

## Rec, Parks Puts Holidays on Ice With Rink in Pershing Square



Thanks to Rec and Parks, an East Coast holiday tradition is an annual part of the Southland, too. And it makes a return visit this Christmas season.

Operating mid-November through mid-January, the Southland's largest outdoor ice skating rink is ready for lots of family fun this holiday season.

The L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice event, an oasis for fun nestled among the towering skyscrapers at Pershing Square, is planned to open Nov. 19, and remain in operation through Jan. 19.

Celebrating its sixth season as the City of Angels answer to New York's Rockefeller Center, the rink is made possible by sponsorship from the Los Angeles Kings hockey team,



the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, and Councilmember Jan Perry (9th District).

**L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice, co-sponsored by Rec and Parks and Councilwoman Jan Perry, returns downtown Nov. 19.**

Open seven days a week, including holidays, with an admission price of \$6 for an hour-long skating session and \$2 for skate rental, the ice rink also offers free hockey clinics for kids and adults, a free musical concert series and

See Ice Rink, Page 3

# Fire!



Two firefighters battle a blaze near the 118 Freeway. (Photo by Mike Meadows.)

## City Employees Come Through to Protect City From Ravages of the Wild Brush Fires

City Departments, personnel spring into action to save lives, curtail fire damage. Here are just some of their stories.

The ill winds started to blow, and then took on a life of their own as firestorms, fueled by the area's wild brush, ravaged out of control over the October 25 and 26 weekend. That's when several critical City departments kicked into overdrive and used their extensive training and experience to save lives and property.

Undoubtedly, countless thousands of City employees played a huge part in keeping the fires contained to the outskirts of the City. *Alive!* talked to a number of employees who were there and who gave an account of what their departments did. Needless to say, the following represents just a small part of the heroic actions during the emergency.

*Alive!* welcomes your stories and recollections. Send them in to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com), and we'll print what we can.

And, on behalf of the Club, *Alive!* would like to thank all those who fought the fires who are listed here, and especially those who are not.

### The Beginning: The Mayor/LAFD

Mayor James K. Hahn, along with the Los Angeles Fire Department Chief William Bamattre, activated the City's Emergency

See Fire, Page 16



City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
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# Alive!

December 2003 Volume 2 – No. 12

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by **Robyn Barnes**  
**Fire and Police Pensions**  
**Club Board Member**



## Community Means Giving Back During The Holiday Season

Even now, writing this column more than two and a half weeks before Thanksgiving, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, everywhere I go.

You name it: the mall, TV, office buildings ... it seems like everyone is getting into the holiday mood.

There is another place to get into the holiday mood, too... the lobby of the Club headquarters, on the seventh floor of the World Trade Center downtown. You won't see Santa there, or snowmen, or elves. What you will see is a barrel with gifts to be given away.

As *Alive!* reported last month, the Club is participating this year in a toy drive sponsored by Central City Police Boosters. The Club counselors have placed a barrel in the lobby of the Club office, and it's already collecting toys to be distributed at a party Dec. 16 for at-risk youths downtown.

The Club will be collecting toys until Dec. 12. After that, you are welcome to contact LAPD Officer Marie Kardiban at (213) 847-0248.

I urge you to consider giving to the drive.

Or if not this drive, then a different one. Any one.

Because that's what community means. We started out more than a year ago thinking that City employees formed a great community, but that no one had really recognized that.

So we created the Club, and what a reaction! We have thousands of members, an exciting newspaper and excellent Club benefits, and we had yet an incredible ClubFest!

It's time for us to be thankful. And to give back to those who need us. These times are not easy for any of us, but there will always be people who need us.

Let's pull together and come through for those in need. Please give to the Club toy drive. Or find another way to give of yourself this Christmas season.

That's what community is all about.

And from all of us here at the Club, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas, a blessed Hanukkah and prosperous New Year. 🎁

### Numbers YOU CAN USE

<b>City Employees Club of Los Angeles</b>	(800) 464-0452	<b>DWP Information</b>	(213) 367-4211
<b>City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX</b>	(213) 620-0398	<b>DWP Paymaster</b>	(213) 367-1106
<b>City Employees Deferred Compensation</b>	(213) 978-1636	<b>DWP Personnel</b>	(213) 367-1934
<b>City Employees Benefit Office</b>	(213) 9781655	<b>DWP Retirement Plan Office</b>	(213) 367-1712
<b>City Employees Retirement System</b>	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	<b>Engineers and Architects Association</b>	(213) 620-6920
<b>City Paymaster</b>	(213) 978-7480	<b>Fire and Police Pension System</b>	(213) 978-4545
<b>City Personnel Office</b>	(213) 847-9240	<b>Local 347</b>	(213) 482-6660
<b>City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090</b>	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	<b>Los Angeles Federal Credit Union</b>	(213) 485-5000
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<b>DWP Credit Union</b>	(213) 580-1690	<b>Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.</b>	(213) 255-9082
<b>DWP Employees Assn.</b>	(213) 367-3146	<b>Whistleblower/Complaint Program</b>	(800) 824-4825
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Have a number you'd like us to include? Send it in: alive@cityemployeesclub.com

Let us know your new address! You don't want to miss a single issue of *Alive!* Call the Club at (213) 620-0388, or send it to:

## Moving?

The Club • World Trade Center • 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700 • Los Angeles, CA 90071

## Member Benefits

■ As a member of the Club you have access to a host of valuable services and products:

### Discount Tickets

- TICKET EXPRESS: Buy tickets by Phone, Mail, or Web site
- Theme parks and attractions (up to 70% off!)
- Movies - all major screens (up to 70% off!)
- Plays, musicals, the arts, sports events

### Alive! Newspaper

- Births, weddings, retirements and deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- News that matters!
- Department of the Month
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information

### Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
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- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
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- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Plus...

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- Pet Insurance

### More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award



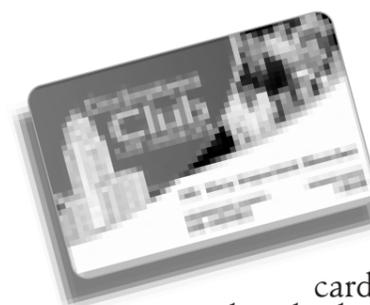
## Join the Club!

All active or retired City of Los Angeles and DWP employees are eligible to become members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

To join, call  
**(800) 464-0452.**

Enjoy all these benefits for only \$4 per month for active employees, or \$2 per month for retired employees.

**Look for new services and products to be added soon!**



## Club Card

• Show your card and save money at hundreds of businesses in L.A. and throughout the country

## Club Toy Drive Is In Final Stretch

■ **Bring in a toy, and bring the holidays to those who need it most.**

**Help the Club give back to the community. Call your Club counselor today.**

Club counselors have been busy gathering toys from Club members as part of the Club's holiday toy drive.

The Club will be collecting toys only until Dec. 12. The toys will then be collected and distributed to downtown children in need at a public event from 3 to 6 p.m. Dec. 16 on the 51st floor of the Arco Plaza downtown.

The Club is proud to be supporting the Toy Drive sponsored by the Central City Police Boosters.

The Club toy bin is at the main City Employees Club office at the World Trade Center, 350 S. Figueroa St. downtown. Toys should be for children from the first to fifth grade.

Anyone wanting to help this great cause can contact their Club counselor, or call LAPD Officer Marie Kardiban at (213) 847-0248. 📞



Club staffers (from left) Mike Louie, Angel Gomez and Robert Larios displaying just some of the gifts collected so far in the Club's toy drive.



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GV01

## Lace Up Your Skates Downtown Ice Rink

*Continued from Page 1*

numerous special events, including a live preview performance of Disney On Ice.

The facility is accessible via the 110 (Harbor), 101 (Hollywood), and 5 (Golden State) freeways, by bus (5th and Olive Streets, if the buses are operating), or Metro Red Line (Pershing Square Station at Hill Street, if the line is operating). There are discount rates for underground parking (with validation).

For more information about L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice, call (213) 847-4970, or log on to [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org), go to Directory of Services, then click on Pershing Square.

There's also a toll-free number, (888) 527-2757. 📞



L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice, co-sponsored by Rec and Parks and Councilwoman Jan Perry, returns downtown Nov. 19.

### L.A. Kings Downtown on Ice Information:

- Nov. 19 - Jan. 19.
- Pershing Square  
532 S. Olive St.  
(across from the Biltmore Hotel).

#### Hours of Operation

- Open all holidays. Special hours apply.
- Mon. - Thurs., noon - 9 p.m.;
- Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- Extended Holiday Vacation Hours,  
Dec. 19 - Jan. 11:  
10 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily

#### Cost

- One-hour session, \$6; skate rental, \$2.
- Family and group discounts are available.

#### Parking

- At Pershing Square (underground):  
Mon. - Fri. before 5 p.m., \$6;  
after 5 p.m., \$5; weekends, \$4.
- Rates effective with validation.

*The Club wishes you*

*Stars of wonder*

*Days of light*

*Moments of beauty*

*Tears of joy*

*Words of love*

*And countless great moments*

*Surrounded by friends and family.*

❧

*Merry Christmas*

*Happy Hanukkah*

*From the Club*



*Your city. Your Club.*



■ **Seventeen LAPD officers were awarded the Medal of Valor for 2003. Here are their stories:**

**Officer Mark Aguilar**

On Dec. 17, 2000, Officer Aguilar and three other officers attended to an apartment building on Hollywood Boulevard that was on fire.

The officers cleared the area of spectators and entered the burning. In the smoke-filled hallway, Officer Aguilar and his partner assisted four people down a smoky stairway and out of the building.

Both officers re-entered the building, clearing four more apartments. They escorted a woman to safety.

They assisted the Fire Department in handling crowd control. The officers noticed a young boy hanging out of a second story window, and assisted Fire Department personnel in the boy's rescue. The officers, suffering from the smoke inhalation, were placed on oxygen and were taken to a local hospital.

**Officer Thomas Baker**

On July 4, 2000, Officer Baker received a call of three males fleeing a robbery. He and his partner saw a vehicle matching the description drive past them and initiated pursuit.

The suspects approached the "Toonerville" gang territory. A suspect pushed a bicycle into the path of the police vehicle. Several suspects fired upon the police vehicle, striking the driver's door.

Both officers received gunfire. Officer Baker and his partner fired at the suspects as they ran for cover, continuing to engage the suspects with their service weapons.

Officer Baker and his partner continued to communicate with each other and reloaded their weapons. Additional units arrived and took all suspects into custody. Officer Baker and his partner were not injured.

**Officer Jude Bella**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino. Officer Bella and the four other officers entered the still-shaking structure, gathered the victims and escorted them out. Officer Bella and three other officers then organized the search to locate trapped victims.

Officer Bella and his partner discovered an elderly woman unable to exit her apartment. The officers placed the woman in the wheelchair and carried her out of the building.

Officer Bella and his partner continued searching, pushing themselves to exhaustion. Due to flames and smoke, the officers couldn't see or breathe. Both officers were treated for smoke inhalation.

**Officer Roy Ceja**

On Oct. 24, 2000, Officer Ceja and his partner attempted a traffic stop. The driver drove off.

The suspect hit a vehicle and stopped. The suspect, with a handgun, exited his vehicle and ran towards a sergeant, also in pursuit. The suspect fired at a captain, who had also responded and could not defend himself.

Officer Ceja pursued the suspect on foot down the street; the suspect fired his handgun

## A Tribute to Real Heroes: LAPD Honors Medal of Valor Awardees

Over the past few years, 17 LAPD officers demonstrated their dedication to the City of Los Angeles with a number of heroic acts. Monday, Oct. 27, the City demonstrated its deep appreciation.

Those 17 officers received the Medal of Valor, the highest award presented by the LAPD.

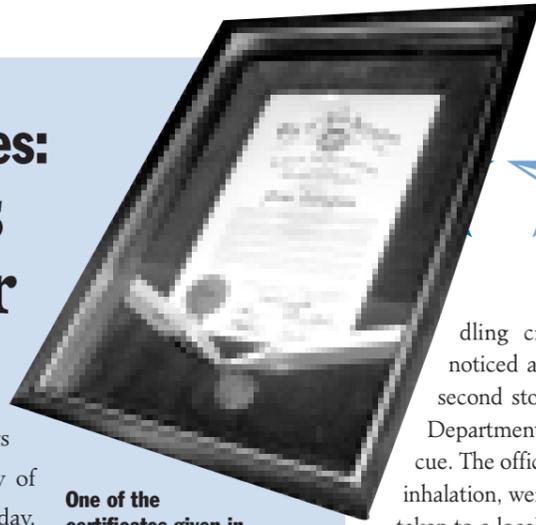
Proceeds from the event, held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown L.A., benefited the L.A. Police Foundation and the L.A. Chamber of Commerce.

The medal has been presented every year since 1925.

"Today we will meet the real heroes," said David Cunningham III, president of the Board of Police Commissioners. "They live by the Golden Rule—putting others ahead of themselves. That gets to the heart of policing.

"They leave their loved ones, they kiss them goodbye, not knowing if they are going to return. They show extreme courage, and we should be grateful. They are indeed our heroes, and today we thank them." 

One of the certificates given in recognition of a job well done.



dling crowd control. The officers noticed a young boy hanging out of a second story window, and assisted Fire Department personnel in the boy's rescue. The officers, suffering from the smoke inhalation, were placed on oxygen and were taken to a local hospital.

**Officer Robert Ferrer**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino. Officer Ferrer and his partner ran up a ramp and found most of the north side of the building had collapsed. Officer Ferrer and his partner discovered a surviving victim lying dazed and badly burned. The officers began to talk him down. Burning debris rained down on both the officers and the man, as the officers convinced him to walk under his own power. One large piece of burning debris struck Officer Ferrer's partner on the head.

Running up a stairwell filled with smoke, Officer Ferrer helped a woman and her relatives escape. Officer Ferrer pushed the woman in the wheelchair while shepherding her relatives. The four officers carried the disabled woman down the last two flights of stairs and out of the building.

**Officer Thomas Kimrey**

On Oct. 24, 2000, Officer Kimrey and his partner attempted a traffic stop. The driver drove off.

The suspect hit a vehicle and stopped. The suspect, with a handgun, exited his vehicle and ran towards a sergeant, also in pursuit. The suspect fired at a captain, who had also responded and could not defend himself.

Officer Kimrey's partner chased the suspect down the street. Just seconds behind, Officer Kimrey observed his partner and the suspect engaged in a gunfight at close range. Officer Kimrey fired his service weapon at the suspect. As the suspect responded to Officer Kimrey's gunfire, his partner regained his footing, and fired at the suspect. The suspect sustained multiple gunshot wounds and was taken into custody.

**Officer Carlos Langarica**

On July 4, 2000, Officer Langarica and his partner received a call of three males fleeing a robbery. He and his partner saw a vehicle matching the description drive past them and initiated pursuit.

The suspects approached the "Toonerville" gang territory. A suspect pushed a bicycle into the path of the police vehicle. Several suspects fired upon the police vehicle, striking the driver's door.

Both officers received gunfire. Officer Langarica and his partner fired at the suspects as they ran for cover, continuing to engage the suspects with their service weapons.

Officer Langarica and his partner continued to communicate with each other and reloaded their weapons. Additional units arrived and took all suspects into custody. Officer Langarica and his partner were not injured.

**Officer Jose Maldonado**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Jose Maldonado and four other officers gathered the victims and escorted them out.



The entrance to the Medal of Valor ceremony.

at Officer Ceja, who fired back. Officer Ceja then knocked the suspect's handgun out his hand and fell to the ground.

Officer Ceja heard the suspect fire at what he assumed was his partner. Officer Ceja fired at the suspect, who fell to the ground, where he was handcuffed and taken into custody.

**Officer Alan Cieto**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino. Officer Cieto and four others entered the still-shaking structure, gathered the victims and escorted them out. Officer Cieto and three other officers organized a search.

Officer Cieto and his partner discovered an elderly woman unable to exit her apartment. They placed her in a wheelchair and carried her out.

They came upon a woman on a medical oxygen system and her husband, unable to move her. Officer Cieto assisted in leading the husband and wife to safety.

Officer Cieto and his partner continued the search. At times the smoke and heat were so intense that they retreated from the fumes before continuing.

**Officer Steven Conner**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino. Officer Conner and four others entered the still-shaking structure, gathered the victims

and escorted them out. Officer Conner and three other officers organized a search.

Officer Conner pushed himself to exhaustion. He and his partner would be treated for smoke inhalation.

**Officer Raymond Diaz**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Diaz and four others gathered the victims by the armload and escorted them out. Officer Conner and three other officers established themselves in the lobby area to organize the systematic search to locate trapped victims.

Officer Diaz and his partner pushed themselves to exhaustion. Both officers would later be treated for smoke inhalation.

**Officer Guy Dobine**

On Dec. 17, 2000, Officer Dobine and three others attended to an apartment building on Hollywood Boulevard that was on fire.

Officer Dobine and the others cleared the area of spectators. Officer Dobine and a partner determined which units were still occupied. In one apartment, they assisted four people to safety.

Officer Dobine's partner kicked into a unit and escorted a woman to safety. Both officers continued clearing apartments until a large rafter collapsed ten feet from where Officer Dobine stood. They exited the building.

They assisted the Fire Department in han-



They came upon a woman on a medical oxygen system and her husband, unable to move her. Officer Maldonado assisted in leading the husband and wife to safety.

Officer Maldonado and his partner continued the search. At times the smoke and heat were so intense that they retreated from the fumes before continuing.

**Officer Ivan Ramos**

On Dec. 17, 2000, Officer Ramos and three others attended to an apartment building on Hollywood Boulevard that was on fire.

Officer Ramos and the others cleared the area of spectators. Then, Officer Ramos and a partner assisted four people to safety.

Officer Ramos encountered a woman too afraid to open her door. Officer Ramos gained her trust and assisted her out of the burning structure. Then, Officer Ramos crawled on the floor looking for additional trapped residents.

As the fire spread and Officer Ramos was forced to leave the building, he discovered a trapped woman leaning out of her apartment. Officer Ramos moved a large trash-filled Dumpster beneath the woman's window. The woman jumped, landing on the Dumpster. Officer Ramos then assisted her out of the Dumpster and took her to safety.

Officer Ramos and the others were put on oxygen and taken to the hospital.

**Officer Raul Soto**

On Dec. 17, 2000, Officer Raul Soto, responded to a call of an apartment building on fire on Hollywood Boulevard. He was the first patrol unit to arrive at the scene.

Officer Soto was joined by four others. Officer Soto and the others directed residents out of the building. Officer Soto escorted several of the building's residents to safety.

When the toxic smoke and flames became unbearable, Officer Soto exited the building and ran toward the back of the structure. Officer Soto observed several people screaming for help out of their windows. He obtained a ladder and placed it under a second floor



The 17 Medal of Valor awardees get ready to meet the press.

# LAPD Medal of Valor Awardees

window, allowing several trapped residents to climb down to safety.

Officer Soto and the other officers were put on oxygen and were taken to the hospital.

**Officer Calixto Valdivia**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino.

Officer Valdivia, his partner and two other officers gathered panicked victims from the upper and lower parking garage areas and escorted them to safety. The officers also stopped residents and others from entering the building. In doing so, these officers undoubtedly saved the lives of dozens of people.

Officer Valdivia and the two officers rushed back into the burning building even as secondary explosions hammered the structure. Together, the four officers carried a woman in a wheelchair down the stairs to safety.

**Officer Jesus Zaragoza**

On May 24, 2002, an explosion ripped through an apartment complex in Encino.

Officer Zaragoza, his partner and two officers began gathering panicked victims from the

upper and lower parking garage areas and escorting them to safety.

Officer Zaragoza and his partner discovered a surviving victim, lying dazed and badly burned in the parking lot. The officers talked him away from the building. Burning debris rained down on both the officers and the man. One large piece of burning debris struck Officer Zaragoza on the head, but undaunted, he continued to talk the burn victim down the ramp to safety.

As Officer Zaragoza was aiding other victims, his partner was rescuing a wheelchair bound woman trapped in a third-floor apartment. Managing to get her down to the second floor, he called down to Officer Zaragoza and two other officers who rushed into the building as secondary explosions hammered the structure. The four officers carried the disabled woman down the last

two flights of stairs and out of the building to safety.

**Officer Fernando Zuniga**

Dec. 17, 2000, Officer Zuniga responded to a call of an apartment building on fire on Hollywood Boulevard.

Officer Zuniga and the others cleared the area of spectators. Officer Zuniga and the others directed residents out of the building. As the smoke thickened, Officer Zuniga crawled down a hallway, where he directed trapped residents to safety.

When the toxic smoke and flames became unbearable, Officer Zuniga, the squad leader, accounted for all the other officers and exited the structure.

Officer Zuniga and others observed a boy hanging out of a window. Officer Zuniga ran underneath the window. Although he was showered with glass and debris, Officer Zuniga calmed the boy. Officer Zuniga and another officer then secured a ladder from the other side of the building.

Officer Zuniga and the other officers were put on oxygen and taken to a hospital for symptoms of smoke inhalation.



Police Chief William Bratton chats with Board of Police Commissioners President David Cunningham III.

**Mayor James Hahn shares his congratulations to the Medal of Valor awardees.**





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# Newsbrief

## PORT FUNDING

A delegation of City of Los Angeles officials headed by Councilwoman Janice Hahn met Nov. 6 with members of Congress to urge additional funds to meet the mounting, post-9/11 security needs of the Port of Los Angeles and its neighbor, the Port of Long Beach, which together comprise the third busiest port complex in the world and the gateway for over 80 percent of goods that enter the United States



from the Pacific Rim.

The delegation was expected to speak with legislators including Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congressman Chris Cox, Congressman Hal Rogers and representatives from the Transportation Security Administration about the lack of critical funding to help the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach guard against foreign threats.

Councilwoman Hahn and Port officials will voice support for passage of the Port Security Improvements Act (HR 2193), a bill by U.S. Rep. Doug Ose (R-CA), which would dedicate a portion of Customs duties collected at the ports to improve port security throughout the U.S.

The delegation also sought support for a multi-year funding program for the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, which are currently undertaking a five-year plan to upgrade and secure the complex. There are at least 70 locations including terminals, facilities and common areas that have been identified for improvements. The estimated cost for all physical security upgrades including, lights, cameras, fences and sensors is \$245 million; approximately \$130 million for the fiber, IT and command and control; \$20 million for communications; and \$84.7 million earmarked for developing technologies.

The Port of Los Angeles is the nation's busiest container port, last year bringing in a record 6.7 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) and over 1.3 million jobs nationally. At the Port of Los Angeles, increased security measures to safeguard cargo include 98 assigned personnel, 24 vehicles, four patrol boats, a 15-person dive team, four trained K-9 teams and an air support detail. The Port of Los Angeles is one of the few ports in the nation to have a dedicated police force.

Under the Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Administration has made grant announcements for three rounds of port security funds. The Port of Los Angeles has applied for more than \$97 million in federal grants for additional security programs and has thus far been awarded \$4.8 million, with a significant portion of that dedicated to joint programs with the Port of Long Beach.



**WE ARE  
YOUR TEAM**



**LOS ANGELES KINGS**

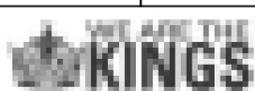
**LA City Employee Nights**

**Thursday, December 4, 2003 @ 7:30 pm vs. Dallas Stars**

**Tuesday, December 16, 2003 @ 7:30 pm vs. Edmonton Oilers**

**Saturday, December 27, 2003 @ 7:30 pm vs. San Jose Sharks**

<u>Special City Employee Prices</u>	<u>TO ORDER</u>																																				
<p><b>Upper Concourse</b> <b>\$26.00 (Reg. \$30.50)</b> (sidelines)</p> <p><b>200-Level</b> <b>\$46.00 (Reg. \$52.50)</b> (behind goals)</p> <p><b>Lower Concourse</b> <b>\$74.00 (Reg. \$87.50)</b> (corners &amp; behind goals)</p>	<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____</p> <p>ST: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Phone: (____) _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 40%;">Game</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Price</th> <th style="width: 15%;"># Tix</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Subtotal</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>12/04 vs. Stars</td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>12/16 vs. Oilers</td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td>12/27 vs. Sharks</td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td style="text-align: center;"><b>TOTAL*</b></td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">* please add \$5.00 to each order for printing and processing</p> <p><b>Payment: (Circle) AMEX Visa MC Check</b></p> <p>CC #: _____ Exp: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p>	Game	Price	# Tix	Subtotal																	12/04 vs. Stars				12/16 vs. Oilers				12/27 vs. Sharks						<b>TOTAL*</b>	
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		<b>TOTAL*</b>																																			
<p><b>*Order in a block of 10 or more and each ticket will also include a FREE Kings hat!</b></p> <p><b>Send orders: "Group Sales", Attn: Alvin Chang 1111 S. Figueroa St. #3100 Los Angeles, CA 90015 Fax (213) 742-7281 Call (213) 742-7222 Email: achang@staplescenter.com</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Tickets based on availability. Sorry no refunds or exchanges. Deadline to order is 2 days prior to game. Ask about other LA City Employee specials for our other events and venues!</p>																																					





**Refer a friend and be happy!**

Club member Stella (right) referred her friend Ben Ortiz to become a Club member, and she received free movie tickets from Club Ticket Guy Navin Cotton (left). You can, too, when you refer a friend.

**Anna Marie Valdez Is Named Personnel Employee of Quarter**

Anna Marie Valdez, Personnel Records Supervisor in the Personnel Dept., is the Employee of the Year for the fall term, it was announced by Maggie Whelan, General Manager of the Personnel Dept.

A certificate was presented to Anna Marie at a brief ceremony in late October. Many of her workmates were there to congratulate her.



From left: Anna Marie Valdez, Outstanding

Employee of the Quarter, with Maggie Whelan, General Manager, Personnel Dept.

**Congratulations, Anna Marie!**



The workmates of Anna Marie Valdez, from left: Rich Mancuso (Anna's boss), Johnath Deth, Debbie Corona, Mercy Torres, Riza Mulawin, Celia Cardenas, Maricel Reyes and Liz Trevino, with Anna Marie Valdez.

**Political Forum**



by **Tony Cardenas,**  
Councilmember, 6<sup>th</sup> District

**Veterans: Some of the Very Best of America**

■ **Everyone benefits when you get involved.**

As we said the Pledge of Allegiance at the Veterans Day Candlelight Vigil in Van Nuys, I noticed a strong sense of patriotism in each and every person attending the ceremony. It made me proud to see everyone supporting our veterans and our soldiers who are putting their lives on the line at this very moment. They are fighting for this great country as so many veterans have in the past to defend the freedoms we take for granted every day.

On the morning of October 7, I was standing in a coffee shop, and I noticed a television hanging over the front counter where many patrons were sitting. The words "breaking news" were displayed, and a CNN anchor was reporting the death of six American soldiers who had died in a helicopter crash in Iraq. Another report followed saying it was the bloodiest week since the war was declared and the death toll of American soldiers had risen to 394.

I noticed only one person looked up to take in the news. Many continued their con-

**Council District 6 includes these communities:**

- Van Nuys
- Panorama City
- Arleta
- North Hollywood
- Pacoima
- Sun Valley

thousands we've lost in other wars." Still, we are talking about human lives. We are talking about 394 American families who will never see their sons or daughters again. And by the time this is read, it will be more.

On Veterans Day we remembered not just the lives that have been lost to this war, but to the lives that have been lost in every war. These men and women who have fought so bravely and selflessly were our top stories for the night.

These men and women who sacrifice so much, including the peace of minds of their families, were headline news in the hearts of Americans. We honored them with hopes the night would once again instill our patriotism and leave us with a newfound sensitivity to what these soldiers have been through.

I mentioned sensitivity and patriotism. If there is one symbol of



Councilman Tony Cardenas, right, and Gabriela Mojica, left, whose husband is stationed in Kuwait. They attended a Veterans Day event in Van Nuys Nov. 11.

versations, while others stayed content with reading cover stories in the daily newspapers.

I remembered the week after 9/11. You couldn't drive down the street without seeing a flag displayed on every other car passing by. Within a few months, you were lucky to see three out of a parking lot full of cars proudly displaying their patriotism.

It is understandable and necessary for people to carry on with their lives in a time of war. We are so inundated with news reports that we become numb to the numbers. Someone said, "394 lives lost in a war is nothing compared to the thousands upon

this country's compassion and unyielding patriotism, it is the American flag. I felt a heightened sense of pride and patriotism as we said the Pledge of Allegiance at the candlelight vigil. I hope that now, after we have gone back to our everyday routines, we remind ourselves that these veterans and soldiers and the families of these soldiers are still looking to the flag.

Tomorrow is uncertain for them, but today, the flag still stands for one nation under God, indivisible for liberty and justice for all.

*Each month, Alive! invites political leaders to speak directly to City and DWP employees and retirees. Alive! brings you these views as a public service. The opinions of those on this monthly column are independent of Alive! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.*



## Department of the Month

# El Pueblo Historical Monument

## El Pueblo: Return to Where City of Los Angeles Began

by Ed Navarro, General Manager, El Pueblo Historic Monument

Welcome to historic El Pueblo Historical Monument! My name is Edward Navarro and I am the General Manager of this relatively new City of Los Angeles department.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with El Pueblo, I am sure the name Olvera Street, with its collection of shops and restaurants, is more familiar. Olvera Street is a part of El Pueblo Historical Monument and actually began in 1930 when a woman named Christine Sterling took it upon herself to bring the idea of a Mexican Marketplace to El Pueblo and to recreate the flavor, romance, look and excitement of our culture. To this day family members; daughters, granddaughters, sons and grandsons, nieces and nephews of most if not all of those first families back in 1930 still operate their businesses. I encourage you to stop by during lunch, or an evening for dinner, not to mention visiting us during the weekend to shop and visit our historic sites.

Yes, historic sites. Did I fail to mention that El Pueblo actually had its beginnings in 1781 when a group of 44 settlers, Los Pobladores, walked from the present San Gabriel Mission to this site? In fact, every year on the City's birthday, September 4, the walk is reenacted by descendants of those first families along with supporters, so join us next year for a brisk walk and entertainment at El Pueblo.

El Pueblo was the beginning of many of the rich, diverse cultures that now make up Los Angeles, and in fact we are recognizing those groups through the development of a new Chinese American Museum (due to open this month) as well as a soon-to-open Italian Hall Museum. All of this is in addition to the existing collection of historic buildings throughout El Pueblo, which includes the Avila Adobe (oldest adobe in Los Angeles), recently renovated Pico House, Garnier block and Sepulveda House, where we have our Visitor Center.

A significant part of El Pueblo is the recently conserved mural by Mexican muralist David Alfaro Siqueiros, America Tropical, commissioned in 1932. This mural is one of only three done by the renowned muralist Siqueiros in the United States and will soon be available for viewing by the public.

More often known, in addition to the shops and restaurants, for our events such as Mexican Independence Day and Cinco de Mayo, we are also proud of the rich tradition of events such as Blessing of the Animals (April), Dia de los Muertos (November), Las Posadas (December) and Mardi Gras (February), all of which are coordinated by and with our merchants. Be sure to call El Pueblo to get details on the specific dates and event schedule. 📞



Ed Navarro, General Manager, El Pueblo Historic Monument



From left: Cynthia Woo, Museum Assistant, 4 months; Sonia Mak, Assistant Curator, 2 years; Geneva Tien-Witzleben, Museum Educator, 1 year; and Betty Liu, Administrative Coordinator, 2 years.



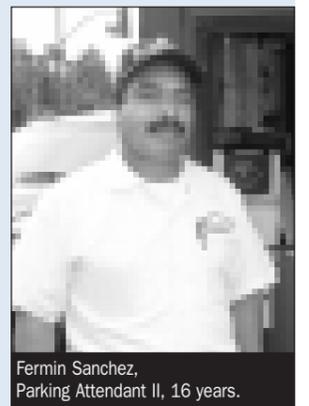
Suellen Cheng, Curator, 14 years.



Linda Duran, Program and Talent Contracts, Business Affairs, 20 years.



Glenn Dykier, Building Repair Supervisor, 23 years.



Fermin Sanchez, Parking Attendant II, 16 years.



Nick Hopper, Parking Service Supervisor, 24 years.



Jessica Herrera, Administrative Worker/Special Events Liaison, 3 years.



Alex Villaseñor, Building Repair, 21 years.



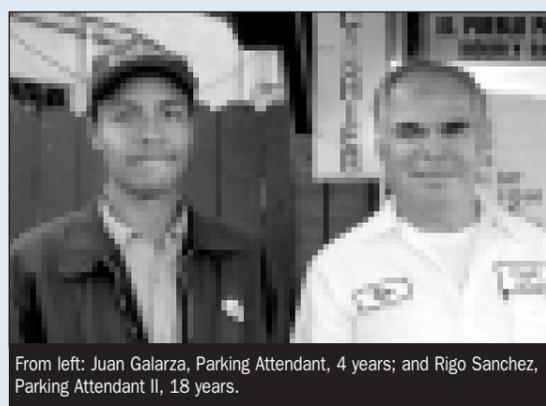
Jose Garcia, Parking Attendant II, 21 years.



Claudia Urzua, Administrative Support, 7 years.



Ernesto Sanchez, Parking Attendant II, 18 years.



From left: Juan Galarza, Parking Attendant, 4 years; and Rigo Sanchez, Parking Attendant II, 18 years.



From left: Rosendo Sanchez, Custodian, 2 years; and Jose Alvarez, Custodian, 8 years.



Miguel Garcia, Custodian Service Attendant, 22 years.



Baltazar Reyes Menjiva, Maintenance, 5 years.



Phil Orozco, Director of Operations, 14 years.



Rene Casillas, Maintenance, 1 year.



Pauline Cazares, Director of External Affairs, 8 years.



Rafael Garcia, Building Repairman, 17 years.

## El Pueblo Historical Monument

## Department of the Month

# El Pueblo: Take Olvera Street Right Back Into L.A. History

Olvera Street is not only the oldest area in the City of Los Angeles, it is the heart and the birthplace of Los Angeles. Strolling musicians wander down the street, enhancing the overall ambiance of the Olvera Street Cultural experience.

But the street that's known the world over for its Mexican food and heritage, is but one part of the El Pueblo Historic Monument, a separate and complete City department. El Pueblo consists of 27 buildings, many of which remain open to the public.

El Pueblo del Los Angeles Historic Monument is near the site of the early Los Angeles pueblo where 44 settlers established a farming community nearby in 1781.

Since that time, Los Angeles has been under the flags of three nations (Spain, Mexico and the United States) and has grown into one of the world's largest metropolitan areas. In 1953, the oldest and most historic section of the City was designated a state historic park, reflecting the heritage of many ethnic groups: Hispanic, black, Chinese, French, Italian and Anglo, who all contributed to the history of the City.

### Some of those 27 buildings are:

#### **Avila Adobe, ca. 1818**

*Open daily*

- Built by the Avila family, the adobe later became a boarding house and restaurant. Restored after the 1971 Sylmar earthquake, it now reflects the Hispanic lifestyle of California in the 1840s.

#### **Our Lady Queen of Angels (Old Plaza)**

##### **Catholic Church, 1818-1822**

*Open daily*

- The oldest church in the City, Our Lady Queen of Angels remains an active church in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles and is a dynamic force for community and culture in the area.

#### **Masonic Hall, 1858**

*Closed for renovation*

- The City's first Masonic Hall serves as a meeting place for lodge members and as a museum on the Order of Free Masons and Lodge 42.

#### **La Placita (Plaza), ca. 1825**

*Open daily*

- Formerly the town square, the Plaza was landscaped and given its circular form in the 1870s.

#### **Old Plaza Firehouse, 1884**

*Open daily (except Monday)*

- The City's first firehouse later served as a saloon, lodging house and store. It now displays firefighting memorabilia from the 19th century.

#### **Sepulveda House, 1887**

*Open daily (except Sunday)*

- In 1887, Senora Eloisa Martinez del Sepulveda built a two-story Eastlake-style Victorian business and residential block on her property between Main and Olvera Streets. The Sepulveda House represents, both architecturally and socially, the transformation of Los Angeles from purely Mexican traditions to a combination of Mexican and Anglo culture.

- The El Pueblo Visitor's Center is on the first floor of the historic Sepulveda House. A free 18-minute film, Pueblo of Promise, on the early history of Los Angeles, is shown there by request.

- The Visitor's Center also offers gifts, books, post cards, mementos and many other for-sale items that reflect the Pueblo's rich history. It features exhibits that highlight the Monument's collections and little-explored segments of Los Angeles history.

#### **Olvera Street, 1930**

*Open daily, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (later hours in summer)*

- This world-famous street was closed to vehicular traffic and made into a Mexican marketplace through the efforts of Christine Sterling and others in 1930.

These are just some of the many attractions at El Pueblo Historic Monument. To tour the monument: free docent-guided tours of El Pueblo are conducted Wednesdays through Saturdays at 10 and 11 a.m., and noon. These tours start at the information booth in the Plaza. Guided bus tours of the central city are given the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 10 a.m. The duration of the bus tour is two hours; meet in front of the Firehouse at 9:45. Reservations are required. Call (213) 628-1274. 📍

### To join these organizations, call these numbers:

- Friends of the Chinese American Museum .....(213) 626-5240
- Las Angelitas del Pueblo (docents) .....(213) 680-2381
- El Pueblo Association .....(213) 680-2525
- Historic Italian Hall Foundation .....(213) 957-0272



Last year, after an absence of more than 20 years, the Rose Queen court once again attended a breakfast at El Pueblo. Pictured above is from last year's visit. The court will return to El Pueblo this month.



Last year's Dia de Los Muertos.



El Pueblo celebrates the holidays each year with Las Posadas, a Mexican tradition that retells the journey of Mary and Joseph leading up to the nativity. Here, a previous Las Posadas celebration.



Last year's Dia de Los Muertos.



Mardi Gras has proven a popular event at El Pueblo.



Caroline Asencio, Property Management, 26 years.



Gloria Gianguili, Park Services Attendant, 12 years.



Jose Sillas, Landscaper, 15 years.



Julie Sandoval, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years.



Socorro Perez, Senior Custodian, 25 years.



From left: Clara Vallejo, Museum Guide, 23 years; and Patricia Lopez, Museum Guide, 17 years.

# Cops for Tots Car Show Raises Record Amount for Youth Charity

■ **Event raised more than \$42,000 for Children's Hospital Bone Marrow Unit.**

The LAPD Central Traffic Division's (CTD) annual Cops for Tots event, held Nov. 2, raised \$42,308, according to Sgt. Tom Tavares of the LAPD CTD. That's the most money the event has ever raised, he said.

More than 384 classic cars, trucks and motorcycles were on display at the event, held at the Elysian Park Police Academy.

"I want to thank all the people who volunteered, plus the Club, which co-sponsored the event. The money raised will provide a great Christmas party for the Children's Hospital Bone Marrow Transplant unit in Los Angeles. The party will be held Dec. 15."

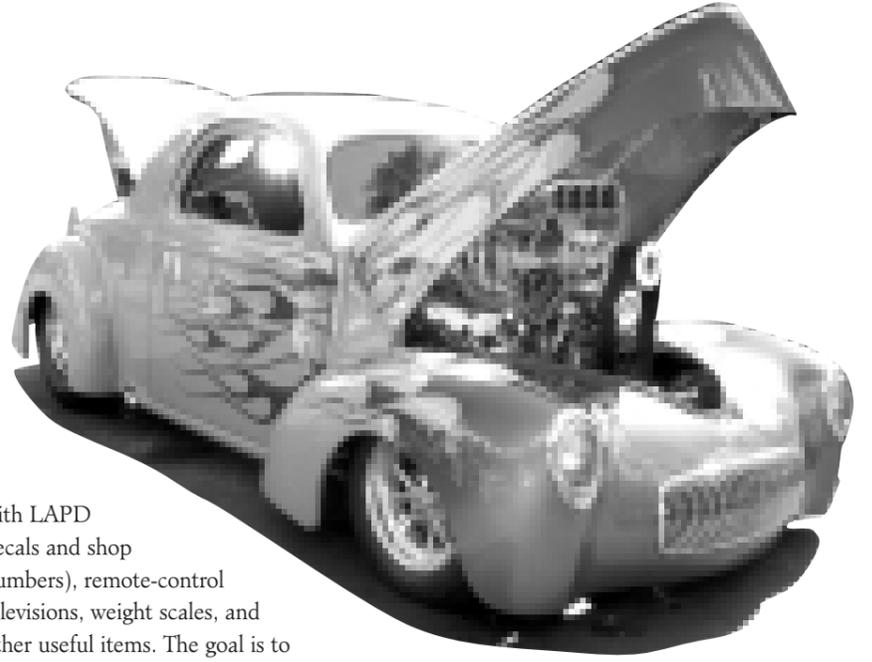
The event began in 1994, when LAPD CTD officers approached their commanding officer and requested they be allowed to adopt a charitable organization. The officers felt this would be a good way of reaching out to the commu-

nity in which they served and to show another side of law enforcement.

CTD adopted the Los Angeles Children's Hospital Bone Marrow Transplant unit (BMT). The first two years the officers donated money, which was placed in a large water bottle. Several of the officers, who were classic car owners, thought that if CTD could sponsor a car show, more money could be raised for the BMT. So, eight years ago the "Cops for Tots" car show was inaugurated.

Each year dozens of CTD officers volunteer their time and effort for the love of the children. The event has raised more than \$167,000 for the BMT. The funds are used to grant the "wish list" of each child patient who is in the hospital during the holiday season.

An annual holiday party is held at the hospital, where officers deliver toys to each of the patients, their siblings, and grocery certificates for their parents. Any leftover funds are used to purchase much-needed equipment that the hospital cannot budget for. This has included portable exercise bikes (complete



with LAPD decals and shop numbers), remote-control televisions, weight scales, and other useful items. The goal is to lighten the physical and emotional trauma during the trying time of dealing with a catastrophic illness.

The Club congratulates everyone involved!

**Here are some photos of the event.**

**Wanna be heard?** Did you attend the excellent Cops for Tots car show? Tell us what you think about it: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



LAPD Central Employees and volunteers at the raffle desk.



Sgt. Doug Abney, LAPD Air Support.



Justin Vasquez with Jessica Rey as "Alyssa, the White Power Ranger."



Representing SWAT were Officers Thomas and Dobine.



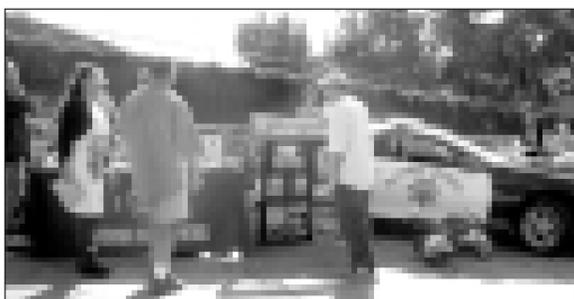
Central Traffic Division's Sgt. Tom Tavares, the next person in the dunk tank.



Traffic Officer Sara Lopez at the dunk tank.



Christine Quinn of the Central Traffic Division with actor Erik Estrada, who was a special guest at the event.



The California Highway Patrol participated, too.



The City of Montebello lent its support.



Bill Beck and Cher Patrick represent the LAFD store.

## Moving?

Let us know your new address! You don't want to miss a single issue of *Alive!* Call the Club at (213) 620-0388, or send it to:

**The Club**  
 World Trade Center  
 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
 Los Angeles, CA 90071



Officers from the Central Police Station acting as the cooking detail.



Officer Kim Ellis, Dept. of Transportation.



The Vasquez family: Justin Vasquez had the pleasure of dunking his dad, Traffic Officer John Vasquez.



Officer Brennan Booth tries to dunk Traffic Officer Sara Lopez at the dunk tank.



The 1958 Chevy Bel Air "Old Patrol Car," according to Joel Montsdeoca, who often accompanies the vehicle.



Some of the cars at the event.



Special guest actor Erik Estrada with Club Counselor Arlene Herrero.



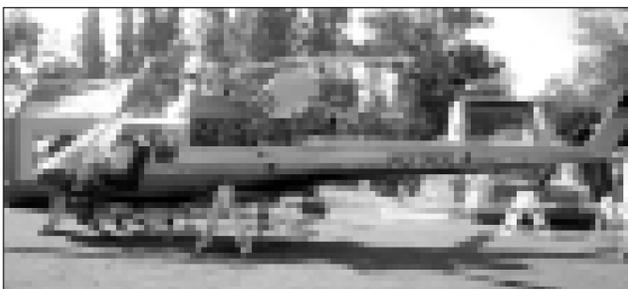
This was the destroyed car that the Lakers paid for as promised. The Lakers presented a \$42,893 check to the LA Police Commissioner to replace the second of two squad cars destroyed by rampaging fans after the team won the NBA championship.



Traffic Officer John Vasquez was the first to volunteer in the dunk tank.



Erick Meraz and his father, Central Traffic Division Captain Richard Meraz.



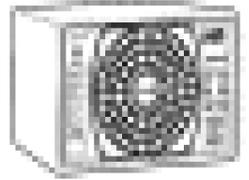
LAPD Air Support Division's Aerospatiale helicopter. Cops for Tots was more than just cars!

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INVITE THE CLUB



## Throwing a Party for the Holidays? Let Us Know!

Is your department or facility planning a holiday party?

Let us know! The Club wants to celebrate with you—we want to publish photos of your party in *Alive!*

We'll print photos from as many holiday parties as we can. But you need to let us know as soon as you know the date and place, or send us your photos.

Invite the Club to your holiday party. Let's celebrate together.

Contact us at: [alive@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:alive@cityemployeesclub.com) or (213) 620-0388

City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

Your City. Your club.





by Jackie David, Public Information Director, L.A. Animal Services

# The Pet Club



## 'Tis the Season to Be Wary: Pets, Decorations Don't Mix

### ■ And think about giving a pet gift certificate this Christmas.

The holidays are upon us as people joyfully decorate their homes in celebration of what is warm and kind and beautiful. There are candles to be put up, tinsel to be hung, colored lights to string across here and there to remind us all that "Tis the season to be merry" and to celebrate what is good.

Be aware, though, that electrical cords, holiday candles, Christmas trees and Hanukkah menorahs can become the source of what is hot and scary: a fire raging through your neighborhood. Remember all that heart-warming décor? Take the proper steps to prevent accidents that can ruin a wonderfully planned holiday season.

Oh...one more thing: never give a pet as a gift. Think about it. How would you like a white elephant for Christmas? Oh the imposition and the bills! Whatever would you do with a white elephant?

Here is a great option: Give a pet gift certificate from L.A. Animal Services—that way, you won't have to go through the trouble of

picking out the animal yourself, and you give the gift recipient a chance to pick a pet that is compatible with his or her lifestyle.

L.A. Animal Services has 6 animal shelters that offer hundreds of pure- and mixed-breed animals for adoption. So do what is right and kind and good and enrich the life of the one you love with a pet gift certificate.

Pet gift certificates are available in a variety of amounts and go toward adoption fees that include vaccinations, microchips, spaying or neutering and (for dogs) licensing. Pet gift certificates are available at City Shelters. For a listing of shelters or to view adoptable animals, visit our web site at: [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com).

Remember: Holidays are a time for all, including your pets. You might even think about getting your dog or cat or hamster a little extra special something like a toy or a favorite snack. Your pet will thank you for it.

And...on that note: L.A. Animal Services wishes one and all a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a safe and prosperous new year!



### Here are pet safety tips to ensure that Fluffy is not the reason your neighborhood has burned down or your veterinarian or doctor has to work overtime:

- Pets and candles don't mix. Keep pets away from candles.
- Keep pets away from strings of lights or electrical cords. Pets can strangle themselves or chew on electrical cords and cause a fire hazard. Monitor all pet activity.
- Tie down your Christmas tree to prevent it from toppling over.
- Keep pets away from Christmas trees and ornaments where they can hurt themselves.
- Tinsel, thin ribbon and string are deadly to cats when ingested. Keep this material away from them.
- Place ornaments toward the top of the tree – away from pet's reach.
- Keep pets on their regular diet. Do not feed them "people food."
- When throwing a party, keep pets in a back bedroom so that they do not become overly excited or escape or become a party hazard.
- Provide warm, secure, out-of-the-wind shelter for outdoor pets. Provide clean, warm bedding and do keep all small animals indoors.
- If you are going out of town for the holidays:
  - Make sure pet enclosures are secure.
  - Make sure pets have proper identification.
  - Make arrangements for the care of your pets—provisions for food, water and appropriate care in a secure environment.

### Send Questions

Feel free to send questions and concerns to me, and I'll be happy to respond to them in my column. I'm excited about this, so don't hesitate!

Write to me at: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

**Jackie David**  
Public Information Director  
L.A. Animal Services

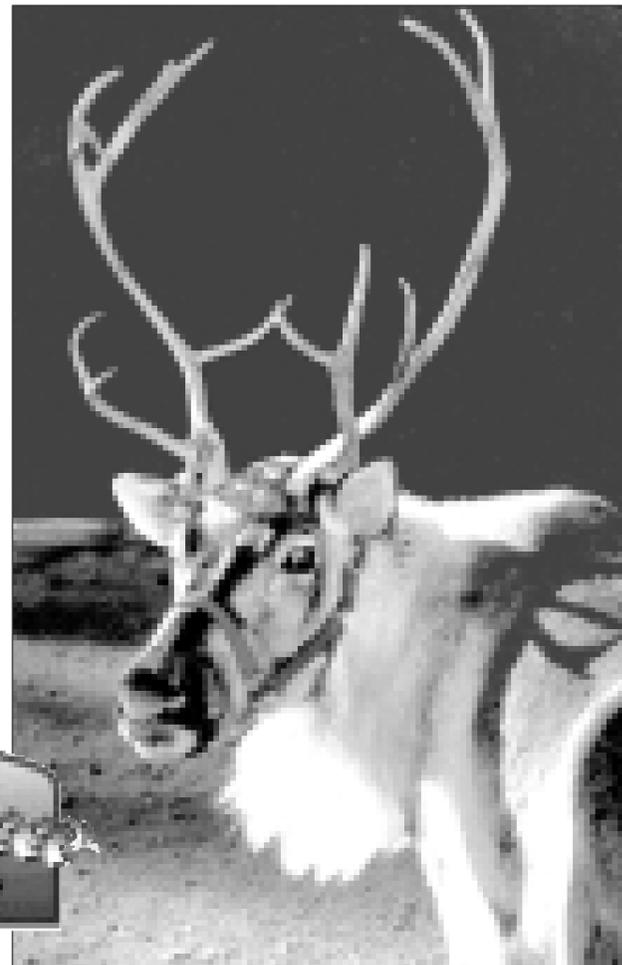


## 'Rudolph' Stops by L.A. Zoo for Holidays

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" may be one of the most popular holiday stories, but it's not often that you get to see a live reindeer in Southern California. This holiday season, you are invited to come to the L.A. Zoo and visit with reindeer up close. Come see a display of reindeer antlers and learn how antlers shed and grow back each year.

On weekends through Jan. 4, there will be holiday entertainment and fun crafts for the family. Santa Claus also will be on hand for photographs. During "Reindeer Romp," the L.A. Zoo Choo Choo will be available to give young visitors train rides for a nominal fee.

The Zoo is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children ages 2 to 12. Zoo hours are 10am to 5pm daily, closed Christmas Day. Most "Reindeer Romp" activities are free with paid admission. For more information, visit the Zoo Web site at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org) or call (323) 644-6400.



Come see the reindeer at the L.A. Zoo this holiday season.

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From left: Maricela Munoz, Luz Sotomayor, Renee Anderson (from Local 347) and Rosa Soliz.



Pete Montelongo



From left: Brian Gonzales, Amy Goto and Blanca Del Cid.



John Mukri, General Manager, General Services.



Tony DeClue, Assistant General Manager, General Services.



Tobi M. Arias



Courtland Bolin



Raffle winner David Chavez, flanked by Tony Royster (left) and John Mukri (right).

## At Ceremony, General Services Honors Best Parking Attendants

■ Attendants are honored for longevity, dedication.

In its second such event in as many years, General Services honored its best parking attendants and shared with the entire department some of its successes.

The appreciation day took place Oct. 29 in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

It was one day out of the year when the department took the opportunity to express its appreciation and gratitude to its Parking Services employees for doing an outstanding job.

Honored for longevity were Parking Attendants Marina McKinney, Pete Montelongo, Louis Murillo, Kevin Outlaw and Edward Williams.

Several others won individual recognition. They were:

- Parking Attendant of the Year, Civic Center: Edward Santillan.
- Senior Parking Attendant of the Year, Civic Center: Kevin Outlaw.
- Parking Attendant of the Year, Pershing Square: Frank Davila.
- Supervisor of the Year, Pershing Square: Abedinzadeh Khosrow.



The afternoon included food, prizes and the awards.

It was reported that the Parking Services Division had an outstanding year during 2003. The division assumed responsibilities for the Los Angeles Zoo parking facilities and Olive Street Parking Facilities, and was recently awarded a contract with the Department of Transportation for three parking facilities within the Broxton Group. Additionally, the division continued to generate more than \$2 million in profit for Pershing Square Parking Garage. (See related story.)

The division might be the only group that directly competes against the private sector for contracts at the City of Los Angeles and wins. I want to thank you for doing an outstanding job and keep up the good work. We solicit your support and continued commitment to quality services during these difficult economical times.

The Club congratulates the winners for their accomplishments, and the division itself for its continued hard work and successes.

Below are photos from the event.



Councilman Tom LaBonge.



James Jordan, who helped plan the event.



Joe Oliver, one of the many raffle winners.



Julie Butcher, Local 347 General Manager.



Employee of the Year, Civic Center, is Edward Santillan. Presenting the award to Edward is Julie Butcher (right) and Rene Anderson (left).



From left, Loretta Quenon and Ben Setiarto, Manager of Parking Services.



From left: Luis Perez, Jose De Anda and Edward Williams.



Supervisor of the Year, Pershing Square: Abedinzadeh Khosrow.

# Tightening the Budget Belt: City Moves to Save Money

## ■ Will the measures affect your job?

This might be the season of giving, but the City has made moves to cut its budget as the economy lingers, the red ink rises and the budget woes at the state level threaten to trickle down to the City. Initial moves affect Transportation, Rec and Parks, the LAPD and some union workers, although the cuts could potentially affect many more employees.

Wednesday, Oct. 22, the City Council cut \$47 million from the City budget, in part by canceling or postponing some street paving, playground refurbishment and police car purchasing programs.

The cuts eliminate 84 miles of street paving (estimated at \$11 million), \$1 million from Rec and Parks (see sidebar), \$500,000 in postage and the purchase of 50 vehicles for the LAPD.

As part of the vote, the Council also agreed to try to renegotiate contracts with unions representing you, the employees of the City, and to seek ways to streamline City departments. They also agreed to study whether to ask voters to approve a tax next year to pay for more LAPD officers, a concern of Police Chief William Bratton since taking over more than a year ago.

Even at with these cuts, big problems loomed: The City faces a projected budget shortfall of \$187 million in the next fiscal year, and it could worsen depending on whether

Gov.-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger leans on city governments to make ends meet at the State level. The reduction of car registration tax (which tripled last year and which the governor-elect promised during his campaign to reduce) would significantly affect the City budget, as the car tax largely funds police and fire services locally.

The cuts must be approved by the Council and Mayor James Hahn before they would be enacted. The mayor spent much of late October meeting with General Managers on budget issues. The City reportedly is already \$50 million over budget just four months into its new budget year. Ongoing are issues with the rising cost of pension funds and workers' compensation.

In other budget-cutting business, Mayor Hahn proposed eliminating 3 percent raises scheduled to take affect Jan. 1 for some nonunion City employees. The affected employees, numbering about 900, would be the mayoral staff, Council aides, department heads and other City workers not represented by unions. Hahn shared the proposal with the general managers Oct. 29 while telling them of the possible \$187 million budget shortfall.

The mayor also offered to decline his own scheduled pay raise, estimated at slightly less than the 3 percent level of his other proposed cuts.

The raises, which are part of cost-of-living allowances, could save the City \$1 million in the current fiscal year. The plan must be approved by the City Council.

**Wanna be heard?** What do you think of these proposals to save the City money? Share your thoughts with other City employees: talk-back@cityemployeesclub.com



## ■ Rec, Parks Starts Charging Higher User, Facility Fees

New fee structures approved by the Rec and Parks commissioners over the summer have dramatically altered the amount charged to users of the City's parks.

Could the new fee structure affect the budgets of City departments that hold events in City parks? It's best to contact Rec and Parks directly as you budget your next event.

The new fee structures are an attempt by the department to generate \$4.5 million in additional revenue to the City, according to published reports. The new fee structure is expected to generate additional funds, but it is uncertain if the new structure will raise as much money as expected (\$4.5 million).

Equipment and ball field rentals, golf fees and event usage fees are among the areas in which the schedules now charge higher fees. At least some of the hikes in fees attempt to reach fair market rates and match fees charged by other municipalities.

The extensive fee changes are available in a large manual, available through Parks and Rec.

The new fee schedule also tightens policies on fee waivers.

For more information, call Rec and Parks: (213) 473-7070.

## Best Parking Attendants Ceremony (continued)



Senior Parking Attendant of the Year, Civic Center, is awarded to Kevin Outlaw. Kevin is flanked by Ben Setiarto (left) and John Mukri (right).



From left: Abedinzadeh Khosrow, Jose M. Flores and Alejandro Marin.



Employee of the Year, Pershing Square: Frank Davila



Years of Service Award Winners, from left: Ben Setiarto (Supervisor, Parking Services), Pete Montelongo, Marina McKinney, Kevin Outlaw and Edward Williams, with event host Tony Royster, holding Louise Murillo's award.



Terra Jones, who helped produce the event.



Front row, from left: Amnuay Wongproundmas and Amy Goto. Back row, from left: Virginia Stocks (Facilities Management) and Blanca Del Cid.

## LAFD Chief Bamattre on Fire Review Commission

Los Angeles Fire Department Chief William Bamattre has been assigned to review the recent firestorms by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Chief Bamattre, a 27-year veteran of the Los Angeles Fire Department, will formally represent the California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, and will join a dynamic and diverse group of Federal, State and Regional colleagues from the fire, safety and elected leadership sectors in specifically addressing these key issues identified by the Governor:

— Reducing and eliminating jurisdictional and operational barriers that prevent the expeditious response of military resources necessary to combat wild fires;

— Readiness training of personnel and military equipment approved for use within the California Incident Command System;

— Development of an interstate and/or regional master mutual aid system similar to California's.

— Updating local building and planning regulations to include more stringent construction standards for high fire threat zones, requirements for brush clearance and fuel modification, and land use planning techniques that protect property.

A statement from the LAFD said that residents of Los Angeles can remain assured that Chief Bamattre will not only share the LAFD's local experience in aggressively and effectively managing wildfire danger, but will also return to our City with enhanced insight into what our regional, State and Federal partners will be doing in the future to best protect all who live, work and play in the Golden State.

For a full copy of the Governor's press release, please visit:

[http://www.governor.ca.gov/state/gov-site/gov\\_homepage.jsp](http://www.governor.ca.gov/state/gov-site/gov_homepage.jsp)

# Departments Come Through During Crisis

## Fire

*Continued from Page 1*

Operations Center (EOC) at level one Sunday morning Oct. 26 as a result of wildfires in Simi Hills, the Santa Susana Mountains and the Santa Monica Mountains.

The Los Angeles Fire Department deployed seven Strike teams, comprised of 35 fire companies to help combat the fires as part of a mutual aid agreement. Three City helicopters also were dedicated to the effort.

"We stand ready to assist our neighboring communities in any way necessary, and at the same time, take precautionary measures to protect the City of Los Angeles from the threat of these fires," the mayor said.

While many resources were redirected to fight the wildfires, all 103-neighborhood fire stations throughout the City remained staffed. "We respond to an average of 1900 calls for service daily, and we are prepared to meet that magnitude of requests today," LAFD Public Information Officer Brian Humphrey said.

City officials encouraged residents to monitor their local radio news for the latest updates on the fires and visit [www.lafd.org](http://www.lafd.org) for the No Parking Enforcement Program.

### The LAFD

Battalion Chief Mark Saxelby, of Battalion 12, led one of the seven Strike teams—Strike Team 1006.

"Sunday was a very long day," he told *Alive!* in professional understatement.

His Strike team arrived in Moorpark in support of the Ventura County Fire Department at 7 p.m. Saturday, and was deployed into action an hour later.

"We spent the night reconning [in reconnaissance work]," he continued. "We were evaluating structures, to see which buildings we could save."

At 3 a.m. Sunday morning, the team refocused on the east side of Moorpark. At 8 a.m., the team was deep in fighting the fires and

protecting houses, and did that most of Sunday.

After the fire passed the area, by about 8 p.m. Sunday night, the Strike team switched to putting out hot spots and helping the public make sure to extinguish small flash fires on their property—sparks on rooftops, in the brush, etc.

At 6 a.m. on Monday, the Strike team moved to the East Simi Valley, where the team was assigned to help hold the fire north of the 118 Freeway. "We were firing out to eliminate the fuel [brush] ahead of the fire to create a fire break," Saxelby continued. "And we continued to check for hot spots."

"As the fire moved out of our area again, we stopped our fire operations [eliminating the brush]. Then we moved to mop-up operations, hosing the area down to make sure it was dead cold." That was until 6 p.m. Monday, when the team went into patrol status, checking for spot fires.

Then the Strike team, in support of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, stood by the rest of the night until 5 a.m. Tuesday morning, when they were reassigned to Stevenson Ranch. At 7 a.m. Tuesday morning, after more than two and a half days on duty, Saxelby was relieved.

"We saved a lot of houses," he said. "If we hadn't been there, a lot more houses would have burned."

"It was good, aggressive firefighting. We provided good escape routes, a good safety zone and a good working area around the houses."

"I'm sure our Strike team slept real well the next day."

### In Remembrance

The LAFD also asked for prayers and thoughts of its fallen colleague Steven Rucker of the Novato Fire Protection District, who died fighting the fires near Julian, in San Diego County. Los Angeles Firefighters were expected to join firefighters and fire service supporters from across North America at Rucker's memorial service Nov. 14 in Marin County. "If you have but a moment, we kindly ask that you visit: <http://www.novatofire.org> and add your words of support for Steve's widow, orphans and fellow firefighters."

### LAPD

The LAPD played at least two roles in support of the fire departments fighting the fires: traffic/pedestrian control, and helping saving animals.

### Evacuations/Traffic

Captain John Sherman, Commanding Officer of the Devonshire Patrol Division, kept people controlled and away from the danger areas. "We handled crowd and traffic control in the involved areas. Our area was north of the 118 Freeway, the area by the Chatsworth Reservoir."

His unit also assisted in evacuations.

"Our motorcycle and black-and-white units helped evacuate the Chatsworth Reservoir area (along with the County Sheriff's Dept.),

the mobile home and condo areas near Topanga Canyon and the 118 Freeway, and Brown Canyon.

"It was really a risky operation," Sherman said. "We had to use a dark, dirt road and we had a number of citizens who refused to evacuate."

"And once we evacuated the area, we had to guard it. We set up fixed posts for security. We worked 12-hour shifts in the smoke."

"In handling the traffic, we were asked to close down streets and handle unruly citizens. We also provided assistance to the traffic officers from the Dept. of Transportation, who worked very hard during the emergency. They don't carry

**"It was a remarkable experience. It's hard to keep so many agencies working together, but we did. Very well."**

— LAPD Captain John Sherman

weapons, and a few times they encountered some unruly people. So we came to their help when they needed it."

For Sherman, Monday was the busiest day. "We were responsible for all evacuations," he continued. "We created evacuation plans, depending on which way the fire went. Ingress, egress ... we figured out how to evacuate them, and where to take them."

"Most of us worked 17- to 18-hour days. During one 36-hour period, the fire was threatening the City of Los Angeles. At peak, we had 300 officers on this job, from the Metro Division, and motor units from all over. Air Support Division helped us with recon missions. There are so many new communities being built that we needed to know what we were dealing with. Air Support really helped us out. With the recon missions, we were able to devise evacuation plans, and download videos to the command post."

"It was a remarkable experience," he summed up. "It was a multi-agency operation—L.A. City fire and police; Ventura County fire and police; L.A. County fire and sheriff; Rec and Parks; Animal Services; Transportation; the Highway Patrol; the Red Cross; the LAUSD police. It's hard to keep so many agencies working together, but we did. Very well."

### Mounted Police Unit

Lt. John Incantoro of the LAPD's Mounted Unit teamed up with Animal Services to help save animals (see the next section).

"On Monday, we were assigned by the department to set up a command post and meet with Animal Services and their volunteers and assist with animal rescue. There are ranches up in that area, plus some boarding stalls for horses."

"We worked really well together."

"We brought our 8 horse trailers, empty, and used them to rescue horses. We've never done that before, that I am aware of."

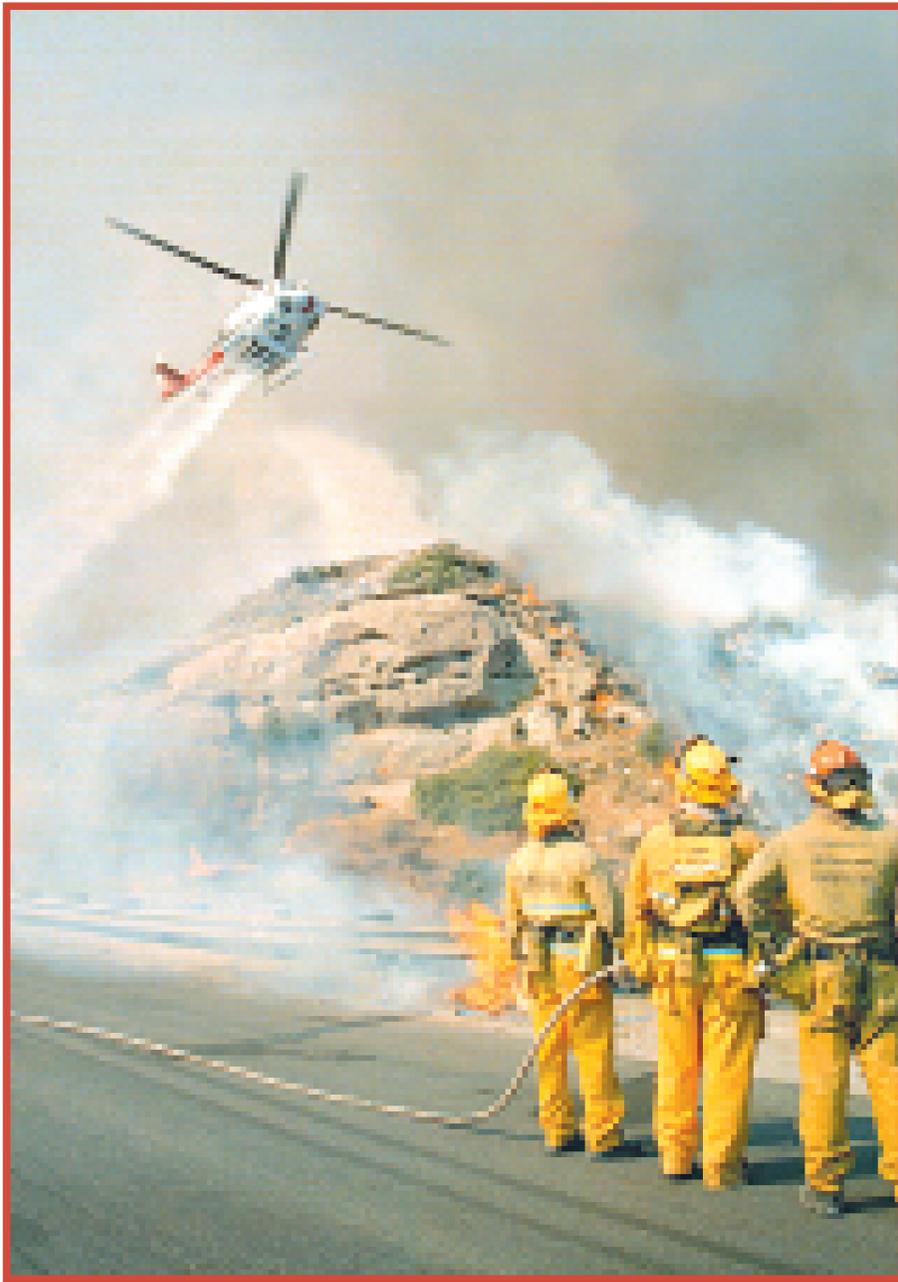
"From three locations, we rescued 120 horses. We evacuated them to Pierce College and Lopez Ranch. We're very grateful for their help."

"Some of the horses were very scared. They aren't like our [LAPD] animals, which are trained for stressful situations. They don't do the work our horses do."

"Later, during the emergency, we also made



Two firefighters battle a blaze near the 118 Freeway. (Photo by Mike Meadows.)



The LAFD swings into action near the 118 Freeway. (Photo by Mike Meadows.)

ourselves available to Ventura County and San Bernardino County, but we weren't needed there.

"The best thing about it, other than saving the horses, is how the three organizations worked so well together—us, Animal Services, and their volunteers."

### Animal Services

Animal Services began by sending warnings to citizens to not forget about the animals.

L.A. Animal Services reminded residents to expect to encounter more than their usual share of wildlife in city neighborhoods and communities as a result of the fires.

The department reminded citizens that the best way to approach wildlife is a position of mutual respect: "Stay away from them just as they will instinctively stay away from you. A wild animal that does not run from a human is probably ill or injured. Do not attempt to handle it.

"It is against the law and a misdemeanor to feed predatory wildlife such as coyotes and bobcats. Doing so endangers neighborhoods and could be a death warrant for the animal as it loses its fear of man and may venture onto highways or into other similar situations.

And then the department got to work, rescuing animals. More than 500, in fact.

L.A. Animal Services, the lead agency for all animal related issues in the City of Los Angeles and one of the largest rescue organizations in the nation, led the effort to rescue, evacuate, transport and house animals affected by the fire disaster.

During the course of the fire, L.A. Animal Services received some 500 calls for evacuation information as it led the effort to evacuate, house and transport some 450 horses from the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

and Ventura County. Officer Hugh Briefman, horse-specialist and member of the Department's Air Rescue Team, tirelessly led rescue efforts. In concert with LAPD Metro Mounted Horse Unit, the Department evacuated some 100 horses to Stoney Pt. Ranch and close to 300 horses from Box, Bell and Brown Canyons. The Department also rescued 38 cats, 75 dogs, 7-10 barn fowl, 2 peacocks and one llama.

L.A. Animal Services established several temporary evacuation sites for domestic animals, wild animals and livestock. L.A. Pierce College, in Woodland Hills, served as the chief evacuation site where L.A. County Animal Control staff, volunteers and other helpers stood by to help Animal Care Technician Supervisor Sergio Rios house, care for, and keep track of all animals and their owners. Grateful animal owners and community members showed up at Pierce College with water and food for both workers and animals. Amidst all the activity, ACT Supervisor Rios was able to quickly and efficiently reunite all horse owners with their animals.

At an L.A. Animal Services Commission meeting on Nov. 10, Commissioner Paul Jolly commended the Department saying that he was out of town during the fire disaster and worried about his animals. He was grateful L.A. Animal Services was there for him and for his animals.

### Transportation

As Capt. Sherman of the LAPD said, many traffic officers in the Dept. of Transportation provided critical traffic and pedestrian control services in affected areas. These services were vitally important and helped the City deal with this very real emergency.

### Rec and Parks

Many do not know that Rec and Parks has 23 Park Rangers who are sworn firefighters, equivalent to the firefighter designation within the LAFD.

Joe Tafoya, a Park Ranger, is in charge of the Department's Mounted Unit. He was involved in the animal rescue and other things; the department was heavily involved in protecting the City's parks against the fires, plus also opening evacuation shelters on the park lands.

"We are part of the disaster command," he explained. "We worked with the LAFD and the LAPD in the disaster.

"We have ranges who are cross-trained in fighting wildland fires. We run fire equipment out of our parks. We sent a crew to the Crestline area, near Big Bear. There are Rec and Parks campgrounds for boys and girls up there. And we were involved in protecting structures. We helped protect the Crestline Restaurant, I believe.

"Then we evacuated our parks. Four to five parks were threatened in the West Valley. There are \$1 million centers that were at risk. We evacuated them, and then we protected them against the fires.

"There was no damage to any of our facilities.

"Our water tenders—our fire engine pumpers—were purchased for us by the DWP," he said. "Having those pumpers is extremely beneficial. We can't thank the DWP enough. This is what they were purchased for, and they performed really well."

Tafoya was an overflow valve as Animal Services and the LAPD rescued horses from the Hanson Dam Equestrian Center.

Finally, Rec and Parks facilities provided a "first stop" for many of the people who were being evacuated from threatened areas.

"Our Mason and Lamark Recreation Centers were activated as evacuation shelters. People either were brought there or came there on their own after being told we could help them. We offered them what they needed. We were open all night, and we worked with the Red Cross at our shelters. Between 50 and 100 people came through our shelters.

"We all activated. That's what we're trained to do, what we signed up to do. We were ready to go."

### DWP

In addition to purchasing the fire engine pumpers for the Rec and Parks firefighters, the DWP participated in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during the fire emergency. Representatives from both Water and Power organizations were present at the EOC. DWP was ready to assist City or regional organizations if called upon. On behalf of the citizens of Los Angeles, DWP crews and personnel made sure DWP's own system stayed integral and intact, despite the fact that DWP infrastructure exists in the affected areas. DWP staff is presently assessing damage due to the different wildfires around Southern California.

### From Fire to Ice:

### LAFD in a Different Kind of Storm

Wednesday, Nov. 12, at approximately 4:15 p.m. a powerful storm settled over the South Los Angeles, Watts, Lynwood, and Compton area. At least 30 fire companies and other support vehicles under Battalion Commander Michael Rhodes responded to incidents in the South Los Angeles area.

As a result of the powerful storm, hundreds of vehicles were stalled in water up to four feet deep. Hundreds of individuals were trapped inside their vehicles, on top, and in the water near their vehicles. Firefighters using their vehicles traversed the deep water in the intersections to rescue the stranded victims. Also, firefighters waded in the knee-deep water tethered off to their vehicles and building to reach the helpless motorists.

As a result of the actions by firefighters and paramedics, more than 100 motorists were rescued from in, on and around their vehicles. Firefighters and paramedics responded to more than 120 calls for help during a three-hour period (wires down, flood, pole etc.).

The storm dropped approximately 5.2 inches of rain during a 2- to 3-hour period. It could not be readily determined if there were injuries associated with the many incidents firefighters responded to during the height of the storm. If there were injuries associated with this storm, they will probably be listed as minor. There were no firefighter injuries and no stalled rescue vehicles.

Additional information on these incidents in the South Los Angeles area is still being accumulated.

### Finally, Heroes

The personnel in the City departments mentioned above may have been well trained to deal with these emergencies, but still they performed flawlessly. We are proud of them!

*Alive!* congratulates everyone involved in keeping the City safe from the fire disaster, and especially thanks those whose heroics were not mentioned in this article. We want to know about what you did: please let us know by writing us at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) 📧

**Wanna be heard?** Tell us what you think of the brave men and women working for the City who eased us through the fire disaster: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



A firefighter battles a blaze near the 118 Freeway. (Photo by Mike Meadows.)

## Newest Club Benefit: Ticket Discounts to Classy 'A Noise Within' Stage Company

■ **Brush up your Shakespeare! Discount on tickets to prestigious theater company helps Club members support the arts.**

Greater Los Angeles—the area that Club members help build every day—is known throughout the world for its excellent cultural institutions.

And now the Club helps you support the arts with a discount on tickets to one of the City's finest classical theatre companies, making those tickets even more affordable.

The Club is proud to introduce discount tickets to A Noise Within, a theatre company that focuses on producing classic works of the stage, including plays by Shakespeare, Molière, Oscar Wilde, Arthur Miller, Henrik Ibsen and many others.

**Here's the deal: Club members will receive a 50 percent discount off the regular price of up to four tickets to any performance.**

**Note:** Reservations are required, and discount tickets are subject to availability.

**How to get the discount:** When you have chosen a performance at A Noise Within that you would like to attend, call the box office at (818) 240-0910, and ask for the Club discount. If discount tickets are available, you can reserve them. Then you must show your Club card when you pick up the tickets at the box office.

The mission of A Noise Within is to perform great works of world drama in rotating repertory with a company of professional, classically trained actors and to educate the public through comprehensive outreach efforts and conservatory training programs which foster an appreciation for and understanding of these great works.



**A Noise Within's current holiday production, "A Wilde Holiday."**

The company began in 1991, when three actor/directors, trained at the acclaimed American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco—Geoff Elliott, Julia Rodriguez Elliott and Art Manke—recognizing a lack of professional classical training and performance opportunity in the Los Angeles area and to a larger extent, the Southern California region, established A Noise Within to fill the void. The company has since performed more than 100 of the world's greatest classic dramatic works, offering upwards of 150 performances a year, with as many as seven productions in a given season. It has played to more than 100,000 patrons and educated more than 40,000 young people throughout the region and beyond. Known for the high quality of its productions, A Noise Within has garnered more than 500 awards and commendations and enjoyed overwhelming critical and audience acclaim throughout its 12-year history. A Noise Within is the youngest theatre to receive the coveted Margaret Hartford Award for Sustained Excellence. 📺

**What to see?  
Here's a listing of  
A Noise Within's  
upcoming schedule:**



### **A Wilde Holiday** by Oscar Wilde

- With Special Family Event December 13
- Adapted and Directed by Sabin Epstein with Music by Laura Karpman
- Only 9 Performances! Dec. 12-21

Back by popular demand, this concert reading of *The Selfish Giant*, *The Happy Prince* and *The Star Child* weaves the spiritual, ironic, multi-layered tales of faith, devotion, beauty and courage as told by one of the great wits of the English language, Oscar Wilde. Interspersed with poetry by Lewis Carroll and Christina Rossetti, among others and interwoven with captivating original music by Laura Karpman, these deeply felt and unique fairy tales embrace the true spirit of the holiday season.

*A Noise Within promises special family events, caroling, guests and holiday gift-giving throughout the run.*

### Euripides' **Electra** (featuring an all-male cast)

- Previews Feb. 27-March 4, 2004;
- runs March 5 – May 15
- Director: Sabin Epstein, resident director

### William Shakespeare's **Twelfth Night**

- Previews March 12-18, runs March 19 – May 16
- Director: Christopher Tabori

### Thornton Wilder's **The Matchmaker**

- Previews April 2-8, runs April 9 – May 13
- Directors: Geoff Elliott and Julia Rodriguez Elliott

**Call the box office at (818) 240-0910,  
and ask for the 50% Club discount!**

**A Noise Within  
234 S. Brand Blvd., Glendale**

## Here's a Few Who Missed Our Camera at Ontario Intl.

■ **When the Club visited Ontario International Airport as the Department of the Month in the October issue of *Alive!*, a few of the great workers there missed our roving camera.** We're glad to picture them here. Thanks again, Ontario!



**From left: Stan Rogers, Management Analyst, 9 years; Lynne Wright, Sr. Comm. Operator, 15 years; Pat Jones, Sr. Clerk Typist, 23 years; and Dave Hanlon, Chief Airport Police, 19 years.**



**Gregory Howard, Locksmith Shop, 28 years.**



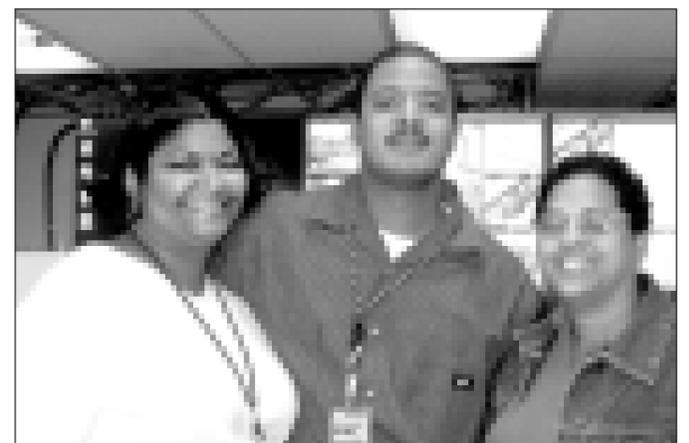
**Club member Maria Graciano stopped by the Club's setup and purchased Private Party Magic Mountain tickets for only \$20 each. Then, Maria referred her co-worker Martha Ocon to the Club, and through the Club's refer-a-friend program, Maria earned a free AMC movie ticket. The Club would like to thank members like Maria and all City employees for making the Club their number one choice.**



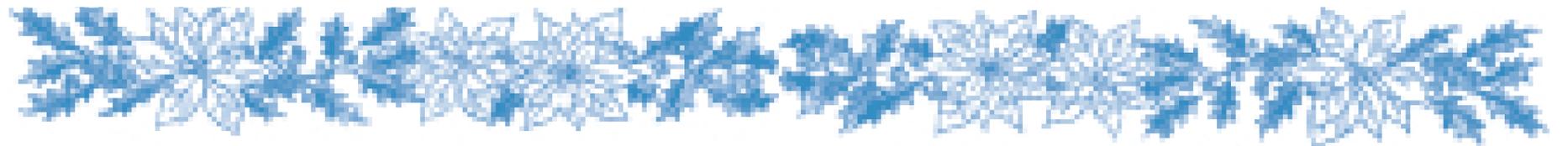
**From left: Gale Howard, Comm. Operator III, 26 years; Monica Hernandez, Comm. Operator III, 4 years; and Francine Carter, Comm. Operator III, 4 years.**



**From left: Mario Betancourt, A/C Shop, 26 years; and Vince Vargas, A/C Shop, 14 years.**



**From left: Francine Carter, Comm. Operator III, 4 years; Charles Fisher, Comm. Electrician, 5 years; and Gale Howard, Comm. Operator III, 25 years.**



# DWP, Rec Parks Light Up the Holidays at Griffith Park



In commemoration of its commitment and years of continued service to the people of Los Angeles, the LADWP, along with the Department of Recreation and Parks, wishes to make your holiday season bright with a spectacular lighting extravaganza!

Take a stroll on the walking path or drive through this winter wonderland of lights.

To avoid crowds on weekends, weekday (Monday-Thursday) attendance is encouraged.

The display is open from 5 to 10 p.m. nightly through Dec. 28.

It is free and open to everyone.

Also, you can help make a youngster's holiday a little brighter. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Los Angeles Fire Department's annual Spark of Love Toy Drive for children of all ages - from tots to teens. Toys will be collected at the Holiday Light Festival site during festival hours.



Electrical Mechanic Bernie Dunn feeds wires into an electric distribution panel. The framework of one of the Festival's "light tunnels" is seen in the background.



Crew supervisor Bob Hackett, right, helps feed wires to Electrical Mechanic Bernie Dunn, left in background.

## Pictures from last year's display:



The DWP crew posing in front of the framework of the DWP sign are, from left: Gary Brand, Electrical Mechanic; Raffi Adamian, Electrical Craft Helper; Jim Behan, Superintendent; Bernie Dunn, Electrical Mechanic; Bob Hackett, Crew Supervisor; and Pete Manriquez, Electrical Mechanic.



**Aqua Power...**

*Ride the Wave*  
to your **Financial Freedom**

*Ride the Wave*

**Aqua Power Financial Services, Inc.**

Investments offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS), an independent broker/dealer, are not NCUA/NCUSIF insured, not credit union guaranteed and may lose value. Registered representatives are employees of Aqua Power Financial Services, Inc. and registered through CFS (member NASD/SIPC).

**Attention:**

**City Employees and Family Members!**

Aqua Power as a wholly owned subsidiary of Water and Power Community Credit Union has financial counselors who can help you prepare a comprehensive financial plan including:

- Pre/Post Retirement Planning
- Investment Planning
- Strategies
- College Saving's Plans

Through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS) an independent broker/dealer, Aqua Power offers a full range of investment products including:

- Mutual Funds
- Annuities and Life Insurance
- Stocks and Bonds

**For further information or to make an appointment call 800-300-9728, ext 1687.**

# LAFD, City Have Voters to Thank for New Fire Station 77 Set for Sun Valley

■ On the morning of Oct. 24, while the fires raged in nearby cities, a beacon of strength and a prescription against fire danger emerged with the groundbreaking ceremony of the new LAFD Fire Station 77 in Sun Valley.

The new fire station is one of 19 new fire stations planned for construction through 2007. The groundbreaking ceremony commenced with the Master of Ceremonies and welcome by Captain Joseph Castro; followed by guest speakers Mayor James Hahn; Councilmember Wendy Gruel; President of the Board of Fire Commissioners Corina Alarcon; and Fire Chief William R. Bamattre.

The groundbreaking ceremony was the

result of a comprehensive study conducted in 1998 by the City of Los Angeles. The study projected that many of the City's fire stations were too small to embrace the increasing needs for equipment and deployment of resources. As a consequence, Proposition F was placed on the ballot and Los Angeles voters approved it on Nov. 7, 2000. The proposition will allow the construction of 19 new modern fire stations.

"Fire Station 77 is one of the fire stations that had been designed and constructed with the direction of the Fire Department, the Bureau of Engineering, and Bovis Lend Lease," says Roberto De Leon, Project Manager for the Bureau of Engineering. "All three groups worked tirelessly with excitement."

The modernization of Fire Station 77 will be vast. Take, for example, modernized fuel tanks that hold 5,000 gallons; 2 ambulances; 1 battalion command team; 2 engines; 1 truck; and specialized fire equipment. Furthermore, for

the first time in an LAFD fire station, Fire Station 77 will be a staging area for large-scale emergencies and a brush fire pre-deployment site; and it will allow accommodations for an explorer post and EMS District Office.

"The square footage of the land purchased for the new fire station is about four times the size of the old fire station, and the building is about three times larger than the old fire station at 15,028 square feet," Battalion Chief John Duca said.

Chief Bamattre analyzed the difference between the old fire station built in 1941 for just \$625 and the land bought for \$35,000. He noted that the land for the Fire Station 77 was bought for \$550,000 and will cost about \$6.1 million to build the fire station.

The new fire station will be one of the first of many fire stations to provide a superior level of service and safety, and it becomes a safe



Firestation 77's state-of-the-art Class 1 fire truck, with smoke looming in background.

house for the community.

Mayor Hahn told a standing group of civilian and civil servants that the Los Angeles voter's approval of Proposition F presented a "much-needed improvement in the quality of Angeleno life with state-of-the-art fire stations." Additionally, the new fire station will have a fire truck drive thru (eliminating street traffic blockage), the means to service vehicles indoors, and a design that will accommodate firefighters for the next 50 years.

City Councilwoman Wendy Gruel said is a place for the community and a symbol of commitment.

Firefighters from the old Fire Station 77 were in attendance, including Firefighters Scott Wofford, Shane Williams and Brent Roof. "The voting citizens wanted this more than anybody," Wofford said.



Board of Fire Commissioners President Corina Alarcon.



Councilmember Wendy Gruel.



Master of Ceremonies Captain Joseph Castro.



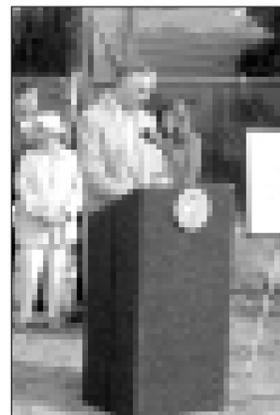
Fire Chief William R. Bamattre.



From left : Captain James Polzer, Captain Milton Urquilla and Battalion Chief Ralph Terrazas.



From left: Roberto De Leon and Chief John Duca



Mayor James Hahn.



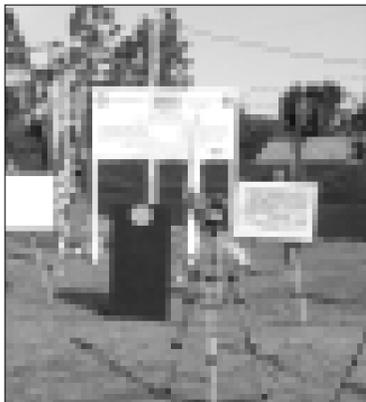
Captain Joseph Castro at the new Firestation 77 site.



Tom N. Kuwahara, ITA, taped the ceremony for Channel 3.



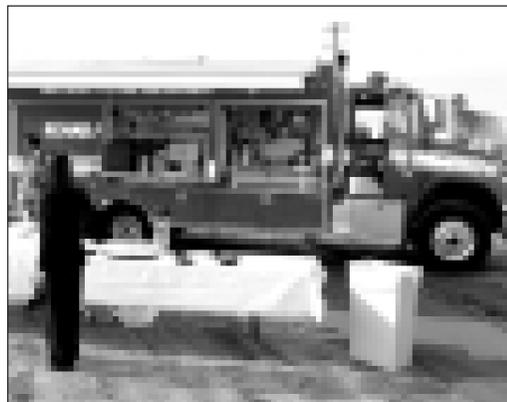
Rescue Ambulance truck from the Fire Department Museum.



The site for the groundbreaking ceremony.



Firefighters and people of the community in attendance.



A rehab truck acted as a food beverage booth for the groundbreaking ceremony.

## City Employees in the Media: We're Up to Date During Fire



Jackie David, Public Information Director, L.A. Animal Services

It's not enough that the City employees worked hard to protect the City from the ravages of the fires. They also made sure we knew about the status of what they were doing.

Representatives of the LAFD, LAPD and Rec and Parks kept everyone informed.

But we here at the Club got a lot of reassurance from Jackie David, *Alive!* columnist and spokesperson for Animal Services.

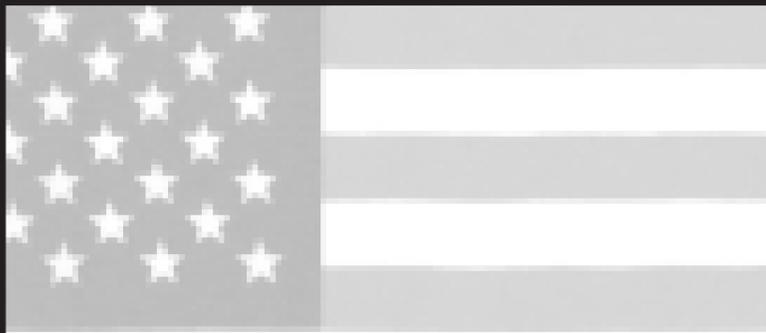
For example, here are just some of the outlets which carried her news updates:

1. Los Angeles Times
2. San Francisco Chronicle
3. Fox 11
4. KCBS
5. KCAL
6. KFWB radio
7. KQED radio
8. National Public Radio
9. KNX
10. Horse Trader Magazine
11. Japanese TV

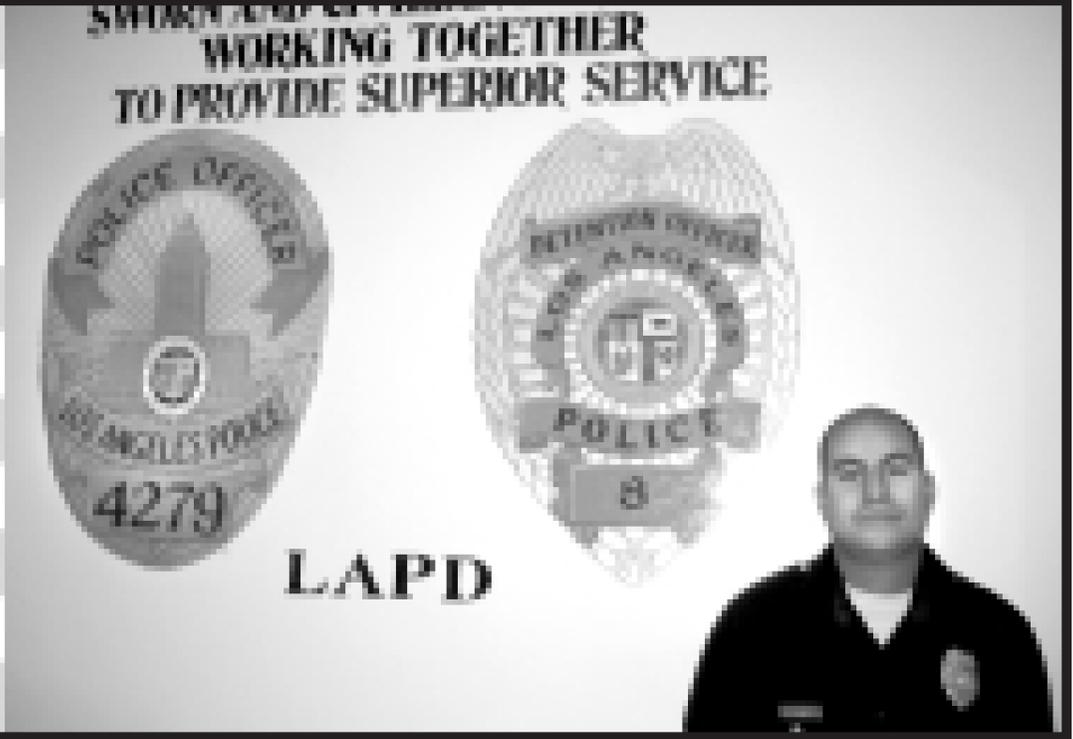
Good going, Jackie and everyone who kept us up to date!

**Wanna be heard?** To all Club members who appear in the media either as part of your jobs or otherwise, let us know, and we'll tell the world: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

*The Club thanks Robert Mosquera for his service to our country and wishes him the best of success.*



**LAPD Detention Officer Robert Mosquera, employed at the Van Nuys jail for two years, has been sent to Iraq. Robert, a specialist in the California National Guard, was activated Nov. 15 as part of the Alpha Company, 185th Armored Division.**



## Newsbrief

### LANDFILL MEASURES

Mayor Jim Hahn joined with City Councilmembers Greig Smith and Tony Cardenas Nov. 5 to release to the public the final report of the Landfill Oversight Committee and announce several new steps by the City of Los Angeles to improve waste disposal.

The Landfill Oversight Committee was appointed by Mayor Hahn in June 2002 and charged with evaluating and recommending methods to divert more municipal solid waste from landfills, achieving Mayor Hahn's goal of a landfill-free city by 2006 and the city's goal of 70 percent waste diversion by 2020.



**Mayor Hahn also announced five new measures at the press conference in Granada Hills:**

- Mayor Hahn directed all City Departments to work with the Bureau of Sanitation to develop a plan and schedule that achieves 70 percent diversion of trash from landfills by the year 2020.
- Mayor Hahn directed the Bureau of Sanitation to report within 60 days ways in which the city can require recycling for private haulers and transfer facilities within the city.
- Mayor Hahn announced a pilot program, to begin by the start of next year, that will pick up recyclables from approximately 100,000 housing units at large apartment complexes throughout the city.
- Mayor Hahn announced that the City will begin to look into alternative waste technology already employed by many European cities.
- Mayor Hahn asked the City Council to support and swiftly consider the Recycled Products Purchasing ordinance that would strengthen the city's Buy Recycled Products Program.



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**Holiday Celebration! December 13 - January 1**

# ITA ESB Honors its Own at Luncheon Ceremony

**■ Thursday, Oct. 23, the Information Technology Agency's Enterprise Services Bureau (ESB) Awards Luncheon honored several in the division who had delivered exemplary service.**

The event is conducted to award individual employee commendations and to celebrate the many accomplishments performed by all its staff. The Enterprise Services Bureau is comprised of approximately 400 employees that provide communications and computer operations support

for the City of Los Angeles. ESB takes pride in supporting areas including Public Safety communications, city-wide voice and data services, and computer systems in the ITA Data Center.

Operational services are often overlooked, but it is a core and essential service that provides the backbone infrastructure for the City of Los Angeles. ITA takes this opportunity to show its appreciation for all the "behind the scenes" work that is performed by the ESB employees.

The Club congratulates the following individuals who received personal commendations:

Robert Aune, Alina Yeghyazarians, Joyce Wang, Gregory Garrison, Audrey Dunbar, John

Cheung, Bhavin Patel, Maria Panoff, Victor Coronel, Caroline Huang, Lawrence Phyffer, Dennis Soja, Dana Dunlap, Warren Dycus, Doris Bruton, Michael DeVera, Eddie Quach, Ernie Tsui, Nader Haghighat, Goddard Paialii, Taleb ElHabbal, James Lockhart, Paul Gibbons, John Encarnacion, Tom Brandt, Gene Kosaka, Raul Velasco, John Gibson, Josephine Palacios, Rito Cisneros, Lloyd Lau, Joe Kong, Henry Shi, Ronald Murray, Pan-An Liu, Jimmy Tran, Seung Yoo, Rudolfo Isaad, Ron Carter, Edward Murray, Jade Cheng, Stephen Chicano, Remy Ilano, Al Crawford, David Lear, Tom Robinson, Mary Pool, Victor Marrero and Edgardo Gonzalez. 📷

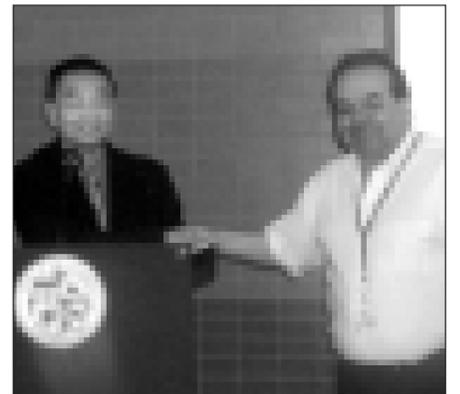
Below are photos of the event.



John Gibson (right) receives his commendation from Gene Gamachi, Info. Systems Manager and Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA.



David Lear (right) is commended by Gene Gamachi, Info. Systems Manager and Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA.



Victor Marrero (right) is commended by Gene Gamachi, Info. Systems Manager and Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA.



The awardees present at the ITA ESB Awards Luncheon.

The benefits start the moment you join!

# Join the Club!

**Start enjoying:**

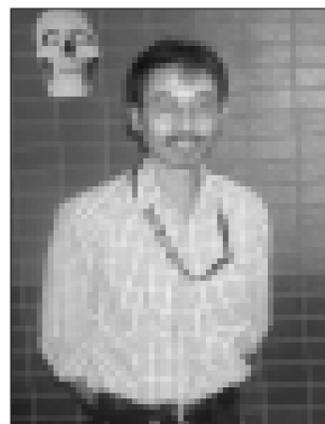
- *Alive!* monthly newspaper
- The Club Card, with fantastic discounts for popular restaurants and services
- Big ticket discounts
- ClubFest annual Club party
- Club Web site

# Join today!

City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
Your city. Your Club.



Gene Gamachi, Info. Systems Manager and Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA, reads the commendations to the luncheon crowd.



Jimmy Tran (left), steps up to be commended by Gene Gamachi, Info. Systems Manager and Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA.



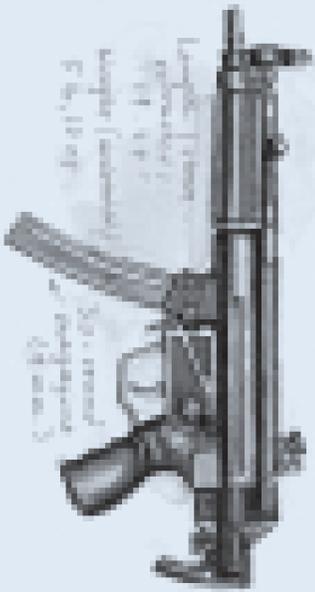
Rudolfo Isaad (right) is commended by Gene Gamachi, Info. Systems Manager and Acting Assistant General Manager, ITA.

# Newsbrief

## ASSAULT WEAPONS

Los Angeles City Councilmembers Jack Weiss and Antonio Villaraigosa announced Nov. 5 a measure urging Congress to renew the ban on deadly assault weapons. The resolution supports H.R. 2038 and S. 1431, the Assault Weapons Ban and Law Enforcement Protection Act of 2003, which would reauthorize the assault weapons ban and add new restrictions.

"Assault weapons are the top choice for violent criminals who use them in their deadliest crimes," Weiss said. "One in five



law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty is murdered with an assault weapon. The Assault Weapons Ban should be renewed to keep these guns out of the hands of cop killers. Law enforcement officers are at particular risk from these weapons because of their high firepower and ability to penetrate body armor."

"The level of gun violence in Los Angeles is unacceptable. And it is clear that because gun manufacturers have been circumventing the current law, Congress must now act to extend the assault weapons ban and make the legislation stronger," Villaraigosa said. "We need to do every thing we can to get these weapons off the streets and out of the hands of criminals so that more people are not senselessly killed."

At a press conference held outside City Hall, LAPD officers displayed banned guns including assault pistols, Uzis, Mach 10s, TEK 9s, and assault rifles. Weiss and Villaraigosa were joined by Richard Aborn, former president of Handgun Control, who was a principal strategist behind the Assault Weapons Ban; Luis Tolley, representing the Brady Campaign to End Gun Violence; Kay Holeman, representing the Million Mom March; Anne Reiss Lane, representing Women Against Gun Violence; and community anti-violence advocates from Proyecto Pastoral and Kidz Voice - LA.

Congress is considering reauthorization of the federal assault weapons ban, which was passed as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to stop the production, sale and distribution of semiautomatic assault weapons. Without the approval of Congress and the President the ban will end, allowing these weapons, which have been illegally used in horrific events such as the Washington, DC sniper attacks, to return to the streets. The resolution will be heard in the Public Safety Committee. No date has been scheduled.

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## City Employee Club New Year's Specials

**Thursday, Jan. 8, @ 7:30 pm vs. Vancouver Canucks**

**Monday, Jan. 26, @ 1:00 pm vs. Minnesota Wild**

Also inquire on the City Employee Specials for these December games:  
12/04 vs. Stars - 12/16 vs. Oilers - 12/27 vs. Sharks

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**\$21.00**  
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**\$39.00**  
**200-Level**  
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**Lower Concourse**  
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Email: [achang@staplescenter.com](mailto:achang@staplescenter.com)

Tickets based on availability. Sorry no refunds or exchanges. Deadline to order is 2 days prior to game.  
Ask about other LA City Employee specials for our other events and venues!

**Ring in the New Year with the LA KINGS with these SUPER DISCOUNT PRICES! LOWEST PRICES!**

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Game	Price	# Tix	Subtotal
01/08 vs. Canucks			
01/26 vs. Wild			
	Handling Fee		\$5.00
	TOTAL*		

\* please add \$5.00 to each order for printing and processing

Payment: (Circle) AMEX Visa MC Check

CC #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# Life's Important Moments

# Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and digital photos to: [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)  
Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071



## Promotions

**Brian Cummings**, LAFD, Fire Captain II to Fire Battalion Chief, Battalion 13

**Robert Duff**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Fire Inspector I, Environmental Unit

**Logan Fields**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Apparatus Operator

**Frank Godoy**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Fire Inspector I, Brush Unit

**Michael Henley**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Fire Inspector I, Brush Unit

**Marcus Law**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Fire Inspector I, High Rise Unit

**John Moede**, LAFD, Firefighter III (Paramedic) to Fire Captain I (Paramedic)

**Kahlil Muthleb**, LAFD, Engineer of Fire Department to Fire Inspector I, High Rise Unit

**Brandi Pilato**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Fire Inspector I, High Rise Unit

**Michael Rhodes**, LAFD, Fire Captain II to Fire Battalion Chief, Battalion 13

**Gregory Stevens**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Fire Inspector, Environmental Unit

**Todd Tsujimura**, LAFD, Firefighter III to Apparatus Operator

**Promotions:**

Send us your department, your former job title, your new job, and a sentence saying your supervisor is aware that you're sending this. Send your photo, too, plus your phone number. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).



## Births

**Isabella Balos Bernaldo**, born Oct. 13 to **Jennifer and Rodney Bernaldo** Dad is a management Analyst for Public Works. Congratulations to all!



**Births:** Send us the following information: full name of the newborn, date of birth, name of parents, job title of the parent(s) who work(s) for the City or the DWP, your phone number and a baby photo. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Weddings

**Weddings:** Recently married? Congratulations! Share the news with your City employee family. Tell us the names of the bride and groom, the date and place of the wedding, and the City or DWP job title of the bride and/or groom. (Include a photo, too, and we'll try to print it.) Send it in! Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).

## Retirements

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Ruperto Albelda	Director of Housing (Housing)	23
Publio Aliwalas	Sanitary Engineer (Public Works)	30
Vicki Anderson	Sr. Clerk Typist (General Services)	Not disclosed
William Anderson	Water Utility Worker (Harbor)	31
Viola Andrade	Council Aide (Council)	27
Rex Army	Machinist (Harbor)	25
Ernest Ballesteros	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	30
Juan Batriz	Light Equipment Operator (Gen. Services)	34
Alexander Bernard	Sr. Special Officer (Airports)	31
Gary Bond	Rec. Director (Rec. and Parks)	30
Michael Brewster	Sr. Painter (General Services)	30
Betty Brown	Library Assistant (Library)	34
Randolph Caldwell	Special Officer (Airports)	31
David Campbell	Instrument Mech. Sup. (Public Works)	30
Michael Chavez	Equip. Operator (Public Works)	30
Refugio Chavez	Sr. Gardener (Rec. and Parks)	28
Dirk Clark	Refuse Collection Sup. (Public Works)	31
Marsha Clemens	Admin. Assistant (Rec. and Parks)	16
Terry Coleman	Special Officer (Airports)	14
Michael Cowan	Wastewater Treatment Operator (Public Works)	31
John Delarosa	Refuse Col. & Dsp. Manager (Public Works)	38
Lina Daukas	Sr. Librarian (Library)	31
Tommie Dyer	Refuse Collection Truck Operator (Public Works)	20
Roberto Evangelista	Field Engineer Aide (Public Works)	11
Meliton Flores	Wastewater Collection Worker (Public Works)	17
Amanda Frausto	Sr. Clerk Typist (LAFD)	18
Rudolph Gomez	Management Analyst (Public Works)	30
Michael Gorfain	Admin. Analyst (CAO)	32
Linda Gray	Sr. Clerk Typist (Public Works)	31
Doris Griffith	Exec. Secretary (Building & Safety)	30
William Griggs	Supply Svcs. Manager (General Services)	30
Michelle Guidry	Personnel Records Supervisor (Rec. and Parks)	31
Terry Gunhas	Sr. Construction Inspector (Public Works)	10
Raul Gutierrez	Equipment Operator (Public Works)	30
Carolyn Hall	Clerk Typist (Finance)	35
Philip Hall	City Planning Associate (City Planning)	30
Gary Henderson	Auto Painter (LAPD)	33
Bertha Jackson	Sr. Management Analyst (Public Works)	30
Robert Johnson	Equipment Specialist (General Services)	18
Melvin Jones	Park Maintenance Supervisor (Airports)	36
Thomas Jordan	Maintenance Laborer (Public Works)	32
Gene Lambert	Lot Cleaning Supervisor (Public Works)	30
Alicia Layton	Personnel Records Supervisor (LAFD)	33
Leslie Lefrois	Executive Secretary (City Planning)	30

*Alive!* and your City Employees Club wishes to thank each and every one of the following, who have spent many years making Los Angeles the great city it is. Congratulations, and enjoy your well-deserved rewards!

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Frances Leufrey	Sr. Clerk Typist (LAPD)	33
Patricia Long	Custodial Service Attn. (General Services)	31
Annie Lowder	Clerk (LAPD)	32
Be Lu	Communications Electrician (ITA)	18
Angelica Lujan	Sr. Clerk Typist (Rec. and Parks)	19
Carmen Marfield	Personnel Records Supervisor (ITA)	22
Glenn McCormack	Traffic Officer (Transportation)	32
Eunice McDuffee	Police Service Rep (LAPD)	35
Antonia Mendez	Executive Secretary (Personnel)	33
Stephen Merit	Sr. Animal Keeper (Zoo)	11
Gurdon Miller	Sr. City Planner (City Planning)	30
Larry Miller	Wastewater Manager (Public Works)	30
Leon Mims	Rec. Director (Rec. and Parks)	6
Patricia Miranda	Sr. Clerk Typist (Harbor)	31
Henry Morro	Painter (General Services)	15
Daniel Munson	Automotive Supervisor (General Services)	30
Cao Nguyen	Civil Engineering Draft Tech (Public Works)	14
Roberto Orozco	Gardener Caretaker (Rec. and Parks)	25
Richard Owens	Light Equipment Operator (Rec. and Parks)	31
Pete Parra	Cement Finisher (Public Works)	32
Arti Paymaster	Sr. Accountant (Public Works)	14
David Peterson	Police Administrator (LAPD)	35
Viola Potts	Custodial Services Attn. (Airports)	17
Thomson Quon	Communications Engineer (ITA)	37
David Rosenthal	Management Analyst (LAFD)	30
Paul Ruiz	Custodial Supervisor (Airports)	31
Freddie Sanchez	Construction and Maintenance Supervisor (Harbor)	35
Lynn Schwickerath	Clerk (City Planning)	34
George Sehlmeier	Investment Officer (Treasurer)	22
Emmett Sheridan	Programmer (ITA)	33
Karin Smith	Sr. Management Analyst (Library)	31
Margaret Sullivan	Management Analyst (Animal Services)	30
Oscar Tabasondra	Data Process Tech (ITA)	6
Wilbur Temple	Sr. Equipment Mechanic (LAPD)	37
Calvin Tillery	Equipment Operator (Public Works)	20
Gail Turner Brown	Sr. Housing Inspector (Housing)	30
Consuelo Uribe	Commission Executive Asst. (Personnel)	35
Michaelyn Valkoff	Bindery Worker (General Services)	15
Pamela Victorine	Deputy City Attorney (City Attorney)	8
Patricia Wilmington	Management Analyst (LAFD)	32
Judith Wilson	Director, Sanitation (Public Works)	13
Lillian Wong	Systems Analyst (LAFD)	30
Sally Wong	Secretary (LAFD)	30
Barbara Zeidman	Management Analyst (Housing)	20



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

Sheila Abramsohn  
 Rolando Ambriz  
 Patrick Donatien  
 Richard Lee  
 Romerol Malveaux  
 Kat Minemoto  
 Mary Peterson  
 Jody Roberson  
 Donald Sibley  
 Stanley Sysak  
 Elversa Tippins  
 Catherine Trifiro  
 Raul Vasquez  
 Robert Wright  
 Loretta Brazil  
 WC Byrd  
 Victor Castillo  
 Raymond Chang  
 Patrick Chee  
 Dominick Dascenzi  
 Samuel Davis Jr.  
 Maria De Luna  
 Daniel Delgado  
 John Duft  
 Steven Emory  
 Gilbert Garcia Jr.  
 John Gardner

Mark Gentili  
 Juan Gomez  
 Monique Hall  
 Gary Hamai  
 Patricia Harden  
 Brian Kanov  
 Christina Kusch  
 Dean Lee  
 Ignacio Martinez  
 John McMurtrie  
 Brenda Mitchell  
 Ruben Montoya  
 Richard Nunez  
 Jose Ochoa  
 Mark Perry  
 Randy Pierson  
 Annette Quintero  
 Nohemi Rangel  
 John Romero  
 Enrique Rosas  
 Adriana Rubalcava  
 Francisco Sanchez  
 Rachel Shannon  
 Raymond Smurr  
 Aleida Stones  
 Francisca Torres  
 Thanarat Tosasuk

Tammy Tran  
 Robert Turner  
 Gary Warden  
 Andrew Wolf  
 Patricia Aceves  
 Benjamin Afflalo  
 Norma Alexander  
 Carlos Baldenegro  
 Lori Bangert  
 Alisia Bealey  
 Sheldon Beverly  
 Christopher Bobo

Ronna Burress  
 Nicole Campbell  
 Dolores Canez  
 Jose Chang  
 Mark Chapa  
 Charles Clark  
 Charles Clark  
 Tanzi Cole  
 Cynthia Cortez  
 Michelle Crowder  
 Claudia Cruz  
 Donn Cunningham

Darleen Davis  
 Mary Jane Duenas  
 Tony Duong  
 Michael Estrada  
 Mae Ford  
 Denise Galaz  
 Christopher Gibson  
 Carlos Gomez  
 Alfred Guerrero  
 Alan Hagopian  
 Raymond Hallenbeck  
 Harold Hansen Jr.  
 Nancy Hernandez  
 Sergio Ibarra  
 Alvin Kelly  
 Chuong Le  
 Gabriela Lera  
 Nancy Lew  
 Jose Linares  
 Betty Main  
 Alicia Martino  
 Joy Mativa  
 Willie McClanahan  
 Roy McKee  
 David McKenna  
 Ping Mei  
 Victor Morales

Margaret Oliva  
 Nicole Osborn  
 Steven Otera  
 Steven Otera  
 Ackley Padilla  
 Numan Pallie  
 Cindy Pirozzi  
 Frank Ramirez  
 Soheila Sajadian  
 Maria Scaduto  
 Michael Scotland  
 Shihkuo Sun  
 Willette Taylor  
 Sally Tomboc  
 Louis Torres  
 Du Tran  
 Maria Valdivia  
 Peter Vasquez Jr.  
 Retha Walker  
 Wallace Wall  
 Charolette Williams  
 Juliet Wong  
 Ih-Shanhsu Yeh  
 Celeste Young  
 Martiza Zapata

# Welcome New Members!



## In Memoriam

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

Edward Albao  
 Clarence Apple  
 John Ash  
 Eugene Ball  
 Teresita Bitong  
 Elsie Bjorkman  
 Benny Borys  
 Leola Brown  
 Ruth Bozick  
 Gladys Brauer  
 Wilson Bruch  
 Forney Burns  
 Ernest Byrd  
 Waymon Cal  
 Joe Castaneda

Charles Chamberlain  
 James Clifton Cooke  
 R. Bruce Coplen  
 Frank Coyle  
 Robert Cromwell  
 Ray Cunningham  
 Enrique Daniel  
 Robert Daniel  
 Grace Davis  
 Elgie Edwards  
 Louis Feder  
 Freida Funk  
 Elias Garcia  
 Beryl Goss  
 Francis Hammel

Jack Hardy  
 Margaret Hearn  
 Jean Hillyard  
 W.E. Hoopingarner  
 Grace Horner  
 Ellen Hubbard  
 William Johann  
 Wilbert Johnson  
 Ralph Kelly  
 Robert Kleist  
 Ida Kole  
 Samuel Kole  
 Robert Lightfoot  
 Roy Little  
 Antonio Perez

Juan Macias  
 Herbert Martin  
 Frank Martz  
 James McCune  
 Vidal Mejia  
 Yas Miyao  
 Lloyd Monroe  
 William Montier  
 Dorothy Murray  
 Jeanne Nemeth  
 Margaret O'Brien

Leona Powell  
 Davie Riley  
 Danny Sanders  
 Henry Schafer  
 Lillian Schiff  
 Rachel Schoene  
 Ricardo Siacunco  
 Ian Siegel  
 William Smith  
 Victor Solakian  
 Toshio Takamatsu

Robert Taylor  
 Librado Uranga  
 Lillian Viether  
 Jose Viveros  
 Mary Ward  
 Larry Floyd White  
 David Whitson  
 Howard Woolf  
 Hagop Yepremian

**In Memoriam:** We receive this information directly from the City and the DWP. But send us the name of the deceased, and we'll print the notice. Send in a photo of the deceased, too, if you have one, and include your phone number. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).

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**Call us to set up a free consultation regarding your financial needs. Prudential Securities is not a legal or tax advisor.**

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**Kevin Wright, Financial Advisor**  
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(310) 550-8936 - Los Angeles  
 (818) 345-2950 - San Fernando Valley  
 (805) 496-2776 - Ventura County  
 (661) 250-3166 - Santa Clarita Valley  
 (714) 279-1275 - Orange County



# Retirees NEWS

## Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Following is a list of contacts for the City and for the DWP:

**City Employees Retirement System:** (213) 473-7200

**City Retirement Counselors:**

• Edward Harding	(805) 584-9417	• Jack Mathews	(310) 762-1942
• Phil Skarin	(818) 784-0130	• Helen Salgado	(323) 728-4930
• Robert Wilkinson	(818) 886-1000	(membership)	
• Jerry Bardwell	(818) 782-5568	• Americo Garza	(562) 928-2051
• Harold Danowitz	(310) 472-0224	• Neil Ricci	(310) 394-1971

**DWP Retirement Plan Office:** (213) 367-1722

## For Retirees

By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

# Medicare B Reimbursements To Rise Beginning Next Year

Ed Harding, RCLAEI President, invites all retirees and guests to our Annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 11, 2003, from noon to 3 pm. It will be at the Grace E. Simons Lodge at 1025 Elysian Park Drive, L.A. 90012. There will be a light lunch at noon for those who have called an officer for reservations. See the RCLAEI Winter newsletter for a map.

Harding accepted an offer by Jerry Qonsul, General Manager of the Checker Cab Company, to have two cabs to carry members from the parking areas to the Lodge.

There will be entertainment by Ronnie Minnis; a singer; Christmas songs; 30 valuable door prizes; and Installation of officers (elected in October) by Councilman Tom LaBonge.

Harding attended a reception for Councilman Tony Cardenas at the San Antonio Winery Oct. 29. President Harding does a fine job in keeping in touch with our elected officials to keep them aware of the needs of us retirees.



**Legislative News:** Ken Spiker, our elected Commissioner to the LACERS Board of Administration, reports that the board has approved the Medicare Part B reimbursement from the current \$58.70 to \$66.60 per month effective Jan. 1. More than 5300 of our retirees will benefit from this increase. The proposal to provide a dental subsidy for surviving spouses is working its way through the

legislative process. Our Retirement fund is about \$7.4 billion and our pensions are fully funded. All health plan contracts have been renewed for 2004. If you are going to be 65, you must enroll in Medicare Part B through the Social Security office to continue receiving a health plan subsidy from the City.

There was some delay recently for those getting their retirement checks in the mail. Those with Direct Deposit weren't affected.

**News You Can Use:** Getting birth and death records has become harder because of

a new state law aimed at curbing fraud and identity theft. For more information, call the L.A. County Clerk's office at (562) 462-2137 or go online to [www.lavote.net](http://www.lavote.net).

**Holiday Squeeze:** The L.A. Federal Credit Union has some sweet deals if you need some dough for holiday gifts or to pay taxes. There are Visa convenience checks at 2.9 APR until May 31, and "Holiday Dream" unsecured personal loans for qualified members until Dec. 31 at 9.9 percent APR. They are also supporting the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Donate a new, unwrapped toy to any of their branches by Monday, Dec. 15.

**Join RLACEI:** Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, reports that we have 9105 members. If you are retired and are not a member and you wish to join and help support our association's worthy efforts, contact Helen at (323) 728-4930, and she will send you an application right away. 📧



Ed Harding,  
RLACEI President

# Membership NEWS

■ **Angela Hughes** writes that the check she got for first place in the Poetry Contest made her very happy. Her entry was titled "Sadness".

■ **Jane Hanson** wrote that her check for her poem "Wondrous Love" will help pay her grocery bill.

■ **Ivan Forbes** was in Turkey in 2000 and viewed the 150-foot-long petrified remains of Noah's Ark. He has photos he'd like to show.

■ **Ron Black**, who was the disc jockey at our picnic in August, also does Square Dance and Line Dance Calling. Call him at (818) 752-6810.

■ **Larry Jones**, past president, was at the executive board meeting Nov. 10. He has had some health problems in recent years, but he looked great. Why not send your best wishes to Larry and Helen at The Oaks of Pasadena, Apt. 222, 2954 E. Del Mar Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107.

*I want to hear from all retirees about what they're doing. Send it to Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or phone (818) 784-0130, or fax (818) 906-3722.*



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

*When you make up your Christmas list, one of the most valued gifts you could give to others is your time –  
– time to listen quietly  
– time to make them feel special  
– time to share their joys and sorrows  
– time for them to feel loved*

*When I make up my Christmas List  
My number one request will be for  
A little of  
Your time.*



## Take five smart steps to the New Retirement

Call for Prudential Securities' free 5-Point Retirement Review

**Assess your goals and find the right investment mix.** A Prudential Securities Financial Advisor will help you decide how much you need to invest and how much risk you can take, based on when you'd like to retire.

**Make the most of your tax-advantaged investment opportunities.** Prudential Securities can walk you through your choices and help you create a tax-advantaged investment strategy

**Consolidate your retirement assets.** We'll help you roll over your assets and manage them in one account.

**Protect your estate.** Proper planning now can help ensure that more of your assets end up in the hands of your loved ones—and less in the hands of the IRS.

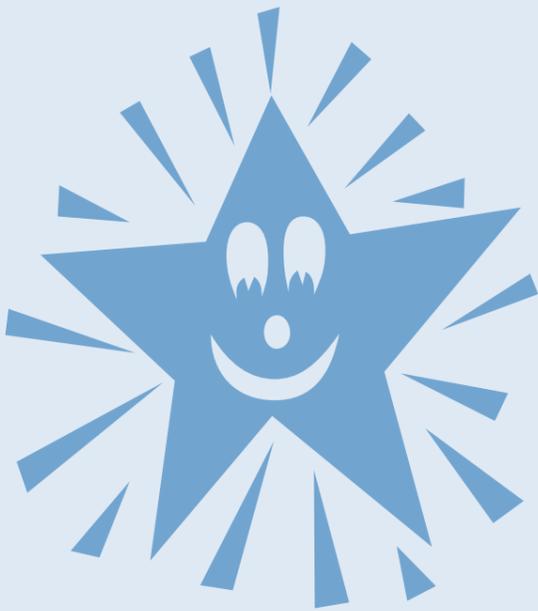
**Make your wealth last.** We'll introduce you to sound strategies that can help make your wealth last as long as your retirement.

Call today to make arrangements for your free Review.

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A Division of WACHOVIA SECURITIES, LLC

**Kevin Wright or James Ocon, Financial Advisors**  
Prudential Securities  
16501 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 500  
Encino, CA 91436  
818-907-4202 or 818-907-4209 or 800-245-9867

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# West L.A. Sanitation Yard Throws Appreciation Day for Employees

■ **October 29, the DWP's West Los Angeles Sanitation Yard threw an appreciation day for its employees.**

A number of reasons were cited for the Yard managers to show their appreciation for their employees:

- Lowest percentage of 100 percent paid illness
- Lowest percentage of IOD take-home pay
- Best yard to work in
- Most activities in a District Yard
- Most Beautiful Office Clerks
- Most Morale

Here are some photos of the fun day. 📷

## Good going, West L.A. Yard!



Littleton Harvey enjoys the food.



Artist and Club member Richard Humphrey stands alongside the Employee Appreciation Poster and the cornucopia he drew on a moment's notice.



Club members Bonaventure Butts and Dennis Page get ready to fry the 10-pound turkey.



Club member Walter Crowder, new Club members Robert Brown and Toni Chagolla, and April Broussard have fun.



New Club member Sherry Cox.



Employees enjoy the day.



Employees enjoying their Employee Appreciation Day.

*Global Ring Unlimited Co.*



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

**40% OFF** Discount given to all City, DWP, Fire and LAPD personnel.

# Cooking with the Club

by our own  
**Robert Larios**



## Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0388 or e-mail us at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com).

## Rudolph Leads a Tour of Global Holiday Traditions, With the Last Stop in America

From now, the human civilization will be known as a civilization that celebrated holidays including Christmas, Hanukkah and other holidays in December with the customary exchange of gifts, the gathering of family and friends, staying awake for St. Nicholas, attending church, and my personal favorite...the delicious food!

Take, for instance, Italy. Here they celebrate Christmas with a traditional seven-course lunch that typically includes pasta, cheese, fruit, cakes including panpepato and chocolates! Yes, that is right...chocolates. For those who are Italian, I know you won't forgive me if I don't mention cotechino, so I will. It's a meal that has the freshest of pork sausage with lentils and is usually made between Christmas and New Year.

In France, roasted poultry dishes including roasted goose and foie gras are common.

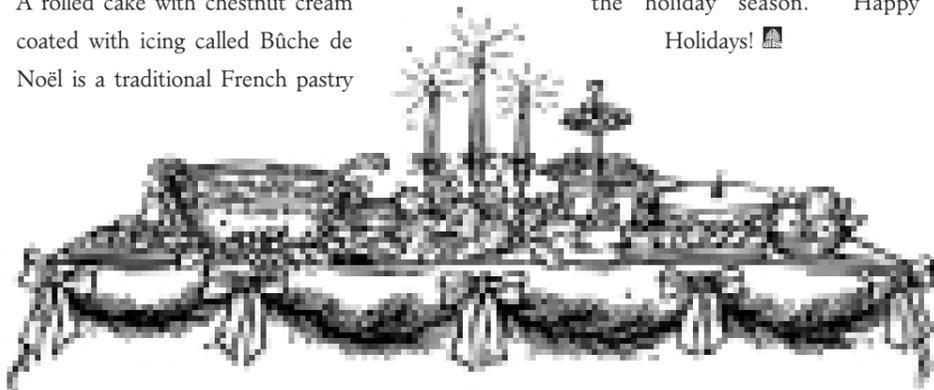
A rolled cake with chestnut cream coated with icing called *Bûche de Noël* is a traditional French pastry

dish said to represent the Yule log that was once burned from Christmas until New Year's Day.

In Austria and Germany, goose is normally the dish of choice for Christmas. The Germans serve potatoes, cabbage, pickled vegetables and parsnips with their goose as well as other wild game. Stollen is a classic German cake served during this time. It was first created in the 14th century; stollen is a dense cake with yeast and dried fruit said to have a resemblance to Christ.

By the way, Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition in the 16th century when devout Christians brought decorated trees into their homes. Some built Christmas pyramids of wood and decorated them with evergreens and candles if wood was scarce.

What sorts of foods are typical in America? Here are just a few of my favorites for the holiday season. Happy Holidays! 🎄



## Shrimp Ball Spread

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (4 1/4 oz.) can shrimp, drained and chopped
- 6 pimiento-stuffed olives, chopped
- 2 tbsp. finely chopped onion or green onion
- 2 tbsp. mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 tsp. hot sauce
- 1/8 tsp. garlic powder
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tbsp. dill weed

### DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients; refrigerate 30 minutes. Form into ball or log shape. Serve with crackers or rounds of bread. You can garnish with parsley or sliced green or black olives; I often leave out the chopped olives.

I have even used fresh boiled shrimp chopped fine and have added some sharp cheddar cheese chopped or grated fine in with the cream cheese mixture. Just add a little more mayonnaise. I usually put the cream cheese and cheddar in the food processor and chop them fine. I've also used whole green onions in place of the regular onion.



## Holiday Dip

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese (8 oz)
- 1 package cream cheese, softened (8 oz)
- 1 1/2 cups sour cream
- 1/2 cup chopped cooked ham
- 1/3 cup chopped green chiles
- 1/3 cup chopped green onions
- 1/8 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 (1-lb) round loaf French bread
- Salt and pepper
- 1 teaspoon paprika

### DIRECTIONS

Combine first seven ingredients in a medium bowl, stirring well. Set dip aside.

Cut a thin slice from top of bread loaf; set slice aside. Using a gentle sawing motion, cut vertically to, but not through, bottom of the loaf, one-half inch from the edge. Lift out center of loaf; cut into 1-inch cubes, and set aside. Fill hollowed bread loaf with dip; cover with reserved top slice of bread loaf. Wrap reserved loaf with aluminum foil. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Serve with reserved bread cubes, crackers, or potato chips.

Makes about 4 cups of dip.



## The Greatest Potato Leek Soup

From the Chef of the  
*Hyatt Grand Champions Resort and Spa*  
*Indian Wells, California*

YIELD: 3 Quarts

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 oz. olive oil
- 1/2 oz. garlic, chopped
- 1 oz. shallots
- 2 branches leek, minced
- 1/2 lb. Idaho potatoes, diced
- 2 qts. chicken stock
- 1-1/2 oz. heavy cream
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Garnish of leek julienne, deep fried

### DIRECTIONS

Sautee all the vegetables (except potatoes) with olive oil. Add the diced potatoes. Add the chicken stock and cook for about 25 minutes. Puree the soup and then add cream. Season and add garnish.



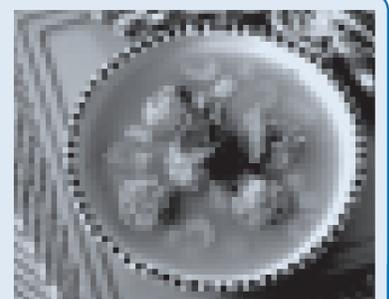
## Santa's Beer Meatballs

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 can of beer
- 1 6 oz can spicy V-8 juice
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. hot sauce (I like Louisiana hot sauce)
- 1/2 cup Italian bread crumbs (toasted bread will work too)
- 1 cup onions
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 large bottle ketchup
- 1 tsp. horseradish
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 to 3 lbs. ground beef
- 2 to 3 eggs

### DIRECTIONS

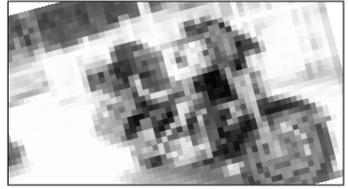
Combine ground beef, half-cup onions, Italian bread crumbs, eggs. Make the mixture into small meatballs. Then fry or bake the meat. In saucepan combine remaining ingredients. Simmer for 15 minutes. Put meatballs and sauce into slow cooker/Crock Pot. The sauce should cover the meat. Allow to simmer in slow cooker/Crock Pot for at least 3 hours; the longer you let them simmer, the better they are! 6 to 10 hours on low temperature is great. Stir them occasionally. You may wish to add more ketchup, or V-8 juice — spice them up if you like them hot.



# CLASSIFIED ADS *Alive!* Members Marketplace

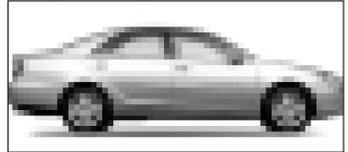
## Autos / Motorcycles

**1996 Olds Cutlass Supreme 4D**, very clean and good condition, fully loaded. Original owner. 89,000 miles. \$4,800. Call (323) 296-3931.



**Customized 2001 Harley Davidson FLHTCUI**, 35,000 miles, black with lots of chrome and extras, pristine bike. \$22,000 or best offer. Contact Jerry at: jjasher64@hotmail.com

**Trade:** I have a **1989 Volvo 740gl**, engine is good, needs some trans work, would like to trade for pop up trailer tent. Or best offer. (323) 242-7800



**2003 Camry LE**. 4-Door Sedan, Automatic, Lunar Mist, Power Tilt/Slide Moonroof, All Power. 7,800 miles, \$19,995.00. Call (562) 301-2940.

**94 Red Honda Passport**. 5-Speed. Good interior and condition. \$3,995. For details contact Frank (626) 536-3446

**73 VW Baja Bug**. Good interior and condition. Newly rebuilt trans & engine. \$1995. For details contact Frank (626) 536-3446

**95 Ford Aspire**, auto, air, radio-cassette, new brakes and tires, white, good condition, runs well, \$1,950. Call Orlando at (714) 894-1464.

**1994 Yamaha Waveblaster** (Two of them), both stock, fresh water only, always garaged, very reliable, \$4,600 obo for both with trailer. Call (310) 324-6779 or (310) 420-8286.

**2000 Mazda 626LX**, Green, 52K miles, 4 Door, 4 cylinder, Automatic, A/C, Power everything, CD, Tilt, xln condition. \$8,300 obo. (818) 957-3490.

**Motor Home** - 1976 Executive Motor Home, 440 gas Chrysler engine, 6.5 Onan Gen, Dual Air, Zap Dee Awning, 3-way Fridge, Day Shades, Vacuum, 4-burner Range, Microwave, and many other features. Call (323) 291-7316

## AUTO INSURANCE-

Group rated, fast approvals -  
**(800) 640-1712 for free quote**

**1997 Mercury Cougar XR-7 2D Sedan** Mint Condition 65K Miles 4.6LV8 ABS (4 Wheel) Leather / Dual Power Seats Premium Sound Extremely Clean \$7,000 Contact bgtrrent@adelphia.net

**1988 Ford Econoline E-150 van**. 127,000 miles, V8 engine. Very clean. Red-E-Camp van. Like new, runs good. 4 Captains chairs, high ceiling, bench/bed, AM/FM cassette, A/C, TV, VCR, drink caddy, ice chest, twin gas tanks. \$2,995 or best offer. (818) 361-3444.

**Car Parts** - Misc Rambler parts from 1958 to 1961. All sorts of accessories from door handles and grills to tail light lenses. Call (818) 885-8977.

## DVDs

**DVDs:** Willing to swap/trade (Gladiator, Pearl Harbor, The Rock plus many more). bobpearce@earthlink.net

## Books

**Hannibal (Hardcover)** - Author: Thomas Harris - Condition: Like New. BOOK IN EXCELLENT CONDITION, NEVER READ. Only \$10.00! Call 213-760-4521, leave message

**Encyclopedia of Modern Bodybuilding (Paperback)** - Author: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Bill Dobbins - Condition: Acceptable - Book has some folded and creased edges, in acceptable condition. Only \$8.00! Call 213-760-4521, leave message

**Self-improvement collection**, \$2 each. bobpearce@earthlink.net

**First edition of Sports Illustrated**, Perfect condition, still in large mailing envelope. Make offer. superhawks@msn.com

## FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

**MEMBERS:** to place your free classified ad send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com. We'll run your ad in the next available issue. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

## Electronics/Computers

**Direct TV Satellite receivers**. 4 sets. Each set includes one receiver, one remote and one HU Football card. \$165 each set. Call or email (805) 300-2147, email: kkaufman@adelphia.net.

**New Magic Microphone** Karaoke/Videoke/Mic in-one including 800 songs chip, \$150 value. Thousands songs available in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Japanese, Thai. Originally \$559 - Selling for \$359. Call (323) 841-2800

**51" Projection Screen**. Panasonic. Excellent condition. Includes remote. \$700. Call Ernest at (626) 333-3740.

**2 Nokia 5160 phones**. \$25 each, firm. Call (805) 532-1609

## Furniture

**Dining table**, with extension, wood, sturdy. No chairs. Matching China hutch. All for \$250. Call (323) 721-6957.



**Children's white, red & blue desk** with red chair. \$48.00. Call (213) 367-1667.



**White and Brown Twin Headboard** Only. Solid Wood. \$45.00 Call (213) 367-1667.

**All Glass Dining Table** Very thick glass and heavy, 48"x60" with 2 pedestals, circa 1950. Only \$195. Call (323) 841-2800



**Dining table**, wood, with six chairs. Good condition. \$299. Call (213) 367-1667

**19th century Dutch glass-doored cabinet** (original rolled glass). Excellent condition. \$235. Call or e-mail Rod: (310) 458-2019, rodruth@adelphia.net

**Industrial desk:** 60" length, 33" width, 33" high. \$15. bobpearce@earthlink.net

## Homes/Rentals/Land

**For Sale: 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse, Monterey Park.** FSBO \$290,000. 1,500 sq. feet, pool, jacuzzi, w/d room. New paint. Varnished cabinets and tile floor in kitchen. New marble bathroom floors and shower doors. (626) 288-1658

**Room for Rent. North Hills.** Female preferred. Must like children. \$500 per month including utilities. Call Angela (818) 314-3296 for more info.

**Land:** Two side by side 50x100ft. lots in El Camino Village, Bullhead City, AZ. Minutes to Laughlin. \$22,500ea. (626)912-2999

**Guest House for rent.** Northridge. Separate bedroom living room and kitchen. Central Air, new paint, carpet and hardwood doors. No smoking, no pets. \$1,200/month. Call Paula at (818) 885-5155.

## Household Items

**Fabric for sale** - many patterns, colors and types to choose from. Great for upholstery and pillows. (310) 766-0964.

**Rummage Sale Items - CHEAP PRICES!** - Baby swing, crib, bouncer, stroller (2), Boys Clothes Infant to 4T, etc. Ladies clothes (nearly new) Size 8 -12, Shoes size 8-1/2, Maytag Washer/Dryer, wedding dress size 10. Call Connie after 5pm (213) 926-2552.

**Refrigerator** - Maytag (Black) 25 cu ft. Top Mount, automatic ice maker, never used. "Still in box" asking \$750. Call (909) 225-2335 and ask for Tim.

**Refrigerator** - Whirlpool (White) 18.2 cu ft. Top Mount with automatic ice maker, and filtered water dispenser. Never Used. \$550. Call (909) 225-2335 and ask for Tim.

**Continuous Woodworking tool sale** until all is sold. Contact Grant 818 353 3537

**Air Hockey Table** Wilson, 84 x 44, with electronic scoreboard and sound. \$150.00 Call Ernie at (310) 715-1025

**Get 10% off Living Air.** See display ad in front section of this edition. 213-689-4662

**Jacket** - NEW w/ tags gorgeous jacket by Kasper A.S.L. Petites in size 8p. Black, fully lined, with luxurious ivory lapels and cuffs! \$15.00. Winning buyer pays \$6 shipping/handling. Send questions to: msarlene76@hotmail.com

**Microwave Oven**. 1,000 watt. Excellent condition. \$30. Call Ernest at (626) 333-3740.

**Microwave Oven**. Heavy-duty, 800 watts. Durable, good for big family. Only \$40. Call (323) 841-2800

**Princess House Crystal 50% off**, lots and lots of items. Call (213) 367-1667

**Two RevoStyler Hair Straightener Kits.** Never used. Comes with instructional video and 3-year warranty. Best offer. E-mail: jazzmusic12@aol.com

## Miscellaneous

**Notary Service** - The Travelling Notary serving the greater Los Angeles area 24/7. Bonded. Document preparation also available. (310) 766-0964.

**Lakers Tickets:** 4 seats together in section 304 (upper level). Many games available. \$25-5- each set. Call Robert (213) 367-0440

**Have a great Night Out...Indoors. Host a Girls Night Out!** Invite your friends over for a fun & relaxing evening of pampering. Have facials or pedicures using natural products from The Body Shop at Home. Receive FREE gifts and discounted products. For more information, call Connie (213) 910-2967.

**Healing Massage** - All aches, pains, emotional distress, and stress. No fee. Donations Only! Call Millie (323) 724-1295

**Piano for Sale:** Old upright, beautiful tone and condition. \$995. Call Andy (818) 771-2780 work, (818) 594-4958 after 7 p.m.

**Locksmith Pinning Kits (2)** and many blank keys. \$800 obo. Call Bob at (323) 757-5683

## Silk Screen T-shirt Printing Machine

Complete frames, paint, squeegee, etc. and T-shirt HEAT TRANSFER MACHINE. 2 machines cost over \$7,000 - Selling for \$2,900. Good for T-shirt printing business, schools/organizations. Call (323) 841-2800



**Brand New watch.** Never Worn. SEIKO Kinetic Auto Relay Men's Quartz Watch, stainless steel with a 2-Tone look. No batteries needed, ever! Seiko box, papers and Seiko 3-year warranty card. Bought it a few weeks ago for \$250 but will sell for \$200. Call 213-760-4521

## Sports/Exercise

**Deluxe Air Hockey Table** - Arcade style - with electronic scoreboard, 42" X 84". \$130. Call Ernie at (310) 715-1025.

**2 Cobra Fish & Dive Kayaks** - fully equipped with paddles, buckets, hi-Back seats, anchors, hatch covers, paddles etc., Used 3 times. \$1,500. Contact Jerry at: jjasher64@hotmail.com

**Magna XL2 21 Speed Mountain Bike** in mint condition. \$180 or trade for snowboard. Information, call Gus (310) 842-3984 or write to guswho364@yahoo.com

**Boat** - 2001 Stingray 180LX, Open Bow, 50 mph, 135 hp. Volvo factory warranty, 27hr, many extras. \$13,500 obo. Call Wes at (818) 756-8466 days, or (661) 255-2854 eves.

**Orbitrek Stepper** - 1 yr. old, \$100 - Call Beverly at (562) 943-0930

**Cannondale mountain bike**, model Jeckell 3000; 2002 model. Originally \$3,800, selling \$2,000 or best offer. Contact: Maria Romasanta, (213) 367-2611

**Bicycle pannier.** Eclipse, red. For front handlebars. \$10. (818) 832-5522

**Rowing machine.** One of the original "Concept Iis" - needs a little cosmetic work but is ready to use. \$100 firm. (818) 832-5522

## Travel / Timeshare

**TIMESHARE FOR RENT: Cancun, Mexico**, on the beach. Walking distance to shops, restaurants and night life - Oct, 2003 and May - June 2004. 7 days \$670.00. Call (562)301-2940.

**TIMESHARE FOR RENT: Cabo San Lucas, Mexico**, beautiful Beach Resort, close to restaurants, shopping centers and night life. 7 days \$695. Please call (562) 301-2940



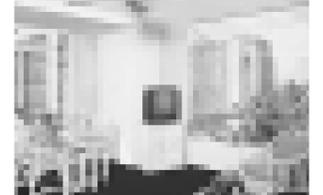
**Time Share: Maui** - Kahana Villa Resort, 1 bedroom, air conditioning, kitchen. Directly across Kahana Beach. Buy for \$7500 OBO. Call Jasmin for more information (213) 580-1183.

**OVERNIGHT ROSARITO/PUERTO NUEVO TRIP** August 16 - 17, 2003. \$95.00 each/3 people/room. \$105.00 each/2 people/room. Inclusive of round trip bus service, refreshments, bingo games, trivia, movies and prizes..... OASIS BEACH HOTEL. FOR DETAILS: CALL GINA CAGUIAT. (818)265-5940 after 6pm.

**Rosarito Beach House for Rent** - Walking Distance to the Beach, 3 Bedroom 2 Bathrooms, Living/Dining, Kitchen, Patio, Fireplace, Private Parking, Call for Weekend Rates. Leonor V. Garcia @ (626) 536-3446

**Time Share: Palm Springs**. Club Trinidad, Deluxe Studio. Will sell for \$900 or best offer. Call John at (661) 285-1074.

**Timeshare: Desert Springs, Calif.** Call Olivia: (323) 724-9535



**Time Share: Hawaii** - Oahu. 1 bedroom, Air Conditioning, Kitchen, Microwave. Located 100 yards from Waikiki Beach. The resort also features a full fitness center with a coed Jacuzzi and on-call masseuse. \$765 per week or buy for \$3,800. Call Martha for more information (213) 367-1667.



**Time Share: Cancun** - Piramides Cancun Beach Resort. \$798 a week or buy for \$3,600. 1 Bedroom. For more information call Martha at (213) 367-1667.

## Collectibles Wanted



**I BUY SILVER & GOLD U.S. coin collections**, large or small. Please call Michael at (626) 335-0330.

**Wanted: Your childhood Barbie dolls and clothes.** I collect dolls from 1959 through 1966. I pay top dollar! I will buy one to 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases, yes, I will buy them, too. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl: (818) 771-4835

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**Call Betty Fisher**  
**(310) 263-0858**

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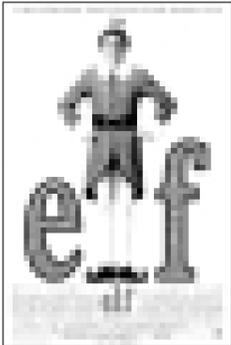
# Critic's MOVIE REVIEWS

Corner

## WIN Two FREE Movie Tickets

Write a brief review of a current movie — give us the general plot line, whether you liked it, and whether it's appropriate for family audiences. If we print it, we'll send you two free movie tickets! So let's hear it! Send them to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

### Elf



One Christmas Eve while delivering presents to an orphanage, Santa Claus (Ed Asner) does not notice a baby crawling into his large gift bag. Later at the North Pole, the baby is discovered and is taken in by an older elf played (Bob Newhart). The baby is named Buddy due to the label on his diaper.

Thirty years later, Buddy (Will Ferrell) discovers he is not really an elf but a human. Papa Elf (Newhart) tells him that his mother died and that his father, who never knew about him, works at the Empire State building.

Buddy leaves the North Pole and heads to New York City. He finds his father (James Caan, seen currently on the television show Vegas), who is a publisher with very little time for his family. After a paternity test, Buddy moves into his home with his wife (Mary Steenburgen) and

half brother (Daniel Tay). He also meets cutie Jovie (Zooey Deschanel) at a department store.

This movie has heart along with a lot of comedy. It's a fun movie for all ages. Will Ferrell does an outstanding job playing an elf; James Caan is perfect as the father finding out he has an elf for a son; Mary Steenburgen is amazing as the stepmother who welcomes him into the home; and the entire cast gives fine performances. This is a movie I would see again.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

### Radio



For those of you who love those movies that not only tug at your heartstrings but yank them right out of your chest, this film is for you.

Oscar winner Cuba Gooding Jr. plays Radio, a mentally challenged young man whose only love in the world is high school athletics and his radio. After an incident during football practice, Radio meets Coach Jones, (Oscar nominee Ed Harris). The two become extremely close, leaving the coach's family feeling lonely and the town wondering why Coach Jones has taken such an interest in someone they could care less about.

The coach's ultimate reason for reaching out to Radio makes you wonder what motivates us to do the things we do ... or don't do.

Inspired by a true story, this movie takes you on an emotional journey through the growth of Radio from outcast to the most loved person in Hanna, South Carolina. Take your tissues and prepare to watch this movie using the eyes of your heart.

— Lisa Solis, DWP

### Kill Bill—Vol. 1



Uma Thurman plays a female assassin who is attacked on her wedding day along with everyone else in her wedding party, including the preacher and his wife.

All nine are left for dead. But the bride is still alive and when recovered is bent on revenge. Uma is incredible in this movie, doing all the martial arts movements.

Quentin Tarantino wrote and directed this action-packed movie, which also contains a lot of violence, a good amount of comedy, good background music—and a whole lot of blood! The movie is rated R, and for good reason. I would think twice about taking kids to this movie. And if you are squeamish, I would think twice about seeing this movie, too. Of course, if you have someone to hang onto, then go see it!

Also in the cast and giving wonderful performances are David Carradine as Bill, Lucy Liu, Daryl Hannah, Vivica A. Fox, Michael Parks and Sonny Chiba.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

### Good Boy



Once in a while there will be a gem of a movie with a corny plot that manages to entertain in a warm fuzzy way. This is one of those movies. Good Boy could easily fit into several genres: fantasy, science fiction and comedy, suitable for children with skeptical parents.

Liam Aiken plays a young boy named Owen who has his heart set on owning a dog. His parents made a deal with him that if he carries out a dog walking service for three months, he would be allowed to adopt his own dog. Owen adopts a cute little terrier mongrel that is actually an undercover alien spy dog from the distant star Sirius. The spy dog unintentionally empowers Owen to understand dogs and vice versa.

A Great Dane from outer space is planning to visit earth to observe if in fact earth dogs are accomplishing their mission to take over earth. Should they fail this inspection the penalty is stiff. All dogs would be sent back to the star planet. Owen, along with his charges—a Boxer, a Bernese mountain dog, an Italian greyhound, and a poodle—join forces to help spy dog Canid 3943 prepare for the Great Dane's visit.

The premise—Benji meets ET and Dr. Doolittle—may seem a little odd but nonetheless this is a delightful movie that the whole family (excluding the four-legged members) can enjoy.

— Cathy Tanaka, LAPD

# Critic's BOOK REVIEWS

Corner

## The City Employees Book Club

Introducing a new *Alive!* feature: book reviews.

Read a great book lately? Tell your fellow Club members about it!

Send in a paragraph or two about the book, plus the title, author, genre, number of pages and the publisher. Send your reviews to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Pour Your Heart Into It: How Starbucks Built a Company One Cup at a Time

by Howard Shultz

- Business/Nonfiction, 368 pages, Hyperion



If you are looking for a book that emphasizes how passion, enthusiasm and romance can turn a small business into a global enterprise, here it is. Starbucks founder Howard Shultz and reporter Dori Jones Yang have written a book that provides the reader the story behind the incredible ascension from a few stores to more than 1,000 stores around the world. Starbucks built its brand by putting people, both employees and customers, first and by emphasizing product quality over marketing. Howard Shultz shares his insights into the business path of entrepreneurial greatness, which will inspire anyone with just an ounce of entrepreneurial spirit running through their veins. Not only that but it is an easy read.

— Robert Larios, Club staffer

## Zen Golf: Mastering the Mental Game by Joseph Parent

- Instructional, 204 pages, Doubleday



If you want a book to keep in your car or golf bag, this is one of them. Charles Howell III writes, "The techniques in Zen Golf for working with negative thoughts are better than any other psychological approach." Dr. Joe Parent, a PGA tour instructor, guides golfers with simple yet powerful techniques to prepare for, execute and, equally importantly, respond to the results of any golf shot. He draws on his teaching experience and sense of humor to offer special methods that have led to amazing improvements in the games of professionals and amateurs alike.

By applying classic insights and stories from the Buddhist tradition to the challenges of golf, Zen Golf shows you how to make your mind an ally instead of an enemy: how to stay calm, clear the interference

that leads to poor shots, and eliminate bad habits and mental mistakes. Clear, concise and enlightening, this book introduces a unique perspective combining modern psychology, Buddhist wisdom and professional golf instruction. Zen Golf shapes ancient philosophies into new teachings, leading golfers to the effortless focus and unconditional confidence of being in "the zone." It's a great short read. Some of the greatest PGA golfers highly recommend reading this book, and so do I.

— Robert Larios, Club staffer



Navin Cotton, The Ticket Guy

## December Deals From The Ticket Guy

Hey Club Members! Happy Holidays! And don't forget about these great deals for December:

- **Legoland:** Buy 3 tickets, get one free
- **Boomers Family Fun Centers** all day pass (call for locations).
- **Clippers vs. Toronto:** Staples Center, Dec. 28, 2003: \$50 (12 rows from the floor)
- **A Noise Within, classical theatre:** Half off tickets, up to four; subject to availability.
- **Krikorian Theaters:** \$5.50, good anytime (unrestricted)
- **Magic Mountain private party:** \$20. Free parking, unlimited access to all rides.

Please note that tickets are limited, and there are no make-ups. **Call now and buy your tickets today!**



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### Alive! Newspaper

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- Department of the Month
- DWP news
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information

### Group Rated Insurance Products

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- Short Term Disability Insurance
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- Cancer Insurance
- Critical Care Insurance
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

### Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check"
- Pet Insurance

### More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award



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## Meet the Club Team

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



John Hawkins  
Chief Operations  
Officer



Brian G. Trent  
Chief Financial  
Officer



Robert Larios  
Sales Operations  
Manager



Michael Anderson  
Information  
Technology  
Supervisor



Summy Lam  
Information  
Technology  
Coordinator



Mike Louie  
Information  
Technology  
Coordinator



Cecelia Camacho  
Claims Administrator



Navin Cotton  
Claims Coordinator  
Advertising Coord.  
"Ticket Guy"



Alan Bound  
Information  
Technology  
Programmer



Leigh  
Thompson  
Accountant



Trinh Pham  
Accountant



Serving City Employees since 1929 as the Los Angeles City Employees Association



Lupe Medina  
Administrative  
Services  
Representative



Howard Pompel  
Member Services  
Counselor

## Need help? Find your Counselor

When contacting the Club, ask for the counselor that handles your department.



Angel Gomez  
Member Services  
Counselor

Airports, Los Angeles World  
DWP Water Services  
DWP Energy Services  
Recreation and Parks, Department of  
Street Services, Bureau of



Arlene Herrero  
Member Services  
Counselor

Building & Safety, Department of  
City Administrative Officer  
DWP Integrated Support Services  
Engineering, Bureau of  
Harbor Department  
Information Technology Agency  
Police Department  
Sanitation, Bureau of



Beverly Haro  
Member Services  
Counselor

Animal Regulation, Department of  
Aging, Department of  
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the  
City Attorney  
Community Development Department  
Cultural Affairs, Department of  
DWP Admin.  
DWP Financial Services Executive  
DWP Marketing and Customer Svc.  
El Pueblo De Los Angeles  
Employee Relations Board  
Environmental Affairs, Department of  
Fire Department  
Housing Authority of the City of L.A.  
Library Department  
Office of Admin. & Research Services  
Pensions, Department of Fire & Police  
Personnel Department  
Planning, City  
Quality and Productivity Commission  
Transportation, Department of  
Zoo Department, Los Angeles



Robert Larios  
Sales Operations  
Manager

Accounting, Bureau of  
City Clerk  
Community Redevelopment Agency  
Contract Administration, Bureau of  
Controller, Office of the  
Convention Center, Los Angeles  
Council District #1-15  
Department on Disability  
Finance, Office of  
General Services, Department of  
Housing Department  
Management/Employee Services,  
Mayor, Office of the  
Neighborhood Empowerment,  
Department of  
Retirement System, City Employees'  
Street Lighting, Bureau of

Questions? We're here to help. **(800)464-0452**  
Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.