



Alive!

Public Works

Street Smart

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

During the pandemic, **StreetsLA** takes advantage of lighter traffic to pave major arterials, saving time and money.

Inside: Continued coverage of the City during the crisis.

— SEE PAGE 10

Calling All 50,000

The Club is calling all of you – our valued Members – to check in and make sure everything's good.

Meet your caller on page 14.



**StreetsLA Profiling/
Paving Crew 159 resur-
facing Sunset Boulevard
in East Hollywood.**

Front row, from left: Superintendent Raul Garcia; Assistant Director Keith Moeze; and General Superintendent John Sapone. Other Crew 159 staff behind them (not in order): Dante Jones, Supervisor; Milo Maroney, Daniel Tamez, Fleming Enix and Victor Serrano, Equipment Operators; Andrea Wilson and Fred Williams, Motor Sweeper Operators; Paul Lopez, Street Services Worker II; Tevin Brocker and Emilio Morales; Street Services Worker I, Derrick Jenkins, Maintenance and Construction Helper; Ivan Sanchez, Maintenance Laborer; Terrance Tillman, Field Engineering Aide; and Rolando Ross and Byron Recinos, Targeted Local Hires.

The Club is calling every active Member. You matter.



JOHN'S BLOG

by John Hawkins, President and CEO, The Club



To Show Is to Tell

This month's cover story has really gone sideways. On purpose!

As Los Angeles continues to negotiate the historic pandemic in this third month, the *Alive!* editorial team wanted to show the City hard at work and moving forward while still dealing with the current realities of social distancing and work safety.

How to show that dual reality?

StreetsLA – the new name for Public Works' Street Services Division – had the cool idea of taking advantage of the lighter traffic to repave major arterials more efficiently. So we set up a visit – safely of course – with Assistant Director **Keith Mozee** on Sunset Boulevard to see how StreetsLA is coping. Naturally our Director of Marketing, **Summy Lam**, took lots of awesome *Alive!*-exclusive photos. And some of them,

to capture the reality of social distancing, had to be horizontal.

It was the idea of *Alive!* designer **David Jamgotchian** to flip the cover on its side for the third time in the history of our current version of *Alive!*. David was right – *showing* the distance with which the StreetsLA team has to work is dramatic. Showing is telling.

So, we thank both of the StreetsLA crews who welcomed us, to Keith Mozee, and to **Paul Gomez** who set it up.

Speaking of the pandemic, on our back page this month we reprint a History Comes *Alive!* column we ran in 2015 about the City's previous pandemic, this time from the flu, 1918. City Archivist **Michael Holland** reminded us that we had printed that column, and this might be a good time to reprint it. Right

you are, Michael. (And feel free to send in more columns!)

As I write this, the Club is continuing our Club Care Calls project, this time calling all 50,000 active members. It continues to be an incredible project. Look for that call, if you haven't received it yet.

As we head into summer – hard to believe, isn't it – I remind you to keep safe, to wear those masks for the sake of others, and to continue to value those close to you. You matter to us.

—JOHN



The restoration of David Alfaro Siqueiros' *America Tropical* on our May 2013 cover.



Everett Bennett on his hand-built motorcycle on the way to Sturgis, S.D. from January 2016.



This month's cover — StreetsLA Crew 159 practicing social distancing while repaving Sunset Boulevard.

CLUB MEMBER EXCLUSIVE

Cycling can provide much-needed exercise and therapy in stressful times

Bulls Bikes offers a variety of pedal assist electric bikes so you can ride effortlessly no matter where you're headed.

With powerful motors, extended battery life, powerful brake discs, and comfortable suspension, Bulls Bikes makes Social Distancing more fun.

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NEW CLUB BENEFIT

Live the Alpine Swiss Style

New Club benefit – **save 15 percent** on gear, apparel, shoes and more bearing the famous Alpine Swiss brand. The quality, style and ruggedness are perfect for the Club Member lifestyle.

SAVE 15%

Check out the product page at employeesclub.com



Read *Alive!* on the Web!



alive.employeesclub.com

THIS MONTH ONLINE

Cooking With the Club

A Spam recipe that's perfect for staying at home!



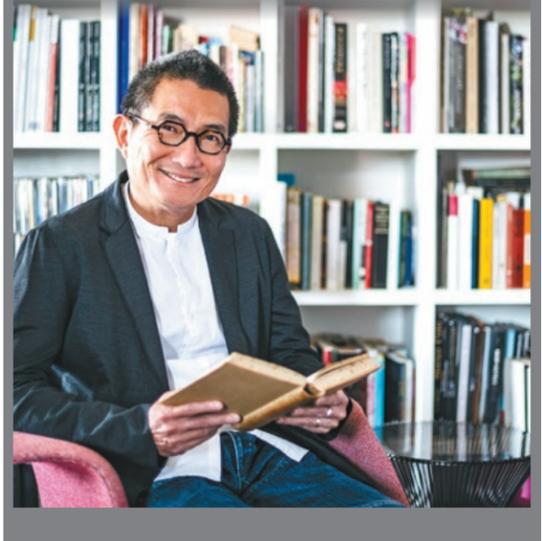
Coloring Contest

See who won April's kids coloring contest.



Library Top 10

Check out what you're reading and listening to while staying Safer at Home.



Correction

In our cover story last month, we misspelled the name of the Retired Member on the cover and in the story. He's Officer III Gerald Legaspi, Retired, LAPD. We regret the error.



Alive! is now its own Website ...

Yes! *Alive!* is now a great new Website ... and a streamlined, more portable version of the paper you've come to know and love, delivered to your door!

GO TO: alive.employeesclub.com

The Club: Here to Help

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

Email us at:

help@employeesclub.com

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

Or call us at: (800) 464-0452

In-house Counselors

At Club Headquarters



MaryAnn Urdiales
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 159



Cheryl Martin
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 136

At the Club Store



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 202

June 2020 • Volume 19 – No. 6

Alive! is the official publication of the

Employees Club of California

120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452

CONTACT US: admin@aliveemployeesclub.com

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

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

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

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

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

Alive! Staff

John Hawkins and Robert Larios,
Managing Editors

John Burnes, Editor

David Jamgotchian,
JILA Associates,
Design and Production

LACEA Board

Terry Carter
Commanding Officer, Property Division, LAPD

Andrew Virzi III
Senior Utility Accountant, DWP

Capt. Danny C. Wu, LAFD

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CLUB ANGELS

Final Call for Club Scholarship '20 Applications

**DEADLINE
Noon, June 30**

Apply now for Club Scholarship on the *Alive!* Website.

The deadline is fast approaching: Fill out your application now for the Joannie Mukai Memorial Club Scholarship on the *Alive!* Website.

The 2020 Mukai Club Scholarship Program, which expects to grant 20 awards and is named after the late Club Board Member Joannie Mukai, is now accepting applications.

The scholarship process has been moved up a month, to better facilitate notifying the awardees before they return to school in the fall. All materials must be completed on the *Alive!* Website by noon, June 30, 2020.

Club Scholarship applications have been simplified, for greater ease in filling them out. They are available for completion directly on the Website.

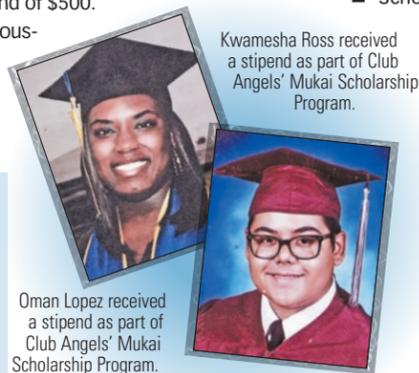
The Club expects to give each recipient a stipend of \$500.

Those eligible include Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2020.

COVID-19 Update: If you've been accepted to a four-year university for this fall, but the school has decided to remain closed until January 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic (or its status is unknown), that's okay. You're still eligible for the Club Scholarship.

Eligibility requirements:

- All Club Members and their spouses, and children of Club Members under the age of 25, are eligible to apply. Club Members must be in good standing.
- The successful candidate must attend an accredited four-year college or university full time in the fall semester 2020. Current high school seniors matriculating to a four-year school in Fall 2020 are eligible. *If the school of your choice expects to remain closed until January 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic, you're still eligible for Club Scholarship consideration.*
- Candidates will be judged for academic excellence, community service and financial need.
- Scholarships are expected to be awarded in equal amounts of \$500 (each).
- Deadline: Applications must be completed online at the *Alive!* Website by noon June 30, 2020. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted at that time to be eligible. Sorry, but the Club is not responsible for delays in delivery.
- Decisions will be made by Club personnel and will be considered final.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted.



Kwamesha Ross received a stipend as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.

Oman Lopez received a stipend as part of Club Angels' Mukai Scholarship Program.

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

Applications are available for online completion directly on the *Alive!* Website at: alive.employeesclub.com/mukaischolarship

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works/Sanitation and Environment has postponed its popular slate of open houses this year due to the coronavirus pandemic, and looks to resume the program in 2021.

In previous years, each of Sanitation's six waste shed district yards opened to the public in a series of free Saturday events. The Open House program showcased Sanitation's residential curbside collection programs with the promotion of proper recycling practices and information about bulky item collections. Each event featured trash truck and equipment demonstrations in addition to facility

Open Houses: Wait 'Til Next Year

Sanitation's popular open houses postponed until next year.

tours, information booths, recycling games, and refreshments.

In 2018, more than 6,000 residents attended the open houses with more than 230 City Employees who volunteered their time to give back to the neighborhoods they serve.

Speaking for everyone in the City, the Club misses the popular Open Houses. Until 2021, here are some images from previous years.

See you next year!



Reaching Out Thru the Web

Club Counselor Dalila Vielma greets new DWP employees online.

Even a pandemic can't stop Club staff from serving City employees! Dalila Vielma, staying Safer at Home, joined a DWP new employee orientation May 21 using a Web conference app called Webex. Club materials had been sent in advance and were set up for essential employees at the Truesdale Yard. Dalila presented the Club story and benefits to the new employees.

Thirty-three Electrical Craft Helpers were in attendance on the call; others in attendance were NEO Coordinators. Well done, Dalila!

CITY EMPLOYEES:
If you'd like to have a Club Counselor join your distancing Web meeting, contact Noelle Kauffman, Member Services Manager, at: Noelle@employeesclub.com



Club Counselor Dalila Vielma (middle row left) presented the Club story and benefits to DWP new employees using the Webex teleconference app.

Kid's Coloring Contest:

WINNERS ONLINE

Winner
11 to 13 YEARS OLD

See all 4 winners online.



Leila Estrada: Winning entry, 11 to 13 years old.

See the winners from our April contest at: alive.employeesclub.com/kidscoloringwinners

Alive! has moved half of its children's coloring contest online, including the list of this month's winners.

Since launching the Web *Alive!*, we've moved the second (April) and fourth (October) to be digital only, with the blank art downloadable online. The first (January) and third (July, the next one) will remain in print. That's our plan for now; let us know what you think: talkback@employeesclub.com

Look for our next Kid's Coloring Contest in July *Alive!*



Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

Club members: Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school... high school... or college? Send us a photo, and we'll publish it in *Alive!*

Make sure you tell us:

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



To send a digital photo and your message, go to: alive.employeesclub.com/graduations

INSURANCE FROM THE CLUB

Does anyone rely on your income? If so, you need Life Insurance



Get it today. Here's why

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

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

		
Cheryl Martin Member Services Counselor cmartin@employeesclub.com Ext. 136	Tiffany Sy Member Services Counselor tsy@employeesclub.com Ext. 202	MaryAnn Urdiales Member Services Counselor murdiales@employeesclub.com Ext. 159

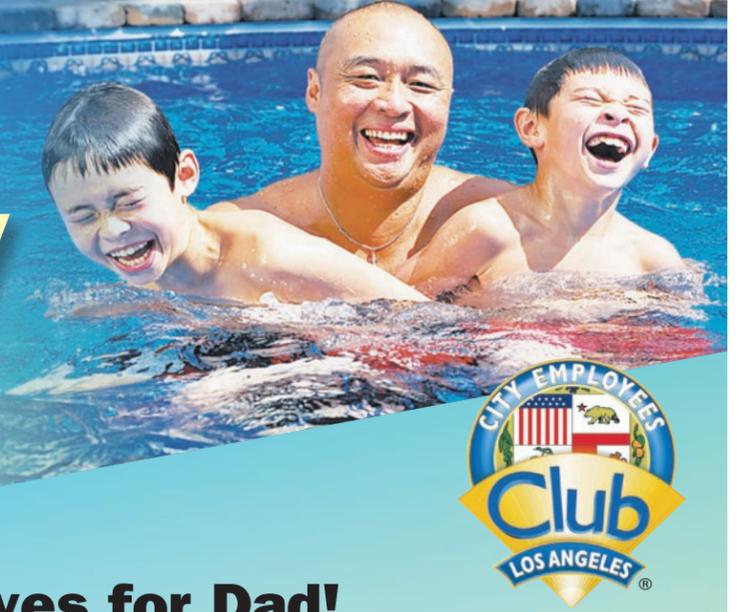
Phone and video conferencing appointments available.

(800) 464-0452



LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. ('Employees Club of California') is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. is #0B98000.

Send in your Father's Day tributes!



High-Fives for Dad!

Pay tribute this Father's Day ... with a photo and message of respect, honor and love, published in *Alive!* online.

In June, we'll publish online a photo of you and your dad (or just your dad) and a two- or three-sentence message of Happy Father's Day from you. You can show him what he means to you by sharing a link to our online Fathers Day special section.

ONLINE DEADLINE:

JUNE 18:

to be published on web *Alive!*

To submit your Father's Day tribute, go to:

alive.employeesclub.com/fathersday



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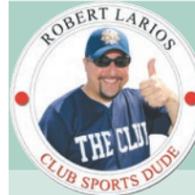
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We also have great rates on Homes, Boats, Motorcycles, RV's, Rental Properties and Apartment Buildings.

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CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the Employees Club of California

We'll Be Back!

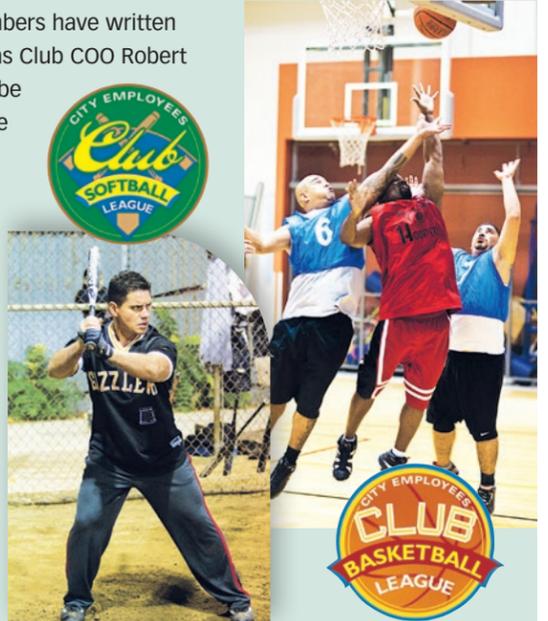
Missing Club Sports? So are we! We'll be back when masking up, putting on the gloves, flattening the curve and being safe at home are about softball, not battling the pandemic!

Seriously, though ... Club Members have written the Sports Dude (also known as Club COO Robert Larios) asking if there will still be a Club Sports League when the City opens up again.

Yes indeed! We love celebrating your lives, and Club Sports is a great way to do that.

So for now, sit tight. Essential workers, keep doing your thing, and others, please stay safe with your family at home.

See you again when all this clears!



SOFTBALL PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK!

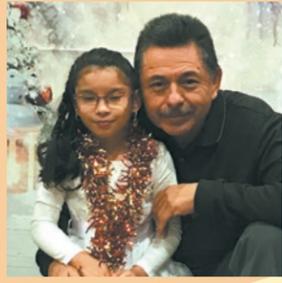
The Club has hundreds of great action shots from this season and last on our Facebook page, and a season video on the Club's YouTube channel. Enjoy!

Happy Father's Day

Here are the personal messages sent to *Alive!* by some very loving and grateful children who wanted to pay tribute to their dad.



"Happy Father's Day to the best dad and husband ever! We love you and hoping you rock on every day!"
— For Chris Ewing, Housing



"Happy Father's Day, Dad. I love you mucho. From Daddy's girl, Madelyn."
— For Martin Lopez, DWP



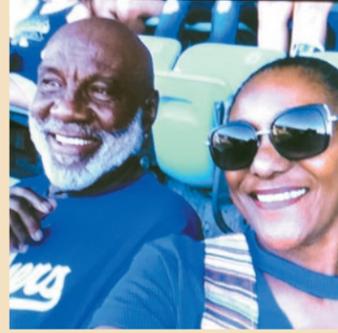
Happy Father's Day to the man who paved the way for my life. ¡Feliz Día del Padre!
— From Club COO Robert Larios



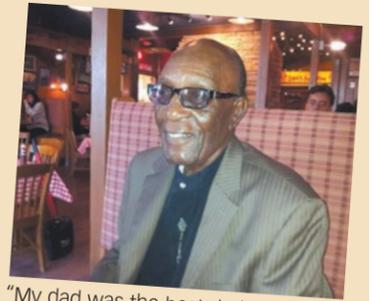
"Dad, thank you for taking good care of us, for teaching us how to fix things, and for instilling a strong work ethic within us. Happy Father's Day!"
— Candace Montgomery, DWP



"My father will probably never grasp how much of a positive influence he has been for me along my entire life journey. I love you, Dad!"
— Kathleen Dawson, Animal Services



"Happy Father's Day to my amazing dad. 90 years old never looked so good! I love you, Dad."
— Det. III Carmen Johnson, Retired, LAPD



"My dad was the best dad. He was in the service. He worked hard for his family and taught me to work for what I want. Happy Father's Day."
— Jacqueline Powell, Harbor



"We love and appreciate you every day! But Father's Day is a great day to celebrate you and all that you do for our family. Love, Marquas and Kim."
— For Burt Smith, Public Works/Sanitation



"Happy Father's Day to our wonderful PapaBear, Carlos. Thank you for everything you do for us. Love, Natalie, Desiree, Joseph, Meeko and Princess."
— For Carlos Arroyo, DWP



"To my loving husband, John Sousa – thank you so much for being such an incredible father to our three boys. We love you more than you know."
— Elena Sousa, Airport Police



"To my humble and kind father – thank you for everything. We miss you every day! Love you, Pops."
— Rudy Gonzalez, Retired, DWP



"Watching you grow from my amazing little brother to the best daddy in the world fills my heart with joy and love. Happy Father's Day, Tito! Love, Tia Maggi."
— Det. Sandra Platero, LAPD



"For our super dad. Celos Lopez."
— Carlos Lopez, Animal Services



"Thank you, Camila, for making me the happiest father in the world."
— Oscar Berumen, LAPD



"To my husband, Eric – Happy Father's Day to a wonderful father and granddad. Love, the Mrs."
— For Eric Jones, General Services; submitted by Christal Jones, Retired, DWP



"My dad, Willie C. Hodge Sr. is an awesome example of hard work and dedication."
— Jansen Hodge, LAFD



"Wishing my hardworking dad a Happy Father's Day. We love you!"
— Stephanie Bernal, Rec and Parks



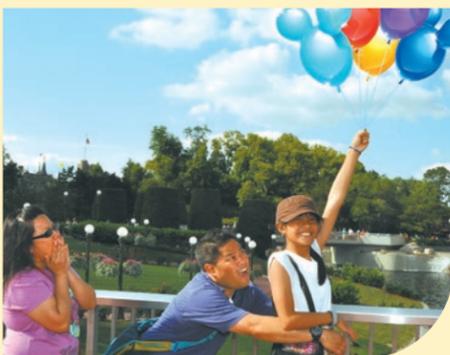
"Happy Father's Day to a wonderful dad and amazing husband. Luv you both."
— Tamara Armstrong, Harbor



"Happy Father's Day to a great dad."
— Rosalinda Garcia, Rec and Parks



"Love support, wisdom, patience, presence: So blessed to have a dad who has always given all of these. Freely. Love you, Dad. The A-Team."
— AW, Housing



"Thank you for always being there for me, Papa! I hope you enjoy your Father's Day."
— Isabella Bernaldo, for Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works/Sanitation



"Wishing much health and happiness to the best dad and grandfather. ¡Zapataso electrico!"
— For Juan Galvez, General Services



"Wishing my hardworking dad a Happy Father's Day! We love you, grandpa. Love, Jeremiah."
— Stephanie Bernal, Rec and Parks



"Happy Father's Day! Thank you for taking great care of baby Logan and mommy Christina in the hospital, and every day since. We love you!"
— For Joaquin de Artola, DWP



"A strong father of three, and our daughter, Mai'yanee, loves how you make life growing up extremely the greatest. We love you!"
— Randalina Robinson, Rec and Parks

Send in your Father's Day tributes!

GO TO: alive.employeesclub.com/fathersday/

DEADLINE: JUNE 18 to appear online

In June online, we'll publish a photo of you and your dad (or just your dad) ... and a two- or three-sentence message of Happy Father's Day from you. Then you can show your dad what he means to you!



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

CONTACT INFORMATION

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)

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



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Beverly J. Clark, First Vice President
Phil Orland, Second Vice President
Harold Danowitz, Secretary/Treasurer

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RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE:

(800) 678-4145, Ext. 0

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

RLACEI WEBSITE

Visit the RLACEI website www.RLACEI.org to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.
EMAIL: Contact@RLACEI.org

MAILING ADDRESS:

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

Change of Address?

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

Send in your Interesting



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

2020 RETIREE EVENTS

Golf Tournament - Canceled
Summer Picnic - Thurs. 8/6
Holiday Party - Tues. 12/8

RESERVATION LINE:

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

Retirees on the Move

By Beverly Clark, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Meet the Personnel Breakfast Group Part 1

Meet the Personnel Breakfast Group, which also refers to itself as the Golden Girls and the Bronze Girls. The one thing these ladies have in common, other than being Retired and enjoying every bit of it, is that they all worked in Personnel.

The group generally meets once a month for breakfast to chitchat about life, family, friends and, of course, the Personnel Dept. and the many co-workers they have met along the way. A couple of times during the year, usually around Easter and Christmas, they spruce it up and go out for lunch.

The group began meeting sometime in the early 2000s (each member recalls a different year!). The ladies who meet on a regular basis are: **Mary Fletcher, Rita Gardner, Fern Johnson, Linda Lanier, Theresa Richardson, Beatrice (Bea) Smalls** and **Patricia Taylor**. **Mae Gaddis** was also part of the group for many years.

Mary Fletcher worked for the City for 32 years. She enjoys reading mystery novels and is learning how to relax. She has four grandchildren to keep up with and volunteers at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church lunch program. She spends her time reading, cooking up new recipes from YouTube and binging on her favorite HGTV shows.

Rita Gardner left City service after 10 years and secured employment with the City of Inglewood. Rita is active as the captain of a women's tennis team. She also captains and manages a U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) team for youths 14 and under, as well as being a youth team liaison. She volunteers as a religious education instructor and serves on the Senior Ministry Committee that provides outreach for parish seniors. She enjoys reading and visiting local libraries, completing crossword puzzles and watching her grandchildren.

Fern Johnson worked for the City for 30 years, all in Personnel. Fern says that, currently, much of her activities have been diminished as she focuses on maintaining her health.

Linda Lanier retired from the City after 38 years of service. Her activities in retirement have included watercolor painting and volunteering as instructor for a healthy eating and exercise program for elementary students. Linda attends three line-dancing classes and

three Silver and Fit classes weekly. She enjoys walking in the park, going to movies, luncheons and dinners with friends, reading, and swimming. She is a member of three Senior Clubs and the Celebrate Life Cancer Ministry.

Theresa Richardson retired in 1999 after 33 years of City service. She says her hobby is "causing trouble!" For the first 11 years of retirement, she volunteered at her grandchildren's elementary school. She enjoys going out to eat with friends and relatives and window-shopping. She has found much joy in Ubering and Lyftng!



The Personnel Breakfast Group, from left: Theresa Richardson, Fern Johnson, Bea Smalls, Patricia Taylor, Mary Fletcher, Linda Lanier and Rita Gardner.

Beatrice Smalls retired in 2001 after 40 years of service to the City. She has volunteered at the Los Angeles World Airport (LAWA) information booth for ten years. She is secretary for her church and the Second Vice President of her Women's Club. Bea also proctors for the State Bar exams.

Patricia Taylor worked for the City for 39 years and retired in 2006. She enjoys coloring with crayons and colored pencils. She says she enjoys keeping life simple. That is why she still has a "flip phone" and is very happy with it! In her retirement, she has volunteered in a holistic doctor's office and very much enjoys going to plays and concerts and utilizing her timeshare.

More on this active group next month!

A Note on COVID-19

To Our RLACEI Retirees from the RLACEI Board:

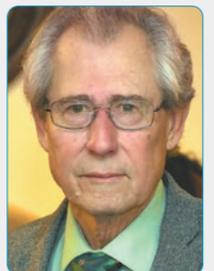
As we move forward, we realize that life will not be the same for some time to come as we slowly attempt to resume some normalcy. Many states and municipalities are slowly beginning to open for business; however, we caution our Members to continue to be diligent and put health first.

We have heard from Members that this has been a time for cleaning out closets, garages, organizing and throwing out items we forgot we owned. Some have decided to learn a new skill or have picked up an interesting hobby to stay occupied while remaining indoors. The Board reminds our members to stay connected and have fun whether cleaning, preparing meals at home or "Zooming" with friends!



A Reflection Surprises

by Dennis Harding, RLACEI Director



Dennis Harding

It goes without saying that life is full of surprises (well, I said it anyway). Surprises can be good, bad, and/or life changing. For me, a not-so-good life-changing surprise came many years ago in the form of a letter from Uncle Sam that started, "Greetings" Months later I was standing on a hill in the heart of the Michelin rubber tree plantation in South Viet Nam, overlooking the Cambodian border, praying that God would deliver me from that awful place. He did, and I experienced firsthand that God answers prayers. That experience was a life-changer in many ways; bad, I thought at the time, but it did get me closer to God. So, I guess it can be said that it was a good/bad surprise.

A life-changing surprise came a few years after I returned from my Army stint. I was not going to church regularly, my life was unfulfilled, and I was very lonely. I would often talk to my mother, and many times she advised me to go back to church. She said I would be with people who had the same Christian values that I had and that I would eventually find a nice girl there. Despite my protestations that the church was small and that there was no one there for me, I took her advice and became a regular worshiper. Then came the big surprise; as Mom predicted, there she was, the most beautiful girl, devoted to God, and who gave a broken young man a chance. It was a life changer to be sure, and a blessing from God ... a treasure of immeasurable worth.

Another good surprise came during a poker game at my house many years ago when my pregnant wife calmly announced that her water broke and that we had to go to the hospital. What a surprise that was! I told the guys they could stay and keep playing, and to lock up the house when they left. The baby came so fast that they were still playing cards when I called them to say that we had a new baby boy. That was one wacky night and a beautiful surprise!

So now, out of nowhere, life has given us all another surprise – the coronavirus. This surprise is not good, and certainly a life changer of unknown duration and effect. There are many questions being asked about how long will this go on, why is it happening, and what lasting changes will result. Will our society come out of this better or worse and will we, as individuals, be better or worse? The potential for either is there. This story is still being written and no one but God knows the outcome. At this time all we can do is to ask God to be with us, ask that life will return to some normalcy soon, and that we might, somehow, be better for this. And have faith that God will help us endure what is ahead.





Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Adopts 3 Percent Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)

LACERS Board Update
By Michael R. Wilkinson

Before we get to today's subject, I want to thank all of you for electing me to another five-year term as the Retired Member of the LACERS Board. I will do my best to fight for the interests of all retirees and active members and stave off the shortsighted political interests that hurt LACERS.

Now for the news: The LACERS board approved the 3 percent COLA, the maximum available under the law, based on a finding that the local Consumer Price Index (CPI) for last year was 3.1 percent. For most Tier 1 Retirees, that means that you will get a 3 percent increase in July, and 0.1 percent will go to the COLA bank to be used to increase the COLA payment for any year in which the COLA is below 3 percent. Tier 3 retirees get a 2 percent COLA with no banking, but there are not any retirees in that tier yet.

Now back to a subject that I harp on, the importance of an aggressive representative to protect the rights of Retirees. The approval of the COLA was on the LACERS agenda recently, as it is each year, and the board is *required* to set the COLA at the amount determined as I described above. This action normally gets passed with no discussion. However, when it came up, one of the mayor's appointees on the board asked if we could avoid paying the COLA because of the stress on City finances with the COVID-19 financial crunch. The City Attorney's representative and staff quickly responded that this is not optional, and I argued that the COLA was part of the agreement that the City had with Retirees who fulfilled their part of the bargain while working.

The COLA was then approved on a unanimous vote. Crisis averted.

Finally, I want to touch on the financial strength of LACERS. Your plan is invested for the long term and will provide you and your family with retirement payments and health benefits every month. The system is designed to weather the ups and downs of the markets and provide you the stability you depend on. ■



Meet Your Board

By Beverly Clark, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Loucin Artinian RLACEI Board Member



Lucy Artinian and her husband, Jack.

Loucin (Lucy) Artinian retired in March. She worked for the City for 37 years.

She began her City career with Building and Safety's Personnel Services. She retired as a Personnel Analyst with LACERS, where she was involved with the implementation of the new Pension Administration System (PAS) project.

Lucy has not been retired very long but has easily adjusted to retirement and found she has more time to enjoy her hobbies, which consist of travel (which has been very limited lately) and seeing historical places, gardening, cooking and sewing. She loves spending time with her family and friends.

Lucy has been married to husband, Jack, for almost 35 years. They have one son, Nicholas, and one daughter, Jennifer, who will be graduating as a veterinarian from Midwestern University in Arizona.

She joined RLACEI because she felt that, with the 37 years of experience and knowledge she gained during her career, she is well equipped to assist fellow Retirees with their retirement needs.

RLACEI 2020

Summer PICNIC

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

Thursday, August 6, 2020

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

RSVP to (800) 678-4145 Ext. 701



Michael Karsch

Struggles With Public Pensions Now in Court

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:
Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

The struggle with public pensions in California is coming before the State Supreme Court again. On May 5, that court was expected to hear arguments in the case of Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Association vs. Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association. According to the court's case summary: Did statutory amendments to the County Employees Retirement Law made by the Public Employees Pension Reform Act of 2013 reduce the scope of the pre-existing definition of pensionable compensation and thereby impair employees' vested rights protected by the contracts clauses of the state and federal constitutions? According to the *San Jose Mercury News*, this is about pension spiking in two counties in the Bay Area that could arguably impact future pension costs across the state. The newspaper continues: The justices should strike down the pension spiking in Merced, Alameda and most egregiously, Contra Costa Counties. Abuses were so bad that some workers were retiring with pensions 25 percent greater than their top pay when they were on the job.

There are other lawsuits representing 20 county-level pension systems, according to the *Mercury News*, but the most important cases are from Merced, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. This issue gets into the California Rule, which guarantees that future pensions for current employees cannot be reduced. The *Mercury News* says the court has three options: 1) back the unions and, by affirming the rigidity of the California Rule, essentially indefinitely lock state taxpay-

ers into unaffordable pensions; 2) side with the state by concluding the California Rule doesn't apply because the pension spiking was never legally permitted; and 3) temper the California Rule by emphasizing that it's not absolute and allows for reasonable pension changes, especially when the benefits are too costly for governments to fund.

Remember that State Supreme Court's ruling last year had the opportunity to revise the California Rule or overrule it, but chose not to get into that subject.

The retirement costs to the state and lower governmental levels are growing very fast, reflecting nearly \$800 billion in pension liabilities, which are growing at seven percent per year, per David Crane on the governor's proposed budget for 2020 (as reported in "Fox & Hounds"). Government agencies will have to reduce pension liabilities by suspending automatic benefit increases and reducing un-accrued benefits for years not yet worked, per Mr. Crane.

A Yahoo.com report in late April said that the share of state K-12 education budgets going to pension costs has doubled in two decades. Now the education budget for pensions is 14.4 percent as compared to 7.5 percent in 2001.

A Reason.com report describes the Social Security system to hit insolvency in 2035, and that does not consider the impact of the pandemic crisis. Insolvency does not mean bankruptcy, but that the reserves of the Social Security would be used up by then and mandatory benefits cuts would begin. ■

1st Annual Tom Stemnock Memorial Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 11, 2020

The 1st Annual Tom Stemnock Memorial Golf Tournament sponsored by the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc., will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course at 7:30 a.m. The course is located at 630 South Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801. Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY.

- The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$70 for RLACEI & City Employees Club members. All others pay \$80, which includes greens fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Alhambra Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$25.00.
- Those interested in participating must complete the reservation form and mail it to: RLACEI, 1000 W. 10th St., Los Angeles, CA 90015. Deadline: June 28, 2020.

Chairman, RLACEI, Terminal Annex, P.O.

Golf Tournament Canceled

To help keep all of our Retirees safe during the coronavirus pandemic, the Board has voted to cancel the first annual Tom Stemnock Memorial Golf Tournament that was scheduled for June 11.

The Board plans to reschedule this event for June 2021. Stay well, and we look forward to seeing you then!

Make checks payable to RLACEI

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Amount \$ _____ \$70

Donation Only: \$25 _____ \$80

Member _____ Member _____

Alive! Feature

ALIVE! INTERVIEW

'We Are Essential Workers'

On May 7, *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed Keith Mozee [pronounced Mo-ZAY], Assistant Director of StreetsLA (Street Services) and the Chief Operations Officer in charge of the pandemic response. Keith has worked for the City for more than 30 years, all with Street Services. The interview took place by phone, to maintain safe distancing.

Alive!: Thanks for talking to me today. What path did you take to your current position?

Keith Mozee: Sure. After serving in the Army, I went to a job fair headed by Mayor Tom Bradley at Audubon Middle School and started as a light Truck Operator for then Street Maintenance – a guy working on a Small Asphalt Repair truck filling potholes. In the 1990s, I went back to school to continue my education. And after I received a Bachelor of arts degree in urban study and planning, I was promoted from Truck Operator to Motor Sweeper Operator, Street Services Supervisor running field crews, then Street Services Superintendent I and II running concrete crews, both of the City's asphalt plants. Then I became Chief Coordinator coordinating all Citywide paving operations; then to Division Manager leading the Resurfacing and Reconstruction Division; then to General Superintendent working on special assignments; and then to Assistant Director. And now as Assistant Director I'm the Chief Operations Officer in charge of the pandemic response, overseeing our emergency operations and procurement of PPE (personal pro-

tection equipment). One of my main duties is overseeing the paving preservation program for the entire City, and a host of other duties.

That's a lot. You must have been really busy over the last eight to ten weeks. This must have been a very busy time for you.

It's always busy, and this is no different. Managing operations always has its challenges, but my most paramount responsibility is keeping our employees safe during this pandemic.

Pandemic: Streets and More

Give us an overview of StreetsLA's responsibilities during COVID-19. What do you do as essential workers?

Well, first, we're still continuing our essential services maintaining City streets, sidewalks and street trees. We also provide investigation and enforcement activity on street uses. We design and build projects to make City streets safe, mobile and sustainable. We are essential workers. We've worked to adjust our regular duties during these changing conditions. We're responsible for the safety of our essential workers through education, communication and providing the proper equipment to keep them safe.

What percentage of your workers are doing things that they didn't expect to do during this time? Did everyone shift over or just some people?

We have, 1,260 positions at StreetsLA that include approximately 1,000 people working in the field maintaining Continuity of Operations or performing essential services. That's the majority of our workforce – close to 80 percent. And, so, the other 20 percent is working in the office, providing administrative support, telecommuting or working as Disaster Service Workers. Our engineering folks are providing support

— continued page 12



Keith Mozee, Chief Operations Officer in the charge of the pandemic for StreetsLA



Crew 159 resurfacing Sunset Boulevard in East Hollywood.

PUBLIC WORKS

Str

StreetsLA (formerly Street Services) shifted to several projects to take advantage of the changes in traffic, and to mitigate the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on the citizens of LA and keep the City safe.

When the going got tough, the essential workers shifted ... and kept going.

Look outside – the City crew you see on the streets is keeping the City safe ... accomplishing important repair work more efficiently ... and proving that the City is moving ahead normally.

Staying active to complete jobs and give a sense that the City is in full operation during this pandemic, StreetsLA (Street Services) shifted to several projects to take advantage of the changes in traffic, and to mitigate the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on the citizens of LA and keep the City safe.



PANDEMIC 2019-2020

Streets Smart

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; Alive! editor John Burnes; and courtesy StreetsLA

et Services) takes advantage of
or arterials, saving time and money.



Resurfacing Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard



Notably, these are the major programs StreetsLA is accomplishing during the pandemic:

- **Project ADAPT** (Adjusted Deployment to Accelerate Paving in High Traffic Corridors) takes advantage of lighter traffic on main arterials to make resurfacing and sweeping more efficient.
- StreetsLA crews are **sanitizing transit shelters** to help stop the spread of the virus.
- Streets LA crews are also **inspecting farmer's markets** to make sure they are in compliance with the mayor's directives on social distancing.

Read more about these projects in the feature that follows, with more online on the *Alive!* Website.

For more information about StreetsLA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, visit streetsla.lacity.org/covid



Switching Gears

There are three main projects being performed by StreetsLA in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

Project ADAPT



StreetsLA is executing the ADAPT (Adjusted Deployment to Accelerate Paving in High Traffic Corridors) program, an initiative announced by Mayor Garcetti on April 10 to take advantage of the reduced traffic resulting from the Safer at Home order. Lighter traffic allows StreetsLA to repair and sweep high-priority, high-traffic and commercial corridors more quickly and cost-effectively. It will also reduce impact on residents staying at home.

The Safer at Home emergency order brought about a significant decrease in vehicle traffic throughout the City. Meanwhile, maintenance, paving and sweeping of local residential streets has been complicated by relaxed parking enforcement and was sometimes disruptive to residents who are staying safer at home and/or working at home. By maximizing resources in this way, StreetsLA is accomplishing more with the same resources and help prepare the City for a post-coronavirus recovery.

StreetsLA also expanded street sweeping from local residential streets to major commercial corridors. During the safer at home order, relaxed parking enforcement has diminished the ability of street sweeping to reach some curb areas but increased the department's ability to clean areas that would otherwise be blocked by commercial parking.

StreetsLA is also deferring pavement of local streets to later in the year, thereby minimizing conflicts with residents staying safer at home and maximizing resources to repair high-traffic corridors.

Sanitizing Transit Stations



As a part of StreetsLA's contribution to "flattening the curve," the department has added hand hygiene for transit riders. To help transit riders stay safe and working with the contract partners for the Coordinated Street Furniture Program, StreetsLA doubled the frequency of cleaning at bus stops and has installed 300 automatic touch-free hand sanitizing dispensers at the highest used bus stops all across Los Angeles.

Farmers Markets



All Farmers Markets in the City were required to have an approved COVID-19 operational plan approved by StreetsLA, under public health orders and Mayor Eric Garcetti's direction. And the Streets LA Farmers Markets team stepped up to work with the markets and reopen to provide fresh food and keep the public safe at the same time.

Alive! Feature

ALIVE! INTERVIEW

— continued from page 10

to our essential services projects, continuing to design projects for construction. A small percent of our essential workers are volunteering as DSW [disaster service] workers, delivering food to seniors, for example. But the vast bulk of our workforce is still in the field, maintaining the City's infrastructure, providing services to maintain that sense of normalcy. It's vital that people see our yellow trucks paving streets, trimming trees and fixing sidewalks, monitoring food vendors, and installing hand sanitizer at bus transit shelters. The public continues to see that the City and its Public Works are still functioning.

If there were an earthquake we would be more at a forefront removing debris from roadways. During the recent firestorms, we worked with Emergency Operations and the Fire Department to clear roads so fire trucks could get through. In this crisis, we're acting in a more support-type role supplying k-rail, cones, barricades for testing centers and promoting safe activities at local businesses.

There are a few operations you're doing that are different than normal. I want to ask you, first, about the ADAPT program.

Sure. ADAPT stands for "Adjusted Deployment to Accelerate Paving," that includes sweeping high-traffic corridors. Crews are able to take advantage of the reduced traffic on busier commercial streets, allowing us to complete large-scale projects much faster, reducing the impact on residents staying at home. This has allowed StreetsLA to complete a significant amount of work that would normally take longer to accomplish.

Sure. It's been very different driving in LA over the last few months.

Yes. With the safer at home emergency order and relaxed parking enforcement, we found it hard to pave and sweep local residential neighborhoods. Meanwhile, on the major arterial streets, which are usually heavily traveled, traffic conditions were significantly lighter. We saw an opportunity to capitalize on the situation, so we re-deployed our resources, shifting them from the residential streets to commercial corridors. This reduced the impact on the residents who are staying at home and complying with the order, and it made work on our commercial areas and major arterial streets quicker and more cost effective. We can work longer with fewer disruptions to public transit and parking. We're able to accomplish more with the same resources.

Can you tell me about the sanitization and hydration station program?

Yes, We're working with our contractors who manage our street furniture program to double the frequency of cleaning at all transit shelters and bus benches. We've installed more than 300 hand-sanitizing stations at transit shelters City-wide. Our engineers are installing permanent, fully plumbed hand-washing and hydration stations at public toilets to help protect the public health, including on Skid Row, where conditions are severe.

Is that for Transportation's DASH bus program, and for the County's Metro system?

Yes, both, starting with the most frequently used bus stops.

And you were working on the compliance for the reopening of farmer's markets.

Yes. I'm proud to say that we quickly responded to ensure that farmers markets remain safe and available options for the public. Immediately after the mayor announced concern about safety at farmers markets, we began reviewing plans to ensure safe distancing and adequate hygiene at the markets. Today, there are 33 farmers markets with COVID safety plans approved by StreetsLA

for the public. COVID-19 is a sustained event that is longer lasting, not typically what we are used to dealing with. Now we are adjusting to this new type of situation, managing essential PPE supplies, using face coverings, ensuring staff wash their hands and monitoring social distancing. This is unprecedented.

It has to have taken a period of adjustment to deal with the distancing.

We have a risk manager who oversees and assesses our normal work environment that now includes COVID-19 safety protocols. We have dedicated staff checking field crews every day for social distancing and PPEs. We are out there every day, being vigilant and making sure that our crews are complying. At the same time, we're communicating with them daily to take measures to suppress the spread of this virus.

Right. How quickly did your units adapt? What was it like on the ground when emergency work orders came down?

It's within our structure as part of emergency operations along with the Illness Injury Prevention Program to work safely during normal work activities or emergencies. When we realized the severity of this pandemic, the directors immediately began communicating with our staff, following the mayor's leadership, and county health and safety guidelines. We immediately started incorporating increased hand washing, then face coverings, and practicing social distancing.

Who figured out the projects and came up with the list, and what you're going to do during the coronavirus crisis?

In my discussions with Division Managers, superintendent staff and our General Manager, Adel Hagekhalil, regarding the challenges with working in residential neighborhoods, the question was asked, "Can we pivot from paving and sweeping residential neighborhoods to major corridors to accomplish our goals?" This was no easy task as everything in the Annual Street Renewal Program had to be adjusted, and sweeping routes changed. StreetsLA executive staff and managers are always forward thinking and often react nimbly to change. We knew that the major corridors rarely get swept. We thought, "This is an opportunity." So, we "ADAPTED" quickly, shifting projects and resources to work on major corridors and easing the impact on residential neighborhoods.

From left: Alive! editor John Burnes and StreetsLA Assistant Director Keith Mozee, on Sunset Boulevard



'We are essential workers. We are first responders. Just by people seeing us still out there, they know that the City is still functioning.' — Keith Mozee, Assistant Director, StreetsLA

Unprecedented

Has there been any time in your City career that compares to this? Is this unprecedented in the kind of work that you're doing for the City?

I was around during the '92 riots; several earthquakes, including the Northridge earthquake; rainstorms that caused mudslides; windstorms that toppled trees; and major fires all generating debris that required debris removal in some cases and significant support from StreetsLA. These are traumatic events that we experience as a part of living in Southern California. When we respond to these types of emergencies, we're out opening roads

Continued on web *Alive!*
alive.employeesclub.com



Meet the StreetsLA crews in these group photos.

Special thanks go to **Ozzie Haro** and **Paul Gomez** of StreetsLA, who helped organize our visit during extraordinary (pandemic) times.



Along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard

Crew 152 (not in order): Ozzie Haro, Street Services Supervisor; Ted Remigio, Field Engineer; Manuel Meza Duran, Maintenance Laborer; Frank Dick, Maintenance and Construction Helper; Jahleel Holbert, Street Services Worker II; Francisco Nunez, Maintenance Laborer; George Limon, Heavy Equipment Operator; David Galvez, Street Services Worker I; Roberto Gamez, Heavy Equipment Operator; Pete Caranza, Street Services Worker; Isidro Rodriguez, Street Services Worker I; and Tom Kok, Street Services Worker II.



StreetsLA's Dora Robles repaving Seventh Street downtown.



Along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard

Crew 152 (not in order): Joaquin Hendon, Street Services Supervisor; Ozzie Haro, Street Services Supervisor; Dora Robles, Street Services Worker I; Vankhony Keo, Street Services Worker I; Antonio Viramontes, Street Services Worker I; Richard Gaytan, Heavy Equipment Operator; and Jose Mendoza, Street Services Worker I.

PANDEMIC 2019-2020

Scenes PART 3 From a Pandemic

Look for more
Scenes From a Pandemic
next month.

Alive! continues its documentation of City employees as they take a multitude of measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and keep LA safe. (The first part was in our April 2020 issue.) Here are entries from the Club and the City Twitter feeds about City Employees and Club Members at work during this trying time.

The phrases indicated by a # or an @ are Internet search locators that work as shortcuts to help find desired locations online. We included that text here for completeness; if you want to see those locations, simply retype those phrases into your online browser.

Rec and Parks



"Thank you to our Park Rangers with @LACityParks who have been assisting with #COVID19 testing operations! Looking to be tested? The City of LA is providing FREE testing to ALL LA County residents – Sign up at Coronavirus.LACity.org/Testing! (Testing is by appointment only) #ParkProudLA"



May 5

Transportation



"One of the ways we're helping LA's essential businesses during this time is by installing temporary food pickup zone signs that designate a spot for customers to access a business. For more information on how to get a sign installed for free, please visit ow.ly/ubNz50zeffp"



April 15

Public Works/Sanitation and Environment



"#ICYMI, LASAN's Environmental Monitoring Division (EMD) has been producing #handsanitizer & #sanitizingspray in the labs at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant since March. As soon as supplies are replenished, they'll make more for LASAN workers & other frontline operators."



May 4

Public Works/Street Services



"With @MayorOfLA orders, many of our StreetsLA investigators have been reassigned to make sure businesses are complying with Covid-19 directives. Thanks to azaylittletokyo.com for letting us photograph your restaurant. @GMsTREEtSLA1H2O @LACityDPW"



April 8

Planning



"BIG thanks go to #frontlineworkers + other awesome City staff including Asst Planner Dang Nguyen for stepping up through @LACity Disaster Service Worker Program to transform @LACityParks centers into temporary shelter facilities for our unhoused neighbors! #slowthespread #COVID19"



April 6

LAPD



"Here are some of our @LAPDSoutheast Officers supporting the small business in the area. Once this is all over, let's remember to thank business owners who stayed open for all of us. #StayHome #WeAreLA @LAPDReginaScott @LabradaAI"



LAPD South Bureau, April 7

Empower LA



"We are proud to be using our emergency funds to help support residents of the new @PanPacificPark emergency shelter! A big thank you to the city staff running the facility."



April 1

Public Works/Sanitation



"The Northridge Recreation Center was converted to a shelter last week by our friends at @LACityParks. Showers in the center weren't possible, so our CARE team was there to help with a mobile hygiene unit."



March 30

Give

Help Your Fellow City Employees in Need

During this virus pandemic, some City Employees and their families are facing hardships. Club Angels, the charity started by staff members of the Employees Club, invites you to join our efforts to help.

Since the Club Angels appeal began, the charity has provided **more than \$8,000 in grocery assistance** to fellow City Employees through your gifts, and matching funds from the Club.



"Club Angel's ability to help City Employees in need relies on your donations," says Arlene Herrero, Club Angels President. "And with Employee's Club of California's matching contribution, each donation goes further."

"Some people have donated in memory of a loved one. This is a great way to honor someone."

"I love it when gratitude and positive emotions are created through donations and from those who have reached out to Club Angels for assistance," said Club COO Robert Larios. "People reaching out to help strengthen and remind me of the lifelong impact Club Angels is making to members and their families."

"From everyone at Club Angels, thanks to those who have donated," Arlene Herrero said. "And if you are facing hardship, please reach out to us. Club Angels is here to help."

The Club encourages City Employees and everyone to contribute to the Club Angels fund, accessed on its GoFundMe page. Donations go to City Employees in need; Club Angels and the Employees Club earn nothing from the transaction. Donations might be tax deductible; consult your tax professional.

**To donate, go to:
ClubAngels.org
Please be generous.**

Thanks to your donations, these groceries were delivered by Club Angels to a City Employee in need.



Club Angels is a separate charity begun by Club staff.



THE SEQUEL:

50,000

Calling All Members



Here's Joe Bradley, retired, with rice and beans delivered by Club Store Manager Lupe Lira. (Lupe set down the rice and beans and then stepped back so that she could maintain six feet of social distancing.)

As a follow-up to last month's history-making project when the Club called all Retired Members to make sure they were doing okay during the coronavirus pandemic – the Club is taking it one step further by calling all active members!

The Club's "Care Calls" Part II is 50,000 phone calls to you, our Members. We care about you and want to make sure you have what you need during the pandemic crisis. At press time, we're about halfway through.

Check out the list to the side of this article to see the Club staff members who are making these important calls. One of them has called you (or will call you) just to make sure you're doing okay.

In March as the pandemic was taking hold, Club CEO John Hawkins heard in the media that some newsmakers were saying that the lives of seniors were not that important. That prompted him to engage the Club staff to call every Retired Club Member and let them know they matter, and then ask if they needed any supplies. Club staff quickly agreed.

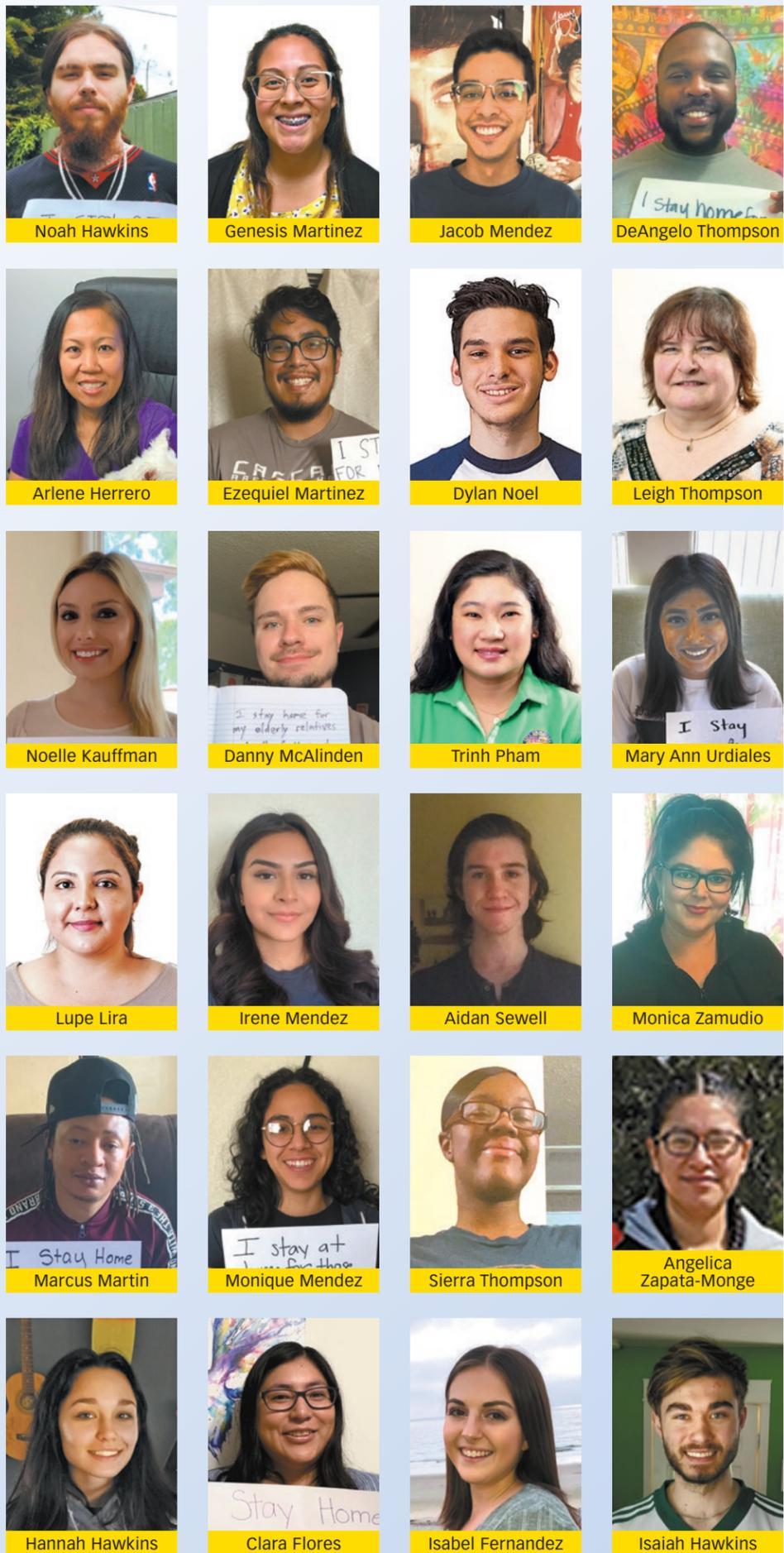
Those 8,000 calls to Retired Members proved so meaningful that the staff kept on going, now calling the remainder of the Club membership. That's about 50,000 calls total. *Whew!*

So far, the Club is providing groceries, masks, sanitizer and paper products to those Members who request them.

We'll provide an update next month as the project gets closer to its conclusion.

Meet the CALLERS

Here are the faces of the 32 Club staffers who are now calling you and all Members, in the biggest outreach project in Club history. **Say hello!**



Here's What Members Are Saying

Here's a sample of comments made by Club Members in response to the programs calling all Retired and active members.

"I am proud to be a Club Member! It's all because of the staff that has been working to take care not only of me but all our Club Members!"
— Michelle Brown, Public Works/Contract Administration

"I'm really pleased with the staff's efforts to not only get me what I needed, but to do so in a courteous and professional manner. My wife underwent successful surgery, and I feel extra-protected with future follow-up visits I'll make to see her with the quality masks that you sent me."
— Benjamin Jimenez, Retired, DWP

"I was truly impressed with the compassion of the City Club to call 8,000 Retirees to see how they were doing during this difficult time! It was truly touching to hear how the Club reached out and made them feel important. The Club has done a lot of wonderful things, but I find this very touching. Thank you for your kindness! Sometimes it takes unusual times to bring out the best in people, and the City Club is one of the best. Thank you!"
— Jean Sarfaty, LAPD/Communications





CLUB ANGELS CHARITY

A 501 (C)(3) Non Profit Organization



\$8,100

Raised for Helping Los Angeles City Employees in Need of Financial Assistance

49

Employees Helped and Counting!

HELP OUT A FELLOW L.A. CITY EMPLOYEE TODAY!

#ClubAngels

911 Dispatcher Supporting Rest of Family

She lives at home with her parents and sister and is the only source of income for her family. Her father has recently become unemployed. Most of her income goes to helping out her family. She is not sure if her father would be eligible for unemployment, which is why she turned to Club Angels for help.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

Single Mom with Two Toddlers 3 and 1

A single mother who heard about Club Angels through her co-worker requested help with some groceries. She works full time for LAWA and has a 3-year-old and 1-year-old to care for.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

Family of Five Just Trying to Survive

Working as a DWP Customer Service Representative, she is grateful to be working full time; however her family of five is struggling more these days as her spouse recently lost his job. Like many recently unemployed, benefits have yet to come in. As a sole supporter of the family with three teenagers, receiving help with groceries from Club Angels is a lifesaver.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

A Daughter with an Upcoming Heart Surgery

She works for the Department of Rec and Parks and is unable to work at the shelters to avoid the risk of exposing herself to COVID19 and possibly infecting her 6-year-old daughter, who is currently waiting to have a coronary artery surgery. She's the sole income provider supporting her daughters (6-year-old and 2-year-old) and a husband who recently lost his job.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

Mother with Dementia

For nearly 40 years as an administrative clerk for LAPD, she recently became the caregiver for her 90-year-old mother, who is suffering from dementia. Although she received her stimulus check and can work full time, she suffered a set back after her car broke down recently. She ended up using her much needed stimulus check to pay for the car repairs, but still had a lot of expenses. She reached out to Club Angels for some much-needed help with groceries.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

Needs to Move Out by the End of the Month

Her supervisor at the Library was the one who suggested she come to Club Angels for help. She can work from home as a single parent while caring for her three kids, ages 12, 8, and 5. Her current living situation is changing as the home she rents has recently sold. To make matters worst, she will need to move out by the end of the month.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

Broken Fridge Spoils Needed Food Supply

He has been working for the past three years as a Senior Custodian for General Services. His wife currently works from home. Their fridge broke down last week, spoiling all of their saved food supply. Fortunately, they were able to purchase a new fridge and requested the help of Club Angels to help with the restocking of their food supply.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

#ClubAngels

Injured on the Job with a Baby on the Way

An Electrical Mechanic with LADWP suffered a setback as he is currently on Workers Comp. He has custody of his 10 yr old son, and his fiancé is pregnant with a baby due in June. His fiancé has to take an early time off as she works at a hospital. Her doctor told her it was best not to be in a high-risk environment with her pregnancy. Her income has drastically reduced as it is too early for her to go on maternity leave.

Anonymous, LADWP Employee

#ClubAngels

Custodian Wife was Recently Laid Off

He has been a custodian for 15 years. His spouse worked as a secretary and was just laid off. He is now the only source of income while his 22-year-old son is working part-time and going to school. The unemployment benefits for his wife is taking longer than expected, and their stimulus check has yet to arrive in the mail. He heard about the program from his co-worker.

Anonymous, Los Angeles City Employee

Your donations are making a huge impact on the lives of many.

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Make your donation more powerful with matching contributions from the Club. For every \$1 you donate, the Club will donate a matching \$1.

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alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments



Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Adame, Mark	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Gray, Kelly	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D	Omahony, John	Construction Insp.	Public Works	18
Ahmadi, Masoud E.	Civil Eng. Ass.	Public Works	39	Gutierrez, Nicanor	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Ortiz, Bryan S.	Officer	Airport Police	25
Alarcon, Diego F.	Traffic Officer	Transportation	31	Hansen, Nels A.	Security Officer	Airports	24	Partida, Luis	Power Planning	DWP	N/D
Anderson, Gerald L.	Sr. Traffic Supervisor	Transportation	32	Harryman, Ronald B.	Librarian	Library	18	Penalver, Francisco	Env. Chem. Lab	DWP	N/D
Anderson, Letidda M.	Sr. Traffic Supervisor	Transportation	31	Hill, Lynda	Customer Service	DWP	N/D	Perez, Joel	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Aquino, Joycelyn Stella	Administrative Clerk	LAPD	33	Hill-Akhigbe, Debra	Customer Billing	DWP	N/D	Peters, Carolina L.	Program Aide	City Clerk	39
Araiza, Jose A.	Manage. Analyst	Housing	22	Hilliard, Evelyn Bernice	Crossing Guard	Transportation	4	Poire, Matt	Carpenter Super.	Public Works	25
Arellano, Maria Teresa	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	34	Hoffman, Richard	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Powell, Avis K.	Sr. Traffic Supervisor	Transportation	31
Arroyo, Gemeniano B.	Parking Attendant	General Ser.	12	Hom, Judith A.	Exec. Admin. Asst.	LAFD	39	Quattlebaum, Raashi H.	St. Light. Engr. Ass.	Public Works	10
Arroyo, Maria A.	Investigator	Housing	12	Hsu, Frank	Power Planning	DWP	N/D	Raasch, Daryl R.	Sr. Civil Engineer	Harbor	35
Artinian, Loucin A.	Personnel Analyst	LACERS	37	Hu, Hui	Messenger Clerk	Library	1	Ramirez, Fernando	Graphics Designer	LAPD	32
Avila, Esteban	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Ibrahim, John I.	Civil Engineering Ass.	Harbor	40	Ramirez, Kurt	Survey Party Chief	Harbor	35
Bejarano, Alejandro	Metering Services	DWP	N/D	Jimenez, Jaime R.	Survey Party Chief	Public Works	26	Ramiro, Lourdes Castillo	Accountant	Bldg. & Safety	17
Berrones, Marcellino R.	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	20	Johnson, Collins A.	Maint. & Constr. Helper	General Ser.	31	Reamey, Kenneth	Energy Support	DWP	N/D
Bland, Gregory J.	Head Custodian Sup.	Airports	34	Kanan, Patrick J.	Sr. Rec. Director	Rec and Parks	42	Robles, Crispino	Power Con./Maint.	DWP	N/D
Brink, Donald	Constr. & Maint.	DWP	N/D	Keehne, Daniel S.	Officer	Airport Police	35	Rodriguez, Maritza	Accounting Clerk	City Clerk	16
Broker, Brenda E.	Paralegal	City Attorney	14	Keoseian, Verkin A.	Manag. Analyst	Personnel	37	Romero, Ana	Power Supply	DWP	N/D
Bush, Frank M.	Supt. of Building	Bldg. & Safety	30	Ko, Agnes H.	Sr. Manag. Analyst	Rec and Parks	31	Romero, Jose C.	Air Cond. Mechanic	Airports	19
Bylard, Thomas D.	Constr./Maint. Gn. Sup.	General Ser.	27	Kobaissi, Charlie N.	Equip. Mechanic	Airports	38	Roxas, Gina Calon	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	31
Campos, Mark A.	Storekeeper	General Ser.	32	Kochendarfer, Kenneth	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Royles, Edward B.	Port Pilot	Harbor	20
Carr, Firpo W.	Systems Analyst	LAPD	6	Lau, Chester	Sustainability	DWP	N/D	Rubin, Mark	Retirement Plan	DWP	N/D
Chang, Cheng Tong R.	Architect	Public Works	30	Lee, Morgan	Power Planning	DWP	N/D	Saddler, Keith	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D
Chang, Michael	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Lin, Carolyn Marie	Environ. Affairs Off.	Airports	16	Sanchez, Michael	Integrated Support	DWP	N/D
Chen, William	Power Planning	DWP	N/D	Lopez, Ismael	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D	Sanchez, Precy T.	Acctg. Rec Supv.	Bldg. & Safety	31
Cheng, William L.	Accountant	Aging	42	Loveland, Gregory	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Schiavo, David	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D
Collins, Elizabeth Barra	Librarian	Library	8	Lowe, Jerry	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Shen Torbik, Emily C.	Librarian	Library	2
Cordova, Alicia	Sr. Traffic Super.	Transportation	30	Lowe, Rhonda Pantellas	Deputy City Attorney	City Attorney	13	Silic, Michael	Power Const./Maint.	DWP	N/D
Corral, Manuel	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	32	Loya, Susan	Power Supply	DWP	N/D	Singer, Charles A.	Supt. of Operations	Rec and Parks	44
Cristobal, Soledad B.	Benefits Specialist	LACERS	31	Lozano, Eddie F.	Carpenter	Rec and Parks	30	Skillems, Randy	Power Supply	DWP	N/D
Darby-Rutland, Lucretia	Customer Service	DWP	N/D	Lucero, Godofredo B.	Security Officer	Airports	17	Smith, Rodney C.	Sr. Traffic Supv.	Transportation	34
Davis, Louis E.	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	40	Madison, Zara	Customer Service	DWP	N/D	Spencer, Case D.	Environmental Eng.	Public Works	30
Delgado, William Dean	Admin. Clerk	LAPD	13	Magpoc, Roberto T.	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	30	Staffeld, Troy	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D
Delorenzo, Cindy M.	Admin. Clerk	Library	5	Mai, Thanh V.	Civil Eng. Ass.	Public Works	30	Stumbo, Jane E.	Social Worker	Aging	6
Dematos, Kerry A.	Port Pilot	Harbor	19	Maniquiz, Josefina B.	Laboratory Tech	Public Works	34	Surles, Rhonda	Metering Services	DWP	N/D
Deisch, Allen	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Mariscal, Rebecca A.	Admin. Clerk	Library	21	Ta, Trung	Power Const./Maint.	DWP	N/D
Di Tucci, Anthony	Boat Captain	Harbor	30	Maryanski, Richard	Fleet Services	DWP	N/D	Tapp, Lori Jean	Buyer	General Ser.	5
Diankoff, Diana	Sr. Recreation Dir.	Rec and Parks	20	Maslin, Edward Foster	Deputy GM	Airports	8	Torres, Virgilio B.	Land Surveying Asst.	Harbor	29
Dingman, Walter Jesse	Recreation Ass.	Rec and Parks	1	McAndrew, Edward	Security Services	DWP	N/D	Touch, Jaime K.	Sr. Systems Analyst	Harbor	20
Dovalle, Joao T.	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	31	McDaniel, Phyllis	Customer Service	DWP	N/D	Trieu, Dao To	Programmer/Analyst	ITA	30
Drew, Lonnie	ITS	DWP	N/D	McKenzie, Rosetta O.	Sr. Systems Analyst	Rec and Parks	37	Trimarchi, Anthony	Security Officer	LAPD	6
Dunton, Ernest	Traffic Officer	Transportation	43	McQueen, Danny	Water Distribution	DWP	N/D	Trujillo, Gabriela	Sr. Admin. Clerk	General Ser.	31
Estrella, Armando	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Medina, Adolfo	Construction Insp.	Public Works	34	Truong, Nee Hue	Info Systems Mgr.	ITA	31
Fernandez, Anita Jane	Director of Systems	Public Works	34	Mfume, Rashad A.	Fin. Manag. Spec.	Controller's Office	27	Tsai, Theresa	Power Const./Maint.	DWP	N/D
Foster, Daryl	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D	Migliaro, Joseph	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Uribe, Bernardo	Power Transmission	DWP	N/D
Frank, Laurence B.	Deputy Mayor	Mayor's Office	11	Montanez, Sandra Cuevas	Police Service Rep	LAPD	31	Van Ness, Robin Leigh	Police Service Rep	LAPD	32
Frazier, Robyn Rene	Sr. Police Serv. Rep	LAPD	28	Morales, Olivia	Human Resources	DWP	N/D	Vasquez, Albert B.	Storekeeper	General Ser.	30
Fukaye Mochizuki, Jean K.	Photographer	LAPD	29	Moreno, Frank	Mech. Repairer	Rec and Parks	34	Vasquez, Nora Gabriela	Sr. Custodian	Airports	29
Garcia, Maria Christina	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	38	Moser, Christopher	Metering Services	DWP	N/D	Vaughn, Henry	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	30
Gardner, Gary L.	Sr. Painter	Rec and Parks	33	Mowery, Georgia M.	Sr. Project Coord.	Transportation	25	Vazquez, Alexander R.	Civil Engineer	Public Works	34
Gardner, Sherry	Secretary	Rec and Parks	35	Munn, Andre D.	Officer	Airport Police	37	Verdejo, Susana G.	Accounting Clerk	Housing	20
Gaw, Eddie	Power Planning	DWP	N/D	Murdock, Virginia	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Vuong, Andy Luan	Director of Systems	Library	31
Giannini, Anthony J.	Sr. Build. Mech. Insp.	Bldg. & Safety	45	Nadle, Terrence	Water Operations	DWP	N/D	Wagner-Mees, Drue Anne	Librarian	Library	23
Giese, John	Power Ext. Energy	DWP	N/D	Najera, Marylou	Secretary	Public Works	25	Walters, Monica C.	Sr. Manag. Analyst	Eco./Wrkfr. Dev.	33
Gilbertsen, Eric S.	Sr. Survey Super.	Harbor	23	Nash, Lawrence J.	Sr. Librarian	Library	31	Weeks, William P.	Assistant Gen. Mgr.	Personnel	33
Gore, Brian	ITS	DWP	N/D	Nguyen, Lien Ng	Manag. Analyst	LACERS	31	Weir, Laurie H.	Programs Manager	Housing	6
Goshi Forney, Natalie A.	Secretary	LAFD	33	Ogata, Laurel	Human Resources	DWP	N/D	Whitson, Anthony M.	Tire Repairer	General Ser.	24
Gotauco, Zita	Finance/Risk Contr.	DWP	N/D	Ohanian, Edick B.	Pr. Civil Engineer	Public Works	35	Whitmore, Donald	Supply Chain	DWP	N/D
Granados, Linda P.	Manag. Analyst	Public Works	18	Olson, Christophe Lee	Sr. Traffic Supv.	Transportation	36	Wicker, Claudette	Customer Service	DWP	N/D

N/D = not disclosed



In Memoriam

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

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Active					
Anderson, Michael	Livability Serv. 26	Favarote, Eunice	N/D N/D	McCoy, Mary	DWP 27
Barrera, Oscar	Library 12	Fisch, Joseph	N/D N/D	McElwain, Ned	DWP 28
Blasman, Paul	Public Works 30	Fox, Jack	N/D N/D	Moore, Jerome	N/D N/D
Gardner, Telish	Livability Serv. 5	Frierson, John	N/D N/D	Nealy, Cornelius	DWP 30
Marcinek, Michael	LAPD 31	Gales, Earl	N/D N/D	Okamoto, Clifford	Harbor 30
Menefee, Marilyn	Transportation 9	Gardner, Keith	Harbor 17	Olson, Dale	N/D N/D
Pevzner, Yelena	Library 20	Gerischer, Fred	N/D N/D	Orosel, James	DWP 37
Thai, Minh	Rec and Parks 12	Giron, Romeo	Controller's Off. 21	Palk, David	Bldg. & Safety 22
Wong, Philip	Public Works 8	Gomez, John	N/D N/D	Pilitsis, Livanios	Harbor 16
		Grigsby, Johnnie	N/D N/D	Rosenberg, Burton	N/D N/D
Retired		Harrington, Everett	N/D N/D	Roy, Willie	Airports 35
Adelwala, Drupad	LAPD 35	Hedley, Jane	Library 24	Sandoval, Franklin	Public Works 39
Aikens, Vernon	N/D N/D	Hill, Charlie	LAPD 14	Schafer, Brian	Harbor 17
Ali, Saeed	Council 30	Hudson, Margaret	Housing 21	Slattery, Edward	DWP 8
Anderson, Allan	DWP 31	Iberri, David	N/D N/D	Smith, Cecil	N/D N/D
Anderson, Ellen	N/D N/D	Jackson, Henry	Airports 33	Soyejima, Frank	N/D N/D
Andrews, Charles	N/D N/D	Jones, Gary	Public Works 34	Takeda, Terry	DWP 34
Averill, Dolores	N/D N/D	Knight, Willie	DWP 33	Talise, Minerva	Econ./Wrkfr. Dev. 33
Birl, Lawrence	N/D N/D	Lambert, John	DWP 30	Tanner, Joseph	N/D N/D
Blank, Walter	DWP 28	Lazzaretto, Everett	N/D N/D	Tarver, Melvin	N/D N/D
Bowman, Vernon	DWP 28	Lear, George	DWP 39	Thompson, Charles	Transportation 22
Bryant, Edward	N/D N/D	Lee, Peter	DWP 29	Tomic, Kostadinka	N/D N/D
Calrow, Arthur	DWP 14	Lopez, Robert	DWP 34	Toyoda, Dorothy	N/D N/D
Carson, Clarence	N/D N/D	Loudermilk, Alice	N/D N/D	Vega Jr., Victor	DWP 27
Clouse, Michael	Rec and Parks 33	Mabon, Harriet	DWP 21	Wedlow, Hubert	DWP 30
Cornell, Ronald	DWP 31	Martin, Vincent	DWP 25	Weingartner, Kurt	DWP 31
Dau, James	DWP 37	Martz, Robert	N/D N/D	Wynton, Mary	Library 27
De Leon, Onofre	Public Works 29	Medellin, Mary	Airports 26	Zurita, Juan	DWP 30
Drake, Samuel	DWP 19	Meyer, Thomas	Cultural Affairs 37		
		Mendoza, Cesar	N/D N/D		

N/D = not disclosed



Share Your Life's Moments

Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details.

Submit digital photos and text online:
 (as high a resolution as you can send)
alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments

Graduations



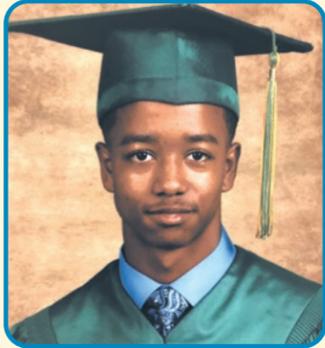
No graduation cancellations here!

Ceremonies might have been canceled throughout the country due to the pandemic, but the Club is happy to post your graduations here and online. Congratulations to all in the class of 2020 – your future is bright!

Have a photo to submit? Go here: aliveemployeesclub.com/graduations/



“Happy 2020 graduation to my granddaughter, **Kayla Alexander**. You are celebrated in many ways! Love you!” From **Charles Echols, Retired, General Services**.



Justyn Brown graduated from Long Beach Poly and plans to continue his education at Avila University, studying sports broadcasting. He also plans on playing on the school’s football team. He’s the **son of Kristal Brown, Airports**.



Nicolas Briones graduated from Vaughn International Studies Academy and plans to continue his education at Cal State Northridge, majoring in chemistry. He’s the **son of Kristina Llamas, DWP**.



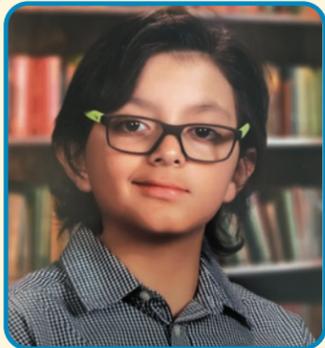
Sherridan Aparicio graduated from California High School and plans to attend UC Irvine, studying classics. Her ultimate goal is become a college professor upon completion of her doctoral degree. She’s the **daughter of Linda Aparicio, LACERS**.



Kameron Ferrer graduated from Whitney High School in Cerritos. He plans to attend Cal State Long Beach in the fall, majoring in computer sciences. He’s the **grandson of Alfredo R. Cristobal, Retired, DWP**.



Emily Anne Hibma graduated from Oak Park High School and plans to attend Cal State Long Beach in the fall, studying marine biology. She’s the **daughter of Firefighter Dan Hibma, LAFD**.



Collin Sousa graduated from Pt. Fermin Marine Science Magnet and plans to attend middle school next fall. “We are so very proud of all his hard work and effort.” He’s the **son of John Sousa, Airport Police**.



Addison Sousa graduated from Richard Henry Dana Middle School in the magnet program. “He has come a long way and has accomplished so much. We are so proud of him.” He’s the **son of John Sousa, Airport Police**.



Lindsey Hiramoto graduated from the Ringling College of Art and Design in May, majoring in illustration design, with honors. “Her future goal is to work for a movie studio as a visual development artist.” She’s the **daughter of Fran Shimono, Transportation**.



Dominick Iasparro graduated from Ayala High School and plans to attend Ms. San Antonio Jr. College, playing football, before transferring to a four-year college to study film. He’s the **son of Det. II Dominick Iasparro, LAPD**.



Jackie Ortiz graduated from Kennedy High School in Granada Hills and plans to attend Cal State San Marcos in the fall, studying kinesiology. She plans to become a physical therapist for athletes on and off the field. Jackie is the **granddaughter of Sgt. 1 Peter Martinez, Transportation**.



Joshua Duran graduated from Granada Hills High School and plans to study business in college. He’s the **son of Raymond Duran, Public Works/Sanitation**.



Anthony Manzo graduated from John F. Kennedy High School and plans to attend community college in the fall. He’s the **son of Cecilia Manzo, DWP**.



Evangeline Alvarado graduated from Irvine High School and plans to attend the University of Hawaii at Manoa in the fall, studying psychology with a minor in music therapy. She’s the **granddaughter of Sgt. 1 Peter Martinez, Transportation**.



Adrian Montes graduated from Bishop Alemany High School in Mission Hills and plans to attend College of the Canyons for two years before transferring to USC. He’s the **son of Claudia Montes, LAPD/Communications**.



Ariana Celeste Calleres graduated from Parlier High School outside Fresno and plans to attend Fresno City College in the fall, studying for an Associate’s degree before transferring to Cal State Fresno to earn her Bachelor’s degree in teaching. She’s the **daughter of Santa Calleres, DMV, State of California**



Jemar Armstrong graduated from Rancho Dominguez Prep High School and plans to attend Cerritos Community College and join the track and football teams there. He’s the **son of Tamara Armstrong, Harbor**.



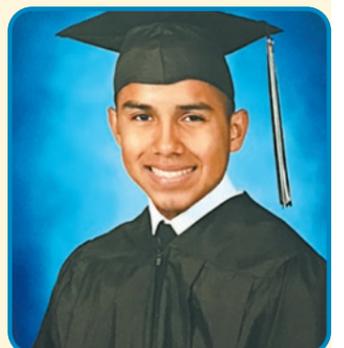
Julia Miramontes graduated from the University of California, Irvine. As a medical scribe with a public health science degree, Julia will enroll in a second baccalaureate program to become a public health nurse. She’s the **daughter of Juan Miramontes, General Services**.



Donovan Vargas graduated from William “Pete” Knight High School in Palmdale and plans on attending Antelope Valley College, majoring in kinesiology, before transferring to Cal State Bakersfield. He’s the **son of LaTisha Vargas, Transportation**.



Destinee Garcia graduated from Delevan Drive Elementary School in Eagle Rock and plans to attend Cals Middle School in the fall. She’s the **daughter of Rosalinda and Juan Garcia, Rec and Parks**.



Devon Garcia graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in Lincoln Heights and plans to attend East Los Angeles College. He’s the **son of Rosalinda and Juan Garcia, Rec and Parks**.



2020 DWP Retiree Campout

Tue., Sept. 29 – Tue., Oct. 6



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Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



Cabo San Lucas

Jim Roberts, Retired, DWP, and his lovely wife, Magda, are living the retirement dream at Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, in December. "We took this picture just after watching the hotel staff release some baby turtles into the ocean."



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AIRPORTS

First New Officers of the Pandemic Era

Airport Police welcomes new Officers in April, May.

In ceremonies in April and May during the coronavirus pandemic, Airport Police welcomed five new Officers.

From the April ceremony, held inside the Airport Police Station, Officers Oscar Fernandez, Renald Galstian, and Karlo Hegedes joined the Airport Police family.

In the May ceremony, held with social distancing at the LA Police Academy, Officers Jerry Anderson and Nicholas Hernandez joined the force.

The new Officers' responsibilities will include patrolling Los Angeles International Airport, the second busiest airport in the country and the fourth busiest airport in the world. They have started their post-academy training and will be followed by a six-month Field Training Program, specific to aviation law enforcement under the guidance of a Field Training Officer.

Welcome new Officers to the City family.



New Officers Oscar Fernandez, Renald Galstian and Karlo Hegedes.

New Officers Nicholas Hernandez and Jerry Anderson.



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John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN A \$25 AMAZON E-GIFT CARD

"A view of John Ford Point in Monument Valley on the Navajo Nation, Arizona."

– Carlos Aranda, DWP

John's comment: You took this, Carlos? Of course you did. Wow, stunning! This looks unreal. I have never been there but I must go! Thanks a ton for submitting.



"Another amazing Cheney sunset."

– Jill Weismann, Retired

John's comment: Gorgeous, Jill! We here at Alive! love the sunsets you capture from your location in Washington State. The colors are magnificent. Nice!



"I was going to spend June in Italy cruising round with my Italian cousins, but that's now on hold. Our last trip was in February this year to the Valle de Guadalupe, wine tasting. It is located 20 kilometers north of the City of Ensenada and 113 kilometers southeast of the border crossing from San Diego to Tijuana."

– Capt. Michael Barnes, Retired, Harbor

John's comment: You never know where you'll be when a photo opportunity grabs you and won't let go. I've probably been in buildings like this before, but I didn't see it like you did. You've used the symmetry and artistic repetition effectively. I need to pay attention more! Well done!



"Catalina on a clear morning. This shows how rugged this island is in the middle."

– John Nance, Retired, DWP

John's comment: I love this view, John. I'm usually headed straight for Catalina on the Catalina Express (using the Club discount, of course), but I've never seen it quite this magnificent. That's credit to you! The mountains are beautifully and naturally colored. Thanks for submitting.



"To some it may look like a scene from the Midwest, while those who walk a few extra miles might be reminded of the landscapes of Korea – at least if they watched M*A*S*H in the past, which was filmed right here at Malibu State Park. Although badly damaged by fires a few years back, the park has recovered remarkably and continues to be a true SoCal gem."

– Yves Didier, Airport Police

John's comment: No wonder Southern California became the place to shoot movies – we can be anything we want to be. The addition of the hiker in the lower right really anchors this photo and gives it three planes – front, middle and back. Well done!

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!*, Employees Club of California, 120 West 2nd 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@employeesclub.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.

History Comes Alive!

~ Tales From the City Archives ~



by Michael E. Holland
City Archivist

In the Grip of Influenza

The City suffered as the flu infected the world in 1918.

History CLASSIC FROM MARCH 2015

Editor's note: In March 2015, when *Alive!* first ran this great piece, Disneyland was experiencing a measles outbreak. It was a good time to look back at the City's flu pandemic of 1918 ... and of course it's even more timely now that Los Angeles and the world are gripped in the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope you enjoy this retrospective.

The story of the recent outbreak of measles at Disneyland and the efforts taken to identify the source has a familiar ring to it. Historical amnesia deprives us of the painful and sometimes tragic lessons learned at someone's expense in our collective past. That's a shame. I hope to illustrate my point by reminding all of us about a serious threat that was everywhere in America, including Los Angeles, almost a century ago. I am referring to the influenza epidemic of 1918-19, and I will be using both Council files and the Health Department reports to make my case.

The City's Department of Health was led by Dr. Luther M. Powers from 1893 until his death in 1924. Dr. Powers oversaw a variety of programs that tested food, milk and water samples for safety, conducted health screenings and treatment in the City Jail and also advocated for public toilets for the indigent. Every year, the annual report condensed the public health of the City into a series of reports submitted by the various divisions, including Infant Welfare and Milk Inspection. The reports reveal how the concern for public safety conflicted with the rights of private citizens and industry during the flu crisis.

There have been several books written about the 1918 influenza outbreak and its devastating effects around the world. *The Great Influenza* by John M. Barry is one that puts the global impact in perspective. Our 1919 Health Department Annual Report, from Box B-1059, is more of a snapshot composed of what was known or believed to be true at the time. This is the road map I'll be using.

"This disease was introduced into Los Angeles by an infected training ship...after Sept. 15, 1918, and also from infected tourists..." begins the report. The Health Department was caught off-guard as the first patients arrived at the General Receiving Hospital on Sept. 22. The mayor's office reacted quickly by establishing not one but two committees. One committee was composed of doctors and the second of business and public safety entities. The Health Department's accounting division reported that the first emergency hospital at 936 Yale St. was up and running within 48 hours. "We were called upon to equip a hospital when equipment and supplies were extremely scarce and deliveries problematical." Remember that the First World War was still being fought and medical supplies and gasoline were prioritized for the war effort. Two other hospitals were established in San Pedro and Mount Washington despite concerns from local citizens about having them in their neighborhoods.

Mayor Frederic Thomas Woodman declared a state of emergency on Oct. 11.

As I read the report, I was struck by how quickly the City got things done to combat the virus. The City Council was quick to approve funding for more nurses and facilities to deal with the flu. They also passed Ordinance 38522, on Oct. 10, to quarantine the citizens by closing schools, theatres and other public gatherings to prevent the spread of the virus. The quarantine report details other measures: funerals being private instead of public affairs, and the closure of poolrooms and auction houses. Café entertainment was prohibited. A "stay at home week" was proclaimed, and factory work schedules were staggered to prevent crowding on

streetcars to reduce the odds of transmitting the illness.

But there was pushback over inconsistent application of the rules laid out in the quarantine ordinance. Movie theatres were closed (causing most studios to suspend production and distribution), but stores and restaurants were allowed to stay open. The Theatre Owners Association (TOA) sent a petition to the Council in file # 2220(1918), demanding that the theatres be reopened and all citizens compelled to wear face masks instead. They argued that the "incomplete closure law had allowed influenza to increase 500 percent since Oct. 10." Likewise, the Merchant and Manufacturers Association protested that any action to restrict access to stores to appease the TOA was "unpatriotic, unfair and unjust."

The opponents had a point. The quarantine report contains this statement: "Interpretation of the closing ordinance presented daily problems. Music was stopped in cafes - should the demonstration of photographs be permitted? Schools were closed - should this include music teachers giving lessons in studios...the Department sought at all times to avoid discrimination and to enforce the ban with as little discomfort and financial loss as possible."

In early December, Dr. Powers responded with the Health Commissioners request that the TOA petition be granted, as the number of reported cases had dropped. The ordinance was rescinded on Dec. 2. However, an almost immediate resurgence of infections brought about a different approach that sought to limit exposure from the home.

December 1918 alone.

The report includes details of the role played by the Health Inspectors. More than 350 strong, they covered 100 distinct neighborhoods throughout the City "running errands, deliver[ing] groceries and otherwise minister[ing] to the needs of families in quarantine." Many of the inspectors were returning soldiers from the battlefields. Special effort went into identifying sick passengers arriving at railway stations for treatment and isolation. Streetcars and taxis were inspected followed by regular disinfecting treatments.

Ethnic communities - not named in the report - were described as being difficult to manage due to language issues and customs including large public funerals and parades. One social club had its entire membership quarantined at the same time. The penalties for violating the

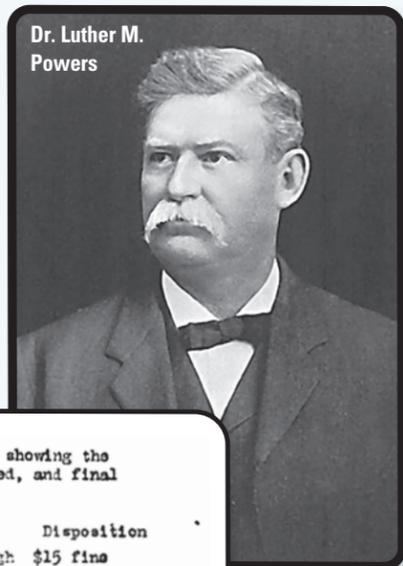
quarantine ranged from a \$15 fine up to 30 days in jail. There were 29 cases taken to trial between Dec. 30, 1918, and June 14, 1919. Most were settled with the fines or a few days in jail. The number of quarantined buildings reached 13,876 during that same time.

The 1918-19 annual report listed 57,774 reported cases of influenza. Dr. Powers believed that this was less than half of the actual cases due to under-reporting. There is a statistical sheet in the report that converts all deaths citywide into specific categories including age, race and place of birth. The most likely influenza victim during 1918-19 was a married white male aged 20 to 45 years. Infant deaths numbered 53, and deaths of people aged 65 and over reached 63. The death toll attributed to the flu as primary or as a secondary factor between September 1918 and May 1919 was 3,482. The 1920 annual report described a resurgence of influenza in January of that year, with 9,147 cases recorded and 239 deaths. The City of Los Angeles recorded 17,863 deaths from all causes within this two-year period, and the total death toll by the flu was 3,721, just more than 20 percent.

The National Archives Website (www.nara.gov) estimates that 50 million people worldwide died during the pandemic of 1918-19. This was a time when people traveled by ships and trains, and many of the medical advances we rely on didn't exist.

Two ironies that caught my attention as I was finishing the research for this story were that, during the flu outbreak in Los Angeles, not one death from measles was listed in the statistics. The second was that an LAPD officer who had just returned from fighting in France died of influenza while serving as a quarantine inspector.

The pandemic of 1918-19 proves that the adage is still valid: "They who forget their history are doomed to repeat it." Stay healthy.



Dr. Luther M. Powers

was greatly in excess of any previous year. Following is a list showing the number of arrests made, offenses charged, judges before whom tried, and final disposition of the cases:

Date	Complaint charged	Judge	Disposition
12-30-18	Allowing child to leave quarantined premises	Cheesebrough	\$15 fine
12-31-18	Leaving quarantined house	Richardson	30 days in jail
1-10-19	do	Cheesebrough	\$10 fine
1-15-19	do	do	\$20 fine
1-17-19	Failing to report influenza case	do	Dismissed for lack of evidence
1-19-19	Leaving quarantined house	Chambers	15 days in jail
1-20-19	do	Crawford	\$5 fine
1-20-19	Allowing child to leave quarantined premises	do	Dismissed
1-20-19	Leaving quarantined premises	do	\$10 fine
1-23-19	do	Richardson	\$50 fine
1-23-19	Entering quarantined house	do	\$50 fine
1-25-19	Failure to report influenza case	do	\$25 fine
1-25-19	Leaving quarantined premises	Crawford	\$15 fine
1-26-19	Leaving quarantined premises while ill with influenza	Richardson	\$15 fine & 30 days; 30 days suspended
1-31-19	Leaving quarantined premises	Fredrickson	\$10 fine
2- 7-19	Leaving quarantined premises	Cheesebrough	\$10 fine
2- 7-19	Moving influenza patient in public conveyance without permit	do	Ball of \$50 forfeited
2- 7-19	Leaving quarantined premises while ill with influenza	do	\$25 fine
2- 7-19	Moving influenza patient without permit	do	\$5 fine
2-10-19	Entering quarantined premises	Richardson	\$25 fine
2-13-19	Leaving quarantined premises	Chambers	10 days; suspended
3-27-19	Entering quarantined premises	Richardson	\$25 fine
3-31-19	Allowing child to leave quarantined premises	Crawford	\$3 fine
4- 3-19	Entering quarantined premises	Chambers	\$50 fine
4-16-19	Leaving quarantined premises	do	\$20 fine
4-16-19	Leaving quarantined premises	do	\$20 fine; suspended
4-17-19	Leaving quarantined premises	Crawford	\$2 fine
5-27-19	Allowing child to enter quarantined premises	Richardson	\$25 fine
6-14-19	Leaving quarantined premises	Chambers	\$20 fine; suspended

The following table gives the number of houses quarantined during the past fiscal year. This list does not give the number of cases which existed, but the actual number of premises placarded. In a great many instances from two to six persons were quarantined in one house.

	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Total
Diphtheria . .	39	30	47	59	60	66	44	32	31	36	43	21	508
Scarlet fever.	4	8	21	13	16	14	26	32	32	35	16	25	242
Smallpox . . .	5	2	1	5	8	4	4	5	19	7	10	1	71
Ep. OS Meningitis	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	8
Influenza . .	-	-	-	-	-	4036	8298	342	652	506	25	16	13876
Pneumonia . .	-	-	-	-	-	397	459	54	85	137	13	17	1162
Poliomyelitis.	3	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10

A list of arrests for quarantine-related offenses.