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 See page 43



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ClubFest Bands: Party Grooves For Everybody

■ Bands offer fun grooves for all tastes to enhance party.

THE CLUB — What kind of party music do you like? Rock? Blues? Funk? Latin? Soul? R&B? Well then, get ready to tap your feet, clap your hands and treat your soul at ClubFest.

The Club added live music to last year's ClubFest, and the added bonus was such a hit that music is a big part of this year's ultimate party, too.

Featured at ClubFest this year are three bands: Jamnesia, playing party jams; Latin Gents, cranking up



ClubFest
October 1, 2006
 - See page 21 for details -

- See ClubFest Bands, Page 24

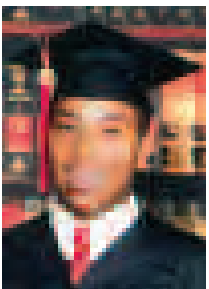
Top Students Awarded Club Scholarships

■ Club's expanded scholarship program awards Club family members with great potential.

THE CLUB — "I understand that being a leader is more than a title, it is a lifestyle," writes soon-to-be college freshman Irvin Shannon. "I must not only hold leadership positions, but my actions must be indicative of one who is deserving of respect and capable of making a lasting impact."

That's the kind of winning outlook that won the Club's top scholarship for Irvin, the son of Club Member Shelia Shannon, Payroll Supervisor, Street Services (Public Works).

Irvin receives a stipend of \$3,500 to encourage his further study, which he will be doing at Howard University in Washington, D.C., in the fall.



Irvin Shannon, First Place Club Scholarship winner.

- See Club Scholarship, Page 13



Summer Lights


Celebrate easy summer days with a visit to the beautifully restored Point Fermin Lighthouse in San Pedro.

This Rec and Parks facility overlooking the blue Pacific offers informative and enjoyable tours for the whole family.

See Page 11.

Kristen Childs, Historic Site Curator and City employee, welcomes fellow City employees - and everyone - to the lighthouse.

PHOTO: Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager, The Club



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Alive!

August 2006 • Volume 5 – No. 8

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City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240
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Claims Paid

Here's how the Club took care of your fellow Club Members who took care of their loved ones and entrusted their family's security by purchasing Club insurance.

Age & Gender	Department	Cause of Death	Amount Paid
44 M	DWP	HIV	\$50,304
50 M	Securities Services	Non traumatic intracranial hemorrhage & Hype...	\$50,292
57 M	Retirement System	Heart Attack	\$100,485
63 M	Retirement System	Shydrager Disease	\$30,133
67 F	Public Works	Heart Attack	\$15,091
75 M	Retirement System	Heart Attack	\$5,040
77 F	LACERS	Lung Cancer	\$10,034
82 M	Airports	Cerebrovascular Accident, Chronic Lymphocy...	\$5,017
85 M	Retirement System	Pulmonary Embolism & Thrombosis of left Axill...	\$5,047
80 M	Retirement System	Heart Attack	\$5,021
Total Insurance Paid			\$276,463

TOTALS PAID LAST MONTH

\$117,415 Long Term Disability Payments
 \$9,275 Long Term Care Payments

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CLUB Department Representatives

- Catalina Alvarado LAPD - Jail
- Patricia Avilez Recreation and Parks
- Sara Ayala DWP - Retirements
- Dan Basiglio LAPD - Communication Division
- Tonja Bellard Public Works - OMES
- Yvette Bentley LAPD - Communication Division
- Linda Brown Airports
- Irene Castillo Animal Services
- Martin Chavez Harbor
- Lorena De La Torre General Services
- Eva Farlow-Malbrough City Attorney
- Stan Horwitz Public Works - St. Lighting
- Ricardo Jimenez Airports
- Barbara Johnson Fire
- Margaret Kennedy Recreation and Parks - Cabrillo
- Stephanie Lazarus LAPD - CCD
- Gwendolyn Lew DWP - Owens Valley
- Yvonne Liu Office of Finance
- Diana Medina Public Works - Accounting
- Tracy Page LAPD - Communication Division
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- Sharon Reddit Public Works - Contract Admin
- Jean Sarfaty LAPD - Communication Division
- Johnetha Smith DWP - Payroll
- Carmen Steward Fire & Police Pensions
- Myra Vines Planning
- Deborah Winger DWP-Valley - Customer Svc



Meet the Club Team

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

Need help? Find your Counselor

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



Beverly Haro
 Member Services Counselor

Aging, Department of DWP Admin.
 DWP Financial Services Executive
 DWP Marketing and Customer Service
 Employee Relations Board
 Environmental Affairs, Department of Fire Department
 Library Department
 Neighborhood Empowerment, Department of Pensions, Department of Fire & Police
 Transportation, Department of Personnel Department
 Street Services, Bureau of Zoo Department, Los Angeles



Jessica Segura
 Member Services Counselor

Community Development Department
 Cultural Affairs, Department of DWP Water Services
 General Services, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Planning, City



Liz Montes
 Member Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of [Formerly] Animal Regulation, Department of Airports, Los Angeles World
 Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer
 City Attorney
 City Clerk
 Coliseum, Los Angeles Memorial Community Redevelopment Agency
 Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Convention Center, Los Angeles Council Districts # 1-15
 Department on Disability
 DWP Integrated Support Services
 El Pueblo De Los Angeles
 Finance, Office of Housing Department
 Management/Employee Services, Mayor, Office of the Street Lighting, Bureau of

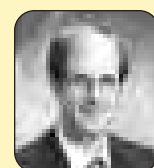


2003 President's Award Recipient
Arlene Herrero
 Member Services Counselor

Building and Safety, Department of DWP Energy Services
 DWP Water Services (Aqueduct So. District)
 Engineering, Bureau of Harbor Department
 Information Technology Agency
 Police Department
 Retirement System, City Employees' Sanitation, Bureau of



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Howard Pompel
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Angel Gomez
 Member Services Manager

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

(800)464-0452

** A Message From the CEO **

Lighthouse, Bikes: Summer in L.A.

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



But you didn't know the City had a lighthouse.

Yep, and it's run by Kristen Childs of Recreation and Parks. The *Alive!* Interview

Crew recently paid a visit to Kristen, took a tour of the lighthouse and got a chance to interview her; it was a most fascinating experience. Make the Point Fermin Lighthouse a destination this summer, whether it's you by your lonesome or with the entire family. It's bound to be a lot cooler than other parts of the City as it sits high on a bluff and catches the cool ocean breezes. (And just to have a little fun, e-mail me with the date the Lighthouse was built, and I'll send you two free movie tickets.)



Kristen Childs, Historic Site Curator for the Pt. Fermin Lighthouse and City employee, explains the history of the lighthouse to John Hawkins, Club CEO.

Well, I just finished teaching my second son, Isaiah, how to ride a bike. Short of permanent back damage and a case of extreme heat stroke, I think I'll be okay. (For those of you who have never taught a child how to ride a bike, you need to know that it's quite a workout, especially for your back.) It's amazing, though, how, when you first start out, you think (to yourself of course), "There's now way this guy is ever going to learn." But, like most things in life, persistence and constant practice prevail. That's not unlike how James Feagin, City employee extraordinaire, became one of the world's top experts on masonry (see page 18).

Before I sign off, I also wanted to give a big high-five to this year's Club Scholarship winners, especially Irvin Shannon, our first-place winner. The competition was very tough, and all of us here at the Club are extremely proud of them.

Stay cool!

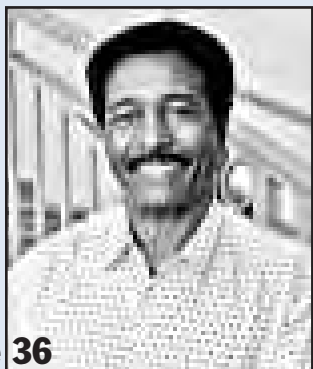
JOHN



Cover



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Features

Alive! August 2006
The newspaper of the
City Employees Club of Los Angeles

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Point Fermin Lighthouse
Spend a lovely late summer afternoon visiting this exquisite Rec and Parks-managed facility.

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Bands for ClubFest 2006 are announced. Tickets are on sale now! Talk to your Counselor, or use the application on page 31.

26 Awards Season

Four different departments give out end-of-the-year awards. Most prominent: Personnel's Career Service Awards.

15 Dispatchers Week

Alive! once again pays a visit to the City's emergency dispatchers. This month: Transportation Dispatchers who did not make it into previous issues.

36 James Feagin: Brick by Brick

The *Alive!* Interview: One of the world's foremost experts on masonry is a City employee.

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23 & 30 *Alive!* visits the rest of the Sanitation Yard open houses.

6 Hooray, Graduates!

Enjoy a scrapbook of recent graduates with a Club connection.

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From left: Richard Ide, Dennis Tanioka, Dennis Green and Mike Biagi, Club Board Member.

Airports in the Swing

■ Airports hosts 41st annual All-Airport Golf Tournament.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

AIRPORTS — The 41st annual All-Airport Golf Tournament, benefiting the Travelers Aid Society, took place June 2 at the Westridge Country Club in La Habra.

One-hundred-sixty players participated in the tournament. The Golf Tournament was a big success and the Club was happy to take part.



From left: Gus Olmedo, Club Member; Sergio Gamboa; Philip Loera; and Oscar Ramirez, Club Member.



From left: Mike Scolaro, Club Member; Ernest Cruz, Club Member; LaPonda Fitchpatrick, Club Member; and Dan Romo, Club Member.



From left: Leigh Hatayama, Neil Pyne, Judy Christian and Don Sayrizi.



From left: Robert Casarez; Ralph Morones, Club Member; Jim Rudy, Club Member; and Charlie Sipple.



From left: Phil Roberts; Judith Gorum, Club Member; Karen Tozer, Club Member; and Wayne Pennebaker.



From left: Jean Claude Bertet, Jay Vaswani, Jim Richie and Keith Thompson.



From left: Steve Agdeppa, Club Member; Joe Laguilles, Club Member; Danny Davis; and Lloyd Duvernay.



From left: John Werlich, Tom Gutierrez, Richard Mah and Brian Ostler.



From left: Cliff Perrier, Club Member; Gregg Iwamiya, Club Member; Alan Vargas; and Rod Markovich, Club Member.

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LETTERS To the Editor

Virginia Thinks Australia Photo Is Out of This World

I saw the picture in *Alive!* Around the World column that Richard Denton sent in while he was in Australia, and I told my husband, Roy, that it had to be the most marvelous photo I have ever laid my eyes upon. Australia is truly a beautiful land. We're also rather impressed with knowing that there are City employees like Richard that can enjoy life by visiting places like the Twelve Apostles. Roy and I wished we could have done more of that while he was at the Bureau of Street Maintenance and Inspection.



Richard Denton, Field Supervisor, West L.A. Meter Reading, DWP with his copy of *Alive!* at the Twelve Apostles, on the southern coast of Australia.

— Virginia Hillenbrand

Yes, Virginia, that was a great photo. Make sure you check out the photo of the Taj Mahal in this month's *Picture Perfect*. It's magnificent. — Ed

Council Should Apologize To Bratton, Not Other Way

How pathetically sad. I can't believe that [City Councilman] Eric Garcetti is asking for an apology from [LAPD] Chief [William] Bratton for some candid comments Bratton made to the press about certain Councilmembers. It should be the Council apologizing to him for not giving the chief enough money for more officers. Toughen up, Eric; if you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen. By the way, how about an apology to the citizens of L.A. for not paving our streets? Fixing potholes ain't no solution. We need new streets!

—Mike Pattersen, Club Member

She, for One, Thinks Mayor Is Doing a Great Job of It

Greetings, *Alive!* staff. Can you do me a favor and let the mayor know that I think he's doing a fantastic job? Thanks so much.

—Rebecca DeLongpre, "proud Club Member"

How About Compiling Hynda's Column in Annual Book Form?

I was never one for reading about historical happenings, but I am completely hooked ... no, wait a minute, I'm completely addicted to Hynda Rudd's *History Comes Alive!* section. I especially enjoyed last month's column about Boyle Heights. Have you ever thought of putting all of these in a book at the end of each year? Just a random thought. Thank you.

— Rich Albenagian, Club Member since 1981

She Says Thanks to *Alive!* For Covering Retirement Party

On behalf of our staff and Art Rudnick (the Retiree), we would like to thank you very much for allowing your photographer to stop by on June 22 to take pictures at the reception for your newspaper. Would you kindly convey our thank you to the photographer, also.

We really appreciate your fitting us in your schedule, especially since the request was of short notice. Your benevolence is greatly appreciated.

— Maria Alpuche, Sr. Clerk Typist, General Services

You're welcome, Maria. — Ed.

Correction

In our July issue, we gave the wrong location for one of the Sanitation open houses. We should have said it took place at the South L.A. Yard. The actual West L.A. Yard Open House is described in this issue. We apologize for the confusion.

Mary Rose Aims for ClubFest If She Can Sew Up Bum Toe

Hello all, just wanted to let you know that me and the girls plan on attending the upcoming ClubFest. We'll have to stay the night at Judy's home, but that's okay. My tummy can never get enough of that barbecued beef, potato salad and ice cream. Hurt my toe the other day, doggone sewing machine fell on my foot; should be better by ClubFest, though, God willing. I hear you folks are having a heat wave there in Los Angeles. The way I remember, it was always hot in the summer; not sure what all the fuss is about.

That's it for now. Thanks for always printing my ramblings; you guys are the best.

—Mary Rose Wilkens, Retired City Employee and loyal Club member

Joe Is Oakey-Dokey With Tons of Great ClubFest Food

Oh man! I heard so much about this ClubFest that you guys have once a year. All good things of course like there's food coming out of the oak trees because there is so much of it and they don't run out. You have got to be kidding me about that, there's no way that's possible. Too bad I didn't get employed by the City years ago or I'd be planning to go every year. I look forward to it.

— Joe Gunther, Rec and Parks

Cooking Column, Questions Are Letter-Perfect for Renee

I was wondering if the Cooking with the Club column was removed for good. I thought it was a good article, not longwinded, and the recipes were easy to make. At least the ones I made. That, along with the funny Question of the Month column, is the reason I read the newspaper you folks have. I agree with Eddie Trujillo of Harbor about having immortality as the super power to choose, if I could. You know, some of those letters to the editors are quite the seam-busters, especially the one about the young gal hearing ghostly sounds at the City Hall rotunda. That left me in stitches.

— Renee Trevor, Retired DWP

QUESTION

of the Month

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members. While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

What was your first car?



"A green Taurus."
— Carrie Edwards, Club Member, Custodial Service Attendant, LAX, 8 years.

"A yellow Skylark."
— Marilyn Wells, Club Member, Custodial Service Attendant, LAX, 25 years.



"A 1986 Toyota Tercel. At one point, I managed to stuff six girls in the car at one time (five in the back, one on the front passenger seat)."
— Dan Valenzuela, Programmer Analyst, DWP, Club Member.

"A 1991 Toyota Corolla."
— Alexandra McCoy, DWP Security Officer.



"A 1978 L.T.D. II."
— Sgt. Anthony B. Load, DWP.



"A 1975 yellow Opel."
— George Fogelson, Human Resources Division, Employee Health & Benefits, DWP.



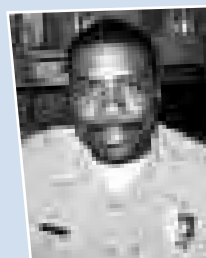
"My first car was a 1971 Super Beetle. It was a red convertible with a white top. Its name was Marilyn."
— Christina Kusch, Human Resources Division, Training and Development Section, Club Member.



"A 1963 Chevy Impala."
— William Swint, DWP Security Officer.



"A 1968 Chevy Camaro."
— Sgt. Edward Dobson, Lead Security Officer, DWP.



"My first car was a 1991 black on black Honda Prelude."
— Mary Ann Torres, Human Resources Division, Training and Development Section, Club Member.



Life's Important Moments

Graduations

Alive! is delighted to continue publishing graduation photos of Club members and their children. Have a photo of a recent graduation? Send it in to Alive! Graduations, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.



Garrett Murakami, center, graduated from Mark Keppel High School. He will go to college in September. Kristi Ann Murakami, in black (right), graduated from UC Riverside in economics, law and society. She works full time at CSULA and attends night school there for her teaching credential and her Master's degree. Garrett and Kristi Ann are children of Lorean Soo Hoo, LAPD. Kaylen Eguchi, left, graduated from New Avenue School and attends Mark Keppel High School.



Luz Elena Hernandez graduated from Temescal Canyon High School and plans to be a Registered Nurse. Her mother, Luz Elena Kalfell, is a Custodian at Ontario Airport.



Candice Christine Lopez graduated from California High in Whittier. "We are very excited that her achievements and efforts have been recognized by UC Riverside." Her grandparents are Red Medina, Construction Inspector, Bureau of Contract Administration, Public Works, and Lupe Medina, Club Administrative Services Representative.



Katie Reynolds graduated from Los Alamitos High School. She will be attending Chapman University's School of Film and Television in the fall, majoring in marketing and public relations for the media. Katie is the daughter of Patty Reynolds, Club Member, City Attorney's Office.



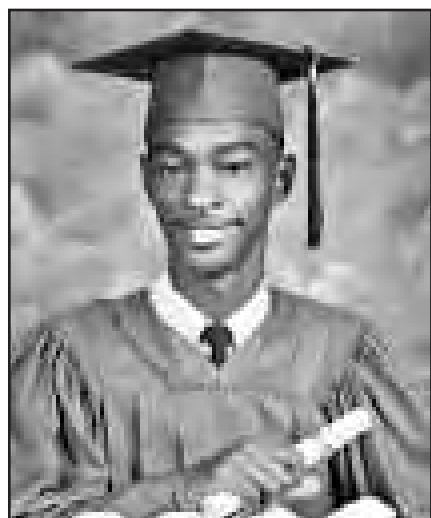
Andrenique La Creisha Wilson graduated from Curtiss M.S. Magnet in Carson with high honors. She will attend King Drew Medical High School in the fall. Her mom is Andrea Wilson, Street Maintenance, Public Works.



Angel Hodges graduated from the Manchester Urban League Preschool. She will attend kindergarten in the fall. Her grandmother is Ruth Chaney, Sr. Clerk Typist, LAPD Communications.



Avanna Park-Bell graduated from Catskill Elementary, where she was part of the Student Council Board. Her plan is to attend Carnegie Middle School. She is the daughter of Debra Park, LAPD



Hakeem Davis graduated from Carson High School. His future plan is to become a developer. He will be attending Northridge University in the fall. He is the son of Debra Park, LAPD.

Retirements

- David Arriaga***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Pastora Balinas**, Occup. Health Nurse, Personnel, 29
- Sylvia Baray**, Sr. Data Process Tech, ITA, 36
- Noreen Beloud***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Cheri Brown**, Sr. Traffic Supv., Transportation, 35
- Doris Bruton**, Sr. Data Process Tech, ITA, 38
- Hubert Bryant***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Marion Carr**, Traffic Ofcr, Transportation, 29
- Gladwin Cass**, N/D, DWP, N/D,
- Maria Chen**, Occup. Health Nurse, Personnel, 28
- Sally Cole**, Systems Analyst, LAPD, 28
- Walker Crowder**, Refuse Coll. Supv., Public Works, 37
- Ann Martin Dalkey**, Water Biologist, Public Works, 30
- Arlette Davis**, Sr. Accountant, Public Works, 35
- Pedrito Dismaya**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Gary Dobrenz**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Vernell Edmond**, Custodial Serv. Attn., General Services, 27
- Robert Frazier***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- David Fresquez**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Jess Fuentes**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Stanley Griggs**, Maint. Laborer, LAPD, 20
- Edward Garcia**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Jose Gomez***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Carl Haase**, Sr. Sanitary Engineer, Public Works, 46
- Paz Guerrero***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Patrick Harlan**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Daniel Herrera**, Sr. Real Estate Officer, General Services, 40
- Robert Holloway**, Property Manager, General Services, 38
- Willie Howard**, General Maint. Laborer, Public Works, 30
- Connie Howell**, Crime Prevention Asst., LAPD, 11
- Penny Hurley**, Personnel Analyst, Personnel, 30
- Alan Jackter**, Gardener Caretaker, Rec and Parks, 18
- Lawrence Johnson**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Michael Kleckner**, Deputy City Atty., City Attorney, 38
- Aage Lee**, Transport Eng. Assoc., Transportation, 37
- Bobby Lee**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Bernard Leichter**, Sr. Personnel Analyst, Rec and Parks, 31
- Luther Magee***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Gretchen Martin**, Council Aide, Council, 2
- Robert Martin***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Linda Maurizi**, Exec. Admin. Assistant, Rec and Parks, 12
- John McNamara**, Background Investigator, Personnel, 5
- Zethel Meyers**, Title Transfer Coord., Public Works, 39
- Marianita Milner**, Ch. Grants Admin., CDD, 35
- Stephen Murphy**, Custodial Serv. Attn., Zoo, 32
- Errol Ng**, Airport Police Officer, Airports, 37
- Timothy O'Neil**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- David Phipps**, Fleet Services, General Services, 28
- Claude Picazo**, Park Maintenance Supv., Rec and Parks, 48
- Anthony Planick Jr.***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Charles Quan***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- George Rakis**, General Manager, Convention Center, 30
- Stewart Renner**, Machinist, Harbor, 13
- Leon Rice**, Ref Collection Truck Op., Public Works, 22
- Guadalupe Rodriguez**, Gardener Caretaker, Rec and Parks, 23
- Gene Sgambellone**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Oscar Soto**, Public Bldgs., General Services, 21
- Janet Thum**, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Roberto Vazquez***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- John Walker**, Harbor Engineer, Harbor, 27
- Isiah Wedlow**, Gardener Caretaker, Rec and Parks, 30
- Purita Weston**, Sanitary Engr. Assoc., Public Works, 32
- John Yanez***, N/D, DWP, N/D
- Gary Young**, Engr. Designer, Public Works, 36

Births



Nathan Joseph Trujillo, born May 26 to Elaine and Thomas Trujillo. Thomas is in the Residential Acquisition Division, Airports.

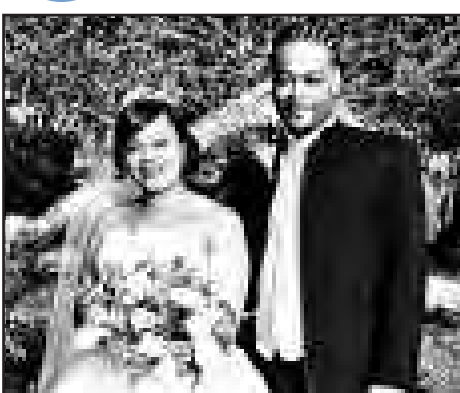


Rachel P. Lowery, born to Randy and Michelle Lowery. Randy is a Senior Plumber, Rec and Parks. Michelle works at North District Building Maintenance, General Services.



Benjamin Nicholas Spolarich Jr., born June 18 (Father's Day) to Ben and Celina Spolarich. Ben and Celina are Security Officers at Ontario Airport.

Weddings



Cherie Parker, LAPD, and Quintinn Wrong, General Services, May 6. The bride's mother is Althea Edwards, Airports.



Frank and Joy Rendon, May 20. She's a Legal Secretary, City Attorney's Office-Harbor. Frank is an Equipment Operator, Construction and Maintenance Yard, Harbor.



New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

Airports

Paula Adams
Richard Aguilar
Wesley Beauchamp
Roberta Beyard
Anthony Boisselle
Saul Cortez
Anthony De La Torre
David Fossett
Jim Garner
Jimmy Guerrero
Shirley Hoffmann
Marco Lopez
Norma McPhoy
Larry Powell
Jin Shin
John Villarrugi
Ross Vitale
Kelly Washington
Juan Yanez

Animal Services

Marisol Cortes
David Diliberto
Miriam Proval
Brenda
Van Den Bosch

DWP

Luis Aguilar
Mark Aihara
Edgardo Angeles
Arnoldo Avila
Christina Reyes
Mark Kirkland
Jeffrey Smith
Eduardo Malacon
Brian Caandoy
Gregory Bartz
Armando Martin
James Ocello
Tom Farrell
Earl Foust Jr.
Steve Gierke
James Griffin
Gary Xiao
Diana Lozano
Ronald Mendez
Gabriela Banuelos
Ronald Shepherd
Rick Mucha
Imelda Vega-Perez
Debra Keith
Dennis Sanchez
Miguel Lopez
Timothy Mingo

James McDevitt

Troy Takeuchi
Robert Taylor
Kathryn Fuller
Doyle Stepp
Chad Newlee
Albert Ortiz
Antonio Barajas
Richard Martinez
Ryan Brito
Tah-Neka Colbert
Charles Guel
Karen Orellana
Robert Souder
Kenneth Wong
Ernesto Ruiz
Jess De Los Santos
Gloria Villagran
Anthony Tyrone
Carlos Vega
Esmeralda Venegas
Yvonne Morales
Steven Wasco
Patricia Sigala
Edward Kim
Jack Wynn

Retired

Guillermo Barragan
Florence Bauske
Blanche Bell
Gaston Bibeau
Robert Bland
Joyce Brown
Jurutha Brown
Joane Bryant
Clifford Cannon
Martin Clampitt
Bryan Flynn
Mary Ann Gonzales
Lisa Guthman
James Hamilton
Gary Hirdler
Leslie Hodnett
Mary Hones
Harry Hunold
Lily Jew
Thomas King
Matthew Klein
Edward Larrigan
Frank Manwarren
Walter Matsuda
Frances Mooney
Janet Morikawa
Kazlio Nishida

Roger Nye

Frank Ota
Theresa Paterno
Ernesto Paz
Kenneth Perry
Brenda Pickens
Marylin Potter
Blackburn
Guillermo Reyes
Charles Salvatore
Ann Smith
Christine Smith
Joyce Smith
Seua Souksamlane
Albert St. Michel
Henry Stemmann Jr.
Margaret Tarin
Anthony Tyrone
Rosetta Warren
Ellis Weary
Major Woodard
Tad Yamaoka

Building and Safety

Marla Jordan
Melissa Cook
Deborah Willis

Community Development

Janice Blake
Monisha Garner
Marie Landeros
Daniel Laughlin

Personnel

Audrey Atkins

Controllers Office

Raquel Iletto

ITA

Marvin Avila

Fire Department

Gary Hirdler

Harbor

Jill De Montagnac
Donna Givens
Harry Hunold
Twyla Montague
Nancy Nevarez
Tanishia Wright
Rafael Zaragoza

General Services

Michael Appel
Carl Brown

Harold Morgan Jr.

Jarmine Bailey
Michael Quiles
Gloria Harrell
Rosa Madrid
Stanley Molden
Didi Quiles
Carmen Winston-Tolliver
Giles Hurley
Jose Lopez

Library

Sarajini Manbahal
Patrice Thomas

Housing

Fernando Garcia
Sandra Lopez
Elva Valdovinos
Dafney Antoine
Roberto Lopez
Cecilia Sotelo
Maria Gonzalez
Adriene Allen

Convention Center

Pauline Augustus
Cleto Benitez
Xiomara Carrillo
Edward Felder
Gonzalo Guerrero
Javier Mejia
Karla Miralles
Alex Organista
Kay Robinson
Evenor Rodriguez
Sharmon Turner
Karina Vazquez
Caroline Viana

Police Department

Luis Martinez
Michelle Robinson
Peter Stone
Blanche Bell
Monique Carrillo
Lorraine Civitate
William Correa
Cheryl Garcia
Maria Garcia
Lilian Gomez
Robert Hernandez
Delisa Ikner
Jessica Loya
Sylvia Martin
Sandra McDowell

Sylvia Mills

Sandra Turner
Berta Ugas
Gina Villalobos
Harriet Voloso
Sonji Waiters

Neighborhood Empowerment

Christine Shen

Public Works - General Office

Truman Brown Jr.

Public Works - Contract Admin.

Carlos Tirres

Public Works - Engineering

David Castillo
Lydia Gonzalez
Axel Jauregui
Mark Nakata
Willie Owens

Public Works - Sanitation

Jordan Price
Jose Ruiz
Erick Bell
Monica Cuellar
Lucinda Dairo
Veretta Everheart
Delta Rodriguez
Dorothy Witt
Kerry Childers
Donald Durham II
Brett Edwards
Pedro Guillen
Kirk Johnson
Robert Jones
Salvador Lopez
Eric McCarter
Hugo Rujales
Denlise Shelby
Darrell Sullivan
Nancy Garifuna-Alvarez
Loudmilla
Vertansessian
Huyen Nguyen
Nancy Price
Emeverto Cheng
Rose Villalobos
Jovana Dorsey

Yvette Edwards

Bryan Pagdilao
Theresa Parker-Jones
Anthony Smith

Public Works - Street Lighting

Mario Aguilar
Thomas Franklin
Carlos Navarro
Nacoleon Prince

Public Works - Street Maintenance

Adel Ghassempour
Edward Hernandez
Jose Negrete

Public Works - Street Trees

Tim Keleshian
Tyrell Thomas

Public Works - Street Service Maintenance

Tommy Siu

Public Works - Street Services

Tyler Laurer

Rec and Parks

Gina Boesch
Anthony Cavarlez
Juan Elizalde
Rolando Elizalde
Martina Garcia
Hector Torres
Todd Wales
Nicole Walley
Jason Winter
Layla Aguilar

Transportation

Eugene Lichtenstein
Linda Mahaley
Dalana Ramos
Maureen Smith
Marivel Soto

Zoo

Ruby Ceballos
Michael Fritzen
Sherman Hewson
Laurel Robinson

Share your moments!

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

In Memoriam

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

Active

Ramon Batres, N/D, N/D
Dwight Tustin, Public Works, 7
Lillie Henderson, Transportation, 9

Retired

Zelona Bates, Library, 23
Samuel Bassett, LAPD, 41
Thomas Brown, LAFD, 7
Norman Burns, Building and Safety, 19
Albert Camarillo, LAFD, 31
Edmund Drinkard, Airports, 15
Margaret Edell, Library, 12
Marion Evans, Library, 25
Acie Goudreau, Sanitation, 31
Lillian Helser, Library, 20
Alfred Hruska, Building and Safety, 13
Rex Layton, City Clerk, 37
Marjorie Mendez, ITA, 22
Harvey Miller, Public Works, 32
Clarence Milner, Public Works, 6
Marilyn Pass, Airports, 34
Francis Payfer, Maintenance, 16
Weldon Pierson, Public Works, 32
Jess Rodriguez, Transportation, 16
Don Rorabaugh, LAPD, 20
Edith Rudin, LAPD, 21
Martha Rutherford, Airports, 34
Nickie Sauro, LAPD, 22
Samuel Saavedra, Transportation, 8
Leslie Sedberry, Rec and Parks, 22
Betrix Silverberg, Public Works, 12
Felipe Suarez, Sanitation, 9
George Sylvestal, Auditorium, 31
Freda Tabachnick, Library, 14
Normal Walker, Harbor, 16
Carl Ward, Transportation, 21

Protect Your Family With Club Insurance. Today!

Insurance Products

From the Club

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



Term Life (from \$10K to \$300K)

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

Spouse Life Insurance

Include your spouse with Club Term Life Insurance.

Long Term Disability Insurance

Protect yourself from career-ending traumas.

Short Term Disability Insurance

Ensure an income stream until you can get back on your feet.

Long Term Care Insurance

Manage your future health-care costs with this Club package.

Cancer Insurance

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

Group Rated Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance

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

Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

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

Your Counselor

Can Help

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



Beverly Haro



Arlene Herrero



Liz Montes



Jessica Segura



BY Michelle Moreno, City Events Guru

Michelle on the Move

EVENTS 411

what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?

Michelle Is Not Above Bribing You

Hello Members! Welcome back to Events 411. As you may know (at least I hope most of you do), ClubFest is coming back in October – Sunday, Oct. 1.

For those who have no idea what ClubFest is all about – it's our huge annual picnic event where City employees come together and enjoy a day of fun, all-you-can eat food, live music from bands that include City employees, and tons of awesome raffle prizes! This year the Club is limiting attendance to 1,500 people, so if you don't buy your tickets soon, you'll be out of luck. Also, the first 100 Member tickets sold receive an extra raffle ticket.

However, I'll make this event more interesting for those of you smart Club Members who read my article. The first 10 members who e-mail me with the answer to the following question will receive an extra (2) raffle tickets for the member raffle. All you have to do is tell me the year and location of the first ClubFest. E-mail me at michelleonthemove@cityemployeesclub.com and make sure you include your name, Member ID and mailing address. Deadline is Sept. 1.

Now that I'm done bribing you, it's time to discuss other cool events going on. The cultural festivals are back again! Yes, there are festivals celebrating the African, Greek, Japanese and Philippine cultures, so if you're interested in learning more about the history of these people, I suggest you attend one of these events. If you attend the Greek festival, make sure you try the gyros (pronounced Yer-ro) – they're delicious!

If you live in Orange County, Sept. 1 will bring the start of their month-long Festival of Children that includes activities, shows, workshops and lots of great fun for the family. Please visit the festival Website for information: www.festivalofchildren.org.

Lastly, if you are a fan of the theatre, our friends at Center Theatre Group are offering our members some great savings for their shows at the Mark Taper Forum, Ahmanson and Kirk Douglas Theatre (in Culver City). If there is a show that you are interested in, please call them at (213) 972-7231 and let them know that you're with the City Employees Club. They have a great season coming up! Personally, I am very excited to see Matthew Bourne's version of Edward Scissorhands, coming in December. I saw his version of Swan Lake and was completely blown away. I definitely won't miss this show.

That's it from me. Thanks for reading and be sure to e-mail me with the correct answer to our ClubFest question. If you need some help, then feel free to ask one of our staff members for the answer (except me, of course). I'm sure they'll be glad to assist.

If you know of any events occurring in the Los Angeles/Orange County area or have any opinions or suggestions on the events listed, please send them in: michelleonthemove@cityemployeesclub.com

For more information about events around Los Angeles, visit these websites:

- www.culturela.org
- www.experiencela.com
- www.la.com
- www.laparks.org
- www.losangelesalmanac.com
- www.laweekly.com
- www.olvera-street.com
- www.whatsonwhen.com
- http://beaches.co.la.ca.us

Know of any great City events? Let me know!

I'll be happy to include your event in my monthly column. Make sure to include dates, times, locations, costs (if any) and contact information. Email me at: MichelleOnTheMove@cityemployeesclub.com or call me at (800) 464-0452.

August

Family Activities at the Autry National Center

Want a fun and educational experience for the kids? The Autry National Center has several family activities that are not only fun, but educational. Check the Website for more information.

Date(s): Vary
Time(s): Vary
Site: Southwest Museum of the American Indian Museum Drive, Los Angeles
Cost: \$7.50/adults, \$5/students, seniors, \$3/children (2-12) AAA discount available.
More info: (323) 667-2000 or www.autrynationalcenter.org; click on About us > Arts and Culture

Grand Performances

Enjoy some really cool award-winning music, dance and film performances free during lunch or under the beautiful downtown L.A. night sky. Call for visit the Website for a schedule.

Date(s): Thru October
Time: Fridays: Noon and 8 p.m.
Saturdays: 8 p.m.
Site: California Plaza, 350 S. Grand Ave., Downtown L.A.
Cost: Free
More info: (213) 687-2159 or www.grandperformances.org

Fourth Annual Santa Monica Drive-In at the Pier

Are you in the mood to watch a film by the beach? "Located on the decks of the historic Santa Monica Pier, these events have an unmistakable nostalgic feel, with the sea air and bustling boardwalk creating the perfect atmosphere for these events." (Website)

Date(s): Tuesdays thru Sept. 26
Time: 7 p.m.
Site: Santa Monica Pier
Cost: Free, but tickets are required for seating. Tickets must be picked up
More info: www.smff.com/smdi



Pershing Square Summer Concert Series

Enjoy a series of free concerts held at Pershing Square during your lunchtime or on a Sunday afternoon.

Date(s): Through late Sept.
Time: Tues.-Thurs. noon – 2 p.m.
Third Sunday of each month: 3 – 5 p.m.
Site: Pershing Square, 532 South Olive Street, Downtown L.A.
Cost: Free
More info: (888) 527-2757 or www.laparks.org/pershingsquare/pershing.htm

Water and Power at the Mark Taper Forum

"A hard-working Chicano father with the DWP nicknames his twin sons Water and Power, and emboldens them to take the world by its reins... Years later Water is an ambitious state senator. Power is a top-ranking lieutenant with the LAPD. The brothers soon find themselves at opposite ends of an abuse-of-power city scandal, on its way to crisis..." (Website)

Date: Through Sept. 17
Time: 8 p.m. (Tues-Fri), 2:30 and 8 p.m. (Saturdays) 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Sundays)
Site: 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown L.A.
Cost: \$30 - \$55
Club Code: 6697
More info: (213) 972-7231 or www.taperahmanson.com

Curtains at the Ahmanson Theatre

"... a backstage murder mystery and musical comedy set in the 1950s Boston. After the leading lady's mystifying curtain call demise, Frank Cioffi (David Hyde Pierce), homicide detective and musical theatre aficionado, is on the case! He's got a tough job as the bodies pile up, the ensemble dwindles, and everyone is a suspect. And that second act needs work! Can Cioffi solve the murders and save the show before it reaches Broadway?" (Website)

Date: Through Sept. 10
Time: 8 p.m. (Tues-Fri), 2 and 8 p.m. (Saturdays) 2 and 7:30 p.m. (Sundays)
Site: Ahmanson Theatre, 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown L.A.
Cost: \$20 - \$95
Club Code: 6697
More info: (213) 972-7231 or www.taperahmanson.com

Culver City Summer Sunset Music Festival

Looking for something to do for free on a Thursday night? If so, then attend one of the many wonderful live concerts held in Culver City, from: swing, salsa, rock 'n' roll, bluegrass, Cajun to world music and much more!

Date(s): Through Sept. 7
Time: 7 p.m.
Site: Culver City Hall Courtyard, 9770 Culver Blvd.
Cost: Free
More info: (310) 253-5698 or www.culvercitymusic.org

Marvel Superheroes Science Exhibition at the California Science Center

"Step into the incredible Marvel Comic Universe! Come face to face with your favorite superheroes and villains! Explore the science and power within Marvel's magnificent characters by engaging in exciting interactive experiences. Learn about the remarkable achievements of current science and technology – achievements that in many ways give us special powers we dream of through the comics – while living the fantasy of your favorite Marvel superhero." (Website)

Date(s): Through Sept. 4
Time: 9:45 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Site: Exposition Park, 700 State Dr., Los Angeles
Cost: \$9.75/adults, \$7.75/kids (4-12), \$8.75/seniors, students
More info: (323) SCI-ENCE or www.californiasciencecenter.org

Movies in the Park – Long Beach

"Family-oriented movies shown under the stars on a 29-foot inflatable screen will be featured at local parks. We'll supply the popcorn and drinks – you bring your own lawn chair or blankets, family and friends and settle to enjoy the fun." (Website)

Date(s): Through Sept. 1
Time: Dusk
Site: Vary; call or visit Website
Cost: Free
More info: (562) 570-3100 or www.longbeach.gov

Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach

"Every evening, teams of people are involved in recreating exact tableaux and live re-enactments of both classical and contemporary paintings. An outdoor amphitheatre, a professional orchestra playing an original score, intricate sets and hundreds of dedicated volunteers make this a truly eye-catching spectacle." (Office Website)

Date: Through Sept. 1
Time: Mon – Sun: Shows begin at 8:30 p.m.
Site: 650 Laguna Canyon Rd.
Cost: \$15 - \$150
More info: (800) 487-3378 or www.foapom.com

Farmer's Market Thursday Evening Jazz and Friday Night Special

"Our Thursday Evening Jazz series features some of the best singers and musicians working, covering the full spectrum of cool music - standards, bossa nova, new wave, world beat, fusion and straight ahead jazz."

"Our Friday Night Special brings some of the best musicians and bands we've heard back to the Market. We hope you will join us for great rock, swing, jazz and blues at the Market all summer long." (Website)

Date(s): Through September
Time: 7 p.m.
Site: West Patio, 6333 West Third St. Los Angeles
Cost: Free
More info: www.farmersmarketla.com

Cinespia at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery

"Every Saturday in the summer, Hollywood Forever Cemetery opens its gates ... as diners munch and DJs play retro tunes ... the cemetery's makeshift movie screen. The films screened are a mix of classic and cult" (LA.com)

Date(s): Saturdays
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Site: 6000 Santa Monica Blvd.
Cost: \$10 donation
More info: www.cinespia.org

Free Concerts at the Levitt Pavilion in Pasadena

Five days out of the week you can enjoy great free concerts under the Pasadena night sky. Call or visit Website for performance listings.

Date(s): Through Sept. 3
Time: Wed: Children's night – 7 p.m.
Thur: World Rhythms – 7 p.m.
Fri: Dance Beat – 8 p.m.
Sat: Musica Latina – 8 p.m.
Sun: Jazz – 7 p.m.
Site: 85 East Holly St., Pasadena
Cost: Free
More Info: (626) 683-3230 or http://levittpavilionpasadena.org

75th Long Beach International Sea Festival

The City of Long Beach is providing two months of great fun for everyone. There are events ranging from Chinese Dragon Boat Races, Moonlight Movies on the Beach, to Fishing Rodeos and a Tiki Festival. Call for visit the website for a listing of events.

Date: Through Aug. 26
Time: Vary
Site: Vary
Cost: Vary
More info: (562) 570-8920 or www.longbeach.gov



Rancho Afternoons and Summer Concert Series at Rancho Los Cerritos

If you're looking for an activity for the family, then attend Rancho Afternoons or the Summer Concert Series. Ranch Afternoons is a hands-on activity for kids and includes games and stories (reservations are required.)

Date: Rancho Afternoons: Aug. 3, 10
Concert: Aug. 13, 24
Time: 2 – 4 p.m. (Rancho Afternoons) 6 – 7:30 p.m. (Concert)
Site: 4600 Virginia Rd., Long Beach
Cost: \$3 suggested donation for Ranch Afternoons
More Info: (562) 570-1755 or www.rancholoscerritos.org



Regal Entertainment: Free Family Film Festival

Bring the kids and enjoy a family film free at participating Regal Cinemas, United Artists Theatres and Edwards Theatres.

Date: Through August (varies by location)
Time: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10 a.m.
Site: Various venues. Call your local movie theatre or see website for location and movie information.
Cost: Free
More info: www.regalcinemas.com and click on "free family film festival"

Ninth Annual Pico Rivera Summer Concerts in the Park

Need something to do on a Sunday afternoon? Then stop by Smith Park, where you can enjoy live music, food, raffles and free art activities.

Date(s): Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31
Time: 5 – 7 p.m.
Site: 6016 Rosemead Blvd.
Cost: Free
More info: (562) 801-4430 or www.pico-rivera.org

22nd Annual Santa Monica Twilight Dance Series

Need something to do on a Thursday night? If so, head to the Santa Monica Pier, where you can enjoy a free concert and get down and boogie. Enjoy music from rock and reggae to folk and world music.

Date(s): Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31
Time: Begins 7:30 p.m.
Site: Santa Monica Pier
Cost: Free
More info: (310) 458-8900 or www.twilightdance.org

Bellflower Summer Streetfest

"... downtown summertime street celebration featuring live music ... features country, salsa, Latin, pop, R&B, surf and classic rock tunes and includes a farmers market, food vendors, art and craft vendors, art exhibits, street performers and activities for kids." (Website)

Date(s): Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31
Time: 6 – 9 p.m.
Site: Downtown Bellflower
Cost: Free
More info: (562) 804-1424 or www.bellflower.org

Sizzling Summer Nights at the Museum of the American West

"The hottest Thursdays in town return ... Bring your friends for music and dancing, plus a visit to the museum, all for \$5 per person. Admission is free for Autry National Center members. Food and beverages are available for purchase." (Website)

Date(s): Aug. 10, 17, 24, 31
Time: 6 – 9 p.m.
Site: 4700 Western Heritage Way
Cost: \$5
More Info: (323) 221-2164 or http://autrynationalcenter.org

Bellflower's Movies Under the Stars

"Movies Under the Stars lives up the City's Town Center Civic Plaza every Friday evening this summer. Lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets are welcome, but alcohol, glass containers and pets are not allowed. On-site vendors sell food and beverages." (Website) Movie list available online.

Date(s): Aug. 11, 18, 25; Sept. 1, 8
Time: 8 p.m.
Site: Downtown Bellflower, between Oak and Belmont
Cost: Free
More info: (562) 804-1424 or www.bellflower.org

One Colorado's Summer Music Festival

This year's theme is "Ladies Sing the Blues." If you're looking for a free concert to listen to during the weekend, then make sure you head to Old Town Pasadena.

Date: Aug. 11, 18, 19, 25, 26
Time: 9 p.m.
Site: One Colorado Courtyard, between Fair Oaks and Colorado, and Delacey and Union
Cost: Free
More info: (626) 564-1066 or www.onecolorado.com

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EVENTS
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66th Annual Nisei Week Japanese Festival

Come and celebrate in one of the oldest Japanese American festivals. This weeklong celebration has many great events to attend, from a parade to Marshall Arts demonstrations to a car show and much more. Visit the Website for event, time, and cost information.

Date: Aug. 12 - 20
Grand Parade: Aug. 13
Time: Varies
Site: Little Tokyo, Downtown L.A., and other
Cost: Varies
More info: (213) 687-7193 or www.niseiweek.org

Redondo Pier Concert Series

If you're looking for some free live music to listen to while spending an evening at the Redondo Pier, then be sure to stop by their free concert summer concert series. Lineup is available online.

Date: Aug. 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29
Time: 6 - 8 p.m.
Site: Redondo Pier
Cost: Free
More info: (310) 318-0631 or www.redondopier.com

11th Annual Tofu Festival

"In addition to over 100 imaginative and delicious tofu and soy dishes, come and experience various exquisite foods prepared by some of L.A.'s finest restaurants. Enjoy the world-class sounds of Taiko Drums and other cultural music and dance performances. Visit our Children's Pavilion for games and crafts. Do some shopping in the Arts and Crafts Marketplace." (Website)

Date(s): Aug. 12 - 13
Time: Noon - 10 p.m. (Sat.) 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. (Sun.)
Site: Second Street and S. San Pedro Street, Little Tokyo, Downtown L.A.
Cost: \$8/adult, \$5/seniors, kids (5-12); free/kids under 5
Receive a \$1 off coupon on Website
More info: (213) 473-3030 or www.tofufest.org

21st Annual Los Angeles African Marketplace and Cultural Faire and Children's Village African Festival

Learn more about the African diaspora through several great events. There will be arts, crafts, food, entertainment and much more.

Date(s): Aug. 19, 20, 25 (Children's Festival), 26, 27, 28;
Sept. 2, 3, 4
Time: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Site: Exposition Park, 3939 S. Figueroa St.
Cost: TBA
More info: (323) 293-1612 or www.africanmarketplace.org

The All-American Collector's Show

"200 dealers from around the world will gather to buy, sell and trade tin wind-up toys, cast-iron toys, Disney memorabilia, dolls, Americana, arcade machines, movie memorabilia, gambling items, advertising and much more." (Website)

Date(s): Aug. 19 - 20
Time: Noon - 6 p.m. (Sat.), 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Sun.)
Site: Glendale Civic Auditorium
1401 N. Verdugo Rd.
Cost: \$6/adults, \$1/kids
More info: www.allamericancal.com

26th Annual Sunset Junction Street Faire

"Celebrate the diversity of Los Angeles with food, entertainment, three stages of great live music, and a whole lot of fun at one of the largest street fairs in the city."

Date(s): Aug. 26 - 27
Time: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. (Sat.); 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. (Sun.)
Site: 3600 to 4400 blocks of Sunset Boulevard - Silverlake area
Cost: \$12 - \$15
More info: (323) 661-7771 or www.sunsetjunction.org



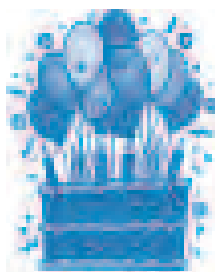
September

*See August for dates for ongoing events

Festival of Children at the South Coast Plaza

"...Find free fun for your family at our month-long celebration of childhood. Showcasing more than 50 children's charities for support, services, and volunteer opportunities, and presenting over 100 activities, workshops, and performances to children and families, all free of charge, this September's Festival is not to be missed!" (Website)

Date: Sept. 1 - 30
Site: 3333 Bristol St., Costa Mesa
Time: TBA
More info: (877) 492-5437 or www.festivalofchildren.org



Los Angeles Birthday Celebration

Happy Birthday L.A.! Come and celebrate the 225th anniversary of the founding of Los Angeles with a walk from San Gabriel, historic re-enactments, artisan demonstration, exhibits, food and entertainment.

Date: Sept. 4
Site: El Pueblo Historical Monument, Olvera Street, Downtown L.A.
Time: 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.
More info: (213) 625-5045 or www.olvera-street.com

L.A. Greek Fest 2006

Ya Sas! Come and enjoy Greek food, fun, and lots of dancing. Opa!

Date(s): Sept. 8 - 10
Time: 5 - 11 p.m. (Fri); 1 - 11 p.m. (Sat.); 1 - 10 p.m. (Sun)
Site: St. Sophia Cathedral
1324 S. Normandie Ave., Los Angeles
Cost: \$3/general admission, free/kids 12 and under
Go to Website for a coupon for free admission
More info: (323) 737-2424 or www.lagreekfest.com

Los Angeles County Fair

Bring your family and friends and enjoy a day at the famous L.A. County Fair.

Date(s): Sept. 8 - Oct. 1
Time: Wed. - Thurs.: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri.: 11 a.m. - midnight
Sat.: 10 a.m. - midnight
Sun.: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Site: Pomona Fairplex, 1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona
Cost: Club prices: \$9/adults, \$5/kids
\$1/opening day
More info: (909) 623-3111 or www.lacountyfair.com

15th Annual Festival of Filipino Arts and Culture

"...a celebration of Filipino art and culture...the festival features a broad spectrum of art, including visual arts, dance, theater, literary arts, film, and culinary arts. Visitors can also participate in activities and contests or purchase art, clothing, or crafts from the wide array of vendors." (ExperienceLA.com)

Date(s): Sept. 9 - 10
Time: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Site: Point Fermin Lighthouse, S. Gaffey Street and S. Paseo Del Mar, San Pedro
Cost: \$3
More info: (323) 913-4663 or www.filamarts.org



what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?

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Up and Away!

Hansen Dam hosts show of public safety craft.

Story by Beverly Haro, Club Counselor;
Photos by Summy Lam, Club Tech Guru

FIRE DEPT. — The American Heroes Air Show is a family event at the Hansen Dam Recreation Area in the San Fernando Valley community of Lakeview Terrace. It took place June 24.

Developed originally at the Santa Monica Airport in 1993 as the American Giants "Celebration of Heroes" Air Show, the event has grown to become the nation's premier, admission-free air show exclusively for public safety and public service helicopters.

Over the years, the founding mission has not changed: To profile the diverse role of aviation in law enforcement, fire service and search and rescue operations.



LAFD Air Operations is presented at the air show.



From left: Firefighter Sanchez, FS 77A; Firefighter Carpenter, FS 77A; Firefighter Johnson, Quality Improvement Section; and Inspector Hancock, Public Assemblage Section.



Rosario Isip, Information and Assistance Specialist, and Thom Woodard represented the Department of Aging



From left: Firefighter Paramedic Horst, and Firefighter/Paramedic Van Dyke.



From left: Officer Avila, LAPD Recruitment, and Officer Choi, LAPD Recruitment.

History Comes Alive!

by Hynda Rudd,
City Archivist (Retired),
and Club Member



Tales From the City Archives



Board of Civil Service Commissioners, 1905.

The Birth of Personnel

■ Personnel Dept. created to protect City's best asset.

As Project Director for the upcoming book on the City of Los Angeles government history covering the years 1850-2000, I am saddened that, with 26 chapters devoted to the development and growth of this incredible institution, there is not a chapter dedicated to the employees that made this unbelievable majestic City possible.

It was not an intentional omission; we had an author who was hired to do the research and writing, but he had too many commitments and had not completed enough work before he left. Therefore, it was too late to find a replacement. A few weeks ago, I spoke with the Personnel Department's General Manager, Margaret (Maggie) Whelan, and offered to rectify the omission by writing an article on this most vital part of City government evolution, the birthplace for employees into the overall City government organization.

But it must be said at this time that the additions and changes within the Civil Service/Personnel Department are vast, but in this short article only a few items are noted.

The history of the Personnel Department begins at the federal level of government in 1883 – the Pendleton Civil Service Reform Act, to be exact, which established the United States Civil Service Commission. After the Civil War, the federal government's system for selecting officials and supervising their work was inconsistent and irrational. During the 19th century, the common adage "to the victor belongs the spoils," otherwise known as the "spoils system," ran rampant. A major national calamity incited the change.

On July 2, 1881, our 20th president, James Garfield, was assassinated by a disgruntled office seeker. The Pendleton Act, sponsored by Senator George H. Pendleton of Ohio and written by the future first chairman of the U.S. Civil Services Commission, Dorman B. Eaton, a staunch opponent of the "spoils system," was passed into law January 16, 1883. The Act classified certain jobs, removing them from patronage ranks. The Commission administered a system based on merit rather than political connections.

But discontent about City officials and employment in Los Angeles government was expressed by the citizenry as far back in 1879. In February of that year, the newspaper, the Evening Express, reported that "the people of Los Angeles, having been long-suffering and

patient, have seen our hard earned money paid as taxes to irresponsible city officials...[who] squandered and lost... In return the citizenry demanded that there should be a thorough investigation of the financial affairs of the City, "including moneys collected as taxes or in any way belonging to the City of Los Angeles as well as the various public contracts and disposal of city lands and property." This, too, was part of the "spoils system."

By the 1903 amended 1889 Charter, the City's first Home Rule Charter, the Civil Service Department came into existence. Article XXIII, dedicated to the subject, states in Sec. 229, "The Mayor shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Council, five persons known...to be devoted to the principles of civil service reform, who shall constitute and be known as the Board of Civil Service Commissioners." But the "spoils system" did not evaporate. The new Commission not only had to design new policies and procedures, but was also confronted with having to retain employees who had already tainted the system. Though in time, the merit system prevailed and the patronage system died out. One case in the 1930s returned as a political fiasco that truly sent Los Angeles government on its ear.

The new 1903 administration of five Civil Service Commissioners performed four duties that the Charter mandated: (1) Compiling a roster of all City employees and determining their individual Civil Service status; (2) Establishing Civil Service rules and regula-



Current Personnel General Manager Margaret Whelan.

tions to govern; (3) Classifying all positions under Civil Service needs; and (4) Establishing examination lists to fill City positions. These four mandates remain to this day the foundation of the Personnel Department. In 1903, there were 805 employees. Today, 103 years later, the City government population is about 47,692, including the proprietary departments.

A 1905 Charter amendment resolved that unskilled laborers were able to register as applicants, and if physically fit, were placed in order of application. The 1907 Charter amendment gave the Commission the authority to place at the head of a list any employee injured while engaged in any work for the City. Also, new provisions were made for certain exemptions by request of the department heads. In 1921, a special civil service allowance was given to veterans of war. An additional ten percent was given to honorably discharged war veterans and wives of incapacitated veterans and widows. Also, in that time period, Burton L. Hunter in his 1933 volume, *The Evolution of Municipal Organization and Administrative Practices in the City of Los*

Angeles, states, "[t]he number of names certified for any appointment was limited to two more names than the number of positions to be filled."

The 1925 Charter afforded the City to begin the modern era of the 20th century. The Civil Service Department shared with other departments many additions and changes of daily business. The following are some examples over the next few years:

(1)-November 1932 prohibited the Board on making limitations and age restrictions for candidate examinations, except for firemen and policemen; (2) May 1933: this was a new section to the Charter for the Board to provide "for the suspension and restoration to eligible lists of persons who were laid off because of lack of work, lack of funds, or other causes, except personal delinquency." (3) September 1934: a charge of \$1 for each application filed for open competitive examinations.

The 1940s and 1950s saw other enactments in the Department through Charter and Ordinance control. But in the 1930s, the old "Patronage System" raised its ugly head once again. It came during the infamous rule of Mayor Frank Shaw, 1933-39. He was the first Mayor in the country to be recalled. It was concluded he had the most corrupt municipal administration anywhere in the country, including New York and Chicago.

His brother, Joe Shaw, who was shown as a "private secretary" on the City's employee list, was in reality the Mayor's "chief fixer" in City Hall, in particular imposing his authority over the Fire and Police Departments. Mayor Shaw's infamous reputation ran far beyond employee misdoings. The issues were so scandalous the Mayor was recalled in 1937. In 1940, Joseph Shaw was convicted on 66 counts of a variety of civil service issues. On an appeal, the California Supreme Court reversed its decision on Shaw because General Manager Glenn G. Gravatt was found guilty of tampering with Civil Service Department examination scores, way before the Shaw administration came into power.

Ramifications of the misdoings in civil service were corrected by the recall of Mayor Fletcher Bowron (1938-53). There was a review of City job reclassification; test examinations were rewritten; and Bowron removed all the prior Civil Service Commissioners. Glenn Gravatt was discharged as General Manager and replaced by Burton L. Hunter, mentioned above, who served for a two-year period, 1939-41.

Name Change

On April 4, 1967, a ballot was sent to the electorate to change the name from the Civil Service Department to the Personnel Department. The requests for Charter revisions, Sections 70, 71 and 111, were sent from General Manager Muriel M. Morse to Mayor Sam Yorty. In 1966, Sam Yorty sent out a Directive instructing departments to informally refer to the employee Department as the Personnel Department. The reason for the change was due to many more responsibilities of the Department, namely more personnel management, Workman's Compensation, health insurance and more intense training. The Mayor and Council concurred over the

name change. On May 30, 1967, the name change became a reality by election, which was reflected in the 1925 Charter. The name of the Board of Civil Service Commissioners remained the same.

The 1970s gave the Personnel Department greater depth in the needs of the employee. On June 8, 1973, the City's first Affirmative Action Plan was adopted. In August 1974, the Board of Civil Service Commissioners adopted the first City of Los Angeles Affirmative Action Program. Both programs were vital to ending discrimination on many levels, the developing of action plans, and much, much more.

In 2000, a new City Charter came into being. This updated written constitution diminished some of the power of the Civil Service Commissioners, which had been in existence for almost one hundred years, and granted the Executive Staff more operating authority.

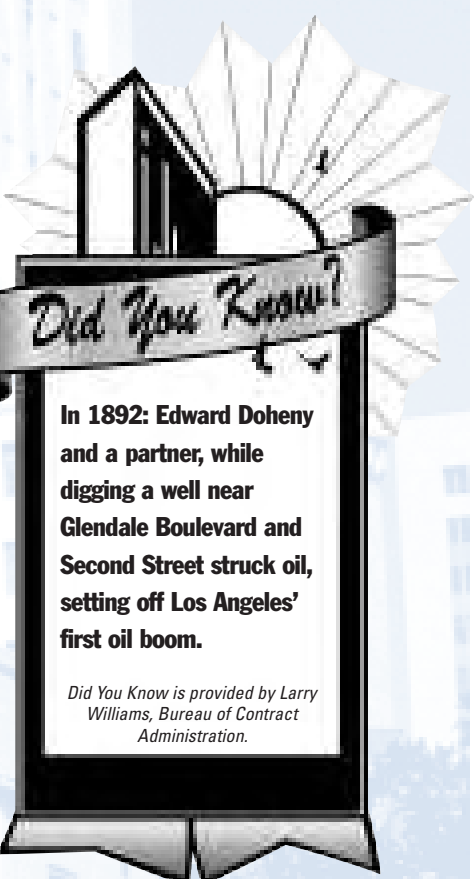
The Personnel Department is truly a living, breathing entity. It is not only the employee birthplace, but the structure gives



Center: Muriel Morse, General Manager, 1967

Photo courtesy Herald Examiner Collection, Los Angeles Public Library, Carolyn Cole, Photo Archive Director.

the employee a total lifestyle from birth to retirement in City government. My only sadness is that there is not enough space to give this monumental Department the total historic story it deserves.



Did You Know?
In 1892: Edward Doheny and a partner, while digging a well near Glendale Boulevard and Second Street struck oil, setting off Los Angeles' first oil boom.

Did You Know is provided by Larry Williams, Bureau of Contract Administration.



City gem: Point Fermin Lighthouse

■ This City gem is a perfect destination for an easy, end-of-summer day.



REC AND PARKS — A treasure from the Victorian era offers a peek into the City's past ... and a great view of the Pacific and the Harbor.

The Point Fermin Lighthouse, which dates from 1874 and had been closed to the public, underwent a major restoration in 2002 and reopened the following year. Tours are offered most afternoons (except Mondays).

Kristen Childs, Historic Site Curator and City employee, welcomes fellow City employees – and everyone – to the lighthouse. With Point Fermin Park surrounding the lighthouse and great views of the ocean and Harbor area from its observation room, the lighthouse is a great family destination for a summer daytrip.

Restoration efforts were spurred on in the 1960s by Coast Guard plans to tear down the lighthouse. San Pedro residents William Olesen and John Olguin spearheaded the restoration of the lighthouse to its original appearance, based upon blueprints provided by the Coast Guard.

The lighthouse, one of the oldest light stations on the West Coast, was built on a hilltop west of Pacific Avenue at Gaffey Street and Paseo Del Mar. Built in 1874 as a beacon to ships in one of the nation's busiest ports, the lighthouse no longer contains a functioning

light beacon, although it did for many decades. When Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941, the threat became very real that the West Coast could be next. The Navy seized the lighthouse and dismantled the lantern room as well as removing the lens. They constructed a look-out tower, which served the war effort for several years.

The Victorian building in which it was housed was constructed of bricks with a wood frame and contained a cupola where the lens was mounted. Bricks and lumber shipped around Cape Horn were used to build the station and three cisterns.

Rec and Parks contracted with the federal Lighthouse Service in 1927 to operate the facility, and the house became the residence of a superintendent.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The lighthouse is open from 1 to 4 p.m. every day except Monday, when it is closed.

Lighthouse tours:

Tuesday:	1, 2, 3 p.m.
Wednesday:	1, 2, 3 p.m.
Thursday:	1, 2, 3 p.m.
Friday:	1, 2, 3 p.m.
Saturday:	1, 2, 3 p.m.
Sunday:	1, 1:30, 2, 2:30, 3:30 p.m.

Point Fermin Lighthouse
807 Paseo Del Mar
San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 241-0684

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Standard System Installation ONLY \$49*

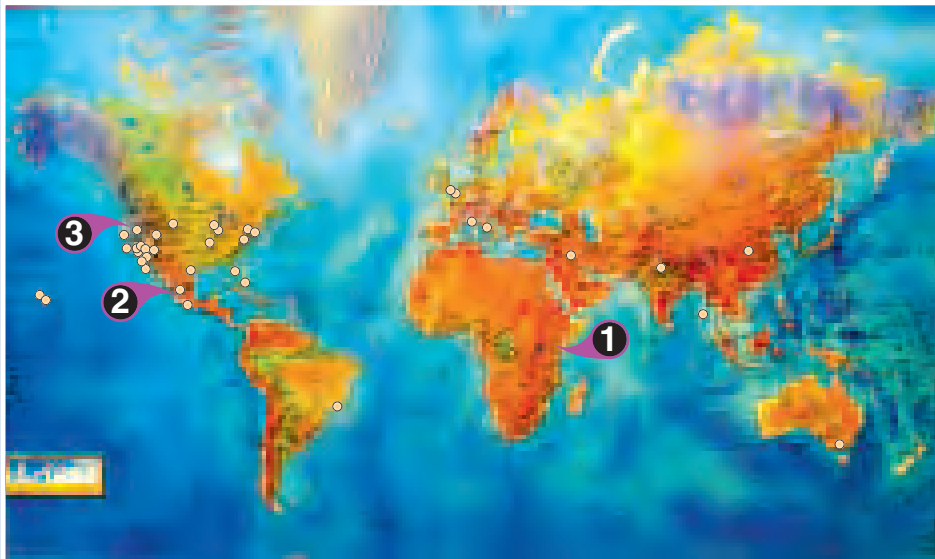
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*Call for information on Brink's monitoring fees and other terms. OFFER REQUIRES SIGNING UP TO BRINK'S HOME SECURITY 3-YEAR PLAN. Three-year monitoring agreement required. Applicable fees and permit fees not included. Offer may not be combined with any other discount and is subject to change. Home ownership and credit approval required. Home must be insured by a Brink's service. The Best Buy call is a promotion of Brink's Home Security. ©2006 Brink's Home Security, LLC, and/or its affiliates. H1001 Brink's Home Security 08/06/06. Item # 0870641 08/06/06

Call Antonio Cervantes!
1-800-826-8188

Alive! Around the World



Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a photo with you holding a copy, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Here's Yvonne Hawkins, mother of Club CEO John Hawkins, with *Alive!* in Kenya, Africa.



"On a recent trip to Puerto Vallarta, I took a copy of *Alive!*," says Patricia Spinneberg, DWP. "On a day trip to Nayarit, we visited the Huichol Indians. They are believed to be direct descendants of the Aztecs. The Huichol Indians are a warm-hearted and enduring people who romanticize their past, clinging tenaciously to their lifestyle, language, rituals and customs – despite the ever-increasing physical and cultural encroachment of the modern world."



"*Alive!* went on vacation with the Gardner family in Takilma, Oregon," reports Renne Gardner, Housing. "Takilma is near Cave Junction in the southwest part of the state. We lived in a tree house for a week – a "treesort" if you will – and hiked in the Siskiyou Mountains, rafted the Rogue River and visited the Oregon Caves National Monument." In the photo are Renne and son, Garrett, in front of their tree house.



Councilmember Jose Huizar, 14th District.

Groundbreaking for Childcare

■ Rec and Parks breaks ground for Evergreen Child Care Center.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

REC AND PARKS — Rec and Parks, along with Councilmember Jose Huizar, hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the Evergreen Child Care Center July 10. The new-state-of-the-art facility will open in July 2007.

The 4,000 square-foot facility will provide care to 50 children and include a computer room, a full kitchen and a laundry room. The new Child Care Center will provide a safe community for the children and their families.



Adetayo Abon, Evergreen Child Care Director, with her staff.



The Children of Evergreen Child Center sing a song for the audience.



Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager, Rec and Parks.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS PRESENTS

PERSHING SQUARE

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES 2006

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS • TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS • NOON-2PM

AUGUST 1 PROUD MARY Tina Turner Tribute	AUGUST 3 DUBLIN 4 Irish Rock	AUGUST 10 ELLEE VEN Groovetronics	AUGUST 15 CAFE FUEGO Nuevo Flamenco
AUGUST 17 TEN MILE TIDE Blues Rock	AUGUST 24 UNDERCOVER GIRLS Classic Rock	AUGUST 29 PANDEMONIUM Steel Drums	AUGUST 31 THE NEW 60s 60s Hits

SWINGIN' WEDNESDAYS • 6:30PM - 8:30PM

AUGUST 2 BBG TOWN SEVEN	AUGUST 9 MOONDANCE	AUGUST 16 LET'S DANCE
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SALSA SUNDAYS • 4PM - 6PM

AUGUST 20 YARI MORE	SEPTEMBER 17 CUBAN LEAGUE
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SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM • 11AM - 3PM

FREE MUSIC, PUPPET SHOWS, STORYTELLING, ARTS & CRAFTS, INFLATABLE RIDES

THE MOUNTS NOON: IT'S A TOSS UP! 1PM: JAZZ FOR MILD PEOPLE	TUES AUGUST 8 2006: STREET SEAT 1PM: THE GARDNER PUPPETS	WED AUGUST 16 NOON: JEMER SHRIMP 1PM: STRONG PLANET	THUR AUGUST 24 NOON: LAUGH COMEDY 1PM: WEST BORN & BASH
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532 SOUTH OLIVE STREET - LOS ANGELES 90013 - 213.847.4970
 PERSHING.SQUARE@LACITY.ORG - WWW.LAPARKS.ORG, DIRECTORY OF SVCS.

Co-Sponsored by Professional Musicians Union, Local 41 - Concerts subject to change. The Department of Recreation and Parks is proud to be a part of the Mayor's Million Tree Initiative.



**John's
Picture
Perfect
Contest**

**WIN
\$50**

Walmart
Gift Card

**For August,
we have three winners!**
Start snapping today, and send us your best results!
Three winners will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Trader Joe's.

**Three
PRIZES**

NEXT DEADLINE:
August 15

Happy Snapping!



The Taj Mahal in Agra, India.

**- CT Feng,
PSR, LAPD**

John's comments: Talk about a front-page shot for *National Geographic*! The lighting is just perfect and the depth of field really makes the two children stand out. Beautiful shot, CT!



This is a "keeshond puppy, Niko, playing in basket. 'I'm cuter than flowers.'"

**- Gail Seltzer,
DWP**

John's comments: Yes Niko, you are cuter than flowers! Great shot, Gail!

"I took this picture on my first visit to Salt Lake City a few months back. On this particular day it was snowing and was I driving around the downtown area before my flight back to L.A. I think it is the international peace gardens, but I am not sure about the name. It was just one of that spur-of-a-moment pictures I took."

**- Vipen K. Wahi,
Materials Testing
Engineering
Associate**

John's comments: First off, in the middle of a heat wave, there's nothing better than seeing a picture of a frozen lake and a smattering of snow. In addition, I really like the contrast between the stark leafless trees and the dreary gray sky. Makes me glad I live in So Cal!



Rules:

- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to: Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

Where Was This Photo Taken?

Our new photo contest, *Where Was This Photo Taken?*, is off and running!

Get your answers in early, and win one of three great prizes!



Using this photo as a guide, answer the following questions:

1. In detail, describe the location where this photo was taken.
2. On which street is this?
3. If the camera looked in the exact opposite direction, what would it see?

Whoever answers these questions with the most detail and accuracy wins:



Second Prize:
a \$25 Trader Joe's gift card.
Third Prize:
a \$25 Trader Joe's gift card.

BONUS QUESTION:

Give us the GPS coordinates of where the camera was located when the photo was taken, and win an additional \$25 gift certificate to Trader Joe's!

DEADLINE Aug. 15

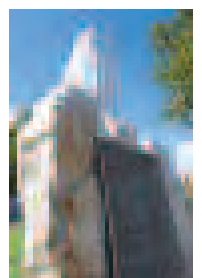
Here are the rules:

- Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
- Responses can be delivered by mail, fax, e-mail or in person (phone responses will not be accepted). E-mail address: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

The winner of last month's *Where Was This Photo Taken?* contest is: Ken Moody, ITA

Here's his response:

"This month's photo was taken in the City Hall South Plaza. The Plaza is located between City Hall South and City Hall East. In the foreground is an environmental plaque presented to Mayor Tom Bradley Feb., 25, 1993. The plaque highlights all of the environmental accomplishments that the City has done in making the City a greener place to live. In the background is the center of Southern California politics, the glorious Los Angeles City Hall. As you are looking at this plaque, to your back would be City Hall South (the old City Health Building).
"City Hall South now houses General Services, lead by one of the best General Managers in the City of Los Angeles, Alvin Blain."



Bonus Question Winner: Ken Moody, ITA, Club Member
Honorable Mentions: Marco Mora, Rec and Parks; Tina Strahan, DWP

9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1 9-1-1

National Dispatchers Week—PART 3 9-1-1 EMERGENCY

■ **Transportation Dispatchers:** *Alive!* continues its coverage of National Dispatchers Week with this look at the dispatchers in Transportation.

Story and photos by Beverly Haro, Club Counselor

TRANSPORTATION — The last few months, as part of National Dispatchers Week (April 9-15), *Alive!* was proud to show you the faces of many of the people who toil behind the scenes, but without whom the City's emergency workers couldn't do their jobs. Included were Police, Fire, Airport and Transportation Dispatchers. This month: Here are some Transportation Dispatchers who didn't make it into the previous features. We're glad to feature them now!



From left: Terry Carrasco, Customer Information Representative, 9 years, Club Member; Varsenik Mkrтчian, Customer Information Representative, 4.5 years, Club Member; Tracy Mardis, Customer Information Representative, 18 years, Club Member; Aracely Galicia, 11 years, Club Member; Pamela Dorsey, Customer Information Representative 17.5 years, Club Member; Janice Thigpen, Customer Information Representative, 4.5 years; and Winston Dizon, Customer Information Representative, 4.5 years.

Transportation Dispatchers



From left: Mike Bivens, Sr. Traffic Supervisor, 26 years; and Lisa Glover, Sr. Communications Operator II, 25 years, Club Member.



Lt. Adams-Allen



David Delgadillo, Customer Information Representative, 3 years.



Jerry Lystarczyk, Customer Information Representative, 4.5 years, Club Member.



Jan Caldwell, Customer Information Representative, 38.5 years.

9-1-1 EMERGENCY



Back row, from left: Lisa Glover, Sr. Communications Operator II, 25 years, Club Member; Tracy Mardis, Customer Information Representative, 4.5 years, Club Member; and Terry Carrasco, Customer Information Representative, 9 years, Club Member. Front row: Varsenik Mkrтчian, Customer Information Representative, 4.5 years, Club Member; Aracely Galicia, Customer Information Representative, 11 years, Club Member; and Pamela Dorsey, Customer Information Representative 17.5 years, Club Member.



Renita Willis, Customer Information Representative, 6 months.



Kevin Walton, Customer Information Representative, Club Member, 20 years.



Richard Hamada, Customer Information Representative, 4 years.



Ileana Valenzuela, Customer Information Representative, 6 years.

Street Lighting BBQ

■ **Street Lighting hosted quarterly barbecue.**

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor; Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager, and Michelle Moreno, Events Guru

PUBLIC WORKS — The Bureau of Street Lighting hosted its quarterly barbecue June 29 in appreciation of its employees. Every quarter, the staff volunteers its time to organize the event, and the entire department is invited to come together for the festivities. It allows the organization to network with fellow co-workers.

The Club was invited to take part in the event, and was happy to donate movie tickets and Disneyland tickets for the raffle.



From left: Jack Pettigrew, Ronnie Gallardo and Fernie Cabanillas.



From left: Ed Ebrahimian, Street Lighting Director; David Campbell; and Art Newborn, Division Manager.



Employees prepared to eat.



Jeff Ziliotto won tickets to Disneyland, courtesy the Club.



The Commissioner served ice cream to event attendees.



From left: Dave Rios, J.R. Mora, Ray Parga, Johnny Gonzalez and Sean Rios.



Felipe Rodriguez, Club Rep and Event Coordinator, handed Disneyland tickets to Elliot White. The tickets were courtesy the Club.



Jeremy Orth won AMC tickets, courtesy the Club.



The wonderful people behind the delicious food: South District.

WORKING MATTERS

by JACKIE DAVID, Public Information [no word], Public Works



Vacation: Refresh, Rejuvenate



You've worked hard all year long and summer is in full swing. You hear bits of conversation around the office about vacations plans – other people's plans: a week in the Caribbean or Hawaii, a trip to Mexico, a drive down the coast, a day at Disneyland and the next day at Hurricane Harbor. Yet, here you are, stuck at your desk. No trips planned. No vacation plans, either. *Nothing, nada, zip* as you scan your calendar trying to schedule meetings – especially frustrating since everyone seems to be gone or leaving on vacation.

Why not you? Well, simply put, there's too much work and way too much going on. You've got projects with deadlines about to hit. Besides, who's going to take care of work with everyone else out? Sure, you're stressed. Sure, you're feeling tired and burned out. But, you can handle it. Vacations are for wimps. You're strong. You've got this work ethic. You don't need a vacation. The office might fall apart without you.

Still, there's that nagging deep inside. You need to get away. You haggle with yourself: "Okay, maybe one week max. I'll call in every day. I'll take my cell and laptop and make sure everyone has my contact numbers, including my hotel and room information. Maybe then it would work."

Question: "Why bother with vacation?"

Vacation. It comes from the Latin word *vacatio*, which means *freedom from occupation, to be empty, at leisure. It is defined as "a period of time devoted to pleasure, rest, or relaxation;" "a period in which activity or work is suspended."*

Vacation means detaching from the world of work completely and wholeheartedly, physically and mentally. It means not wearing a watch unless you're off to catch a plane, bus or train. It also means no pagers, laptops and phones (cell phones off and landlines screened). Tell the world you're leaving the

country and that you should be considered "missing" for the duration of your vacation.

This is not being irresponsible. When you've spent all year long working hard and, yes, preparing to leave for vacation with the clear understanding that there will be this pile of work waiting when you return, then you deserve to be away. Notify and remind everyone weekly so that they are mentally prepared. Delegate specific tasks to specific people. Assign and prime a trusted person to be your backup for any emergencies. Program your e-mail, work telephone and pager to say that you are on vacation and will respond when you return. Give contact information for your backup.

If you've been true to work then you must also be true to yourself, to your family and to your life.

Vacation means time to refresh, recoup, rejuvenate. It's a special time to breathe in the goodness and beauty of your life and remind yourself that "yes, this is why I work so hard."

That way, as you return to work, you can then breathe out and say, "Yup, I'm back and look at this pile of work." "Still, it was a great vacation and I'll need to start planning next year's vacation." Why not? It will give you and your family something to look forward to the rest of the year.

Have a great vacation!

I looked at my kids this morning – my how they have grown.

Were they not just tiny toddlers – yesterday before the dawn?

Tomorrow, they'll be off and running – about and on their own.

I must spend this time with them – before the summer's gone.



From left: Rene Villa-Augustin, Sr. Management Analyst II, 15 years; Angela Sherick, Director, 20 years; Arthur Rudnick, retiree; Mark Butler, Sr. Construction Maintenance Supervisor II, 16 years; and Maria Alpuche, Sr. Clerk Typist, 15 years.

The Art of Retirement

■ Art Rudnick retires from General Services after 18 years of City service.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing



GENERAL SERVICES — Friends, family and co-workers gathered in City Hall South June 22 for a retirement reception for Art Rudnick, Plumbing Supervisor, Fuel Services and Environmental Compliance Division.

From left: Assistant General Manager Tony De Clue, Plumbing Supervisor Arthur Rudnick, and General Manager Alvin Blain.

The commemoration/reception program included a welcome and introduction by Director Angela Sherick, and the introduction of Art's family by Plumbing Supervisor Wesley Collier.



From left: Sean Sullivan, Plumber, 6.5 years; Mike McCarthy, Contractor, 17 years; and Wes Collier, Plumbing Supervisor, 8 years.

General Services General Manager Alvin Blain presented Art with a GSD Certificate. Assistant General Manager Tony De Clue presented Art with a City Resolution. Rene Villa-Augustin, Sr. Management Analyst II, presented Art with the Fuel Services Plaque.

There were closing remarks by Art. Refreshments were served.

Congratulations, Art!

The Club thanks Maria Alpuche, Sr. Clerk Typist, General Services Fuel Services and Environmental Compliance Division, for her assistance.



Staff from the Construction Forces Division, from left: Carol Holguin, Tammy Nguyen, Nick Pendorf, and Angelica Rios.

For Retired Club Members



The Best Years

City Retiree Associations:

DWP Retirees Association



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

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association



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

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ed Harding, RLACEI President
www.rlacei.com
Contact him: (805) 584-9417
or via E-mail:
postmaster@rlacei.com

Change of Address?

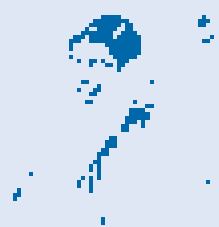
If you change your address, notify Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, at 323-728-4930, or write to her at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Also notify LACERS.

Have News About Yourself?

Contact Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call (818) 784-0130.

Upcoming Events:

- Aug. 10: Annual Picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge (RLACEI)
- Aug. 12: 19th annual barbecue, sponsored by the Northwest Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Retired LAPD group. Information: Arnie Moyens, admoyens@aol.com; Gene McCloskey, mccloskey@adelphia.net; or Bud Arce, roy187@aol.com or (208) 762-8155. (LAPD)
- Aug. 26: Shootin' Newton 75th Plus One Year Reunion. Information: Det. Kelle Baitx or Det. Rich Arciniega, Newton Homicide, (323) 846-6556, or Newton Watch Commander, (323) 846-6547. (LAPD)
- Oct. 2: 2nd annual LAFD Historical Society Charity Golf Tournament. Look in the June and July issue of the Grapevine for the application. (LAFD)
- Oct. 12: Annual Meeting and Elections - Van Nuys/ Sherman Oaks Senior Citizen Center - Lunch at noon, meeting at 1 p.m. (RLACEI)
- Dec. 12: Christmas Party, Grace E. Simons Lodge (RLACEI)



2007 Insurance Rates Not Set

By Phil Skarin, Publicity Chair, RLACEI



Ed Harding, RLACEI President, reports:

"Our Annual Picnic Aug. 10 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge is nearly here. I look forward to this event because it's like a reunion of long-time friends and former co-workers. I enjoy renewing these friendships, and when a former co-worker

says that he was happy to have worked with me, I feel pleasantly validated.

"I received a phone call from Norma Schuster, a widow who would like to hear from some of her former friends in Street Maintenance. She was in charge of Asphalt Plant #2. She recalls that John Powell and Ed Longley were classmates at Hollywood High School. She has an organ, a Technics F-100, which she'd like to give away. Give her a call at (310) 470-0803 and cheer her up.

"Our Annual Meeting and Elections will be Oct. 15 at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center. Six Director positions on the Executive Board will be voted on. If you are interested in one of these offices now or in the future, contact Dave Wilkins, Nominating Chair, and send him a statement of your qualifications to 1000 Fairview Ave., Apt. 5, Arcadia, CA 91006, (626) 446-4446.

I met recently with Councilman Greig Smith, and America Garza met with Councilman Ed Reyes. These meetings were to urge them to consider the increase of our Death Benefit from \$2500 to \$5000.

Legislative Update:

The Board of Administration of the Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System (LACERS) has approved a 3 percent cost of living adjustment for its retired members (those who have been retired less than one year will receive a prorated adjustment). You should see the increase in July's retirement allowance.

Although October seems far away, LACERS is already preparing for this year's health plan Open Enrollment. At this point, I can share with you only some preliminary information. Many of you will be happy to know that you will be able to choose from the same health plan providers as last year. So, if you

are happy with your provider, you don't have to change plans. As for the 2007 rates and maximum subsidy, they have not yet been determined. The health plan providers have submitted their initial rates to LACERS, but they are under review and are only the starting point for negotiations, which will begin this month. In the past, final rates were available by July or August, but this year they won't be available until September. This is the first year that Medicare Part D has taken effect and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services will not know how much money will be available to each health plan provider through Medicare Part D until September. This amount is used to offset your premium costs, so LACERS cannot finalize rates until this information is received. To accommodate this timeline, LACERS has decided to change this year's Open Enrollment period to Oct. 15 - Nov. 15.

LACERS staff has also been busy planning this year's Open Enrollment events. LACERS has shared with me some details about the Open Enrollment Fair, which promises to be bigger and better than previous ones. It will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center Oct. 25, there we be a free lunch, and everyone in attendance will receive a complimentary travel bag. LACERS has also confirmed Dr. Gary Small, Director of the UCLA Center on Aging, as the keynote speaker. He is a leading expert on memory and aging and will discuss strategies for living longer. Watch the mail for information about the fair and

other events in the coming months.

I will continue to keep you up to date on any news related to your LACERS retirement benefits.

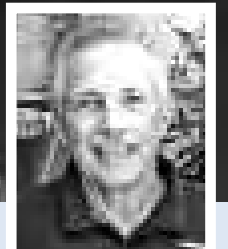
Visit www.rlacei.com to find out the latest retirement news.



The Best Years

ADVENTURES
with HAL!

Budda in Nha Trang.

By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Retiree Hotlines

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

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

RLACEI Retirement Counselors:

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

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:**Officers for 2006**

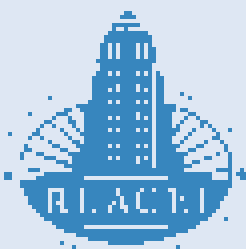
Edward Harding, President
Robert Wilkinson, First Vice President
Kenneth Spiker, Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz, Secretary
Jerry Bardwell, Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons for 2006

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

Directors

Thomas Stemnock
Americo Garza
Helen Salgado
Phil Skarin
Dave Wilkins
Jack Mathews
Neil Ricci



Hong Kong and Vietnam

■ Part five of Hal and company's cruise through Asia.

We had been at sea on the Diamond Princess for three consecutive days because we missed our port stop in Taiwan due to a typhoon, and we were looking forward to getting off the ship.

Our next port of call was Hong Kong, which has been part of China since being returned by Great Britain in 1997. Evelyn and I had been to Hong Kong twice, but this was the first time under China's control. Lanny and Elaine had been here a number of times too, so we decided to skip a tour and just do our own thing. Effie and Pierre, who had not been here, took a ship's tour.

The Diamond Princess was too big to dock at the Victoria Harbor passenger dock, so we were berthed about 45 minutes from the city. We took the ship's bus from the dock for \$5, which dropped us off at a large shopping complex at the waterfront in Kowloon (mainland Hong Kong). We had decided to go to Stanley Market, a large shopping area on the opposite side of Hong Kong Island. On previous trips we had found a lot of bargains in name brands that were overstocks

or seconds. We decided to take a taxi, but first we needed some Hong Kong dollars, which we got by finding an ATM. It always amazes me when I'm in a foreign country and put my LAFUCU ATM card in a machine and out comes money.

I must admit that with all the building

that has taken place in Hong Kong since our last visit (1996), I could not find my way around. Lanny was able to direct us to the Star Ferry, which we took across to Hong Kong Island. The cost was about 25 cents, but because I was a senior citizen I rode free. We then picked up a taxi for the 30-minute ride to Stanley Market. By taking the ferry we saved a lot of taxi fare. The ride to Stanley was though some of the nicer areas of Hong Kong.

The market is like a flea market, with lots of stalls, mostly selling the same kind of goods. We did find some nice Chinese chopsticks and wooden boxes, and we brought another tea set. We were a little disappointed in what we found, but it was fun to walk through the market.

We took a taxi back to the ferry and the ferry back to the mainland. Lanny said he knew

a good place for dim sun and we searched for about 15 minutes until we found what he thought was the restaurant. The food was okay, but I've had better here in Los Angeles.

After lunch we walked around the shopping area and found a store that sold Chinese art objects, and we bought a nice wooden bowl. We then walked over to Nathan Road, the Rodeo Drive of Hong Kong. It has become overbuilt and overcrowded, and it was not as I remembered.

On our walk back to the bus stop, we stopped in a jewelry store that advertised itself as a factory outlet, and Evelyn brought some jade slides for her necklaces.

We got back to the bus pickup point and found the line for our bus to the ship. It wasn't too long, and as we waited we found Effie and Pierre, and they then joined us in line. As we waited the line became very long and buses were arriving very slowly. After about 30 minutes we were able to board the bus and headed for the ship.

Apparently to pay us back for missing Taiwan, the Captain got permission to sail out of Hong Kong through the main channel. It was an impressive sight, with the Hong Kong skyline all lit up. It took about



Ponagar Cham Tower.



Stanley Market.



Evelyn on Nathan Road

an hour to clear the port.

Our next stop was Nha Trang, one of Vietnam's most popular seaside destinations. There were four miles of white-sand beaches, with warm Caribbean-like water. It was a popular spot for U.S. servicemen during the Vietnam War. Think China Beach.

Lanny and Elaine took a tour of the countryside, and Effie, Pierre, Evelyn and I explored Nha Trang on our own. At first I was thinking of renting a room at one of the beach hotels and spending the day on the sand, but we thought we should see the sights of the city. We decided to do it on our own by taxi. The ship had a shuttle bus to take us about four miles along the beach to one of the hotels that was the headquarters for the ship. The cost was \$3, and we could have just booked a taxi at the dock. At the hotel we found a taxi driver who spoke some English. We asked for a tour of the city, and we showed him on our map where we wanted to go. He agreed to take us and the charge would be \$10 per person. This turned out to be a very good bargain as the cost of the ship's tour was \$46 per person.

Driving in Nha Trang is a little like a game of "chicken." There are not a lot of cars but everyone has a motorbike, and I didn't see one stoplight or stop sign. The horn was used to announce your presence to the cars and bikes in your path of travel. You would be surprised at what they could carry on a bike. Many of the women were riding in high-heeled shoes and long dresses.

The first stop was the Long Son Pagoda, built in 1965 to commemorate the Buddhist monks who protested the Diem

regime in the early 1960s by setting themselves on fire. A large white Buddha sat on the hill behind. Our driver couldn't guide us in the pagoda, so one of the students became our guide. As we climbed to the top of the hill to see the white Buddha we passed a large reclining Buddha. We wanted our picture taken and a person said they would take it and of course they wanted \$5 for doing it. I gave him \$2 and ran. It was a pretty good climb to the top and not only did we get to see the Buddha, but we got a good view of the city.

When we first stopped at the Pagoda,

(without paying the fee) we climbed a lot of steps to get to the top. It gave us another good view of the beach area. The towers were dedicated to the goddess Uroja – revered as the symbol of weaving and agriculture.

Our last sightseeing stop was the Hon Chong Promontory, a small rocky peninsula that jutted out into the South China Sea and offered a great view of the bay.

We asked our driver to drop us off at the Dan Market in downtown Nha Trang. The ladies took one look and thought they had hit the mother lode of knockoffs. Every pricey designer handbag was reproduced.



Heading into the Dan Market.

people selling art and postcards rushed up to us. I always tell them I'll look at their goods when we return, and of course the guy selling the water colors was waiting for me. I said I would buy two of his paintings. He wanted \$10 each and I said \$5, but I overpaid by about \$4 each. We did get them framed and they now hang in our guest room.

Ponagar Cham Tower was our next stop, and after we got through the gate

We spent about two hours shopping and, in addition to the handbags, we did buy a number of Vietnamese handicrafts. The market reminded me of what Hong Kong's Stanley Market was 20 years ago.

We caught a taxi back to the ship's dock and the Princess. I really liked Nha Trang.

Our next stop would be 200 miles south to Saigon, now known as Ho Chi Minh City. I'll report on that and Singapore next month.

The Best Years



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

The Last Word

When we are saying our last word to a person, we never know if we are ever going to meet again. Therefore, it would be good to make it a habit to make our last word one of thoughtfulness and understanding. Some last words can bring a warm glow and illuminate the whole day, while a thoughtless remark can spoil the next twenty-four hours. So let us strive to make our last word one that we can cherish and remember without regret.

-- Phil Skarin, RLACEI

RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

Margie Anselmo called from Overgaard, Ariz., where she spends the summers, that she is very busy playing golf, bridge and pinochle. Give her a call at (928) 535-6336.

Turned 80: **Jack Mathews** April 28 and **Grady Mullen** May 17.

Anniversaries: **Tom and Nena Asuncion**, 55 years May 26; **Ivan and Elke Forbes**, 53 years May 10; **Patsy and Rose Materrese**, 62 years on the Fourth of July; and **Neil and Teresa Denering**, 55 years Aug. 4.

Greg Perkins and these Rec and Parks retirees had a reunion luncheon at **Tom Peterson's** house in Apple Valley: **Tom Hutchison**, **John Maghakian** and **John Pierce**.

John Ziebarth has been teaching the fifth grade for seven years at Thorpe School in Santa Ana.

Clayton Todd plays golf, travels, sculpts and provides meals-on-wheels on Fridays.

Raquel Barot visited Berlin, Hamburg, Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary and Poland. A great experience, she reports.

If you have any news about a retiree that you would like to share, or constructive comments about this column, send them to:

Phil Skarin
5301 Norwich Ave.
Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910
or phone (818) 784-0130.



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Poetry Contest

The 11th Annual Retirees Poetry Contest deadline is Oct. 1. Send your typed entry to Phil Skarin. Separate categories for members and spouses. Everyone will win a prize.



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Harbor Constructs A Picnic



From left: Zizhan Liu, Technician, 3 years; and Tom Asuncion, Architectural Associate, 19 years.

■ Harbor Engineering, Construction hosts annual summer picnic.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing

HARBOR — The Engineering and Construction Division of the Port of LA had its annual picnic event June 13.

The picnic was held at Averill Park in San Pedro.

Special thanks to Adrienne Fedrick for her assistance in producing this story.



From left: John Ibrahim, Engineering Associate, 25 years; Daryl Raasch, Civil Engineer, 21 years; Chris Grossi, Civil Engineering Associate, 17 years; and Jin Kim, Civil Engineer, 19 years.



From left: Richard Joe, Electrical Engineering Associate, 31 years; and Danny Avalos, Civil Engineer, 21 years.



From left: Mike Sowards, Construction Manager, 6 months; Lisa Homaizad, Secretary, 20 years; and Bill Houser, Survey Party Chief, 27 years.



From left: Donna Enfiagian, Civil Engineering Associate II I, 21 years; Christina Sar, Civil Engineering Associate III, 15 years; and Terry Keating, Civil Engineering Associate, 15 years.



From left: Augie Bezmanovich, 2 years; Vahik Haddadian, Building Electrical Engineer, 22 years; Andy Booster, Management Analyst, 3 years; and Prashant Konareddy, Civil Engineering Associate, 3 years.




From left: Chris Ackopiantz, student worker engineer; Min Shuai, Architectural Associate, 2 months; Du Tran, Building Mechanical Engineer, 20 years; and Chuong Le, Technician, 3 years.



From left: Zizhan Liu, Technician, 3 years; Chinh Le, Technician, 5 years; and Daniel Samaro, student engineer.

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Get Your ClubFest 2006 Tickets Now!

■ **Music, food, raffles fun ...presale prices are good until the end of August. Don't wait!**

THE CLUB — Tickets are on sale now for the best ClubFest ever. Don't wait! Bands with a City employee connection were a big hit, and so the Club has brought them back ... one band from last year, and two new ones for your enjoyment.

But attendance is limited to just 1,500, assuring attendees a relaxed and comfortable day. Tickets are limited, so don't miss out.

ClubFest 2006 is set for Sunday, Oct. 1, at Calamigos Ranch in the hills overlooking Malibu. ClubFest is co-sponsored by AIG and Office Depot. Prizes co-sponsored by Universal Studios.

Tickets for Club Members (by Aug. 31) are just \$15 each; that's a savings of more than \$30 off the actual cost of the ticket.

"ClubFest, with plenty of good food, games, booths, raffles, bingo and terrific people, is already a winner," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "It's why ClubFest has sold out the past four years. As we saw last year, the music just makes it even better.

"This is really a great thing we offer our Club Members. We love organizing this, so that our Members can have a memorable day with their family and friends, or by themselves."

Three bands are scheduled to play almost continuously from start to finish, one at a time. Check out the related story for information on the bands.

Tickets are now on sale; prices go up Sept. 1, so don't wait! Get them with the application in this issue of Alive!, at Club headquarters, or through your Club Counselor. ClubFest tickets are limited to nine tickets per each Club member. Tickets are available only to Club members and their families.

And don't forget the first Amazing Club Race. You and your team members could win \$200! Signups at ClubFest.



Members and their friends and family enjoying the festivities last year at ClubFest 2005



The new features and the new feel of ClubFest 2006 are in addition to the usual great ClubFest features:

- great food, including shredded beef, beans, corn, salad, potato salad, and all the trimmings
- hot dog carts and unlimited ice cream treats and soft drinks
- fun booths, including a dunk tank, a moon bounce, a water slide, etc.
- raffles
- bingo
- pony rides and hayrides
- face painting

Ticket prices for ClubFest 2006 if you buy them by Aug. 31 are:

- \$15 for members
- \$10 for children
- \$20 for nonmember adults (13 and older)
- Free for those 3 years old and younger

On or after Sept. 1, all tickets will be \$20. Tickets are now on sale. Get them by using the ticket form on page 31 at Club headquarters, or through your Club Counselor.

Don't wait! Buy today!

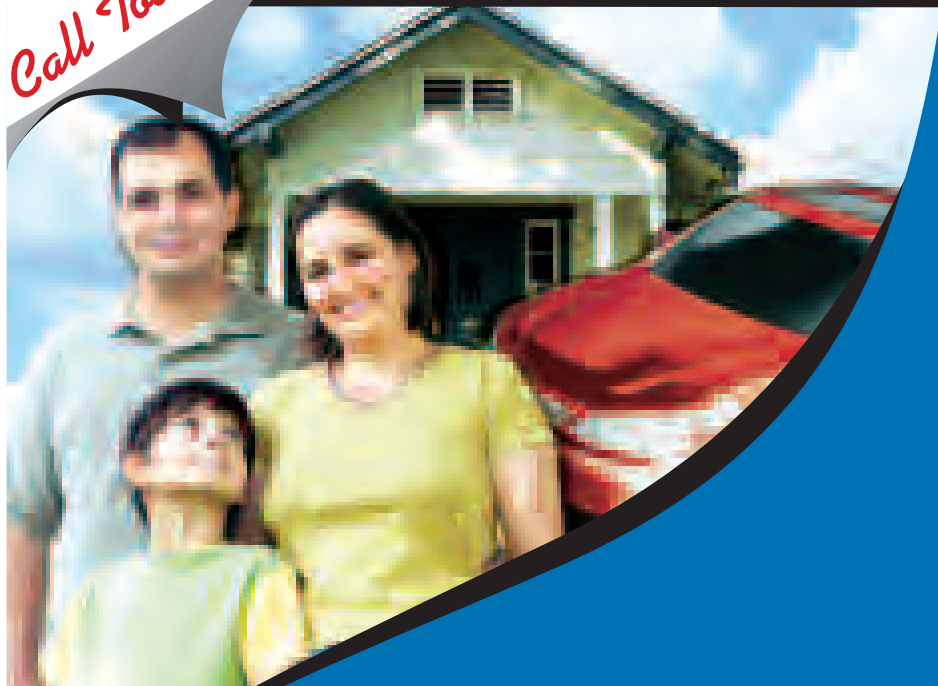


**ClubFest
October 1, 2006**

**10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Calamigos Ranch (above Malibu)**

To get your tickets, use the order form on page 31.

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Harbor Yard Opens The Doors, Too

■ Harbor Sanitation Yard hosts its first open house.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

PUBLIC WORKS — More than 50 people attended the Harbor District Refuse Collection Yard's first open house June 10.

They came out to enjoy the tour, food and raffle, and take advantage of the free mulch giveaway. The Recycling Robot made an appearance.

Thanks to Sal Miranda, Adriana Nunez and Wayne Watson for their assistance.



Back, from left: Tina Navarro, Secretary, 18 years; Herlinda Rodarte, Chief Clerk, 12 years; Carol Parker, Sanitation Engineering Associate II, 13 years, Club Member; and Tina Navarro's daughter, Christina. Front: Herlinda Rodarte's daughter, Anyssa.



Raymond Lucas, RCTO, 25 years, Club Member, with his son, RayJon, 9.



From left: Emmett Ewing, Sr. Garage Attendant, 5 years, Club Member; Emmett, Jr., 12; Jillian, 9; Kevin, 6; and Gene Boudreau, Equipment Mechanic, 6 years, Club Member.



From left: Richard Guaderrama, Automotive Supervisor, 22 years, Club Member, with Kevin, 6, on the forklift.



David Pinkney, RCTO, 17 years, with the Recycling Robot.



Ricardo Meza, Wastewater Collection II, 2 years, with Sterling Vactor.



From left: Alina Constantinuscu, Sanitary Engineering Associate, 3 years; and Jennifer Kong, Sanitary Engineering Associate, 4 years, Club Member.



Alex Helou, Division Manager, Support Services Division with his niece, Colette, 4.



Back, from left: Raymond Lucas, RCTO, 25 years, Club Member; Robert Watson, RCTO, 16 years, Club Member; and Wayne Downing, Refuse Crew Field Instructor, 24 years, Club Member. Front: Adriana Nunez, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member; David Pinkney, RCTO, 17 years, Club Member; Miguel Moreno, RCTO, 16 years, Club Member; John Karrour, Civil Associate, 6 months; Gabby Navarro, Clerk Typist, 8 years; and Sal Miranda, Solid Resource Manager I, Club Member.



Wayne Downing, Refuse Crew Field Instructor, 24 years, Club Member.



From Left: Gabby Navarro, Clerk Typist, 8 years, with Wayne Watson, Supervisor.



From left: Danny Morgan, RCTO, 31 years; Miguel Moreno, RCTO, 16 years, Club Member; David Cooper, RCTO, 12 years; Kevin Sherman, RCTO, 17 years, Club Member; and Wayne Watson, Supervisor, 23 years.

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West LA Sanitation Open House

■ West LA Yard takes its turn with an open house.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

PUBLIC WORKS — More than 600 people came out to enjoy the tour, food, raffle and take advantage of the free mulch giveaway at this year's West LA District Refuse Collection Yard Open House June 24.

Attendance has grown every year during the last few years, according to organizers. The Recycling Robot was revealed and children were able to join in the contest of naming the robot. This robot will make its way through the rest of the open houses for several other yards, where others can also participate in the naming.

Special thanks to Sal Miranda, Adriana Nunez and Lloyd Gaines for their assistance.



Welcome to the open house.



From left: Lloyd Gaines, WLA Superintendent; Westchester Resident Morris with her sons; and Santa Monica Resident Green with his daughter.



From left: The Reed family from Westchester; the Underbrink family from Santa Monica; the Hakanen family from the LAX area; and Michael Jackson, RCTO Supervisor, 26 years, with his daughter, Makeda, 12.



Standing in front of a brown trash bin (used for horse manure) are, from left: Vernon Dorsey, Maintenance Laborer, 6 years; and Desmond Gardner, Maintenance Laborer, 6 years.



From left: Angel Lara, RCTO, 5 years, Club Member; Patricia Hernandez, Santa Monica resident; Jessie Barbour and her son Sagan, 22 months, who are Venice residents; and Darryl Webb, RCTO, 3 years, Club Member.



From left: Dan Braviroff, Equipment Mechanic, GSD, 15 years, Club Member; Tasha Pruitt, friend; and daughters Ashley, 10, and Julia Braviroff, 5.



Melford Oshon, RCTO, 24 years, waited for his next tour group for a ride on the satellite truck.



From left: Rafael Ramos, RCTO, 5 years, Club Member; and Adriana Nunez, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.



From left: Toni Chagolla, Clerk Typist; 9 years, Club Member, gives the Higgins family from Sherman Oaks a tour.



Ruben, West Los Angeles resident, inside the vehicle while Donald Brown, RCTO, 20 years, answers his questions.



From left: Danny Arevalo, RCTO, 16 years; and Ching Loong, Sanitary Engineering Associate, 13 years; Club Member.



From left: Tim Skinner, Volunteer; Lauren Skinner, Public Information Officer, 3.5 years; and Mike Cook, MA II, 8 years.



From left: Laia Weaver, Clerk Typist, 3 months; and Midori Carpenter, Clerk Typist, 3 months.



From left: Maria Kostrencich, Legislative Assistant, 29 years, Club Member; and Nancy Carr, Hyperion Treatment Plant Tour Guide, 3 years.



From left: Marc Boggeri, Mar Vista resident, with his son, Zebedee, 2; Ken Williams, Green Waste Supervisor, Club Member; and Dan Benveniste, Del Rey resident, with his son, Nathan, 2.



Christopher, 4, watched with amazement at the packer mechanism, which can pack 10 tons of trash.



Richard Humphrey, RCTO, 18 years, Club Member, showed off his work of art done in chalk.



From left: Bonaventure Butts, RCTO, 25 years, Club Member; Jon Reed, RCTO, 21 years, Club Member; Val Keys, Sr. Clerk Typist, LAPD, 4.5 years, Club Member; April Broussard, Sr. Clerk Typist, 20 years, Club Member, with her cousin, Mekai, 4; and Frank Briscoe, RCTO, Club Member.



From left: Nicole, West Los Angeles resident, with Philip, 2, and Jeffrey, 10, got a chance to ride the satellite truck with Raul Velasco, RCTO, 7 years.



Richard Jernagin, RCTO, 17 years, Club Member, explained how trash is pushed to the back of the truck to Rancho Park Resident Matt and his son, Colwin, 3.



The ribbon-cutting ceremony.

New Fire Station 5 Opens

■ LAX-area facility opens with grand fanfare.

Story by Beverly Haro, Club Counselor, with assistance from LAFD Public Affairs; Photos by Sunny Lam, Club Tech Guru

FIRE DEPT. — The LAFD opens one of its grandest new fire stations, Fire Station 5, with a ceremony June 24 at the fire station, located on the Westchester Parkway across from LAX's northern runways.

Over the years, Old Fire Station 5's physical space as well as electrical,



Firefighters who will be working at the new fire station pose for a photograph.

mechanical and plumbing systems proved unable to support a modern and diverse workforce. Those working inside the nearly six-decade-old building experienced a daily struggle to effectively respond to the growing needs of the many people now living, working and traveling in the station's airport-adjacent district.

Because the property beneath Old Fire Station 5 was too small to support a new Regional Fire Station, Proposition F in November 2000 has provided the community with a new 15,250 square-foot Regional Fire Station, a 6,000-square-foot apparatus storage building and a 2,500-square-foot multipurpose room on a two-acre lot.

Groundbreaking for New Fire Station 5 took place May 13, 2004. Built at a cost of \$9.3 million and almost two-and-a-half times the size of the facility it replaced, the new station opened for service April 13, 23 months after groundbreaking. It was built to exacting safety, seismic and efficiency standards.



Chief Lou Roupoli, Community Liaison Officer.



Battalion Chief Michael Reagan.



Maxine Waters, Congresswoman, 35th District.



Bill Rosendahl, Councilmember, 11th District.



Fire Chief William Bamattre.



The new Fire Station 5.

ClubFest 2006 to Have 3 Bands for All Tastes

ClubFest Bands

Continued from Page 1

Latin-based rock; and Bad Boyz & Company, delivering funk, soul and R&B.

The Latin Gents return from their successful ClubFest appearance last year. And again, all three bands feature musicians who also work for the City of LA. The City employee brotherhood is well represented!

"Just like last year, it was important that we found bands with a City connection," said Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru, who is part of the ClubFest committee. "You told us you liked having music as part of ClubFest, so we made sure to bring it back. You're going to enjoy these bands."



ClubFest
October 1, 2006

10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Calamigos Ranch (above Malibu)



ClubFest 2006:

Schedule of Bands

10:30 a.m. – noon:

Jamnesia

Jamnesia, an established rock, blues, funk and R&B band, was formed in the early 1990s by bass player Rick Williams, Warehouse and Tool Worker, at the Harbor Department.

Jamnesia also includes: Teri Williams, vocals; Titus Smith, Lieutenant, Port Police, percussion; Lee Tyiska, vocals and percussion; "Big" Walt Fletcher, guitar; Doug Lloyd, keyboards; Hugh Laxenetta, guitar and vocals; and Rick Williams Jr., drums, who wants to grow up and work for the City, just like his dad, Rick Sr.



12:30 – 2 p.m.:

The Latin Gents

The Latin Gents play a variety of Latin, swing, oldies but goodies, rock and roll and country. They have something for everybody and were a big hit at last year's ClubFest.

They have been playing in the Los Angeles area for about seven years. They originally started out as a trio and over the years added an additional three musicians. All together, there is a pianist, trombonist, saxophonist, guitarist, bassist and a drummer. They all are able to beautifully sing and harmonize together, making the group very versatile.

Leading the Latin Gents is Ralph Ronda, an elevator mechanic for the DWP, and Carlos Montejano. Ralph plays the drums and Carlos plays bass. The other members are Billy Ahlswede on keyboards, Rudy Roman on sax, Hirth Martinez on guitar and Paul Costellanos on trombone.

These men are not just musicians but good friends who enjoy what they do. "Music is a universal language that everybody enjoys, and those who have heard of us always have a great time listening and dancing to tunes they enjoy," Ralph says. Ralph would also like to thank all those at the DWP who have supported them over the years.



2:30 – 4 p.m.:

Bad Boyz & Company

The Boyz cover rock, Motown, soul, oldies and their own originals. Based in San Pedro, the band has appeared in the Harbor area at Music by the Sea, the Brewing Company and the Warner Grand Theatre, winning the "battle of the bands" at the Taste of San Pedro in 2006. The Bad Boyz have also played Latitudes in Manhattan Beach and the Brass Elephant in Monrovia and are seen monthly at Taco Beach in Long Beach.

Bad Boyz & Company consists of Fernando Magallanes, drums; Byron "Kenny" Cole, bass; Horace Coleman, Traffic Officer, Transportation, lead vocals; Chris "Doc" McCollum, keyboards and vocals; and Mike Bailey, guitar and vocals.



Ralph Soars At Airports

■ **Ralph Morones is promoted to Director of Construction and Maintenance, Airports.**

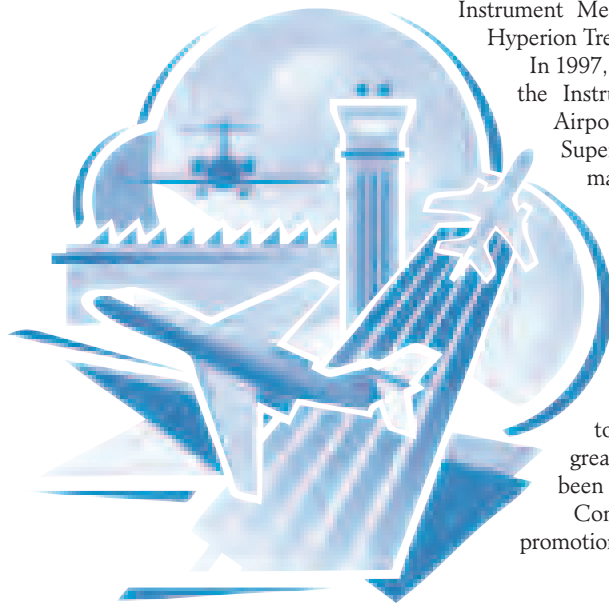
Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor; Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager



Ralph G. Morones, Director of Construction and Maintenance Services, Airports.

AIRPORTS — Ralph Morones has been promoted to the Director of Construction and Maintenance, Airports. Ralph will be responsible for 1,400 employees at the Airports.

He began his career with the DWP in 1973 as a Steam Plant Assistant Trainee at the Harbor Generating Station. He was promoted to Instrument Mechanic, working on power plant instruments and controls. In 1983 he transferred to LAX in the Instrument Shop. There, he met and worked alongside many Airport employees. In 1990, he was promoted to Instrument Mechanic Supervisor with Public Works at Hyperion Treatment Plant.



In 1997, he transferred back to LAX and supervised the Instrument Shop before being promoted to Airport Maintenance Superintendent. As Superintendent, the first 18 months were spent managing in-house and contracted custodial services. The following 18 months he managed the paving, concrete, field paint and utility crews. In May 2000, he was promoted to Director of Maintenance Airports I at Ontario Airport.

In June, he was selected as Director of Construction and Maintenance Services, Airports. He said, "It is my honor to represent all of you who have contributed greatly to the wonderful reputation that has been built over the years by this organization."

Congratulations, Ralph! It's a well-deserved promotion.



The three sergeants are sworn in.

3 New Airport Sergeants

■ **Airport Police promote three to sergeant.**

Story by Officer Belinda Nettles, Airport Police; Photos courtesy Airport Police

AIRPORTS — Los Angeles Airport Police has promoted three new sergeants. They are Arthur Juliano, James Holcomb and Imer Chavez.

The swearing-in ceremony for the new sergeants was held at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) May 17. Family and friends attended the ceremony to celebrate the new sergeants' achievements.



From left: Officer Mike Mulroy; Pam Juliano; Sgt. Arthur Juliano; and Alice James.



Officer Miguel Morante congratulates Sgt. Imer Chavez.



From left: George Mitchell, family friend; and Sgt. James Holcomb and his wife, Kim.

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2 nd Mortgage	\$37,000	\$392
Credit Cards	\$19,000	\$570
Auto Loans	\$14,500	\$425
TOTAL	\$346,500	\$3,131

N O W VS. N E W

A SAVINGS OF \$2017 EACH MONTH!

Balance	Payment
PAID	\$0
PAID	\$0
PAID	\$0
PAID	\$0
\$346,500	\$114

Total Debt	New Payment
\$150,000	\$482
\$200,000	\$643
\$250,000	\$804
\$300,000	\$965
\$350,000	\$1,126
\$400,000	\$1,288
\$450,000	\$1,449
\$500,000	\$1,610

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❖ END OF THE YEAR AWARDS ❖

Career Service Awards

■ Personnel hands out career awards, among the most prestigious of City service.

Story and photos courtesy Personnel Dept.

PERSONNEL — May 19, in City Hall Chambers, Personnel awarded its annual Career Service Awards. They were presented by Maggie Whelan, General Manager, Personnel, and Councilman Dennis Zine, chair of the Personnel Committee.

Congratulations to all the awardees, whose biographies follow.

Thanks to Maggie Whelan, Audrey Atkins, Ephraim Manabat and the rest of the Personnel Department's EEO/ED Division; and to Yvonne Liu, who contributed information for this story.

Harriett Lietz

Office of the City Clerk
Administrative Services Division
Personnel Director I

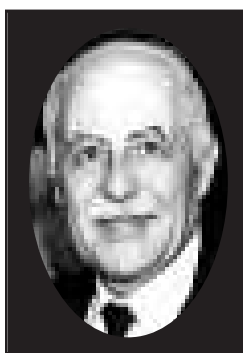


Ms. Lietz consistently demonstrates outstanding dedication to duty and outstanding leadership abilities as the Departmental Personnel Director. In this position, she oversees the personnel and payroll activities for the Offices of the City Clerk, Mayor,

City Council and Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst. She is consistently available to the employees of these entities for advice on different personnel and non-personnel related subject matters. In addition, Ms. Lietz was instrumental in successfully training the incoming newly elected officials and their staff on the City's various personnel policies and procedures, employee benefits, and career opportunities. Her dedication to her duties, excellent supervisory and organization abilities and exceptional customer service skills ensure that personnel and payroll-related matters are handled timely and accurately.

Robert Janovici

City Planning Department
Office of Zoning Administration
Chief Zoning Administrator



As Chief Zoning Administrator for the past 15 years, Mr. Janovici has been a reliable, consistent and thoughtful voice in transforming the complex and imperfect world of land use decision making by applying a practical, artful and judicial approach. His integrity and dedication to

public service are two unwavering qualities that have never been brought into question.

Paul Racs

Public Works
Office of Community Beautification
Senior Management Analyst II



As Director of the Office of Community Beautification, Mr. Racs is responsible for managing 16 community-based organizations that perform graffiti removal and community cleanups. Mr. Racs' involvement with the beautification program has made the program increasingly successful.

Alicia Vega

Office of Finance
Tax & Permit Division
Tax Compliance Officer III



Ms. Vega demonstrates exceptional dedication in her position. Her thorough knowledge and experience in the business tax code is extremely valuable to the department, especially as it relates to field and operational matters and the interpretation of the tax ordinance. Several divisions in the Office of Finance rely on her expertise and willingness to provide thorough feedback often requiring research of information dating back several decades.

Alicia demonstrates incredible initiative and resourcefulness in her knowledge of business tax code. She researches decades old documents in order to provide relevant information to several divisions and keeps abreast of current law and business trends, earning her the title of the "walking dictionary" of the Internal Audit and Code Review Unit. Because she helps everyone in the office to be informed and creates a high level of trust and respect, there is a high morale among the staff. Lastly, the Office of Finance has received numerous calls of appreciation regarding her outstanding service.

Ms. Vega demonstrates exceptional dedication in her position. Her thorough knowledge and experience in the business tax code is extremely valuable to the department, especially as it relates to field and operational matters and the interpretation of the tax ordinance. Several divisions in the Office of Finance rely on her expertise and willingness to provide thorough feedback often requiring research of information dating back several decades.

Stewart Young

Office of Finance
Revenue Management Division
Tax Compliance Officer II



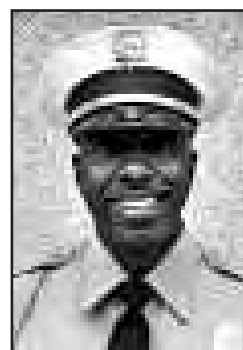
Mr. Young's efforts to substantially improve the performance of field and public counter staff are commendable. Mr. Young's work on the Mileage Statement Program, used by field employees, has resulted in a cost savings of one (1) full time staff member. His work on

processing business tax and police and fire permit fees have increased the division's efficiency and resulted in a \$300,000 savings for the City.

He has a relatively short history with the City. He joined the City as a Messenger Clerk in 1999 with Public Works while going to school full-time. Once he graduated, he advanced to Management Assistant and eventually specialized as a Tax Compliance Officer II in 2003.

Carl Jones

Transportation
Special Operations Division
Senior Traffic Supervisor I



Sgt. Jones has been instrumental in the development and implementation of the Abandoned Vehicle Program for the Bureau of Parking Enforcement and Traffic Control. Since the program's inception, Sgt. Jones has lowered the response time from 11 days to five days for handling

abandoned vehicle complaints by creating a tracking system. As the supervisor of the program, Sgt. Jones has demonstrated exceptional commitment to provide quality public service and partnership with LAPD, LAFD, Building and Safety, Street Services, Sanitation and the Neighborhood Prosecutor's Program.

Ricardo Villacorta

General Services
Standards Division
Materials Testing Engineering Associate IV



Mr. Villacorta's technical expertise and knowledge in the field of asphalt materials have enabled the City of Los Angeles to be recognized nationally and internationally as a leading agency in asphalt materials, testing and technology. His contributions continue to manifest in recognitions bestowed upon the City.

Eileen Tankersley

Harbor
Homeland Security Division
Secretary



Ms. Tankersley has consistently demonstrated outstanding dedication to duty and leadership, as well as exceptional professionalism. She has coordinated numerous high profile events at the Port, including the visits of several VIPs and Congressional officials. Because of her outstanding efforts

and attention to detail, these events were highly successful and placed the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) in a positive light, resulting in strong support from members of Congress for the POLA homeland security program.

Juliana Cheng

Library
Library Facilities Division
Division Librarian



Ms. Cheng has managed the largest library construction project in the nation, which has rebuilt 69 aging branches into new state-of-the-art libraries, created nine new branches to serve communities previously without libraries, and doubled the library space in the City from 700,000 square feet

to 1.4 million square feet. The success of this challenging library construction program has received national attention and made it a model for similar public works projects in the City and across the Country.

Mary Ann Gonzales

Library
Human Resources Division
Personnel Records Supervisor



Throughout her 40-year career, Ms. Gonzales has consistently displayed loyalty and devotion to the City of Los Angeles. She is a veritable walking encyclopedia and a valuable resource. Because of the wealth of information that she has accumulated, the Library and other City Department

frequently consult Ms. Gonzales on very complicated personnel transactions.

Peter Persic

Library
Public Relations Division
Development & Marketing Director



Mr. Persic oversees all marketing and public relations for the City's Central Library and 71 branch libraries. His expertise and exceptional skills in communication, community and intergovernmental activities have contributed significantly to the library's recognition

as one of the great library systems in the United States and throughout the world.

Cynthia Starks

Los Angeles Police Department
Mission Area, Detective Section
Senior Clerk Typist



Ms. Starks is a 30-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department. As the Mission Area Auto Clerk, she is responsible for tracking hundreds of vehicles processed through the Area, including stolen, recovered, and all impounded vehicles. This translates into hundreds of vehicle

impound notifications, telephone calls and requests for assistance from citizens. Due to Ms. Starks' outstanding organizational skills and efficiency, she has drastically reduced impound hearings, the City's liability for impounded vehicles, and ultimately saved the City thousands of dollars throughout the year.

Craig Bloomquist

Public Works, Office of Accounting
Executive Office
Departmental Chief Accountant IV



Mr. Bloomquist began his City career in 1965 as a Utility Accountant with the DWP and has been promoted through the years to his current position. As Director, Mr. Bloomquist oversees the accounting and financial services for the Board of Public Works and for numer-

ous multidepartment special-purpose expenditure programs, including capital improvement and bond-funded programs, with an annual expenditure accounting responsibility of \$1.5 billion.

Larry K. Meyerhofer

Emergency Preparedness Department
Planning Division
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator II



In 2003, Mr. Meyerhofer was tasked with the oversight of the completion of the City's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Through an aggressive grant application process and citywide coordination effort, Mr. Meyerhofer was able to successfully finalize the City's Plan prior

to the Nov. 1, 2004, deadline. If the plan had not been completed in a timely manner, the City's ability to apply for and receive hazard mitigation grant funding would have been jeopardized.

❖ END OF THE YEAR AWARDS ❖

Career Service Awards

Santa Monica Boulevard Inspection Team (5)
Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration
Metropolitan Construction Division, District 6



The Santa Monica Inspection Team continues to demonstrate outstanding dedication and leadership qualities while performing quality control and assurance on the Santa Monica Boulevard Parkway Project. The team transitioned a major portion of the boulevard into its final configuration, thereby relieving construction congestion. Each member of the team provided critical and timely decision making, minimizing the delay and public inconvenience throughout the project. The success of the project has affected thousands of residents, motorists and businesses.

Joseph Zamora
Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration
Municipal Facilities Construction Division
Senior Electrical Inspector



Mr. Zamora served as the project lead inspector for the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Electrical Power Upgrade at Terminals 2,3,5 and 6. In that capacity, he demonstrated outstanding dedication to duty and provided exceptional support to Airports Engineering

personnel on a project that was complicated to plan and deliver with minimal impact to the client.

Philip L. Richardson
Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Bridge Improvement Group
Principal Civil Engineer



Mr. Richardson possesses exceptional interpersonal skills, making him very effective in leading staff and working with the Mayor, Councilmembers and major stakeholders. He has a broad-based institutional knowledge of Bureau of Engineering operations, having been involved with many

leadership roles of key divisions. His abilities in effectively presenting solutions to complex problems to City officials and successfully building consensus and support are remarkable.

Adel H. Hagekhalil
Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation
Wastewater Engineering Services Division
Principal Sanitary Engineer



The City was involved in the Baykeeper/EPA lawsuit for six years. Mr. Hagekhalil was instrumental in settling the lawsuit. He worked well with many involved parties, resulting in a breakthrough that led to the settlement. In addition, he worked diligently to

implement the settlement agreement. Through Mr. Hagekhalil's leadership, the City was able to exceed the terms of the agreement.

Stan Horwitz
Public Works, Bureau of Street Lighting
Executive Office
Senior Street Lighting Engineer



Having been an employee of the Bureau of Street Lighting for 39 years, Mr. Horwitz has consistently demonstrated that he is ready to lead any project for which he is needed. He continuously offers to provide assistance to the Bureau using his street lighting technical

knowledge and expertise in the assessment process and procedures, many times becoming the "go-to guy" for Bureau management and staff, the Board of Public Works, Council Offices and constituents.

Rodney Lucas
Public Works, Bureau of Street Services
Investigation and Enforcement Division
Senior Street Service Investigator II



Mr. Lucas has consistently gone above and beyond to provide exceptional leadership to the Illegal Dumping Enforcement Task Force Program in the Bureau of Street Services. Under his leadership, the detail has made 324 arrests in the last two years. In addition, the detail has

issued more than 5,000 notices and held more than 200 administrative hearings. As a result, the City has saved 1,176 hours of sworn police officer patrol time by using Street Services Investigators to perform surveillance and apprehend illegal dumpers.

Mark J. Willardson
Los Angeles Fire Department
Supply & Maintenance Division
Equipment Specialist II



Mr. Willardson has been an outstanding member of the Los Angeles Fire Department. Since the late 1980s, he has worked and volunteered tirelessly to enhance the safety and security of the residents of the City of Los Angeles, as evidenced by his involvement in the

implementation of the Department's fireboat and vehicle projects and the Department's Auxiliary Communications Service Program.

PERFORMED SERVICE BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY TO A PERSON(S) WHOSE LIFE, SAFETY OR HEALTH WAS IN JEOPARDY

**David Crisler
James Real
Dave Rowan**
Los Angeles Zoo Security Division Security Officers

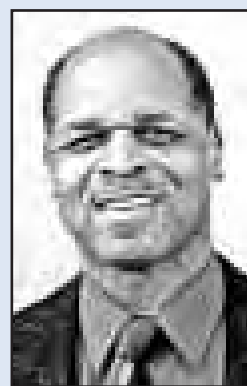


On June 24, 2005, Los Angeles Zoo Security Officers Crisler, Real and Rowan responded to an incident involving a traffic accident that occurred in the Zoo's parking lot. The traffic collision was a serious accident involving several vehicles, one of which became engulfed in smoke. The operator of this vehicle, a Zoo docent, was unconscious and trapped inside the vehicle.

Although the accident ended tragically, the quick response and actions, knowledge of life-saving techniques and heroic efforts of these officers are to be commended.

HANDLED THE PUBLIC EXCEPTIONALLY WELL

Willie Bradford
Public Works, Bureau of Street Services
Street Tree Division
Tree Surgeon Supervisor III



Mr. Bradford has been employed with the Bureau of Street Services for 35 years. As a Tree Surgeon Supervisor III, his duties include being the Division's "frontline" by handling phone contacts from the City's residents requesting Street Tree services. He is the first person to

whom many people speak when they have a Street Tree related problem. Mr. Bradford's even temperament and ability to soothe disgruntled residents is most impressive.

RECEIVED RECOGNITION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OR OTHER AGENCIES OR ORGANIZATIONS FOR UNUSUAL SERVICES

Ted Galsim
Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration
Wastewater Construction Division
Principal Construction Inspector



For more than 20 years, Mr. Galsim has been a volunteer and an active participant in humanitarian and community causes and/or services for residents of the City of Los Angeles and elsewhere. As a City employee, he has participated in community relations activities, particularly the

March of Dimes. As a private citizen and member of the fraternity of Masons in Los Angeles, Mr. Galsim has been involved in the Child ID program in cooperation with the Los Angeles Police Department, and feeding and clothing the homeless. As a result, the fraternity of Masons has awarded Mr. Galsim with the prestigious Hiram Award, the highest award that can be bestowed upon an individual Mason.

Northeast Interceptor Sewer Inspection Team (12)
Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration
Wastewater Construction Division



The Northeast Interceptor Sewer Inspection Team safely constructed a five-mile tunnel more than 100 feet deep from Seventh Street and the Los Angeles River to San Fernando Road and Division Street. The excavation process was stopped 40 times due to high levels of explosive methane gas entering the tunnel through the excavated soil. The tunnel was successfully completed with no injuries related to the presence of methane gas. At the conclusion of the project, the State of California, Division of Occupational Safety and Health, presented the City of Los Angeles with a Notice of Commendation for successfully completing the "most dangerous tunnel job in the history of the State of California."



Red Medina, Construction Inspector, Public Works, Bureau of Contract Administration, Wastewater Construction Division (20 years of service), received a Career Service Award as part of the Northeast Interceptor Sewer Inspection Team. Pictured with Maggie Whelan (left), General Manager, Personnel, and Councilmember Dennis Zine (right), Chair, Personnel Committee, are, from left: Red's son-in-law, Oscar Franco; daughter, Kerry Franco; daughter, Kristen Sabad; wife, Lupe Medina (Club staff member); granddaughter, Hannah Franco; Red; and granddaughter, Emma Franco.



❖ END OF THE YEAR AWARDS ❖

Recycling Recognition

■ General Services says thanks to City employees who help make the City "greener."

Story and photos by Jessica Segura, Club Counselor

GENERAL SERVICES — On June 22, General Services held its annual Recycling Recognition event at the DWP's John Ferraro Building. During the event, recycling crews from different City departments were recognized for their accomplishments. The departments included were the Airports, Harbor, Special Events Recycling Programs (SERP), Zoo, Convention Center and General Services.

Also, throughout the program, various employees from the named departments were given awards as Recyclers of the Year. These recipients were: Trinell Lawson, Airports; Flemon Miller, DWP; Robert Garcia, Airports; Greg Cordell, Convention Center; Alejandro Orea, General Services; Erika Cabrera, General Services; Rosalino Santiago, SERP; Jose Mejia, SERP; Harbor Carpentry and Pile Driving Sections; Michael A. Perez, Zoo; and Quieno Deguchy, Zoo.

Special thanks to Marivic Sabillo and Karen Higgins for their assistance.



Harbor, back row, from left: Russ Gallivan, Cecil Verdugo, Glen Infuso and Dave Chrisman. Front: Shilpa Gupta, Joannie Mukai and Otto Valencia.



Convention Center, from left: William Jones, Frank Ramos, Alex Organista, Greg Cordell, Delano Crawford, Brian Gonzalez and Keith Towles (Local 347).



Zoo, from left: Quieno Deguchy (award recipient) and Johnny Johnson.



General Services City Facilities Recycling Program, back row, from left: Terrance Martin, Rick Munoz, Damon Jackson, Alfonso Lopez (Supervisor), Phil Vega and Barry Harper. Middle: Carlos Sanchez, Eduardo Gonzales, Romance Harper, Alejandro Orea (award recipient) and Charles Chapman. Front: Elmer Smith and Erika Cabrera (award recipient).



Airports, back row, from left: Mark Long, David Matthews, Sherience Russeau, George Jacquez and Bernard Middleton. Front: Henry Cuaron, Rendi Brown, Supervisor David Takemoto, Trinell Lawson (award recipient), Randy Serrano and Michael C. Walsh.



Convention Center, from left: William Jones, Frank Ramos, Alex Organista, Greg Cordell, Delano Crawford, Brian Gonzalez and Keith Towles (Local 347).



Special Event Recycling Program, from left: Nicholas Enriquez, Robert Gonzales and Noel Cabrera, Labor Supervisor.



DWP Recycling Program, back row, from left: Tony De Leon, Leon Bland, Flemon Miller and Carlos Luevano. Front: Bill Jones, Lillian Reese, Ray Chin, Luis Rodolfo Saucedo, Alfonso Franco, Joanna Martinez, Annette Quintero and Lilian Kawasaki.

LAFD Civilian Awards

■ Fire Dept. hosted luncheon to recognize civilian excellence.

Story and photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor

FIRE DEPT. — The Los Angeles Fire Dept. hosted its annual Civilian Employee Recognition Luncheon July 12 at the LAPD Academy.

The Club co-sponsored the event. Special thanks to Lori Kwiatkowski for providing the biographies. Here are the biographies of the winners.

Employees of the Year

Lora Benavidez

Clerical

Lora Benavidez began her career with the LAFD in 1990 as a Clerk Typist assigned to the medical liaison unit. Currently she is the Fire Facilities Coordinator in the Building Administration Section.

Every day, Lora makes sure that repairs to the 103 Fire Stations and other facilities are reported expeditiously. She has also been involved with the fire bond programs, assisting the community liaison officer with the coordination of 15 ground-breakings and the grand openings of 4 new Fire Stations.



Certificate of Special Recognition

Jose Baladad

In recognition of the outstanding machining skills and exemplary work ethic which he has demonstrated in the Machine Shop of the Los Angeles Fire Department's Supply and Maintenance Division, Jose was commended for his superior abilities in designing and fabricating specialized tools, brackets, valves and other items that have increased efficiency and safety. His willingness to accept difficult assignments, maintain a positive attitude and consistently deliver a quality product is evidence of his high professional standards.

His involvement with the Supply and Maintenance Division's Floral Fund also demonstrates a genuine concern for the welfare of his co-workers.

Charley Pallares

In recognition of the superior carpentry skills and outstanding work ethic that were evident in his daily duties as a Carpenter for the Supply and Maintenance Division of the Los Angeles Fire Department, Charley was commended for the exceptional quality with which he completed all of his work assignments. His meticulous work habits and attention to detail were the hallmarks of his many creations. His conscientious concern for workplace safety resulted in several innovations in the Carpenter Shop.

Lee Tsubaki-Hasegawa

In recognition of his exceptional skills and organizational abilities, which contributed to the efficient operation of the Executive Office of the Los Angeles Fire Department's Supply and Maintenance Division, Lee was commended. Lee's superior work ethic, excellent work performance and outstanding interpersonal skills were evident in his daily work. His consistent dependability, thoroughness and enthusiasm reflected personal qualities of the highest caliber. Despite a tremendous workload, his meticulous attention to detail and willingness to assist others demonstrated utmost professionalism.

Fire Chief's Group Award of Excellence

Donald Weitzel and Mark Pittman

S&M Air Compressor Team

Last year, the only S.C.B.A. air compressor in Division 3 failed and had to be replaced. When an estimated replacement cost of \$40,000 and a delivery time of six weeks were proposed, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanics Donald Weitzel and Mark Pittman modified and converted a salvaged air compressor to usable condition. It required significant engineering modification beyond their job classification. The entire project was successfully completed in three weeks, under budget.



Chief William Bammatre with the Fire Chief's Group Award of Excellence Honorees Mark Pittman and Donald Weitzel.



Lora Benavidez.

❖ END OF THE YEAR AWARDS ❖

LAFD Civilian Awards
-Continued

Fire Commissioner Andrew Friedman.



Chief William Bammatre presented an award to Eugene Bourgeault, an Employee of the Year.



Chief William Bammatre presented an award to Annabel Nuno, Employee of the Year.



Jose Baladad and Charley Pallares received Special Recognition.

Finance Outstanding Service Awards

■ Office of Finance offers its fourth annual Outstanding Service Awards.

Story by Yvonne Liu, Personnel Analyst II, Office of Finance; Photos courtesy Joon Lee, Tax Compliance Officer II, Office of Finance

FINANCE — On June 6, the Office of Finance presented its fourth annual Outstanding Service Awards at the New Otani Hotel's Azalea Restaurant. The awards were given to the top 1.7 percent of the Office of Finance workforce for "exceptional performance and dedication to the job."

Six awards were presented.

The Office of Finance was created in 2000 as a result of Charter reform efforts and collects more than \$2 billion in revenue annually from various sources including taxes, licenses, fees and permits that pay for numerous essential municipal services to City residents and businesses.

The following six honorees were recognized for service at a level above and beyond the normal duties of the job:

Administration Division
Ken White,
Sr. Management Analyst I

Ken began his City service in November 1986 as a Management Assistant at the Department of Aging. He was first promoted to Management Analyst with the Bureau of Sanitation and then was promoted to Senior Management Analyst in 1994 with the City Clerk's Office. He has been dutifully serving the Office since.

This year, Ken was recognized for the overall outstanding administrative abilities and leadership he demonstrated in his assigned projects during the past year. Some examples of his achievements are: 1) coordination of the offsite printing of the 2005 and 2006 business tax renewals; 2) emergency preparedness activities for the Office of Finance; 3) reallocation of work locations and staff at the Wilshire Office to provide for the new tax auditor positions; and 4) construction coordination of the build-out at the Wilshire Office for those same positions. He facilitated the revision and printing of the tax renewal information to taxpayers so that the contractor could issue the initial mailing of 292,300 renewal booklets in time for the business tax renewal season.

Ken was also a key player in electronic filing of business taxes. As a result of his work, the growth in e-form users, on-line filers and on-time collections earned our Office a Helen Putnam Honorable Mention Award from the League of California Cities.

LATAx Division
Jackson Jang,
Systems Analyst II

Jackson has a short history with the City. Jackson started with the City in September 2001 at the Office of Finance as a Systems Analyst II. Five years later, Jackson has mastered his role to become the primary expert for the development of both the taxpayer's and revenue reporting financial reports. His involvement includes not only the development of the Crystal Reports for LATAx, but also the discovery of system problems and incorrect taxpayer data. He consistently meets the deadlines regarding the requests for taxpayers' information. Jackson is always helpful above and beyond his assigned duties. He is also central in managing the licensing and maintenance for the entire LATAx hardware and software environment.

This Outstanding Service Award was an additional award for Jackson after having attained a series of Outstanding Attendance Awards from 2002 to 2004.

Revenue Management Division
Chandra Flemister,
Principal Clerk, Harbor
District Branch

Chandra began her City service in July 1986 as a Clerk Typist with the Community Development Department. After working several years at Airports, she arrived at the Office of Finance in 2003 on a promotion to Principal Clerk.

This year, Chandra was recognized for outstanding supervisory performance over the span of authority of three public counters. Traveling from office to office, she is responsible for the day-to-day operation. The Harbor District Branch and Field offices benefit from her constant source of information and knowledge obtained from prior work experience and relationships formed with other City Departments who cooperate with our tax compliance efforts.

Revenue Management Division
Shelia Hamilton-Keel,
Principal Clerk,
Region II-Hollywood Branch Office

Shelia began her City service in July 1989 as a Clerk Typist with Public Works. Shelia came to the Office of Finance 12 year later in 2001 on a promotion as a Principal Clerk and has since acquired and practiced expert knowledge in tax renewal information.

Shelia was honored for outstanding dedication to duty and excellent leadership skills. As the supervisor over the Hollywood Branch Public Counter, she demonstrated extraordinary leadership during the 2005-06 Business Tax Renewal Season. She provided optimum customer service to the public with her pleasant demeanor and upbeat attitude. With the implementation of LATAx, in-house electronic database system, she faced the new challenges with excellent comprehension, retention and the ability to pass on her knowledge to subordinates and co-workers who greatly depend on her wealth of information to resolve business taxpayers' problems.

Tax and Permit Division
Evelyn Fernandez-Melone,
Senior Tax Auditor, Field Audit I

Evelyn started out with the City as an Auditor with the City Clerk and decided to devote her service to the Office of Finance after the charter change in 2000.

Two promotions later, Evelyn is the Office of Finance's lone member stationed in the Sacramento Sales and Use Tax Operations. Her dedication to her duties resulted in consistent recoveries from errors and misallocations of sales tax reporting by taxpayers.

Over the span of 11 years, Evelyn was able to bring in cash recoveries of more than \$11 million. Her persistence and focus on identifying sales tax errors led to effective audit referrals of non-reporting and/or underpaying business taxes by taxpayers from their sales and/or leasing activities.

Another specialized unit in our Office is the Citywide Collections Unit. This group collects debts of more than \$1,000 owed to the City from all departments. These bills could be unpaid fines from Building Inspectors, damages to parking meters incurred by drivers under the influence, or outstanding bills from people who pulled false alarms on the Fire Department. After the City Attorney signs off, Finance Collection Investigators may represent the City in small claims court for collecting such damages caused by vandalism to public restrooms and traffic collision involving traffic lights.

This year the amazing group of Finance Collection Investigators have already exceeded their revenue target goal of \$9 million and are at \$10.5 million and counting!



From left: Assistant Director Pamela Mooney, Evelyn Fernandez-Melone, Mark O'Brien, Chandra Flemister, Shelia Hamilton-Keel, Director Antoinette Christovale, Ken White and Jackson Jang.



From left: Assistant Director Pamela Mooney, Employee of the Year Mark O'Brien and Director Antoinette Christovale.

Tax and Permit Division
Mark O'Brien,
Finance Administrative Coordinator,
Citywide Collections Unit

Mark has had a very active career with the City since he started in January 1973 as a Law Clerk. His subsequent promotions to Legal Assistant, to Paralegal, to Senior Legal Assistant, to Investigator III, to Chief Investigator, City Attorney Administrator III, and finally to Finance Administrative Coordinator brought him from the City Attorney's Office to the Office of Finance 30 years later, in 2003.

This year, Mark led the effort that resulted in the Unit achieving the 16 Office of Finance goals assigned for FY 2005-06. This includes exceeding the revenue recovery goal by a 43 percent increase in revenue over the last year. In an Office of Finance report that listed 22 recommendations, Mark fully completed 20 of them and is on his way to completing the last two. An example of such an improvement that Mark implemented is reduced delay in collection processing time and cross-training of investigators so that the cases can be assigned alternately.

He is a self-starter who is able to work independently and is driven to make improvements, as reflected by the above results. Mark's work consistently reflects good judgment, accuracy, thoroughness and consistency in meeting deadlines. He has implemented many of his original ideas for improvements, which has made the Citywide Collection Unit an effective collection unit that outperforms both of the City's collection agencies' collection rates. Mark is a leader who motivates his staff by putting in the extra time and effort necessary for positive results. Combined with his other traits, this quality has gained him the respect and admiration of his staff as well as others that work with him.

Also, Mark earned the Employee of the Year Award this year.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all Office of Finance staff for their service and dedication throughout the year," Antoinette Christovale, Director, said.

More information:
<http://www.lacity.org/finance/>

North Central's Turn

North Central Sanitation Yard welcomes visitors.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

PUBLIC WORKS — More than 300 people visited the North Central District Refuse Collection Yard's open house May 20. They enjoyed tours, food and the raffle and took advantage of the free mulch giveaway.

Thanks to Sal Miranda, Adriana Nunez and Mike Solis for their assistance.



From left: Armando Ortiz, RCTO, 20 years, and Jesse Valdes, RCTO, 5 years, Club Member, cooked the food that everyone enjoyed.



From left: Maria Kostrenchich, Legislative Assistant, 29 years, Club Member; and Nancy Carr, Hyperion Treatment Plant Tour Guide, 3 years.



From left: Octavio Chapa, RCTO, 27 years; and Robert Sosa, RCTO, 16 years.



From left: Zachery, 18; Matthew, 14; and Skye, 12; with their dad, Quintin Ellis, RCTO, 16 years, Club Member.



Standing next to a fuel-cell-powered vehicle was Gordon Fong, Equipment Mechanic, 2 years, with his daughter, Amanda, 3, enjoying her cotton candy.



From left: The Avelar family with their tour guide, Timothy Moen, RCTO West Valley, 15 years, and the Grey family, who came from Northridge.



From left: Pete Vega, RCTO, 6 years, Club Member; Daniel, 6; Anthony, 9; and Mateo Jimenez, Vocational Worker, 1 year.



From left: Jash Patel, Industrial Waste Inspector, 18 years; and Ching W. Long, Sanitation Engineer Assistant II, 13 years, Club Member.



From Left: Manuel Placencia, RCTO, 15 years, Club Member; Mike Solis, Acting Superintendent, 23 years; and Mike Montoya, RCTO, 23 years.



From left: Felton Burton, RCTO, 15 years; daughter Octavia Burton; wife La Donna Burton; and granddaughter Armoni, 7.



From left: Erin, 11; Lupe Placencia, wife and Child Care Associate, Rec. and Parks; Manuel Placencia, RCTO, 15 years, Club Member; grandson, John, 2 (in stroller); granddaughter Desiree, 11; grandson Tony, 7; and daughter Danielle, 19.



Rubin Acevedo, Jr., RCTO, 18 years.



From left: Adriana Nunez, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member, with Lloyd Gaines, WLA Superintendent.



Julian Juliano, Maintenance Laborer, 6 months, with niece Leilani, 10, and nephew Keimari, 8.

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Relay Race

■ Police Dept. hosts 28th annual Memorial Relay Race.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD hosted its 28th annual Memorial Relay Race June 3 on Dockweiler State Beach in Playa del Rey.

There were 45 teams and 37 individual runners.

The event included static LAPD displays, multiple child activities and food. Funds raised benefited the LAPD Support Group.

Club Member John Harowicz of LAPD Communications came in first in his age category.



From left: John Craig, LAPD Communications, Club Member; Anita Whited, LAPD Communications, Club Member; Angelina Ortega, LAPD Communications, Club Member; and John Harowicz, LAPD Communications, Club Member.



LAPD Wives Association staffed a booth and participated in the relay race.



From left: Rich Alba, P3, SWAT Officer; Ossie Crenshaw, P3+1, SWAT Officer; and James McConnell, P3 K9, Metro.



The LAPD Underwater Dive Unit, from left: Sgt. Steve Richards; Doug Datria, P3.



Runners gather around the results board.



From left: John Harowicz, LAPD Communications, Club Member, was joined by his wife, Kathy. Congratulations to John for placing first in his age category.



Lt. Vito Pallazzolo ran hard toward the finish line, where he was joined by his son, Travis.



From left: Travis, 11, with his dad, Lt. Vito Pallazzolo, South East; Capt. Ill Meraz; and Matthew Garza, P3, South East.



Captain Meraz enjoys the day with his daughter, Ryan, 11.



From left: John Harowicz, LAPD Communications, Club Member, was joined by his wife, Kathy. Congratulations to John for placing first in his age category.

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John Walker, Retiree.

John Walks Into the Sunset

■ **John Walker retires from Harbor after 26 years of service.**

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

HARBOR — A retirement lunch was held for John Walker May 25 at Friendship Park in San Pedro. He retires as a Harbor Engineer I after 26 years of City service.

More than 100 of his colleagues came to celebrate. Congratulations, John! Thanks to Mimi Gutierrez, Jill Demontagnac and Martin Chavez for their assistance.



Back, from left: Erica Saavedra, Student Worker; Vanessa Manjarrez, Principal Clerk, Club Member; Royna Williams, Management Aid, Club Member; Jill Demontagnac, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member. Seated: Lisa Homaizad, Sr. Clerk Typist; Norah Garcia, Clerk Typist.



From left: Anthony Vann, Construction Inspector, Club Member; Todd Rother, Civil Associate, Construction Division, Club Member; Brad Jenkins, Sr. Construction Inspector; and Richard Manz, Sr. Construction Inspector, Club Member.



From left: Teresa Henkhaus, Principal Construction Inspector, Club Member; Herb Grageda, Sr. Construction Inspector, Club Member; and Leonard Gallegos, Construction Inspector.



From left: John Ibrahim, Civil Engineering Associate III; Chris Grossi, Civil Engineering Associate III; and Mark Emami, Construction Manager.



From left: Laura Leon, Civil Engineering Associate, Club Member; Jaime Munoz, Civil Engineering Associate; Du Tran, Building Mechanical Engineer, Club Member; and Rodger Kuo, Architectural Associate I.



John Walker, Retiree with his wife, Marcia.



From left: Robel Afewerki, Civil Engineer, Club Member; and Jin Kim, Civil Engineer, Club Member.



From left: Edwin Fletcher, Student Engineer, Club Member; and Kevin Harbor, Civil Engineering Associate, Club Member.



From left: Peter Yin, Sr. Structural Engineer; Phuong Nguyen, Structural Engineering Associate III; Richard Joe, Electrical Engineering Associate IV, Club Member; and Zizhan Liu, Civil Engineering & Drafting Tech, Club Member.



From left: Hassan Jamalzadeh, Civil Engineer Drafting Tech; Shaun Shahrestani, Chief Engineer, Construction; and Terri Krystofiak, Consultant.

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THE CLUB — The Club's famous Ticket Guy is ready, willing and able to bring your Member ticket order to a central location in the City Hall Mall.

Every Tuesday, the Ticket Guy will deliver tickets inside the General Services office, directly across from the Carl's Jr. inside the mall. Delivery time will be every Tuesday from noon to 12:30 p.m. Here is how it works:

- Order your tickets by calling (888) 777-1744, ext. 120.
- Prepaid orders only. Ticket Guy cannot sell tickets at the location. He can only deliver.
- Tickets must be ordered at least one day in advance (up to the end of Monday for Tuesday delivery)
- Place the order and pay for it using your ATM or credit card.
- You will be given a confirmation number.
- On the day of delivery, bring your confirmation number, photo ID and the credit/ATM card you used to purchase the tickets.
- Meet the Ticket Guy in the General Services office across from Carl's Jr., from noon to 12:30 p.m.
- Ticket Guy will give you your order.
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- No cash, checks or third-party credit cards will be accepted.
- Ticket Guy carries no cash.



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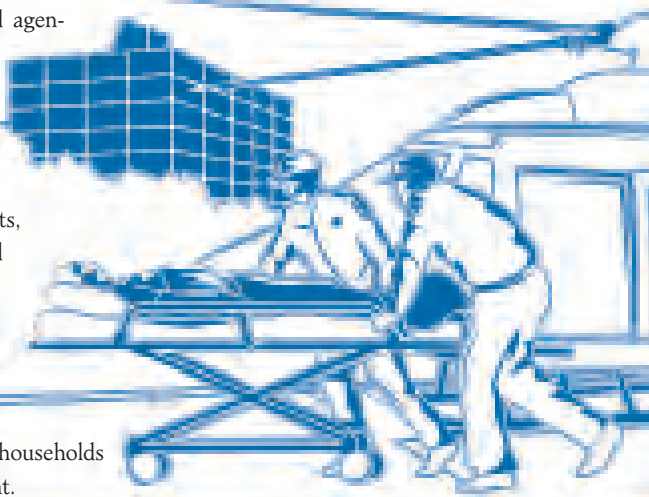
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■ **Emergency Preparedness hosts two fairs in September.**

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Emergency Preparedness Fairs

- Sept. 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Westside Pavilion, 10800 W. Pico Blvd.
- Sept. 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Northridge Fashion Center, 9301 Tampa Ave.
- Sept. 23, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, 3650 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
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The *Alive!* Interview


Brick By Brick

■ **James Feagin started his career laying a thousand bricks a day. Now, he's one of the world's foremost experts on masonry training and inspections. And he works for the City of Los Angeles.**

PUBLIC WORKS — *Alive!* recently interviewed someone you might not have heard of: James Feagin, a Training Officer with the Bureau of Contract Administration, Public Works. He started humbly, but has risen to being considered one of the world's top experts in his field. He's written policy. He's written books. And now he sits on international regulatory boards.

And he's a City employee. Meet James Feagin. —Ed.

Alive! So you've spent most of your time with the Department doing street work. What does that mean?

James Feagin: Inspecting everything out in the street, curb and gutter, asphalt, street lighting, storm drains, sewers, everything that's involved in the street, we inspect all of that. I got assigned three years ago to a DWP special project that required deputy inspectors certification, and that project, it's still going, but it lasted for me two years. DWP is taking the open reservoirs out of circulation, I imagine because of the 9/11 terrorist. And they're doing all of their purification of the water under the ground now. It was an \$80 million project. I was doing all of the structural concrete, which was required by the City, because I have the certifications to do the inspections. I left there and I came to training this past January.

Alive! What do you train them to do?

James Feagin: The class I have in session right now is a deputy inspector's class for masonry. L.A. City Building and Safety requires you to have special licenses to inspect in the City. I have my certifications already, and I'm an instructor certified by the state of California. I am teaching the in-house inspectors how to get their certifications, how to be a certified masonry inspector. So when they leave my class, they should be able to apply for the international exam and take that test, pass the exam. Then they've got to go to Building and Safety and take an exam there, plus an oral. Then they'll be qualified to inspect masonry in the City of Los Angeles.

Alive! Any kind of masonry?

James Feagin: Any structural masonry.

Alive! Your years of experience have enabled you to do this.

James Feagin: Yes. Beginning in 1961 I went to the Army and left in 1968, and then I moved to New York City. And during the time in New York City, I was working construction as a bricklayer. Work got slow up there, so what I did was I went and found a Post Office job at night. So I worked both.

Alive! When you say masonry, you mean ...

James Feagin: Brick, block, and stone.

Alive! How many could you lay in an hour, or a minute, or however you measure it?

James Feagin: It depends on the job, itself, the conditions of it. On the East Coast on

straight walls, you had to put in 1,000 brick a day. If you wanted to keep a job as a bricklayer, you've got to do 1,000.

Alive! And you'd better be good.

James Feagin: Yeah.

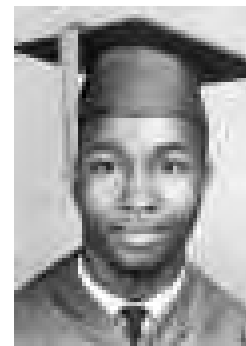
COMING TO THE CITY

James Feagin: When I was in high school, I used to read the paper every day: California, 70 degrees, Alabama, 20 degrees. And vice versa, when it was 110 degrees back here, it still was 70 degrees there. I took a two-week vacation, just the wife and I. We came out to visit her brother. In construction, the first thing you do, if you're not looking at buildings, is you check the job market. The wife and I got away from the family and the first thing I did was stop by this one particular job and asked the guy about employment. He says, "You got your tools? I'll put you to work right now."

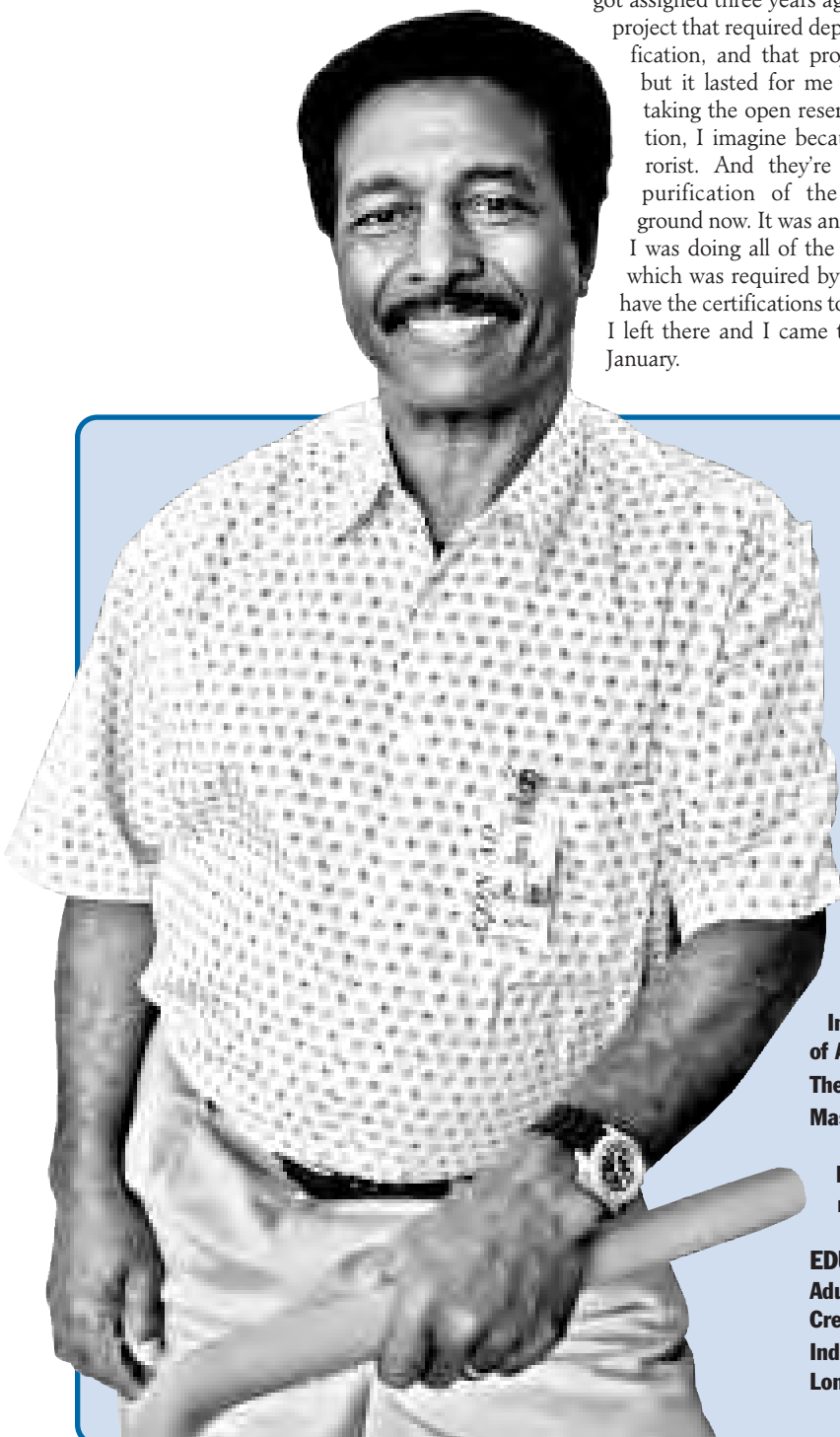
We cut the vacation a week short and flew back to New York. Two weeks later, I had a U-Haul truck with everything I owned on it, heading back to California. I got here on Thursday. I got the apartment on Friday. I moved in Saturday. I went to work Monday.

The company I went to work for went out of business in two months. I went to work for another company. The business agent sent me out to work that day, and the guy had me lay out a whole building. I went up and told him, "Okay, I'm finished. What did you want me to do now?"

So two months later, he recommended me to be his sub-foreman. I stayed with that company [Masonry Builders, Inc.] from early '73 until 1988. I was a foreman all that time. Every



James Feagin's photo as he graduated from high school in Montgomery, Ala.



James T. Feagin

Training Officer, Bureau of Contract Administration, Public Works

OTHER CURRENT POSITIONS:
Structural Masonry Inspection Instructor, LAUSD
Brick Masonry Apprentice Instructor, BAC Local Union #4

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:
International Code Council Masonry Examination Committee

International Accreditation Services Inspectors Association of America

The Masonry Society
Masonry Institute of America

More than 12 licenses and registrations

EDUCATION:
Adult Education Teaching Credential, UCLA
Industrial Relation Certificate, Long Beach City College

Associates Degree, Long Beach City College
Finalizing coursework for Bachelor's degree, Cal State L.A.

PUBLICATIONS:
Reinforced Concrete Masonry Construction Inspector's Handbook, Third, Fourth and Fifth Editions.
Code Master for Masonry Construction

HOMETOWN:
Montgomery, Ala.

FAMILY:
Married to Mattie, 40 years
Children: sons James and Jason, daughter Chris

FAVORITE MUSIC:
Smooth jazz (he has a collection of classic jazz albums by Miles Davis, Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk)

FAVORITE CANDY: Chocolate.

FAVORITE QUOTE:
"Knowledge ain't worth a damn if it's not passed on."

HERO:
Martin Luther King.
"He said, 'Stand up like a man on two feet, then there is no back to ride.'"

FAVORITE MOVIE:
Old Westerns.

FAVORITE FRIDAY NIGHT:
"The wife loves to go to Vegas." Indian casinos, too.

FAVORITE FOOD:
Red snapper (healthy), smothered pork chops with gravy on rice (pig-out food)

HOBBIES:
Riding a Honda 750 cruising motorcycle; restoring a 1967 Mustang

The *Alive!* Interview



shopping mall, high-rise building around here, I was on it.

In '88, I decided to change ships. I wanted to be an inspector. I've been teaching the brick-layer apprentices hands-on since 1977. I worked with Twining Laboratories as a deputy inspector from 1988 to 2000.

Alive!: How did you get into the City?

James Feagin: I took the entry exam. It was a 180-degree turn for me. My background is structural; structural masonry, structural concrete. It's totally different from public works. Over here, we talk about asphalt and sewers and storm drains. All my career, that was out of the question. But I'm like this, if there's something I want, something I want to accomplish, I'm pretty much going to go after it. I got the green book, the blue book, the S610s and the required manuals, and I studied and I passed the exam. I got picked up on the first round. They put you in categories

Alive!: You said something really powerful, that knowledge ain't worth a damn if it's not passed on.

James Feagin: Yes. I do that in the City. I also do it with the class at East L.A. Skill center that I teach.

Alive!: Do you miss laying brick?

James Feagin: I miss the roughness of it.

Alive!: The actual physical touching and putting it on in a nice, beautiful straight line that's well laid and well done, the hand-craftedness of it, the pride in craftsmanship.

James Feagin: I still demand that, even when I'm teaching apprentices. This is part of me. I look for perfection. I teach perfection, even though the industry now is demanding that I teach the apprentices production. But I'm saying no, this is my fight right now. I'm



"I'm still with the old saying about instructing apprentices, 'If you don't lay but one brick, lay it right.' That's my philosophy, and no one will ever take that away from me."

— James Feagin

according to your score. So I got picked up on the first round of this particular exam battery there and here I am.

Alive!: Why did you come to the City of L.A.?

James Feagin: I wanted to do something a bit different. I've been in the structural all my life, and the public work sector, that will cover anything inside the property line and outside, so I covered the inside in my previous years. I wanted to cover the outside of the property line. Plus the City had great benefits, also.

A MOTIVATOR

Alive!: What do people who know about you, say about you?

James Feagin: That I'm a motivator. I like to push. If I think I can push you to better yourself, I'm going to do it. I'm not selfish about it. When I say I'm not selfish, there's some people afraid if I teach you this, then you're going to get better than I am. I don't see that. I'm still with that old cliché about knowledge, "It's not worth a damned thing unless you pass it on." I'm not afraid of a job. I feel that if I could go to Timbuktu, I can make a living. That's how competent I feel. Any place in the United States, I just feel like I will make a living.

still with the old saying about instructing apprentices, "If you don't lay but one brick, lay it right." That's my philosophy, and no one will ever take that away from me. When you get to where you can see one-eighth of an inch out of plumb at four feet [high], I think you've accomplished a lot.

Alive!: Just by eye.

James Feagin: Just by eye.

Alive!: That's when you're good.

James Feagin: You're good.

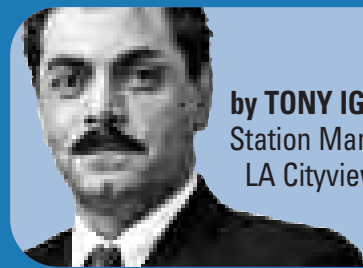
Alive!: What would your wife say about you?

James Feagin: I was a good listener first of all. She feels that I really love my job. She says, "The way you go out there, the time you spend preparing for it, you love your job. You want to be a perfectionist at it." She knows I won't do anything half-assed. She thinks that my word is my bond. I was born and raised in the South, where a handshake was good enough. If I promise you I'm going to do something for you, then I'm going to be there. I'm going to do it for you.

Alive!: Thanks for your time!

James Feagin: Sure.

Tuned In



by **TONY IGHANI**
Station Manager,
LA Cityview 35



More Emmys on the Way?

The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences announced the nominations for the 58th Annual LA Area Emmy Awards. The winners will be announced this month, Aug. 12. This year, LA Cityview 35 is recognized with four nominations as follows:

1. *CityWorks*
Category: Public, Municipal and Operator-Produced Cable
2. *DOT's Good Driving Campaign: Laws of Physics*
Category: Public Service Announcement
3. Outstanding Non-News Director: Robert Manciero
4. Outstanding Non-News Editor: Cameron Keys

My sincere congratulations to all nominees, City departments and production team members who once again helped LA Cityview 35, ITA and the City of Los Angeles shine in such a prestigious event. And a special congratulation to Robert Manciero, who won last year for best non-news director and is nominated again this year. And finally, a huge congratulations to our very own Cameron Keys for his nominations for outstanding non-news editor. Best of luck to all nominees. For a full list of the nominees visit:

http://www.emmys.org/media/releases/2006/re_laareanoms.php

Programming Highlights for August:

Big Sunday

On May 7, more than 30,000 people from throughout Los Angeles volunteered their time to paint, plant trees, pick up trash and more. They took part in Big Sunday, the largest day of service in the nation's history, according to organizers.

Big Sunday is a combination of two events: the original Big Sunday, which was begun in 1999 by screenwriter David Levinson, and the Days of Service, begun by then-Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa.

Channel 35's special program on Big Sunday highlights Angelenos making a difference in their City.

Art on the Waterfront

On a recent Saturday, San Pedro was alive with all kinds of art as the Port of Los Angeles presented the first-ever Art on the Waterfront event. Dozens of artists came from all over the City to take part in this magical day of music, painting, chalk drawings and photography.

Art on the Waterfront was a joint effort of the Harbor, Rec and Parks and Cultural Affairs, teaming up with San Pedro's art community to put on a one-of-a-kind show. You can see it all for yourself this month on Channel 35.

Tasting the fLAvors of L.A.!

Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti takes LA City viewers on another culinary foray into Los Angeles neighborhoods this month. On each fLAvors program, one of the 15 City Council members invites Councilman Garcetti to visit some of his favorite area restaurants to sample the food, talk over the ingredients and visit the kitchens.

This time, the expedition is led by Dennis Zine, Councilmember from the Third District, the southwest part of the San Fernando Valley. Zine and Garcetti start their day at Henri's, a large Canoga Park coffee shop and weekend jazz club; then continue to the Pizza Plus Company, where the councilmen don aprons and toss pizza dough rounds into the air; and end the day at Brandywine.

For airing schedule of the above programs, and for more program listings and information, visit www.lacityview.org.

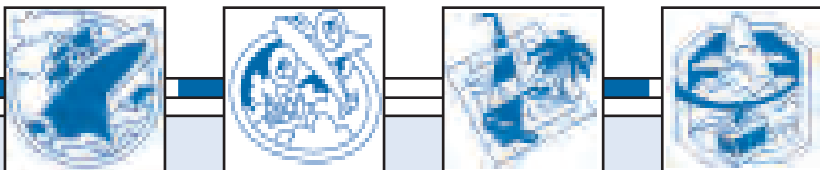


LA Cityview 35 is the City of Los Angeles' Emmy-award winning government channel. Managed and operated by City employees, LA Cityview 35 serves Los Angeles by bringing government closer to their homes. With innovative and timely programming, citizens now can have an active voice in what happens in their local government.

**Contact Tony with your questions:
channel35@cityemployeesclub.com**

See you on LA Cityview 35!

OFFICIAL CLUB PARTNER



Travel Talk

by Tony Adler, President,
Cruise and Resort, Inc.
Club Travel Partner



Tony Adler

London: Worth the Price

Last month, I shared with you our plans for our family's trip to London. We arrived back just before the deadline for this column, so I can now let you know how it all went.

The value of the U.S. dollar is not good right now against the British pound. Although we went in style, we still made every attempt to save money whenever possible.

We were able to get a good deal on Air New Zealand from Los Angeles to London. Deals change daily, but we saved \$2,500 per business class flat sleeper seat compared to Virgin, British or American Airlines. The flights originate in New Zealand and some people get off in Los Angeles, occasionally allowing super deals for those boarding in L.A.

We spent six fabulous nights at the Goring Hotel, a luxury hotel with just 73 rooms. It has been run by the Goring family since 1910. We loved this place! As we say in the business, the hardware was good, but the software was the best. The General Manager came out to the curb to greet us. At that point, he did not even know that we were the owners of Cruise and Resort. The lobby was welcoming. Everybody smiled and said hello. The doormen and concierges have been there for decades. The food in their restaurant was the best we had in London. Tip: enjoy lunch on their new terrace overlooking their garden. These are the hottest reservations in town right now, and we can make them for you along with your room reservation.

To get around London, we purchased one-week passes on the tube, London's famous subway system. We needed tickets (called Oyster Cards) only for my wife and me, as the children (11 and under) ride free. We spent about 20 pounds on the Oyster Cards, saving us at least 80 pounds over what it would have cost if we purchased tickets for each ride. The Underground is quite easy to navigate and is quick and fun. Our kids couldn't get enough.

We wanted to take our children (ages 9 and 11) to the famous London theatre. We use a terrific ticket supplier for our clients. He was able to get us hard-to-get Mary Poppins tickets at the Prince Edward Theatre. We purchased the tickets ahead of time in U.S. dollars, saving us half what we would have paid in London! As a bonus, our ticket company charges only an \$8 fee, and our tickets were in the fourth row. The play was spectacular. We all hated to see it end. The acting was top-rate and the songs were excellent. Being in the fourth row enabled us to see even the smallest facial expressions. We all agreed that this was our best night in London.

We highly recommend the Big Bus Company's double-decker bus tours that allow you to hop on and off at the various tourist attractions. We had a terrific Beekeeper guide at The Tower of London — no extra cost for the tour, and it makes the visit much more enjoyable. The London Eye (an enormous Ferris wheel) was an experience not to be missed. The slow-moving ride takes about a half-hour but provides amazing views of the London skyline. For just a few dollars

more, you can include a riverboat ride on the Thames, departing from the same location. It lasts about another half-hour, but was another highlight of our trip.

We sweltered in the sun attempting to watch the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. There were many people there, making it difficult to see anything, especially for our children. I guess it is something that all tourists should do, but it was our least favorite attraction.

Of course, we made a visit to Harrods department store. It is big and impressive, but with the dollar so weak, we really didn't want to do any shopping. The food halls are nice, but the fudge we purchased was not very good. We also enjoyed a small pizza, which served as an appetizer before we went out to dinner. The cost for our appetizer was more than 38 pounds, or \$76 U.S. It was good pizza, but not that good.

We took a 40-minute train ride to Hampton Court. The human maze at the property was fun for all of us, and the journey gave us a small taste of the British countryside. I mentioned how easy it was to take trains in England in the last article.

It is easy, but you have to be prepared for a few inconveniences. Our return train to central London was called back after a fire in a switching station. Bus rides to different train stations, cancellations of trains, changes of platforms and more contributed to a three-hour delay getting back to our hotel. At some point, you just have to roll with it!

Our intentions were to visit the Science Museum, Madam Tussaud's, and the London Dungeon, but we ran out of time before we could do everything we wanted.

In addition to all our tourist visits, we also took on our professional roles and visited some of the other top London hotels we book for our clients. We had tea at The Dorchester. For larger London hotels, this would be our first choice! We also visited Claridge's, the Connought, The Capital, 51 Buckingham Gate, Baglioni, the Lanesborough, Mandarin Oriental, and the Sherlock Holmes hotels. We can certainly discuss these properties with our clients more intelligently now that we have seen them for ourselves.

We had fine dining experiences in several places. We also had dinner one night at a casual chain restaurant called Wagamamas (<http://www.wagamama.com>). It is sort of a Japanese noodle house with excellent food and a fun atmosphere. I have several food allergies, and the people at Wagamamas knew which broths contained which ingredients and were happy to make custom changes if necessary.

Ultimately, six nights did not seem enough. The best vacations are those that leave you longing for more. This London trip easily fits into that category!

Feel free to call us for more information and advice about booking your trips to Europe and anywhere else you would like to go throughout the world. It is a benefit of your Club Membership. Cruise and Resort is consistently rated one of the top travel agencies in the world.



Hot Ticket Deals!

Available Now!

- Raging Waters — **25% OFF**
- Wild Rivers — **40% OFF**
- Hurricane Harbor — **25% OFF**
- Knott's Soak City — **25% OFF**
- Knotts Berry Farm Annual Pass — **30% OFF**

Pacific Theatre Gift Book Only \$25

Includes: 2 unrestricted movie tickets, 1 large popcorn, 2 medium sodas – a \$40 value.

Sea World

Buy 1 day get a 2nd free!

Coming Soon...

New LA City Watches, Personalized City Dept Hats, Lion King Tickets



Go to page 42 for discounted ticket deals available to City Employees Club members only.

BULLETIN BOARD

Send your notices to: bulletinboard@cityemployeesclub.com

Dancers Wanted!

Like to dance? Consider joining the **DWP Dance Club**. Men especially welcome.

Call Lourdes Zerrudo, (213) 367-1405, or send an email to: Lourdes.Zerrudo@ladwp.com

Ace Your Next Job Interview!

A practice interview will help you improve your next City interview score.

Contact retired Sr. PA Bob Cutler at (310) 937-5678 or BC510@AOL.Com.

Public Works Pioneer Toastmasters

Meets Wednesdays from 12:05-12:50 p.m.

Public Works Building 1149 S. Broadway St., Los Angeles 90015, Sixth floor, Room 6024

For more information, contact Jennifer Lau at (213) 485-4389.

LAFD Boxing on TV

Club Members are invited to follow the journey of two of the Fire Dept.'s finest, as they hope to box their way to success ... on TV.

Firefighter Carlos Vargas and Capt. Jack Reiss are participating on The Contender 2, a boxing competition series scheduled to begin airing July 18 on ESPN2. Check local listings!

Mid-Wilshire Toastmasters Club

Meets Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Pio Pico Koreatown Branch Library 694 S. Oxford Ave., Los Angeles, just south of Wilshire Boulevard



Call your Club representatives at (888) 652-6400

Julie, Kathy or Kristy – to talk about any travel destination. Be sure to mention that you are a Club Member for your maximum discounts. Not only can we book your member reservations at any hotel, resort or cruise line, we can often save you money and offer you additional Club benefits.

Cooking with the Club

by our own
Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com.

The Chef Is Back ... Step by Step

Photos by Ana Larios, Norma Larios, Rudy Larios and Oscar Meza Jr.



Thank you for all the emails and phone calls about the Cooking with the Club. I never intended to frighten anyone in thinking that the column had met its end during its two-month hiatus. It was actually purposely done to improve the column. As you can see, I've changed things up a bit. Instead of giving you several quick and easy recipes, I've given you just one, with step-by-step directions on how to cook it – along with some photos along the way.

Robert's Lasagna a la Mexicana is just as it sounds – Mexican-style lasagna. Instead of using tomato-based Italian sauces, I used salsa and enchilada sauce. And while any great lasagna uses pasta to form layers of goodness, I've managed to use corn tortillas as the layering ingredient. Also, instead of using mozzarella cheese (you are welcome to continue using it or

experimenting with any other cheeses), I used a mix of extra sharp cheddar and Monterey jack cheese.

Here's the recipe and the step-by-step look on how to make it. Enjoy!

Robert's Lasagna A La Mexicana

INGREDIENTS AND SUPPLIES:

- 1 large aluminum lasagna-style container
- 1 bag 36 corn tortillas
- 1 bunch cilantro
- 2 lbs ground beef
- 1 tablespoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- Grated sharp cheddar cheese and Monterey Jack cheese
- 4 cloves of garlic, crushed
- 1 white onion, diced
- 4 green onions, diced
- 1 can black olives, 8 oz.
- 1 can enchilada sauce, 8 oz.
- 1 can salsa, 12 oz.
- 1 can refried beans, 12 oz.
- 1 can crema Mexicana (found in most supermarkets from the Cacique brand)
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon cumin
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Nonstick spray



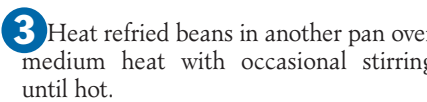
DIRECTIONS:



Dice cilantro, white onion, green onions and olives, if not already diced.



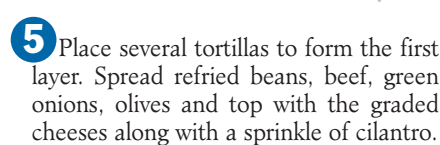
Add olive oil to pan on medium heat. Then add pepper, salt, garlic, white onion, paprika and cumin. Cook ground beef until brown, but leave some pink – beef will achieve its final cooking while in the oven.



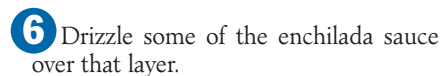
Heat refried beans in another pan over medium heat with occasional stirring until hot.



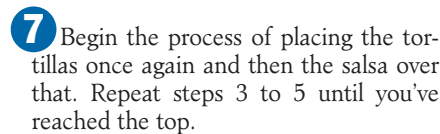
Spray nonstick spray on all over aluminum container and pour some of the salsa first – this will help to prevent the bottom from becoming burnt while in the oven.



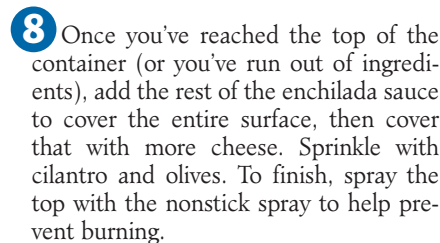
Place several tortillas to form the first layer. Spread refried beans, beef, green onions, olives and top with the graded cheeses along with a sprinkle of cilantro.



Drizzle some of the enchilada sauce over that layer.



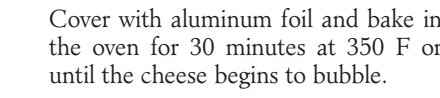
Begin the process of placing the tortillas once again and then the salsa over that. Repeat steps 3 to 5 until you've reached the top.



Once you've reached the top of the container (or you've run out of ingredients), add the rest of the enchilada sauce to cover the entire surface, then cover that with more cheese. Sprinkle with cilantro and olives. To finish, spray the top with the nonstick spray to help prevent burning.



Cover with aluminum foil and bake in the oven for 30 minutes at 350 F or until the cheese begins to bubble.



Let stand for 15 minutes before cutting a slice of the lasagna. Drizzle the crema Mexicana over the portion and serve.



Let stand for 15 minutes before cutting a slice of the lasagna. Drizzle the crema Mexicana over the portion and serve.

Haven House

Helping battered women and their children on their way towards a life free of violence.

We need your help to help save lives. You can help in so many ways – cash donations, clothing, food, volunteering. Every little bit helps more than you'll know. Every donation is greatly appreciated – no matter how much. Contact us today at 626.564.8880 to find out how you can help.

For more information on how to donate, please visit our website at www.havenhousela.org or call us at (626) 564-8880.

If you or someone you know needs help, call us now at our **24-Hour Hotline – 1-323-681-2626**.

Haven House is the oldest shelter of its kind in the United States, founded in 1964 to shelter families of violent alcoholics.

Our services include counseling services for women and children in residence and counseling for community clients who are not residents of the shelter.

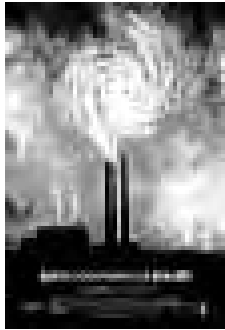
- Emergency shelter, food and clothing
- Bilingual counseling services for both adults and children
- Assistance with finding permanent housing
- Assistance with finding employment
- Court and social services advocacy
- Assistance with getting welfare
- Legal assistance (TRO's etc.)
- Medical Services



ENTERTAINMENT ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Reviews by Fellow Club Members

MOVIE REVIEWS

An Inconvenient Truth *Rated PG*
My Score: 4 (out of 5)



I'm not one to go around screaming, "The sky is falling!" However, after watching this movie, you'll think twice about the future of this planet we call home. With all the news of late about global warming, this is a message to pay attention to. It is based on the lectures and slide shows that former Vice President Al Gore has presented around the world. In this movie, he clearly shows the scientific data on how quickly our planet is warming and its effects if we refuse to heed. The real threat is carbon dioxide pollution, creating a thick shield around the earth and trapping more of the sun's rays. Okay, it's not all gloom and doom. Gore leaves us with a sense of hope on how humankind can repair the damage before it is too late. In addition, Gore proves to be a thoughtful, articulate and humorous advocate for planet earth.

—Dan Basilgo, LAPD

A Prairie Home Companion *Rated PG-13*
My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)



No, this movie is not about Laura Ingalls' pet goat! It is a sentimental tribute to the radio show of the same name that has played on public radio for decades. If you are not familiar with this program and its congenial host, Garrison Keillor, this movie will surely introduce you. It is a funny behind-the-scenes look at the goings-on behind an old-time radio show. The eclectic cast includes Meryl Streep and Lily Tomlin as a singing duo with Lindsey Lohan in tow; Woody Harrelson and John C. Reilly as singing cowboys; Kevin Kline as the klutzy Guy Noir; Virginia Madsen as a mystery woman; and Tommy Lee Jones as the Texan, among a host of characters. It is a home-spun movie with a lot of heart.

—Dan Basilgo, LAPD

Cars *Rated G*
My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)



The movie starts out very slow, but toward the middle it picks up at a nice pace. So hang in there! It's a cute story of a rookie race-car named Lightning McQueen (voice by Owen Wilson), who ends up in a dying town and falls in love.

Also providing voices are Paul Newman as the voice of Hudson Hornet, who has a secret past; Bonnie Hunt as the voice of Sally, a beautiful Porsche; and Larry the Cable Guy is very funny as the voice of Mater, the tow truck. The movie is okay for all ages.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Cars
My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)

This movie had great animation. In fact, at times you almost didn't think it was animated. The movie was a bit long (1 hour and 54 minutes); I don't know how young kids could sit through the whole movie. The story was about a car trying to win its big race and be rookie of the year. Paul Newman plays a voice of one of the race-cars. The main racing car's voice is Owen Wilson. The story dragged on; I was waiting for the big finish. Take the kids. I think they may really enjoy it.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

The Devil Wears Prada *Rated PG-13*
My Score: 4 (out of 5)



Ann Hathaway (The Princess Diaries) stars as a girl right out of college who lands a job in New York City with a very high-powered fashion magazine. Meryl Streep stars as her ruthless boss. The acting by all was just superb. If I were to rate just the acting, it would be 5 out of 5 for all. And no surprise, Meryl Streep is just amazing as this character. I also enjoyed Stanley Tucci and Emily Blunt, who both work for the magazine.

I enjoyed the movie, especially the acting, and I feel the movie will be enjoyed by adults.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Superman Returns *Rated PG-13*
My Score: 2.5 (out of 5)



Brandon Routh has the good looks and man of steel body and was perfectly cast as Superman/Clark Kent. I enjoyed the relationship with Lois Lane and her son, but I was very disappointed with the main story with Lex Luthor. I thought it was way too dark and was plain stupid.

I would rather have had more with Lois Lane and her son. Maybe next time! But I hope the main story will be a lot better. Save money and rent this one!

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Superman Returns
My Score: 2.5 (out of 5)

Brandon Routh plays Superman. He was a good choice for this role and looked good in his tights. The movie was not that exciting; the special effects were nothing new, and I should have gone to see Pirates of the Caribbean. The story is: After being gone for several years, Superman returns to the Daily Plant newspaper. The villain, played by Kevin Spacey, tries to take over the world and destroy Superman. Of course Superman prevails. I think you could wait for the movie to come out on DVD.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

Click *Rated PG-13*
My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)



Laugh-out-loud funny! I thoroughly enjoyed this one. My friend, Rosa, hates Adam Sandler, so I had to beg and plead for her to see this. Okay, I really did not beg and plead, I just nagged her. Guess what, she loved the movie, too! This is exactly what the doctor ordered to cure the blues.

The entire cast was absolutely fantastic. It was nice to see Julie Kavner, who I had not seen since her days on Rhoda (she played Brenda, the sister). This is a must-see. I will definitely buy the DVD.

—Gail Seltzer, DWP

Click
My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)

This Adam Sandler movie was great and very funny. Sandler plays an up-and-coming architect. His job is very important to him, but he neglects his family trying to get ahead. His life is so busy that he doesn't know how to operate his television remote control. Sandler goes to Bed Bath and Beyond, really, and gets a remote control. Christopher Walken plays the sales clerk and gives Sandler the remote control. Sandler learns that the remote control can be used in real life and that's when his problems begin. It has a great message; go see it.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

Click
My Score: 2 (out of 5)

If I had a remote control that would alter time, I would reverse the two hours I lost watching this movie! Adam Sandler plays Michael Newman, a man with a beautiful, adoring wife (Kate Beckinsale) and their two equally appealing kids. He makes a late-night run to Bed Bath & Beyond. In fact way beyond, where he gets the possession of a remote control that controls the universe. However, I found Sandler's character so unlikable, it made me wonder why the family puts up with him. I found the laughs far and few. I know there is a moral in the story, but you have to put up with the grating Sandler and juvenile humor to get to the Hollywood ending. The talented cast is pretty much wasted, especially Christopher Walken as Morty, basically just earning a paycheck here. Henry Winkler does have a touching scene as Sandler's dad. If you must, wait for the DVD, as you may want to turn it off: click!

— Dan Basilgo, LAPD

The Lake House *Rated PG*
My Score: 4 (out of 5)



It was a little slow at times, but overall I really enjoyed this romantic drama. I thought it was very clever and creative, how a couple could be exchanging letters even though they are living two years apart. I was totally hooked and couldn't wait to see what happens next. There is great chemistry between Sandra Bullock and Keanu Reeves, but we already knew that from seeing Speed. I hope they make more movies together. I do recommend the movie for adults.

—Gail Seltzer, DWP

100 Words or Less!

To all our movie, book and theater reviews, here are the rules: Keep it short and fun!

- Keep all reviews to 100 words or less (but try to come close; try to write more than a sentence or two)
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score, on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: My Score: X (out of 5). (And not everything is a five!)
- Make sure to give us your name and City department (or retired)
- Have fun!

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest *Rated PG-13*

My Score: 5 (out of 5)



Once again, Johnny Depp is excellent at his portrayal of Capt. Jack Sparrow. He's still scoffing that they don't get his name right. This sequel brings back most of the main characters and introduces the creepy-looking Davy Jones. A highly entertaining movie, but this time the special effects are a little startling — not good for small children. Don't miss this one on the big screen, but buy lots of popcorn because this movie is about 2.5 hours long.

— Chuck Beas, DWP

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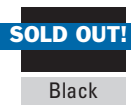
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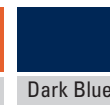
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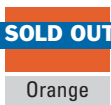
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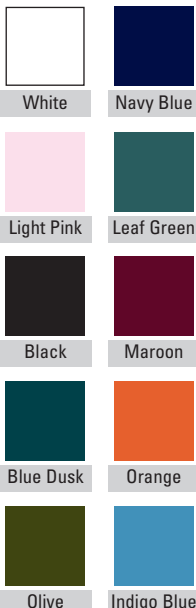
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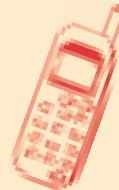
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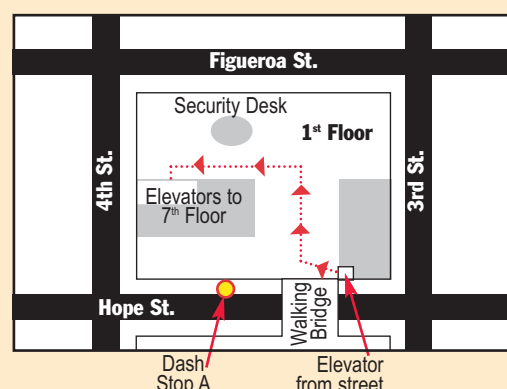


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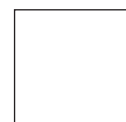
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