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\$10 to \$35

Big Bear/
Snow Summit
Lift Tickets:
\$19 to \$42

Mountain High
Lift Tickets:
\$49

See's Gift
Certificates
\$12.50

SEE PAGE 45

Alive!



Regina Tennelle,
Manager, Club
Member, in the
Airport Response
Coordination Center
overlooking LAX.

Airports



In Control

LAX's innovative Airport
Response Coordination Center
(ARCC) soars with top-flight
efficiency, responsiveness.

SEE PAGE 22

Alive! Photo by Summy Lam



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

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Club Exclusive

Party at Knott's!

May 11. Hurry!

See back cover



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- Group Rated Long-Term Disability
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- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000-\$50,000)
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Identity Theft Plan
- Accident Insurance

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The cheapest tickets in town to theatres, amusement parks, and events! Go to www.cityemployeesclub.com or call (888) 777-1744

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WallyPark

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*Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for more discounts.

THE CLUB:

Home of the Cheapest Tickets in the City!

NO MARK-UPS • NO SURCHARGES

Tickets up to

70% Off!

SEE PAGE 45

Only one association in Los Angeles gets you the cheapest tickets in the City. And it's us: The Club!

Here at the Club, we don't add extra markups or unnecessary surcharges. We work hard to bring you great Club benefits, and we take your cost savings very seriously. It's part of Celebrating Your Life.



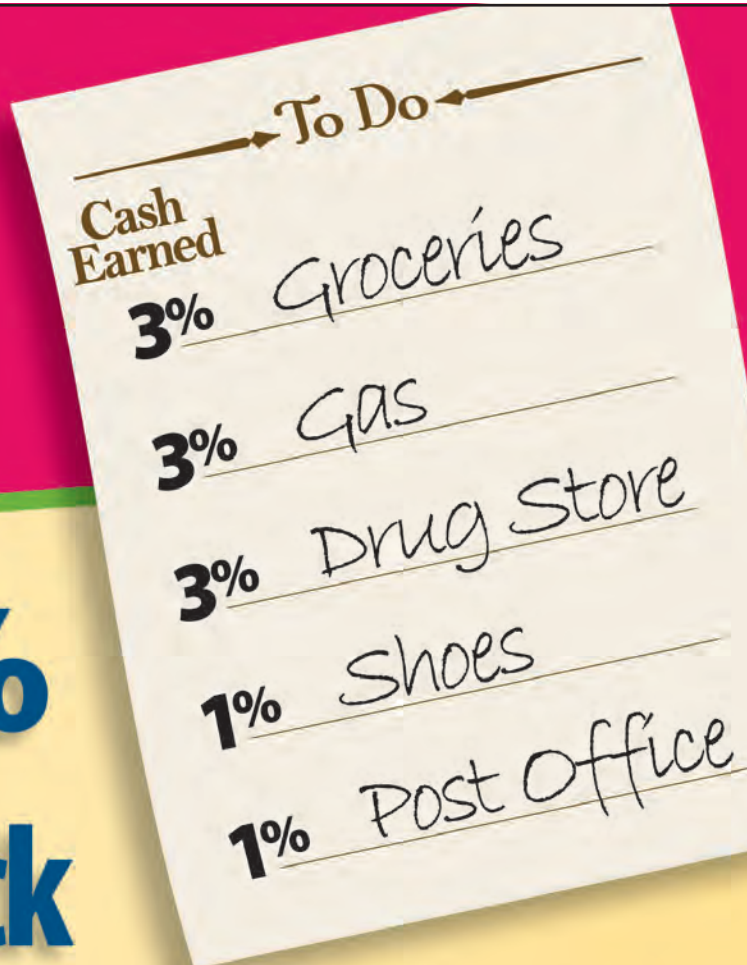
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
Celebrating the Lives of City Employees.



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*Cash Rewards Sweepstakes ends March 31, 2012. Prize to be awarded as an Apple® Store gift card, there is no cash value. Triple cash rewards are earned for grocery store, gas and drug store purchases for the first six months after your card open date. For Platinum Cash Rewards MasterCard rates, card terms and conditions, and for sweepstakes rules, visit wpcu.org and click on credit cards.



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CEO LET- TER

Alive! Cover Picture

Alive! Behind the Scenes

Covering this month's cover story on LAX's Airport Response Command Center (ARCC) are Regina Tennelle, ARCC Manager (center), Club Member; Club CEO John Hawkins (center right), and *Alive!* editor John Burnes (right). Being interviewed (left) is Bob Daly, Airport Superintendent of Operations, 6 months of City service, Club Member.

IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(800) 464-0452
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398
Deferred Compensation	(888) 457-9460
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728
DWP Employees Association	(213) 367-3146
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361
DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106
DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
LACERS	(800) 779-8328
Local 721	(213) 482-6660
L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400



Cecilia Talbot,
Claims Manager

Monica Zamudio,
Claims Assistant

Club Members' Praise

"I really appreciate your compassion Monica displayed during the most difficult time of my life. Each time you called to explain the process for filing the insurance claim for my mother, you were always very professional and I felt your honest concern. Thank you so much."

- Allison Kelly, March 2011

"I appreciated your help with needed papers and you returning my phone calls in a timely manner. Too many of the departments and office that I had to deal with were very slow in returning my calls for information, so I especially appreciated receiving a return call shortly after. The book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* was very interesting and thought-provoking on the subject of life and its meaning."

- Jean Eggleston, March 2011

"Your claims service has been great. Everyone involved with the City Club has done a good job and helped me at a very sad time of my life. The book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* makes you stop and think what life is all about."

- Dolores Hermanson, March 2011

The Club's claims service "was very good! You were very helpful and on time with your help. The book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* brought me to understand about my loss."

- Nadean Harris, March 2011

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

— Ed.

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work:

Claims Paid

Previous 12 Months

Life Insurance	\$1,979,849
Long-term Disability	\$1,527,234
Long-term Care	\$363,435
Cancer Insurance	\$80,000

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months: \$3,950,518



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

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most. Contact an Insurance Counselor today: **(800) 464-0452**

It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club! Great rates on:

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment
- Long-Term Disability
- Pet Insurance
- Identity Theft
- Term Life Insurance
- Long-Term Care
- Legal Services
- Accident Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Auto Insurance

March 2012 • Volume 11 – No. 3

Alive!

Alive! is the official publication of the **City Employees Club of Los Angeles**
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452
CONTACT US: alive@cityemployeesclub.com

Alive!, Volume 11, No. 3 is published monthly, 12 times per year by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.
ALIVE! EDITORIAL OFFICES: (800) 464-0452
SUBSCRIPTIONS: Annual subscription price for *Alive!* is included in the membership dues and is nonrefundable.
POSTAGE: Paid at Anaheim, CA and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address corrections to *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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Meet the Club Team

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

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



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent
Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios
Vice President of Operations, "Sports Dude", "Chef Larios" and "Discount King"

Claims



Cecilia Talbot
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio
Claims Assistant



Katie Hesselstine
Application Coordinator



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Application Coordinator

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Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

Club Store



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Club Store Manager



Lupe Medina
Administrative Service Representative



Megan Debolt
Club Store Services Coordinator



Megan Evanich
Customer Service Associate

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Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant

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2003 President's Award Recipient



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Club Products Manager

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Gedina Bergstrom
Club Member Services Counselor

DWP
Fire



Jackie Causillas
Club Member Services Counselor

General Services



Noelle Kauffman
Club Member Services Counselor



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor, In-house

2008 President's Award Recipient



Angel Gomez
Club Director of Sales

Administration, City Employees Retirement System, Community Development Dept, Employee Relations Board, Environmental Affairs, Fire & Police Pensions, Personnel, Status of Women, Zoo



Tanya Edwards
Club Member Services Counselor

Animal Services, Transportation, Sanitation, Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of



Debbie Schroyer
Club Member Services Counselor

Aging, Building & Safety, City Attorney, City Clerk, City Council, Cultural Affairs, Convention Center, Engineering, Bureau of Housing Department, Information Technology Agency, Library, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, Mayor, Neighborhood Empowerment, Planning, Recreation & Parks

Letters to the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTERS OF THE MONTH



Club Ticket Service Gets Three Thumbs Up!

Rachael Brecher, the "Ticket Gal"

I had a wonderful experience with ordering some tickets on Friday, and here is a short note to express my thanks and to let you know what a great job your staff did for me.

I got a last-minute call that my brother and family were coming to L.A., and I had promised my niece and nephews that I would take them to Legoland when next they visited, so I wanted to order some tickets from you (at great savings).

Since I had ordered tickets only once before and my older nephew took care of it, I did not know the email address or password. I called your office and got through to a very gracious and helpful lady (I think it was Rachael [Brecher, the Ticket Gal]), and she helped to reset my access and got me going.

I then was ordering the tickets but I seem to be a little lame at it, and again I had to get some help from your staff (another positive experience). Of course, being me, I was worried that I would not get the tickets because it was 2:15 and it said tickets were delivered in 2 hours; since your office closed at 4, I was nervous, so I called and left a message. A very nice man called me back, and when I told him my concern, he assured me he would talk to the person who sends them out and make sure I had them in time. Believe me when I say that my nervousness was making me nuts, and then very shortly after I placed the order (within half an hour), my tickets arrived.

I now am comfortable with ordering and hope to be less of a pain and not wait until the last minute next time. But I had to let you know how great everyone was. It may not be unusual to run into a nice and helpful person in an organization, but... everyone from the person answering the phone to the password person to the gentleman who called me back were exceptional and made me feel like less of a lame brain while helping me, and they

seemed happy to do it. I could not let this experience go unnoticed and wanted to express my appreciation for your great service and exceptional staff.

I hope you can identify everyone involved. I know Rachael and Megan DeBolt, but I do not know the names of the others, and I hope they can be included in my thanks.

Best Regards and heartfelt thanks to you and your amazing staff.

– Nita Caprio, Airports

I just wanted to thank Rachel and the staff for providing the opportunity to see *Iris* [Cirque du Soleil]. It was an excellent experience, one my family will remember for a long time.

– Starr Oyerinde, Housing

Thanks a bunch. The show was outstanding. The seats were the best in the house. Keep up the good work.

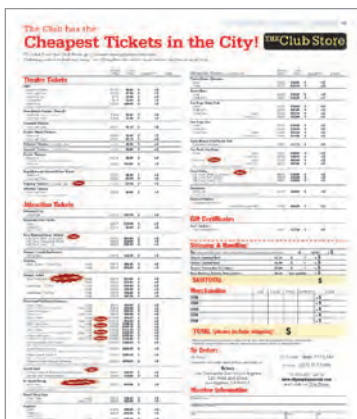
– Robert Snyder, Club Member

Hi Nita, Starr, and Robert, you're welcome. Everything the Club does is for our great Club Members. You've all just experienced the best part of being a Club Member – first-rate, personal service. We constantly review our actions to make sure we're at the top of our game. Service is what we do.

Nita, our Club staff has been notified that you were very satisfied with their efforts, and they respond: "Anytime!"

Thanks for writing, and thanks for letting us celebrate the lives of City Employees. – Ed.

To order your Discounted Tickets, see page 45.



FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS ANSWER THE

Question OF THE MONTH



– as collected from around the City by your friendly Club Counselors

What's your lucky charm?



"My daughter, Danielle Wilson."

– Francine Sylvia, Rec and Parks, 5 years of City service, with her lucky charm, her daughter, Danielle Wilson, 12



"A four-leaf clover."

– Robert C. Walker, DWP



"My \$2 bill."

– Sonia Pereda, General Services



"The number 13."

– Lyndon Bailey Sr., Harbor



"My family."

– Shawn Manahan

"My assets."

– Kevin Mount



"My daughter, Grace."

– Francisco J. Castro, Program Analyst, 23 years of City service



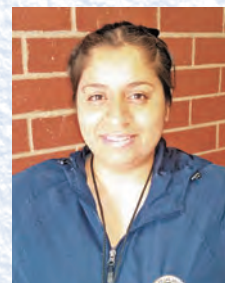
"My mom and my daughters."

– Clarence Jones, LAPD



"My '49er emblem."

– Ignacio Martinez, DWP



"My daughter, Angolique."

– Cynthia Yparraguirre, Rec and Parks, 24 years of City service

This month at the Club Store • 120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

Get a **FREE** Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE (Now on Thursdays!)

Representatives from Club partner, United Agencies will be at the Club Store:

<p>Mar. 1 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Xavier Rodriguez</p> <p>Mar. 8 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Patty Pulido</p> <p>Mar. 15 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Rosa Calderon</p>	<p>Mar. 22 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Xavier Rodriguez</p> <p>Mar. 29 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Patty Pulido</p>
--	---

Contact Your United Agencies Reps
(888) 801-5522

Rosa Calderon,
Personal Insurance Agent

Patty Pulido,
Personal Insurance Agent

Xavier Rodriguez,
Personal Insurance Agent

Barnsdall Art Park

— Hollywood



Livija Lipaite, Program Coordinator, and me in the Junior Arts Center.



Livija Lipaite and me in one of the craft rooms.



Junior Art Center.



Eraser, 1970, balsa wood and paint.



One of my favorite displays.



Gallery Theatre.



Hollyhock House.

Hello again, everybody! Happy Spring!

This month, we decided to stay in the Los Angeles area. Have you ever heard of the Barnsdall Art Park? The park includes the Hollyhock House, Art Center, Junior Art Center, and Municipal Art Gallery. This park is very interesting because of all the features and activities it has to offer. Did you know this facility is run by Cultural Affairs? Did you know the Hollyhock House takes its name from the favorite flower of Aline Barnsdall? Let's explore and find out more about this very interesting place.

Barnsdall Art Park sits on 11 acres in the Los Feliz/Hollywood area. This area was deeded to the City of Los Angeles in 1927 as a cultural art center, located on Olive Hill overlooking the city of Los Angeles.

Back in the 1900s, Aline Barnsdall came west and wanted to start and develop a theatre company. Aline donated the park and its Frank Lloyd Wright-designed structures to the City of Los Angeles because she wanted to provide an accessible arts center, incorporating and preserving the famous Hollyhock House as a vital component. Programs and exhibits became a part of the mission of the park; programs are used by thousands of Los Angeles community members.

Frank Lloyd Wright, who designed Hollyhock House, is America's best-known architect. Born in 1867, he lived



The entrance to the art gallery.



Sculpture, 1961, stoneware and glaze.

to be 91. Prime examples of his work include the prairie houses, the S.C. Johnson Wax Building, Fallingwater and the Guggenheim Museum. Wright was gone for most of the Barnsdall project construction, but he entrusted supervision to two young men who would later be Los Angeles prominent architects, his apprentice Rudolph Schindler and his son Lloyd Wright.

Aline Barnsdall was a native of Bradford, Penn. Her grandfather,

William Barnsdall, drilled the second producing well in the United States, establishing the fortune that would finance Aline's philanthropy and her extensive travels.

After visiting, all I can say is wow! The Barnsdall Art Park is beautiful; there were views all around us. In one direction you could see downtown Los Angeles, in another direction you could see Griffith Park Observatory, and to the left of that was the world famous Hollywood sign. When you are at this park, you feel really calm. The word that best describes the Art Park is peaceful. From the top of the park you could hear birds chirping and serenity about the area. There were many types of exhibits to walk through and enjoy; my favorite was the children's section, the Junior Arts Center. The Park offers many different classes on art, painting, ceramics, and water coloring to name a few.

I also need to send out a special thank you to Livija Lipaite, Program Coordinator. She was very helpful and showed us around the area. Thank you, Livija!

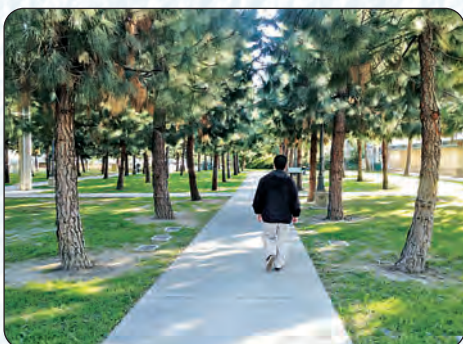
If you visit any of my "Be Alive!" places, or you take an excursion on your own, please take lots of photos and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring plenty of water and snacks, and spend time just walking and enjoying the scenery.

As always, be safe and Be Alive!, Angel

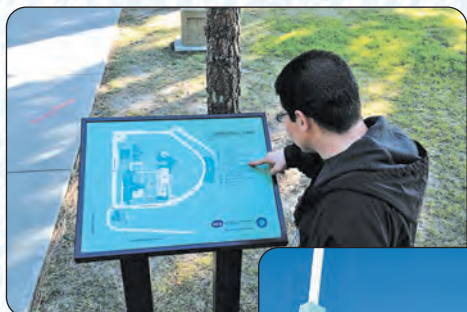
Angel Gomez,
Club Director of Sales

Angel's *BeAlive!*

Send your photos to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. I would love to see them!



One of the walkways in Barnsdall Park.



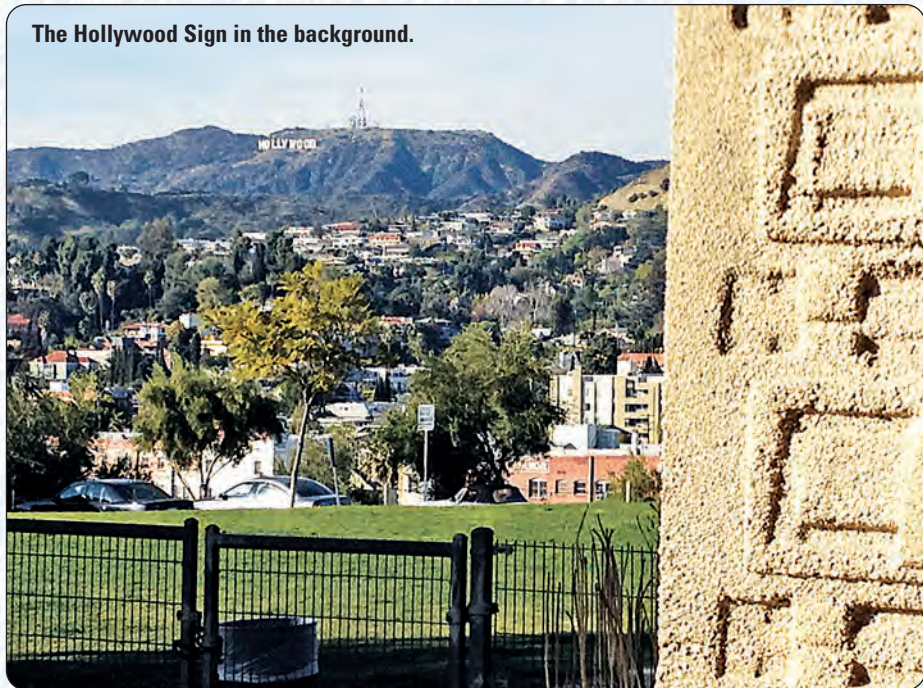
Above:
Park legend.



Above:
Barnsdall Art Park
entrance.



Left:
Colorful exhibits
from children.



The Hollywood Sign in the background.

Barnsdall Art Park 4800 Hollywood Blvd. • Los Angeles, CA 90027

FACILITY FEATURES:
Barnsdall art center,
gallery theatre, Hollyhock
House, Junior Art Center,
municipal art gallery.

**HOLLYHOCK
HOUSE FEES:**
\$5 general admission,
\$3 students and seniors,
free for children under 12
Phone: (323) 660-4254

HOURS:
Park: 5 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Municipal Art Gallery:
Thursday through Sunday,
noon to 5 p.m.
Hollyhock House tours:
Friday through Sunday:
12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From
Downtown Los Angeles
find your way to Sunset
Boulevard and continue
north until the street turns



Donations are welcome.

into Hollywood Boulevard.
Look for the address signs
posted on the fence out-
side the park. The park is
about six miles from
downtown Los Angeles.

Did You Buy Tickets To Mann Theatres Through the Club?

Here's how to exchange them. **Deadline: March 15.**



In February, Mann Theatres went out of business. As a courtesy, the Club will accept returns (for exchange only) of unused Mann Theatre tickets purchased through the Club until March 15, 2012, with the following stipulations:

- The tickets must have been purchased from the City Employees Club.
- You must have a valid sales receipt from the City Employees Club.
- The tickets must be in good condition.

CLUB EXCLUSIVE PARTY

At Knott's! This means you!
May 11

– SEE BACK PAGE

LAFD, LAPD

To Baldly Go

It's time for St. Baldrick's! FS 89 will be used for the head-shaving fundraiser against childhood cancers.



At last year's St. Baldrick's event: Greg Wells, LAPD Internal Affairs.

On St. Paddy's Day – Sat., March 17 – LAFD and LAPD personnel, and other City Employees, too, will participate in their ninth annual combined St. Baldrick's event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

This year's location is Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd, in North Hollywood. The event features a free IHOP pancake breakfast, a blood and bone marrow drive, and more. Entertainment will be provided by magicians, balloon artists, face painters, and local radio stations. And as always fire and police apparatus will be present for children to explore and for photo opportunities.

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



St. Baldrick's Info

- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Personnel (all are welcome, though)
- What:** Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research
- When:** Saturday, March 17, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Where:** LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood
- Why:** To raise money to fight childhood cancer
- How:** Sign up or donate at www.stbaldricks.org Click on "Find an Event," and locate Los Angeles, Fire Station 89.

For more information:

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

Jobs Well Done

Airport Police leaders, officers recognized for various accomplishments.

Story and photo courtesy Officer Alicia Hernandez, Airport Police

In January, several Airport Police leaders and officers were recognized for various accomplishments.

Acknowledged were interim Police Chief Michael Hyams; Sgts. Masis Sossikian and Dennis Lau; and Officer Pedro Uesugui, all assigned to the Airport Police Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit; Officers Robert Mosquera and Thi Tran, assigned to the Patrol Services Section; and Security Officer Jose Luis Miranda, assigned to the Traffic Services Section. They were recognized during an Board of Airport Commissioners meeting.

On Jan. 15, Chief Hyams was appointed interim Chief of Airport Police. Chief Hyams has a diverse law enforcement background, which includes 25 years of senior management and supervisory experience and nine years as a police legal adviser and professional standards expert. Chief Michael Hyams will take over all roles and responsibilities as head of the fourth largest

police agency in Los Angeles County until the appointment of a permanent Airport Police Chief.

On Jan. 18, Airport Police Sgts. Masis Sossikian and Dennis Lau and Officer Pedro Uesugui were honorees at the Inglewood Annual Police and Fire Appreciation Day Luncheon. Sgt. Sossikian, a 13-year veteran, Sgt. Lau, a 10-year veteran, and Officer Uesugui, an eight-year veteran, were recognized for their participation in the planning, programming, and execution of Airport's new digital Trunked Radio, License Plate Recognition and In-Car Video Systems. These officers successfully coordinated the various projects with Airports' Information and Technology Group, vendors and members of every rank of the Airport Police Division. Their leadership, talent, and dedication brought these projects to full fruition. Co-hosted by the Inglewood Chamber of Commerce and the Inglewood Rotary Club, the Police and Fire Appreciation Day event was established to recognize the finest men and women, who serve and protect the community.



From left: Traffic Officer Jose Luis Miranda, Chief Michael Hyams, Officer Robert Mosquera and Officer Thi Tran at the Board of Airport Commissioners meeting.

On Jan. 1, Airport Police Officer Robert Mosquera, a four-year veteran, and Thi Tran, a two-year veteran, were recognized for saving the life of a 49-year-old woman suffering a heart attack. Victim Etel Martinez had collapsed on the sidewalk at Terminal 2, while walking her sister to the ticket counter. After responding to a call for help, Officer Mosquera began cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) while Officer Tran retrieved the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Working together, the officers used the AED and continued CPR until Martinez began breathing again. The LAFD paramedics arrived and quickly

took Martinez to a local hospital for further medical treatment.

Security Officer Jose Luis Miranda, a 10-year veteran, was recognized for his outstanding customer service during the Thanksgiving holiday. Officer Miranda was nominated the winner in the LAX Airport "Neutralize Irritations Customers Experience (N.I.C.E.)" incentive program. Officer Miranda was part of the leadership team of traffic officers in charge of keeping the vehicular traffic moving throughout the airport in a courteous and friendly manner, during the busy Thanksgiving holiday.

Congratulations to all the excellent Airport Police leaders and officers!

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For additional information please contact:

LAFD: Engineer 26C Sean Kennedy 626-664-8711 / Firefighter 89C Danny Wu 626-590-6240 LAPD: Lieutenant Greg Doyle 818-634-6127

NEWS BRIEF

SHARPS BINS AT CITY HALL

Public Works/Sanitation has expanded its Sharps Collection Bins to City Hall East, City Hall South and Van Nuys City Hall (Braude Building). City Hall East and City Hall South are in the downtown Los Angeles Civic Center. City Hall East is at 200 N. Main Street. City Hall South is at the corner of First Street and Main. Van Nuys City Hall (Braude Building) is at 6262 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91401.

Senate Bill 1305 makes it illegal to dispose of home-generated sharps in the regular trash. Sharps such as needles (hypodermic, suture), syringes, lancets, endo files, prefilled pens, etc. should not be placed in the regular trash receptacle or flushed down the toilet. All sharps should be brought to a S.A.F.E. Collection Center or sharps collection locations such as participating senior citizen centers, local independent pharmacies, and community health care clinics for proper disposal and to ensure that they do not harm humans, animals, or the environment. The installation of the new Sharps Collection Bins at City Hall now makes it more convenient for those who need to properly dispose of sharps.

The sharps program is a partnership between the City's Bureau of Sanitation, other City departments including Rec and Parks, as well as independently owned pharmacies and community health care clinics. The City has worked to raise the awareness of improper sharps disposal through outreach efforts such as refuse truck advertisements, presentations at senior citizen centers, distribution of sharps containers at community events and at participating locations, and through other printed materials.

Bureau of Sanitation Director Enrique C. Zaldivar points out that the Bureau's mission is to protect the public health and environment and that "improper disposal of sharps poses a serious risk of injury and even infection to unsuspecting sanitation workers, family members and animals at home, others in the workplace, and in public areas." Improperly discarded needles may also transmit numerous blood-borne pathogens such as HIV (AIDS) and Hepatitis B and C.

"We have established partnerships with senior citizen centers, local independent pharmacies, and community health care clinics to assist in the safe collection of sharps from residents and to continue to help the City create an infrastructure that makes it convenient for residents to safely dispose of their sharps," Zaldivar said.

"We urge residents to properly dispose of their sharps at our S.A.F.E. Centers located throughout the City, and now, at City Hall," said Board of Public Works President Andrea Alarcon.

For S.A.F.E. Center locations and hours, and for other information, visit the Bureau of Sanitation's Website at: www.lacitysan.org or call (800) 98-TOXIC, (800) 988-6942, or dial 3-1-1.

GENERAL SERVICES

Nice Job, Mail Handlers!



From left: Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Division Manager, Club Member; Randy Gordon, Perfect Attendance Awardee, Club Member; Tony Royster, General Manager, Club Member; and Melody McCormick, Director Facilities Services Division, Club Member.



Winner of two Sea World passes (compliments of the City Employees Club) are Maria Cibrario with Manager Aram Salmasi.

General Services hosts appreciation day for Mail Services.



Story by Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor; Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

On Jan. 26, General Services/Mail Services held its annual Employee Appreciation Day. The event was held at City Hall.

The employees were recognized for their perfect attendance and hard work. Their department has been reduced, yet the work has amplified. These employees are all dedicated and take pride in their work.

Congratulations to all!

Special thanks to Aram Salmasi, Club Member, for assisting us in the production of this story.



Seven Years of Perfect Attendance Awardee: Napoleon Fuller III, Club Member.



Jack Callies was presented with the Exemplary Employee Award.



Most Dedicated Team Member: Mikquel Jamerson, Club Member.



Ten-Year Service Pin Awardee: Ernest Bernal, Club Member.



Regino Sarabia was presented with the Exemplary Employee Award.



Perfect Attendance Awardee Ken Mak.



Most Outstanding Customer Service Awardee: Kevin Ward, Club Member, pictured with managers and union representatives.

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Special Holiday Party Section

The City Parties!

Part 3

And still there were more parties!

Here in March, *Alive!* completes its coverage of the City Social Season 2011, with stories and photos from Club staff... and sent in by you, too.

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

Happy New Year!

It's an annual *Alive!* tradition!



Officer Will Lara, Airport Police, FALEO Dir. of Social Events, Club Member; Christine Bautista, US Attorney's Office; and Isa Ascencio, US Attorney's Office.



Manuela and Sgt. John Gonzales, Airport Police.



From left: Officer Will Lara, Airport Police, FALEO Dir. of Social Events, Club Member; and Arldwin Flores, LAPD, FALEO Treasurer.



From left: Roland Leal, Immigration Enforcement Agent; and Sherwin Sarte, Deportation Officer, and his wife, Jennifer.



From left: Jonathan Langub, DEA, Special Agent; and Rob Villeza, US Attorney's Office.

Filipino American Officers Association



From left: Sheila Cardoniga, wife of the FALEO VP; and Mildred Flores, Health Education Assistant, Riverside County.



From left: Evangeline Odeyemi, Postal Inspector; and Femi Odeyemi, Postal Manager.



Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager; Photos by Debbie Schroyer, Club Counselor

The Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers association (FALEO) held its holiday party Dec. 22 at Max of Manila in Glendale. The Filipino community, from a wide range of departments, came

together to celebrate the holidays. A delicious buffet dinner was served; the Executive Board was recognized; new babies and engagements were recognized; and raffle prizes and karaoke rounded out the evening.

Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager, was nominated as an honorary member of FALEO. Congratulations, Arlene!



Christian Buado, CA DMV Investigations, FALEO Dir. of Mktg. and Publications.



FALEO members celebrate the Holidays.



From left: Christian Costales, P2, LAPD West Valley, Club Member; and Carla Alfaro, Probation Officer I, LA County.



Officer Jordan Espinitu, Airport Police, Club Member.



Officer Il Benjamine Llamas, LAPD Pacific, FALEO Secretary; and guest Kelly Mai.

Jamis Bickel, US Customs; and Pauline Panis, LA County Sheriff's Dept.



Fred Devera, US Marshal's office; and Audra Carrington, HUD OIG.



The City Parties



Transportation Finance and Administration

Transportation's Finance and Administration unit celebrated its holiday luncheon at CBS Studios Dec. 20. The staff was treated to a grand buffet, special presentations, surprise gifts, and a tour of famous television stages and film location.

The staff also enjoyed hanging out with the cast members of *CSI: New York* – Gary Sinise, Sela Ward, and Hill Harper.

Alive! thanks Selwyn Hollins, Asst. General Manager, for assisting us.



The City Parties



From left: Davin Moss, Sr. Analyst Management II, 22 years of City service; Veronica Buenrostro, MA II, 17 years, Club Member; and Sandra Humphries, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years, Club Member.

From left: Willis Yip, Project Manager, 20 years of City Service; and Henry Sisonvang, Engineer Associate II, 5 years.



From left: Gary Lam, Structural Engineer Associate, 10 years of City service; and Jaime Contreras, Architect, 22 years.

From left: Cathie Santo-Domingo, Civil Engineer, PM II, 21 years of City service; Sandra Humphries, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years, Club Member; Veronica Buenrostro, MA II, 17 years, Club Member; Contract Administrator, 26 years, Club Member; and Neil Drucker, Program Manager, 26 years.



Willis Yip, Project Manager, 20 years of City service, is going to take a guess at how many drywall screws there are in the jar – and win, he hopes!



Neil Drucker draws a name out for the next gift recipient.

Public Works/ Engineering Rec and Cultural Facilities



Story and photos by Debbie Schroyer, Club Counselor

The Bureau of Engineering's Recreational and Cultural Facilities unit held its holiday lunch Dec. 15 at the Daily Grill downtown. The event featured lunch, games, and gifts. The handing out of awards and recognitions was continued back at the office.

Thanks to Sandra Humphries for the invitation to cover this event.



The Public Works/Engineering's Recreational and Cultural Facilities group at the holiday luncheon.



From left: Ray Araujo, Civil Engineer Associate II, 21 years of City service; Ejike Mbaruguru, Civil Engineer, 22 years, Club Member; Erick Chang, Building Mechanical Engineer I, 22 years; and Sean Phan, Civil Engineer Associate, 4 years.

LAPD Helicopter Security Officer Fernando Miranda hosts a tour for party visitors atop Piper Technical Center.



Ernesto del Real and son.



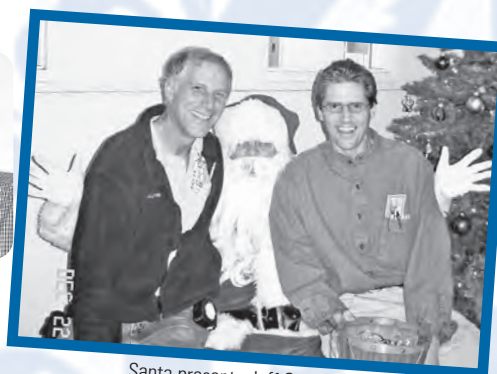
LAPD Air Support Pilot Angela Kriet.



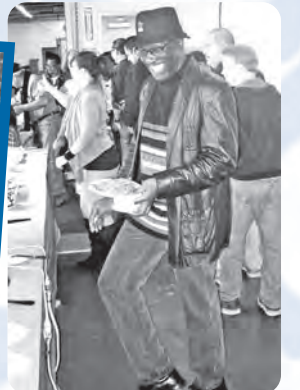
From left: Division Manager Nick Pendorf with Keith Lopez and Jim Byer.



Tammy Nguyen and Co.



Santa presents Jeff Secor and Maurice Hyett to the party!



Johnny Hardin dances for yummys!



Retiree Art Smith catches up on the latest gossip with Laura Pendorf.

MC Keith Lopez dons his holiday best!



Juan Salazar reaches for sweetbread, while Douglas Fukuda and his daughter join the line, above.



From left: Jimmy Jackson, Maria Pena, and Donald Ness: Smile!



From left: John Moreno, Blair Nelson, and Robert Scipioni.

General Services Construction

General Services' Construction Forces Division gathered with families Dec. 22 at Piper Technical Center to wish each other best wishes for the holiday season. Employees, spouses, children, and retirees had an opportunity to visit the shops and offices, and share well wishes for the holidays and New Year.

The main event is always the season's holiday potluck lunch, where employees prepare a variety of "family favorite" dishes that bring smiles ear-to-ear from the guests as they feast their eyes on the spread! The center of the celebration is always the children with a visit from Santa Claus and a special present for every child.

This year featured an extra special visit to the LAPD's Heliport and Flight Control Tower atop the Technical Center and Division headquarters. It was a breezy and exciting trip for those who braved the venture. And a visit from the LAFD and LAPD left the kids scrambling and climbing aboard a genuine fire engine, police squad car sirens blaring, and dads gawking curiously at the police special-use vehicle on display.

Throughout the year, the Division sold sodas and snacks and recycled the cans and bottles to pay for the gifts and lunch.

Thanks to Maurice Hyett for his assistance.



The City Parties



From left: Sr. Lead Officer Fernando Martinez, 7 years, Club Member, with his wife, Lorena.



Yolanda and Officer Travis Zoebisch, 5 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Barbara Carroll and Officer Stacey Creech, 4 years of City service, Club Member.

From left: Officer David Cervantes, 9 years of City service, Club Member; Chief Planning Officer Al Garcia, 23 years; Chula and Motor Officer Mark Velasquez, 13 years, Club Member; Orlando Aguilar, guest; Lina Santos, guest; Lily Rios, guest of Aldo Morales, CRO Maritime, 11 years of service, Club Member; and Motor Officer David Armijo, 26 years, Club Member.



From left: Retired Sgt. John Curry, Club Member; Maria Corona, Port Police Dispatcher, 21 years of City service, Club Member; and Lt. Anita Hayden, 20 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Brent Grieger, 4 years of City service, Club Member; Pll Susana Rodriguez, LAPD Olympic; and Lily Rios and Aldo Morales, CRO Maritime, 11 years, Club Member.



Port Police Association Vice President Motor Officer Masaki Imoto, Club Member, and Sgt. Robert Myers, Club Member.



From left: Officer Danny Rodriguez, 7 years of City service and incoming Vice President of Port Police Association, with his wife, Management Assistant Melody Rodriguez, Airport, 6 years. Both are Club Members.



Port Police Association



Sgt. Ryan Howley, 9 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Norma.



Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager

The Port Police Association held its holiday dinner Dec. 10 at the Long Beach Hilton Hotel.

There was great food and music, and plenty of prizes were raffled off.

Special thanks go to Officer Kiyu Amano, Club Member; SLO Cheryl Morris-Dorries, Club Member; and Motor Officer Masaki Imoto, Club Member, for their assistance



From left: Officer Joe Naso, 4 years of City service, Club Member; Sgt. Logan Braun, 4 years, Club Member; Sgt. Jerome Niles, 6 years, Club Member; and Officer Danny Meadows, 4 years, Club Member.



Retired Lt. Dan Aleman, Club Member, with Management Analyst Robin Jackson, 34 years.



From left: Sgt. Nathan Ewert, 16 years of City service, Club Member; Precious Paule, guest; Kasey Adamchik, guest; Motor Officer Michael Canlas, 9 years, Club Member; and Officer Rudy Meza, 30 years, Club Member.



Officer Jose Magana, 4 years of service, with his wife, Melissa.



Officer Victor Fernandez, 5 years of City service, Club Member, with his guest, Sandra Alvarez.



From left: Officer Kiyu Amano, outgoing Port Police Association Treasurer, with incoming 2012-13 Treasurer Officer Frank Huang, 4 years of City service, Club Member.



Sr. Lead Officer Alex Castillo, 7 years of City service, with his wife, Claudia.



Happy Holidays!



From left: Sooji and Sr. Lead Officer Dong Lee, 8 years of City service, Club Member; and Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, 6 years, Club Member, with his wife, Diana.



Vianey and Alfred Moya, K-9 Officer, 4 years of City service, Club Member.



Walter and Officer Ericka Howell, 5 years of City service, Club Member.



Tracy and Motor Officer Mike Glimpse, 5 years of service, Club Member.



The City Parties



From left: Wing Lai, Custodian, Club Member 16 years of City service; Deegoda Gunapala, maintenance laborer, 6 years; Gabriel Toc Club Member, Gardner, 30 years; Diana Sanchez, Director of Public Relations, 12 years; and Max Orona, Club Member, Electrician, 22 years.



From left: Cathy Berger, Superintendent of Operations, 9 years of City service; and Lt. Guy Painter, Airport Police, Club Member, 29 years.



From left: Jim Heffington, Equipment Operator, 17 years of City service, Club Member; Kim Ellis, Assistant Manager, Club Member, 23 years; Tony Goff, Bldg. Repairer Club Member, 11 years; Brian Wreesman, Carpenter, 11 years; and Belinda Quinteros, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member, 9 years.



To, from left: Maria Juarez, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years of City service; and Ani Ghokassian, Secretary, 12 years. Bottom: Carol Whitney, Airport Guide, 26 years; and Carrie Nicoletti, Airport Guide, 6 years.



Van Nuys Airport



Story and photos by Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor

The staff of Van Nuys Airport gathered Dec. 22 and enjoyed a lunch with raffle prizes to celebrate the holidays.

Special thanks to Belinda Quinteros, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member, for assisting us.



Belinda Quinteros, Sr. Clerk Typist, 9 years of city service; and Brian Wreesman, Carpenter, 11 years.



From left: Selena Birk, Airport Manager, 22 years of City service; and Anita Stuka, Retired City Employee, 39 years.



From left: Sgt. Leslie Daniels, Club Member, 35 years of City service; Lynn Perez, guest; Officer Matt Walters, Club Member, 12 years; Security Officer Nels Hansen, Club Member, 24 years; and Pat McWhorter, Custodian, 10 years.



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Goodbye, Desai

Manoj Desai, Sr. Accountant, Club Member, retires from the DWP after 18 years of City service.



Presenting a certificate from the Retirement Plan Office: Minaj Desai, Retired Chief Accountant, Sr. Accountant, 18 years of City service, Club Member; and Monette Carranceja, Asst. Retirement Plan Manager, 18 years, Club Member.



Story by Noelle Kauffman, Club Counselor; Photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Products Manager

On Jan. 26, friends, family, and co-workers of Manoj Desai gathered to celebrate his retirement from the DWP. The lunch was held at the Golden City Seafood Restaurant in Los Angeles.

Here is a brief history of Manoj's career with the City and DWP: Manoj worked for the City and DWP for 18 and a half years starting in 1993. In the first seven years of his career, he was promoted six times at a rate of one promotion per year! For the City he worked as an Accountant, Tax Auditor, and Management Analyst. In 1996, he transferred to FSO as a Utility Accountant. Then a year later, he went back to the City for a promotion to Sr. Accountant. The following year, he moved back to DWP for a promotion to Senior Utility Accountant D in FSO. Within two years there, he became a Senior B and within another two years, in 2002, he was promoted to the Chief Accountant position at the Retirement Office as a Sr. Accountant.

Manoj also served as a Labor Representative for the Administrative Unit for EAA.

Manoj Desai is known for going out of his way to help employees who are seeking assistance or information.

Congratulations, Manoj! The Club wishes you the best in the years to come!



From left: Mary Higgins, Asst. Plan Manager, 27 years of City service; Veronica Mendez, Utility Administrator, 25 years; and Erlinda Pabon, Sr. Clerk Typist, 18 years, Club Member.



From left: Club Employees Katie Hesseltine and Robert Larios; and Conney Williams, Management Analyst, 33 years of City service, Club Member.



The DWP's Accounting Section within Retirement Division with Minaj Desai.



From left: Lashaun McCloud, Clerk Typist, 6 years of City service, Club Member; Leila Cabarrus, Sr. Clerk Typist, 24 years; Kendrick Mah, Management Analyst, 16 years; and Mercedes Fields, Sr. Clerk Typist, 6 years.



From left: Ved Avota, Electrical Engineer, 22 years of City service; Pravin Bhakta, Electrical Engineer, 36 years; Manas Desai, son of Minaj, Electrical Engineer, 5 years, Club Member; and Sarita Desai, wife of Minaj.



From left: William Feng, Sr. Utility Accountant, 7 years of City service; Anil Desai, Structural Engineering Associate, 38 years, Club Member; and Martin Yakerson, Communities Electrician, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Samar Desai, son of Minaj, Sr. Systems Analyst, 15 years City service, Club Member; Surendra Vohra, Electrical Engineer, 25 years; Minaj Desai, Retired Chief Accountant, Sr. Accountant, 18 years, Club Member; and Narendra Patel, Electrical Engineer Associate, 10 years.



From left: Valerie Taylor-Ragler, PCU, 27 years of City service, Club Member; Jessie Uyemura, Clerk Typist, 12 years, Club Member; and Club Staffers Monica Zamudio, Cecilia Talbot, and Jennifer Shackelford.



From left: Anneli Joaquin, Sr. Utility Accountant, 32 years of City service, Club Member; Joy Law, Utility Accountant, 4 years; and Minh Le, Power Engineering Manager, 28 years.



From left: Nancy Romero, Local 18; Obaidullah Patel, Systems Analyst, 21 years of City service, Club Member; and Perla Obal, Utility Accountant, 22 years, Club Member.



A family picture, from left: Manas Desai, son of Minaj, Electrical Engineer, 5 years of City service, Club Member; Sarita Desai, wife of Minaj; Minaj Desai, Retired Chief Accountant, Sr. Accountant, 18 years, Club Member; and Samar Desai, son of Minaj, Sr. System Analyst, 15 years, Club Member.



The Club's Robert Larios presents a gift to Minaj Desai.



From left: Monette Carranceja, Asst. Retirement Plan Manager, 18 years of City service, Club Member; Devika Nair, Sr. Utility Accountant, 11 years, Club Member; Alexander Lee, Investment Officer, 1 year of City service; and Ceasar Fermin, Principal Accountant, 23 years, Club Member.



Club staff with Minaj Desai, Retiree and Club Member.



Edsel Arceo, Manager of Cost and Project Accounting, 31 years of City service, Club Member; Jovito Pacis, Sr. Utilities Accountant, 30 years, Club Member; and Vincent Cayanan, Sr. Programming Analyst, 32 years, Club Member.



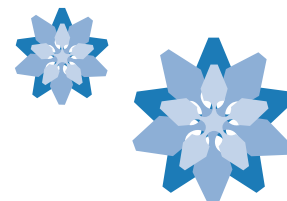
From left: Florentino Torres, Sr. Utilities Accountant, 29 years of City service; Grace Adajar, Investment Officer, 12 years, Club Member; and Hermilina Tumalian, Sr. Utilities Accountant, 36 years, Club Member.



Presenting a certificate from the Union Local 18: Minaj Desai, Retired Chief Accountant, Sr. Accountant, 18 years of City service, Club Member; and Nancy Romero, Local 18.



From left: Rita Carwile, ISM, 26 years of City service, Club Member; Christina Munoz, Management Analyst, 22 years, Club Member; and Anna Russo, Management Analyst, 12 years.



Life's Important Moments



New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

<p>Airports</p> <p>Joseph Banda Clara Bonilla Zadis Bonilla Leon Brisco Jr. Manuel Chevez Rosa Contreras Maria Cruz Maria De Tomas Norma Espinosa Olinda Gaitan Claudia Gonzalez Margo Hotchkiss Jesus Marroquin Eva Martinez Jimmy Mercado Melida Moran Silvia Ortega-Rodriguez Francisco Rodriguez Marilyn Tercero Micaela Vasquez</p> <p>City Attorney</p> <p>Leisa Jackson Stacie Martin</p>	<p>City Clerk</p> <p>Ottavia Smith</p> <p>City Council</p> <p>Kenneth Webb</p> <p>Fire Department</p> <p>Theron Baker Lance Brooks George Carbajal Podinilame Dissanayake Robert Franco Pamela Gonzalez-Giachetti Frank Larez Maria de Jesus Lozano Margaret Mendoza Abraham Mia Roy Reyes Kyle Saure Kevin Steward</p> <p>General Services Department</p> <p>Saida Beckum Kuan Lun Chu Mark Davis Eric Lonigro</p>	<p>Theodore Manzo Hector Meza Ralph Rodriguez Thomas Ruiz Aram Salmasi Surbjit Singh Frank Sugiyama</p> <p>Harbor Department</p> <p>Dwayne Christophe Amber Klesges Richard Rand</p> <p>Housing Department</p> <p>Georgina Tamayo Joe Torres</p> <p>Information Technology Agency</p> <p>Sylvia Bergstrom Therese Hadley Nick Tolentino</p> <p>Library Department</p> <p>David Alexander Guadalupe Canales Christine Godinez Shan Liang</p>	<p>Maria Moreno Jonathan Tibbs</p> <p>Personnel Department</p> <p>Carolyn Henderson</p> <p>Planning Department</p> <p>Emily Yllescas</p> <p>Police Department</p> <p>RJ Acosta Salvador Andalon Andrew Balladarez Glory Bassey Martin Brooks Joseph DeVera Virginia Diviak Sybil Fields Margaret Henry Mell Hogg Jon Ilusorio Raul Juarez Steven Kuranishi Rebecca Navarro Karla Oregon Ronald Terrazas Crystal Vargas</p>	<p>PW-Contract Administration</p> <p>Robert Lackaye Ed Skomsvold</p> <p>PW-Sanitation</p> <p>Otis Coleman Patricia Gonzales</p> <p>PW-Street Services</p> <p>Ralph Mendoza Rafael Ruiz</p> <p>Rec & Parks</p> <p>Carol Cantu Roberta Dawson Luis Diaz Manuel Droz Maria Esqueda Gilbert Gonzales Joseph Jacobs LaShonaye James Maria Lopez Monique Lopez Maribel Medrano Marcos Murillo Bryan Orellana Maria Ponce</p>	<p>Eugenia Ramos Angelita Ruiz Emmitt Sanders Asia Taylor Karla Vargas</p> <p>Dept. of Transportation</p> <p>Kirk Ambrose Gary Buchanan Linda Cheatham Gerardo Mendez, Jr. Jacqueline Steele Alva White</p> <p>DWP</p> <p>Tara Bowers Enrique Garcia Anita Henderson Valente Jimenez John Lingao Thomas Reyes John Russo</p> <p>Other</p> <p>Fritzie Alaras Herman Allison Gail Brown-Rall</p>	<p>Jacob Charbonneau Jacob Culpepper Crista Dawson Lori Dermody Andrew Dorso David Flynn Maria Guevara-Carlson Ruben Hauser Brenda James Myrtle Jeffers Robin Johnson Anita Lagrange Dirk Lockwood Gary Mattingly Colin McAweeney Janet McLennan Enrique Miranda Munoz James Mortensen Jerry Olea Eric Rivera Felicia Rucker Sergio Serratos Leslie Sorhaindo Matthew Woodson</p>
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In Memoriam

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

<p>Active</p> <p>Jackson, Erick, Public Works, 6 Johnson, Michael, Public Works, 3 Knudtson, Richard, DWP, 12 Villareal, Santa Cruz, Transportation, 25 Woodard, Gloria Jean, LAPD, 13</p> <p>Retired</p> <p>Aldapa, Manuel, DWP, 33 Anderson, James, Rec and Parks, 31 Arnold, Lawrence, DWP, 41 Baker, Melva, Public Works, 14 Barber, Delorous, LAPD, 21 Bingham, Lilbern, ITA, 31 Bowen, Robert, Public Works, 37 Brassard, Donald, Building and Safety, 32 Cathings, Evelyn, Transportation, 10</p>	<p>Chacon, Rodrigo, DWP, 23 Clark, Samuel, Public Works, 33 Cook, James, Public Works, 14 Corbitt, Bruce, LAFD, 27 Cronau, Elmer, DWP, 31 Daniels, Manny, DWP, 6 Davis, Patricia, City Attorney, 37 De Leon, Mercedita Santos, LAPD, 19 Emberson, Hannelore, CDD, 14 Falkove, Sylvia, Library, 14 Farabi, James, Controller, 18 Fujii, Myrtle, DWP, 25 Garcia, Martha, Personnel, 34 Garcia, Rudolph, Rec and Parks, 33 Garellick, Anne, Aging, 15 Greenwall, Ellis, DWP, 48</p>	<p>Grinwaldt, Eugenia, DWP, 25 Guerrero, Estevan, DWP, 31 Heimberger, Bernard, LAPD, 26 Hesket, John, Housing, 13 Hodge, Hewlett, DWP, 28 Holbert, Hayward, DWP, 32 Hoss, Frederick, Public Works, 32 Houk, Martha, Library, 24 Jeffers, Glendon, Airports, 27 Johnson, Willie, Rec and Parks, 26 Kent, Walter, Public Works, 26 Kert, Beverlee, Library, 26 Kinoshita, Richard, Rec and Parks, 31 Kollar, Mary, Personnel, 24 Kwan, Jim, DWP, 26 Landeros, Guadalupe, Public Works, 23</p>	<p>Lewis, Kathleen, Airports, 33 Lucas, Zack, DWP, 33 Mulligan, Matilda, Building and Safety, 40 Paz, Frank Jr., DWP, 32 Pearson, Wallace, Planning, 25 Petry, Fenrick, Transportation, 12 Renner, Stewart, Harbor, 13 Risher, Forest, DWP, 32 Roberts, Joan, DWP, 29 Ruiz, Luis, Public Works, 24 Samuel, John, Public Works, 31 Sanjacom, Florence, LAPD, 21 Turner, William, Public Works, 5 Ward, Jessie, Public Works, 34 Wilkins, Lorraine, DWP, 32 Williams, Cunnie, Rec and Park, 30 Zaledon, Delfa, Airports, 18</p>
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Peace of Mind

by Tiffany Sy
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



Life Insurance for Retirees: A Good Idea

Retirees, it's not too late to apply for life insurance! Now that you have retired from the City, you shouldn't have to miss out on all the benefits the Club offers! For the fifth consecutive year, retirees qualify for the Club's annual refund check, just like actively working City employees. The Club also provides coverage to spouses and in some cases dependent children with permanent disabilities.

Retirees are eligible to apply for group term life insurance with our group retirees plan (#v189707). You may apply for up to \$85,000 in benefit coverage. New applicants ages 70 and above

may apply for \$10,000 as your maximum benefit. If you are already an existing policyholder ages 70-plus, you may increase your face amount at any time up to \$15,000. In all cases, when you apply for new coverage, you are expected to be approved through medical underwriting before the policy is issued.

Medical underwriting is the review of your medical profile and status. Generally, medical records are retrieved from your physician's office for a thorough review dating back to the past five to 10 years of your health. The process may also include lab tests. If one is requested by the insurance carrier's underwriter, a technician is sent to your home to take samples of blood and

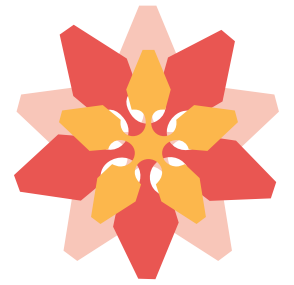
urine. All in all, the process of underwriting can typically take up to six to 10 weeks.

If you are actively working and planning an upcoming retirement, keep in mind your group term life insurance with the Club stays with you! The convenience of automatic payroll deductions also continues with pension deductions. Simply contact our office at your earliest convenience so that we may process your retirement requests.

Contact me at
info@cityemployeesclub.com



Share your moments!



Did you get married? Have a baby? Get a promotion? We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or send paper notices and print photos to: Alive!, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Births

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



Claire Elise Soto, born Dec. 2 to Naty and Marlene Soto. Naty works for the DWP.



Claudia Huitzinatzin, born Aug. 16. She's the first granddaughter of Rose Serrato, Sr. Property Officer, LAPD/Property Division.



Isabella Lisette York turned two Jan. 15. Her proud nani is Madeline Ramirez, Risk Manager, DWP, Club Member, 20 years of City service.

Graduations

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

Special Achievements

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

Quinceañera

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

Weddings

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



Shannon Wright and Marvin Crosby, Oct. 9. Shannon is the daughter of Earl Wright Jr., LAPD, 22 years of City service, and Lynne Wright, Airports, 23 years; and the sister of Earl Wright III, LAPD, 5 years.

Military

Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Lt. Jeffrey M. DiPrimio, USMC, was commissioned into the United States Marine Corps on Jan. 14. He graduated in May 2011 from Arizona State University with a business degree. He's the son of Debra DiPrimio, Retired, Public Works/Street Services.

Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Andrews, John G.	Equip. Mechanic	Gen. Services	26	Gackstetter, Thomas	-	DWP	-	Meza, Arthur R.	Animal Care Tech.	Animal Services	10
Brady, Thomas C.	Council Aide VI	Council	8	Garcia, Pablo S.	Special Asst. II	Rec and Parks	1	Nieport, Yvonne	Clerk Typist	LAPD	40
Casas, Abel	-	DWP	-	Garibay, Francisco	-	DWP	-	Provencio, Richard	Sr. Transit Analyst	LAPD	14
Castillo, Edward Jr.	Field Engineer Aide	Public Works	28	Goddard, Rosalind	Librarian III	Library	24	Ramirez, Gloria	-	DWP	-
Cervantes, Richard	-	DWP	-	Huerta, Thomas	Sr. Electrical Insp.	Building & Saf.	21	Rodriguez, Sandra P.	Animal Care Tech.	Animal Services	4
Collier, Armeda	-	DWP	-	Jackson, Alvin	Truck Operator	Rec and Parks	36	Ryan, Dennis P.	Pr. Constr. Inspector	Public Works	24
Cook, David Glen	Custodian	Gen. Services	22	Jarvis, Stephen	-	DWP	-	Sanchez, Lillian	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	17
Escobedo, Gloria	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAFD	20	Landon, Anne B.	Librarian III	Library	10	Scheckman, Claudia	Rec. Facility Director	Rec and Parks	13
Etemad, Shahriar	Civil Engr. Assoc. IV	Public Works	25	Matheson, Gregory	Ch. Forensic Chemist	LAPD	33	Williams, Thomas	Env. Compl. Insp.	Public Works	25

Lost Hiker Rescued!

Photos by Juan Guerra

**Everyday
Heroes
in Action**

On Jan. 15, the LAFD's air and ground operations went to work... and saved the day.

An unidentified lost hiker, 33, in the vicinity of Stony Point, 11500 Topanga Canyon Blvd. in Chatsworth, used his cell phone to call for help.

The LAFD used both helicopter and ground searchers from Fire Station 96 beginning at about 1 p.m., according the Matt Spence, LAFD spokesman. The LAFD's air operations are based at Fire Station 114 at the Van Nuys Airport.

The hiker was rescued about 30 minutes later, was hoisted aboard a rescue helicopter, evaluated, and released uninjured, according to Spence.

Congratulations to the brave LAFD crew! And we're glad to hear the hiker was uninjured.



The hiker is secured on the hillside.





A job well done!



The hiker is hoisted into LAFD Air Operations 5.



Safely on the ground again.



The rescue was dramatic and deep within the canyon.

History Comes *Alive!*

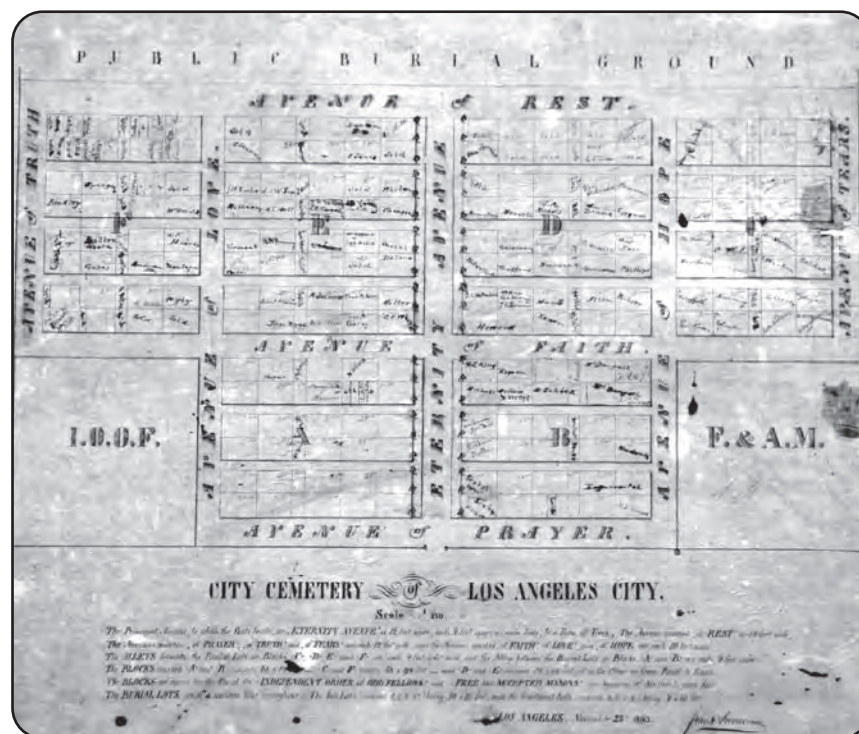
~ Tales From the City Archives ~



by Hynda Rudd
City Archivist (Retired) and Club Member

The Protestant Cemetery

Also known as the
Ft. Moore Hill Public Cemetery
1863-1888



One of Frank Lecoureur's original Protestant Cemetery maps.



An early graphic of the mausoleum on Ft. Moore Hill, on the former site of the Protestant Cemetery and now the site of the Board of Education. This graphic was sourced circa 1940.

Photos courtesy the Security Pacific National Bank and Times-Herald Collections, Los Angeles Public Library Photo Archive, Christina Rice, acting Sr. Librarian. Additional thanks to Michael Holland, City Archives, for the cemetery map image.

The population of the City of Los Angeles in 1863 was approximately 5,000 people.

There were a number of cemeteries in early Los Angeles. The earliest known cemetery was the Roman Catholic burial ground next to the Plaza Church on Main Street from 1823 to 1844, used for the remains of the early Indians of Yanga. Today it is the site of Los Angeles County's Los Angeles Plaza. Other early Catholic cemeteries date back to the Spanish era.

The Jewish community established its cemetery in 1854, not far from Chavez Ravine. There were also 19th century cemeteries in Boyle Heights and Wilmington.

The Protestants had two graveyards, one on Fort Hill where the Board of Education is today, and the other near Ninth Street and Figueroa. This article will focus on the Fort Moore Hill cemetery. But it must be noted that the remains of most, if not all the bodies, were moved to more modern resting places as the City of Los Angeles grew and matured.

Renowned local historian Nick Curry has dedicated an inordinate amount of time researching this Fort Hill underground repository of the dead. His findings increase the importance of a City Archives drawing of the cemetery in 1863 by City Surveyor Frank Lecoureur, a master of cartography and calligraphy in the 19th Century.

According to Curry, the Protestant City Cemetery covered the period from 1869 to 1888. The location was the current parking lot of the Los Angeles City

Board of Education at 450 N. Grand Ave. (Grand Avenue was originally called Charity Street, but no one wanted to live there, so the name was officially changed to Grand Avenue on February 22, 1887.) At the cemetery site, it was recorded that there had been 867 burials. Supposedly there were two subdivisions – one was for Public Ground and the other Private Ground. In other entries relating to the subdivisions, there were three others included: (1) International Order of Odd Fellows; (2) The Order of Knights of Pathias; and (3) a fireman's section.

Nick Curry notes that the Fort Hill Cemetery was called by different names. He mentions that his formal information is sporadic. Therefore, it is impossible at this time to determine when and why these options occurred. Nevertheless, the cemetery had been referred to as: City Cemetery (Protestant); Fort Moore Hill Cemetery; and the City Cemetery of Los Angeles City.

On Nov. 23, 1863, Lecoureur presented his cemetery map to the Common (City) Council, where it was adopted. Later, the mayor and council authorized the prices of the plots at sums of \$20, \$25, and \$30. The size of the plots on the cemetery map are listed as 10, 12 and 14 feet wide. There was also a house for a sexton, who cared for the religious property, and cemetery water tanks.

On a final note, I want the readers of *Alive!* to be aware of a scholar, historian, antiquarian and author Edwin H. Carpenter, who passed away in January 1995. I was fortunate, at one time, to sit with him on an organization board. I soon learned what a captivating jewel he was in the field of Los Angeles history. Ed, who was employed at the Huntington Library, had a number of publications. But in relationship to this article, his volume on *Early Cemeteries of the City of Los Angeles*, published in 1973 by the Dawson's Book Shop, gives great information on Los Angeles pioneer burials. This book is a great source of information.



1947: An aerial view of Los Angeles civic center looking west along Sunset Boulevard. The Hall of Justice is at left on Broadway and Temple, and the Board of Education headquarters is near the upper right, south of Sunset. The original Protestant Cemetery referenced in this article was where the Board of Education parking lot can be seen in this photograph.

AIRPORTS

Farewell to the Chief

Airport Police Chief George Centeno retires.



From left: Airports Deputy Executive Director Arif Alikhan, Airport Police Assistant Chief Brian A. Walker, (Retired) Chief George R. Centeno, Assistant Chief Ethel McGuire, and (new) Chief Michael T. Hyams.

Story by Officer Karla Ortiz, Airport Police;
Photo by Officer Johnny Pan, Airport Police

On Jan. 25, Airport Police Chief George R. Centeno celebrated his retirement from the airport force at a reception held in his honor at the Flight Path Museum at LAX.

He was joined by family, friends, co-workers, and Airports Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey, Board of Airport Commissioners President Michael A. Lawson, Vice President Valeria C. Valasco, Fernando Torres-Gil, Deputy Executive Director Arif Alikhan, and others.

Chief Centeno started his career at Airports in

February 2007 as Assistant Chief and was appointed the Chief of Police in December 2007. Chief Centeno managed one of the nation's largest aviation law enforcement agencies with more than 1,100 sworn and civilian employees. Under his command, crime statistics at LAX dropped by 27 percent for 2011 and 50 percent during his five-year tenure.

Chief Centeno's career to serve others began in the military with the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. As a sergeant, he was recognized with several service medals. During his career at Santa Monica Police Department, his dedication to helping others gained him the

Medal of Courage and a Life-Saving Medal.

Chief Centeno not only reached professional achievements, but personal ones as well by pursuing higher education and training. Chief Centeno earned an associate of arts degree, and a bachelor's degree, and he graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy. He retired as the Vice President of the Hispanic Command Officers Association.

At his retirement reception, Chief Centeno was presented with several acknowledgements and recognitions by the Office of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Los Angeles Airport Police Supervisors Association and the Hispanic Command

Officers Association. Airports Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey expressed her appreciation by thanking Chief Centeno for his extraordinary service to Airports and reminding all in attendance that while the Chief's leadership and work ethic will be missed, he has certainly earned the time he will spend now with his family. Deputy Executive Director Arif Alikhan also spoke about Chief Centeno's commitment to this organization and his influence to the growth of Airport Police by making significant changes.

Chief Centeno expressed his gratitude and described how his commitment to the department has been for the support of its mission.

AIRPORTS, COUNCIL

Council Honors Life Savers

Council recognizes two Airport Police Officers for their quick action.

Story by Officer Karla Ortiz, Airport Police;
Photo by Officer Darius J. Lewis, Airport Police

Two Los Angeles Airport Police officers were recognized by the City Council for saving the life of a female who suffered a heart attack at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) in December. Councilmember Dennis Zine presented the officers with certificates of appreciation during the regularly scheduled council meeting Feb. 10.

On Dec. 30 Airport Police Officers Robert Mosquera, a four-year veteran, and Thi Tran, a two-year veteran, responded to a call for help. Etel Martinez, a resident of Mission Hills was at LAX to drop off her sister who was flying out

when she collapsed on the sidewalk in front of Terminal 2, and her husband helped her back into their vehicle. While the officers gathered information, Martinez suddenly stopped breathing and no longer had a pulse. Officer Mosquera immediately began cardiopulmonary resuscitation, while Officer Tran retrieved an automated external defibrillator from inside the terminal. Together, the two officers worked incessantly until Martinez regained vital signs. Soon after, LAFD paramedics arrived on scene and took Martinez to a local hospital for further treatment. Following up with Martinez and her family, the officers reported, "She is happy and recovering

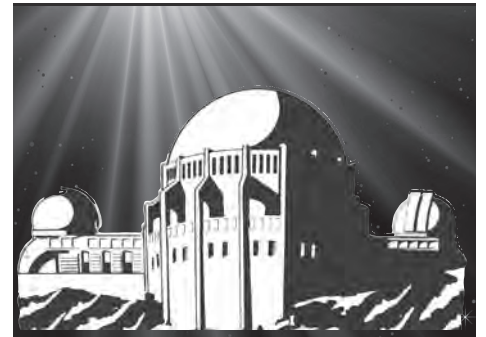
well." To express her gratitude, she offered to make the officers a homemade meal.

In attendance at the City Council meeting was Airports Police Deputy Executive Director of Law Enforcement and Homeland Security & Intelligence Arif Alikhan and Airport Police Chief Michael T. Hyams, as well as the officers' families, friends, and Airport Police colleagues.

Chief Hyams said, "The quick actions of Officers Tran and Mosquera exemplify the most important function of those who work in public safety. There is no greater service than saving the life of another. We are all thankful they were present and prepared to perform this critical task."



From left: Airport Police Chief Hyams; Councilwoman Jan Perry, Club Member; Councilman Bill Rosendahl; Officer Thi Tran; Officer Robert Mosquera; Councilman Dennis Zine; and Fire Chief Brian L. Cummings.



THIS MONTH AT THE

Griffith Observatory

March 19:

Spring Equinox

Come to the Griffith Observatory for a free event celebrating the start of spring! The Spring Equinox is when there is exactly as many daytime hours as nighttime hours.

TIME: 1 and 7 p.m.

COST: **Free!**

Information:
www.griffithobs.org/pcalendar.html



Airport Response Coordination Center

Flying High

As it celebrates its first anniversary, the Airport Response Coordination Center (ARCC) is improving operational efficiency and crisis capabilities.

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing

On Jan. 24, the City celebrated the first anniversary of the innovative Airport Response Coordination Center (ARCC), which greatly improves LAX's efficiency and crisis management functions. The center, which is not the first of its kind but is nonetheless proving a model for other international airports, has already proven its worth after just one year.

The \$13.9-million facility greatly enhances LAX's operational efficiency and crisis management capabilities by centralizing communications and streamlining management of all the airport's many operations, while improving service to passengers, airlines, concessionaires, tenant service providers, governmental agencies, and the surrounding community. The center brings together many operational and emergency coordinators who used to be spread throughout the giant facility. Now that they are together, it's making a big difference.

The Airport Response Coordination Center provides day-to-day, round-the-clock operational support, facility management, flight information, and security coordination, and ensures compliance with all federal aviation regulations. The ARCC is regularly staffed with personnel from LAX's Airside (airfield) and Landside (terminal) operations, Airport Police and Construction & Maintenance Services divisions, as well as from governmental agencies, including the Transportation Security Administration. The ARCC staff is expected to expand as other airport monitoring activities are merged into the ARCC.

A separate section of the ARCC, called the Incident Management Center, would be activated during a major incident or airport emergency — calling in additional personnel to specifically respond to the event, from initial onset, to securing the incident, and through recovery of impacted operations until the airport fully resumes normal operations and the incident officially "closed."

As pictured in this issue of *Alive!*, the IMC functions as the "nerve center" for dealing with a critical event, receiving information from emergency responders at the on-scene Incident Command Post and from other parts of the airport, and allocating critical resources as required in a timely and efficient manner. By improving coordination during a critical incident, airport officials expect to reduce response time to incidents that could impact the traveling public.

During a critical incident, the regularly scheduled ARCC staff would continue to manage other airport activities that might be impacted slightly or not at all by the incident, including airport roadways, terminals, parking facilities, ground transportation, fueling operations, runways and taxiways, cargo and catering facilities, office buildings, etc.

The airport's established AiRadio 530 AM broadcasting facility also is located inside the ARCC. At the facility's opening last year, the LAX AiRadio station was the only airport information station in the United States to be granted a waiver by the Federal Communications Commission of its own long-standing rules to allow LAX AiRadio to increase transmission power to 100 watts from the normal maximum of 10 watts. The waiver was based on security reasons and the need to immediately

convey current airport conditions directly to thousands of passengers and motorists following a critical incident, before they reach LAX and become enmeshed in traffic congestion and flight delays or cancellations. The LAX AiRadio signal now covers most of the Los Angeles area as an important part of the airport's security plan.

The dual-operational ARCC facility complies with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Incident Management System (FEMA NIMS). This management system is designed to cover the prevention, preparation, response and recovery from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. By implementing NIMS, all levels of government can work efficiently and effectively together by eliminating redundancy and confusion during an emergency response.

LAX has activated an airport emergency operations center during several past events, but this is the first time that a centralized response organization comprised of all essential airport management personnel is co-located in one dedicated, specialized facility. The LAX Airport Response Coordination Center also will serve as a crucial link to the City's Emergency Operations Center for comprehensive response, resource allocation, and communication with City leaders.

The total cost of more than \$13.9 million includes \$8.4 million (65 percent) allocated to installing state-of-the-art technology, equipment, and software. The project was funded from the airport's general operating revenues and \$970,000 from a California Emergency Management Agency Urban Area Security Initiative grant. No monies were allocated from the City's general fund.

Construction

The 15-month project, which began in September 2009, includes six months between June and December 2010 for actual construction of the facility. The new LAX Airport Response Coordination Center was designed by Gensler Architects and built by Technion Contractors, Inc., both from Southern California. Local offices of Systems Development Integration, LLC; General Dynamics Information Technology, Inc.; and Motorola Solutions, Inc., installed and integrated the new state-of-the-art technology, equipment and software. Airports Development Group engineers and Information Management and Technology Group systems analysts managed the project.

Airport officials report nearly 200 jobs at prevailing wages were created during this project, including architects, engineers, inspectors, construction workers, building material fabricators, transport drivers, systems specialists and administrative support personnel.

"The new state-of-the-art facility will improve day-to-day operations and help LAX better respond to any type of incident or emergency," said Mayor Villaraigosa when the facility opened last year. "From serving as a nerve center in an emergency situation to quickly getting planes to their gates in a rainstorm, this new facility will improve efficiency and keep travelers moving safely and quickly every day of the year."

On the following pages, Alive! takes you on a tour of the ARCC and explains what role each station plays in LAX's hour-by-hour operations.



Monitoring airport activities inside the ARCC.





The ARCC features high technology to better serve LAX's needs.



ALIVE! FEATURE



A Mock Emergency

When *Alive!* visited the Airport Response Coordination Center (ARCC) on Dec. 7, the center was performing a mock emergency, to work through procedures. The ARCC is normally not in emergency mode, and its large Emergency Management Center, next to the normal operations center, is not used. But on Dec. 7 it was, showing the center when both sides are in action.

Present for the mock emergency were representatives the LAPD, the LAFD, Airports, Transportation, and federal agencies including the TSA (Homeland Security).

In addition, the center was linked in real time to the City's Emergency Management Center downtown.

"This is how we come together," said Regina Tennelle, Sr. Management Analyst II, and ARCC Manager.

During the drill, as would happen in a real emergency, the multi-departmental teams come together by function, indicated by colored vest. The colors, and the functions they indicated, are yellow, logistics; green, finance/administration; blue, planning/intelligence; red, operations; and no color, command or external agencies.



The mock emergency drill.



Finance/Administration.



Logistics.



Mary Grady, Managing Director, Media and Public Relations, LAPD.



Planning/Intelligence.



Melinda Adams, Sr. Clerk Typist, 17 years of City service, staffs the sign-in desk for the mock emergency exercise.



Leadership team, from left: Randy Parsons, Federal Security Director, TSA; Jacqueline Yaft, Executive Director of Operations and Emergency Management, Airports; and Barry Rondinella, Director of Operations, Airports.



A leadership conference.

The *Alive!* Interview

Airport Response Coordination Center

Regina Tennelle, Manager, ARCC, Club Member.



‘We Depend on Each Other’

On Jan. 5, *Alive!* interviewed Regina Tennelle, Sr. Management Analyst II, and Manager of the Airport Response Coordination Center (ARCC) for Airports in her office. She is also a Club Member. – Ed.



***Alive!*: So you’ve worked for the City for 20 years. Congratulations!**
REGINA TENNELLE: Thank you. Thank you.

Your first job with the City was at the DWP, right?

REGINA: Yes, the DWP as a Clerk Typist.

When did you come over to Airports?

REGINA: In the fall of ‘96, I believe. I’ve also been a Club Member ever since I’ve been with the City.

How did you get to this position, once you arrived here at Airports?

REGINA: Once I arrived here at the Airports, I worked in Noise Management as a Sr. Clerk Typist and then transferred over into Administration, working for the Deputy Executive Director of Facilities. After that, I was promoted to a Management Assistant, and from there to Management Analyst, and then to a Sr. Management Analyst. And then I came over to Operations in 2007.

Great, thanks.

The Purpose of ARCC

Give me a very broad overview of what ARCC is, what ARCC does, and why it came to be.

REGINA: Sure. The ARCC is the nerve center of LAX and it came to be because it was identified that, to

provide better service to our tenants, meaning the airlines, LAWA employees, other tenants that work on the airport property, we needed to have one central location where our police, our operations, our facilities management staff could work together and respond to incidents that happen and be able to expedite the recovery of any disruptions in operations.

There was a study that went on for several years where they identified who needed to work together, to restore the airport to normal operations when there’s a disruption. We also want to improve customer service and we want to be able to communicate better with our stakeholders on a daily basis of what’s going on and be able to coordinate what’s happening. We want to be proactive in looking for issues or possible incidents that may happen that could disrupt operations. We try to keep a pulse on what’s going on around the airport.

What challenges does ARCC respond to? With all the LAX leaders and managers scattered around, it could cause delays. Is that kind of a fair statement?

REGINA: That’s a very fair statement. It caused delays in our ability to coordinate and respond and work together. There were some challenges in how we communicated with each other. So we identified that.

This nerve center now helps to address crises by allowing us to hear the same information as it comes in at the same time for all three of these agencies, and then we can go out and respond accordingly.

It brings almost all of the decision-makers together in one place to respond at the same time to the same stimulus rather than trying to coordinate an approach that might take a while to find everybody. Is that about right?

REGINA: That’s correct. We used to be in about seven different locations. Now we’re down to just two. Police dispatch is in its own facility. Those other six locations are now into one location here in the ARCC.

What functions are represented here at ARCC?

REGINA: We have airport operations, responsible for making sure that the airport is compliant with all Federal Aviation Administration standards, better known as Part 139. We have Airport Police, responsible for the security aspect; and we have Facilities Management, responsible for the facilities and to make sure that the structures are safe, secure, and operable. We also have TSA here, which is concerned with security, and they work very closely with police.

Behind the Scenes

The traveling public, which is millions of passengers a year here at LAX, wouldn’t necessarily know about this unless an incident came up, but it would help them even though they might not know it. The paying customer might not necessarily know about this center, but it still is very important.

REGINA: It’s very important to their experience because the people and the businesses that are serving them rely on us to make the travel experience go smoothly, which means Operations is always keeping track of the baggage handling systems in the terminals that [Airports] owns and manages. We’re keeping the pulse on the traffic into the central terminal area for the passengers and the people who are dropping them off. We’re keeping the pulse on the ground transportation systems, the taxi services, the shuttle buses. So in that way they won’t see what’s working. They won’t see what we do. They won’t see it as the ARCC is doing this work, but we’re here working with the station managers to make sure that they don’t run into any incidents. We’re making sure the terminals are clean. We’re making sure that the restrooms are operating correctly. One way the passengers will know that we’re here is because, if they do see something wrong in the terminals and they want to call, we do have our number in certain areas posted. But everything else is seamless.

Solving Problems

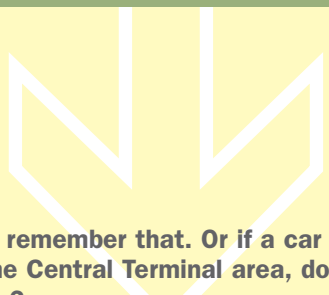
Let’s talk about some of the issues you face. If a plane’s coming in with a flat tire, do you get involved?

REGINA: Yes. We have aircraft alerts that we respond to. Those are on the extreme end. Or power outages. That created a mutual response by the DWP and the airport.

We brought in other agencies to help us with the Sepulveda Tunnel flood [in 2010].

Regina Tennelle (center), Club Member, explains the ARCC to John Hawkins, Club CEO (left) and *Alive!* editor John Burnes.





Oh right. I remember that. Or if a car breaks down in the Central Terminal area, does that involve you?

REGINA: Yes it does, in a roundabout sort of way. We're asking police to report it. The police are going to make sure that that car is actually disabled and that it's not there as a threat to security. We're going to be concerned at the ARCC because we don't want a traffic jam to happen. So we're going to start looking at ways that traffic should be rerouted. We're going to see what can be done to help get that car out of the way. That's one way we're trying to improve the experience, travel experience at LAX.

And there are more minor types of things, let's say a toilet flood. That involves you, too, right?

REGINA: That definitely involves us. We get a lot of those calls as well as elevator calls. We get those on a daily basis. We will talk to our Facilities Management staff in the field and dispatch them to the site to look at it and get it back into operations as soon as possible.

You're problem solvers.

REGINA: We are. We are out there trying to solve any problem that comes along. The good thing about the ARCC is that we're doing this together. An issue might be specific to ops or to facilities, but at least now all three agencies have an awareness that we didn't have before. Now we all know something is going on.

And you have the ability to alter the traffic signal patterns in the area to facilitate better traffic movement if there's an emergency.

REGINA: Yes, we do.

How often do you do that?

REGINA: Not too often – during peak traffic periods, which tend to be the couple of days before and after Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's... our highest travel days of the year.

It really works to get people here as quickly and as safely as possible.

REGINA: It does. It makes a difference. It helps to improve the flow to get them into the airport and adjust the lights help them move around the terminal areas a little bit better.

Other Departments

Which departments outside of Airports do you work with?

REGINA: The Department of Water and Power. We've established a good relationship with them. We've established one with Public Works' Bureau of Sanitation because of the Sepulveda Tunnel. The Los Angeles Fire Department is huge. It's one of our partners on a daily basis because they have a fire station here designated for aircraft rescue. It's called the ARFF – Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting.

Yes, we know that Fire Station.

REGINA: We also work with LAPD. Our Airport Police Dept. works with LAPD on security issues.

Do you work with Transportation?

REGINA: Yes, we work with Transportation in terms of the traffic lights. We work with California Highway Patrol for the areas that are managed by the State of California on the roadways like the 105 and the Sepulveda Tunnel. That piece of property right there has like four or five different agencies that work with it.

A Model

Now that it's in operation, what have you learned from ARCC?

REGINA: We've learned the benefit of working together, for different divisions to work together in one place and be able to share information, share resources and develop plans together to resolve issues.

How was it funded?

REGINA: The project was funded from Airport's general operating revenues and \$970,000 from the California

Emergency Management Agency Urban Area Security Initiative Grant. No moneys were allocated from the general fund.

Is this a model, an emerging trend? Are other airports doing this?

REGINA: Other airports are doing this across the country and throughout the world. Prior to us starting this, we looked at the model in Dallas Fort Worth; they have a large facility that's almost four times as big as us. They have the space to do it.

Right.

REGINA: Other places – small airports, big airports – are doing it, and it's a trend. People are trying to figure out the best way to do it. We've had visits by foreign countries such as Qatar and Canada, from Toronto. We also had Taiwan come in and take a look at it. It's an emerging trend because people are starting to see the benefit of working together, of having a nerve center where all the information comes in, all the agencies hear it at the same time and then go to work based on it.

We've had visits from a variety of people. We've had visits from Seattle and they already have one, but I think they're looking to update it and refine it. I've had people from Uzbekistan. Just all over. And not only airports – we also have had people from different agencies and other business models, like Universal CityWalk.

Really?

REGINA: They were in the process of starting a nerve center too, so they came here right after we opened and took a look at it. It's not just for airports, but it's for businesses that manage a large facility that have multiple agencies that need to respond to an issue.

Geek Speak

Okay, for all of the tech geeks out there like the *Alive!* staff, how many monitors do you have in here? Any idea?

[Laughter.]

She laughs.

REGINA: Okay, now I have to do math. Four times 30, 29, 33, plus six, 39 and four is six... three, 12... 156? Does that sound right?

Big ones?

REGINA: Oh no, I'm talking about just the desk monitors. I've got 10 70-inch monitors, I know that. I've got one video wall that has 12 monitors.

The Crew Makes It Work

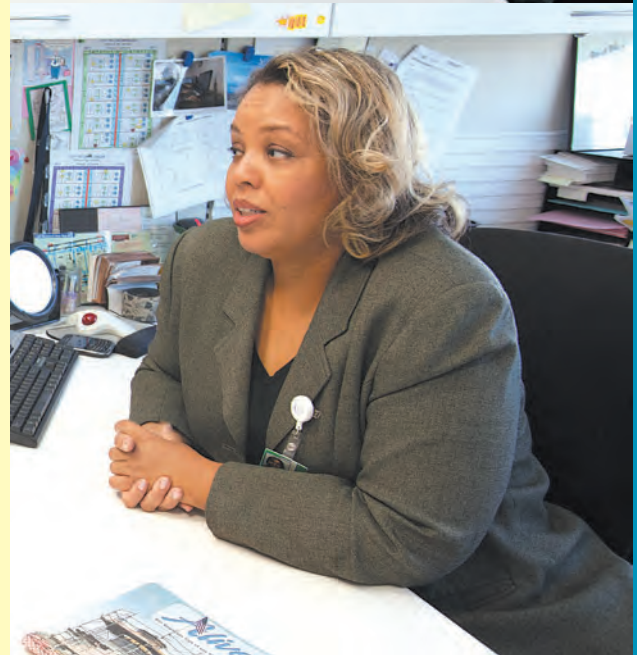
Tell me about your crew – how passionate they are about this new model? New models aren't always easy for people to adapt to.

REGINA: The crew has been great. This project was put on a fast track because our executive director saw a need to bring it together. Our staff was great in that, within one month, they had learned about six different softwares and they came in and they started using it. They provided some valuable feedback to help us improve it.

Everyone's been really great about it. Police have really seen a benefit to it, being able to share information, and at the same time getting a better understanding of airport operations management, seeing how their work impacts the rest of the airport.

It's changing how we all do business. Before, we just worked in our little silos. But now we see that we depend on each other. The staff has taken to it very well. Our duty managers have done a really great job to bring everyone in the ARCC together to be able to keep them on the same page, regardless of how minor or how major an incident is.

This is really a big change for [Airports] and Airport Operations. The ARCC is being tasked to manage the airport, and it's changing how all of our divisions work together. It's making operations take on a bigger role than it had in the past. We want to coordinate with everyone to make this airport run smoothly, and that's new. It's exciting because we're doing what it takes not

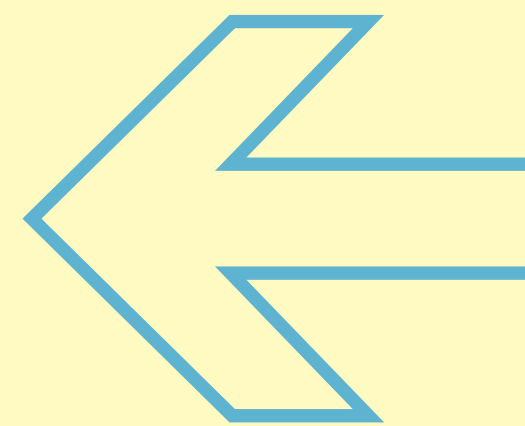


Regina Tennelle, Club Member, is interviewed in her office.

only to keep our license or to keep our airport certified, but we're also doing whatever it takes to make sure that the airport runs safely and smoothly for the traveling public. That is our foremost objective with ARCC. Airport Operations is taking the lead on it, and we're working with all of our partners to get to that goal.

That's great, Regina. Thanks for your time.

REGINA: You're welcome.



City Employees of ARCC

Airport Response Coordination Center



Keeping Watch

Employees from several different City departments are grouped as one inside the Airport Response Coordination Center (ARCC). We'll list them here by function.

– The team was photographed during a normal business day, Dec. 7, 2011.

Work Request Desk

Work orders from LAX ground personnel are managed here.



Steve Duker, Airport Superintendent of Operations I, 2 years of City service.

Bob Daly, Airport Superintendent of Operations I, 6 months of City service, Club Member.

Gate Control

These employees monitor ground activity at the gates – planes arriving and departing the gates, the movement of airport personnel and equipment, and other functions.



Dee McKenna, Airport Superintendent of Operations, 11 years of City service, Club Member.

Daphne Carter, Superintendent of Operations II, 11 years of City service, Club Member.

Below: Images displayed on some of the large monitors inside the ARCC.



Bus Operations Dispatch Desk

Airfield Bus Operations plays a large part in moving passengers between their gate and their plane if it's parked at a remote gate without direct access to a terminal. Bus Operations also brings arriving international passengers to a U.S. Customs and passport control center, if their terminal does not have such a facility. Bus Operations was featured in *Alive!* last year.

Below: Mark Baskins, Sr. Bus Operator Supervisor, 32 years of City service.



Above: Gathered for a bus operations meeting at ARCC are, from left: Tom Pazdemik, Bus Operator, 19 years of City service, Club Member; Philip Harrell, Bus Operator, 21 years; Julia Rose, Bus Operator, 11 years; Fred Gilmore, Bus Operator, 11 years; and Ulysses Aguirre, Airport Manager.

Administration

Managing the ARCC requires dedicated professionals.



Dorsey Martin, Clerk, 23 years of City service, Club Member.



ALIVE! FEATURE

Facilities

These employees monitor and manage the use and maintenance of facilities.

Below: Alfred Calderon, Airport Maintenance Supervisor III, 20 years of City service, Club Member.



Above: Calvin Lew, Transportation Engineering Associate IV, 12 years of City service.

Airport Police

The airport response center maintains a direct link to Airport Police for immediate response if necessary.

Below: Sgt. Myrna Carbajo, Airport Police, 8 years of City service, Club Member.



Above: Officer Casey Brummer, Computer Operating Officer, Airport Police, 5 years of City service, Club Member.

Transportation

ARCC has direct links to the city's Transportation Dept. and monitors and can alter the traffic signals in the vicinity of LAX as conditions warrant, to keep the road traffic moving. ARCC has a direct link to Transportation's major traffic control center – ATSAC – downtown.



Patrick Tomcheck, Sr. Transportation Engineer, 27 years of City service, Club Member, explains his function to Club CEO John Hawkins (center) and *Alive!* editor John Burnes.

Duty Manager

The Duty Manager desk has overall management responsibilities. The Duty Manager oversees the ARCC and is responsible for having situational awareness of LAX operations from the roadways to the terminals and the airfield.



Beham Nematzadeh, Duty Manager, 16 years of City service.

Below: The ARCC contains controlled lighting for better efficiency in viewing the monitors.





From left are happily retired Port Police Officers and Club Members David Knight, Skip Staal and Ken Hobbs.

Goodbye, Skip

Officer Skip Staal retires from Port Police after a long City career.



The retirement flyer.



Sgt. Dan Cobos, Club Member, with his wife, Carolyn.



From left: Dr. John Burns, Western Medical; and Officer Skip Staal, Club Member, with his wife, Kim.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

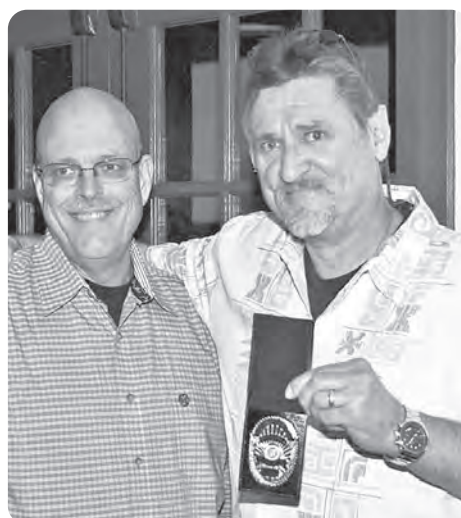
Longtime Club Member Port Police Officer Skip Staal retired from the force after a distinguished career in the City.

A ceremony was held for him Jan. 21 at the Cabrillo Marina Plaza in San Pedro.

He started his career in 1987 by working in the Housing Authority Police. After 12 years there, he transferred to the Airport Police in 1999, and then to the Port Police in 2001. At retirement, he worked on the Port Police's Tactical Planning and Hazmat Unit.

He was a member of ten industry associations. Congratulations on a great career, Skip, from the Club! Happy retirement.

Special thanks to Retired Port Police Officer Ken Hobbs, Club Member, and his wife, Margie.



From left: Lt. Ken Hawkes presents Port Police Officer Skip Staal with his retired badge.



Sgt. Nathan Ewert, 15 years of City service, Club Member, with Arlene Herrero, Club Product Manager.



Port Police Officer Andy Wang, 4 years of City service, Club Member, with his guest, Jenny Chung.



From left: Sgt. Mike Alva, 25 years of City service, Club Member; Sgt. Robert Myers, 22 years, Club Member; Motor Officer David Armijo, 26 years, Club Member; and Port Police Officer Rudy Meza, 31 years, Club Member.



From left: Ted Fernandez, MA II, Club Member; and Keith Garcia, Emergency Coordinator.



From left: Jessica Bautista, Management Aide, 16 years of City service, Club Member; Brandon A. Smith, SLO, Club Member; and Christine Pina, Clerk Typist, 6 years, Club Member.



From left: Retired Officer Ken Hobbs, Club Member; Tony Guerrero, Port Police Security Officer, 30 years of City service; and Port Police Officer Rudy Meza, 31 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Frank Huang, LAPPOA Treasurer, Club Member; Dong Lee, SLO, Club Member; Michelle Huang, guest.



Back: Fernando Martinez, SLO, 6 years of City service, Club Member. Seated: Yesenia Zacarias, niece; Valerie, daughter; Lorena Martinez, spouse; and Marisol Guevara, niece.



From left: Alex Castillo, SLO, 6 years of City service, Club Member; Fernando Martinez, SLO, 6 years, Club Member; and K-9 Officer Ismael Flores, 6 years, Club Member.



From left: Port Police Officer Brent Grieger, "The Face," Club Member; William Yocham, SLO, 12 years of City service, Club Member; and Alfonso Garcia, Tactical Planning Unit, Club Member.



From left: Mary Mathis-Hargett, guest; and Sgt. Rod Gray, Retired, Housing Authority.



Back, from left: Margie and Ken Hobbs, Retired Port Police Officer, Club Member. Seated: Tabitha, daughter of Retired Port Police Officer Ken Hobbs; and Mary Ramos, Clerk Typist, 6 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Lawanda Reynolds, representing Congresswoman Laura Richardson's Office; Retired Port Police Officer Robert Reynolds, Club Member, and their daughter, Sabrina.



Sue and Lt. Ken Hawkes, 23 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Barbara Carroll, guest; Port Police Officer Stacey Creech, 4 years of City service, Club Member; and Allison Brown with her husband, Sgt. Ian Schunke, 11 years, Club Member.



From left: Russi, Lorie, Hoda and Ralk Verbeck, Retired Santa Monica Police Dept., stopped by to help celebrate.

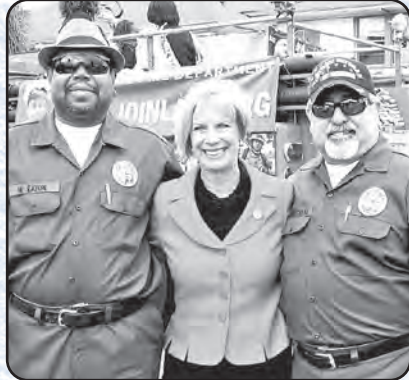
CITY EMPLOYEES AT WORK

Here are a few pictures of City crews from the South Los Angeles Sanitation Yard, Public Works/Sanitation, at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade.



From left: **Norris Eaton, Wendy Greuel** (City Comptroller), and **Richard Rodriguez**.

Special thanks to Paul Harley, Club Member, for submitting these photos.



From left: **Norris Eaton, Janice Hahn**, Club Member; and **Richard Rodriguez**.



Roylan Brown, Traffic Officer, 3 years of City service.



Francisco Moreno, Gardener/Caretaker, Rec and Parks, 6 years of City service, proudly takes down the flag at Hansen Dam.



Here's some of the crew at the Lincoln Heights Library branch. From left: **Rosa Orozco, Shirley Ly**, Club Member; **Nicole Banks**, Club Member; and **Vi Ha**.

Special thanks to Steven Cheng, Sr. Librarian, 9 years of City service.

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Did you know?

One out of 7 adults (age 18 and older) in California has been diagnosed with

diabetes. Additionally, 1 in 5 adults in California has pre-diabetes and are at high risk for type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes rates in California have doubled in the last decade. If present trends continue, one in three Americans born today will develop diabetes in their lifetime— one in two if African American or Latino.



www.diabetes.org/laexpo



Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Emma Christopher	18mo	James Christopher	DWP
Collin Sousa	2	John R. Sousa	Airports
Jack Christopher	4	James Christopher	DWP
Riley Edemann	4	Craig Edemann	Rec & Parks
Samantha Edemann	4	Craig Edemann	Rec & Parks
Zain Hassan	4	Jessica Hassan	LACERS
Ernie Vigil	4	Christina Palacios	DWP
Natalia Cole	5	Barbara Cole	Retired
Anthony Hamilton Jr.	5	Nicole Hamilton	LAPD
Susana Moreno	5	Elmer Moreno	General Services
Jack Rigney	5	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Lily Rigney	5	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Addison Sosa	5	John Sousa	Airports
Macey Edemann	6	Craig Edemann	Rec & Parks
Brianna Hamilton	6	Nicole Hamilton	LAPD
Lugo Plascencia	6	Gustavo Plascencia	City Attorney
Echo Price	6	Christopher Price	Transportation
Megali Ravelo	6	Rena Ravelo	Airports
Emilee Smith	6	Stefanie Smith	Rec & Parks
Raymond Trinh	6	Thai V. Trinh	Public Works
Leilani Willard	6	Amy Willard	DWP
Alyssa Caton	7	Thomas Caton	DWP
Kaylee Gallegos	7	Leonard Gallegos	Harbor
Vivica Martinez	7	Gustavo Martinez	Transportation
Tiaara Patterson	7	Christiann Adkins	LAPD
Fabiola Reza	7	Juan Reza	DWP
Joshlyn Aguirre	8	Robert Aguirre	DWP
Ashley Brad	8	Erica Washington	CDD
Ari Cole	8	Tanzi Cole	LAFD
Aresha Echols	8	Charles R. Echols	Retired
Kaylee Gabon	8	Audie Gabon	DWP
Reyna Johnson	8	Rhonda Baychue	LAPD
Gracel Mutuc	8	Lyzel Mutuc	DWP
Alison Reyes	8	Irma Gonzalez	Personnel
Elisa Ruiz	8	Robert Ruiz	DWP
Lucy Ruiz	8	Ignacio Ruiz	General Services
Rebecca Shannon	8	Laura Cervantes	Public Works
Jalen Tennyson	8	Stacey Tennyson	LAPD
Savannah Ulloa	8	David Miner	Harbor
Tatizia Abcede	9	Redentor Abcede	LAPD
Jackie Ibarra	9	Elvia Ibarra	LAPD
Maia Melendez	9	Carlos Ojeda	Retired
Adam Moreno	9	Elmer Moreno	General Services
Aliyah Oseguera	9	Sal Felimino	DWP
Peter Otoshi	9	John Otoshi	DWP
Giselle Ponce	9	Cesar Ponce	Transportation
Katelin Saucier	9	Patricia Saucier	Retired
Sharlize Sutherland	9	Sharlene Sutherland	LAPD
Jessica Valadez	9	Jesus Valadez	DWP
Marisol Alvarez	10	Louie Alvarez	Rec & Parks
Luis Castellon	10	Michelle Cortez	Airports
Chloe Chaney	10	Kevin Chaney	Airports
Hailey Chun	10	Reginald Chun	City Attorney
Vian De La Torre	10	Anthony De La Torre	Airports
Josalynn De Florencio	10	Alex De Florencio	DWP
Nick Fischer	10	Russ Fischer	DWP
Kate Gabon	10	Audie Gabon	DWP
Aubrey Grijalva	10	Margaret Grijalva	Transportation
Destiny Hamilton	10	Nicole Hamilton	LAPD
Aislinn Hoerricks	10	Kenneth Hoerricks	LAPD
Meghan McCarthy	10	William F. McCarthy	DWP
Raphael Mutuc	10	Lyzel Mutuc	DWP
Cori O'Campo	10	Ronald W. Goodman	Public Works
Diana Rodriguez	10	Virginia Erikson	Retiree
Charlene Salandanan	10	Marlene Salandanan	Controllers
Isaac Truong	10	Richard Truong	ITA
Sheyla Villamil	10	Barbara B. Jackson	Airports
Viviana Arredondo	11	Jaime Arredondo	Airports
Tatiana Cole	11	Barbara Cole	Retired
Priscilla Fuentes	11	Sonia R. Fuentes	DWP
Cassandra Hernandez	11	Eduardo Hernandez	Rec & Parks
Samantha Navas	11	Guillermo E. Nava	Rec & Parks
Joseph Otoshi	11	John Otoshi	DWP
Michael Soto Jr.	11	Michael Soto	Housing
Brian Valmonte	11	Brillando Valmonte	General Services
Madison Zordilla	11	Katie Zordilla	DWP
Zoila Aki	11	Joseph Aki Jr.	Retired
Samantha Barajas	12	Jorge Barajas	Public Works
Kimberly Garcia	12	Ruben Garcia	LAPD
Michael Mutuc	12	Lyzel Mutuc	DWP
Reann Ramirez	12	Tiana Munoz	LACERS
Alexandra Rios	12	Guillermo Rios	LAPD
Dylan Rodriguez	12	Samuel A. Reyes	Rec & Parks
Lanelle Tse	12	Zasky Tse	Airports
Daniel Bautista	13	Sandra Bautista	LAPD
Bailey Louie	13	Andrew Louie	DWP
Krysten Racs	13	Paul Racs	Public Works
Jessica Sousa	13	John R. Sousa	Airports
Angelique Ward	13	L.T. Ward	Airports

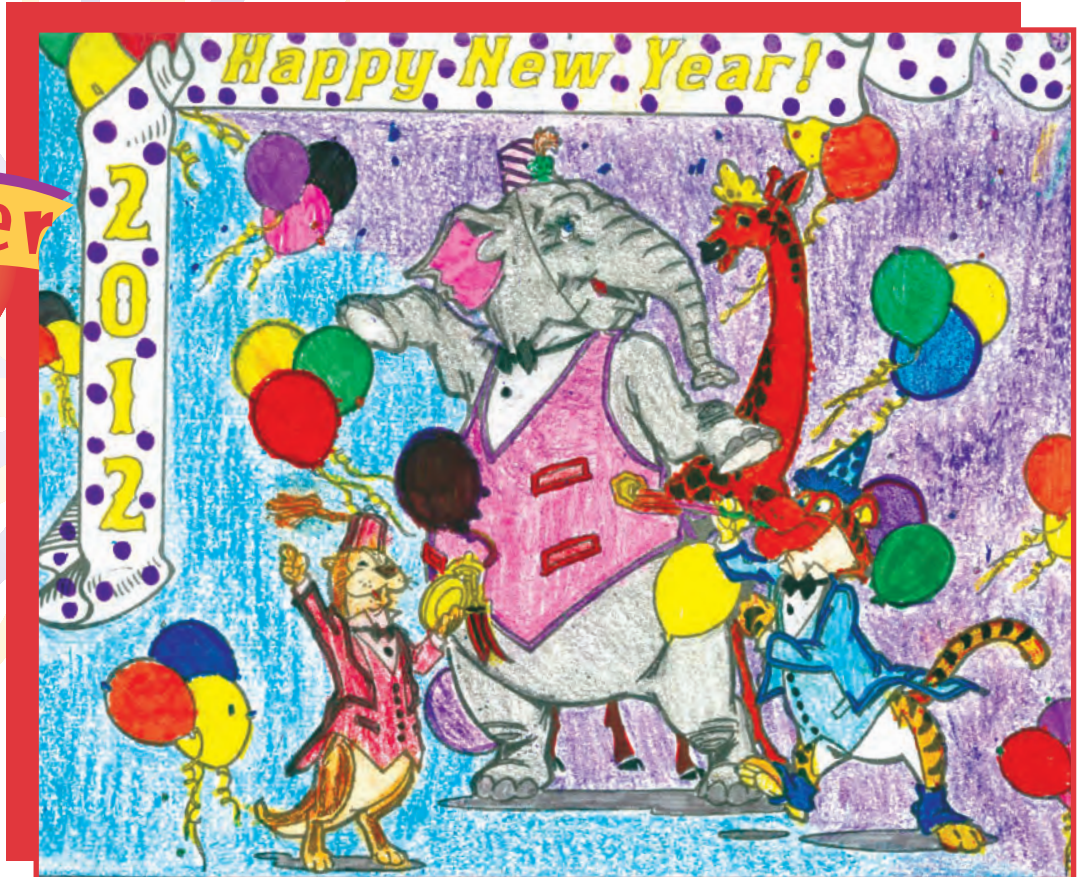


Winner
5 & under
YEARS OLD

Logan Swearinger, 4

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Fresh Beat Band"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Cheese and crackers
- BEST FRIEND: Xanya
- WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Seaworld
- PARENT: Jessica Swearinger, Park Services Attd., Zoo

Winner
6 to 7
YEARS OLD



Uriah Vigil, 7

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "So Random"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Brownies
- BEST FRIEND: Mari Cruz
- WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Disneyland... they have a new ride she wants to go on and because we haven't been there in a long time.
- PARENT: Christina Palacios, UPCT and Ernie Vigil, DWP.



Winner
8 to 10
YEARS OLD

Zachary Oghigiah, 9

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "The Simpsons"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Bear claws
- BEST FRIEND: Nathan
- WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Knott's Berry Farm because I have never gone and always wanted to.
- PARENT: George Oghigiah, Equipment Mechanic, General Services.





Congratulations to the WINNERS!

of our Club Coloring Contest!

Congratulations to the winners of *Alive!*'s last coloring contest. Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top four participants win 4 Free Tickets to the Amusement Park of your choice!

Look for our next contest in the April edition of *Alive!*

Hector Olivares, 11

- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Adventure Time"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Cheddar flavored chips
- BEST FRIEND: Steven
- WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: I want to go to Disneyland because I want to get on Space Mountain.
- PARENT: Yoly Ortiz, Senior Clerk Typist, General Services.

Winner
11 to 13
YEARS OLD



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John Hawkins, Club CEO

John's Picture Perfect Contest



"My daughter Sophie, giving the sunset a hug! Early January at El Portal beach. On this particular day, the low tide and sunset were just minutes apart." – **Mike Aubin, Airports**

John's comments: What can I say, I'm a sucker for sunsets, and this one is one of the best I've ever seen. The silhouette of Sophie is sharp and clear, and the stance she has is just so typical for a little child. A perfect picture indeed!



Atop Runyon Canyon facing south, taken on an iPhone by **Gregory Park, Transportation**.

John's comments: "There's so much that I like about this shot – the sepia tone feeling, the pensiveness of the dog's owner, the soft sweeping sunset and the sharpness of the foreground. Suitable for framing, Gregory!"



"I took this picture of a historic train steam engine displayed at Griffith Park in the Travel Town Museum. The massive contours, angles, shadows and the coal black color of the engine structure were a perfect setup for an ideal picture of the train. The beautiful cloud formation, blue sky, and the green hills in the background were just icing on the cake."

– **Glenn Abellanosa**

John's comments: I practically grew up at Travel Town. I can remember to this day recklessly running with my brothers and sister (all six of them) in and out and on top of all the different trains. It was a magical time! And Glenn, you really captured this ol' steam engine fantastically – it's almost as if she's posing just for the camera! The brilliantly blue sky and rich landscape make this train literally pop out of the page. Thanks Glenn, keep 'em coming!

RULES:

- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to: Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@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.

For Retired Club Members

The Best Years



City Retiree Associations

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

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

RLACEI Upcoming Events

Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 701 for reservations.

- April 12:** General meeting, 1 p.m., Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles.
- June 7:** RLACEI Golf Tournament, Alhambra Golf Club
- Aug. 9:** Picnic, 11:30 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Los Angeles
- Oct. 4:** Annual corporation meeting and elections, 1 p.m., Friendship Auditorium
- Dec. 6:** Holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium

RLACEI Website

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

Contact LACERS

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

DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, *President*
Phone: (626) 445-7376
E-mail: vincedolores@gmail.com
www.dwpretirees.org

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Bill Quinn, *President*
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Fax: (626) 285-1461
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www.larfpa.org

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LARFPA



Lee Keebler

By Lee Keebler,
LARFPA Director

We knew that this year would bring some surprises, but we didn't think it would start so soon. At the Feb. 2 meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Pensions, General Manager Michael Perez announced that he would be retiring May 4. He has served the City for 32 years in an outstanding manner, and our retirees will miss him. Michael – enjoy your well-deserved retirement. Commission President Von Voigt will be appointing an ad hoc committee to initiate a search for a new General Manager.

In February, the Pension Department's Post Retirement Unit started its annual "Alive and Well" audit for all of the members of the System 90 years of age or older. There are 542 members in this category; let's hope they are all well and

healthy. I looked up to see who was the oldest retiree in our Pension System. The winner, at 104 years young, was Vinita Picinich, a Police widow. The oldest Police Officer, Stewart Jones, is 100, and the oldest Firefighter, Jack Rein, is 97.

Here are some interesting facts that may affect future decisions on health care, published by the California Health Care Foundation. This information includes both private and public health care. Some of the findings are: Since 2002, family health premiums have risen 153 percent, more than five times the California inflation rate of 29 percent. California premiums for individual coverage were more than \$500 (\$5,970 to \$5,429) higher in 2011 and, for family coverage, almost \$700 (15,724 to \$15,073) more. California employers contribution rate is higher than the national average. The annual contri-

but ion rate for California employers for single-care coverage is \$5,213, \$11,921 for family coverage. From this little bit of information, you can see that health insurance is rising much faster than our income. Will it ever level off?

We have several retired organizations that have regular breakfast or dinner meetings around the Southland, where you can meet old friends and reminisce about the good old days. Like the Police Department's "Associates," the "Fuzz That Wuz," and Fire Department's "So. Orange County and N. San Diego County Breakfast" and "Breakfast at the Firehouse." Try one of them out; you will enjoy the outing. For more information call our office at (888) 288-5073.

Don't forget our general meeting at Grace Simons Lodge on March 7. Hope to see you there.

Public Pension Reforms

RLACEI



Michael Karsch

RLACEI
Legislative Report
by Michael Karsch

"Let's look ahead for 2012 in the area of public pensions.

"First of all, let's look at the pension reform by Gov. Jerry Brown for those systems controlled by the State (CalPERS and CalSTRS), which cover all state employees and most local government personnel (not the City of Los Angeles, however). Secondly, there are initiatives currently being circulated for signatures. The governor wants to raise retirement ages for new hires, equal sharing of the cost of pensions between employers and employees, hybrid risk sharing pensions for new hires, prohibiting the purchase of 'air time' for additional credits, requiring a three-year average calculation for final compensation, and reduction of retiree health care costs. The governor's proposal has been presented to the Legislature's

Conference Committee on Public Employee Pensions.

"Of the two initiatives cleared for circulation, the backers have objected to Attorney General Kamala Harris's official description of the measures, saying that they would reduce benefits for current and future employees, including teachers, nurses and police officers. According to the press report in the *Sacramento Bee*, the reform backers need a 'huge infusion of cash quickly to have a chance to put one of the two proposals before voters.'

"CalPERS made a 1.1 percent investment return in 2011, far short of its goal of a 7.75 percent rate of return.

"San Bernardino County Supervisors are still considering a move to put every pension benefit increase before the voters. Riverside County Supervisors want a ballot measure to allow them to decrease retirement benefits for public safety employees, and to require a vote of the people to increase the same benefits.

"In Rhode Island, the State undertook landmark reform last November, cutting \$3 billion from the state's \$7 billion in unfunded liability by raising the retirement age, suspending cost-of-living increases until the system is 80 percent funded, and by moving workers into a hybrid plan with a smaller guaranteed annuity.

"Connecticut's pension fund is only 48 percent funded, the lowest among the 50 states. The governor is proposing increases in his state's funding of the pension plan and other changes.

"San Diego City has put a comprehensive pension reform initiative on the June 5 ballot. The initiative received 116,000 signatures and was begun by the mayor and two members of the City Council. If approved by the voters, it would eliminate pensions for new city hires, except for police, and proposes a five-year salary freeze for current workers, among other changes."

Pension Reform Efforts Continue in California

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

"Mayor Antonio Villaragosa appointed Michael F. Keeley to serve on the Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System (LACERS) Board of Administration, and was confirmed by the City Council Jan. 11.

"Keeley was an adviser to Mayor Villaragosa from 2007 to 2010. Prior to that, Keeley served as Deputy Mayor in charge of the City's general fund budget for Mayor Riordan. Keeley graduated from the University of Notre Dame and then went on to receive his law degree from the University of Michigan. He

is a member of the State Board of California and the American and Los Angeles County Bar associations.

"Demographers claim that the world population reached a new high – seven billion people, up from three billion in 1960.

"According to the experts, the birthrate has over time continues to be constant; the increase in population is due primarily to the advances in health science, which have produced a much healthier and extended lifestyle and an increase in lifespan of humans, which was not the case when we were hired. Therefore those extra years add up to a lot of funding.

"I will see you at our General

Meeting April 12. LACERS will have personnel to speak to our retirees and to answer all of your questions. John Hawkins, President and CEO, and Robert Larios, Vice President of Operations, both from the City Employees Club, will be there to take photos for the award-winning *Alive!* newspaper, and they will be bringing door prizes. ACEBSA personnel will also be there taking pictures for *El Pueblo*. So smile, as you may be on candid cameras.

"Will Rogers once said, 'Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot comes from bad judgment.' It seems like our government is in the learning cycle these days."

The Best Years

Retiree Hotlines

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, and LAFUCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer's extension is listed below.

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Cliff Cannon	Ext. 715
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Stennock	Ext. 708
• Michael Wilkinson	Ext. 712

Questions: Ext. 0
RSVP: Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Mary Beetz: Publicity Chair
Cliff Cannon: Director
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer
Edward Harding: President
Michael Karsch: Treasurer
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
Tom Stennock: Second Vice President

Committee Chairpersons

Mary Beetz: Publicity
Hal Danowitz: Bylaws
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
Helen Salgado: Membership
Phil Skarin: Parliamentarian
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative
Tom Stennock: Audit
Tom Stennock and Phil Skarin: Golf

Directors

Mary Beetz
Americo Garza
Michael Karsch
Neil Ricci
Helen Salgado
Phil Skarin
Michael R. Wilkinson



The Library at Ephesus.

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

Talking Turkey

Hal and Co. continue their 28-day cruise from Europe to Singapore.

On Oct. 11, Evelyn and I, with our cousins Don and Myrna, left for Rome, where we were going to board the Ocean Princess Oct. 15 to sail for 28 days to Singapore. On the cruise we were scheduled to visit Sorrento, Italy; Athens; Ephesus, Turkey; through the Suez Canal; two ports in Egypt; Aqaba, Jordan; Dubai in the United Arab Emirates; Muscat, Oman; and India. In India, we were scheduled to take a side trip to the Taj Mahal. Finally, the cruise would take us to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, before ending in Singapore. We both had reserved mini-suites on deck eight. The Ocean Princess is a small ship, which accommodates only slightly more than 600 passengers and a crew of 250.



St. Mary's House.



Evelyn at St. Mary's House.

We pick up the story on Oct. 19, when we docked in Kusadasi, Turkey. Our tour began at 7:10 a.m. That day we visited Ephesus, the ruins of the Roman provincial capital, the House of the Virgin Mary, and then the Basilica of St. John. There were only 22 of us on the tour, and we had a great guide. We started at St. Mary's house [the Vatican considers the site holy, but takes no position on its absolute authenticity as the final resting place of Mary – Ed.]. She lived out her life in relative obscurity after fleeing Jerusalem, according to some believers.

Ephesus was next for us, and it was as impressive as the Acropolis that we saw the day before. This was a working city with shops, government offices, a 25,000-seat theater, a large library, common baths, and a couple of the brothels for good measure. At the peak, there were 250,000 people living in Ephesus.

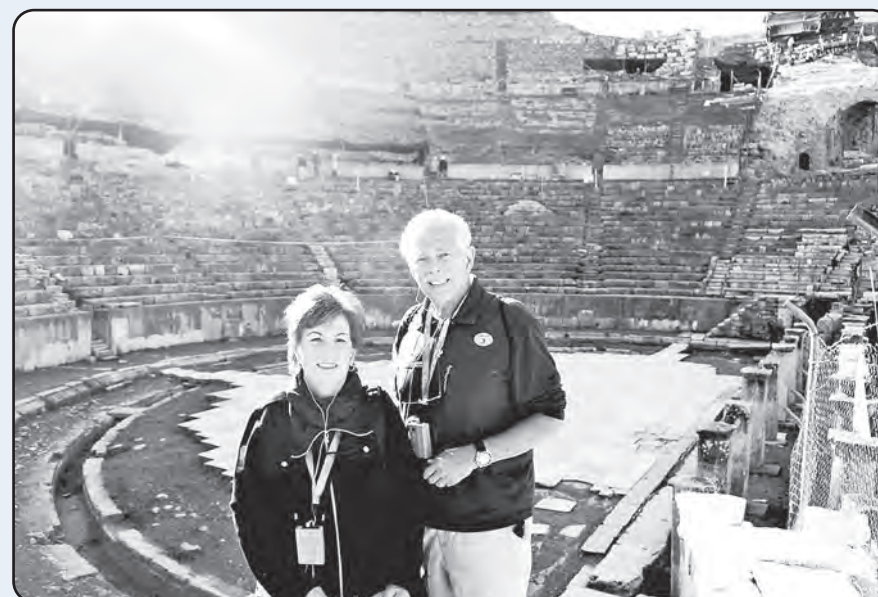
We then stopped at the Basilica of St. John, which contains the tomb of St. John the Apostle. In addition to writing the Book of Revelation, this St. John is also thought by some to have been responsible for Mary during her time in Ephesus. It is believed he lived to be more than 100 years old.

Our last stop was a Turkish rug dealer, where we learned everything we ever wanted to know about Turkish rugs, and we ended



up buying a small rug to hang on our entry hall. We don't know if we got a good price, but we bargained very hard. It's traditional in this part of the world that, as part of the sales process, you are served refreshments, either chai, apple tea, Turkish coffee, or local wine and a freshly baked soft roll filled with cheese. I guess this is to soften you up before the bargaining begins. Once you purchase something on vacation, it's best to never price it again and never regret the purchase. The rule is, buy it when you see it because in most cases you won't see it again.

After the rug purchase, we walked around the shopping area. I didn't want to do any more shopping, so we walked back to the ship. After we dropped off our purchase, Evelyn went back to do more shopping, and I sat by the pool updating our blog and having a beer. It was cold that morning, but it has warmed up to the high 60s by the afternoon. Evelyn returned and had a snack.



Evelyn and Hal at the theater at Ephesus.

RLACEI MEMBER NEWS

BY MARY BEETZ

On our last issue, **John (Jack) Ward** wrote about his friend, **Paul Barquin's** 90th birthday. The response to Jack's request of sending (Paul) a birthday card was phenomenal, according to emails I received. I myself sent him a birthday card and a happy Valentine card. He is still reading them as this goes to print. Thank you, Jack; this is a good example of keeping in touch and caring about the "family and friends" one makes while retiring from the City.

Now a surprise for you, Jack! A friend of yours remembers you and Paul while working together and asked for your address. Due to our confidential policy I did not divulge it. Mike wants to make the contact, so he included his email address. I will leave it up to you to contact him. Read his comment and have a great time as you go back in life.

"Mary, I've just sent Paul Barquin a b'day card. Thanks for running Jack Ward's

note. Now, do you happen to have Jack's address or email or phone number? Paul, Jack, and I worked together in the late '70s at the Port. I retired in 1999, long after those two did.

"Thanks again for providing a way for us old guys to keep track of each other."

– **Mike Levitt**
mglevitt@roadrunner.com

In our next issue, I'll publish what Mike Levitt is doing in his retirement years. All I can say is, "Wow!"

If you are a retiree and have interesting news or updates about yourself, your family, or other retirees, send them to mbeetz@4841@aol.com. I am sure your co-workers or the friends you made during your employment with the City will enjoy reading about your life after retirement.

I had the pizza for lunch, and it was very good.

That night there were two entertainment choices. The "Showtime" presentation featured a vocal duet that performed all of the standard songs you are familiar with. We skipped it and instead went to a late night comedy show. The entertainer was Tom Briscoe, who put on an adult comedy show. He was very funny, and the lounge was full. He did a lot of husband and wife humor, and there was something funny for everyone.

After we left Kusadasi, we turned west to sail back toward the Suez Canal, and we gained

kept the remainder for you until the next night. The wine by the glass menu wasn't inspiring.

The next day the sea was calm and the sky was blue. Around 8 a.m., it is warm outside. Evelyn and I went to the gym for some exercise, even though we had been doing a lot of walking on the tours.

There were a number of lecturers on board, and I attended the lecture on the Suez Canal that morning. We planned to play bridge that afternoon.

At 4 p.m. there was an anti-piracy drill. We had received a set of instruction on precautions that would be in effect while we were in a "high-alert status." This was the practice for about two years on all cruise ships sailing in this part of the world.

After my workout, I stepped on the scale, so I ate fruit for breakfast that morning. With unlimited food available, you need to be careful and selective. As Scarlet said, "Tomorrow is another day," and there will be more food.

I took a walk around the ship, which, given its size, doesn't take too long. The Ocean Princess weighs 30,000 tons, about one-third the size of Princess' other ships. It carried only 680 passengers and a crew of about 350. There was

one dining room with two seatings, and a buffet that was open for breakfast and lunch. The dining room was also open for lunch as open seating. The buffet changed to the Bistro in the evening for casual dining. There was a grill on the pool deck that made hamburgers and hot dogs, and a pizza station that was open until 11 p.m. There were two specialty restaurants, a steakhouse and an Italian (they alternate days). There was a charge (\$20 and \$25) per person for the specialty restaurants.

There was a large pool and two whirlpools, a gym, and a spa, with a beauty and barber-shop. There was a nice-sized library; you always want to go to the library early in the cruise to get the best selection of books. There was also a card room and an Internet area (wireless is available throughout the ship) with



10 computer stations.

There was a charge for using the Internet with a number of packages (based on the number of minutes you purchase) available. Because we had platinum status, we received 500 minutes free each.

Our cabin was a mini-suite, which was a lot wider than the regular balcony cabin. We had lots of storage space, a bigger-than-queen-sized

front of the ship. Our cabins were right in the middle on deck eight. When we left the cabin we had to remember that we ate in the back of the ship and were entertained in the front of the ship so that we could remember which way to walk.

There was a lot to do during the day and in the evening – trivia, pool games, and demonstrations by the cruise staff. Each bar area had a singer or group, in addition to the main evening show. There was also a lot of places to just sit and do nothing if you wanted.

The lecture on the Suez Canal was well

attended. It was going to be interesting going through it. The canal is 190 kilometers long. Traffic is one way at a time. There were two southbound convoys and one northbound convoy each day. Somewhere in the middle they pass each other.

After lunch (I tried the hot dog from the grill – a one-time event, as it was not that good), we played bridge and did much better that session. We still were only good beginners in bridge.

As we finished up at bridge, the anti-piracy drill began. We had to go to our cabins, sit on the floor, draw the drapes shut and leave the door open so they could be sure where everyone was. The captain came over the speakers and explained that this was a simulation of an attack and what action the ship would take.

After the drill, Myrna and Evelyn decided that we should walk a mile around the track, which is on deck 10, above the pool area. It was 13 laps to equal a mile.

We continued to receive a large plate of appetizers each evening. Myrna tried to get

them to stop, but we must not have communicated well. (Don was happy they were still being sent).

We began our passage through the Suez Canal the next morning, and I'll report on that next month.



Basilica of St. John.

back an hour on the clock. At some point we would turn south toward Egypt and the canal.

The next day was a sea day, and we would get to sleep in, which was going to be nice. We had a late dinner seating at 8:15 p.m., and the entertainment started at 10:15 p.m., so we were not getting to sleep very early; the getting up for the tours before dawn had taken some effort. We thought about switching to the early dinner seating, but we were very happy with our table-mates.

So far the service, in both the dining room and our cabin, had been very good. The food is okay, but nothing outstanding. Dinner takes about an hour and three-quarters, but it seemed the right pace.

The ship made it easy to order any wine by the bottle and have a glass or two, because they



Truth in the market. This was taken just outside Ephesus.

bed, a six-foot sofa, and a small coffee table and two armchairs. The balcony had two chairs, two lounges, and a table. Don and Myrna were in the room next to us.

Evelyn was happy because there were two coffee stations, one at each end of the ship, on different decks, where she could get her specialty coffee drinks. She purchased a coffee card, which provides a discount. You can always get free coffee and tea, both hot and cold, but not the fancy Starbucks-type drinks or even espresso. There were two lounges in the front of the ship – one on deck five, used for the nightly entertainment, and one on deck nine, which had different attractions daily. The one on deck nine had a wonderful view from the



The Ocean Princess.



By Mary Beetz,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

LACERS Update

"LACERS receives second award for medical claim costs reimbursement: Last year, LACERS applied for and was accepted into the federal government's Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP). Through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, the ERRP was created to assist plan sponsors like LACERS in maintaining coverage for early retirees by reimbursing them a portion of eligible retiree medical claims.

"LACERS was one of the first agencies to apply for and receive funds with the first award of \$3.8 million in April 2011. Funds from the first award were scheduled to expire by the end of March 2012.

"With the new award of an additional \$2.1 million, eligible retired members enrolled in LACERS medical plans will continue to have temporary reductions in monthly medical plan premium deductions extended through at least December.

"Health Plan Confirmation Statement: You should be receiving your Health Plan Confirmation Statement in March. Your statement includes important information regarding your LACERS health plan coverage. Please review this document to ensure that your elections made during Open Enrollment are accurately reflected.

"If any of your information is incorrect, you need additional forms, or you have questions

about your health benefits, contact LACERS at (800) 779-8328. You can also download forms and get answers to many of your questions by visiting LACERS' Website at www.LACERS.org.

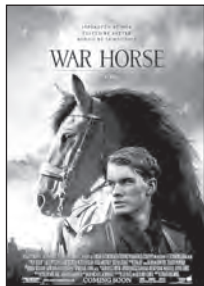
"New Year, new health plan card: If you changed plans or transitioned to the Anthem Blue Cross Medicare Advantage LPP0, please inform your doctor's office during your next visit to avoid any confusion about billing. Even if you've been seeing your medical provider for many years, be sure to present your new health plan card, since it may have new information your provider will need in order to process your bill."

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies

• In the cinema

**War Horse**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

War Horse is a movie directed by Steven Spielberg that is a drama war film. There's no big name star in this movie, but you will fall in love with the main character, Joey, the "war horse."

This movie takes place just before and through World War I. The story is about the relationship between a boy and a horse, sort of like Lassie. The two get separated because of the war. The fate of Joey is shown between the British cavalry, German soldiers, a French farmer and his granddaughter.

This is by far one of the best movies I have seen, a great family movie for older kids.

– Gwen Lew, DWP

**Mission: Impossible: Ghost Protocol**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Tom Cruise is Agent Ethan Hunt, and the IMF is shut down when it is wrongly accused in a bombing of the Kremlin. Hunt and his new team must try to clear the name

of the IMF.

And so it goes, the latest and maybe the best of the *Mission Impossible* series. I saw the movie on an Imax screen, which was a big plus, and the combination of fantastic action, great stunts, humor and cliff-hangers delivers the entertainment in buckets. Don't miss it.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This fourth installment stars Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Vladimir Mashkov, Simon Pegg, and Ving Rhames.

There was a twist to the regular plot: The Mission Impossible organization (IMF) has been accused of a terrorist bomb plot. Tom Cruise and his team activate the "ghost protocol" and go undercover to clear their name. There was never a dull moment. It was full of action and suspense. Just knowing the Tom Cruise did his own stunts was amazing [supposedly]. – Ed.]

– Pat Saucier, DWP (retired)

Mission: Impossible: Ghost Protocol

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol is perhaps the best film in the series. Tom Cruise and Jeremy Renner head up a great cast that works well within the confines of the film. The story may be a bit over the top, and certain scenes could have ended a little better, but the majority of the film is a nonstop action-packed ride fun of thrills and excitement. It is not the smartest action

movie out there, but it may be the best action movie to have come out of 2011. I am definitely seeing this one again.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Mission: Impossible: Ghost Protocol

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This fourth installment of the *Mission: Impossible* franchise, with Tom Cruise returning as IMF agent Ethan Hunt, is not necessarily the best of them all, but a few humorous anecdotes and everything that could go wrong, does go wrong gave it a little character that made it a very entertaining movie. This time, the IMF team consists of Simon Pegg as Benji Dunn who returns as his reliable techie; newcomer Paula Patton as Jane Carter, a beautiful and dangerous agent; and Jeremy Renner as William Brandt, who insists he's just an analyst. IMAX is the way to see this movie: The enhanced sound and visual effects kept me focused on the action.

– Chuck Beas, DWP

**The Devil Inside**

Rated R

My Score: 1 (out of 5)

Being a fan of horror movies, I was very disappointed at this movie. It was not scary at all. I felt like I wanted a refund immediately. The plot of this movie is based on true events, and most horror films that are based on true events always seem to lack excitement. I wouldn't recommend seeing this movie to anyone.

– Tanieka Umi, Transportation

**The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo**

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This movie starts out a little slow. However, when the action begins, it's non-stop. This movie is filled with action, romance and mind-bending clues to a plot that has a surprising twist in the end. All of the acting was superb. Each character sends the audience through an emotional roller coaster of shock, spurts of laughter and intriguing suspense.

– Tanieka Umi, Transportation

**Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

One of the best reasons to see a movie, any movie, is to be entertained. And this latest Sherlock Holmes release delivers the entertainment

in spades. Directed by Guy Ritchie and starring Robert Downey Jr. as Holmes, nothing slows this thriller down to its surprising and humorous end. The story is familiar: Holmes and Watson (Jude Law) must outwit the evil Professor Moriarty to prevent chaos... but this is not the usual detective tale. Ritchie is expert at thrillers, and this is no exception.

The film score by Hans Zimmer is another one of the movie's many pleasures.

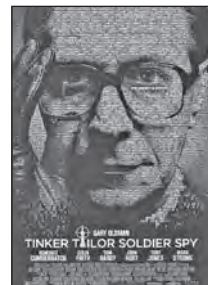
– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This latest Sherlock Holmes installment holds your attention for the entire two hours! This sequel, I have to admit, is better than the one he did for *Iron Man*. (Sorry, Robert!) The cinematography is incredible and the nonstop action is, well, nonstop! Also the stop-action sequences are amazingly impressive, and well, what woman can resist Robert Downey Jr. in lipstick and fabulous eye color? Jude Law is also impressive in his role. There are quite a few knuckle-biting scenes. It's certainly a great movie to see on the big screen, and the ending leaves another movie to follow. I can't wait!

– Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

**Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy**

Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

In the early 1970s, at the height of the Cold War, British spymaster George Smiley (Gary Oldman) is forced to retire after an important mission goes bad. Smiley is brought back to try and find a hidden Soviet agent in the upper echelons of the spy service.

This classic spy thriller is slow moving, murky, and overly cerebral. The acting is top-notch, but the tale told is convoluted and confusing. I heard many complaints from people leaving the theatre that they just could not understand what was happening. Too bad, but this is one film to avoid.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

**Joyful Noise**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

I loved it! Queen Latifah and Dolly Parton did a great job acting like they did not like each other, with both coming from different backgrounds. It's about church singing competitions, relationships, learning to accept people no matter what, and coming together to compete.

– Pat Saucier, Retired, DWP

**Hugo**

Rated PG

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Finally, a 3-D movie with a story that is enhanced by the technology. *Hugo* is a wonderful, exciting, and warm tale of the young orphaned boy living in the Paris train station. With Ben Kingsley

as the toy shop owner and Sasha Baron Cohen as the station policeman, this film just keeps getting better and more interesting until its exciting conclusion.

Not just a young boy's story, *Hugo* also tells of the history of movies. It has humor, compassion, and imagination. Its 3-D does not induce nausea. Directed by Martin Scorsese, this is a film for all ages.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

**Haywire**

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Gina Carano shines in the role of Malory Kane in this intelligent and intriguing spy film by Stephen Soderbergh. Cast next to a who's who of credible actors including Michael Douglas, Antonio

Banderas and Michael Fassbender, Carano carries this film through impressive and thoughtful moments and blasts through the screen during her intense action sequences. She definitely holds her own against the big boys in this feature. Exciting and thought provoking, *Haywire* is a can't-miss film, and its story and buildup set it apart from the more action-oriented spy films out there.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**The Woman in Black**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Daniel Radcliffe moves away from Harry Potter to star in this knuckle-biting seat-jumping horror film. He plays an attorney attempting the sale of a mysterious house, a

house filled with dashing shadows and faces that appear in a flash. Radcliffe, instead of dashing from the house at the first sign of ghostly figures, stays to figure out who the woman in black is, and why she continues to haunt the countryside. I liked this film because it was true horror, and not graphic unnecessary scenes attempting to fall under the "horror" category in other films. Well done!

– Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

Your Reviews!

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

100 Words or Fewer

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- All reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!* (not offered to another outlet). Violations could end your ability to be published in *Alive!*

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

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

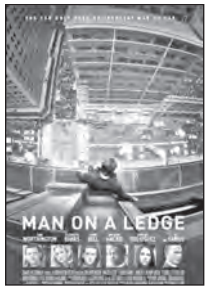
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies, *continued*

• In the cinema

**Man on a Ledge**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Man on a Ledge begins as a "simple" suicide attempt at the top of a Manhattan hotel. As the investigators attempt to talk the man back inside, it becomes apparent that there is much more to the story than this. The scenes from the floor looking down will have you grasping the arms of your seat for a sturdy hold! The last few minutes of the movie during a chase between buildings will get your adrenaline going. It's very entertaining with wonderful cinematography.

– Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

**The Grey**

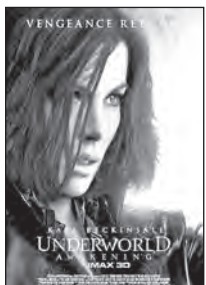
Rated R

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

The story in this movie took a while to get started, and had some slow moments throughout. However, Liam Neeson is excellent in his role of a man helping others to survive a band of wolves after a plane crash in Alaska. The special effects are well done, but the actions of these wild animals are not terribly realistic. The cinematography was very impressive, and the story kept my interest, but it was a little too graphic for me.

Note: After seeing this movie, I discovered that the director suggested that cast members eat real wolf meat to "get into character." Joe Carnahan ordered wolf carcasses from a trapper, ensuring that the animals suffered horribly before they died. While some cast members were reluctant, Neeson revealed that he went up for seconds. This infuriates me, as it was totally unnecessary and brutal. What sort of message does this send to our children of the world? Had I known this beforehand, I would have boycotted the movie.

– Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

**Underworld: Awakening**

Rated R

My Score: 1 (out of 5)

Kate Beckinsale is back as Selene, but really that is the only good thing about this movie. While it is more violent and action packed than the previous films in the *Underworld* series, it lacks a cohesive story. I get that these films are action/sci-fi movies and are there for sheer entertainment – but when the story gets lost in itself and degrades into chaos the way this one did, that is just punishing on the audience. Though slightly better than *Underworlds I and II*, that doesn't say much for this film. Wait for this one on DVD.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**Iron Lady**

Rated PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Meryl Streep is Margaret Thatcher in an amazing portrayal of the ex-British leader as she fades into old age. Her life story is told mostly in flashbacks, as she entered politics and struggled to become the longest-serving and only woman-

ever British Prime Minister.

The film is not always flattering of Thatcher's life, but the magic of makeup and Ms. Streep's portrayal is brilliant and convincing. The insights into the British political system and the history of the times (1970s and '80s) were enough to keep my attention to this slightly overlong but still well-done biopic.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

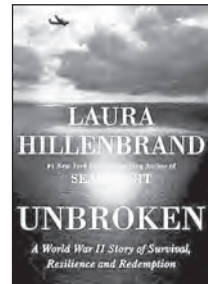
**The Descendants****My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

I know *The Descendants* is getting lots of Oscar buzz, and elements of it are quite good. The cast is strong (mostly: a personal favorite, Judy Greer, overplays an overwrought role) and the setting is fine, but the twin storylines – one concerning a comatose wife whose husband (George Clooney) discovers had an affair, the other about whether Clooney will sell his valuable Hawaiian property – have very little to do with each other. Maybe there's some deep metaphor about hanging on to family, but it's a stretch. Clooney's selfless, mature act of tracking down the man who had the affair with his wife, so that he could say goodbye to her, too, is right out of a Jesuit ethics book. It's no doubt the movie's writer/director, Alexander Payne, is Jesuit-educated (as am I; no wonder I could see it coming). It's an interesting trek for Clooney's character, but maybe hard to believe. As for the land sale, was there doubt about what Clooney would do with his land? Again, not for me.

I think *The Descendants* is so dry that it forces the viewer to create the meaning. That can be good in small measures, but not for an entire movie.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Book Reviews

**Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption**

Laura Hillenbrand

Nonfiction;

496 pages

Random House

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Unbroken is a biography of Louie Zamperini, who started out as a juvenile terror who became an Olympic athlete and then war hero. During WWII, his plane was shot down over the shark-infested Pacific and, along with two buddies, he waited for rescue. Just when you think it couldn't get any worse for them, it did.

It's such a harrowing story that I found myself flipping pages ahead because I couldn't take the suspense; needless to say I finished this book in no time. This is a great read, and for those WWII buffs out there, it's a special treat.

– Marilou Romney, LAPD

**Madman: 20th Anniversary Monster Hardcover**

Mike Allred

Adult comic;

264 pages

Image Comics

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

If you are a fan of independent comic books, you may have heard of *Madman* by creator Mike Allred. For 20 years, this zany character has mirrored, lampooned, and bumbled his way through comic pages with one of the quirkiest adventures ever put down on paper. This collection puts together some of the most important and entertaining, though sometimes not the best, stories in *Madman's* history and includes tons of extras from other talented creators from the comic book world to honor his anniversary. Here's to 20 more years from this kooky character.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

**The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

Brian Selznick

Youth fiction;

533 pages

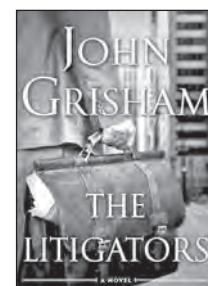
Scholastic

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

It is 1930, and 12-year-old Hugo lives in the Paris train station. An orphan, he is the station clock-keeper and a thief. His survival is threatened when the owner of a small toy booth in the train station takes his prized possession, a notebook kept by his deceased father about a secret mechanical man and its hidden message. A mysterious girl is the only one who can help him.

This remarkably exciting book, told in both words and illustrations, was a Caldecott Medal Winner in Young Adult Fiction. Historical fiction at its best, this could make a great movie. [The reviewer is joking. See his review of the movie on page 36. – Ed.]

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

**The Litigators**

John Grisham

Crime fiction,

385 pages

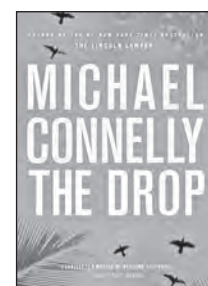
Doubleday

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Partners Oscar Finley and Wally Figg of Finley & Figg hire a new associate, David Zinc, who abruptly leaves his job at Rogan Rothberg. Finley & Figg usually handles divorce and DUIs until they stumble upon a class-action lawsuit against the drug manufacturer Varrick Labs for the cholesterol drug Krayoxx, known to cause heart attacks.

There is great courtroom drama and suspense in this legal thriller by John Grisham.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel

**The Drop**

Michael Connelly

Crime fiction,

388 pages

Little Brown and Company

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

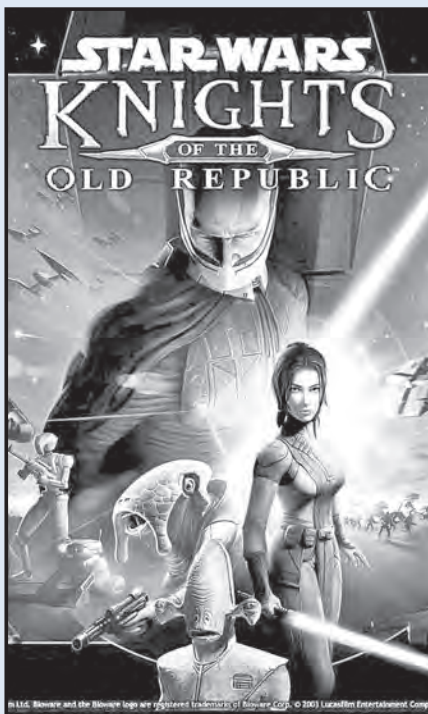
In this Michael Connelly novel, LAPD Det. Harry Bosch is facing the DROP program (Deferred Retirement Option Plan), forcing Harry to retire in three years while trying to investigate a 1989 rape and murder case, and he also investigates the death of Councilman Irvin Irving's son. DNA from both cases match a 29-year old convicted rapist. But how can the rapist be convicted of a crime in 1989 that occurred when he was 8 years old?

This exciting thriller of political conspiracy and corruption at LAPD is one of Connelly's best novels so far of his character Harry Bosch.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel

Gaming

• Videogames online, rental or purchase

**Star Wars: The Old Republic**

Rated T (Teen)

My Score 4 (out of 5)

For *Star Wars* fans, this is the game for you. Wonderful voice acting, an excellent story that explains one of the most defining times in the *Star Wars* expanded universe and brilliantly designed game play mechanics, *The Old Republic* MMO (massive multiplayer online) game is as close to living out your dreams of being a Jedi (or Sith) as you could possibly get. Some repetitive mission types that drive the fun factor down aside, this is a great game and well worth the subscription fee to play with other online *Star Wars* fans.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD





{ Who are the people you see every day? }

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

Meet Jim Poteet.



AGE: "I'm 56."
BIRTHPLACE: "Norwalk, California."
MARITAL STATUS: "I've never been married, thank God."
FAMILY: "I have one brother and one sister. Both are older than me."
MILITARY SERVICE: "No."
EDUCATION: "I went to Milliken High School in Long Beach. It wasn't enjoyable. I didn't have many friends and was pretty much a loner."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "I don't really have any nice childhood memories, and I would rather not talk about it."
RELIGION: "Not really, no."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "I live in the missions. In fact I just signed up at the Emmanuel Baptist Mission. I've been on the streets since 1980 after my mom kicked me out of the house. Not sure why she did, though."
FAVORITE PLACE IN LOS ANGELES: "The City Hall area."
WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "I worked at a company called Dynadrill. I helped ship stuff. I was there until they

fired me. Not sure why they did though. I guess that's what companies have to do."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "I don't really have one."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I like to watch PBS."
FAVORITE CANDY: "I don't really like sweets."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Steak and potatoes."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "Rock and roll."
LAST THING EATEN: "I had a baloney sandwich and chips from the mission. It was a bagged lunch."
MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION: "The missions."
IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE? "To be honest, I'm rather miserable. I'd just kind of rather be dead. I'm not going to kill myself or anything, but I really have a defeated attitude."
WHERE WILL YOU BE IN FIVE YEARS? "I'm going to die homeless."

The Club gave Jim a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.

The interview took place Feb. 13 at City Hall East downtown.

Photos by Angel Gomez and John Hawkins.

Blanket the City!



John Hawkins, Club CEO (right), distributes a blanket to a resident of the streets.

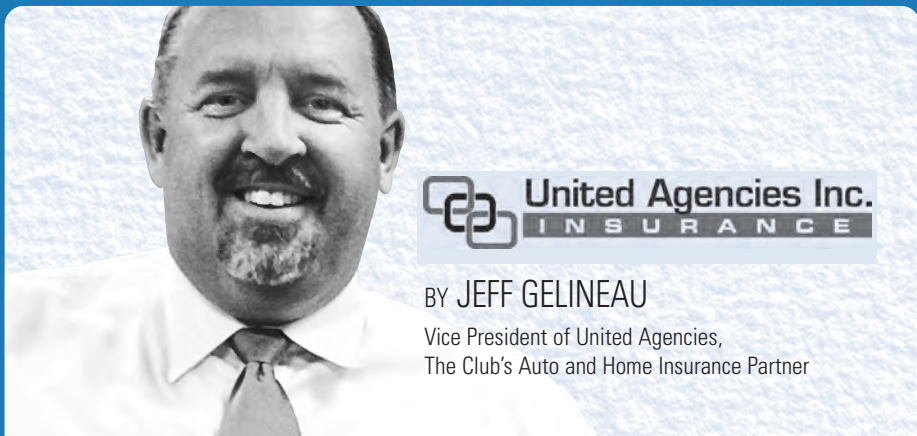
Thanks for Helping

Alive! thanks all the Club Members who so generously donated to the Blanket the City project. More than \$650 was collected and distributed to those living on the streets by way of blankets. We look to continue the project next winter.



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, Director of Member Services Angel Gomez, introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }

REST INSURED



United Agencies Inc.
INSURANCE

BY JEFF GELINEAU

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

'Can I Borrow Your Car?'

Tossing someone your keys and letting them borrow your car should never be as casual as it sounds. When you let someone borrow your car, in most cases you are also letting them borrow your car insurance as well! This is not only defined by your policy coverage but also is the state law. That being said, you don't need insurance when you borrow a car because in most states, insurance coverage follows the vehicle. While this does provide you with car insurance for a borrowed car, it does so under the terms of the other person's policy and not yours.

Lending Your Vehicle to Someone

Letting someone borrow your vehicle should never be taken lightly. You need to be able to trust that person, because any damage they cause will affect your car insurance rates. Make sure the person who borrows your car is responsible, and they are not using it for illegal or dangerous reasons.

Never let someone drive your car who has a suspended license or has been drinking! If they are in an accident, it is your insurance that has to pay for the damages caused, and your premiums that will increase dramatically. If your insurance liability limits are insufficient to pay for the damages and injuries caused by this driver and it was found that you allowed them to use your car, you could be held legally liable for additional money needed to make the other party whole. Further, you could face criminal charges for allowing a dangerous driver to use your car.

Tip: Never let someone drive your car when you have knowledge that he or she has a suspended license or has been drinking. If they are involved in an accident, you could be sued, be forced to pay for the cost of the accident, or face criminal charges. If someone who is borrowing your car gets in an accident and you are sued, contact an experienced auto accident attorney to help understand your liability.

Frequent Borrowers

It is important to realize that your insurance company bases your premium not only on your car, but on the primary driver of that car. If someone else starts driving your car on a regular basis (more than just occasionally), contact your insurance com-

pany and have them added to your policy. Be aware that adding someone to your insurance policy can change your rates.

If your insurer finds out that you are no longer the primary driver, or that you are insuring a car for someone else to drive, they may deny your car insurance claim based on you providing false information at the time of your application.

Can You Drive Someone Else's Car?

Likewise, when you borrow a car, you will borrow their car insurance as well. While this means you have car insurance when borrowing a car, it does not mean that you are fully protected. You need to know the insurance coverage of the other person before making a decision to drive a borrowed car.

Tip: Beware of driving someone's car if he or she has little or no insurance, as your policy could be triggered once their limits are exhausted.

If you get in an accident in a borrowed car, you are covered only to the extent the person's policy protects the vehicle. The borrowed car insurance may be insufficient to settle all the damages and injuries that resulted from the accident, and any additional amount of money can fall on your shoulders. Relying on the car insurance for a borrowed car can have serious consequences, and you need to think twice about borrowing a vehicle as an accident can prove costly.

Never assume that you're covered. It is always best to contact our office if you have doubts about your coverage or the rules of your policy pertaining to people that borrow your car.

Remember, everyone in your household must be listed on your insurance policy if they have a license. For example, if a girlfriend you live with uses your car, she may not be covered if you did not list her on your insurance policy. On the other hand, if you live separately, she could use your car with your permission and be covered.

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

Be safe and have fun!

About United Agencies

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

Check out our City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website at www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub. This website lists the upcoming visits we'll be making to City Department meetings where you can ask us any question in person, and get an instant quote!

Have a question?

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

AIRPORTS

New Airport Police Officers

Airport Police celebrates new group of academy graduates.



From left: Airports Assistant Chief Brian A. Walker; Officers Pedro Preciado, A'Ramond Smith, Bonita Hernandez, and Eulises Guzman; and Chief Michael T. Hyams.

Story by Officer Karla Ortiz, Airport Police;
Photo by Officer Darius J. Lewis, Airport Police

Four new police recruits joined the ranks of the Airport Police on Jan. 27 following their graduation from the LAPD Academy Class at Elysian Park.

The new officers are A'Ramond Smith, son of Airport Police Officer Eleanor J. Traylor; Bonita Hernandez; Eulises Guzman; and Pedro

Preciado. They were to be sworn in by Airport Police Chief Michael T. Hyams.

Also attending the ceremony were Arif Alikhan, Airports Deputy Executive Director of Law Enforcement and Homeland Security; Assistant Airport Police Chief Brian A. Walker; Airport Police Capt. Carolyn Smith; and a host of other Airport Police personnel.

THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

March 10:

Meet the Grunion
8 p.m.

Watch the silvery fish come up on the beach to spawn! Learn about the interesting mating rituals and growth of this curious fish. The Aquarium opens at 8 p.m., and an auditorium program begins at 9, followed by guided observation at the beach. Warm clothing and a flashlight are recommended. March, June, and July are open season, when grunion may be taken by hand only, and a valid California fishing license must be displayed if you are 16 years or older.

Fee: \$5 adults, \$1 seniors, students, and children.

www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org



CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues
sponsored by the City Employees
Club of Los Angeles • Mar. 2012



Register Now for All Sports... and Now Bowling!

The Sports Dude invites you to register for all Club sports – as new seasons are beginning. Here are the details!

Basketball CHAMPIONS!

**Rec & Park Hoopers,
League Champions**

**Seventy 4 Eleven,
2nd tier Champions**

Basketball

We have a winner! Congratulations to the Rec and Parks Hoopers for winning their second consecutive Club title. They beat the very talented DOT Outlaws in the championship game. The team Seventy 4 Eleven from LAX won the second tier title game. Spring basketball registration is now open! The season is scheduled to start in late April. Rosters and fees must be received by March 16. Contact the Sports Dude!

Bowling

Registration for bowling teams is open. Please contact the Sports Dude at (800) 464-0452 or email him at sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com

Softball

The next coed softball season begins in July. Gather your team, and get it registered! Contact the Sports Dude at sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com or (800) 464-0452.

NEW LEAGUE!

Running and Fitness Club



Above:
Jennifer Corona, LAFD.

Below from right:
Leslie Cornejo, LAFD, and
Jennifer Corona, LAFD.

Here are the upcoming races and competitions. Contact the Sports Dude for more information.

April 7: Hollywood Half Marathon

May 28: Walk for Warriors – 5K, Los Angeles

Sept. 4: Disneyland Half Marathon

Sept. 28: YMCA Stair Climb Event

Nov. 4: Dinosaur Dash - 10K

Dec. 1: Spartan Race, Calamigos Ranch, Malibu

Soccer

Interested in playing soccer? Do you have a group of players that wants to play? The season begins in April. Rosters and fees must be received by March 16.

We are looking to open a coed league – 5 men and 2 women per team. It will be 7 players versus 7 players in this league. Games will be played on Monday nights – games are tentatively scheduled to start on April 2. The Club will pay for jerseys and referee fees for each game played. There will be media coverage, trophies, and food at the championship game.

Contact Robert Larios, the Sports Dude, for Club sports registration information:

- sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452, ext. 134
- www.cityemployeesclub.com

Sign Up Mondays!

Stop by the Club on Mondays (8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) to sign up for any upcoming Club sports league!

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Brilliant 4.52" Super-AMOLED™ Plus touchscreen

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Samsung Exynos™ 1.2 GHz dual-core processor

Dual cameras



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Visit a local Sprint Store: sprint.com/storelocator

Mention this code to claim your discount.

GLLCA_WSC_ZZZ

ID or other information will be required.



MOTOROLA PHOTON™ 4G

- 4G and 3G speeds
- 4.3-inch qHD touchscreen
- 8 megapixel camera with camcorder
- Dual cameras



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Samsung Replenish™

- Meets Sprint eco-criteria
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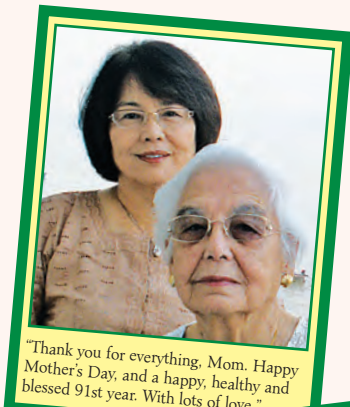
All device offers require a new-line activation (or eligible upgrade) and two-year Agreement on select plan with Premium Data add-on. No discounts apply to add-ons \$29.99 and below.

May require up to a \$36 activation fee/line, credit approval and deposit. Up to \$350/line early termination fee (ETF) for advanced devices and up to \$200 ETF/line for other devices (no ETF for Agreements cancelled in compliance with Sprint's Return Policy). Mail-in Rebate: Line must be active 30 consecutive days. Allow 8 weeks for rebate. Rebate will be fulfilled with a prepaid reward card. Reward Card: The American Express Prepaid Reward Card ("Card") is a prepaid Card that is usable only at U.S. merchants that accept American Express Cards. Some limitations apply. Offer valid only in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Not redeemable for cash and does not have ATM access. Use of Card constitutes acknowledgement that it is given as a reward and no consideration, value, or money has been paid by the holder to American Express in exchange for this Card. USE OF CARD IS SUBJECT TO THE CARDHOLDER AGREEMENT SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE LAW. A \$3.00 MONTHLY FEE WILL BE ASSESSED AGAINST CARD BALANCE, STARTING SIX MONTHS AFTER CARD ISSUANCE. Card expires 6 years after the date of issuance if not depleted before. For BALANCE, customer service and Cardholder Agreement, visit americanexpress.com/sprint or call 866-698-3756. Issued by American Express Prepaid Management Corporation. Upgrade: Existing customers in good standing with service on the same device for more than 22 consecutive months currently activated on a service plan of \$39.99 or higher may be eligible. See in-store rebate form or sprint.com/upgrade for details. Individual-Liable Discount: Available only to eligible employees of the company or organization participating in the discount program (requires ongoing verification). Discounts are subject to change according to the company's agreement with Sprint and are available upon request for select plans (monthly service charges only). No discounts apply to secondary lines, Add-A-Phone lines or add-ons \$29.99 or less. International Roaming: International coverage avail. in countries with GSM (voice)/GPRS (data) networks only. May vary by carrier. Sprint ID: Up to 5 packs available at once on select devices. Packs may vary by device. Pack selection may change without notice. Other Terms: Coverage not available everywhere. Nationwide Sprint Network reaches over 280 million people. Sprint 4G network reaches over 70 markets and counting, on select devices. Sprint 3G network (including roaming) reaches over 282 million people. See sprint.com for details. Offers not available in all markets/retail locations or for all phones/networks. Pricing, offer terms, fees and features may vary for existing customers not eligible for upgrade. Other restrictions apply. See store or sprint.com for details. ©2012 Sprint. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint. MOTOROLA and the Stylized M Logo are registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Android, Google, the Google logo and Android Market are trademarks of Google Inc. The HTC logo, and HTC EVO are the trademarks of HTC Corporation. Other marks are the property of their respective owners.



Pay Tribute to Your Mom!

Moms love tributes. It's the least you can do, after all she has done for you!



"Thank you for everything, Mom. Happy Mother's Day, and a happy, healthy and blessed 91st year. With lots of love."



"God could not be everywhere all the time, so he created mothers. All that I am or ever hope to be I owe to my angel ... my mother! Happy Mother's Day!"



"To the queen of my heart, thank you for your love, your faith, and for all you've been to me and our entire family. Happy Mother's Day! Love you always!"

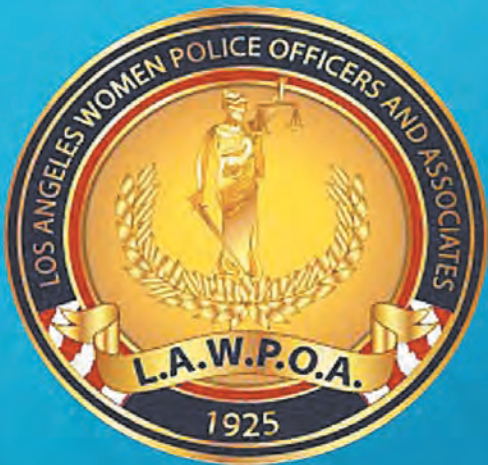
CLUB MEMBERS: Pay tribute to your mom this Mother's Day... with a photo and message of lifelong love, published in *Alive!*

In our May issue, we'll print a photo of you and your mom (or just your mom)... and a two or three sentence message of Happy Mother's Day from you. Photos can be either print or digital. Send it in now!

- ☉ Send in a print or digital photo of you and your mom (or just your mom) Send **high resolution** digital photos to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com Send print photos (or drop them off in person) to the Club Store at 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- ☉ Include a message of Happy Mother's Day (up to three sentences).
- ☉ **Deadline: April 15**



LOS ANGELES WOMEN POLICE OFFICERS AND ASSOCIATES (LAWPOA)



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UNIVERSAL CITY, CA 91608

MARCH 22, 2012

6:30 A.M. - 7:30 A.M. - REGISTRATION
7:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. - SYMPOSIUM

Don't miss out on this training opportunity at this ROCK BOTTOM cost!! Register Early!!

FEATURED SPEAKERS !!!



Lt. Col (ret) Dave Grossman
Author, Lecturer

*"The
Bulletproof
Mind"*



Olga Trujillo, J.D.
Author, Lecturer

*"The Impact of Physical
and Sexual Violence"
and "Victim Behavior:
Assessing Credibility"*



Cynthia Tobias, M.Ed.
Author, Lecturer

*"Turning Conflict
Into Cooperation:
Bringing Out the Best in
the Strong-Willed Person"*



Sean Riley
Lecturer

*"Life, Rise
and Fall of a Cop"*

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PRIOR TO JANUARY 30, 2012	AFTER JANUARY 30, 2012	DAY OF SYMPOSIUM
NON-LAWPOA MEMBERS \$75 LAWPOA MEMBERS \$65	NON-LAWPOA MEMBERS \$90 LAWPOA MEMBERS \$80	NON-LAWPOA MEMBERS \$100 LAWPOA MEMBERS \$90

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOHN VASQUEZ AT (213) 486-8402 OR ANGELES REYNOSO AT (213) 486-7668

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Los Angeles, CA 90053

NEWS BRIEF

ANSEL ADAMS ON VIEW:

Rare images of prewar Los Angeles taken by Ansel Adams and donated by the photographer to the Los Angeles Public Library are exhibited at the "drkrn gallery," 727 S. Spring St., downtown Los Angeles, through March 17.

Famous for his black and white landscapes, Adams shot more than 200 pictures of Los Angeles on assignment for Fortune magazine in 1940. A handful appeared in the March 1941 issue, and the rest Adams filed away for two decades. After discovering them in his archives he donated 216 negatives and 135 prints to the Los Angeles Public Library in 1962. At the time, the library accepted the collection as a "charitable contribution" valued at \$150, according to librarian Christina Rice.

"Adams did not think highly of the images," Rice said. "But he contacted the Los Angeles Public Library because he thought the photos might have some historic interest since he shot different parts of the city. He even gave us the option to 'put them in the incinerator' if we had no use for them. Fortunately, library staff realized the significance of the photos, which now stand as a fascinating historical document of a Los Angeles that no longer exists."

The library has since digitized the photographs, which can be viewed on the Library Website at www.lapl.org. The images are part of the library's collection of more than three million historic photographs.

"When John Matkowsky at the 'drkrn' approached the Los Angeles Public Library about exhibiting the Adams photos at his gallery, we thought it sounded like a great opportunity to highlight the collection," said Rice.

The drkrn gallery in association with Edgar Varela Fine Arts, created new silver-gelatin prints from the original negatives and printed a selection of 40 photos for the exhibit. The images show daily L.A. life, including businesses, street scenes and a variety of other subjects. Also recorded are images of many lost icons such as the Brown Derby, Lockheed and Douglas aircraft plants, the Olympic Trailer Court in Santa Monica and much more.

Copies of the images will be sold to benefit the Los Angeles Public Library.

For more information, visit www.drkrn.com/ansel_adams.html. To view the entire collection of Ansel Adams photos, visit www.photos.lapl.org.

Ansel Adams Los Angeles is also a part of Pacific Standard Time, an unprecedented collaboration of more than 60 cultural institutions across Southern California that have come together to tell the story of the birth of the Los Angeles art scene. Initiated through grants from the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time will take place for six months, which began October.

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

Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



LAMB STEW

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all! This month I offer lamb stew. There are a number of recipes for this stew, with several labeling themselves as traditional dishes. I wish not to verify their claims; instead I say that any lamb stew recipe can be traditional as traditions begin in our own kitchens.

I also wish to share a wonderful recipe from Terry Gray, who offers a spicy shrimp, spinach, and rice dish. Well done, Terry!

Lamb Stew

Makes 4 to 6 Servings

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 whole lamb shanks (other lamb cuts possible)
- Sea salt and pepper
- 1 whole onion
- 1/2 cup sliced leek
- 4 whole carrots
- 2 celery stalks, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup of flour
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 bunches fresh thyme
- 1 whole bay leaf
- 1 cup pearl barley
- 1/4 bunches thyme
- 1/2 bunches parsley
- 3 to 5 cups beef or vegetable broth
- 1 stick unsalted butter (optional)
- 6 whole Russet potatoes (substitution possible)

DIRECTIONS:



- 1 Wash and dice the whole onion, leek, carrots, celery, thyme, and parsley. On a plate, place flour with salt and pepper – making seasoned flour. Dredge the lamb shanks on both sides with this flour mixture. Place a large pot (or Dutch oven) on the stove over medium heat with the olive oil. Place the seasoned lamb shanks in the pot and let cook until golden brown on each side.



- 2 Remove the lamb shanks from the pot and place on a separate plate. Quickly add the diced vegetables (onion, leek, carrots, celery, half of thyme and half of parsley). Stir the vegetables until they are browned, and add a half-cup of water and beef broth to deglaze the pot. Now add the lamb shanks. Lastly add the rest of the broth. Let stew come to a boil, and then reduce to a simmer on low heat. Let cook for about 1.5 to 2 hours. At about 1 hour into the simmering process, add the potatoes. At the end of the cooking process, add the leek and the rest of the parsley and thyme.

[A Cook's Dictionary]

Thyme:

There are several varieties of this mint-family member, a perennial herb native to southern Europe and the Mediterranean. Garden thyme, the most often used variety, is a bush with gray-green leaves giving off a pungent minty, light-lemon aroma. Sub-varieties include the narrow-leaved French thyme and broad-leaved English thyme.

Bibliography: © Barron's Educational Services, Inc. 1995, based on *The Food Lover's Companion*, second edition, by Sharon Tyler Herbst.



- 3 Serve and enjoy!

Fun Food Quote:

"Never eat more than you can lift."

– Miss Piggy

A Cooking With the Club Extra

Terry's Spicy Shrimp, Spinach, and Rice – Terry Gray, General Services

INGREDIENTS:

- Approximately 40 medium tiger shrimp
- Spinach
- Rice
- All-purpose flour
- Black pepper
- Cayenne pepper
- Onion powder
- Garlic powder
- Seasoned salt
- Avocado oil/olive oil



DIRECTIONS:

- 1 **Shrimp:** Shell and devein shrimp. Rinse in colander under cold water. Season lightly with spices, making sure every shrimp gets evenly seasoned. In a medium bowl, pour about 2 cups flour. Combine all seasonings to preferred taste in bowl and mix with a fork so as to get flour and seasoning mixed evenly. In large non-stick skillet, pour 2/3 full of avocado/olive oil. Turn on 3/4 high heat. Before placing shrimp in oil, make sure oil is hot by sprinkling a drop of water in oil (*just one drop!*). When it pops, the oil is hot enough. Toss shrimp in flour mixture, coating each shrimp evenly. Place shrimp in oil carefully for approximately 4 minutes. Do not crowd skillet. Take out and place on paper-towel-covered plate.
- 2 **Spinach:** Rinse spinach under cool water thoroughly and cut off stems. Coarsely chop spinach. Cover bottom of a skillet with avocado/olive oil. Raise to medium heat. Don't overcrowd skillet with spinach, as you will have to stir. Keep adding spinach as it cooks down in the skillet. Cook for approximately 3 minutes. Spinach will still be bright green. Add minced or fresh garlic (if it's fresh, chop finely), seasoned salt and cayenne pepper (not too much). Lightly sprinkle more oil, constantly stirring. Cook for about 3 minutes more.
- 3 **Plating:** Make a large circle on your plate with the spinach. Place cooked rice in center of spinach circle. Place about 7 or 8 shrimp on top of spinach. Enjoy!



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Take the Club with you, wherever you go!



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1 Iran



"Guess where my husband, Amir, and I are reading our latest issue of *Alive!*? We're at a ski resort just outside of Tehran in Iran."

– **Jasmine Dowlatshahi, Rec and Parks**

Hi Jasmine, we guessed wrong! We believe you are the first in six years of *Alive!* Around the World to report from Iran. Good job! – Ed.

2 Maldives



Sally and Doug Cole on their "trip to paradise, the Maldives."

3 Antigua



Here's the **Club's own Director of Marketing, Summy Lam**, on Valley Church Beach, Antigua.

4 Mexico



Leticia Yapana, DWP, went to Mexico City on a personal pilgrimage in January.

"In the background is the Antigua Basilica de la Guadalupe and colored sand art on the ground, done manually by the artist. It's truly beautiful!"



"The Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacan, 40 miles from Mexico City. It's one of the oldest existing pyramids and third largest in the world. It was built between 1 AD and 250 AD."

The *Alive!* Around the World Map at Club Headquarters

Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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

Sending Digital Photos:

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A depiction of the *Alive!* Around the World map at Club Headquarters

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