



LACERS Offers Courses for Those Looking to Retire

Wanting to manage your money better? Here's how.

LACERS — Are you looking toward retirement, but not yet there? LACERS (Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System), the City department that manages the retirement funds of most of the City Employees — is offering two one-session courses for your financial health.

The first course, titled "Financial Management Basics," will help you develop money management skills; get out of debt; increase savings; gain control of credit cards; and improve credit scores. The course also covers retirement planning and information about: the LACERS defined retirement plan; LACERS larger annuity program; and the City's deferred compensation plan.

The second course, titled "Investing Basics: Increasing Retirement Income," teaches about making the right long-term investment choices. Participants will learn how to research the right investments for themselves, to decipher mutual fund statements, and get a better grasp of their own personal investment style.

Both courses are scheduled for March 5, May 14 and July 16. Courses are free to active LACERS members, but space is limited.

The two courses are part of LACERS' "Personal Finance Series." More information can be found on pages 40-41, or go to www.lacers.org

Club Helps You To Get Fit — It's Not Too Late!

Great Club benefit:
24 Hour Fitness annual pass at one-third regular price!

THE CLUB — Get fit in 2010! And the Club is here to help you!

The Club is going to help you keep that New Year's resolution and get in shape for the New Year. Take advantage of a great Club benefit: annual passes to 24 Hour Fitness for just \$199 with Club membership. That's a discount of nearly two-thirds off 24 Hour Fitness' regular fee of \$533.97 annually. That's an amazing deal.

"Keeping City Employees healthy and happy has always been what the Club's services have been about," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "I encourage everyone to take advantage of this."

Purchase your 24 Hour Fitness annual pass at the Club Store online (www.cityemployees-club.com) or at the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second Ave., 90012 downtown. Specific rules apply.

Details of the Club's fitness benefit are on page 52.

Search and Rescue

Deresa Teller and Ranger, part of the LAFD's USAR K9 team, search the world's rubble to save lives.

SEE PAGE 6



Deresa Teller, Inspector/Paramedic and LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue K9 team leader, with search dog, Ranger.

Alive! photo by Tom Hawkins



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
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Be My Club Valentine!

See all the great Club Valentines ...
right here in Alive!

See page 16



Alive!

February 2010 • Volume 9 – No. 2

is published monthly by:
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
 Los Angeles, CA 90013
 Telephone: (800) 464-0452

John Hawkins and Robert Larios, *MANAGING EDITORS*
 John Burnes, *EDITOR*
 JJLA Associates, *DESIGN AND PRODUCTION*
 Produced by John Hawkins

Alive! is the official publication of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 S. Spring St. Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013. Postage paid at Los Angeles, California. CONTACT US: alive@cityemployeesclub.com SUBSCRIPTION RATES: *Alive!* is included with membership in the City Employees Club of Los Angeles. INQUIRIES: alive@cityemployeesclub.com, or (213) 620-0388. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 S. Spring St. Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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| City Employees Retirement System | (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328 | Los Angeles Federal Credit Union | (213) 485-5000 |
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| City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090 | (213) 487-9887 EXT. 340 | Los Angeles Fire Department Museum | (323) 464-2727 |
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| DWP Credit Union | (213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728 | Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union | (800) 872-2843 |
| DWP Employees Assn. | (213) 367-3146 | Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association | (888) 288-5073 |
| DWP Health Plan & Medicare | (800) 831-4778 | Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc. | (800) 678-4145 |
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Club Store

Club Gifts ... For Your Valentine

Watch

your sweetie come *Alive!*

Buy your City Sweetie a gift from the Club Store for Valentine's Day!

See Page 58

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** A Message From the CEO **

Valentine's Day and Other Club Events

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

Don't look now (I know you will, anyway!), but Valentine's Day is quickly becoming one of our most popular days here at *Alive!* Check out this year's section, beginning on page 20, and you'll see what I mean. Tons of 'em!

A few years ago, we started soliciting you, our readers, to send in sweet little Valentines (plus a photo) for your loved one. And we received some nice responses.

But this year is by far our biggest ever – three pages of sweet nothings! That makes me feel good that so many of you want to share your lives with us and with the rest of the City family. That's what we're here for. (Don't forget Mother's and Father's Day, which are coming up.)

We mark Valentine's Day in *Alive!* as an event worth caring about. It's not the only event, though; in fact, this month, we seem to be celebrating a lot of events in the City family.

This month, we're also looking at the bulk of the City parties that took place after our print deadline in December. Look at all of those happy people! I've been to many of these holiday parties; they're happy it's the holidays, of course, but then when I tell them I'm from the Club, they're even happier! It's like the Club is part of their family.

Which leads me to another great event – the big, fun exclusive party the Club is throwing at Medieval Times March 27. (You have to check out the hilarious ad that Club tech guru **Summy Lam** put together – it's on the back page). We've been putting a lot of energy into these Club events; we had a hugely successful night at Magic Mountain last summer, and then of course the great day at Dodger Stadium in early October. These were massive hits! You've told us that you think these events are awesome, so we're going to keep giving you more of 'em. Thanks go to the Club's **Robert Larios**, **Ticket Guy** and **Angel Gomez** for making it happen.



Deresa Teller, Canine Coordinator of the LAFD USAR K9 Team, and John Hawkins, Club CEO.

Meanwhile, we have another awesome City K9 story for you. This time it's the LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue Team. It's in the story, but I want to repeat something – these incredible public servants – City Employees – volunteer for the dog team and pay a lot, if not most, of the expenses themselves. That's real dedication, don't you think? **Deresa Teller**, the legendary Canine Coordinator of the team, really worked hard to get us the story. And also a big thanks to the good folks at Waste Management, who were very inviting to the *Alive!* crew when we spent the day covering the K9 Team training. Hats off to you! (We're glad that *Alive!* readers really like these K9 stories; we like producing them, of course, and we'll keep doing them occasionally in the future.)

Have a great Valentine's Day, everyone; Happy Valentine's Day to my own Kelley and Hannah. And make sure you sign up for the Medieval Times party. It's going to be another great Club event, so we'll see you there!

JOHN

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)

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The newspaper of the
City Employees Club of Los Angeles



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The LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue K9 team finds life in the rubble.



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The Convention Center chooses to play a big role in the coming U.S. Census.

16 Be My Club Valentine

In an annual feature, the *Alive!* prints Valentines to Club sweeties. Hankies, get ready for overtime!

19 Messing With Texas

A zoo orangutan picks Texas to win the college football championship and should avoid Vegas.

20 The City Parties!

City departments sure know how to celebrate the holidays. Here, *Alive!* continues its great tradition of covering all the holiday fun from 2009.



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Rec and Parks hosts its annual golf tournament.

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Black personnel association offers its slate of events for February.

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**Cecilia Talbot,
Claims Manager**

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

— Ed.

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

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



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

Great Service, When You're in Need

"The service was excellent. The Club took care of things in a timely manner. It [the book, *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] is something I will read to my students (I teach third grade)."

— Michelle Orkin, September 2009

"Your service is rated triple-A-plus. Your employees were there for the family's every need and question. [Answers were] extremely prompt, helpful and explained.

[The book, *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] is a very good explanation of life. It was a comfort for my mother."

— Virginia Cantone, August 2009

"The loss of someone you love is a confusing and often overwhelming time. The City Employees Club gave me efficient, friendly and professional assistance in guiding me through the claims process, payroll deductions, etc. In all my contacts with

employees of the Club, the people were knowledgeable, kind and supportive. I appreciate their understanding help whenever I needed them. Thank you."

— Jeanne Reed, August 2009

The Club claims department was "very good with returning phone calls, answering phone calls and everything."

— Karen Mason, August 2009

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work

**Total claims paid to Club Members
So Far in 2009: \$4,411,301.74**

Claims paid:

Life insurance claims paid this month: **\$66,822.84**

Life insurance claims paid this year: **\$2,432,606.73**

Long-term disability claims paid this month: **\$192,884.99**

Long-term disability claims paid this year: **\$1,418,026.69**

Long-term care claims paid this month: **\$24,247.00**

Long-term care claims paid this year: **\$350,668.32**

Cancer insurance claims paid this month: **\$60,000.00**

Cancer insurance claims paid this year: **\$210,000.00**

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

It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club!

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Term Life Insurance
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CLUB Member Benefits

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- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000-\$50,000)
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Office Depot

Save up to 40%. Call the Club to activate your credit card.

Dunn Edwards

Show your Club membership card and save 20%.

*Contact the Club for more details.

Meet the Club Team



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

Need help? Contact your Counselor:



Arlene Herrero
Club Products Manager

Police (LAPD)

Harbor



Eboné Moses
Club Member Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of Animal Services Building & Safety Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer City Attorney City Clerk City Council Community Redevelopment Agc. Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Convention Center Cultural Affairs Disability, Department on

DWP-Administration DWP-Energy Services DWP-Financial Services Executive DWP-Integrated Support Services DWP-Marketing & Customer Svcs DWP-Water Aqueduct District DWP-Water Services El Pueblo De Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Finance Housing Department Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Los Angeles World Airport Mayor Planning Street Lighting, Bureau of



Brent Urban
Club Member Services Counselor

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Information Technology Agency Library Neighborhood Empowerment Personnel Recreation & Parks Sanitation, Bureau of Status of Women Street Services, Bureau of Transportation Zoo



John Hawkins
President & CEO

2006 President's Award Recipient



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Director of Retail Sales and Operations

2008 President's Award Recipient



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Megan Debolt
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Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Brian G. Trent
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Rachael Brecher
Merchandise and Ticket Sales Coordinator



Lupe Medina
Administrative Services Representative



Monica Zamudio
Claims Assistant



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



Robert Larios
Director of Operations "Sports Dude"



Cecilia Talbot
Claims Manager



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor, In-House



Katie Hesseltine
Application Coordinator



Summy Lam
Information Technology Business Analyst



2007 President's Award Recipient

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Questions? We're here to help.
Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Rest Assured, Insurance Advice in 'Rest Insured' Will Help Someone

I was just thinking about insurance for my car and house and was trying to do some research on umbrella policies, but my questions were answered on page 39 of the January newspaper by Jeff Gelineau. It was very informative and great timing for me!

— Kelly Holden, General Services

Hi Kelly, glad to hear it. Readers, if you have questions about home and auto insurance, make sure to drop Jeff a line at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com —Ed.



'Tiny Photos' Did Trick for Frances' Classified Success

"Hi Club, [with a] writing desk sold, plus two other items, [I have to say that] those tiny photos are amazing. Thanks!"

— Frances Mooney

Hi Frances, so very happy to provide the classifieds service at the back of every *Alive!* The merchandise really does move back there! Notice to all *Alive!* readers — take advantage of the free classifieds with photos! They really do work. —Ed.

The LAPD 911 Holiday Party Sure Was a Boatload of Fun

The LAPD knows how to party hardy! Just look at the picture of the yacht on the first page of the January newspaper. Those 911 operators have stressful jobs, I am sure, so they deserve to have their holiday party on a yacht called *FantaSea One*. Love it!

— Gerry Glavin, DWP

Hi Gerry, you got that right. I was there, and it was a lot of fun. You could tell by the loudness and the laughter that this group of people really has a great camaraderie and spirit together. Here's looking forward to next year! —Ed.

That Dr. Krupp Sure Gets Around ... the World, That Is

Hey! I just got a kick seeing Dr. Krupp's picture in the "*Alive!* Around the World" section. Bergamo, Italy! Nice going, Doctor! Or should I say, you must have had a cosmic time!

— Tim Ryder, LAPD

Hi Tim, if you think Italy was cool, make sure to

check out Dr. Krupp's entry this month! It's an honor having him as a member and a City Employee. —Ed.

Great Office Depot Benefit: More You Spend, More You Save

So I bought a box of inkjet paper, fluorescent light bulbs and some Scotch tape for a total of \$67.53, and when I used my credit card that I linked the Office Depot discount to, the total went down to \$43.98! This is why I am a Club member for life. Thanks, Club!

— Dave Finckle, Housing

Hi Dave, I use my Office Depot discount all the time, too. Maybe the best thing about it — other than the savings, of course, is watching the faces of the people in line behind me, wondering what kind of magic just made my total drop down! I tell them, it's not magic, it's the Club discount. Enjoy it in good health, Dave. —Ed.

Fun Was the Order of the Day For *Alive!*'s City Parties! Section

Wow! There were so many pictures of City Employees having fun at their holiday parties and functions. I am glad the happy faces are still there as we've had a tough year in 2009. I wish all my colleagues a happy and prosperous 2010!

— Hilda Kline, DWP

Hi Hilda, you're right — "*The City Parties!*" section of *Alive!* really is a nice mood-changer, isn't it? No matter how tough the times are, we can still come together and enjoy each other's company, that's for sure. (And make sure to check out the holiday pics in this month's issue. Tons of 'em. —Ed.

Corrections

- The images used in last month's "History Comes Alive!" column were courtesy the Security Pacific Collection, Los Angeles Public Library Photo Archive, Christine Rice, Acting Sr. Librarian.

QUESTION of the Month



— Collected by Rachael Brecher, Club Store Rep

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

What's your best Valentine's Day memory or gift?



"In 1991 my husband, Marc, gave me a new Toyota Camry for Valentine's Day and 40th birthday. The car is now owned by my daughter, Melanie. Last time I checked, the odometer read 223,333 miles! It is pity the marriage did not last, but the car did."

— Gina Enrile-Caguiat, Retired, Public Works, 28 years of City service

"A diamond heart pendent necklace."

— Elenora Brown, LAPD, 28 years of City service



"Going out to dinner with friends, for laughs and drinks."

— Elizabeth Lopez, Fire and Police Pensions, 14 years of City service

"I got my wife's name tattooed on me."

— John Lopez, Airports, 7 years of City service



"Parasailing in California City."

— Karen Kishita, Public Works, 23 years of City service

"Airline tickets to San Francisco."

— Mario Reyes, Public Works, 8 years of City service



"My boyfriend took me to a nice Italian restaurant."

— Catalina Falla, Rec and Parks, 3 years of City service

"Traditionally, going out for dinner with my wife."

— Edward Melara, Airports, 24 years of City service



"A massage package with a facial."

— Earl Brown, Transportation, 22 years of City service

"Going out to dinner with my wife, just the two of us."

— Luis Martinez, LAPD, 32 years of City service



Something to  Think About

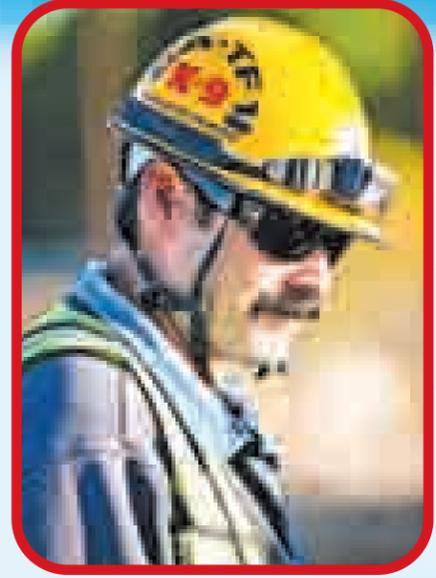
"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."

— Albert Einstein

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

Search dog Freitag goes through an exercise during a recent LAFD USAR K9 Team training day.

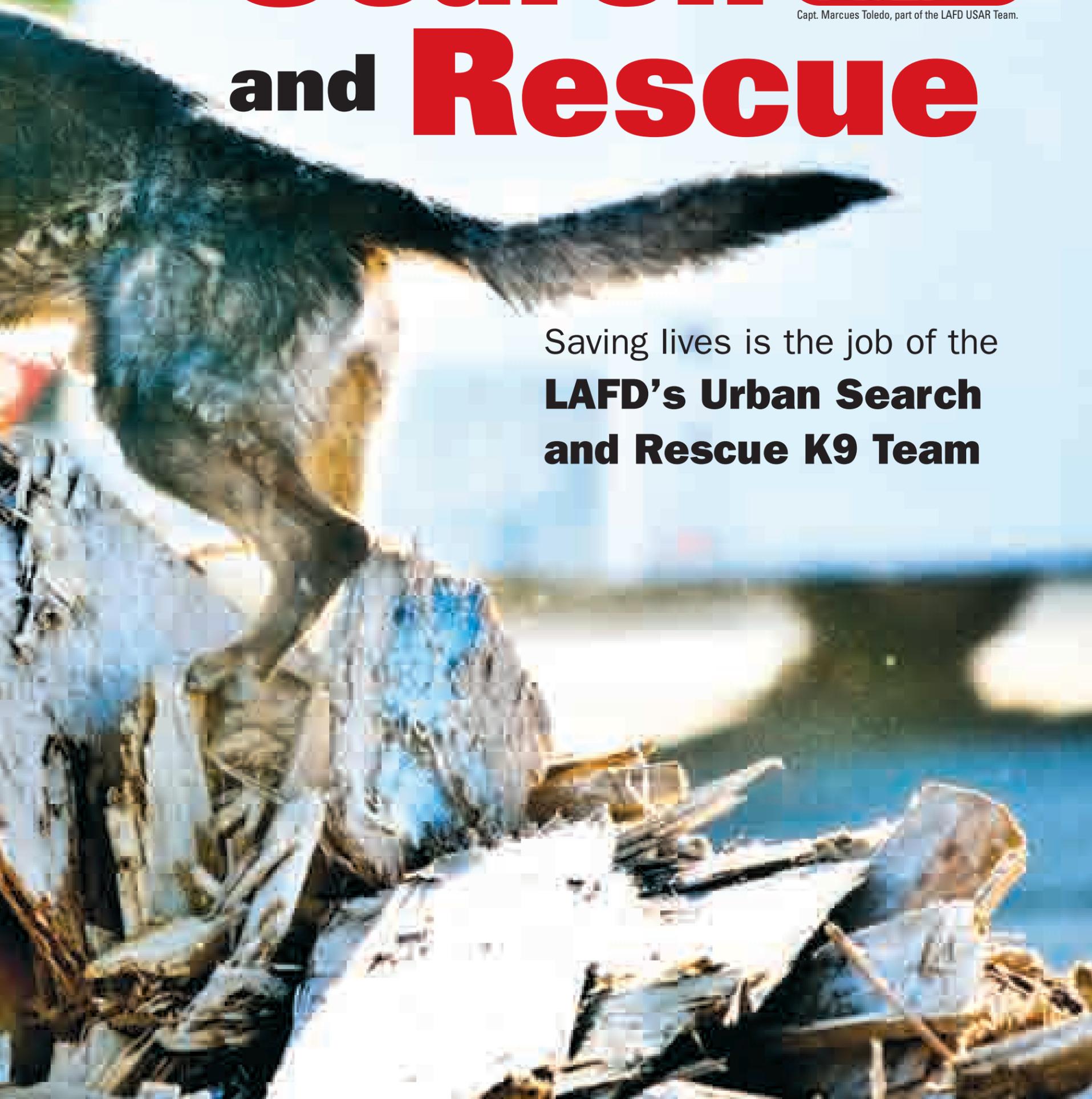




Capt. Marcues Toledo, part of the LAFD USAR Team.

Search and **Rescue**

Saving lives is the job of the
**LAFD's Urban Search
and Rescue K9 Team**





LAFD

Life Amidst the

LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue K9 Team helps keep Los Angeles—and the world—safer during disasters big and small.

Photos by Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer

Climbing atop and then through the rough, ragged and loose wood, Ranger searches confidently and thoroughly. Ranger, a border collie and part of the LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) K9 Team, is both agile and deft over the rough terrain.

So is the team. It's designed to be highly portable to get to the City's – and the world's – disasters as quickly as possible. And they do.

Keeping the team ready is the job of the LAFD's Deresa Teller, Inspector/Paramedic, with 30 years of City service. High atop the pile of rubble during a recent training day, she followed her live-scent search dog Ranger, as he sniffed and looked intently for a "victim," in this case, an LAFD firefighter "buried" in the rubble for training purposes.

Three "victims" were buried in the rubble, and on this training day, every single LAFD search dog found every single victim, every single time.

How the Squad Works

The members of the team are Deresa Teller, Inspector/Paramedic and Canine Coordinator; Margaret Stewart, Firefighter; Scott Zins, Firefighter/Paramedic; Jason Chapman, Firefighter/Paramedic; Tommy Haus, Capt. 1; and Marcues Toledo, Capt. Most have regular fire department duties, although some are permanently assigned to the USAR K9 Team. The rest volunteered for K9 duty and train with their dogs at least monthly, officially; all have additional training sessions on their own, at their own expense. (Others members: Athena Robbins-Haus, wife of Capt. Tommy Haus, is a lieutenant with the Bellbrook Fire Dept. in Ohio; and Gary Smith, who was a member of the team for years, is now semi-retired but takes part in some operations.)

Most of the team members bring their dogs to work with them.

At any one time, three California USAR Search and Rescue squads are on rotation, meaning, if there is a local, national or international crisis, three California teams keep themselves ready for instant deployment. Readiness lasts for 10 days, after which three more teams rotate into the ready position. For example, the LAFD USAR CATF 1 and K9 Team were on active readiness when 9/11 hit. When the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was bombed,

Jason Chapman, Firefighter/Paramedic, with Boogie, during a training exercise.



Alive! Feature

Jason Chapman, Firefighter/Paramedic (top), assists a Waste Management volunteer, who's playing the "victim" during the training exercise, to be "buried" in the rubble.

Rubble

Deresa Teller and her then-search dog Bella deployed with the Orange County USAR Team; the team also saw duty in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi (see *Alive!*, November 2005). The LAFD's USAR K9 Team was not in the rotation position for the earthquake in Haiti, so they did not deploy. But they were told to be ready, so they were. (See sidebar, "Disasters.")

The City provides some funding, and, despite tight budgets, "they're making an effort to be more supportive," Deresa says. The dogs are owned either by their handler or by the Search Dog Foundation (see below). Typically, the team deploys for between two weeks and a month.

The LAFD's USAR K9 Team volunteers for the K9 service and registers with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Half of the team pays for their dogs out of their own pockets, and the team pays for 95 percent of their equipment, veterinary care, dog food, vehicles, gas, deployment gear and kennel expenses, according to Deresa Teller.

History

Deresa, a 30-year LAFD veteran, became interested in search dogs after seeing search dogs being used in the aftermath of the Mexico City earthquake in the mid-1980s. She already had a history of training dogs (not for search and rescue). In the late 1990s, she joined with three others – Howard Orr, of the Santa Barbara Fire Dept.; Ron Weckbacher, at press time in Haiti as part of the L.A. County USAR K9 Team; and Deborah Tosch, now the Director of the Search Dog Foundation – to form the first Southern California USAR K9 Team.

That team, which was mostly self-funded, disbanded, and the City put out a recruiting call to form a new one two-and-a-half years ago. "We received 60 to 70 replies, everyone from firefighters to chiefs," Deresa remembers. "But when they saw how much work it was, the numbers went down."

From those applicants, the current team was formed.

Typical Situations

The LAFD's USAR K9 Team specializes in live search, meaning, it's used in situations where victims might still be alive. Only one of the squad's dogs – Charlotte, trained and owned by Deresa – is trained to search for cadavers and/or body parts, a more difficult challenge.

A partial list of the kind of situations in which the team excels includes:

- Earthquakes
- Tsunamis
- Floods
- Train/automobile/trucking/airline accidents
- Building collapses
- Fires
- Runaways
- Bodies thought to be abandoned in the wilderness
- Etc.

The Search Dog Foundation

A big part of the story of the LAFD's USAR K9 Team is the Search Dog Foundation, which supplies animals, fundraising and organizational support for the squad.

Its mission is to strengthen disaster response in America. For much more information on the foundation, which is based in Ojai, go to:

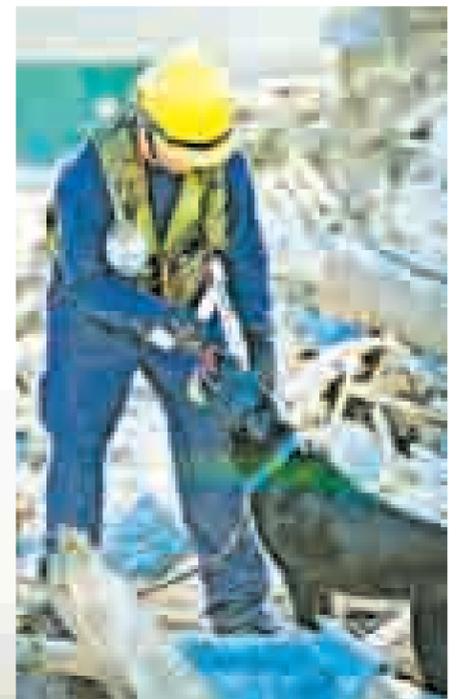
www.searchdogfoundation.org



Search dog Belle proves that agility is a very important skill for search dogs to have.

A Special Thank You

Special thanks to Waste Management, which allows the LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue K9 Team to train at their Sunland landfill. Waste Management assists the team by piling up wood to simulate rubble; by digging holes for the "victims" to be "buried," and other functions. The Alive! photos in this feature were taken during an LAFD USAR K9 Team training day Dec. 4 at the Waste Management yard.



Scott Zins, Firefighter/Paramedic, with Callie.



In this type of search, the handler commands the dog into or onto the rubble with the word "search" or "seek." Usually a team of handlers monitors the K9 as it makes its way through the rubble, sniffing for the telltale signs of a live body. Since a handler must watch (carefully) where they're going, they cannot keep their eyes trained on the dog 100 percent of the time. That's why usually there are extra handlers following the dog and main handler, to make sure no K9 signal is missed.

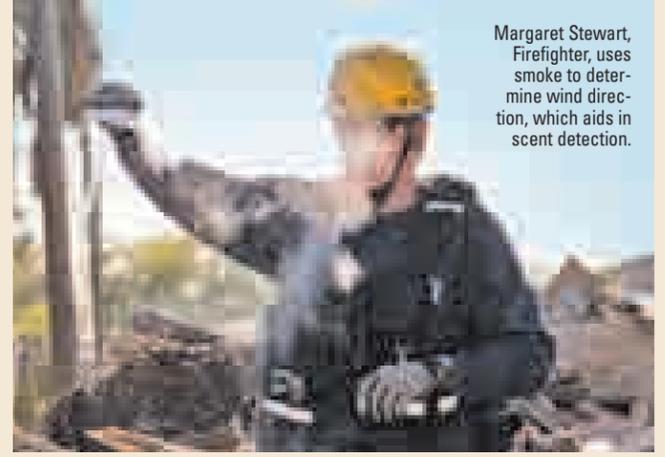
When a K9 smells something of interest, the dog will bark a "excited bark," according to Deresa Teller. Some might use their paws, too, although the dogs are not supposed to enter the hole with the victim.

In a real search situation, there would be a confirmation K9 brought in after the first search dog signaled a scent, to confirm a scent

has been detected before serious manpower is dedicated to the location.

In both training and real situations, the K9 is rewarded with a toy, usually a tug-of-war toy. In training, the "victim" usually rewards the dog, to keep the dog loyal to the victim.

"In real searches, sometimes we hide our own people as 'victims,' just to keep the dogs interested," Deresa explains. "The dogs are used to finding people during their training. When they don't find anything in a real situation, it can be confusing and disappointing."



Margaret Stewart, Firefighter, uses smoke to determine wind direction, which aids in scent detection.

Live Search



Deres Teller, Inspector/Paramedic and Canine Coordinator, rewards Ranger with a tug-of-war toy.



Freitag signals a "find" by barking at handler Capt. Tommy Haus.



Ranger is on duty during the training exercise.



Burying the "Victim" Tube

Burying the "Victim"



1

Margaret Stewart, Firefighter, "buries" Capt. Tommy Haus, who portrays the "victim" for the exercise.

2



3



Cadaver Search

Cadaver searches are not that different than a live search, except that the scent would be different; body parts might be much smaller and therefore harder to locate; and the lack of a live victim can be a deterrent to keeping the dog motivated – it's just not as much fun for them. So, fewer dogs can maintain sufficient interest. Also, in these cases, the handler would provide the reward instead of the live victim.



Deresa Teller, Inspector/Paramedic and Canine Coordinator, puts Charlotte through her paces during a training exercise. Charlotte is the only dog on the LAFD's USAR team with the training to search for cadavers.



LAFD K9 Team in Action



The LAFD's USAR K9 team performs two kinds of searches:

- **LIVE SEARCH**, in which victims are still expected to be found alive; and
- **CADAVER SEARCH**, in which victims are expected to be dead, and sometimes for a long period of time.

All but one of the unit's K9s are trained as live subject search dogs; only one (Charlotte, one of Deresa Teller's dogs) is trained to search out cadavers.

On pages 10 and 11 are photos of both types of searches. These were part of a training day Dec. 4, held at the Waste Management facility in Sunland.

The "Victim"

Victims, in this case, fellow Fire Dept. employees, act as the test during training exercises. Before the training begins, tubes were buried underneath the rubble. Once a tube was stabilized, a "victim" slid inside. Three "victims" were used during this training exercise; each spot was marked by a flag for safety, and each "victim" remained in the hole for several hours.

After the exercises were completed, they surfaced safely.

The "Victim" Emerges



Margaret Stewart, Firefighter, helps a volunteer from Waste Management pose as a "victim" during the search and rescue training session.



LAFD's Urban Search and Rescue K9 Team

On Duty

Deresa Teller and her previous and legendary live scent and cadaver search dog Bella, were called to duty in some of our nation's worst disasters.

At any given time, there are always three California USAR teams at the ready – one is in first rotation, one in second, and one in third. The rotations change every month.

The LAFD team was number one on the readiness rotation for two of our nation's most recent emergencies happened: the massive loss of life in the World Trade Center in New York City, and Hurricane Katrina in Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. In addition, Deresa and Bella searched in the aftermath of the bombing of the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, and they were sent to Salt Lake City as a preventative measure during the 2002 Winter Olympics, but that incident went without incident.

2001

9/11, New York City

Nearly 3,000 people were killed when terrorists flew fully fueled airplanes into New York City's World Trade Center. The total includes those who died in related attacks in Virginia and Pennsylvania.

"We got the call and left that night," Deresa remembers. "We landed [in New York] the next morning, and it took us about half a day before getting to Ground Zero.

"I thought we were in a Terminator movie," she says, not trying to sound trivial. "I had never seen anything like it. After my experiences in Oklahoma City, I thought that the chances that anyone had survived this were zilch. In Oklahoma City, I had seen things intact. But [at Ground Zero] I didn't see a single filing cabinet, not a computer, not a telephone. If those didn't survive, how could a human? It's just amazing that someone survived in a stairway, because several did."

"On Wednesday, we were on the second shift, 5 p.m. until it started raining. I can't recall the exact area where we were searching."

She and Bella were on some dangerous ground. Authorities were wary for a secondary event – sometimes terrorists/criminals wait for the safety personnel to appear before detonating a second device or killing action. That didn't happen at the World Trade Center, but there were other fears.

"We had to evacuate twice, once when someone



Bella, strapped to the back of another firefighter, was brought down more than 35 feet to the foundation of one of the towers to search for victims.



Deresa and a sooty Bella, under the scaffolding, take a much-needed break while searching for victims of the 9/11 terrorist action that destroyed the Twin Towers.

thought they saw a building move [other buildings near Ground Zero were seriously damaged, and some ended up collapsing – Ed.], and once when a fire shot up about 30 feet. Fires were burning down there for six months."

The loss of human life was massive.

In an area of about 12 feet of rubble, Bella alerted to a scent. When that area was cleared and searched again, a crushed car was found. Bella searched and alerted again, and a body was found crushed in that car.

But that was minor compared to another day. Authorities had asked her to search a certain area where they thought some firefighters had perished. "One night, we went looking for firefighters," she said. "Bella just kept alerting and alerting, over and over. Later, I found out that nearly every place she alerted was a find. She alerted at least 25 times.

The LAFD USAR K9 Team

Here are the members of the Fire Dept.'s Urban Search and Rescue K9 Team (California 1). All but one are employees of the LAFD.



Margaret Stewart, Firefighter, with Bo.



Scott Zins, Firefighter/Paramedic, with Callie.



Jason Chapman, Firefighter/Paramedic, with Boogie.



Deresa Teller, Inspector/Paramedic and Team Supervisor, with Ranger (left) and Charlotte.



The LAFD USAR K9 Team, from left: Deresa Teller, Inspector/Paramedic, Canine Coordinator, with Charlotte and Ranger; Scott Zins, Firefighter/Paramedic, with Callie; Tom Haus, Captain, and Athena Robbins-Haus, Lieutenant, Bellbrook Fire Dept. (Ohio), with Freitag; Marcues Toledo, Captain, with Belle; Jason Chapman, Firefighter/Paramedic, with Boogie; and Margaret Stewart, Firefighter, with Bo.

2005

Katrina, Gulf Shore

By the time of Hurricane Katrina, Deresa was now paired with Ranger (seen on the cover of this month's *Alive!*). While Bella was a live scent and cadaver dog, Ranger is a live-search dog. So, Deresa and Ranger – and the entire LAFD USAR K9 Team – went to Mississippi searching for live victims.

Deresa's experiences were detailed in a special section of the November 2005 issue of *Alive!*

In that interview, she says: "I have been to several disasters, and I have seen the Oklahoma City bombing and the New York World Trade Center ... I thought the New York World Trade Center was huge, but his was even larger. It just went on for

miles and miles. And, of course, it was a different kind of rubble, more survivable rubble for people as opposed to New York. What really amazed me were those humongous floating casinos that were on those big barges that were just brought up on shore by the big wave, or whatever. I mean, those things must weigh hundreds of tons. I cannot imagine what it was like first looking out there, because when we were there at least the streets we cleared so that we could walk down the street. But, you know, there is no way that was like that when the rescuers first got there."

For more information, refer back to that issue.



Deresa Teller with Bella (left) and Ranger, having just returned from Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Bella was retired at the time and did not deploy to Mississippi.

1995

Murrah Building, Oklahoma City

On April 19, 1995, Timothy McVeigh, an American who has since been convicted and executed for his crime, blew up the federal Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people and injuring more than 650.

Deresa and Bella were flown to Oklahoma City about ten days after the event and began searching for victims.

Bella found four victims in the rubble, and became a hero of the children of the families who had lost loved ones.



Bella searches for victims amidst the rubble of the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City.



Bella and Deresa (right) pose in front of a thank-you sign made in honor of the other search teams. With them is a search team from Missouri.



Athena Robbins-Haus, Lieutenant, Bellbrook Fire Dept. (Ohio), with Freitag.



Marcues Toledo, Captain, with Belle.



Tom Haus, Captain, also with Freitag.



Gary Smith, LAFD, and Cappy. Smith, mostly retired, sometimes participates with the K9 team.

REST INSURED



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



A Dog's Life:



Must Be Insured

They truly are "man's best friend," but a dog can be a big liability as well. Thankfully, with the proper insurance, you can protect yourself against some of the exposures of owning a pet. The risk is great. Dog bites account for 32 percent of all homeowners insurance liability claims, and cost more than \$387 million in 2008. There were nearly 16,000 claims in 2008, and the average claim cost more than \$24,000. According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than 4.7 million people are bitten by dogs every year. Of these, more than 800,000 people require medical attention.

Over the years, many states have passed laws with stiff penalties for owners of dogs that cause serious injuries or deaths. In about one-third of states, owners are "strictly liable" for their dog's behavior, while in the rest of the country they are liable only if they knew or should have known their dogs had a propensity to bite (known as the "one free bite" principle).

Based on the dog-bite claims they see, insurance companies feel that some breeds are a poor risk. It's a trend that began about 10 years ago, at around the same time as statistics were released showing that pit bulls, Rottweilers and German shepherds were responsible for more than half the dog bite fatalities in the United States over a 19-year period. Despite opposition from consumers, many insurance companies still maintain a "will-not-cover" breed blacklist. The list varies from company to company.

Many insurance companies may hike the premiums on a homeowner policy or decline to write a policy if the homeowner has what is considered a "high-risk" breed. But the ASPCA and

defenders of some of the most stigmatized breeds, like pit bulls, say dog aggression is often more about owner behavior than breed temperament.

Aggression can be fostered in any breed and has been throughout history, as humans exploited the natural strength of certain breeds. Proper and responsible pet ownership is the solution to this problem.

If you own a dog, it is best to check with your insurance agent to make sure that your policy will cover you in the event of an incident. In addition, take proper measures to be sure that your dog is not exposed to the general public, and is properly trained and cared for.

Feel free to call our agency if you have any questions about what your policy covers, would like to know what it would cost to buy a homeowners policy through us, or would like a question answered on any type of insurance.

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

Call us today at (888) 801-5522. United Agencies Burbank. (CA License # 0252636.)

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

Be safe and have fun!

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

CA License # 0252636

CONVENTION CENTER

Census, Count Us In!

Convention Center pledges to support this year's U.S. Census – a correct number will help the City.

Story and photos courtesy Luis Aguilar, Convention Center

At a staff meeting Jan. 12, the Convention Center pledged its support to a Citywide initiative to promote the U.S. Census.

The initiative, which came from the Mayor's Office, encourages City departments to support the United States Census, as accurate and complete records of the City residents could mean a maximum of federal support.

The Convention Center kickoff took place at the end of an employee meeting. Present were representatives from the Census, explaining the importance of being counted and how a better count positively impacts the federal monies allocated to Los Angeles. Representatives emphasized that, due to an incomplete count in the 2000 census, Los Angeles lost out on about \$200 million in grants.

The highlight of the kickoff was signing of a board by all the employees who attended the meeting.

Also, the Convention Center is distributing information in pay checks; placing posters; handing out census job applications and related material to employees and visitors; and facilitating space and materials to the census during events that tend to attract a good number of attendees, including a citizenship ceremony Jan. 8.

The Convention Center is also partnering with companies that do business at the



The leadership team signs the board, from left: Juan Carlos Montenegro, U.S. Census; Phillip Hill, Assistant General Manager; Jessica Murphy, U.S. Census; Mary Jane Aquino, Assistant General Manager; and Pouria Abbassi, General Manager and CEO.

Convention Center, including decorators, cleaners, etc. Neighbor the Staples Center has agreed to assist in spreading the word.



The census' "Board of Commitment."



Cornelius Woods, Custodian, makes his commitment.



Brittani Kauf, Clerk Typist, Administrative Services Division.



Troy Crawford, Electrician, signs the board.



Promoting the census were Convention Center employees (from left) Luis Aguilar, Linda DiMaglio, Michael McCarthy, Latina Smith, Adria Ybarra and Mary Jane Aquino. Not pictured: Denise Bell, Donna Jean Irving and Steve Nguyen.

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Deadline for submission:
April 15, 2010

It's a Coloring Contest!



for Adults!

GROWN-UPS, GET YOUR CRAYONS OUT!

It's time for another Grown-up Coloring Contest! Why let your kids have all the fun? The prize: a \$100 Target gift card. So get coloring, and have fun!

PLEASE COMPLETE:

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Job title and department with the City: _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE

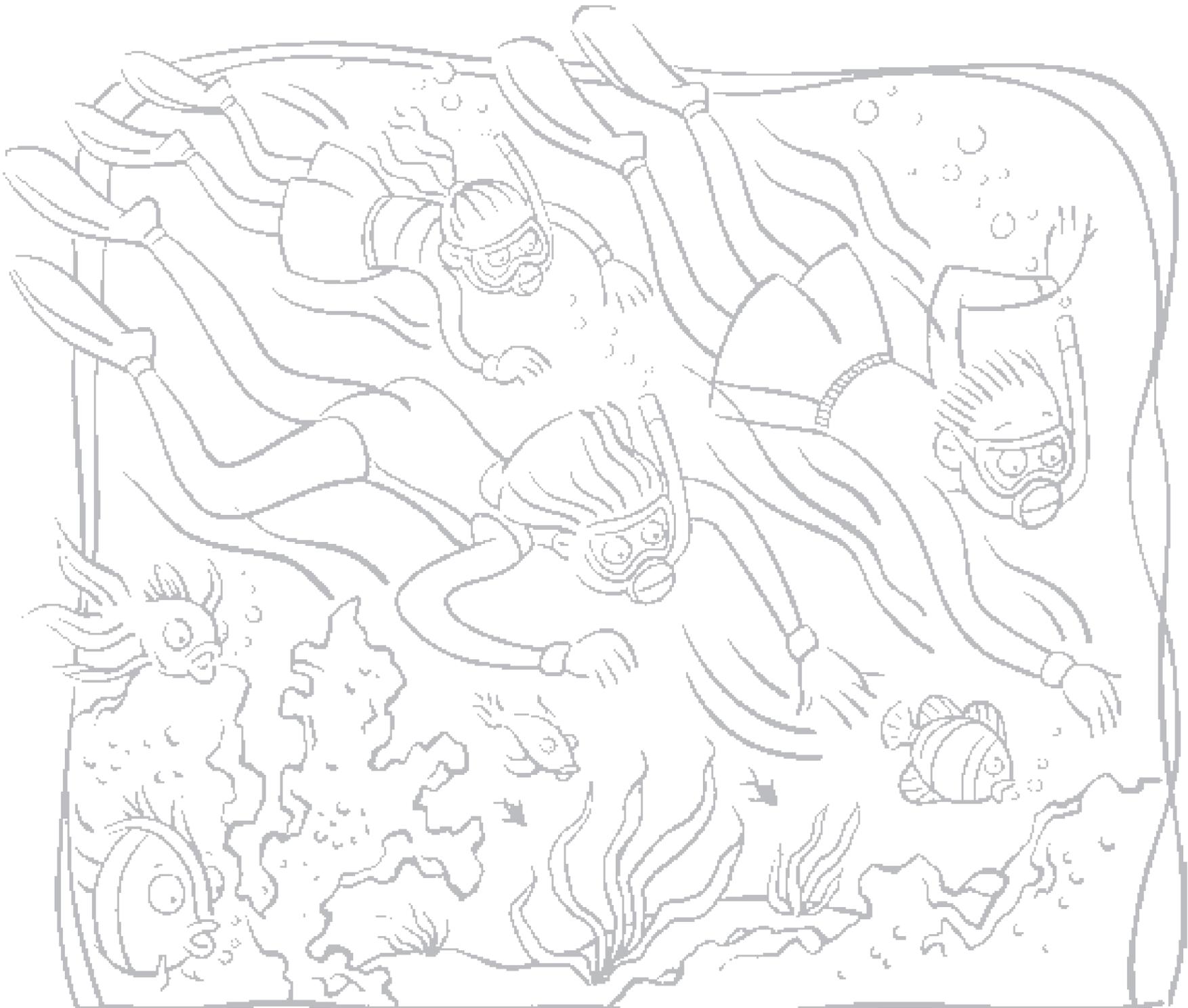
Club Membership Number:

Send Entries to:

Club Coloring Adult Contest
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 W. Second Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Rules of the Club's Adult Coloring Contest:

- Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
- All responses must be completed by the person indicated: no ringers (including your children!)
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.





"My husband, Santiago, and I have been married for 22 years. He leaves me beautiful voicemail messages every day, telling me how much he loves me and what a special part of his life I hold. Every day that passes, I fall more and more in love with him."
- Sonia Romero-Fuentes, DWP



"To my loving husband, Bill: Looking forward to celebrating our one-year wedding anniversary in May. Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Becky"
- Rebecca Pereida



"To my Valentine forever! Ana, my love! Thank you for being there when I needed love the most in my life! Love always, Mark"

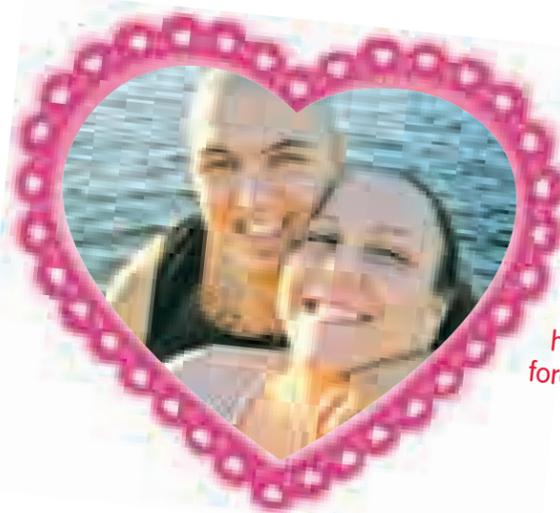


"Edmund, will u be my Valentine forever? I luv u."
- Cheryl Garcia, LAPD Communications

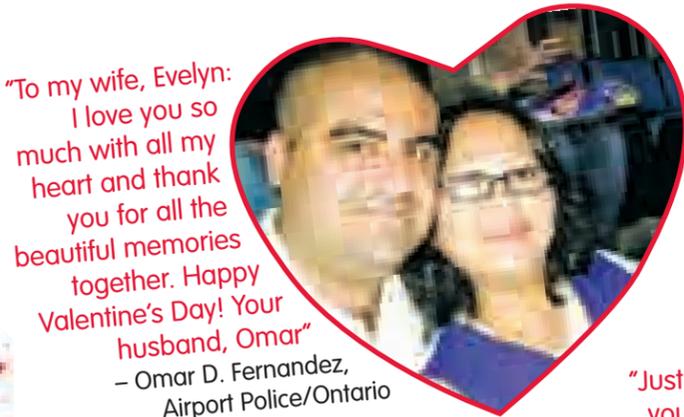
Be My



"I love you today. I'll love you tomorrow. I'll love you forever."
- Chris Boyd, DWP



"David, when I am with you and hugging you, time stops and I leave this earth and I am in heaven. I love you forever."
- Maria Gambino, LAPD



"To my wife, Evelyn: I love you so much with all my heart and thank you for all the beautiful memories together. Happy Valentine's Day! Your husband, Omar"
- Omar D. Fernandez, Airport Police/Ontario



"Just because you said not to :) Thanks for the good life. Your loving wife."



"I got love jones for her body and her skin tone. O those are the nachos!"
- Erric Roman, Rec and Parks



"Since we've been together, we have seen what love really is. We work together as a team and give each other strength where we are weak. I will stand by you through the good, the bad and the ugly. I love you, mi Rey Antonio."
- Tu Reina, Rosa Isabel

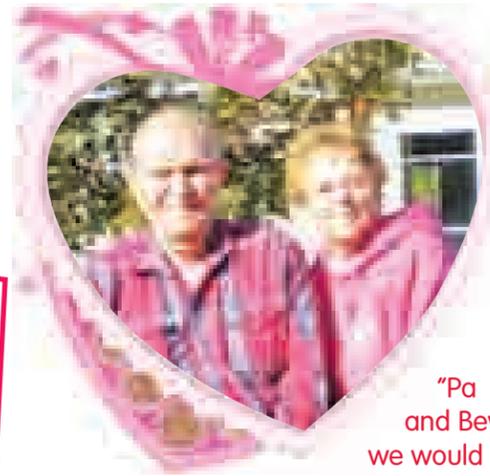
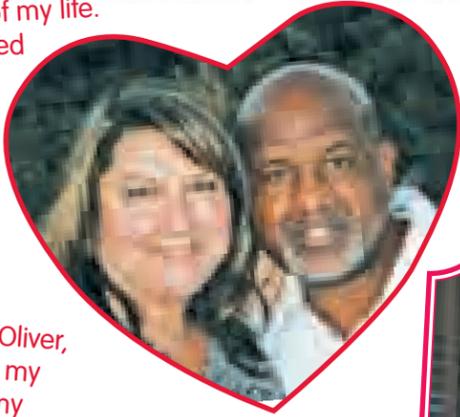


To my Babes 'Victor,' a great father, papa and husband. I've enjoyed all the ups and downs and the growing. Love, Lorraine (your Meow)"



"Candace, having you in my life has made me a better person. May our love continue to grow. Every day with you is a valentine."
- Frank Frias

"Happy Valentine's Day to the love of my life. Here's to another wonderful blessed year and many more to follow; each year only gets better."
 - Katherine Taylor, Transportation



"Pa and Bev, we would like to wish you both a very Happy Valentine's Day. We love and miss you. We can't wait until July so we can see you in Nebraska."

Love you, Brian and Aubrey
 (for Larry Lieswald, Retired, Public Works)



"To L.V. Oliver, you are my friend, my lover and my wife. I will love you for the rest of my life."
 - Jesse J. Oliver



"Happy Valentine's Day, Aaron, a wonderful husband and dad. We love you!"
 - LaWanda DuBoise

Club Valentine

Love is in the air at the Club! Thanks to all who chose to share their love here in *Alive!*, and happy Valentine's Day to all who are in love, or hope to be soon!

Happy Valentine's Day!

"Happy Valentine's Day, baby. I love you with everything I have and will continue for now and for ever."
 - Kasondra Y. Evans, Personnel



"To my beautiful, loving and extremely patient wife, Maricela. Love you always."
 - Jordan Price



"I'm so excited, I can't get past 1, 2, 3. I'm so impatient, it's everything you do to me. A little fire bakes in good with desire. Makes my heart sing like a choir. I'm on a respirator whenever you leave. Cause you stop my heart and I can't focus on anything. This is what your love does to me. Happy Valentine's Day!"
 - Tanisha Boyd, Transportation



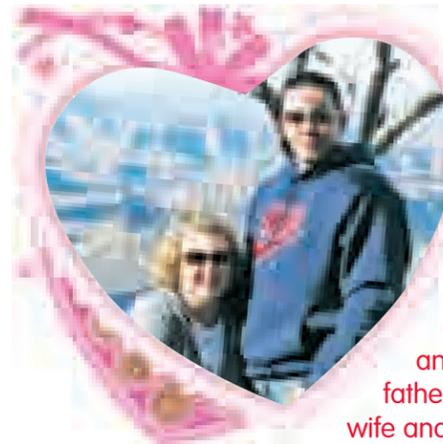
"Rocky, Happy Valentine's Day, my love. Here's to 12 wonderful years. I adored you then and I will forever! Love you."
 - Roxy



"Finding your soul mate is what Valentine's Day is all about. Spending the rest of my life with my Esmoochie is like chocolate-dipped pineapple slices."
 - Juan Sanchez



"Thank you for being a wonderful husband and an awesome father. I love you!"
 - Erika Hillard



"Happy Valentine's Day, Dad! You are a great husband and a wonderful father. Love, your wife and kids."
 - Tracey Garcia

"I love you today, tomorrow and forever. Love, Molly"

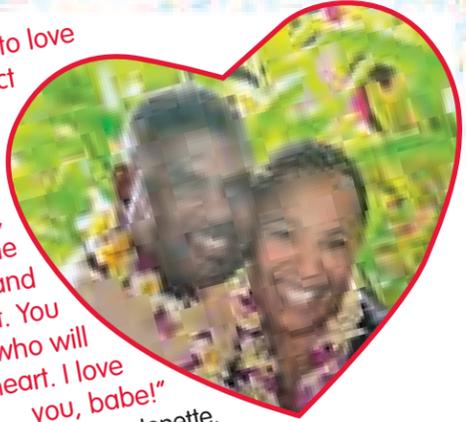


"Happy Valentine's Day, kids: Robert, Christine, Juju, Lil, Daro and Quasha; and my two beautiful grandchildren, Jaylene and Anthony. Love you big much! Mom"



"Dwayne, you come to love not by finding the perfect person, but by seeing an imperfect person perfectly. Love puts the fun in together, the sad in apart, the hope in tomorrow, and the joy in my heart. You are the man who will always be in my heart. I love you, babe!"

- Chermaine Fontenette, Public Works/Sanitation



To my two Valentines, Hannah and Kelley, who make my life fun, adventurous, exciting and challenging. I couldn't live without you two!

- Love, John



"I love you today, tomorrow and always. Happy Valentine's Day, Honey Bunny."

- Stephanie Sturm



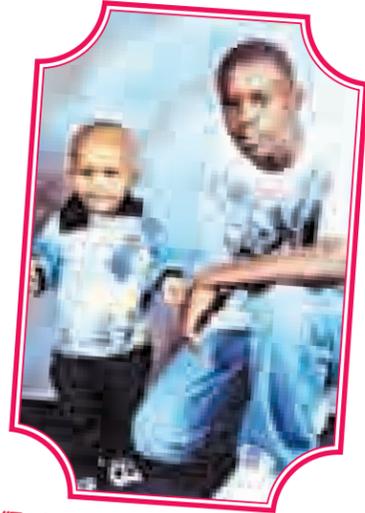
"Happy Valentine's, baby! Avi, we have been together for 12 years through good and bad times. I hope you never forget how much I truly love you! Love always, Gloria"

- Gloria Juarez

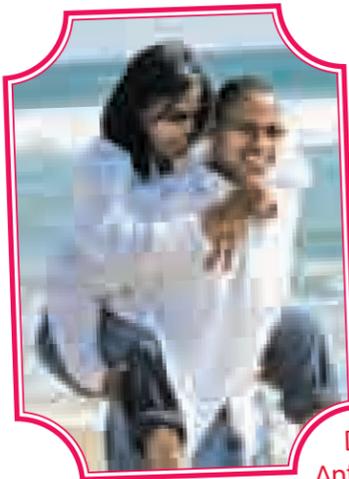


"To two of the most important people in my life, Aaron and Carson - Mommy loves you dearly, and you continue to make me proud. Happy Valentine's Day!"

- Tanisha Boyd, Transportation



Be My Club Valentine



"My Dearest Anthony, it

is my life's blessing to love you! I thank God for your warm heart and our beautiful family. Happy Valentine's Day, my love! Your wife, Valerie Nettles"

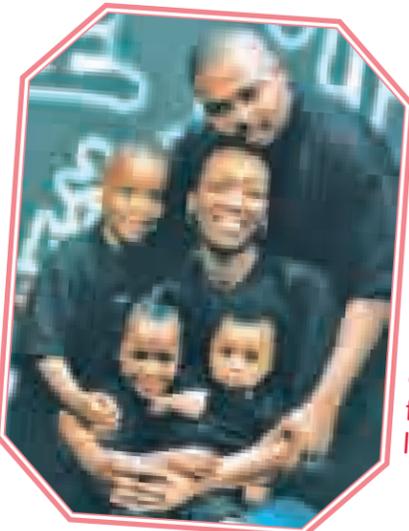
- Valerie Nettles, Rec and Parks



"Dearest Marie, After 30 years together, I still look forward to every moment with you. You are truly the love of my life." - David

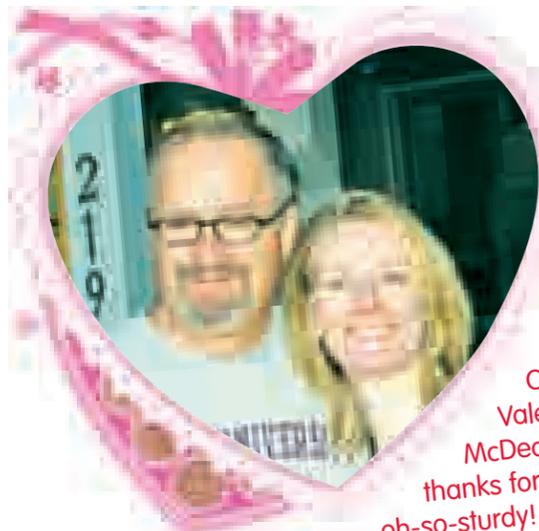
"Gee, you are my little slice of heaven. I couldn't ask God for anything more. Happy Valentine's Day. I love you, XOXO, Wifey."

- Eboni R. Nichols, Building and Safety



"To my loving husband: Though we've had our valleys and our mountains, we went through and overcame them together. May God continue to bless our marriage and our family. Let's continue to put each other first. Love U always, your loving wife, LaTisha"

- LaTisha Vargas



"You give new meaning to Lucky Charms. Happy Valentine's Day, McDearbh. And thanks for keeping me oh-so-sturdy!"

- John

ZOO

Bruno Busted

Orangutan picks Texas to beat Alabama, should avoid Vegas.



Bruno picks Texas to beat Alabama to win the national championship.

Photos by Tad Motoyama

On Jan. 6, the Zoo's male orangutan, Bruno, chose the University of Texas to win college football's BCS National Championship. (On Jan. 7, the University of Alabama defeated the Texas Longhorns at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena.)

Animal keepers placed two treat-filled papier-mâché figures, decorated as the mascots for the University of Texas and the University of Alabama, in the orangutan habitat. Then the Zoo's 30-year-old orangutan, Bruno, chose his favorite to win the 2010 National Championship by immediately picking up the Texas Longhorn mascot and placing it on the ground. Next he demolished the Alabama elephant, Big Al, before returning to the Texas Longhorn.



Bruno the orangutan.

Native to the Indonesia islands of Borneo and Sumatra, orangutans are the sole surviving great ape species in Asia. Orangutans are endangered. In the last 60 years, it's estimated that there has been more than a 50 percent decline in the orangutan population. This decline is primarily due to loss of their forest habitat from agriculture and fires. The L.A. Zoo is home to six orangutans. Orangutans are considered to be one of the most intelligent zoo animals.

Don't Horse Around!

Club Party at Medieval Times \$19.99 March 27

See back cover



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BROADVIEW SECURITY

Newsbrief

MONKEY NAMED:

The Los Angeles Zoo's baby Kikuyu colobus monkey, born Nov. 27, now has a name. After holding a naming contest for the youngster and shifting through many great entries, Zoo staff chose the name Christofur for the furry primate.



A colobus monkey and the new baby. Photo courtesy of Tad Motoyama.

The winning entry came from Eileen Hill of Huntington Beach. She will receive a behind-the-scenes tour of the Zoo.

Found throughout the forests of central Africa, the colobus is one of the most striking primates in the animal kingdom. Adult Kikuyu colobus monkeys have black bodies trimmed with long white mantles.

Infant colobus monkeys are born all white and do not start to get their black trim until about three and one half months of age.

Colobus monkeys live in highly cohesive social groups. Thus, the infant is enjoying attention from its father, mother and another adult female. Check out their interactions with their newly named troop member at the colobus exhibit located just past the Zoo's Mahale Café toward the perimeter road.

In addition to colobus, the Los Angeles Zoo houses a diverse collection of primates. Highlights include mandrills, sifakas, lemurs and tamarins. Within the past decade, vibrant habitats have been completed for gorillas, orangutans, chimpanzees and Francois's langurs. Many primates are threatened by habitat loss and hunting. The Los Angeles Zoo supports primate conservation projects throughout Asia, Africa and South America. The Zoo also actively participates in the Association of Zoo and Aquariums (AZA) Species Survival Program (SSP) to manage primate populations in zoos.

For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the L.A. Zoo Website at www.lazoo.org.



Special Holiday Party Section



The City Parties!

*It's an annual
Alive! tradition!*

Part 2

All across the City, you celebrated the holidays.
And *Alive!* was there!

Here in February, *Alive!* continues its coverage of the City Social Season 2009, with stories and photos from Club staff... and sent in by you, too.

And don't forget to check out all the photos – from January, too – online! Go to: www.cityemployeesclub.com (You'll need a password to login.)

The City Parties



Top, from left: Mary Ramos, Club Member, Clerk, 5 years; Christine Pina, Port Cadet Police, 4 years; and Victoria Anaya, Club Member, Management Analyst II, 12 years. Bottom: Caprice Staten, Club Member, Dispatcher, 20 years; Joanna Martinez, DWP, Sr. Clerk Typist III, 2 years; Jessica Bautista, Club Member; and Tracey Zuliani, HDC Vice President, 10 years, with her husband, Michael King.



Jared Armstrong, Port Police Security, 5 years of City service, and Tamara Armstrong, Sr. Clerk Typist III, 5 years.



Maria Garcia, Club Member, Custodian, and her husband, Frederico.



Rodolfo Gonzalez, Club Member, Laborer, 4 years, and his wife, Hilda, Detention Officer, 4 years.



From left: Modesto Valenzuela, Building and Safety, 12 years; and Natalie Valenzuela, Club Member, Harbor Construction Maintenance, 10 years.



From left: Jeff Pearre, guest; Vanessa Guillen; Kristine Kronheim, Student Worker, 6 months; and Ronald Mowrer, Sr. Clerk Typist, 5 years.



Enoch Samuel, Club Member, Carpenter, 12 years, and Carol Samuel, Rec and Parks, 5 years.



From left: Sheila Gonzales, Principal Public Relations Representative, 11 years; Doug Lambert, LA County; Andrew Benson, Club Member, Harbor Special Events Coordinator, 15 years; Amy Arnold, Sr. Management Analyst, 20 years; and Theresa and Kenneth Stanberry, Club Member, Real Estate Associate, HDEC Presiding Officer, 2 years.

Harbor Employees Club

Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Member Services Counselor

The Harbor Dept. Employees Club (HDEC) held its annual holiday dinner and dance Dec. 18.

The event was held at the San Pedro Doubletree's Madeo Restaurant.

Special thanks to Jessica Bautista and Holly Carlson for their assistance in producing this article.



From left: Mary and Mike Delang, Electrical Mechanic, 12 years; and Steve Fernandez, guest, with Sylvia Gordon, Pile Driver, 3 years.



Carmen and Albert Robles, Club Member, Carpenter, 19 years.



From left: Kenyatta Harmon, Gardener, 10 years; Omar Vargas, Club Member, Carpenter, 12 years; Renee Decker, Club Member, Clerk Typist, 5 years; Vanessa Guillen, Clerk Typist, 5 years; and Wendy Mendosa, Clerk Typist, 5 years.



From left: Elsie and Jurica Ivcevic, Club Member, Drafting Technician, 27 years; Christine De Souza, guest of Peter Mattingly, Club Member, Retired, Harbor; and Dennis Dyer with his wife, Zoya Dyer, Programmer Analyst, 12 years.



Marisol Gonzales with her husband, Angel Jeronimo, Pile Driver 1 year.



Otto Valencia, Club Member, Bio Driver, 8 years, with his wife, Laura.



From left: Joe Maldonado, Director of Construction Management, 29 years; Claudia Slater, Finance; Monica and Maurice Jacobson, CNMA, 10 years; and Stormyweather Banks and her husband, Waymond Banks, Club Member, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, 9 years.

See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web!

Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!

The City Parties



Alfred McCall, guest, with Debra Harrell, CSA, 10 years, Club Member.



Elle Hsu and her husband, David Peng, Property Officer, 1 year.



Nakia Jones, Property Officer, 3 years, with Maurice Kemp, guest.



From left: Glenn Abellanosa, Property Officer, 14 years, Club Member; and Cynthia Abellanosa, MA II.



From left: Laura Romero, Property Officer, 2 years; Madeline Contreras, Sr. Property Officer, 22 years, Club Member; Efen Tosoc, Property Officer, 9 years, Club Member; and Lisa Udompruge-Krueger, Property Officer, 1 year, Club Member.



From left: Jennifer Winn, Property Officer, 4 years; and Jean Vermeer, Retired Principal Property Officer.



From left: Susan Bobadilla, Property Officer, 20 years; and Wilma Richardson, Property Officer, 3 years, WLA.



From left: Leonard Church, Property Officer, 23 years, Club Member; and Lisa Udompruge-Krueger, Property Officer, 1 year, Club Member.



From left: Francine Sena, Sr. Property Officer, 22 years, with Martha Santa Anna, guest.



Kay and Randy Hunsaker, Police Officer II, Club Member.



From left: Yolanda Sanchez, Retired CSR, DWP, Club Member; and Anthony Sanchez, Property Officer, 9 years.



From left: Juan Williams, guest; Lillian Parker, Property Officer, 3 years, and her husband, Rod, Sr. Property Officer 22 years, Club Member.



From left: Kames Flynn, D3, and Beverly Flynn, MA.



Laura Romero, Property Officer, 2 years, with her guest, Juan Mayen.



From left: Jean Vermeer, Retired Principal Property Officer; and Rondee Carter, Sr. Property Officer, 22 years, Club Member.



Marie Allen, Principal Property Officer, 25 years.



Victoria and Quoc Tran, Operator Trainee, DWP.



Leticia Martinez, Secretary, 4 years. The table is filled with prizes, some of which were donated by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

LAPD Property Division

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager

The Police Dept.'s Property Division held its annual holiday dinner Dec. 12 at the Castaway restaurant in Burbank.

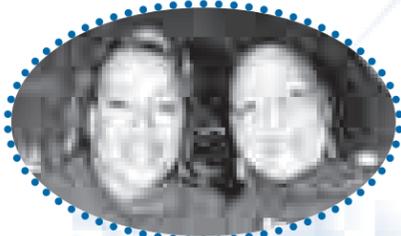
A great time was had by all, despite the rainy weather.

The dinner featured a beautiful buffet dinner, with a DJ providing the music. There were also games, plus a prize giveaway. The Club donated some of the prizes.

Special thanks to Terry Carter, Sr. Management Analyst II, Acting Commanding Officer, Club Member, for providing assistance with this article.



From left: Rose Serrato, Sr. Property Officer, 23 years, Club Member; and Laura Castellanos, Forensic Prints Specialist, 18 years, Club Member.



From left: Madeleine Moseley, Principal Property Officer, 20 years; and Georgia Jones, Property Officer, 36 years.



Sara and Peter Hopkins, Police Officer II.



From left: Anita Shorten, MA II, 32 years; and Madeline Contreras, Sr. Property Officer, 22 years, Club Member.



Steve Kim, Sr. Property Officer, 11 years, and his wife, Rachel.



From left: Melissa Sotelo, guest, with Annette Robinson, Property Officer, 3 years.



Cynthia and Martin Preciado, Property Officer, 2 years.



From left: Madeline Contreras, Sr. Property Officer, 22 years, Club Member; and Eddie Gonzalez, Property Officer, 9 years, Club Member.



From left: Susan Bobadilla, Property Officer, 20 years; and Cynthia Preciado, wife of Property Officer Martin Preciado.



Terry Carter, Senior Management Analyst II, Acting Commanding Officer, Property Division, Club Member; and her husband, Sgt. II Jimmy Carter, South East.



Judy Cowper, guest, with Red Abcede, Property Officer, 3 years, Club Member.



From left: Eddy Yin, Sr. Property Officer, 16 years; Shannon Ma, Property Officer 3 years; Eddie Gonzalez, Property Officer, 9 years, Club Member; and Kim Heng, Property Officer, 2 years.

The City Parties



From left: Jeanna Chavez, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Katrice Jackson, Senior Clerk Typist, LAPD, Club Member; Shelia Hamilton-Keel, Principal Clerk Typist, Club Member; Makebra Williams, Clerk Typist; and Karen Bowie, Lieutenant Investigator, Club Member.



From left: Raul Martinez, Tree Surgeon Supervisor I; Stephen Dupre, Tree Surgeon Supervisor I, Club Member; and Kevin Mgee, Valley Area Supervisor.



From left: Gus Soliman, Management Analyst; Tess Cunanan, Senior Management Analyst; Victoria Villa-Agustin, Senior Management Analyst; and Joe Cruz, Chief Management Analyst.



From left: Joyce Patton, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Stephen Dupre, Tree Surgeon Supervisor I, Club Member; Juan Duran, Light Equipment Operator; and Gerardo Martinez, Tree Surgeon.

Public Works Street Services

Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Member Services Counselor

Carolers – and two surprise retirements – were featured at the Public Works/Street Services holiday party, held Dec. 16.

The luncheon took place at Luminarias restaurant in Monterey Park.

At the luncheon, two longtime Street Services employees, Debbie Deprimio and Dominique Hollier-Shipp, announced their retirements. Debbie retires with 22 years of City service.

Carolers sang for more than 20 minutes, creating a festive holiday mood for the party.



From left: Art Sweatman, Tree Surgeon; and Charles Leon, Union Representative SEIU, Local 721.



From left: Richard Serrano, Maintenance Construction; Tim Butcher, Heavy Duty Truck Operator; and Frank Gamboa, Motor Sweeper Operator, Club Member.



From left: George Gonzales, Chief Forester; John Osollo, Park Maintenance Supervisor, Club Member; Teresa Estrada, Clerk Typist, Club Member; and Martha Remos, Clerk Typist.



The Bureau of Street Services Holiday Carolers!



From left: Teresa Estrada, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Martha Remos, Clerk Typist; and Deonna Gilmore, Senior Clerk Typist.



From left: Bruce James, Retired, addresses the guests at the party; and Debbie Diprimio, who retired after 22 years with Street Services.



From left: Karen Kishitu, Investigator I; Clayton White (standing), Chief Investigator I; Al Armijo, Investigator I, Club Member; Larry Morales (standing), Senior Investigator, Club Member; Richard Lopez, Investigator, Club Member; and Kathleen Robbins, Accounting Clerk, Club Member.



From left: Nvard Barseghian, System Analyst; Adilia Clerk, Civil Engineer; Debbie Lavato, Senior Clerk Typist; John Sapone, Superintendent II, Club Member; and Jennifer Sapone, Management Analyst II, Club Member.



Top, from left: Mary Montes, Club Member, Management Analyst, 4 years; Adolfo Felix, Lab Technician, 10 years; Vanessa Aquino, Management Analyst, 9 years; Elizabeth DeSimone, Management Analyst, 21 years; Robert Espinoza, Project Engineer, 20 years; Sandra Lopez; and Cindy De Sa Valente, Club Member, DWP. Bottom: Dave Gonzales, Club Member, Welder, 10 years, with his wife, Cindy.



From left: Christine Massarotti, guest of Lupe Durazo; and Michael A. Perez, Club Member, General Manager, LA Fire and Police Pensions, 30 years, with his wife, Blanca Perez, Sr. Management Analyst LAFD, 36 years.



Top, from left: Phil Bazan, Management Analyst II, 9 years; Steve Young, Electrical Mechanic, 25 years; and Nick Obregon, Club Member, Room Worker A, 27 years. Bottom: Mai Nguyen, CDD, Cashier, 21 years; Alex Mayagoitia, Club Member, Mechanical Helper, 10 years; Edward Hinojos, Club Member, Retired, Welder, 31 years; Maria Bizcarra, Sr. Custodian, 27 years; Adriana Meza, Club Member, Warehouse Worker, 25 years; and Cathy Reyes, Club Member, Retired, DWP.

Latina Employees Assn.

Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Member Services Counselor

The Los Angeles Latino Employees Association (LACECA) held its annual holiday dinner and dance Dec. 17.

The party was held at Tomayos Restaurant in Commerce.

In addition to the dinner, there was dancing and prize raffles.

The Club thanks Lupe Durazo for assisting in the production of this article.



Thomas Trujillo, Club Member, Sr. Clerk Typist, 4 years, at the raffle booth.



Fernie "Elvis" Ramirez, Graphic Designer II for LAPD, 20 years, Club Member, is an Elvis tribute artist.



From left: Maggie Ocampo, guest of Adrea Ocampo, CSR, 9 years; Edward Calvin, General Services, Payment Specialist, 28 years; Martha Torres, CSR, 29 years; Mary Manriquez, LA County; and Maria Gallegos, LA County.



From left: Ruben B. Vasquez Jr., Club Member, Personnel Director, 21 years; Luis De La Torre, Utility Administrator, 24 years; and Art Irigoyen, Club Member, Management Analyst, Applicant Services and Workforce Planning Section, 11 years, with his son, Michael.



From left: Maria Iniguez, Clerk Typist, 2 years; Thomas Trujillo, Club Member, Sr. Clerk Typist, 4 years; Minerva Gutierrez, Club Member, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 22 years; and Jose Del Rio, Club Member, Project Associate, 4 years.



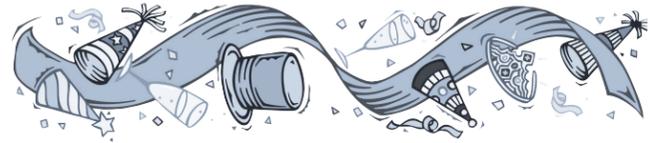
From left: Lupe Durazo, Club Member, Recording Secretary; Charles Aguilar-Rogers, LACECA President, 25 years; Leonor Garcia, Club Member, LACECA Vice President, 21 years; Eduardo Garcia, Club Member, Executive Secretary, 10 years; and AnnMarie De La Rosa, Treasurer, 10 years.



From left: Lupe Durazo, Club Member, Recording Secretary; Edna Meraz, Club Member, Sr. Clerk Typist, 36 years; Ronny Lona, Sr. Construction, 20 years; and Eric "Easy" Simpson, Club Member, EDM, 19 years.



The City Parties



From left: Pang Xiong, guest; Tou Moua, SLO, Club Member; and Luis Bautista, P01, Club Member, and his wife, Elizabeth.



Det. Michael Belo, Club Member, and Gaby Arce, Public Safety Officer, General Services.



Retired Lt. Dan Aleman, Club Member.



Susan and Ryan Mullany, SLO, Club Member.



From left: Port Police Officer Alfredo Moya, Club Member; Mary Ramos, CT, Club Member; and Port Police Officer Fred Montiel, Club Member.



Danny Rodriguez, P02, Club Member, and Melody Rodriguez, MA, Airports, Club Member.



From left: Lt. Titus Smith, Club Member, with Ron Young, guest.



From left: Rodney Williams, Airport Police Dispatcher, Airports; and Tamika Williams, CIR, Airports, Club Member.



Danielle and Capt. Mike Graychik.



Lydia and Capt. Al Rosario, Club Member.

Port Police

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager

The Port Police held its annual holiday dinner Dec. 19 at the Cabrillo Yacht Club in San Pedro.

It was an intimate affair, with colleagues and guests overlooking the waters of the Villa Cabrillo Way Marina. There was lots of great food and prizes, and a DJ for entertainment. The City Employees Club donated prizes for the raffle.

Sgt. Rosario Ferrara introduced the incoming board of the Port Police Association.

Thanks to Sgt. Ferrara and Sgt. Dan Cobos for their assistance.



Back: Christine Pina, Port Police Cadet. Seated: Sgt. John Curry, Club Member, and Maria Corona, Port Police Dispatcher, Club Member.



Sgt. Michael Alva, Club Member and Maria Alva, Sr. CT, Club Member.



From left: Robert Richard, Gwen Richard, Shirley Robertson and Phillip Robertson; all guest of Lt. Anita Hayden.



From left: Maura and Katie Farrell, wife and daughter of Don Farrell; Julia Kirwan, Sr. MA II, Club Member; her husband, Walk; and Capt. Don Farrell.



Lt. Anita Hayden, Club Member, and her husband, Barry.



Maria Alva, Sr. CT, Club Member, and Sgt. Michael Alva, Club Member.



Tracy Harris and Mike Glimpse, Motor Officer, Club Member.



Sgt. Ian Schunke, Club Member, and Lt. Rosa Reynoso, Club Member.



From left: Outgoing Port Police Association President Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Club Member, with incoming Port Police Association President Sr. Lead Officer Livani Piliitsis, Club Member.



From left: P02 Alex Castillo, Club Member, and his wife, Claudia.



From left: Mary Ramos, CT, Club Member; Christine Pina, Port Police Cadet; and Jessica Bautista, MA, Club Member.



From left: Capt. Leon Nixon and Officer Rudy Meza, Club Member.



Tamara Armstrong, Sr. CT, Club Member, with her husband, Jerry.



From left: Capt. Mike Capodanno, Club Member, with his wife, Karin; Julie DiTucci, Secretary, Club Member; and Capt. Anthony DiTucci, captain of *Angelena II*.



Jane Chiapetta, SLO, Club Member, and her husband, Anthony.



Ismael Flores, SLO, Club Member, and his wife, Diana.



From left: Mike Canlas, Motor Officer, Club Member, and Jaime Alvarado, Sr. CT.



From left: Brandyn Anderson, P01, Club Member, with Carla Morel, guest.



See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web! Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!



The City Parties



Arthur Kurkowski, P2, and his wife, Barbara.



Sandra Alvarez with Det. Victor Fernandez, Club Member.



Don McLaurin, MA, Club Member, and Yolander Garner, Secretary.



From left: Port Officer Brent Grieger, Club Member; Yolanda Garner, Secretary; Nina Gonzalez, CT, Club Member; and Port Officer Andy Wang, Club Member.

Port Police (continued)



P01 Miguele Fagins, Club Member.



From left: Port Police Officer Aldo Morales, Club Member, and his wife, Colleen; and Port Police Officer Brent Grieger, Club Member.



Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Club Member, and his wife, Jessica.



Sgt. Nathan Ewert, Club Member, with Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager, City Employees Club.



Lt. Titus Smith, Club Member, and Muna Busailah, attorney.



Angelina Alkonis and Frank Miramontes, Port Police Cadet.



Terrance Strouse, Club Member, Housing Inspector. 5 years, and his wife, Mary.



Housing Department Holiday Committee Members, from left: Dalila Lula, Club Member, Clerk Typist, 3 years; Anabell Luna, Accounting Clerk, 29 years; Lisa Durand, Clerk Typist, 4 years; Edna Meraz, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member, 36 years; Teresa Hernandez, Club Member, Secretary, 20 years; Lorena Gonzalez, Club Member, Clerk Typist, 6 years; Rodney Hilson, Club Member, Housing Inspector Inforce, 9 years; and Irene Scaduto, Sr. Clerk Typist, 36 years.



Irene Scaduto, Sr. Clerk Typist, 36 years.



From left: Lynnelle Scaduto, Council District 1, 2 years of City service; Diane Scaduto, with her mom, Irene Scaduto, Sr. Clerk Typist, 36 years; and Carlos Gomez, Club Member, Sr. Housing Inspector, 12 years.



From left: Sydney Song; Shake Babujan, Accounting Clerk, 6 months, and daughter, Karine; Terry Pitugnaronphor, Accountant, 3 years, with daughter, Kaitlyn; Vichuda Thanasankid, Accountant, 4 years, with Nathan and Jeep Akaratana; Baily Song; Rosa Park; Joo Young Yoo; Hayley Song; Jenny Taguines, Accounting Clerk, 6 months; Anabell Luna, Accounting Clerk, 29 years; and Joshua Ma.

Housing

Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Member Services Counselor

The Housing Dept. held its annual holiday breakfast Dec. 23, at the department headquarters.

The breakfast was for employees and their families.

Special thanks to Irene Scaduto for her invitation and assistance in producing this article.



From left: Louie Caldera, Housing Inspector, 7 years; Luis Tolentino, Housing Inspector, 11 years; Don Ackerley, Club Member, Housing Inspector, 12 years, with son, Jordan; Ismael Hernandez, Club Member, Housing Inspector, 4 years; and Francisco Guerrero, Club Member, Housing Inspector, 7 years.



Myrna and Samantha Bohorquez with Rick Bohorquez, Club Member, Housing Inspector, 3 years; and Joseph Cortez.



Calvin "Santa Claus" Oglesby, Club Member, Sr. Housing Inspector and Emergency Response, 35 years.



Joo Young Yoo, Accounting Clerk, 3 years, with children Sydney, Bailey and Hayley Song.



From left: Aidan Gallarzo; Georgina Tamayo, Finance Officer, 2 years; and Nadia Gallarzo.



Donated gifts from City Employees Club were given away as part of a raffle.



From left: Tracey Terry, Housing Investigator 1, 3 years; Ann Melendez, Sr. Clerk Typist, 7 years; Maria Estrada, Housing Investigator, 2 years; and Gladys Acevedo-Montes, Lead Investigator, 2 years.



From left: Lisa Vindell; Gus Vindell, Club Member, Construction Specialist, 3 years; and Hunter Vindell.



"Happy Holidays" from soloist David Whitehurst, Club Member, Sr. Housing Inspector 10 years.



From left: Cynthia Stanton, Club Member, Sr. Clerk Typist 10 years; Latesha Hamm, Club Member, Clerk Typist, 1 year; Ruby Gonzales, Clerk Typist, 4 years; Pedro Gonzales, Clerk Typist, 4 years; Cecilia Lamas, Typist, 4 years, with her daughter, Angelina; Martha Quintero, Club Member, Clerk

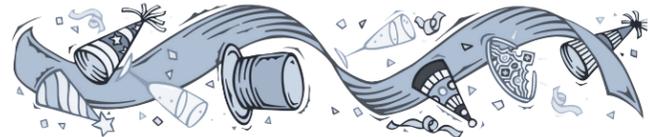
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The City Parties



Cora Soriano, CDD, LAFACE President, and Club Member.



The LAFACE award recipients for 2009.



From left: Gary Palagio (standing), Accountant, Public Works; Leonor Palangio (standing), Management Analyst, Rec and Parks; Antonio Quirante (standing), guest; Cesar Cruz, Senior Accountant; Antonio Quirante, Management Analyst, LAPD; and Ising Quirante, Senior Accountant.



Cora Soriano, LAFACE President, gets ready to introduce the award recipients for "Filipinos in Upper Management."



The first certificate for Outstanding LAFACE Member went to June Lagmay, City Clerk.



This Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Jamie T. De La Vega, Deputy Mayor of Transportation, Office of the Mayor.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Maria Tesoro Fermin, Community and Public Relations Director, Airports.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Guido C. Marucut, Department Chief Accountant IV, DWVP, Club Member.



Rodney Bernaldo, Management Analyst II, Public Works/Sanitation, Club Member, with his daughter, Isabella.



From left: Kathryn and Mathew Adea, guests; Lisa Adea, System Analyst II, LAFACE Member; George Adea, Sr. Clerk Typist, Public Works/Engineering, Club Member; and Lester Adea, guest.

Filipina Employees Assn.

Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Member Services Counselor

The Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) held its festive holiday party Dec. 18 in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

Members were treated to a buffet with traditional Filipino delicacies. After some official group business was addressed, an award ceremony took place, honoring Filipinos in upper management within the City.

The Club thanks Cora Soriano, CDD, LAFACE President and Club Member, for her assistance in producing this article.



Pancit and other traditional Filipino dishes were offered.



From left: Rod and Maria Fermin, Community and Public Relations Director, Airports; Faye Sison Strong, Utility Administrator IV, DWP; Christine Ovington, guest; and Lemuel Paco, Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works/Engineering.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Lemuel Paco, Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works, Engineering.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Victoria Santiago, Department Chief Accountant IV, Office of the Treasurer, Club Member.



Faye Sison Strong, Utility Administrator IV, DWP.



From left: James Owen; Jennifer Owen; Jeff Owen, Engineer, DWP; Lourdes Owen, Property Management; Cindy Cruz, Account Clerk, City Attorney's Office, her husband, Paul, and son, Miguel; and Belinda Quico.



Aida Tongson, guest, with Henry Tongson, Cashier, Building and Safety, Club Member.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Faye Sison Strong, Utility Administrator IV, DWP.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Rica M. Viola, Property Manager II, Harbor, Club Member.



An Outstanding LAFACE Member award went to Deborah J. Ramos, Assistant General Manager, General Services.



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The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!



The City Parties



From left: Maria Garcia, Custodian; Adylin Diaz (Frosty the Snow Man); and Silvia Perez, guest.



From left: Michael Compean, who catered the event; Bruce Ballard, Construction Inspector, Club Member; and Mike Christensen, Deputy Executive Director.



From left: Nikola Jurat, Ship Carpenter, Club Member; Ervin Govie, Ship Carpenter; Geraldine Knatz, Port Executive Director, Club Member; John Radovchich, Ship Carpenter; and Ping Lit, Civil Engineer.



From left: Rita Takada, Drafting Tech; and Tsion, GIS Specialist.



Tim Buxton, Carpenter, Club Member, with his granddaughter, Emma.



From left: Dave Chrisman, Carpenter Supervisor, Club Member; Gary McAngus, Sr. Painter; and Gina Juarez, guest.



Back row, from left: Kenneth Stanberry, HDEC President, Club Member; and Alex Juarez, Garage Attendant. Bottom: Tracy Zuliani, HDEC Vice President; Holly Carlson, HDEC Secretary, Club Member; and Jessica Bautista, HDEC Treasurer, Club Member.

Harbor Breakfast

Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Member Services Counselor

The calamari were fried in customary fashion to celebrate Christmas for Harbor employees. The annual Harbor Holiday Breakfast took place Dec. 17 at Berth 161 in Wilmington.

More than 25 pounds of calamari were cooked and served for this year's installment of the annual event. Later, there was a gift exchange, a raffle and a full breakfast buffet.

Special thanks to Kenneth Stanberry, Harbor Dept. Employees Club (HDEC) President, Club Member; and Port Executive Director Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D., for their assistance.



Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D., Port Executive Director and calamari chef extraordinaire!



From left: Rory Stilson, Sr. Construction Inspector, 18 years; and Paul Malcolm, Sr. Construction Inspector, 12 years.



Gianfranco Grimaldi, Construction Inspector, 6 years.



From left: Victor Gavaribian, Construction Inspector, 8 years; and Victor Curiel, Construction Inspector, 10 years.



From left: Gene Smith, Management Analyst, 4 years; Sylvia Vango, Management Analyst II, 8 years; Yono Hong, Management Analyst, 3 years; Lydeel Su, Management Analyst, 10 years; and Agnes Cabrera, Systems Analyst II, 8 years.

Public Works/ Contract Administration

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations



Chief Inspector John Reamer speaks to staff, offering holiday cheer and blessings.

Public Works' Contract Administration Bureau held its annual holiday party Dec. 10 at the Public Works Building downtown.

Chief Inspector John Reamer, Club Member, gave remarks and best holiday wishes to those at the party, and their families.

The Club thanks Paola Valencia for her invitation and assistance in producing this article.



Paola Valencia, Public Works, Contract Administration; Divina Bautista, Management Analyst II at DWP; Claudia Rojo, Clerk Typist at Fire and Police Pensions.



From left: Dennis Ryan, Principal Construction Inspector, 19 years; Linda McGlinchey, Senior Management Analyst, 15 years; and Adrian Barrera, Senior Construction Inspector, 19 years.



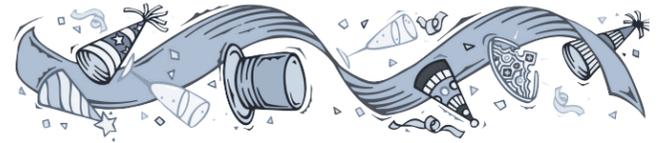
From left: Jason Stoerber, Assistant Construction Inspector, 3 years; Everett Bennett, Assistant Construction Inspector and Alive! columnist, 3 years; Richard Bennett, Principal Construction Inspector, 19 years; and Johnny Brewer, Sr. Construction Inspector, 18 years.



From left: Henry Shackelford, Construction Inspector, 10 years; Vaz Karakhanyan, Senior Electrical Inspector, 10 years; and Ben Kahen, Construction Inspector, 2 years.



The City Parties



Tom Eatmon, Club Member, Waste Mechanic, 28 years, and his wife, Jean Gillespie-Eatmon.



Jose Moreno- Lab Technician- 7 years, Darish Dejam- Sr. Chemist- 20 years, Chung-Ho Shih- Lab Technician II- 23 years.



Top: Kailean Gabourel. Bottom, from left: Judith Gabourel; Kaydeen Gabourel and Alice Gabourel, Club Member, Store Keeper II, 13 years.



From left: Karl Breitenstein, Club Member, WWTM, Benefit Committee Member, 25 years, with his wife, Jean Breitenstein; Lance Vincent, Sanitation Manager, 25 years, with Julie and Traver Vincent.



From left: Tom Eatmon, Club Member, Waste Mechanic, 28 years; Raymond Renteria, Electric Supervisor, 31 years; and Paul Blankenship, Club Member, Electrician, 23 years.



Benefit Committee members, top, from left: Kelly Scrivens, Chief Pipefitter, 15 years of City service, and Jose Garcia, Club Member, Carpenter, 2 years. Bottom: Henry Ayala, Pipefitter, 22 years; Shirley Crawford, Club Member, Senior Clerk Typist, 20 years; Sandy O'Guinn, Gardener, 7 years; Faye Konly, Secretary, 25 years; "V" Seeram, Club Member, Instrument Mechanic, 1 year; and Barbara Kauppi, Instrument Mechanic, 25 years.

Public Works/Terminal Island Reclamation

Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Member Services Counselor



From left: Karina Seeram, 6; Sandra and "V" Seeram, Club Member, Instrument Technician, and Kamron Seeram, 12.

The Terminal Island Reclamation Division held its holiday luncheon Dec. 17 at the Ports o' Call berth 76 in San Pedro.

The division is part of Public Works/Sanitation.

Special thanks go to Shirley Crawford for her assistance in producing this article.



From left: Robert Nobregas, Electric Craft Helper, 16 years; Wes Stoddard, Club Member, WWTM, 25 years; and John Ellico, Mechanic Helper, 1 year.



Kevin Kim, Management Associate, 2 years, and his wife, Miky.



Michelle and Lance Thibodeaux.



From left: Abelardo Medina, Painter, 10 years; Keith Gawith, WWTM I, 19 years; and Pat and Winston Chang.



From left: Pancho Ferrer, Warehouse Worker, 4 years; Sinh Pham, Construction Manager, 12 years; Ralph Martinez, Senior Store Keeper, 13 years; and Abhai Bhatia, Control Engineer Associate, 8 years.



From left: James Hadley, Club Member, Plumber, 20 years; and Rufa and Jubian Tutor, Club Member, Bower Shovel Operator, 5 years.



From left: Tony Sison, Plant Operator, 1 year; Steve Ahles, Plant Operator, 1 year; Loretta Arnold, Club Member, Sr. Clerk Typist, 30 years, with guest Reggie Pipion.



From left: Doug Bohlmann, Club Member, Sanitation Manager, 25 years; Traci Minamide, Chief Operator, 25 years; and Seung Oh, Environmental Engineer, 20 years.



Top, from left: Dan Cordova, Waste Water Operator I, 1 year; and Wilfred Esquerro, Estimate Mechanic, 19 years. Bottom: John Crawford, Club Member, Painter, 20 years, with his daughter, Rebekah.



Top: Jimmy Clark, Club Member, Operator II, 25 years, with Gabriel Clark. Bottom: Joseph and Mary Clark.



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The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!



The City Parties



From left: Gary Ramirez, Field Crew, Club Member; and Jesse Galvez, Field Crew, Club Member.



From left: Ralph Morones, LAX, Director of Maintenance, Club Member; James Rudy, Retiree, Club Member; Angel Segarra, Large Equipment Operator, Club Member; and Mel Jones, Retiree.



From left: Sandy Calderon, Principal Clerk, Club Member, and her daughter, Bella; and Allison Edminston and her son, Rylee.



The Planning Committee.

LA/Ontario Construction and Maintenance



From left: Geena Gallegos; Rebecca Gallegos; Fred Gallegos, Warehouse Worker II, Club Member; and Lazarus Gomez.

Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Member Services Counselor

The Ontario Airport Construction and Maintenance folks held their annual holiday party Dec. 22 at the airport's C&M yard. The party featured an inflatable playground for the children, a raffle, a full buffet and a holiday piñata.

Many thanks to Pete DeLeon and LaTanya Hypolite for their assistance.



From left: Hem Lee, Mechanic Helper, Club Member; Les Normandy, Instrument Mechanic, Club Member; John Sangren, Sr. Carpenter; and Todd Stone, Building Repair.



The Sugette family, from left: Linda Sugette, mother; Malaya Sugette, daughter; Iscar Sugette, Retiree; Nicholas Sugette, Motor Sweeper Operator; and Leila Sugette, daughter.



From left: Jesse Velasco, Equipment Mechanic, Club Member; Antonio Aleman, Mechanical Repair II, Club Member; Brian Heath, "Director" of Maintenance, Club Member; Mario Betancourt, Mechanical Helper, Club Member; and Zafar Khan, Building Operating Engineer.



The Takai family, from left: Todd Takai; Tori Takai; Scott Takai; Chris Takai, AC Mechanic, Club Member, and his wife, Arlene; and Richard Takai, grandfather.



From left: Fransico Villa, AC Mechanic, Club Member; Dave Rhodes, AC Mechanic, Club Member; and Darrell Campbell, Traffic Painter.



The Flowers family, from left: Tasha Flowers; Tawnda Flowers; Katland Flowers; Paul Flowers, Maintenance Labor; Paul Flowers; and Roschelle Flowers.



Top, from left: Steve Imparato, Construction Manager, 15 years; Cheryl Richards, Club Member, 1 year; and Mustafa Hashad, Field Officer Engineer. Bottom: Deborah Berg, owner of Burg Associates; Shaun Shahrestani, Chief Harbor Engineer, 27 years; and Mark Rose, Club Member, Associate Chief Harbor Engineer, 16 years.



From left: John Posades, Structural Assistant Engineer, 5 years of City service; Chinh Cisneros, Club Member, SOCN, 9 years; Hugo Cisneros, Civil Engineer Associate, 8 years; and Angel Lim, Sr. Structural Engineer, 19 years.



Top, from left: Mike Poporich and Jim Hiltscher. Bottom: Bruce Pretty; Scott Gilmore, Project Manager, 4 years; Tom Berg; Dean Clevenger; and Alicia Molina.



From left: Frank Lin, Club Member, Civil Engineer Associate, 10 years; John Ibrahim, Club Member, Civil Associate Engineer, 4 years; and Ron Groves, Sr. Civil Engineer, 25 years.



From left: Kin Kwong, Civil Engineer Draft Technician, 8 years; Lily Becaria, Assistant Structural Engineer II, 8 years; Jonathan Cuevas, Civil Engineer, 16 years; Long Nguyen, Club Member, Civil Engineer Assistant II, 3 years; and Danilo Abalos, Sr. Civil Engineer, 25 years.



From left: James Davis, Club Member, Associate Chief Harbor Engineer, 23 years; Sal Zambrano, Club Member, Harbor Engineer, 22 years; Tony Gioiello, Chief Harbor Engineer, 25 years; John Kostrenich, Chief Construction Inspector, 35 years; and David Walsh, Associate Chief Harbor Engineer, 25 years.

Harbor Engineering and Construction

Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Member Services Counselor

The Port's Engineering and Construction Division held its annual holiday luncheon Dec. 26 at the San Pedro Fish Market, Berth 78.

After sharing in the meal, the participants joined in a variety of fun games.

Special thanks to Jill DeMontagnac and Bernie Edwards for their assistance.



From left: Oscar Insung, Construction Inspector, 26 years; Brad Jenkins, Sr. Construction Inspector, 20 years; Phong Ngo, Civil Engineer Associate, 2 years; Peter Ouk, Construction Manager, 16 years; Herb Grageda, Club Member, Sr. Construction Inspector, 28 Years; and Teresa Henkhaus, Club Member, Principal Construction Inspector, 28 years.



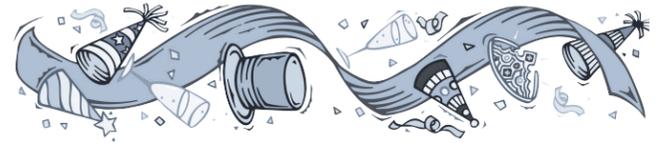
From left: Jin Kim, Club Member, Civil Engineer, 20 years; Daryl Raasch, Civil Engineer, 25 years; and Vahik Haddadian, Sr. Electrical Engineer, 25 years.



From left: Kurt Arend, Club Member, Associate Chief Harbor Engineer, 21 years; Dina Aryan-Zahlan, Harbor Engineer, 21 years; Mike Christensen, Club Member, Executive Director, 3 years; Carlos Baldenegro, Club Member, Civil Engineer Associate, 3 years; and Jill Shimamoto, Project Construction Manager, 4 years.



The City Parties



From left: Nichole Trujillo, MA II, 5.5 years; and Jeannette Nicholson, Sr. CT, 14 years, Club Member.



From left: Alan DeLeon, PDO at Van Nuys, 21 years, Club Member, with his wife, Maria.



From left: Stephanie Williams, DO, 8 years, Club Member; and Lt. Roger Mora, 29 years.



Marina Koryakovskaya, guest, with Alex Povolotsky, DO, 4 years.



From left: Capt. Clay Farrell, Commanding Officer, Jail Division, 32 years of City Service; D2 Marie Farrell, 20 years; and Lt. Bruce Biersbon, 27 years of City Service.



From left: James Price, DO, 7 years, Club Member; Robert Bravo, DO, 2 years; Diane Martin, DO, 3 years, Club Member; Karen Anzora, RN with Medical Services, 1 year, Club Member; Timothy Charles, SDO, 19 years, Club Member; and Tony Davis, SDO, 32 years.



Liza and Manny Hernandez, DO, 6 years.



Linda Taren, CSA with GSD, 3 years, Club Member, and her husband, Richard.



Rodolfo Castillo, DO, 8 years, and Andrea Ramos, guest.



Sandra and Joyce Bell, guests.



Melissa and Dennis DeLeon, SDO, 9 years.



Po Wang, DO, 4 years, and his wife, Kim.

LAPD Jail Division



From left: Marissa Lopez, DO, 4 years; and Jenny Garrett, DO, 16 years, Club Member.



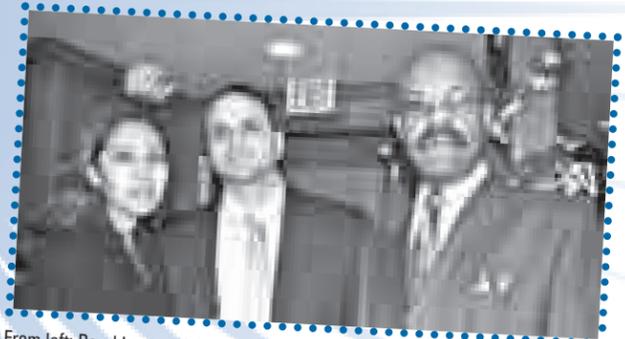
From left (on the harp) was Russell Chan, Sr. CT, LAPD, with Meghan Toledo on the flute.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager

The Police Dept.'s Jail Division held its holiday celebration Dec. 18 at the Police Academy.

A harpist, Russell Chan, Sr. CT, LAPD, and flutist welcomed everyone as the party began, while a DJ stepped in to get everyone on the dance floor. A buffet dinner was served, and there was an abundance of prizes for attendees to win by dropping their raffle ticket in the corresponding box. Some of the prizes were donated by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

Special thanks to Jeannette Nicholson, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member, for helping produce this story.



From left: Pearl Lopez, CPA, 7 years; Walter Lopez, P2, 7 years, Club Member; and Rey Tenort, PDO at 77th, 23 years, Club Member.



Ana and Juan Sanchez, SDO, 8 years, Club Member.



From left: Mario Solis, DO, 14 years; Sylvia Solis, Sr. CT with Medical Services, 10 years, Club Member; with daughter, Consuelo Barnette, and son-in-law, Shaun Barnette.



Isis and Roberto Soriano, PDO at 77th, 8 years, Club Member.



Karina Duenas, daughter of Detention Officer Nora Duenas, 5 years of City Service.



From left: Susan and Eddie Cruz, PDO at 77th, 24 years.



From left: Marie Grant, DO, 5 years, and her husband, Roger Henrich.



Jose Melendez, DO, 7 year, and his wife, Christine.



Lt. Roger Mora, 29 years of City Service.



Dawn Eck, Sr. MA II, 23 years, with Michael Eck, P3, 22 years.



Back, from left: Gil Macias and German Chale, guests. Seated: Michael Potter, DO, 6.5 years, and his wife, Monica; with guests Danette and Juan Cedeno.



From left: Sgt. Philip Ybarra, MJS, 20 years; and Don Wildy, MA at RHD, 21 years, Club Member.

See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web!

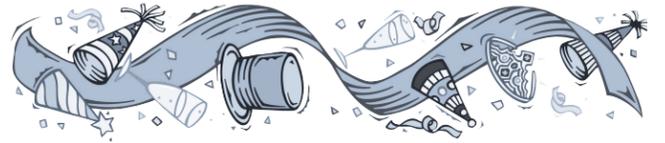
Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!





The City Parties



Connie and John Scott, PDO, Van Nuys, 28 years, Club Member.



From left: Sgt. Jay Batson, 15 years; Jan Batson, MA II, Airports, 9 years; Angelica Esparza, Sr. CT, 12 years; and Georgia Gutierrez, guest.



Cindy and Juan Funes, DO, 6 months.

LAPD Jail Division (continued)



From left: Norma Franco, DO, 5 years, Club Member; Pat Eskridge, SDO, 32.5 years, Club Member; and Reaunna Bratton, DO, 3 years, Club Member.



Sandy and Sgt. Brad Hearn, MJS, 15 years.



Lt. Rick DeMartino, 35 years, and his wife, Valerie.



Carlos Jacobo, guest, with Martha Ramirez, DO, 6 months.



Standing, from left: Ben Cheung, DO, 3 years, Club Member, and his wife, Christine. Seated: Jovi and Orlando Yap, PDO, Van Nuys, 19 years, Club Member; and Julio Giron, SDO, 20 years, and his wife, Haiyan.



The party-planning group.



Tracie Russell-Lloyd, Traffic Officer II, Club Member.



From left: Martin Barranco, Instructor; Antonio Sanchez, Instructor; and Albert Montalvo, Traffic Officer.



From left: John Kinch, Equipment Mechanic; and Jim Dranow, Equipment Mechanic.



The gift table and Christmas tree.



From left: Mr. Marsh, Traffic Officer II; and Jeff Dwight, Traffic Officer II.



Robin Gregory, Club Member.

Transportation

Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Member Services Counselor

A curious but festive version of Secret Santa was part of the fun at the Transportation Christmas party, held Dec. 10 at Transportation headquarters downtown.

As for their version of Secret Santa, Alive! is not at all clear on the rules, but the game involved a chair, a bell, a Santa hat and a lot of singing.

Most of the department was in attendance for the annual holiday party, which featured a large buffet including fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, baked beans and various pies.

Special thanks to Robin Gregory, Club Member, for assisting us in producing this article.



From left: Myndahlee Jennings, Traffic Officer II; and Tanisha Boyd, Hollywood Social Club, Treasurer.



Elgin King, Traffic Officer.



From left: Art Ledezma, Traffic Officer; and Jamie Ibarra, Traffic Officer.



Megan Walters, Traffic Officer.



From left: Gary Harper, Retired Traffic Officer; and Robert Harper, Retired Traffic Officer.



From left: Lisa King, Sergeant; Kevin Morris, Sergeant; Ken Powa, Sergeant; Tracy Floyd, Sergeant; and Natalie Baley-Gray, Sergeant.



From left: Anjela Hall, Traffic Officer; and Melinda Conteras, Traffic Officer.



See these photos and more, in color, at cityemployeesclub.com on the Web! Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!



This Month at the

Club Store

Here are the highlights of the Club Store and Service Center for February:

TICKETS



Try the Club's E-ticket system! Buy your tickets to Disneyland, SeaWorld and Aquarium of the Pacific, and have them delivered to your email box. It's that simple! Go to www.CityEmployeesClub.com



MERCHANDISE SPECIALS



Shop at the Club Store for all your Valentine needs!



United Agencies APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE

GET A FREE QUOTE ON AUTO AND HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

Feb. 5

Rosa Calderon, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Feb. 12

Norma Angulo, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Feb. 19

Patty Pulido, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Feb. 26

Rosa Calderon, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Note: The Club Store will be closed Monday, Feb. 15 for President's Day.

Your United Agencies Reps:



Norma Angulo, Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon, Personal Insurance Agent



Suzanne Eggli, Personal Insurance Mgr



Patty Pulido, Personal Insurance Agent



Rose Rangel, Personal Insurance Agent

REC AND PARKS

Tee Time

Rec and Parks hosts annual golf tournament.

Story and photos by Brent Urban, Club Counselor

When most of the City was getting ready to celebrate the holidays, golfers from Rec and Parks were getting up at 5 a.m. Dec. 17 for the department's annual golf tourney.

The event was held at the Harding Golf Course, a Rec and Parks facility, in Griffith Park.

The morning started off a bit damp and cold but warmed to a perfect temperature for a round of golf. More than 130 golfers attended the tournament.



Herman Hendricks, Tee Checker, Club Member.

Here are the names of the winners.

Men's Long Drive: Chuck Ruiz – L.A. City Golf Championship Tournament Coordinator

Closest to the Pin Hole #13: Dave Takata – Project Manager

Closest to the Pin Hole #15: Charles Singer – Principle Recreation Supervisor II

Women's Longest Drive: Norma Gutierrez – Personnel Director II

Closest to the Pin #5: Raul Romero – Golf Course Marshal at Griffith Park Golf Course

Winning 4: Marcos Briano, Dale Luckey, Bill Fair, Paul Nassaney, some with a score of 59 – Hansen Dam Operations Staff – Bill is the Supervisor for Hansen Dam Golf Course & Woodley Lakes Golf Course, Dale, Marcos & Paul are Golf Starters at Hansen Dam.

Thanks to Rick Reinschmidt for his invite and assistance.



From left: Rick Reinschmidt (standing), Golf Reservation Supervisor, Club Member; Betty Labuda, Clerk Typist; Ashley Rivera, Clerk Typist; and Ronnell Kelly, Clerk Typist.



The crowd gets ready to tee it off!



From left: Rojo Rojas, marshal, and Raul Romero, marshal.



From left: Matthew Knox, marshal, and Don Migamae, starter.



From left: Rojo Rojas, marshal; Raul Romero, marshal; Frank Cornblatt, starter; and Ken Iwashina, tee checker.



Martin Lopez, Principal Store Keeper.



Tom Bradshaw, starter, Club Member.



Ray Morales, Park Maintenance Supervisor, Club Member.



Walter Lassman, marshal; Raul Romero, marshal; and Ken Iwashina, tee checker. Walter is a Holocaust survivor who graciously donates his time to local high schools by talking about his experience in World War II.



From left: Rojo Rojas, marshal, and Bob Cavanaugh, starter.



Club Store and Service Center
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(888) 777-1744

LAPD

Bye Bye to Brenda

Brenda retires from the LAPD after 36 years of City service.



Brenda Benton, Clerk Typist.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager, and Gary Sunkin, ITA

Brenda Benton, Clerk Typist and longtime fixture in the Police Dept.'s Media Section, retired from the force after 36 years of City service. A going-away party was held in her honor Dec. 17 at the new Police headquarters building.

Friends, colleagues and representatives of outside media came to wish her well.

Have a great retirement, Brenda!

Alive! thanks Officer Joseph Cleon for his assistance.



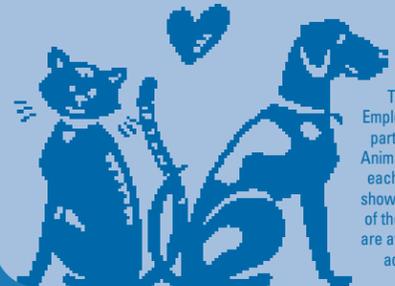
Brenda Benton, Clerk Typist, Club Member, with Pete Demetriou, reporter, KNX 1070.



From left: Mary Grady, Public Information Director, LAPD; Arth Williams, news cameraman with KABC; Brenda Benton, Clerk Typist, Club Member; and Lynette Romero, reporter, KTLA.

the pet club

Your friend is waiting for you!



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

This Month's Pets For Adoption:

Spiky

Spiky is an eight-year-old tan spayed Corgi mix. She is a healthy senior who is dog- and people-friendly. Spiky has fallen victim to foreclosure – twice! She now needs a forever home.

ID #A0914904 East Valley Animal Care Center.



Savannah

Savannah is a two-year-old tricolor white spayed Pointer mix. She is high energy and need lots of exercise. She is great on a leash and knows how to sit, and she loves her toys!

ID #A1073303 East Valley Animal Care Center.



Pickle

Pickle is a two-year-old gray tabby cat. He is fabulous and loves to chase balls. He is great with other cats and new people. He does not use his claws, a plus for homes with leather couches!

ID #A1084341 East Valley Animal Care Center.



Mocha

Mocha is an 11-month-old brown and white female Staffordshire terrier. She's the shelter diva! Mocha loves to play ball and have her picture taken. She also loves people and other dogs.

ID #A1080744 East Valley Animal Care Center.



Bill

Bill is a seven-year-old black and tan neutered German shepherd. He is great with other dogs and he knows how to sit, stay and lay down. Bill is a very healthy and active senior dog looking for a great family to love.

ID #A1085164 East Valley Animal Care Center



Meet Your New Hope coordinator!



This month's featured animals are from the East Valley Animal Care Center, 14409 Vanowen St., Van Nuys. **Veronica S. Perry** is the New Hope/Bottle Baby Coordinator. She can be contacted at (818) 756-9323.

Discount Adoption Days, Feb. 9 - 14 at all six Animal Services Animal Care Centers. For more information, please visit us at www.laanimalsservices.com

CLUB INSURANCE: There When You Really Need It

Club Life Insurance Makes Sense

Here are six great reasons why you should buy life insurance.

Club Life Insurance is all about building your financial strength to take care of your family in the event you're no longer there to do it yourself. Life insurance should serve as the foundation of your family's financial security, helping to ensure that your loved ones will be all right financially, even if something were to happen to you.

This is a great time to think about all the things that life insurance can do for you and your family. But that can happen only with planning. Schedule an appointment with a Club Counselor, to make sure that you have the right amount and type of insurance to protect the ones you love.

Here are just some of the great benefits of Club Life Insurance:

- **It allows time to grieve.** Club Life Insurance allows loved ones to focus on their grief by helping to pay for the funeral and other final expenses.

- **It can provide a fresh start.** Club Life Insurance lets loved ones start fresh by helping to pay off credit card bills, outstanding loans and even the mortgage.

- **It provides income.** Club Life Insurance helps replace lost income for years to come, so that surviving family members can continue to pay for life's necessities.

- **It offers flexibility.** Club Life Insurance gives a surviving spouse the chance to take time off from work to reestablish your family's stability.

- **It creates opportunities.** Club Life Insurance can provide funding to start a business, or pay for schooling so surviving family members can train for a new career.

- **It leaves a legacy.** Club Life Insurance gives parents the chance to leave future generations with the legacy of long-term financial security.



Club Life Insurance is good for you. It's good for your family.

Club Life Insurance makes dollars – and sense. Contact your Club Counselor today.

Don't gamble with your paycheck.

**A serious injury could devastate
your finances. Protect your
paycheck with the Club's
Long-Term
Disability Insurance.**

- Did you know that the most common reason for a home foreclosure is a long-term disability?
- It makes no sense to risk your family's financial wellbeing. Protect it!
- The Club's Long-Term Disability Insurance protects your paycheck, whether your injury takes place on the job or off.

**Affordable.
Smart.
Strong.**

**Sign up for the Club's Long-Term
Disability Insurance now.**

While you still can.

**Call your Club Counselor:
(800) 464-0452
www.cityemployeesclub.com**



For Retired Club Members



The Best Years

City Retiree Associations:

DWP Retirees Association



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

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association

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

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

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

Upcoming Events:

April 8: Membership meeting and luncheon, noon at the Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., east of Los Feliz. Call the RSVP number, (800) 678-4145, for lunch reservations.

Call (800) 678-4145, ext. 701, for reservations to these events.

RLACEI:

Year-End Stats: Early Retirement Adding Up

President Ed Harding reports:



Ed Harding

"Thank you. Thank you." "Thank you, Sally Choi, General Manager, LACERS, for donating door prizes for all our functions this past year; and to Alex Rabrenovich, LACERS Chief Health Administrator, for all the help he has given me and all our retirees this past year and for allowing us to be part of all LACERS medical seminars that he has put on this past year.

"Thank you, John Hawkins and Robert Larios, Managing Editors of *Alive!*, for all they have done for us this past year, for all the nice watches and gift certificates they have donated for all our functions, and also for the great coverage they have given to us in *Alive!*, in the 'Best Years' section.

"Thank you, David Dorion, Staff Editor, *El Pueblo*, for attending our functions, for taking pictures and

printing them in *El Pueblo*.

"I hope you all had a great holiday season. I spent Christmas and New Year's Day between my home and second home in Minden, Nev., near Lake Tahoe. It snowed every day, with temperatures near 16-degrees.

"Do not forget our next general membership meeting, April 8 at the Friendship Hall. Don't forget to call and make reservations."

Director Mary Beetz reports:



Mary Beetz

"Are you turning 65? Did you know that, as a LACERS retiree who is a California resident, you have more medical plan options when you turn age 65 and have Medicare Parts A and B? You can choose from the Anthem Blue Cross PPO Medicare Supplement Plan, Kaiser Senior Advantage, SCAN HMO, or Secure Horizons HMO. Additionally, LACERS retirees with Medicare A&B are

eligible to be reimbursed for their basic Medicare Part B premium rate. Approximately three months before you turn age 65, LACERS will mail you an information packet about Medicare requirements and plan options.

"Power of Attorney: If you have a Financial Power of Attorney (POA) on file with LACERS, someone you trust can make decisions for you regarding your LAC-

ERS retirement and health benefits in the event you are unable to. To set one up, you can consult with an attorney or if you are enrolled in a LACERS medical plan, LACERS' Evercare™ Solutions for Caregivers program can assist you. *Evercare* offers legal assistance and can help you in the

LACERS Update,
continued Page 37

Legislative Update, Ken Spiker reports:



Ken Spiker

City retirees live in all 50 states and several foreign countries. The states with the most retirees are California (13,373), Nevada (400), Arizona (271), Texas (206) Oregon (184) and Washington (139). The states/territories with the fewest, all with one each, are American Samoa, Delaware, Maine, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island and Vermont. The foreign countries with the most City retirees are the Philippines (17), Mexico (5) and Canada (4).

Ken also reports the following LACERS statistics as of the end of the year (2009):

LACERS statistics as of the end of the year (2009):

| | |
|--|---------|
| Active members: | 30,065 |
| Non-vested/deferred vested: | 4,554 |
| Service retirees: | 10,563 |
| Disability retirees: | 902 |
| Beneficiaries: | 3,526 |
| Total retirees and beneficiaries: | 14,991 |
| Average age of active members: | 46.4 |
| Average age at retirement (active): | 60 |
| Average age of service retirees: | 72 |
| Average age of beneficiaries: | 75.9 |
| Average years of service at retirement (service retirees): | 26.5 |
| Average monthly retirement benefit – | |
| Service retirees: | \$3,439 |
| Survivor continuance: | \$1,669 |
| Disability retirees: | \$1,416 |
| Weighted average: | \$2,901 |

RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit the RLACEI Website at www.rlacei.com to find the latest retirement news. If you find it helpful, or have suggestions for improvement, call Hal at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 707.

Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second Street, second floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans.

The Best Years

ADVENTURES with HAL!



Hal in Florence.

By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Call the Helpline to reach the officers of RLACEI. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership, call the helpline. Each officer's extension is listed below.

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| • R.S.V.P. | Ext. 701 |
| • Edward Harding | Ext. 703 |
| • Phil Skarin | Ext. 709 |
| • Michael Karsch | Ext. 704 |
| • Jerry Bardwell | Ext. 706 |
| • Harold Danowitz | Ext. 707 |
| • Jack Mathews | Ext. 712 |
| • Helen Salgado (membership) | Ext. 713 |
| • Americo Garza | Ext. 710 |
| • Tom Stemnock | Ext. 708 |
| • Mary Beetz | Ext. 711 |
| • Neil Ricci | Ext. 714 |

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Edward Harding, President
Kenneth Spiker, First Vice President
Tom Stemnock, Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz, Secretary
Jerry Bardwell, Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons

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

Directors

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



Italy, Land of Romance

■ Hal and Co. cruise their way through Europe. Part 3.

Evelyn and I took a 35-day trip, which included a self-guided week in Italy before a 28-day cruise that included Italy, Croatia, Greece, Spain, Morocco, Portugal and then an ocean crossing to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. This month, we pick-up our travels in Rome.

Our last night in Rome, we had dinner at a local place just a short walk from the hotel; the restaurant had a good mix of tourists and locals. The food was good, and we met a couple from South Africa (the second family we have met from there) and had a nice conversation. Evelyn had a small gelato on the way back to the hotel; she had coffee flavor this time. We were still looking for roasted banana. It sure was fun looking!

One last word about Rome: In Italian, Rome is spelled "Roma." Roma spelled backwards is *amor*! Bet you didn't know that. [Inquiring minds want to know, Hal! - Ed.]

We drove an Alpha Romeo, with a six-speed manual and diesel engine. It was very nice, roomy and comfortable. We left Rome on our way to Florence (175 miles) about 10:30 a.m. and, with our GPS, we had no problems leaving the city and getting to the A1 highway. We decided to stop at Orvieto, which friends had told us about. Orvieto is a city in southwestern Umbria, situated on the flat summit of a large butte of consolidated volcanic ash (called tuff in Italian). The site of the city is very dramatic, rising above the almost-vertical faces of tuff cliffs that are completed by defensive walls built of the same stone. Umbria is the area that borders Tuscany and, although it produces wine, too, is less known.

We parked in a lot just at the entrance of the town and walked up the narrow street to the top. We bought a couple of bottles of wine to take on the ship and a ceramic jug as a souvenir. Orvieto is known for its ceramics and they range in price from a couple of Euros to museum quality.

We stayed about two hours and then drove the rest of the way to Florence. We got there about 3:15 p.m. and checked into the hotel (Grand Hotel Mediterraneo). It was on the Arno River just a short walk to the historic areas of Florence. It was not as fancy as the one in Rome, but nice just the

same and the parking garage was only 20 Euros per night. Hal picked the hotel first based on the availability of parking.

Florence is the capital city of the Italian region of Tuscany and of the province of Florence. It is the most populous city in Tuscany with a population of approximately 367,000. The city lies on the River Arno and is known for its history and its importance in the Middle Ages and in the Renaissance, especially for its art and architecture. From 1865 to 1870, the city

was also the capital of the Kingdom of Italy. Prior to the unification of Italy in 1861, cities like Florence, Pisa and Venice were independent city-states and didn't hold much love for each other. There is a saying in Florence that "it is better to have a dead Florentian on your doorstep than a live Pisan in your home," and it's said that they still think that way today.

My feet were about to go on strike or at least join a union. We left the hotel at 8:30 a.m. and did not return until 6:30 p.m. We walked every place. Our first tour was a three-hour walking excursion of Florence. We saw all of the important sites about the history of the city. It gave us a very good overview - the company was called the Walking Tours of Florence.

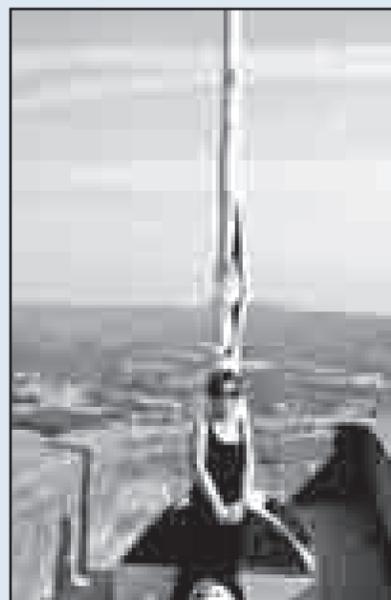
After breaking for lunch, we left for a two-hour highlight of the Uffizi Gallery. Our guide was very knowledgeable, and we learned a lot that we would not have known if we did not have a guide. Between our tours, Evelyn managed to get in some quick shopping. We also saw the home office of Ferragamo, where they even had a shoe museum! Our last assignment of the day was a one-hour tour of the Academia to see "The David," or *Michelangelo's David*. Again it was good to see it with a guide.

All three tours were great. The guides were experienced and spoke fluent English. Our guides were either American or American-educated. I would not recommend self-guided tours in any of the museums unless you have an advanced degree in Italian art; it is the guide who brings the art to life.

As for lunch, Evelyn did have banana gelato. Not the roasted variety, but we still had time in Italy to continue that pursuit.

Evelyn: *Between the second and third walking tour, we stopped, and Hal had a beer and I had a cappuccino. In a café, indoors or out, a cappuccino is about 4.40 Euros; at a coffee bar it is 1.40. We learned something very important - order your drinks at the bar and not sitting down at a table. The prices were much less. If you want to sit and people watch or just need a place to rest, the additional cost can be worth it, but not for a quick pick-me-up.*

Evelyn did have another observation.



Evelyn, with a view from Orvieto.



Florence.



In the States, there are few public drinking fountains and none that runs continually. We have a water shortage, remember. When you go to a restaurant and ask for water, it's usually from the tap unless you specify bottled. In Italy, it's completely different. There are water fountains for drinking everywhere, and water is plentiful. But when you go to a restaurant, the only water served is bottled. As a footnote, we did drink the tap water in both Rome and Florence, but not in a restaurant.

The next day, we were off to drive to Venice to meet Don and Myrna and then board our ship on Oct. 5.

In the morning, we drove from Florence to Venice (172 miles). It was a beautiful drive through the Italian countryside. We got lost only once. Just outside of Venice, I stopped for fuel (diesel), where a kind Italian driver helped me pump and pay for it. When we got back on the road I missed the ramp to Venice and had to go about 15 miles out of the way. A footnote about driving in Italy: With an English-speaking GPS, it is really a snap. The toll roads are very well maintained and easy to drive, but

the tolls are high compared to the United States, and the speed limit didn't seem to be enforced.

When we got to the Venice bus terminal where the Hertz office was, I managed to drive into the bus-only lot and sweet-talked a cop into not stopping us. I dropped off Evelyn with the luggage while I returned the car to Hertz. It took about 20 minutes; Evelyn found the porters, and we paid 30 Euros for them to haul our luggage to the hotel about 50 yards away, up and over two bridges.

Venice is in northern Italy. It's the capital of the Veneto region, with a population of around 270,000. The city historically was the capital of an independent nation. It has been described as "undoubtedly the most beautiful city built by man," and as being one of Europe's most romantic cities.

The city stretches across 118 small islands in the marshy Venetian Lagoon and the Adriatic Sea. The Republic of Venice was a major maritime power during the Middle Ages and Renaissance and a staging area for the Crusades, as well as a very important center of commerce and art in the 13th century up to the end of the 17th century.

Our hotel, Hotel Arlechino, was nice, with three stars; we had a room overlooking a canal. Don and Myrna were about a half hour ahead of us. After they had a short rest, we walked to Piazza San Marco (St. Mark Square), about 40 minutes away. The square seemed rundown and not at all as I remembered. Evelyn was



Evelyn rubs the Florence "pig" for luck.



The car for the drive between Rome and Florence.

very disappointed with the square also. The buildings on one entire side of the square were under renovation. That's fine, but hanging a banner the size of a football field over the scaffolding advertising jeans was depressing. We hung out for a while and took the Vaporetto (waterbus) back to the bus terminal. The waterbus was very busy and slow, but cheap – it didn't cost anything (the price was 6.5 Euros, but we didn't know, and no one asked for a ticket). We had dinner close to the hotel and then took a walk around the area. The weather was a little cooler, and we needed light jackets after the sun set. So far we had had excellent weather, and the forecast looked good for the near future.

We left the hotel late morning and had a porter take our bags to the bus terminal. It

took us a while until we figured out which bus would take us to the cruise terminal. The distance from the bus terminal to the cruise terminal was about a mile and a half, but it was an impossible walk with the bags we had. The bus was not marked very well. We had to load and unload our own bags, with no help from Holland-America (HAL. HAL is Holland-America; Hal is me!). Once we checked our bags at the baggage building, we walked a good 200 yards to the check-in area. We were given a number, and groups were called by number to get in line to check it. There was water available, and I thought the check-in process was very efficient.

Next month I'll pick up with the start of our cruise, which included an overnight stay in Venice.

RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

Rubin Kopensky and **Dian Titus** celebrated their tenth anniversary in October. As a gift, their son is taking them to Rome this spring. They live at 861 Ronda Mendoza, Unit 0, Laguna Woods, CA 92637.

Carleton Ralston writes, "I have long admired your generous service to our association. I am putting a dozen of my stories in a box and placing them in lobbies of doctors' offices, for people to read while they are waiting."

Phil Skarin's son, Ronald Skarin, Principal Building Inspector, Bldg. and Safety, was honored Jan. 7 at a retirement dinner for his 35 years of City service.

Frank Hood, from Hemet, turned 95 Jan. 30. He has been widowed three times.

To find the latest retirement news visit www.rlacei.com.

If you have news about yourself or other retirees that you would like to share, send it to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910.

Are you planning to retire soon? If you are, contact Helen Salgado, RLACEI Membership Chair and join the Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) for only \$1 a month.

An information sheet titled "Upon the Death of a Retired City Employee" is available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Phil Skarin at 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910.

The Annual Retirees' Poetry Contest had many outstanding poems. Here are the winners:

– MEMBERS CATEGORY:

First place: Frances Cota Schulz
Second place: Garry Pinnera
Third place: Marcella Butler
Fourth place: Carleton Ralston

– FAMILY CATEGORY:

First place: Micaela Alvarez
Second place: Jane Hanson
Third place: Sylvia Juhn
Fourth place: Derrick Price

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

A Balanced Relationship

A teeter-totter, to be in balance, needs people of similar weight on each end.

But in personal relationships, equality seldom exists.

The Creator has given each of us a unique combination of skills, strengths, talents and personality traits.

A person needs to be cognizant of the other's strengths and weaknesses, desires and fears, and act in a manner that will achieve a balance.

If I am stronger than you, I will try to be more gentle.

If you are hurting, I will listen with patience and empathy.

If life's burdens are too heavy, I will help you carry them.

So, it really takes some knowledge, understanding and effort to achieve "A Balanced Relationship."



Phil Skarin

LACERS Update

■ Mary Beetz, continued from page 35

preparation of a Financial Power of Attorney, a simple will, and a living will, all at nominal cost.

"In addition, Evercare provides resources to community caregiving services and arrangement of geriatric case management (which includes onsite assessment, care plan development and consultation). If you are providing care to a loved one, or you are being cared for, Evercare can help. Services are available nearby or across the country. For more information, contact LACERS or call Evercare directly at (866) 896-1895/TDHI (800) 647-6038 TTY. You can also visit their Website at www.evercarehealthplans.com/caregiver.

"For Anthem Subscribers: Beginning this year, LACERS Anthem Blue Cross plan will offer its members the MyHealth Advantage Gold Program. Through this program, if a gap in care is noted, Anthem will send you important information via MyHealth Note. My HealthNote summarizes office visits, prescription medication and medical services you received over a specified period and provides recommendations to help you manage your care and save you money. For more information about the program, call (866) 408-7197 M-F 8 am – 3 pm (EST) or visit www.anthem.com/ca.

"Early Retirees Update: Last Nov. 2, the enrollment period for the City's Early Retirement Incentive Program opened. The goal of the program was to retire 2,400 employees by the end of the fiscal year. To assist the City in reaching this goal, LACERS made a commitment to retire at least 350 members a month until the target goal of 2,400 members is achieved. Prior to LACERS making this commitment, it

had never retired more than 116 members in a single month, and 350 retirements represented approximately 70 percent of the service retirements it was staffed to process each year! Through the hard work and diligence of staff, 363 members were retired Jan. 2.

In each of the coming months, LACERS will continue to retire at least 350 members until all eligible ERIP applicants have been retired.

LACERS Update: Michael Karsch reports: "Beginning Jan. 1, 2010, Sacramento County is reducing its subsidy for retiree health benefits from a maximum of \$244 per month per person to \$144 per month. This comes on top of an attempt by the same county to eliminate the health care subsidy altogether for anyone retiring after June 1, 2007 (this elimination is being challenged in court). It is likely that the subsidy reduction will also be challenged. Either move by Sacramento County will be watched by other public entities as they confront deteriorating budgets.

"While the public pension is generally protected by a city charter (as is the case with Los Angeles City) as an inviolable contractual right, the health care program in retirement is up to the lawmaking body to continue; that is, the City Council can choose to eliminate or modify the subsidy by ordinance. The City Administrative Officer for the City has listed the subsidy reduction as among a series of cost-saving steps that the City could do. So far, the mayor and the Council have not considered such a move for the current fiscal year (2009-10) nor for the next (2010-11)."

Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!*, 311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013

New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

- Airports**
Martin Sato
Thomas Trujillo
- Animal Services**
Carliose Lane
Armando Lopez
- Aging**
Cameron Aguirre
Alvaro Ocampo
- Building and Safety**
Reinaldo Sanchez
- City Attorney**
Peter Harry
- City Council**
Damon Zilly
- General Services**
Louie Campos
Timothy Capels
Francis Carranza
Michael Chee
Miguel Garcia
Willie McClanahan Jr.
Rusty Merchant
Adeniyi Paris
Juan Perez
Ignacio Ruiz
Domenic Saraceno
Elidio Villasana Jr.
- ITA**
Chris Lupes
- Convention Center**
Paloma Salazar
- LAPD**
Carla Astorga
Gilbert Ayala
Darline Beatty
Thi Duc Bui
Rachel Canchola
Kristina Fuentes
Oakley Fungarole
Brittney Garza
John Gibbs
- Maria Hundertmark
Aaron Johnson
Mitchell Lambdin
Maria Lujan
Martha Martinez
Carmencita Navarro
Maricela Olmedo
Antonio Salazar
Jorge Torres

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering

Sanitation

Street Lighting

Rec and Parks

- Nasser Razepoor
- Esfandiar Ahoraiian
- James Clark
- Antonio Leon
- Douglas Melgar
- Paul Rodante
- Dennis Walker
- Thomas Wyatt
- Ricardo Valencia
- Deiandra Boykin
- Julian Casillas
- Sebastian Completo
- Tommy Cortez
- Richard Enriquez
- Daniel Guzman
- Herman Hendricks
- Alex Lomeli
- Martin Lopez
- Darryl Mathis
- George Myers
- Regino Padilla
- Miguel Palacios
- Jose Reynoso
- Federico Rico
- Jorge Rojas
- Hugo Sanchez
- Alexander Sanchez
- Douglas Wilks

Transportation

- Eduardo Agustin
- Teresa Estrada
- Sanjeen Gaur
- Undreus Lang

DWP

- Edna Bernal
- Devon Boldt
- Danny Gunawan
- Alan Kaeding
- Paul La Farge
- Jaime Mayorga
- Samuel Orellana
- Jason Pope
- Jeryl Rucker
- Anthony Ruiz
- Lawrence Smith III
- Kenneth Starr
- Joseph Wagoner

Retired

- John Gomez
- John Gonzales
- Glenda Nuzzi
- E. Ramirez
- Louis Robles
- Julian Torres

Other

- Marco Escobar
- Jon Fernandez
- Albert Foster
- Samson Haile
- James Harris
- David Hernandez
- Paul Johnson
- Yvonne Montoya
- Eboné Moses
- Bijan Sajadinia
- Oscar Salas

In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away. The number after the name indicates years of service.

Active

- Bowen, Harley, DWP, 21
- Diaz, Jesus, Airports, 3
- Moisan, Ronald, DWP, 19
- Parra, Mario, General Services, 10
- Tessema, Zena, DWP, 6

Retired

- Albecker, Wayne, Rec and Parks, 6
- Anderson, Jeffery, DWP, 25
- Avalos, Joseph, Maintenance Dept., 26
- Ayala, Victor, Public Works, 30
- Bahm, Warren, Rec and Parks, 32
- Balch, Barbara, LAPD, 33
- Balch, Donald, Public Works, 19
- Barrett, Maggie, Airports, 16
- Barrios, Jeanne, LAPD, 30
- Bennett, E.J. Jr., DWP, 31
- Brembry, Dorothy, General Services, 14
- Brown, Robert, Public Works, 34
- Calderon, Charles, Building and Safety, 23
- Calvert, Samuel, General Services, 25
- Chandler, Steven, Rec and Parks, 34
- Clark, Joyce, General Services, 25
- Cleghorn, Verna, DWP, 36
- Cofield, Eugene, Public Works, 36
- Copeland, Donald, DWP, 32
- Daly, Daniel, DWP, 36
- Daniel, Tyrus, DWP, 15
- Damron, Harry, DWP, 33
- Emmerling, Fawn, City Council, 10
- Estrada, Frank, Public Works, 32
- Frias, Eliseo, DWP, 35
- Haynes, Jupiter, DWP, 30
- Holt, Ivan, DWP, 22
- Hudson, Vera, Harbor, 25
- James, Earl, Rec and Parks, 29

- Johnson, Euwell, Public Works, 25
- Jovanelly, Lucy, City Clerk, 34
- Karpenske, Louis, Rec and Parks, 25
- Kelly, Jasper, DWP, 16
- Kinjo, Masumi, Public Works, 31
- Knight, Velda, Finance, 32
- Lacy, Estelle, DWP, 20
- Lensman, Eleanor, DWP, 15
- Low, Sam, DWP, 37
- Lopez, Gloria, Rec and Parks, 23
- Maste, Suresh, Public Works, 24
- Montoya, Eliseo, DWP, 33
- Morley, Daniel, Rec and Parks, 30
- Morris, George, Building and Safety, 31
- Mullen, Hugh, DWP, 30
- Nassraway, Louis, DWP, 34
- Piercy, Mary, DWP, 42
- Scott, Ben, DWP, 30
- Shapiro, Jack, DWP, 26
- Shide, Martin, Public Works, 32
- Shiroma, Noboru, DWP, 27
- Smith, Otis, DWP, 31
- Sprague, Laurant, DWP, 31
- Tanner, Doris, Public Works, 20
- Thomas, Emmette, DWP, 33
- Thompson, Henry, DWP, 20
- Valentine, Leonard, Airports, 45
- Vontoure, Marcel, Building and Safety, 44
- Ujiye, George, Building and Safety, 7
- Ward, William, Transportation, 35
- Weston, Edward, General Services, 10
- Williams, Bobbye, General Services, 25
- Williams, Grady, Public Works, 29
- Williams, James, General Services, 25
- Woodard, Elisha, Public Works, 11
- Wyatt, Alfornia, LAPD, 25
- Yamada, Kazuhiko, DWP, 21

Retirements

| NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS | NAME | TITLE | DEPT. | YEARS |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| Alayu, Teresita | Geographic Info. Spec. | Public Works | 32 | Parisi, Nicholas | Build. Mech. Inspector | Building and Safety | 24 |
| Atwood, Eileene | Wharfinger | Harbor | 38 | Perez, Mario | Irrigation Specialist | Rec and Parks | 38 |
| Barlahan, Primitiva | Accounting Clerk | Transportation | 35 | Perez, Robert | Sr. Mgmt. Analyst | Public Works | 27 |
| Chun, Sharon | Sr. Clerk Typist | Public Works | 22 | Polanco, Hector | Maint. Const. Helper | Airports | 34 |
| Dungo, Artemio | Architectural Assoc. | Public Works | 24 | Rendelman, Roger | Irrigation Specialist | Rec and Parks | 37 |
| Flores, Richard | Management Analyst | Airports | 42 | Rollins, George | Carpenter Supv. | Rec and Parks | 32 |
| Fuller, Gary | - | DWP | - | San Diego, Marte | Plumbing Heat Tee Advr. | Public Works | 28 |
| Gillingham, Charles | Construction Inspector | Public Works | 37 | Schwing, Eileen | Sr. Real Estate Officer | Airports | 18 |
| Gonzales, Gloria | Sr. Systems Analyst | Airports | 42 | Seminerio, Matthew | Survey Party Chief | Public Works | 15 |
| Haynie, Roger | - | DWP | - | Shores, James | Building Inspector | Building and Safety | 22 |
| Jain, Kulbir | Sr. Building Inspector | Building and Safety | 25 | Spang, Charles | Solid Resource Sprindt. | Public Works | 38 |
| Johnson, Beverly | Management Asst. | Airports | 33 | Szpikowski, Andrezej | Geotechnical Engr. | Building and Safety | 15 |
| Johnson, Timothy | Park Maintenance Supv. | Rec and Parks | 25 | Tang, Hau | Parking Meter Technician | Transportation | 21 |
| Kindred, Debbie | Exec. Admin. Asst. | Public Works | 38 | Trupin, Brian | Sr. Building Inspector | Building and Safety | 28 |
| Lovell, Steven | Sr. Carpenter | Airports | 10 | Vaca, Robert | Sr. Gardener | Rec and Parks | 36 |
| Miller, Flemon | - | DWP | - | Wang, Lucas | - | DWP | - |
| Mir, Mike | Auditor | Airports | 25 | Williams, Grace | Accounting Clerk | Airports | 28 |
| Musolff, Dennis | Building Inspector | Building and Safety | 18 | Wong, Ramon | Programmer Analyst | Airports | 32 |
| Nguyen, Nguyen | Sr. Const. Inspector | Public Works | 29 | | | | |



Births



Alana C. Patterson, born May 28, 2009, to Jonathan Patterson and Tamia Frierson. Alana's the granddaughter of Belinda Hill, Club Member.



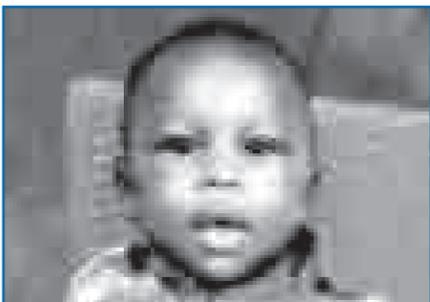
Camille Shanklin, born Sept. 30 to Michael and Bonita Shanklin, LAPD.



Brooklyn White, born May 18, 2009, to DelaShaun McBride. She's the great-granddaughter of Belinda Hill, Club Member.



Darryl Edward Webb III, born July 6. He's the grandson of Darryl Webb Sr., Public Works/Sanitation West Los Angeles Yard.



Kyle A. McBride, born Feb. 3, 2009, to DeRon McBride and Renika Jones. Kyle's the grandson of Belinda Hill, Club Member.

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



Graduations



Malaysia McBride graduated from elementary school June 12. She's the granddaughter of Belinda Hill and daughter of DeRon McBride and Sheryl Jackson.



Christopher Callo graduated as a registered nurse from Mt. San Antonio College.



Roger Callo Jr. graduated from Cal Poly Pomona in computer science in July.

Two sons of Roger Callo, DWVP, graduated from school last year:

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



Military



Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send us a photo – either formal or on duty, along with your name, City department and relationship to the subject. Send photos to *Alive!* in the Military, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 S. Spring St. Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013. Send digital photos to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Weddings

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



Special Achievements

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



Quinceañera

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

Insurance Products From the Club

The Club offers these group-rated insurance products to its members. Don't wait... make a positive step for your peace of mind today. Contact your Club Counselor for all the details of these plans.

Term Life (from \$10K to \$300K)
Safeguard your loved ones! Life insurance is a great way to protect them. Purchasing term life insurance also makes you eligible for the Club's famous refund check...whatever we don't spend in claims and overhead, we return to the policyholders. Smart...well managed...and service-oriented.

Spouse Life Insurance
Include your spouse with Club Term Life Insurance.

Long Term Disability Insurance
Protect yourself from career-ending traumas.

Long Term Care Insurance
Manage your future health-care costs with this Club package.

Cancer Insurance
Purchase a Cancer Insurance policy from the Club, and put this affliction out of your mind.

Group Rated Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

Use the power of the Club to protect yourself against the financial downfall of accidental death or dismemberment.

Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Take advantage of the Club's purchasing power (strength in numbers!) to get great rates for your auto and homeowners insurance.



Protect Your Family With Club Insurance. Today!

Your Counselor Can Help

Your Club Counselor will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Club's insurance packages. Look on page 4 to find out which Counselor represents your department ... or call (800) 464-0452.



Arlene Herrero



Eboné Moses



Brent Urban

CLUB HEADQUARTERS



E-Tickets: Your Ticket to Convenience

Club Store and Service center now delivers Disneyland, SeaWorld and Aquarium of the Pacific tickets to your email. Take advantage!

As part of its dedication to great service to City Employees, the Club one year ago introduced an E-ticket system, to deliver your Disneyland, SeaWorld and Aquarium of the Pacific tickets right to your email box.

The test succeeded!

More Disneyland, SeaWorld and Aquarium of the Pacific tickets are delivered via email now outnumber those picked up physically at the Club Store, and those sent by U.S. Mail.

And there's no postage fee. The E-ticket system adds nothing to the Club's already low prices on tickets.



"We're working on bringing other events and attractions to the E-ticket system," said the Club's Ticket Guy, Navin Cotton.

The Club is the only City association to offer the E-Ticket service to City Employees. You can't get this service anywhere else.

"People love our E-ticket system," the Ticket Guy said. "Everyone should take advantage of this great Club service."

Here's how to take advantage of the Club's E-ticket system:

- Order your tickets with the great Club discount as you normally would – by using the Club Store's Website; by calling the Club's Ticket Hotline; or by fax.
- Your Club ID number is required.
- For now, tickets to Disneyland, SeaWorld and Aquarium of the Pacific are eligible for the Club's E-ticket system. More attractions are expected to be added soon.
- Orders will be processed by the Club between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday (excepting holidays).
- The Club will send your tickets to the email address of your choice.
- You print your tickets any time and from any computer you choose. Bring those tickets with you, and you're done.
- Did your tickets get destroyed, or did you forget them someplace? You can reprint them from the same email.



Personal Finance Series

Financial Management Basics



What Are You Doing To Secure Your Retirement Dream?

Financial Management Basics is only for Active LACERS Members. It will help you:

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

The course also covers retirement planning and information about:

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

Financial Management Basics

March 5, 2010 – 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
 May 14, 2010 – 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.
 July 16, 2010 – 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

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

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

Reserve your seat today. Space is limited.



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

Newsbriefs

BIKE THEFT RING BUSTED:

LAPD detectives arrested two men over the Jan. 23-24 weekend, which broke up a downtown Los Angeles bicycle-theft ring and netted several stolen bicycles and parts, drug paraphernalia, and counterfeit money.

"This is a significant break for us," said Lt. Paul Vernon, who heads up the Central Detective Division. "There were 123 bicycles stolen downtown in 2009. That's 45 more than the year before, and we know there is more than one ring of thieves who are preying on bicyclists."

Police point to the increasing popularity of bicycling for sport and transportation among downtown residents and have attributed the increase in thefts to the proliferation of bicycles, many costing in the thousands of dollars.

On Jan. 22, undercover detectives met a man in Santa Monica to buy a bicycle that he had posted on *Craigslist*. The bike's real owner had



An LAPD Detective examines a possibly counterfeit bill.

reported the bike stolen on the same day, taken from the 500 block of Olympic Boulevard. Konstantin Rostovtsev, 51, listed the \$600 Sirmu bicycle for \$300, and included the after-market on-board computer in the asking price. After agreeing on the sale, detectives arrested the Ukrainian native for receiving stolen property.

Detectives used information from Rostovtsev's arrest to identify Edward Rene Arciga, 43, as another source of stolen bicycles. "We called Arciga and asked him if he had bikes for sale," Vernon said. Saturday, undercover detectives met Arciga at the Olive Motel on Sunset Boulevard. Arciga pulled a bicycle out of his Mercedes Benz's trunk and showed it to the detectives. When the detectives arrested Arciga, an accomplice opened the motel room's door. "The detectives called the man out and could immediately see bolt cutters and more bikes," Vernon added.

"This latter arrest was a gold mine," said Lt. Vernon. "We found the two men were also bleaching money to counterfeit \$100 bills," he alleged. Detectives found several counterfeit bills, a computer and a printer for making money, and evidence of heroin use, according to police. Secret Service agents seized a laptop computer, the counterfeit bills and manufacturing materials,

LAABP

Black History Month Events

Join the LAABP (Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel) for several festive, meaningful events honoring Black History Month.

Story and photos courtesy LAABP

The Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP) will kick off its African American Heritage Month observance with a variety of events throughout February. Here's a list of related activities:

■ **Literary Event and Book Fair:** LAABP kicks off African American Heritage Month with a literary event and book signing in the City Hall Rotunda from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 10, featuring local authors, published and recorded City employees, a writing seminar and giveaways. Join authors for a rousing discussion of books, writing techniques, and ideas and have your books personally autographed. Meet authors Kimberla Lawson Roby, Victor McLaughlin and local writer Pamela Samuels Young. There will be many current-release books available for purchase, and City

employees with published books and recorded CDs will also have their products available for sale. Free. Visit www.laabp.org or call (213) 978-7254 for information.

■ **Trailblazer Reception:** The LAABP will present and give tribute to African American City Employees who have made strides in leadership, professionalism and mentorship, opening the doors for other African Americans in City government. The reception is scheduled for between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 18 in the Tom Bradley Room, high atop City Hal. Free. Reservations required due to limited space. Contact Shawn McGee at (213) 485-2491 and visit www.laabp.org.

■ **Kuonja:** Flavors of Soul and Marketplace: The LAABP hosts this annual two-day celebration of African American Heritage Month, which will feature the dance students of the Debbie Allen Dance Academy on the first day and present the highly anticipated



Last year, the annual Fashion Show at the African Marketplace featured many City workers as models.

Afrocentric Fashion Show on the second day. The event, scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 23 and 24 at Fletcher Bowron Square downtown, will feature music, food, art, crafts and more. Free. Sponsored by the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP). Visit www.laabp.org or call

(213) 978-7254 for information.

The LAABP, with the other affirmative action associations representing the workforce of the City, is dedicated to the advancement and development of African Americans. Visit www.laabp.com to learn more or become a member.

continued

police said. Detectives booked Arciga for receiving stolen property, but he may face additional federal charges for counterfeiting.

"We think Arciga and Rostovtsev are just one of several rings working downtown," Lt. Vernon warned. "All bicyclists need to protect themselves with good locks, record their bike's serial number, and keep a receipt of the bike's purchase price to prove its value; and remember, don't leave a bike in a public place, even locked up, for longer than is necessary."

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY:

The LAPD's South Traffic Division held a pedestrian safety enforcement operation Jan. 14 along Western Avenue, from Martin Luther King Boulevard to Figueroa Street.

This operation was conducted to promote safety through the enforcement of vehicle verses pedestrian enforcement details in an effort to improve pedestrian safety, to change dangerous pedestrian behaviors, to change dangerous driver behavior, to change dangerous behaviors near school(s) and to reduce injury(s), death, and property damage associated with pedestrian verses vehicle traffic collisions.

The Officer-in-Charge was Sgt. Arturo R. Gomez, South Traffic Division, Community Traffic Services Unit. Approximately 10 traffic enforcement officers, three collision investigation officers, two traffic enforcement supervisors from the LAPD, South Traffic Division, along with five plain clothes officers and one plain clothes supervisor from Southwest Division were involved in the Pedestrian Crosswalk Safety Enforcement operation.

WESTCHESTER TRAFFIC:

Public Works, Transportation and the Westchester Business Improvement District joined Councilman Bill Rosendahl at a news conference Jan. 7 to announce the completion of the wider, greener and improved Sepulveda Boulevard from Lincoln Boulevard to Howard Hughes Parkway.

The Sepulveda Boulevard Improvement project that stretched from Howard Hughes Parkway to Lincoln Boulevard was an \$8.9-million project that began in the summer of 2007. It widened the street, allowing for three traffic lanes and street parking at the business area. The project also installed and landscaped medians; constructed right turn lanes at strategic locations; installed a storm drain and catch basins to relieve flooding during the rainy season; and added 193 trees to beautify and green the major Westchester thoroughfare.

The street improvement work was performed by Public Works. Partial funding was provided by Metro.



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 May 14, 2010 – 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
 July 16, 2010 – 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

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REVIEWS BY FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS

ENTERTAINMENT

DVD Reviews

**Medicine for Melancholy (2007)**

Not Rated

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

This film is about two people who spend a day and a half together discussing race, class and local politics in San Francisco. They visit some cool museums and dance at crowded clubs. The pop music references and intentionally vague character arcs grew old quickly. While this film is beautifully shot, I cannot recommend it, because many of the scenes drag, and there is very little storyline to the viewer engaged.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

**The Moon in the Gutter (1983)**

Not Rated

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This subtitled film is about a working-class Frenchman who tries to avenge his sister's death. The film follows the protagonist as he searches for her rapist. He encounters a number of eccentric supporting characters, including his tweaker (methamphetamine-using) brother, his drunken father, a jealous girlfriend and some memorable barflies. Each of them is interesting and compelling, and they assist the main character's quest. Together, it doesn't add up to a great film. The cinematography and Gerard Depardieu's acting are the highlights here, and they barely warrant a recommendation.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

**Humpday (2009)**

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This character study of two former best friends, Andy and Ben, as they reunite and bond, has an excellent, thoughtful script, and is very well acted. Most of all, it's a serious exploration of male bonding in a way that is so much more intriguing than the *I Love You Man* and *Knocked Up* vein of recent male-bonding comedies. Andy and Ben grew up together, but as adults have led contrasting lives—one is successful and married, the other is free-spirited, aloof and uncommitted. When they reunite, Andy and Ben rekindle their friendship in ways not many other films have explored, and certainly not in this way before. The film uses long takes of close-ups of the actors' faces to allow them to convey their feelings. It's a unique, engaging film that I strongly recommend.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

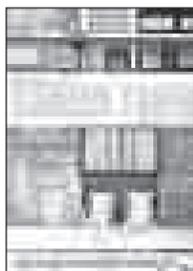
**The Limits of Control (2009)**

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Jim Jarmusch has created an action film without any action. Ostensibly about a hit man on a mission to kill an important person, this film explores and exploits the viewer's limits of what they have come to expect to see in contemporary action films. We are shown a brooding, well-dressed hit man who practices tai chi and does not use cell phones. Instead, he communicates on small pieces of paper with codes written on them, hidden inside matchbooks. The absence of action throughout this film withholds the gratification we are used to feeling when we see hit-man-type films. Here, the hit man's contacts espouse monologues (the hit man himself does not talk much) on topics such as the intersection between film and dreams, musical instruments, and the origin of the word "Bohemian." If you are patient, this film is worth seeing, just don't go in expecting a lot of action.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

**Somers Town (2009)**

Not Rated

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Marek and Tom, two adolescent boys from rural England, meet in a café and bond over photographs of a beautiful waitress. They become best friends, playing, stealing clothes, and getting drunk with each other, in this beautifully shot portrait of growing up in England.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

**Beautiful Losers (2008)**

Not Rated

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This documentary portrays a group of young artists as they mature in their lives and in their work. It is a very personal film, with heartfelt monologues from each of the artists discussed here. They talk about why they became artists, what their first projects were, and how their views have grown and changed, or not changed. I highly recommend it to anyone with even a passing interest in artistic expression or art as commodity.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

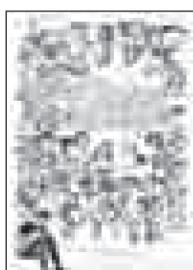
**The Cove (2009)**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Dark practices are surreptitiously filmed and shown to prominent representatives of the Japanese government in this surprisingly gripping, powerful documentary about the seasonal dolphin slaughter in a small fishing village in Japan. The global ties to this dolphin slaughter are massive. SeaWorld, Flipper and Greenpeace are all implicated as passive or active participants in the slaughter. I couldn't stop thinking about this film once it ended.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

**(500) Days of Summer (2009)**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This film is a teen-angst melodrama about unrequited love and different expectations between two people in a relationship. The acting here is impressive, with Joseph Gordon Levitt in his best role to date. He is in almost every scene, and his performance is so nuanced that he doesn't even need dialogue to convey his feelings. I rate his performance in this film as a major career achievement.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

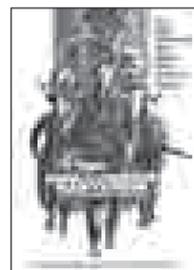
**The Best of Youth (2003)**

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This meandering Italian film about two brothers who lead very different lives is nuanced and thoughtful. Enormous in scope, *The Best of Youth* addresses many social and political themes, including the treatment of mentally ill people, the militant peace movement, the Mafia, and police interrogation techniques. The acting by the two leads is excellent. At more than six hours (divided into two DVDs), this film is touching, suspenseful and epic but never boring. It succeeds in its mission without feeling trite or erudite.

– Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation

**Inglorious Basterds (2009)**

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This fictional film directed by Quentin Tarantino is highly recommended because, like a lot of his films, it strangely yet enjoyably walks the lines between comedy, action and drama. Led by an American soldier (Brad Pitt), a specialized unit of troops designed to scare and stomp out the Nazis is set loose in war-torn Europe. This is followed by the calculating revenge of a hardened innocent's opportunity to seek closure in the death of her family. Steer clear if you don't enjoy subtleties and extreme violence, but definitely bring the popcorn if you seek rich dialog and satisfying endings.

– Robert Garcia LAPD

Theatre Reviews

**A Christmas Carol**Glendale Centre Theater
Closed**My Score: 4 (out of 5)**

If you wanted to experience the Christmas spirit, the ambiance of a warm and festive venue, than the Glendale Centre Theater was the place to accomplish just that. Families have been going to this theater for decades to see *A Christmas Carol*. It's a tradition for many in the Los Angeles area and a near ritual for others as it readies them to feel the full spirit of Christmas. Ebenezer Scrooge was vintage, and the costumes and singing brought the feeling of the way it was in the 19th-century Britain on Christmas Day.

– Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations

**Camelot**Pasadena Playhouse
Through Feb. 7**My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

Camelot is a musical interpretation of *The Once and Future King*, a novel by T.H. White. The cast was put together by Emmy Award-winning director, writer and producer David Lee. David Lee was the co-creator of *Frasier*. The sets were simple with no heavy armor; large choruses of singers may have been the norm with previous productions, placing attention on the myth of King Arthur and the his kingdom, but the theme here was more focused on the relationships between King Arthur, Lancelot and Guinevere. The production is appropriate for mature audiences.

– Robert Larios, Club Director of Operations

Your Reviews



100 Words or Fewer

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

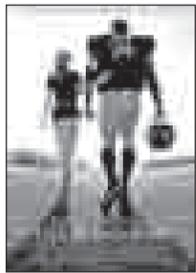
You can be a reviewer! Have you just seen a great movie or DVD? Read a great book? Been to a great play or musical? Write a brief review. It's easy! See the instruction box.

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- Have fun!

- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.

- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

MOVIE REVIEWS



The Blind Side

Rated PG

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This was the best movie I have seen in a long time. It brought out every emotion possible. Quinton Aaron did a fantastic job playing Michael Oher, a young man who had nothing,

but who becomes an All-American football player, his emotions and facial expressions showed everything.

Sandra Bullock was funny and sincere, along with the other actors who had great performances.

— Gwen Lew, DWP



The Princess and the Frog

Rated G

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Okay, I may be biased because I'm a huge Disney fan, but who isn't? And it's been a while since Disney gave Pixar a break and got back to good old [hand-

drawn] animation, so this was a welcomed film. This time, Tiana, a waitress dressed as a princess at Mardi Gras, is tricked into kissing a frog. The frog hopes she is a real princess and that he will be turned back into his former self. But his mistake turns her into a frog as well, hence the classic Disney adventure of finding the one who will change them back. They meet friends, sing songs and fall in love. Oh they do live happily ever after, and with that never-failing Disney twist involving true love conquers all, you still get that warm fuzzy feeling all over. Don't miss this one. P.S.: The kids loved it, too!

— Lisa Solis, DWP



It's Complicated

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

It's Complicated is a comedy for and about baby-boomers. Jane's (Meryl Streep) son is graduating college, and her now-remarried ex-husband, Jake (Alec Baldwin), is drawn to her again. They

have an affair, and all kinds of mayhem ensue.

This is a funny movie. It also stars Steve Martin as Jane's architect and amorous pursuer. *It's Complicated* presents one screwball dilemma after another, and it's a pleasure to watch Streep in such a wacky film. It may be borderline slapstick, but you can't help but have a good time.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

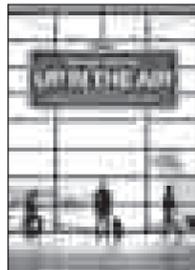
It's Complicated

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Jane (Meryl Streep) and Jake (Alec Baldwin) have been divorced for 10 years, and they end up starting a hot affair. At about the same time, Jane meets Adam (Steve Martin), who has been divorced for about three years and begins a working relationship with him that turns into more.

This is a very entertaining adult comedy with a great cast. I really enjoyed it and would not mind seeing it again. One of the best parts is the fact that all the funny stuff was not in the trailer and that the story was not all predictable.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



Up in the Air

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Ryan Bingham's job is to travel around the country, firing people. George Clooney stars as the care-free and unemotional Bingham in this excellent comedy/drama/tragedy, a film that leaves an impact

like an unsuspected punch to the stomach. Anyone who either has been fired, downsized or furloughed will instantly relate to the movie's heart-breaking message. For everyone else, *Up in the Air* is an exercise in empathy. Don't miss it.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



Did You Hear About the Morgans?

Rated PG

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

This is a very light comedy/drama starring the adorable Hugh Grant and Sarah Jessica Parker. They play a married couple who are separated

and, together, they witness a murder. Because the police are still looking for the murderer, they end up going into the witness protection program.

It is a cute movie, but I thought a lot of what was supposed to be funny, just wasn't. For example, what is funny about a ditzy blonde not knowing how to count up to six? If you want to see it, rent it!

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Did You Hear About the Morgans?

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

Sarah Jessica Parker plays a real estate agent whose husband, Hugh Grant, cheated on her. After three months of separation and his desperate attempts at reconciliation, they witness one of her clients being murdered. Forced into witness protection and life under the same roof,

they get to know each other and finally get to the bottom of why they fell apart in the first place.

I don't think Sarah Jessica Parker and Hugh Grant have much on-screen chemistry. The trailer gave away most of the funniest scenes, and Hugh Grant's British humor carried much of the film. But you might find this enjoyable nonetheless.

— Lisa Solis, DWP



Alvin and the Chipmunks 2

Rated: PG

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

I thought the movie was entertaining and funny. It was just like their movies when I was a kid. What really made it cute were the Chipettes.

There were four generations in our group, and everyone thought it was great.

— Pat Saucier, Club Member



Avatar

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

In the future, Jake Sully is a paraplegic marine, and he is sent to the moon Pandora on a mission. He has a dilemma: follow orders or protect the world he has grown to love.

This reportedly was the most expensive movie ever made, to date, and it looks great. The CGI (computer-generated-imagery) is in 3-D, and is astounding. The comic book characters and the weak story are another matter, however. I saw it on an IMAX screen, which I heartily recommend. Turn off your mind and enjoy this very long but totally thrilling ride.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Avatar

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Avatar is an adventure-sci-fi movie that's in 3-D, with humans going to an alien planet and trying to take something away from them and destroying their planet. It tells the story of typical money-hungry people.

I'm not one for 3-D movies, but this was pretty good. It's not a lot of special effects but more of enhancements. Not sure why this movie is making so much money, since the story was just okay.

— Gwen Lew, DWP



Sherlock Holmes

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Fans of director Guy Ritchie are rejoicing with his latest film, *Sherlock Holmes*, starring Robert Downey Jr. as Detective Holmes, and Jude Law as his partner, Dr. Watson. Here, Holmes

and Watson battle with assorted baddies who plot to take over England. Downey of course is wonderful, and Ritchie's touch of violence and humor is what makes him so unique. Particularly enjoyable is the use of computer-generated imagery to recreate London of an earlier era. The film score by Hans Zimmer is also a keeper. The film violence may be off-putting to some, but for Ritchie fans, it is "elementary."

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Sherlock Holmes

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Robert Downey Jr. plays a true version of the intelligent, eclectic and supremely eccentric *Sherlock Holmes*. Jude Law is most definitely the perfect depiction of Watson, his friend, involuntary caretaker and colleague. Together their mission is to uncover what would be Watson's last adventure before settling down. After arresting and hanging Lord Blackwood for his murderous supernatural ceremonies, it seems that he's risen from the dead. The game is afoot when Holmes must solve as to whether or not this is just a trick of fancy magic or if, in death, Lord Blackwood was made indestructible. The twist is that on Holmes' heels is the only woman to have had the upper hand on him, Irene Adler, (Rachel McAdams). She loves him but is his rival nonetheless and has an agenda of her own.

For me, the action started very late in the film, and Robert Downey Jr. walked a fine line between eccentric and silly, with his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes. It's very much worth the price of a movie ticket, though.

— Lisa Solis, DWP

Sherlock Holmes

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This was a very good Sherlock Holmes movie, with a fast-paced story and more action than most Sherlock movies. Robert Downey Jr. was great as Sherlock, and Jude Law did an excellent job playing Dr. Watson—he wasn't the typical bumbling sidekick. In this movie, Dr. Watson was more of a quick-witted and rugged character, with Holmes having a romantic interest in this movie (Rachel McAdams).

— Gwen Lew, DWP

Book Reviews



That Bird Has My Wings: The Autobiography of an Innocent Man on Death Row

Jarvis Jay Masters
Nonfiction/autobiography, 281 pages,
HarperCollins
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

That Bird Has My

Wings is the astounding memoir of death-row inmate Jarvis Masters and a testament to the tenacity of the human spirit and the talent of a fine writer. Offering scenes from his life that are at times poignant, revelatory, frightening, soul-stirring, painful, funny and uplifting, *That Bird Has My Wings* tells the story of the author's childhood with parents addicted to heroin, an abusive foster family, a life of crime and imprisonment, and the eventual embracing of Buddhism.

An inmate at San Quentin since the age of 19, Jarvis Jay Masters was moved to death row in 1990 after being convicted of conspiracy in the murder of a prison guard. In 2008, the California Supreme Court ordered an evidentiary hearing based on the substantial lack of evidence for Masters conviction. Many people believe in Masters' innocence and are actively

working within the legal system to free him.

This compelling inspirational book of faith can make you believe that changes can be made within oneself.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel



Heatwave

Richard Castle
Crime fiction,
208 pages, Hyperion
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

The title character from ABC's hit television series *Castle* kicks off his new series of books featuring tough and sexy New York

police detective Nikki Heat with a bang.

Richard Castle, proprietor of the successful Derrick Storm franchise, wants to introduce us to the new crime fighter in town. She's Nikki Heat, a sexy, opinionated NYPD homicide detective who is being asked to bite into more than her fair share of perplexing Big Apple murders. Adding insult to overwork, her boss assigns her to babysit a handsome Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter. Sparks are flying in every direction in this series.

This fun-to-read mystery book, which the

TV show *Castle* is based on, is a comically witty mystery book.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel



Bicycle Diaries

David Byrne
Adult essays,
320 pages, Viking
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This non-serious collection of essays by musician and artist David Byrne is part social commentary, part travelogue and part political commentary, with bicycling as the unifying concept. I enjoyed reading about the places the author has explored by bicycle, as well as his theories on the underfunded infrastructure problems cyclists encounter worldwide. But the best part for me was what some communities are doing to counter this lack of recognition by governments of the cycling community. Even in those instances when I disagreed with the author, his pro-cycling enthusiasm is unashamed, contagious and funny. I'm glad people write about their passions with such articulation and wit.

— Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation



Bobke II

Bob Roll
Adult nonfiction,
200 pages, Velo Press
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This bicycle-racing journal is written by a pro peloton rider who raced for the venerable 7-11 team in two Tours de France, as well as in many Euro classics and American stage races. Bobke illuminates his mentality at having to ride in race after race, many times not knowing in what country he will be racing the following day. He provides vivid descriptions of his races—how he was feeling, what he was thinking, and with whom he was racing.

Some of the chapters are gripping page-turners. For instance, Bobke gets lost riding up into some snowy New Mexico mountains, where he worries about dying, missing a scheduled dinner with friends, and his wife worrying about him. Exciting and hilarious, I recommend this book to cycling and sport fans.

— Erin Knight, Public Works/Sanitation



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A FREE Benefit to members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles

LAFD, LAPD

The Bald and the Beautiful

Two fire stations will be used for the St. Baldrick's head-shaving fundraiser against childhood cancers.

On Sat., March 20, Los Angeles City Fire and Police personnel – and other City Employees, too – will participate in their seventh annual combined St. Baldrick's event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

The locations (same as last year) are: Fire Station 81, 14355 Arminita St. in Panorama City; and Fire Station 112, 444 S. Harbor Blvd., Berth 86, in San Pedro.

The event features a free pancake breakfast, a blood and bone marrow drive, childwatch registration, and more.



From last year, Dustin Bulmer, Firefighter 89A, with Joanne Diede.

Participants and helpers are needed to staff this event. If you are able to help, please contact Lt. Greg Doyle at (818) 634-6127; Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240; or LAFD Engineer Sean Kennedy, (626) 664-8711. If you would like to be a "shavee" or you are interested in pledging, you can sign up at www.stbaldricks.org.



St. Baldrick's Info

- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Personnel (all are welcome, though)
- What:** Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research
- When:** Saturday, March 20, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Where:**
 - LAFD Fire Station 81, 14355 Arminita St., Panorama City; and
 - Fire Station 112, 444 S. Harbor Blvd., Berth 86, San Pedro.
- Why:** To raise money to fight childhood cancer
- How:** Sign up or donate at www.stbaldricks.org. Click on "Find an Event," and locate Los Angeles, Fire Station 81 or Fire Station 112.

For more information:

For more information, contact Lt. Greg Doyle, (818) 634-6127; LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240; or LAFD Engineer Sean Kennedy, (626) 664-8711.

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Appointments are highly recommended; availability to walk-ins is limited.



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

Newsbriefs

PARK NAMED:

Rec and Parks, in partnership with Councilmember Dennis Zine, renamed West Valley Park as "LAPD SWAT Officer Randal D. Simmons Park" in memory of the fallen LAPD SWAT officer Jan. 28.

Officer Randal D. Simmons, a 27-year veteran of the LAPD, was shot during a standoff that injured another officer and claimed the lives of five civilians Feb. 7, 2008. Officer Simmons was the first SWAT officer to die in the line of duty.

Officer Simmons committed much of his time to helping and comforting people in urban neighborhoods including Watts, Hacienda Village, Compton and Carson. He was an ordained minister at Glory Christian Fellowship International in Carson. He was instrumental in developing programs and Christian events for at-risk youth such as the annual "Greatest Toy Giveaway," which provided toys and gifts to more than 1,000 children during the holiday season. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; son, Matthew; and daughter, Gabrielle.

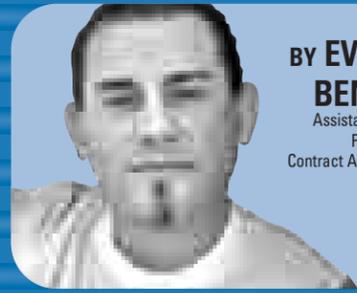
Officer Randal David Simmons Park will serve as a tribute to his personal sacrifice and his dedication to the community. West Valley Park is at 6731 Wilbur Ave. in the Reseda community. The 8.38-acre park includes a children's play area, walking paths, picnic tables and landscaping.

NEW TIDE GATES:

Public Works/Contract Administration and Engineering joined Councilman Bill Rosendahl Jan. 14 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the project that removed five severely corroded tide gates and electric gate controls. The old cast-iron gates have been replaced with stainless steel gates, and the new system effectively controls the water level in the Venice Canal.

In attendance were: Councilmember Bill Rosendahl; Public Works Commissioner Paula Daniels; City Engineer Gary Lee Moore; Inspector of Public Works John L. Reamer Jr.; and representatives of the Venice canals area.

THE CAR CLUB



BY EVERETT BENNETT
Assistant Inspector,
Public Works/
Contract Administration

Fun on Two Wheels



While our four-wheeled cars can be a means of escape, there is no comparison to being on two wheels. You can expect the wind in your hair, the sun on your face and bugs in your teeth while on the ultimate freedom ride; there are no air bags, center console, cup holder, heater, lumbar back support or air fresheners. Some people call them a death trap, but others call them fun. Welcome to the world of two wheels!

Louie Fee is a **Street Services Investigator, Public Works**, and grew up around bikes. His uncle is a former road racer from the early 1970s who really got him hooked.

Louie had his share of street bikes, but in 1991 he took a bad spill leaving Neptune's Net on the Pacific Coast Highway that threw him and his then-girlfriend all over the road. Once he was released from the hospital, he decided to hang his helmet up next to his crutches and go back to four wheels. After owning a few hot rods, though, the bike bug was itching, and Louie decided it was time to scratch it. His uncle was on board to help him build a

1970s-style Harley, and so they began spending every Sunday at swap meets rummaging through piles of parts. On one of those excursions, Louie found a 1999 Fatboy with a low mileage Evo engine for a good price. He opted to use an Evo engine since they are reliable and parts seem to be endless. He pulled the motor out of the bike and sold the rest of the parts. A rigid Paughco frame was then ordered to house the Evo motor, and Louie decided to leave it in bare metal rather than painting or powder-coating it. More trips to the Long Beach swap meet got him a Sportster gas tank, Z Bars (handlebars) and a 1945 Springer fork. The Springer fork is bolted to a 21-inch Speedmaster tire with no front brake.

The sissy bar was also found at the swap meet, and it came with a little history. "When I was looking at the bar, there was this braided thing that was hanging off of it, and I asked what it was. The guy said he hung out with this woman who made it. I figured it had seen some pretty cool things, so I decided to keep it on there." A 16-inch tire finishes off the rear. The rear tire does have a brake.

The paint scheme definitely helps Louie's bike stand out. He mimicked the paint style that was popular in the 1960s and '70s, with a combination of bright colors with metal flake and patterns. The tank has a gold color basecoat with gold metal flake, and lace patterns and fish scale patterns on top of that. Painting with just one color and metal flake is a task that you ask yourself, about halfway through, why you're attempting it. Mixing in patterns and other stuff separates the boys from the men, or girls from the women.

Louie's bike does not get lost in a parking lot flooded with stock bikes right out of the showroom. He put his personal touches and vision into a rolling piece of art that pays homage to bike builders and visionaries of yesteryear.

"The bike came out exactly the way I envisioned it. It is super-sketchy and a blast to ride at five miles per hour or 100. I would like to thank my uncle for the inspiration and help and all the people who sold me their parts."



PROUD OF YOUR WHEELS?
SEND IN A PHOTO!

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

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



Medieval Times Party

Great Club Exclusive!
\$19.99
March 27

See back cover

Angel's

Be Alive!



Angel Gomez,
The Club's
Director of
Member
Services

Solvang and Hearst Castle

Hello, everybody!

During our holiday break, I took the family up north to visit a few places. We took a short road trip through Solvang and to Hearst Castle. This trip was a relaxing voyage from beginning to end. My family

loved every second, and the views were incredible, with all the beach and land, rolling hills and open area. Beautiful! I would recommend to everyone. Let's begin.

First Stop: Solvang

Solvang is in Santa Barbara County and is one of the communities that make up the Santa Ynez Valley.

Solvang was founded in 1911 by a group of Danish educators, who traveled west to escape Midwestern winters. The city is home to bakeries, restaurants and merchants that offer a taste of Denmark in California.

The architecture of many of the buildings follows traditional Danish style.

There is a copy of the famous "Little Mermaid" statue from Copenhagen, as well as one featuring the bust of famed Danish fable writer Hans Christian Andersen, who wrote the "Little Mermaid" story, among others. A

replica of the Copenhagen observatory Rundetårn was finished in 1991 and can be seen in the city center.

Mission Santa Ines, one of the California missions, is near the center of the town, at the junction of State Route 246 and Alisal Road.

Solvang is a great place to visit and spend the day shopping and trying Danish treats.

I loved the buildings and all the great architectural designs. Many people visit; my guess is because there are restaurants, coffee shops and antiques to visit. Solvang has lots to see and is a great place to stop during your trip north, or on your way back again -- you get a second chance to stop by and pick up a few treats for your loved ones. Enjoy!

Aden, Kathy and Angel Jr. stand in front of the visitor center in Solvang.



Angel Jr. is making a call.



Angel Jr. and Aden ride the shoe.



Hearst Castle

Hearst Castle is a palatial estate on the central California coast and a National Historic Landmark. It was designed by architect Julia Morgan for William Randolph Hearst, a newspaper magnate from 1919 until 1947. In 1957, the Hearst Corporation donated the property to the state of California.

Since that time it has been maintained as state historic park, where the estate and its considerable collection of art and antiques are open for public tours. Despite its location far from any urban center, the site attracts roughly 1 million visitors per year. Hearst sometimes called it "the Ranch," and it's also sometimes referred to as "San Simeon," without distinguishing between the Hearst property and the unincorporated town of the same name.

In its Heyday

Invitations to Hearst Castle were highly coveted during its heyday in the 1920s and '30s. The Hollywood and political elite often visited, usually flying into the estate's airfield or taking a private Hearst-owned train car from Los Angeles. Charlie Chaplin, Cary Grant, the Marx Brothers, Charles Lindbergh, Joan Crawford, Clark Gable, James Stewart, Bob Hope, Calvin Coolidge, Franklin Roosevelt, and Winston Churchill were among Hearst's A-list guests. While guests were expected to attend the formal dinners each evening, they were normally left to their own devices during the day while Hearst directed his business affairs.

Hearst Castle was the inspiration for, but not the shooting location of, the "Xanadu" mansion of the 1941 Orson Welles film *Citizen Kane*, which was itself a fictionalization of William Randolph Hearst's career.

Design

The estate is a pastiche of historic architectural styles that its owner admired in his travels around Europe. Hearst was a voracious buyer who did not so much purchase art and antiques to furnish his home as built his home to get his bulging collection out of warehouses. This led to incongruous elements such as the private cinema, whose walls were lined with shelves of rare books. The floor plan of the Main Building is chaotic due to his habit of buying centuries-old ceilings, which dictated the proportions and decor of various rooms.

Amazing work!



Angel and the Hearst Castle sign.

Hearst Castle featured 56 bedrooms, 61 bathrooms, 19 sitting rooms, 127 acres of gardens, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, tennis courts, a movie theater, an airfield, and the world's largest private zoo. Zebras and other exotic animals still roam the grounds. There's a gravity-based water delivery system from a nearby mountain.

The total square footage of the castles on the estate exceeds 90,000 square feet. The area of Casa Grande, the "castle," is 60,645 square feet.

One highlight of the estate is the outdoor Neptune Pool, located near the edge of the hilltop, which offers an expansive vista of the mountains, ocean and the main house.

The Neptune Pool patio features an ancient Roman temple front transported wholesale from Europe and reconstructed at the site.

Time sure flies by when you are having fun; this trip was awesome! I recommend everyone take a weekend trip up north and enjoy all there is to see.

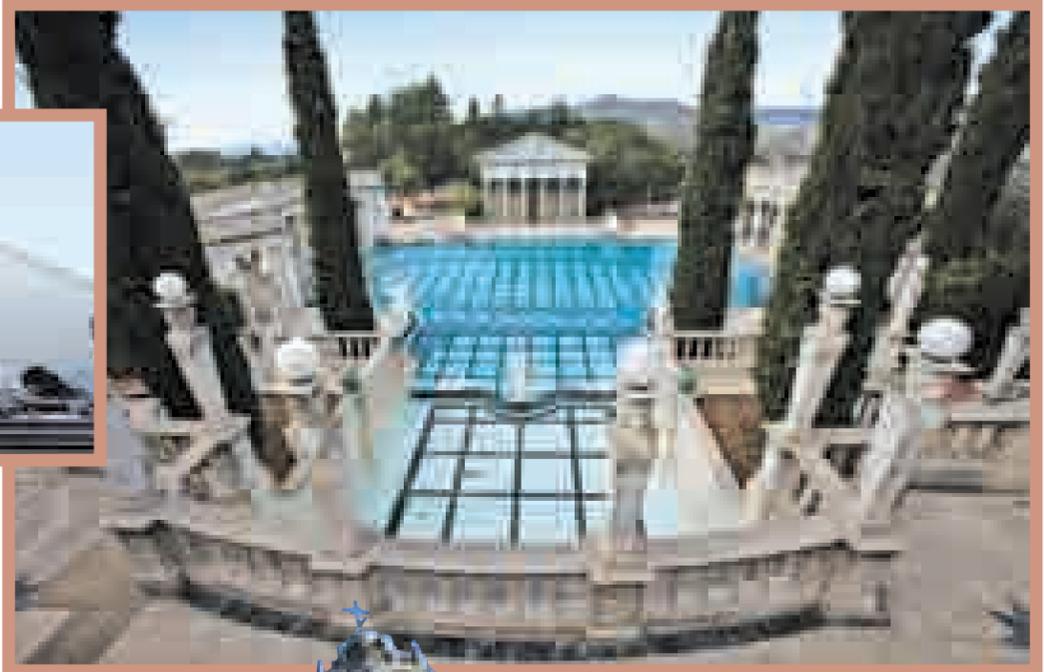
Thanks again for always stopping by and reading my small section on outdoor and indoor activities.

**Until next month,
be safe and Be Alive!**

— Angel

Ceiling architecture above dining room.

The famous Neptune Pool.



Directions and Info:

To Solvang:

- Take 405 north.
- Take US 101/Ventura Fwy. toward Ventura.
- Take the Ca-246 exit toward Lompoc/Solvang.
- Bear right for 5 miles to Solvang.
- 1576 Mission Drive Solvang, Ca. 93463

To Hearst Castle:

- US 101 north to San Luis Obispo, then the US 101 north about 40 miles.

HEARST CASTLE TICKET PRICES:

Experience Tour: \$24 adult; \$12 ages 6-17

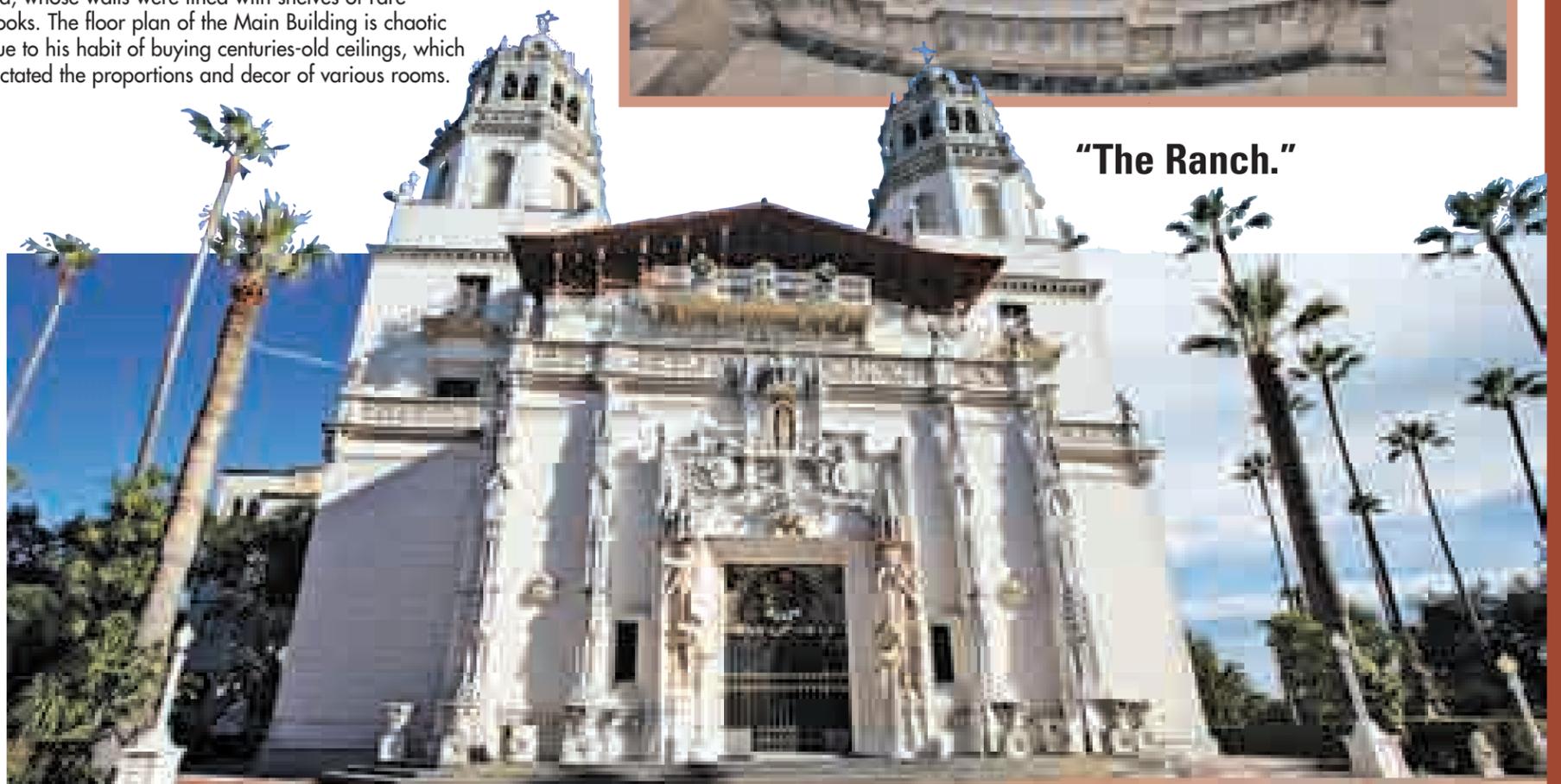
Tours 2, 3 or 4 (each): \$24 adult; \$12 ages 6-17

Evening Tour: \$30 adult; \$15 ages 6-17

- Children younger than six are free when accompanied by paying adult.
- While tickets may be purchased at the Visitor Center upon arrival, tour reservations are strongly recommended and may be reserved online or by calling (800) 444-4445.

HEARST CASTLE HOURS:

- March – Sept.: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. weekends.
- Oct.-Feb.: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. weekends
- There are extended hours on the first of every month (except January).



"The Ranch."



1

Ireland

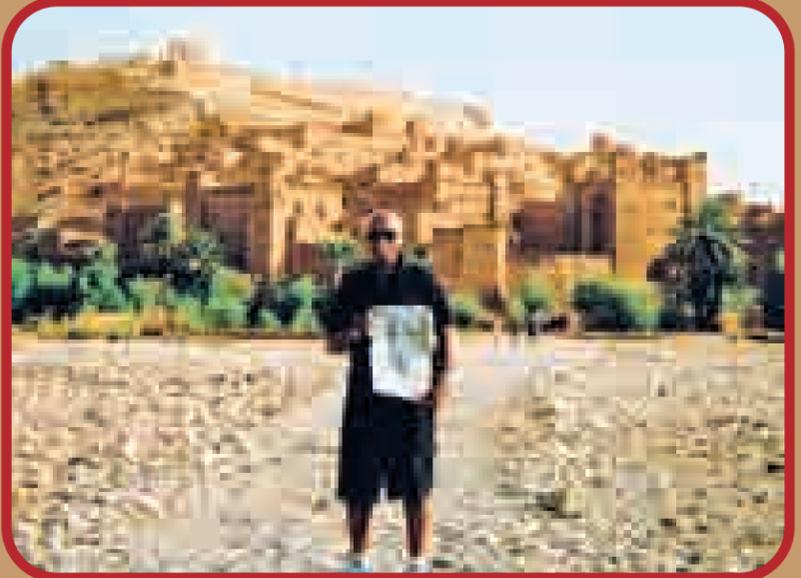


"I was in Ireland [in December] on a very brief trip to Newgrange, a prehistoric monument built by new stone age farmers and herders more than 5,000 years ago. It was designed to admit light from the rising winter solstice sun through a special window above the entrance. My head blocks the window in the photo. I am accompanied by Clare Tuffy, who manages all that programming at Newgrange."

- **Ed Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory, Rec and Parks**

2

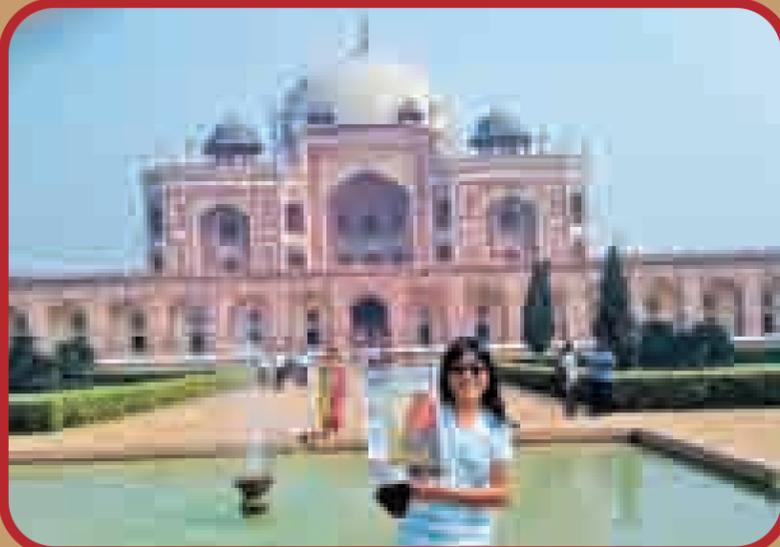
Morocco



Here's **John Wilbourne, retired**, in North Ataxia, Morocco.

3

India

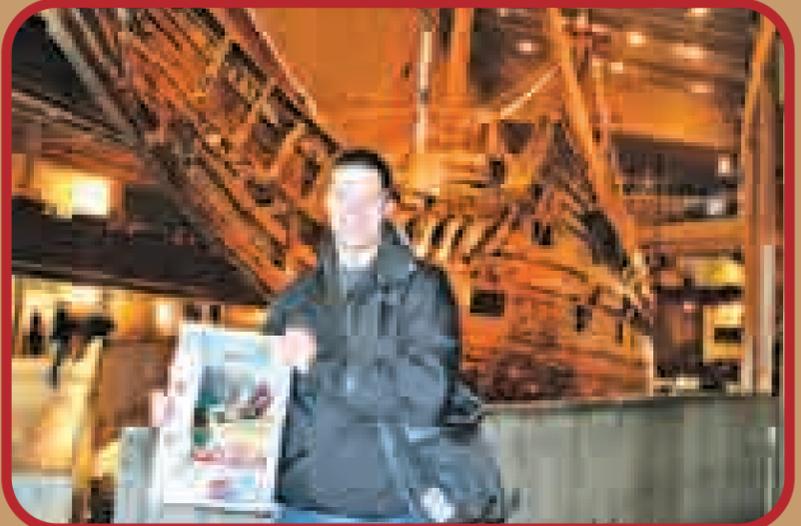


"This photo was taken at Humayun's Tomb in New Delhi, India."

- **Zin Imlay, Office of the City Attorney**

4

Sweden



"Here is a picture of my husband, **Matthew Tobin, Club Member**, in Stockholm, Sweden, with *Alive!*"

- **Carmel Tobin, Club Member**

5

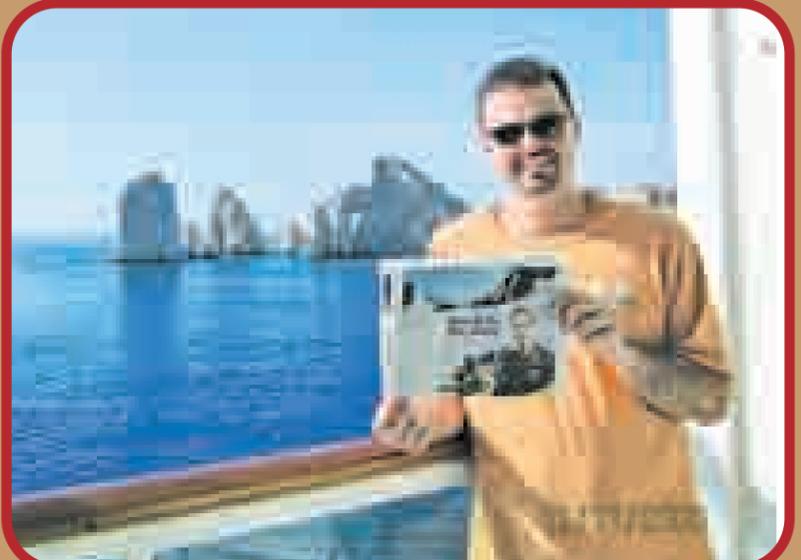
Spain



Baron Greenhouse, DWP, holding *Alive!* on his trip to the Caribbean and Spain.

6

Mexico

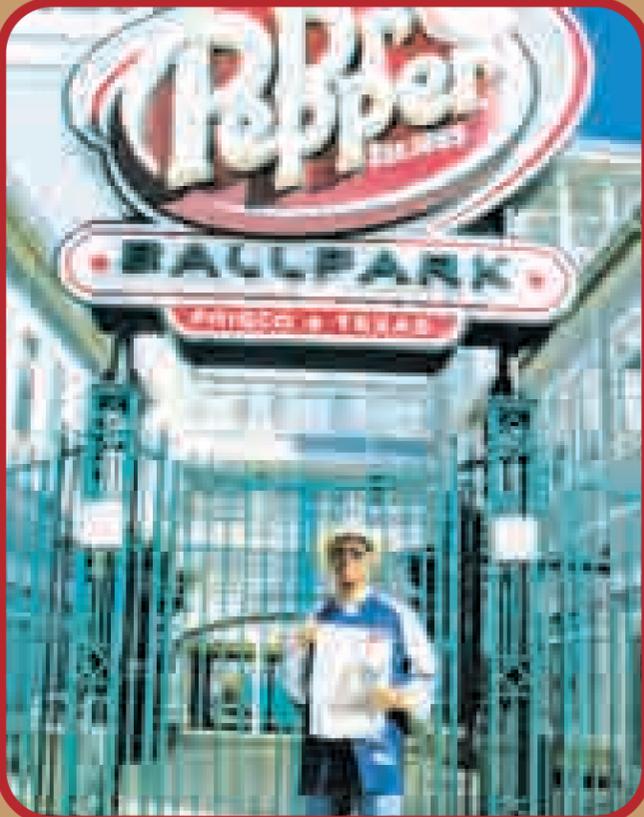


Here is **Mike Boyd's (Public Works/Sanitation)** latest cruise: On the balcony of the ship's stateroom, overlooking the arch in Cabo San Lucas.

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

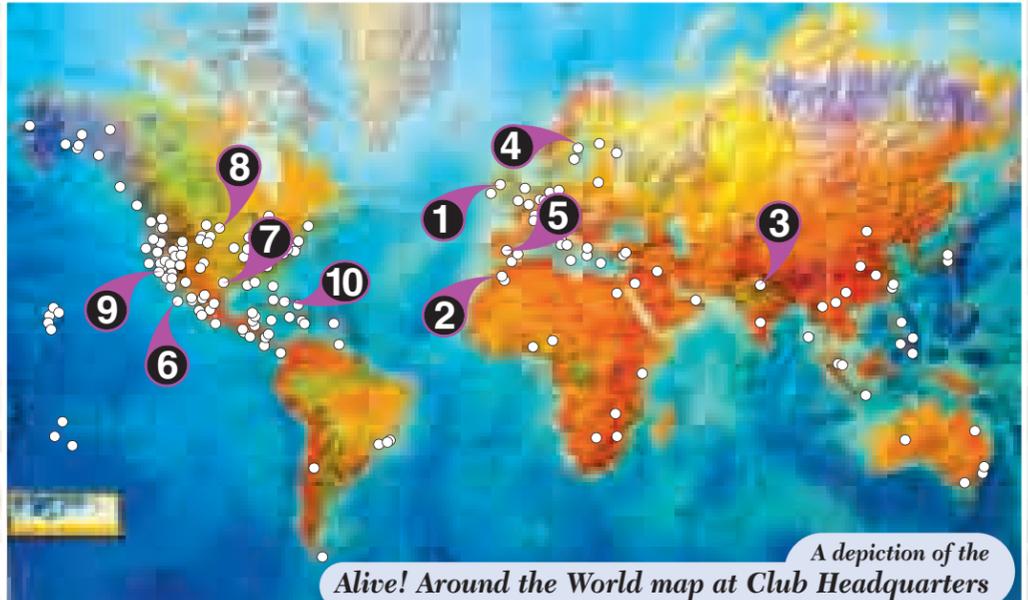


7 Texas



"I was at the Cowboys vs. Raiders football game on Thanksgiving Day at the new Cowboys stadium in Arlington, Texas. I also visited Dr. Pepper Ballpark in Frisco, Texas. Dr. Pepper Ballpark is the home of the Frisco Rough Riders AA baseball team, an affiliate of the Texas Rangers."

- William Flowers, Airports



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

Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a photo with you holding a copy, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print. We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!

8 S. Dakota



Here are **Lori Kwiatkowski, LAFD**, and her mother, Hortencia Gutierrez, at Mt. Rushmore.

9 California



Around the World ... Comes to Alive! Dearbhla McNulty, of Rathfarnham, Dublin, Ireland, and friend of *Alive!* editor John Burnes, holds her copy of *Alive!* on the Santa Barbara pier.

10 Bahamas



"I just went on my vacation in Decmeber to the Bahamas."
- Madora Sanders, DWP

{ *Who are the people you see every day?* }

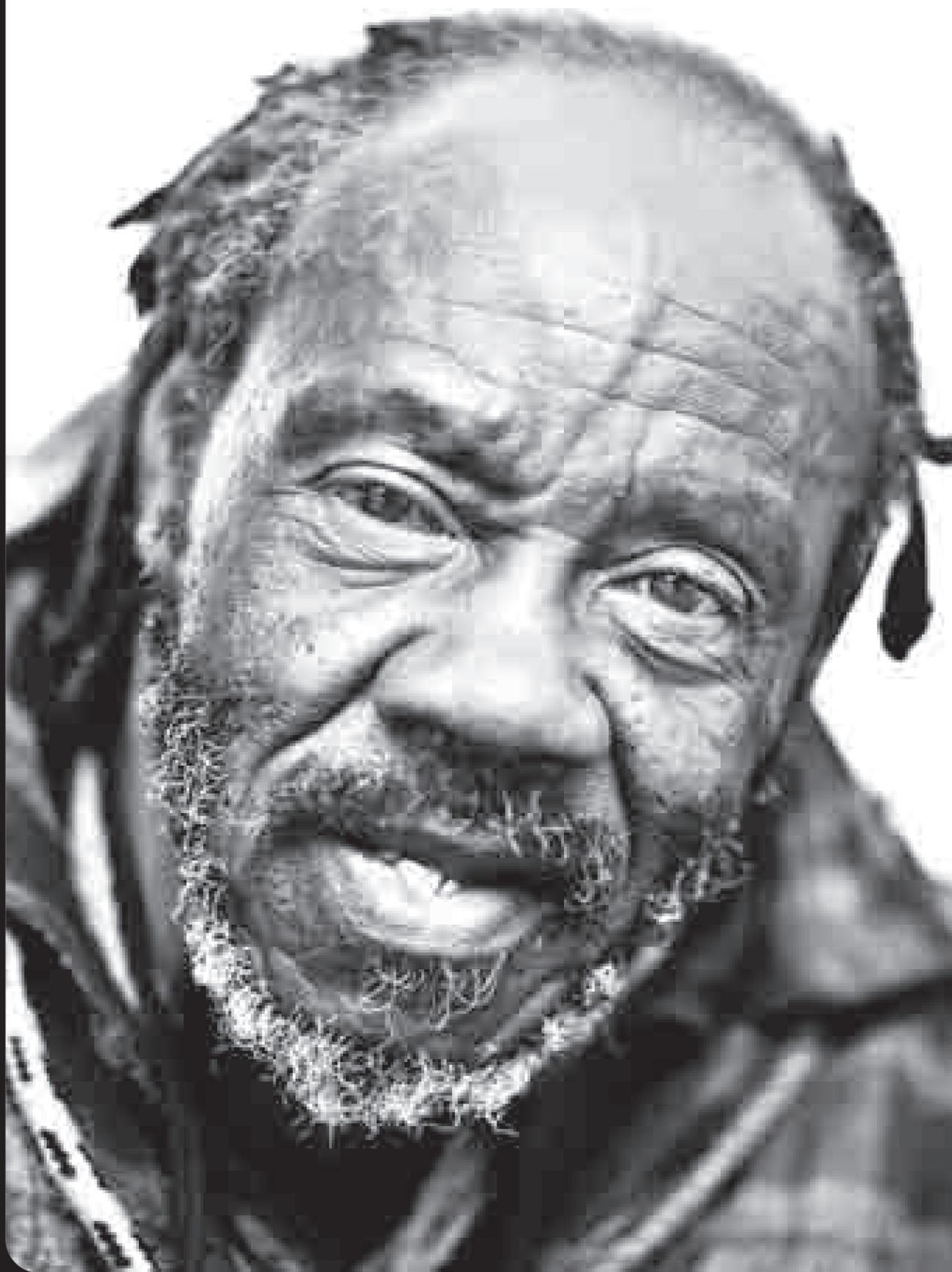
No. 25 in a series.

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



Meet Ronald Caldwell Sr.

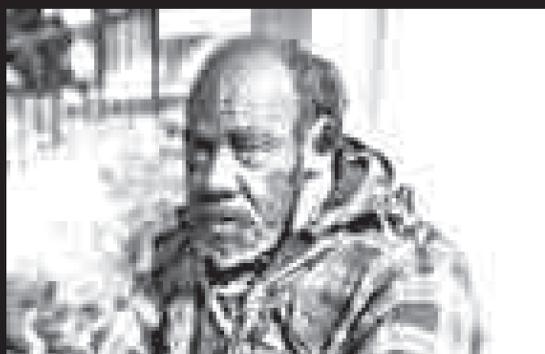


- AGE:** "I'm 62."
BIRTHPLACE: "Palestine."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "Jan. 3, 1960."
FAMILY: "I've got lots of brothers. Lots of sisters, too."
RELIGION: "Baptist."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "Socializing with friends and family at a bonfire."
TROPHIES/AWARDS/MEDALS: "I got some for weightlifting and football."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "152 E. Temple [the south lawn of City Hall]."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school, and then went to City College."
MILITARY: "I was in the U.S. Army, artillery division, as a gunner."
WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "In the U.S. Army."
FAVORITE SPORTS: "Football. I love the Raiders."
FAVORITE FOOD: "I like all types of food."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "I like dramas and documentaries."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "Charlton Heston."
FAVORITE ACTRESS: "Elizabeth Taylor."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "I like all types of music."
WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? "The Holy Bible."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "*I Love Lucy*."
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE WAR IN IRAQ? "War stinks."
WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS? "I don't have too many."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Make sure you fill out forms for housing and public welfare."
IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE? "I would love to go back home to Louisiana."
IF YOU HAD A MILLION DOLLARS, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT? "I'd use it to go back home to Louisiana."
IF YOU WERE THE MAYOR, WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO HELP THE HOMELESS? "I would lower crime and loitering."
WHAT WAS THE LAST THING YOU ATE? "Beans and tacos that I picked out of the trash."
WHO OR WHICH ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST HELP TO YOU? "Mr. Rusty at Adams and Grand. The L.A. Mission, too."
WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF FIVE YEARS FROM NOW? "Back in Louisiana."

The Club gave Ronald a McDonald's gift certificate, some cash, snacks, and a Club tote bag.

This interview took place Jan. 15 in the City Hall Mall.

Photos by Tom Hawkins



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins and Director of Member Services Angel Gomez introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }

CLASSIFIED ADS *Alive!* Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

For Rent: 2 BDR duplex w/ yard - Conveniently located 10 minutes from downtown L.A. asking \$1,100. Mr. Haro @ (951) 681-0791. 210

"Natural Form" twin mattress w/firmness and temp. adjustments. Still in box. Retail for over \$1500. Perfect for person w/ back problems. \$1200 OBO. (626) 331-3547 or rth7738@yahoo.com 210

2002 Mercedes SLK 320 w/Sport Package. Red hard-top convertible. Excellent condition. Sheepskin seatcovers, MP3 player, Bose speakers, extras. 92,000 miles. \$10,999. Kent @ (310)384-4018. 210

Monterey Bay Timeshare - \$795 for 6 nights, from July 25 - July 31, 2010. 2 Bd: king in master, twins in 2nd bdr, queen murphy bed in living area & 2 baths. Max occupancy of 6. Cable tv, dvd, cd, gas fp, gas bbq, w&d, pools, plus more. Terry @ (818) 769-3382; plz leave message. 210

For Rent: Room & private bath in newly redecorated Gardena townhouse. Use of kitchen & washer/dryer inside unit. \$500/mo. incl. utilities. Chris @ (310) 916-2008. 210

Poloroid 7" LCD TV widescreen, under cabinet w/ DVD-CD player AM/FM radio & remote. \$125. Regina @ (323) 754-8382. 210

2005 Keystone Springdale Travel Trailer, excellent condition, 27 footer w/slide out, fully equipped kitchen, sleeps 5 to 6 people. 13K or best sensible offer. Fred @ (818) 331-5754. 210

House For Rent- Downey: 3/1 w/ stone & hardwood floors, granite kitchen counters. Nice landscape & gardener included. Inside laundry, rear yard & 2-car garage. Close to Metro train. Contact (562) 965-5268-(562) 650-5078. 210

For Sale: 2 parcels of land (adjoining), San Jacinto County, Texas in Cape Royal subdivision. Interior lot, gated community, off shoreline of Lake Livingston. Nearby: golf, fishing, marina, lighted basketball & tennis courts. 0.1491 acres, priced for immediate sale, only \$750 each. Contact: cspicedj@yahoo.com 210



Handmade oak Loft Bed with Desk and Bookcase: 43" wide x 81" long. Birch drawers are dovetailed with sliders. Must see to appreciate. \$1200 OBO. Contact Nancy or Jim @ (818) 340-8059. 909

2 Leather Chairs: Brown, like new, asking \$450 for both, OBO. Call Carlos @ (310) 672-9026. 709

Thomasville Sofas, 2 matching, 7ft. each, clean, soft fabric, off-white, as new, \$600 for both. ggandaj@cox.net 509

Homes/Rentals/Land

For Rent: Nice 1 BDRM Apartment, West Side, Call Mr. Brown @ (323) 296-1547 110

For Rent: Shadow Hills, \$965, Very private area, 2 rooms w/ private bath in large house. Shared laundry, kitchen & storage. Utilities shared. Close to freeways. Excellent for walking and hiking, great trails. Call for more info. (818) 269-7069 110

Apts For Rent: 1 & 2 bdrm/1 bth w/parking @ 2324 4th Ave, LA 90018 in Historical West Adams. 1 bdrm \$925, 2bdrm \$1200. Rodger @ (323) 833-2922. 1209

Houses for Rent: 2 BR/ 1 BA \$1200/mo, 1 BR/ 1 BA \$1100/mo, Highland Park near Occidental College. Jerry @ (323) 428-7719. 1209

Townhouse for Rent: City of Ontario, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bth, attached garage w/large enclosed yard. A place to call home. Very clean and quaint. \$1,400/mo. Info @ (562) 322-6972. 1209

For Rent- 3 bd/1 ba, remodeled kitchen, living room, dining room & bathroom, 1-car secured garage. Security gate, new carpet, tile, paint & fixtures. Back porch with w/d hookup. Very quiet. W. 108th street. Close to public transportation. Details @ (323) 606-2983. 1109

Beautiful **two-story condo**, centrally located in the city of Upland, quiet community, accessible freeway/public transportation. PLUS new paint & flooring, 2bd/2ba including den w/fireplace, private patio, dishwasher, microwave, w/d connection, attached garage, private patio, community swimming pool & jacuzzi - \$1450 mo. Ask about Move-In special. Contact (626) 367-8892 or (626) 392-4554. 1109

Quaint cottage-style **house for rent** outside of Chinatown, Civic Center/Academy. Avail 10-1-09. 2 bd/1 ba. Hrdwd floors, granite tile, skylights, etc. Fruit tree/patio area for outdoor dining. Min from Pas, Glen, 5/110/101 freeways. 3 units total. Inc w&d, and 1 gated parking space. 1-year lease. No animals. Credit check mandatory. \$1200 a month. (323) 919-1163. 1009

House for sale: St. George, Utah, 55+, 3bdr/2ba. w/ family rm., over 1700 sq.ft. & large enclosed garden rm., 2 car carport, tool shed, covered patio & window awnings. Close to shopping, restaurants, health care facilities & new hospital. Price includes land ownership. Low assoc. fees include club house, pool, spa, RV & Boat parking. \$125,000. OBO! Call - Linda / Jim (951) 505-9755 or Karen (435) 215-4813, cell - (435) 680-1129. 1009



Rosarito Beach Condo: 2 bdr/ 2 bath w/ private balcony overlooking beach & city. \$50 - 75, nightly rate. Very clean, safe and beautiful. Call John @ (626) 233-5509. 1009

Twentynine Palms Cabin. On 5 acres, Desert Getaway, great view of mountain & desert, 5 miles from nearest town: Only \$150/weekend. Call Rocky @ (626) 506-3799. 1009

House in Highland Park: near Occidental College, 2 BR/ 1 BA/ 2 car parking, \$1250 per month. Jerry (323) 428-7719 cell 909

For Rent: Nice 1 bed room/1 bath/1 parking apartment is available at 1832 S. Curson Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90019. Immediate occupancy available. \$1050 month. Contact: Jafar @ (213) 255-6371. 909

Room for Rent: 1 Bedroom with own bathroom. Access to kitchen and laundry. Dish Network provided in bedroom. \$550 and shared utilities. Located in Oxnard - Off 101 Freeway. Homeowner commutes 5 days a week to Los Angeles area. Call for more details (805) 231-1869. 809

For Rent: Nice apartment near Eagle Rock/Highland Park area. 4 units- 2 bed 1 bath, kitchen, dining room, living room, 1 car garage. Upstairs unit has new paint, carpet, Very quiet laundry facility. Call for more information (626) 643-9770 or (626) 641-5654. 809

House for Rent. Los Angeles. About 3 miles South of Southwest Police Division. 3 Bedrooms, 1 bathroom. Ceramic Floors in Kitchen and Dining room. New Paint Inside and Out. Call Edwards @ (323) 759-9106. 809

For Sale - Two buildable lots in Lake Elizabeth. Build your dream/vacation home. Lake & golf, 25 minutes from Valencia. Beautiful country living, \$35,000 and \$59,000. Terms available. Call Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 809

Room for rent. Sunland, \$600. Utilities included. Kitchen/laundry privileges. Private bath. Street parking. Non-smoker, quiet, and clean. No other pets. Move-in \$1000. Call (818) 400-7235. 709

Sgl. Family House for Rent: Burbank - 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom, detached garage. Close to Media Area, private yard, \$2100 monthly. For appt call: Alex (818) 640-6212. 709



House for Rent: Van Nuys, 3 bdrm, 2 bth, 2 car garage; 1500 sq. ft., washer/dryer, ref/stove, dishwasher, fenced in back yard, near all schools. \$2,200. (818) 780-0647. 609



Palm Springs Condo for Rent. Close to shops, entertainment, restaurants and Spa & Casino Resort. 1 Bdrm 1 Bath, Beautiful gated community, 6 swimming pools, tennis court, green belt, park-like bbq areas. Call Martha (562) 301-2940. 509

Household Items

AFSI Circuit Breakers: Murray MP120AF Arc Fault 1 Pole 20 Amp. Fit most MFG Panels. 2008 NECA approved. Brand new in boxes. These normally sell for \$38 to \$40 each. 10 for sale at \$30 each. Call Kurt Kaufman at (805) 300-2147. 110

Stove & Refrigerator: white, 3 years old, Frigidaire brand, \$450.00. Call Curtis @ (323) 293-9320. 1009

Nordic Track AudioStrider 800 elliptical \$500. 18"-stride length. Interactive Audio CrossTrainer w/ iFit Workout Card technology. Entertainment port with MP3 input & built-in speakers. Includes clear equipment mat. Marisela @ (626) 358-5237 909

New Refrigerator, Kenmore, black, \$175. Great for travel or home usage. 2 ft high, 1 ft 7 inches wide and deep. 2.7 cu. Ft. interior w/ freezer. Norma at (818) 994-6695. 509

Cross-stitched Arts - Beautiful home décor, no frame, prices are negotiable. Call Nida & leave a message (909) 800-3207. 509

Miscellaneous

2 Cemetery Plots, Rose Hills, Garden of Gratitude. \$7,000. (626) 488-9206 110

All Occasions DJ! Are you seeking a great, affordable, DJ for your special event? \$ Is Tight but we still need to DANCE! DJLEWSIC@aol.com 1209

DRIVER: Luxury SUV available for all occasions. Affordable & comes with a DRIVER. Hurry, dates and times are going fast! LEWSIC@aol.com 1209

4 Cemetery plots for sale Reduced!! Rose Hills, was \$4500, now \$3500. That's 4 plots @ \$3500 ea. (323) 382-2405. 1009

Inglewood Park Cemetery - Double Capacity Crypt D-1092. Sanctuary of Sunset S.M.M. Tier-1. Retail price of \$10,095, I will sell for \$5,000. Call Edgar at (951) 243-7492 909

Cemetery Plot for sale: Inglewood Park, Lot 1 Single Grave C. Montcrest Vista Plot, appraised @ \$5200, asking \$4600. Please contact Valerie @ (323) 893-4061. 909

Melaleuca oil. Call Gilberto Barrera at (323) 695-3072. 809

Zippo lighter with Rams logo: like new in box. \$25 or best offer. Call Carlos (310) 672-9026. 709

2009 Oakland Raiders Turn Around Bus Trip. Come join other city employees at our annual trip to Oakland to see the Raiders take on the Philadelphia Eagles on October 18, 2009. Call Joe @ 909-519-8683 or email: raiderjo@roadrunner.com for more info. 609

2 Cemetery Plots for sale: Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, Lot 713, Internment Spaces 1 & 2, Eternal Love, Recently Appraised @ \$5,400 each, asking \$4,500 each or better. Contact Alex at limobug@aol.com 609

Balloon Wrap Machine w/video instructions and equipment. For sale \$150. Call Nyra @ (310) 634-6768. 609

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 on a space available basis. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

Travel / Timeshare

Escondido Timeshare for sale. Studio suite 1 Bdrm; sleeps 4 w/ full kitchen; overlooks 18 hole golf course. \$3,000. Brad @ (626) 297-2924. 1109

For Sale - Las Vegas Diamond Resort timeshare. 12,000 points to be used in any of the outstanding Diamond Resorts. Must Sell. Asking \$5,900 but price negotiable. Call Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 809

WorldMark by Wyndham Timeshare in Las Vegas for sale. You will receive 12,000 points once the property is sold. Call Danella (323) 434-1715. 709

Las Vegas time share condo for sale. 2 bedroom and studio, once every year. Contact Dannie (310) 532-0976. 709

Cabo San Lucas timeshare for sale. Studio suite 1 BA; sleeps 4 w/ full kitchen; private balcony overlooks ocean. \$3,000. Please call Gil @ (323) 661-7947. 609

Cancun time-share for rent. Only \$500 a week (Saturday to Saturday) anytime. Sleeps 4 with full kitchen, W/D, A/C CATV, VCR/DVD. Ice gallery member. Call Gina @ 818-265-5940 & leave msg. 509

Collectibles

Giant Star Trek Collection. 1,000's of items. Must sell as a whole. \$5,000 o.b.o. (310) 487-4557 or wrich1223@gmail.com for more info. 809

Silkstone Barbie Dolls: 2003 limited edition "A Model's Life" giftset. 2002 limited edition Maria "Therese." 2000 limited edition "Givenchy." Never out of box. Prices vary. Karen (213) 399-2182. 709

Various Beanie Babies from McDonald's \$2.00 - \$5.00 each. Call Greg (951) 235-3815. 509

Sports Memorabilia - All Sports and Non-Sports Cards. 25 Cents and Up, OBO. Greg (951) 235-3815. 509

NFL Ceramic Mugs/Tankards - 28 Teams, LA Rams, LA Raiders, Cowboys, Dolphins, etc. Past/Present NFL Teams, 5 3/8" Tall. (805) 338-1990. 909

ESTATE SERVICES - Appraisal or Liquidation of Fine Art, Collectibles and Coin & Stamp Collections. Call Michael (626) 592-2929. 709

Wanted

I purchase: Coins, Stamps, WWII Items, Hunting/ Pocket Knives, Trains, vintage tools, Fishing reels & lures, Almost anything old! Collections or single items. Call Michael (909) 592-4332 110

Vintage stereo/Radio equipment, Receivers. Marantz, Yamaha, etc. 1975 and older. Call (805) 300-2147 709

Wanted: Your Childhood Barbie Dolls and Clothes. I collect dolls from 1959 - 1966 and pay top dollar! I will buy 1 - 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl (818) 771-4835. 709

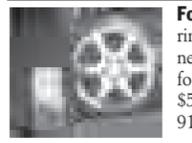
Wanted: YOUR TOY TRAINS, any age, any size. Call Mike (818)-831-0846. 709

Autos / Motorcycles / Boats

03 Honda TRX 90: New tires all around - Just serviced, great ATV for beginners, has Throttle Limiter. \$11,000 OBO. (323) 216-6877 1209



1949 Chevrolet Fleetline: 2 Door, no motor or transmission. Chopped top & most of bodywork done. Frame has been sanded & painted black. \$1700. Everett @ (818) 339-2092. 1209



For Sale: New Toyota rims 15x7 for \$350 and new tires 205-60 R15 for \$220 or both for \$530. Victor @ (626) 919-3471. 1109



1997 Honda CR250, Great beginners bike, includes green sticker through Jun 2010. \$1,500. Call (661) 212-4425 or email colercarr@yahoo.com. 1109



2003 Kawasaki KX 100, Original owner, low hours, never raced. \$2,800. Call (661) 212-4425 or email colercarr@yahoo.com. 1109

1990 Ford Magnum 28 ft. RV. Good condition, \$10,000. Art @ (818) 472-0473. 1109



1994 Dodge Viper RT/10: Convertible, V-10, 450 hp, 460 torque, very fast, always garaged, 29,600 mls, Viper factory rebuilt engine 609

at 8,982 miles, w/ all factory updates performed. New custom black paint w/ silver metallic stripes, new Michelin Pilot Sports tires. Original rims chromed & center-piece painted by artist. Cat-back exhaust, A/C, power steering, tilt & alarm, hard-top, soft-top & side windows, D.C. performance maintained, perfect condition. Matt @ (818)448-9501. \$39,900 obo. 1109

Black 2007 Road King: 4,500 miles, six speed, Quadzilla fairing, Air ride adjustable suspension, 518 Chubby bars, Magnum braided cables, passenger back rest. \$17,000. Call Gilbert @ (909) 714 -4071. 1009

For sale: Set of 4 tires/rims for 2006-7 Dodge Charger. 10 spoke 19" 6000 miles, great shape. Rick @ (951) 217-2878. 909

1996 White Toyota. Avalon XLS- great condition - \$2450 (Diamond Bar). Call Robert (909) 348-7000. 909

Super Beetle 1971, 2 Dr, yellow, convertible. Disk brakes, McPherson Struts, does not have to be smuggled, runs good. \$2495 or make offer. (818) 361-3444 or familyforbes@mac.com (Attn: Abe) 809



1994 Black Ford Probe; 52,000 miles; good condition; leather interior; moon roof; A/C; radio and single CD player; five speed; power steering, cruise control; new engine, transmission, clutch, tires and wheels! \$3,200 OBO. Contact: Valerie McCain (323) 757-0386 809



2002 Smoke Grey Ford Taurus; 109,000 miles; new paint, tires/wheels; moon roof; tinted windows; power steering and brakes, power adjustable brakes; A/C; radio and single CD player; power windows and seats; \$3,200 OBO. Contact: Valerie McCain (323) 757-0386 809



1974 Karmann Ghia completely restored, 10 miles on newly 1600 rebuilt engine. \$8500 OBO. E-mail me: msbabydi@yahoo.com for more information. 809

1972 Chevy Chevelle 2 dr. coupe fully restored, 10K miles, new 350 H.O. engine, 350 trans., blue, SS Cragers. Great investment \$16,000. Contact John (626) 331-0728. Have questions? Call (626) 241-3825. 709

Wilderness 27ft. Tow Trailer w/ 1 slide out, new upgrades & carpet, great condition, full kitchen, 2 door entry, must sell \$6000 obo. Call (661) 305-0483. 709

Classic pick-up Chevrolet 1978, 6 cylinders stander Trs. Heavy duty, 76,000 original miles, runs great. Asking 2,800 O.B.O. (213) 220-1738 serious buyers pls. 709

1989 Cadillac El Dorado Biarritz: for sale \$2100/obo. Blue exterior, white leather interior, 72,000 miles, good condition. Call Nyra @ (310) 634-6768. 609

2001 Toyota Celica GT: Silver, charcoal interior, fully loaded. Good condition. 76,300 miles. \$7,200 OBO. (213)249-4590 409



2001 Monaco motor home, approx. 39,500 miles 38' diesel pusher with 6 speed Alison transmission, 2 slides, with 4-door deluxe refrigerator, washer & dryer, generator, satellite dish w/ 2 TV's, VCR & DVD players. Well equipped and in good condition. Asking \$70,000 or make an offer. Call 909-229-6540. 409

Electronics/Computers

XBOX elite 120gb all accessories, Microsoft warranty seal intact \$225. Call or text (818) 399-7189, email for pic: miglan09@att.net. 1109

37" Sharp Analog TV with converter box. Excellent condition, \$350. Call (323) 227-8067 after 6:30 pm, Monday - Friday and after 9:00 am Saturday and Sunday. 809

Furniture



Dining room set: Travertine marble and seats 6: OBO or if anyone can use it email godfth32@sbcglobal.net or Gaylynn Thomas at gaylynnt@msn.com 909



Great Club Benefit:

**An annual membership to
24 Hour Fitness...
at one-third the regular price!**
– See details below



**Lots of Club
Members have
already signed up!**

The Club Wants You to

Get *Fit* for 2010!

Is getting in shape on your list of New Year's resolutions? It should be, because getting into shape is one of the best things you can do for yourself.

SPECIAL CLUB MEMBER BENEFIT
24 HOUR FITNESS
only \$199 for one year!



You can afford to get in shape in 2010

Sign up for an incredible deal – an annual membership to 24 Hour Fitness for just \$199 – **that's almost two-thirds off the regular price** of \$533.97. *Incredible!*

With lots of 24 Hour Fitness locations in Los Angeles, you're bound to be close to one.

What are you waiting for?

Sign up at the Club Store online:
www.cityemployeesclub.com (login required)
or in person at the
Club Store and Service Center,
120 W. Second St., 90012 downtown.

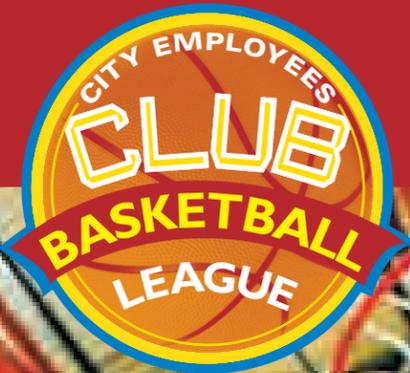
Be fully *alive* – and get fit in 2010.

Take advantage now!

Restrictions:

- These certificates are for All-Club Sport Membership and does not include access to Super-Sport and Ultra-Sport locations.
- Offer not valid for current 24 Hour Fitness members.
- Must be at least 18 years old (19 in NE), or 12 with parent/legal guardian.
- Offer good for a 12-month All-Club Sport, limited term non-renewable membership.
- No other discounts with this offer.
- At the time of redemption, any other products or agreements being purchased must be paid for separately to 24 Hour Fitness.
- Facilities and amenities vary per location.
- Not all clubs open 24 hours.
- Personal training and Kid's Club available for an additional fee paid to 24 Hour Fitness.
- Available at participating locations only.
- Membership must be activated in club.
- Not for re-sale. • No cash value.

Join the new Club Basketball League



It's Time for Basketball!

Deadline has been extended for Club basketball league. Get in on the fun!

Calling all City hoopsters – and hoop stars! Join the new Club-sponsored Basketball League.

All Club Members are eligible to join. League memberships are paid for by the Club.

“Everyone has told us how much they’re loving the Club Softball League,” said the Club’s Sports Dude, Robert Larios. “There’s been real excitement on the fields.

“And we just know there are lots of great basketball players, too,” he continued. “So don’t wait. Let’s get dribbling, and show your stuff!”

For now, the league is for men only. A minimum of five teams is needed for the league to form.

Registration deadline has been extended.

Possible gym locations are:

- Expo Sports Complex in Exposition Park; and/or
- LACES Recreation Center in the Fairfax area.

Games may be played at 7, 8 or 9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. A playoff and championship game are planned.

“We’re really excited about this first hoops league,” Larios said. “It’s another great service the Club provides. So sign up!”

All participants must be Club Members in good standing.

Contact Robert Larios, the Sports Dude, for registration information:

- sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452, ext. 134
- www.cityemployeesclub.com

CLUB SPORTS



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



From work to play instantly.

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palm pré

- 16GB (1GB available)
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- 2MP camera
- 2MP video camera



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John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN \$25 WalMart Card
 NEXT DEADLINE: February 15
 Happy Snapping!



"I caught this plane on landing approach to LAX under the 'blue' moon on New Year's Eve, 2009. [A 'blue' moon is a second full moon occurring in one calendar month. - Ed.] 'Blue' moons usually occur every 2.7 years, but 'blue' moons on New Year's Eve occur only every 19 years. This photo is not a Photoshop composite of multiple images. However, the original photo was cropped, exposure-and-contrast adjusted, and sharpened for enhanced visual impact."

- Cuong Nguyen, ITA

John's comments: Holy mackerel, Cuong, this is crazy cool. Thanks for sharing this super awesome photo!



"We were waiting to be served at this restaurant (in New York) and it was raining, so I decided to take a slow-motion picture of the pedestrians. This is the one I liked the best."

- Luis Aguilar, Convention Center

John's comments: The table, the chairs, the linen and empty glasses contrasting with the classic New York foot traffic is really intriguing, Luis. I also liked the choice of going to black and white, creating further contrast against the background and table. Nice work, Luis!



"This photo is of a lineman installing aircraft marker balls on the DWP's transmission static lines above an energized 230kv circuit that runs along the L.A. River across from Piper Tech. I was on the tower about 100 feet north of them. Taken on Oct. 11."

- Juan Guevara, DWP

John's comments: Truly amazing. You captured an amazing moment with perfect precision and clarity. It really is awesome what DWP employees consider a "normal day on the job." Thank you, Juan!



"I was lucky to get this picture while whale watching in Juneau, Alaska."

- James Howlett, Harbor

John's comments: Whale-watching excursions are fun, but trying to get a photo of the whales as they break the surface is close to impossible. You never know when or where they are going to surface, and you have only a second or two to aim, let the camera focus and shoot. James, hats off to you for capturing the elusive whale tail!

RULES:

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

Get Medieval!

Medieval Times: Club Party, March 27

See back cover

Blind Childrens Center



A MODEL PROGRAM

Inclusive environment providing specialized services for young children and their families.

All services are FREE and provided in a culturally sensitive environment.

Class at the Blind Childrens Center

70TH ANNIVERSARY

- INFANT PROGRAM
- PRESCHOOL
- KINDERGARTEN
- FIRST GRADE
- SECOND GRADE
- HALF DAY & FULL DAY PROGRAMS

www.blindchildrenscenter.org • info@blindchildrenscenter.org

24 HOUR DENTAL EMERGENCY SERVICE

Dentists on emergency call 24 hours a day for emergency care. If the call does not go through, call another office within 15 minutes. Dentist should answer, unless call phone reception problem.

TYPICAL EMERGENCY PROBLEMS and TREATMENTS:

1. Loose Teeth: Adults are typically treated with emergency care removal (extraction) or retention.
2. Broken Teeth: are typically treated with cosmetic bonding procedures as a temporary measure that may need further treatment such as crown.
3. Loose crowns: are typically treated with reattachment if crown shows that it's ready to fit. (Call during office hours 7am-6pm)
4. Loose tooth from trauma (something hit you in the face): may be saved with splinting the tooth with orthodontic wire.
5. Lost crown, especially from work, is typically treated cosmetically with a new temporary crown as an emergency basis.

You will experience NO pain during the dental procedure with full anesthesia. Afterwards, dentists prescribe pain medicine and antibiotics.

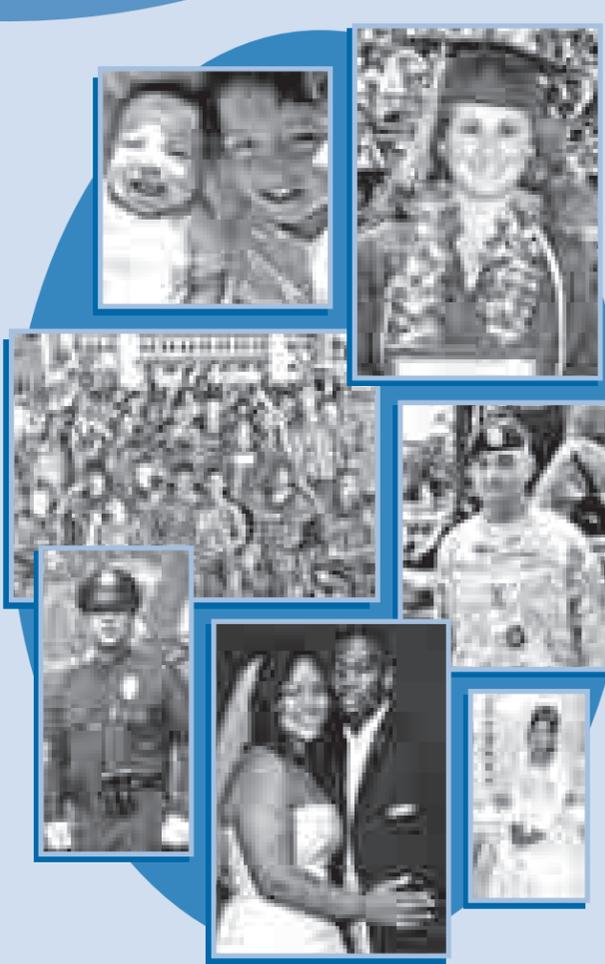
www.top10losangelesdentists.com

24 Hour Dentist: (213) 488-0174

Edward D. ...
 17777 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Los Angeles, CA 90047

Life's Important Moments

Share Your Good News!



Everyone reads Life's Most Important Moments in **Alive!** Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Has someone in your family had a quinceañera? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

We're looking for:

- Weddings
- Babies
- Graduations
- Quinceañeras
- Special Achievements
- **Alive!** in the Military

Send digital photos (as high a resolution as you can send) to: moments@cityemployeesclub.com
 OR send paper photos (please don't send the only one you have!) to:

Life's Moments - **Alive!**
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 120 W. 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Cooking with the Club

by Chef Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

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

For a Rainy Day

Kay's Red Pepper Tomato Basil Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwich

DIRECTIONS:



As always, gather your ingredients.



Mince the garlic and dice the red onion. Slice the sharp cheddar and havarti cheeses as you see here.



Place a saucepan on medium heat, and add extra virgin olive oil. Then add minced garlic and diced red onion to hot pan. Add sea salt and pepper. Stir for about five minutes. Then add the tomato and roasted red pepper soup to pan. Add the dried basil, dill and parsley. Stir occasionally.



Take a cast iron skillet and coat it with non-stick spray. Spread butter on one side of the bread slices and place on the hot iron skillet. Medium will be sufficient. Let grill until golden brown as shown.



Then place sharp cheddar and havarti cheeses on bread and place the other bread on top with buttered sides touching the cheese. That means that the unbuttered sides are on the outside. Turn cheese sandwich over after about three minutes.

One of the most memorable days for me growing up as a very young boy was a rainy Saturday morning. My mom was in the kitchen making breakfast for me, and while I waited for Mom to make pancakes, eggs and bacon, I remember enjoying the sounds of rain while watching morning 'toons on the television. That was comfort. And today I bring out a little bit of my feelings of comfort with this special comfort food recipe.



Comfort foods should be quick to make but leave you wanting more. And this one does just that and more. Try it on a rainy day – as I write this, we're in the middle of a deluge! – and you will know what I mean. If you don't like sharp cheddar or can't find havarti, you are free to use any favorite cheese that is easy to melt. You don't have to use both cheeses, either; one or the other will work, too. You don't even have to use tomato and roasted red pepper soup, it can just be regular tomato soup; of course, nothing store bought can compare to homemade. I prefer soup from the carton, instead of the can, and I prefer tomato soup that is low in sodium with roasted red peppers.

Red Pepper Tomato Basil Soup & Grilled Cheese Sandwich

SERVES 1 TO 2

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 slices bread
- 2 tablespoons dry parsley
- 1 tablespoon dry basil
- Dash of dill
- 1 clove garlic
- 1/4 cup red onion
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- Sea salt and pepper to taste
- 2 slices sharp cheddar cheese
- 2 slices havarti cheese
- 2 to 4 ounces butter
- 1 cup of tomato and roasted red pepper soup

Cooking TIDBIT: Dry herbs like dry basil and parsley should be used plentifully and make sure to rub and break them up to release the flavors. When using fresh herbs, use less of it because the flavors are strong.

[A Cook's Dictionary]

Havarti cheese:

Named after the Danish experimental farm where it was developed, Havarti is often referred to as the Danish Tilsit because of its similarity to that cheese. It's semisoft and pale yellow with small irregular holes. The flavor of young havarti is mild yet tangy. As the cheese ages, its flavor intensifies and sharpens. Havarti comes in loaves or blocks and is often wrapped in foil.

– From the *The New Food Lover's Companion*, Sharon Tyler Herbst, 1995, Barron's Educational Series.



Once cheeses have melted, cut in half. Take a bowl and place soup in it. Plate as you see here. Enjoy!

TICKET GUY Tips for Visiting the Club Store:

- I would strongly recommend that members place their orders by phone using a debit/credit card before visiting. This will help you avoid lines.
- The best time to visit the new Club Store would be around 9:15 a.m. Parking is abundant and portions of downtown are still sleeping.
- When visiting the Club Store, try to bring a co-worker who is not a member. If they sign up, you will receive a \$10 Gift Card. So bring Johnny or Lisa down.



For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

CLUB GIFTS

FOR YOUR SWEETIE

Men's Watches with City Seal



These watches have been meticulously crafted using only high-quality quartz movements. These new diver watches are made from solid stainless steel and genuine leather. *Plus tax and shipping



Men's Silver "AG" Watch
ITEM: #4623
PRICE: \$39.99*



Men's Silver "MA" Watch
ITEM: #WTCMA
PRICE: \$39.99*



Men's Silver Dial Watch w/ Leather Band
ITEM: #MWCTY1000
PRICE: \$29.99*



Men's Silver Dial Watch w/ Two-tone Gold and Silver
ITEM: #MWCTYGLD2000
PRICE: \$29.99*



Men's Silver "RL" Watch,
ITEM: #4622
PRICE: \$39.99*



Men's Watch, Silver
ITEM: #VWGS13000
PRICE: \$50.00* **Now \$25**



Men's Large Seal, Stainless Steel Band
ITEM: #WVS2500
PRICE: \$65.00*



Men's Small DWP Seal, Stainless Steel Band
ITEM: #DWPWS2700
PRICE: \$55.00* **Now \$40**



Men's Small DWP Seal, Leather Band
ITEM: #DWPW3050
PRICE: \$45.00* **Now \$35**



Men's Watch, Leather Band
ITEM: #SF1000
PRICE: \$25.00*



Men's Watch, Leather Band
ITEM: #SF2000
PRICE: \$25.00*



Men's Large Seal, Leather Band
ITEM: #WV2600
PRICE: \$45.00*

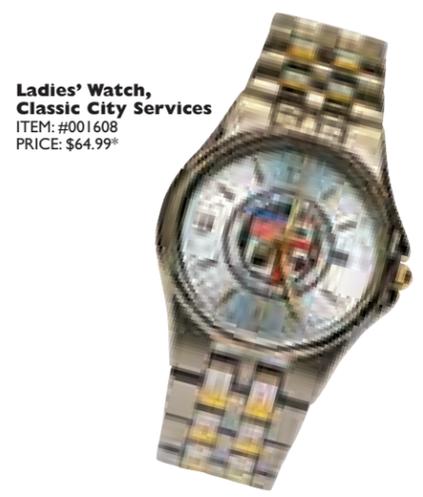
Women's Watches



Women's Professional Watch
ITEM: #WTCH6550
PRICE: \$34.99*



Ladies' Watch, Leather Band
ITEM: #LVVBLK5000
PRICE: \$29.99*



Ladies' Watch, Classic City Services
ITEM: #001608
PRICE: \$64.99*

Poster

Club Exclusive, Limited-edition:

City Hall Poster!

- Produced by the Los Angeles City Historical Society, this poster – featuring a collection of historic Los Angeles City Halls, along with their histories – is now available to Club Members.
- Drawn by artist Herb McNeely, suitable for framing.



Small **\$10*** Large **\$15***
*per poster

FOR EASY ORDERING OF DISCOUNT TICKETS AND CLUB MERCHANDISE:

ONLINE

Go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

and click on "Club Store"



PHONE

(888) 777-1744 (213) 617-1294

FAX

MAIL

Complete the order form to and mail to:
Ticket Guy
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 W. 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PICK-UP

The Club Store & Service Center
120 W. 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
– downtown, between Spring and Main Streets

For Dash routes, go to: www.ladottransit.com/dash/



For easy ordering, go to www.cityemployeesclub.com

CLUB GIFTS

FOR YOUR SWEETIE

City Button Down Shirts

City Woman's Long Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price: **\$25** per shirt*

Available Colors:

- Sky Blue
- Khaki
- Navy Blue
- Pink
- Yellow
- White
- Black



ITEM: #WMNLSSTCTY4000

City Men's Long Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL**

Size: **3XL** \$28

Member Price: **\$25** per shirt*

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy Blue
- White
- Khaki



ITEM: #LSB1000

City Men's Short Sleeve Button Down Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy Blue
- Oxford
- White



ITEM: #CTYSLST1000

Member Price: **\$22.99** per shirt*

Size: **3XL**

\$23.99

City Girl "Classic" T-shirt

City Girl "Classic" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**



ITEM: #T-W1000

Available Colors: Crew Neck Style:

- Heather Gray
- Hot Pink
- Cherry

Member Price: **\$10** per shirt*

City Girl "Retro" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**

Available Colors: V-Neck Style:

- Black
- Caribbean Blue
- Violet
- White
- Key Lime



ITEM: #T-W2000

Women's Classic Seal T-Shirt

Women's Classic Seal T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:

- Black
- Azalea
- Carolina Blue
- Royal
- Red
- Hot Pink
- White

Member Price: **\$10** per shirt*



ITEM: #WMNCLSC4000

Size: **3XL**

\$11

Available Colors:

- Black
- White

Polo Shirts

LA City Seal Herringbone Polo

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:

- Maroon
- Navy Blue
- Tan
- White
- Black
- Heather Gray

Size: **3XL**

Available Colors:

- Navy Blue
- White



Member Price: **\$19.99** per shirt*

\$19.99

ITEM: #HRBPOLO3000

City Seal Polo Shirt with Stripes

Sizes: **M L XL 2XL**



ITEM: #CTYPOLO2000

Member Price: **\$19.99** per shirt*

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy Blue
- White

LA City Polo Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



ITEM: #PS1000

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy Blue
- Pink
- White

Close-up of Embroidery

Women's T-shirts

City Women's - LA Hall One Color Seal T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**

Member Price: **\$8** per shirt*

Available Colors: V-Neck Style:

- Black
- Heather Gray
- Red
- Pink
- Violet
- Caribbean Blue
- Key Lime
- White

On white shirt emblem is pink



ITEM: #JS1000

City Women's - LA Hall Full Color Seal T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL**



ITEM: #WFCS1000

Available Colors: Crew Neck Style:

- Navy Blue

Available Colors: V-Neck Style:

- Black

Size: **2XL**

Available Colors: Crew Neck Style:

- Navy Blue

Member Price: **\$11** per shirt*

Women's Long Sleeve Embroidered LA City T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



ITEM: #WMNLGSLV1000

Member Price: **\$17.99** per shirt*

Available Colors:

- Black
- Sky Blue
- Hot Pink
- Red

Women's LA City Polo

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

ITEM: #WCTY1000



Member Price: **\$19.99** per shirt*

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy Blue
- Pink
- White

*Plus tax and shipping



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City Department Shirts

City "Bold" Department Shirts

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Size: **3XL** **\$13**
Size: **4XL** **\$14**

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Back

Front

ITEM: #RECPKSLAC6000

ITEM: #D.P.W.LAC1000

ITEM: #LADBTSHT1000

ITEM: #D.O.TLAC3000

ITEM: #L.A.W.A.LAC5000

ITEM: #G.S.DLAC4000

ITEM: #ASDTSHT1000

ITEM: #ITATSHT1000

ITEM: #LAHDSHT1000

ITEM: #BOSSTSHT1000

City "Harbor" Short Sleeve Shirt

ITEM: #HARBORLAC2000

Available Colors: Navy Blue, Sky Blue

City "Harbor" Long Sleeve Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL**

Size: **2XL** **\$15**
Size: **3XL** **\$16**
Size: **4XL** **\$17**

Available Color: Navy Blue

ITEM: #CHRBL3000

L.A. City T-shirts

New City LA-Hall Long Sleeve T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors: Black, Royal Blue, Navy Blue, White

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Size: **3XL** **\$13**
Size: **4XL** **\$14**

ITEM: #NCI1000

LA City "B-Label" T-Shirt (with Depts.)

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Size: **3XL** **\$11**

Member Price: **\$10** per shirt*

Available Colors: Black, Gray, Navy Blue, Maroon, Green, Carolina Blue, Cedar, White

ITEM: #LAC-5000

LA City "B-Label" Sweatshirt (with Depts.)

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price: **\$22** per shirt*

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue

Size: **3XL** **\$23**

ITEM: #LAC-6000

Short Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL (all colors)**

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt*

Non-Member Price: \$25 per shirt

Available Colors: Blue Dusk, Charcoal, Chestnut, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Leaf Green, Light Pink, Maroon, Olive, Orange, Royal Blue, Sport Gray, Texas Orange, White, Black, Navy Blue

White available with front pocket.

Front

Back

ITEM: #T1000

Navy & Black LIMITED

Sizes: **3XL** **\$13**
Size: **4XL** **\$14**

Available Colors: Blue Dusk, Charcoal, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Royal Blue, Sport Gray, White, Black, Navy Blue

White available with front pocket.

Available Colors: Indigo Blue, Sport Gray, Black, Navy Blue

*Plus tax and shipping

New City LA-Hall Short Sleeve T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors: Black, Blue Dusk, Navy Blue, Sport Gray, Tan, White, Forest Green, Charcoal, Red

Member Price: **\$8.50** per shirt*

Sizes: **3XL** **\$9.50**
Size: **4XL** **\$10.50**

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Sport Gray

ITEM: #CNI1000

Retired Employee T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL**

Size: **3XL** **\$12.99**

Member Price: **\$11.99** per shirt*

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue, White

ITEM: #RCE3000

LA City Seal T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price: **\$10** per shirt*

Available Colors: Cedar, Dark Heather, Metro Blue, Military Green, Sand, Sky Blue, Black, Navy Blue

ITEM: #MOC51000

"Your City" T-Shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL 3XL**

Available Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Royal, White

Size: **3XL** **\$10.99**

Member Price: **\$9.99** per shirt*

ITEM: #YCYR11000

Long Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors: Charcoal, Dark Chocolate, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Sport Gray, White

Member Price: **\$15** per shirt*

*Plus tax and shipping

Size: **3XL** **\$16**
Size: **4XL** **\$17**

Available Colors: Dark Chocolate, Forest Green, Indigo Blue, Sport Gray, Black, Navy Blue, White

Navy & Black LIMITED

ITEM: #T1500

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DWP T-shirts

DWP "Water" T-Shirt
Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$12
per shirt*



Available Colors:
White Navy Blue



ITEM: #WTRSDE3000

DWP "Classic" Long Sleeve T-Shirt
Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Available Colors:
Gray Maroon
Charcoal Carolina Blue
Sand Navy Blue
Black

Member Price:
\$15
per shirt*

Size: **3XL**
Member Price:
\$16
Available Color:
Gray

Navy & Black LIMITED

ITEM: #T2500VP

DWP "Bold" T-Shirt
Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:
Black Navy Blue White

Member Price:
\$8.50
per shirt*



ITEM: #T3000VP

Water & Power T-shirt
Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:
Black Navy Blue Orange White

Member Price:
\$10
per shirt*



Available Colors:
Black Navy Blue Orange White
White available with front pocket.

ITEM: #T2003VP

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**
Available Colors:
Blue Dusk Charcoal Orange Black Navy Blue White
White available with front pocket.



Size: **3XL**
Available Colors:
Blue Dusk Charcoal Black Navy Blue

Size: **4XL**
Available Colors:
Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #T2001VP

Fleece Jackets

Men's Full Zip Polar Fleece with Embroidered City Seal

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$34.99
per jacket*

Available Colors:
Black Charcoal Khaki Navy Blue



ITEM: #CTY3000

Hooded Sweatshirt

City of LA Full-Zip Hooded Lightweight Sweatshirt

Sizes: **XS S M L XL XXL**



Member Price:
\$19.99
per jacket*

Size: **3XL**
Member Price:
\$20.99

Available Color:
Black



ITEM: #4613

Women's Full Zip Polar Fleece with Embroidered City Seal

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Member Price:
\$30
per jacket*

Available Colors:
Black Stone Sky Blue Pink



ITEM: #WVNFJKT1000

City Jackets

LA City Seal Hooded Weather Resistant Jacket

Sizes: **L XL 2XL**

ITEM: #CITHOODJKT5000

Member Price:
\$39.99
per jacket*

Available Colors:
Black Navy Blue



City Executive Sueded Microfiber Jacket

Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:
Brown Indigo Blue Charcoal

Member Price:
\$45
per jacket*

ITEM: #SUDJKT1000



*Plus tax and shipping



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Hats Hats Hats! High quality embroidered ball caps!

LA Hall Hat



#LHALLHT2000

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

Available Colors:

- Navy Blue
- Olive
- Royal Blue
- Black

LA Hall Sun Hat

Sizes: L XL
Available Colors:
Olive Khaki



#BKTHLLHT1000

Member Price:
\$15
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

LA B-Label Hat



#BLHT1000

Available Colors:
Light Gray Navy Black

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

City Seal Ball Cap with Department Name



Transportation
NAVY: #H2003
BLACK: #H2004

Member Price:
\$10
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping



Bureau of Sanitation
FOREST GREEN: #H1996
NAVY: #H1995
BLACK: #H1998

Hats available for these departments:

Bureau of Sanitation
FOREST GREEN: #H1996
NAVY: #H1995
BLACK: #H1998

General Services
NAVY: #H1999
BLACK: #H2000

Harbor
NAVY: #H2005
BLACK: #H2006

Public Works
NAVY: #H2001
BLACK: #H2002

Recreation & Parks
NAVY: #H1993
BLACK: #H1992

Transportation
NAVY: #H2003
BLACK: #H2004

Water & Power
NAVY: #H1997
BLACK: #H1998

Retiree
BLACK: #H2007

Available Colors:

- Forest Green
- Navy
- Black

DWP Ball Cap



DWP Hat
BLACK: #DPWH3000

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping



DWP Hat
NAVY: #DPWH2000

City of LA Bucket Cap

Member Price:
\$15
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

Available Colors:

- Black
- Navy
- White



ITEM: #4569

City Brushed Twill Visor



ITEM: #4567

Available Colors:

- Black
- Sky Blue
- Pink
- Hot Pink

Member Price:
\$9.99
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

City Seal Ball Cap with Script

ORANGE: #H1990
KHAKI: #H1991
BLACK: #H1613



Seal w/Script
NAVY: #H1989

Available Colors:

- Navy Blue
- Orange
- Khaki
- Black

Member Price:
\$8
per hat*

*Plus tax and shipping

City Seal Ball Cap

ORANGE: #H1661
KHAKI: #H1988
BLACK: #H1987



City Seal
NAVY: #H1628

Kid's T-shirts

"Official City Kid" Kid's T-shirt
Sizes: **XS S M L XL**

Available Colors:

- Green
- Black
- Royal Blue
- Red
- Pink

"Future City Employee" Kid's T-shirt

Sizes: **XS S M L XL**



ITEM: #KIDFUT1000



ITEM: #KIDOFF2000

Member Price:
\$8.99
per shirt*

*Plus tax and shipping

For Baby

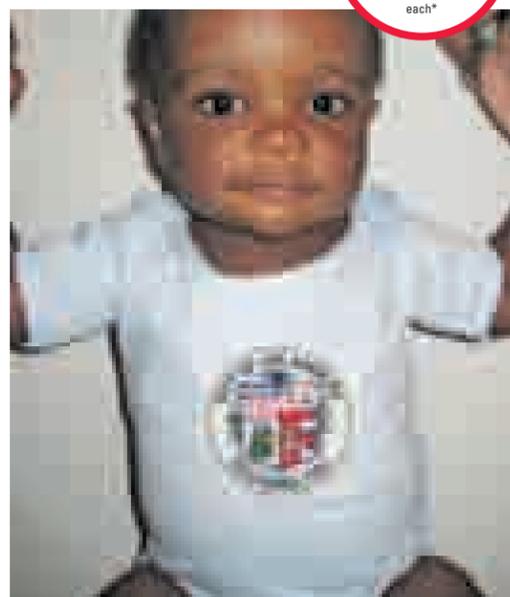
LA City Baby Onesies

Sizes: **6, 12, 18, 24 months**

Available Colors:

- Light Pink
- Sky Blue
- Light Yellow
- Green
- White

Member Price:
\$19.99
each*



ITEM: #BABY1000

City Wall Clocks



ITEM: #C8003

10" Diameter
Battery Operated (AA)

Member Price:
\$12
per clock*



*Plus tax and shipping

ITEM: #WCWSPT3000

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City Umbrellas

Large City Umbrella

ITEM: #CTYUMB1000

Member Price:
\$19⁹⁹
each*

*Plus tax and shipping



Small Umbrella

ITEM: #SMUMB3000

Member Price:
\$14⁹⁹
each*

*Plus tax and shipping

Identification Holders

LA City Clear Badge Holder with City Seal



Member Price:
\$1³⁷
per badge*

ITEM: #CLRBGHLDR

Retractable Badge Holder



Comes with clear ID holder sleeve.

Member Price:
\$2⁴⁹
per badge*

ITEM: #RBH1000

City of LA Lanyard

Comes with clear ID holder sleeve.



Member Price:
\$4⁹⁹
per badge*

ITEM: #CTYLYRD1000

City Seal Key Chains

City Seal Key Chain - Silver

ITEM: #LAKC2000

Member Price:
\$5
per chain*



Club Discount Price!
(\$10 Retail)

City Seal Key Chain - Gold

ITEM: #LAKC001

City Seal Tie Bars

LA City Seal Tie Bar - Silver

ITEM: #001521

Member Price:
\$14⁹⁹
per bar*



LA City Seal Tie Bar - Gold

ITEM: #001520



City Seal Mugs

Hot Beverage Mug

ITEM: #MGS1000

Member Price:
\$9⁹⁹
per mug*



Member Price:
\$12⁹⁹
per mug*

ITEM: #CLAMG3000

City of LA Travel Mug

City Seal Office

City Executive Portfolio with Pen and Calculator

Size:
9" x 7"

Member Price:
\$20
per portfolio*

*Plus tax and shipping



ITEM: #EXEPWC1000

City of LA-Letter Size Portfolio w/ Calculator

Size:
13" x 10"

Member Price:
\$24⁹⁹
per portfolio*



ITEM: #4680

City Engraved Pen & Case

Elegant electro-plated two-tone 24k gold plated and chrome silver pen with solid brass construction. "City of Los Angeles" is engraved on the pen.

Member Price:
\$19⁹⁹
per pen*



ITEM: #CLPEN3000

City Professional Bag

Available Colors:

Forest Green Black

Member Price:
\$25
per bag*



ITEM: #BAG1000

City of LA Expandable Computer Bag

Available Color:

Black

Member Price:
\$34⁹⁹
per bag*



ITEM: #PBCTYFCMPI000



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March 27th, 2010

Starts 3:30PM



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\$19.⁹⁹

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