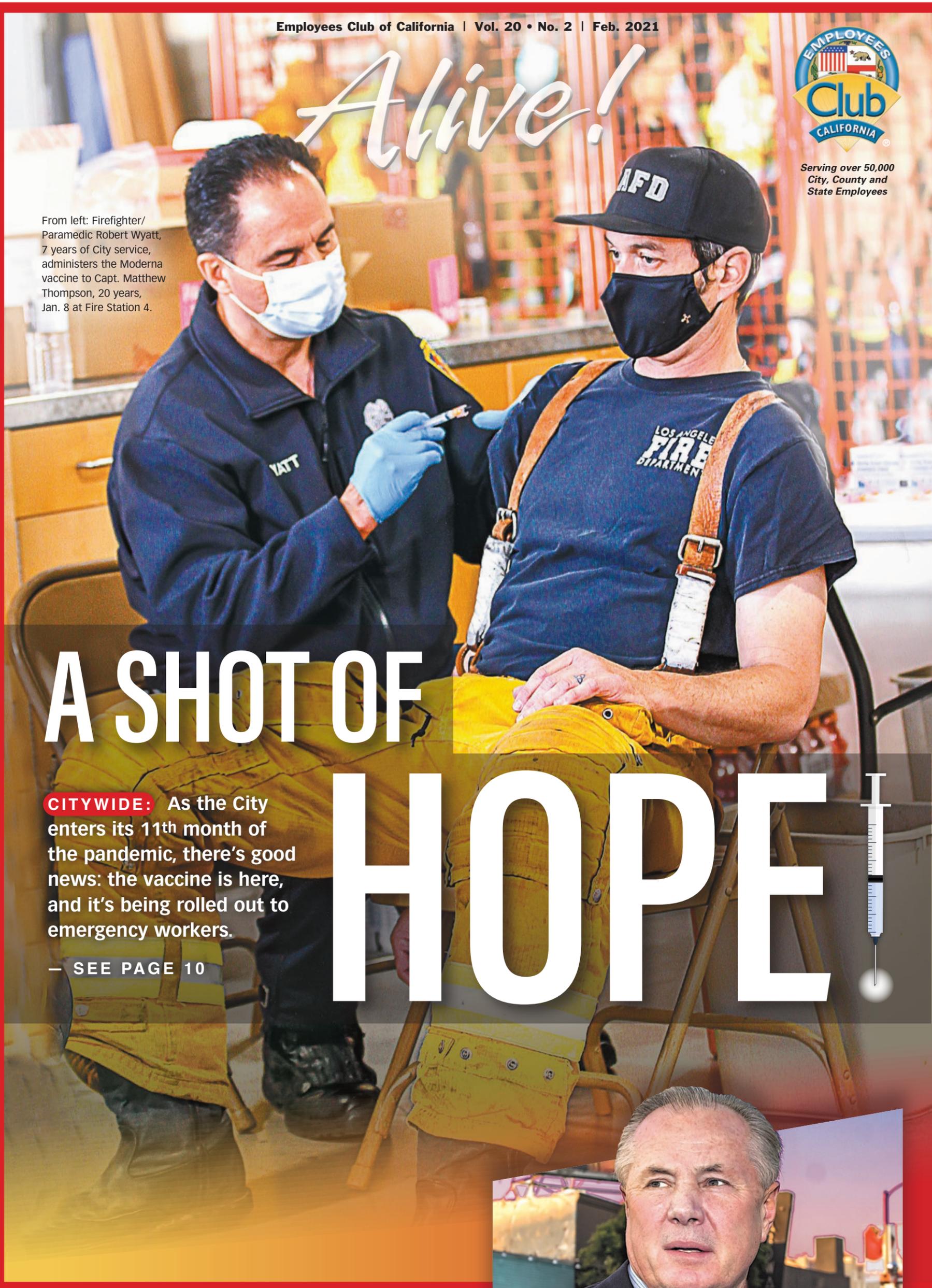




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# Alive!

From left: Firefighter/  
Paramedic Robert Wyatt,  
7 years of City service,  
administers the Moderna  
vaccine to Capt. Matthew  
Thompson, 20 years,  
Jan. 8 at Fire Station 4.



# A SHOT OF

**CITYWIDE:** As the City enters its 11th month of the pandemic, there's good news: the vaccine is here, and it's being rolled out to emergency workers.

— SEE PAGE 10

# HOPE

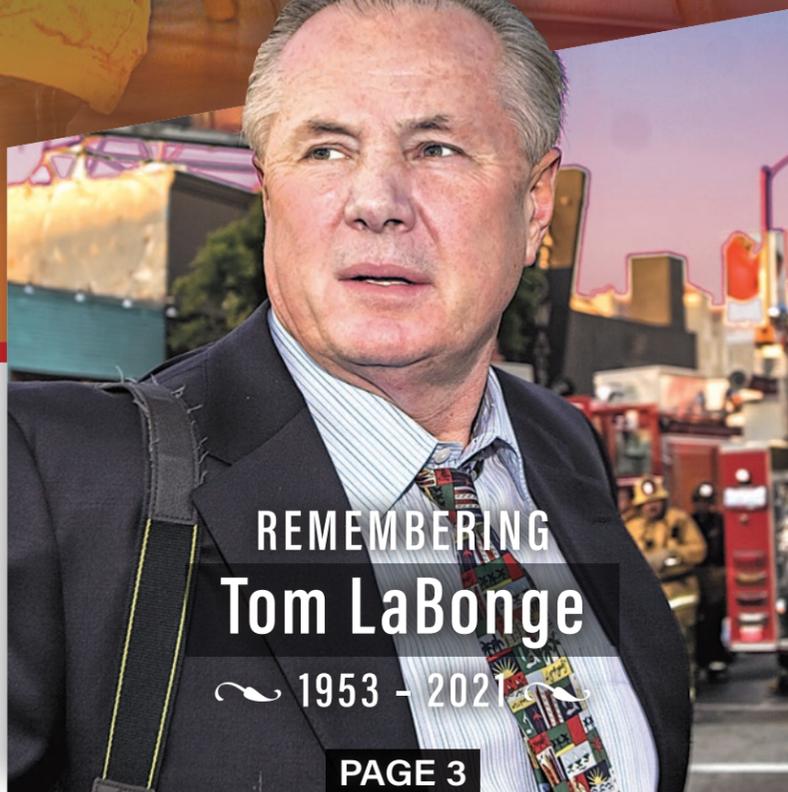


Alive! photo by Veronica Guerra

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REMEMBERING  
Tom LaBonge

1953 - 2021

PAGE 3

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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@employeesclub.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

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

AT THE CLUB STORE:



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



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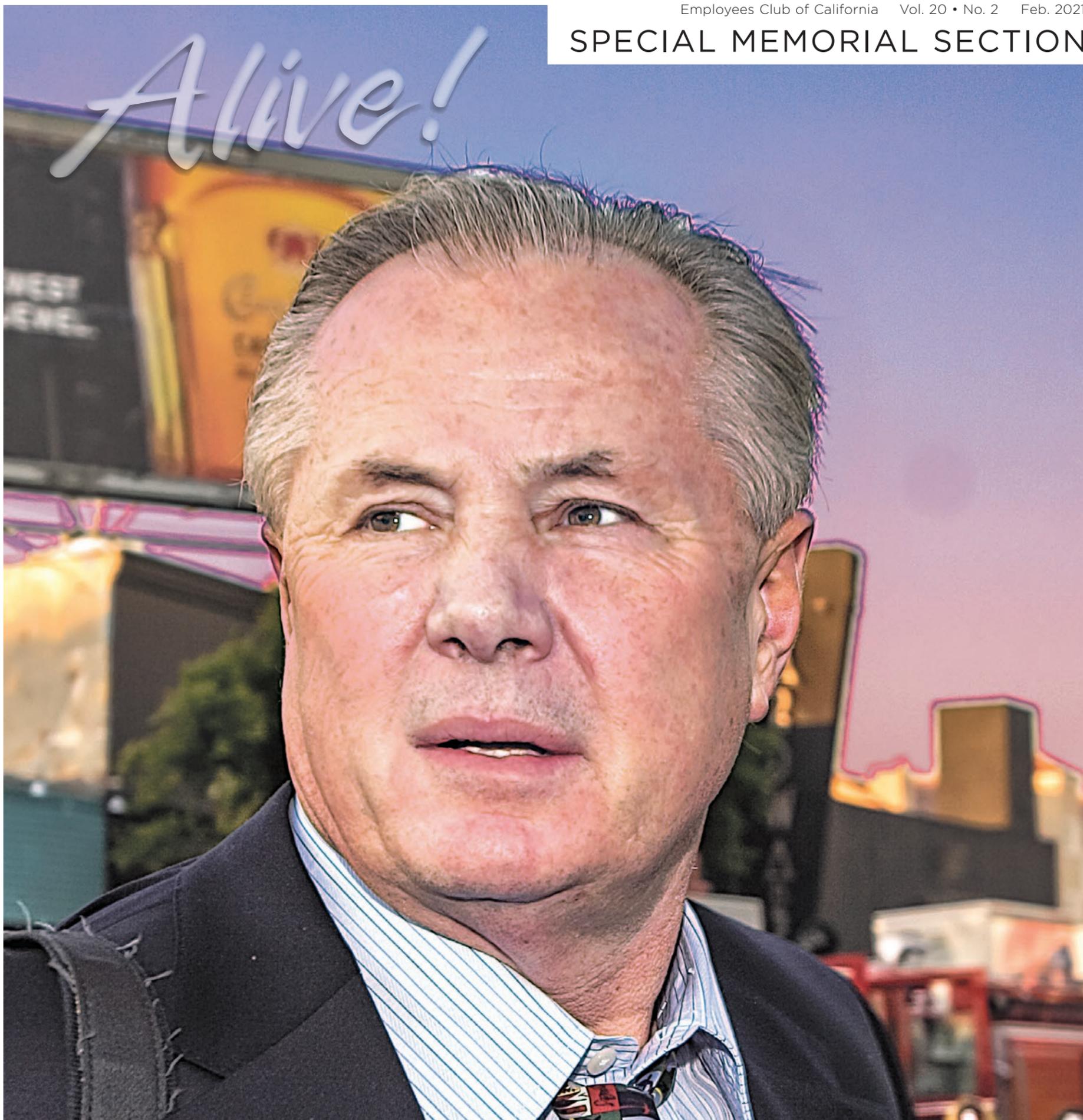
## CLUB Valentines

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SPECIAL MEMORIAL SECTION

*Alive!*



Remembering

1953 - 2021

Tom LaBonge



Mr. LaBonge

From *Alive!* in October 2005: Then-Councilmember Tom LaBonge at a barbecue he hosted for Fourth District employees.



# Remembering 1953 - 2021

## Tom LaBonge

# ‘Mr. LA’ passes away unexpectedly. He was 67.

**Tom LaBonge** – native-born retired City employee, Councilman, civic champion, husband and father, Club Member and “Mr. LA” – died Jan. 7 at his home in Silver Lake. He was 67.

Tom was just about everyone’s favorite retired City employee, as there was no greater booster of his beloved hometown. He knew every street in his district and most every street in the giant City. He knew its people. He knew its history, both the formal history in the books written about LA, and the details too small to be remembered by anyone else but him.

An avid Club Member and one of the most supportive believers in the Club’s mission of celebrating the lives of City employees, he was featured on the cover of *Alive!* twice, once when he was City Councilman for the Fourth District, and once as he was retiring due to term limits.

His range of service to the City of LA goes from foundational accomplishments including expanding his beloved Griffith Park and revitalizing Hollywood and Silver Lake, to countless small actions like trimming trees and picking up trash whenever he saw the need, using the traffic cones he often kept in his car trunk for safety. He loved to photograph his LA, using his striking photos in yearly calendars, and gifting hundreds of loaves of bread every Christmas to constituents.

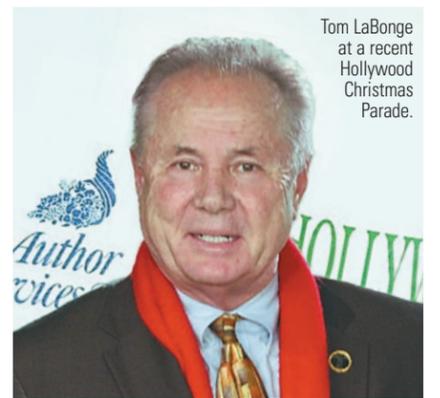
His oft-repeated phrase – “Let’s continue to enjoy and love the great City of Los Angeles” – exemplified his cheerleading spirit and was the driving passion of his professional life. A big part of Los Angeles passes away with him.

The Club is heartbroken over Tom’s sudden death, and sends its deepest condolences to his family and countless friends.

He is survived by his wife, graphic designer Brigid Manning LaBonge, and two adult children, Mary-Cate and Charles.

Upon the sad news of his death, nearly every major City department posted on social media to honor his life and memory. On these pages we recount his biography, his many appearances in *Alive!*, and tributes by Club leadership and others.

May you rest in peace, Tom.



Tom LaBonge at a recent Hollywood Christmas Parade.

### NEWS

#### Griffith Park Summit to Be Named for Tom

**JAN. 27, 2021** - Mayor Eric Garcetti has renamed Mt. Hollywood Summit overlooking Griffith Park the **Tom LaBonge Summit**. The Club appreciates that in death, Tom will be overlooking Los Angeles, as he always did, forever. ■

## BIOGRAPHY

Thomas J. LaBonge (1953-2021) served in several civilian City positions before being elected to represent the City Council’s Fourth District in 2001.

Tom was born and raised in Silver Lake. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in sociology from Cal State LA.

In 1974, he joined Mayor Tom Bradley’s Youth Council. In 1976, at 22, he became an aide to Councilwoman Peggy Stevenson in the 13th District. He joined Council President John Ferrara’s office in the Fourth District in 1978. He was also the Chief of Field Operations for Mayor Richard Riordan.

He ran for City Council in 1993 but lost to Jackie Goldberg. He then worked for the DWP. In 2001, he ran for the Fourth District seat in a special election after Ferrara’s death, and won.

Tom served the City for nearly 50 years until his retirement in 2015 due to term limits.



READ THE APRIL 2015 *Alive!* Interview



In 2015, as Tom was retiring from his longtime District 4 seat due to term limits, *Alive!* interviewed him. You can read it here:

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

## Tom LaBonge Memorial Fund

The LA Parks Foundation has set up a memorial fund in Tom’s memory to establish a memorial site and plant new trees in Griffith Park. Tom hiked in Griffith Park nearly every day.



To donate, go here, and make sure you select the Tom LaBonge fund on “Fund” the drop-down menu:  
[www.laparksfoundation.org/donations/donate/](http://www.laparksfoundation.org/donations/donate/)





SPECIAL MEMORIAL SECTION

*‘He was a true public servant who was never afraid to roll up his sleeves.’*

— Mayor Eric Garcetti



At his own employee appreciation luncheon, from the August 2008 Alive! (from left): John Hawkins, Club CEO; Tom LaBonge; Alan Willis, Transportation, 21 years of City service; Jeanne Min, Council District 4 Director of Finance; and Zaki Mustafa, Chief of Field Operations, Transportation.

REMEMBRANCES

Tom LaBonge. Councilman. Mr. LA. He was a beacon of love and pride for the City and the people of Los Angeles.

Nothing could be closer to that truth than in 2008 when the Employees Club lost staff member Howard Pompel in the Chatsworth Metrolink train accident, which also took an additional 24 lives on that tragic day. The next day, Club CEO John Hawkins called for an all-staff meeting and closed our offices from the public for the day to allow staff to grieve the loss of our coworker.

We were at the Club Store when I heard a booming series of knocks on the closed door. We turned our heads to look, and I saw a man standing at the glass door with a wreath and easel that towered over and in front of him. It was immense, and it wasn't until I came to the door and let him in that I grasped that the man was Tom – he came alone. He asked, “May I come in and leave this with you all?” He also expressed a few words of condolence and support, and it was expressed as if he were a longtime staff member we all knew – that’s how we felt. His parting words that day were that he was just a few blocks away at City Hall if anyone needed anything from him.

Tom was a class act onto his own, demonstrating a unique form of politician (leaning more toward an ambassador of the City) bursting with a profound empathy for others. We thank Tom for his dedication and service, as well as the countless lives he touched. May he rest in peace.

– Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer



From left: Christina Rice, Library; Amy Inouye, President of Photo Friends; and Tom LaBonge. Photo by Christine Adolph

In 2014, @laplphotos & Photo Friends were fundraising to digitize the Valley Times image archive. Tom LaBonge let us transform his Sherman Oaks field office into a Valley Times gallery space. He didn't hesitate in saying “yes.” Here we are at the opening reception. #RIPTomLaBonge

– Christina Rice, Los Angeles Public Library

We are all sad to hear of Tom LaBonge’s passing. It’s difficult to think of anyone who loved Los Angeles more than he did. We appreciate all of his service to the City and its residents, and are grateful for his participation in leading LACERS Well events. He will be missed.

– Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System (LACERS)

L.A. is mourning the loss of two remarkable ambassadors for our city, @Dodgers legend Tommy Lasorda and former L.A. City Councilmember Tom LaBonge.

We’ve lit City Hall in their honor  
Rest in peace.



Tom LaBonge (left, front) and Mayor Eric Garcetti at a Council farewell ceremony on the occasion of Tom's retirement.



Club CEO John Hawkins (left) with Mr. LA, Councilman Tom LaBonge, Retired (right) at the RLACEI Annual Picnic, Aug. 2019.

Our hearts are heavy with the passing of former Los Angeles City Councilmember Tom LaBonge. In a City of 4 million Angelenos, Tom LaBonge was Mr. Los Angeles. He was a true public servant who was never afraid to roll up his sleeves or pull a City worker over if a constituent needed help or a street needed servicing at a moment's notice. As a Councilmember, he took care of his constituents and was a champion of one of L.A.'s greatest treasures, Griffith Park. Tom LaBonge loved Los Angeles and Los Angeles loved him right back. To quote Tom, he is forever an angel in the City of Angels. May God bless him, his wife, Brigid, and the entire LaBonge family.

– Mayor Eric Garcetti and Nury Martinez, President of the City Council

Someone asked me a while back who I consider my heroes. I had to think ... and my only response was that, other than my parents, I really didn't have any. But that was before I met Tom LaBonge. That was before I had the rare pleasure to see Tom in action, to see him literally live and breathe the City he loved.

Tom was an icon – almost a mirage in some respects, in that it was hard to believe that someone could always be, no matter the situation or environment, the same person they always were; that someone could always be strong, affable, kind, generous, genuine, filled with unlimited energy, and gifted with laser-like intelligence.

It all started about 15 years ago. My trusty Chief Editor, John Burnes, put a call in to Carolyn Ramsay at Tom's office so we could interview him – he was a City legend and a Club Member. We no more than set up the camera and voice recorder in his Council office when all heck broke loose. Turns out there was a fire somewhere along Wilshire in his district, and *nothing* got in the way of Tom serving his constituents. Of course, we offered to reschedule. No! he replied. Hop in! We grabbed everything, jammed into his official car, and white-knuckled it while he drove to the fire. I'll never forget how he threw himself into that scene, talking to maybe hundreds of his constituents to make sure they were all right, coordinating with the LAFD and LAPD, who he knew by their first names, and on and on. I'd never seen anybody serve the City like that.

So there you have it – I had my hero, a man bigger than life, a man who “was” life, in every way imaginable. Tom will always be alive in my mind. Someone like that doesn't ever just disappear, they are always with you, always rooting for Los Angeles, always whispering in my ear all the good things happening around our sprawling megatropolis. I offer no “goodbyes,” no “see you on the other side,” no tears, because Tom is still here. He is the embodiment of everything good in Los Angeles, and will be forever.

– John Hawkins, Club CEO



Tom LaBonge and Janice Hahn.

The ten years I spent with Tom LaBonge on the City Council were the best political years of my life. We sat next to each other in the Council Chambers, and Tom just had a way of making everything fun. He was so excited to show up to work every day, and his enthusiasm was contagious.

Nobody loved this City more than Tom LaBonge, and I don't know if anyone ever will. He was and will always be Mr. Los Angeles. May my dear friend Rest In Peace.

– Janice Hahn, Commissioner, Los Angeles County, Former Councilwoman, City of Los Angeles, Club Member

Tom was a true park advocate and Griffith Park's number one fan. All of us here at the Dept. of Recreation and Parks send our condolences to the friends and loved ones of Tom. He will be truly missed. #ParkProudLA

– Rec and Parks

The City should name one of Griffith Park's iconic locations for Tom LaBonge, who loved the park and the people who cherish it.

– Mike Feuer, LA City Attorney



From left: LAFD Chief Deputy (Retired) Joe Castro; LAPD Assistant Chief Beatrice Girmala; and Tom LaBonge.

A wonderful memory from Retired LAFD Chief and icon, Joe Castro, who just shared this with me, from the archives. Tom, your first responders miss you and ask that you look out for us from above.

– Assistant Chief Beatrice Girmala, LAPD

# Scenes From a Pandemic

PART 11

*Alive!* continues its documentation of City employees as they take a multitude of measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are entries from the Club and the City Twitter feeds about City Employees and Club Members at work during this trying time.

### LAFD



"These folks absolutely rocked the (fire) house today. @uscspharmacy  
 "Proud and honored to have helped administer the COVID-19 vaccine today to the @LAFD firefighters and other first responders. @USC #FightOn"  
 Dec. 28

### LAPD/Capt. Emada Tingiredes



"LAPD @lapdVanNuysDiv Officer De Jesus and @LAPDCentralArea Officer Wells have restored multiple Time Switch Boxes throughout the City on their 'Off Duty' time. "A special thank you on National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day."  
 Jan. 10

### Mayor Eric Garcetti/ Public Works Sanitation



"Ten months into this crisis, our City teams continue to work tirelessly to support Angelenos impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you to these Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment team members serving as Disaster Service Workers and providing meals to seniors in need."  
 Jan. 14

### LAPD West Traffic



"CTSU Officers King & Manning educating the peds about crossing the street without being distracted. Your phone can wait! @LAPDBlakechow @LapdWoodyard @LAPDWestLA @LAPDOlympic @LAPDWilshire @LAPDPacific @LAPDHollywood @lapdhq"  
 Jan. 19

### LA Port Police



"LA Port Police are proud to continue supporting the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Southern California. Although we can't be in person with our athletes, our honorary Port Police athlete, Brett Laza, was still with us today. We miss you and can't wait to see you all soon!"  
 Jan. 19

# LAPD RETIREMENTS

## Goodbye, Michelle

**Det. II Michelle Esquivel retires after 31 years of City service.**

*Photos courtesy Capt. Lillian Carranza, LAPD*

On Dec. 22, Det. II Michelle Esquivel retired after 31 years of City service.

After being stationed in the 77th and Harbor Division, she retired out of the Commercial Crimes Division.

Congratulations, Michelle!



Det. II Michelle Esquivel.

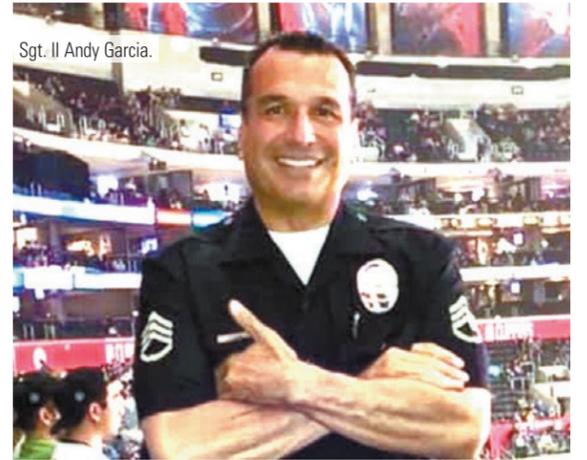
## Adios, Andy

**Sgt. Andy Garcia retires after 31 years of City service.**

LAPD Sgt. II Andy Garcia's motto was, "It's never too late to change your life." On Jan. 1, he did just that by retiring after 31 years of City service.

Sgt. Garcia retired as a Police Auditor. Previously he had worked in Internal Affairs, the Complaint Unit, a Field Training Officer, and a Patrol Officer.

Congratulations on your strong career, Sgt.!



Sgt. II Andy Garcia.

## Goodbye, Dep. Chief

**Deputy Chief Justin Eisenberg retires after 32 years of City service.**

On Dec. 3, Deputy Chief Justin Eisenberg, Commanding Officer of the West Bureau, retired after 32 years of City service.

"I started my journey 30 years ago today," he wrote Dec. 3. "Commander Cory Palka was a partner and leader of the highest caliber. We were put to the test this year, and he never once faltered! I am now EOW."

Congratulations on your retirement, Dep. Chief Eisenberg. Thank you for your service.



Dep. Chief Justin Eisenberg.

## Robin Retires

*Photo courtesy @LAPDMarcReina*

**Robin Davis, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, LAPD, retired Nov. 7 after 19 years with the LAPD and 33 years of service with the City of LA. A limited reception was held for the occasion.**

Thanks to Commander Marc Reina for the information. Congratulations, Robin, on your stellar City career!



Robin Davis, center, at her retirement gathering.

### LAFD

## One of the Squad

*Photo courtesy LAFD*



**Chief Terrazas joins FS 26 on Christmas Day.**

LAFD Chief Ralph Terrazas turned in his white Chief's helmet as he worked a shift on Christmas as a Task Force Commander. He joined the squad at FS 26 in the West Adams District. Well done, Chief!

Chief Ralph Terrazas (bottom center) and the Firefighters at FS 26 in West Adams.

## AUTO & PERSONAL INSURANCE



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# Joy, Then the Opposite

## JOHN'S BLOG

by John Hawkins, President and CEO, The Club

How is everyone doing this month? How are you holding up? There's hope on the horizon, as the Moderna vaccine arrives and is entering City employee arms as I write this.

But then, on the very day we were photographing the vaccinations at Fire Station 4, I heard that my friend, the awesome **Tom LaBonge**, former City Councilman, Club Member and Mr. L.A., had passed away. This pandemic can never let us rest on good news, can it?

What more can I say about Tom LaBonge than this: After 11 tough months, the COVID-19 vaccine arrives in LA and is administered to City employees, and it nearly didn't make the cover. I mean, it's the biggest story of the past 12 months, and probably will be the biggest in all of 2021.

Yet it only barely beat out Tom LaBonge for the cover. We had to think about it for a long time. The solution – essentially two cover stories – was developed by *Alive!* designer **David Jamgotchian**.



Tom LaBonge.

Covering the fast-changing news of the vaccine arrival is challenging for a monthly newspaper like ours, even with an active Website. We're on top of it because it's what we've all been waiting for. It makes total sense to me that our front-line workers, the first responders and healthcare workers, should be given priority. Our thanks to **LAFD PIO Firefighter David Ortiz** for arranging our visit, and **LAFD RN and EMS Educator Robert**



From left: *Alive!* editor John Burnes, with Firefighter II Katherine Hanson and Firefighter III Sergio Mayorga.

**Heaton** for helping us on the day. While we're waiting for LA to open up again, don't forget to wear your City seal facemask. Wear a couple of 'em! I am. (If you need to buy more, or grab some fresh ones, go to the Club Webstore at [employeesclub.com](http://employeesclub.com). **Lupe Lira** and her staff will take care of you.)

And now to Tom LaBonge. I wrote pretty much what I wanted to say in this month's remembrance. There are many good thoughts there from others, too, and it's awesome

that the City is going to name a Griffith Park peak after Tom. He deserves it. Feel free to share your remembrance with me: [jhawkins@employeesclub.com](mailto:jhawkins@employeesclub.com)

A few other notes: There's still time to submit a Valentine to your loved one for our posting online. Deadline is Feb. 11. Submit

here: [aliveemployeesclub.com/valentines/](http://aliveemployeesclub.com/valentines/)

Finally, throughout the pandemic, we've continued to serve you, our Members, with discounts, insurance, *Alive!*, our social media, and in many other ways. We will continue to do so, with everything we have. You're our heroes. Better days for all of us are coming soon.

—JOHN



# Send in your Valentines Messages




CLUB MEMBERS:  
Send your loved one a special Valentine...  
in the February Web Alive!

*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. And we'll publish your message on the Web Alive!

DEADLINE:  
February 11 for Web Alive!

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






**CLUB**

# Valentines

*Alive!* presents one of our most popular annual features – Club Valentines. Enjoy... and happy Valentine's Day!



"My life and my best friend!"

– **Officer II Anselm Yu, LAPD**



"Thank you for 24 wonderful years of marriage! I love you today and forever."

– **Candice Arnold, Civil/Human Rights and Equity**



"Happy Valentine's Day, my Queen, my better half. I love you and appreciate everything you do for our family. I remember it was like when I got here."

– **Carlos Rubio, Rec and Parks**

"Happy Valentine's Day for a loving 58 years of wedded bliss."

– **Ted Augerbright, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation**



"Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife for 31 years."

– **Jay Ward, General Services**



"To my family (Amethyst, Jian and Tyson): Happy Valentine's Day. I would not have made it through 2020 without your love. Love, Mom and Grandee."

– **Denise Jefferson, Retired, DWP**



"You are the best husband, father and grandfather ever! I'm looking forward to making more memories with 'el Jefe.' Love you, babe!"

– **Angie Melendez, Planning**



"Happy Valentine's Day, my love! You are my everything, and I'm so grateful we are on this journey together. Love you!"

– **Jeremy Aldridge, Rec and Parks**



"Love doesn't need to be perfect. It just needs to be true."

– **Joe Binatena, Public Works**



"Happy Valentine's Day to the most awesome wife! This day and every day you make my world go round."

– **Jeff Steinbock, DWP**



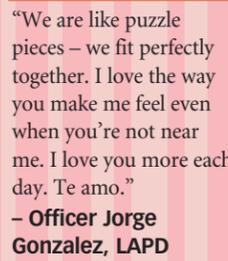
"There's no better person to be locked down with. Happy Valentine's Day!"

– **Alive! editor John Burnes, at the last fully attended sports game (Anaheim Ducks) before the lock-down**



"COVID-19 might keep us apart, but our love is strong, can't break our heart. Happy pre-post Valentine's Day."

– **Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works/Sanitation**



"We are like puzzle pieces – we fit perfectly together. I love the way you make me feel even when you're not near me. I love you more each day. Te amo."

– **Officer Jorge Gonzalez, LAPD**



"Missing our group outings. Looking forward to them again soon! Until then, stay safe. Happy Valentine's Day!"

– **Capt. John Gonzalez, LAFD**



"Happy 47th Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife and high school sweetheart, Cindy. Love you forever."

– **John Garner, LAPD**



"To my husband and best friend. Our life has been a wild ride, and I wouldn't want to do it with anyone but you. Love you to the moon and back."

– **Elena Sousa for John Sousa, Airport Police**



"Happy Valentine's Day to my friend, lover, but mostly my beautiful wife. Love you forever."

– **Byron Pocon, General Services**



"Happy Valentine's Day to the main who still gives me the butterflies."

– **Chermaine Fontenette, Public Works/Sanitation**

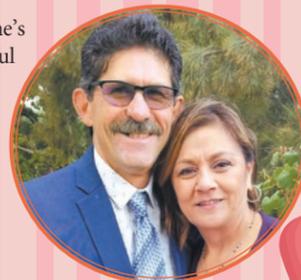
"To my wife, best friend, and companion Donna: Thank you for these last twenty-six years of marriage, and looking forward to more new adventures together!"

– **John Otoshi, Retired**



"Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife, Arlene – 34 years of love."

– **Jose Gaxiola, General Services**



"Just to remind you how much I need you, how much I appreciate you and how very much I love you."

– **Veronica Cavanaugh, Personnel**



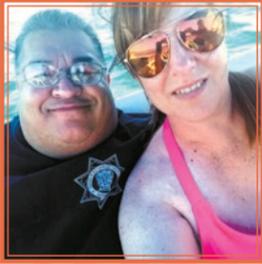
"I love you guys. Let's make another year full of great, silly memories."

– **Julie Briones, City Attorney's Office**

# CLUB Valentines

“Ma chère Kelley, rester à la maison ou voyager vers des destinations lointaines, la vie est toujours une aventure avec tu! Joyeuse Saint Valentin!”

– **John Hawkins, Club CEO**



“Since the day I first met you, I loved you. Each day I love you more than the day before.”

– **Lorenzo Sandoval, LA County/Probation**

“Happy Valentine’s Day, Boo! 25 years later, you still give me butterflies. I love you with all my heart. Your wife, Vanessa.”

– **Vanessa Alcaraz, Public Works/Sanitation**



“I love my beautiful wife and our amazing little girl. Happy Valentine’s.”

– **Rodney Gilbert, General Services**

“Happy Valentine’s Day, baby! Let’s continue on this amazing journey together.”

– **Officer Tesfa McKinley, Airport Police**



“Mona is my true soulmate. She is the most amazing, caring and loving woman in the world. I am the luckiest man to be able to call her mine. I love you.”

– **William Morgan, Building and Safety**

“Another wonderful Valentine’s Day with amazing, beautiful and talented wife! She has made my life so much better for being part of it.”

– **Thomas Wyatt, Public Works/Sanitation**



“To Mom, my first Valentine: Thank you for teaching me what matters and how to live!”

– **John Hawkins, Club CEO**

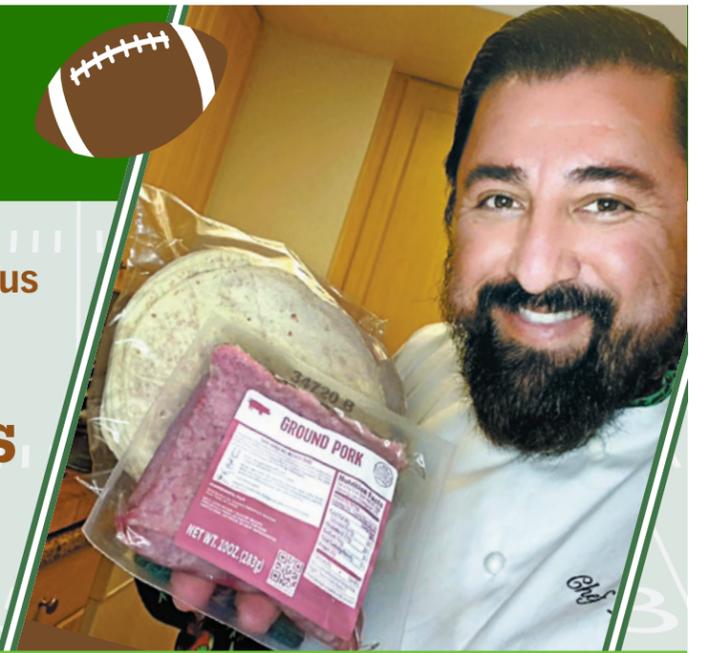
# Cooking With the Club



Chef Larios prepares delicious

## Super Bowl Pork Taquitos

Perfect for a Super Bowl celebration!



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

**NEW THIS MONTH ONLINE!**

### CLUB ANGELS



# Applications for Club’s Mukai Scholarship Now Available

Club Scholarship’s revised application is ready. Deadline is 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2021.

The 2021 Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 20 awards and is named after the late Club Board Member Joannie Mukai, is now accepting applications. The Club expects to give each recipient a stipend of \$500.

The Joanie Mukai Club Scholarship program is part of the Club Angels outreach, which reflects the scholarships’ nature of giving back.

### Preliminary Eligibility Check

The scholarship program has revised its application process to add a simple, preliminary eligibility check to make sure candidates are eligible. Once candidates have been cleared as eligible, they will be directed to continue the formal application process. Those eligible include Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2021.

### COVID-19

If you’ve been accepted at a four-year university for this

fall, but the school has decided to remain closed until January 2022 because of the coronavirus pandemic, that’s okay. You still could be eligible for the Club Scholarship.

### Deadline

All materials must be completed on the *Alive!* Website and submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. June 30, 2021.

### Respecting Your Time

“We heard you: We’ve made the process simpler,” said Robert Larios, Club COO. “You’ll know if you are eligible before you go through the formal application process. It should be much more respectful of your time and effort.”

“Our scholarship program is even more important during the pandemic,” said John Hawkins, Club CEO. “Club Members and their families have been

facing financial hardships, and we want to be there for you.

“The scholarship program is about honoring achievement and excellence in our Club Members and their families. It’s one of the most important ways we celebrate the work and lives of municipal employees every year. We’re all about giving back.”

**Apply Today**  
on the *Alive!* Website:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/scholarship](http://alive.employeesclub.com/scholarship)

**DEADLINE**  
**11:59 p.m.,**  
**June 30, 2021**

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- All Club Members and their spouses, children, grandchildren, and nieces/nephews of Club Members, are eligible to apply. Club Members must be in good standing.
- Dependent children and other relatives of Club Members must be under the age of 25. There is no age limit for the member or member’s spouse.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited college, university, or trade school full time in the fall 2021 semester. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in fall 2021 are eligible.
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.
- Scholarships are expected to be awarded in equal amounts of \$500 (each).
- **Deadline:** Applications must be completed online at the *Alive!* Website by 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2021. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.
- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

### ABOUT JOANNIE MUKAI



Joannie Mukai was a pioneer as the LA Port’s Director of Construction and Maintenance. A passionate supporter in the Employees Club and longtime Club Insurance Board Member, she died in March 2010. The Club’s annual scholarship program was named in her honor. “She believed in education and training, and in preparing for success,” Club CEO John Hawkins said. “That’s what the Club Scholarship is all about, and we’re delighted to name it after her. It’s a perfect way to keep her memory alive.”

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



**Ryan Facio**  
Son of Brian Podolsky,  
Retired, Transportation,  
City of Los Angeles, a previous  
scholarship recipient.





From left: Firefighter/Paramedic Robert Wyatt, 7 years of City service, administers the Moderna vaccine to Capt. Matthew Thompson, 20 years, Jan. 8 at Fire Station 4.

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## THE VACCINATION PROCESS



The first step to being vaccinated: scanning the registration code.



The next step: checking in with the CORE team – Chez Stock (left) and Kate Mason.



Firefighter/Paramedic Anthony Kong prepares an injection.



Firefighter/Paramedic Robert Wyatt administers a dose.



After vaccination, the recipient is required to wait at least 15 minutes in case there are side effects. Here, Capt. Matthew Thompson, Fire Station 12, awaits. (He was fine.) The special refrigerator containing the vaccine is seen on the left.



Firefighter Kasma Davar (left) is vaccinated on the first day of City first responder vaccinations, Dec. 28. Photo courtesy the City of LA

Monitoring the process are (from left) Firefighter II Katherine Hanson; Firefighter III Sergio Mayorga; Engineer Patrick Turner; Chief Ralph Terrazas; and Capt. David Grijalva.



Firefighter/Paramedics (from left) Joe Pambianco, 6 years of City service, and Dan Smith, 5 years, after their vaccinations.



Fire Station 4 on vaccination day.



Firefighter/Paramedic Anthony Kong (right) administers the vaccine on the first day of City first responder vaccinations, Dec. 28. Photo courtesy the City of LA



Capt. David Grijalva, Engine 82, 22 years of City service, is vaccinated.

# SHOT OF HOPE

## FIRST UP: THE LAFD

**CITYWIDE**

**For City frontline employees, the much-needed vaccinations begin.**



Photos by John Burnes, *Alive!* editor; Juan and Veronica Guerra for *Alive!*; and courtesy the City of LA

**A**s the City neared its 11<sup>th</sup> month of the pandemic, *Alive!* visited Fire Station 4 downtown Jan. 8. The first round of the vaccine in LA is being administered to healthcare workers and first responders, including the LAFD.

### The First City Employee Injections

In late December, the City received 3,200 Moderna vaccines for initial distribution to first responders.

Los Angeles Firefighters and Paramedics became the City's first frontline workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine Dec. 28. The first vaccinations were administered at Fire Station 4 in Downtown Los Angeles.

"We can never do enough to express our gratitude for the courage, sacrifice, service, and selflessness of our firefighters, paramedics, and first responders — the extraordinary Angelenos who put it all on the line to administer COVID-19 tests, protect public health, and save lives," Mayor Garcetti said. "The brave members of our LAFD have earned their place at the front of the line for this vaccine, and even as we stay vigilant in the face of surging cases, today gives us hope for an end in sight to this deadly pandemic."

Two more sites were set up at Fire Stations in West LA and in the San Fernando Valley.

The City is working closely with the L.A. County Dept. of Public Health (DPH) to leverage existing infrastructure — for testing and flu shot distribution — to strengthen countywide vaccine efforts. As part of this collaboration, the LAFD deployed mobile vaccination units to skilled nursing facilities within the City, and offered COVID-19 vaccinations for emergency healthcare practitioners.

To prepare for this effort, LAFD has obtained medical grade freezers and refrigerators for storage and started training paramedics to administer the COVID-19 vaccine, in partnership with the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy.

### The City's Testing Program

The City, in partnership with CORE and the LAFD, operated one of the largest municipal COVID-19 free testing programs in the country, including the largest testing administration site in the nation at Dodger Stadium. At press time, the testing function at Dodger Stadium has been converted into administering vaccines.

The City launched its testing program March 20, 2020 to test first responders and vulnerable individuals. Free testing was offered to all residents, with or without symptoms, whether or not they have insurance. For current testing information or to make an appointment, please visit [coronavirus.lacity.org/testing](https://coronavirus.lacity.org/testing).

### Vaccination on Location

The supervisor of the vaccine operation at Fire Station 4, LAFD RN and EMS Educator Robert Heaton, told *Alive!* Jan. 8 that the nonprofit CORE — Community Organized Relief Effort (actor Seam Penn's organization) — helped manage registration and processing. Onsite CORE staffers Chez Stock and Kate Mason managed the "paperwork" and strict authorization of each person to receive the vaccine. The LAFD was coordinating with the California Immunization Registry (CAIR) for record-keeping.

After signing in using a QR code and completing the processing, Firefighters and employees received the vaccine, and then waited in a safe space to manage any unforeseen adverse reactions. Recipients were to wait either 15 or 30 minutes after injection, depending on their history of injection reactions. After the vaccination, recipients checked into the CDC's V-safe smartphone-based health checker to monitor their reaction.

### Vaccine Rollout

At press time at the end of January, the 1A phase of the vaccine rollout continues at Dodger stadium with the administering of the Moderna vaccine to healthcare workers and other frontline City employees. Public Works/ Street Services essential workers began receiving the vaccine Jan. 20.



Phase 1A continued with the vaccine rollout at Dodger Stadium. Mayor Eric Garcetti was on hand to cheer on the LAFD and CORE teams administering the vaccine.

### Eligibility Rollout

The Moderna vaccine has been shown to be safe and effective in large studies that involved diverse groups of people, preventing 95 percent of cases of COVID-19 disease, according to the City's Emergency Management Dept. Website.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be free for everyone and will be offered to different groups in phases. Vaccinations have begun, and limited groups are already being vaccinated. The vaccine is likely to be available to the general public in Spring/Summer 2021. At press time, the schedule is fluid and could be updated by the time you read this.

Please visit LA County's Dept. of Public Health Vaccine Distribution webpage to see which groups are currently eligible. (SCAN THE CODE TO GO TO THE WEBPAGE.)



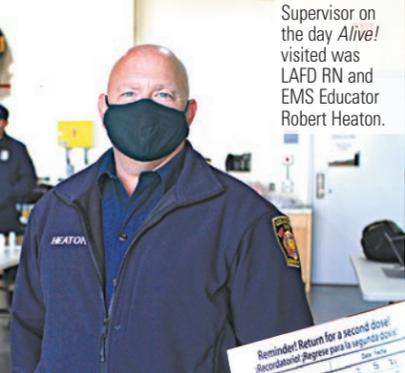
Please, also talk to your healthcare provider, or sign up for email updates from the L.A. County Dept. of Public Health to find out when the vaccine will be available to you.



Firefighter/Paramedic Robert Wyatt sanitizes the vaccination station between each administration.



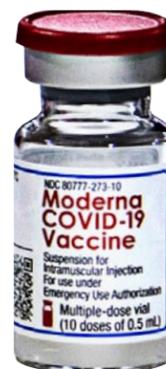
Supervisor on the day *Alive!* visited was LAFD RN and EMS Educator Robert Heaton.



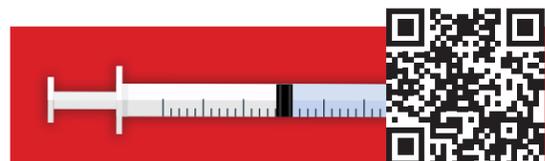
A COVID vaccine registration card.



The City began vaccinating healthcare workers Dec. 30. Photo courtesy the City of LA



The Moderna vaccine.



For updated general information about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, check out the EMD's COVID-19 website: [corona-virus.la/covid-19-vaccine](https://corona-virus.la/covid-19-vaccine)



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

# RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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



Ruth B. Perry

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

### 2021 Executive Board of Directors

- Ruth B. Perry, *President*
- Beverly J. Clark, *First Vice President*
- Phil Orland, *Second Vice President*
- Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, *Treasurer*
- Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, *Secretary*

### RLACEI DIRECTORS

Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Loucin (Lucy) Artinian,<br><i>Treasurer</i>             | Ext. 718 |
| Beverly J. Clark,<br><i>Publicity Director</i>          | Ext. 716 |
| Harold Danowitz   | Ext. 707 |
| Dennis Harding,<br><i>Entertainment Director</i>        | Ext. 704 |
| Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian                                 | Ext. 719 |
| Tom Moutes,<br><i>Health &amp; Legislative Director</i> | Ext. 710 |
| Phil Orland,<br><i>Golf Director</i>                    | Ext. 709 |
| Ruth B. Perry,<br><i>Membership Director</i>            | Ext. 717 |

### 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

### 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.

### Send in your Interesting



## News Contributions!

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

## 2021 RETIREE EVENTS

- May 6 Annual membership meeting and picnic**  
*Friendship Auditorium  
2501 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles*
- June 10 Annual Tom Stemnock Memorial Golf Tournament**  
*Alhambra Golf Course  
630 S. Almanson St., Alhambra*
- Aug. 5 Annual Picnic**  
*Location to be announced*

### RESERVATION LINE:

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

## RETIREES UPDATE

### The Perils of Divestment

by Tom Moutes, RLACEI Legislative Director



Tom Moutes

Recently, the City Council adopted a motion that, among other things, would have LACERS divest from some fossil fuel companies and other companies that “contradict the City Council’s official positions.”

Over the years, divestment requests of public pensions have included things including fossil fuels, guns, tobacco and gambling; countries including Sudan, Israel, and countries threatening Israel; and companies including those that sell guns or provide goods or services to the Dakota Access Pipeline, or the border wall.

While it’s easy to say we should take action regarding some of these causes, as they may be sympathetic, there are a few issues to point out regarding past divestment attempts: First, it is not easy for a pension fund to divest from these things, countries, or companies. The majority of LACERS investments are in index funds, as these funds are cost-effective. Trying to carve out the perceived undesirable investments from these funds would defeat the purpose of being in index funds. You would have to create and track a custom index, and investment expenses would go up.

Second, the LACERS Board does not get to call all of the shots on how its private equity funds are invested. The Board gives its private equity managers latitude to find the best investments within broad parameters. If a fund is invested in an asset that a board wants to divest from, the options basically are limited to selling the whole fund on the secondary market (usually for a discount and perhaps even a steep discount) or waiting for the term of the fund to run out (often many years).

Third, the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) missed out on approximately \$3.6 billion due to its divestment from tobacco. The point here is that divesting can cost pension systems investment returns.

Regarding fossil fuel divestment, Ben Meng, Chief Investment Officer of CalPERS, was quoted as saying, “60 cents of every dollar to pay the retiree benefits comes from investment returns ... We need those investment returns now and in the future. If the market fails us, or we miss our targets, the hard-working people of California and the employers take on the financial burden.” (*Chief Investment Officer* publication). In other words, the employees and taxpayers have to pay for the divestment decisions, whether they agree with the decisions or not.

Chris Ailman, the Chief Investment Officer of the California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS), was quoted in the *Orange County Register* regarding potential coal divestment as follows, “I’ve been involved in five divestments for our fund. [On] all five of them we’ve lost money, and all five of them have not brought about social change.”

This brings up the strongest point against asking LACERS to divest from any investment where it thinks it can make good risk-adjusted returns – the City has made benefit promises to more than 48,000 active and Retired City employees, and LACERS currently has only about 70 percent of the funds it will need to pay those benefits. So, any discussion of allowing politics into LACERS investment process, whether in the form of investment “recommendations” or divestment “requests” should start – and probably end – with conversation regarding how the City is going to make good on the retirement benefits promised to the hard-working City employees.

The investment decisions for LACERS should be exclusively for the LACERS staff and consultants to recommend and for LACERS Board to make. The California Constitution and the City Charter give the LACERS Board “sole and exclusive fiduciary responsibility over the assets of its system.” If the LACERS Board determines that an investment’s risk outweighs the potential returns, it should not make that investment. However, the Board should not simply be told what to do by politicians, who do not have a fiduciary duty to the LACERS members.

Even if LACERS was 100 percent funded, it would be dangerous to go down the slippery slope of divestment. With LACERS at only about 70 percent funded, it would be an extremely dangerous slope. ■

## LACERS BOARD UPDATE

### LACERS Investment Performance in Top 15%

by Michael R. Wilkinson, LACERS Commissioner



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS’ investment consultant, NEPC, recently reported on our investment returns for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 2020. Again, as in the second quarter (ending June 30), the returns were strong. As you know, short-term returns, up or down, are not significant to the safety and financial security of the plan over the long term.

For the period ending Sept. 30, LACERS returned 6.19 percent for the last three months, 1.45 percent for the year to date, 6.84 percent for one year, 6.06 percent for three years, 8.17 percent for five years and 8.29 percent for 10 years, net of fees.

NEPC has compared LACERS’ returns to those of other public pension plans of \$1 billion to \$50 billion in size, and LACERS has delivered strong relative and absolute investment performance. Although investment returns and relative rankings continually change, over the 10-year period ending Sept. 30, LACERS’ investment performance ranked in the top 15 percent of our peer group and earned an annualized 8.29 percent rate of return, net of fees.

Again, I keep the push on to keep investment fees down and to control risk. LACERS uses passive investing (index funds) to get superior returns without paying high fees to active managers where this makes sense. Long-term investors use passive investments for certain asset classes like U.S. large cap equities, where active money managers struggle to keep up with passive funds after paying high management fees. LACERS overall invests 35 percent of its fund passively, with 84 percent of its U.S. equity investments in index funds. Non-US equity is 34 percent passive, and core fixed income is 21 percent passive.

I have asked the investment staff to be vigilant in seeking other opportunities to invest more in passive investments where LACERS would get better after fees returns. There are some asset classes, such as private equity, where passive investments are not available, but properly vetted active managers can deliver very attractive returns even after paying active management fees.

Finally, the plan and NEPC are keeping track of the economic effects of COVID-19. This is a turbulent time that has caused great financial hardships for many. However, the Board and the consultant are carefully evaluating the investment landscape to find opportunities for sound long-term investments that will produce good returns without taking on unnecessary risks. ■

## A Note on COVID-19

**To Our RLACEI Retirees:** We haven’t made it through the pandemic yet, and unfortunately the vaccination process has reached a few stumbling blocks. As of this writing, Los Angeles County has surpassed one million reported positive cases with a population of approximately 10 million. Many of our seniors are experiencing anxiety and depression as they are unable to visit with family and friends. The *Los Angeles Times* dated last Sept. 5 reported that young adults between the ages of 18 and 29 were suffering an elevated rate of depression higher than the general public.

With the distribution of the vaccine, there is hope that soon we will be able to get back to some type of normalcy. Please wear a mask for the health of yourself and others. And as always, we ask everyone to continue to stay safe and healthy both physically and mentally. ■

# RLACEI

## RETIREES ON THE MOVE

### Meet Lydia Hollins

By Beverly Clark, RLACEI Publicity Chair



Lydia Hollins

Lydia Hollins retired in 2015 from the LAPD as a Systems Analyst. During her City employment, she worked for both LAPD and Transportation. Upon retiring, Lydia had 25 years of service on the job and bought back five years of military time, which allowed her to qualify for a 30-year pension. Prior to working for the City, Lydia served in the US Army for nine years as a Sergeant E-5.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Lydia's daily activity included water aerobics and swimming at the Pools of Hope in Long Beach.

One of Lydia's favorite hobbies is fishing. Her favorite fishing spots are in freshwater lakes. Being retired has allowed Lydia to spend more time with family and friends, and especially her grandchildren, whom she adores. She has invested time in teaching her grandchildren how to manage money and business skills, which will prepare them for a stable future.

Lydia says she is blessed to be able to now take care of her mother and her medical needs. She has one son and one daughter, two sisters, one brother and two grandchildren.

When asked about favorite hobbies, it seems that travel is always at the top of every Retirees list. Lydia is no exception. She says, "I love to travel but I especially love cruising. I have been to South America, Asia, the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America, North America and Cuba." She can't wait to be able to travel again!

Lydia is a member of RLACEI and is very involved with her church. However, since the pandemic, church services and activities have been virtual.



Lydia catching the big one.

#### Any words of wisdom for Retirees or those about to retire?

"My words of wisdom to those who are considering retiring are to live your life to the fullest because you don't get a do-over."

#### What was the smartest thing you did to prepare for retirement, or did you plan on retiring when you did?

"I really did not plan on my retirement when I began working for the City, but I knew it was a job with good benefits. I was a 30-year-old single mother when I began working for the City of Los Angeles. When I started, retiring was not on my mind. My only concern was to be able to provide for my children. As they got older, I realized that they would not need me as much as they did when they were younger, and that's when I began to think about retirement! I knew I did not want to work until I was 60 years old, so I came up with a plan to retire at the age of 55 by purchasing my military service credit."

#### What do you miss or don't miss about your years of service to the City of Los Angeles?

"What I miss most are the people I met while working and all of the eating adventures we had together."

#### As you reflect on your City career, would you have done anything differently?

"I don't think I would have done anything differently. I feel as though God placed me where I should be. I had previously applied for positions as a Police Officer with the LAPD, Hermosa Beach Police and Airport Police, but those jobs did not pan out. So I realized that I was where I should be working for the LAPD in various positions throughout my career."

#### How do you fill your days?

"I do whatever comes to me to do. Some days I just lay in bed and watch TV like I use to wish for when I was working."

#### If you could change one thing about retired life, what would that be?

"There is nothing I would change. I feel that life is predestined, and I am where I should be at this appointed time."

#### The Shelter-in-Place order has changed our normal way of life. Do you find this time challenging?

"I am unable to do any of the things that used to keep me busy. I especially miss going to the pool to work out. I do not find this time too challenging with the exception of the children being homeschooled. My family is very close, so we spend a lot of time together."

#### Are you bored?

"I am somewhat bored but the family, cooking and being able to go to lakes to fish helps the boredom."

#### How do you socialize now?

"I socialize only with family."

#### What do you miss most?

"I miss being able to go out to restaurants with my family."

*Since February is Lydia's birthday month, we wish Lydia a happy Retired birthday! ■*



Lydia and son.



Lydia cruising.



Lydia and daughter.



Lydia and Mom.

# Sign Up!

YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE



Connect to RLACEI on our Facebook page!

#### TO ENTER:

**RLACEI Members:**

Follow us on Facebook

**Other City Retirees:**

Like us on Facebook and join RLACEI

#### PRIZES TO FIRST 150!

**FIRST 50 WIN**

**Target \$25 gift card**

**51-100 WIN**

**\$5 gift card**  
*(See's or Starbucks)*

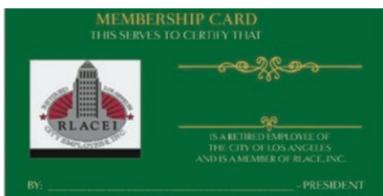
**101-150 WIN**

**RLACEI reusable cloth bag**



**Find us:** Log on to Facebook, then search for RLACEI

**Join at:** RLACEI.org  
(must be Retired City employee)



## Become an RLACEI Member

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) is dedicated to advocating for retiree interests. We are over 6,500 strong! Members enjoy all RLACEI events such as the golf tournament, member's picnic, and holiday party. RLACEI membership includes FREE membership in the Employees Club of California with access to all Club group benefits (insurance, discounts, etc.).

**Get FREE membership through the end of June 2021 for those retiring Jan. 1 through May 31, 2021!**

**Call (800) 678-4145 x717, or visit our website at RLACEI.ORG and join today!**

## Annual Membership Meeting Now May 6

The RLACEI annual general membership meeting and holiday party, which generally is held in December, was postponed as we all continue to stay quarantined and limit our activities during the coronavirus pandemic. The new scheduled date is May 6. Further information will be provided as we get closer to the date. The installation of Board of Directors will take place at that time. ■



**We can print your name or logo on anything, including:**

- Face Masks
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- Baseball Caps
- Key Tags
- ...and more!

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 rosebud@getpromos.com  
**www.RosebudMarketing.com**

**ANNOUNCING**

## John's Picture Perfect Now Has a Theme!

The Club's online photo contest, organized by CEO John Hawkins, now has a monthly theme.

A winner by Dominique Daito, LAPD, in August 2020.



**March Contest Theme: Family**

Submit your best photos of family (assuming that everyone in the picture is okay with you submitting it) and be in the running for a prize.

Submit your photos here: [alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect/](http://alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect/)

**Deadline: Feb. 20**  
 Club Members only. Good luck!



100 N. 1<sup>ST</sup> St., Ste. 301, Burbank, CA 91502  
 877-801-5522 CA License #0252636

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Get a **\$50 Arco Gas Card**  
 For Club Members if they purchase by Feb. 28



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 A FREE Benefit to members of the Employees Club

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LAPD, LAFD

## 4 Succumb to COVID

**Four first responders from LAPD, LAFD increase total to eight during the pandemic. May they rest in peace.**

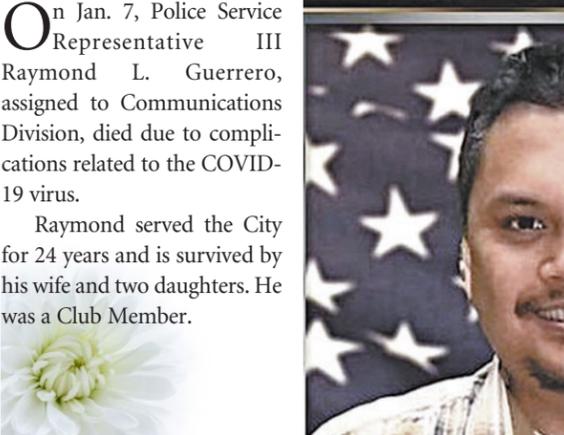
The others who have passed away previously from coronavirus complications are Sgt. Fred Cueto, a 22-year veteran who died in December; Detention Officer Erica McAdoo, 39; and Officer Valentin Martinez, 45, who both died last July. LAFD Firefighter/Paramedic Jose Perez passed away in July.

### Capt. I George Roque



On Jan. 1, the Los Angeles Fire Dept. reported the death of Capt. I George Roque from complications from COVID-19. He served the City for 22 years and assigned to Fire Station 97 in Laurel Canyon/Mulholland area. Capt. Roque was 57 and survived by his wife and four children.

### PSR III Raymond Guerrero



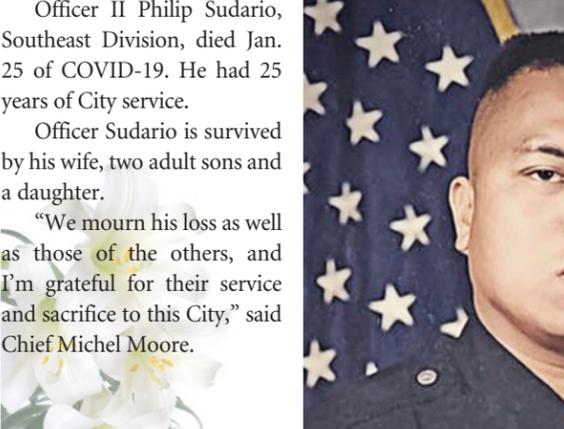
On Jan. 7, Police Service Representative III Raymond L. Guerrero, assigned to Communications Division, died due to complications related to the COVID-19 virus. Raymond served the City for 24 years and is survived by his wife and two daughters. He was a Club Member.

### Sgt. Amelia 'Terry' Martinez



On Jan. 13, Sgt. Amelia "Terry" Martinez passed away due to complications of COVID-19. Assigned to the Hollenbeck Division, she was 53 and had worked for the City for more than 27 years. She's survived by two sons, a daughter, her mother and her siblings. She was a Club Member.

### Officer II Philip Sudario



Officer II Philip Sudario, Southeast Division, died Jan. 25 of COVID-19. He had 25 years of City service. Officer Sudario is survived by his wife, two adult sons and a daughter. "We mourn his loss as well as those of the others, and I'm grateful for their service and sacrifice to this City," said Chief Michel Moore.

THE CLUB

# 3 Honored at Virtual Annual Meeting

Staff members honored as Club annual meeting goes virtual.

The Club held its annual meeting virtually during the week of Dec. 18. During the meeting, three Club staff members were honored with the awards, given each year to recognize excellent customer service.

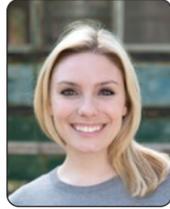
The President's Award for 2020 was presented to the Club's Noelle Kauffman, Member Services Manager; Mariana Guevara, Tickets and Benefits Procurement Manager; and Dylan Noel, Club Counselor. The President's Award is given to a Club staff member or members who have gone above and beyond the scope of their position. "In an improbable year, the Club has for the first time awarded this prestigious award to not one or two, but three staff members," said Robert Larios, Club COO. "And for good reason."

"Mariana, Noelle and Dylan have set the bar high for all employees of the Club by being an inspiration and an example for the rest of the staff," John Hawkins, Club CEO, said. "But most importantly, they have given Club members the ultimate in customer service, allowing us to truly celebrate the work and lives of municipal employees. There is no question in our minds that they know how to Be Club. Thank you and congratulations to each of you!"



## 2020 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

### Noelle Kauffman and Dylan Noel



Noelle Kauffman



Dylan Noel

"For months, Dylan and Noelle trained staff and tested software to perfection so that Member Services staff could help employees electronically on Fillable PDF Application Templates, electronic signatures, and new mobile app software," John Hawkins said in announcing the winners. "That gives staff the ability to send text messages to Members about important employee benefits and insurance by the hundreds and exponentially faster than texting one member at a time – things that were not possible before the pandemic. Those improvements are game changers in the way Members and staff members now communicate. Dylan and Noelle worked as a team to make this revolutionary shift when the health crisis blocked contact between the Club and employees from the City, County and State agencies across California."

"And special thanks to Noelle for leading the Club Care Calls Project. She took the project to the next level by leading the project that contacted all Club members – about 50,000 calls! She believes that every single Club Member is valuable, and that it was up to us to do everything in our power to protect and honor each of them. It's the biggest outreach project in the 92-year history of the Employees Club."

### Mariana Guevara



Mariana Guevara

"Mariana Guevara is the third President's Award recipient, and she is also very deserving of the recognition," Robert Larios said.

"Mariana's dedication to the Club shines brightly throughout the year, and even on weekends and evenings without dimming. Her exceptional work ethic, professionalism and relentless pursuit of adding more Club benefit enhancements over the years have made her an invaluable asset to the marketing department and the association."

"Although COVID19 has suspended most of the discounts offered through the Club in 2020, Mariana persistently reached out to all the different venues to obtain the latest news and insight that may affect our members. The relationship that she's developed with her reps speaks for itself, as they are always willing to accommodate and at times bend over backwards for some of our Members' special requests."

"In addition, Mariana took the initiative to push her comfort level to new heights by filming and editing videos, taking photos of new merchandise, and doing voice recordings to help create a calm and comforting tone for the Club's phone system."

"With Mariana's help, we have grown our ticket and discount benefits far beyond what we imagined when the Club first started. The Club is proud to have her on our team in its endless quest to enhance the work and lives of municipal employees in California."

## Club Welcomes New Board Member

At its annual meeting, held virtually, the Club announced that Phillip Chou has joined the Club board.

Phil, a Club Member, is a Sr. Utility Accountant at the DWP's Finance and Risk Control Division and is a manager of the DWP's trust fund investments and supervisor of debt issuances. He started his career with the City in 2013 as an accountant for the Housing and Community Investment Dept. He transferred to the DWP in 2015.

He earned a Bachelor of arts degree from UCLA and an MBA from USC. He enjoys traveling, playing golf and riding his motorcycle.

Welcome to the Club Board, Phil! It's great to have your guidance to help the Club serve municipal employees.



Phillip Chou, Club Board Member.

**ELECTRIC BIKE DISCOUNTS**

# STEP INTO THE NEW YOU!



**URBAN E-BIKES**



**E-MOUNTAIN BIKES**

**CLUB MEMBER EXCLUSIVE DEAL**

## TAKE 14% OFF

ONLINE PURCHASE OF AN ELECTRIC BIKE  
(LIMIT 2 BIKES PER MEMBER)



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**PEGASUS**

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**\$50**  
**Amazon**  
**Gift Card**



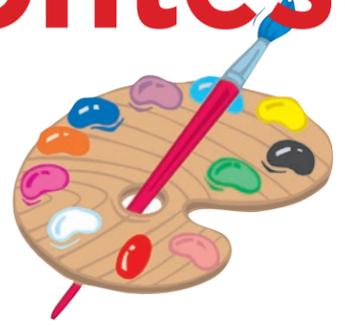
**Deadline**  
*For submission:*

**March 12, 2021**

*Look for winners on*  
*Web Alive! in April:*

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

# Coloring Contest for Grown-Ups!



**HEY CLUB MEMBERS,**

It's time for another Grown-Up Coloring Contest, so get out your crayons, sparkles and whatnot. Get coloring and have fun!

**The prize: a \$50 Amazon gift card.**

**PLEASE PROVIDE** →

Club Membership Number:

**PLEASE COMPLETE:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Entries to:**

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

**Rules of the Club's Grown-up Coloring Contest:**

- Winning contestants must be Club Members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club Membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
- All responses must be completed by the person indicated: no ringers (including your children!).
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- 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.

## Download Coloring Art From the Web

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



LAPD

Photos courtesy Assistant Chief Robert Arcos

# New Captains

Dept. promotes four to leadership positions.

On Dec. 18, the LAPD promoted four Lieutenants to leadership positions. They are:

- Capt. Clinton Dohmen, Southeast Division
- Capt. Warner Castillo, Olympic Division
- Capt. Brian Bixler, Hollywood Patrol Division
- Capt. Ryan Whiteman, West Los Angeles Division

*Congratulations to the new Division leaders! ■*



Pictured (not in order): Capt. Ryan Whiteman, Capt. Clinton Dohmen, Capt. Warner Castillo and Capt. Brian Bixler.



## INSURANCE FROM THE CLUB



# Life Insurance

**If anyone relies on your income, you need Life Insurance.**

### Get it today. Here's why:

- Think about your mortgage, children's tuition, funeral expenses and serious unforeseen expenses
- You should be covered for at least four to five times your salary
- Life insurance pays in addition to your City benefits and any individual life insurance policy you have in force.

To learn more about your insurance options, schedule a visit with the Club's insurance experts:



**MaryAnn Urdiales**  
Member Services Counselor  
murdiales@employeesclub.com  
Ext. 159



**Tiffany Sy**  
Member Services Counselor  
tsy@employeesclub.com  
Ext. 202



**Cheryl Martin**  
Member Services Counselor  
cmartin@employeesclub.com  
Ext. 136



Phone and virtual meeting appointments available.

**Email: [help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com)**

**Or call: (800) 464-0452**

LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. ('Employees Club of California') is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. No. is 0B98000.

# The Club and Aflac Have Joined Forces to Bring You More Options and Better Service!



## Coverage for the life you love.

The Employees Club of California proudly offers the convenience of payroll deduction for Aflac policies for Los Angeles City Employees.

Aflac can help protect your vacations, your yoga lessons, and even your date nights. Basically, the things you love in life.

Aflac helps pay what major medical doesn't. For more information about applying, plan benefits, and questions about an existing Aflac policy, contact an Aflac insurance agent.



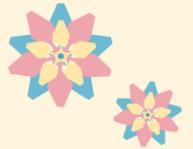
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The Employees Club of California is a membership program of LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. (CA DOI Lic. #0B98000). LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members provided by various insurance companies. LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. does not offer any Aflac insurance product and is not directly affiliated with Aflac.

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# Life's Important Moments



## Share Your Life's Moments

Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

Submit digital photos and text online:

(as high a resolution as you can send)

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



- Graduations
- Military Service
- Special Achievements
- Weddings
- Births

## In Memoriam

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

| DEPARTMENT           | YEARS OF SERVICE     | DEPARTMENT            | YEARS OF SERVICE  | DEPARTMENT          | YEARS OF SERVICE  | DEPARTMENT           | YEARS OF SERVICE       |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Active</b>        |                      |                       |                   |                     |                   |                      |                        |
| Armstrong, Crystal   | Housing 15           | Brown, Betty J.       | DWP 28            | Gunasekara, Thelma  | Public Works 35   | Moritsugu, Roy S.    | Public Works 36        |
| Bennett, Mark        | DWP 4                | Bulpitt, Scott T.     | Harbor 30         | Hardy, Robert       | Public Works 8    | Murtha, James E.     | DWP 25                 |
| Burcelis, Jessie Lee | Library 28           | Carlisle, Charles L.  | N/D N/D           | Hauser, Brian C.    | DWP 10            | Najera Jr., Emigdio  | DWP 20                 |
| Carvajal Kung, Nora  | Econ./Wrkfr. Dev. 20 | Cheever, Lloyd E.     | DWP 39            | Hayata, Tokiko      | DWP 34            | Ochi, Rose M.        | N/D N/D                |
| Caudillo, Richard    | Housing 14           | Cisneros, Isabel L.   | Rec and Parks 30  | Heinlein, Carl R.   | DWP 30            | Orseno, Thomas J.    | N/D N/D                |
| Caudillo, Richard E. | DWP 4                | Coleman, Jerry L.     | Transportation 30 | Heramis, Dax C.     | N/D N/D           | Ortega, Felix G.     | DWP 23                 |
| Espinosa, Gilbert    | Rec and Parks 25     | Cooperman, Fred       | N/D N/D           | Hills, Drena T.     | Transportation 34 | Ozawa, Lynne M.      | City Council 34        |
| Gordon Jr., Howard   | Public Works 2       | Crabtree, Clarence I. | DWP 35            | Hoang, Kien T.      | DWP 30            | Ramos, Julian        | Gen. Services 35       |
| Jimenez, Lorenzo     | LAPD 12              | Crum, Thomas L.       | N/D N/D           | Hobbs, Esther M.    | N/D N/D           | Reitmeyer, Robert R. | DWP 31                 |
| Jimenez Jr., Lorenzo | DWP 6                | Davidson, Robert C.   | DWP 37            | Hodges, Jack D.     | Rec and Parks 13  | Reveles, Raul Mejia  | LAPD 30                |
| Lucas, Larry J.      | General Services 1   | Davis, Felix W.       | Public Works 20   | Hoffman, Joan M.    | N/D N/D           | Roberts, Jerry       | El Pueblo His. Mon. 26 |
| Orozco, Jose         | Convention Center 6  | Davis, Glenn Edward   | ITA 11            | Holder, Joseph      | DWP 28            | Robertson, Michael   | LAPD 33                |
| Patel, Kartik        | Transportation 25    | De La Rosa, Manuel    | DWP 37            | Hulderman, John N.  | N/D N/D           | Rodriguez, Xavier R. | DWP 32                 |
| Talcott, John        | Public Works 20      | Diaz, Fernando        | DWP 25            | Johnson, Charles L. | Airports 25       | Schaeffing, James    | DWP 18                 |
| Weber, Ronald        | Bldg. & Safety 5     | Dow, Douglas B.       | N/D N/D           | Johnson, Lawrence   | DWP 28            | Shimatsu, Rodger K.  | Public Works 15        |
|                      |                      | Duplessis, Rudolph J. | Airports 30       | Jones, Mae Ethel    | N/D N/D           | Slutzky, Elsa B.     | Rec and Parks 10       |
|                      |                      | Edwards, Roland E.    | N/D N/D           | Jong, Monty A.W.    | Bldg. & Safety 33 | Strong, Norman E.    | DWP 28                 |
|                      |                      | Felix, Arthur S.      | N/D N/D           | Leemon, Irving M.   | Gen. Services 33  | Taylor, Donell C.    | DWP 31                 |
|                      |                      | Foster, Bernadine S.  | N/D N/D           | Luster, Shelley     | N/D N/D           | Thomas, Norman       | DWP 34                 |
|                      |                      | Garcia, Antonio V.    | Airports 29       | Martin, Dennis E.   | Public Works 34   | Torres, Fernando M.  | Airports 32            |
|                      |                      | Gatinga, Elisa C.     | N/D N/D           | McClive, William J. | N/D N/D           | Trujillo, Joseph E.  | DWP 27                 |
|                      |                      | Gerster, John H.      | DWP 29            | McTigue, John       | Rec and Parks 30  | Ubavich, Nevenka     | DWP 46                 |
|                      |                      | Gordon, Thomas J.     | DWP 18            | Meyers, Kenneth H.  | Public Works 31   | White, Susan         | Finance 31             |
|                      |                      | Griffin, Donald E.    | N/D N/D           | Miniaci, Joseph     | Gen. Services 12  | Whitmore, James E.   | DWP 37                 |
|                      |                      | Grisco, Randall       | DWP 30            | Ministeri, James J. | N/D N/D           | Williams, Ronnie     | Gen. Services 28       |
|                      |                      | Guillory, John L.     | N/D N/D           | Moore, Charles      | Gen. Services 32  | Wong, Wayne          | N/D N/D                |
|                      |                      |                       |                   |                     |                   |                      |                        |

N/D = not disclosed

## Retirements

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

| NAME                        | TITLE                   | DEPT.           | YEARS | NAME                       | TITLE                    | DEPT.             | YEARS | NAME                       | TITLE                       | DEPT.             | YEARS |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Adams, Thomas G.            | Deputy City Att.        | City Attorney   | 35    | Imperial, William P.       | Telecom Reg. Off.        | ITA               | 17    | Perez, Marco A.            | Sr. Mgmt.Analyst            | Aging             | 37    |
| Aguilar, Bill Blanco        | Info System Mgr.        | ITA             | 35    | Ipsen, Hans C.             | Emerg.Mgmt.Coord.        | Emergency Prep    | 31    | Perez, Suzanne C.          | Accounting                  | DWP               | N/D   |
| Aldape, Roberto H.          | Asst.General Mgr.       | Housing         | 14    | Jackson, Betty Lou         | Correctional Nurse       | Personnel Dept.   | 19    | Phatanapong, Damrong       | Parking Attendant           | Gen. Services     | 14    |
| Allen, Robert A.            | Power C&M               | DWP             | N/D   | Jantz, Jeffrey M.          | Director of Systems      | LAPD              | 36    | Pieper, Cheree Dawn        | Pr. Clerk                   | LAPD              | 29    |
| Alvarez, Jose L.            | Info System Mgr.        | ITA             | 33    | Jenson, Bradley W.         | Pr. Civil Engineer       | Public Works      | 32    | Pina Cortez, Sophia        | Asst. General Mgr.          | Rec and Parks     | 36    |
| Archibeque, Victoria        | Supply Chain            | DWP             | N/D   | Johnson, Cora D.           | Bldg.Civil Engineer      | Bldg. & Safety    | 30    | Polk, Sherman E.           | Security Officer            | Airports          | 13    |
| Arellano, Enrique S.        | Spec. Prog. Asst.       | Rec & Parks     | 11    | Jones, Ilesia Faye         | Director                 | Personnel         | 33    | Quon, Franklin N.          | Assoc. Zoning Admin.        | City Planning     | 34    |
| Asmar, Nader                | Pr. Trans. Engineer     | Transportation  | 32    | Jun, Moonsik               | Messenger Clerk          | Library           | 28    | Redd, Kenneth R.           | Deputy City Engineer        | Public Works      | 32    |
| Avila, Ralph                | Sr. City Planner        | City Planning   | 37    | Kawaguchi, Allan T.        | Pr. Civil Eng./PM        | Public Works      | 35    | Richey, Earnestine         | Crossing Guard              | Transportation    | 11    |
| Babazadeh, Roya             | Dir., Enforcement       | Housing         | 21    | Khachadrian, Harry         | Wastewater Treat. Op.    | Public Works      | 36    | Roberts, David Leonard     | Property Mgr.               | Gen. Services     | 24    |
| Barquist, Janis L.          | Dep. City Attorney      | City Attorney   | 21    | Kimble, Jacqueline R.      | Customer Service         | DWP               | N/D   | Robertson, Michael         | Municipal Officer           | LAPD              | 33    |
| Barreiro, Maritza E.        | Custodian               | Airports        | 22    | Kitagawa, Darryl K.        | Sr. Mgmt.Analyst         | Public Works      | 31    | Rodriguez, Maureen E.      | Deputy City Attorney        | City Attorney     | 26    |
| Becker, George J.           | Bldg.Const./Maint. Sup. | Gen. Services   | 30    | Knipscheer Cox, Karen      | Dir. of Field Op.        | Animal Serv.      | 30    | Rossitter, Hugo Stephen    | Deputy City Attorney        | City Attorney     | 23    |
| Bottancino, Karen           | Director of Systems     | LAPD            | 31    | Laan, Mati V.              | Pr. Civil Engineer       | Public Works      | 35    | Roussel, Mark J.           | Bldg. Constr. & Maint. Sup. | Gen. Services     | 25    |
| Bravo Ocampo, Rodolfo       | Locker Room Attend.     | Rec and Parks   | 5     | Lackey, Verdell M.         | Officer                  | Airports          | 43    | Sainz, Robert M.           | Asst.General Mgr.           | Econ./Wrkfr. Dev. | 30    |
| Breedy Richardson, Wilberta | Sr. Asst.City Att.      | City Attorney   | 31    | Lam, Kenneth Y.            | Chief Inspector          | Housing           | 20    | Sakamoto, Michael          | Director of Systems         | Gen. Services     | 32    |
| Brill, Natalie R.           | Finance Specialist      | CAO             | 33    | Liang, Ning                | Chemist                  | Public Works      | 33    | Sarabia, Cristina C.       | City Attorney Coord.        | City Attorney     | 31    |
| Casas, Alberto L.           | Maint. Laborer          | Public Works    | 15    | Limon, Jose Izabel         | Maint. Laborer           | Public Works      | 15    | Sato, Gerald M.            | Deputy City Attorney        | City Attorney     | 21    |
| Cervantes, Rushmore         | Chief Mgmt.Analyst      | Finance         | 29    | Leufroy, Steven P.         | Power Supply             | DWP               | N/D   | Sato, Kurt M.              | Director of Systems         | LAFD              | 31    |
| Che, Hua C.                 | Chemist                 | Public Works    | 29    | Lopez, Daniel R.           | Water Distribution       | DWP               | N/D   | Sawaya, Ramzy              | Pr. Civil Engineer          | Public Works      | 34    |
| Chong Dillon, Mildred       | Librarian               | Library         | 15    | Lukjaniek, Jan             | Power Ext. Energy        | DWP               | N/D   | Schmidt, Richard A.        | Asst.City Attorney          | City Attorney     | 40    |
| Conroy, Aidan J.            | ITS                     | DWP             | N/D   | Lyons, Lisa J.             | Power Transmission       | DWP               | N/D   | Sheehan, Michael F.        | Deputy City Attorney        | City Attorney     | 23    |
| Cooper, Kelly               | Bldg.Const./Maint. Sup. | Gen. Services   | 21    | Mancha, Gina A.            | Sr. Mgmt.Analyst         | Public Works      | 32    | Shimokochi, Michael T.     | Info System Mgr.            | Transportation    | 34    |
| Cross, Patrick M.           | Info Systems Mgr.       | Public Works    | 31    | Marquez, Carleen R.        | Chief Mgmt.Analyst       | Public Works      | 30    | Sinclair, Vanessa A.       | Supply Chain                | DWP               | N/D   |
| Dager, Miguel               | Dep. City Attorney      | City Attorney   | 30    | Marroquin, Martina         | Custodian                | Airports          | 15    | Smith, Christophe L.       | Asst.Director               | Public Works      | 30    |
| Davis, Burt J.              | Officer                 | Airports        | 25    | Martin, Sammie L.          | Detention Officer        | LAPD              | 30    | Solomon, Ray Hidalgo       | Dir. of Materials Testing   | Gen. Services     | 33    |
| Davis, Mark C.              | Ch. Mgmt.Analyst        | LAFD            | 34    | Mathews, Michael           | Shift Sup., Wastewater   | Public Works      | 32    | Soriano, Edmund D.         | External/Reg. Affairs       | DWP               | N/D   |
| Davis, Robin Michelle       | Sr. Personnel Analyst   | LAPD            | 33    | Matsumoto, Aya V.          | Deputy City Attorney     | City Attorney     | 24    | Soriano Camacho, Felicitas | Sr. Personnel Analyst       | Personnel         | 31    |
| Davis, Tommy Joe            | Custodian               | Gen. Services   | 16    | McGuire, Ethel L.          | Asst.Police Chief        | Airports          | 8     | Swanson, Eric S.           | Power Transmission          | DWP               | N/D   |
| Dejam, Dariush              | Chemist                 | Public Works    | 30    | McMenamin, Michael E.      | Clean Grid               | DWP               | N/D   | Telles, Richard T.         | Bldg.Constr./Maint. Supt.   | Gen. Services     | 23    |
| Deven, Francisco            | Sr. Detention Officer   | LAPD            | 30    | Meyerhofer, Larry K.       | Coordinator              | Emergency Prep.   | 32    | Thompson, Jeffrey A.       | Police Admin.               | LAPD              | 17    |
| Don, James G.               | Asst.General Mgr.       | Aging           | 31    | Miller, Carole J.          | Deputy City Attorney     | City Attorney     | 34    | Tobias, Rosario Maria      | Deputy City Attorney        | City Attorney     | 17    |
| Drucker, Neil L.            | Environ. Affairs Ofc/PM | Public Works    | 34    | Mills, Andrea Violet       | Sr. Admin. Analyst       | CAO               | 38    | Torres, Joe                | Council Aide                | Council           | 14    |
| Duenas, Albert S.           | Maint.Laborer           | Airports        | 32    | Minix, Lorna Andrea        | Traffic Officer          | Transportation    | 15    | Tovar, Fernando            | Assoc. Zoning Admin.        | City Planning     | 30    |
| Duncan, Rodney B.           | Accounting Clerk        | Bldg.and Safety | 34    | Moody, Karl Leroy          | Asst.City Attorney       | City Attorney     | 17    | Tso, Kerrin I.             | Deputy City Attorney        | City Attorney     | 37    |
| Edwards, Gene N.            | Pr. Civil Engineer      | Public Works    | 32    | Nakama, Paul James         | Sr. Mgmt. Analyst        | Econ./Wrkfr. Dev. | 34    | Vargas, Andrew J.          | Street Services Supt.       | Public Works      | 26    |
| Flores, Jose Francisco      | Pr. Clerk               | City Clerk      | 24    | Navarro, Bernice A.        | Sr. Administrative Clerk | LAPD              | 22    | Vega, Eva Romero           | Sr. Mgmt.Analyst            | LAPD              | 40    |
| Franco, Fernando            | Sergeant                | Airports        | 30    | Nguyen, Truc H.            | Sr. Mgmt.Analyst         | LAPD              | 32    | Vega, Robert M./           | Pr. Civil Engineer          | Public Works      | 37    |
| Fraser, Brian W.            | Power Safety/Training   | DWP             | N/D   | Nielsen, Robert Lynn       | Engineer of Surveys      | Public Works      | 30    | Ward, Thomas Jeffrey       | Background Investig. Mgr.   | Personnel         | 21    |
| Freeman, Robert             | Asst.General Mgr.       | Emergency Prep  | 36    | Noltmeyer, David           | Chief Mgmt.Analyst       | Personnel         | 31    | Weintraub, David S.        | Assoc. Zoning Admin.        | City Planning     | 35    |
| Frias, Robert               | Refuse Coll. Truck Op.  | Public Works    | 30    | Ocampo, Julie Y.           | Sup. Serv. Payment Clerk | Gen. Services     | 24    | Williams, Dolores M.       | Airport Guide               | Airports          | 7     |
| Gertz, Elizabeth B.         | Deputy City Att.        | City Attorney   | 37    | Olinger, John              | Chief Constr. Insp.      | Public Works      | 34    | Wong, Belinda Fung Ha      | Administrative Clerk        | Library           | 31    |
| Gomez, Daniel V.            | Dir., Enforcement Op.   | Housing         | 36    | Oliva, Ramon Nunez         | Chemist                  | Public Works      | 28    | Wood, Anh T.               | ITS                         | DWP               | N/D   |
| Gong, Chi Ming              | Str. Serv. Gen. Sup.    | Public Works    | 26    | Olsen, Esther S.           | Deputy City Attorney     | City Attorney     | 22    | Yamanaka, George           | Dir. of Police Transp.      | LAPD              | 33    |
| Gonzales, Debra L.          | Asst.City Attorney      | City Attorney   | 36    | Oriel, Edilyn A.           | Financial Mgmt.Spec.     | Controller's Off. | 38    | Ybarra, Irma               | Ext./Regulatory Affairs     | DWP               | N/D   |
| Hanna, Albair W.            | Energy Generation       | DWP             | N/D   | Ostrander, Pamela McArthur | Sr. Mgmt.Analyst         | Public Works      | 34    | Yegiyvan, Vartan           | Civilian Police Admin.      | LAPD              | 34    |
| Hiscocks, Patrick D.        | Deputy City Att.        | City Attorney   | 25    | Page, Michael L.           | Special Prog. Asst.      | Rec and Parks     | 7     | Zaitz, David A.            | Sr. Mgmt..Analyst           | Housing           | 34    |
| Holguin, Roland             | Deputy City Attorney    | City Attorney   | 33    | Paschal, David             | Asst.General Mgr.        | Gen. Services     | 22    |                            |                             |                   |       |
| Horton, Philip C.           | Security Services       | DWP             | N/D   | Peace, Renee L.            | Director, Aquatics       | Rec and Parks     | 13    |                            |                             |                   |       |
| Hughes, Michael             | Sr. Bldg.Mech. Insp.    | Bldg. & Safety  | 19    | Perez, Alfonso             | Personnel Director       | Personnel         | 35    |                            |                             |                   |       |

N/D = not disclosed



LOS ANGELES CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

### Visit the LACERS YouTube Channel

Make it New Year's resolution to take advantage of everything the official LACERS YouTube channel has to offer! Don't forget to subscribe to the channel so that you can stay up to date with the new content that will be coming out this year.

The LACERS YouTube link is: [youtube.com/laceryoutube](https://www.youtube.com/laceryoutube)

For quicker access, scan this QR code with the camera on your phone to bring you directly to the FDBP Overview video.



FOR RETIREES:

### February Online Wellness Programs

#### February Online Wellness Programs

The LACERS Well program continues to build upon the five influences of wellbeing: purpose, social engagement, finances, health and community.

In response to the stress, the loss of connection and the overwhelming resource needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the LACERS Well and Champion teams have planned online activities and events to focus on social connectivity, community engagement and mental health/wellness strategies.



#### February 2021 Upcoming Events and Activities

- Coronavirus and Vaccine Update
- Kaiser Well-being Webinars: Emotional Well-being; Cultivating Mindfulness, Managing Stress
- Social Engagement Celebration – Valentine's Day
- Technology Events hosted monthly by Mom's Computer
- Champion Virtual Book Clubs

Visit [www.lacers.org/lacers-well-events](http://www.lacers.org/lacers-well-events) to register for upcoming LACERS Well events and activities to keep you connected with your LACERS family, engage with your community, and take care of yourself.



FOR ACTIVE EMPLOYEES:

### Don't Use City Email When Registering for MyLACERS

After retirement, you won't have access to your lacity.org email address – or other City-assigned email addresses. This is just one reason LACERS recommends that members use a personal email account for their MyLACERS accounts. Using a personal email account will ensure that if you ever forget your login credentials, an automated or staff-generated email to help you access your account can still reach you.

Already using your work address for your MyLACERS account? You can change it quickly and easily – no forms required! Simply login to your MyLACERS portal and visit the profile link next to your name on the top right. On the profile page, you can change your email address, username, password, and security questions.

MyLACERS link is <https://mylacers.lacers.org>



For quicker access, scan the QR code with the camera on your phone to bring you directly to the Website.



# LACERS Retired Members: Sign Up for a Free Facemask

The Club partners with LACERS, RLACEI to offer free facemasks for LACERS Retired Members.

Retirees: Do you have enough facemasks to keep you and others around you safe? With your continued safety and health in mind, three organizations are teaming up to send a free mask to LACERS Retired Members.

Two associations — the **Employees Club** and the **Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.** (RLACEI) — are teaming up with the **Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System** (LACERS), a City department, to make facemasks available to their Retired Members who request them. The masks are free and intended to help LACERS Retired Members protect their health.

The masks have been donated generously by two LACERS health plans, **SCAN** and **Kaiser Permanente**. The masks are fabric and designed for nonmedical use, and are different from the masks sold through the Club Webstore.

LACERS, RLACEI and the Club thank Phil Orland, who's active in all three organizations, for working to make this program happen. ■



#### Requirements:

- Retired LA City employee.
- Registrants must have an active MyLACERS account. (If you do not have a MyLACERS account please email [LACERSWell@lacers.org](mailto:LACERSWell@lacers.org) for assistance).
- Limit two masks per household.
- Offer stands while supplies last.
- The masks and shipping are free. It's really that simple.

Request your free facemask by logging into your MyLACERS account:

[mylacers.lacers.org](https://mylacers.lacers.org)

For instructions on how to request your free mask, go to <https://bit.ly/3riOemh>. Your free facemask will be shipped to you free via one of the three organizations.



LACERS RETIRED MEMBERS:

## Be Safer With a Free Mask!

Stay safer and be healthy in your retirement with a facemask.

It's free, courtesy the Club, RLACEI and LACERS for LACERS Retired Members! (SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS)

Request your Free Facemask today!

Two per household maximum. Must be a LACERS Retired Member with a myLACERS online account (you can register for a free account when you request your mask). Shipping is also free. Masks are fabric and designed for nonmedical use, and are different from the masks sold through the Club Webstore. Masks are donated by two LACERS health plans – SCAN and Kaiser Permanente. While supplies last.



Scan this code with your phone to login at [mylacers.lacers.org](https://mylacers.lacers.org)



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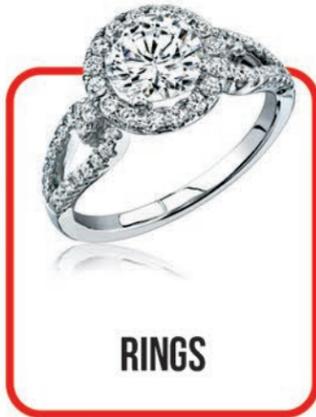
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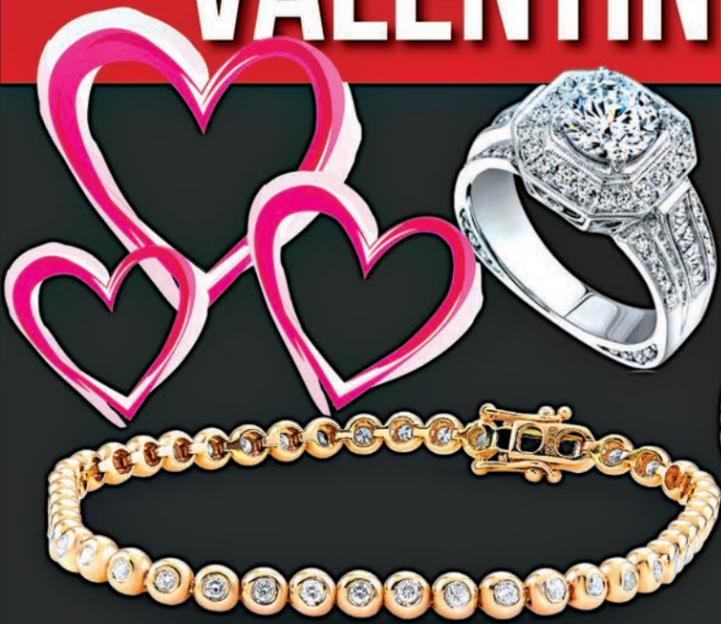
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