at Office Depot, Sprint or Papa John's Pizza to getting a scholarship for a son or daughter through the Club, there are countless benefits! I used to work at another city government in Mesa, Ariz., and they have nothing like this for employees there. I hope everyone knows how good they have it as employees of the City of Los Angeles and as members of the Employees Club.

– Linda Gomez, LAFD

Correction

On page 42 of last month's story on the Harbor holiday celebration, we ran an incorrect photo caption. The photo and the correct caption are below. We regret the error.



Capt. Daniel Cobos, Club Member, with his wife, Carolyn.

The Club's Mobile Team – Angel Gomez, Dylan Noel and a Counselor or two – are having a great time visiting yards and offices, meeting Club Members and City Employees, bringing insurance ad vice and loads of great customized Club merchandise with them. Can't get to the Club Store? The Club Store will come to you!

Catching Up With The Club

Mobile Team

Here are scenes from a recent Club Mobile Team visit.

General Services/ Fleet Services

Seventh Street Facility
– BARBECUE

June 7

The Club's Cheryl Martin is ready for a Mobile Team visit to Fleet Services' barbecue. It was great meeting all the folks!

The Club's Cheryl Martin and DeAngelo Thompson help Club Members pick just the right merchandise.



Schedule a Visit!

Do you want the Club Mobile Team to visit your yard, dept. or unit? Here's how to get the ball rolling:

- Contact **Angel Gomez**, the Club's Mobile Man, at agomez@city-employeesclub.com, or via cell: (213) 448-4979.
- Let him know your yard, dept. or unit, and approximately how many City employees are at your location.
- Angel will need to get it arranged through your supervisor, so please provide contact information.

Please note that, if approved by your supervisor, it might take several weeks or more for the Club Mobile Team to visit your location.

Find Their Locations

Where will they be next? Follow the Mobile Team on social media:

@TheCLUBofCA

Employees Club of California

City Employees Club

Angel Gomez, the Club's Mobile Man

Angel's

Be Alive! July 2018



The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens – Palm Desert

Hello everyone! Happy summer!

This month, we travel to Palm Desert. Some of you may have already visited this wonderful place that's just a few minutes past Palm Springs. The drive is about two hours from Los Angeles. But if you get up early you can get there and still have a full day of adventure.

The Living Desert Zoo and gardens is a desert botanical garden and zoo. This is less a hike (like I normally report on) and more like a family event with an admission price.

The park is divided into two sections – one section is North American wildlife, and other is African wildlife. This place is so special you can see some of these animals only here unless you travel to Africa.

Let's begin.

HISTORY: The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens was established in 1970. Many trustees of the Palm Springs Desert Museum knew and had the vision for the park and of the impact that resort development would have on their local desert ecosystem. The plan was to have nature trails and a wildlife preserve in Palm Desert. One of the trustees was Philip L. Boyd, who also founded the Riverside campus of the University of California and the Deep Canyon Research Station in Palm Desert. They began by hiring a resident naturalist. The park has been improving education programs and teaching many people the importance of natural wildlife for more than 40 years, and its programs continue to grow and improve.

This is truly a hidden gem.

THE PARK: The park is divided and categorized into two sections: the American Southwest desert and Africa. The spaces are very natural and the animals have lots of room to exercise and walk around. The Park is very peaceful and educational, too. The maps are very easy to navigate, and every section has a small photo of what's living in that area.

The two other super cool activities (believe it or not) are brief camel rides and an up-close and personal feeding of giraffes for a small fee. They also have an area with functioning miniature railroad tracks, too.

I recommend picking a weekend and starting out early; the Palm Desert area is gorgeous! And if you like Palm Springs it's really close. You have so much natural beauty all around you, along with artistic manmade buildings.

Bring sunscreen (at least 75 SPF), and always bring lots of water! Remember, hiking is always going to be fun, but you have to always remember to bring water and drink water. Hiking in the sun really drains your body, so keep yourselves very hydrated.

Take pictures and send them to me! And until next time, be safe and *Be Alive!*

Angel



Aden and Angel Jr. take a short camel ride.



Angel Jr. and Aden find their way through the desert trails.



This Mexican wolf is exercising doing laps in the exhibit.



Angel Jr. finds a new friend.



The Jenkins family pets a kraal.



A small tram takes you from one exhibit to another.

There are lots of succulent plants and cactuses in the area.

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens

47900 Portola Ave., Palm Desert, CA 92260

INFO

HOURS:

June 1 to Sept. 30:
8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Last admission: 1 p.m.

Oct. 1 to May 31
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Last admission: 4 p.m.

Closed Dec. 25

PARKING: Free

ADMISSION:

General Admission \$19.95. Seniors (62-plus), \$17.95. Children (3 – 12), \$9.95. Children under three free.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Start early! Bring water and SPF 75-plus. These are the attractions you must do while visiting the park: giraffe feedings, camel rides, feeding the lorikeets (birds) and checking out the miniature railroad trains.





Featured Club Businesses

Get your business in front of 30,000 City Employees and their families.

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 or anywhere else in the Alive!, contact Summy Lam, Director of Marketing, at slam@cityemployeesclub.com to start your ad placement right away!

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CLUB ANGELS



Joannie Mukai
 Memorial Club Scholarship

COLLEGE STUDENTS: Scholarship Deadline Is End of July

Applications for Club Scholarship are available online and at the Club Store.

Application Deadline:

July 31, 2018

TIME: Noon

to:
Club Store
120 W. Second St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012.

The annual Club Scholarship can help college students achieve the dream of a college education.

Applications for the Club Scholarship are available now. Pick up your application for the Joannie Mukai Memorial Club Scholarship at the Club Store, or download an application today! The Club's scholarship program is named after the late Club Board Member and longtime City employee Joannie Mukai.

The 2018 Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 20 awards, is now accepting applications.

Continuing in 2018: Club Scholarship applications have been simplified, for greater ease in filling them out.

All materials must be physically in the Club Store and Service Center downtown, 120 W. Second St. by noon, July 31, 2018.

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

Those eligible include Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2018.

"The Club loves

recognizing excellence in our Club Members and their families," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "It's amazing how smart and talented our Club family is.

"The Club celebrates the lives of municipal employees, and this is one of the most important ways we do that every year. We're all about giving back, and the Club Scholarship reflects that."

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

You can pick up an application at the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second St. downtown, or download an application at: www.cityemployeesclub.com/scholar.asp

"We fully support the dedication of our Club families to taking care of the educational needs of themselves and their children," Hawkins continued. "We want to help them in every way possible. We look forward to giving back."

Eligibility requirements:

- All Club Members and their spouses, and children of Club Members under the age of 25, are eligible to apply. Club Members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or university full time in the fall semester 2018. Current high

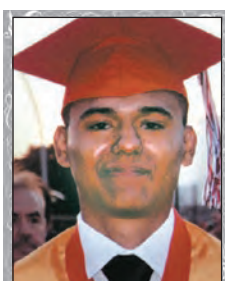
school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2018 are eligible.

- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.
- Scholarships are expected to be awarded in equal amounts of \$500 (each).
- Deadline: Applications must be in the Club Store, 120 W. Second St. downtown, by noon July 31, 2018. All applications must be physically in the Club office at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.
- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.
- Club Store address: 120 W. Second St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Send questions to:
scholarship@cityemployeesclub.com



Kandyce Leger received a stipend last year as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.



Hector Castaneda received a stipend last year as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



Ireland

Here's **John Burnes**, *Alive!* editor, in Kingscourt, County Cavan, Ireland, near the family ancestral homeland of Enniskeen, County Meath.



Cabo San Lucas



James Case, DWP, and his wife, Renu, visited the Arch of Cabo San Lucas Sea of Cortez – “beautiful sunset scenes and gorgeous beaches. We are building more wonderful memories. We are blessed; thank you, good Lord Jesus.”



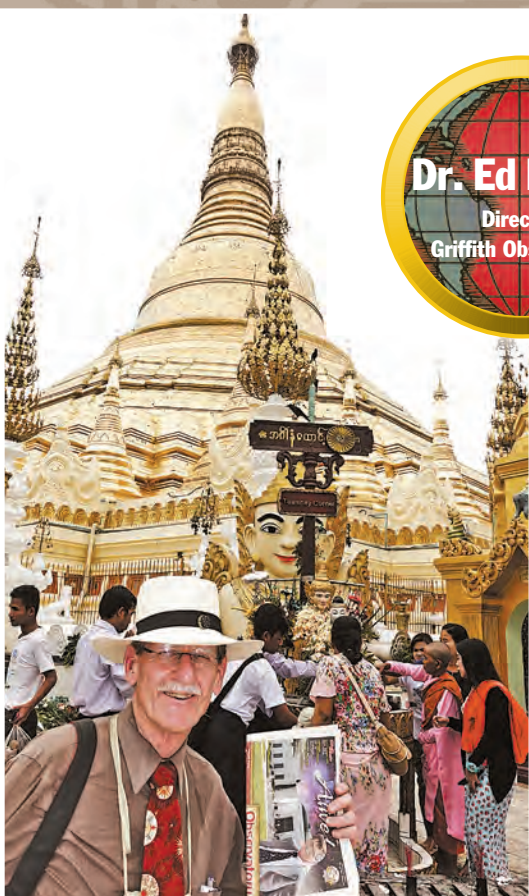
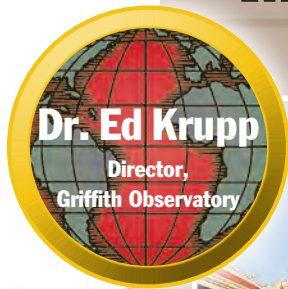
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- Snap a **high resolution** photo of you **holding Alive!**
- Attach your picture to an email, and send it to us, and we'll publish it.

Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Myanmar

Intrepid traveler, **Director of the Griffith Observatory and Club Member Dr. Ed Krupp** visited Myanmar, which provided numerous opportunities to examine little-known Burmese Buddhist astronomical traditions.



Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon, Myanmar, is an extravagantly gold stupa and temple complex. Like all Buddhist stupas, it miniaturizes a traditional concept of the cosmos into its architecture. Unlike other Buddhist stupas, however, it includes eight shrines for the planets, which are associated with the days of the week. For 'planets,' the Burmese count the sun, moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and a node of the moon's orbit, a point associated with eclipses. They get eight 'days' in the 'week' by splitting Wednesday in half, and each 'day' is associated with a 'planet' is Burmese astrology."



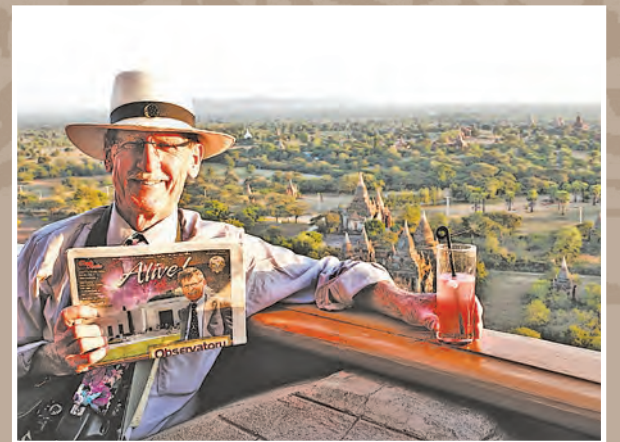
"Mandalay was the last royal capital of Myanmar, and Mandalay Palace is oriented with the cardinal directions at the base of Mandalay Hill, directly to the north. Beyond the tower in the background, the king, in the Great Audience Hall, sat facing due east in his throne."



"More than 2,000 ancient pagodas and temples, built between the ninth and 13th centuries, survive at Bagan and make it a world wonder. The grandeur of the site is best seen aloft, from a hot-air balloon launched before sunrise."



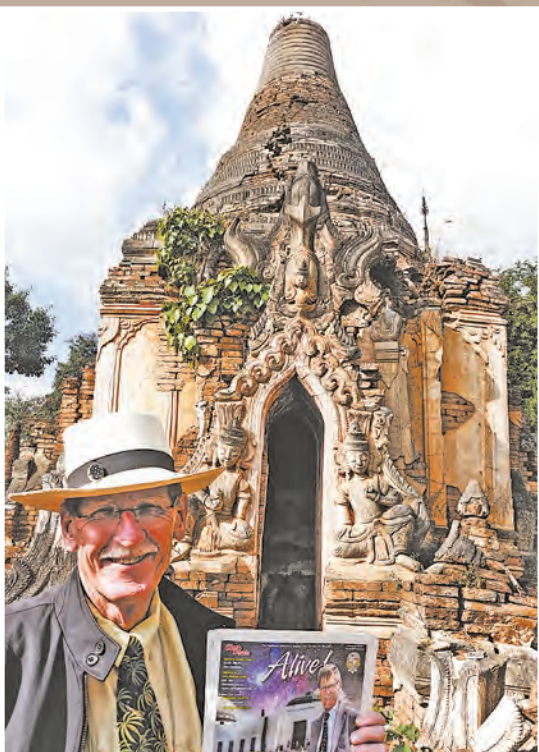
"The gargantuan stupa at Mingun, about seven miles up the Ayeyarwady River from Mandalay, was commissioned by King Bodawpaya in 1790 but was never completed. The huge cracks that split it were produced by the 1839 earthquake."



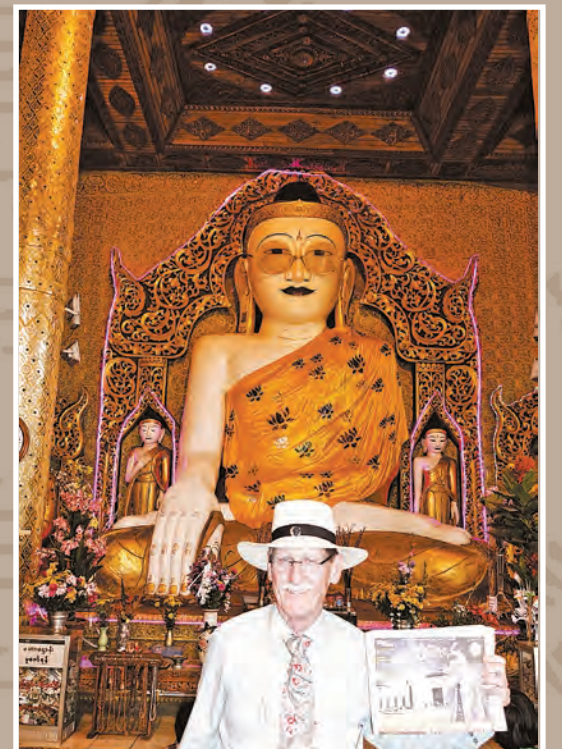
"You can also get a lift at Bagan by ascending the observation tower more-or-less in the middle of the vast field of monuments."



"The distinctive mountain in the background is Popa Taung Kalat, where a crowd of animist spirits adds complexity to Burmese Buddhist tradition."



"The Nyauung Ohak Shan stupas offer an Indiana Jones moment at Indein, a village upstream from Inle Lake."



"Mandalay was the last royal capital of Myanmar, and Mandalay Palace is oriented with the cardinal directions at the base of Mandalay Hill, directly to the north. Beyond the tower in the background, the king, in the Great Audience Hall, sat facing due east in his throne."



Waste No More Time: Start Saving Big! SEE PAGE 38

Photos by Jamie Pham, Zoo

ZOO MORE ROAR

Zoo's popular Roaring Nights for grown-ups continues this summer.

The L.A. Zoo's Roaring Nights summer series is back and continues with three more events this summer – offering fun, fascinating explorations at the intersection of music, art, and wildlife on select Fridays in July, August and September. Guests 21 and older are invited to travel through an expanded area of the zoo until 8 p.m., with special animal encounters, feedings, and keeper talks. Once the sun sets, the focus shifts to music, with live bands, DJs, and an immersive silent disco experience. Throughout the evening, guests can picture themselves with artworks that have “come to life” at an optical-illusion art gallery, dine on fare from L.A.'s favorite food trucks, and enjoy specialty cocktails, backyard games, and “glamping” vibes at the Watering Hole, an all-new open-air lounge.

Here's the schedule (hours for each night are 6 – 10:30 p.m.):

Friday, July 20,
featuring Saved by the '90s and DJ Johnny Hawkes

Friday, Aug. 17,
featuring Highway Starr and DJ Johnny Hawkes

Friday, Sept. 14,
featuring DJ Richard Blade and Flash Back Heart Attack

Admission to Roaring Nights is additional to regular Zoo admission.

The L.A. Zoo is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Tickets for Roaring Nights are \$21. Tickets for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members are \$16. Must be 21-plus to attend. Free parking is available. <http://www.lazoo.org/roaringnights/>



At last year's Roaring Nights.



PAYROLL OR PENSION DEDUCTED

Funeral Pre-Planning Service

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Riverside, CA

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Tiffany Sy
Club Member Services Counselor
(800) 464-0452
tsy@cityemployeesclub.com

Getting started is easy. I can help you right away!



RLACEI

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 Michael A. Perez, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145, x705.

Have News About Yourself?

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

Three Retirees Groups Hold Events; Make Sure You're at the Right One

RESERVATION LINES:

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

DWP events: (949) 388-1206 (Dolores Foley)

LARFPA events: (888) 288-5063

AUG. 9: RLACEI corporate meeting and picnic, 11:30 a.m., Grace E. Simons

DEC. 6: RLACEI annual holiday party, 11:30 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge.

DEC. 8: LARFPA annual holiday party, Sportsmen's Lodge.

RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit the RLACEI Website at 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 the LA City Employees' Retirement System

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

DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President
Phone: (949) 388-1206
E-mail: vincedolores@gmail.com
www.dwpretirees.org

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Robert L. Olsen, President
Phone: (323) 283-4441
Fax: (626) 285-1461
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,
Temple City, CA 91780
www.larfpa.org

Golf Tourney a Fair Way to Fun

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

President's Report By Edward J. Harding President, RLACEI

Our 40th annual invitational golf tournament, held June 7 in Alhambra, was a big success. I want to thank Tom Sternoch and his committee for all their efforts in making it successful. More than 70 golfers participated, they enjoyed a great lunch, great trophies, lots of raffle prizes, gift certificates and Dodger Tickets with parking.

The Club provided prizes.

Here are the winners:

Overall Scores

RLACEI Members:

- Low gross, men: 72, Fausto Compos
- Low net, men: 71, George Campos
- Low gross, women: 95, Darcy Kyburg
- Low net, women: 76, Lily Esparza

Guests:

- Low gross, men: 72, Steve Gadestad
- Low net, men: 71, Rich Rodriguez

Closest to the Pin (three golf balls each)

- Seventh hole: Paul Andrews
- Eighth hole: Rich Rodriguez
- 11th hole: Jose Aguayo
- 13th hole: George Walker
- 15th hole: Frank Allen

Longest Drive (three golf balls each)

- Second hole, men: Gerald Corrado
- 12th hole, men: Errole Tate
- Second hole, women: Darcy Kyburg
- 12th hole, women: Mila Meyerson

Our next event is our annual picnic and corporation meeting, set for 11:30 a.m. Aug. 9 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr. See you there! ■

LACERS Well Program Goes 'Social,' Is Now on Facebook



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

Okay, you now have *no excuse* for missing out on the great programs with LACERS Well because the program is now on Facebook. So, if you are looking for the latest upcoming events or want to see a new recipe (I even shared one I cribbed from the Internet), just look up and join the LACERS Well group on Facebook. (The page is a closed group; you must ask permission on the Facebook page to join.)

On the Facebook page you can find pictures of LACERS Well events, healthy eating food suggestions, and dealing with health concerns such as chronic conditions like diabetes. The page is regularly updated with interesting stories and links to LACERS Well Champion-led events.

While attending a Champion-led event, make sure to bring your Passport to Health to get signoffs and compete for monthly prizes. The passport program is a great way to get moving on fun exercises, enjoy great healthy food and keep up with your doctor visits to maintain your health.

Last year, 388 members participated in the Passport to Health program and 103 members were screened for the Move Well to be Well mobility challenge using stretching to increase mobility.

Also, 183 members submitted forms to encourage necessary doctor visits using the Preventive Healthcare Screening Initiative. All these LACERS Well activities lead to healthier and longer lives for our members.

In addition to the Silver Sneakers program to provide free gym memberships to Anthem Blue Cross, SCAN and United Health Care members, Kaiser members now have their similar program Silver and Fit. All these programs are open only to the Medicare enrollees. The LACERS staff put on a wonderful introduction to the program at a local gym in Glendale complete with a 30-minute stretching and exercise class. Your faithful correspondent participated and survived. Now, if I could just figure out a way to tune out that figure staring back at me from the ever-present floor to ceiling mirrors!

The LACERS Well program is funded by payments from Anthem BlueCross, Anthem Blue View Vision, Delta Dental, Kaiser Permanente, SCAN and United Healthcare. ■

Around the U.S., LA's Pension Scores Highly



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

While the California Supreme Court has yet to consider appeals from lower courts of appeals on the validity of the Marin County employees' retirement system and CalFire cases regarding pension benefits and the power of the employer to change terms of the respective pension plans, there is the pension controversy in San Diego. Former Mayor Jerry Sanders, as a private citizen, organized a change in the City's pension system for the civilian employees for the June 2012

ballot that placed all new hires after that date into a 401(k)-style pension instead of the traditional Defined Benefit pension. It was approved by the voters at 65 percent. Labor opposed the measure because Sanders (who was mayor at that time) was obligated to first negotiate with the labor union; the mayor argued that he promoted the measure as a private citizen. The Court of Appeal upheld the new pension; now it is before the State Supreme Court, where recent hearings reflected skepticism by several justices of the Supreme Court. As of this writing, the full Supreme Court has not yet voted on its decision. If the high court rules against the city of

Around the U.S., LA's Pension Rates Highly *(continued)*

San Diego, the 4,000 employees hired since the ballot measure in 2012 would be eligible for larger pensions, hence requiring larger budget set-asides for such. (*San Diego Union Tribune*, May 29)

In Gov. Jerry Brown's May revision to the proposed State Budget for 2018-19, he told cities they won't get help from the state budget to "soaring pension costs" due to CalPERS (the City of Los Angeles does not belong to CalPERS) mandating that member cities hike up their contributions to their pension system to keep funding at the 70 percent level. (*California Policy Center*, Steven Greenhut, May 29)

The average U.S. state pension fund assets, as a percentage of liabilities, is 66 percent as of 2016. Eighty percent is the desirable level of funded liability by most credit rating agencies. Many states fall in the area of low-70-percents. Our LACERS program for retiree health support is more than 80 percent; i.e., that much is covered for anticipated liabilities. It's one of the best in the country, but the same ratio for the pension itself is closer to 71 percent. Bloomberg reported in early May about how well the Wisconsin pension works "for everyone." The worst state pen-

sion system is New Jersey, whose pension fund assets added up to only 31 percent of liabilities, while Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois and Kentucky all had funding ratios of less than 50 percent. Seventeen other states had assets less than two-thirds of liabilities. Wisconsin's average state and local pension benefit in 2016 was \$24,897, according to the Census Bureau, ranking Wisconsin at 19th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Wisconsin's workers share of pension contributions was 47.5 percent in 2016, higher than all but two other states. This "percentage per participant is not exorbitant, again ranking this state as 19th among the other states." Wisconsin developed a system that now combines parts of Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution (the latter is like a 401(k) savings plan, as found mostly in the private sector). Participants are offered a "relatively modest pension with no cost-of-living adjustments but supplement it with post retirement annuity adjustments" dependent on investment performance, "measured over five-year periods ... and changes in life expectancy with most employees and government agencies contribution 6.7 percent of pay." ■

Come to the Picnic!



Mary Beetz

LACERS Update By Mary Beetz

The Retirees picnic is coming up Aug. 9 at Grace E. Simons Park. Make your reservations now by calling (800) 678-4145, ext. 701.

Here's how to get there:

- **5 Freeway Traveling north:**
Exit Stadium Way. Turn left on Riverside Drive. Turn left on Stadium Way. Turn right at top of the hill on Elysian Park Drive. The lodge is at the end on the right.

- **5 Freeway Traveling South:**
Exit Stadium Way. Turn left on Stadium Way. Turn right at the top of the hill on Elysian Park Drive. The lodge is at the end on the right. See you there! ■

RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

The Best Years



CONTACT THE CLUB

Club Member Services:

- BY PHONE: (800) 464-0452, Opt. #4
- BY EMAIL: help@cityemployeesclub.com
- ON THE WEB: www.cityemployeesclub.com

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 Cliff Cannon. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA and LAFCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer's extension is listed below.

Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System: (800) 779-8328

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

- Mary Beetz Ext. 711
- Phil Cannon Ext. 715
- Hal Danowitz Ext. 707
- Edward Harding Ext. 703
- Dennis E. Harding Ext. 706
- Michael Karsch Ext. 704
- Gary Mattingly Ext. 702
- Neil Ricci Ext. 714
- Michael A. Perez 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
Tom Stemnock: First Vice President
Michael Perez: Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons

Mary Beetz: Publicity
Cliff Cannon: Director
Dennis E. Harding, Entertainment
Hal Danowitz: Finance
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
Michael R. Wilkinson, Legal and Legislative
Tom Stemnock: Audit and Golf

Directors

Mary Beetz
Cliff Cannon
Dennis E. Harding
Michael Karsch
Gary Mattingly
Michael A. Perez
Neil Ricci
Michael R. Wilkinson






Retirees, don't forget next month's annual RLACEI summer picnic. See you there!

Almost Picnic Time!

Aug. 9, 11:30 a.m.

Grace E. Simons Lodge

Make your reservations now. Call (800) 678-4145 ext. 701.

Life after Retirement



Stay Connected

- 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.

If you are a Retiree and have interesting news or updates about yourself, your family or other retirees, or would like to connect with coworkers, send information to mbeetz@4841@aol.com, or mail to **Mary Beetz**: 137 Westmont Drive, Alhambra, CA 91801

NOTE: Due to our confidentiality policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.

The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

On Toward the Maldives

Hal and Evelyn continue their five-week cruise. Part 5.



2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

From Nov. 2 to Dec. 10, Hal and his wife, Evelyn, enjoyed a six-week cruise from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, to Cape Town, South Africa. They began by flying to Dubai via New York City

and London. They spent three nights in Dubai before boarding Oceana's Nautica for a 30-day cruise to Cape Town, where they spent three nights before flying home.

As the trip continued Nov. 16, we arrived in Cochin at around 7 a.m.; the ship was cleared for disembarkation at 8 a.m. That day's tour was the Highlights of Cochin, a four-hour tour. Cochin is known as the "Queen of the Arabian Sea" and is in Southern India in the state of Kerala. It is about 50 percent Hindu, 25 percent Christian and 10 percent Muslim, and even has a small Jewish community, descended from Jewish settlers who fled Palestine 2,000 years ago. As we left the port on our tour, we noticed red flags with the hammer and sickle, and our guide told us that at the last election the state voted communist. Based on what we were told this may be more socialist than the communism that we think of. The politics all seem very strange.

Our first stop was the St. Francis Church, built in 1503, and the oldest church built by Europeans in India. (It was founded by the Catholic Franciscans as St. Bartholomew, but was renamed St. Francis and taken over by the Dutch. It remains Anglican today.) Portuguese explorer Vasco de Gama fell ill and died and was buried in the church, but his remains were later taken back to Portugal. The other day in Goa we passed the city of Vasco de Gama. He is highly revered in this part of India, and the people show no resentment to the Portuguese domination, exploration, influence and history that covered approximately 300 years.

From the church we took a short walk to the fish market to see the Chinese fishing nets used by the local fishermen. We then stopped at the Indo-Portuguese Museum, which contained many historical relics of the history of Christianity in the area and then a stop at a "mall" to shop, but I think it was more for the bathrooms. It was a nice two-story "department" store with very nice Indian-made goods. We then drove to Mattancherry to visit the Dutch Museum to see the fresco-covered walls painted in the 1700s, and to walk down Jew Street (that is the name) to visit the Paradesi Synagogue built in 1568. This is a shopping area, and we were able to pick up some nice examples of the area's handicrafts. We also did some shopping on the pier when we got back to the ship. Last shopping opportunity in India!

When we boarded the ship in Dubai, one of our bags lost a wheel, which left a big hole. I asked our room steward, Isabel, if the ship had some duct tape so I could fix it. When we came back from our tour the bag was missing and it was returned with a very sturdy patch



Evelyn and Hal in the Gokamath temple.



The street.



The market in Male.



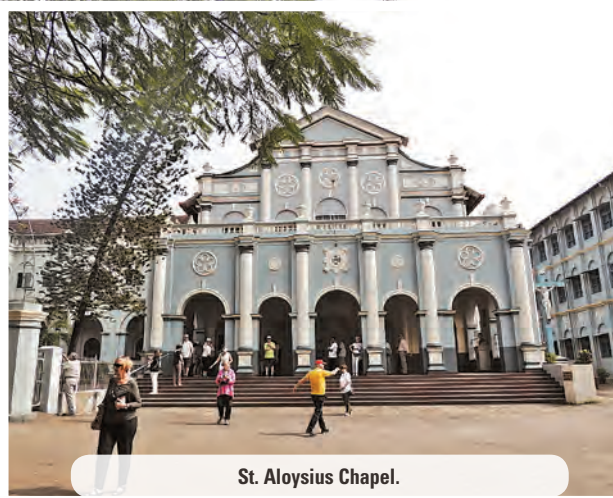
Inside the St. Francis Church.



The mosque in Male.



Evelyn with Joan Peres at the Belmont House in Mangalore.



St. Aloysius Chapel.

where the hole was. This was something I did not expect, and we greatly appreciated Isabel's and the staff's effort on our behalf.

Dinner that night was a gala Indian buffet, which we both enjoyed. The buffet opened at 6:30 p.m. and we waited until 7:30 p.m. before we went in so that it might not be crowded. But to our surprise it wasn't crowded at all.

That night's show was Danny Buckler, comedy and magic, and we wanted to get a seat where we could see well. We also didn't want to sit in the first row to be called to participate in the show. Prior to the show, which

started at 9:30 p.m., the Nautica show band played dance music. We staked out our seats in the second row and listened to the music while we read on our Kindles. The show was very funny, and he tied the magic together with a very funny dialogue. As expected he picked people in the first row as foils in his act. We were really looking forward to his next show.

We gained back 30 minutes that night as we sailed towards Male, the Maldives.

That night was the first time we felt the

motion of the ship. The seas looked calm, but there was a yawning motion. It wasn't uncomfortable, though – more like rocking us to sleep.

I woke early the next morning, Nov. 17, because of the time change, and we were both up by 7 a.m. We didn't drop anchor in Male until 3 p.m. so the ship treated today like a sea day. Evelyn was walking the track, while I got a light breakfast; we planned to meet up for the bridge lesson at 11 a.m. We didn't have a tour in Male, but we decided to get off and take a tour on our own either that day or the next morning as the ship was staying overnight before sailing at noon. We tendered ashore.

The ship's newspaper described Male (pronounced Mar-lay) as not spectacular, but quite unique as a capital city. It's clean and tidy, with mosques, markets, and a maze of small streets and a certain charm all its own. This reminded me of when my mother tried to fix me up on a blind date and how she would say the girl had a nice personality. Male is an island, just over a mile long and

half-mile wide, with a population of 100,000, including foreign workers.

One thing we noticed on board is that you see a lot of the management staff, both ship and the hotel service. We have seen the Captain most every day, and the executive chef came to our table in the dining room and in the buffet. The staff seemed a little more hands-on and approachable than on other ships.

After the bridge lesson, we had lunch and then sat on the Promenade deck (5) until we had to move while they lowered the tenders. Because we were not on a tour we had to get a tender pass, so we went down to the Nautica lounge just after 3 p.m. We should have gone sooner because we didn't get off the ship until 4:30 p.m. The tender ride took all of 10 minutes and we had a map, which helped orient us to the shopping area. Male pretty much matched the description from the ship, but the

Maldives has many islands, some of which are privately owned and contain luxury resorts. Male doesn't allow swimming at its beaches, so you need to go to one of the other islands to swim. We did manage to buy two very nice masks to take home. The Maldives is primarily Muslim. The original source of the native population is up for discussion. North Africa, India and other locations all boast being the beginnings of the Maldiven people back hundreds of years.

Next month we continue our trip. ■

DWP Retirees Association

Fun at the DWP Retirees Picnic

DWP Retirees Association hosts annual picnic.



The DWP Retirees Association held its annual picnic June 2 at Whittier Narrows. Fun was had by all, with great food, prizes and renewed friendships with former colleagues.

The Club thanks the following for their assistance and invitation: Dolores Foley, DWP

Retirees Association President; Tim Hemming, First Vice President; Charles Lautman, Second Vice President; Norma Aguirre, Treasurer; Anna Gee, Secretary; Vera Adkins, Chaplain; Mary Cardona, Sergeant-at-Arms, Ramiro Beltran, Employees' Association Liaison; Venest Henry-Evans, Credit Union Liaison; Vince Foley, Chairman, Retirees' Health Care and Benefits Committee; and Dave Cox, At-Large Director.

See you next year!



From left: James Blackwell, Retired, 32 years of City service; Wesley Hasgett, Retired, 32 years; and Walther Mills, Retired, 30 years.



Vince and Dolores Foley.



Alfred Lopez, Retired, 30 years of City service, and his wife, Mary Ann.



From left: Alfred Lopez, Retired, 30 years of City service; and Gene Kunagawa, Retired, 30 years.



Kennedy Kenneth, Retired, 25 years of City service, and Elaine Kennedy.



Robert Walden, Retired, 30 years of City service.



Johnny Hart, Retired, 31 years of City service.



From left: John Mendez, Jesse's family member; and Jesse Perez, Retired, 38 years of City service.



Barry Kranz, Retired, 30 years of City service; and his wife, Judith.



From left: Angelito Reyes, Retired, 36 years of City service, with his son, Anthony Reyes.



Martha Diaz, daughter, and Fernando Diaz, Retired, 34 years of City service.



Larry Kerrigan, Retired, 36 years of service, with his wife, Jill.



From left: Barbara Merrick, Retired, 30 years of City service; and Paulette Grady, Retired, 34 years.



Frank Barwig, Retired, 35 years of City service, with Helene Barwig.



From left: Billy Havard, Retired, 25 years of City service; and Johnny Clark, 30 years.



Pio Abenojar, Retired, DWP, 32 years of City service, proudly shows two grandkids: Eden Speedie, 10, going into sixth grade next year, twice a spelling bee champ at Skyridge Elementary School in Auburn, Calif., a member of the Gifted and Talented Program

and whose reading comprehension is equivalent to a first year college student; and Johnny, 8, going into third grade, was awarded for reading a million words in first grade, excels in math and as a second grader has a reading comprehension level of a fifth grader. *Well done, Eden and Johnny (and Pio)!*

Show Us Your Grandkids!

RETIREES: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! So send in those photos!

Here's how:

1. **Make sure to have the permission from their parents.** If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better, but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them – their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.
5. Digital photos are best! Send them to:

talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Send Prints To: Grandkids
Employees Club of California
120 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
(800) 464-0452

If you want the print photo returned, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back.

The Best Years

For Retired Club Members



**Seniors:
Get
Active
This
Summer!**

Monthly Griffith Park Hike:

Note: The monthly Griffith Park Hike has been suspended for the time being. We'll let you know when it's up and running again. Meanwhile - there are plenty of opportunities to take your own walk. Stay active!



Monthly Bike Ride in Griffith Park

- 3rd Saturday or Sunday of the month
- 10 a.m.
- Contact Ron Skarin at ronskarin@sbcglobal.net



The LACERS *Well* program sponsors walking/social events that are perfect for helping you keep in shape and take care of your health. And they're open to all fitness levels.

For outside walks and events, make sure to bring comfortable shoes, sunblock, sunglasses and water.

Questions? Contact LACERS at (800) 779-8328 or lacers.services@lacers.org

Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw Medical Facility Walk and Fitness

- Every Thursday
- 11 a.m.
- Contact Avis Ridley-Thomas, avisridleythomas@me.com

West Covina Mall Walk

- Every Wednesday
- 8:30-10 a.m.
- Contact Pablo and Vivian Cortez at pab-crt6@aol.com

Lakewood Center Mall Walk

- Every Monday
- 6 a.m.
- Contact Beverly Anderson at the.andersons@verizon.net

Madrugada Trail Hike, Chino Hills

- Every Sunday
- 4-5:30 p.m.
- Contact Eugene Mandelcorn at firstfeatures@mail.com

Buddy Walk for Life

- Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park
- 1st Friday of the month
- 8-10 a.m.
- Contact Mariam Galang at mariam-galang@gmail.com

Playa del Rey Beach Walk

- Every Friday
- 8:30 a.m.
- Contact Frankie Gallagher at Frankiequeenofhearts@yahoo.com

Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Park Walk

- 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month
- 9 a.m.
- Contact Debby Rolland at debbylr22@gmail.com

El Cariso Park Walk, Sylmar

- Every Monday
- 8:00 a.m.
- Contact Irene Galvan at ronnie20dav@gmail.com



DWP Retiree Campout

Wed., Sept. 26 – Wed., Oct. 3



SUGAR BARGE RV RESORT

Bethel Island
(West of Stockton)

WAGONMASTERS:
Gloria and Arnie Moore
818-361-1773

**Trailers are available for rent.*



An Extravaganza!

Retirees system hosts diabetes prevention seminar for seniors.

Great times ... great information ... yoga... and participants feeling like they were watching a live taping of the Cooking Network – that’s what LACERS *Well* members enjoyed at this year’s Extravaganza! events.

LACERS *Well* hosted its fifth annual Wellness Extravaganza Roadshow: *Because Your Health Matters* at three different locations:

- May 2 at the Sheraton Universal Hotel;
- May 8 at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and Conference Center, Pomona; and
- May 16 at the Centre at Sycamore Plaza, Lakewood.

All three events ran from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

These events gave participants the tools to mitigate risk factors for diabetes and help them to maintain their health. The program included expert speakers and breakout activities, including biometric screenings (fasting), yoga, and mindfulness meditation.

Additionally, a light breakfast and a boxed

lunch was provided along with the opportunity for prizes.

LACERS *Well* reminds members to join its diabetes prevention campaign for a chance to win prizes and earn \$100. Details are at www.LACERS.org/lacerswell or (800) 779-8328.

At the 2018 Extravaganza! event in Lakewood.



RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD

Santa Maria



This is a picture of my daughter, Zoe, son, Andrew, and me with our car at the West Customs Show in Santa Maria this past Memorial weekend. The car is a 1950 Mercury mild custom and was driven to and from the show.

“Cruising is a family affair for us. I included a picture of my wife’s 1963 Nova Convertible(Above). We were cruising the Rose Parade Route that day.”

– **Pete De Leon, Retired, Public Works/ Street Services; Airports**



Washington State



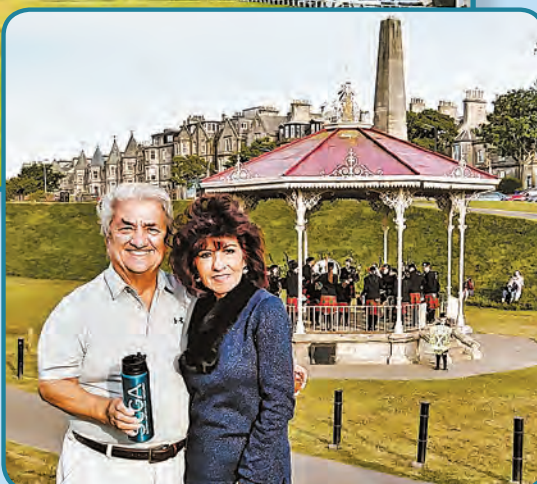
Here’s Edna Pena, Retired, Fire and Police Pensions, at White Salmon in Washington State.

Scotland



“During the first week of June, my girlfriend, Maria, and I had the opportunity to participate in the Southern California Golf Association Member Outing visit to St. Andrews, Scotland. While I played golf on the Carnoustie, Kingsbarns, Jubilee and the Old Course golf courses, Maria took advantage of guided tours of the St. Andrews community, which she found to be rich in stories, values, objects and rich environments that together with old and new traditions nurture the unique spirit that represents all of Scotland.”

– **Ralph R. Esparza, Retired, Assistant General Manager, Housing**



Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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



The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

Fun Is Par for the Course

RLACEI hosts 40th annual golf invitational.

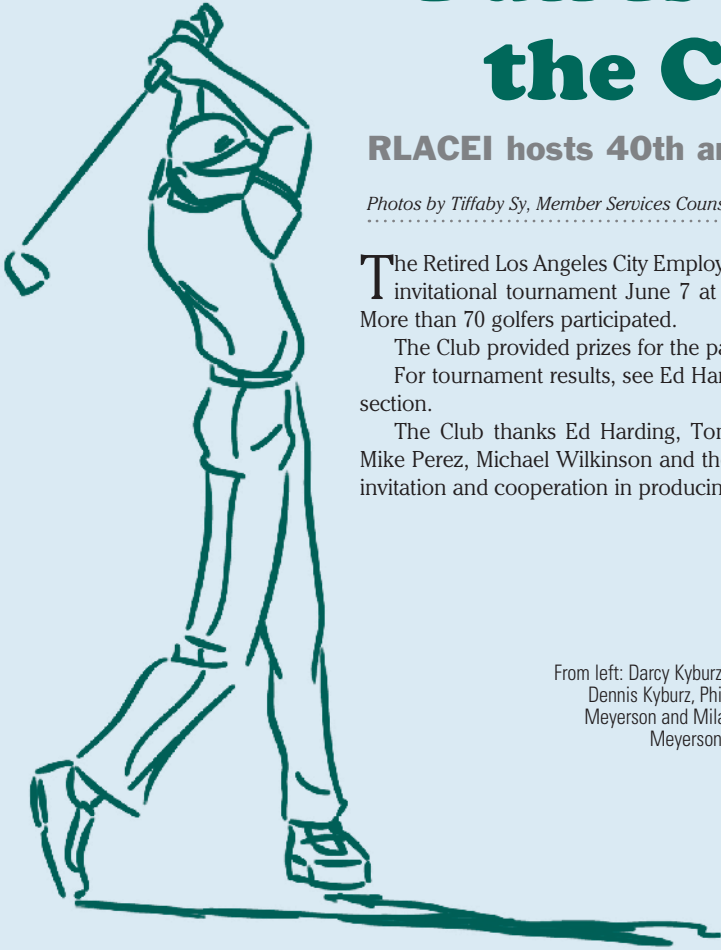
Photos by Tiffany Sy, Member Services Counselor

The Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) held its 40th annual invitational tournament June 7 at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course. More than 70 golfers participated.

The Club provided prizes for the participants.

For tournament results, see Ed Harding's column at the beginning of this section.

The Club thanks Ed Harding, Tom Stennock, Ruth Perry, Mary Beetz, Mike Perez, Michael Wilkinson and the rest of the RLACEI Directors for their invitation and cooperation in producing this article.



From left: Fausto Campos, winner men's low gross, and George Campos, winner, men's low net, both for Members.



From left: Darcy Kyburz, Dennis Kyburz, Phil Meyerson and Mila Meyerson.



Lily Esparza, winner, women's low net, Members.



Darcy Kyburz, winner, women's low gross (all players).



Steve Gedestad, winner, men's low gross (guests).



From left: Ray Reyes, Mike Reyes, Greg Telles and Richard Telles.



From left: Frank Allen, Paul Andrews, Jack Vigil and Kathy Vigil.



From left: Darcy Kyburz, Dennis Kyburz, Phil Meyerson and Mila Meyerson.



From left: Ken Ludwig, Lloyd Suehiro, Greg Spiker and Steve Gedestad.



From left: Deborah Malone, Tyrone Bernard and Jerri Walton.



From left: Richard Ellis, Randy Hee, Richard Lopez and Steve Perez.



From left: Ralph Esparza, Maria Ramos, Lily Esparza and Alex Esparza.



From left: Dan Dodd, Ralph Gutierrez, Dominic Rescineo and Errol Tate.



From left: Greg Jackson, Charlie Rausch, Bob Rogers and Tom Stemnock.



From left: Ken Hayashi, Ed Itagaki, Jerry Jesse and Walt Naydo.



From left: Charles Clement, Earl Gales, Edward Gales and Julian Nuccio.



From left: Jose Aguayo, George Campos, Fausto Campos and Charles Herrera.



From left: Amos Evans, Horace Lumpkin, Rick Okawa and Vic Penera.



From left: Jim Hamilton, George Lopez, Richard Perry and Richard Rodriguez.



From left: Stephan Hill, Richard Hovious, Billy Johnson and George Walker.



From left: Amos Evans, Horace Lumpkin, Rick Okawa and Vic Penera.



From left: Ed Harding, President of RLACEI, with Robert Larios, Club COO.

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.
Agoncillo, Antonio	Supply Chain Services	DWP
Alirez, Benjamin	Power Transmission	DWP
Avila, Lester	Power Transmission	DWP
Backman, Roger	Water Distribution	DWP
Balbaneda, Edward	Security Services	DWP
Barrios, Robert	Power Supply Op.	DWP
Bell, Jerome	Power Transmission	DWP
Bennett, Mark	Power Safety	DWP
Bilich, John	Power Transmission	DWP
Bolan, Jeffrey	Office of Sustainability	DWP
Bradfield, Diana	ITS	DWP
Bunjac, Jon	Power System Eng.	DWP
Chatman, Kevin	ITS	DWP
Chung, Fan	ITS	DWP
Coscia, Michael	Integrated Support	DWP
Deltoro, Marco	Power Transmission	DWP
Docter, Robert	Power Supply Op.	DWP
Duarte, Pedro	Facilities Manage.	DWP
Fierro, Judy	Power System Eng.	DWP
Fitton, Aida	Water Distribution	DWP
Fleming-Goings, Valerie	Customer Services	DWP
Freyre, Richard	Power Transmission	DWP
Garcia, Annabelle	Customer Services	DWP
Garza Jr., Jesus	Integrated Support	DWP
Hammill, Charles	Power Supply Op.	DWP

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.
Hibbs, Dennis	Integrated Support	DWP
Hill, Betty	Retirement Plan	DWP
Hinds, John	Gen. Manager's Office	DWP
Hinkson, Wayne	Power System Eng.	DWP
Jaegers, Linda	Power Transmission	DWP
Jefferson, Linda	Power Transmission	DWP
Jones, Jack	Fleet Services	DWP
Kwa, Peter	Power System Eng.	DWP
Lau, Marvin	Integrated Support	DWP
Laurence, William	ITS	DWP
Leslie, Winetta	Internal Audit	DWP
Levenson, Steven	Supply Chain Services	DWP
Liwanag, Diana	Power Op./Maint.	DWP
Macias, Anthony	Environmental Chem Lab	DWP
Marshall, Jennifer	Customer Service	DWP
Maruyama, John	Power Supply Op.	DWP
Maxey, Andrew	Water Operations	DWP
Miyake, Michael	Power Supply Op.	DWP
Moon III, Marvin	Power System Eng.	DWP
Netzel, Donald	ITS	DWP
Olguin, Doreen	Financial Services	DWP
Oliver, Rose	Billing	DWP
Osenko, Mark	Power System Op.	DWP
Palispis, Joseph	Environmental Chem Lab	DWP
Pemberton, Robert	Power Supply Op.	DWP

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.
Perez, Robert	Power Transmission	DWP
Phan, Hy	ITS	DWP
Phan, Tracy	ITS	DWP
Ramirez, Rudy	Integrated Support	DWP
Remollino, Manuel	Budget	DWP
Rodriguez, Ramon	Power Transmission	DWP
Sias, Stella	Human Resources	DWP
Silva, Terry	Power Safety	DWP
Smead, Douglas	Water Operations	DWP
Sparks Jr., Charles	Water Distribution	DWP
Stephens, Scott	Power Transmission	DWP
Stuart, James	Water Operations	DWP
Taylor, David	Environmental Chem Lab	DWP
Tirado, Ismael	Power Supply Op.	DWP
Torres, Maria	Customer Services	DWP
Tribble, David	Water Engineering	DWP
Valadez, Hector	Power Transmission	DWP
Vu, Lan	ITS	DWP
Wasco, Steven	Power Transmission	DWP
Washington, Pamela	Customer Services	DWP
West, Paul	Power Supply Op.	DWP
Whaley, Michael	User Info Services	DWP
White, Lisa	Power Safety & Training	DWP
Yip, Kenneth	Energy Support	DWP

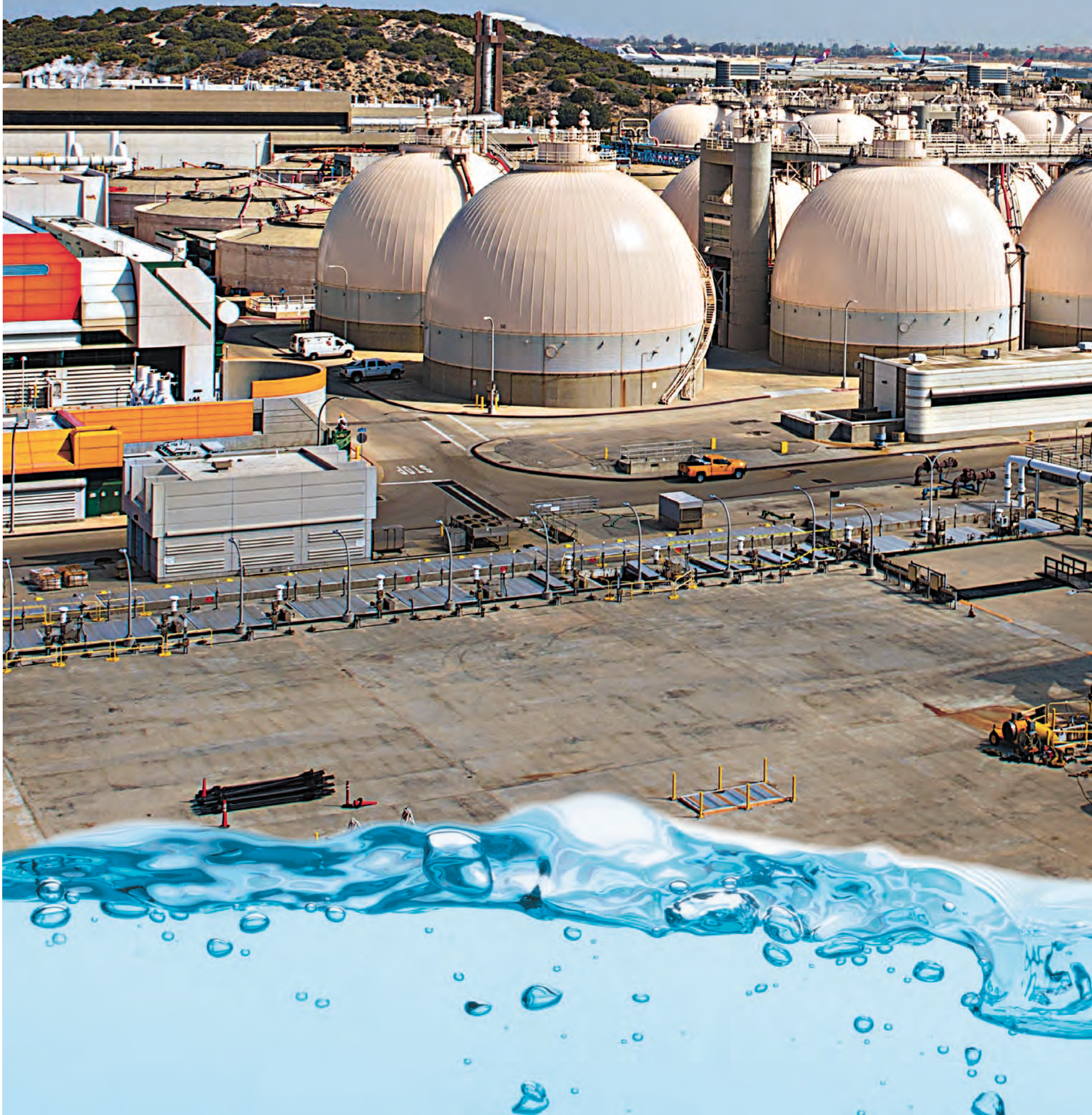
Note to readers: Because the LACERS Board meeting set for June 12 was canceled, the approved benefits payments list from that meeting had not been approved at press time. LACERS retirees are expected to be listed in next month's *Alive!*

waste Not

Public Works

LA Sanitation's Traci Minamide is leading the City into a future of innovative wastewater recycling and clean water operations.

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; John Burnes, Alive! editor; and courtesy Sanitation

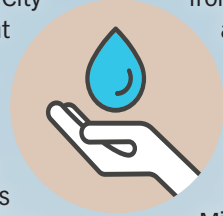


Sanitation is no longer about getting rid of materials and wastewater. It's now increasingly about reclaiming waste materials, and making them usable again.

Those are the main responsibilities of Traci Minamide, Chief Operating Officer of LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN), 30 years of City service. She's one of the most important Sanitation executives in the country.

About Reclamation in LA

Sanitation operates four water reclamation plants that serve more than four million people within two service areas covering 600 square miles. These plants effectively remove pollutants from the sewage to produce recycled water, protecting our river and marine environments as well as public health. Together, they have a combined capacity of 580 million gallons of recycled water per day. The water can be used in place of potable water for



industrial, landscape and recreational purposes in addition to other beneficial uses.

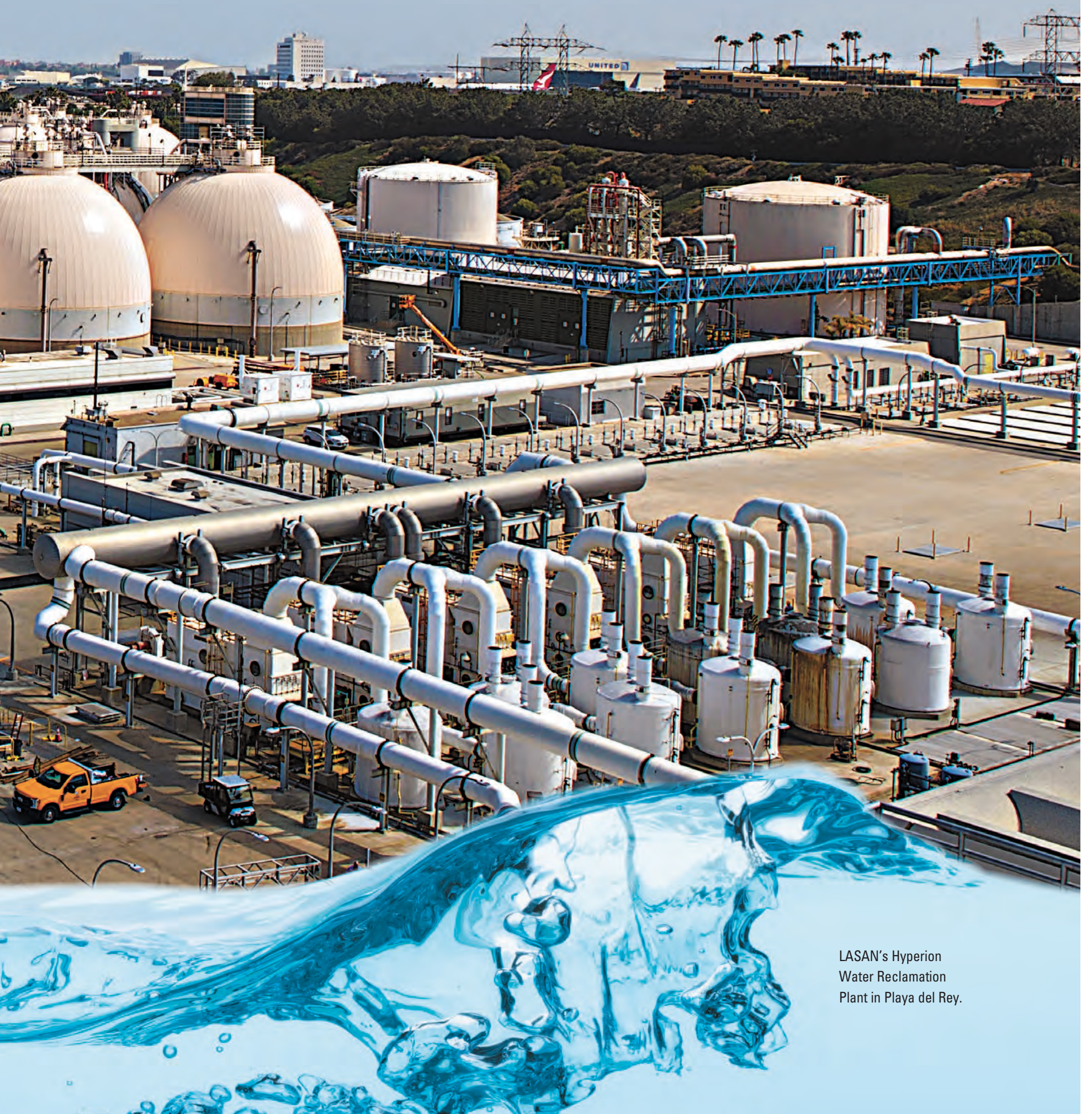
Biosolids, a byproduct of wastewater treatment, can be used as a fertilizer and soil amendment for agricultural and landscape applications. Another byproduct of the plant operation is energy. Biogas from Hyperion is converted into electricity and used to run the plant.

As is true in everything else, data and technology are fueling new innovations, and the Bureau of Sanitation is at the forefront of these new innovations. In this feature, read an interview with Traci Minamide (pronounced Minna-meedee) for more insight into what Sanitation has been doing about reclaiming more wastewater, and what's in store in the future.

***Alive!* thanks Pamela Perez and Kenneth Jeong at Sanitation for their assistance in producing this feature. ■**



Two Chief Operating Officers exchanging notes: The Club's Robert Larios and LA Sanitation's Traci Minamide, at the Hyperion Treatment Plant.



LASAN's Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant in Playa del Rey.



ABOUT TRACI

Traci Minamide, Chief Operating Officer of LA Sanitation and Environment, assists the Director in the bureau's activities with an emphasis on wastewater treatment and water reclamation. She has been with the City for 30 years, serving in many capacities including water planning, industrial pretreatment, environmental regulations, wastewater treatment, biosolids and water reclamation.

Traci holds a Bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Cal Poly Pomona, a Master of science degree in environmental engineering from Loyola Marymount University and certification in executive management for state and local government from Harvard University. She is also a licensed professional civil engineer in the state of California and a board certified environmental engineer through the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists. She serves on the Board of Directors for the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) and the State's Advisory Panel on Direct Potable Reuse.

The Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant in Playa del Rey.

The *Alive!* Interview

The Challenge of Reclamation

On May 9, Club COO Robert Larios and Alive! editor John Burnes interviewed Traci Minamide (pronounced Minna-meedee), Chief Operating Officer, LA Sanitation and Environment, 30 years of City service, about her career and duties, the current state of LA Sanitation, and how the bureau is meeting today's needs while preparing for the future.

The interview took place above the bureau's Learning Resource Center at the Hyperion Treatment Plant in Playa del Rey.

Thanks for joining us today, Traci, and giving us a tour. We tried to do this several weeks ago, but the rescue of the young man trapped in the pipe got in the way!

Traci Minamide: Right! We got word that there was a young man, 13 years old, who had fallen into the sewer. We're still trying to figure out exactly how that happened. But he was in the sewer and we were notified, along with LAPD and LAFD. Immediately we released our teams to look at the collection system map, about all of our underground sewers, to try to pinpoint where it happened and where we might be able to find him. Through our CCTV, we were able to locate him. And via the cameras that we put into the sewer, we found exactly where he was. We started lifting the maintenance holes. We looked down and he was looking up at us saying, "Help!" We found him and got him out of there.

It took about 12 hours. It was just the happiest ending you could imagine, to find him safe and well, waiting right there in that location in the maintenance hole. We were able to pull him out, and one of our guys gave him his cellphone and said, "Call your parents. Let them know that you're safe." It was a miracle. It was a very tense, very scary situation for everybody.

With a happy ending.

Traci: With a very happy ending, yes.

The two Sanitation employees who did the rescue – Michael Adams and Kurt Boyer – are Club Members. We're catching up with them to get their recollections of the story.

Traci: Great.

So very generally now, give us an overview of your responsibilities here with Sanitation.

Traci: Sure. As Chief Operating Officer, I help our General Manager in support of the work that we do here. In Sanitation, we cover three main areas: One is on wastewater collection and treatment; another is on storm water quality; and the third is on our solid resources – our trash collection and recycling programs. My responsibility falls mainly within wastewater treatment. We call that our clean water program, and that entails the four water reclamation plants that we have. Hyperion here is our largest, and one of the largest treatment plants in the country. We have a lot of activity going on, a lot of interesting and exciting and innovative projects as well as general running of the plant 24/7 and dealing with all of the operational issues that come up every day.

How did you come to this position? How did you get to this point?

Traci: I finished college with a Bachelor of science degree in civil engineering and then a Masters in environmental engineering degree. I started with LASAN as an Assistant Engineer, supporting the Terminal Island, Los Angeles, Glendale and the Tillman plants when I first came to Sanitation. Then I moved into our industrial waste pretreatment program. We regulate all the industry that discharges into our sewer system. I was part of that program for several years and then part of our regulatory affairs division.

I was the Division Manager both in our industrial waste pretreatment program and then in our

regulatory affairs department. We're very highly regulated. That was our main function in that division – helping make sure we were in compliance with regulations and help deal with stakeholder participation and the development of regulations. After that, I moved into the executive office and have been focusing on water reclamation since then.

Changing Approach

How has the function of the Bureau of Sanitation changed since you started? What is it more concerned with now than before?

Traci: Well, 30 years ago, it was more about how we collect waste and how we do it safely, to protect the public, to treat it to a sufficient degree that we can discharge it and get rid of it. Nowadays, it's about resource recovery. The shift has been that this isn't waste, this is a resource. This is water. We need to treat it to a much higher standard, and now we're not going to get rid of it. We're going to reuse it on the biosolid side, the solids treatment of wastewater. We're not just going to send it seven miles out in a pipe and discharge it into Santa Monica Bay. We're going to reuse it. Now it's used as a fertilizer and a soil amendment. We have Green Acres Farm in Kern County. It's a 5,000-acre farm. We take the biosolids and we land-apply it, incorporate it into the soil like a fertilizer, and grow crops that are used for dairy feed. We bring them back here, and some of those crops are used to feed L.A. Zoo animals and the horses at L.A. Police Dept. We really love that full circle.



The City's Green Acres Farm in Kern County.

We love the multi-departmental stories. You're working with two other departments in the City.

Traci: Right. And another component that's really exciting, a year ago we started our bio-energy facility. As part of the wastewater treatment process, we produce a gas – we call it digester gas. That gas has a heat value. So we run it through combustion turbine generators and steam turbine generators, and we generate electricity. With that electricity, we run the plant. This gas is generated as part of the natural treatment process. In the past, we would just burn it and flare it. We don't do that now – we take that gas and we run it through generators and we generate electricity.

And done here in this plant?

Traci: Right.

A number of years ago we did a feature story on an innovative test project at Terminal Island that injected the biosolids into the earth to eventually generate natural gas. Is that related to what you were just talking about?

Traci: Yes. That was called our Terminal Island renewable energy project. It's still going on, and it's definitely related. The solids from Hyperion we take up and use as a soil amendment at Green Acres Farm in Kern County. At Terminal Island, we take that solids component and inject it 5,000 feet into the ground and use that to generate gas. It's a pilot project, and it's very much related to what we're doing here at Hyperion.



Traci Minamide, LASAN COO.



ALIVE! FEATURE Waste Not

Innovation

What are the major initiatives in which the City is trying to innovate?

Traci: We're researching new and better technologies for water reclamation. We did some pilot work at our Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant and are using a new process of advanced treatment to purify and disinfect the water there. We are also invested in a pilot project at our Tillman Water Reclamation Plant that resulted in new treatment technologies that are much less energy-intensive, with a much lower capital cost and overall a much better process for the water reclamation projects that we're doing for San Fernando Groundwater Basin. These projects are cutting-edge; they're out there in the front.

One of our main objectives is to develop our local water resource supplies. If we can treat this water to a very high quality and use it for groundwater spreading, it's water that will be made available in lieu of having to purchase it and, in times of drought, it's water that we could continue to recycle and reclaim and locally be more sustainable.

Is this potable water? Do you want to take it all the way back to water clean enough to drink?

Traci: Well, eventually— it depends upon the treatment process. A lot of the water that we treat at Tillman and Los Angeles Glendale plant is treated now only to a tertiary level – that means that you can use it for irrigation or certain industrial processes. It's not for drinking.

At Terminal Island, with all of the new technology that's available and in place, that water is used for groundwater injection. Right now, we inject it. Its main purpose is preventing seawater intrusion. If you can imagine, if you continue to extract groundwater and you're close to the ocean, you're eventually going to be sucking in seawater.

Right.

Traci: We inject this highly treated, advance-treated water into the groundwater basin, and that creates this curtain so that you're not pulling in the seawater and contaminating your groundwater aquifer.

We're doing that now at the Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant. Now, all of the raw wastewater that comes in is treated to this very high standard. We're not putting any of that into the ocean. We've developed more of a local resource that's dependable, right? The wastewater keeps coming, no matter what.

At our Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, right now that water is treated to standards that it can be used for irrigating the golf courses – there are a lot of golf courses out in the Valley – as well as supplementing the Los Angeles River. That's how come kayaking can happen in the Los Angeles River, because we have water from our Tillman plant and Los Angeles Glendale that's been treated to permit standards. Our new project at Tillman is a new method of treating the water that we have to an even higher standard. We are highly regulated; the state is looking very closely at our project, and this water will allow us, at this higher standard, to send it to spreading basins. Hansen spreading grounds is an area with very good soil conducive to percolating down to the groundwater aquifer. The spreading grounds will be mixed with the storm water and this advanced treated water, and it will percolate through the groundwater, through the aquifer and into the groundwater to supplement that. Through that process, not only do we advance-treat it through our physical treatment processes at the plant, the natural treatment that occurs in the aquifer also adds an additional polish as it moves its way into the groundwater table.

That's good news.

Traci: Yes.

Is this an exciting time to be here?

Traci: It's a very exciting time to be here. The mayor's Executive Directive number five directed the City to develop our local resources. We want to be sustainable during times of drought. We want to be self-sufficient to the maximum extent possible so that



The Club's Robert Larios with LASAN's Traci Minamide.

we can guarantee a water supply for our residents. Through that directive and through the mayor's sustainability plan, goals have been identified for us to develop these projects and implement them. So, it is very exciting.

The Future

Where do you think the Bureau of Sanitation will be going, or how it will innovate, in the next 10, 20 or 30 years?

Traci: Sustainability. At Hyperion, we get 250 million gallons a day of wastewater coming in. That's a lot of water. We have plans to reclaim 70 to 100 million gallons a day of it. So, we still have more than 100 million gallons a day that we need to work with, and so, in the future, we need to figure out a solution to that. That's water that right now we're discharging into Santa Monica Bay that's not serving a useful purpose. That's where I see us moving. Our biosolids, we need to keep that in a resource recovery in a beneficial reuse, which we're doing. Any way that we can recover more energy or reduce our carbon footprint would be something that we'll be working on.

The Profession

Why did you choose this line of work?

Traci: Because I like environmental engineering. It's something that we can see makes a difference. Over the course of my 30 years with Sanitation, I've continued to be challenged with new and exciting work that motivates me to keep trying to make a difference. I have always felt that within LASAN, there's been a lot going on, that there's been support from management to do creative things, and it's been a very exciting field.

Were you thinking about sanitation and water projects when you studied engineering?

Traci: Well, originally, when I started my first year in college, I was doing child development. I was thinking, "Okay, I'm going to be a school teacher. I really like that idea. Elementary school," but the market at that time wasn't good for teaching. The jobs were just not out there. I certainly had influence from my father, who's also a civil engineer and worked in municipal local government.

Which one?

Traci: He worked in many cities in Southern California, so I had that exposure. With him being a civil engineer, I had more of an idea than your general person might about what civil engineering is, because "civil engineer" is not really a self-explanatory kind of an engineering job. My advice from my father was, "Well, people are always going to need water. There's always going to be a need to take care of that kind of work, so it will be a good place for you to have a career." With the City, it's just always been so challenging and so much exciting work that it's really kept me going.

You're a woman in a high leadership position. Do you feel like a role model?

Traci: I don't really. It's like we all come to work and we do our job, and we're excited about what we do. We interact with everybody, and the gender thing is not so much of an issue. I do really appreciate that I've been given these opportunities because LA is a very progressive city and very much about ethnic and gender equality, giving people opportunities. I appreciate that I have been given those opportunities, and if I can be a role model, I'm very glad to be. We do a lot of recruiting and I'm kind of our point person, I guess, in our executive office for our college recruitment; our team is just excellent in getting out there to the schools. In the past few years, we've brought on several female engineers, so we're getting there as far as equity in the representation, and it's a very good feeling. So, if I can be a role model in any way, I'm glad to be, to anybody.

What are you most proud of?

Traci: I'm most proud of being part of the transition over these 30 years. From what I was telling you, where the job we used to do used to be just about managing waste, now it's about turning that into a resource, and it's just so exciting to see. People used to laugh when we said, "You know what? We could take the digester gas, or we could take the solids, and we could do something good with it." They'd be like, "What?" It's amazing now that it really is something that is commonly accepted and understood, and people can recognize that there is that value and not think that it's a pie-in-the-sky idea. I'm very proud of the fact that the industry has come so far.

Great Crew

Talk about the staff.

Traci: Yes, absolutely. We so much recognize the value of each and every person in LASAN and the various jobs that they do, because it can't work unless everybody is here doing their piece. We try to make it a point to recognize that so that people know every job that happens here, from entry-level all the way up, is something that we need to keep the wheels turning and in Sanitation.

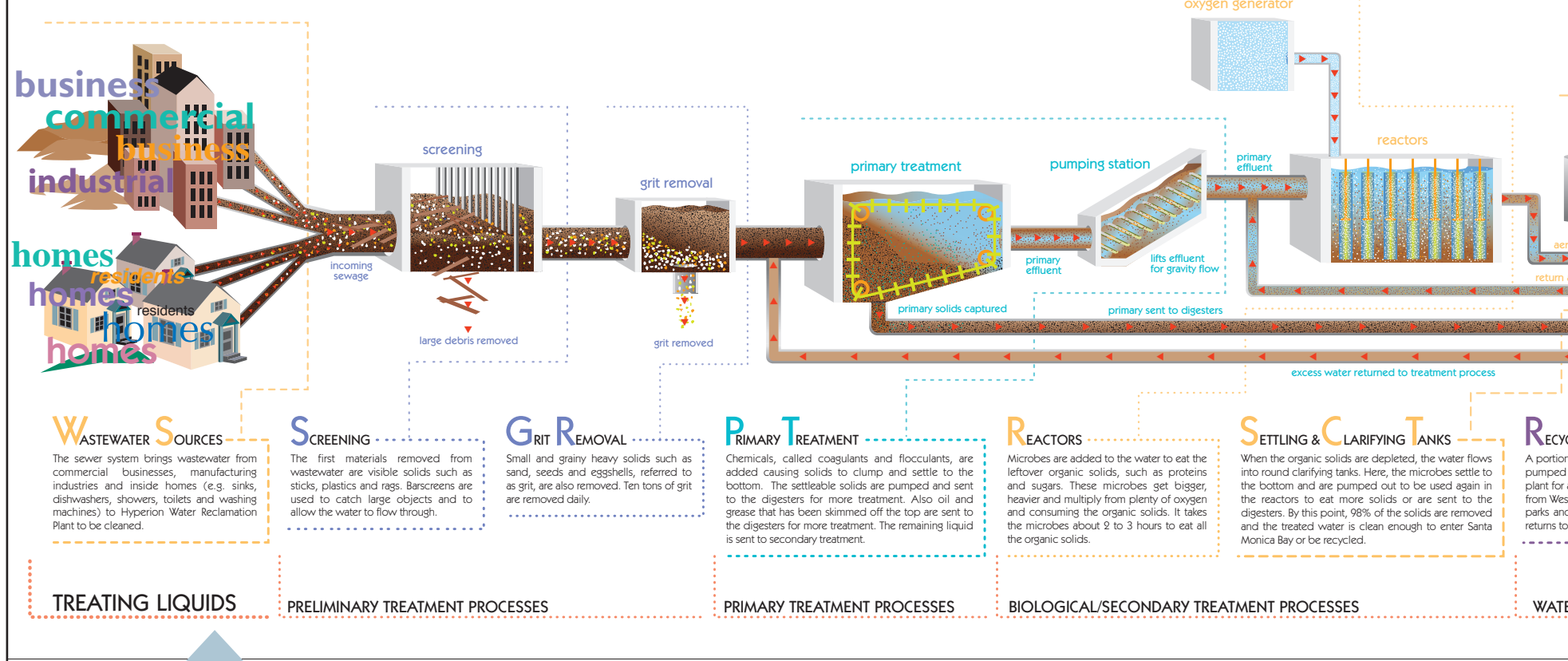
We're an operational department. We are working 24/7, and we need to respond to emergencies. It's not a nine-to-five, Monday through Friday job, so it's important that everybody be there when we need them and they are. We very much appreciate that. They're a great group.

Well, thank you very much, Traci, for this interview. Thanks for postponing and fitting us into your schedule.

Traci: Well, thank you for the invitation. It's very nice that you have an interest in what we do in Sanitation. Wonderful. ■



HYPERION WATER RECLAMATION PLANT—TREATMENT SYSTEM



How Water Is Cleaned

Here's how Sanitation's Hyperion reclamation plant cleans LA's wastewater.

On average, 275 million gallons of wastewater enters the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant on a dry weather day. Because the amount of wastewater entering HWRP can double on rainy days, the plant was designed to accommodate both dry and wet weather days with a maximum daily flow of 450 million gallons of water per day (MGD) and peak wet weather flow of 800 MGD.

Despite Los Angeles having a separate sewer system and storm drain system, some rainfall (which normally flows through the storm drain system) flows into the sewer system through one of the 140,000 sewer maintenance hole covers that make up the Los Angeles area collection system. In addition to rainfall, cracked sewer lines damaged by growing tree roots can sometimes become saturated with urban runoff.

Wastewater is processed and treated using some of the most innovative and time-tested methods at Hyperion.

Pretreatment

Anything and everything is found in sewage. At the headworks, the largest solids are removed – things as big as branches, plastics and rags – as well as smaller solids like sand and other gritty solids. This is called Preliminary Treatment, the first step in wastewater treatment.

Preliminary Treatment consists of a screening process and sand/grit removal. The screening process involves the use of eight bar screens (large metal racks of steel bars spaced 3/4 inches apart) to remove large objects from entering wastewater. A large mechanical rake removes unwanted materials from the bar screen and deposits the various items into a water trough, where they are then dewatered and stored in large silos. Once dewatered, the materials (consisting mostly of rags, wood and other non-recyclable/non-beneficial materials) are then loaded onto a hauling truck and taken to a landfill for disposal. HWRP has recovered a number of unusual objects over the course of the years, including golf balls, wooden two-by-fours, a bowling ball, a 17-foot long telephone pole, and a motorcycle.

After the screening process, wastewater flows to aerated grit chambers for sand/grit removal. Sand can enter sewer lines through the washing of dirt in sinks, showers and washing machines. The sand, if left in wastewater as it is being treated, would act as an abrasive in eroding the various downstream pumps, valves, and pipes. Air is pumped into aeration tanks

to keep the light organic material suspended while the heavy sand settles to the bottom of the tank. The sand is removed by a pump, and the pump sends the sand to the materials handling tower where it is dewatered, washed, stored in a hopper and loaded into trucks and disposed of in a landfill (similar to the process for the bar screen material). More than 885,000 pounds of solids and organic materials flow into the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant in a 24-hour period.

After leaving the headworks, the wastewater continues to move by gravity to primary treatment.

Primary Treatment

The second step in treating wastewater is Primary Treatment. Wastewater enters the plant at an average speed of two to five feet per second; however, during Primary Treatment, wastewater is slowed to two to three feet per minute. Underground large primary tanks (roughly 300 feet long and 15 feet deep) hold wastewater for two hours, allowing heavy solids to settle to the bottom while oil and grease float to the top. Sometimes chemicals are added to allow more particles to bind together and settle.

These tanks can remove 70 to 75 percent of the solids in wastewater and about 50 to 55 percent of the organic material. The heavy solids are then removed and taken to the solids handling area of the plant for further processing.

It is an industry standard to measure the organic strength of wastewater by utilizing sampling, inoculation and incubation methods to determine the amount of oxygen consumed by bacteria already present in the wastewater. This measurement of consumed oxygen is called Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD).

With a proper BOD measurement, the organic strength of the current wastewater can be determined, allowing plant staff to make any necessary adjustments.

Wastewater is then taken from Primary to Secondary Treatment using an Intermediate Pump Station (IPS). The IPS consists of 10 large 12-foot diameter Archimedes Screw Pumps. Each pump can lift 110 to 125 million gallons per day (MGD).

Secondary Treatment

Secondary Treatment is a two-stage process. First, in covered, oxygen rich reactor tanks, bacteria living in the wastewater consume most of the remaining organic particles (solids). These "plumped up" bacteria settle to the bottom of the tanks, where they are then sent to the clarifiers for final settling and collection.

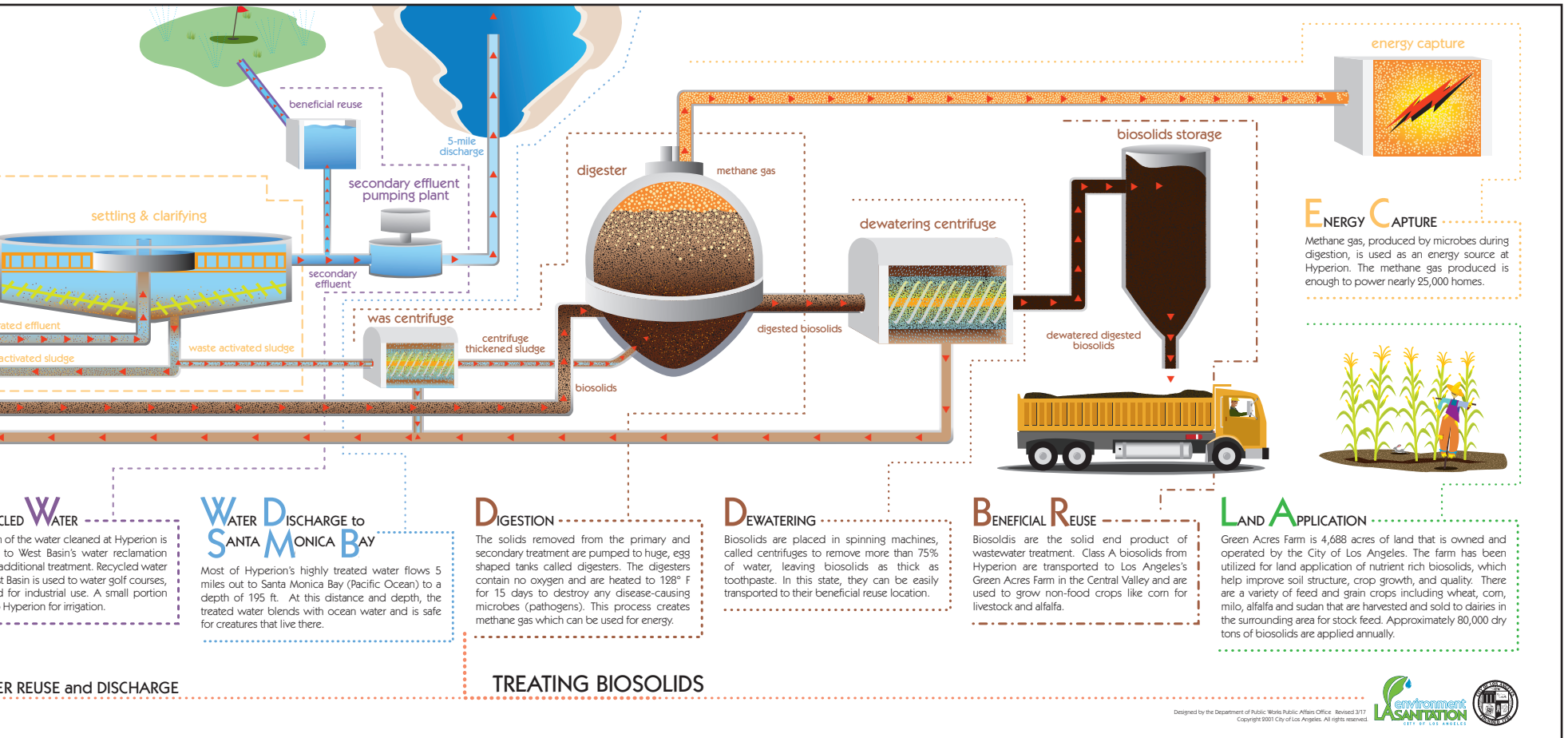
Digestion and Solid Handling

Solids removed during primary and secondary treatment are pumped to these huge, egg-shaped vessels for further processing. The digesters destroy the disease-causing organisms (pathogens) in the biosolids.

The solids that were removed from primary and secondary treatment are now pumped into huge, totally enclosed, egg-shaped tanks called digesters. Bacteria and other microorganisms that live without oxygen thrive here. It takes about 15 days for these microorganisms to eat half of the biosolids, destroy the pathogens and release a natural methane gas that has tremendous energy value. ■



The large digesters at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant.



ALIVE! FEATURE **Waste Not**



Sanitation's Water Reclamation Plants

Sanitation operates four water reclamation plants that serve more than four million people within two service areas covering 600 square miles. These plants effectively remove pollutants from the sewage to produce recycled water, protecting our river and marine environments as well as public health. Together, they have a combined capacity of 580 million gallons of recycled water per day. The water can be used in place of potable water for industrial, landscape and recreational purposes in addition to other beneficial uses.

Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant

Built in 1935, Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant has undergone numerous upgrades over the years – including an upgrade to full tertiary treatment, which allows for advanced water purification using microfiltration and reverse osmosis.

The Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant treats approximately 15 million gallons of wastewater every day on its 21-acre facility. Seventy-one employees work in all different capacities at the plant, running the everyday operations at TIWRP, conducting preventative maintenance and planning projects for the future. The three branches at TIWRP—operations, maintenance, and engineering—work together to ensure the success of the plant.





Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant

The Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant is the City's oldest and largest wastewater treatment facility, and it's one of the largest in the world. The plant has been operating since 1894. The plant has been expanded and improved numerous times over the last 100-plus years. It has a capacity of 450 million gallons per day (mgd), up to 800 mgd during wet weather.

Leading edge technological innovations capitalize upon the opportunity to recover wastewater bio-resources that are used for energy generation and agricultural applications. In addition, air emission controls and odor management facilities are integrated in all improvements. More of these forward-thinking strategies will become realities at Hyperion in the coming years to better protect our coastal environment and serve our communities.



The Environmental Learning Center at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant.



In the control room, from left: Reggie Martin, Wastewater Treatment Operator III, 10 years of City service, Club Member; Jordan Siplon, Sr. Communications Specialist, LA Wins Project, Retired, 31 years (now a consultant); Francisco Ramirez, Shift Superintendent, 34 years, Club Member; Traci Minamide, Chief Operating Officer, Public Works/Sanitation, 30 years; Kenneth Jeong, Management Analyst, 17 years; Rahshah McAfee, Sr. Wastewater Treatment Operator, 9 years, Club Member; and Samuel Antuna, Wastewater Treatment Operator III, 5 years, Club Member.



In the control room, from left: Samuel Antuna, Wastewater Treatment Operator III, 5 years of City service, Club Member; and Rahshah McAfee, Sr. Wastewater Treatment Operator, 9 years, Club Member.



In the control room: Reggie Martin, Wastewater Treatment Operator III, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant



Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (LAG) is in the eastern San Fernando Valley. The plant has a capacity of 80 million gallons per day.

Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (LAG) is strategically located to serve east San Fernando Valley communities that are both within and outside of the Los Angeles City limits. The plant's highly treated wastewater meets and exceeds the water quality standards for recycle water for irrigation and industrial processes. This water reuse conserves over one billion gallons of potable water per year. The plant is highly automated, and staff can control processes from the onsite control room or at remote locations.

In 1976 the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant started operations as the first water reclamation plant in the City. The cities of Los Angeles and Glendale co-own the plant, and LA Sanitation operates and maintains it. Each city pays 50 percent of the costs and receives an equal share of the recycled water. The plant processes approximately 20 million gallons of wastewater per day.

In addition to its role as a leading producer of recycled water, LAG is another regionally strategic facility within the City's overall wastewater system. By processing flows in the eastern San Fernando Valley, the plant is able to provide critical hydraulic relief to the City's major sewers downstream, which serve other communities of the City.

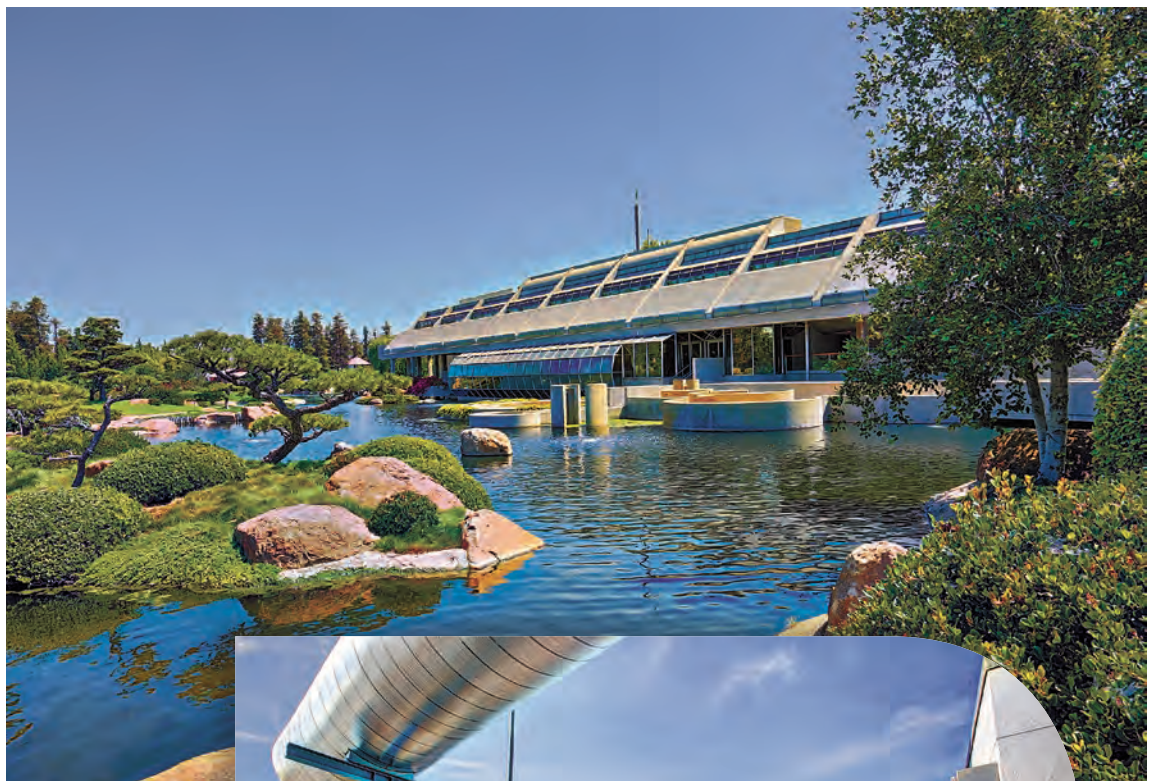
Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant

Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant began continuous operation in 1985. The plant combines advanced wastewater treatment technology with the beauty and tranquility of its landscaped Japanese Garden.

Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant combines advanced wastewater treatment technology with the beauty and tranquility of its landscaped garden. The Japanese Garden is irrigated with recycled water from the plant and is open to the public year round. The plant provides recycled water to many users in the San Fernando Valley, and Public Works is collaborating with other City departments to expand this program.

The Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant began continuous operation in 1985. Its facilities were designed to treat 40 million gallons of wastewater per day and serve the area between Chatsworth and Van Nuys in the San Fernando Valley. The plant was named after Mr. Tillman, who was the City Engineer from 1972 to 1980.

A major construction project that doubled the capacity of DCTWRP was completed in 1991, expanding the plant from 40 million gallons of water per day (MGD) to 80 MGD. The Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant and the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (LAG) are the leading producers of reclaimed water in the San Fernando Valley.





John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN A
\$25 AMAZON
E-GIFT CARD



“The photo of this now old, wrecked and abandoned boat was taken at Half Moon Cay Island, Bahamas May 6. My wife and I were on a nature walk excursion on the island while on a Panama Canal cruise vacation.”

– **Guido Marucut, Retired, Transportation**

John's comment: Guido, this subject matter is so perfect that it seems the boat was placed out there specifically for photos, like at some amusement park where it would be part of the scenery. But no, apparently it's real. Congratulations on having the eye to spot it and capture it. (And I love the coloring.) Well done!

“This image was taken in front of a small taverna in Lefokastro, Pelion, Greece. The local specialty there is – who would have thought? – fish in all variations. The way it's cooked may differ, but one thing is clear: It does not get any fresher than this!”

– **Yves Didier, LAPD**

John's comment: Yves, I remember back in the day when Fuddruckers used to display its giant sides of beef as you'd walk in the place. Having said that, though, I have never seen a photo anything like this one – fresh fish on a clothesline. Great composition of a unique subject matter – it feels exactly like the Greek Isles. Excellent!

“‘Square Cloud.’ Deming, New Mexico. On my way back home, June 17.”

– **Edgar Lorenzo, DWP**

John's comment: Besides the beautiful sky, the sagebrush reaching for the heavens, and well balanced horizon ... your photo left me wondering: Just how does a square could form? And maybe it's square only from this vantage. I don't have any answers, Edgar, except to thank you for letting me daydream!



“This is one of the best moderate hikes in Yosemite Valley, the hike to the top of Vernal Falls along the Mist Trail! This picture is at the base of Vernal Falls, where if you're lucky, you can find a rainbow!”

– **Carlos Aranda - DWP**

John's comment: Find a rainbow, indeed – this is one of the strongest rainbows I've seen naturally pictured, Carlos. Beautifully done!

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!*, Employees Club of California, 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@cityemployees-club.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.

REC & PARKS

Story and photos courtesy Banning Museum

BANNING BIRTHDAY BBQ

The country band JB and the Big Circle Riders is scheduled to perform at the Banning event.



Banning Residence Museum to host 10th annual barbecue/concert fundraiser.

August 18, 2018

Friends of Banning Museum plans to celebrate the birthday of the "Father of the Los Angeles Port" Phineas Banning with a special evening of barbecue, music and dancing. The evening is set for 5 – 8 p.m. Aug. 18. In the spirit of the Rancho-period of the Banning property, guests will be treated to a Western-themed evening with live music provided by local favorite, "JB and the Big Circle Riders;" free line dance instruction; country style dancing; and a good old fashioned barbecue buffet provided by Southland Favorite, the Outdoor Grill. Country-Western attire is admired but not required.



At a previous Banning barbecue.

There are two levels of participation: The "picnic" option costs \$10 for general admission, (free for Friends of Banning Museum members). With this option, guests bring their own dinner and beverage and a blanket/low chair to enjoy the concert. They will be treated to complimentary birthday cupcake, line dance instruction and dancing on the front lawn of the mansion. The higher level – "VIP" – costs \$45 and includes on-site BBQ buffet dinner prepared by the Outdoor Grill with a birthday cupcake, line dance instruction, reserved seating and gated parking. Guests are welcome to bring their own wine or beverage. Reservations required for all guests. The Banning Museum is at 401 East M St., in Wilmington. For more information or to reserve your ticket, call (310) 548-2005. The Banning Museum, a facility of Rec and Parks, is operated in cooperation with Friends of Banning Museum, a nonprofit corporation.

Los Angeles Public Library Library's TOP 10

Here's what LA was reading, watching and listening to in May.

Lists are courtesy Los Angeles Public Library, Central library downtown and 73 branches combined.

Top 10 Books

1. *Fire and Fury*, Michael Wolff
2. *A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies and Lead*, James Comey
3. *Two Kinds of Truth*, Michael Connelly
4. *Twisted Prey*, John Sanford
5. *The Disappeared*, C.J. Box
6. *The Late Show*, Michael Connelly
7. *Red Alert*, James Patterson
8. *Hillbilly Elegy*, J.D. Vance
9. *The Dark Prophecy*, Rick Riordan
10. *The Hate U Give*, Angie Thomas

Top 10 DVDs

1. *Blade Runner 2049*
2. *Thor: Ragnarok*
3. *Justice League*
4. *The Shape of Water*
5. *Murder on the Orient Express*
6. *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*
7. *I, Tonya*
8. *Lady Bird*
9. *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*
10. *Call Me By Your Name*

Top 10 E-Books

1. *I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer*, Michelle McNamara
2. *Little Fires Everywhere*, Celeste Ng
3. *A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies, and Leadership*, James Comey
4. *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood
5. *Manhattan Beach: A Novel*, Jennifer Egan
6. *The Martian: A Novel*, Andy Weir
7. *Origin: A Novel*, Dan Brown
8. *The Woman in the Window: A Novel*, A. J. Finn
9. *A Gentleman in Moscow: A Novel*, Amor Towles
10. *Sing, Unburied, Sing: A Novel*, Jesmyn Ward

Top 10 Songs Downloaded via Freegal*

1. "This Is America," Childish Gambino
2. "This Is America" (mix), Childish Gambino
3. "Fall in Line," Christina Aguilera feat. Demi Lovato
4. "Don't Go Breaking My Heart," Backstreet Boys
5. "Dinero," Jennifer Lopez feat. DJ Khaled & Cardi B
6. "Forgive You," Leon Bridges
7. "You Don't Know," Leon Bridges
8. "Beyond," Leon Bridges
9. "Sangria Wine," Pharrell Williams x Camila Cabello
10. "Shy," Leon Bridges

* "Freegal" music via the Library lets users download and keep up to five songs a month – it's seriously free and legal! Check it out at <http://lapl.freegalmusic.com>

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TAG US ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM WITH **#CLUBFUNJULY** FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

CONTEST ENDS
JULY 15, 2018

START HERE

CONTEST RULES: To be eligible to win, entrants must be an active member of the Club. One winner will be selected randomly and announced through email, Facebook, and Instagram. No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. One entry per member. Online exclusive contest through the Club's Facebook and Instagram pages.

RESULTS OF THE BIG RACE

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development
Photos by Dailia Vielma, Club Counselor, and Daniel Wang



CITYWIDE

BAKER to VEGAS

Club celebrates 14 years of sponsoring City teams in this legendary desert footrace.

The 34th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay was held across the desert March 17-18.

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

Once again, the Club was on the racecourse. This year, the Club sponsored a Club-record eight teams from different police agencies:

- Team 80, Airport Police;
- Team 188, Port Police;
- Team 207, Transportation;
- Team 72, LAPD Custody Services Division/LAPD SECS;
- Team 91, LA County Probation;
- Team 198, LAPD Communications;
- Team 265, CHP WLA Squad (new Club sponsorship); and
- Team 276, DHCS State Investigators (new Club sponsorship).

This year, 274 teams started and finished, a record number. International Teams RCMP and Calgary Police Canada were joined by Berlin Police from Germany, along with Queensland Police from Australia. Also returning was Belize National Police team, which made its debut last year improving their finish time of 13 hours 14 minutes 4 seconds.

This was the final race year for longtime Race Consultant Co-Founder Chuck Foote, who will retire.

This year, B2V fell on St. Patrick's Day, which brought on colorful running attire on the race course to celebrate.

Notable Finish Times

- Team 188, Port Police finished at 17:02:55 without a penalty, just slightly short to bringing home a mug (trophy) in their 150 Category;

- Team 80, Airport Police finished at 16:52:44 and earned a mug;
- Team 207, Transportation finished at 18:09:37 -- no mug but, according to Team Captain Manny Ortiz, "We ran a great race, but nine teams ahead of us ran a greater one!;"
- Team 72, LAPD Custody Services Division/LAPD Security Services Division finished at 18:42:35 with a penalty of 25 minutes, and missed out on their mug;
- Team 91, LA County Probation finished at 15:57:35 and earned a mug;
- Team 198, LAPD Communications finished at 18:39:42 and failed to earn a mug;
- Team 276, DHCS State Investigators finished at 20:20:55 and didn't earn a mug during their first year as a team;
- Team 265, CHP WLA Squad finished at 20:42:30 -- no mug.

The overall winner once again was Team 1, LAPD Department Team, which finished at 12:37:29, a new Challenge Cup record. They were followed by Team 3, Belize National Police at 12:59:10. Team 2 LASD County Team finished at 13:10:26.

The same scenario can be seen with the women's teams, where Team 46 Women LAPD took first in their category at 15:30:07, followed by Team #58 Women LASD, who finished at 15:37:35.

LA County Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Club Member, was at the finish line to congratulate many LASD and LAPD runners who were happy to see him. He was joined by LAPD Chief Charlie Beck at the awards podium for Chief Beck's final Baker to Vegas race as LAPD's Police Chief. He has retired.

The Club would like to thank the following for their assistance in producing this article: Race Co-Founder Tony Adler; Assistant Race Coordinator Steve Estrada, President, LAPRAAC; Joy Matlack; Manny Ortiz, Transportation; Officer Alex Castillo, Harbor; Johanna Lara, LA County Probation; Sgt. Sa Yin, LAPD Custody Division; Officer Fran Sir, Airport Police; and Lidia Marcial, LAPD Communications.



Team 265 CHP WLA runner Juno Armstrong, 17 years of County service.



Team 276 Stage 1 runner for DHCS State Investigators.



Representing LA Port PD is Sgt. Ryan Mullany, 15 years of City service, Club Member.



Chuck Foote, Race Co-Founder, running for Team 212 Old Blue.



Team 265 CHP WLA from left: Officer Andrew Sepulveda, 3 years of County service, running Leg 3; Officer Kim Rodriguez, 3 years, running Leg 5; Officer Brandon Bakker, 7 years, catcher; and Officer Mike Pullum, 17 years, running Leg 2.



Stage 3 runner for Team 265.



Running Leg 3 for Team 276.



Team 188 LA Port PD Sgt. Mullany, Club Member; Team 134 LASD Training Bureau



From left: James Clark, District Attorney Investigator, 30 years of City service; and Jeff Booker, DCA, 12 years.



Astrid, guest of Runner Johnny Raxton, Transportation, 15 years of City service.



Team 144 LAPD West Traffic.



From left: Veronica Hernandez, guest; Wilson Juarez, DO, 6 months of City service, Club Member; Annie Fuentes, guest; Michael Hamilton, DO, 1 year, Club Member; George Vu, DO, 15 years, Club Member; and SDO Maria Elias, 18 years, Club Member.

RACE DAY



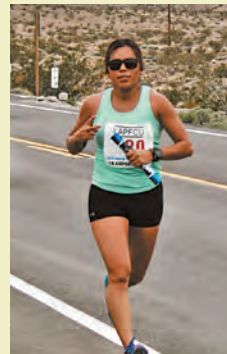
BAKER TO VEGAS 2018



Get Ready...



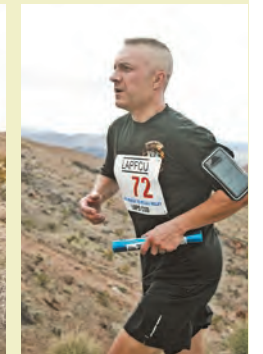
Team 28 LAPD Newton.



Leg 4 runner for Team 80 Airport Police.



Team 184 LAPD North Hollywood.



Team 72 LAPD CSD's Alex Povolotsky, Club Member.



Bryan Castillo, DO, 5 years of City service, Club Member, represents Team 72 Custody Services Division.



From left: Olga Nunez, PSR II, 9 years of City service, Club Member; Lourdes Vargas, PSR III, 28 years, Club Member; Sabrina Magana, PSR III, 9 years, Club Member; and Pauline Rios, PSR III, 9 years.



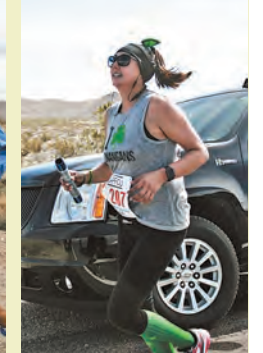
Team 207 Transportation.



Team 198 LAPD Communications.



Team 90 LAPD Hollywood.



Team 207 Transportation.



Team 276 DHCS State Investigator.



Team 80 Airport Police, from left: Club Members Officer II Rafaela Maldonado, 4 years of City service; Officer II Gregg Iwamiya, 15 years; Sgt. Floyd Johnson, 17 years; Officer II Gladis Sanchez, 3 years; Officer II Maria Iniquez, 4 years; and Officer II Daniel Krockel, 11 years.



Team 188 Port Police Officer Brandyn Anderson, Club Member.



Team 72 LAPD Custody Division's Michael Hamilton.



Team 188 alternate runner for Port Police Officer Ryan Martinez, Club Member.



Team 90 LAPD North East Area.



Team 91 LA County Probation's Enrique Alvarenga, 3 years of City service, Club Member.



Officer Gregg Iwamiya, Club Member, running for Team 80 Airport Police.



Running together in the desert.



Team 276 DHCS State Investigator Luis Landeros.



The Team 188 LA Port PD follow vehicle.



Team 131 LA City Attorney.



OFF THEY GO!



The follow vehicle for Team 80 Airport Police.



Team 174 LASD Malibu Lost Hills.



Leg 10 runner for Team 265 CHP WLA.



The team 207 Transportation follow vehicle.



Team 80's shuttle vehicle.



Not far behind the runners are the follow vehicles... this one is for Team 265. The personnel in the follow vehicle are making sure that the runners are well hydrated.



The race makes its way through Pahrump.



Volunteers keep everyone safe. From left: Bruce Cameron, 34 years of County service; Edwin Sagastume, LAPD CSD, 17 years of City service, Club Member; and David Kuchinsky, Assistant DA for SF, 5 years of service.

RESULTS OF THE BIG RACE



Sheriff Jim McDonnell with LASD County Wide Open Division third place winner, finishing at 13 hours 10 minutes 26 seconds.



Team 65 LAPD Central CTD.



Team 147 LASD Carson Station.



Team 72 LAPD Custody Division's Esteban Guevara, Club Member.



A Team 198 LAPD Communication runner and catcher at the finish line.



Team 2 LASD County Wide.



Team 207 Transportation.



Team 1 LAPD Department Team at the finish line.



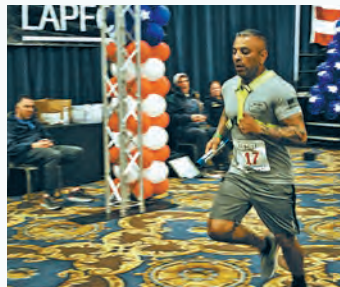
Third place winner of Women's Division was Women FBI LA, finishing at 17 hours 4 minutes 41 seconds.



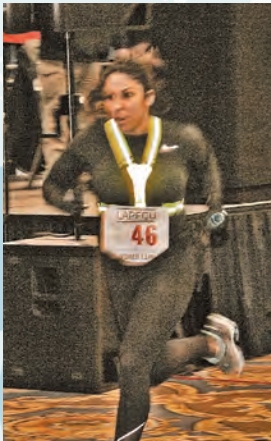
Team 214 LAPD Robbery Homicide and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck on his final Baker to Vegas run as LAPD Police Chief.



Team 242 CA Department of Insurance Enforcement.



Team 17 LAPD Metro #1.



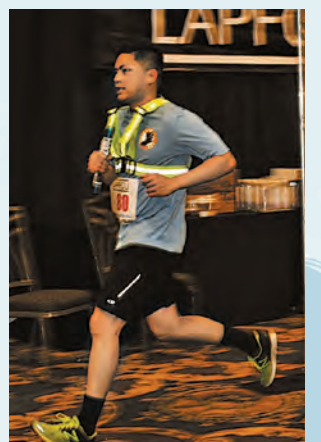
LAPD Women cross the finish line.



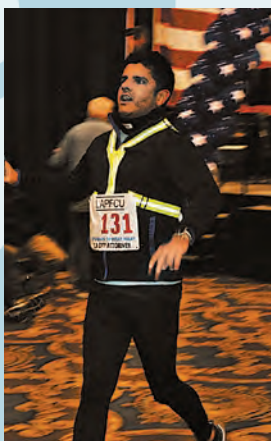
Second place winner of Women's Division was LASD Women, finishing at 15 hours 37 minutes 35 seconds.



Chief Charlie Beck addresses the crowd and congratulates the many records set this year.



A Team 80 Airport Police runner crosses the finish line.



Team 131 LA City Attorney.



Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Club Member, with Arlene Herrero, Club's Director of Product Development.



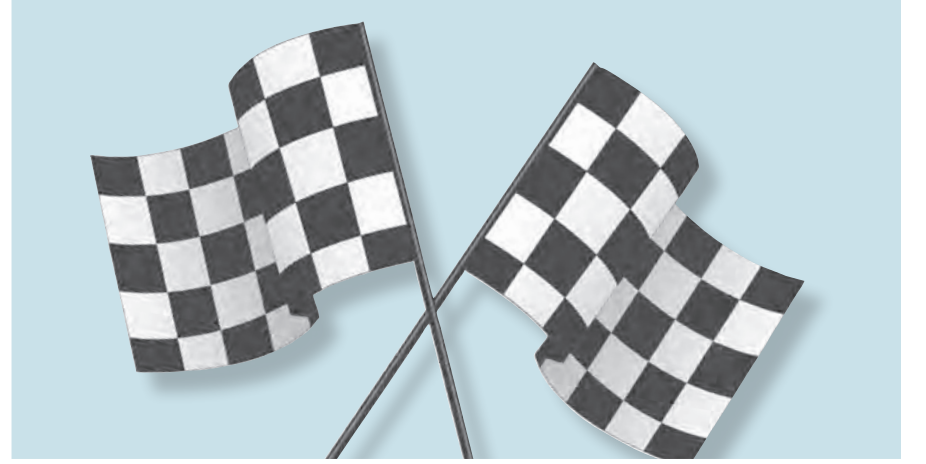
Sheriff Jim McDonnell proudly congratulates everyone for their dedication, care and commitment to each other.



BAKER TO VEGAS 2018



First place returning champion of Women's Division was LAPD Women, finishing at 15 hours 30 minutes 7 seconds.



First place winner of Invitation Mix was Navajo Division Public Safety, finishing at 14 hours 5 minutes 41 seconds.



Team 45 LAPD Foothill's Officer Debbie Thomas, Harvest Festival survivor.



Team 12 LASD Men's Central Jail.



Team 24 LAPD Southwest.



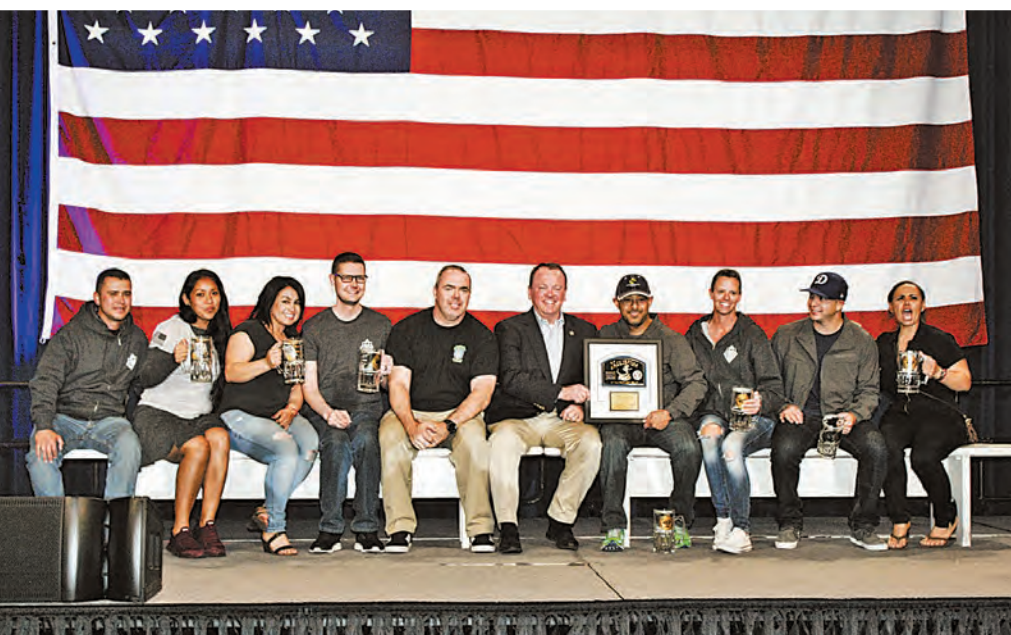
Team 91 LA County Probation.



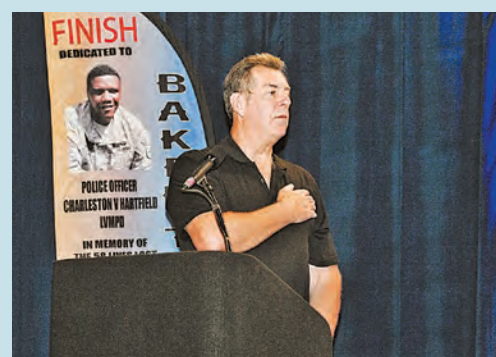
Chief Charlie Beck with LAPD Department Team Open Division first place winner, finishing at 12 hours 37 minutes 29 seconds. This was the seventh consecutive victory for the Department Team, beating the 1996 record time by four minutes.



The Belize National Police Open Division second place winner, finishing at 12 hours 59 minutes 10 seconds.



Third place Invitational Station was LASD Transportation Bureau, finishing at 18 hours 30 minutes 25 seconds.

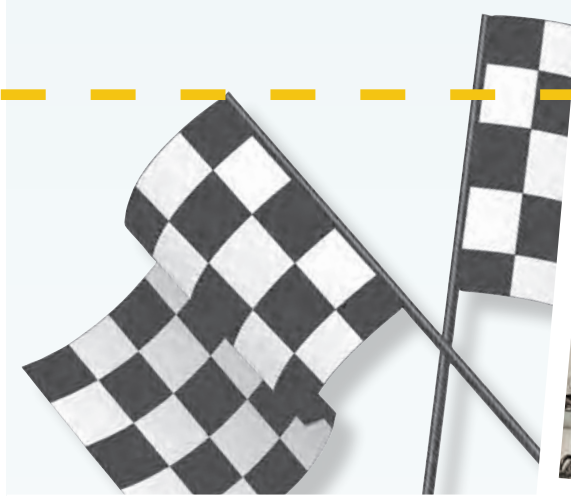
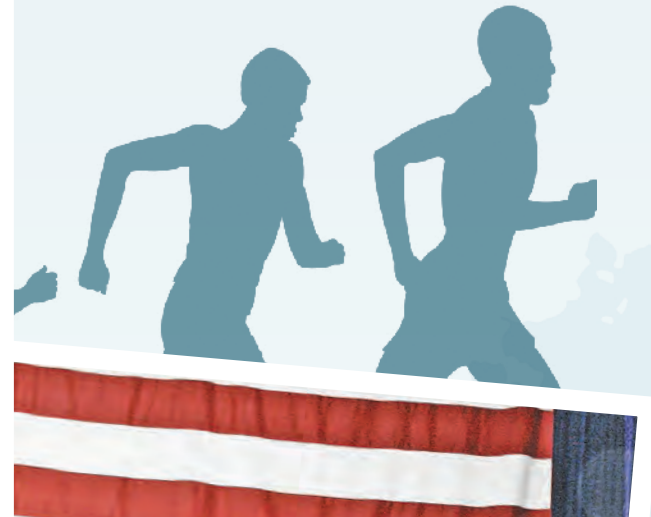


Pete Demetriou, KNX 1070 field reporter, has been the voice of Baker to Vegas for the past 31 years.

BAKER TO VEGAS 2018



First place Mixed Division was NYPD, finishing at 14 hours 21 minutes 50 seconds



First place Invitation Station was LASD Lancaster Station, finishing at 15 hours 33 minutes 31 seconds.

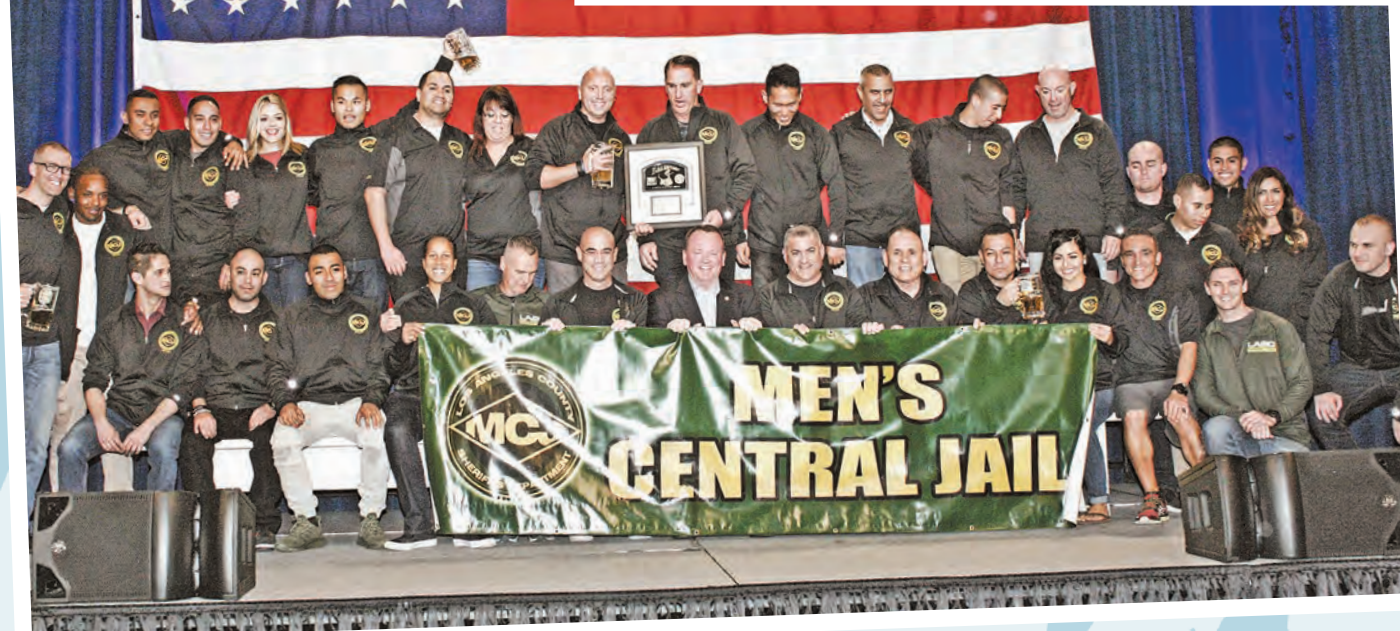


Chief Beck with LAPD Southeast Station Division second place winner finishing at 14 hours 50 minutes.



Sheriff Jim McDonnell with LASD Central Station Division first place winner finishing at 14 hours 48 minutes 18 seconds.

Sheriff Jim McDonnell with LASD Central Jail Invitational Division 2nd place winner finishing at 14h 47m 41 seconds



The Alive! Children's Coloring Contest

Coloring with The Clubs

Compiled by
Club Customer Service Associates:



Guadalupe Lira



Mia Victoria Garcia



Cristina Ramos



DeAngelo Thompson

Deadline for submission:
August 8, 2018

Submit to:

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



The Club will do everything it can to gather all the submissions, but it cannot be responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

Good luck and have fun!



We want to know about you! Tell us a little about yourself:

Your name _____ How old are you? _____

When is your birthday? _____ What is the first name of your best friend? _____

What is your favorite snack? _____

What is your favorite television show? _____

Why do you want to go to this park? _____

For parents/guardian to complete:

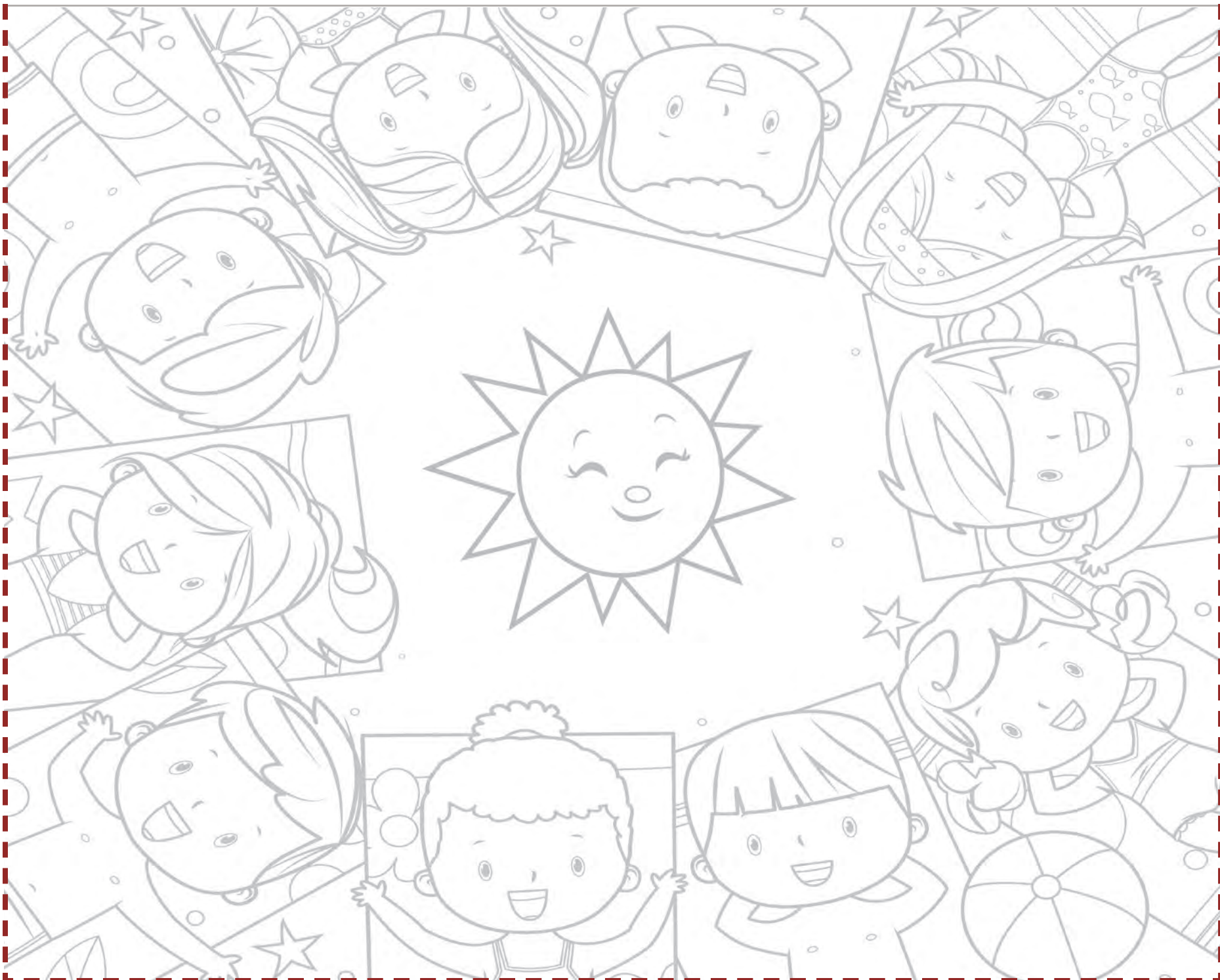
Name of parent/guardian: _____

Job title and department with the City: _____

Parent/guardian phone number: _____

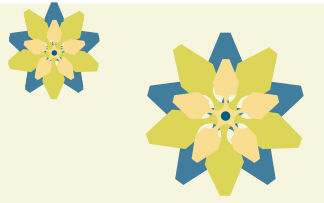
Child's address/city/zip: _____

Club Membership number: _____





Life's Important Moments



New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

Airports

Yvette Alcaraz-Gonzalez
 Kayla Banks
 Maribel Bonilla
 Kaecia Brooks
 Ceola Bullett
 Maria Del Refugio Castillo
 Christopher Cedillo
 Auvrell Christophe
 Juan Estrada Santiago
 Evelyn Galiego
 Zekeeya Henry
 Ana Hernandez
 Noe Linares Cisneros
 Raul Melendez
 Latoya Montgomery
 Carlos Montoya
 Ryan Negrette
 Joel Ramirez
 Robert Reyes
 Glenda Silva
 Daniel Silva
 Laura Tecuapetla
 Alejandro Vega

Building and Safety

Javier Alipio
 Steven Beltran
 Marshawno Gauff

City Attorney

Derek Fellows

Controller's Office

Noemi Espinoza
 Frances Shimono

Finance

Vanessa Luevano
 Dennise Sandoval
 Alberto Valmeo

General Services

Jose Delgado
 Jesus Navarro
 Daniel Ramos
 Juan Saldana
 Daniel Vlahos

Harbor

Patricia Escalante
 Michael Kuykendall

Housing

Jose Delgado
 Jesus Navarro
 Daniel Ramos
 Juan Saldana
 Daniel Vlahos

ITA

Michaelangelo Garcia

LAPD

Camerin Banks
 Brian Blake
 Mario Calleros
 Neftali Falcon
 Gladis Felix
 Elsa Garcia
 Raymond Guzman
 Milton Hom
 Nicholas McDonald
 Humberto Moreno
 Xochilt Penate
 Fatima Perez
 Rochelle Roberts
 Taryn Robinson
 Angel Rodriguez
 Aisha Sheffield
 Tia Toston
 Michael Vera
 Yvette Voltaire
 Carmian West

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

Zohra Abassy
 Rolando Magana

Rec & Parks

Paola Cetina
 Noe Gomez-Romero
 Anthony Hernandez
 Taylor Strong
 Ismael Villa

Sanitation

Nikoo Afifiyan
 Miguel Carrillo
 Maria Cisneros
 Froilan Costales Jr.
 Gavin Maclean
 James Mauldin
 Joseph Prince
 Harry Rheubottom
 Alysea Thompson
 Eddie Uribe
 Taylor Emmanuel Valdez
 Genaro Vallejo
 Sandra Williams
 William Zeledon

Transportation

Moises Aldaco
 Fitzroy Bowers
 Vicente Cordero
 Eddie Fletes
 Tawny Jackson
 Michael Marroquin
 Carl McCorkle
 Jessica Morales

Francisco Morales
 Long Tang
 Rodolfo Villagrau
 David Wallace
 Tamekia Watt
 Samuel Williams
 Kenneth Williams
 Kevin Zepeda Jauregui

DWP

Matthew Ausland
 Richard Crossley
 Joseph Giron
 Michael Guerrero
 Garland Jamison
 Zachary Lange
 Angel Luna
 Vincent Munoz
 Ruben Najera

Other

Arthur Acosta Jr.
 Kia Anaya
 Francine Arena
 Jose Avalos
 Stephanie Bodine
 Justin Burks
 John Bynum
 Mary Derby-Grant
 Ruth Escamilla
 Eli Fajardo
 Oscar Fregoso
 Lily Fregoso
 Peter Gion
 Nanette Harshaw
 Byron Hinson
 Brian Jaeggi
 Barbara Lombard
 Johan Lopez
 Dat Luu
 Lorenzo Melchor
 Carlos Mendoza
 John Mickelson
 Russell Moore
 Brenda Nunley
 Heradio Ortiz
 Todd Phipps
 Jason Pimienta
 John Pryor
 Isaac Quintanilla-Alvarez
 Manuel Rodriguez
 John Salcedo
 Paul Sanguesa
 Leticia Santana
 Richard Sepulveda
 Ronald Thompson
 Andres Trujillo
 Ruben Zamora
 Angelica Zapata-Monge



Special Achievement



Go Wilshire Girls Softball!

Cesar Ponce, Transportation, is the assistant coach of Wilshire Girls Softball's under-12 team, which is headed for the state championship in Lancaster July 1. We hope to have an update by our next issue.



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.

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Active		Jackson, Willie	General Services 25
Jasper, Aman	DWP 18	Jaffe, Russell	DWP 22
Brooks, Michael	Airports 18	Jasper, Delano	DWP 30
Darden, Barbara	Library 19	Johnson, Gayle Ann	City Council 11
Escamilla, Robert	DWP 32	Jonathan, Avery	DWP 13
Griffin, Kenneth	Public Works 21	Jones, Alcue Jr.	Rec and Parks 36
Moore, Francis	DWP 11	Jordan, Thomas	Public Works 32
Stepter, Cedric	LAPD 12	Kohnno, Fred	DWP 38
		Landry, Raymond	General Services 26
Retired		Lee, Tony	Public Works 25
Arias, Connie	DWP 8	Llata, Mercedes	Harbor 37
Avignone, Betty	DWP 27	Magat, Jesus	ITA 15
Bleibaum, Sara	Building & Safety 11	Mann, Edward	Building & Safety 12
Bloos, John	DWP 12	Mehlman, Jack	DWP 35
Bohlmann, Patricia	Public Works 25	Nash, Edward	Rec and Parks 12
Chaney, Jane	City Clerk 18	O'Neil, Henry	DWP 24
Clemente, Christine	Transportation 14	Perez, Norma	Public Works 32
Cobb, Dorothy	LAPD 33	Quintrell, Harry	Public Works 40
Dillon, Phillip	DWP 30	Remais, Linda	Library 9
Dixon, Ulysses	Rec and Parks 31	Rostant, Leonard	Public Works 40
Duckett, Rosie	DWP 22	Selmer, Jerome	CAO 31
Figueroa, Jose	Airports 36	Shinohara, Leo	Transportation 39
Fremouth, Victor	Building & Safety 17	Streicher, Selma	Library 32
Gomez, Richard	DWP 23	Stromme, Gordon	Airports 41
Gamez, Tomas	Public Works 3	Taylor, Claude	Public Works 26
Gan, Teresita	Planning 27	Tobey, Samuel	DWP 29
Garcia, Emil	General Services 14	Tondreault, Philip	Harbor 35
Hallbauer, Elizabeth	Harbor 31	True, Jimmie	DWP 14
Hargaden, Thomas	City Attorney 23	Vergara, Bernardo	DWP 33
Harvey, Robert	Public Works 34	Wiltsee, Gloria	General Services 15
Hoage, Elizabeth	Library 43	Yuzuki, Kenneth	DWP 31
Hori, Ruby	Library 33		

Tell Their Story

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

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

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



Graduations

Congratulations

Daniel Negrete culminated from the Hoover Inter-generational childcare center. He's the son of Claudia Avila, LAPD.



Mireya Tellechea graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in psychology. She's the daughter of Traffic Officer Georgina Tellechea, Transportation.



Nicholas A. Hernandez graduated from Maranatha High School with high honors. Nicholas plans to attend Azusa Pacific University in the fall. He's the son of Traffic Officer Victor Hernandez, Transportation.



Isaiah Eric Cornelius graduated from Da Vinci Schools (communication) in El Segundo. He plans to attend Humboldt State University in the fall, majoring in business. Isaiah is the grandson of Retirees Eric Cornelius, General Services, and Catherine Cornelius, Neighborhood Empowerment.



Aliah A. Estrada graduated from Granada Hills Charter High School with honors. She's the daughter of Jorge and Patty Estrada, DWP. "We are very proud of her."



Freddie Williams graduated from Hawthorne High School with a 4.0 GPA. He plans to attend the University of Nevada Las Vegas in the fall. Freddie is the son of Fredrick Williams, Public Works/Street Services.



Sasha Berry graduated with honors from Carson Senior High School. She plans to attend Cal State Long Beach this fall, majoring in criminal justice. Sasha is the daughter of Joel F. Berry, Public Works/Sanitation, and Sescillie Berry, Personnel.



Berlin Rubio graduated from Sacred Heart High School. She plans to continue her education at Cal State LA, pursuing her degree in criminal justice. She's the daughter of Sandra Rubio, DWP.



Dylan Akira Diaz graduated from St. Marianne Catholic Elementary School in Pico Rivera with honors. He plans to attend St. John Bosco High School in Bellflower studying and participating in the engineering program. He is the grandson of Jeannette Diaz, Retired, LAPD. (Pictured: Dylan in kindergarten and at his elementary school graduation.)



Let the Club family celebrate with you...

Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

CLUB MEMBERS: Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school... high school... or college? Send us a photo, and we'll publish it in *Alive!* Make sure you tell us:

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

Digital photos are preferred. Send them to:
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

If you have a paper print, send a duplicate (we prefer you not send the original) to:

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

Print photos will be returned within two months after publication if you request it, and if you write your name and address on the back.



Congratulations,
GRADUATES



NEW CLUB BENEFIT!

Club Deals

Powered by Entertainment®



Cheryl Martin, Club Member Services Counselor went to Wingstop in Inglewood where she enjoyed a free large side with a family pack purchase or a la carte wing purchase of 20 or more.



"I used the discounts powered by Entertainment® through the City Employees Club, and I received an amazing deal at Fuddrucker's hamburgers in Buena Park – a half-pound burger, fries and a Coke for only \$8! Wow! That's a steal! (Milkshake not included.)"
– **Angel Gomez, the Club's Mobile Man**



Club social media manager Dearbhla McNulty saved \$5 with the two-for-one (with a drink) offer at the Subway in Westchester.

Are you taking full advantage of your Club Membership by using deals powered by Entertainment®? SIGN UP TODAY!

The Club has teamed up with national discount service **Entertainment®** to bring you the best discount package in the state, at no additional cost. It's all part of your Club membership.

Entertainment® offers a wide array of food, travel, shopping and other great deals – in addition to the hundreds of deals the Club already offers.



It's easy to sign up:

- > Login to the Club Website
 - > Click on [Deals](#)
 - > Follow the links to Powered by Entertainment®.
 - > Register for the Entertainment® membership
- ... you're good to go.

ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT®

Entertainment® delivers convenient, high value 2-for-1 and up to 50 percent off coupons to consumers that enable members to stretch their dollar further and experience the world for less – saving on dining, attractions, activities, shopping, services, travel and more!

Reasons to Use Discounts Powered by Entertainment

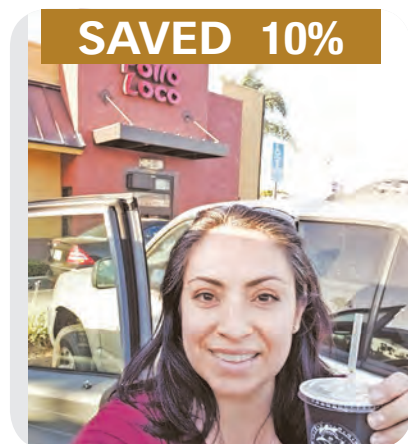
- If you're a Club Member, it's part of your membership; you already have this perk!
- Once registered, saving money is quick and easy: Simply enter your zip code and the Website automatically tailors the coupons to the businesses closest to you. You can browse by category—dining, shopping, travel, and more—or search by keyword or the name of a specific vendor. Plus, if you find a coupon you know you'll use, you can click "Save for later" and it goes into a special folder that makes it easy to access.
- You can save on popular chain restaurants and stores and when making purchases online.
- Discounts are included for local merchants, too! There are numerous coffee shops, restaurants, hair salons, exercise facilities and car service stations to choose from.
- And finally ... **You can save a lot of money!**



Get started saving today with Entertainment!
See the ad on page 33 for instructions on how to sign up, and then save!



"Our family ate at Fantastic Cafe in San Pedro on Gaffey Street. We got 10 percent discount off our entire order, thanks to using our City Employees Club discount powered by Entertainment®! We love all the perks of being Club Members!"
– **Elena and John Sousa, Airports**



Club Members Elena and John Sousa saved 10 percent on their order at El Pollo Loco on Gaffey Street in San Pedro.



Club Director of Marketing Summy Lam saved 10 percent off his shoe repair (more than \$25), saving \$5.50, at Arcadia Shoe Repair.



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Go to the Club's Website. Click on **Join Our eNews** on the bottom right. Complete the forms, and you're done. There's no spam, and you can unsubscribe at any time.



Celebrating the lives of City employees.



The Smart Move

BY PATRICK MILLER, CBLIFE,
The Club's Insurance Partner

Critical Illness Insurance: A Must

Advances in medical technology, drugs and treatment have extended our lifespan, but they have not made us immune from heart attacks, strokes or cancer. Although the above diagnosis is no longer a death sentence, they carry an unbelievable cost financially.

While the rich medical plans we have today cover most of the medical costs, most plans don't cover all of the costs related to treatment and recovery, and they cover none of the costs of non-medical expenses. Your health insurance won't cover mortgage payments if you are out of work, or transportation to a treatment center or to see an out-of-network doctor.

A MetLife Financial Impact of a Critical Illness study found the average financial cost associated with a critical illness is \$35,500. Most of the cost is linked to lost wages, the survey found. MetLife found that households spend nearly \$5,000 on out-of-pocket medical expenses that insurance won't cover, and about \$1,500 on non-medical expenses. With critical illness insurance, consumers get a lump sum whether it's \$20,000, \$30,000 or \$50,000 that can be used how users see fit.

According to Jesse Slome, executive director of the American Association for Critical Illness Insurance, improvements in medical treatments means most people will survive very serious illnesses, but a Harvard Medical Study done before the recession found that the clear majority of bankruptcies in the United States were related directly to medical conditions. More surprising, 78 percent of the people who were forced to file for bankruptcy had health insurance at the current time. "If you have a critical illness, chances are you're going to survive, but your finances are going to be significantly impacted," Slome says.

Critical illness insurance is a supplemental insurance, which can cost as little as \$20 a month, and covers the expenses associated with cancer, heart attack, stroke and organ transplants. The chance of getting diagnosed with cancer or having a heart attack is heightened for people over age 40. In fact, according to the American Cancer Society, one in two men and one in three women develop cancer in their lifetime.

Although there is no guarantee you will suffer from any of these illnesses, Slome says critical illness insurance can offer peace of mind. According to experts, someone with a family history of any of these types of diseases or can afford to pay the monthly premium should consider this form of insurance. Because it pays a lump sum, the insured doesn't have to worry about submitting receipts or getting reimbursed for their expenses. "At the end of the day the money gives peace of mind, it gives you options," Slome says. "That's what money does."

"A lot of young people in particular are insuring against the wrong risk: insuring against dying," Slome continues. "Your risk of dying is greatly reduced before the age of 65."

Considering the statistical chance of being diagnosed with one of the conditions covered by this type of policy this may be the smartest insurance dollar you will ever spend.

CBLife is The Club's partner for four areas – life insurance, critical illness insurance, retirement income and accident medical expense insurance. Currently the Club offers three CBLife products: the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan and the Accident Medical Expense Plan. Ask your Club Counselor for details.

You can contact CBLife at (888) 443-8829.

THIS MONTH AT THE
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
 A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Family Sandcastle Building Day

Sat., July 28
 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Relive your favorite memories and create new ones during CMA's Family Sandcastle Building Day. All you need to bring is your best sandcastle building tools, a little shovel and bucket, and your castle creativity to this fun beach event. The sand on Cabrillo Beach will be thoroughly wet down to prepare for sand construction; the rest is up to you!

Free!
 (Parking: \$1/hour)

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!
 Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.
 Call (310) 548-7562 or go to cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp




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LAPD

Congratulations, Andres!

Andres Mendoza named PSR of the Year.
 9-1-1 Operator Andres Mendoza was named LAPD Communications' PSR of the Year during the recent National Dispatchers Week.
 Capt. Dave Storaker, in charge of the 9-1-1 Operators, caught up with Andres to award him at the Valley Communications Center over the Memorial Day weekend.
Well done, Andres!



From left: PSR of the Year Andres Mendoza and Capt. Dave Storaker.



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

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California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$1,482
	State Farm	\$1,339
	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	United Agencies	\$876

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 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.



Cooking with the Club

Photos: Patty M. Larios

with Chef Robert Larios



Greek Shrimp Skewers With White Bean-Artichoke Salad

Great for grilling or for a quick kitchen dinner, this Greek-inspired shellfish dish requires very little prep but packs a whole lotta Mediterranean flavor.

¡Buen provecho!

Chef Larios

Greek Shrimp Skewers With White Bean-Artichoke Salad

Serves 2

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 organic lemon
- 10 ounces wild tail-on jumbo shrimp
- 1 cup cooked white beans
- 1 organic red onion
- ¾ cup cooked quartered artichoke hearts
- ¼ pound roasted red peppers
- ¼ cup pitted Kalamata olives
- 1½ teaspoons dried oregano
- ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil

Cooking TIDBIT

Prepare a medium-hot fire in a grill. Thread the shrimp or scallops on skewers, making sure the shrimp are facing the same way or the flat sides of the scallops are facing out. Set the skewers on the grill directly over the heat and cook, turning once, until lightly charred and just opaque within, 2 to 5 minutes per side.

DIRECTIONS:

1 *Prep and cook the shellfish.*
Zest the lemon and juice half, keeping the zest and juice separate; set aside the juice for the salad. Cut half into wedges for garnish. Rinse the shrimp, then drain on a paper-towel-lined plate and pat dry. Season lightly with salt and pepper.



In a large frying pan over medium-high heat, warm 1 tablespoon of oil until hot but not smoking. Working in batches if needed, add the shrimp and cook, turning once, until firm and cooked through, 1 to 2 minutes per side for regular shrimp, 2 to 3 minutes per side for jumbo shrimp. Transfer to a plate and sprinkle with the lemon zest. Add more oil between batches if needed.

While the shrimp cook, start preparing the salad.

2 *Prep the salad ingredients.*
Rinse the white beans. Peel and finely chop enough onion to measure 1½ cups (2½ cups). Finely chop the artichoke hearts. Scrape off any seeds from the roasted red peppers; finely chop any large pieces. Finely chop the olives.



3 *Assemble the salad.*
In a large bowl, stir together the oregano, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, and 1 teaspoon oil; season to taste with salt and pepper. Add the beans, onion, artichoke hearts, roasted red peppers, and olives and toss to coat; season to taste with salt and pepper.



4 *Serve.*
Transfer the white bean-artichoke salad to individual plates, top with the shellfish, and serve with the lemon wedges. Enjoy!



[Food Lover's Dictionary:]



Artichoke:

This edible thistle dates back eons and was prized by ancient Romans as a food of the nobility. In the United States, almost the entire crop is cultivated in California's mid-coastal region. The globe artichoke is actually the flower bud (its leaves are tough and petal-shaped).

Bibliography: Copyright Barron's Educational Services, Inc. 2009, adapted from *The New Food Lover's Companion*, 2007, by Sharon Tyler Herbst and Ron Herbst.

Greek shrimp skewers with white bean-artichoke salad: (Accessed June 24, 2018). <https://sunbasket.com/recipe/greek-shrimp-skewers-with-white-beanartichoke-salad>

Food Quote

"You learn a lot about someone when you share a meal together."

– Anthony Bourdain

CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • July 2018



Two Softball Leagues Now Forming

Club splits the fun into north and south divisions.



The Club has split its softball league into two – the North Division and the South Division. Players are welcome to join whichever division is more convenient for them.

The south division will continue to play at Darby Park in Inglewood. The location for the new north division has not yet been determined.

The new divisions are now open for players, scorekeepers and team managers. Individual players are welcome, too, and will be placed on a team.

The Club Softball League is open to Members from the City, County and state. It is also open to their family members over 18 years old.

Dates and times are still being worked out.

Umpire fees, prizes for players and fans, All-Star games and play-offs, trophies and media coverage will be included.

Sign up now!

Contact the Club Sports Dude, Robert Larios, at: sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com or (800) 464-0452, ext. 134, to join the leagues or for more information.

For the latest news, follow the Club:



Robert Larios,
The Sports Dude

Contact the Sports Dude for more information.

The Club Sports Office welcomes all individual players to inquire about the Club's sports leagues. Currently, the Club is coordinating efforts for basketball, bowling and softball. Please contact sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com or call the Club at (800) 464-0452 to be placed as a free agent and for more information.

Photos by JuanCarlos Chan, Rec and Parks

REC & PARKS

Lotus Festival Coming July 14-15

Annual festival ready to bloom.

The Lotus Festival, one of the signature cultural celebrations in the City, is ready to bloom again July 14-15 at Echo Park.

The festival returned four years ago after a three-year absence; during the interim, Echo Park Lake, the festival's location, was refurbished.

Dates coincide with the blooming of the lotus flower. Admission is free.

The festival attracts an estimated 100,000 people.

This year's 38th annual Lotus Festival celebrates Asian Pacific cultures with two days of attractions and entertainment in scenic Echo Lake Park. The weekend kicks off with an opening ceremony, continuing with live music, a film screening, cultural performances and more. Teams compete in the colorful Dragon Boat Race on the lake, and there will be martial arts demonstrations and dance showcases, both traditional and contemporary. Each year, the festival focuses on a different ethnicity within the Asian Pacific region. This year, the festival will honor the culture and traditions of the Chinese community.

The event made its debut in 1972 as the "Day of the Lotus" and takes place in July to coincide with the blooming of the lotus flowers that are cultivated in the lake beds by City crews. The celebration was designed to promote awareness of the contributions by Asian Americans in our local communities.

In 2012-13, the Lotus Festival was placed on hold while the City embarked on a major Prop O stormwater improvement project, as detailed in the August 2013 edition of *Alive!* The voter-mandated restoration helped protect water quality, enhance the Los Angeles River watershed, and maintain flood control functionality.

According to the Echo Park Historical Society, the Echo Park Lake lotus beds are considered to be the largest in the Western United States.

The Lotus Festival is a program of the Los Angeles Lotus Festival, Inc., in collaboration with Rec and Parks.






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- Must be a Los Angeles City, DWP, CA State Employee or Retired City and DWP Employee
- Must be a current Club Member with at least 3 months of payroll or pension deductions
- Must be current in payments with the City Employees Club of Los Angeles



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By popular demand, this offer has been extended through July 31. All visits must be used by 12/31/18.

Discount tickets can be purchased at **CityEmployeesClub.com**

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Larios In the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com
TWITTER: @robertlarioscoo



Congratulations!

Robert Larios, the Club's Chief Operating Officer, honors Club members with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.



Hector G. Valadez
Retired from the DWP, with 30 years of City service.



George Espinoza
Retired from PW/Street Services, with 30 years of City service.



Robert C. Alvarado
Retired from the LAPD, with 31 years of City service.



Nora Verdesoto
Retired from the DWP, with 37 years of City service.



Charlie Diaz
Retired from General Services, with 30 years of City service.



Benjamin Alirez
Retired from the DWP, with 33 years of City service.



Robert A. Perez
Retired from the DWP, with 36 years of City service.



Scott C. Stephens
Retired from the DWP, with 32 years of City service.



John Bilich
Retired from the DWP, with 37 years of City service.



Alicia Ramos Garcia
Retired from Airports, with 40 years of City service.

THIS MONTH AT THE

Griffith Observatory

Sunset Walk

Wednesday, July 25
7:50 - 8:50 p.m.

The Observatory offers a sunset walk led by a Park Ranger and a museum guide. The easy walk starts on the Observatory's West Terrace, proceeds up the Charlie Turner trail to the Berlin Forest on the hill just north of the Observatory, and then returns to the West Terrace. The distance covered is about half a mile over the course of an hour at a very moderate pace with stops along the way to discuss the highlights and history of Griffith Park, and objects visible in the evening sky.

NOTE: The Charlie Turner trail is a moderately steep earthen trail. The Observatory recommends footwear appropriate for hiking.

FREE!

Information:

griffithobservatory.org/programs/programs.html#walktalk

Support the Griffith Observatory!

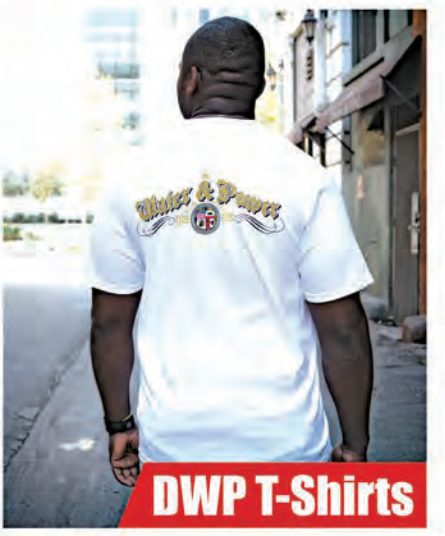
Consider joining the Friends of the Observatory (FOTO)
Call: (213) 473-0879 or go to www.friendsoftheobservatory.com

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Griffith Park Services Visitor Center**
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July 13
7:10PM



MEMBER
\$129⁹⁵
REG \$170
FIREWORKS

SAT
July 14
4:15PM



MEMBER
\$129⁹⁵
REG \$185
CLAYTON KERSHAW BOBBLEHEAD

SAT
July 15
1:10PM




MEMBER
\$109⁹⁵
REG \$155
VIVA LOS DODGERS

MON
July 30
7:10PM



MEMBER
\$79⁹⁵
REG \$127

TUE
July 31
7:10PM



MEMBER
\$99⁹⁵
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