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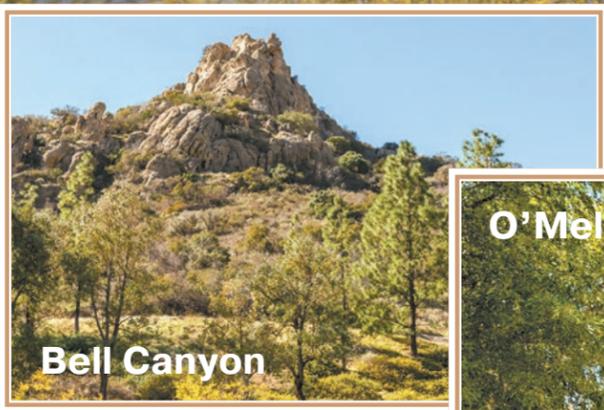
# Alive!

SUMMER IN THE CITY

# Hit the Trail

**REC & PARKS:** Missing your workout? City hiking trails are ready to welcome you back, safely. Get moving!  
- SEE PAGE 10

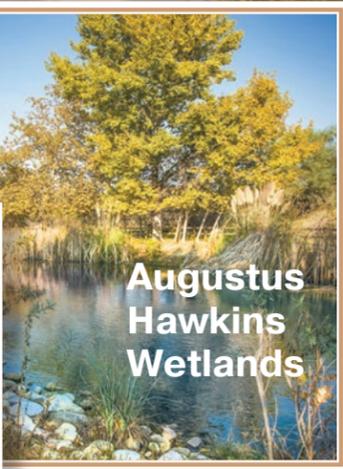
On the West Trail in Griffith Park are (from left) Park Ranger Sonya Sharp, 9 years of City service; Park Ranger Sgt. I Gary Menjuga, 8 years; Park Ranger Bradley Rice, 4 years; and Park Ranger Joseph Fuentes, 9 years. All are Club Members.



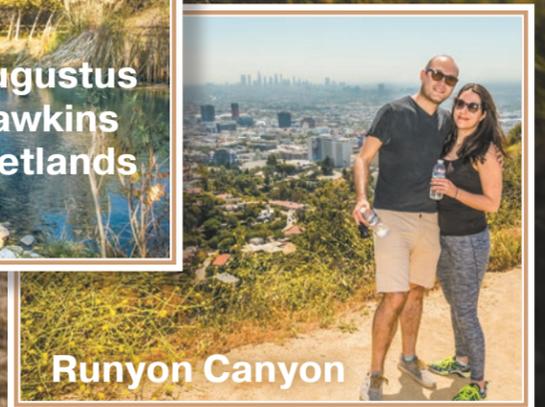
Bell Canyon



O'Melveny Park



Augustus Hawkins Wetlands



Runyon Canyon

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

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# Trail Mix

Who has been a little sedentary during the pandemic? Or more than a little sedentary? Your answer to getting moving again is in these pages.

Most every August, *Alive!* produces a “Summer in the City” story. For this month, the editorial team felt it was a good time to return to this series. (During the worst of the pandemic last August, we focused on Rec and Parks’ brand new Operations Center instead.) Angelenos are less restricted now (although not completely), and we wanted to present an avenue for your getting active again. The City’s trails – all free, of course – are an excellent way to do that.

What impressed me most in our Zoom interview was the variety of available trails. Most people know the ones around the Hollywood sign and the Griffith Observatory, and of course Runyon Canyon for the Hollywood types looking to meet a director. But the City offers many hundreds of others. **Ranger Sgt. Gary Menjuga** and **Ranger Bradley Rice** talk about the great mix of hiking opportunities. No more excuses that a trail might be too hard! City trails are for all people, not just the washboard abs crowd. Take advantage of that mix to breathe and let it all out.

Thanks go to **Ranger Capt. Sharie Abajian** and



Club Director of Marketing Summy Lam (left) with four Club Members – Ranger Bradley Rice, Sgt. Gary Menjuga and Rangers Joseph Fuentes and Sonya Sharp on Griffith Park’s West Trail Overlook



Boxer Manny Pacquiao with (from left) Rangers Bradley Rice, Joseph Fuentes, Sgt. Gary Menjuga and Ranger Sonya Sharp in Griffith Park.

# ROBERT’S BLOG

by Robert Larios, COO, The Club

**Rose Watson** for their assistance.

A side note: When the *Alive!* team was photographing the Rangers for this story, a commotion stirred up – boxer Manny Pacquiao was hosting a social meet-up with his fans on the same trail. You never know who you will meet when telling the stories of City employees.



Moving on. The Club is always proud this time of year to introduce the winners of the Club’s Joannie Mukai Scholarship Program. These 28 form a truly impressive group of scholars. (Go to [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com) to read the stories about their achievements.) I commend them and their parents. I also send a word of thanks to the Club’s 2021 Scholarship Committee, chaired by **Mariana Guevara** with **Noelle Kauffman**, **Guadalupe Lira** and **Summy Lam** as collaborators. The committee worked hard to be fair, considerate and generous. Well done, team.

Until next month, I wish you and your family a successful end of summer. Be safe and be well. *Gracias por leer.*

*Alive!* photos by Summy Lam

# Mozee to Lead StreetsLA

**Keith Mozee confirmed as the next head of StreetsLA.**



Keith Mozee

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Keith Mozee, StreetsLA’s Assistant Director for the last five years and a 31-year City employee, was confirmed July 1 as the next Executive Director of the department (Street Services). He was confirmed unanimously by the City Council.

“I thank Mayor Garcetti and the City Council for giving me this opportunity at what is a critical juncture for the City and the Bureau,” Mozee (pronounced mo-ZAY) said in a statement. “I am committed to constantly improving our services, enhancing the look and feel of our streets and neighborhoods, creating safe and healthy communities for all Angelenos, and supporting

the hardworking women and men who have made StreetsLA a national leader on issues of sustainability, equity and service excellence.”

StreetsLA is the nation’s largest street network and urban forest.

His predecessor, Adel Hagekhalil, left StreetsLA to become the new General Manager for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the nation’s largest drinking water provider, June 30. Adel will be able to continue his Club Membership at the MWD. The Club congratulates Adel on his new position and thanks him for his assistance.

As Assistant Director of StreetsLA, Mozee oversaw the Street Renewal Division, Engineering Division, Construction Services Division and Emergency Operations. During his 31 years of service to the City, he also served as StreetsLA’s Chief Operations Officer, Racial Equity Officer and COVID-19 Safety Officer.

Keith accompanied the Club as we profiled its continued efforts during the pandemic to front-load several road projects early and take advantage of the lack of traffic.

Congratulations, Keith. The Club looks forward to working with you in the future to highlight the great work your employees are doing to keep LA moving. ■



Keith Mozee, StreetsLA (right) and *Alive!* editor John Burnes, from the June 2020 issue of *Alive!*



Adel Hagekhalil, former StreetsLA Executive Director and new General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District.



Keith Mozee in June 2020. He was StreetsLA’s COVID-19 Safety Officer.





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Rec and Parks' City trails are perfect for all fitness levels to get moving again.

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**NEW THIS MONTH**  
**ONLINE!**  
[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

**Cooking With the Club**

Chef Larios explores the flavors of Japan with a chicken ramen in a shoyu-style broth recipe.



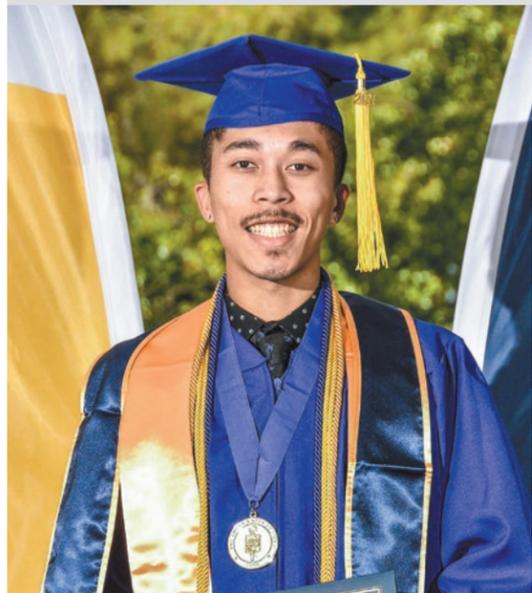
**John's Picture Perfect**

Enjoy all the winners from this month's contest, showcasing the red, white and blue.



**Post Your Graduation Pics!**

You can't celebrate in real life because of the pandemic, but you can celebrate in the pages of *Alive!*:  
[aliveemployeesclub.com/graduations/](http://aliveemployeesclub.com/graduations/)

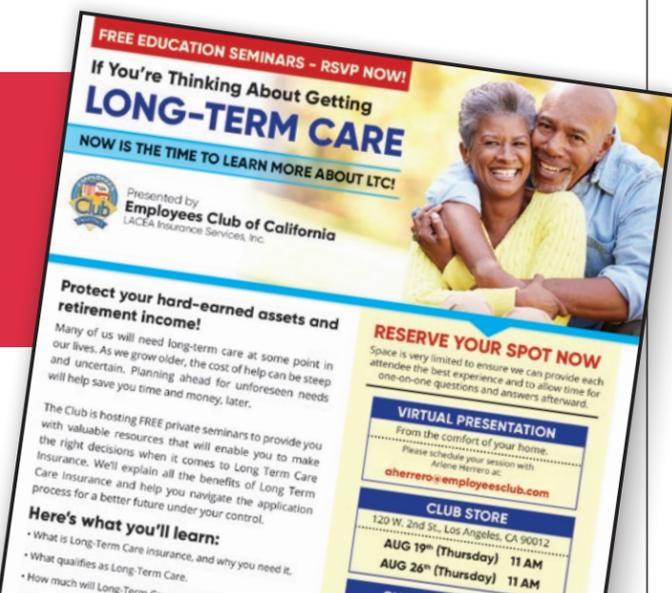


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if you have an event you want an event covered in *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance.

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### Physical Club Store Hours:

Mondays and Fridays only,  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Due to ongoing pandemic protocols,  
these hours could change without notice.

# Alive!

August 2021 • Volume 20 – No. 8

*Alive!* is the official publication of the  
**Employees Club of California**  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452  
CONTACT US: [admin@aliveemployeesclub.com](mailto:admin@aliveemployeesclub.com)

*Alive!* (USPS P7960) is published monthly,  
12 times per year by the Employees Club of California,  
311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

**ALIVE! EDITORIAL OFFICES:** 311 Spring Street, Suite 1300,  
Los Angeles CA, 90013 • (800) 464-0452

**POSTAGE:** Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, CA  
and at additional mailing offices.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Annual subscription price for *Alive!* is  
included in the membership dues and is nondeductible.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address corrections to  
*Alive!*, Employees Club of California, 311 Spring St.,  
Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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# Retirees Bulletin Board

New to *Alive!*

Connect with your former co-workers!

Welcome to the Retirees Bulletin Board. Want to post your contact information? Invite others to attend a reunion, meet up, go to lunch or hang out in the park? Here's where you do that.

It's not a forum or classifieds, so no politicking or commercial messages. It's just a way to connect. Simple as that!

We'll publish this every month in print only. What you choose to make public is entirely up to you.

Submit any of the following, only what you choose:

- Name
- Dept. at Retirement
- Year of Retirement
- Email address (optional)
- Phone number (optional)
- What's your message?

We'll confirm with you before printing. Submit on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

Submit to:  
bulletinboard@employeesclub.com



## Goodbye, Terry

**Teresa Casas, Executive Secretary, retires after 36 years of City service.**



Teresa Casas

**LAPD:** A retirement even was held at the Northeast Community Police Station in March for Teresa "Terry" Casas, who retired as Secretary for the Commanding Officer of Northeast Community Police Station. She retires with more than 36 years of City service.

Terry began her City service in April 1984 as a Clerk Typist for Building and Safety. She then was promoted to Sr. Clerk Typist, Public Works/Engineering and then to her final position at the LAPD.

She says she enjoyed working in every department and made many great friends along the way. She is proud of having worked for the City of Los Angeles and looks forward to traveling, spending time with family and living each day to the fullest.

Congratulations, Terry! Enjoy your well-deserved retirement.



Teresa Casas at her retirement party.



Capt. Arturo Sandoval presents to Teresa a Certificate of Recognition from the Chief of Police for her dedicated service to the LAPD.



## John's Picture Perfect Contest

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

This month's contest theme:

### Generations

Submit your best photos of generations, and be in the running for a prize.

**DEADLINE: Aug. 16**

Club Members only. Good luck!

Submit your photos online here:  
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# Larios in the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER  
Club COO Robert Larios continues honoring retiring Club Members by presenting the Club's coveted retiree plaque.



Larios in the City is also available on the *Alive!* website for viewing and sharing:

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



**Hee Bae Cho**, LAPD, Retired after 33 years of City service.



**Earl K. Brown**, Transportation, Retired after 34 years of City service.



**Alan De Leon**, LAPD, Retired after 33 years of City service (left), with Employees Club Board member David Muraoka.



**Kirk M. Broyard Sr.**, LADWP, Retired after 34 years of City service.



**Sharon R. Coleman**, Transportation, Retired after 32 years of City service.



**Karen Cundiff**, Public Works/Engineering, Retired after 35 years of City service. Robert Larios, Club COO, presented at the Zoom party.



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## Barbara to Lead Sanitation

**Barbara Romero, former Deputy Mayor, is new Executive Director, one of three new dept. leaders.**



Barbara Romero

**PUBLIC WORKS:** On July 1, Barbara Romero was confirmed by the City Council as the new Executive Director of Public Works' Sanitation and Environment bureau.

She succeeds Enrique Zaldivar, who left to become Chief Executive Officer of the City of Baldwin Park.

Barbara Romero had served as the Deputy Mayor of City Services since March 2015, overseeing the implementation of the Mayor's priorities at 15 City departments. Prior to her service as Deputy Mayor, Romero also served as a commissioner on the City's Board of Public Works overseeing the Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) and as a City Planning Commissioner. She also spent a decade working for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority as its Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Planning.

As Executive Director of LASAN, Romero will oversee the operations of essential public service programs including waste collection, wastewater treatment, public right-of-way management, and the implementation of new green infrastructure. She replaced acting General Manager Traci Minamide July 5.

"I am sincerely grateful for the Mayor's faith in me and feel extremely privileged to lead the extraordinary workforce of LASAN," Romero said in a statement. "At its core, LASAN protects our environment and, since I've spent my career working to improve the environment, I'm especially excited to continue this crucial work at LASAN, with a climate equity focus, and am ready to get to work in close partnership with the City Council to make our City a cleaner and more sustainable place for our residents."

## Two New Leaders

**Two others were named department leaders:**

Abigail Marquez as the first General Manager of the Community Investment for Families Dept. (CIFD), and Lisa Salazar as interim Executive Director of the Youth Development Dept. (YDD).



Abigail Marquez

**Abigail Marquez** spent 17 years working for the City to advance anti-poverty programs and policies. Since 2016, she has served as Assistant General Manager for the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID), overseeing the Community Services and Development Bureau. In that role, Marquez helped to increase the Domestic Violence Shelter budget, implement several key COVID-response programs, and oversaw the allocation of federal grants. She also helped to resolve the City's fiscal audit with the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

As General Manager of CIFD, Marquez will work closely with the Mayor and City Council to establish poverty-reduction goals for the City; play an active role in implementing homelessness prevention programs; oversee the implementation of L.A.'s Guaranteed Basic Income pilot, the largest in the nation; and implement the Children's Savings Account program, OpportunityLA, which will support 35,000 first-graders annually across the region.



Lisa Salazar

named the Boyle Heights Technology YouthSource Center.

Salazar will serve as Interim Executive Director of the Youth Development Dept., (YDD), where she will oversee a new department that will coordinate with City departments, regional agencies, community organizations, and youth leaders to develop a long-term Citywide youth development strategic plan; monitor the use of resources allocated toward young Angelenos; serve as the central information hub on youth services in the City; and help elevate the voices of youth in local government and City operations.

Congratulations from the Club to Barbara, Abigail and Lisa on your promotions. The Club looks forward to working with you in the future. ■

## LAPD RETIREMENTS

### Four Leaders Retire

**Four command-staff Officers retire in one week.**

*Story and photos courtesy LAPD Twitter feeds*

Between June 24 and June 29, four LAPD Officers in leadership positions retired. They were given retirement events by their co-workers.

The four are: Dep. Chief Vito Palazzolo, Det. III Supervisor Lyle Barnes, Sgt. II George, Lt. Dino Duran Hoopes



Dep. Chief Vito Palazzolo (left) and his son.

#### Dep. Chief Vito Palazzolo

Deputy Chief Vito Palazzolo retired June 24 after 31 years of City service. As a Commander, he had worked as a Diplomatic Liaison Officer and worked with all the Consul Generals and Consulate staff.

During his last week, Dep. Chief Palazzolo worked patrol together with his son in the Southeast Area. "He is a great leader, friend and classmate from the Academy," said Commander Rafael Ramirez. "Wish you a long and healthy retirement!"



Sgt. II George Hoopes

#### Sgt. II George Hoopes

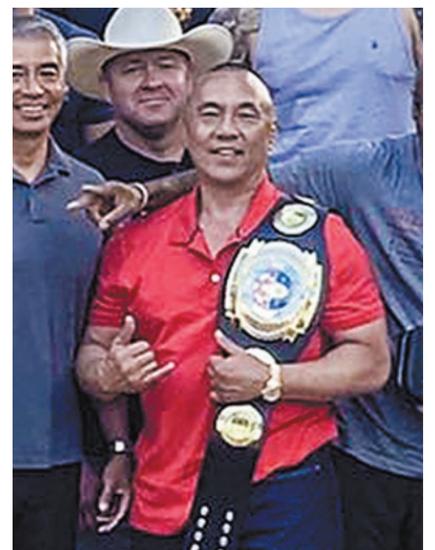
Sgt. II George Hoopes retired June 25 after 32 years of City service. He had been a Supervisor for more than 25 years and mentored, guided and inspired hundreds of Officers during that time. "Sgt. Hoopes is an exceptional leader who always expected the best from all the Officers who worked for him," wrote Capt. Alex Vargas. "He spent the last eight years transforming the DOC [Dept. Operations Center] to a dynamic information hub for department activations. Sgt. Hoopes, congratulations on your retirement. You will be sorely missed."



Det. III Supervisor Lyle Barnes and Capt. III Lillian Carranza.

#### Det. III Supervisor Lyle Barnes

Det. III Supervisor Lyle Barnes retired June 29. "Congratulations on your retirement, Det. III Supervisor Lyle Barnes," wrote Capt. III Lillian Carranza. "Thank you for more than three decades of dedicated service to Los Angeles. Wishing you a healthy, happy and long retirement"



At Lt. Duran's retirement party. He's in red.

#### Lt. Dino Duran

Lt. Dino Duran retired June 29 after 31 years of City service and three tours in Metro Division.



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Story and photos courtesy LAPD 911



## Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

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



**To send a digital photo and your message, go to:**  
[alive.employeesclub.com/graduations](http://alive.employeesclub.com/graduations)

## Goodbye, Anthony

**Sr. PSR II Anthony Leymore retires after more than 34 years of City service.**

**LAPD/COMMUNICATIONS:** A retirement party was held June 30 for Sr. PSR II Anthony Leymore, who leaves the City with more than 34 years of City service. "We are so proud of Anthony and his accomplishments," wrote LAPD/Communications on Twitter. "Anthony, you have been an amazing leader, teacher and friend. Thank you for all you have done for Communications Division. We are sad to see you go, but we know that your next chapter in life awaits. Happy retirement!"

Congratulations, Anthony, on your great career. Enjoy your much-deserved retirement. The Club thanks Jean Sarfaty, Retired, LAPD/Communications, for her assistance.



Sr. PSR II Anthony Leymore (left) and his husband, Christopher.



From left: Sr. PSR II Dori Adler, Retired; Sr. PSR II Anthony Leymore; and Sr. PSR I Sara Munoz



Sr. PSR II Anthony Leymore (left) is congratulated by Capt. III Alex Vargas, Communications Division.



Sr. PSR II Anthony Leymore and PSR III Chris McNabb, Retired.



At a previous Mobile Team site visit in 2019.

## Site Visits Are Back!

**Club Mobile Team is ready to visit City worksites safely with gear, tickets, insurance, more.**

**THE CLUB:** Say hi to the Club ... in person again!

The Club never stopped working for its Members during the pandemic. But now that the coast is clearing, so to speak, it's time to revisit our Members and Members-to-Be at sites and yards.

The Mobile Team is ready to visit your worksite **Tuesdays through Thursdays**. We can't wait to see everybody again!

For your continued safety:

- The Mobile Team brings and wears safety gear.
- The Mobile Team is accepting only outdoor set-ups for now.

To schedule a site visit, contact Lupe Lira, Club Store Manager: (213) 819-0350, or [mobile@employeesclub.com](mailto:mobile@employeesclub.com)

See you soon! ■



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# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

## Armenia

"Armenia is a country with a troubled history. Armenians rebuilt their country and created one of the most attractive capital cities in the Caucasus. Yerevan and its people have that tremendous charm that begs for your attention. From the Soviet-inspired architecture to the friendly locals, Yerevan is one of those destinations that will surprise you at every turn.

"I traveled to Yerevan with my wife, Karolin, and returned with great and enjoyable memories. I hope some time you do the same."

— Sepou Ohanian, Airports



Streets of Yerevan during last days of the pandemic.



Old Armenian church built in the fifth century enclosed with a later-built church.



An old Armenian church built in the fifth century, enclosed with a later-built church.



An Armenian soldier, a war survivor, returning home. He is holding his sisters' hands and wishing that he would never let them go.



The Olympic Games countdown in Yerevan, Armenia.

## Puerto Vallarta Letter, Part 1

Capt. Michael Barnes, Retired, Harbor, traveled to Mexico post-vaccination.



Seahorse on the Malecón

Mexico's beaches are calling. Can't you hear them?

I just returned after a glorious week in Old Town Puerto Vallarta. Anyone looking for the perfect margarita, the liveliest matriarchies, and an incredible collection of bronze statues on display along the

Malecón will find them all in Old Town.

We drove down to the Tijuana Airport, parked our car in the secure car park on the American side of the border, and checked in at the new terminal with the Mexican airline Viva Air. It was very easy – with no lines for baggage or body scanning and no US passport control, we simply showed our documents to the airline staff, handed over our luggage, proceeded along a covered walkway where a very pleasant Mexican border official checked our passports and asked us to sign a form stating that we did not have Covid-19. After putting our hand luggage through a small black box (!), we entered a modern, comfortable boarding lounge where we enjoyed a couple of adult beverages before boarding a brand-new airplane for the two-and-a-half-hour flight to Puerto Vallarta.

Once we arrived at the Puerto Vallarta Airport, it was just a matter of collecting our luggage and catching a taxi to our apartment. Because our flight was not international, there were no lines for customs, emigration, or a Covid-19 test – we had arrived!

Our long-time Canadian friends in Puerto Vallarta had arranged a rental for us – a beautiful apartment overlooking Los Muertos Beach and Banderas Bay, in the Old Town (called the Romantic Zone now). It's a perfect location with easy access to the dozens of bars and restaurants dotted throughout the neighborhood.

The Romantic Zone offers golden sands at the Los Muertos beach, or the Malecón, lots to see, hear and enjoy. We never had a dull moment.

As for Covid-19 awareness, in all the restaurants and bars the staff wore masks. Only the tourists did not.

Before going any further, let me explain exactly what a Malecón is since it might not be a term commonly known. Malecón is a word used in Spanish-speaking

countries, and especially in nations of Latin America, for a stone-built embankment or boardwalk along a waterfront. As a matter of interest we liked the Malecón in Havana, Cuba, that is featured in many photographs of Havana.

The Malecón in Puerto Vallarta begins at the Hotel Rosita (the oldest hotel in town) and continues for 12 blocks along the boardwalk to the Cuale River



Standing by the statue of En Busca de la Razón.

footbridge. We discovered that the early morning is a wonderful time to explore and avoid the hordes of pushy stall vendors and street hawkers before they open up for business. The early morning also allows for photographing the very unique bronze sculptures without the intrusion of anonymous tourists in your photos.

The statue of San Pascual Bailón, patron saint of cooks, standing in front of Cafe Vitea is a good place to take a break over an early morning cup of coffee whilst enjoying the view of Banderas Bay.

Our evenings were spent relaxing on the balcony of Sayulita Arco's Bar next to the Friendship Fountain, where we enjoyed spectacular sunsets over the bay, sipping delicious margaritas and watching out for a pirate ship that sailed past silhouetted by a fireworks display from the Puerto Vallarta Marina. It was breathtaking and, yes, very romantic. Sayulita Arco Bar is a very popular restaurant with the younger crowd as it has regular live music and dancing. A quieter, less raucous option is an evening stroll farther along the Malecón to the two-story thatched roof La Langosta Loca, that juts out over the beach. Here we found a 180-degree ocean view from the second floor, where we made ourselves comfortable while sipping our icy cold adult beverages and indulging on the incredibly tasty appetizers while people watching. The staff members are all bilingual and very friendly, and of course the sunsets are to die for.

Every statue on the Malecón, from the Millennium statue to the Washer Woman statue, near the turtle nesting area on Olas Altas beach, has its own story and is definitely worth the visit if you have the time.

There is so much to see and enjoy in Puerto Vallarta. ¡Buen viaje!

Make sure you travel safely, and always check Tripadvisor for local information before you fly. Cheers!



The ear bench at La Rotonda del Mar.

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

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



*Photos by Sammy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; and courtesy JuanCarlos Chan/City of Los Angeles Dept. of Recreation and Parks*

## SUMMER IN THE CITY

# Hit the Trail

### Missing your workout? City hiking trails are ready to welcome you back, safely. Get moving!



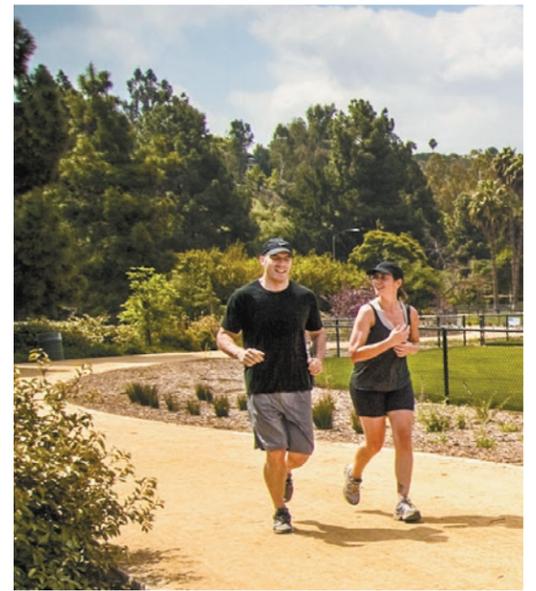
**REC & PARKS:** Are you missing your workouts? Rec and Parks has a hiking trail just for you. They're outdoor, most have plenty of room, there are trails for all experience levels, including beginner ... and there are more than 400 of them, in all corners of the City.

The trails - which range from easy strolls under tree groves in Orcutt Ranch to those scaling the highest points in LA in Griffith Park - could be just the motivator you need for your peace of mind and body.

Trails were part of the earliest City parks, according to Ranger Sgt. Gary Menjuga, Club Member.

The City would designate land for park use, and citizens would explore the park, following trails made by wildlife or create their own paths. By the 1930s, the City hired the same Works Progress Administration construction crews the United States was using to create roads and other projects, to employ dynamite and create trails in Griffith Park. That's according to Ranger Tom Mendibles, unofficial Rec and Parks historian and Club Member.

The trails are here for you to enjoy. Take advantage! This month's feature can help you get going. ■



Silver Lake Meadow

Runyon Canyon Park



# il

At the Charlie Turner Trailhead for the beginning of the popular Mt. Hollywood Trail in Griffith Park, from left: Park Ranger Sonya Sharp, 9 years of City service; Park Ranger Joseph Fuentes, 9 years; Park Ranger Bradley Rice, 4 years; and Park Ranger Sgt. I Gary Menjuga, 8 years. All are Club Members.



## The Alive! Interview

# Peace of Mind and Body

On Wednesday, July 7, Club COO Robert Larios and Alive! editor John Burnes interviewed Park Ranger Sgt. Gary Menjuga, 8 years of City service; and Ranger Bradley Rice, 4 years, Club Member. The subject: the City's recreational trails. The Rangers were in the Ranger Station in Griffith Park; the interview took place over Zoom.

Zooming with Alive! from the Park Ranger Station in Griffith Park were (from left) Park Ranger Sgt. I Gary Menjuga and Park Ranger Bradley Rice.

**Alive:** Hi Sgt. Menjuga and Ranger Rice. Thanks for joining us today. I know over the holiday you were dealing with small brush fires and their aftermath. I hope today was better.

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** That's an almost everyday thing, but today, we've been brushfire free.

**That's good to hear. What did you do before you became Park Rangers?**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** I had another career in law enforcement working for the Los Angeles School Police Dept.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** I come from an EMS background. For about five years I did 911 calls with an ambulance company in Los Angeles County, in areas like Inglewood, Lynwood, and all the way out to Calabasas, in different unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. A lot of that experience translates into what we do here.

**What are your job responsibilities as Rangers?**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** We wear a lot of hats, and that alone can be an entire interview. As my title is supervision, I oversee an entire region, the Valley Region of Los Angeles City and the parks that fall within it. My day pretty much consists of supervision over Park Rangers, our Security Officers, scheduling, payroll, patrol and responding to calls, fires and deploying certain tasks that we have throughout the City. I also oversee the interpretive walks and hikes for the public, like the Sunset Walks from the Observatory that you've featured in Alive!

Rec and Parks hopes to restart Sunset Walks, featured in the August 2015 Alive!, and other guided hikes soon. They have been canceled due to the pandemic.

Those obviously are pre-COVID. We haven't rescheduled those yet. There are a lot of other monthly hikes from Ranger Stations that we have to reschedule, too. It's so nice when we can interact with people because part of our role is engaging with the public. We hope to revisit that soon.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** A fair amount of my responsibility is safety in Griffith Park. I patrol during my whole shift. I'll drive trails and the roads, and address anything that I see that's going on that day, whether it's violations, medical calls, helping people get to where they need to go, answering questions, that kind of thing day to day. While that's going on, we have our emergency calls that we respond to, whether they're EMS or fire related. Sometimes, we have interpretation events going on with the kids or adults.

**Do you patrol on horseback?**

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** No. I patrol in a vehicle. I have a unique vehicle to patrol in, basically a Type 6-type of fire engine. It's ready for fires, but it's also my patrol vehicle, as well. It works out well for the narrow trails that we have here at Griffith Park.



## Managing During a Pandemic

**How have the hiking trails done during the pandemic and the post-pandemic? Were a lot of people using them?**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** When the pandemic first started, usage seemed very light. I think people ended up staying home due to being scared of going out and being infected. But slowly, people started realizing that the four walls of their house aren't as comfortable as being outside. So more people weekly started coming to Griffith Park and coming out to hike.

In the beginning of the pandemic, we would get calls every hour that there was a person not wearing a mask in the park, which was required. You had to wear a mask, and people feared for their health. I don't know if you've been hiking in a mask. I have, and it's not the most comfortable thing to do, even if it's a flat trail. So some didn't wear them. But as time went on, we started seeing more and more people. One of our popular trails in Griffith Park, the Wonder View trail, was closed during the height of the restrictions because it's a narrow trail where if you were to pass somebody, both of you would have to turn sideways just to pass on the same trail. Because that trail was so narrow, we had to shut down for the entirety of the pandemic.

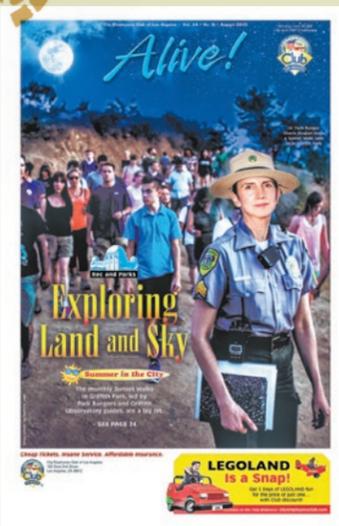
Rec and Parks did well in identifying those narrow trails and closing them.

**For some people there's been a long layoff from exercise.**

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** It's not just during COVID. We see a cycle every January 1 when the New Year comes around. We have people who are very motivated to get in shape, which is great. But some think, "I'm going to go out and exercise. I'm going to get in shape." They start at the trailhead and just start walking. They're hiking up a six-mile trail to the Hollywood sign when it's 12 o'clock in the afternoon. It's 90 degrees out. Sometimes the motivation clouds the judgment as far as how you should be working out.

Preparation is really important to getting in shape because it can be a dangerous situation if you're out there without any water. It's hot. We're always on the lookout for that.

During COVID, people weren't able to go out, so some were very gung-ho to come back to the park. We received an increase in calls for hiker rescues, and we had to manage it because we needed to protect ourselves from infection. It was a balancing act, and I feel like we did a good job at it.



Alive! featured Rec and Parks' Sunset Walks in August 2015.

## Hiking Experts

**Do you consider yourself hikers?**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** Absolutely. It's part of our job description, whether we enjoy it or not!

Funny you ask. Just yesterday we had a follow-up on a fire that happened off of Topanga Canyon near Stoney Point at a park out there called Chatsworth North. Overnight there was a fire, and we followed up on it, but it took us about an hour and half of hiking to find it. We couldn't tell what the original cause was. There are a lot of places that vehicles can't go that we're responsible for.

I have some friends of mine who want to come to where we work and say, "Hey, let's go hiking." I'm like, "Well, I just hiked the whole park yesterday on a hiker rescue we." It's not a no. I get it, but I'm not going to ask my accountant friend to go over some numbers on

## Trails for Different Levels

**As COVID wanes, and we hope it continues to, people need to get out and exercise but might still feel hesitant about being around people. The City's trails might be a perfect way to do that. Let's talk generally about the trails program at Rec and Parks with that in mind.**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** Sure, but it's a very broad question. We have so much. The City of Los Angeles is a diverse City, and so are its parks. In 20 minutes or less, you can get to a nice hiking location anywhere in the City generally, but it depends what you're

# Hit the Trail *Alive! Feature*

## The *Alive!* Interview — Continued from page 11

looking for. Are you looking for flat land? Hills? Hills with a view? Hills where you can just get away without a lot of people? Each region provides its benefit.

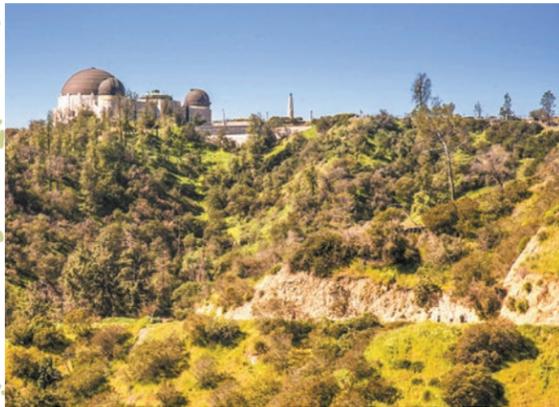
Let's start with the center – Griffith Park itself is massive and also a tourist location. If you're a local Angeleno and want to go out for a hike, I don't suggest going near the Hollywood sign or the Griffith Observatory because you're going to come across people hiking in sandals or people in dress attire because they're trying to get to the Hollywood sign, and the trails are going to be more crowded. There's going to be a lot of people lost in that general area. This is kind of on a daily basis where this happens because it's such a popular location. We highly suggest going around the Griffith Ranger Station on Crystal Springs Drive, which is closer to the 5 Freeway. From there, there are miles and miles of trails that are less populated, or the north end of Griffith Park near our equestrian center.

### How many organized trails are in Griffith Park?

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** There are 40 trails and 70 miles.

### Wow that's a lot. How about the rest of the City? Is it safe to say there are hundreds of organized hiking or walking trails?

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Definitely hundreds of trails from Hansen Dam to the Harbor Region.



A trail in Griffith Park.

### Which trails do you recommend to a beginner? Which trails do you recommend to an expert?

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** One that I always like to recommend is our Old Zoo in Griffith Park. It's a historical location, and it's a relatively easy hike. You start at the Fern Canyon Trailhead. You veer to the right to go the Lower Old Zoo Trail. It's about a mile of walking, and you'll get to see the old zoo and its old structures. You end in a nice little picnic area. It's very easy hike and something the whole family can do together and have a nice picnic at the end.

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** In regard to the expert hike, that's more of a planned, multi-trail hike. The steepest hike we have is the Hogback Trail, which takes you up to the Mount Hollywood peak, then into Dante's View. That would be the middle of the hike for that expert. You're going to want to start at the base. I would start at the entrance of the Fern Canyon Trailhead, hike up to what we call Five Points, and from there, depending how many miles you want to do, you could take Vista Del Valle during the hotter months because it'll be well shaded. That's a nice hike. Then take the North Trail back up to Mount Hollywood peak, down to the Three-Mile Trail. Now you're getting close to the Observatory side, and from there you could either head down to the Observatory or if the expert wants to keep going, you could keep on hiking to the Hollywood sign. Remember that the Hollywood sign is actually located on Mount Lee, not Mount Hollywood. You can even hike past the Hollywood sign, and there at Caluenga Peak is the absolute tallest elevation in the city of Los Angeles. From there, you can make your way back, depending where you parked. You can hike here all day.



White Point Nature Preserve.

### Fantastic. What about the Valley or the Harbor area?

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** In that area, White Point is a nature preserve with about three miles' worth of hiking trails with a great ocean view. From White's Point, you can hike over to Pt. Fermin and the Korean Bell area. There are lots of hiking trails that overlook the beach there. If you go farther inland from there, we have Harbor Regional by Harbor Community College, for reference.



A trail at O'Melveny Park.



A trail at Hansen Dam.

a moderate hiker but not for of a beginner because the hills start right away from the base.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Most of the large parks in the Valley are flat, so they're going to be relatively beginner hikes. Sepulveda Basin is relatively flat. There's a series of trails that leads north and south, east and west. Just pick a side and it will take you to a location. There's a fishing lake there too.



Club CEO John Hawkins and Robert Baker, Park Maintenance Supervisor, at Orcutt Ranch. (Bob retired in May. Congratulations!)

### Orcutt Ranch is also really nice, for a stroll as much as a hike.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Yes. It's really picturesque, a beautiful place. Somewhere to go to have a nice, relaxing time.

One thing I wanted to mention, if you're planning on doing a large hike, it's a great idea to visit the Ranger Station. Visit the Ranger Station, talk to a Ranger, talk to somebody about where you're going. Maybe we can help you assist in a better route. There are people who just start heading out and realize that they're not on the right path that they wanted to go, and their day is blown. If they just had come to the Ranger Station, we could have got them on the right route and they would have had a better day. We'll get you on the right track.

## Drought

### We're in a drought, sadly. What should people be careful of or treat the earth more carefully when they go on a hike because of that?

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Our local hikers are very respectful of the areas. In Griffith Park, they come to the area and they feel like it's their home.

We're always looking for hikers to give us information so we can preserve the park properly, and take necessary action to prevent large fires like we had in 1933 and 2007. We're always trying to prevent fires.

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** We have wildlife at Griffith Park. Several people call us, saying, "Hey, do the deer, coyotes, bobcats and mountain lion in the park have enough water to drink? We're in a drought. We're worried about the wildlife." They're concerned for the wildlife, but there's plenty of water, both natural and in manmade horse troughs, for them to drink. They're taken care of.

The droughts bring up fire dangers. Those visiting the parks from other states or even other countries never even would have thought that smoking a cigarette and throwing their cigarette on the ground, as they've been doing for years, is against the law.

We take a proactive approach to prevent something before it happens. We're not just waiting here with our fire hose to go attack a fire. We explain to people the dangers and address it accordingly.

## Fitness Post-Pandemic

### How are the hiking trails really important for people at all levels to get exercise?

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** They really are, even for those who are lacking motivation. Just to get outside and do something, it is very motivational because every time you go to even the same trail, you're going to find something different that you didn't see your first time. Let's just say someone wants to get back into hiking. They realize they only be able to do a small loop of trail. Griffith Park and most of our parks have forks in the road, where you can turn back or keep going. A park isn't like a treadmill or running around your block. You can see more every time you come here. That spurs you to go farther. Maybe the next time you can go 30 minutes. Our parks are good for all levels. We've seen it. Even if the trail is not challenging enough, there are ways to make it harder for yourself or to boost your level. Regardless where you go, the park is literally your playground, and you can do what you can to boost your level.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Exactly. We never really appreciate what we have until it's gone. During COVID, that's what a lot of our patrons were experiencing when they couldn't use the trails. Their regular exercise routine was gone. When they had the ability to come back and use the trails, they realized how important it was for them personally to get outside and on a very basic level. We want to feel those endorphins running through our body as we exercise, and when that was not available, we really saw how important it was to everybody to be able to come out and exercise and be in open space.

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** A lot of people want to hike around the Observatory. Makes sense. People want to park as close to the Observatory as possible. But that defeats the purpose of your hike. If you're there to exercise, what does it matter if you park 200 feet away from where you want to start? You're out there to exercise. If you go just 300 or 400 feet down the road and park either near Fern Dell or near the Greek Theatre, you're going to have free parking, and you're still going to get your exercise with access to all the trails you want.



Equestrian rentals are available in Hansen Dam and other locations.

## Little-Known Gems

### What are some of the gems that people might not know about?

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** We can't tell you that. Then everyone's going to know about it!

### Right!

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** Most of our trails, even our smaller parks throughout the City, are well known and posted for you to be able to describe where you are.

But one thing people overlook are the rentals that are offered in most parks. You can rent bikes. There are certain areas where you could actually rent a horse and ride on trails. You can rent picnic areas and have your own private picnic area. Not too many people have ever thought about renting a piece of the park for a day. You don't have to show up at five in the morning to try to get that spot for mom's birthday party in the park. You can rent baseball fields and tennis areas. We'd like to see more of that – people enjoying their time here. It's relatively cheap and well worth it.

## Favorites

### What are some of your favorite hiking trails?

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** The Mineral Wells area. You can start on the Mineral Wells Trail and picnic area, and head up to the McComb helispot; go to the Riverside Trail from there and head down to the Greek. It has a good view.

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** I have one for every region. In the Harbor area, I like going from White's Point to Pt. Fermin. The trails up there are not typically crowded. You can go and enjoy yourself.

But my favorite hike is from the Observatory – it goes from below the Observatory to the Observatory up to Mount Hollywood Peak and back. Just like I mentioned, I don't like to pay for parking.

Here's a guide to all the organized Rec and Parks hiking trails, including those mentioned in this month's feature interview.

# Trail Guide

## The *Alive!* Interview

I start down low where there's plenty of parking. I usually start close to Los Feliz and depending how motivated I am that day, I can keep going or just make my usual round trip and come on back.

Farther north in the Valley, I like Hansen Dam for straight exercise because it is flat. You get your miles in and there's plenty of parking there any time of day.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** At Hansen Dam there's an overlook off of Slab Road that I've run multiple times for exercise, and there are people looking at the sunset with their arms spread wide just enjoying themselves. Once you have finished your run, you get to have this view over of a portion of the Valley. It's a good spot.

In Griffith Park, my favorite is the summit – the top of Mount Hollywood Peak. That's a great spot to go.

## A Purpose in the City

**LA is one of the biggest cities in the world. Why does a big City like LA need strong recreation, including trails?**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** For peace of mind. We've talked a lot about physical health, but it's important for mental health, just getting out and clearing your mental air. Sometimes you just need to get out of the daily grind – the cars, the traffic, the road noise. You do that five days out of the seven days. Why not mix it up with adding a park in there? Mental and physical wellbeing are huge. Dealing with COVID this past year put a huge awakening on that. People need to get out. Having your home as your office, you never left. You need somewhere to go. Places were closed. Parks were the answer. Parks get you going. Parks are where people feel alive, feel free, get out and have a good time, with or without the family. You can have your spot where, "This is where I go for me. When I go hiking with my friends, we're going to go somewhere else because my time is my time." You've got to have your mental health just as well as your physical health. Both of them need to be working together.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Totally. You hear those coined phrases like "I need to clear my mind. I need to de-stress." Those are why people go to the park, to get their peace and quiet, their alone time. We're a huge metropolitan City with a lot going on there, and that creates the stressors. You don't have that in a park. You can have a different perspective and you have the time to relax and think without the traffic and the noise. I'm a huge proponent of it.

## Park Passion

**What do you love about what you do?**

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** I'm a helper by nature. I love the opportunity to help the public in many different facets of the job. We wear many different hats. I can help people on a medical call. I can help in a law enforcement scenario because we're peace officers. I love being able to do that. We get to help preserve parkland by putting out fires and working interagency with the LAFD, LA County and the Forest Service. We get to meet a bunch of different people and have that working relationship. There are just so many facets of the job. The diversity of the job is my favorite.

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** It's a mixture of several things. I really like talking and engaging with people. Working with with the Rangers is not just law enforcement. I talk to adults, children and people from all different types of walks of life. I learn more from other people than I can teach anybody else.

I love engaging in the vast diversity of culture we have in the city of Los Angeles. I'm here at Griffith Park today, but I'm typically assigned to the San Fernando Valley. Maybe tomorrow I'll be down in the Harbor regional area, based on the need. We cover lots of professions with our title as Park Rangers. I'm a two-year Supervisor now. I see younger Rangers coming in with the eagerness that I had when I was starting off. We are law enforcement Police Officers, but we also have that humanitarian way of talking to people. It's quite the diverse job, and to tell you if I have one thing I like about would be impossible.

**Rangers, thank you for your time.**

**Sgt. Gary Menjuga:** Thank you.

**Ranger Bradley Rice:** Thank you. ■



Runyon Canyon Park

## HIKING TRAILS

- Ascot Hills Park**  
4371 Multnomah St., LA 90032
- Ernest E. Debs Regional Park**  
929 Academy Rd., LA 90012
- Elysian Park**  
929 Academy Rd., LA 90012
- Hansen Dam Recreation Area**  
11770 Foothill Blvd., Lakeview Terrace 91342
- La Tuna Canyon Park (shared)**  
8000 La Tuna Canyon Rd., Sun Valley 91352
- Lake View Terrace Recreation Center**  
11075 Foothill Blvd., Lakeview Terrace 91342
- Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park**  
25820 Vermont Ave., Harbor City 90710
- O'Melveny Park**  
17300 Sesnon Blvd., Granada Hills 91344
- Peck Park**  
560 N Western Ave., San Pedro 90732
- Runyon Canyon Park**  
2000 N. Fuller Ave., Hollywood 90046
- Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area**  
17017 Burbank Blvd., Encino 91316
- Verdugo Mountain Park**  
9999 Edmore Pl., Sun Valley 91352
- White Point Park**  
1801 W Paseo del Mar, San Pedro 90731

## JOGGING TRAILS

- Jim Gilliam Recreation Center**  
4000 S. La Brea Ave., 90008
- North Hollywood Recreation Center**  
5301 Tujunga Ave., North Hollywood 91601
- Van Nuys-Sherman Oaks Recreation Center**  
14201 Huston St., Sherman Oaks 91423

## EXERCISE TRAILS

- Northridge Community Center**  
18300 Lemarsh St., Northridge 91325  
Scenic/Cross Country Trails
- Peck Park Community Center**  
560 N. Western Ave., San Pedro 90732  
Scenic Stroll/Tree Groves
- Orcutt Ranch (strolling)**  
23600 Roscoe Blvd., West Hills 91304



Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park

Fern Dell, Griffith Park



Griffith Park

## GRIFFITH PARK 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., LA 90027

Hiking into the rugged hills and sparsely developed areas is perhaps one of the most popular forms of recreation in Griffith Park. Hikers are allowed to use the entire 70-mile network of 40 trails, fire roads and bridle paths. Maps of trails and current information on trail closures and special restrictions are available at the Ranger Station, (323) 913-4688.

All trails in the park are closed at dusk. Open fires and smoking are not allowed.

One of the most rewarding hikes in the park is the trail leading from the Observatory parking lot to the summit of Mount Hollywood, the highest peak of the park, which affords spectacular views of the entire Los Angeles Basin. Hikers should approach the park with caution; Griffith Park is a wilderness area with wild quail, rodents, foxes, coyotes, rattlesnakes and deer.

For your safety and to protect the habitat please stay on the designated trails.

### Trails in Griffith Park:

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Main Trail          | Coolidge Trail           |
| Condor Trail        | Cadman Trail             |
| Skyline Trail       | Riverside Trail          |
| Migdal Trail        | Hogback Trail            |
| Rattlesnake Trail   | Boyscout Trail           |
| Oak Canyon Trail    | West Trail               |
| Mineral Wells Trail | West Observatory         |
| Toyon Trail         | East Observatory         |
| North Trail         | Loop Trail               |
| Bill Eckert Trail   | Mt. Hollywood Trail      |
| Lower Old Zoo       | 3-Mile Trail             |
| Upper Old Zoo       | Aileen Getty Ridge Trail |
| Bee Rock Trail      | Burbank Peak Trail       |
| Lower Beacon        | Brush Canyon Trail       |
| Upper Beacon        | Mulholland Trail         |
| Fern Canyon Trail   | Hollywood Trail          |

CLUB

# Club Honors 28 with Mukai Scholarships

As students return cautiously to school on campus, the Club honors 28 with Joannie Mukai Scholarships.



Joannie Mukai

The Club is pleased to announce the winners of the annual Joannie Mukai Scholarship Program for 2021. An elevated total -- 28 -- of Club Members and their relatives have been awarded stipends. For the first time, the Club implemented an effective two-step application process to streamline eligibility; 103 students applied.

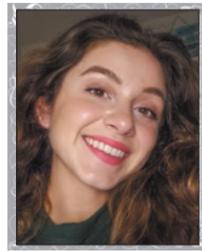
The Club's Scholarship program was named for the late Joannie Mukai, the former Club Board Member and Harbor retiree who passed away in 2010. This is the 11th anniversary of her death.

"The Club is honored to award these incredible young people," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "The last year has been very hard on students, but it's clear that these students have surpassed the challenges and excelled. Through our scholarship program, we encourage everyone to keep going and follow your dreams.

"The Club's scholarship committee and I wish all the success in the world to those who applied. Keep working hard, keep achieving ... the future depends on you."

Those eligible included Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college full-time or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2021.

 **Congratulations** to the awardees and their families, and the Club wishes the best success to all those who applied.



**Alexia Alvarez**

student at the University of La Verne and daughter of Jose Alvarez, Airport Police, City of Los Angeles



**Carlos Callejo Jr.**

student at Cal Poly Pomona and employee of LADWP, City of Los Angeles



**Ariana Calleres**

student at Fresno City College and daughter of Santa Callares, DMV, State of California



**Alysa Colson**

student at Northern Arizona University and daughter of Capt. Juan Colson, LAFD, City of Los Angeles



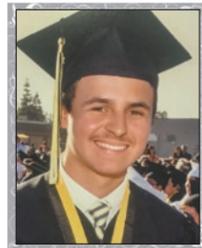
**Claudia De Loera**

student at Rio Hondo College and daughter of Jorge De Loera, Rec and Parks, City of Los Angeles



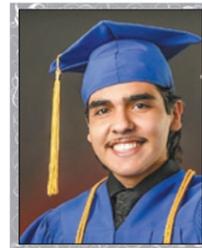
**Aden Gomez**

student at Cal State, Long Beach, and son of Angel Gomez, Municipal Club Member



**Angel Gomez Jr.**

student at Cal State Long Beach, and son of Angel Gomez, Municipal Club Member



**Johnny Haro**

student at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and son of Ruben De La Cruz, LADWP, City of Los Angeles



**Haley Haro**

student at the University of New Mexico and daughter of Ruben De La Cruz, LADWP, City of Los Angeles



**Neverly Ann Hill**

student at the University of La Verne and employee of the City of Los Angeles



**Maya Jenkins**

student at Azusa Pacific University and granddaughter of Deborah Jenkins, Retired, Transportation, City of Los Angeles



**Hannah Larsen**

student at Brigham Young University and daughter of Lt. Jonathan Larsen, LAPD, City of Los Angeles

*Read Their Stories*

On the *Alive!* Website are brief profiles of the awardees, excerpted from their application materials.

To read all about the winners, go to:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/scholarshipwinners2021](http://alive.employeesclub.com/scholarshipwinners2021)

**Alive!**  
WEBSITE

[Alive.EmployeesClub.com](http://Alive.EmployeesClub.com)



**Annette Luna**

student at Allan Hancock College and niece of Steve Lopez, Sheriff's Office, County of Los Angeles



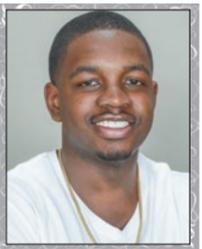
**Arely Navarro**

student at the University of California, Irvine, and daughter of Julio Navarro, Public Works, City of Los Angeles



**Gabriela Navarro**

student at Cal State, San Marcos, and daughter of Julio Navarro, Public Works, City of Los Angeles



**Damari Naylor,**

student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and son of Nicole Naylor, Transportation, City of Los Angeles



**Cynthia Ozuna**

student at San Diego State University and daughter of Correctional Officer Marcos Ozuna, Retired, State of California



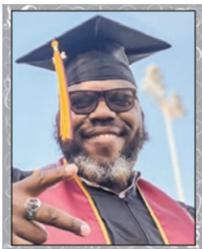
**Angelica Pena**

student at the University of California, Berkeley, and daughter of Patricia Pena, Public Social Services, County of Los Angeles



**Amanda Salcedo**

student at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and niece of Elva Espinoza, Parks and Rec, County of Los Angeles



**Michael Suvert Jr.**

student at Cal State, Dominguez Hills, and an employee of Parks and Rec, County of Los Angeles



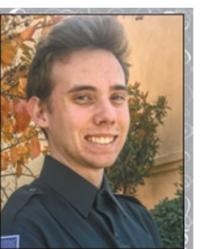
**Kheiry Venegas**

student at the University of California, San Diego, and daughter of Rito Venegas, Transportation, City of Los Angeles



**Sheimeikaa Wagstaff**

a student at Northcentral University and an employee of Public Works, City of Los Angeles



**Mason West**

student at Cal Poly, Pomona, and son of Ryan West, Internal Services, County of Los Angeles



**Aresha Echols**

student at Cal State Long Beach, and an employee of Code Enforcement, City of Pasadena

**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."



**Adrian Negrete**

student at the University of La Verne, and an employee of the LAPD, City of Los Angeles



**Mark Nguyen**

student at the University of California, Los Angeles, and an employee of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, State of California



**Michi Slaughter**

student at the University of Southern California and employee of the LAPD, City of Los Angeles



**Alicia Rodriguez**

student at San Francisco State University, and daughter of Ray Moreno, Public Works/StreetsLA

ATTENTION RETIRED CITY EMPLOYEES: MUSEUM IS HIRING

# Norton Simon Museum

## is Hiring Retired City Employees for its security team.

**Attention Retired City Employees:** The Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena is looking to fill five part-time positions on its security team. Applicants must live in the area to respond to museum emergencies or other situations. All employees enjoy free parking, free admission to the museum any time, discounts in the store and café, paid sick leave, and a pension program.

Those interested in the open positions can get more information on the museum's Website (all inquiries should be directed there): [nortonsimon.org/about/career-opportunities/](https://nortonsimon.org/about/career-opportunities/)

**Information:** Nels Ortlund at [nortlund@nortonsimon.org](mailto:nortlund@nortonsimon.org)



# Scenes From a Pandemic

PART 17

*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.

### LADOT Dodgers



"This week Dodger Stadium opened up with full capacity, and our Traffic Officers and Special Traffic Operations are out and ready to play ball, making sure Angelenos arrived safely to the most attended sporting event since the start of the pandemic. #LADOT #ThankYouTO @Dodgers"

June 17

### City Council/LAPD



"Thank you @MitchOFarrell for your ongoing work in the community. We appreciate the ongoing partnership with @LAPDRampart for a better community. #BetterTogether today at Rock wood Community Park."

July 10

### Rec and Parks/LAPD Chief Moore



"Thank you to everyone who made it out to Palms Rec Center to meet their camp counselors! Enjoy the new playground and park amenities, all of which could not have been done without the help of Measure A funding. #ParkProudLA #MeasureA #ParkImprovements"

June 11

### LADWP



"Thank you to all of the volunteers, City of Los Angeles & community partners that joined us today for our #APAHM & #NPWW cleanup in Koreatown + Little Bangladesh! Hundreds of volunteers also gathered in Chinatown, Historic Filipinotown, Little Tokyo & Thai Town to #BeautifyLA. #StrongerTogether"

May 22

### Public Works/StreetsLA



"Today we celebrated the completion and great partnership with @LADOTofficial community members & @nithyavraman @cd4losangeles at the new left turn pocket into @HollywoodBowl. Now your next @GustavoDudamel concert is even safer! @MayorofLA @LACityDPW @GMsTREETS LA1H2O @Spottnik"

June 7

# Celebrate With Cheryl!

Popular Club Counselor Cheryl Martin is turning 63 next year and celebrating in Greece. Sign up now to join the fun!

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Travel dates: Oct. 13-21, 2022 (nine days)
- Starting price: \$4,069, double occupancy, including air and hotel
- Deposit: \$99 down with monthly payment arrangement, or \$500 down per person at the time of reservation.
- Final payment date: Aug. 4, 2022
- Important notes: Travelers must have their passport information at time of booking. First-come, first-served basis. Seats are limited.

**Mykonos ... Santorini ... and mainland Greece! Head with Cheryl Martin for a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the Aegean in October 2022.**

**"Celebrate my 63<sup>rd</sup> with me in Greece!"**

[cmartin@employeesclub.com](mailto:cmartin@employeesclub.com), (213) 819-0794



To register and for more information, go to: [www.grouptoursite.com/cherylmartin](http://www.grouptoursite.com/cherylmartin)  
Reservation tour number 70295428





Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

# RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)**  
 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*  
 Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, *Treasurer*  
 Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, *Secretary*

**RLACEI DIRECTORS**  
 Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

Beverly Anderson, Director	Ext. 702
Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, <i>Treasurer</i>	Ext. 718
Mark Blunk, Director	Ext. 704
Beverly J. Clark, <i>Publicity Director</i>	Ext. 716
Dennis Harding, <i>Entertainment Director</i>	Ext. 706
Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, <i>Secretary</i>	Ext. 719
Tom Moutes, <i>Health &amp; Legislative Director</i>	Ext. 710
Mike Perez, <i>Golf Director</i>	Ext. 705
Ruth B. Perry, <i>Membership Director</i>	Ext. 717
Elizabeth Torres, Director	Ext. 703

**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**

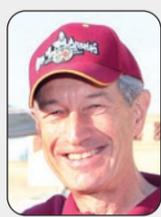
- Aug. 5 Annual Picnic**  
*Whittier Narrows Recreation Center*  
*Group Picnic Area – Prime 1*  
*624 S. Santa Anita Blvd.,*  
*South El Monte*
- Dec. Annual Holiday Party**  
*Date and location to be announced*

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

**LACERS BOARD UPDATE**

## LACERS: No to Social Security Cut, Yes to IRMMA Reimburse

by Michael R. Wilkinson,  
 LACERS Commissioner  
 Email: [MikeWilkinson4LACERS@gmail.com](mailto:MikeWilkinson4LACERS@gmail.com)



Michael R. Wilkinson

**WEP and GPO Provisions are harmful to your financial health:**

If you are receiving a pension from LACERS, you probably know that there are two provisions of federal law that can greatly reduce the amount of your Social Security payments you might otherwise receive for yourself and spousal benefit. These provisions are called the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) (reducing your Social Security benefit) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) (reducing Social Security spousal or widow(er) benefit).

For Social Security, there is not space here to explain fully how the WEP and GPO work. However, I helped drive the Board's action to urge the City Council to support federal legislation, Congressional bill HR 82: Social Security Fairness Act of 2021, which repeals the unfair provisions reducing Social Security benefits for individuals who also receive a pension or disability benefit from an employer that did not withhold Social Security taxes.

The LACERS Board report on the WEP illustrated an example of a single person who paid into Social Security for 15 years and then went on to work 20 years for the City and retired at 67 with a monthly pension of \$4,662 (approximately the average service retirement pension). The WEP would reduce their Social Security Benefit from \$1,911 to \$1,374, representing a 28 percent cut, or a loss of \$537 per month.

Another illustrated example was that of an expected Social Security monthly spousal benefit of \$1,500 cut to zero because of the GPO.

The WEP and GPO are both unfair to government employees who have earned these benefits and paid Social Security taxes while working but are unfairly denied. LACERS will be submitting a request to the Mayor and City Council to make the pending federal HR 82 congressional bill a priority in changing federal law to eliminate these reductions. I will follow this closely and strongly urge our City Council to support elimination of these harmful provisions.

**IRMAA Surcharge Reimbursement:**

Your medical expenses are partially covered by Medicare Part A if you qualify by either your employment, or that of your spouse. If you are a member of LACERS' health plans and qualify for Medicare Part A, LACERS will reimburse you for the basic Medicare Part B premium, but not for the additional fees called IRMAAs (Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount) charged by Medicare, which are income-based surcharges on Medicare Part B that can add hundreds of dollars to your monthly costs.

IRMAA fees are calculated using your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI). While IRMAA fees are greater for higher-income workers, IRMAA fees impact more than 2,000 LACERS Retirees solely based on a LACERS' staff estimate of pension incomes. However, an even greater number of Retirees are and will be impacted because they have additional income sources that must be added to determine their IRMAA-specific MAGI.

The LACERS Board has directed staff to contact the City Council to consider an ordinance to allow the reimbursement of the IRMAA fees as well as the basic Part B premium for those not currently eligible for reimbursement. While this is only the first step and will likely face challenges, this is a positive development that I will also follow closely and strongly urge our City Council to support. •

**Become an RLACEI Member**

RLACEI is dedicated to advocating for retiree interests. We are over 6,000 strong! Members of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. enjoy all RLACEI events such as the golf tournament, member picnic and holiday party with FREE membership to the Employees Club with access to all group benefits (insurance, discounts, etc.).

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

**MEET YOUR BOARD**

*A look at RLACEI Board Members*

## Beverly Anderson RLACEI Board Member

By Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director



Beverly Anderson

The RLACEI Board installed three new Directors in May and welcomed back Mike Perez, who was installed in July to serve as Golf Director.

Beverly Anderson was one of the three Directors installed in May and is a welcomed addition to the Board. Beverly retired in February 2010 from the LAPD after 33 years of City service. During her City career, she worked

in various departments, including Community Development, Controller's Office, the LAFD, Airports, Public Works/Management-Employee Services, Public Works/Sanitation and the LAPD. Beverly is active in the Affirmative Action Association for Women (AAAW) and the Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association (LACEAAA). She is also a Wellness Champion for LACERS Well, leading weekly walks at the Lakewood Center Mall (paused for COVID) and a twice-weekly hula class at the Costa Mesa Senior Center (currently Zooming).

Beverly enjoys retirement and keeps herself busy with volunteering and family. She lives in Long Beach with her husband, Gary, who retired at the start of the pandemic from the Providence Medical Institute. They have one daughter, Lisa, who graduated from UCLA and just recently was accepted into the Sustainability Management and Policy Master's program at Cal State Long Beach.

Beverly's recommendation to retirees: "Find your passion and do it. Plan to do all the things and activities that you did not have the time or energy to do while working."

RLACEI's purpose – "...to promote the common welfare, the improvement of benefits, provide the means of communicating the policies of the Retired Los Angeles City employees, to the Retired City employees and their spouses..." – is why she joined the RLACEI Board. She feels she can still make a difference and advocate for the needs of Retirees and their spouses. Being a member of RLACEI and attending their events has kept her in touch with many other Retirees. She looks forward to serving on the RLACEI Board. •

**GOLF TOURNAMENT UPDATE**

## Teeing Off in 2022

By Mike Perez, RLACEI Golf Director  
[Michael.Perez@RLACEI.org](mailto:Michael.Perez@RLACEI.org)



Greetings fellow golfers! Recently I've been appointed as RLACEI Golf Director, and I've got bad news and good news.

The bad news is that we weren't able to have a golf tournament in Summer 2021. We need a shotgun start for our tournament, and as you've seen, golf courses have been very crowded. Courses at this time can't offer a shotgun start, as that ties them up for a major part of the golf day.

However, the good news is, we recently met with staff at Alhambra Golf Course and are pleased to report that we have reserved their course, with a shotgun start, for Thursday, June 2, 2022! The course is in great shape and the banquet hall and outside dining areas were recently renovated and look new. Lunch and awards will follow the golf tournament. Alhambra Golf Course has also agreed to provide a free barrel of range balls for our use. Don't forget to warm up!

**Please save the date: June 2, 2022**, for the RLACEI Tom Sternock Memorial Golf Tournament. Although prices to us have gone up, we plan to keep the tournament costs at the same rate for our members and guests, \$75 for members and \$80 for guests. Email me if you have any questions.

Keep it on the short grass!

# RLACEI



## RLACEI 2021 Summer Picnic

**Open to all Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. members!**

### Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Whittier Narrows Recreation Center**  
624 S. Santa Anita Blvd., South El Monte  
GROUP PICNIC AREA – PRIME 1



**RSVP to (800) 678-4145 EXT. 701**

RSVP no later than July 31, 2021.  
EVENT SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION.  
Limit one (1) RLACEI member plus one (1) guest at no cost.



**We look forward to seeing you!**

## Facebook Giveaway

### Winners

Have you joined RLACEI or followed the RLACEI Facebook page? Why not? You could win a prize!

June Winners - \$5.00 gift card  
(See the ad below for more information.)

#### New RLACEI Members – and Welcome!

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Gary Glade         | Jovita Pizana |
| Jacinto Gomez, Jr. | Cindy Serrano |
| Carney Hoffman     | Karen Tozer   |
| Yul Johnson        |               |

*Congratulations for joining the RLACEI Facebook page!*

## Sign Up!

YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE



### 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)

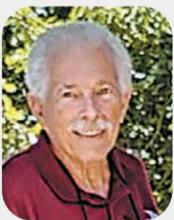
**101-150 WIN**  
RLACEI reusable cloth bag



**Find us:** Log on to Facebook, then search for RLACEI  
**Join at:** RLACEI.org (must be Retired City employee)

## So Long, Hal

Hal Danowitz, longtime RLACEI Member and *Alive!* columnist, retires from RLACEI Board



Hal Danowitz

Hal Danowitz is retiring as a longtime RLACEI Board Director. He joined the Board immediately after he retired from the City's Office of the Controller in 1999.

Hal has been an RLACEI institution! Hal has served on the Board for 22 years and was one of the longest-serving members. He joined RLACEI to maintain a relationship with his Retired friends. During his illustrious tenure as a Board member, Hal last served as Secretary/Treasurer. He contributed a monthly article to *Alive!* on his various world travels. Hal was also instrumental in installing RLACEI's toll-free 800 phone system and set up the first RLACEI Website.

Hal says it was a pleasure to serve on the Board and feels that RLACEI is the only organization whose primary goals are to maintain retirement benefits and support Retirees, as well as increase communication and visibility.

"I will always be available to provide assistance if requested. I look forward to the continued growth of our organization."

RLACEI thanks Hal for his dedicated and important service. Happy complete retirement, Hal!

*Hal Danowitz was a member of the RLACEI Board of Directors for many years. He helped to transform the board to be a watchdog organization, the only group that protects our retirement benefits. Hal's dedication and hard work as treasurer and at times secretary will be sorely missed on the board, and I wish him well in his new home.*

— Dennis Harding, Entertainment Director

*Hal has been a devoted and industrious RLACEI Board member for many years. His value to the organization, his integrity and consistent contributions will be sorely missed. I learned to value my interactions and conversations with Hal and wish him all the best in a well deserved "second" retirement.*

— Mike Perez, Director

*Hal was on the Board's Nominating Committee when I was interviewed in February 2018 for the position of Board Director. I vividly remember him asking insightful questions regarding how to involve and assist Retirees as we forge into the technological era.*

*As I was a new Member with lots of questions, Hal was able to provide answers. He holds a wealth of information and knowledge about the Board and is willing to share to ensure that the RLACEI Board is moving forward. His long tenure on the Board is evidence of his commitment to the Board and Retirees.*

*Hal, thanks for staying on longer than you had anticipated to ensure a smooth transition and help fill the positions you held. Enjoy the rest of your retirement.*

— Beverly Clark, Vice President

*I became a member of the RLACEI Board on May 15, 2018. I was welcomed by two of the longest serving members on the board with open arms, Ed Harding and Hal Danowitz. The amount of RLACEI historical knowledge held by these two men will never be replaced. Hal served as both Secretary and Treasurer for countless years*

*as well as entertaining us all with his travel articles in Alive! When he made the decision to retire from the RLACEI Board, he took great pains to train our current Secretary, Vicki Keoseian, and Treasurer, Lucy Artinian, so that the transition would be as smooth as possible. He had planned to retire in January of this year, but graciously remained until now to ensure that crucial documents such as tax and state corporation forms were processed, submitted and approved.*

*Hal will be missed greatly. There was no question regarding RLACEI that he didn't have a ready answer for. I learned much from both him and Ed that has helped me to serve as a productive member of the RLACEI Board. We truly appreciate Hal's service to all RLACEI members for all these many years and wish him many more years to truly enjoy a healthy and happy retirement. Take care, Hal. We know you are just a phone call away should we need your advice. Thank you for everything.*

— Ruth Perry, President

*I first noticed Hal's travel articles when he wrote them for a different paper. I read them and was a fan; I always "got" his sly, dry, understated humor and admired his sense of adventure. He and I would see each other at the RLACEI events, and we struck up a friendship. So you can understand how awesome I thought it was when he approached me and asked if we would consider publishing him instead, that he wanted to move his column to Alive!. It took me about a second to say heck yes.*

*That was August 2005. His first "Adventures With Hal" column, which often also featured his wife, Evelyn, ran that September. I still crack up at looking at the "Indiana Jones" cover our designers created for his debut. But it was pretty accurate!*



Caption, caption.

*Through the beginning of 2019, when we moved a lot of our Alive! content to the Web so that more people could access it, we had published more than 150 of Hal's columns. Incredible.*

*But our friendship was more than just Hal's columns. I thank him for his many years of leadership on the Board of the important RLACEI and his supporting its longtime partnership with the Club. Hal was always a big fan of the Club – and how it could serve the City's Retirees – from the very beginning. I congratulate Hal for his great service to Retirees, and wish him many more years of happiness and adventure.*

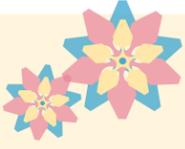
— John Hawkins, CEO, Employees Club of California

*When I think of Hal, only a split second goes by before I associate him as one of the most influential and impactful figures for the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI). He has been a staple of integrity with a powerful personality that helped propel RLACEI for decades. For many employees and Retirees, he was known for his ever-popular travel articles. When he began writing "Adventures With Hal" for Alive!, readers immediately identified him as a travel column celebrity. If you are reading this Hal, please consider getting that started again in Alive!*

*Hal wears his heart on his sleeve, and for that reason among many others he is among the very best to help lead organizations. He is a longtime advocate for Retirees and has always made it his priority to make their lives, and the lives of their families, better through his work at RLACEI. It is my strong belief that this pursuit is why he and the Employees Club of California have bonded in partnership for all these years.*

*Hal, we thank you for your dedication and service to the City of Los Angeles, to City employees and to the members of RLACEI. All of us at the Employees Club wish you well in your future endeavors, and most importantly in your travels.*

— Robert Larios, COO, Employees Club of California



# Life's Important Moments



## Retirements

View July 2021 Retirements online at:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/retirements-202107](http://alive.employeesclub.com/retirements-202107)

*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
Adler, Gerald L.	Motor Sweeper Op.	Public Works	22	Ginsburg, Richard P.	Ptd. Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Mousavipour, Farhad	Asst. Dir., St. Services	Public Works	25
Aghajanian, Seroj	Sr. Const. Insp.	Public Works	33	Glade, Gary Arthur	Photographer	LAPD	23	Murillo, Armando	Power Construction	LADWP	N/D
Alvarez, Louie	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	27	Gomez, Deirdre Nadine	Sr. Mgmt. Anyst,	Library	31	Naini, Mehdi M.	Transportation Eng.	Transportation	31
Andrews, Stephen D.	Power C/M	LADWP	N/D	Griffin, David K.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Neilsen, Stephen C.	Water Eng.ing	LADWP	N/D
Aquino, Rommel L.	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	16	Guel, Sonia P.	Sr. Legal Clerk	City Attorney	30	Newcastle, Wesley	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	43
Araujo, Carlos	Tree Surgeon Asst.	Public Works	23	Gwynn, Ronald H.	Carpenter	Rec and Parks	31	Ngo Hoang, Annie Thi	Fingerprint Iden. Exp.	LAPD	32
Arnold, Edith Jean	Pr. Civil Eng.	Gen. Services	19	Hamilton Keel, Shelia	Mgmt. Anyst,	Housing	31	Nolke, Duane A.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Bagherzadeh, M Reza	Pr. Civil Eng.	Public Works	38	Hamlett, Michael B.	Power C/M	LADWP	N/D	Nunez, Diana Marie	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	27
Baker, Gillis	Env. Chem. Lab	LADWP	N/D	Hanna, Troy S.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Olguin Flores, Armida	Housing Investigator	Housing	25
Baluyot, Tessie F.	Admin. Clerk	Rec and Parks	5	Hasan, Janie	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	13	Oniyide, Sola O.	Mgmt. Anyst,	Personnel	24
Bambao, Teresa A.	Workers Comp Anyst.	Personnel	37	Haynes, Doyle James	Trans. Eng. Aide	Transportation	20	Ortiz, Guadalupe	Personnel Director	Personnel	36
Barnette, Brenda	General Manager	Animal Services	10	Henriquez, Raul	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	16	Osier, Terry Z.	Carpenter	Rec and Parks	37
Bayes, Debra A.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Rec and Parks	24	Henry, Kenneth F.	Carpenter Supv.	Gen. Services	20	Panagiotidis, Paul H.	Maintenance Supt.	Airports	29
Beech, Donald L.	Power Safety/Training	LADWP	N/D	Hernandez, Herbert A.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	10	Parcerro, Augusto S.	Property Manager	Public Works	21
Bellefontaine, William J.	Plumbing Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	21	Hill, Debra D.	Customer Services	LADWP	N/D	Paterno, Odette I.	Accounting Clerk	Ec./Wrkfr. Dev.	21
Beltran, Mario R.	Irrigation Specialist	Rec and Parks	34	Ho, Huyen T.	Chief Tax Compl. Off.	Finance	31	Patterson, Macrida L.	Traffic Officer	Transportation	18
Benedicto, Carlos C.	Sr. Mgmt. Anyst,	Gen. Services	36	Hobbs, Victoria M.	Head Custodian Supv.	Gen. Services	31	Pawlikowski, Janusz W.	Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D
Bentley, Yvette Faye	Sr. Police Serv. Rep	LAPD	32	Holman, Chris M.	Air Cond. Mechanic	Gen. Services	14	Pedro, Bruce Massey	Mech. Repairer	Gen. Services	37
Bertram, Clark I.	Power Safety/Training	LADWP	N/D	Holmes, Carl E.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Peregrina Rodriguez, Roberto	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	16
Borhaug, Philip	Power C/T	LADWP	N/D	Honles, Thomas D.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Phouasalith, Jintana	Chemist	Public Works	33
Bowie, Karen Lynn	Sr. St. Services Invest.	Public Works	38	Hunter, Earl P.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Quintana, Catherine A.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Boyd, Donna K.	Human Resources	LADWP	N/D	Hunter, Tyrone Denby	Gardener Caretaker	Public Works	17	Ralph, Corinne G.	Chief, Transit Prog.	Transportation	31
Briceno, Jose F.	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	8	Hymen, Timothy V.	Security Officer	LAPD	34	Reames, David Arthur	Animal Keeper	Zoo	33
Brown, Russell C.	Park Ranger	Rec and Parks	31	Johnson, Antoinette R.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Regan, John K.	Buid. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	15
Buchanan, Adriane	Admin. Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	34	Johnson, Cynthia H.	Accounting Clerk	Emer. Prep.	30	Reynoso, Esperanza	Messenger Clerk	Gen. Services	21
Buchanan, Gary L.	Mech. Repairer	Airports	20	Johnson, Elroy	Geo. Info. Sys. Supv.	Public Works	33	Richard, Jeffrey Allen	Wastewater Treat. Elec.	Public Works	19
Bunn, Michael T.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Johnson, Gary W.	Plumber	Rec and Parks	24	Richardson, Rod	Parking Meter Tech.	Transportation	11
Burgess, Ralph W.	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D	Johnson, Johnny H.	Head Cust. Supv.	Zoo	33	Rodriguez, Benjamin	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Burgoyne, Dale H.	Sr. Envnmtl. Eng.	Public Works	20	Jones, Elreta	Exec. Admin. Asst.	Controller	33	Rodriguez, Isidro C.	St. Services Worker	Public Works	31
Burrell, Maria J.	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	28	Karimzadeh, Mahmood	Deputy City Eng.	Public Works	29	Rojas, Frank Acevedo	Property Officer	LAPD	32
Calles, Martha M.	Custodian	Zoo	12	Khan, Obaid Ullah	Warehouse/TR Wrkr.	Gen. Services	19	Saldivar, Christine	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	35
Calloway, Therman W.	Pr. Grounds Maint. Shop	Rec and Parks	37	Kite, Joe P.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D	Salon, Rodolfo M.	Power C/M	LADWP	N/D
Campbell, Charles	Commun. Info. Rep.	Public Works	20	Koja, Edwin	Parking Meter Tech	Transportation	18	Sampson, Crystal A.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	36
Canzano, Vincent T.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D					Sanders, Elliot Jay	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	15
Capasso Smith, Laure G.	Accounting Clerk	Bldg. & Safety	15					Sarfaty, Jean Marie	Police Service Rep	LAPD	24
Capili, Morita R.	Pr. Clerk	LAFD	32					Schram, Ronald E.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Castaneda, Larry	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D					Scott, Debra V.	Sr. St. Services Invest.	Public Works	36
Castro, Michael F.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	14					Scott, Jerry A.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Casupang, Edilberto R.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D					Sedadi, Amir H.	Asst. GM	Transportation	15
Chagolla, Lydia	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Gen. Services	17					Seapanian, Robert	Struct. Engr.Assoc.	Bldg. & Safety	9
Chan, Christina	Programmer/Anyst,	ITA	31					Sgroi, Robert T.	Sr. Housing Insp.	Housing	32
Charnay, Carolyn Agnes	Police Perform. Aud.	LAPD	15					Silva, Martin L.	Storekeeper	Gen. Services	32
Chheang, Ted Ed.	Comm. Electrician	ITA	15					Silverstrom, Jed Mark	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	14
Choe, Chase	Photographer	LAPD	29					Simonson, Dean S.	Animal Care Tech	Animal Services	20
Choi, Hannah P.	Asst. Dir. Bur. Cont. Admin.	Public Works	34					Sims, Reginald	Heavy Duty Truck Op.	Public Works	27
Chopp, Paul	Sr. Build. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	34					Singh, Vasdev	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Finance	17
Choudhury, Khairul Alam	City Planner	Planning	33					Siyahian, Shakeh O.	St. Lighting Eng. Assoc.	Public Works	20
Chu, Daniel W.	ITS	LADWP	N/D					Smith, Rodney B.	St. Services Worker	Public Works	22
Chu, Jenny	Acct.	Housing	19					Song, Winston Wenxun	Programmer/Anyst,	LAFD	30
Chuang, Chengni Ou	Sr. Acct.	Controllor	14					Soni, Baljit Singh	Pr. Acct.	Transportation	34
Cooper, Isaiah J.	Light Equip. Op.	Rec and Parks	26	Lamangan, Francinita	Crime/Intel Anyst,	LAPD	13	Stawinski, Thomas E.	Power New Business	LADWP	N/D
Cordova, Dina E.	Custodian	Gen. Services	14	Lauterio, Veltorina	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	22	Sternquist, Darlene M.	External/Reg. Affairs	LADWP	N/D
Cotangco, Edilberto R.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Lee III, James M.	Recreation Assitant	Rec and Parks	5	Strauss, Christina I.	Metering Services	LADWP	N/D
Crawford, Dwight	Light Equip. Op.	Rec and Parks	33	Lee, Roland P.	Accounting Clerk	City Clerk	32	Sunseri, Donald James	Sr. Build. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	22
Cuatro, Manuel Reyes	Custodian	Gen. Services	11	Lepine, Thomas Robert	Plumber	Public Works	22	Sutherland, Monty Jack	Facility Director	Rec and Parks	20
Damon, Gregory R.	Construction Insp.	Public Works	35	Lewis, Cheryl Diane	Admin. Clerk	Public Works	15	Swanson, Elizabeth	Criminalist	LAPD	26
Davis, Robert A.	Supt. of Operations	Rec and Parks	39	Lira Barajas, Esther	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Housing	30	Takacs, Janet Lynn	Traffic Officer	Transportation	31
De Anda, Jose	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	31	Lomeli, Abel	Window Cleaner	Airports	28	Takeuchi, Troy N.	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D
De Los Angeles, Cecilia	Pr. Acct.	Fire/Police Pensions	20	Lopez, Joe L.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Tanniehill, Deborah A.	Admin. Clerk	Library	39
Del Rosario, Cecilia	Matl. Test Eng.Assoc.	Gen. Services	24	Lopez Salazar, Cesar	Air Cond. Mech. Supv.	Gen. Services	20	Tinsley, Derrick E.	Equip. Repair Supv.	LAFD	35
Del Rosario, Shelly	Ch. Personnel Anyst.	Personnel	35	Loria, Edmund	Veterinary Tech.	Animal Services	31	Tirado, Robert	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D
Delarosa, Linda Bell	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Animal Services	32	Madison, John E.	Security Officer	LAPD	31	Torres, Leonard	Sr. Personnel Anyst,	Personnel	35
Delgado, Lilia	Pr. Clerk	LAPD	23	Malkoun, Gus B.	Civil Eng.	Public Works	34	Traje, Arnaldo S.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D
Diazdaz, Consuelo B.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	19	Mamangun, Romeo	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	20	Tran, Faye	Systems Anyst,	LAPD	22
Dominguez, Jose A.	Power Ext. Energy	LADWP	N/D	Mancillas, Carlos	Sr. Systems Anyst,	Rec and Parks	31	Troschak, Gregory W.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Dowdy, Rhonda Rene	Sr. Personnel Anyst,	Personnel	25	Manlove, Joseph R.	Port Pilot	Harbor	18	Turck, Robert L.	Light Equip. Op.	Rec and Parks	32
Duenas, Robert Z.	Pr. City Planner	Planning	36	Marana, Eduardo C.	Tax Renewal Asst.	Finance	18	Ungson, Oscar Millan	Maint./Const. Helper	Public Works	21
Duran, Daniel	Power C/M	LADWP	N/D	Marschall, Mary Ann	Pr. Clerk	City Attorney	46	Upton, Yvonne	Admin. Clerk	Public Works	20
Egar, Steven Evin	Equipment Mechanic	Gen. Services	12	McCoy, Dailey	Storekeeper	Gen. Services	20	Valencia, Ma Edwina	Benefits Specialist	Fire/Police Pens.	32
Ellis, Yolanda	Traffic Officer	Transportation	31	McKinney, Marina S.	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	34	Valencoure, Susan Marie	Personnel Anyst,	Personnel	27
Emuslan, Ernie Jubinal	ArchitecturalAssoc.	Gen. Services	33	McCollough, Yolanda	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	31	Velarde, Mario	Special Prog. Asst.	Rec and Parks	6
Enriquez, Samuel	Tree Surgeon	Rec and Parks	15	McGruder, Tona L.	Custodian	Airports	22	Vuong, Phan My	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Transportation	33
Espiritu, Carmela T.	Dept. Chief Acct.	LAFD	33	Medina, Raul Felix	Painter	Airports	14	Wagner, Gary J.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Euzarraga, Louis	Facility Director	Rec and Parks	20	Mendez, Emilia Santana	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	33	Washington, Carl D.	Water Eng.ing	LADWP	N/D
Feldmann, Jeffrey	Storekeeper	LAFD	23	Mendoza, Robert E.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Watson, Tammy	Asst. GM	Animal Services	33
Felix, Jesus A.	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	16	Meza, Arturo	Parking Attendant	Gen. Services	36	Webster, Roy Scott	Signal System Elect.	Transportation	12
Ferguson, Herman	Traffic Officer	Transportation	31	Mister, Teresa	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	22	Weinzieri, Andrew M.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D
Flock, Thelma Carreon	Accounting Clerk	City Attorney	45	Mize, Steven A.	Truck Op.	Public Works	21	Whitaker, Christine A.	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	23
Flores, Jesus	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	28	Monez, Mark S.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	White, Leroy	Plumber	Public Works	30
Flowers, Jimmy L.	Security Officer	Airports	16	Monreal, Luis	Equipment Op.	Public Works	19	Wold, Edwin J.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D
Galarza, Javier	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	15	Monteiro, Sarah Isabel	Custodian	Gen. Services	17	Wright, John A.	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	31
Galvez, Francisco	External/Reg. Affairs	LADWP	N/D	Monzon, Juan A.	Park Maint. Supv.	Rec and Parks	31	Yu, Cirilo B.	Housing Insp.	Housing	14
Garcia, Joe S.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Moore, Donna June	Pr. Clerk	LAPD	25	Zaleta, Pedro	Gardener Caretaker	LAPD	25
Garcia, Juana B.	Cust. Service Spec.	Finance	22	Morales, Andy G.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	37	Zepeda, Yolanda	Crossing Guard	Transportation	2
Garin, Diosdado M.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Moreno, George	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D				
Gencon, Walther O.	Sr. Tax Renewal Asst.	Finance	18	Morrison, Paul M.	Survey Party Chief	Public Works	26				
				Motta, Anthony L.	St. Services Supv.	Public Works	22				



N/D = not disclosed

## 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

## Graduations

# 2021

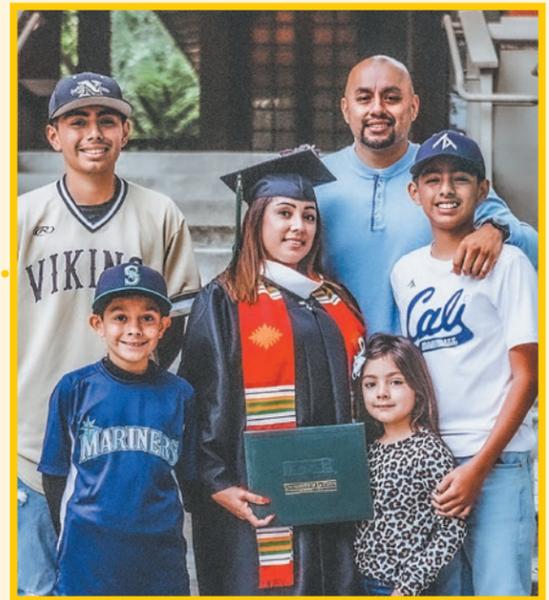
## Graduations



**Peter Otoshi** graduated from Maranatha High School in Pasadena with highest honors and plans to attend Biola University, studying mechanical engineering. He's the **son of John Otoshi, Retired, LADWP.**



**Melissa Rainbird** graduated from the University of Hawaii, Manoa, with a Bachelor's degree in business marketing. She is returning to California to pursue a career in business. She's the **daughter of William Rainbird, Retired, LADWP.**



**Marina Castaneda** graduated from the University of La Verne. "Thank you to my family and friends for your support," she writes. "To my kids, you will always be my inspiration." She's a Benefits Analyst, LACERS.

**Vanessa Casas** graduated from California Baptist University with a Master's degree in forensic psychology. She plans to serve those with mental health disorders within the criminal justice system. She's the **daughter of Teresa Casas, Retired, LAPD.**



**Ariel Alaryu** graduated from Cal State Long Beach with a Bachelor's degree in nursing, and plans to continue toward earning a Master's degree in nursing. He's the **son of Riza Mulawin, Fire and Police Pensions, and Angelo Alayu, LAFD.**



**Everet Fink** graduated from the College of the Canyons with an Associate's degree in administration of justice, *cum laude*. He plans to pursue a criminology and justice degree at Cal State Northridge. He's the **son of Ross Fink, LADWP.**



## Engagement

### Congratulations, Fady and Olivia!

Olivia Jamgotchian, daughter of *Alive!* designers David and Marie Jamgotchian, and Fady Jeanbart announced their May 13th engagement. Congratulations!



## 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>							
Barnes, Marcus R.	LADWP 19	Bryant, Robert L.	LADWP 31	Horne, Isaac R.	LADWP 30	Shaw Jr., Harold E.	LADWP 29
Barnes Jr. Martin E.	LADWP 28	Busing, Erlinda L.	Finance 14	Ige, James M.	N/D N/D	Shay, Charles	LADWP 16
Carter, William	Airports 27	Burmeister, George R.	LADWP 38	Jones, Larry Leon	Transportation 31	Shibuya, Takasato	N/D N/D
Gyimesi, Bela A.	Public Works 21	Carrillo, Cornelio P.	LAFD 27	Key-Hekima, Karl V.	Econ./Wrkfr. Dev. 30	Singmaster, James O.	N/D N/D
Hamilton, Michael	Rec and Parks 24	Chow, Marie	N/D N/D	King, Lonnie L.	Public Works 35	Smith, Ada A.	LADWP 28
Jenkins, Derek C.	Public Works 25	Coia, Mary E.	LADWP 33	Knox, Eddie L.	N/D N/D	Star, Steve	N/D N/D
Khalvati, Ebrahim	Harbor 35	Davis, Mark L.	LADWP 38	Lee, Jeffrey R.	Harbor 22	Stephenson, David W.	N/D N/D
Lewis, Mary Claire	Airports 3	De Jonge, Henley M.	LADWP 10	Mendoza, Ralph R.	LADWP 34	Strong, Charlie	Airports 20
Pagan, Ditravia Rhubec	LAPD 20	Del Hierro, Santiago A.	Airports 23	Michalowski, Cecilia	City Attorney 5	Sweeley, Robert C.	N/D N/D
Valencia, Mario	Rec and Parks 19	Dickenson, Ronald	N/D N/D	Mariner, Thomas	N/D N/D	Tabamo, Eleazar D.	LADWP 29
<b>RETIRED</b>							
Aceves, Jesus D.	N/D N/D	Dipperstein, Malcolm	Rec and Parks 28	Martinez, Pablo P.	General Services 20	Valenzuela, Albert F.	Rec and Parks 37
Bacon, Barbara A.	LADWP 32	Eisenberg, Lawrence M.	Library 30	Millstein, Don M.	Airports 31	Ward, Donald N.	LADWP 31
Beastrom, Mason M.	N/D N/D	Fashing, John V.	LADWP 37	Muranaga, Tomi	LADWP 14	Washington, Craig	Rec and Parks 36
Beatty, Walter C.	LADWP 30	Fernandez, Virginia B.	LADWP 30	Musick, Marvin C.	N/D N/D	Webb, Sheila L.	Econ./Wrkfr. Dev. 18
Bickham, Ella D.	N/D N/D	Fukumoto, Asami E.	LADWP 25	Quach, Thu T.	Public Works 19	Westlake, Charles E.	LADWP 20
Barot, Raquel R.	Public Works 16	Gilkey, Wallace	Transportation 14	Sansone, Giuseppe F.	N/D N/D	Wiley, Della F.	N/D N/D
Bonney, Gregory L.	Public Works 28	Griswold, Don M.	LADWP 26	Ramirez, Maria S.	Rec and Parks 5	Wilson, Waymon	N/D N/D
		Guerra, Art	LADWP 39	Rincon, Jose F.	Rec and Parks 30	Wright, Will H.	LADWP 32
		Harbour, Leslie W.	Airports 18	Sauer, Kearney F.	N/D N/D	Yamaoka, Mas	LADWP 14
		Haywood, Sandra Marie	City Attorney 20	Schoonover, Robert L.	N/D N/D		
		Hernandez, Rodolfo	General Services 20	Shaffer, Samuel	N/D N/D		

N/D = not disclosed

# AMAZING DEALS!

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