



Alive!

Many City Employees Enrolling For Long-Term Care Insurance

Attend a seminar and enroll! Open Enrollment ends Oct. 31.

THE CLUB — Now is your chance to take advantage of a rare limited opportunity to enroll in the Club's Long-Term Care Insurance plan.

Many people still do not understand Long-Term Care Insurance (LTCi). Attend one of the many seminars – including one added in Westchester – and learn how this important coverage works.

When you purchase LTCi, you are simply purchasing a pool of money to be used in the event you need assistance at home or at a facility. As you receive care, the cost of the care comes out of your pool of money.

“Long-Term Care insurance is not as confusing as many may think, but I hope you make the time to attend a seminar,” says Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager. As long as you are an active City Employee and have never been denied by the Club's provider, evidence of insurability is not required.

DWP employees will enjoy their open enrollment opportunity next year.

See page 15 for much more information, including seminar dates and times.

Dodger Mania! Club Event Tix On Sale for \$20

Dodger game, all you can eat, for \$20!

THE CLUB — You went crazy for the first Club Event at Dodger Stadium last October. And now – here comes another incredible Club day at Dodger Stadium!

Get ready for Club Day at the Dodgers game Sunday, Oct. 3. Check this out:

- It's the last game of the season.
- The game's the Dodgers vs. the Arizona Diamondbacks.
- The Club Special Event tickets are in the right field pavilion – the *all-you-can eat section*.
- The tickets are just \$20! That's about half the regular price of \$39. (Limit of six tickets at that price per Club Member.)

“When we sponsored our first Club Day at Dodger Stadium last year, you bought every ticket we had,” says the Sports Dude (Club Director of Operations Robert Larios). “We heard you. We're back with another great Club Special Event at Dodger Stadium, at an unbeatable price.”

“Don't wait! It's gonna be great!”

Tickets are available only at the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second St. 90012. See all the details on page 7.



Rec and Parks

Take a Hike

Rec and Parks leads interpretive nature hikes for your fun and education. JOIN ONE TODAY!

— SEE PAGE 8

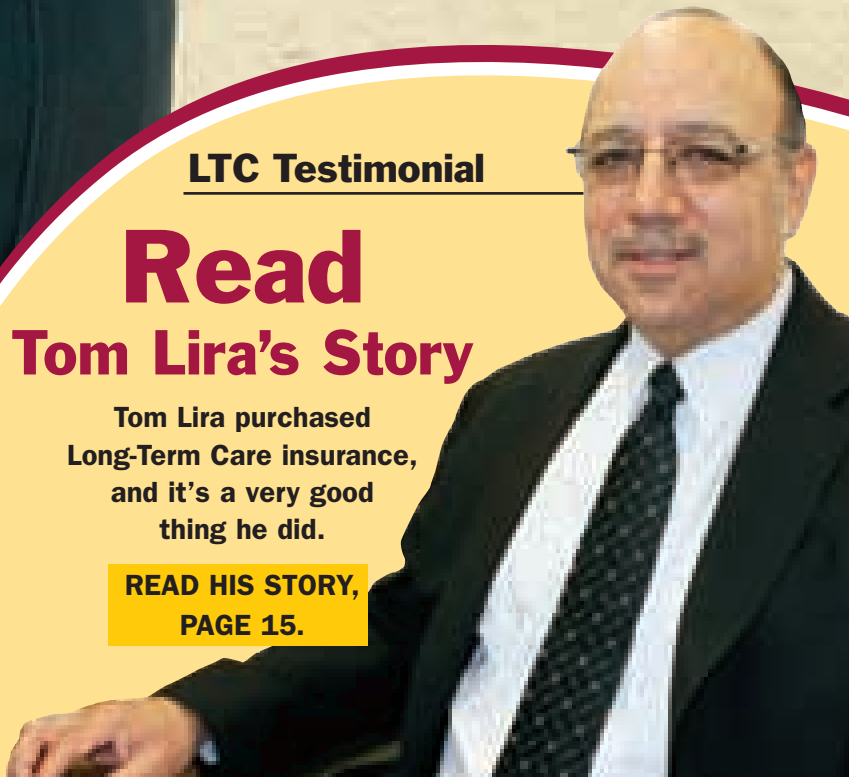
Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian leads an interpretive hike in Griffith Park.

LTC Testimonial

Read Tom Lira's Story

Tom Lira purchased Long-Term Care insurance, and it's a very good thing he did.

READ HIS STORY, PAGE 15.



Alive! photo by Angel Gomez.



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

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Alive!

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Numbers YOU CAN USE

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(800) 464-0452	Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398	Fire and Police Pension System Local 721	(213) 978-4545
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 978-1636	L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593	Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728	Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146	Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778	Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211	Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361	Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400
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** A Message From the CEO **

Smart to Get Insured For Long-Term Care

by **John Hawkins**
President and CEO, The Club

Have you enrolled yet? You should!

I'm talking about the Open Enrollment period for the Club's Long-Term Care insurance. I'm glad to see lots of City Employees enrolling. The way I look at it, they're making a smart move to protect their family from the financial implications should the City Employee get seriously sick.

The Club staff has worked hard to bring you this Open Enrollment opportunity because we think it's a great benefit for you to have.

You have until Oct. 31 to enroll – when it is much easier to be approved. My advice is to attend a seminar to get more information if you need to, but then go for it. It's the smart thing to do.



From left: Rangers Ernie Ybarra and Robin Scott; John Hawkins; and Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian at Augustus Hawkins Natural Park.

After talking about Long-Term Care, let's go for a healthy hike! And we have some good information in this issue for you to do just that.

I love to hike, so I take my family on outdoor adventures. The Club has another great hiker, as you know – Angel Gomez writes about his outdoor adventures every month in his "Be Alive!" column. Angel's great because he tells us what he's seeing at each location. I've been at certain places, wishing I had a good guide to what I was looking at.

Turns out, the City offers just such a service – the Park Rangers offer interpretive hikes. That means they narrate while you're hiking. It's not a new idea, of course, but I didn't know the City offered it. I had a great time hiking around Augustus Hawkins Natural Park. Fantastic fun! I want to give a big shoutout to **Kevin Regan, Sharie Abajian, Ernie Ybarra** and **Robin Scott** for their assistance in putting this feature together for you. I didn't know the City offered this; now you do, too.

Since this is September, that usually means a lot of great Club events. The Sports Dude (**Robert Larios**) and the Ticket Gal (**Rachael Brecher**) have put together some great ones, including another all-you-can-chow day at Dodger Stadium, and also tickets for the Orange County Fair. If you're not getting our event promotion emails, why not? Seriously! Go to the Club Website (cityemployeesclub.com) and sign up for the email newsletter. You'll be among the first to hear about our great events and ticket deals.

We're heading into the fall now, traditionally the busiest time of the year here at the Club. Between the Open Enrollment, the Club Events and all of the other great benefits we offer, we're hopping! So come aboard and take advantage of all that we offer you. We do it all for you, our Club Members.

JOHN

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)



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The newspaper of the
City Employees Club of Los Angeles

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Rec and Parks offers several interpretive hiking programs. Take one!

7 Get Your Dodgers Tickets

Dodgers game plus all-you-can-eat, for \$20. Get your tickets now!

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The Club's Open Enrollment period continues. Long-Term Care insurance is a very smart thing to have.

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The retirees association throws its annual summer picnic.

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The marine aquarium notes its 75th anniversary with a fall event.

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Airport Police officers are honored for an act of bravery.

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The zoo is once again offering Halloween with the animals.



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**Cecilia Talbot,
Claims Manager**

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

**Service From The Heart...
When You Need It Most**

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most.



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles
Celebrating the Lives of City Employees.

Great Service, When You're in Need

The Club's claims service "was prompt and professional. Cecilia is a very considerate and professional person. She really showed concern and listened to me when I explained to her the loss of my mom. I appreciate Cecilia's services to my siblings and I. The book [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] was comforting and helpful. It helps you to understand the loss of a family member or friend in a very different and coping way."

— Myra Matthew, December 2009

The Club's claims service is "excellent. Cecilia was very kind and very helpful. I found the book [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] to be thoughtful and comforting."

— Anonymous, December 2009

The Club's claims service is "very good. Service was prompt. The lady who called was very courteous."

— Rick De Leon, December 2009

The Club's claims service is "excellent. I was confused about the benefits. [Cecilia] Talbot explained what I was entitled to, so I was satisfied. I came to the office without an appointment, and both ladies were nice and helpful. The atmosphere was peasant and peaceful. I felt the ladies would take care of my problem, and they did. The book [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] was about hope. In the death of a loved one, you need hope that all will be well"

— Ruth Espy, December 2009

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work

**Total claims paid to Club Members
So Far in 2010: \$2,582,824.92**

Claims paid:

Life insurance claims paid this month:
\$308,123.90

Life insurance claims paid this year:
\$1,273,432.81

Long-term disability claims paid this month:
\$119,502.93

Long-term disability claims paid this year:
\$895,275.42

Long-term care claims paid this month:
\$25,850.00

Long-term care claims paid this year:
\$214,116.69

Cancer insurance claims paid this month:
\$20,000.00

Cancer insurance claims paid this year:
\$200,000.00

**Trust your insurance needs to the Club. Contact an Insurance Counselor today:
(800) 4640452**

It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club!

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



CLUB Member Benefits

Club Insurance

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

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

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Office Depot

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Dunn Edwards

Show your Club membership card and save 20%.

*Contact the Club for more details.

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.



Claims



Cecilia Talbot
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio
Claims Assistant



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent
Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios
Director of Operations
"Sports Dude"



Noelle Kauffman
New Projects Coordinator

Member Services



Eboné Moses
Club Member
Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of Animal Services Building & Safety Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer City Attorney City Clerk City Council Community Redevelopment Agc. Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Convention Center Cultural Affairs Disability, Department on DWP-Administration DWP-Energy Services DWP-Financial Services Executive DWP-Integrated Support Services DWP-Marketing & Customer Svcs DWP-Water Aqueduct District DWP-Water Services El Pueblo De Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Finance Housing Department Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Los Angeles World Airport Mayor Planning Street Lighting, Bureau of

2003 President's Award Recipient



Arlene Herrera
Club Products Manager

Police (LAPD) Harbor

2008 President's Award Recipient



Angel Gomez
Director of Member Services



Brent Urban
Club Member
Services Counselor

Administration Aging City Employees Retirement Sys. Community Development Dept. General Services Employee Relations Board Engineering, Bureau of Environmental Affairs Fire Fire & Police Pensions Information Technology Agency Library Neighborhood Empowerment Personnel Recreation & Parks Sanitation, Bureau of Status of Women Street Services, Bureau of Transportation Zoo

Accounting



Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant



Katie Hesseltine
Application Coordinator



Jennifer Schackelford
Application Coordinator

Information Technology



Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



2007 President's Award Recipient

Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



2005 President's Award Recipient

Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

Club Store



Rachael Brecher
Club Store Assistant Manager



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor, In-House



Lupe Medina
Administrative Service Representative



Megan Debolt
Club Store Services Coordinator

(800) 464-0452

Questions? We're here to help.

Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Open Enrollment a Great Chance To Get Long-Term Care Insurance



Dear Club, I did my research. You really do have the best Long-Term Care [insurance] out there. Thank you for the open enrollment opportunity. I have high blood pressure and was always afraid I would never be able to qualify for it but now, with your open enrollment, no health questions are asked. Again, thank you.

– Mike Waters, Public Works

With Mukai Scholarship Winners, Club Really Cares About Families

Holy Mackerel, the Club went all out this year with the scholarships! I read every single one of the winners' stories – truly amazing. I have two children; one is 12 and the other is 14. As soon as they are eligible, I'm going to make sure they apply. Thank you for helping the kids out; it's tough out there!

– Susan Lechinski, Club Member since 1991

For Graduates, Baby Photos Are a Great *Alive!* Addition

Hi *Alive!* I just wanted to drop you a line to say that putting the graduate's baby picture next to their graduation picture is sheer genius! Seriously, that is super cool. Thanks for always being so creative with the lives of City Employees. Keep up the good work.

– John Wilcox, Retired

Hi John, we couldn't agree more. We only wish it were our idea! Full credit for the idea to include baby pictures of the graduates goes to Kacy Evans, Sr. Clerk Typist, Personnel, and Club Member. We love when a great idea goes gangbusters! – Ed.

Zucchini Recipe Could Be Better Only If It Brings Home the Bacon

The skillet zucchini recipe ["Cooking With the Club," *Alive!* August] was a treat to make. I have been married for 35 years and cook for the household; everyone is used to the same group of recipes here. There's quite a stir, and everyone, including my husband, Larry, becomes a food critic. This time, everyone was asking for seconds. I would imagine they'd be asking for three servings if I added bacon, as Chef Larios mentioned in his column. It was very tasty and easy to make. We look forward to reading the cooking column each month.

– Gwen Larson, Retired

Softball and Basketball Success Might Lead to Many Other Sports

Congratulations to the DOT Outlaws and the LAX Ballers for winning the first-ever Club basketball titles! It is great to see City Employees participating in sports and having fun. Based on the photos in the August newspaper, it is an exciting tournament to determine the champions. There was even a cheering squad during the season! Is it true that the Club is starting a running and cycling group, as well as bowling, flag football and volleyball teams? It makes it worthwhile to be a City Employee during this time in history!

– Roy Glaven, General Services

Hi Roy, you're right, the Club Sports Dept., led by the Sports Dude, is expanding! See page 41 for information about the proposed new sports. – Ed.

The More Club Benefits She Uses, The More Serious Money She Saves

Hello Club! I wanted to thank you for the great services and benefits you guys have been offering us for years. I have some personal experiences about how much I saved at Office Depot, Enterprise Rent-a-Car and at the Club Store. I saved about \$80 on my children's school supplies at Office Depot. Secondly, I wanted to take the kids on a trip to San Diego that included stops at Legoland, Sea World and the San Diego Zoo. I saved about \$150 on the tickets by going to the Club Store. And then I saved more money when I rented a car from Enterprise. Thank you! Thank you!

– Tina Flores, Rec and Parks

'People We See' Update

In a letter in the August *Alive!*, Mike Walters, Public Works, wanted to know what the City is doing about the situation documented in *Alive!*'s "People We See" feature each month. Prompted by that letter, Club CEO John Hawkins sent an email July 22 to the mayor, asking him Mike's question. As of press time for this month's issue, *Alive!* has received no response. – Ed.

Correction

- In last month's "History Comes *Alive!*," the source of the photos was misidentified. The photos came from the Herald-Examiner Collection, Los Angeles Public Library Photo Archive.

QUESTION of the Month

– Collected by Rachael Brecher, Club Store Assistant Manager

Rachael at the Club Store asks Club Members fun questions when they visit to purchase tickets or great Club apparel and gifts. So, stop by and join in the fun!



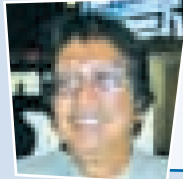
What is your favorite school memory?



"Explaining to my English teach what double-breasted meant."
– Eddie Williams, ITA, 30 years of City service



"Graduating."
– Andrew Ko, Public Works, 3 years of City service



"Being in the chess club."
– Diosdado Munoz, ITA, 23 years of City service



"Being a member of the swim team in college."
– Federico Sicard, LAPD, 30 years of City service



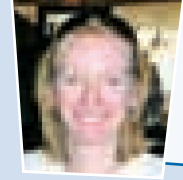
"The sixth grade May Day dances."
– Joann Gage, General Services, 8 years of City service



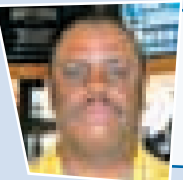
"Graduating from high school."
– Donald Burnett, DWP, 25 years of City service



"Senior Ditch Day."
– Charles Andrews, Transportation, 22 years of City service



"Cycling home from high school at the end of every day."
– Dearbhla McNulty, Club friend



"Winning the high school oratorical contest at the age of 16."
– Titus DeCoursey, Rec and Parks, 8 years of City service



"Sixth-grade camping trip."
– Ozzie Lopez, CDD, 18 years of City service

The Club Store

120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012



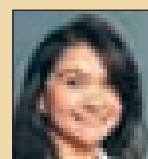
Get a FREE Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE
Representatives from Club partner, United Agencies will be at the Club Store:

Sept 3 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Patty Pulido	Sept 17 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Rosa Calderon
Sept 10 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Norma Angullo	Sept 24 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Patty Pulido

Note: The Club Store will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, in honor of Labor Day.

Your United Agencies Reps:



Norma Angullo, Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon, Personal Insurance Agent



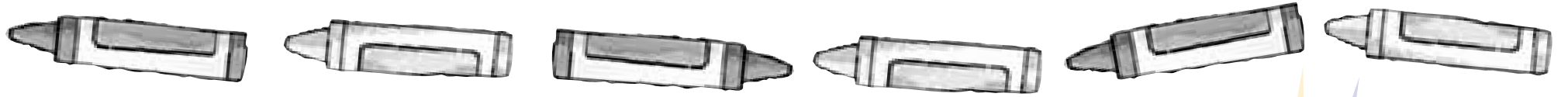
Suzanne Eggl, Personal Insurance Mgr



Patty Pulido, Personal Insurance Agent



Rose Rangel, Personal Insurance Agent



Congratulations to the WINNERS!

of our Club Coloring Contest!

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

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



Winner
5 & under
YEARS OLD

Mia Tomilin, 5

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Hannah Montana"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Fruit Snacks
 • BEST FRIEND: Sofia
 • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: California Adventure. I've never been there.
 • PARENT: Dave/Lisa Tomilin, LAPD Sergeant II.

Winner
6 to 7
YEARS OLD

Elisa Ruiz, 6

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Fetch! with Ruff Ruffman"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Crush Cup
 • BEST FRIEND: Danila
 • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Legoland, because I worked hard to win 4 awards and won student of the year at school.
 • PARENT: Robert Ruiz, Management Analyst II/ LADWP.



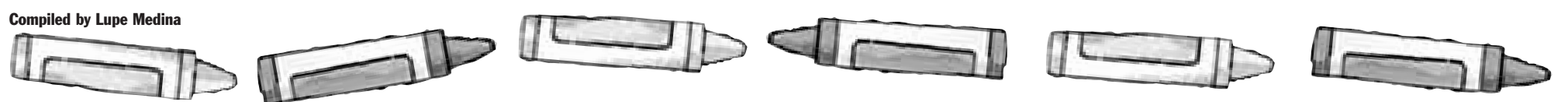
Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Jack Christopher	2	James Christopher	DWP
Jack Rigney	3	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Lily Rigney	3	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Angel A. Reza	4	Guillermo A. Reza	Rec and Parks
Raymond Trinh	4	Thai Trinh	Public Works
Michael Bagmanian	6	Angela Bagmanian	Rec and Parks
Jason G Bravo	5	Rau Guerrero	Public Works
Alyssa Canton	5	Thomas Caton	DWP
Isabella Cerda	5	Karen Mallory	Retired
Aleckzandra	5	Alner Cobarrubia	Airports
Jordan Hernandez	5	Arthur Hernandez	LAPD
Sydney Hernandez	5	Eduardo Hernandez	Rec and Parks
Carter Lam	5	Tom Lam	LAPD
AJ Lopez	5	Lisa R. DeRonde	LAPD
Olivia Zordilla	5	Emile Zordilla	Harbor
Angel Cooper	6	Aracely Galicia	Transportation
Darius Dove	6	Damon Dove	DWP
Angelique Juarez	6	Abigail Juarez	Rec and Parks
Kristin Kohles	6	Christopher Kohles	DWP
Karis Mead	6	Sam Meade	LAPD
Sumer Montoya	6	William Garcia	Public Works
Mikhail Morrison	6	Michael Morrison	DWP
Alejandra Reza	6	Juan J. Reza	DWP
Jaqui Vega	6	Irma Vega	Retired
Priscilla Alvarado	7	Steve Alvarado	Public Works
Ari Cole	7	Tanzi Cole	LAFD
Claudia De Loera	7	Jorge DeLoera	Rec and Parks
Kaylee Gabon	7	Audie Gabon	DWP
Grant Martinez	7	Kimberly Martinez	LAPD
Matthew M.	7	Tish Merriweather	Public Works
Madison McNair	7	LaCarol Holloway	Public Works
Zachary Oghigiah	7	George Oghigiah	General Services
Peter Otoshi	7	John T. Otoshi	DWP
London J. Wright	7	Hope Peyton Wright	LAPD
Lauren Zordilla	7	Katie Zordilla	DWP
Marisol Alvarez	8	Louie Alvarez	Rec and Parks
Chayanne Clayborn	8	Carmen Clayborn	Housing
Lilac Cobos	8	Raul Cobos	Public Works
Brandon Debolt	8	Megan Debolt	Club Staff
Vian DeLaTorre	8	Anthony DeLaTorre	Airports
Nick Fischer	8	Rus Fischer	DWP
Jessica Funches	8	Gloria G. Funches	LAPD
Valere Funches	8	Gloria G. Funches	LAPD
Kate Gabon	8	Audie Gabon	DWP
Tara Lam	8	Tom Lam	LAPD
Kalino Mergel	8	Sean Mergel	DWP
Mia Rohaly	8	Karen Rohaly	Library
Alexa Rosales	8	Alex Rosales	DWP
Kaiya Yonamine	8	Kyle Yonamine	General Services
Aidan S.Chang	9	Fernando Delgado	Airports
Haley Chen	9	Tiffany Sy	Club Staff
Erika Consebido	9	Cecille Consebido	Public Works
Kayla Cortez	9	Olivia C. Gonzalez	Retired
Rebecca D. Johnson	9	Leon Thomasian	Retired
Celine Millaponce	9	Manny Hernandez	Housing
Alexandra Ozuna	9	Lynda Ozuna	Finance
Katerina Plascencia	9	Gustavo Plascencia	City Attorney
Charlene Salandan	9	Marlene Salandan	Harbor
Erica Wo	9	Steven Wo	DWP
Ava Zordilla	9	Emil Zordilla	Harbor
Samantha Barajas	10	Jorge Barajas	Public Works
Alexis Barnhart	10	Monique Rodriguez	Library
Angelica Borja	10	Maribel Albarron	Zoo
Christopher Cordero	10	Catherine Cordero	DWP
Enrique De La Cruz	10	Enrique De La Cruz	Transportation
Sienna Garcia	10	Carlos Garcia	DWP
Nadia Gutierrez	10	David Gutierrez	DWP
Layla McCain	10	Valerie B. McCain	Airports
Olga Martinez	10	Olga Madrid	General Services
Abriann Navarro	10	Carlos Zia	Public Works
Emily Ortega	10	George Ortega	Airports
Joseph Otoshi	10	John T. Otoshi	DWP
Emily Reyes	10	Alfredo Reyes	Public Works
Julia Rodarte	10	Gemma Rodarte	M. Mendoza
Sofia Salcedo	10	Rafael Salcedo	DWP
Tori Takai	10	Christopher Takai	Airports
Sydney Toomes	10	Edgar Toomes	General Services
Jonathan Valmonte	10	Brillando Valmonte	General Services
Madison Zordilla	10	Katie Zordilla	DWP
Alexis Anica	11	Zeyna Anica	DWP
Araly Cruz	11	Mardoqueo Cruz	Public Works

Winner
8 to 10
YEARS OLD

Kevin Espinoza, 9

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Spongebob Squarepants"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: Gummy Bears
 • BEST FRIEND: William Nestlehutt
 • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: I would like to go to Disneyland because I want to see Fantasia and meet Goofy.
 • PARENT: Sergio Espinoza/ DWP.





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(Reg Price \$30)
**Oct 3
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Includes
All-You-Can-Eat**

- ✓ Hot Dogs
- ✓ Popcorn
- ✓ Peanuts
- ✓ Sodas
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Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian interprets a hike through Griffith Park with Angel Gomez, Club Director of Member Services.



Take a Hike!

Rec and Parks offers an impressive array of interpretive hikes, both by themselves and in coordination with its camping and Junior Ranger Programs. Join a hike today!

Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Director of Member Services; Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer; and courtesy Rec and Parks

Park Rangers provide an opportunity for children as well as adults to discover the marvelous world of nature through the department's interpretive and Junior Ranger Programming.

■ **Griffith Park, White Point and Cabrillo**

The Park Ranger interpretive programs are selected and crafted to introduce guests to topics including history, ecosystems, habitats, and flora and fauna. The public can take advantage of several programs the Rangers offer. On the first and third Saturday of the month, a Park Ranger leads a nature hike through the many trails of Griffith Park. Also, every Saturday, Park Rangers and the Palos Verdes Land Conservancy have partnered to offer historical talks and hikes at the White Point Nature Preserve overlooking the Pacific Ocean in San Pedro, with beautiful Catalina Island in sight. Additionally, on Saturdays you can find a Park Ranger at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, assisting staff with tours of the aquarium and the nearby tide pools on the beach.

■ **Augustus Hawkins Natural Park**

Recently, the Park Rangers have begun programming interpretive hikes at Augustus F. Hawkins Natural Park in South Los Angeles. This property contains a nature center, a wetlands habitat and native chaparral commonly found in the Santa Monica Mountain Range. The Park Rangers are in process of restoring public programs and revitalizing the garden adjacent to the nature center.

■ **Junior Rangers**

The Park Rangers also offer extensive programming for youths. Park Rangers often encounter children who have had little exposure to the natural world. The Junior Ranger Program invites boys and girls to use the City's parks and open spaces to develop an awareness of nature and their own personal outdoor environments. Park Rangers engage their senses and encourage curiosity, making discovery of the environment exciting. Every fall and throughout the school year, Park Rangers provide nature hikes to the Los Angeles Unified School District to supplement the district's outdoor science programs. Various programs are offered that teach about wildlife, including mammals, insects, and reptiles, along with conservation and care for our natural resources.

■ **Camping and Fishing**

Rec and Parks manages several camps through its Camping Section. The Rangers supplement camp programming by providing nature talks, historical hikes and evening stargazing walks along with assisting staff with a traditional campfire. The public can access information regarding these camping programs through www.laparks.org

**THE ALIVE!
INTERVIEW**

Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian speaks to *Alive!*



'Seeing Their Expression ... Is the Best Part'

Kevin Regan and Sharie Abajian talk about Rec and Parks' interpretive program.

On July 7, Alive! interviewed Kevin Regan, Asst. General Manager, and Sharie Abajian, Sr. Park Ranger, at the Park Ranger station in Griffith Park, about Rec and Parks' interpretive services, including hikes, camping, education and other programs. —Ed.

Alive! First of all, can you tell our readers a little bit about the history of Rec and Parks and its trail programs? How long has the City offered trails to the general public?

Kevin Regan: Rec and Parks has been in existence since the early 1900s. The department initially was called the Department of Playgrounds. Rec and Parks has always had the jurisdiction over City trails.

Wow, since the early 1900s.

Kevin: Right. The Recreation and Parks department of the City of L.A. is the first municipal parks department in the nation. We've led the way in development of parks and open spaces as well as trails.

And the trail management goes back pretty much to the beginning?

Kevin: Yes. A number of our parks are historic. Elysian Park, for example, plus Griffith Park, one of the first parks to have a big trail system. And we've really expanded it from there. We now have hiking and bridle trails in every part of the City.

Tell me about this interpretive program.

Kevin: Rec and Parks has a very exciting program. It's an expansion of our ranger nature or interpretive unit. We've taken the entire group of our non-peace-officer rangers and put them into one unit. That unit includes the nature program, the junior ranger program and our mounted unit, the rangers who ride on horseback on the trails.

The ranger interpretive unit provides nature education, including some basics about "leave no trace"-type of camping skills; and a little bit about appreciation and care for the natural environment, in a program with a series of classes with some fun activities for the kids at day camp. The day culminates with a hike in the park.

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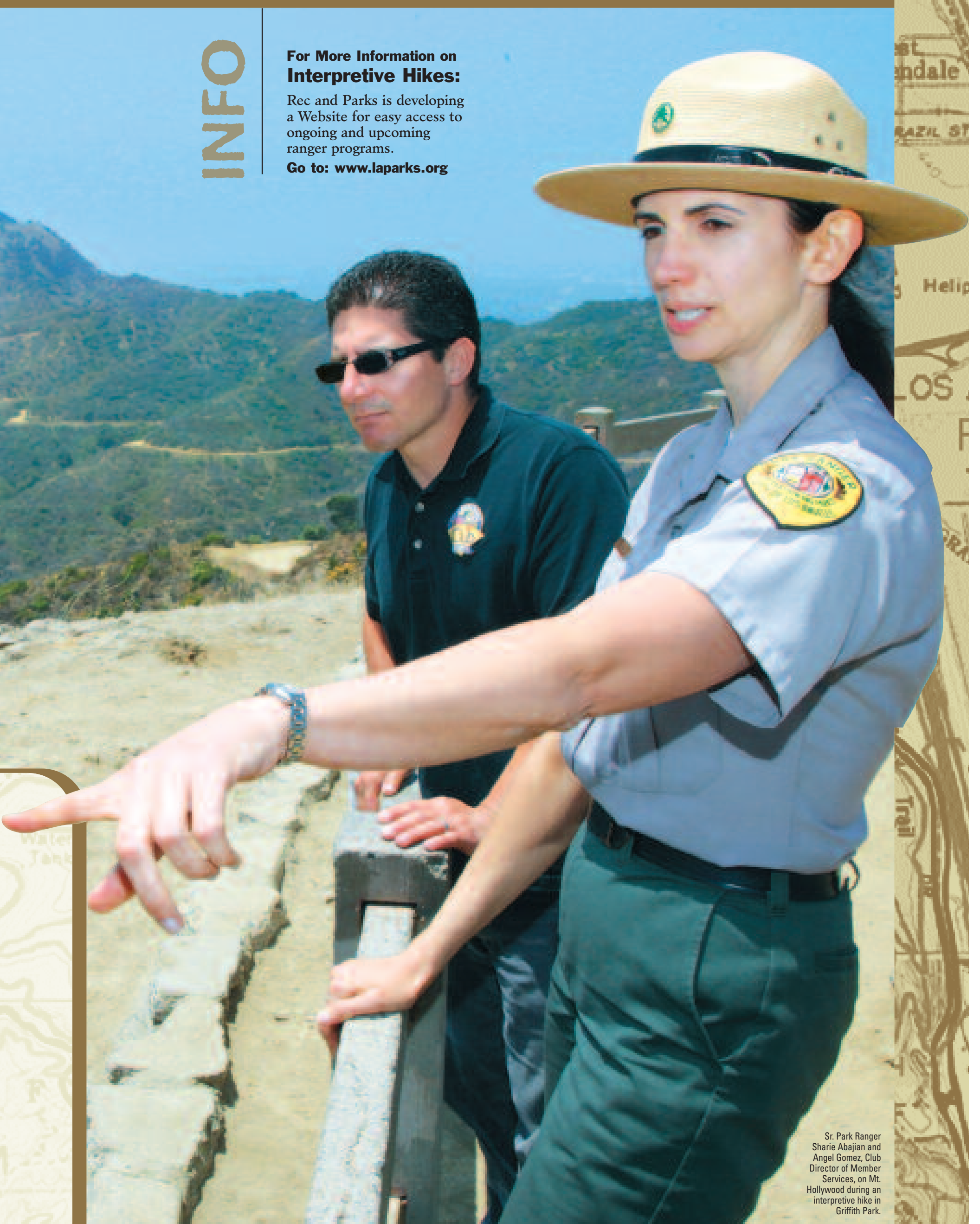
REC & PARKS: INTERPRETIVE HIKES PROGRAM

INFO

For More Information on Interpretive Hikes:

Rec and Parks is developing a Website for easy access to ongoing and upcoming ranger programs.

Go to: www.laparks.org



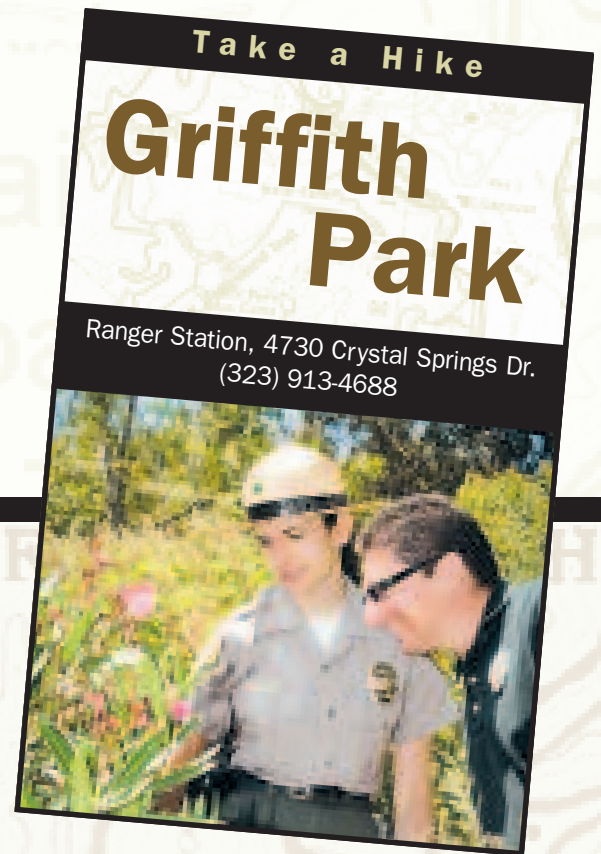
Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian and Angel Gomez, Club Director of Member Services, on Mt. Hollywood during an interpretive hike in Griffith Park.

HIKING GUIDE

Where to Go to Take a Hike

Interested in an interpretive hike or program? Here's a guide. (Please remember to dress accordingly and bring drinking water and snacks!)

For more information, go to the Rec and Parks hiking Website – www.laparks.org – or call the Park Rangers hotline: (323) 644-6661.

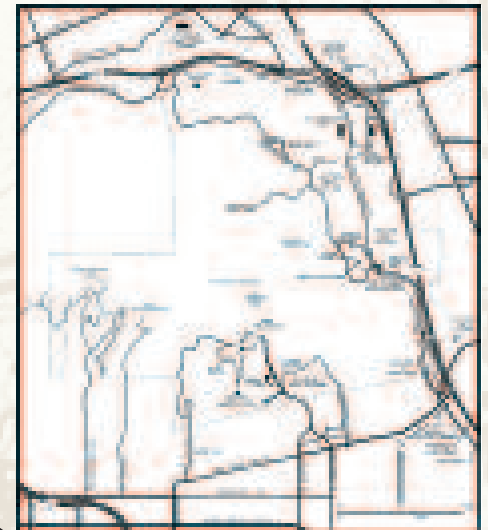


Griffith Park

There are more than 50 miles of hiking trails in Griffith Park. Interpretive hikes are led by Park Rangers on the first and third Saturday of each month, starting about 8 a.m. Interpretive hikes usually begin at the Ranger Station, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., (323) 913-4688; hike paths vary.

Hiking into the rugged hills and sparsely developed areas is perhaps one of the most popular forms of recreation in Griffith Park. Hikers are allowed to use the entire 53-mile network of trails, fire roads and bridle paths. Maps of trails and current information on trail closures and special restrictions are available at the Ranger Station.

All trails in the park are closed at dusk. Open fires and smoking are not allowed. One of the most rewarding hikes in the park is the trail leading from the Observatory parking lot to the summit of Mount Hollywood, the highest peak of the park, which affords spectacular views of the entire Los Angeles Basin. Hikers should approach the park with caution; Griffith Park is a wilderness area with wild coyotes, bobcats, foxes, deer, rattlesnakes and rodents.



A map of the Griffith Park trails.



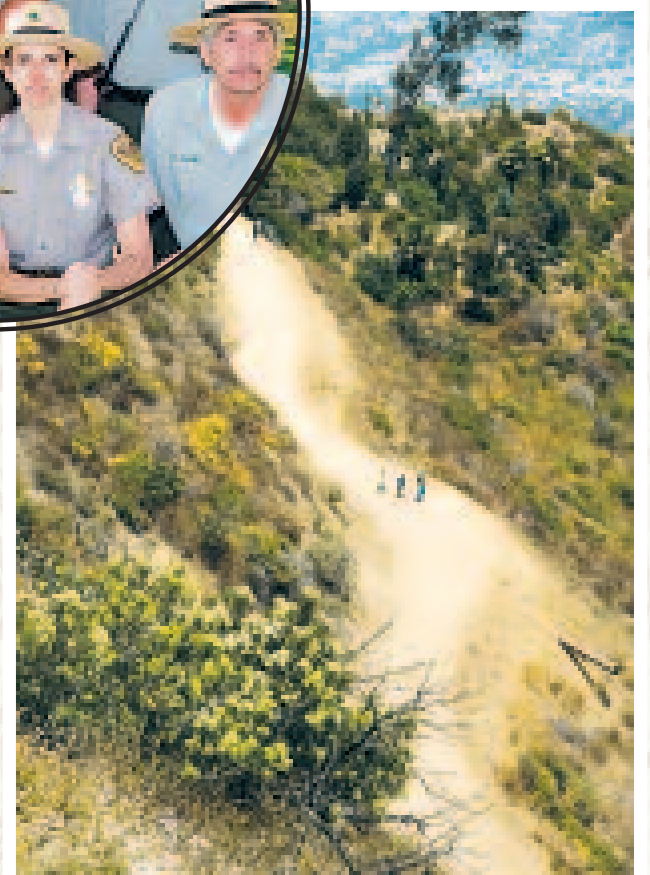
Downtown L.A. can be seen from Griffith Park.



At left: Interpretive Rangers, top row, from left: Russell Brown, Tom Mendibles, Aubrey Brown and Robin Scott. Bottom: Ernie Ybarra, Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian and Pat Aceves.



Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian points out a plant to Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Director.



The path up to Mt. Hollywood in Griffith Park.

REC & PARKS: INTERPRETIVE HIKES PROGRAM

White Point Nature Preserve

The White Point Nature Preserve features 102 acres of restored coastal sage scrub habitat, hiking and handicap access trails, and a new Nature Education Center overlooking the ocean and Catalina Island.

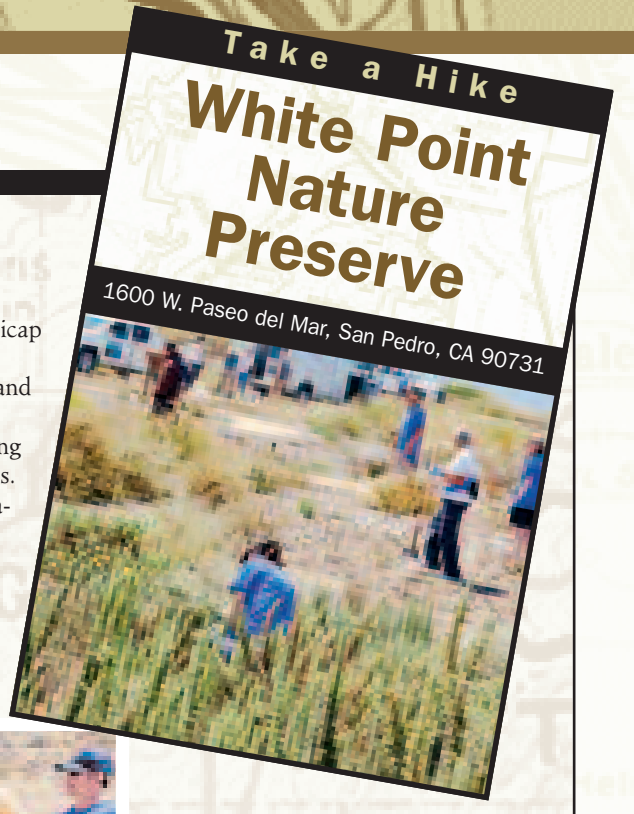
Every Saturday, Park Rangers and the Palos Verdes Land Conservancy have partnered to offer historical talks and hikes at the preserve.

The preserve is now home to the Nature Education Center, adapted from a historic Cold War Assembly building on the site. The center will serve as a resource for students, families and community groups from all over Los Angeles. It is housed in a creatively re-purposed former military structure surrounded by a California native plant demonstration garden built as an educational and interpretive model of our local plant communities.

Inside the center, multimedia exhibits will move visitors through a timeline of sequentially arranged exhibits and displays that tell the story of White Point's cultural and natural history, spanning the Pleistocene age through the present.

The Nature Center is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The preserve is at 1600 W. Paseo del Mar, San Pedro, CA 90731.



Ranger Russell Brown leads hikers at White Point Nature Preserve.



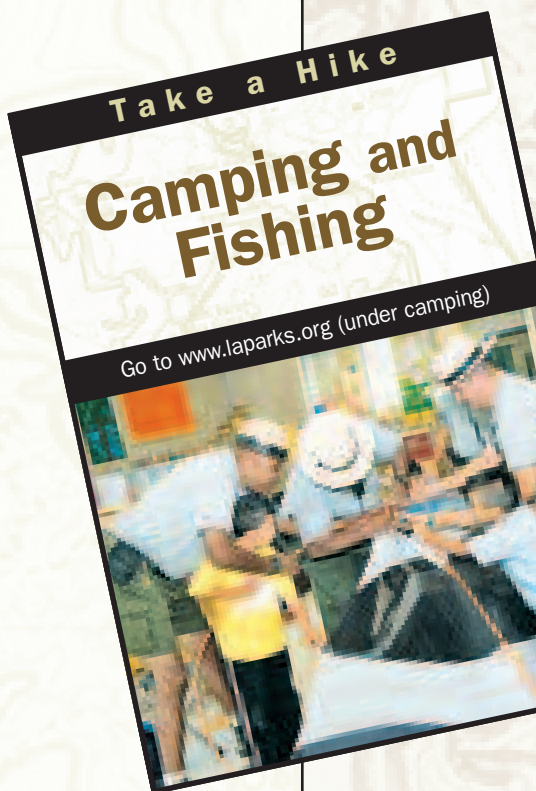
Ranger Russell Brown leads hikers at White Point Nature Preserve.



A map of the White Point Nature Preserve.



A display inside the White Point visitor center.



Camping and Fishing

Rec and Parks manages several camps, and Park Rangers provide nature talks, historical hikes and evening stargazing walks along with assisting staff with a traditional campfire. Also as part of the camping program, Park Rangers provide interpretive assistance by teaching youths to fish.

Camps with interpretive programs and hikes include locations in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, and near Mammoth in the Eastern Sierras.

If you're interested in taking part, you can find more information at www.laparks.org under camping.



Above: Ranger Pat Aceves teaches children to fish.



Ranger Ernie Ybarra hosts a hike in Camp Seely in the San Bernardino Mountains.

THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW

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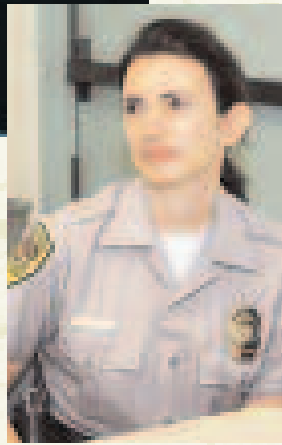
Right. But there's more to interpretive hikes than just children's activities, right? There are things for adults, too.

Kevin: That's right. We have hikes for folks of all ages in Griffith Park and other parks. We have a partnership with the Audubon Society out of Debs Park that runs the Nature Center there. And the interpretive unit just recently took over all of the nature educational aspect of Augustus Hawkins Park, on the corner of Compton and Slauson [Avenues]. That's like a natural oasis in the middle of the City. It's a very industrial, urban environment. Augustus Hawkins Nature Park is just a beautiful site. The rangers have a partnership there with LAUSD where kids come in on field trips and the rangers will teach classes and give some practical application,



Sharie Abajian: I'm also looking at putting a gardening program there, too, for residents in the area.

Kevin: There are also fishing programs such as fishing derbies and some out-of-town camping programs. We have



At the *Alive!* interview were Asst. General Manager Kevin Regan (top) and Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian.

camp in the San Bernardino National Forest and one in Mammoth Lakes. These are City-owned camps operated by the Rec and Parks, and the rangers are involved in some programming there as well. So there's a myriad of activities, a lot of educational activity going on, a lot of hiking in the park. Rangers also walk around in the park engaging people who might be in the park and talking to them about safety or about preserving the park, not littering, things like that.

Getting Out There

If Club Members are interested in taking their family on an interpretive hike, how many locations would there be?

Sharie: Currently, the rangers are offering nature hikes at 8 a.m. on the first and third Saturdays of the month in Griffith Park. And at White Point Nature Preserve [in San Pedro], the rangers are leading hikes at 9 and 11 a.m. every Saturday.

And those are regularly scheduled.

Sharie: Yes. And after the Junior Ranger day camp program is over, we're going to start offering night hikes again in Griffith Park.

When do you expect that to resume?

Sharie: In September.

Perfect timing! Are there other interpretive hikes, for example, at Hansen Dam [in Lake View Terrace]?

Sharie: If we get a request in we'll do a hike at Hansen Dam.

But not on a regular basis?

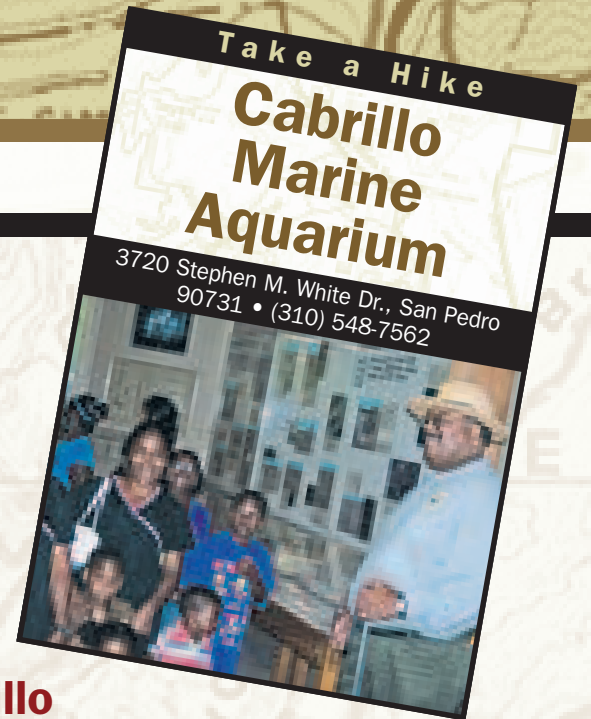
Sharie: No.

How many trails are there at each of those two locations?

Sharie: In Griffith Park there are 53 miles of trails.

— CONTINUES, PAGE 14

HIKING GUIDE



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

With its spectacular natural setting adjacent to Cabrillo Beach Coastal Park and the Port of Los Angeles, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is uniquely suited to its leadership role in marine science education, aquaculture research and community recreation. The historic Frank Gehry-designed aquarium displays the largest collection of Southern California marine life in the world.

On Saturdays you can find a Park Ranger at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, assisting staff with interpretive tours of the aquarium and the nearby tide pools on the beach. There are no hikes at the aquarium.

The aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro, CA 90731.



Ranger Russell Brown on Cabrillo Beach.



Mounted Rangers (from left) Ryan Bernaldo and Arcelia Rosas.

Mounted Unit

The Interpretive Unit employs a Mounted Unit to patrol the parks and to provide interpretive programming at a range of public events.



Junior Rangers

The Junior Ranger Program helps boys and girls develop an awareness of nature. Park Rangers engage their senses and encourage curiosity, making discovery of the environment exciting. Every fall and throughout the school year, Park Rangers provide nature hikes to the Los Angeles Unified School District to supplement the district's outdoor science programs.

The Junior Ranger program includes interpretive hikes but is for boys and girls only; talk to your school, or contact the Park Ranger hotline: (323) 644-6661.



Ranger Tom Mendibles talks about native wildlife to a group of students.

REC & PARKS: INTERPRETIVE HIKES PROGRAM



Rangers Robin Scott and Ernie Ybarra interpret a hike through Augustus Hawkins Natural Park for *Alive!* visitors (from left) editor John Burnes; Club son Noah Hawkins; and Club CEO John Hawkins.

Augustus Hawkins Natural Park

Located at the corner of Compton and Slauson Avenues in South Los Angeles, 8.5-acre Augustus F. Hawkins Natural Park provides a serene natural environment in the urban core of the City.

Park Rangers have just recently begun providing interpreted hikes at this urban oasis. Call the Park Rangers hotline for more information.

Native plant communities, oak trees, rolling hills, riparian areas, and a running stream mimic a native California setting. A strolling path, picnic and barbecue areas, an outdoor amphitheater, and grassy areas provide local residents and families comfortable gathering places to socialize and relax. The park, built by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, was transferred to the City of Los Angeles in 2005.

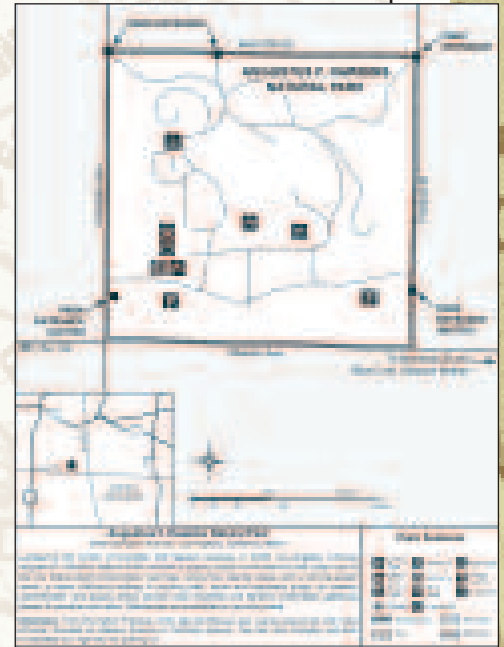
The elegant, Craftsman-style Evan Frankel Discovery Center houses interpretive displays about nature and natural resources issues, as well as a meeting and community room.



Rangers Robin Scott and Ernie Ybarra explain points about Augustus Hawkins Natural Park to Club CEO John Hawkins.



Rangers Robin Scott, Sr. Ranger Sharie Abajian, and Ernie Ybarra under a eucalyptus tree in Augustus Hawkins Natural Park.



A map of August Hawkins Natural Park.



Rangers Ernie Ybarra and Robin Scott explain the Augustus Hawkins lake to Club CEO John Hawkins.



Augustus Hawkins Gardener/Caretakers, from left: Helen Hatchet, 21 years of City service; and Yvette Duffey, Club Member, 25 years of City service.

Take a Hike

Augustus Hawkins Natural Park

Corner of Compton and Slauson Avenues in South Los Angeles



Thank You!

Alive! thanks Asst. General Manager Kevin Regan; Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian; Andrea Epstein and media contacts; and the rest of the Rec and Parks staff for their assistance!

REC & PARKS: INTERPRETIVE HIKES PROGRAM

THE ALIVE!
INTERVIEW

Take a Hike

— CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

How do you choose which ones to interpret or to take people on?

Sharie: The ranger will map out a trail hike. It varies from five miles to sometimes 13 miles.

Okay. And what about at White Point?

Sharie: The White Point hike is in the nature preserve area there.

Interpretive Purpose

Sharie, talk about your involvement in this. How did you get involved?

Sharie: As a Park Ranger, one of our duties is to do interpretive programs mainly for children. With the establishment of the Interpretive Unit, we expanded by offering more programs for both children and adults. I was placed over the unit since I was a non-Peace Officer Ranger.

I became a Park Ranger because I was exposed to a nature program led by a Ranger when I was in elementary school. My class attended a weeklong nature program at Whittier Narrows Nature Center. I was intrigued by this Ranger who was teaching about the flowers and the animals in the natural environment.

How did you determine what to talk about? How do you determine what to tell people?

Sharie: Each park where we provide interpretive programming has unique characteristics. We identify these unique features and expand on these details in our talks. For instance, Griffith Park has a rich history and diverse wildlife and plant populations. Cabrillo Shoreline contains a tide pool and a salt marsh area unique to the area. The Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve contains

How are the interpretive rangers trained?

Kevin: We've invested a lot of time and energy into training our interpretive ranger so that they know how to do this. It's a real skill to be able to talk about the different plants and the species, and also be able to capture people's interest.

Sharie: They're trained through the National Association of Interpreters.

Kevin: [That training] builds on all of the years of experience they have hiking and knowing the plants and leading these hikes. We're working to develop these skills, and we're working to continue to hone their skills on emergency medical response, fire fighting, customer service and outreach. It's important to know that these interpretive rangers are capable. They're excited. They're out there. They're doing a great job in the park representing Rec and Parks.

Many Programs

Tell us about the different interpretive programs you offer. First, as we've talked about, are the nature hikes.

Kevin: Right.

And then we have camping, that's a big part of it.

Kevin: Right.

And that's by preregistration?

Kevin: If it's a ranger-led weekend, it will be pre-planned and involve preregistration.

I see, okay. And then you mentioned fishing.

Sharie: Right. We partner with a nonprofit and with the California Dept. of Fish and Game for that, and we have fishing derbies, too.

emergency in the area where they're working or even on one of the hikes, the rangers are trained to deal with that.

Smokey the Bear makes regular appearances and teaches about fire safety.

Kevin: Right. We are authorized by the U.S. Forest Service to use Smokey the Bear.

We also do a lot of presentations at schools where we'll go into the classroom and do an interpretive presentation, both in the LAUSD and other schools that request it.

Sharie: We do career days there, too.

There's a mounted interpretive unit?

Kevin: Right. We have a mounted unit. We have three rangers assigned to the mounted unit. And we own our own horses. Recreation and Parks owns three. These rangers primarily patrol on horseback in Griffith Park. They have all of the same skills as an interpretive ranger, but these mounted rangers also have law enforcement authority so they can enforce different laws. They can even make arrests if they see some type of violation of law. They're trained in medical first aid. And they're also trained extensively in horseback riding -- they've been through the LAPD mounted academy. They'll talk to equestrians. They'll do education. We also send them on a lot of City special events. Recreation and Parks puts on a lot of events, festivals and fairs. The [mounted rangers] will go out with the horse and do public relations. Everyone loves a horse. Everyone loves to see the ranger in the hat.

Sharie: We have a big leash law problem in the park on the hiking/bridle trails. The Rangers on horseback are really effective in getting out there and advising the public to keep their dogs on leash.

Kevin: The benefit of rangers on horseback is they can get into areas where you can't get with a vehicle. And people tend to respect someone on a horse a little bit more than they do if you're on foot.

Sharie: It's great to get them out of the patrol car and out into the trails like that.

How many rangers are assigned to the interpretive unit?

Sharie: Seven. Including the mounted unit, it's 10.

Augustus Hawkins Park

Talk about Augustus Hawkins Park. What's special about it?

Sharie: The park contains a plant and wildlife habitat commonly found in the Santa Monica Mountains. Additionally, the park contains a citrus orchard. The park was named after a congressman. The Rangers have recently taken this park over and are currently developing nature-based programs for the community, along with re-establishing a gardening program in the park. We are looking at planting various edible and native plants there.

Wow, right in the middle of the city.

Sharie: Right. I'd love to make that a little oasis for the people there.

The Park Rangers division took it over recently?

Sharie: July 1.

Who had it?

Sharie: It was run by a recreation director. This property is a great facility for Rangers to oversee.

I see.

Sharie: It was constructed several years ago in a partnership with the Santa Monica Conservancy.

Kevin: It was managed primarily by the maintenance and recreation branch within Rec and Parks. But now, the park rangers manage it, which is a new development.

Interpretation Is Education

Is interpretive services a growing trend? Is it where things are going?

Kevin: Right. It's a real education program. We focus a lot on kids, although that's not where all of our services are directed.

Today in the urban environment, many children just do not get an outdoor experience. There's a lot happening indoors for these kids. There are computers. There are video games. There's Facebook. Our mission in Rec and Parks is to provide all different types of recreation. We believe in getting kids moving and getting them excited about nature. This is a trend nationwide to try to provide some formalized structure and services for residents in the urban environment so that people have the opportunity to get outside. People have the opportunity to go into a natural environment even right here in the city. You don't have to drive all the way to the national park or to the forest to be in a forest. We have a number of forest ecosystems right here in the City of L.A. We want our folks to take advantage of that, to come out to the park and meet with a ranger, learn something about nature and take that away. Children never forget their first encounter with that ranger -- being in nature, taking a hike, learning something about a plant, learning something about an animal or the ecosystem -- kids never forget that. And then they'll be able to teach that same skill when they become adults. We think that's very important for the development of children to learn about nature.

Sharie: Even for adults [who have] had a stressful day -- what better place is there to go unwind than to take like a walk in nature?

Would you like to see the interpretive services in Rec and Parks grow?

Sharie: Of course, I would love to see it grow, yes.

Kevin: I think it's very important. We'd like to head in that direction.

Can you tell me an "a-ha" moment, when you really connected with either adults or children?

Sharie: I was leading a children's nature hike when we discovered two red tail hawks playing in the air and soaring overhead. The children were speechless while we observed the activity above us. That day, they discovered that nature was exciting!

What's your favorite part of the interpretive program?

Sharie: "I enjoy teaching children the importance of understanding nature, being good stewards and caring for the land. I can show a child a bay leaf or eucalyptus tree and have them smell the leaves. I then explain how the oils from the plant or the leaves are used in products in their home environments. A child makes a connection -- 'Wow, this is used for food or medicinal purposes.' So often now, kids are not exposed to nature.

"I grew up in Covina. A few blocks away from my home, there were strawberry and poppy fields along with an area that contained tons of trees. My brothers and I used to run around and hide in these trees and explore the area. And now, children are on computers or other electrical equipment indoors. The programs that the Ranger Interpretive Unit offer give children an opportunity to explore the exciting outdoor world.

The most important part of the Ranger Interpretive Program is the interaction we have with the children and the impact we make on their lives. If it were not for a Ranger making an impact on me when I was in elementary school, I would not have become a Park Ranger."

That's great. Thanks to both of you for your time.



From left: *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewing Sr. Park Ranger Sharie Abajian and Asst. General Manager Kevin Regan.

trees and plants that would be found in a river environment, along with being a home for migratory birds. In general, our talks include the history and unique features of the area, including the plant and animals specifically found in these diverse environments.

Kevin: Here in Griffith Park there's a large coyote population. Those are wild animals, and people should not try to interface with them or feed them. Try to do that, and it causes a lot of problems. We've even had incidents where the coyotes begin to expect food, so they'll start to nip at people and bite at people.

Talk about the program with the Audubon Society up at Debs Park. How did that come about?

Sharie: Rec and Parks had a partnership with Audubon. They built a nature center over at Debs Park. We've done programming with them and partnered with them, and the Audubon runs that nature center there.

Okay. What are the others?

Kevin: There's the Junior Ranger program.

Sharie: And we have a ranger at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium who gives talks there.

Do they go out on to the beach or just stay inside the museum?

Sharie: They go out to the beach because there's a tide pool area. The ranger is trained in the grunions, too. So he's done talks on grunion runs.

Kevin: And we have a ranger permanently assigned to Augustus Hawkins Nature Park.

We also do a lot of safety talks. Rangers will go to park advisory boards, neighborhood councils, wherever they're requested and talk about safety in the natural environment.

Rangers are out there while they're doing the nature programming. And they're also interpreting and talking to park users about treating the park with respect and taking care of the natural resources. The rangers are also trained in first aid. If there happens to be a medical incident or any type of an

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Open Enrollment for Long-Term Care Insurance

Rare opportunity for Active City Employees to apply for Long-Term Care insurance – with a high chance of acceptance.

Everyone should have Long-Term Care insurance. And now through Oct. 31, the Club will be hosting an open enrollment period for Active City Employees to sign up! (Active DWP Employees will have their open enrollment next year.)

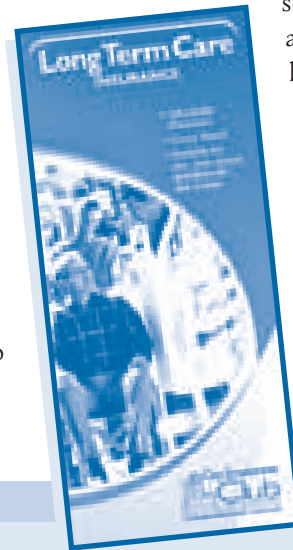
An open-enrollment period means that most of those who apply for this affordable product will be accepted. Don't miss the chance – the Club hasn't had an Open-Enrollment period for Long-Term Care insurance since 1999. So be sure to take advantage!

four years (if the one covered is in a facility) or eight years (if the one covered is at home). The policies pay the insured, so there's no need to send receipts back and forth to the insurance company.

Rates are affordable. There are some restrictions to who will be accepted into the plans. But most will be. It's a rare opportunity for Active City Employees to take advantage.

The Club's Open-Enrollment Period for Long-Term Care insurance takes place now through Oct. 31. This is for Active City Employees; Active DWP Employees will have their open enrollment next year.

What is Long-Term Care insurance? It's insurance that pays you from \$1,000 up to \$5,000 per month, depending on which plan you apply for, should you or a loved one become incapacitated over a long period of time. The policies pay you for up to



Long-Term Care Open Enrollment Seminars!

Westchester location added!

Find out why Long-Term Care insurance from the Club is such a good idea.

Downtown location!

Friday, Sept. 10
Friday, Sept. 17
Friday, Oct. 1
Friday, Oct. 15
Friday, Oct. 29

Kyoto Grand Hotel downtown
120 South Los Angeles St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Westchester location!

Wednesday, Sept. 22

Spice Café (LAPD Bldg.)
5651 W. Manchester Ave., 90045

Workshop Times:

8 and 10 a.m.; and noon.

Reservations are necessary.

To attend an LTC seminar, call the **LTC Hotline: (213) 225-1796**

LTC enrollment forms can be completed at the seminars. Counselors will be on hand to assist you. The seminars will go step-by-step through the application process and calculation of rates.

See you at the Long-Term Care insurance seminars!

Questions?
Call the LTC Hotline!
(213) 225-1796

A TRUE STORY:

'A Great Move'

The retired Sr. Premier Account Manager did the smart thing when he signed up for Long-Term Care insurance with the Club.

"My wife's side of the family has an illness, and there was a 50 percent chance of her getting it," explained Tom Lira, Sr. Premier Account Manager who worked for the City for 37 years before retiring earlier this year. "I wanted to be prepared for that. So I signed her up for [Long-Term Care insurance] 13 or 14 years ago. "It was a great move."

His decision was a smart one, as his wife eventually did become sick, and required Long-Term Care.

"Long-Term Care insurance was definitely a good idea," he said. "There was that chance of something happening with the illness. Signing up for long-term care insurance took away a lot of stress. It made things simpler and easier for me. It took away a lot of problems."

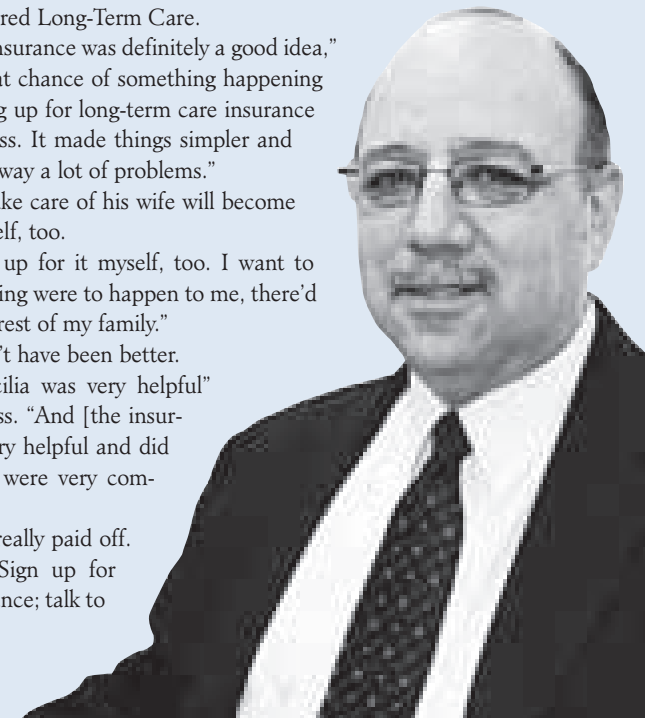
A smart move to take care of his wife will become a smart move for himself, too.

"I'm going to sign up for it myself, too. I want to make sure that if anything were to happen to me, there'd be no hardship on the rest of my family."

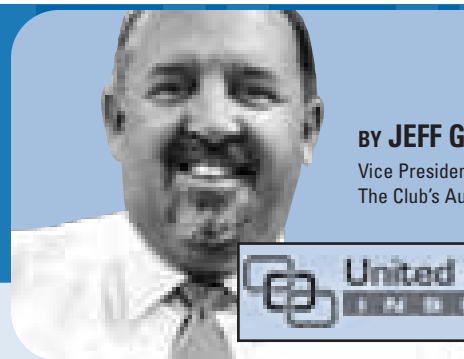
The process couldn't have been better.

"At the Club, Cecilia was very helpful" during the filing process. "And [the insurance company] was very helpful and did all the research. They were very comforting."

Tom's smart move really paid off. It can for you, too. Sign up for Long-Term Care insurance; talk to your Club Counselor.



REST INSURED



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



Smooth Sailing With Your Boat

If the two happiest days of your life are the day that you buy a boat, and the day that you sell the boat, then the day that you insure the boat is probably not even on the list.

As the summer season draws to a close and people start to put away their boats, we thought it would be a good idea to remind you about the insurance needed for these toys. Personal watercraft (power boats, sailboats, jet skis and wave runners) have their own insurance exposures, and you should make sure that you are properly covered.

Most homeowners policies provide limited coverage for property damage for small boats including canoes and small sailboats. Coverage is very limited (usually \$1,000) and generally includes the boat, motor and trailer combined. Liability coverage is typically not included, but it can be added as an endorsement to a homeowners policy. You should want to consider purchasing a personal watercraft policy to protect yourself and your water vehicle in the event of an accident.

Larger and faster boats, yachts and personal watercraft including jet skis and wave runners require a separate boat insurance policy. The size, type and value of the craft and the water in which you use it factor into how much you will pay for insurance coverage.

What does a personal watercraft policy cover?

- Bodily injury – for any injuries that you might cause to another person
- Property damage – for any physical damage that you might cause to someone else's property
- Guest passenger liability – for any legal expenses incurred by someone using your boat with your permission
- Medical payments – for any injuries to yourself or any other passengers
- Theft – if anyone steals your boat or watercraft, whether on the trailer or not.

Typical policies include deductibles of \$250 for property damage, \$500 for theft and \$1,000 for medical payments.

Liability limits start as low as \$25,000 and can be increased to \$1 million.

Boat owners should also inquire about special equipment kept on the boat, such as fishing gear, to make sure it is covered and verify that towing coverage is included in the policy.

You can save money on your boat insurance by inquiring about the following discounts:

- Diesel-powered craft, which are less hazardous than gasoline powered boats as they are less likely to explode
- Coast Guard-approved fire extinguishers
- Ship-to-shore radios

- Two years of claims-free experience
- Multiple policies with the same insurer, such as auto, home or umbrella policy
- Safety education courses including those offered by the Coast Guard Auxiliary

Jet skis and wave runners are growing in both popularity and power. And with that growth, the risks associated with them have increased as well.

Many people don't think that they need to buy a separate policy for their wave runner. This is far from the truth. These machines are very powerful and can cause severe injuries and property damage. You are just as liable for damage you cause on the water as you are for damage you cause on the highway.

When buying any type of personal watercraft policy, be sure to read the exclusions. Some common exclusions include:

- Striking a submerged object is a typical exclusion and a quite common cause of damage
- Engine overheating due to an accidental cause is often excluded under some policies
- Some policies have limits on theft or only provide coverage only when the jet ski is in a locked enclosure
- Some programs have a catastrophe deductible, which applies whenever the watercraft is damaged in a windstorm, hurricane or other natural disaster

Another important limitation involves operators of the watercraft. Many policies require operators to have a driver's license. Some may not insure children on jet skis. For some high-powered jet skis, policies may limit coverage to a named driver. It is important to read your policy to ensure that you have purchased the coverage that you need.

Feel free to call our agency if you have any questions about auto insurance, or would like to do a complete insurance review with us. Call us if you would like to get a quote for your home policy through us, or would like a question answered on any type of insurance.

Be safe and have fun!

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

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

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

Call United Agencies Burbank today at (888) 801-5522

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FIRST MOVES US FORWARD.

What will you do with the HTC EVO™ 4G, the first 4G phone? Watch movies and stream video on a large 4.3-inch display. Capture and share HD-quality video. Access thousands of apps in Android Market.™ As a 3G/4G mobile hotspot for up to eight Wi-Fi devices, even your friends can do more with 4G. Only from Sprint. Only on the Now Network.™ Use it with your discount for employees of City of Los Angeles

Save 20%

on select regularly priced Sprint service plans

Sprint is bringing you the first wireless 4G network from a national carrier. Get 4G speeds up to 10 times faster than 3G!



CTIA 2010 Best in Show

Geoff Jaime
Sprint Govt Account Executive
Mobile: 310-704-0677
Geoff.Jaime@sprint.com

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Get a \$50 invoice credit with an online device purchase & new line activation. Free shipping & activation (online too)!

Discount Code:
Corporate ID: GLLCA_CLA_222

*Fig. 1: "4G faster" based on download speed comparison of 300 Kbps versus 3.1 Mbps. Actual download speeds may vary. ©2010 Sprint Nextel. All rights reserved. Sprint is a registered trademark of Sprint Nextel. HTC EVO is a trademark of HTC Corporation. Android Market is a trademark of Google Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

For Retired Club Members



The Best Years



By Mary Beetz,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

City Retiree Associations:

DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President
Phone: (626) 445-7376
E-mail: vinmar@altrionet.com

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association

James R. Wilke, President
Phone: (323) 283-4441
Fax: (626) 285-1461
E-mail: larfpa@pacbell.net or
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,
Temple City, CA 91780

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

Contact Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 709.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 7: RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, 1 p.m., Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr.

Dec. 9: RLACEI holiday party, noon, Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park.

Reservations: (800) 678-4145, x701.

RLACEI:

Early Retirements Could Be Behind High Picnic Totals

President, Ed Harding reports:



Ed Harding

"The picnic held Aug. 12 at the Grace Simons Lodge was a total success. We had more retirees attending than we have ever had, more than 175. I was happy to hear of the new retirees who attended and am delighted to hear some are RLACEI members. Welcome to RLACEI!

Lita Payne, Assistant General Manager of LACERS, and Alex Rabrenovich, Chief Health Benefits Administrator, and staff were present to assist with retirees' questions and concerns.

LACERS' speakers reassured the retirees not to believe what is being said by the media or written in the newspaper regarding the pensions' financial status or their medical care. Retirees' pensions are secured as well as their medical care. The response to this comment was overwhelming, echoing throughout the park as retirees clapped and roared with relief. Alex further commented that health seminars are being held at various locations so as to reach more retirees. Mailings will

be sent regarding dates, times and locations.

Robert Larios from the *Alive!* Newspaper took pictures as did Edward Rivera from *El Pueblo*.

See you at the Friendship Auditorium Oct. 7 for the RLACEI and LACERS joint meeting. LACERS will discuss health plans and open enrollment. RLACEI will hold election of directors of your choice. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Reservations are requested.

LACERS Update: Mary Beetz, LACERS representative, reports:



Mary Beetz

"Death Notification of a LACERS Member or Beneficiary: Contact the Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS) upon the death of the person receiving LACERS' monthly retirement allowance, continuance, or survivorship. Call (800) 779-8328. TTD (888) 349-3995. www.LACERS.org.

"This person may have been a: retired City Employee; surviving spouse of a retired City Employee; surviving domestic partner of a retired City Employee; or a

dependent receiving a continuance or survivorship benefit.

"Be prepared to provide the deceased's full name and Social Security number. LACERS staff will contact the deceased member's listed beneficiary(ies) for more information and documents as deemed necessary.

"Other organizations you might want to contact:

■ Social Security Administration (800) 772-1213, TTY (800) 325-0778

■ U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (Veteran Benefits): (800) 827-1000

■ Los Angeles Federal Credit Union (direct deposit or account): (877) 695-2328

■ City Employees Club (if life insurance on file): (800) 464-0452

■ RLACEI (if member): (800) 678-4145, x713."

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 LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second Street, second floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. 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.

The Best Years

ADVENTURES
with HAL!

Isabelle and Maddie get ready to surf.

By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, and LAFUCU.

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Jack Mathews	Ext. 712
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Phil Skarin	Ext. 709
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Stemnock	Ext. 708
RSVP:	Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Hal Danowitz, Secretary
Edward Harding, President
Michael Karsch, Treasurer
Kenneth Spiker, First Vice President
Tom Stemnock, Second Vice President

Committee Chairpersons

Hal Danowitz: Bylaws
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
Jack Mathews: Senior Citizens
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
Helen Salgado: Membership
Phil Skarin: Publicity and Parliamentarian
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative
Tom Stemnock: Audit
Tom Stemnock and Phil Skarin: Golf

Directors

Mary Beetz
Americo Garza
Michael Karsch
Jack Mathews
Neil Ricci
Helen Salgado
Phil Skarin



After the Cruise, the Comforts of Cabo

■ After their monumental cruise, Hal and Evelyn treat their family to their annual trip to Cabo San Lucas.

My wife, Evelyn, and I were recovered enough from our recent cruise [see the last nine issues of *Alive!* -Ed.] to make our annual trip to Cabo San Lucas. Mexico, with the grandkids during spring break. We have an interval ownership unit at Playa Grande Resort, as do Effie and Pierre, the other set of grandparents. The units connect, and combined, we can sleep 10 people. Best of all, we have four full bathrooms.

This year, there was some indecision as to whether Effie and Pierre would go. Evelyn and I decided that in any case we would take the kids, so I booked airline tickets on American Airlines for the first Saturday of spring break. About a month before we were to leave, Effie decided to go along, and then Michelle, our daughter, also decided to go for part of the week. They were unable to get on the same flight as us and had to fly down on Sunday. So Evelyn and I would be flying with the three grandkids (Maddie, 13; Isabelle, 11; and Coco, 9) for the first time by ourselves.

Michelle drove us to the airport, and we checked in with no problems. Every year I prepare a consent form to take minors out of the country, and never have I been asked for a copy. Of course the year we somehow don't have it, we will need it. All the kids have their own passports, of course.

Instead of waiting at the gate, we were able to use the American Airlines Admirals Club by showing our Platinum American Express card. The kids loved it; they could have as many snacks and drinks as they liked.

The flight, at a little more than two hours, was uneventful, and the kids were very good. After going through immigration customs, we headed out the door, ignoring the numerous timeshare solicitors, and found the TransBaja car service. I booked a private car so that we could stop at a market on the way to the resort, and it is just easier. Where the airport access road and the main highway meet is a very large supermarket where we stopped to pick up necessities; breakfast and lunch stuff; bottled water (even though you can drink the water at the resort); beer and wine; and lots of snacks.

We arrived at the resort in the late afternoon and were able to check into both units, even though Effie wasn't with us. After figuring out the sleeping arrangements, we unpacked and decided to eat dinner in the lobby restaurant. Everyone was tired from the long day, so we turned in.

Usually on Sunday we would attend the owners update, but because Effie wasn't here we delayed it until Monday. We just lied around the pool and hung out until Michelle and Effie arrived around 4 p.m. Just from being around the pool area you could see the effect of the

economy and the news about the criminal activities in Mexico. It was easy to get a pool lounge, when in prior years if you didn't get to the pool early you would not get a lounge.

We have been coming to Cabo for a number of years and find it a very safe place to visit. During our stay we walked from the resort to the main area of town both day and night and never had or saw a problem. The area depends on tourists, so the last thing that anyone wants is for a tourist to get hurt.

Effie and Michelle arrived late in the afternoon, and after they got settled we walked toward the central area and had dinner at the Shrimp Factory. We had eaten there on other trips and enjoyed the food and service.

In the morning, Michelle and the kids hung out by the pool, while Evelyn, Effie and I attended the owner's presentation. We do this to get a free breakfast and, if you stay for the sales pitch, a free gift. This year we received two \$55 coupons for a restaurant. Usually it's an easy process, but this time we had a salesman who just wouldn't take no for an answer. We ended up wasting almost four hours. The rest of the day we stayed around the pool. At Playa Granda, we met a family from Santa Monica, and they have a son that is Middies' age, so the girls hung out with him.



Coco in the pool.

Our oldest granddaughter, Maddie, is a very good surfer, and we wanted to give her a chance to surf. I asked the concierge at the hotel, and she suggested we drive up to Cerritos Beach. It is about 45 minutes north of Cabo on the Pacific side. There were six of us, so I wanted to rent a van or SUV, but there were none available, and we ended up with two Volkswagen sedans. We planned to do this later in the week.

We try to do something a little different each year, so the girls decided they wanted to try Sea Trek. Sea Trek is the "world's premier underwater helmet diving experience," according to the promotional materials. We took a boat to a stationary barge in the Sea of Cortez, about 200

yards from shore. We were provided with wet suits (we all used them but Maddie), and after a short set of instructions, we entered the water by using a ladder. Then a 70-pound helmet was lowered over our heads and rested on our shoulders. The helmet had an air hose attached. We climbed down about 20 feet to the ocean floor. We had two guides, and the sea trail had a rope you could use to follow the path. It was very easy and safe. If you got water in your helmet, you just stood up and it would clear. We didn't see a lot of fish, but the guides had a baby octopus and a sea anemone, which we all got to hold. We stayed down around 25 minutes. The cost is \$70 per person. The minimum age is 8, but Coco, who is 9, wasn't big enough to support the helmet and couldn't go down. Those of you who remember those old diving movies with the suits and helmets before scuba, well that's what the adventure was like, and the kids loved it.

I won't bore you with all the places that we ate, but we did find a very good restaurant that serves real local cuisine that we recommend. It's the Hacienda El Coyote; its Website is www.haciendaelcoyote.com.

Thursday was surfing day, and we picked up the two cars and drove to Playa Cerritos. I had called ahead of time to make sure they had surfboards to rent. We drove north on Highway 19 until we reached "Km marker 66," which is the exit for the Cerritos Beach Club. There are no signs, so you have to look for the marker. We found the beach club at the end of the dirt road, located on a very nice sandy beach that had very good waves, according to Maddie. There were a number of beach lounges along the water and we were told to use whatever we liked. There was no charge for the lounges. The family we met at the Playa Granda was also there, so our group numbered around 11 adults and children. We had lunch brought from the beach club restaurant, and we were able to get drinks and snacks during the day. The kids had a great time; I rented a boogie board for Coco, and Isabelle did some surfing using Maddie's board. It was a great place to get away for the day, and I would come back again even without the kids.

The Pacific side of Cabo has a strong rip-tide, so any ocean activities are on the Sea of Cortez until you go some distance north.

Michelle was to return home on Friday, so we had breakfast at the Office, which has become a tradition while we are in Cabo. We walked back to the Playa Granda so we could do some last-minute shopping.

Friday was our last full day, and on Saturday we packed up and returned home. It was another successful trip to Cabo San Lucas.



Annual Picnic

Retirees Assn. hosts annual August picnic.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations

RLACEI – The annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) summer picnic took place Aug. 12 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge near Dodger Stadium.

Ed Harding, RLACEI President, and his hard-working board put on another fantastic picnic. Entertainment was provided by the square-dance caller, Ron Black, and food was provided by Chris and Pitts.

To find out about other upcoming RLACEI events or join the organization, go to www.rlacei.com



Newsbriefs

AIRPORTS ENGINEER HONORED

Intissar Durham, Chief Airports Engineer/Deputy Program Manager of Los Angeles World Airports' (LAWA) Airport Development Program, was among a field of stellar honorees cited during the Greater Los Angeles Engineer of the Year Awards gala, held July 29 at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA).

Durham was honored with the Los Angeles Engineering Public Servant of the Year award and was recognized for her contributions and involvement in LAWA's activities that significantly contribute to the infrastructure of Los Angeles.



Intissar Durham, Chief Airports Engineer/Deputy Program Manager of Los Angeles World Airports' (LAWA) Airport Development Program.

Sponsored by the Friends of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology at CSULA, the awards were presented to seven notables in the field of engineering. The other honorees were U. S. Secretary of Energy and Nobel Laureate Steven Chu; Alan J. Fohrer, Southern California Edison; John Tracy, The Boeing Company; Emanuel Brady, Raytheon; Armando Ramirez, AECOM Technology Corporation; and entrepreneur Alfred Mann.

Durham's responsibilities at LAWA have involved providing technical expertise in the development of design plans and standards, program construction delivery strategies, and environmental stewardship measures for new LAWA Capital Improvement programs, including airfield improvements, utilities and infrastructures, land-side developments and terminal improvements.

In addition to serving as Deputy Program Manager for development at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Durham, as Chief Airports Engineer, also managed the Major Projects Division, which was responsible for the Southside Airfield Improvement Program, the Runway Status Light Infrastructure Project, the Tom Bradley International Terminal Interior Improvements and Baggage Screening Facility, and Security Program In-Line Baggage Screening Systems at both LAX and LA/Ontario International Airport.

Durham also led LAWA's efforts to make the organization a global leader in airport sustainability. In 2007, she was instrumental in developing LAWA's Sustainable Airport Planning, Design and Construction Guidelines that are continuously put into practice on all aspects of LAWA development.

With more than 20 years at LAWA, Durham has managed several programs, such as Century Cargo Redevelopment, and the LAX Enhancement Programs that included the iconic LAX Gateway pylons that illuminate the Century Boulevard entrance to the airport.

Durham began working for the City at Public Works in early 1984 and has been at LAWA since early 1988.

She holds a Bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from CSULA and a Master's degree in business administration degree from Loyola Marymount University.

With the motto "Inspire, Support, Transform," the Friends of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology is a professional organization that supports advancement of the educational programs in engineering, computer science and technology at CSULA.

STONER SKATE PARK

Rec and Parks held a grand opening ceremony July 22 for Stoner Recreation Center Skate Plaza. The ceremony opened the approximately \$1 million state-of-the-art skate plaza at the West L.A. Rec and Parks facility. The 20,000-square-foot skate plaza is a place where youths can skate in a safe environment. The funding for the project came from developer fees. The project was a response to the community's desire and need for a skate plaza.

Expected in attendance at the ceremony were Councilmember Bill Rosendahl; Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manger, Rec and Parks; Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer, Public Works; and Alec Beck, West LA Community of Skateboarders.

REC AND PARKS

Cabrillo Notes 75 With Sea Fair

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium celebrates its 75th anniversary at annual Autumn Sea Fair.



Cabrillo Beach during the early 1930s, just before the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium was created.

Photo courtesy of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Club Members are invited to join Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Oct. 17 for a grand celebration of 75 years of teaching visitors about local marine environment with "up-close-and-personal" hands-on experiences, fascinating exhibits and ongoing educational programs. Recognized as the world's finest teaching aquarium, according to the museum, CMA serves more than 350,000 visitors annually, more than half of which are children.

The richness and diversity of the sea, combined with fun-in-the-sun games, hometown spirit and entertaining events to commemorate this special anniversary, can all be found at this year's "Autumn Sea Fair."

This unique event offers ocean-related activities, which include face-painting, an exciting marine life puppet show, and a giant origami demonstration. Adventurous pirates of all ages can learn how to cast a fishing line, join in the search for buried treasure in the "Great Treasure Hunt," and for those with the competitive spirit, join in on the "Beach Olympics," taking place just a few steps away on Cabrillo Beach.

Don't miss the opportunity to stop by and chat with more than two dozen marine-related organizations that will be present to share their information and activities, or visit one of our artisans and check out their beautiful and unique handcrafted pieces of art. Enjoy live music playing throughout the day; experience the unique jazz stylings of Harold Greene on the Chapman Stick;

the Japanese Drum group Kokoro Taiko, the smooth sounds of Stucco Rainbow and Geoff Agisim, singing his sea chanteys.

Don't forget to explore all Cabrillo Marine Aquarium has to offer, including the Southern California Marine Life Exhibit Hall, Aquatic Nursery, Exploration Center, and Marine Research Library.

Join the aquarium for its annual celebration of marine life and community spirit. This annual event is free to the public. Parking is available at Cabrillo Beach for \$1 per hour. Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro, and is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. Information: (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org.



Personal Finance Series

Financial Management Basics



What Are You Doing To Secure Your Retirement Dream?

Financial Management Basics is free to Active LACERS Members. It will help you:

- Develop money management skills
- Get out of debt
- Increase savings
- Gain control of credit cards
- Improve credit scores

The course also covers retirement planning and information about:

- LACERS defined benefit retirement plan
- LACERS Larger Annuity Program
- The City's Deferred Compensation plan

Financial Management Basics

September 3, 2010 – 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

LACERS
360 E. Second Street, 8th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Interested Active LACERS Members can sign-up for this course on www.LACERS.org or by calling (800) 779-8328. Space is limited, so RSVP early.

Reserve your seat today. Space is limited.



Financial Finesse practices an unbiased approach to financial education so course instructors will not be selling or recommending specific products to workshop attendees.



AIRPORTS

Acts of Bravery

Airport Police Officers recognized by City Council for acts beyond the call of duty and for success in Police and Fire Games.

Story by Sgt. Belinda Nettles, Airport Police; Photo by Officer Richard Shrode, Airport Police.

Several Airport Police officers were recognized for tremendous acts of bravery beyond the call of duty in 2009 at LAX and while off duty and for winning the gold and bronze medals in the sport of basketball earlier this year at the Police and Fire games in Tucson, Ariz. Certificates of appreciation and recognition were presented to the officers during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Los Angeles City Council July 16.

The officers were recognized by Councilman Bill Rosendahl and Airport Police Chief George R. Centeno for their various acts of bravery, acts beyond the call of duty and their success in the sport. Officers Francis Smith, Shawn Smith and Burt Davis were recognized for their bravery in convincing a man to remove and step away from a backpack that he said had a bomb in it that he would detonate. Officer Lauren Peaks rescued a suicidal woman from a bridge ledge as she attempted to jump twice. Officer Alvin Co was recognized for the number of arrests made last year for Driving Under the Influence. Officer Tesfa McKinley, while off duty, observed a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy in a fight with a suspect and assisted the deputy with taking the suspect into custody.

The Police and Fire Games Basketball team earned the gold medal in the over-35 division and the bronze medal in the 3-on-3 games held in Tucson this year. Sgt. Harold Evans, Detective Julius Levy, and Officers Barry Wilds, Havon McLeod and Oscar Gatewood were acknowledged for their contribution and success in winning.

Councilman Bill Rosendahl commended the officers for the fine work they do at LAX while keeping the public safe. Chief Centeno said that he was "proud to stand before the City Council in recognition of the LAX officers who are a representation of the front line of protection at LAX."

In attendance along with Chief Centeno were Lieutenants Edward Trahan and Joaquin Mendez, Sergeants Loretta Jones and Belinda Nettles, and Officers Dawn Davis and Ryan Robinson.



At center, from left: Airport Police Chief George R. Centeno and Councilman Bill Rosendahl. Overall, from left: Airport Police Officers Havon McLeod, Oscar Gatewood, Francis Smith, Lauren Peaks, Tesfa McKinley and Alvin Co.



Personal Finance Series

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I finally understand the other options available to fund my retirement.

In the Investing Basics: Increasing Retirement Income workshop you will learn about making the right long-term investment choices.

- Learn how to research the right investments for you
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- Get a better grasp of your personal investment style

Investing Basics: Increasing Retirement Income

September 3, 2010 – 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

LACERS
360 E. Second Street, 8th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Interested Active LACERS Members can sign-up for this course on www.LACERS.org or by calling (800) 779-8328. Space is limited, so RSVP early.

Reserve your seat today. Space is limited.



Financial Finesse practices an unbiased approach to financial education so course instructors will not be selling or recommending specific products to workshop attendees.



Club Special Event:

Dodgers! Oct. 3

See page 7

CONVENTION CENTER

Dave Retires

Dave Caldwell retires from the Convention Center after 40 years of City service.



Retiree Dave Caldwell.

Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Counselor

A retirement celebration was held April 9 for Dave Caldwell, who retired from the Convention Center after 40 years of City service.

The party was held at La Parrilla restaurant near downtown. The late afternoon dinner was filled with music and Mexican fare.

Congratulations, Dave, on your achievement of 40 years with the City of Los Angeles, and here's to a wonderful retirement!

Special thanks to Luis Aguilar for his assistance.



Rachel Griffin, Executive Administrative Assistant III, and Brad Atwell, Architectural Drafter.



From left: Michael Dicke and Curtis Bergstrom, Retired Electricians.



Troy Crawford, Electrician, and Dwayne Bryant, Storekeeper.



Ed Verdugo.



From left: Jorge Barbosa, Electrician; Tony Cardenas; and Reggie Chit, Retired Electrician.



Fernando Alegria and his wife.



Ron Lauer, Club Member, Retired Electrician.



Adriana Valles, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member and Tom Drew, Club Member, Communications Electrician Supervisor.



From left: Mark Rizuto, Club Member and Julio Sevilla, Club Member, Electricians; Tom Wendling, Club Member, Electrical Supervisor; and Michael Dicke, Retired Electrician.



From left: Vince Felix, Club Member; Julia Lizarde-Martinez, Club Member, Clerk Typist; Gilbert Cisneros, Club Member; and Gary Moody, Club Member, Retired, Electrician.



From left: Saundra Fassam, Club Member, Principal Clerk; Luis Aguilar, Club Member, Secretary; and Hedy Guinto, Club Member, Clerk Typist.



City of Angels
Toastmasters Club 251

Open House

Tuesday,
September 21
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

111 East First St,
City Hall South, Room 103
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Light refreshments will be served

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- Build confidence
- Increase your vocabulary
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History Comes Alive!

Tales From the City Archives



by Hynda Rudd,
City Archivist (Retired),
and Club Member

Parker, Poulson and the Mob

L.A. Noir author John Buntin examines the workings of LAPD Chief William Parker by looking at the 1953 race for mayor. **Part 2 of 3.**

John Buntin's article is the second of a trilogy. It is a continuation of the August entry, where he gives an overview of what City government was dealing with in the mid-20th century Los Angeles. In his volume, *L.A. Noir: The Struggle for the Soul of America's Most Seductive City*, Buntin gives a layout of crime and corruption that is almost too hard to believe.

Enjoy this article! But get prepared for next month's conclusion. It will be a knockout!

— Hynda Rudd

John Buntin covers crime and urban affairs for *Governing Magazine* in Washington, DC.



John Buntin. Photo by David Kidd.



L.A. Noir: The Struggle for the Soul of America's Most Seductive City by John Buntin.

Story by John Buntin. Photos courtesy the Herald-Examiner and Security Pacific Collections, Los Angeles Public Library photo archive.

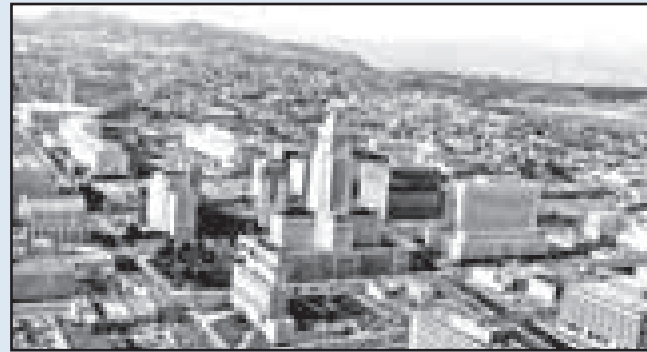
How do cities really work? It's a question I wrestle with frequently as a reporter who covers crime and urban affairs. It's also a question that must be answered to make sense of mid-century Los Angeles and the two figures who did so much to define it, LAPD chief William Parker and his pint-sized rival, mobster Mickey Cohen.

For years, filmmakers, journalists and many historians have promulgated the notion that Los Angeles was shaped and ruled by a small plutocracy of real-estate developers and newspaper publishers. I call this the *Chinatown* interpretation of LA history, after Robert Towne and Roman Polanski's eponymous 1974 film, and it remains enormously popular, reinforced by books both historical (David Halberstam's *The Powers that Be*; Eric Davis's *City of Quartz*) and fictional (James Ellroy's Los Angeles trilogy), as well as by films including *Crash* and television shows like *The Shield*. Histories of the LAPD, including Joe Domanick's *To Protect and To Serve* from 1994, have taken a similar tack, presenting the history of the police department as a series of civil rights abuses; Chief Parker, who from 1950 to 1966 built the modern LAPD, was portrayed as a brilliant but paranoid chief executive who used the pretext of the Mob to build an intelligence operation whose true task was defending the Chief and the department.

However, in recent years, historians including Tom Sitton have criticized this interpretation as simplistic. In this article, I'd like to offer a fresh take on this dispute by recounting how Chief Parker and the underworld clashed over one of L.A.'s more colorful political campaigns, Republican Congressman Norris Poulson's 1953 race against incumbent mayor Fletcher Bowron. Poulson's unpublished memoirs depict the LA underworld in its last flush of great power, illustrating both the very real threat that Chief Parker and the LAPD faced as well as the darker recesses of Parker's personality.

In December 1952, *Los Angeles Times* publisher Norman Chandler and Pacific Mutual Insurance president Asa Call summoned Los Angeles's business elite to a strategy session on the top floor of the *Los Angeles Times* building. Among the invitees were lawyers Frank Doherty and James Beebe of O'Melveny & Myer and business leaders Neil Petree, Henry Duque and Preston Hotchkis. The top item on their agenda was choosing a new mayor. Thirty-four names were up for discussion, but when the group got to number 16, everyone agreed that they had found their man in Congressman Norris Poulson, a died-in-the-wool conservative who'd done yeoman's duty in Congress blocking Arizona's efforts to secure a larger allotment of water from the Colorado River.

The day after Christmas, Norman Chandler called Poulson at his home in Washington, D.C., and informed the Congressman that a group of civic leaders wanted to draft him to run for mayor. Chandler asked Poulson back to Los Angeles so that Poulson could hear their pitch. A follow-up letter described the details of their offer. In addition to promising to bankroll Poulson's campaign "generously," Chandler's letter noted that the mayor's salary was likely to be increased and that Poulson as mayor would be "entitled to strut around in a car (Cadillac) and chauffeur supplied by the city." Although Poulson privately admitted that he "knew very



The central city, 1965.

little about the immediate problems of Los Angeles," except for the public housing issue (which, of course, he opposed), he quickly agreed to sign on for the race. *Times* reporter Carlton Williams took charge of launching the Congressman as a candidate.

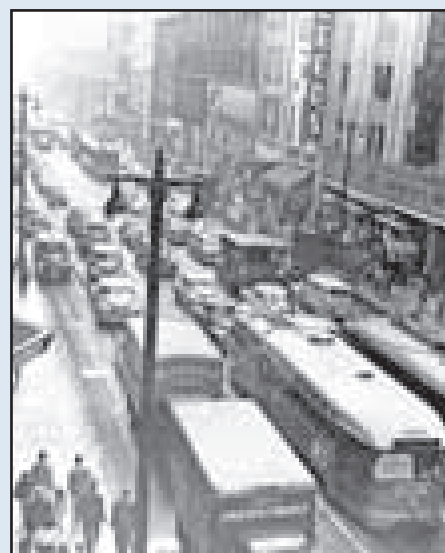
Bill Parker, though, was suspicious.

One year earlier, Parker had taken command of the LAPD after a scandal involving the administrative vice squad, 114 "pleasure girls," and mobster Mickey Cohen had led to the ouster of Chief C.B. Horrall. The new chief's previous experiences had demonstrated the ample powers of the underworld. As a result, Parker was determined to vet anyone who might oversee him. So Parker unleashed his newly expanded intelligence division on candidate Poulson. An unsettling connection was soon discovered, not to the Mob but to Moscow. A left-wing attorney who had attracted the attention of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) had given Poulson a small "liquor refrigerator" — price \$157.35 — from Hecht's department store in Washington, D.C. The story soon broke, to Poulson's great embarrassment. While Poulson rode the scandal of "the Red refrigerator" out, his troubles with the LAPD had only begun.

Several weeks later, Poulson was approached by an athletic young man (a plainclothes detective) who asked the candidate what we would do about the police department if elected.

"I just casually reached over and touched a microphone, which I detected pushing out from his shirt," Poulson recounted in his unpublished memoirs. Then he walked away.

The realization that the LAPD was investigating him angered Poulson. But as the campaign progressed, Poulson's anger towards Parker was modulated by the growing realization that Chief Parker had a point: "the hood-



Broadway looking south, 1953.

lum element" that Mayor Bowron and Chief Parker constantly warned about was real.

This realization came slowly. At first, Parker critics approached Poulson to express the view that "Parker and his 'Gestapo' should be controlled," recalled Poulson in his memoirs. But as the weeks passed, Poulson became increasingly uncomfortable with the drift of these discussions

and the people who engaged in them. Some had very close connections to mobster Mickey Cohen. Just days before the election, Poulson went to breakfast with someone he would later identify only as "a former deputy district attorney and now the vice-president of a Los Angeles and nationally known institution." When he arrived, the candidate was startled to find the shady ex-LAPD-captain-turned attorney and a well-known "Las Vegas gambling man" waiting for him. As he sat down to breakfast, Poulson was "really scared." The men got right to it: They offered Poulson \$35,000 if he would agree to name three men to the five-member Police Commission, which oversaw the chief of police. Poulson tried to stall. The men then insisted that he "go out and talk in the gambler's car." Even though he suspected that he was being maneuvered into a "bugged" car, Poulson was too scared to refuse.

"I talked in circles," Poulson wrote in his memoirs. A few days later, on April 7, Poulson defeated Bowron, 53 to 47 percent, to become Los Angeles's next mayor. Yet as Poulson left the Gaylord Hotel downtown to go to his campaign headquarters to celebrate his victory, he was "filled with mixed emotions." Thoughts of Cadillacs, chauffeurs and a nice raise now seemed far away. Poulson now had to worry about how he could avoid "opening up the town" in light of the fact that "some of the people who had supported me thought I would." Faced with a choice of keeping his police chief or facing the underworld alone, Poulson decided, with great reluctance, to retain Parker.

What does this story tell us? It shows that the dominant narrative about Los Angeles was run not in some dark fantasy but rather rooted in truth. It all demonstrates, decisively to my mind, that the 1950s Los Angeles's underworld and its influence were very real. Both revelations exculpate Chief Parker in important ways: the LAPD's intelligence division developed, at least initially, in response to a real threat.

But the story of Norris Poulson's election also illuminates some dark corners of Bill Parker's soul. "In my conversations with [Chief Parker]," Poulson would later recall, "he would inadvertently tell what he knew about this person or that... I later found out that chief Parker had a file on many people and not all communist suspects."

The intelligence division's operations would continue long after the LAPD broke the power of the Mob. Parker's files would soon emerge as a real source of fear among the City's politicians. Had he resigned in 1959, Parker would have been remembered as LA's greatest policeman. But by staying into the 1960s, a decade in which Parker emerged as an outspoken critic of the civil rights movement, Parker would become Los Angeles's most controversial policeman instead.



Former LAPD Chief
William Parker.



Mayor Norris
Poulson, 1960.



Mayor-elect
Norris Poulson with
Police Chief William Parker, 1953.



Mayor Fletcher
Bowron.



Angel Gomez,
Director of
Member
Services

El Dorado

Hello again! This month we visit El Dorado Nature Center in Long Beach, right off the 605 Freeway. The cost is free; you just have to pay \$5 for parking. I've been visiting this nature center since my two boys were about four years old. It is very well kept, and the trails are very different from one to another. You will see two lakes and lots of trees and small wildlife.

Examples of small wildlife include turtles in the lakes, rabbits under bushes, squirrels in the trees, and if you like bird watching, there are plenty of fine-feathered friends all along the nature center trails. The center also has a small learning center and a shop next to the lake. Your kids and you will enjoy.

Nestled between the San Gabriel River and the 605 Freeway, El Dorado Nature Center is an oasis of a natural habitat, offering visitors the chance to escape the hustle and bustle of the urban environment.

The nearly 100 acres that make up the Nature Center grounds provide sanctuary for animals and plant life. Two miles of dirt trails and a quarter-mile paved trail wind around two lakes, a stream and forested areas.

Once you're inside, cross over the wooden bridge that spans the lake and you'll find yourself on a small island that houses the Visitor Center, containing educational displays and a small gift shop offering environmentally themed books and gifts.

The welcome sign with operation hours.



The History

Since the arrival of Europeans, ownership of the land has passed through many hands. It was first part of a Spanish land grant given to Don Manuel Nieto in 1774. When sold to Gov. Figueroa in 1784, it was divided

into five ranchos. The land that now encompasses the Nature Center was part of the larger Rancho Los Alamitos, which along with Rancho Los Cerritos made up much of the city of Long Beach. The Bixby family became owners in 1881 and held the land until 1968, when it was sold to the City of Long Beach. Citizens passed several bond issues during the 1950s and 1960s to pay for the purchase and development of the land that now makes up El Dorado Regional Park. The master plan that guided the Regional Park's design called for the development of a Nature Center, and the laying out of trails and planting began in 1965. Previously flat farmland, the land was contoured to create the lake and stream system. Soil to create the varied topography that exists today came from dredging of the lakes and from soil removed during the construction of the nearby San Gabriel (605) Freeway.

The initial planting was done with an eye for creating wildlife habitat, and the shrubs and trees were chosen for their ability to provide food and shelter for animals.

The center is now home to a wide variety of grasses, shrubs and trees -- most well suited to the Mediterranean climate. Since the mid 1980s, only California native plants have been planted, and the Nature Center's Master Plan (2003) calls for the gradual replacement of most non-native species with native species.

During the planting and development of the Nature Center grounds in the 1960s, the museum and visitor center building was also constructed. Completed in January 1969 and located on an island in the North Lake, the building contains an information desk and small bookstore, a museum and gallery space, staff offices and a classroom. In 1988 the quarter-mile trail was reconfigured to enhance access for visitors with disabilities.

In 1998, the Nature Center grounds also underwent an expansion with the addition of 11 acres of land from the City's old tree farm.

The project was funded through a CalTrans mitigation project and a Los Angeles County Rivers and Trails grant. Known as the Restoration Area, it was planted with native plants from five regional plant communities -- oak woodland, riparian, chaparral, coastal sage scrub and grassland. Another seven acres to the south of Willow Street was designated as Nature Center land in 1999 and plans for riparian restoration along the stream are under way.



Angel Jr. and Aden in front of the El Dorado Nature Center.



Aden, Angel Jr. and I in the middle of a path.

Long Beach

Nature Center

El Dorado Nature Center

7550 E Spring St. Long Beach, CA 90815

PHONE: (562) 570-1785

ADMISSION: Free.

HIKES: There is a one- and two-mile trail system.

HIKE TIME: 2 hours

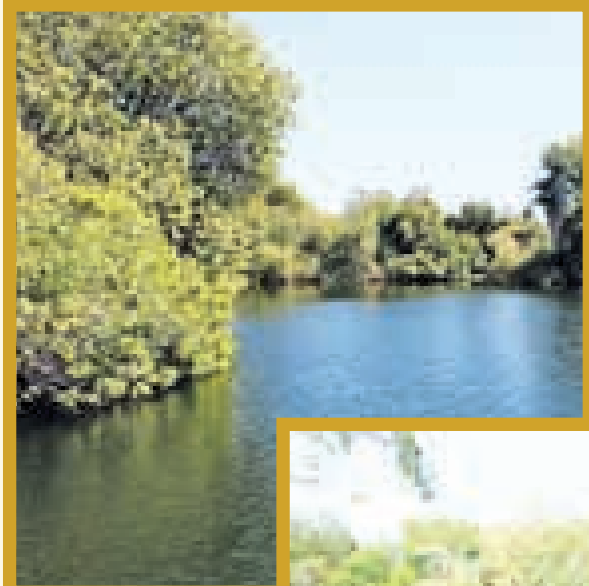
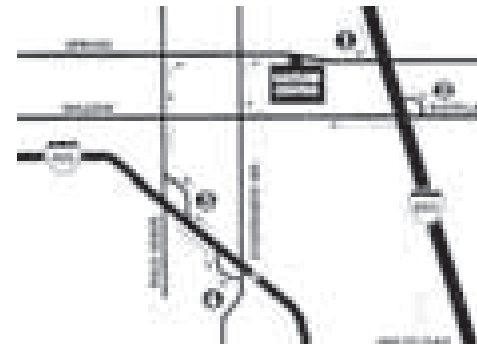
DIFFICULTY: Very easy, with lots of shade and mostly level walking.

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

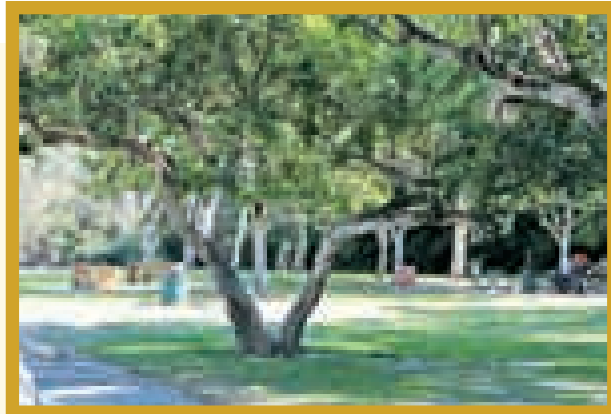
TRAILS: Tuesdays-Sundays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

MUSEUM: Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 a.m. 4 p.m.; Saturdays-Sundays, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Closed Mondays.

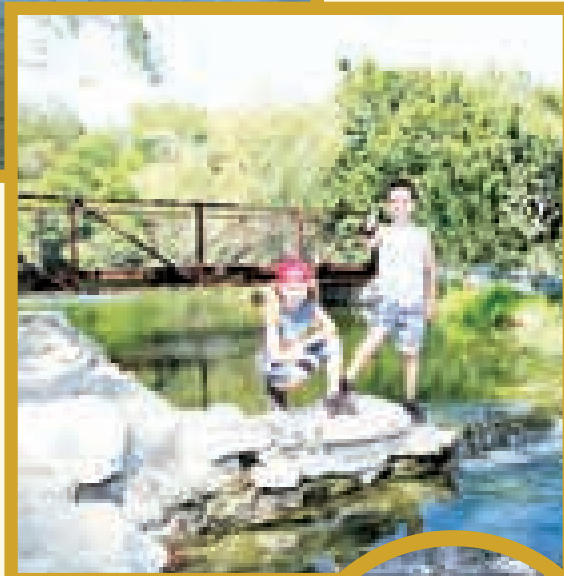
VEHICLE ENTRY FEES: \$5 Monday – Friday, \$7 weekends, \$8 holidays. Pedestrians and bicyclists do not pay vehicle entrance fee.



A nice view of the lake and surrounding trees.



A picnic area for lunch time snack.



Aden and Angel Jr. in front of the bridge and next to one of the creeks.

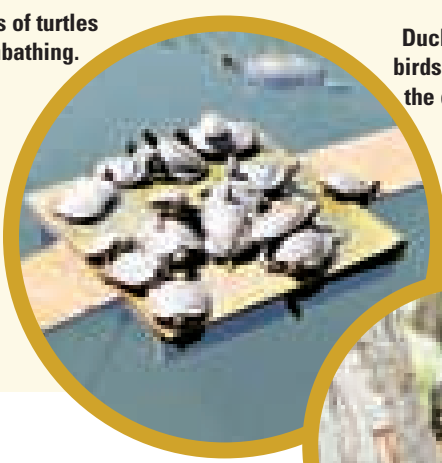


Aden and Angel Jr. having fun in the Nature Center.



The trail rules.

Lots of turtles sunbathing.



Ducks and birds play in the creek.



A friendly squirrel.



Angel, Aden and Angel Jr. in front of the El Dorado sign.



Aden and Angel Jr. decide if they should go to the one or two mile trail.

Future plans include possibly obtaining additional land south of Willow Street from Southern California Edison to expand the riparian area along the river to the confluence of Coyote Creek and the San Gabriel River.

The Hike

El Dorado Nature Center is right next to the 605 Freeway, but let me tell you, once you are in the center, it is more like an adventure into nature.

You enter into a world of tranquility and solitude. Everywhere you look you will see beautiful trees, creeks, birds, rabbits and squirrels.

Most of the path is level except for one spot where you zigzag, going up

about four feet. The views are amazing and the sounds of nature will surround your every step.

People visit the center for lots of reasons – wedding photos and bird watchers, are popular, but the majority comes for the exercise and serenity along the way.

When you arrive, you will see a bridge that takes you to the Nature Center. Please go inside and spend some time viewing all the exhibits and wonderful fossils available in the center; you can also purchase a few items related to the centers activities. I like all the fossils myself.

Moving on, once you pass the Nature Center you will find another

bridge and another lake. Take a left and you will see a poster-sized picture of the trail. Then, if you keep going forward, you will begin your adventure in the path and all its beautiful surroundings.

After a few minutes of walking, you will see a sign for the one mile or two-mile path, so it's up to you. They are both just as pleasant, so you will need to come back a second time or go on both to see everything the nature center has to offer.

As I mentioned in the intro, if you have small children, this is a great place to have them learn, explore and use lots of their energy.

If you want a quiet time to reflect and enjoy nature, this is also the place

for you. If you like flowers, this is also a great place to educate yourself and see just how many different plants you can find. I have seen photo classes, bird-watching classes and plant-identifying classes come by from time to time. The Nature Center has lots and lots to do and see, all for free. You just pay for parking.

Don't forget to bring your camera and take plenty of photos and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring water, snacks and maybe spend a little time having a picnic.

**As always,
be safe and *Be Alive!*
— Angel**

LAPD



From left: Actor Luke Wilson, Celebrity host; and LAPD Assistant Chief Michel Moore.



Celebrity guest George Lopez and Arlene Herrero, the Club's Product Manager.



From left: Celebrity guest Jonathan Banks; Jeff Serano Sr.; Mike Mead; and Officer Ben Llamas.



From left: Celebrity guest Ron Masak; Jimmy McNeal; Sgt. Richard Levy; and Det. II Doug Stice.



From left: Richard Crane; Edward White; and Troy Schmidt. Front: Tom Shannon, CEO, Outback.



From left: Celebrity guest Mickey Jones; Gaston Kent; Lance Newquist; and Sgt. Steven Arellano.



From left: Raymond Hooker; Commander Sharon Papa, Club Member; and Alice Sturdy, Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation.



From left: Celebrity guest Ron Masak; Pete Demetriou, KNX 1070AM personality; Alice Sturdy, Executive Secretary, LAPD Memorial Foundation; and Bryce Verna, P II +2.



From left: Celebrity guest Paula Trickey; Peter Algiers; Mark Villani; and Kent Cox.



From left: Celebrity guest Miguel Ferrer; Ramon Espinoza; Dennis Trine; Michael Bostic Sr.



From left: Brandon Molale; Mike Blute; Det. Carreon; and Gilbert Tovalin, P II.



From Left: Celebrity guest Travis Schuld; Chris Weir; Andre Plumber; and Det. II Vince Bancroft.



From left: Celebrity guest George Lopez; Robert Larios, Director of Operations, City Employees Club of Los Angeles; and Mil Mascaras.



Mil Malcareas and Celebrity guest George Lopez sign autographs.

Celebs Tee It Up

Police Foundation hosts 39th annual celebrity golf tournament.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager; Photos by Robert Larios, Director of Operations

On July 31, the Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation held its 39th annual Celebrity Golf Tournament. The tournament was held at the Trump National Golf Club in Rancho Palos Verdes.

The Club participated as one of the sponsors. Tickets were available at the Club Store with a Club discount.

The celebrity host was Luke Wilson. Each year, the Memorial foundation hosts the tournament. The Memorial Foundation does not receive any direct taxpayer money. The residence and corporate community of Los Angeles generously supports the Memorial Foundation throughout the year and during the celebrity golf tournament.

During the tournament, corporate sponsors are paired with celebrities and officers for a day of golf, great food, awards and camaraderie in a festive open house atmosphere that includes 30 Department displays and is attended by 5,000 to 8,000 spectators. Each year, more than 30 celebrities from the sports, television and movie industries participate in the tournament.

All proceeds benefit the Los Angeles Memorial Foundation, which financially assists LAPD family members experiencing catastrophic circumstances resulting from injury or death. Since its inception in 1972, the Foundation has granted more than \$11.8 million for medical, funeral and educational expenses.

This year's list of celebrities in attendance included Luke Wilson, Chad Everett, Miguel Ferrer, Mickey Jones, George Lopez, Meil Moscaez, Ron Perlman, Nick Searcy, Brian Phelps, Jack McGee, Steven Bauer, Robert Hays, Gary Valentine, Ron Masak, Ric Dees, Sean Farmar, Paula Trickey, Grandville Van Dusen, Jonathan Banks, Michael Cudlitz, Regina King, Josh Rubenstein and Mykelti Williamson.

The first-place winner list included celebrity guest Michael Ironside; Johnny Rockets; FMS Financial Management; and Officers Ron Quinton and Dan Reedy. Second place included Daniel Wang, representing the City Employees Club; Officer George Lopez; Gerald Chaleff, Police Administrator; and Jeff Carr, Chief of Staff for Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

According to Trump National parking enforcement, approximately 17,500 people attended. To date, more than \$300,000 was raised this year, and more money continues to come in.

Special thanks to Alice Sturdy, Executive Secretary, and Alan Atkins, Executive Director, for their assistance.



From left: Celebrity host Luke Wilson; Deputy Chief Mike Downing; Stephen Downing; and Joe Baxter.



From left: Angela Rodriguez, PSR II, Club Member; and Jenelle Williams, PSR II, Club Member.



From left: Officer Damon Willens, Reserve; and Motor Officers from West Traffic Gene Janecko, Brian Percy and Gary Becker.



From left: Celebrity guest Rick Dees; John Stilo; Alex Rojas, P II +2; and Les Suzuki.



From left: Terry Scuoler; Don Keith, Retired LAPD Retiree Counselor; Keith Benson; and Mark Slusser.



Angie Roman, Executive Admin Assistant, Police Commission, Club Member, at the check-in.



John J. McMahon, President of the Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation.

Alan Atkins, Executive Director of the Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation.



From left: Eric Coffey, P3, with Doc; Arlene Herrero, City Employees Club Product Manager; and Marcos Rubio, P3, with Dash.

LAPD

Celebs Tee It Up

- Continued



From left: Celebrity guest Chad Everett; Chip Beck; Officer Graciano; and Dan Quick.



From left: Celebrity guest Michael Ironside; Frank Carrillo; Officer Ron Quinton; and Officer Dan Reedy.



From left: Celebrity guest Robert Hayes; Officer Steve Estrada; Sgt. Mary Kite; and Sgt. Steve Roussell.



Second-place title went to Daniel Wang, representing the City Employees Club; George Lopez, P III, Newton Division; Gerald Chaleff, Police Administrator; and Jeff Carr, Chief of Staff for Mayor Villaraigosa.



The course.



Arlene Herrero, Product Manager, City Employees Club, with Celebrity host Luke Wilson.



From left: Celebrity guest Steven Bauer; Bob Bender; Officer Ted Lockhart; and Jim Provost.



From left: Celebrity guest Michael Cudlitz; Tim McBride; Ted Beaden; and Sgt. Doug Humphrey.



From left: Celebrity guest Shawn Parr; Jacob Parr; John Brenjus; Caron Moritz, Forensic Print Specialist; and Sgt. Bob Toledo.



From left: George SantoPietro; Willie Gault; Andy Boston; and Det. Nick Pikor, Topanga Station.



From left: Capt. II Ron Marbrey, Central Traffic Division; Mil Mascaras; and Sgt. Danny Roman, North East.



From left: Kenny Landreaux; Jim Halsted; Pat Murphy; and Josh Isner.



From left: Sgt. II Donna Cox, OIC Video Unit; and David Gomez, Sr. Photographer.



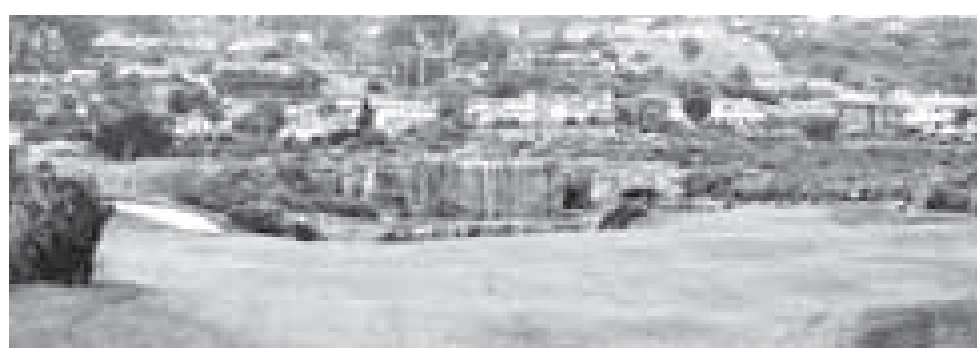
From left: Gary Valentine; Margot Armbruster; Frank Brzenski; and Tom Holzer, PIII.



The color guard.



From left: Deputy Chief Mike Downing; Cathy Bushey, Retired City Employee and guest; and Steve Downing, father.



The famous waterfall on the Trump National Club course.



Celebrity host Luke Wilson.



From left: Daniel Wang, who played for the City Employees Club; Celebrity guest George Lopez; "legendary wrestler" Mil Mascaras; and Jose Salcedo, PIII, Club Member.



From left: Valerie Aquino, volunteer; Gail Flores, volunteer; Aileen Aranda, PSR II, Club Member; and Aimee Aranda, volunteer.



Who is behind the mask next to Mil Mascaras?



From left: Celebrity guest Ron Perlman; Steve Hanson; Sgt. Damon Gutierrez; and Eddie Fierro.



From left: Jack McGee; Yvonne DeBixedon; Sam Wilson; and Sgt. Shawn Duke, WLA Vice.



From left: Granville Van Dusen; Commander Bill Fierro; Bob Lang Jr.; and Rick Pendleton.



From left: Celebrity guest Josh Rubenstein; Sgt. Mike Morisseu; Felix Aisvan; and Sgt. Danny Roman.

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

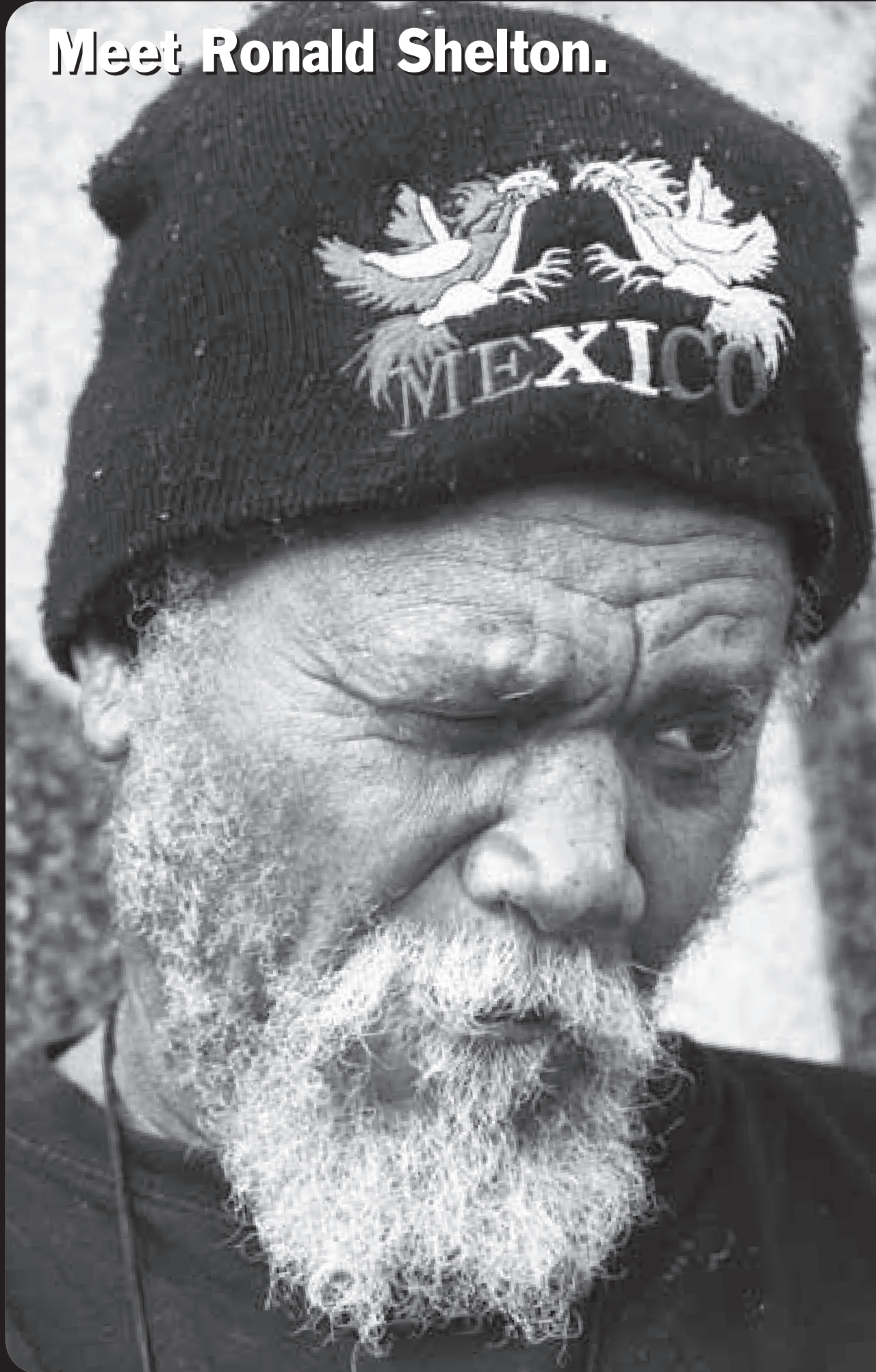
No. 31 in a series.

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



Meet Ronald Shelton.



AGE: "I'm 60."
BIRTHPLACE: "New Orleans."
MARITAL STATUS: "I'm married."
FAMILY: "I have two sisters."
MILITARY: "Yes, I was in the Marines."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "Four years and eight months ago."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school in New Orleans."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "When I made a little car out of wood for a soapbox derby."
TROPHIES/AWARDS: "I had trophies for football and basketball."
RELIGION: "I pray often."
DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS? "I have no friends."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "At Gate 4 in Beverly Hills."
WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "I worked for the Internal Revenue Service."
FAVORITE SPORT: "I like all sports, but especially football."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "*Columbus*, and I like Viking movies."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "Fred Astaire."
FAVORITE ACTRESS: "Janet Jackson and Lucille Ball. What a combination, eh?"
FAVORITE MUSIC: "James Brown, the one and only."
FAVORITE CANDY: "I like all types of candy."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "*Rawhide* and *Battlestar Galactica*."
FAVORITE FOOD: "I love beef and rice, especially when it's made by Odelya Carter."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "Hollywood Boulevard in Beverly Hills."
WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? "The Bible."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Make sure you have the right income for the things you need."
IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE? "I wish for my daughter to be with her mom and dad."
IF YOU HAD \$1 MILLION, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT? "I'd buy a Greyhound ticket to New Orleans to go see my mom."
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE IRAQ WAR? "People shouldn't kill one another."
WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN FIVE YEARS? "Making something new, or some new type of instrument, for these people across the street [the State Building] or at home in Beverly Hills, being productive in society."
IF YOU WERE THE MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES, WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO HELP THE HOMELESS? "I'd make log cabins for the homeless to live in."
LAST THING EATEN: "It's been kind of a hectic day. I'm going right now to get something."
WHO OR WHAT ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST HELP TO YOU? "Individual people give me money. One guy gave me \$35."

The Club gave Ronald shaving cream, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and some bottled water.

The interview took place Aug. 18 at Third and Spring Streets downtown.

Photos by John Hawkins



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins and Director of Member Services Angel Gomez introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. }

The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell.



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

[We also do Family Reunions]

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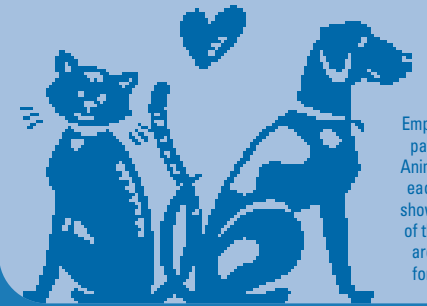
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the pet club

your friend is waiting for you!



The City Employees Club partners with Animal Services each month to showcase some of the pets that are available for adoption.

This Month's Pets For Adoption:

KC

KC is a four-year-old Pekingese/Chihuahua mix. She's a cutie! She loves people and likes other dogs and would make a great companion. She's only 12 pounds. Please help find her a new home!

ID# A1134690: West Valley Animal Care Center.



bobby

Bobby is a one-year-old poodle mix. He's very handsome and loves people and other dogs. He's still a puppy with lots of energy and personality. He'd be great for an active family or one concerned about allergies.

ID# A1119812: West Valley Animal Care Center.



beauty

Beauty is a two-year-old domestic medium hair Calico cat. She's very sweet, loves belly rubs and loves to purr. She's a beauty! She would make a great family pet.

ID# A1130396: West Valley Animal Care Center.



timmy

Timmy is a neutered two-year-old domestic short hair. He's a very loving cat that loves being cuddled. He'd make a great addition to any family. Please help this sweet guy find a new home!

ID# A1133877: West Valley Animal Care Center.



cottonball

Cottonball is a 10-month-old white and brown rabbit. He's a very friendly bunny, not very big and easy to handle. He would be a happy in any home with carrots! Please help find this a guy a great home!

ID# A1133393: West Valley Animal Care Center.



Meet your New Hope coordinator!



All of this month's animals are available at the West Valley Animal Care Center, 20655 Plummer St., Chatsworth, CA 91311. **Stella Sullivan** is the New Hope Coordinator: (818) 756-9325.

Don't miss our Discount Adoption Days Sept. 21 - 26 at all six LA Animal Services Animal Care Centers and mobile adoption locations! There is also still time to take advantage of the Summer Buddies promotion through Sept. 30, sponsored by the Found Animals Foundation. Adopt one cat, and get the second cat for free!

This Month at the Club Store

120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012



Merchandise Specials!

City Seal Men's "MA" Watch in Silver



\$39⁹⁹

City Seal Baby Onesies



\$19⁹⁹

City Hall Safari Hat



\$15

Go to pages 45-47 for more great Club merchandise, or visit www.cityemployeesclub.com

Something to Think About

"I love it when front-line employees come up with ideas, because I know they are the things that generally work."

– Rakesh Gangwal, former CEO, U.S. Airways

A reminder from L.A. City's Quality and Productivity Commission:
Always do your best!

Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

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



New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

- Airports**
Charles Bruno
Barbara Burks
Patricia Coulter
Sharon Douglas
Christine Furusawa
James Jacobs
Dominic Lonigro
Lance Schoenbum
Kareen Shane
Mechelle Thompson
Douglas Watson
- Animal Services**
Ricardo Olivas
M. Romero
- CDD**
Tanisha Wilson
- LAFD**
Brian Boyd
David Lowe
Paul Proni
- Fire and Police Pensions**
Paul Lawrence
Robin Woo
- General Services**
Sang Ham
Nazaria Lai
Tony Pappas
Robert Payan
Sandra Sandoval
- Harbor**
Tony Lauro
Anthony Lewis
Harlou Patterson
Ufaq Tariq
- Housing**
Thanh Doan
Gustavo Garcia
Lorena Garcia
Sonja Hodge
Claudia Leyva
Wilfred Ramos
- ITA**
Amin Namavar
- Mayor's Office**
Anna Webb
- LAPD**
Evanury Arocho
Diego Bracamontes
Colin Braudrick
Julie Browne
Herman Cervantes
Juan Contreras
Silvia Corral
Deirdre Fonseca
Cynthia Lam
Lilia Meza
Elizabeth Montgomery
Paula Ratway
Alma Sarria
Brandon Simpson
Bethany Streiffret
Griselda Tapia
Thomas Utley
Edith Zelaya
- PUBLIC WORKS**
PW-Contract Administration
Johnny Brewer
Peter Cheng
Gil Pangilinan
Edward Quarshie
PW-Sanitation
Robert Haskin
Nafeesah Hendricks-Potts
Donald Jojola
Ignacio Lontok
Rosie Michel
Salvador Ramirez
Lidia Vaiz
Howard Wong
PW-Street Services
Geneve Alvarado
Jessica Melendez
John Plunkett
Richard Rodriguez
David Roman
Rec and Parks
Narbe Aghagarian-Zarneh
Garry Anderson
Arnel Baja
Joanne Bolan
Rebecca Cannady
Alexander Castillo
Edward Cheang
Jason Davis
- Sonia Escalante
Ana Flores
Thomas Frey
Angie Gallegos
Maria Gomez
Alejandro Mendoza
Sergio Mijares
Andres Molina
Munec Nelson
Edith Nunez
Miguel Ortega
Sal Ortiz, Jr.
Renee Perets
Rebecca Rodriguez
Virginia Vasquez
Mike Zepeda
- Transportation**
Maria Avila
Henry Barron
Oganes Chamichyan
Emmanuel Contreras
Anthony Ingram
Maurice Nicolson
Elbert Phillips
George Rodriguez
Frank Shaver
Devin Starling
Octavio Valdez
- DWP**
Frank Castro
Alex De Florencio
Andrea Karcher
George Reid
Jeffrey Williams
- Retired**
Susan Ortega
Ira Zrehikian
- Other**
Arnold Aguirrebarrena
Winfred Calhoun
Susan Chiang
Aurora Grino
William Hilliard
Lynda Leung
Edgar Mijangos
Howard Ou
David Sanchez
John Trujillo
Daniel Valenciana



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.

- Active**
Diche, Ven, General Services, 20
Hayes, Alice, DWP, 1
Russell, David, DWP, 30
Willerford, David, Public Works, 24
- Retired**
Baade, Loyal, Public Works, 27
Bader, Edward, Building and Safety, 31
Barnes, Jessie Jr., DWP, 25
Besco, James, DWP, 30
Brackeen, Mary, DWP, 31
Bradshaw, Vernon, DWP, 27
Brown, Jerry, General Services, 37
Campbell, Gloria, DWP, 49
Carpenter, Ola, DWP, 34
Carroll, Edwin, DWP, 32
Carroll, Virgil, DWP, 36
Clark, Duane, DWP, 12
Clark, Melva, DWP, 32
Cornwell, Benjamin, DWP, 33
Culver, Ruth, DWP, 15
Ellis, Thomas, DWP, 33
Fletcher, Lloyd, Rec and Parks, 33
Gillingham, Ernestine, Public Works, 34
Grossman, Lester, Building and Safety, 10
Hall, William Jr., DWP, 27
Harris, Helen, General Services, 25
Hicks, Virginia, DWP, 27
Johnson, Cudies, Public Works, 36
Johnson, John, Building and Safety, 26
Johnson, Phyllis, LAPD, 36
Langrum, James, Retired, 28
- Little, Rose, LAPD, 25
Lyons, Shelly, Public Works, 33
MacNish, Thomas, City Council, 8
Manley, John, Public Works, 32
Marinovich, Milorad, DWP, 23
Marshall, Gerald, Rec and Parks, 31
McCall, Foster, Public Works, 22
McCallister, John, DWP, 24
McClellan, Charles, DWP, 26
Messina, Charles, Housing, 25
Michelangelo, Louis, DWP, 32
Moen, Robert, Public Works, 34
Morgan, Olga, Aging, 16
Murphey, Roger, Planning, 8
Norris, Homer, Airports, 29
Origel, Joseph, DWP, 25
Oshiro, Masanori, Airports, 34
Pamplin, Jack, DWP, 19
Perkins, Clifford, Airports, 39
Roberson, Richard, Transportation, 24
Rogers, Albert, Public Works, 30
Rothstein, Fannie, Transportation, 3
Ruiz, Carl, DWP, 38
Samuel, Alonzo, Public Works, 25
Savellano, Nestor, Controllers, 26
Shipp, George, Airports, 16
Sye, Donald, Public Works, 27
Thomas, Alfred, General Services, 29
Valdez, Vincent, Public Works, 32
Valenzuela, Sandra, LAPD, 30
Williams, Betty Mae, City Attorney, 30



Retirements, continued on page 32

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Abe, Linda Sue	Legal Secretary II	City Attorney	12	Boyd, Voner	Street Svcs. Worker III	Public Works	11	Collier, Bernice	Crossing Guard	Transportation	8
Abeleda, Ermelinda	CDD	City Attorney	32	Boylan, George	Equip. Mechanic	General Services	45	Connor, Anne	Div. Librarian	Library	33
Abrahamson, Lee	Geographic Info. Spec.	Public Works	31	Bragg, Ernest	Garage Attendant	LAPD	39	Contreras, Maria	Custodian	Airports	15
Aclaro, Jovie	Sr. Safety Eng. Press Vess.	Building and Safety	24	Braithwaite, Lauraine	Legislative Asst. II	City Clerk	34	Cordon, Dennis	Build. Mech. Inspector	Building and Safety	12
Ader, David	Plumber	Airports	24	Brooks, Dorothy	Clerk Typist	Airports	31	Cornacchio, Beatrice	Recreation Asst.	Rec and Parks	6
Aficial, Renato	Architect	Public Works	23	Brown, Fred	Sr. Heavy Duty Eq. Mech.	Harbor	36	Coster, Beth	Librarian III	Library	21
Alaniz, Eloisa	Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	9	Brown, Ralph	Garage Attendant	LAPD	23	Coultas, Tom	Asst. City Admin. Officer	CAO	34
Alden, Robert	Sr. Electrician	Convention Center	36	Browne, Elenora	Pr. Clerk Police II	LAPD	30	Coulter, Patricia	Sr. Clerk Steno	Airports	37
Alipio, John	Pr. Inspector	Housing	33	Browne, Jackie	Clerk Typist	Library	11	Cruz Beller, Alicia	Sr. Chemist	Public Works	25
Allen, Ernesto	Field Engr. Aide	Public Works	31	Brugger, Lawrence	Sr. Structural Engineer	Building and Safety	23	Culpepper, Ruth	Library Clerk Asst. II	Library	12
Allen, Michael	Instrument Mech. Supv.	Public Works	34	Brutus, Melvin	Custodian	General Services	32	Cutidio, Manuel	Engr. Designer II	Public Works	23
Allred, Sandy	-	DWP	-	Bueno, Claro	Sr. Detention Ofcr.	LAPD	21	Daniels, Erma	Rec Facility Director	Rec and Parks	18
Alvarado, Eddie	Painter II	Airports	31	Buenrostro, Roberto	Sr. Gardener	Public Works	29	Davidson, Luz	Rec Facility Director	Rec and Parks	33
Ang, Mirna	Ch. Real Estate Ofcr.	Public Works	23	Burley, Earnestine	Sr. Custodian II	General Services	27	De Haro, Adolfo	Street Svcs. Worker III	Public Works	26
Appy, Ralph	Marine Envir. Manager	Harbor	25	Cajiuat, Aura	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	29	De Vera, Rodolfo	Fiscal Systems Spec. II	Controller's Office	31
Ashe, Eric	Intermed Wastewater Trmt. Opr.	Public Works	34	Caldwell, Denisa	Clerk Typist	Controller's Office	35	Dever, John	Airports Mtce. Supt.	Airports	37
Avila, Arthur	Clerk Typist	LACERS	16	Callegari, Edison	Sr. Build. Operating Engr.	Airports	28	Diaz, Patricia	Library Asst. II	Library	31
Bacon, Mic	Sr. Accountant II	Housing	34	Carpenter, Barry	Parking Meter Techn.	Transportation	31	Dixon, Mildred	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	30
Bacon, Robert	Equip. Supervisor	Harbor	37	Carter, Donovan	Traf. Officer II	Transportation	34	Don, Leroy	-	DWP	-
Badgley, Helen	Airport Guide II	Airports	12	Cashner, Terrence	Machinist	Harbor	14	Dowdy, Rae	Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	6
Bailey, Jerry	Instrument Mech.	Public Works	22	Catia, Clemmie	Crossing Guard	Transportation	10	Dudick, Phillis	Rec Facility Director	Rec and Parks	37
Baker, Christopher	Buyer II	Airports	19	Ceniceros, Jesus	Motor Sweeper Operator	Public Works	30	Dunn, Claudia M.	Ch. Mgmt. Analyst	-	32
Baldonado, Danny	Build. Operating Engr.	Convention Center	30	Ceniceros, Ralph	Cement Finisher	Public Works	33	Duran, David	Sr. Custodian II	General Services	32
Barnwell, Russell	Motor Sweeper Operator	Public Works	38	Cervantes, Joseph	Sr. Wastewater Treatment Oper.	Public Works	36	Duran, Julian B.	Machinist	Public Works	38
Bass, Leland	Safety Engr. Elevatrs.	Building and Safety	22	Champaneria, Magan	Civil Eng. Associate IV	Transportation	27	Dwan, Laura	Sr. Librarian	Library	31
Bass, Rachel	Civil Eng. Associate IV	Public Works	22	Chan, Benjamin	Trans. Engineer	Transportation	30	Eaglin, Allen	Truck Operator/One Man	Rec and Parks	33
Beckett, Michael	Street Ltg. Elec.	Public Works	33	Chang, Angela	Asst. Gen. Mgr. Pers.	Personnel	31	Eason, William	Build. Con. Mt. Gn. Sup. II	General Services	30
Bendixen, Pamela	Storekeeper II	General Services	25	Chang, Helen	Airport Guide II	Airports	4	Ejercito, Leon	Sr. Accountant II	Public Works	24
Bennett, David	-	DWP	-	Chang, Mali	Management Analyst II	Public Works	18	Elder, Michael	Constr. Maint. Supv. II	Public Works	30
Bentivegna, Gary	Equip. Mechanic	General Services	36	Chang, Philip	Water Biologist III	Public Works	36	Ellsworth, Kelly	Equip. Specialist II	Transportation	24
Berne, Michelle	Arts Manager III	Cultural Affairs	5	Chanjamsri, Soun	Sr. Chemist	Public Works	25	Eltchi, Eugene	Sr. Constr. Inspector	Public Works	26
Blackwell, Lori	Sr. Police Serv. Rep II	LAPD	46	Charles, Paula	Clerk Typist	Animal Services	26	Enriquez, Josephine	Investment Officer	LACERS	27
Blumenfeld, Jane	Pr. City Planner	Planning	33	Chavez, Erlinda	Secretary	Housing	31	Escobedo, Maria Del Carmen	Secretary	LAFD	38
Bocek, Richard	Building Inspector	Building and Safety	24	Chavez, James	Light Equip. Operator	Rec and Parks	26	Escorido, Catalio	Field Engr. Aid	Public Works	23
Bogigian, Janet	Asst. City Attorney	City Attorney	33	Chavis, Eun	Clerk Typist	Housing	30	Esparza, Jacqueline	Airport Police Sgt.	Airports	30
Bohlmann, Douglas	Wastewater Manager III	Public Works	31	Cheng, Juliana	Div. Librarian	Library	37	Evans, Constance	Custodian	Custodian	16
Boller, James	Sr. Build. Mech. Inspectr.	Building and Safety	35	Chiong, Frank	Electrical Engr. Draft Tech.	ITA	27	Fendler, John A.	Pipefitter	Public Works	30
Bond, Leon	Parking Meter Tech. Sup. II	Transportation	36	Cho, Yoon Jing	Civil Engineer	Public Works	30	Fetalino, Deogracias	Constr. Estimator	Public Works	22
Bonds, Ronald	Fin. Developmnt. Off. II	Housing	12	Chrisman, David	Carpenter Suprv.	Harbor	35	Fields, Raymond	Truck Operator/One Man	Public Works	34
Boney, Louis	Warehouse T/R Wkr. II	Public Works	25	Clark, Alonzo	Personnel Director III	Library	39	Fisher, Douglas	Equip. Operator	Public Works	20
Bonty, Edward	Safety Engr. Elevatrs.	Building and Safety	30	Clark, Ronald Kent	Cement Finisher	Public Works	14	Fite, Jerry	Storekeeper II	Airports	10
Borba, Kevin	Plumber	Airports	27	Clark, Terri L.	Clerk Typist	Public Works	32	Fleischer, Jeff	-	DWP	-
Bowers, Robert	Machinist	Public Works	12	Cola, Bennie	-	DWP	-	Fleming, Barron	Truck Operator	Public Works	19

Graduations



Corina Estevane graduated from Sylmar High School with honors. She plans to attend College of the Canyons in Valencia in the fall for two years and then transfer to a university where she will major in pre-med. She's the daughter of Gabriel Estevane, Public Works/Sanitation.



Jonathan Jacob Chabolla graduated from Porter Middle School. He plans to attend Kennedy High School this fall. He's the son of Cheryl Garcia, LAPD. "Your dad and I are so proud of you!"



Lawrence Drake III graduated from kindergarten at Inglewood Christian School. He is the son of Andrea Netterville, LAPD.



DaVon Lowery graduated from Cal State Dominguez Hills, majoring in criminal justice. He has been accepted into Cal State Long Beach for graduate school in public policy/urban and international affairs. DaVon is an Airport Police Security Officer at LAX.

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



Military



Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send us a photo – either formal or on duty, along with your name, City department and relationship to the subject. Send photos to *Alive!* in the Military, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Send digital photos to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Weddings

Have a photo of a recent wedding? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Quinceañera

Have a photo of a recent quinceañera? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

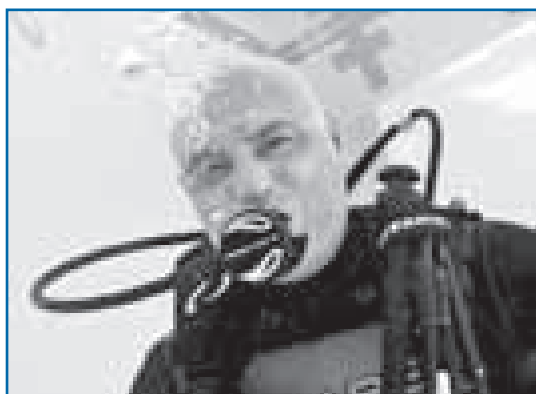
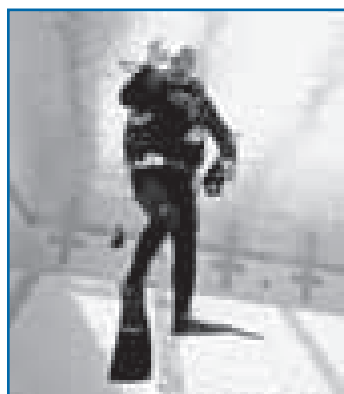


Births

Have a photo of a recent newborn? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Special Achievements



Club member Dariusz Smajdor completed his Rescue Diver Certification Training, sponsored by Professional Association of Diving Instructors. He works for the DWP. Congratulations, Dariusz!



Allen De La Pena, Clerk Typist, LAPD, was named the Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter 2010 by the Police Dept.'s Records and Identification Division. He was noted for his successful work training new operators on the department's Documentum imaging system. Good going, Allen!

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Peace of Mind

It's a Dog's Life, But Only With Insurance

BY TIFFANY SY
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



The statistics of pet ownership in America rise each year, with dogs and cats in the lead. Many pet owners (including myself) consider our pets to be valued members of the family. Statistics provided by the American Pet Products Association have shown that we are also spending more on animal care -- \$47.7 billion (predicted) this year. I'm not surprised by these facts, since my cat and dogs have more toys than they can destroy, and their diet is healthier and organically better than mine!

In addition to supplies and food, the greatest costs American pet owners incur are medical. According to USA Today, the cost in veterinary services has inflated 80.4 percent since 2000, in comparison with 28.1 percent inflation for services in all other industries.

When I decided to write an article about the Club's Pet First insurance plan, I initially wanted to share my own personal experience of needing to use it. But, quite honestly, I would rather not think about and re-live the horrendous details of the

day my dog escaped out of my yard and was hit by a speeding vehicle. In fact, I hope none of you will ever have to use pet insurance the way I had to when she spent the night in an Animal Hospital hooked up to a catheter. Today, I am happy to inform you, Gingerella, a gorgeous lab mix rescued from our City's very own Northeast Animal Services shelter in Lincoln Heights, is just fine. Just ask that golden tail of hers as she whips it in your face! If she's in a really good mood, she might even trip you with it.

Having Pet First Accident and Illness insurance coverage for Ginger gave me instant relief when the emergency veterinarian's office handed me the bill for \$1,391.13. I paid \$50 toward my deductible and received a check in the mail within weeks for the reimbursement of 90 percent, in my case, \$1,207.02.

The Pet First insurance plan is eligible to any dog or cat from eight weeks to nine years of age. In addition to covering accidents and illnesses, the plan also covers routine or preven-

tative care including vaccinations, flea medications, physical exams, screenings, dental cleanings, spay/neuter, and behavior training, with no deductible and a 90 percent reimbursement. One of the greatest features of the plan is the freedom to receive services from any board-licensed veterinarian in the United States.

In comparison to our life spans, our furry friends are with us for a relatively short time, and I want them to stay as long as they can. The countless benefits of pet ownership make pet insurance well worth the cost. If you have pets and want to join the other two million dogs and 800,000 cats already insured in America, call me today to sign up.



Contact me at info@cityemployeesclub.com

Life's Important Moments



Retirements, continued from page 30

Table with columns: NAME, TITLE, DEPT, YEARS, NAME, TITLE, DEPT, YEARS, NAME, TITLE, DEPT, YEARS. Lists retirement details for various city employees.

Cooking with the Club

by Chef Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

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

Fish Tacos: *Classic* Seasonably Good

DIRECTIONS:



Begin preparation for green salsa. Wash, dry, peel and then dice cucumber and jicama. Place tomatillo salsa, green chile sauce, diced cucumber and jicama in large bowl and mix.



Cut fish into strips, check for bones and remove any bones with kitchen pliers. Season fish with sea salt and pepper.



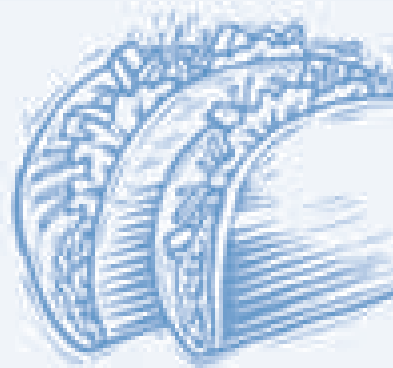
Add olive oil to sauté pan and place fish into pan on medium heat. Keep on eye on the fish so that it does not burn, and turn over once a golden color develops.



Chop cabbage. Add red onion or scallion.



Each taco requires two corn tortillas. Use another pan on medium heat to warm them up. Into the two corn tortillas, place a strip of the cooked fish, green salsa, cabbage and freshly squeezed lime juice.



Enjoy!

If you've ever had the good fortune to visit San Diego and have had one of the famous fish tacos – you'd know why they'd like to have you believe that they invented it. There are dozens, if not hundreds, of tacos shops around town, and many of them have fish tacos on their menus.

It is believed that the fish taco has its origins in Baja California. It would make sense because the fish economy is among the biggest over there. The recipe is quite simple – tortillas, salsa, a little cabbage and fish. You could use cod or sea bass or even freshwater fish like catfish, but the marriage of flavor and texture with mahi mahi is my favorite.

To account for hunger and the ease of cooking these recipes, I've put together a quick and easy green salsa with a twist. I've added diced cucumber, jicama and a jolt of green chile sauce. This is great stuff for dips, too! An elegant version of this same taco recipe uses Mexican crema. Just drizzle some over each taco and you'll be knocking on the door to heaven – well, almost. You should be able to find Mexican crema in the dairy section of most supermarkets.

Rudy's Fish Tacos

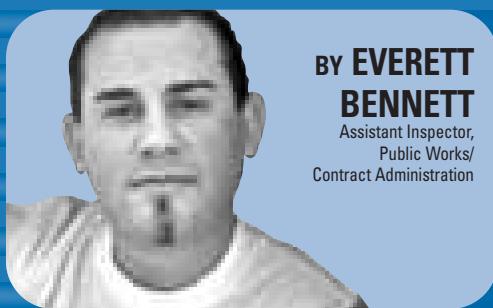
INGREDIENTS:

MAKES 3 FISH TACOS

- 1 pound fish (I like mahi mahi)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Sea salt
- Pepper
- 1 lime
- 1 cup shredded green cabbage
- 1 scallion (or half of a red onion), diced
- 1 can of green tomatillo salsa (green salsa)
- 2 tablespoons green chile sauce
- 1/4 cups cucumber, diced
- 1/4 cups jicama, diced
- 6 corn tortillas (or 3 flour tortillas)



THE CAR CLUB



BY **EVERETT BENNETT**
Assistant Inspector,
Public Works/
Contract Administration

Perfectly Frank

Frank Gamboa's '39 Chevy is a stunner.



Another summer has come to a close. For me, June, July, and August are the best time of year. My major goal this year was getting my 80-year-old car back on the road after a two-year break from the blacktop. The thought of enjoying Southern California weather at dusk in a convertible consumed me. It drove me to ignore everything except working on it, taking a shower and brushing my teeth. I usually don't name my cars, but for the sake of this story, she will be known as Betty. Betty and I had some stunning drives, but she also likes to overheat and break down. I guess that is part of the fun in owning these types of cars, or at least that is what I keep telling myself.

But enough about Betty and me. The second highlight of my summer was meeting fellow City employee Frank Gamboa. Frank is a Motor Sweeper Operator (Division 231) with Public Works/Street Services and owns this stunning 1939 Chevrolet Master Deluxe Opera Coupe. Frank has 30-plus years with the City and even more years being involved in the car scene. I first saw Frank and his car at the Cops for Tots show this year. I remember standing around the car with a friend and just admiring the magnificent lines and exquisite attention to detail. This car just radiates craftsmanship to the tenth degree. There has not been a shortage of cars that have passed through Frank's hands, and

from the sound of it, there will be many more. This '39 coupe began its life in San Francisco and moved to the high desert area not too long after. Frank came across her on eBay and made the trek up to Victorville to possibly purchase the car he had been looking for for a long time. After a 15-minute inspection, Frank wrote the check. The car was soon in its new home in the suburbs of Los Angeles and being prepped for what would be a two-year restoration project.

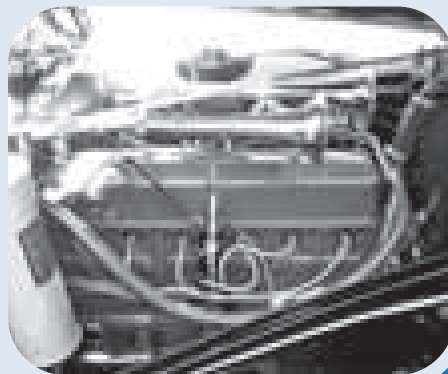
The 216 straight-six motor and three-speed transmission were pulled out of the car and sent to a well-known restorer of old cars, Joe Epstein. Joe tackled the motor rebuild, wiring and exhaust. If you are building a traditional "bomb," there is only kind of exhaust to have and that is glass packs. This project was equipped with 12-inch glass packs and Fenton headers, and was converted over to 12 volts. After the motor was firing correctly, suspension came into question and just like doing the Limbo, the question was, how low can you go? Well, Frank went low with the help of two-inch drop spindles and air bags, all done by The Bag Man in Santa Ana.

After further examination of the lacquer paint on the body, Frank handed the car over to Chito and Sons of East L.A. A year passed, and the '39 now gleamed like a star. Jet-black paint magnified this beauty that took many of its design features from the art

deco period. Now with only two tasks left, Frank drove the car to Mike Perez over at Area 51. Mike is a master stitch man and covered the interior of the car with tan mohair. Last on the agenda to complete Frank's dream was adding accessories. Accessories are huge on "bombs." They differentiate the boys from the men (or women from girls), but they sure do come at a costly price. Frank was able to find a GM compass; a banjo steering wheel marbled by Ingrid from Oregon; bug screens for the wind wing windows; a cigarette holder; an ashtray; and a 1948 Cadillac rearview mirror. To put things in perspective, the going rate for a GM compass like Frank's is \$6,000. Frank decided to cover his 15-inch rims with 1957 Cadillac hubcaps, but he also changes them up from time to time with the original wheels and tires.

With a garage full of first-place trophies for this car and others, Frank has proven he can build a show stopper. The coupe is currently for sale so Frank can fund his next build. I am not sure about the price, but with it equipped with accessories whose value are the same as a new car, I am sure it will take more than a box of rusty nails, a stick of gum and an old Home Depot card to pry it away from Frank. But, if that trade is possible, I just happen to have all three!

See you next time!



**PROUD OF YOUR WHEELS?
SEND IN A PHOTO!**

Send in a photo of you and your car, and we might publish it!

Send us your information, too – name, title and City department, a phone number (we won't print it) and a paragraph or two about why you love your car, what kind of car and year it is, and maybe some fun details of how you got it, how you restored it, etc. Send it all to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



**Dodgers
Last
Game:
Only
\$20!**

**Club
Special
Event**

**See
page 7**

REVIEWS BY FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS

ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIE REVIEWS



The Kids Are Alright

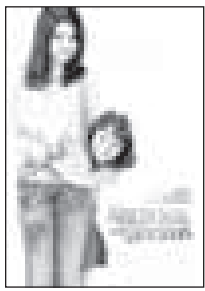
Rated R
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Nic (Annette Bening) and Jules (Julianne Moore) are in a long-term, committed relationship. They have two teen-aged children, who track down and want to meet their common biological father,

Paul (Mark Ruffalo). Paul starts a relationship with the children, which begins affecting the entire family, in surprising ways.

As a comedy/drama, the film has some wonderful and touching moments, and others that are very funny. But sadly, there are no characters you can cheer. Too bad, because Bening and Moore are both powerhouse actresses.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



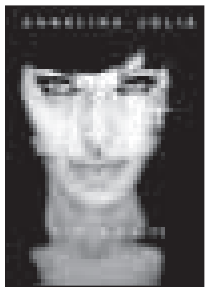
Ramona and Beezus

Rated G
My Rating: 5 (out of 5)

Ramona and Beezus stars Joey King, Selena Gomez, John Corbett, Bridget Moynahan and Ginnifer Goodwin. It was believable and entertaining, great for all ages. It kept your attention

throughout the show; it was funny, sad and full of laughter. It brought out every emotion. We hated to see it end.

— Pat Saucier, Retired



Salt

Rated PG-13
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This is a spy thriller starring Angelina Jolie as Evelyn Salt, an unstoppable superspy who runs into trouble because she is accused of being a sleeper agent for Russia. There are lots of action and plot twists as Salt avoids fellow CIA agents all while trying to find out how she got framed or tagged as a double agent. Never at a slow pace, this is a very entertaining movie that made an excellent choice in casting Jolie, who proves that she still has the chops for this type of movie.

— Chuck Beas, DWP



Cairo Time

Rated PG
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Juliette (Patricia Clarkson) is in Cairo, Egypt, on her own, waiting for her husband, and finds herself swept up in a surprising romance with his friend Tareq (Alexander Siddig), a retired cop. *Cairo Time* is wonderful as a travelogue but ridiculously shallow as the American, Juliette, a self-described feminist and writer for a woman's magazine, has no comment over child labor and the mistreatment of women in the Middle East. I doubt Americans will be able to tolerate the film's nonchalant attitude toward women and children. I couldn't.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



Get Low

Rated PG-13
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

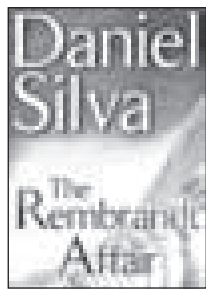
Tennessee hermit Felix Bush (Robert Duvall) wants to plan his funeral while he's still alive. Felix is the subject of many rumors, including that he's a vicious killer. He asks Frank Quinn (Bill Murray),

the town's funeral director, to have him plan a huge party before he dies, where he reveals his secret—why he shunned society to become such a recluse.

Duvall and Murray are two great actors in an unfortunately mediocre film, with little drama, warmth, or anyone with whom we can identify. The excellent bluegrass soundtrack can't make up for the slow pace of this disappointing film.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Book Reviews

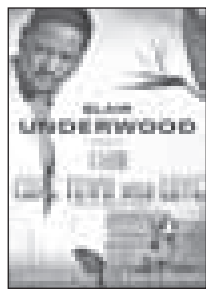


The Rembrandt Affair

Daniel Silva
Spy thriller; 496 pages
Putnam
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The best spy novels are thrillers that inform, enlighten and entertain. Daniel Silva's latest best-seller is a prime example of the best. His hero, Gabriel Allon, is a retired Mossad agent living a quiet life in England by working as an art restorer. He is brought back into action to retrieve a stolen masterpiece, a Rembrandt, which takes us from Nazi atrocities to Iran's nuclear ambitions. It is also an emotional novel, which leaves the reader breathless and pondering how dangerous today's world is.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



From Cape Town With Love

Blair Underwood,
Tananarive Due and
Steven Barnes
Mystery, 384 pages
Atria
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Tennyson Hardwick comes alive again in *From Cape Town with Love*, the third book from the collaborative efforts of actor Blair Underwood and the husband/wife team of veteran authors Tananarive Due and Steven Barnes. Tennyson — "Ten" to his friends — is a former sex worker, sometime actor, occasional bodyguard and wannabe private investigator. He's also a thorn in the side of the LAPD. In this installment, Ten is hired to protect the adopted daughter of a mega celebrity, but fails when the child is kidnapped from her elaborate second birthday party. Mysterious characters from South Africa, the child's country of birth, pop up as gang members, knife experts, drummers and store owners. The fast pace of the abduction, hunt and climactic knife fight scene is only slightly slowed by protagonist Ten's constant references to escapades from the previous novels.

— Carmen Y. Steward, Fire and Police Pensions

DVD Reviews



Saint John of Las Vegas (2009)

Rated R
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Steve Buscemi stars as an investigator in this lighthearted, insurance-scam-based comedy. I always enjoy watching stars behave like human beings, and this film fea-

tures Steve Buscemi doing a lot of funny, ordinary human behavior, to great comedic effect. He has an ongoing dialogue with a gas station attendant that is watchable and absurd. The supporting characters are smart and funny, too. I highly recommend this film to comedy fans.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



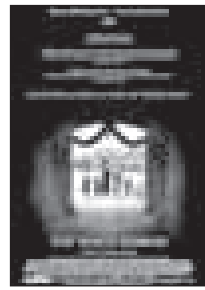
The Road (2008)

Rated R
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

John Hillcoat's adaptation of the excellent Cormac McCarthy book, *The Road*, was met with great expectations and polarized critics. I enjoyed the dark, end-of-the-world film but found it difficult to

watch. It contains adult themes including cannibalism, suicide and alienation. It's part family melodrama and part science fiction. The actors here, in particular Viggo Mortensen, are terrific, and the soundtrack is haunting and very appropriate.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



The White Ribbon (2009)

Unrated
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The White Ribbon is the best film I've seen this year. It's a black-and-white, German-language melodrama about the residents of a small, German town in the 1930s, and the horrible

events that begin happening there. The film touches on many adult themes, including child abuse and torture, but it's not heavy-handed or preachy. The characters are so human and well developed that I wanted to know more about each of them after the film ended. I highly recommend it.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



Fall Time (1995)

Rated R
Reviewed on IFC
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This film boasts an all-star cast and an excellent script about a gang of three friends who get caught up in something bigger during a staged

prank outside a small-town bank. The bonds of their friendship are explored and tested. The film quickly turns dark and sadistic, and doesn't ever lighten up. It's gripping, suspenseful, violent and unpredictable. Mickey Rourke's portrayal of a philosophical thug is outstanding.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



Sin Nombre (2009)

Rated R
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Honduran teenager Sayra reunites with her father, giving them a chance to realize their dream of a life in the United States. To get there, however, they must go through a gauntlet of

Mexican gangs, border guards and more. *Sin Nombre (Without a Name)* is an adventure/thriller beyond compare, non-political, personal, and excellent in every way. The violence may turn some off, but the compelling story and great characters are more than worth it. In Spanish with English subtitles.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



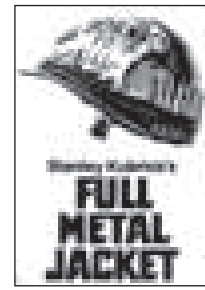
The Spanish Prisoner (1998)

Rated PG
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Writer and director David Mamet has a distinctive cinematic style. His choppy, unaffected dialogue and "confidence man" themes are instantly recognizable. *The Spanish*

Prisoner is a con man film about a man who steals a valuable process from an inventor employed by a monolithic, ethically questionable company. It's suspenseful, dramatic and dark. The viewer is placed in the mind of the protagonist, who begins to question everyone around him as potential swindlers. It portrays a world where no one is what they seem, and greed is the primary motivating factor. The acting is excellent, and the musical score is haunting and memorable. I highly recommend this film to fans of suspense and crime drama.

— Erin Knight, Public Works



Full Metal Jacket (1987)

Rated R
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Stanley Kubrick's final war film, *Full Metal Jacket*, is shot in drab, grainy colors. While this film's look has been critiqued as "dull" and "bland," I propose that these are

detailed choices that emphasize Kubrick's themes on the nature of war and the dehumanizing process of training soldiers. The jungle is eschewed for rubble-strewn city streets and burning buildings. War is an ugly event that does horrible things to people, and Kubrick shows this visually in *Full Metal Jacket*. It's a masterpiece of a great filmmaker.

— Erin Knight, Public Works

Your Reviews

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



100 Words or Fewer

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

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- Have fun!
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.



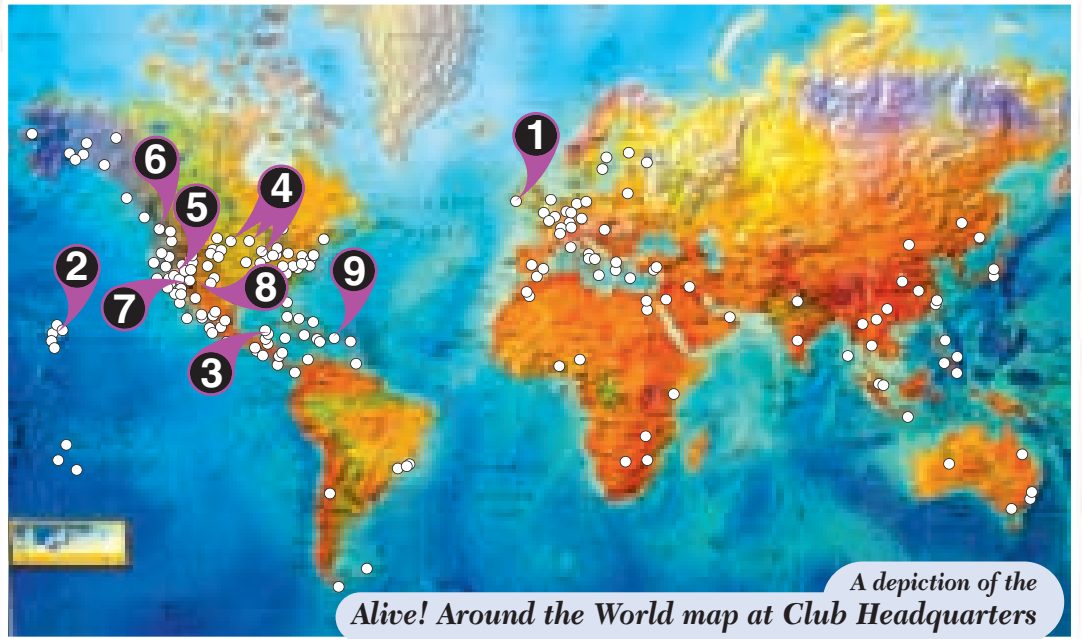
Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

1

Ireland



Alive! editor John Burnes in Ennis, Co. Clare, Ireland.



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

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!

Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your 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

2

Hawaii



"At the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. Luau time!"

"At the Black Sand Beach in Punalu'u."

"My husband and I just returned from a beautiful trip to Kona, Hawaii."
- Victoria Anaya, Harbor

3

The Caribbean



The Royal Caribbean *Liberty of the Seas*.

Mike on the beach in Majahual, Costa Maya.

Cozumel, Mexico.

Grand Cayman.

Here's Mike Boyd, Public Works, on his cruise in Mexico and the Caribbean.

4

The Midwest



Lambeau Field.

"I drove from Ohio back to California on my vacation. I even drove through the center of the world! Well at least a small town in Ohio by that name. [In Green Bay, Wisc.] I took a tour of Lambeau Field, home of the Green Bay Packers. I also saw the other-worldly landscape of Badlands National Park in South Dakota."

- Gary Kotas

5

California



"I have taken a photo with my son, Anthony Longoria, at Yosemite. The picture features the half dome in the background, and we are standing at Glacier Point. The photo was taken in July. According to the park rangers, this year is a record year for water flow. All the waterfalls and rivers were flowing abundantly, which enhanced the park's beauty by at least a hundred-fold. If you're planning a trip to Yosemite, this would be the year."

- Manuel Longoria



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



6 British Columbia



Here's **Rhonda Brown** on a cruise to Victoria, British Columbia, Canada in July.

7 Nevada



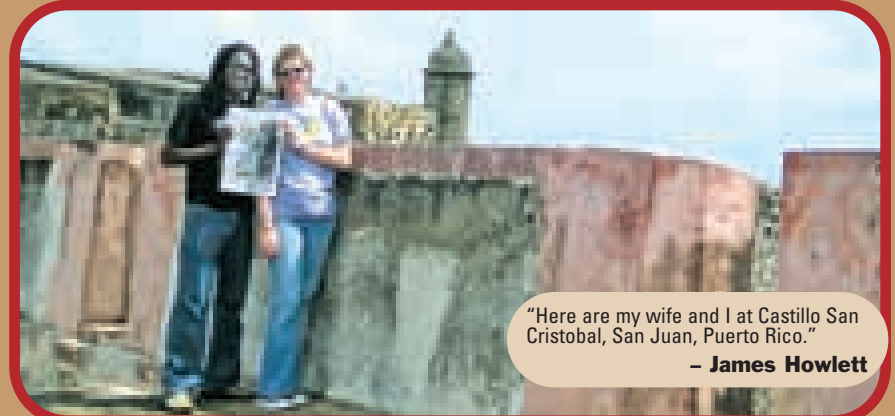
Here are **Cheryl Garcia, LAPD**, and her boyfriend, Edmund, celebrating their third anniversary, in Laughlin, Nevada.

8 Arizona



Peter Zendejas, Retired, DWP, takes *Alive!* to the Grand Canyon. He stands atop the 18-mile-wide Grand Canyon in Arizona's blazing hot summer.

9 Puerto Rico



"Here are my wife and I at Castillo San Cristobal, San Juan, Puerto Rico."
- **James Howlett**



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COMPANY	(91105 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Survey	
Farmers	\$1,485
State Farm	\$1,338
Allstate	\$1,329
Geico	\$1,211
Auto Club	\$879
Mercury Insurance	\$876

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ZOO

Say Boo at the Zoo!

Annual Halloween weekend spook-tacular makes its return.

Photo by Tad Motoyama/LA Zoo

The Los Angeles Zoo is transformed into themed areas for trick-or-treaters during this annual event, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 20 and 31. Activities include fun performers, pumpkin carving, treats, crafts, music and creepy crawlers for a not-so-scary weekend that is suitable for the entire family! The Zoo's animals will stomp and chomp pumpkins on both days.

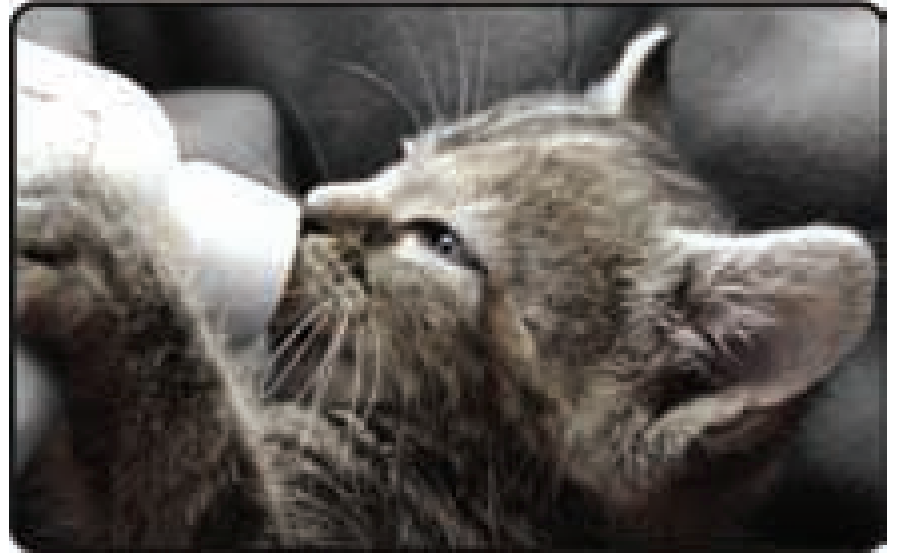
Boo At the Zoo runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

Info: www.lazoo.org



A hippo celebrates Halloween.

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- Ages 5 and under FREE every day.

For tickets contact

Rachael Brecher – The Ticket Gal
(888) 777-1744

LA COUNTY FAIR
PURE FUN
Sept. 4 - Oct. 3, 2010

Thu, Sept. 2	4th Annual Celebration of Engineering Milestones
Fri, Sept. 3	Trade Show and Entertainment Showcase
Sat, Sept. 4	LA County Fair Opening Ceremony
Sun, Sept. 5	Walt Disney Concert Hall
Mon, Sept. 6	LA County Fair
Tue, Sept. 7	LA County Fair
Wed, Sept. 8	LA County Fair
Thu, Sept. 9	LA County Fair
Fri, Sept. 10	LA County Fair
Sat, Sept. 11	LA County Fair
Sun, Sept. 12	LA County Fair
Mon, Sept. 13	LA County Fair
Tue, Sept. 14	LA County Fair
Wed, Sept. 15	LA County Fair
Thu, Sept. 16	LA County Fair
Fri, Sept. 17	LA County Fair
Sat, Sept. 18	LA County Fair
Sun, Sept. 19	LA County Fair
Mon, Sept. 20	LA County Fair
Tue, Sept. 21	LA County Fair
Wed, Sept. 22	LA County Fair
Thu, Sept. 23	LA County Fair
Fri, Sept. 24	LA County Fair
Sat, Sept. 25	LA County Fair
Sun, Sept. 26	LA County Fair
Mon, Sept. 27	LA County Fair
Tue, Sept. 28	LA County Fair
Wed, Sept. 29	LA County Fair
Thu, Sept. 30	LA County Fair
Fri, Oct. 1	LA County Fair
Sat, Oct. 2	LA County Fair
Sun, Oct. 3	LA County Fair

Newsbriefs

FINDING THE DUMPERS

A City of Los Angeles ordinance that targets violators of illegal dumping was amended and became effective on July 5, said Public Works/Street Services Director William A. Robertson. "The ordinance now authorizes Bureau investigators to administratively fine violators based on evidence found in dumped trash that identifies a responsible party."

Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 66.25 now imposes a graduated penalty of \$500, \$750 and \$1,000 for each successive violation in a 12-month period. "A fourth violation would result in criminal prosecution as misdemeanor violation," Robertson said. For details, search for Council File 08-1122 at www.cityclerk.lacity.org.

"According to the code, it is illegal to dispose of any rubbish on public property without a permit from the Board of Public Works," said Chief Street Services Investigator Gary Harris. "While our Bureau Investigators do perform surveillance and cite or arrest violators caught in the act of dumping, the problem is so pervasive that arrests alone cannot prevent illegal dumping Citywide," he added.

"In addition to proactive enforcement of criminal laws, there is a need to hold accountable those that are not observed and who cannot be prosecuted through conventional methods," Harris said. "Using this administrative remedy helps us ensure that violators are held accountable."

As a municipal enforcement agency, the Bureau of Street Services Investigation and Enforcement Division is primarily responsible for public property and protecting citizens from injuries and accidents that may occur as a result of hazardous and dangerous conditions existing on public property. The Division enforces a variety of Municipal Code Sections and Board of Public Works regulations enacted to protect public property, ensure public safety, and minimize the City's exposure to liability. Information: (213) 978-0333.

DOWNEY POOL REDEDICATED

On Aug. 12, Rec and Parks dedicated the \$5.8 million Downey Pool replacement downtown.

Components include a nearly 3,000-square-foot lap pool, a 1,700-square-foot splash pad activity pool, and a 500-square-foot structure that will house new pumps and filter equipment, and chemical rooms. There is also decorative pool decking, landscaping and irrigation, and perimeter fencing.

FSY Architects, Inc of Los Angeles designed the facility, which Horizon Construction, Inc. of Anaheim built. The Architectural Division in Public Works/Engineering managed the project through its Municipal Facilities Program. Funding came from bonds issued by the City through the Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles (\$5 million), Proposition K (\$500,000), and developer fees (\$325,000).

Expected in attendance were Councilmember Ed Reyes; Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager, Rec and Parks; and Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer, Public Works.



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN \$25 Walmart Card

NEXT DEADLINE: September 15
Happy Snapping!



"I took these pictures in early spring driving up the PCH toward Malibu during the final moments of a large storm. The storm continued its path inland, clearing the beach first. I was there as darkness turned to light."

– Marlon O. Santa Cruz, DWP

John's comment: The contrasts here are really rich, Marlon, from the moss on the rocks to the darkened rocks to the blue sky shrouded in darker clouds. It all comes together like a well-written heavy metal song (I'm thinking Metallica or Breaking Benjamin). Nice work!



"I love this shot of my teenager. It's unposed and subdued, and he seems to be engaged in his own deep thought. It's a contrast from the usual happy, posed, goofy picture of most teenagers."

– Cecille Consebido, Management Analyst II, Public Works/Sanitation

John's comment: It's a great picture, Cecille. I have a teenager (Noah, 13), and I can truly appreciate this moment of deep though. Good timing, Cecille!



"On a recent vacation with my wife, we were driving through Yosemite. This was difficult to do without stopping every few minutes to take in the beautiful views."

– Alfred Sosa, Construction and Maintenance Superintendent, DWP

John's comment: Alfred, I was in Yosemite with my sons at the beginning of the summer, and I know what you mean about stopping every couple of minute. That allows me to appreciate this shot even more. Well done, Alfred!



"Retirement has been great. These are photos from my recent trip to Grand Cayman Island with my granddaughter, Samiyah. It rained the first three days we were there, but the sun was beautiful the last three days, and hot!"

– Debora Fore

John's comment: Perfect title Debora ("Chairs in Waiting"), and I think they are waiting for my wife, Kelley, and I! (The kids of course will be home with my grandparents.) What a relaxing picture, Debora; thank you for letting me dream just a bit.

RUNNERS-UP:

Mike Aubin, with a wonderful shot of Los Angeles County from the Wrigley Mansion on Catalina; and Cheryl Garcia, LAPD, with a great shot of a giraffe grabbing some food from her son's hand with its tongue.

RULES:

- The contest is open to all Club Members in good standing.
- Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club Members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to:
Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*,
City Employees Club of Los Angeles,
120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, **please send the full, original digital file yourself**, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

Dodgers! All You Can Eat!

Only \$20! Club Event Oct. 3

See page 7

CLUB SPORTS



News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • September 2010

Club Softball League 2010

STATS

Team Standings

(as of August 19, 2010)

	GAMES PLAYED	WINS	LOSSES	FORFEITS	TOTAL POINTS
--	--------------	------	--------	----------	--------------

West Division

LAX JETS	3	3	0	0	6
I'd Hit It	3	2	2	0	4
Guzzlers	3	1	1	-	2
Shockers	3	1	1	-	2
Bravo Tango*	-	-	-	-	-

* Withdrew.

Central Division

Sluggers	3	3	0	0	6
Warriors	3	1	1	0	3
Transformers	3	1	1	0	3
Smooth Operators	3	1	2	0	2
DOT-GERS	3	1	3	0	2

East Division

Enforcers	3	0	0	0	6
Hitmen	3	1	0	0	4
Blue Dragons	3	1	0	0	4
Reservoir Dogs	3	1	3	0	2
Head First	3	0	3	0	3

Game Scores

July 21, 2010

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
Blue Dragons-7	Head First-0	Yosemite
Shockers*-	Guzzlers*-	Yosemite
Reservoir Dogs-2	Hitmen-14	Downey
I'd Hit it-7	Bravo Tango-0	Downey
DOT-GERS-0	Warriors-16	Shatto
Smooth Operators-7	Transformers-2	Shatto

* Postponed.

BYES: LAX Jets, Sluggers and Enforcers

July 28, 2010

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
Guzzlers-13	I'd Hit it-14	Cheviot Hills
Transformers-7	DOT-GERS-4	Cheviot Hills
Sluggers-6	Operators-5	Downey
Enforcers-11	Blue Dragons-2	Downey
LAX Jets-21	Shockers-5	Shatto
Head First - 0	Reservoir Dogs - 7	Shatto

BYES: Bravo Tango, Warriors and Hitmen

August 4, 2010

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
Reservoir Dogs-3	Enforcers-20	Cheviot Hills
I'd Hit It-3	LAX Jets-19	Cheviot Hills
Warriors-6	Transformers-6	Downey
Hitmen-7	Head First-0	Downey
Guzzlers-7	Bravo Tango-0	Shatto
DOT-GERS-2	Sluggers-16	Shatto

BYES: Shockers, Smooth Operators and Blue Dragons

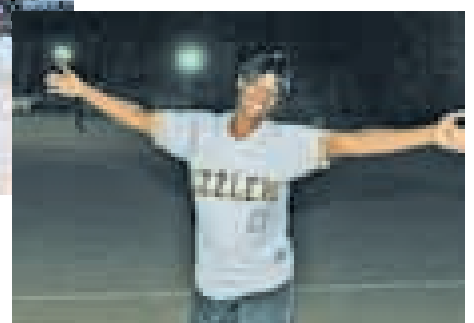
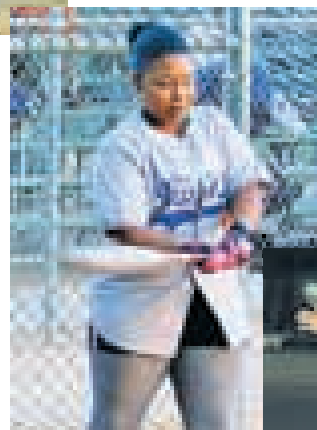
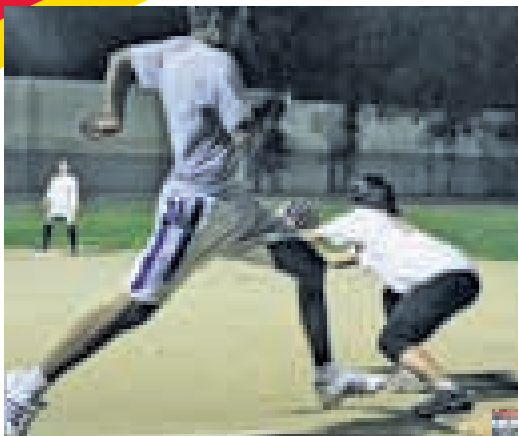
August 11, 2010

HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	LOCATION
Smooth Operators-1	DOT-GERS-14	Yosmite
Sluggers-13	Warriors-4	Yosmite
LAX Jets-7	Bravo Tango-0	Downey
Blue Dragons -8	Reservoir Dogs-5	Downey
Enforcers-13	Hitmen-8	Shatto
Shockers-9	I'd Hit It-5	Shatto

BYES: I'd Hit It, DOT-GERS and Reservoir Dogs



Club Softball



Game Locations



Downey Recreation Center
1772 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA, 90031

Shatto Recreation Center
3191 4th Street
Los Angeles, CA. 90020

Yosemite Recreation Center
1840 Yosemite Drive
Los Angeles, CA. 90041

Cheviot Hills Park
2551 Motor Avenue
Los Angeles, CA. 90064



Second Softball Season Sees More Teams, Added Division

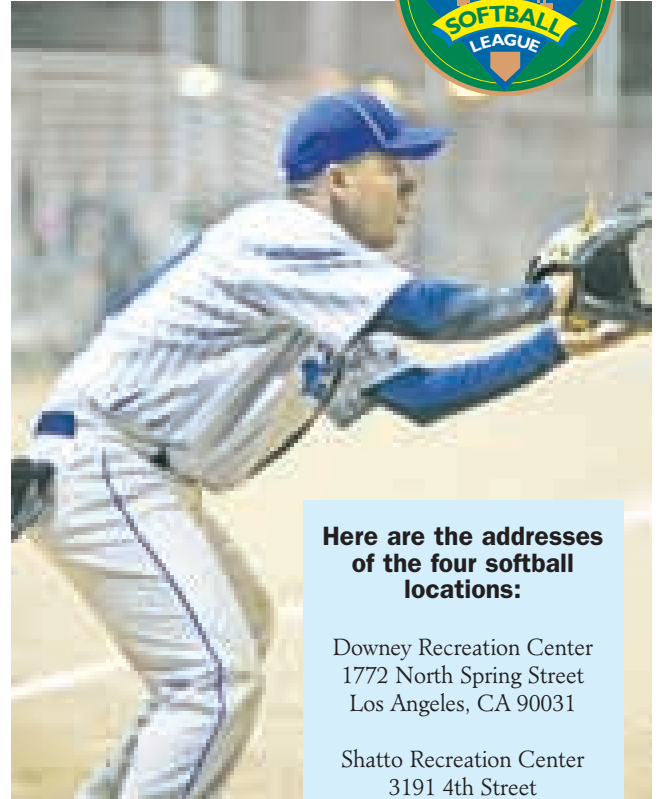
Support your fellow City Employees by watching a game. You'll have a great time, and it's free!



Photos by Sunny Lam, Club Marketing Manager and Tech Guru; Robert Larios, the Sports Dude; and Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer.

The second season of the Club Coed Softball League began July 21. There are several new teams that have anxiously awaited the start of the new season, including the Smooth Operators of LAPD's 911 Communication Division; the Blue Dragons of Public Works/Street Lighting; and the Shockers of the DWP. As games were under way at Shatto and Downey Recreation Center, all games at Yosemite Recreation Center were postponed due to lighting malfunction (a scrimmage game was played by the Shockers and the Guzzlers nonetheless). As a result, all games scheduled for July 28 and Aug. 4 were moved to the beautiful Cheviot Hills Recreation Center. "Traveling to West LA to get to the 7:30 p.m. game at Cheviot Hills was tough, but we all had a great time playing there," says Jordan Price, manager of the I'd Hit It team.

With the addition of the new teams, the Club's Coed softball league is now recognized as the largest league in the City of Los Angeles. It also resulted in splitting the league into three divisions, the West, Central and East.



Here are the addresses of the four softball locations:

Downey Recreation Center
1772 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90031

Shatto Recreation Center
3191 4th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Yosemite Recreation Center
1840 Yosemite Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90041

Cheviot Hills
2551 Motor Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90064

2010



CLUB SPORTS



MORE SPORTS COMING YOUR WAY!

The Club's Sports Dept. is expanding ... and that's great news for City Employees and Club Members.

Here's what's coming up. Interested? Contact the Club's Sports Dude at (213) 620-0388 or sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com. Information is also available at the Club's Website (www.cityemployeesclub.com, under the Sports pulldown).

Call today!

VOLLEYBALL



Volleyball for men and women, to begin this fall. Sign up today!



RUNNING

A Club Running Group. The Club's Sports Dept. is putting together a Club Running Group. Contact the Club Sports Dept. and meet up with other Club Members who are runners.

CYCLING



A Club Cycling Group. The Club's Sports Dept. is putting together a Club Cycling Group. Contact the Club Sports Dept. and meet up with other Club Members who are cyclers (bicycles).



CLUB SPORTS



For all the latest scores and schedules, go to: www.eteamz.com/cityemployeesclubbasketballleague/

ZOO

Swans and Foxes

Zoo announces swan hatchlings and fennec fox births.

Photo by Tad Motoyama/L.A. Zoo

On Aug. 2, the Zoo announced the hatching of two black-necked swans and the birth of three fennec foxes.

Hatched on July 18, the black-necked swans are being reared by their parents in their habitat across from the flamingos and meerkats. Covered with a faint grayish-white down, the precocial cygnets (young swans) get help from both parents in obtaining food while they're still young. Cygnets often ride on their parents' backs for both warmth and protection in their first two to three weeks.

Native to the southern portion of South America and the Falkland Islands, black-necked swans prefer to live in swamps, fresh water marshes, brackish water lagoons and sheltered coastal sites. They primarily eat aquatic vegetation, but will occasionally eat aquatic insects, invertebrates and fish spawn.

As with other swans, usually lifetime pair bonds are formed between mates. Prior to breeding, black-necked swans perform a mutual display of neck dipping and stretching accompanied by a soft, musical call. If one male swan drives off a rival, a triumph ceremony is performed.

The three fennec fox kits, born on May 24, are being raised by their parents in the Winnick Family Children's Zoo. It takes patience and a keen eye to spot the littermates as they are great hiders.

Fennec foxes, the smallest wild canine, weigh just less than three-and-a-half pounds when they are fully grown. In contrast to their small stature,



A male black neck swan with a signet on its back.

fennec foxes have distinctively large ears that can reach a length of up to six inches; about one-third of their body length. Their ears serve as "radiators" that dissipate heat enabling the foxes to stay cool. They also enhance the fox's acute sense of hearing, helping them detect prey.

Fennec foxes are nocturnal animals that hunt small rodents, birds, eggs, lizards and insects. Native to the deserts of North Africa, fennec foxes live in burrows. Their cream-colored coats allow them to blend in with their desert surroundings.

Club Special Event:

Dodgers! Oct. 3

See page 7

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For more information contact:

www.foundanimals.org

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City Seal Visor \$9.99



Hats

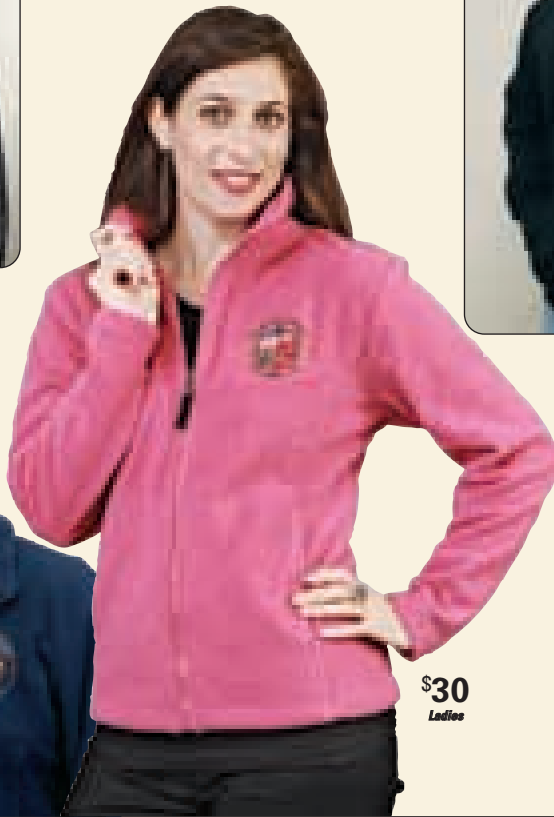
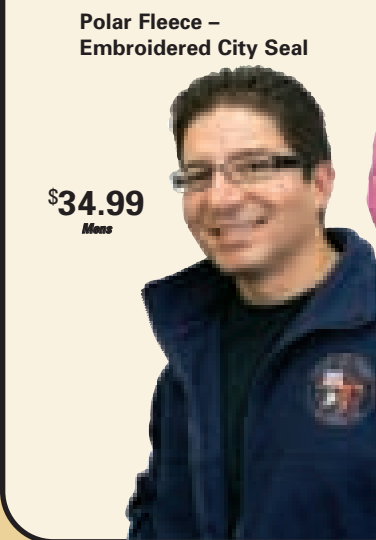


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