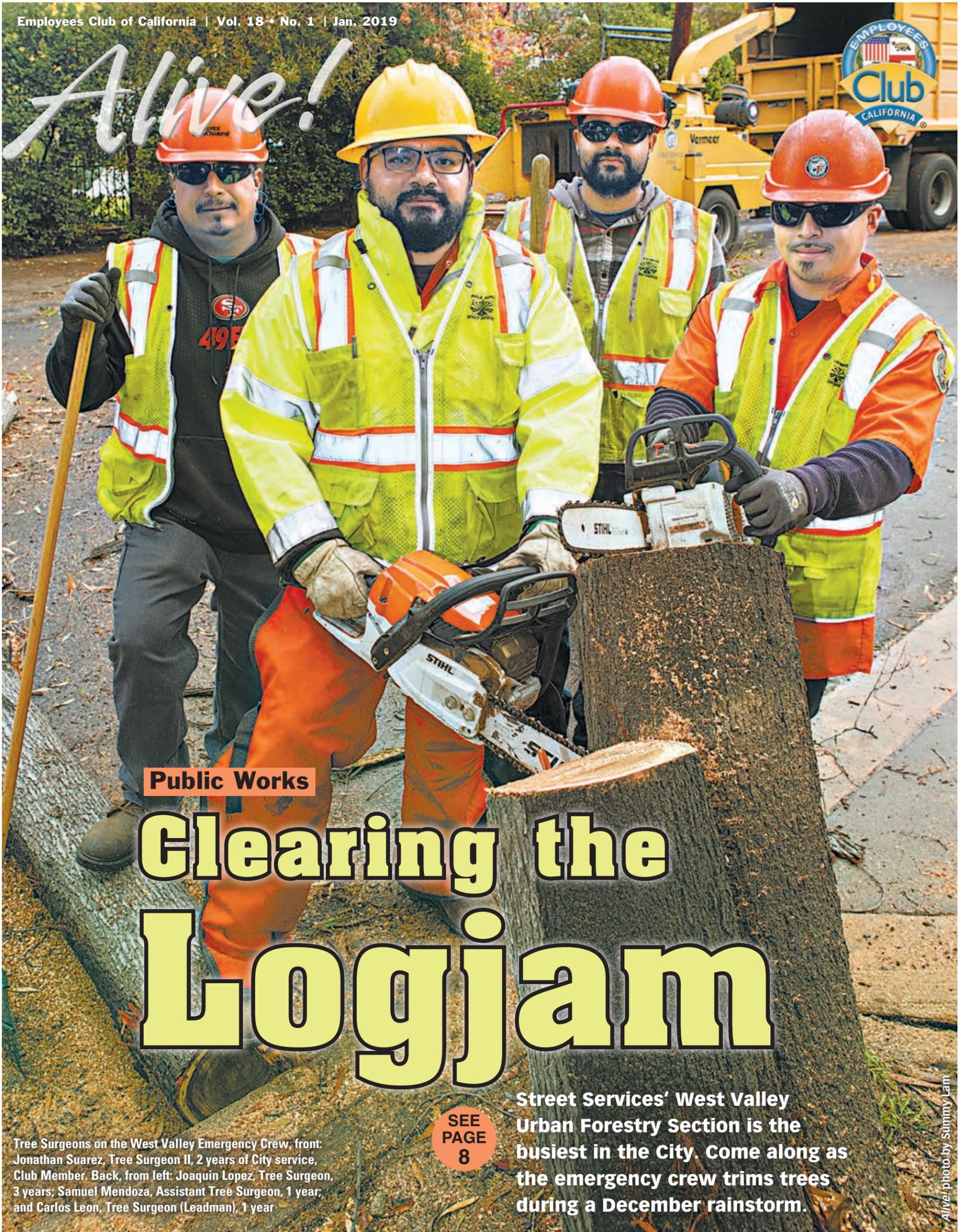


# Alive!



**Public Works**

# Clearing the Logjam

Tree Surgeons on the West Valley Emergency Crew, front: Jonathan Suarez, Tree Surgeon II, 2 years of City service, Club Member. Back, from left: Joaquin Lopez, Tree Surgeon, 3 years; Samuel Mendoza, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 1 year; and Carlos Leon, Tree Surgeon (Leadman), 1 year

SEE PAGE 8

Street Services' West Valley Urban Forestry Section is the busiest in the City. Come along as the emergency crew trims trees during a December rainstorm.

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

Visit Web *Alive!* at [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

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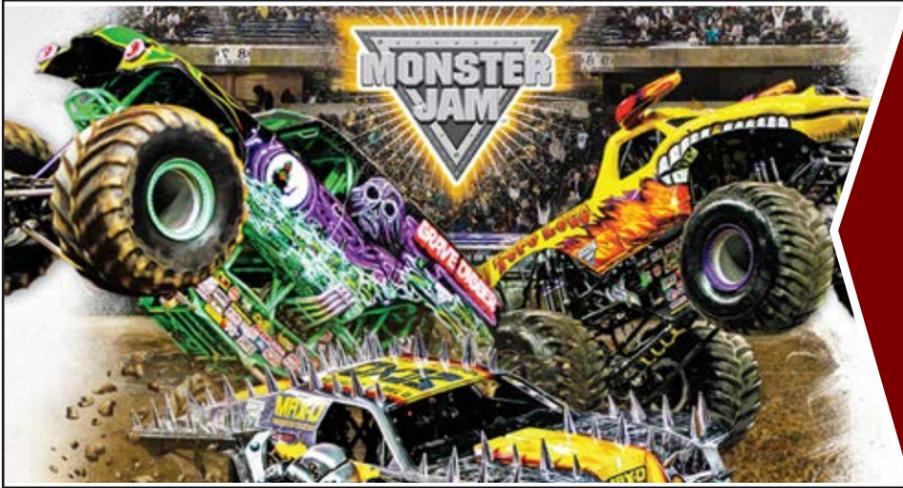
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**ANGEL STADIUM IN ANAHEIM**  
**JAN 12<sup>th</sup>, FEB 9<sup>th</sup>, FEB 23<sup>rd</sup> AT 6:30PM**  
**SEAT SECTION: Terrace 222**

**RETAIL** \$56<sup>30</sup> **CLUB** \$34<sup>95</sup>

**BUY TICKETS**  
**EmployeesClub.com**



## JOHN'S BLOG

by John Hawkins,  
 President and CEO, The Club

### New Era of *Alive!* Begins

Welcome to the new era of *Alive!* – a streamlined paper that will grow even more refined month by month ... and a companion Website, *Alive!* on the Web, that we promise will be current, exciting and robust.

They're designed to work together, giving you the best of both worlds: the beauty of print, and the immediacy and flexibility of the Web. Together they're awesome.

For more than 15 years, *Alive!* has set a high level of association communications. There isn't another newspaper in the country that we know of – and our vendors back this up – that does

it like we do. Early last year, the *Alive!* team set out to continue to lead the way with exciting innovations. What you hold in your hand – and what you will see on your computer, laptop, tablet and phone – do just that.



From left: Club CEO John Hawkins and Tree Surgeon Supervisor II Scott Harmon, Club Member.

The *Alive!* team – COO **Robert Larios**; Director of Marketing **Summy Lam**; IT Developer **Petros Khachatryan**; **David and Marie Jamgotchian** of JJLA Associates; editor **John Burnes**; and others have been hard at work on this project. And of course we have to thank the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. team, too – new President **Ruth B. Perry**; President **Emeritus Ed Harding**; Second Vice President **Beverly J. Clark**, and the whole RLACEI leadership.

But most of all, I want to hear from you. You're

the reason the Club – and *Alive!* – exist. Tell us what you love about the powerful new *Alive!* combination, what we can do better, and how we can tell your stories more effectively. And keep submitting!

A brief word about this column – it's become a blog! That means I get to write more often on the Web. When I see something that reminds me how awesome municipal employees are, or what a great deal it is to be a Club Member, I'll pass it along. That way you can read what you want, when you want. (And maybe even watch a little video, too, which I'm really getting into.) Send me your thoughts!

My next blog post in early January will be about our cover story subject, Club Member **Scott Harmon**, and how he saved the day!

But for now, I wish you and all Club Members a very happy and prosperous New Year, and I'll see you again soon here in print, and online.

—JOHN



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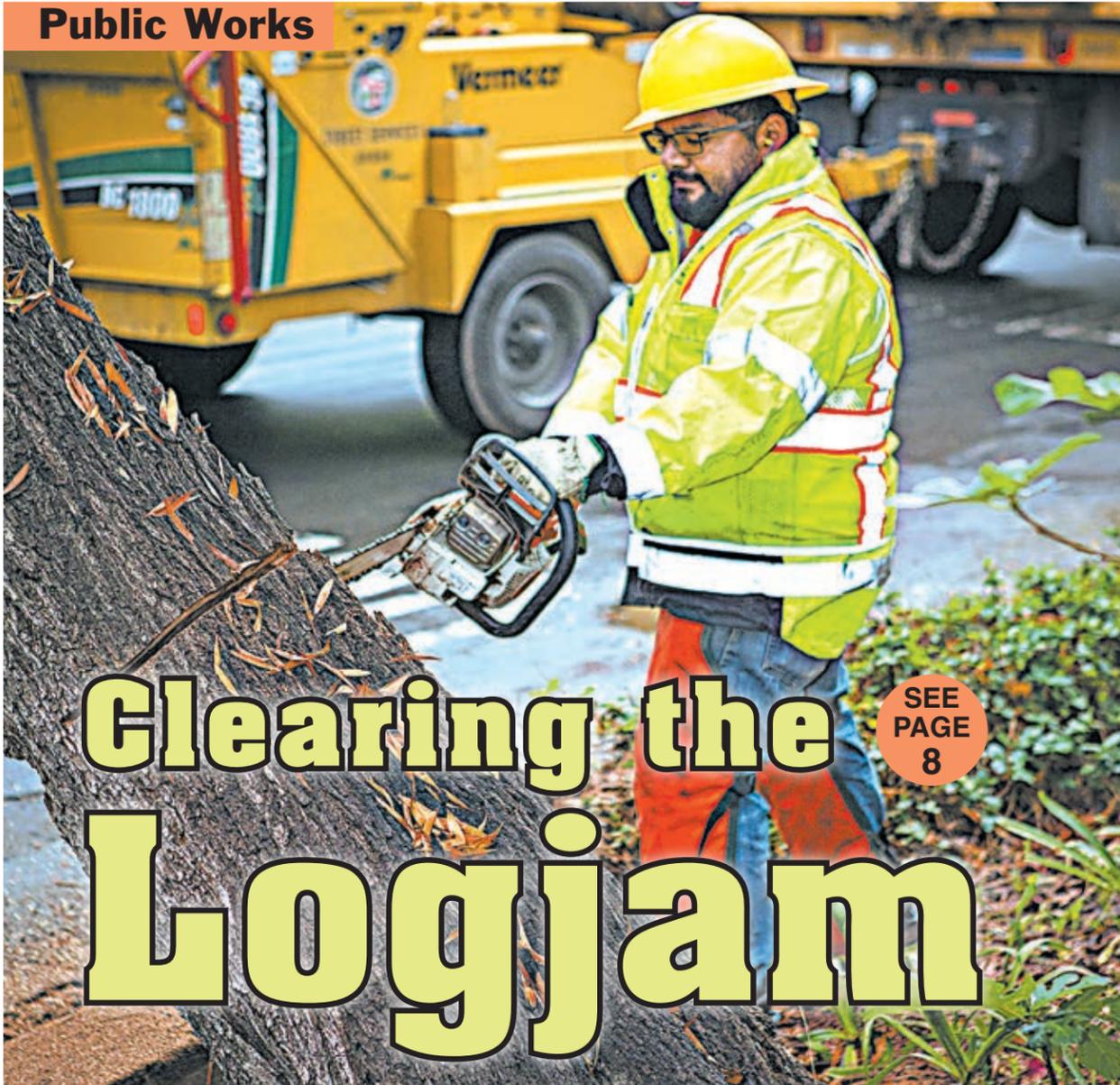
wpccu.org

@wpccu

\* All credit union loans are subject to credit approval. This loan may not be used to refinance existing WPCCU loans.

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**Public Works**



# Clearing the Logjam

SEE PAGE 8

## IN THIS ISSUE

COVER STORY:  
**8 Clearing the Logjam**  
 Urban Forestry's West Valley Area is the busiest in the City.

### City Department Coverage

**Council**  
 87th Hollywood Christmas Parade featured TV's Nancy O'Dell..... 10

**Rec and Parks**  
 Banning Museum to host historical lecture on local shipwrecks..... 12

**Public Works**  
 Sanitation honors 53 of its best employees..... 14

**Airports/Cultural Affairs**  
 New art on display in Terminal 7 at LAX. .... 15

### Advertiser's Index

DWP Community Credit Union ..... 2  
 Rosebud Marketing ..... 5  
 United Agencies ..... 12

### Sections & Columns

*Alive!* Around the World..... 14  
 Coloring Contest: Kids..... 13  
 Deaths: In Memoriam ..... 5  
 John's Blog: From the CEO ..... 2  
 Larios in the City ..... 12  
 People We See..... 16  
 Picture Perfect..... 11  
 Question of the Month ..... 10  
 Sports..... 4  
 United Agencies at the Club ..... 16

**For Retirees: Best Years.....Pages 6-7**

### In *Alive!* On the Web **alive.employeesclub.com**

Cabrillo Aquarium This Month..... Web  
 Classified Ads ..... Web  
 Club Team and Counselors ..... Web  
 Cooking ..... Web  
 Discount Tickets! ..... Web  
 Library Top 10..... Web  
 Observatory This Month..... Web  
 Smart Move ..... Web

**ALIVE! NEW THIS MONTH**

**ONLINE** 

alive.employeesclub.com

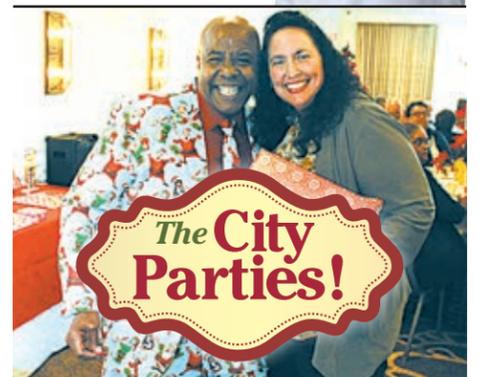


### Helping the Needy

Departments reach out to the needy for Christmas.



### Cooking with the Club



### The City Parties!

CLASSIFIED ADS \$\$\$

Members Marketplace

**MORE** on the web!



- Stories
- Photos
- Videos

alive.employeesclub.com



## DISNEYLAND TICKETS ARE BACK!

The Club now offers Disneyland tickets to Club Members. Choose from a 1-Day to a 5-Day Ticket. Prices vary depending on your date selection. Best deals are for 3-, 4-, and 5-Day tickets.

**Get A \$25 Restaurant.com Gift Card with every ticket purchase.**

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**EmployeesClub.com**

## The Club: Here to Help

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

**Email us at:**

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

**In-house Counselors**

At Club Headquarters



**MaryAnn Urdiales**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 159



**Cheryl Martin**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 136

At the Club Store



**Tiffany Sy**  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 202

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# CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the Employees Club of California • January 2019



## NORTH DIVISION

### Great Plays Lead To Great Season



North Commissioner  
Amanda Cadena.

#### Hi Club Softball fans!

As the season winds down, the East vs. West teams are now battling it out for the number one spot to qualify for the championship game. These teams have fought through the cold and rainy weather to make it through to the end.



On Dec. 19, the Enforcers beat the Sluggers with some outstanding plays. In the fourth inning, Potter from the Enforcers nearly almost knocked it out of the park, which brought in three runs to catch up to the Sluggers! What really had the crowd cheering was player #20, Nikki from the Enforcers, who made the game-winning catch in left field, nearly almost diving head first for the ball. There was a loud cheer from both teams, showing their sportsmanship and awe for that amazing play. Both teams played extremely well, and now the Enforcers are moving on to the Championship game to defend their ongoing winning streak against the another great team, the Blue Dragons, coached by Roy Martinez. It's going to be an exciting and fun game to watch. I encourage everyone to come out and support these very talented players.

The Championship game will be played on Jan. 9 (weather permitting). The location was originally scheduled for Yosemite Recreation Center, but a new location is to be announced by Municipal Sports (Rec and Parks). Check the Club's social media and the Muni sports Website for more information.

All employees from City, County and State are encouraged to come out and watch this final game to an exciting season. Fan giveaways and media coverage brought by the Employees Club will be present.

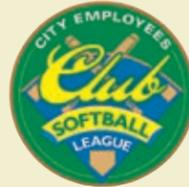
*I'll see you there!*

— **Commish Amanda**  
ITA/It Ain't Over team member



**Robert Larios,**  
The Sports Dude

## SOFTBALL



### Championship Game Set!

New Division looking to crown champs Jan. 9.

The Club Softball League's North Division has reached its championship game. The final was set for Dec. 19, but rainouts have pushed that to Jan. 9. At press time, the location was still to be determined. Check the Club's social media channels for the latest information.

After an early December playoff round, the final is set:

**Enforcers vs. Blue Dragons**

### FINAL REGULAR SEASON Standings

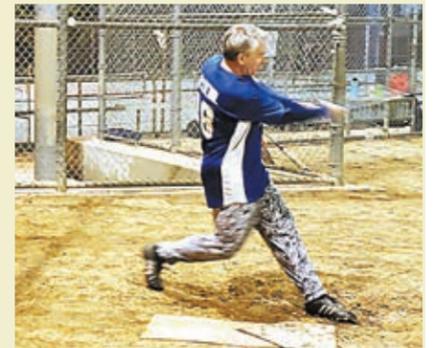
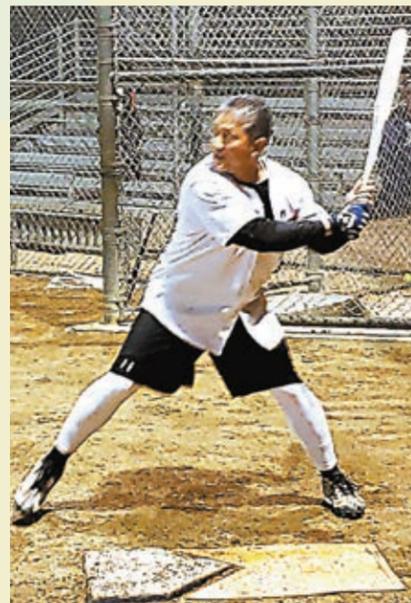
(not including playoffs)

**Yosemite**

Enforcers	8-2
Blue Dragons	7-3
Sluggers	6-5
GameTime	5-5
Operaiders	0-11

**Shatto**

Sewer Rats	8-3
Kilawatts	7-4
Transformers	5-6
It Ain't Over	5-6
Dot-Gers	3-9



## Club Sports on the Horizon

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



## SUPERCROSS

ANGEL STADIUM IN ANAHEIM

JAN 5<sup>th</sup> AND 19<sup>th</sup> AT 6:30PM

SEAT SECTION: Right Field Pavilion 245

RETAIL \$83<sup>65</sup> CLUB \$59<sup>95</sup>

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**IT'S OFFICIAL**

# Alive! on the Web has arrived!



Fully interactive ... awesomely dynamic and full-featured with sharable content ... more photos ... more stories ... and more instant!

Check it out:

**[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)**

## Life's Important Moments

*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.*



### In Memoriam

	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE		DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE		DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
<b>Active</b>			Gardner, John	DWP	32	Montgomery, Wilbert	DWP	28
Amparo, Jimenez	DWP	32	Gibson, Willie	DWP	41	Munoz, Jess	Rec and Parks	36
Greene, Eugene	Public Works	51	Gonzalez, Flor	Airports	29	Munsch, Harold	Rec and Parks	31
Insong, Oscar	Harbor	34	Golden, Robert	DWP	16	Nalapo, Emelito	Housing	32
Lantion, Martin	Finance	19	Gomez, Chache	DWP	27	Nickell, Kent	DWP	29
Ong, Linda	DWP	3	Gonzalez, John	DWP	29	Noble, Ann	Zoo	25
Park, Gregory Yongpae	Transportation	12	Gonzalez, Rudolf	DWP	34	Omo, Paul	Public Works	29
Parkhurst, Ruth	City Attorney	16	Grant, Kathy May	Airports	33	Othello, Fitzgerald	Zoo	18
Suarez Jr., David	DWP	31	Grider, Charles	Rec and Parks	29	Parnell, Janice	ITA	33
			Griffin, Josiah	Public Works	30	Parrish, Robert	Public Works	38
<b>Retired</b>			Gunn, Rose	LAPD	37	Perez, Jorge	General Services	12
Abruzzo, Anthony	Public Works	15	Hess, Arleen	DWP	30	Perez, Leandro	Public Works	27
Acosta, William	DWP	32	Hinkson, Winfield	Building and Safety	14	Peters, Richard	Public Works	16
Adrian, Margaret	DWP	39	Hollis, Simon	General Services	28	Petisme, Rodolfo Sanchez	LAPD	21
Aho, Robert	DWP	26	Honore, Louis	Transportation	26	Poole, Dolynn	DWP	21
Alvarez, Amelia	Transportation	14	Huang, Charles	Public Works	42	Radziner, Frank	DWP	20
Ashbaugh, Charles	DWP	26	Huebner, Randall	Public Works	32	Rains, Turner	DWP	35
Atwood, Frank	DWP	20	Hutchison, June	Rec and Parks	32	Ranslem, Dean	DWP	31
Balbaneda, Edward	DWP	32	Imp, Andrew	Building and Safety	25	Raphael, Howard	Council	15
Banks Sr., Herbert	Transportation	31	Johnson, Laymon	LAPD	32	Rhoades, Judith	Animal Services	43
Barabasz, Eugene	Public Works	17	Jones, Daniel	LAFD	9	Riley, Allen	LAPD	38
Beitler, Dennis	Public Works	29	Kayano, Roy	Public Works	32	Rivera, Salvador Martinez	Airports	9
Bell, Lovely Elayne	Transportation	32	Keisner, Larry	Public Works	23	Roberts, Julius	Public Works	36
Bornson, Ingvar	Airports	13	Ketterer, Roger	Public Works	31	Romack, Allen	DWP	32
Bosarreyes, Ubaldino	Rec and Parks	7	King, Patricia	LAPD	7	Rothschild, Norman	Library	39
Brindley, Mary	Library	16	Ladeda, Mario	DWP	31	Sambrano, Danny	DWP	39
Briscoe, Phillip	Public Works	7	Laidlaw, Michael	Public Works	9	Sanchez, Gilbert	General Services	13
Brown, Glenda	DWP	4	Laurich, Joseph	Airports	12	Sanchez, Joyce	Controller	25
Buffaloe, Ronald	LAPD	11	Lavery, Beatrice	Mayor's Office	19	Sasaki, Hiroyuki	Public Works	28
Burdette, Odis	Public Works	37	Lenahan, Thomas	Transportation	20	Sayah, Samuel	LAPD	39
Burgos, Ramon	DWP	18	Lennon, Robert	Library	21	Schwaber, Anna	City Attorney	39
Choudhry, Fazal	Rec and Parks	17	Lobbins, Jasper	General Services	31	Shamhart, Iris	DWP	39
Clemens, Marland	DWP	33	Locatelli, William	Transportation	34	Skinner, Donna Lynn	Public Works	19
Code, Ronald	LAPD	20	Lopez, Joshua	Public Works	35	Sloan, Robert	DWP	8
Cook, Esther	LAFD	22	Luck, Elicia	DWP	10	Solis, Lilia	Library	36
Cook, Hurley	Airports	31	Lucree, William	Public Works	31	Sules, Normunds	DWP	16
Cormier, Joseph	DWP	32	Malcolm, Shirley	LAPD	35	Tarquino, John	General Services	32
Corral, Efren	Public Works	29	Mallory, Mary	DWP	25	Tazio Jr., Armando	DWP	28
Craig, Thomas	Rec and Parks	21	Mammoliti, Vincent	DWP	17	Terry Sr., Ivory	LAPD	20
Dantzler, Alex	Public Works	25	Mann, William	Public Works	5	Tosti, Glenda	LAPD	18
Dell, Thomas	DWP	7	Marufo, Anthony	DWP	30	Trammell, Olysee	Transportation	16
Dowe, Hanlon	General Services	27	Matheis, Thomas	Public Works	36	Unite, Eddie Marquez	Controller's	19
Erich, Patrick	LAPD	30	Megliorino, Charles	Airports	9	Valencia, Arsenio	Public Works	20
Evans, Michael	LAPD	13	Merrick, Freda	Transportation	6	Vera, Daniel	Transportation	16
Evans, Shirley	City Clerk	27	McCoy, Robert	Transportation	32	Wayman, Donald	City Planning	32
Feingold, Morton	Public Works	35	Miller, Chester	DWP	35	Webb, Russell	Public Works	30
Figueroa, Miguel	DWP	29	Miller, Gary	General Services	31	Wesley, Cleophus	Public Works	10
Finley, Debra	DWP	25	Million, Samuel	Public Works	20	Wilson, Gary	Building and Safety	23
Gabriel-Brown, Norma	DWP	34	Monroe, Betty	Transportation	11	Woo, Takai	Airports	9
Garcia, Christine	General Services	22	Morris, Eric	Zoo	29	Woods, Charles	Public Works	35
			Morris, Mary	DWP	32			

# The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

## 2019 RETIREE EVENTS

**June 6:** RLACEI golf tournament and general meeting

**Aug. 8:** RLACEI annual picnic and general meeting

**Dec. 5:** RLACEI annual holiday party and general meeting

**Dec. 7:** LARFPA annual holiday party

### RESERVATION LINES:

RLACEI: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 701  
DWP:(949) 388-1206 (Dolores Foley)  
LARFPA events: (888) 288-5063

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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



Ruth B. Perry, President  
1100 S. Flower St. Ste. 3300  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
PHONE: (800)-678-4145, Ext. 717  
EMAIL: Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org  
ON THE WEB: rlacei.org

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

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

### RLACEI WEBSITE

Visit the RLACEI website [www.RLACEI.org](http://www.RLACEI.org) to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.

EMAIL: [Contact@RLACEI.org](mailto:Contact@RLACEI.org)

### MAILING ADDRESS:

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

or

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.  
1100 S. Flower Street, Suite 3300  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

### Change of Address?

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

### Interesting news contributions!

Contact Beverly J. Clark at (800) 678-4145 ext. 716 or [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org)

### Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System (LACERS)

Contact LACERS to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans.

ON THE WEB: [lacers.org](http://lacers.org)

ADDRESS: Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System  
202 W. First Street, Suite 500  
(LA Times Building)  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

HOURS: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

PHONE: (800) 779-8328

EMAIL: [lacers.services@lacers.org](mailto:lacers.services@lacers.org)

### DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President  
(949) 388-1206  
[vincedolores@gmail.com](mailto:vincedolores@gmail.com)  
[dwpiretires.org](http://dwpiretires.org)  
DWP RETIREMENT PLAN OFFICE:  
(213) 367-1722

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



Don W. Vincent, President  
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780  
PHONE: (323) 283-4441  
FAX: (626) 285-1461  
EMAIL:  
[directorvincent@larfpa.com](mailto:directorvincent@larfpa.com)  
ON THE WEB: [larfpa.com](http://larfpa.com)

## RLACEI DIRECTORS

Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

Mary Beetz, Director, Ext. 711

Cliff Cannon, Director, Ext. 715

Beverly J. Clark,  
Publicity Director, Ext. 716

Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary/Treasurer, Ext. 707

Dennis Harding,  
Entertainment Director, Ext. 704

Ed Harding,  
President Emeritus, Ext. 703

Michael Karsch,  
Legislative Representative, Ext. 706

Phil Orland, Health Director, Ext. 709

Ruth B. Perry,  
Membership Director, Ext. 717

Neil Ricci,  
Nominations Director, Ext. 714

Tom Stemnock, Audit and Golf, Ext. 708

Michael Wilkinson,  
LACERS/Legal Representative, Ext. 712

## RLACEI Works Collectively For Retiree Benefits, Interests

By Ruth B. Perry  
President, Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

**"A politician thinks of the next election. A statesman, of the next generation."**

— James Freeman Clarke



Ruth B. Perry

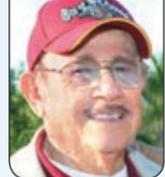
It is with a humble heart and an enthusiastic outlook that I begin my tenure as RLACEI President in the good company of my fellow directors. The RLACEI Board of Directors is responsible for the budget, contracts, projects, etc., for our community of Retirees,

and the Directors are the final decision-makers on policy and all other matters relating to our organization.

While not everyone is able or interested in serving as a Director, we encourage everyone to take an opportunity to meet those individuals who will serve the best interests of our membership as a whole. Join us at sponsored RLACEI and LACERS events to inform us of your thoughts, suggestions, and otherwise, in regards to your pension benefits and interests. Visit our Website at [RLACEI.org](http://RLACEI.org). Contact us at (800) 678-4145. Help us develop a "2020" vision and communicate your concerns to and engage our politicians and City administration in the preservation of our benefits. If you haven't done so already, join the RLACEI membership and me in representing you and your neighbors as well. Let's continue to have our collective voice be heard loud and clear for future generations to come. ■

## Much Accomplished in RLACEI's Last 24 Years

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Edward J. Harding  
President Emeritus

With the holiday season's passing and the start of the year upon us, we tend to reflect on all the events that occurred during the last 12 months. Sometimes a year seems to last forever, and other times it's over in a blink of an eye. That is how I feel about these last 24 years as the President of RLACEI. It has been my honor to be entrusted to serve in this capacity for that period of time.

With your membership and support, we have been able to protect and enhance our pension benefits over the years. We obtained a dental plan subsidy that Retired employees never before had; we increased the funeral expense allowance from \$500 to \$2,500; and we continue to advocate on all Retirees' behalf to protect our retirement fund and achieve parity of enhanced benefits for all qualified. Your membership is critical in allowing us to be your voice before the mayor, the Council, or any other entity that may endanger the welfare of our pension fund.

RLACEI continues to need your support. In my last few months as your President Emeritus, I ask that you allow our organization to continue

to represent you.

I will remain to assist RLACEI Directors as President Emeritus and hope that you extend the courtesies allowed to me to the newly installed officers assuming their offices on Jan. 1. These are: Ruth B. Perry, President; Thomas Stemnock, First Vice President; Beverly J. Clark, Second Vice President; and Harold Danowitz, Secretary/Treasurer; along with all continuing RLACEI Directors: Mary Beetz, Cliff Cannon, Dennis Harding, Michael Karsch, Neil Ricci, Michael Wilkerson, and newly appointed Phil Orland.

Director Michael Perez departed our team effective Dec. 31, 2018. We bid him a fond farewell and much luck in his future endeavors. His directorship vacancy will be opened for application. If you are interested in joining the RLACEI team, please contact Neil Ricci, Chairman of the Nominating Committee at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 714 for additional information.

It was wonderful seeing so many of you at RLACEI's holiday party, in spite of the weather, Dec. 6 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge. I was glad I had the opportunity to personally thank you for your continued membership.

Let's continue our goal of maintaining the welfare of our members and their dependents.

I wish you fair winds and following seas. ■

## LACERS Well to Focus On Members' Fulfilling Lives



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update  
By Michael R. Wilkinson

The LACERS Board has approved an expanded LACERS Well program with a greatly increased budget to further improve our members' health and enjoyment of life with a theme of Living a Full Life.

Current and previous LACERS Well campaigns have focused on members being aware of their health, staying active through regular exercise, developing healthy eating habits and keeping up with their doctor appointments. Most recently we focused on

one particular disease, diabetes, to help members who either have diabetes, or were diagnosed as pre-diabetic.

For 2019, our program will look at a subject that touches all our members – living a productive and enjoyable life. The transition from a structured and busy work life to retirement can be difficult for some people. In retirement no one sets a schedule, and each retiree is on his or her own to decide not just what to do on the weekend, but how to fill seven days.

Many Retirees jump quickly and easily into the joy of volunteering,

running, biking, working out at the gym, or spending time with their grandkids. But this connection does not go easily for everyone, and some become isolated and depressed.

The 2019 campaign will work on connecting with as many members as possible, expanding the use of Wellness Champion-led events for things like recurring hikes and bike rides as well as one-time events such as a museum or garden tour.

In addition to the encouragement of living fulfilling lives, LACERS Well will continue to work with members to encourage them to keep up with their contact with doctors and using other medical resources both online and in person.

LACERS Well will continue to use the innovative data-dashboard computer program to track members' claim data to respond to health trends with LACERS members. Member privacy is protected since the dashboard tracks members only as a group and does not display individual member records. With this information, LACERS can suggest changes in how members interact with their doctors, practice healthy eating and increase exercise habits that will provide improvements to their health and enjoyment of life. ■

## Midterms Unlikely to Affect Federal Pension Laws



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

The major issue for public pension plans in California is the State Supreme Court's consideration of the Cal-Fire case as to how far the "California Rule" can go in protecting any changes in a pension plan, such as striking down extra benefits like purchasing "air time," "spiking," loading up on overtime just before retirement, etc. An appellate court has suggested that a Retiree has an expectation that his or her pension will not be substantially changed,

implying that there is room for some changes, but not affecting those who have worked their time in public service and retired already. Gov. Jerry Brown wants the court to consider the flexibility introduced by his pension reform bill enacted in 2013 to allow a jurisdiction to reject extra benefits as suggested above.

MarketWatch reported after the midterm elections in early November that there is little to fear from the results in pensions in general (public sector and private sector). Congress is now divided between the Democrat House of Representatives and the Republican Senate, and the White House remaining Republican. Ultimately, any bill changing anything like Social Security, Medicare, retirement savings and pensions is not likely to

succeed because the president will hold the ultimate power of the veto. The MarketWatch writer (Alessandra Malito) noted that both parties were quiet about Social Security and Medicare, and that Social Security is 93 percent funded for the next 25 years. Hearings can be expected to be held in the House on Social Security issues, she added. For the area of private investment advisors for individuals seeking to set up their own savings plan, like an IRA or 401(k) plan where they have no formal pension, or do have a pension but want to supplement it, there is the Department of Labor's fiduciary rule set up under the Obama administration to apply to those advisors. The rule forces those advisors to act in their "client's best interests." This rule was halted by the Trump Administration, but it could change in 2019.

There appears to be changes to the Medicare prescription drug rules by the Trump Administration. According to the Associated Press in late November, the changes will have winners and losers. The article quoted the Kaiser Family Foundation: "Some could see cost-sharing for their drugs go down, but premiums are expected to rise." Another proposed change is giving more leeway for insurers to exclude a specific drug in Medicare's six "protected classes" of medications (like antidepressants, drugs to treat psychosis, anti-seizure medications, cancer drugs, medications to prevent rejection of transplanted organs, and HIV-AIDS drugs). "Proposed changes could run into strong opposition from patient advocacy groups, which derailed a similar effort by the Obama administration.)

# Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Aker, Bruce C.	Wastewater Treat. Mech.	Public Works	26	Magdaleno, Juan M.	Crossing Guard	Transportation	9
Arambulo, Jose D.	Env. Compliance Insp.	Public Works	16	Martinez, Jenny A.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	ITA	28
Artiga, Carlos E.	Recreation Assistant	Rec and Parks	3	Mattingly, Sonja P.	Chief Manag. Analyst	Airports	33
Baca, Natividad	Sr. Administrative Clerk	Public Works	25	Mobley, Denise Y.	Messenger Clerk	Library	6
Bailey, Lance C.	Management Analyst	Ec./Wrkfr. Dev.	22	Moore, Christopher L.	Reprographic Op.	LAPD	28
Boyd, Ronald J.	Port Warden	Harbor	6	Mora, Baltazar	Pr. Storekeeper	Gen. Services	20
Brown, William S.	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	8	Moriarty, Jeffrey	Sr. Accountant	Public Works	9
Campbell, Shirley A.	Customer Service	DWP	N/D	Munoz, Amelia M.	Accounting Clerk	Controller	26
Campbell, Shirley A.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Public Works	10	Norman, Charles E.	Sr. Systems Analyst	Planning	34
Caputa, Timothy D.	Warehouse & T/R Worker	Gen. Services	30	Ortega, George A.	Supt. of Operations	Airports	30
Chan, Kei Wah	Info. Systems Mgr.	Harbor	29	Otey, Rose C.	Admin. Clerk	Library	1
Cooke, C.	Criminalist	LAPD	5	Palacio, Duane Alan	Carpenter	Rec and Parks	23
Corbine, Robert	Airport Guide	Airports	2	Palomino, Josephine R.	Fin. Manag. Spec.	Controller	35
Deth, William	Material Test. Engr. Assoc.	Gen. Services	30	Paz, Antonio	Custodian	Airports	14
Duran, Natalie A.	ITS	DWP	N/D	Pearson, Viveca E.	Traffic Officer	Transportation	13
Esparza, Erlinda M.	Administrative Clerk	Library	6	Quintero, David	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D
Fadaee, Majid	Water Engineering	DWP	N/D	Ramirez, Alicia	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	36
Flores, Sabino E.	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	7	Ray, Anthony	ITS	DWP	N/D
Foley, Betsy Kay	Marine Envir. Supv.	Harbor	15	Reysen, Phyllis	Administrative Clerk	Public Works	12
Forland, John S.	Sr. Mgmt Analyst	Animal Ser.	38	Ross, Albert	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D
Gee, Robin F.	Cable TV Product Mgr.	ITA	9	Sanchez, Jesus Luis	Project Assistant	Public Works	18
Goldberg, Joseph E.	Programmer/Analyst	LAFD	35	Santiago, Mizrain	Special Programs Asst.	Rec and Parks	5
Haidar, Ghassan A.	Environmental Eng.	Public Works	31	Sauceda, Nazario	Director, Street Ser.	Public Works	29
Hall, Nydia	Sustainability	DWP	N/D	Saul, Marita Noreen	Sr. Computer Operator	ITA	18
Haskett, Jon M.	Pr. Civil Engineer	Public Works	32	Smith, Jerry	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D
Hedley, Jane M.	Administrative Clerk	Library	12	Solorza, Cynthia	DWP	N/D	
Hernandez, Filiberto	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	30	Sotos, Catherine W.	Sr. Police Service Rep	LAPD	30
Hewawitharana, Srimal	Environmental Spec.	Planning	35	Stewart, Thaddeus W.	Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	35
Jadali, Ray Reza	Sr. Constr. Estimator	Public Works	28	Takahata, Kathy M.	Info Systems Manager	LAPD	30
Jones, Carol	Acctg. Clerk Supv.	Personnel	19	Tang, Pauline	Customer Service	DWP	N/D
Karbon, Mark G.	Pr. Park Services Att.	Rec and Parks	12	Tiffany, Charles L.	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	34
Klann, Harry	Supervising Criminalist	LAPD	28	Trujillo, Edward	Street Services Sup.	Public Works	32
Kuo, Albert	Lab Tech	LAPD	9	Vila, Marianne	Payroll Supervisor	Rec and Parks	32
Langsfeld, Peter E.	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	14	Warner, Gayle	Customer Service	DWP	N/D
Lopez, Cynthia	Finance/Risk Control	DWP	N/D	Williamson, Michael D.	Wastewater Treat. Op.	Public Works	29
Lott, Darryl R.	Pile Driver Worker	Harbor	33	Yuzuki, Susan G.	Structural Eng. Assoc.	Bldg. & Safety	11
Lowe, Maxine L.	Crossing Guard	Transportation	9	Zepeda, Argelio	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D
Ly, Kim	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	12				

N/D = not disclosed



## Retirees Association Fees Increasing

To continue to bring the highest quality of service and to continue to serve and advocate for Retired Los Angeles City employees, RLACEI will increase its membership dues to \$3 per month, effective January 2019. Dues have not increased since 2010.

Although dues will increase, members who have insurance products with the City Employees Club will see a reduction in contributions. The Club will no longer assess fees to RLACEI members, and members will continue to receive Alive!

(This does not affect general membership fees to the Club, which remain the same.)



## Show Us Your Grandkids!

Anna Burton, Airports, and her husband, Charles, welcomed their third grandchild July 18. Baby Allison Sotela was born to their daughter, Candace, and Randy Sotela, joining older brother Randy (3) and Mia (2). Anna is a 32-year City employee and loves her title of Grammie more than anything.

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

**Here's how:**

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

Send in your grandkid pics: Go to [alive.employeesclub.com/bestyars](http://alive.employeesclub.com/bestyars)

By Tara Miller, RD/N, LACERS Well Program Manager

## Should Seniors Donate Blood?

In the United States, someone needs blood or platelets every two seconds.

While many would agree that the holidays are not the most convenient time to donate blood, the Association of Donor Recruitment Professionals (ADRP) indicates that the winter months leave blood banks at greater risk of depletion. The Blood Centers of the Pacific (BCP) reports that only 13 percent of blood donors in a given year are senior citizens, despite that there are no rules or guidelines suggesting that healthy seniors of any age should refrain from donating. Steve Bolton, Executive Director of the ADRP, is concerned that as many of these boomers move from blood “donors” to blood “users,” we can expect to see an even greater shortage of donations available to aid in cancer treatments, heart disease and blood disorders, emergency treatments/surgery and transplants, and other treatments.

### Boomer Culture

Already ingrained with a culture of volunteerism, healthy Baby Boomers are a relatively untapped blood donation resource, likely due more to preconceived notions than medical facts. Some common medications taken by seniors, such as blood thinners or a daily aspirin, do not automatically disqualify donation eligibility. In many cases, medicine therapies can be suspended, with your doctor's approval, for a week prior to donations without adverse consequence. Norma Espinoza, a research counselor for the Red Cross, says that, although there is no upper age limit set by the FDA, donators, regardless of age, should plan to “get rest, drink plenty of fluids

and avoid skipping any meals a few days prior to donating.” Similarly, all potential donors should carefully consider a number of factors before rolling up their sleeve. These include:

- Are you in good enough health to donate? Do you feel well currently?
- Has your doctor advised you to avoid donating blood for any reason, including due to any medications you are taking?
- Do you weigh more than 110 pounds?
- Have you visited the dentist in the past 24 hours or had recent dental surgery?
- For platelet donation, are you able to comfortably remain seated an hour and a half?
- Have you recently traveled abroad?
- Have you been exposed to the HIV virus?

According to the Red Cross, all blood types are needed for donations, but A Negative, B Negative, O Negative and AB are particularly rare. For that reason, healthy seniors with those blood types are encouraged to consider contributing.

Unable to donate? Become a canteen volunteer!

Ms. Espinoza also states that canteens, or donation nutrition centers, “benefit a lot from volunteers.”

So this January, in recognition of National Blood Donor Month, talk to your doctor to see if donating blood or platelets is right for you. For more information on donating or volunteering, contact the American Red Cross at (800) GIVE-LIFE, (800) RED CROSS, or online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). ■



## Seniors: Stay Active!

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

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

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



**Monthly Bike Ride in Griffith Park**  
 • 3rd Sat. or Sun. of the month • 10 a.m.  
 • Contact Ron Skarin at [ronskarin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ronskarin@sbcglobal.net)

### Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw

Medical Facility Walk and Fitness Every Thursday, 11 a.m.  
 Contact: Avis Ridley-Thomas, [avisridleythomas@me.com](mailto:avisridleythomas@me.com)

### West Covina Mall Walk

Every Wednesday, 8:30 - 10 a.m.  
 Contact: Pablo and Vivian Cortez, [pabct6@aol.com](mailto:pabct6@aol.com)

### Lakewood Center Mall Walk

Every Monday, 6 a.m.  
 Contact: Beverly Anderson, [the.andersons@verizon.net](mailto:the.andersons@verizon.net)

### Madrugada Trail Hike, Chino Hills

Every Sunday, 4 - 5:30 p.m.  
 Contact: Eugene Mandelcorn, [firstfeatures@mail.com](mailto:firstfeatures@mail.com)

### Buddy Walk for Life

Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park 1st Friday of the month, 8 - 10 a.m.  
 Contact: Mariam Galang, [mariamgalang@gmail.com](mailto:mariamgalang@gmail.com)

### Playa Del Rey Beach Walk

Every Friday, 8:30 a.m.  
 Contact: Frankie Gallagher, [Frankiequeenofhearts@yahoo.com](mailto:Frankiequeenofhearts@yahoo.com)

### Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Park Walk

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month, 9 a.m.  
 Contact: Debby Rolland, [debbylr22@gmail.com](mailto:debbylr22@gmail.com)

### El Cariso Park Walk, Sylmar

Every Monday, 8 a.m.  
 Contact: Irene Galvan, [ronnie20dav@gmail.com](mailto:ronnie20dav@gmail.com)

## Alive! Feature

BELOW: The tree-trimming crew and supervisors, from left: Miguel Barajas, Tree Surgeon, 1 year of City service; Elias Becerra, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, 2 years; Carmelo Hernandez, Tree Surgeon Supervisor 1, 27 years; Scott Harmon, Tree Surgeon Supervisor II, 22 years, Club Member; Jorge Jimenez, Tree Surgeon, 2 years; Richard Mitchell, Maintenance Laborer, 2 years; Juan Velasco, Tree Surgeon, 2 years; and Samuel Mendoza, Assistant Tree Surgeon, 1 year. In back outside the cab: Ronny Wong, Heavy Equipment Operator, 16 years.

### Public Works

# Clearing the



There's lots more of this feature to read and see in *Alive!* on the web: [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

## In the Field With the Tree Crews

On Dec. 5, in a respite during a two-day rainstorm, *Alive!* caught up with the West Valley Area tree crews on emergency and trimming assignments.

### Encino: Tree and Wires

An emergency call came in that two trees were in danger of pulling down communication wires on Libbet Avenue in Encino. When *Alive!* caught up to the emergency crew, they were just about to take down the first tree.



Two trees (center and center-left) were threatening communication wires and had to come down.



Once the fallen tree is on the ground, Jonathan Suarez sections and trims it so it can be mulched in the chipper.

### Canoga Park: Regular Tree T

Next, the *Alive!* crew caught up with a second crew on West Gilmore Street in Canoga Park, this crew doing its normal operation of tree-trimming. The crew will take one street at a time and trim trees that need it all along the block before moving on.



The inevitable cleanup begins, assisted by Ronny Wong, Heavy Equipment Operator, a magician at the front loader.



Photos by Sammy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; and Alive! editor John Burnes

# ogjam

**Street Services/Urban Forestry's West Valley Area is the busiest in the City. Come along as the Club follows the emergency crew trimming trees during a December rainstorm.**



High in the air, Carlos Leon, Tree Surgeon (Leadman) expertly trims a tree

## History

What is now known as the Urban Forestry Division (UFD) began its existence in 1930, when the Division of Forestry of the Department of Parks was created by City Ordinance.

The City of Los Angeles 1932 Olympics ushered in a period of mass tree planting. From 1933 to 1935, approximately 12,000 trees were pruned. During this period State Gas Tax funds were provided for tree work on major streets and state highways and the first two regularly employed tree trimming crews were hired.

In 1940, a policy of trimming trees to provide clearance for public utilities was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners. In 1955, jurisdiction over street trees was transferred to the Board of Public Works. The Street Tree Division was created and the organization became largely what exists today.

Post-World War II, the street tree population experienced a very large expansion due to the population and commensurate building boom that was occurring. From 1946-70, the street tree population grew from perhaps 300,000 trees to approxi-

mately 680,000. The Street Tree Division grew coincidentally to the maintenance needs, and by the mid-1980s employed nearly 300 personnel.

The Street Tree Division changed its name to the Urban Forestry Division in 2004 due to the expansion of services the Division provides that includes: street tree emergency response, pruning, removal, planting, permitting, providing arboriculture knowledge to other City agencies, oversight of the City's protected trees, and development services.

Due to the City's financial crisis beginning in 2009 and continuing today, the Division staffing was reduced to approximately 100 personnel. The Division continues to provide emergency services but tree trimming, removal, and planting have been severely reduced. The Division is hopeful the City soon rebounds from these difficult times and an increase in services can occur.

Timothy Tyson, Club Member, is the Division Manager of Public Works' Street Maintenance/Urban Forestry Division. ■

## The *Alive!* Interview Passionate About Trees

On Dec. 5, Club CEO John Hawkins interviewed Scott Harmon, Tree Surgeon Supervisor II, 22 years of City service, Club Member, at the Urban Forestry West Valley headquarters in Canoga Park.

**Scott, thanks for letting us follow you as you managed trees during the storm this morning. First, tell us how you got to your current position.**

Scott Harmon: Sure. I started at the bottom with the City. I had experience, but I have six kids. So the City was a good opportunity for me. I took a Tree Surgeon Assistant position and got promoted pretty quickly because I had the experience. I was a contractor before I came here.

**Did you do tree work before you came here?**

I did. I was doing tree illumination.

From left: Club CEO John Hawkins and Scott Harmon, Tree Surgeon Supervisor II, head of Urban Forestry's West Valley emergency crew and Club Member.

**Really?**

Yes, but it was very unique, specialty lighting. It was the stuff you see at really high-end hotels – most likely nobody in this room could afford these kinds of lights. I'd fly to Hawaii to do jobs. I'd fly to Florida and Texas. I've been all over the country.

**Wow.**

I was into trees so much I became an arborist and I was trimming the trees while we were doing the lighting. I kept my business for 20 years. From 2001, I ran a Program crew here for almost 10 years and worked my way onto the Superintendent's list. At that time a downtown office was just not for me. There are not enough windows. Nor trees. I still enjoy working in the field even though I am mostly in the office nowadays.

**This is the West Valley Area. How many Areas are there?**

We have four areas. Actually, we have five. Street Maintenance has four.

**What are the areas?**

West Valley, East Valley, North Central over by Griffith Park, Bay Harbor down by LAX, and a fifth area – because we can't cover the distance – is called the Mountain Area. It's sort of part of East Valley and part of West Valley, which is split by the 405. That's our boundary line. South of Mulholland down to Pico is its own little area – Mountain Area. The West Valley Area still monitors the west side, and the East Valley Area monitors the east side toward Beverly

Hills. We do have one yard there with one Supervisor and one small crew, because we just can't get there from here.

**How is it different now than when you came?**

We had a lot of people when I came in '96, and the work was nonstop. It was great! It was trimming and removals, stump grinding and planting – all the services that people wish we had now, they were being serviced. But in 2010, the City had to change that.

**Because of the national economy crunch?**

Right. Equipment has changed since I started. The chippers have definitely gotten better. We never had over-the-cab loaders, which is a dump truck with a scoop on the front – you just roll everything into them and then lift it into the back. We never had them in '96. We have them now. We had loaders, but nothing like what you saw today.

**Has anybody ever estimated how many trees you have in your area?**

In this area, I couldn't tell you exactly, but Citywide it's about 680,000.

**Wow.**

Yes.

Trimming



No chipper: Because of the size of this tree-trimming operation, Urban Forestry doesn't use a chipper in this case. It puts all the trimmings into a long truck for mulching offsite. Driving the rig is Elias Becerra, Heavy

Continued on web *Alive!*  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

Continued on web *Alive!*  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



## Robert's Question of the Month



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

Fellow City Employees answer the Question of the Month

### What's your New Year's resolution?



**"To not lose weight."**  
– Maria Lozano, Sr. Clerk Typist, LAFD, Club Member



**"To love myself more."**  
– DonnaLee Norrington, Sr. Clerk Typist, LAFD



**"Learn a new instrument."**  
– Joshua Miranda, Maintenance Laborer



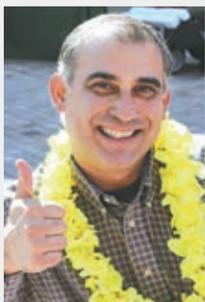
**"Stop eating chips."**  
– John Lau, City Craft Assistant



**"To love coworkers as family."**  
– Denise Gibson, Clerk Typist



**"Not any."**  
– Roxanna Castro, Security Services, Security Officer



**"To be more positive."**  
– Ricardo Aguilar, Materials Testing Technician,



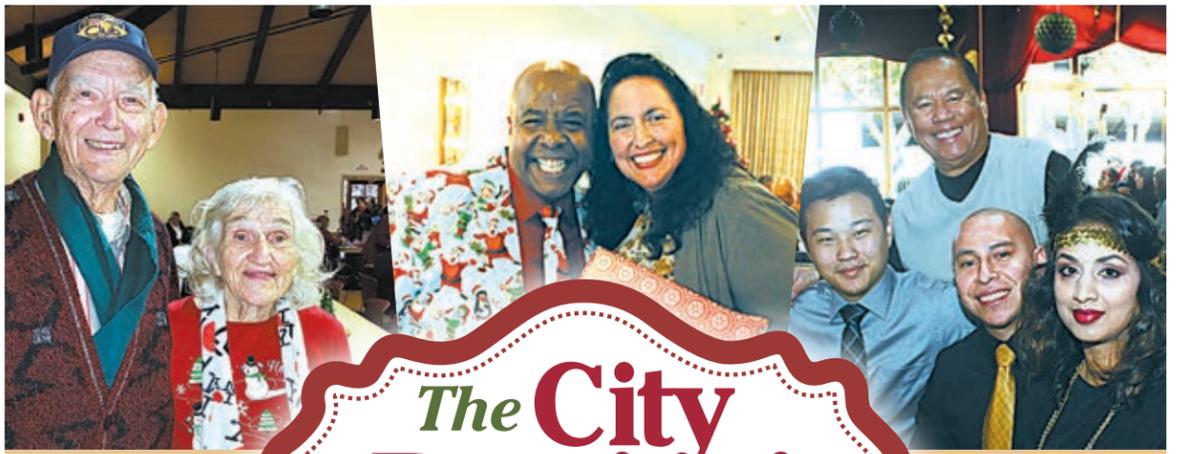
**"To travel more."**  
– Ralph Drummond, Waste Water Treatment Operator, Club Member



**"Get more tattoos."**  
– Albert Castarion, City Craft Assistant



**"To not make a New Year's resolution."**  
– Juan Delreal, City Craft Assistant,



## The City Parties!

It's an annual *Alive!* tradition!

Every year, City Departments put aside their hard work and come together for fun and socialization at their festive holiday parties. And *Alive!* publishes as many of your party pics as we can.

Starting this month, we cover the City Parties. And we'll continue in the next months as the photos come in.

Happy New Year!

THIS MONTH:

RLACEI  
LACERS

General Services  
LAPD Records and Identification

On Web *Alive!*  
alive.employeesclub.com

Photos courtesy Hollywood Christmas Parade.

### COUNCIL

## Hollywood on Parade

87th Hollywood Christmas Parade rumbles down the boulevard with City Council sponsorship.

Councilman David Ryu and family members.

TV host Nancy O'Dell was the grand marshal of this year's Hollywood Christmas Parade, held Sunday, Nov. 25 in Hollywood. The parade was also scheduled to be aired on the CW Network Dec. 14 and on the Hallmark Channel Christmas Day.

The annual parade is presented in association with the City.

This year's parade included a long list of performers from TV and popular music.

More than 100 celebrities from film, television and stage and other VIPs were seen in the parade. More than a dozen award-winning bands from around the country were featured.

The LAPD's LA Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums also participated.

The parade encouraged viewers to give back to the community via the Marine's Toys for Tots program.



From left: Councilman Mitch O'Farrell and guest George Brauckman.



MORE PICTURES  
On Web *Alive!*  
alive.employeesclub.com

THE BEST OF 2018

# John's Picture Perfect

*Alive!* presents our favorite winners from 'John's Picture Perfect' contest from 2018.



Photos compiled by John Hawkins, Club CEO

Do you like "John's Picture Perfect" contest? Well, so do we! In 2018, Club Members submitted hundreds of entries and many dozens of winners. Here are some of them.

As we begin 2019, we publish this look back at the images taken by Club Members who in 2018 pushed their shutters at exactly the right moment, along with the original comments by John Hawkins.

**Enjoy, and keep sending in those images!**

To enter your pictures in John's Picture Perfect Contest, go to: [alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect](http://alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect)



"My daughter Sophie atop a camel out at the Living Desert Zoo in Palm Desert, waiting patiently for Sophie and camel to pass by. Once in position, I shouted, 'Smile.' I got more than I bargained for!"

– Mike Aubin, DWP

**John's comment:** Whoa! Reminds me of that movie Doctor Doolittle, the guy who could talk to the animals. You requested, and it was answered! Fun photo with great timing. Thanks, Mike!

**MORE PICTURES**  
On Web *Alive!*  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



"A beautiful sunset at Moonlight State Beach. My daughter is holding the sun in a heart-shaped gesture to show her love for our great land."

– Nino Lovato

**John's comment:** Another word I'd use for this awesome photo is hope – in the next generation enjoying the land as much as we do ... in being part of a loving family ... and in the contentment of a day well spent, with the promise of another tomorrow. Beautiful!

THE CLUB

## We Received Great Club Deals!



**SAVED 30%**

Are you taking full advantage of your Club Membership by getting amazing Club deals? **Start saving today!**

*Alive!* editor John Burnes took advantage of the self-park discount (30 percent during non-peak times) through the Club for a great deal during his holiday travels. Great job, Club!

Get those deals, and send in your Club Deal Selfies at [alive.employeesclub.com/clubdealselfies](http://alive.employeesclub.com/clubdealselfies)

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

**Promoting an Event? Need give away items for.....**  
Fund Raisers  
Awards, door prizes  
Meetings  
**800.426.0174**  
[rosebud@getpromos.com](mailto:rosebud@getpromos.com)

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

**ROSEBUD Marketing Group**

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

## Disneyland Tickets Are Back!

– Go to the Club Website for details:

[employeesclub.com](http://employeesclub.com)

# Larios In the City

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



*Congratulations to Mabel A. Jabido, Retired from Economic and Workforce Development with 30 years of City service.*



## REC AND PARKS

# All About Shipwrecks

**Banning Residence Museum to host historical lecture on local shipwrecks.**

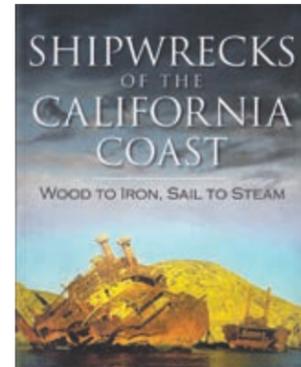
Friends of Banning Museum invites the community to join us for our next "Keeping History Alive" lecture at the Banning Museum, 401 East "M" St. in Wilmington.

**Sat., Jan. 12**

The lecture and book signing by author Michael D. White, vocational maritime historian and researcher, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, in the museum's historic stagecoach barn.

Mr. White will be sharing anecdotes and images from his 2014 book, *Shipwrecks of the California Coast: Wood to Iron, Sail to Steam*, as well as information on several recently discovered shipwrecks that had, until very recently, rested on the bottom of the ocean for decades, cloaked in mystery. There will be a 15-minute question and answer session after the lecture followed by a book signing. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

Admission to the event is free for Friends of Banning Museum members and children under 12. Non-members are \$5. For more details about this event or to RSVP, please contact Friends of Banning Museum at (310) 548-2005. Information on the Museum can also be found at [www.thebanningmuseum.org](http://www.thebanningmuseum.org).



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



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### The *Alive!* Children's Coloring Contest

# Coloring with The Clubs

Compiled by  
Club Customer Service Associates:



Guadalupe  
Lira



Cristina  
Ramos



DeAngelo  
Thompson

Deadline for submission:

**Feb. 11, 2019**

Submit to:

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



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

**Good luck and have fun!**

**Download Coloring Art From the Web**

You can download and print art from *Alive!* on the web:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/coloring-contest-for-kids](http://alive.employeesclub.com/coloring-contest-for-kids)



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

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

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

What is your favorite snack? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite television show? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to go to this park? \_\_\_\_\_

**For parents/guardian to complete:**

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Job title and department with the City: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's address/city/zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_



# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



## Dublin, Ireland

Here's **Dearbhla McNulty**, Club Social Media Manager, on Grafton Street in Dublin on Christmas Eve.



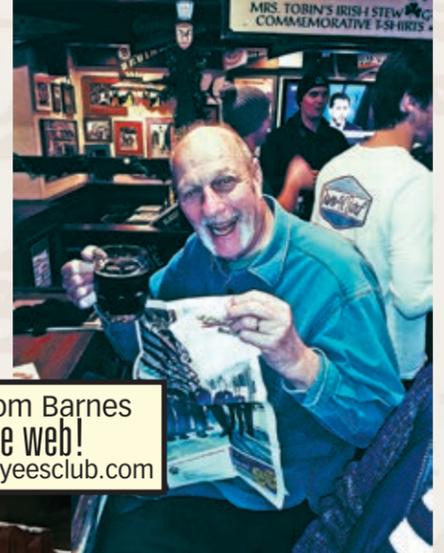
## Barnes in Boston

Club intrepid traveler Capt. II Michael Barnes, Harbor, visited Boston last year for St. Patrick's Day.

Cheers from Cheers.



Saint Patricks parade with the chief.



More from Barnes on the web!  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

Live from the Hard Rock Cafe.



Having a chat with Samuel Adams about his brewery.



Take *Alive!* with you, wherever you go!



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

Story and photos courtesy Heather Johnson, Sanitation

### PUBLIC WORKS

## Thanks, Employees!

Sanitation honors 53 of its best and brightest.

On Dec. 5, Public Works/Sanitation held its annual employee recognition and appreciation event, honoring 53 employees for their excellent work.

The event, hosted by Director and General Manager Enrique Zaldivar, was held at Sanitation's atrium downtown.

Each division nominated two employees they felt were deserving. Congratulations to those honored, and to all Sanitation employees!

Honoree Rodell Zorilla.



Honoree Kevin Ho.



Honoree Dianah Scates.



Honoree Luz De Leon.



Honoree Keinan Marks.



For a list of all honorees, and more pictures go to web *Alive!*: [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



Happy New Year

**From the Club!**

The Club wishes you health, humor and happiness for 2019.



Employees Club of California  
 Celebrating the Lives of Municipal Employees

All photos by Panic Studio LA, courtesy of Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and Cultural Affairs (DCA).



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**AIRPORTS/CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**New Art in Terminal 7**

**LAX Terminal 7 art gallery explores "Lost in the Sky."**

Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and Cultural Affairs present a group exhibition featuring six artists in the newly renovated Terminal 7 gallery on the Departures Level titled "Lost in the Sky." This exhibit, curated by Lauren Albrecht, strives to evoke the universal sense of awe and wonder experienced while gazing at the sky.

Featured artists Miya Ando, Natalie Arnoldi, Lia Halloran, Bradley Hankey, David Malin and Debra Scacco all celebrate the brilliance of the universe through a wide range of aesthetic approaches. The inaugural exhibition for the new Terminal 7 gallery is on view for ticketed passengers through May.

**MORE PICTURES**  
**On Web *Alive!***  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)



Thoughts Interrupted, Bradley Hankey

**Be My CLUB Valentine**

**CLUB MEMBERS:** Send your loved one a special Valentine... to be published on web *Alive!* in February.

*Here's how it works:*  
Send us a favorite photo (high-resolution digital preferred) of you and your loved one(s) (could be a romantic partner, a parent or child, etc.) and two or three sentences declaring your special bond.

**Deadline: February 1**

**To send digital photos and your message:**  
Go to [alive.employeesclub.com/valentines](http://alive.employeesclub.com/valentines)

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**Patty Pulido**  
Personal Insurance Agent

**Jan. 17:** 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Jan. 31:** 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.



**Rosa Calderon**  
Personal Insurance Agent

**Jan. 24:** 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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*Who are the people you see every day?*

*Shelterless in Los Angeles.*

**No. 100**  
in a series.



# People We See

## Meet Latrelle "Groove" Manning

Groove is 50 years old, has a 27-year-old daughter and has been living on the street for 35 years.

He said his homelessness began when he got out of prison for selling drugs to an undercover officer. He said that when he got out of prison, he was basically dropped off on Skid Row, where drugs are sold ... and the cycle continued.

I asked him how he began selling drugs in the first place. He said that as a kid living in South Central, as soon as he stepped out of his front door all he saw were pimps, prostitutes and gang bangers. But he acknowledged that there were other people in situations similar to his who didn't end up on the streets.

He said he knows he made bad decisions. I asked him if there were a defining moment in his life that turned him on way or another. He said it was the first time he smoked a cigarette, when he was 11. He did it to be cool around his friends. From there he started doing other things that his friends were doing. Drinking, then smoking weed,

and other drugs ... and "there I went."

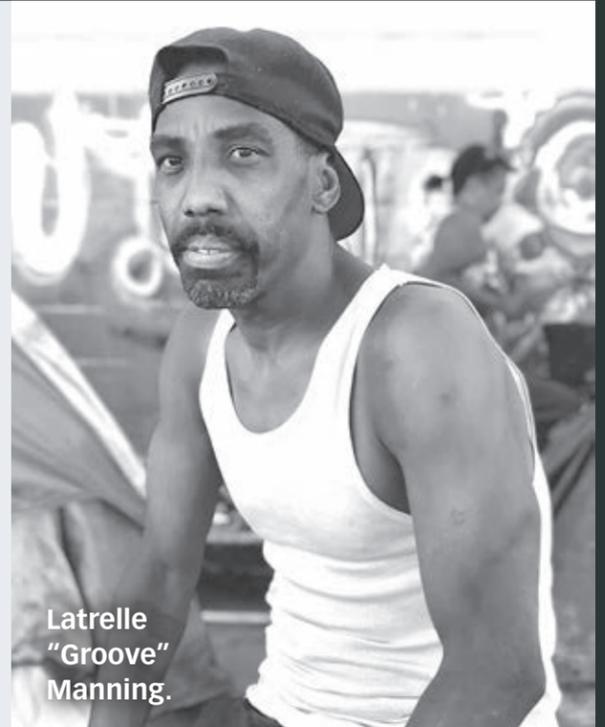
Where does he want to see himself five years from now? "Anywhere but where I am now."

He said he doesn't have too many more years left. "A 'tornado' is coming and they'll be walking poodles down this very street soon. The tornado will remove the homeless and I'll be able to take advantage of resources to help me."

He said with the situation now most of the people living on Fifth Street are spoiled. "You have everything at your fingertips down here - food, clothes and drugs."

What would have changed his path? "If I were a parent I'd drop my kid off on Skid Row at 1:30 in the morning. I'd have them see what life is really like" down on the street.

*This month's "People We See" was conducted by Club CEO John Hawkins Nov. 9 at the corner of Stanford and Fifth Streets downtown. John gave Groove sustenance and \$20 for expenses. The full interview can be seen soon on the Club's YouTube channel.*



Latrelle "Groove" Manning.



Latrelle "Groove" Manning and Club CEO, John Hawkins.

**People We See on YouTube**

The full "People We See" interview can be seen on the Club's YouTube channel:  
[www.youtube.com/cityemployeesclub/videos](http://www.youtube.com/cityemployeesclub/videos)

{ In this feature, the Club introduces 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. }



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