



Alive!

NEW CLUB BENEFIT!

FREE SHIPPING
On Every Order!!

FREE USPS SHIPPING

SEE PAGE 23

Make the Club Store Your

Holiday Headquarters

For the City Employee on your list: Head to the Club Store for gifts, apparel, ticket packs and lots of holiday favorites!

SEE PAGE 24



Manager Mariana Guevara has the Club Store ready and waiting for the holiday gift needs of all Club Members.

Great Gifts
for everyone on your list!

SEE PAGE 25

Alive! photo by Summy Lam

Cheap Tickets. Insane Service. Affordable Insurance.



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

Are You Ready For the Holidays?

See back page ad for details!

Honeybaked Ham \$25 gift cards

See's Candy 1 lb. certificates

NEW Club Benefit!

Free standard shipping on every merchandise or ticket order as of Sept. 1st.

FREE SHIPPING
On Every Order!!

Club Member Benefits

■ Club Insurance

Your life and well-being are important to the Club. Get peace of mind with the Club's powerful insurance programs:

- Group Rated Term Life Insurance (\$10,000-\$300,000)
- Auto and Homeowners Insurance Call Toll Free (888) 801-5522
- Group Rated Spouse Life Insurance (\$10,000-\$300,000)
- Group Rated Long-Term Disability
- Comprehensive Long-Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000-\$50,000)
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Identity Theft Plan
- Accident Insurance
- Security Builder Plan
- Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan
- Paycheck Protection Plus

■ Great Ticket Discounts

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

■ Club Partner Discounts*

Avis Rent-a-Car

Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for discount codes and passwords!

1-800-Flowers

Save 15%. Call the Club for discount code and password!

Office Depot

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

WallyPark

Show your Club membership card and save 30%.

*Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for more discounts

The Club Offers the Cheapest Tickets in the State



Don't be fooled by others! The Club is the **ONLY** association to offer the **CHEAPEST TICKETS IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA!** The Club is constantly in search of new savings to benefit it's 26,500+ club members every day.

"Club Discount King"
Robert Larios



More Tickets and Club Discounts

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Low rate auto loans, no monkeying around.



Take me home with your loan.

At Water and Power Community Credit Union, we'll swing you into a low interest auto loan, fast and easy, with no monkey business. You can qualify for a rate as low as **1.5%** APR.

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1.5% APR
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Call (800) 300-9728
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*1.50% APR is for highly qualified members. Actual rates will vary based on each member's credit score and ability to pay. Maintaining a deposit of \$25 in your primary savings account is required for membership.



For great holiday gifts, visit the Club Store!

120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

SEE PAGE 9 for Holiday Hours



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A Message From the CEO

Club Store as Santa's Helper

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

We don't often feature the Club on our covers, and in our main features. We began *Alive!* more than 11 years ago to celebrate your stories, and to tell your stories. And I have to say, we've been doing that very well.

But December is different. Almost everything in the world points to Christmas and the holidays. We decided to feature the Club Store and its fantastic holiday deals this month, because **Mariana Guevara**, Club Store Manager, and her staff put a whole bunch of effort into serving Club Members, especially this time of year. Their efforts are worth letting you know about.

It was tons of fun watching the *Alive!* creative team – **David and Marie Jamgotchian** of JLLA Design; **Summy Lam**, our Director of Marketing; and *Alive!* editor **John Burnes** come to the store in early November and create a festive holiday atmosphere for this month's cover story. It put me in the mood early!

We all have families, and at the Club we know the holidays can get pricey. You can save money when you make the Club Store your holiday headquarters. Really, you can. Check out the movie ticket packs ... and of course the discounted certificates and gift cards for See's Candy and Honeybaked Hams. You can't go wrong! (Trust me.) Don't forget the cool City apparel, gifts and stocking stuffers that can make your holiday easier.

So dig in and read about all the many ways the Club Store is there for you this Christmas season. And take advantage!



Putting together this month's fun cover are (from left) David Jamgotchian, *Alive!* designer and art director of this month's cover; Summy Lam, Director of Marketing, and *Alive!* photographer; Mariana Guevara, Club Store Manager; Angel Gomez, Director of Member Services; and Marie Jamgotchian, *Alive!* designer and art director of this month's cover.

Another thing I really look forward to this time of year is attending the retiree holiday parties, if I can make them, whether it's the RLACEI party with **Ed Harding**, **Hal Danowitz**, **Mary Beetz** and the whole RLACEI gang; the LARFPA party with **Lee Kebler**; or the DWP Retirees party with **Dolores and Vince Foley**. Retirees are some of the best people in the City. Thanks to all of you for your awesome cheerful spirit.

Stepping away from the holiday theme for just a moment, I want to mention three things from this month. First: I see that **Elida Cruz**, secretary to ITA General Manager **Steve Reneker**, has retired. Elida has been a big help to the Club in our dealings with ITA. Thanks for everything, Elida, and here's to a great retirement.

Second is the story on **Jenelle Hamilton**, a member of the U.S. Women's National Sumo Team. That's right! I didn't even know the United States had a national sumo team, much less a woman's team, much even less that there's a City employee on it! Good going, Jenelle. Bring home some hardware!

And finally I want to mention the touching *in memoriam* tribute to the late **Brooke Powers Wilson**, a former staffer at Rec and Parks who recently passed away way too young. The tribute was written by her friend, **Jasmine Dowlatshahi**, Rec and Parks. I won't recap it here, but please take a few minutes and read it. Jasmine's words are testament to the power of friendship, and to places like the City of LA that bring us together. We really are a family.

Speaking of family: From my wife, **Kelley Hawkins**, and me, and from everyone here at the Club, we wish you a joyful Christmas and Happy Hanukkah. Please spend slow, quiet, quality time with your loved ones. It's the greatest gift you can give them.

Until next year!

JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

Alive! Behind the Scenes



Here's Club Director of Marketing Summy Lam (left) photographing the Club Store staff for this month's feature. At the counter are (from left) Tiffany Sy, Megan DeBolt, Mariana Guevara, MaryAnn Urdiales, Alma Meza and Guadalupe Lira.

Alive! Cover Picture



IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers

The Club's Main Phone Number	(800) 464-0452
The Club's FAX Number	(213) 620-0398
City Bureau of Sanitation	(800) 773-2489
Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(213) 978-1655
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-7480
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593
Deferred Compensation	(888) 457-9460
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) 367-1692
Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
LACERS	(800) 779-8328
LA Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
LA Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
LA Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
LA Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
LA Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
LA Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
Local 721	(213) 482-6660
Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
Retired LA City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months:

\$5,724,661

Club Members' Praise

The Club's claims service is "excellent. The Club helped with getting payment from the insurance company. I couldn't have done it without them."

— Robert Zirbeck, July 2014

The Club's claims service is "excellent! I appreciate your kind, considerate and personal good thoughts and wishes. I agree that *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* is a good reminder that my dad's purpose in life was fulfilled and through him we were made stronger. The Club has good, caring people, with a good work ethic."

— Kathleen Sechrest, June 2014

The Club's claims service is "excellent. It's extremely efficient, and showed compassion at a difficult time."

— Priscilla Gray, July 2014

The Club's claims service is "excellent! It's a caring service. My dad wasn't just a number. Your thoughtfulness was wonderful. Everyone was so compassionate and understood how I was feeling! *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* is a good reminder that my dad's purpose in life was fulfilled and through him we were made stronger. The Club has good, caring people, with a good work ethic."

— Lorraine Linquist, June 2014

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
- Short-Term Disability

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**

Claims Paid

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work:

Previous 12 Months

Life Insurance	\$3,153,532
Long-Term Disability	\$1,698,671
Long-Term Care	\$572,447
Cancer Insurance	\$300,000

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months:

\$5,724,661



You probably won't get to meet Cecilia Talbot and Monica Zamudio very often... until you really need them. That's when their 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.



Cecilia Talbot, Director of Claims, Member Advocate



Monica Zamudio, Claims Coordinator

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Alive!

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Meet the Club Team

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

Accounting

2011 President's Award Recipient



Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant

Information Technology

2007 President's Award Recipient



Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer

Marketing

2005 President's Award Recipient



Summy Lam
Director of Marketing



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian Trent
Chief Financial Officer



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

2004 President's Award Recipient



Cecilia Talbot
Director of Claims, Member Advocate

2010 President's Award Recipient



Monica Zamudio
Claims Coordinator

Claims



Katie Hesseltine
Application Coordinator



Jennifer Shackelford
Application Coordinator

2013 "Absolutely" Award Recipient



Mariana Guevara
Club Store Manager



Megan DeBolt
Club Store Assistant Manager



Alma Meza
Customer Service Associate



MaryAnn Urdiales
Customer Service Representative



Guadalupe Lira
Customer Service Representative

Club Store

Call me! **(800) 464-0452**

Find your department below, and call me if you have an event you want covered in the *Alive!*, or if you have questions about insurance.

2003 President's Award Recipient



Arlene Herrero
Director of Product Development
Ext. 103

2008 President's Award Recipient



Angel Gomez
Director of Sales
Ext. 104



Noelle Kauffman
Member Services Coordinator
Ext. 105

Enrollment Team



Sheldon Sklar
Member Services Counselor



Charlotte Swanberg
Member Services Counselor



Steven Lambert
Member Services Counselor



Lucas Everett
Member Services Counselor



Dan Fichtler
Enrollment Coordinator



Jeanette Gadut
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 110

State of California & County of Los Angeles



Gedina Bergstrom
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 107



Jackie Burciaga
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 136

Retirees



Tiffany Sy
Club Member Services Counselor, In-house
Ext. 202

City Employees Retirement System

City of Los Angeles & DWP



Isabel Marquez
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 108

Building & Safety
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer
City Clerk
Community Development Dept
Community Redevelopment Agency
Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Cultural Affairs



Dalila Vielma
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 137

Accounting Bureau of Administration
Aging
Animal Services
City Attorney
City Council
DWP

Disability, Department on El Pueblo De Los Angeles
Engineering, Bureau of Fire
Fire & Police Pensions
General Services Harbor
Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
Neighborhood Empowerment
Personnel
Sanitation, Bureau of Street Lighting, Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Transportation
Zoo

Employee Relations Board
Environmental Affairs
Finance
Housing Department
Information Technology Agency
Library
Los Angeles World Airport
Mayor
Planning
Police (LAPD)
Recreation & Parks
Status of Women

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Letters to the Editor

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Mike's Really Cooked One Up



Chef Larios, I couldn't wait until Thanksgiving to try your yellow squash casserole. It turned out great. Thanks a million, Chef Larios! Happy Thanksgiving to you!

– Mike Wilkinson, Retired LACEA Board Member, LACERS Commissioner, Club Member since 2011

Club Store Is Place To Be This Holiday

I love the Club Store! I feel like the fun starts as soon as I walk in the store to buy my tickets or merchandise. They always have a candy treat when leaving the store.

– Thianne Garret, Library

This is a very special time of the year for me because my wife, who works at the City Attorney's Office, can now pick up certificates for See's Candy and super-discounted Honeybaked Ham gift cards. Our holidays with the Club are first class!

– Roger Jones, General Services

Softball All-Star Game Is a Big Hit for Elena

Thanks to all the Sluggers and supporters who showed up last night for the Club Softball League's All-Star Game! (Patrick, Esteban, Lily, Mike, Marc, Margarita, Elena).

Margarita and I were on the team – Group Therapy. We lost 17-12, but it was fun to play with the ladies who we play against! There are some pretty awesome women on both teams! Marc and Mike were on opposite teams :-O, so we had to cheer for both teams.

I didn't get to stay the whole game, but it

was pretty exciting! Some spectacular plays and stops and catches were being made! Great job! A special thanks to Lady Smith (the Commish) for putting the All-Star Game together and the City Employees Club for the food, drinks and prizes!

Much Aloha!

– Elena, Softball League Fan

Construction Forces Is Building on Success

What an incredible story about Construction Forces at General Services. These are surely very skilled employees. Kudos to Mr. Nick Pendorf for leading such a fine group of people who are doing high-quality work and saving the City millions of dollars.

– Joe Kerrington, LAFD

For Linda, It's the Answers More Than the Question

The responses to Robert's Question of the Month column are so entertaining! I am now catching myself reading that before the deaths list. I am surely looking forward what is coming up on the next edition. Thanks for keeping me smiling, *Alive!*

– Linda Jackson, Retired

Robert's Question of the Month

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Club VP of Operations
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com



Fellow Club members answer the Question of the Month

What Christmas present do you want but haven't received?



"I always got what I wanted!"

Officer Lee, Transportation, 20 years of City service



"I am trying to be humble here ... I always got what I wanted because my mom and grandmother made sure of it!"

– MaryAnn Urdiales, Club Store Staff Member



"The truth is, I haven't needed to wish for anything in a very long time."

– Joann Torres, Finance, 25 years of City service, Club Member since 2002



"A massage certificate with tons of money in it!"

– Lucille Godinez, Transportation, 16 years of City service, Club Member since 2003



"Stop right there – I know the answer! A new car!"

– Rodney Smith, Transportation, 26 years of City service, Club Member since 1997



"I got everything I need ... next question."

– Robert Rodriguez, Public Works/Street Services, 12 years of City service



"A brand new Lexus 460."

– Cheryl Craig, Transportation, 27 years of City service, Club Member since 2002



"I never got Christmas presents as a kid. The first year I got one, I didn't know what to do with it and gave it back to kids who needed it more!"

– Mike Hernandez, Council, Retired, 23 years of City service, Club Member since 2004

Correction

Due to an error in our source information, in last month's In Memoriam listing, James Campbell was listed as deceased and having worked for Rec and Parks. The deceased James Campbell should have been listed as having worked for Airports.

A different man with the identical name, James Campbell, Club Member, is alive and well and retired from Rec and Parks. The living James Campbell and his wife had been getting sympathy cards and calls from friends and City colleagues about his death, but he is very much alive.

Alive! regrets the error, and wishes the living James Campbell, Rec and Parks, and his wife many more happy years.

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

Get a FREE Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Contact Your United Agencies Reps
(888) 801-5522

Now on Thursdays! The United Agencies reps are appearing at the Club Store every other Thursday:

Dec. 4
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

Dec. 11
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Patty Pulido

Note: For Christmas and New Year, the Club Store will close early, at 2 p.m., on Dec. 24 and Dec. 31. The Club Store will be closed Dec. 25 and 26, and Jan. 1 and 2.



Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon
Personal Insurance Agent



Xavier Rodriguez
Personal Insurance Agent



THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Weekend Tidepool Walk

**Saturday, Dec. 6 and 20
2 – 3:30 p.m.**

CMA's Educators conduct tours of the Point Fermin tidepools. Attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then come along on the naturalist-led ramble on the rocks to see animals in their natural habitat. Outdoor clothing and sneakers are advised. Young children must be accompanied by adults. Group reservations required.

Free and open to all!
Parking: \$1/hour.

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
(310) 548-7410
www.cabrillmarineaquarium.org/support.asp



www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org
City Owned. City Run. City Proud.

The Club

Here Come the Refund Checks!

The Club's Life Insurance refund for 2014 is approximately \$150,000. Are you eligible?

Brian, your Club CFO says...

Here come the refund checks ... to your mailbox! The Board of Directors has approved a Club Life Insurance refund of approximately \$150,000 to be distributed back to the eligible Club members.

The Club continues its tradition of rewarding Club Life Insurance policyholders with a return of unused premiums (total premiums collected less paid claims and expenses). The 2014 refund will be the Club's 83rd refund in the Club's 86 years of existence.

The refund checks will be distributed via the U.S. Mail. The checks will be mailed in late November.

"The Club's life insurance refund check is a reward for healthy living," says Brian Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer. "And we're delighted to return these funds to those eligible."

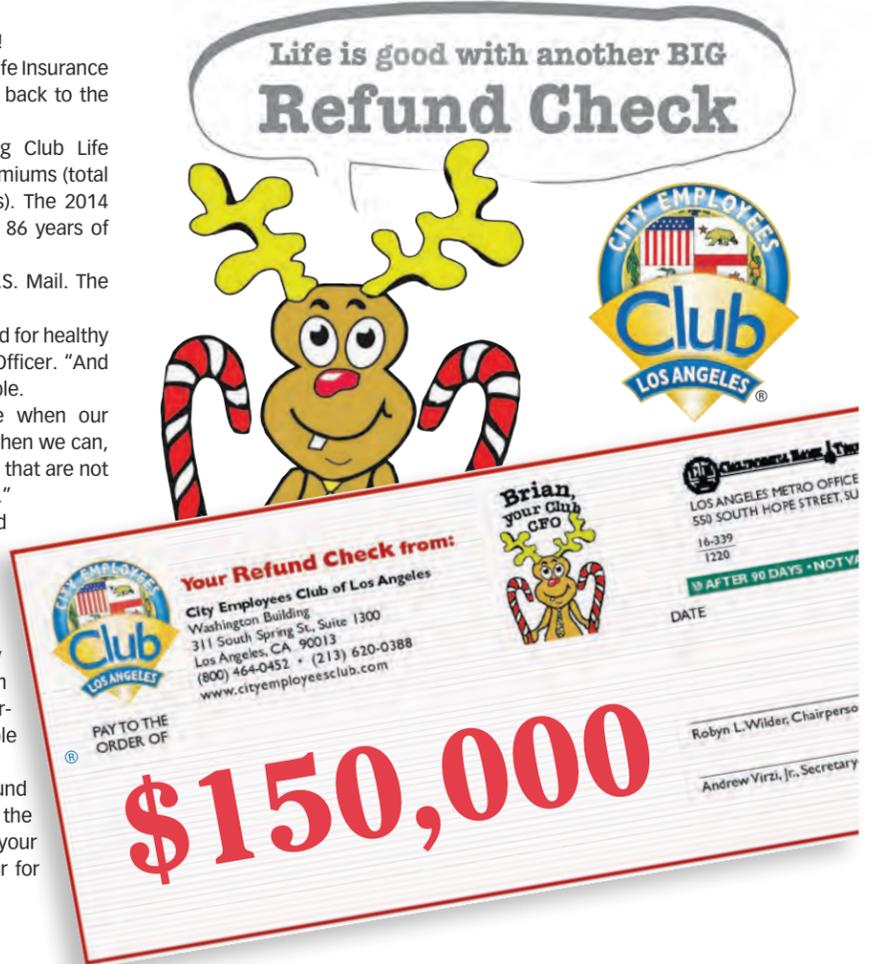
"Club Life Insurance is all about being there when our Members are in need. That's our first priority. And when we can, we are happy to return that portion of the premiums that are not needed. We've returned funds in 83 of our 86 years."

Who is eligible for the refund? Anyone who had Life, Spouse Life, Dependent Life, Retiree Life or Retiree Spouse Life Insurance in force as of July 2014, is eligible for a refund.

The actual amount Members receive is determined as a percentage of the total premiums paid by an individual for the period of August 2013 through July 2014. However, those who dropped their insurance coverage prior to July 31, 2014, are not eligible for any refund.

Do you want to be eligible for next year's refund (if any)? It's simple. Purchase any Life product from the Club, and you could be eligible for next year. Insure your family's future and receive a little reward each year for living!

Talk to your Club Counselor, or call the Club at (800) 464-0452.



A New Alive! Feature!

City Stars

BY NOELLE KAUFFMAN, Club Coordinator
nkauffman@cityemployeesclub.com



Here's an additional submission for last month's "Favorite Supervisor."

Congratulations, Alma!
- Noelle



"Favorite Supervisor"

Alma Mayes,
Supervisor, General Services/
Custodial Services

"Alma has a big personality and a big heart. She loves her employees and is the best Supervisor."

Nominated by:
Arturo Campa, General Services,
Club Member since 2011

The next category:

Happiest/Brightest Smile

Club Members:

Who are your **City Stars**? Which of your coworkers makes the City the best it can be? Let everyone know!



City Stars asks for your submissions with a new category each month. We'll publish a photo of them, along with a few sentences from you. Make sure to get their permission first.

Submission guidelines:

- **Make sure the person you're submitting is okay with it.**
- Send in a headshot of that person that we can publish.
- Include their full name, title and department.
- Add a few sentences or a paragraph explaining why you think that person is a City Star.

Send in your submission by:
Dec. 15 We'll publish all that we can.

Send your submissions to: nkauffman@cityemployeesclub.com



Club Featured Businesses

The *Alive!* newspaper is mailed to over 30,000 recipients each month throughout Los Angeles and beyond. The *Alive!* is also viewable digitally from all over the world. If you would like to feature your business below, please contact the Club at info@cityemployeesclub.com to start your ad placement right away!

Tell the world...
"I'm celebrating ME!"
Jewelry and Clothing Celebrating Women
 \$1.50 of each signature series goes to the Foundation for Women Cancer
www.Mishgienterprises.com

YOUR AD HERE
Over 30,000 Members will view this Ad
 Place your ad here for just - \$84/mo
 Club Members get 30% OFF - \$58/mo
 Price based on a 12 month contract

Rosebud Marketing Group
YOUR NAME AND LOGO PRINTED HERE!
 We also do pens, watches, docks, t-shirts, magnets, key tags, awards, baseball caps, golf items, mouse pads, and more
 Would you like a pen with your company's name on it? How about a coffee mug or a mouse pad?
 We also do Family Reunions!
CALL (323) 667-1985
www.RosebudMarketing.com
 ROSEBUD MARKETING GROUP
 4470 W. SUNSET BLVD., STE 101
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90027
 ROSEBUD@GETPROMOS.COM
"If you can imagine it, we can create it."

General Contractor
 Additions, remodeling, lofts, patios, etc.
(661) 299-4767
Grijalva General Contracting
 Ask for Bill Grijalva

YOUR AD HERE
Over 30,000 Members will view this Ad
 Place your ad here for just - \$84/mo
 Club Members get 30% OFF - \$58/mo
 Price based on a 12 month contract

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Club Angels: Won't You Help?

Club's charity, Club Angels, continues its campaign to help those around us in need.

During the fall and winter, Club Angels, the Club's charity, helps those around us in need with blankets and buckets of supplies, and other forms of assistance.

Club Members can give to this full-fledged charity.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach. Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. – the Club Angels program – is a Club-derived charity that formalizes the Club's charitable initiatives. Club Angels now includes the charitable outreaches you read about here in *Alive!* – including the Buckets and Blankets program, plus the Joannie Mukai Club Scholarships, the Club

Holiday Toy Drive, and other initiatives – and builds a framework for others to come.

John Hawkins, Club Angels board member, said: "A bucket of personal goods and a blanket during the cold months can make a huge difference to those living on the streets. We all can make a difference."

Helping Those in Need

In 2012, the charity's first year, Club Angels raised more than \$2,100. With that sum, Club Angels bought more than 300 blankets for the residents of the streets of downtown Los Angeles. Club Angels contributed the remainder to the Mukai Scholarships and other City Employees charities.



How to Help

Yes! I want to help those in need. Count me in.

Enclosed is my check (made out to Club Angels) for \$ _____.

Please bill my credit card in the amount of \$ _____.



Send this completed for to:
 Club Angels
 311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
 Los Angeles, CA 90013

Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration - CV# Last 3 digits on back of card

Signature

Please provide the following information so we can send you a receipt:

Name

Home Street Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone

Club Member Number (if you are a member):

Club Angels is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions to Club Angeles are tax-deductible as defined by the U.S. tax code. Consult your tax professional.

Your donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.



Holiday Happenings



Movie Packs Make Perfect Gifts

FREE Gift Box with Movie Pack Purchase

Includes movie tickets, popcorn, and soda vouchers. Movie pack selection varies depending on the participating theatre.

Holiday gift boxes are available for in-store purchases only and are limited for the holiday season!

Club Store, 120 W. 2nd St., L.A., CA 90012 | www.CityEmployeesClub.com



Artists' rendering of part of the new Zoo Lights attraction.

The Zoo Lights Are On!

For the holidays, Zoo illuminates an animal fairy tale come to life with a dazzling new light display.

The holiday lights are on in Griffith Park! Last month, the LA Zoo introduced a new event: L.A. Zoo Lights. This holiday season for the very first time, the Los Angeles Zoo has changed its stripes from a daytime adventure to a nighttime wonderland aglow with animal-themed illumination.

The walking event (nightly except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day) takes place from 6 to 10 p.m. after the Zoo has closed, and it requires a separate admission.

While Zoo animals themselves are asleep, L.A. Zoo Lights depicts them in displays made of millions of lights that beckon guests to stroll through a section of the Zoo where they're surrounded by dazzling sights and colors for a "don't-miss" experience destined to become a beloved Los Angeles holiday tradition.

L.A. Zoo Lights, an ideal family outing, date night or meetup with friends, introduces guests to a clever troop of animated

monkeys outlined in colorful lighting who commandeer an electrical power source hidden in a holiday tree. They swing through the entry plaza as they guide an illuminated power line toward a giant electrical "outlet," attempting to plug it in. Will they succeed? Yes! The Zoo is lit up, and guests follow the "monkeys" as they meet up with an illuminated "Reggie the alligator," origami "rhinos" and a pink "flamingo," to name a few. Along the way,

L.A. Zoo Lights offers the only opportunity in Los Angeles to see real reindeer (L.A. Zoo Lights' sole live animals), plus a visit with Santa Claus, seated atop a throne seemingly carved from ice, and an unexpected Hollywood ending featuring a red carpet complete with paparazzi "animals."

Other special effects include a "monkey" flipping burgers, an animated flying bird, a freeway-driving "hippo," a group of giant "bullfrogs" made from 3,750 water bottles lit from within, and much more. Among other sights are giant floating snow-

flakes, animal cutouts and projections, elegant "chandeliers" and icicle lights.

Until now, the discontinued DWP's popular "Festival of Lights" display was the longest-held holiday lights tradition in Griffith Park. While L.A. Zoo Lights is a completely different animal, it pays homage to the Festival by featuring some classic elements, including the Hollywood sign, the downtown LA skyline and City Hall.

L.A. Zoo Lights' techno wizardry is designed by Gregg Lacy and Bionic League, a live event design company known for designing spectacular light shows for festivals, stadiums, arenas and clubs and artists like Stevie Wonder, Daft Punk, Kanye West and many others.

Daytime visitors to the Zoo can see the reindeer during regular hours, which are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., along with a flurry of seasonal festivities and yuletide flourishes, plus occasional visit by Santa Claus.

Admission to L.A. Zoo Lights requires a separate admission: \$13 for adults/seniors and \$11 for children 2-12; for Zoo Association members, tickets are \$11 for adults/seniors and \$10 for children; children under age two 2 are free.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is located in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027. Free parking is available. For additional information, contact (323) 644-6042 or visit www.lazoo.org

LA Zoo Lights

What: LA Zoo Lights, an immersive display of animal hijinks in lights that guests walk through

When: Nightly Nov. 28 – Jan. 4 (except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

Time: 6 to 10 p.m.

Cost: Requires a separate admission: \$13 for adults/seniors and \$11 for children 2-12; for Zoo Association members, tickets are \$11 for adults/seniors and \$10 for children; children under age two 2 are free.

Location: LA Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027

Parking: Free

Info: (323) 644-6042 or www.lazoo.org

Holiday Happenings

Make your plans now to visit the Club Store for all your holiday shopping and end-of-year insurance needs!

Club Store Holiday Schedule

Club Store

- The Club Store will be open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with the following exceptions:
- On Christmas Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 24, the Club Store will close at 2 p.m.
 - Closed Thursday and Friday, Dec. 25 and 26, for Christmas
 - On New Year's Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 31, the Club Store will close at 2 p.m.
 - Closed Thursday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day
 - Closed Jan. 2 for annual inventory

Free Shipping

If you want your Club Webstore order to arrive by Christmas using the Club's free standard shipping service, the Club recommends you order by the close of business Monday, Dec. 15. Don't wait!

Members can order from the Club Webstore at:
www.cityemployeesclub.com

Club Webstore

The Club Webstore will be open 24/7 online, but fulfillment of some orders will be processed according to the above schedule.



The Club Store
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Club Angels



Be a Holiday Angel

This Christmas, help Club Angels bring goods to those in need.

Christmas is the time of giving. Remember those all around us in need by giving to Club Angels.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach and includes the Buckets and Blankets program, the Club Holiday Toy Drive, and other initiatives.

For more information, see the Club Angels story on page 7.



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(888) 777-1744

The Club Store Is Holiday Headquarters!



Great gifts.
The Club Christmas Tree.
The Club Toy drive.

They're all available at the Club Store this holiday season.



Start your holidays at the Club Store!

A Club Holiday Hit: Club Movie Ticket Packs! Beautifully wrapped bundles of movie tickets, wrapped and ready to go, at the great Club discount. As always, they're the cheapest in the state: **\$25 for each ticket pack.**

Also at the Club Store for your holiday shopping:

- ❖ **Gift Central:** Buy fantastic Club merchandise that will be great under your tree. New this year: Free holiday gift boxes and bags, with the purchase of select items.
- ❖ **Great deals** on See's Candy and Honeybaked Hams.
- ❖ **Free standard shipping** on all Club tickets and merchandise!!
- ❖ Visit the **Club Tree!**
- ❖ **Club Toy Drive:** Bring an unwrapped gift to be given away as part of the Club's Toy Drive.



The Club Store is located at:
120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

Holiday Happenings

Rec and Parks



Victorian Christmas At Banning

The Banning Museum to host annual Victorian Christmas celebration.

Banning Museum Victorian Christmas

When: Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6-7
Hours: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Where: The Banning Museum, 401 E. "M" St., Wilmington.
Cost: Free

Regular museum tours:
Dates: Throughout November and December: Tues. - Thurs.: 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.; Sat. - Sun.: 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.
 Closed Christmas Day
Cost (regular tours): \$5 (suggested donation; \$1 for children)
Info: (310) 548-2005 or www.thebanningmuseum.org

The community is invited to welcome the holiday season at the Banning Museum's Annual Victorian Christmas Celebration and Open House, scheduled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 6-7 at the Banning Museum, 401 E. "M" St., in Wilmington.

This free event is open to the public and promises to be a weekend to remember. Visitors will enjoy period entertainment, tours of the museum decorated in holiday splendor, refreshments, a children's craft and a horse-drawn trolley ride between the Banning Museum and Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, which is also presenting a Christmas event that weekend.

The event will feature local food and craft vendors, a wreath-making lecture and a blacksmith. As a special treat, a Queen Victoria re-enactor will receive guests for the two days, and Jolly St. Nick will pose for photos with the kids.

The Banning Museum is a Rec and Parks facility, operated in cooperation with Friends of Banning Museum, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to "Preserve History, Promote Education, and Inspire Entrepreneurial Spirit."



Rec and Parks, Council

Downtown On Ice

When: Now through Jan. 19
Where: Pershing Square, downtown at 532 South Olive, across from the Millennium Biltmore Hotel
Admission: \$9 per person; one-hour skating session
Skate rental: \$3 (figure/hockey)
 Purchase tickets at the rink or in advance at: www.pershing-squareicerink.com
 Group rates, private party and special event pricing available.
Hours: Now through - Dec. 18:
 Monday -Thursday: 11:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
 Friday: 11:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
 Saturday: 10:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
 Sunday: 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Dec. 19 - 30:
 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily
Dec. 24:
 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Dec. 25:
 1 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Dec. 31:
 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Jan. 1:
 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Jan. 2 - Jan. 19:
 Mon-Thurs.: 11:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
 Fri.-Sat.: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.
 Sunday: 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Info: holidayicerinkdowntownla.com or call (213) 847-4970.
 Facebook: [facebook.com/PershingSquareLA](https://www.facebook.com/PershingSquareLA)

Single? Try Skating!

Rec and Parks-sponsored skating venue is now open, featuring skating sessions for singles.

Celebrating its 17th season as a favorite holiday tradition, the community rink is open every day through Jan. 19.

Framed by towering skyscrapers and stunning historical landmarks at Pershing Square, the spacious rink is sponsored by Rec and Parks, and the 14th Council District.

A host of free events add to the festive atmosphere, with a winter concert series, championship skating exhibitions, the Snoopy Showcase, deejay nights, the Winter Holiday Festival, broomball games, and more.

Downtown on Ice is now including skating sessions for singles. Call the number below for more information.

Downtown on Ice is easily accessible by car, bus or Metro (Pershing Square stop). A partnership with Metro and Metrolink allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing their Metro/Metrolink transit receipt/pass. Montebello Bus lines also feature a \$1 discount coupon available on buses. Underground discount parking is available with rink validation.

Zoo

January Forecast: Snow!

Zoo plans post-holiday snow event.

Photo by Tad Motoyama, L.A. Zoo

Early weather reports predict a snowstorm at the Los Angeles Zoo on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 24-25, but the chilly conditions will last only through the weekend during Snow Days at the L.A. Zoo.

The wintery fun will feature a rare opportunity to watch inquisitive animals exploring snowy wonderlands in their habitats and more. All activities are free with a paid zoo admission.



The Zoo's Sumatran tiger eyes an edible snowman during Snow Days at the LA Zoo.

Snow Days at the L.A. Zoo

When: Jan. 24-25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Cost: Free with paid Zoo admission, which is \$19 for general admission (ages 13 to 61); \$16 for seniors (ages 62-plus), and \$14 for children (ages 2 to 12). No ticket required for children under 2. Admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free.
Where: The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5).
Info: (323) 644-6042 or visit www.lazoo.org

STUFF THAT STOCKING

With movie tickets from the Club!

- SEE PAGES 8 and 45

Holiday Happenings

Zoo

Romp With the Reindeer

Zoo brings back annual reindeer fun.



Photo by Jamie Pham

The Los Angeles Zoo's Reindeer Romp, which offers the only opportunity to see real reindeer in Los Angeles, is now open and continues daily (except Christmas Day) through Sunday, Jan. 4, during regular Zoo hours.

Visitors will also enjoy a flurry of seasonal festivities and yuletide flourishes, plus occasional visits by Santa Claus. All activities, except Santa photos, are free with paid Zoo admission, which is \$19 for general admission (ages 13 to 61); \$16 for seniors (ages 62-plus), and \$14 for children (ages 2 to 12). No ticket is required for children under age two. Zoo admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free.

Reindeer Romp

What: Reindeer Romp, Los Angeles Zoo: reindeer, holiday fun, visits from Santa Claus
When: Now through Jan. 4 (daily except Christmas Day)
Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: Free (except Santa photos) with paid Zoo admission (\$19 for general admission, 13 to 61; \$16 for seniors 62-plus, and \$14 for children 2 to 12). No ticket is required for children under age two. Admission for Zoo Association members is free.
Location: LA Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027
Parking: Free
Information: (323) 644-6042 or www.lazoo.org

Rec and Parks



A Civil War Christmas

Drum Barracks Museum in Wilmington recalls the holidays of yesteryear.

The community is invited to welcome the holiday season by traveling back in time at the Drum Barracks Museum, the City's only surviving Civil War-era military structure. Experience the holiday as it was celebrated in the Civil War era.

The 14th annual "A Civil War Christmas" is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 6-7. Guests can travel in the height of style on the popular horse-drawn, holiday-red trolley. Music will fill the rooms of the Drum Barracks with joyous sounds, and bell ringing will occur. An encampment will be set up on the museum grounds – visit the camp, and learn how Civil War soldiers and their families celebrated the holidays. Arts and crafts of the era will be taught during the weekend, including the decorating of a soldier's Christmas tree. Admission to Drum Barracks is free for this special event. Drum Barracks Museum is a Rec and Parks facility.

A Civil War Christmas

When: Special event: Dec. 6 – 7
 Regular hours Tues.-Thurs., and Sat.-Sun.
 Closed Christmas Day.
Tickets: Free for special event (tickets for regular tours: \$5 suggested donation)
Where: 1052 Banning Blvd., Wilmington
Info: (310) 548-7509 or www.drumbarracks.org

Be a Part of a Club Holiday Tradition

It's Party Pix Time

We want to print pictures from your holiday office party in *Alive!*

Is your office having a holiday party? Here are two ways to get your holiday office party pictures into the January Alive!

Take the photos yourself:

Take the photos yourself, and send them in as soon as you can. Digital photos are always best. And make sure you give us a description of the party: when it was, where it was, and if something significant happened, let us know that, too.

If there are just a few photos, then email them to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com. But if there are a lot, then it's best to burn them onto a CD and deliver (or mail) the CD to the Club. The address is on the inside front cover. Make sure the photos are as high resolution as you can make them.

We'll take your holiday photos for you:

Let us know when your holiday party is, and we'll try to send a photographer. Please note: There are more City holiday parties than we can cover, but we will try. That's why it's best to send in your own photos. If you want us to cover your party, talk to your Club Rep (Arlene Herrero, Angel Gomez, Jackie Burciaga, Gedina Bergstrom, Dalila Vielma, Isabel Marquez, Jeanette Gadut, Tiffany Sy or Noelle Kauffman) or email Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations, at rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com. We'll do our best to get to as many parties as we can, but we can't guarantee it. But let us know.



See you at the party!





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
E-mail: edwardjharding@rlacei.com

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

Contact Mary Beetz, call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 711

Three Retirees Groups Hold Events; Make Sure You're at the Right One

Reservation Lines:

RLACEI events: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 701
DWP events: (626) 445-7376 (Dolores Foley)
LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

- Dec. 3:** LARFPA general meeting, 10 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr., Los Angeles
- Dec. 4:** RLACEI holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles
- Dec. 7:** LARFPA Christmas Party, 11 a.m., Sportsmen's Lodge, 12825 Ventura Blvd., Studio City

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 the LA City Employees' Retirement System

The Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System is at 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM-5PM. 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. www.lacers.org

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)



Paul Enox, President
Phone: (323) 283-4441
Fax: (626) 285-1461
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,
Temple City, CA 91780
www.larfpa.org

LACERS Meetings Bring New RLACEI Members

RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

President's Report By Edward J. Harding President, RLACEI

I wish to thank LACERS for inviting us to have a table at all six open enrollment meetings. I also want to thank Director/Editor Mary Beetz and Director Phil Orland for attending and representing us (RLACEI) at the Ontario and San Pedro meetings, where several retirees joined RLACEI. At the San Pedro meeting, Director Cliff Cannon joined them and received additional members.

Welcome, new members,

and enjoy RLACEI discount amusement park and movie theater tickets at a big discount, and so much more.

To order your discount tickets by phone, call the City Employees Club at (888) 777-1744. Your discounted price includes free standard shipping and handling.

At the time of this writing, Phil and Mary are on their way to join LACERS in Las Vegas.

Director, Secretary/Treasurer Hal Danowitz and I will attend LACERS' Ventura, Universal City and Los Angeles meetings. Hal and I will join Mary and Phil in recruiting more RLACEI members.

Don't forget to call and make reservations for the RLACEI holiday party, scheduled for Dec. 4 at Friendship Hall. We are serving a great buffet-style service lunch, consisting of two baby back ribs, pulled pork, baked beans, coleslaw, garlic bread, fruit cups and carrot cake for dessert. Lemonade, water, decaf and caffeinated coffee drinks will be served. RSVP by calling (800) 678-4145 ext. 701. We have many, many door prizes.

The Assistant General Manager of LACERS will install our newly elected officers.

See you at the party.

Pension Foibles Roil the Waters



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

You the reader will read this column several weeks after the elections on Nov. 3, so you may have a good laugh on what I comment on here.

Pensions in the public sector (our pensions) have taken many hits by experts, budget analysts, commentators and politicians. Some of the criticisms have been valid, like the very generous pensions and other benefits that have been handed out over the last 15 years to public servants who have worked hard for their jobs. Some of these benefit packages have led many cities into default on bonds, hence bankruptcy, and either cuts in services or raises in taxes. In Rhode Island, the State Treasurer, Gina Raimondo, a Democrat, sought and received draconian reforms in that state's pension system. Now she is running for governor in that state and is facing a Republican opponent who is campaigning for restora-

tion of at least some of the pension perks. Some Rhode Island Democrats and union supporters are supporting the Republican. [Editor's note: Gina Raimondo won the election for governor in Rhode Island.]

Meanwhile, the San Jose mayor, Democrat Chuck Reed, has battled the unions in his city to achieve major reforms in that city's pension system. The unions have battled the mayor and the Council majority that backs the mayor over the last two years, as a pension reform initiative pushed by the mayor was passed by the voters. The opponents won a court injunction to overturn the initiative, and the mayor withdrew his new initiative this year to try again to achieve reform.

Republican governors in Wisconsin, Florida and Ohio have pushed for pension reforms and are facing stiff opposition from unions and the Democrats. Will Wisconsin's Gov. Scott Walker and Florida's Gov. Rick Scott be beaten back by the public worker interest? [Gov. Scott Walker won re-election in Wisconsin; Gov.

Rick Scott won re-election in Florida.] Ohio's Governor John Kasich stripped public employees of collective bargaining rights, so the Democrats are fighting back in the next gubernatorial race this week. [Gov. John Kasich won re-election.] Michigan's Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican, removed an income tax exemption for certain retirees' pensions; his challenger is in a dead heat with Snyder. [Gov. Rick Snyder was re-elected.]

And in California, the Stockton bankruptcy proceeded in a decision by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court that federal bankruptcy law preempted California law. At the end of October, the same bankruptcy judge said that the City's "plan of adjustment" was proper, rejecting the claim of a hold-out creditor that complained that the employees had been given favored treatment. The judge noted that the severe cuts that the employees agreed to in collective bargaining since 2008, including agreeing to an end to the free medical care formerly offered in retirement, were ample evidence of fair treatment.

Why We Need an Actuary



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

I know some of the issues we deal with at LACERS are perplexing. However, we need the help of an actuary to protect our pensions. "Mike, what do they do and why should I care?" That's a fair question.

First, where the money comes from to pay for a pension plan and where the money goes is a simple formula. Contributions (from the City and active employees) plus

investment earnings equal pension payments plus expenses. If everything is that simple, why do we need actuaries?

We need them because we must put away enough money while employees are working to fund their retirement. If everything works out perfectly we have put away the right amount of money that is wisely invested to provide the pension payments and the administrative expenses. If we fail to invest enough money, then the City will get hit later with very high contribution rates and all the strain the increase creates

on the City budget.

Our pension payments are guaranteed regardless, but "passing the buck" on proper funding to future generations is irresponsible and puts an unreasonable burden on the City in later years and could lead to a financial crisis.

The actuary has to measure what the future costs will be to provide the pension, considering factors including raises while working as well as accurate estimates of how long retirees will live. The most challenging

— continued, next page

LACERS Board Update

By Michael R. Wilkinson – continued

assumption is predicting for a very long term (up to 50 years) how well the investments will return on average to set what is called the assumed rate of investment return.

The board and investment staff spent many hours working on this number so that it is a fair estimate of what we expect to earn. A few years ago we were at an eight percent assumption, which was reduced to 7.75 percent last year and now finally reduced by the board this year to 7.5 percent.

At a recent board meeting, the discussion on the reduction of the return rate was lively. It is sort of like eating a very healthy

vegetable now that might not be as tasty as an Almond Joy (one of my occasional vices). We know that the veggie is good for us in the long run, but we would prefer that sweet taste of the luscious coconut and almond covered with chocolate right now.

So here I go with the analogy: The veggie is the reduction in the assumed rate of return. That means that we are not anticipating as much money coming in from investments as before, and it must be made up by increased contributions now. Since the employee contribution is fixed by MOU, the needed increase (for Tier 1) comes solely from the City. The

City Administrative Officer's representative noted that the change in the rate of return could be a substantial increase for the City's current contribution to LACERS.

However, the board was also advised that the additional contributions required by the change to a 7.5 percent assumption might ultimately be cheaper for the City in the long run, since LACERS would be putting away more money now to fund the pension sooner rather than later. The City's total contribution could be less because of investment returns on the additional money invested sooner could reduce the later contributions required from the City.

LACERS Update By Mary Beetz

LACERS



Mary Beetz

1099-R Forms for 2014

LACERS will mail Retired Members their IRS Form 1099-R (Distribution from Pensions, Annuities, Retirement, etc.) by the end of January 2015. If there is a dollar amount in "Box 5" of your 1099-R, this amount equals your pension contributions that were made on a post-tax basis, which is excluded from your taxable income for tax year 2014.

Members who do not receive

their 1099-R by February 15 should contact LACERS at (800) 779-8328. Please note: Regenerating a 1099-R may require a few working days to process.

Also, Retirees who recently moved may print out a *Change of Address Request* form to fill in and return to LACERS by visiting LACERS online at www.LACERS.org/retired, or they may request a form to update their address information by calling LACERS at (800) 779-8328.

2015 Health Plan Deductions Appear On December 2014 Allowance

Just a reminder that any new deductions reflecting the 2015 LACERS health plan choices that were made during the recent LACERS annual Open Enrollment period will appear on the December 2014 monthly allowance statement.

Let Us Know!

A great way for RLACEI to better serve you, our Members, in 2015, is to *ask* you, our Members. Please let us know if you have any ideas or concerns. Your comments are very important to us! Please submit to Mary Beetz by email: mbeetz4841@aol.com. Or by U.S. Mail: 137 Westmont Dr., Alhambra, CA, 91801. *Remember we are here to serve you!*

Note: If you know of any retiree who wants to become an RLACEI Member, please refer them to Helen Salgado for an application. She can be reached by calling our toll-free number, (800) 678-4145 x713 or by email: hsalgado1@verizon.net.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Life After Retirement



From left: Jackie Stokes, Retired, LAPD; David Rojas, Retired, LAPD; Rose Rojas, Retired, LAPD; and Booker Stokes, Retired, Airports.

Horn of Plenty

David Rojas, Retired, LAPD, wrote in to *Alive!* to tell us about some of his City friends supporting him in his musical endeavors.

"Retirees Jackie Stokes, LAPD, and Booker Stokes, Airports, joined Rose Rojas, LAPD, to celebrate after a performance in which David Rojas, LAPD, played trumpet for the Cerritos Community College Concert Band for a concert in Norco. We were more than co-workers, we were and remain very close friends."

That's great to hear! Congratulations on your performance, David, and here's to good friendships that stand the test of time and retirement.

Life After Retirement

As a Reminder:

If you have news about yourself, family or other retirees that you would like to share with our readers, send it and we will publish it.

If you would like to contact a former City Employee that you met or worked with, send your contact information and we will publish it so they can contact you.

Note: Due to our confidentiality policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.

Mail information to:

Mary Beetz at
137 Westmont Drive,
Alhambra, CA, 91801
or Email:
mbeetz4841@aol.com

Remembering the Rookie

LARFPA



Lee Kebler

Arnett Hartsfield Jr. passed away Oct. 31. He was 96.

Photos courtesy the African American Firefighters Museum; LAFD funeral photo by David Ortiz.

Arnett was a remarkable man. In 1940 he became a Los Angeles Fireman and was assigned to Fire Station 30, one of the two black Fire Stations in the City. While working for the Department, he was christened the "Rookie," a nickname he was proud of throughout his career.

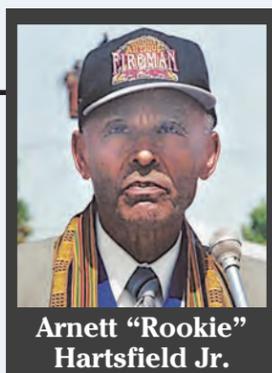
He believed it was unfair that black Firemen and white Firemen didn't have the same working and promotional opportunities, and he had a dream that this condition could be changed. He wrote an article expressing this fact and had it published in the Fireman's Grapevine. His vision was put on hold when World War II came along, and he was appointed as an Officer in the United States Army.

After the war, he returned to duty at the Fire Department and pursued his idea on integration; he enrolled at USC and became an attorney.

Arnett's dream came through in the early 1950s, when the Fire Chief transferred all of the black Firemen to various white Fire Stations throughout the City. Arnett retired in 1962 to practice law full time. But his involvement in improving life for the black community continued when he was appointed a Civil Service Commissioner and served as President of that Board for the City of Los Angeles.

In his spare time, he became a professor at Cal State/Long Beach and established the Stentorians to support the black Firemen. When Arnett found that old Fire Station 30 had been vacated and destroyed by vandals, he convinced the City to restore it. He was leader in establishing the African American Firefighters Museum. Arnett served as curator and historian until he retired in 2012. He also retired as a Director of the Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police association in 2012.

It's time to say thank you, "Rookie," for all that you did for the Fire Department and the City of Los Angeles.



Arnett "Rookie" Hartsfield Jr.



At Arnett's funeral, held Nov. 14.

For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CONTACT THE CLUB:



Tiffany Sy

Club Member Services Counselor, In-house

(800) 464-0452, Ext. 202

TSy@cityemployeesclub.com

www.cityemployeesclub.com

RETIREMENT HELPLINE

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 LAFCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer's extension is listed below.

Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System: (800) 779-8328

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
• Phillip Orland	Ext. 709
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Sternock	Ext. 708
• Michael Wilkinson	Ext. 712
Questions:	Ext. 0
RSVP:	Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Edward Harding: President
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
Tom Sternock: Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons

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

Directors

Mary Beetz
Cliff Cannon
Americo Garza
Michael Karsch
Gary Mattingly
Phillip Orland
Neil Ricci
Helen Salgado
Michael R. Wilkinson





The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

Budapest, and the River

Hal and Evelyn enjoy an anniversary cruise down the Danube.

PART 2



We are off again! Our most recent trip included a visit to Berlin, a cruise on the Danube (from Budapest to Prague) and a stop on the way home in Paris.

We finished our visit to Berlin and began the 14-day land and river cruise on the Danube River. We started with three days in Budapest before continuing on a seven-day Danube River cruise on the *MS AmaCerto*. The trip was to conclude with three days in Prague and six days in Paris before jetting home.

Our flight (Oct. 26, 2013) to Budapest left Berlin at 8:35 a.m., so we awakened early and left the hotel about 6:30 a.m. It was not quite necessary to leave as early as we got to the airport (Tegal) by 7 a.m. and were through security by 7:15 a.m. Evelyn's bag was a little overweight, but the agent let it go though. The flight time to Budapest was about one and a half hours. We landed about 10 a.m. Hungary is part of the European Union (EU), even though they don't use the euro. No one looked at our passports and there was no one in customs. All of our bags arrived, and we found the car and driver I had ordered over the Internet.

Budapest is two areas – Buda and Pest – divided by the Danube. Our hotel was the Sofitel at the Chain Bridge in Pest (Pest is on the right side of the Danube). The time from the airport was about 30 minutes. The driver said that it was faster because it was Saturday.

We found our tour desk (AMA) and met our cruise director, Lisi. She filled us in on the activities for the next two days. After that we checked in and also checked our bags because the room wasn't ready. We walked a couple of blocks looking for the nearest Starbucks but couldn't find one. We stopped at a Costa Coffee, which is very big in Europe, and had a sandwich for lunch. By the time we got back to the hotel, our room was ready and Max and Linda, friends from



The Parliament Building as we sailed out of Budapest at night.

Los Angeles, had arrived. When we got to our rooms, we found they were smoking rooms and they smelled of smoke. I called down to the desk, and they changed our room with no problem. I booked this cruise through Vacations to Go, and Linda did the arrangements; it's possible no one thought to ask for no smoking.

We had free Internet, and I was able to find the Starbucks for Evelyn. We all took a walk to the Starbucks. The weather was warm, with temps in the low 70s and clear skies. This was forecast for the next couple of days. We all thought it was going to be cooler, so we tried to dress light, but it was hard with a woolen sweater.

We got a recommendation for dinner from the concierge. Dinner was excellent in two ways: The food and service were great, and we met another couple, Steve and Barbara, from Atlanta, who were to be on the trip with us. The restaurant was Rezkakas Bistro (1051 Budapest, SAA UTCA 3), and it served great Hungarian food.

The night before, Europe switched off daylight saving time, and we enjoyed an extra hour of sleep. The hotel was very nice and our room had a nice view of the Danube and the Chain Bridge.

The next morning (Oct. 27) we took a city tour of Budapest. Our afternoon was free and we checked to see if there was anything we wanted to have a closer look at.

The weather was as good as yesterday. We had a very good breakfast buffet in the hotel (included with our room).

We left at 9:30 a.m. for our city tour. We were divided into three groups. We drove around Pest and then crossed the Chain Bridge to visit the Castle District, which is on the Buda side. From the area we enjoyed a great view of Pest and the Danube. We had about an hour of free time to walk the area. We stopped in a small cafe and had hot chocolate. We got back on the bus, drove back to the Pest side, and then stopped at Heroes Square. We got back to hotel about 1:30 p.m.

Our guide, Charles,

was very knowledgeable and also quite funny. I hoped this was the standard for the trip. On the tour we each had earphones to hear the guide.

After a light lunch at a Thai Café, we walked to the Opera House. On the way back to the hotel, we walked down to the river to see the Shoes on the Danube Promenade. There are 64 pairs of bronze shoes in memory of the individuals shot and thrown into the



The bronze shoes at the river.

river by the Arrow Cross Fascists during World War II. It was very moving to see the children's small shoes. I was sure we would hear more about this the next day on our Jewish tour.

That night we ate in a place across the street from last night's restaurant. The name was Aszu Etterwm, with more upscale Hungarian cuisine. The price was about the same, but I had one of the best duck meals in a long time. Although Evelyn's goulash was very unusual – it is usually a soup or stew with beef, potatoes, carrots and other veggies, simmered until the sauce is rich and the meat is tender – but in this case I called it deconstructed goulash, as there was meat, potatoes and veggies cooked perfectly but no broth or sauce of any kind. Interesting.

The next day we sailed from Budapest. Our luggage was collected at 8:30 a.m., and after breakfast we took the Jewish tour before being taken to the ship.

They loaded our luggage on the bus, and we started our tour at 10:30 a.m. Our first stop was the Dohany Synagogue. It is now the third largest temple in the world. During WW II, Hungary was part of the Axis pow-

ers. In 1944 they left the Axis, and the Cross Arrow Fascists took control of the government. The Jews were put into a ghetto where the Dohany Synagogue was at one corner. At the time there were about 800,000 Jews in Hungary; there are now about 50,000.

The synagogue has a memorial park for Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who saved many Hungarian Jews; and it includes the weeping willow tree, a metal upside-down menorah of sorts. It was very dramatic. Each leaf has the name of a Hungarian Jew who was murdered by the Nazis, and when the wind blows the sound from the tree sounds like crying. In general it was a very interesting museum on the actions against the Jews and a wonderful collection of artifacts for each of the Jewish holidays. The Synagogue's sanctuary was designed by a Christian who had never designed a synagogue, and who studied a mosque to refine his design. The sanctuary has three pulpits, one on each side and one in the middle, and a very large organ. It looks very much like the interior of a large church.

We still had some time before going to the ship, so we stopped for a quick lunch (McDonald's) and then drove through the new Jewish district and visited the original Raoul Wallenberg memorial park.

We boarded our ship, the *MS AmaCerto*, about 2:30 p.m. We waited until about 3:30 until all the bags were delivered to the cabins before we got our cabin keys. There were about 80 cabins on three decks, and the ship held about 160 passengers and about 50 crewmembers.

Our cabin was on deck two toward the aft part of the ship. We had a small balcony and a sitting area with a view. While it was not as large as what we have had on a large cruise ship, there was enough space and the ship was well appointed.



Evelyn at the Raoul Wallenberg memorial park tree.

The ship was built in 2012, so everything was new. We had Internet access and a full entertainment system.

We had a welcome aboard meeting and then dinner. Dinner was open seating, and we had dinner with a couple from Lake Tahoe. He was a retired Treasury official, and she was a doctor. The food was very good and well presented. Lunch and dinner included wine, beer, or soft drinks, as much as we wanted.

After dinner we sailed from Budapest, and the skyline was brilliantly lit. We were sailing to Bratislava, Slovakia, where we were scheduled to arrive about 2 p.m. the next day. *More next month!*



The Matthias Church, a Catholic church, is the main house of worship in the Castle District on the Buda side of the river.



The Chain Bridge in Budapest from our hotel room.

RETIREES:

Enjoy These Great Member Benefits



City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees

Full Club Membership, including:

- **The cheapest tickets in the City – UP TO 60% OFF**
- Great Club apparel and gifts
- Group-rated insurance products for purchase
- Club-exclusive events
- E-mail notices about upcoming events and promotions
- Access to Club Website
- And much more!

For Retired Club Members

As a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, you'll enjoy these amazing benefits:

The *Alive!* Newspaper

Your own personal edition of *Alive!*, delivered to you each month. (Sent to all RLACEI members in good standing). Stay connected to RLACEI, and to all your Retired City friends, read about exciting City projects, take full advantage of free *Alive!* classifieds, and much more.

For more information, contact the Club:



Tiffany Sy
Club Member Services Counselor, In-house
(800) 464-0452, Ext. 202
 TSy@cityemployeesclub.com
 www.cityemployeesclub.com

Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Abel, Frank H.	Sr. Equip. Mechanic	LAPD	33	Eng, Peter S.	Tree Surgeon As.	Public Works	12	McGee, Shirley W.	Comm. Info. Rep. III	Public Works	23
Abram, Kaleed Y.	Civil Engr. As. IV	Public Works	27	Gaiter, Andre	Man. Analyst II	Aging	27	Mezger, Eugene H.	Electrician	General Services	11
Aghajani, Essie	Transp. Engr. As. IV	Transportation	31	Gastelum, Arthur	Dir. City Eco. Dev. Of.	Mayor's Office	15	Mirzaie, Victor	Airport Guide II	Airports	6
Alvarez, Deborah	Detention Officer	LAPD	24	Gering, Rhonda A.	Pr. Clerk Police II	LAPD	25	Moore, Eric D.	Light Eq. Operator	Public Works	39
Aquino, Alex O.	Sr. Sys. Analyst II	LAPD	34	Gonzalez, Manuel	Ref. Coll. Truck Op. II	Public Works	33	Morgan, James M.	Traffic Manager	Harbor	15
Arriola, Lucia A.	Airport Guide II	Airports	6	Graham, Ida C.	Sr. Police Ser. Rep II	LAPD	24	Nazari, Arthur B.	Civil Engineer As. IV	Public Works	19
Arvizu, William R.	Security Officer	LAPD	15	Green, Barbara J.	Sr. Clerk Typist	Personnel	14	Padilla, Rodolfo S.	Special Prog. Asst. II	Rec and Parks	8
Bell, Donald W.	Animal Care Tech	Animal Services	38	Henderson, Cheryl	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	15	Palma, Joseph	Street Ser. Worker III	Public Works	28
Blackburn, Lisa J.	Clerk Typist	Library	15	Hollis, Christine	Legislative Analyst IV	Council	37	Petrich, Stephen	Sr. Systems Analyst II	Public Works	41
Booth, Kenelm H.	Custodian	Airports	14	Holmes, Joseph E.	Backg. Investigator III	Personnel	6	Rodriguez, Richard	Ref. Coll. Truck Op. II	Public Works	31
Brice, Linda Lou	Sr. Clerk Typist	Airports	11	Hou, Tian Yuan	Librarian III	Library	14	Rosenhelm, Brad	Council Aide VI	Council	7
Byrne, K. Kelly	Municipal Sgt.	LAPD	25	Kelley, Michael Ira	Firearms Examiner	LAPD	10	Shadrin, Nikolas	Gardener Caretaker	Public Works	15
Calvo, Don Lim	As. Park Serv. Att. II	Rec and Parks	4	Kennedy, Jon K.	Building Mech. Ins.	Building & Safety	28	Song, Jean	Sr. Clerk Typist	Finance	6
Calzada, Daniel	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	17	Khorshed, Saif	Chief Building Op.	Airports	29	Takahashi, Tokunori	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	25
Canizales, Alma D.	Council Aide VI	Council	11	Kievman, Sandra E.	Admin. Coordinator	City Attorney	26	Tyus, Lois	Sr. Clerk Typist	Housing	25
Cannady, Ras T.	City Planning As.	Planning	26	Kopp, Randall M.	Building Inspector	Building & Safety	24	Valadez, Randall M.	Wstw. Trea. Elec. II	Public Works	15
Chmielowiec, Mark	Civil Engineer	Public Works	27	Lee, Helen	Vocational Worker II	Airports	10	Weber, Field G.	Librarian III	Library	16
Cortes, Pablo	Wstw. Trea. Oper. III	Public Works	14	Livingston, Marta L.	Sr. Clerk Typist	Zoo	22	Williams, Eddie	Equipment Operator	Public Works	21
Cottrill, Larry L.	Planning/Res. Dir. II	Harbor	21	Mackey, Darryl B.	City Planning As.	Planning	31	Young, Christopher	Construction Insp.	Public Works	30
Cotton, Myran C.	Mayoral Aide I	Mayor's Office	30	Madawala, Elmo I.	Wharfinger II	Harbor	26	Zepeda, Linda	Clerk Typist	LAPD	33
Cruz, Elida	Exec. Admin. As. III	ITA	34	McGee, Nancy G.	Clerk Typist	Building & Safety	13				

Show Us Your Grandkids!

"I love spending 'grandma' time with my youngest granddaughters. The youngest is Arie, 4. She attends Locke Children's Center. Asia is 13 and attends Crozier Middle School in Inglewood as an eighth grader. My nickname for Arie is 'Grandbaby.' We enjoy many quality moments together. We attended a Clippers game Nov. 3. We had a wonderful time. I'm very proud of my grandgirls. I love them dearly."

– Donna Cox, Retired, DWP



Retirees: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! So send in those photos! Here's how:

1. **Make sure to have the permission from their parents.** If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better, but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them – their

school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.

5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: talk-back@cityemployeesclub.com

Send Prints To:
Grandkids
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
 (800) 464-0452

If you want the print photo returned, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back.

The Best Years

RETIREES HOLIDAY PARTIES IN DECEMBER

Don't forget to attend a retiree party this holiday season!

RLACEI: The RLACEI's annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers event is scheduled for noon Thursday, Dec. 4 at the Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. There will be a light lunch (sandwiches, salad and drinks), entertainment and valuable door prizes. You must make reservations at least a week ahead: (800) 678-4145, x701. Guests welcome. Call one of the officers on the Retirees Helpline. Free taxi service can take you from the parking lot to the lodge.

LARFPA: For Retired Fire and Police, your Christmas party is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 7, at Sportsmen's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. Contact LARFPA for more information.

RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



1 Illinois



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@cityemployees-club.com

"On a November road trip from California to Ohio, while a day ahead of the Arctic Blast storm, Vanessa Paulson did many stops. This photo was taken at the Mississippi River Illinois Visitor Center; the river just below was an amazing sight to see from this viewpoint."

- Vanessa Paulson, Retired, CAO

CLUB MEMBERS:

Be My CLUB

Valentine

Send your loved one a special Valentine...
to be printed in the February *Alive!*

Here's how it works:

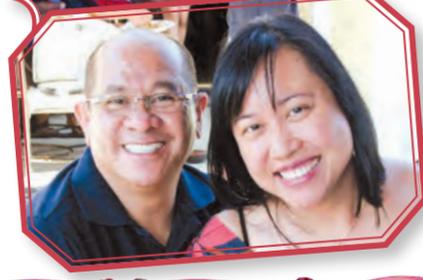
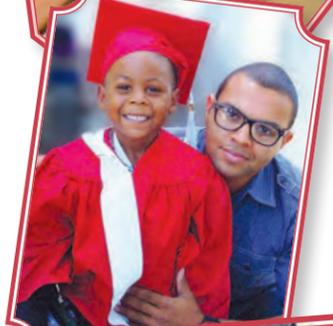
Send us a favorite photo (high-resolution digital preferred) of you and your loved one(s) (could be a romantic partner, a parent or child, etc.) and two or three sentences declaring your special bond.

Deadline: January 15



Send digital photos and your message to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com (subject line: Valentine)

Send paper photos and your message to: City Employees Club: Be My Club Valentine 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012



Airports

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

New Airport Officers

Airport Police graduates three from Academy.

On Nov. 3, Officers Aldridge Gray, Andres Liang and Michael Worden joined the ranks in the Airport Police Department last Friday. Graduation for the LAPD Academy Class 5-14 took place at the LAPD Building downtown.

Officers Gray, Liang and Worden were among the 25 police officers who graduated. In addition, Officer Andres Liang was selected to carry the American Flag during the posting of colors as part of the Color Guard.

The officers will now be assigned to Patrol Services Section, where they are expected to successfully complete a six-month Field Training Program specific to aviation law enforcement.

Airport Police Chief Patrick M. Gannon performed the swearing-in of the new officers and addressed the families by saying, "We are confident we picked the right people; we are proud to have them; and I am proud to be their Chief."

Also in attendance at the ceremony were Asst. Chief Brian A. Walker, Lts. Robert Rios and Michael Scolaro, Sgt. Joe Espitia, Academy Drill Instructor Adela Lopez, Recruitment Officers Errol Priestley, Andrea Williams and Angela Yang, CSI Officer Darius J. Lewis, and as a special guest, LAFD Battalion Chief Dean D. Ulrich.

Welcome to the force!



From left: Airport Police Assistant Chief Brian Walker, Airport Police Officers Aldridge Gray, Andres Liang, Michael Worden, and Chief of Airport Police Patrick M. Gannon.



From left: James Cordova, Ben Perez and William Ramirez.

General Services

Story and photo courtesy Karl Guder, General Services/Supply Services, Club Member

30 Times 3

Three warehouse workers mark their big work anniversaries.

Three employees of General Services/Supply Services recently marked their 30th work anniversaries as City employees.

They are James Cordova, Ben Perez and William Ramirez.

Congratulations, James, Ben and William! Thanks for your great service to the City.

GRAB SOME CANDY!

See's Candy, at a great club discount.

— SEE BACK PAGE

Switch to Sprint for the hottest deal in wireless.

The Sprint Family Share Pack is the perfect plan for your data hungry family. Get a great deal when you switch your number to Sprint.

20^{GB} data to share + **Unlimited talk and text** only **\$82 up to 10 lines /mo.**
all while on the Sprint Network. After SDP discount of 18% is applied on \$100 monthly data allowance.

We're waiving monthly access charges for phones, tablets and mobile broadband devices through 2015 – how sweet is that?
After 12/31/2015, pay \$100 plus the monthly access charge for each device: \$15/mo/phone, \$10/mo/tablet, \$20/mo/mobile broadband device.

Plus, we'll buy out your family's contract – up to \$350 per line.

We'll pay you up to \$350 via Visa® Prepaid Card for your Early Termination Fee or Install Bill balance when you switch and sign up for this plan. Once you have received your final bill from your other carrier, register for the Visa Prepaid Card at sprint.com/jointoday by 11/30/14.



Don't delay! Offers end 10/31/14.

SPRINT DISCOUNT PROGRAM 18% Discount for members of **LA CITY EMPLOYEES ASSC**
Applies to select regularly priced Sprint monthly data service.

City of LA: sprint.com/lacityemployees
 Co of LA: sprint.com/lacountyemployees
 Utility: sprint.com/californiapublicutilities
 K-12: sprint.com/californiak12education

Use this code for the Sprint Discount Program.
 Corporate ID: on website



Local: sprint.com/californialocalgovernment
 Call: 866-639-8354 / Visit: sprint.com/storelocator

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Sprint Discount Program savings courtesy of WSCA



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For new lines of service. Up to \$36 value.

**Monthly charges exclude taxes and Sprint Surcharges (incl. USF charge of up to 16.1% (varies quarterly), up to \$2.50 Admin. and 40¢ Reg./line/mo. and fees by area (approx. 5-20%)). Surcharges are not taxes. See sprint.com/taxesandfees.

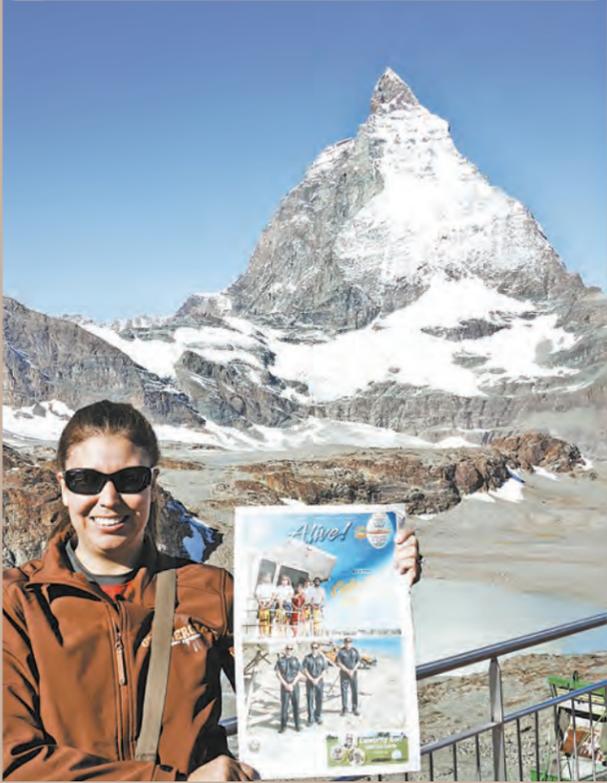
Activ. Fee: May req. \$36/line. Credit approval required. **Plans:** Offer ends 10/31/2014. No discounts apply to access charges. Includes unlimited domestic Long Distance calling and texting. Data allowance as specified. Third party content/downloads are add'l charge. Int'l svcs are not included. Max. of 10 phone/tablet/MBB lines. Mobile Broadband devices excludes Routers, Laptops and notebook computers. **Data:** Includes 20GB, 32GB, 40GB or 60GB of shared on-network data usage depending on selection and 100MB off-network data usage. Add'l on-network data usage: 15¢/MB. Add'l off-network data for tablets/MBB: 25¢/MB. If conflicting share data allowances are applied to an account, the majority on account or most recent change may be applied for all lines. Mobile Hotspot Usage pulls from your data allowance. **Monthly Access Charge:** After 12/31/2015, customer will be charged applicable data access charge per device in addition to data allowance charge which varies by selection. To avoid charges, customer must contact Sprint to make changes. Sprint Easy Pay obligations will still apply if applicable. **Usage Limitations:** Other plans may receive prioritized bandwidth availability. To improve data experience for the majority of users, throughput may be limited, varied or reduced on the network. Sprint may terminate service if off-network roaming usage in a month exceeds: (1) 800 min. or a majority of min.; or (2) 100MB or a majority of KB. Prohibited network use rules apply – see sprint.com/termsandconditions. **\$350 Visa® Prepaid Card Offer:** Offer ends 10/31/2014. Consumer, SDP and CL (1-10) phone lines porting the new line on a Sprint Family Share Pack Plan with 20GB of data or higher. Amount based on ETF (Early Termination Fee) charged or remaining balance on install-bill device (excludes Prepaid devices). All lines must be ported from an active wireless line at another carrier and remain active and in good standing for at least 45 days to receive the prepaid card. You must submit your final bill showing your ETF or installment balance no later than 11/30/2014. Allow 12 weeks for your prepaid card to arrive. Register at sprint.com/jointoday. Excludes 1+ Corporate-table, upgrades, replacements, and ports made between Sprint entities or providers associated with Sprint (i.e., Virgin Mobile USA, Boost Mobile, and Assurance). Cards are issued by Citibank, N.A., pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc., and managed by Cit Prepaid Services. Cards will not have cash access and can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted. **Sprint Easy Pay:** Req. 24-mo. installment agreement. 0% APR, and qualifying device and service plan. If you cancel wireless service, remaining balance on device becomes due. **SDP Discount:** Avail. for eligible company employees, org. members or agency employees (ongoing verification). Discount subject to change according to the company's, org.'s or agency's agreement with Sprint and is avail. upon request for select monthly svc charges. Discount only applies to data service for Sprint Family Share Pack. Not avail. with no credit check offers or Mobile Hotspot add-on. **Other Terms:** Offers and coverage not available everywhere or for all phones/networks. May not be combined with other offers. There is no minimum term applied on the Sprint Family Share Pack, but the Service Agreement applies and automatically continues on a month-to-month basis unless you contact us to inform us of any changes. Including cancellation. There may be a minimum annual term applied or continued based on a discounted device purchase. Sprint 3G network reaches over 231 million people. Sprint 4G LTE network reaches over 250 million people. Restrictions apply. See store or sprint.com for details. ©2014 Sprint. All rights reserved. Sprint and the Sprint logo are trademarks of Sprint. Other marks are the property of their respective owners. NI45552



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1 Switzerland



"As a lifelong Disneyland fan, I always wanted to see the actual Matterhorn. When the opportunity arose on our three week European trip, this was a must do! It was a beautiful day with breathtaking views of the Matterhorn and the Alps of Switzerland."

- Heather Ramirez, LACERS

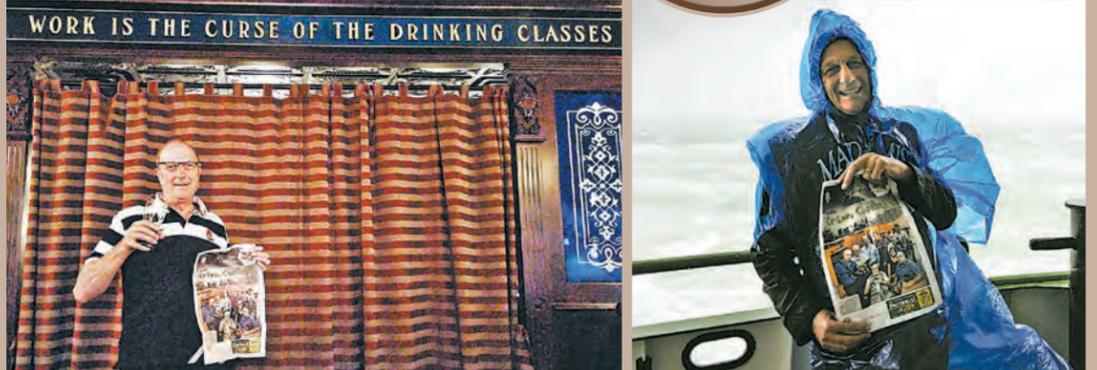
2 Eastern-ish North America

"I just took a 'quick' trip to visit our daughter, a University of Texas employee, in Austin. As we were out of state, we thought we would just pop up to Washington, D.C., via Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to visit our kind of adopted daughter, who works for the school district there. Well, as we were so far up country, my wife suggested it would be nice to see the fall colors and Niagara Falls, so we hired a car and drove ever north. Niagara is nice, but from the Canadian side, and it just so happens that I had an old school chum living in Toronto, so we spent a few days with him and his lovely wife. That was before departing for New York and home. We just love to travel, and I love my City job. Cheers!"

- Michael Barnes, Harbor



THE ADVENTURES OF MICHAEL BARNES HARBOR



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

Zoo

Story courtesy Zoo; Photos by Tad Motoyama, Zoo

100-Pound Surprise



The new hippo baby.

Zoo celebrates surprise hippo birth, first in 26 years.



Hippo mom and baby.

On Halloween, the Los Angeles Zoo's female hippopotamus, Mara, gave birth to a healthy calf. Guests who happened to stop by to view Mara and her companion, Adhama, received the special Halloween treat of witnessing a live hippo birth. This is the first hippopotamus calf the Zoo has had in 26 years.

Mara, 10 years old, arrived at the L.A. Zoo from Topeka Zoo in December 2013 as a companion for our male, Adhama, 3 years old, who came from the San Diego Zoo in June 2013. This was the first time in many years the Zoo had introduced a pair of hippos, and they had an immediate connection.

Since breeding is closely monitored to comply with the Species Survival Program (SSP) and Mara was on birth control, the birth came as a happy surprise but wasn't completely unexpected. Animal care staff had a hunch a birth was imminent due to Mara's symptoms

such as weight gain, but they had limited testing options to confirm the suspicion. Staff referenced their breeding notes, and guesstimated that a birth could potentially happen in mid-November based on a gestation period of eight months for hippo pregnancies.

Hippo calves can weigh in at up to 100 pounds.

Mara's labor began in the comfort of her outdoor pool, and it is common for calves in the wild to be born in the water and stay in the water for up to two weeks before emerging. However, in this particular situation, Mara chose to leave her pool and have her baby on dry land. Zoo animal care staff and veterinarians were close by to monitor the situation to ensure the safety of Mara and her calf. Both mother and baby are doing well.

Mother, father, and baby can all be seen on exhibit daily.



Hippo mom and baby.

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Rest Insured

BY JEFF GELINEAU
 Vice President of United Agencies,
 The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner
jeffg@ua-insurance.com

Ho Ho... Holy Cow!

Many of us have great childhood memories of the Holidays, gifts and family times. I also have a strong childhood memory of a Christmas tree bursting into flames! (Thankfully, nothing was damaged and no one got hurt.)

I grew up in the country, so it wasn't uncommon for us to have a fire out in the middle of the snow in the wintertime. It was a great way to warm up after ice skating or riding a toboggan. One year, the day after Christmas, my brothers and I brought out the family Christmas tree and propped it up in the middle of the snow. I remember distinctly holding a single match under one branch, and watching that thing literally *leap* into flames! It was fully engulfed within seconds, and completely consumed in a few minutes.

You may have seen a YouTube video similar to this, and if you have it might have caused a chill to go down your spine. I remember sitting there thinking that *this* thing was sitting in our living room just an hour before. It was like having an unexploded bomb sitting next to your TV!

Sure, a tree is a beautiful thing, and it carries with it a lot of great memories. But let's all remember how flammable they are, and treat them with respect.

Every year several hundred homes burn due to fires caused by Christmas trees, causing almost \$20 million of property damage every year. Even more tragic, on average six people die every year due to this easily solved problem.

Here are some guidelines for proper Holiday safety from the National Fire Protection Association:

Picking the Tree

- If you have an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled, certified or identified by the manufacturer as fire retardant.
- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

Placing the Tree

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 1 – 2 inches from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

Lighting the Tree

- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

After the Holidays

- Get rid of the tree when it begins dropping needles. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program. Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.
- Of course, a homeowners policy or renter's policy provides fire insurance that would cover a loss like this, but it's best to be safe and not have to deal with an insurance claim.

Please feel free to give us a call if you would like a quote on your homeowners policy.

Happy Holidays from everyone at United Agencies!

Be safe and have fun!

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 jeffg@ua-insurance.com and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

About United Agencies

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LAPD

Stories and photos courtesy LAPD

LA's Bravest

Above and Beyond



Police Dept.'s annual event recognizes 25 heroes with Purple Heart and Medal of Valor honors.

On Sept. 4, the LAPD hosted its important annual "Above and Beyond" ceremony, which this year honored 25 officers who have demonstrated the highest level of courage and bravery in protecting the City.

The event was held at the Hollywood and Highland complex in Hollywood.

This year's event was titled "Above and Beyond" because it contained the awarding of not just Medals of Valor, but also Purple Heart medals. Purple Hearts have been distributed only four times in the history of the event. This year, 12 LAPD Officers were honored with the Purple Heart, and 14 with the Medal of Honor. One officer, Sean Schneider, received both.

The Purple Heart recognizes officers who have sustained grievous physical injury during a tactical situation, and posthumously awarded to the next of kin of those officers who did not survive their injuries.

The Medal of Valor is awarded to officers who distinguish themselves by conspicuous bravery or heroism above and beyond the normal demands of police service. To be awarded the Medal of Valor, an officer shall have performed an act displaying extreme courage while consciously facing imminent peril.

The medals are awarded by the Board of Police Commissioners and presented by the Chief of Police in the name of the Department at the annual ceremony. The award consists of a medal, ribbon, and citation. The Medal of Valor was first presented in 1925, and the Purple Heart was first awarded in 2009.

The awards ceremony is made possible thanks to the generosity of the Los Angeles Police Foundation.

The stories of their bravery follow.

Purple Heart Honors

Dark Hallway



Policeman Norbert Huseman

With many officers fighting overseas during World War II, the LAPD's force was drastically reduced. Norbert John Huseman completed the Police Academy and joined LAPD as a wartime emergency policeman in September 1944.

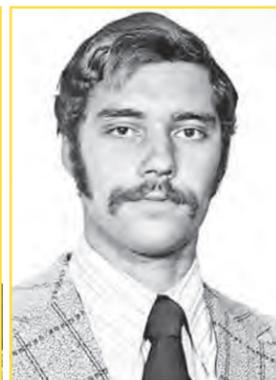
On Dec. 22, 1945, Policeman Huseman was working Newton Division patrol when he and his partner responded to a disturbance call involving two men arguing over the ownership of a baby carriage. As Huseman walked to the location to make contact, he shined his flashlight inside a darkened hallway and ordered anyone inside to come out.

A suspect began shooting from inside the darkened hallway. Huseman was critically wounded during this violent encounter with the suspect. Additional officers responded, and they, too, were wounded by the suspect. The suspect was eventually shot and taken into custody.

Unfortunately, Policeman Huseman succumbed to his gunshot wounds nine days after the incident. He was survived by his wife and four children.



Officer Richard Beardslee



Officer Jack Rand

front plate and no current tabs on the rear plate. The officers ordered the three males out of the vehicle, and as they attempted to order the female out of the vehicle, one of the males lunged toward Beardslee, and a fight ensued with both officers.

During the struggle, the male yelled out to the female suspect to shoot the officers. The female removed a gun from under her shirt and shot Beardslee in his chest. As the female attempted to shoot him again, Beardslee pointed his firearm toward her but was unable to fire because one of the male suspects was

holding onto the barrel of his gun. The female shot Beardslee again in the abdomen, enabling the male suspect to take away Beardslee's gun. Beardslee used his baton to distract the suspect and move behind the car.

Meanwhile, Rand tried to request backup while fighting one of the other males. The suspect that was previously fighting with Beardslee then shot Rand in the abdomen. With both officers down, the suspects fled in their vehicle.

Since the officers had collected the suspect's address from the driver's license at the start of the traffic stop, other LAPD officers went to the female's apartment. The investigation ended with all four suspects being arrested.

Officer Beardslee recovered from his injuries, returned to work, and retired from the Department. Officer Rand also recovered from his injuries, returned to the Department, and was later hired by the Huntington Beach Police Dept.

Deadly Forgery Incident



Det. Sgt. Charles Monaghan



Det. Robert Endler

On Feb. 1, 1964, Det. Charles Monaghan and his partner, Det. Robert Endler, were assigned to Wilshire Division. They received information that a fellow Police Officer was going to walk to a Sears store next to the police station to pick up a forgery suspect. Both Endler and Monaghan decided to join him on this "routine" call.

The three walked into the store and were directed to the security office. As they headed to the office, they saw the suspect, who was seated without handcuffs.

While Endler walked into the room and stood the suspect up to pat him down, the suspect turned toward the officers and asked, "Are you the police?" When advised that they were the police, the suspect pulled out a revolver from his waistband and began shooting. Endler was struck in the face, and Monaghan was also hit. The suspect jumped up and escaped from the security office. Just then, a Sears employee came to investigate the sounds of gunfire coming from the office. Monaghan shouted out, "He's got a gun!" and pushed the Sears employee to the floor and out of the line of fire.

Although gravely wounded, Monaghan managed to raise his gun at the fleeing suspect, who fired back. Monaghan's rounds went high, and one of the suspect's rounds hit Monaghan directly in his forehead.

Det. Robert Endler and Det. Sgt. Charles Monaghan both died that day from the injuries received in the line of duty.

Drug Bust



Det. Gerald Sawyer

On Nov. 6, 1973, Det. Gerald "Blackie" Sawyer was assigned to the Narcotics Division as part of a special task force with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Working undercover, Sawyer went to a Santa Monica hotel to purchase 20 kilos of cocaine from a known drug dealer who had been introduced to Sawyer by a police informant.

Sawyer, the drug dealer and the police informant met in the hotel room to complete the narcotics transaction. Once Sawyer handed over a briefcase containing \$140,000 in cash to the drug dealer, the dealer brandished a handgun and shot Sawyer multiple times. Officers in the adjoining room who were monitoring the transaction rushed into the room and took the drug dealer and the police informant into custody.

Det. Sawyer died as a result of his injuries and was the Department's first undercover drug officer killed in the line of duty.

In 1974, Det. Sawyer was posthumously awarded the LAPD's Medal of Valor, and, in 1992, a video was made by the LAPD's Training Division to reenact the tragic events of his death.

Traffic Stop

On Jan. 30, 1973, Officers Richard Beardslee and Jack Rand were assigned to Wilshire Area, where Beardslee was a training officer and Rand had just graduated from the Police Academy and had worked only a couple of shifts with Beardslee.

In the early morning hours, the officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for having no

Attempted Burglary

In the predawn hours of Sept. 28, 1982, Officers Bill Skiles and Tom Chevolek were on patrol in the Hollenbeck Division when they came upon a suspect attempting to break into a vehicle. The officers approached the suspect and tried to communicate with him in both English and Spanish.

The suspect refused to obey the commands and fled on foot. The officers caught up with the suspect, and a physical altercation ensued. Despite the officers' application of physical force and mace, the suspect escaped.

The officers again caught up to the suspect, and another struggle ensued, prompting Skiles to



Officer William Skiles

strike the suspect over the head with his baton. Skiles moved forward to handcuff him, but the suspect quickly produced a handgun, firing two rounds at Skiles at point blank range.

The suspect turned away and fled again. Skiles went to reload his weapon and, for the first time, noted he had been shot twice – once in his right hand and the other in his left leg. Skiles then transitioned the weapon and reloaded the handgun, utilizing only his left hand.

Despite his serious wounds, Skiles rose to his feet and joined his partner in the foot chase of the suspect. The suspect continued his flight, eventually taking cover behind a parked vehicle.

The officers also took cover, and another gun battle ensued. Having chased the suspect several blocks and engaged in a lengthy gun battle, Skiles eventually lost consciousness. The suspect was ultimately taken into custody after suffering multiple gunshot wounds.

As a result of this incident, Officer Skiles lost the use of his wrist and hand for one year. He never regained full use of the appendage and two years later, he was forced to accept a medical retirement due to his injuries.

In September 1984, Officers Skiles and Chevolek were awarded the LAPD's Medal of Valor for their actions in this incident.

Kidnapping



Officer Rick Webb

On Aug. 27, 1985, Officer Rick Webb and his partner were assigned to Van Nuys patrol when they received a radio call of a kidnap investigation at an apartment complex.

Immediately upon entering the complex, the officers were confronted with escaping hostages and an armed suspect who was firing his weapon in an attempt to regain control of his captives. Both officers instinctively drew the attention of the suspect away from the hostages and came under fire.

The officers took cover as they exchanged gunfire with the assailant. During the gun battle, Webb glanced around the corner of a wall to engage the suspect and was shot in the head. The force of the gunshot pushed Webb back into his concealed position.

After being momentarily stunned, Webb reengaged the suspect and continued to exchange fire. Although the suspect had sustained numerous gunshot wounds throughout the encounter, he refused to surrender and continued to fire his weapon at the officers. As the gun battle continued, Webb (who was now bleeding) and his partner maneuvered themselves into a position that enabled them to place the suspect in custody.

A number of officers responded to the "Help" call. Instead of waiting for an ambulance, fellow officers took Webb to the hospital in a police vehicle. Miraculously, Officer Webb recovered from his injury and returned to full duty less than six months after the shooting.

Stolen Car



Officer Christopher Walter

On the evening of Oct. 23, 1993, a suspect stole a vehicle from a used car lot in South Los Angeles, crashing it through a gate in order to flee.

Later that evening, a Sergeant observed the vehicle speeding down a busy street and initiated a pursuit. Two additional units had joined the pursuit when the suspect collided into a fire hydrant, exited the vehicle and, fled on foot.

Officer Christopher Walter and his partner, who had joined the vehicle pursuit, exited their police vehicle and started to chase the suspect. Walter tried to cut off the suspect and eventually ended up near an alley.

Suddenly, Walter observed the suspect climb over a gate into the alley. Walter saw that he was not holding a weapon in his hands, grabbed onto the suspect's shirt, and pulled him to the ground. The suspect fell onto his back, and Walter positioned himself on top of him for an arrest.

The suspect then reached into his waistband, where he had a concealed handgun. Walter used his left hand to grab onto the weapon, but the suspect was able to fire a round, striking Walter in his left hand. Knowing that he had been hit, Walter continued the struggle to gain possession of the suspect's weapon.

Walter, fearing for his own safety, drew his service pistol and shot the suspect who continued fighting for a short time before collapsing. Officer Walter suffered a shattered bone, severed tendon, and severe nerve damage as a result of the gunshot wound to his left hand.

Traffic Stop



Officer Alejandro Valencia

On the evening of July 10, 2010, Officer Alejandro Valencia and his partner were on patrol in Foothill Division.

The officers pulled up to an intersection where they saw a driver throw what appeared to be a beer can out of the car's window. Believing the driver was under the influence, Valencia and his partner initiated a traffic stop. However, the driver failed to stop and sped away from the officers who immediately requested backup and air support. The officers continued their pursuit until the suspect suddenly stopped.

Without warning and before the officers could even come to a stop, the suspect exited his vehicle and fired a semi-automatic handgun at them. The bullets ripped through the police car, pierced the front windshield and struck Valencia in his right forearm. Valencia flung open his door and returned fire.

With a barrage of bullets flying everywhere and shards of glass exploding from the passenger window, Valencia's partner exited the black and white and took a few steps back to return fire. He lost his footing on the shards of broken glass and fell to

the ground, breaking his wrist in the process.

Valencia saw his partner fall to the ground and thought he had been shot. Putting his partner's wellbeing before his own, Valencia engaged the suspect with his wounded arm and broadcasted "officer down" calls on the radio with his left hand.

Valencia continued engaging the suspect until he felt he was no longer a threat and made his way to the back of the police car in an attempt to aid his partner.

His partner saw the suspect making movements and, believing he was still a threat, he re-engaged the suspect until he was rendered immobile. Other officers arrived and took the suspect into custody.

Surveillance



Officer Phillip Scallon



Officer Sean Schneider

On the evening of Oct. 1, 2011, Officers Phillip Scallon and Sean Schneider were working undercover narcotics surveillance inside an unmarked van when they saw three people exit a nearby apartment building and walk past their van.

As the three men passed their van, another vehicle abruptly drove up and came to a stop at the back of their van. Scallon and Schneider watched as three people jumped from the vehicle and ran toward the three individuals on the sidewalk. Within seconds, an argument ensued between the two

groups of men.

Out of the corner of his eye, Scallon saw a fourth person hiding next to a tree holding a shotgun. Scallon notified Schneider, and they both drew their weapons and scanned the area for additional threats.

The officers looked back at the vehicle parked behind their van and saw a person pull up his shirt, exposing a handgun in his waistband. Then, almost simultaneously, Schneider and Scallon heard two rapid gunshots and saw muzzle flashes where the suspects were standing. Believing that the suspects were firing at him and his partner, Scallon fired at them with the suspects returning fire shattering the window of their van. In addition to glass flying, pellet(s) from the shotgun blasts struck both officers, with Scallon taking the brunt of the weapon's firepower.

Glass particles and smoke filled the passenger compartment of the van, obscuring the officers' vision. Scallon's left eye immediately swelled shut from being struck by shotgun pellets, and although both officers were wounded from gunshots, they remained focused and stayed in the fight. Scallon knocked glass out of the window to give himself a better view of the suspects attacking them. The officers realized they were in a vulnerable and confined position, so they exited the van as Schneider called for backup.

The suspects fled on foot, but because of the detailed information Scallon and Schneider were able to provide about them, responding officers apprehended two of the suspects after a massive manhunt through Koreatown. Thanks to the relentless followup of detectives on the case, all suspects were arrested and brought to justice.

LA's Bravest
— continues next page



The living honorees.

Medal of Valor Honors

Hostage Situation

During the early morning hours of Nov. 23, 2011, Operations-West Bureau homicide detectives attempted to arrest a suspect wanted for murder during a robbery, but he escaped. Subsequent intelligence led detectives to believe the suspect was hiding at a residence in the Southeast Area. Detectives also learned that the suspect had said he was “going to go out G-style,” referencing a “shootout” with police. Based on the severity of the suspect’s crime and his propensity for violence, SWAT’s assistance was requested.

As the SWAT team traveled to the location, a surveillance team thought they saw the suspect exit the residence and drive away. A pre-staged air unit directed resources on the ground.

A contingent of SWAT resources, including a K-9 team, was directed to a house where the suspect was last seen entering. The SWAT officers staged an Emergency Rescue Team (ERT) because they received information that there was a man with small children inside. As the LAPD pieced together intelligence, it became apparent that the suspect was holding the family hostage inside of the house.

Initial attempts to negotiate with the suspect failed, and officers were directed to breach the house to confirm the location of the hostages.



Officer James Brown Officer Canaan Bodell Officer Michael Messenger

As the officers tried to breach the front door, the suspect began to shoot at them through the door. Officers were able to partially open the door, entered, and returned fire at the suspect. Officer James Brown deployed a Noise Flash Distraction Device as the suspect continued to fire at the officers. Without hesitation, the team rapidly moved through the partially opened front door and the smoky interior of the house. They could hear the children screaming from the rear of the residence.

Without regard for their personal safety, each officer who had entered the house went to look for the hostages. As Officers Canaan Bodell and Michael Messenger moved toward a rear bedroom, they saw the suspect leaning into a closet with a gun in his hand. Inside the closet was the father with his two children. The suspect grabbed hold of one of the children in an attempt to take the child from the father. The officers realized the imminent danger of the hostages and quickly went into the room. The armed suspect charged at the officers, and a gun battle ensued. Messenger was shot in a lower extremity, but the officers were able to shoot and mortally wound the suspect, putting an end to the hostage nightmare for the frightened family members.

Christmas Day Rescue



Officer Don Thompson

On Christmas Day 2013, Officer Don Thompson was driving southbound on the 405 freeway in a bomb squad utility truck to start his shift at the Bomb Squad’s LAX office. Traffic was light that day, and Thompson had a clear view of traffic traveling in both directions when he saw a vehicle on the northbound 405 collide with the concrete center divider and burst into flames. With the inferno building at the rear of the car, the vehicle continued northbound for another 350 feet before finally coming to a stop.

Without a moment’s hesitation, Thompson pulled over to the center divider a short distance from the burning vehicle and jumped two concrete freeway dividers to reach the vehicle. When he reached the car, Thompson noticed that the driver was unconscious and that the fire, which had already engulfed the entire rear portion of the vehicle, was quickly travelling forward into the driver’s compartment.

Thompson, without regard for his own safety, rushed forward to pull the unconscious driver out of the car. However,

the vehicle’s front door and fender were badly damaged in the collision and were blocked by the concrete, making it even harder to pull open.

Thompson leaned into the vehicle, reached over the victim, and attempted to find the seatbelt release button. The smoke and intense heat of the flames caused Thompson to pause for an instant to get oxygen. Realizing that his life and the victim’s life were in danger, Thompson made one last attempt to release the seatbelt. Through the thick smoke and searing heat, he was able to finally unbuckle the seatbelt and then, bearing the full weight of the 200 pound unconscious driver, pull him out of the car.

Two bystanders who had pulled over to help reached over the concrete barrier to grab the unconscious driver from Thompson and pulled him to safety. The car became completely engulfed in flames seconds later.

Thompson was treated at a local urgent care facility for first-degree burns to his arms and face, as well as second-degree burns to his right hand and deep abrasions to his left knee sustained when he jumped over the concrete median. In a testament to Officer Thompson’s work ethic and commitment to duty, he continued his shift for that day after he was released from urgent care.

Downtown Shootout



Officer Mark Austin



Officer David Blake

On Sept. 11, 2012, a victim was carjacked at gunpoint by a suspect carrying a black guitar case. Within 30 minutes, Rampart officers located the suspect driving the vehicle and called for a police pursuit.

During the pursuit, officers identified the person as a known homicide suspect notorious for carrying an AK-47 rifle concealed in a guitar case. He had vowed to shoot it out with officers if ever confronted by them, just as his brother did in a 2010 shootout with LAPD officers.

After traveling more than 28 miles in one hour, the pursuit came to a sudden end at a busy intersection in downtown Los Angeles with the suspect running a red light and colliding with another vehicle. Immediately after the collision, LAPD officers saw him, armed with an AK-47, emerge from the car and move to conceal himself behind the crashed vehicles.

Officers Mark Austin, David Blake, Ryan Nguyen, Clinton Perez, Joseph Arevalo, Brad Gorby and Juan Garcia took cover and engaged the suspect in a fierce gun battle. The initial volley of gunfire wounded the suspect and knocked him to the ground, but he recovered and continued shooting.

Because the suspect was sitting so low to the ground, the officers could not see him as he indiscriminately shot toward them and at innocent bystanders. As Officers Joseph Broussard and Sean Schneider arrived on scene, Schneider assumed that the brunt of the gunfire was directed toward Officer Hans Almaraz and his K-9 partner, Pecco. Without regard for their own safety, Schneider moved across open ground to provide assistance to Almaraz while Broussard attempted to save a bystander stuck inside his vehicle in the middle of the intersection.

The suspect fired at Broussard, who responded by firing two rounds back and saw him collapse. Schneider ran from cover to aid his partner and, together, they were able to move the citizen from his car to safety.

As the suspect lay on the ground firing, Austin and Nguyen fired back and stopped when they saw him slump over. Meanwhile, Almaraz also engaged the suspect. Unsure if he was still able to use his weapon, officers directed him to give up. He defiantly answered with a derogatory refusal.

Almaraz released K-9 Pecco onto the suspect, leaving him distracted and trying to defend himself, which allowed officers to move in, disarm and safely secure the suspect.



Officer Ryan Nguyen



Officer Clinton Perez



Officer Joseph Arevalo



Officer Brad Gorby



Officer Juan Garcia



Officer Joseph Broussard



Officer Sean Schneider



Officer Hans Almaraz



LA's Bravest

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Griffith Observatory

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2 – 9:45 p.m.**

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Free public star parties are held monthly at Griffith Observatory from 2 to 9:45 p.m. with the assistance of volunteers from the Los Angeles Astronomical Society, the Los Angeles Sidewalk Astronomers, and the Planetary Society. They are a chance for the whole family to look at the sun, moon, visible planets and other objects, to try out a variety of telescopes, and to talk to knowledgeable amateur astronomers about the sky and their equipment.

Please be aware that the astronomers and telescope demonstrators must cut off the line for each telescope to enable all viewing to be completed by 9:45 p.m. Hours for telescope operation are not the same as for the building (which closes at 10 p.m.).

Information:

www.griffithobservatory.org/programs/publictelescopes.html

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From left: Mariana Guevara, Club Store Manager, and Megan DeBolt, Club Store Assistant Manager, ship another parcel of great Club merchandise.



The Stanley Cup visits LAPD's Central Station.

LAPD, LAFD

Because It's the Cup

LA Kings 'share' hockey's top prize, the Stanley Cup, with LAPD, LAFD as thanks for their support.

Photos courtesy Staples Center

On Sept. 19, the LA Kings shared the Stanley Cup trophy with LAPD's West Bureau, and LAFD Station 59 and (on Sept. 12) Station 10.

The "sharing" of the Cup, a National Hockey League tradition, came as thanks to the LAFD and LAPD for their support and protection of the LA Kings team at Staples Center.

The Kings were in possession of the trophy because the team won the NHL championship last season. In NHL tradition, the Kings then were allowed to bring the cup to



The Stanley Cup visits LAFD Station 10, responsible for protecting an area that includes the Staples Center, where the Kings play their home games.

the community in any way they saw fit, within reason, of course.

LAFD Capt. II Jaime E Moore, was quoted as saying, "I think it's absolutely incredible to have the Cup in the city of Los Angeles. It just intensifies all the hard work the Kings did in earning it because it's such a cherished trophy. To have it here at Fire Station 59 is even better. We're elated to have it here at our home, to be able to host it, to have so many fans within the department, not only the station, but the battalion, coming to want to see it, it just brings people within our own organization even closer together because they have that bond now; they've experienced the Cup and support the Kings together, and we get to do it in our own backyard."



LAPD Officer Steve Lim with the Stanley Cup at the Central Area station.

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120 West 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

FREE Validated parking at Joe's Parking structure.

At the Club Store this December, look for:

Gift Central

Fantastic Club merchandise that will be great under your tree. New this year: Free holiday gift boxes and bags, with the purchase of select items.

Gift Certificates

Great deals on See's Candy and Honeybaked Hams.

Free Standard Shipping

Free standard shipping on all Club tickets and merchandise!

The Club Tree!

Club Toy Drive

Bring an unwrapped gift to be given away as part of the Club's Toy Drive.



Don't Forget the Club Webstore!

Most of the items available at the Club Store downtown are also available on the Club Webstore! Go online for a great selection of Club tickets, apparel and other gifts.

And, Club Webstore purchases offer free standard shipping! No standard shipping charges, no ticket surcharges ... and still the cheapest tickets in the state. What a deal!

NOTE: If you want your delivery before Christmas using free standard shipping, Club Webstore orders need to be completed by close of business Dec. 15.

www.cityemployeesclub.com

Movie Tickets Packs!



Karl Guder, General Services, Club Member, picks up some certificates.

A Club holiday hit when they were introduced last year, Club Movie Ticket Packs are beautifully wrapped bundles of movie tickets ready to go, at the great Club discount. As always, they're the cheapest in the state: \$25 for each ticket pack. Choose from AMC or Regal Movie Packs.

They're perfect as stocking stuffers, gifts for co-workers or as part of a Secret Santa program, or as regular gifts.

Grab some today at the Club Store!

CLUB GIFT IDEAS FROM THE



'Christmas Angel'

Angel Gomez, the Club's Director of Member Services, loves Christmas ... and here are some of his suggestions for great gifts from the Club Store. "Hey everybody, have a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!" he says. Pick up any or all of these great gift ideas at the Club Store ... and tell 'em the Christmas Angel sent you!



Great Stocking Stuffers

Do you have a City Employee on your list? (Or, as a City Employee, maybe you want to drop hints!)

The Club Store has a great selection of fun and thoughtful gifts that are just right for the City Employee's holiday stocking. From ID badge lanyards to City caps to affordable watches to stickers to pen sets ... to so much more!

Stop by and see the selection.



Club Angels

Donate to The Toy Drive!

When you visit the Club Store, make sure you bring an unwrapped toy for those in need.

As part of its Club Angels program, and in conjunction with LACECA, the Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association, the Club is once again hosting its annual Holiday Toy Drive. Drop off your unwrapped toys to the Club Store soon - by the first two weeks of December - and we'll take it from there!

It's best to bring an unwrapped toy that's not fragile.

Beautiful Gift Bags And Pillow Boxes

Hey guys (and all) Club Members: Let the Club Store prepare your gift! As it did last year, the Club Store will complete your gift in beautiful holiday bags and pillow boxes with bows. The service is for Club Members purchasing merchandise and apparel in the Club Store. Club Store Staff will be happy to enclose your gift for you!

Please note: Gift-preparing times vary according to how busy the Club Store is. During some busy times, it might take a little longer, but we'll get it prepared for you. Or leave it with us, and the Club Store will have it waiting for you upon your return.

Leather Wallets



Sports Bottles



Men's & Women's Watches



Travel Clocks



City Seal Shot Glasses



Give Certificates & Movie Tickets



Bags and Backpacks



City Seal Mugs



Shirts, hats and bags make great gifts!





Airports

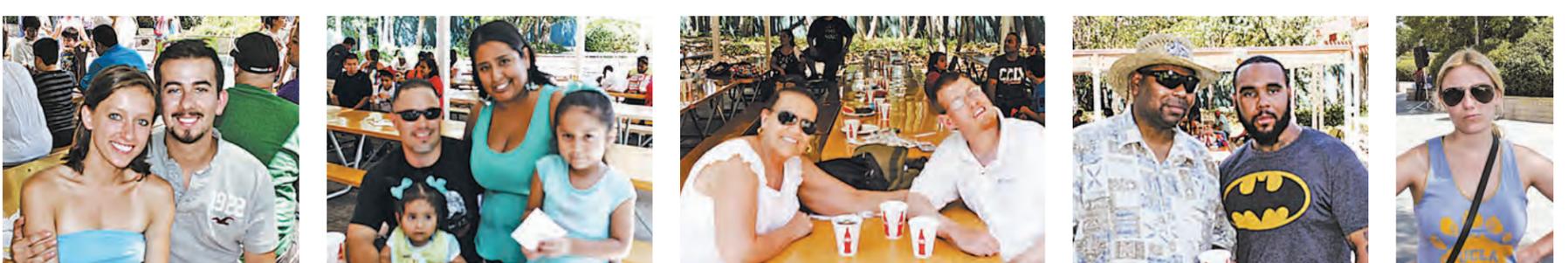
Story and photos by Dalila Vielma,
Club Counselor



Picnic Time!

Airport Employees Association hosts annual employees picnic.

On Aug. 9, Airports held its annual employee picnic at Six Flags Magic Mountain in Santa Clarita. The event was hosted by the Association of Airport Employees (AAE) and included a yummy barbecue buffet and an admission ticket into the park. There was also face painting, various games, raffles, and a DJ. As usual, the picnic was a great success! *The Club thanks Jimmy Sparks for always inviting us out to the annual picnic to join in on the fun!*



Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales
Angel's

Be Alive!

– Fountain Valley

Mile Square Regional Park



Angel Jr. and Aden stand by one of the lakes at the park.



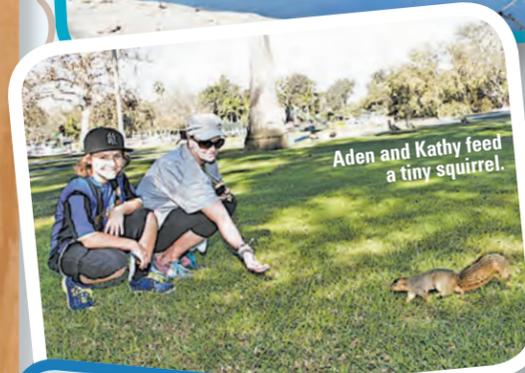
Lots of people have fun on the soccer fields.



Aden and Angel Jr. point to the rental boats available for use.



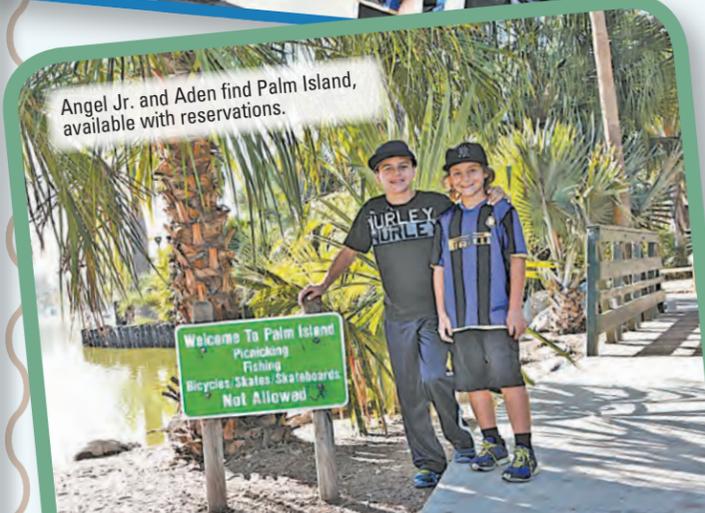
Aden and Angel Jr. find a park native – a turtle.



Aden and Kathy feed a tiny squirrel.



Aden and Angel Jr. point to the archery targets. (Next time, guys.)



Angel Jr. and Aden find Palm Island, available with reservations.

Hello again!

This month we travel to Fountain Valley. Mile Square Regional Park is amazing! You will find so much to do. The park has two lakes, three 18-hole golf courses, an archery range, baseball and softball fields, picnic shelters, and a 20-acre urban nature area planted with California native plants, a 55-acre recreation center with tennis courts, basketball courts, racquetball courts, a gymnasium, the Kingston Boys & Girls Club, and a community center. That is a lot to do!

Let's begin!

History: The Navy purchased 640 acres of agricultural land in 1942 for Mile Square Naval Outer Landing Field; it was used as an auxiliary for Navy Air Station, Los Alamitos. Three landing fields were constructed in a triangular shape in the center of the area; the area was used for carrier deck qualification practice by Navy aircraft.

In March 1967, Orange County signed a long-term lease with the Navy for the perimeter area of the site, which allowed the county to develop this area for regional purposes. All military operations

ceased in 1974. I have added a photo of the landing fields, which was taken in 1994; the golf course expansion soon covered all remaining evidence of the landing fields. History is so much fun.

The Name: Where did the name come from? The park got its name from the near-perfect square of land that it occupies. If you simply walk around the outside of the park you would travel about four miles. If you walk through the park and zigzag your way from activity to activity, you will most likely travel more than four miles easily

Activities: There's a lot you can do at Mile Square. We did plenty of walking; it's a beautiful park, with the urban nature area, as I mentioned. That is more than enough! But you can also take advantage of the many features I mentioned before.

This is very important: You will need sunscreen, and bring plenty of water, too. The walk was enjoyable and the views are amazing. Next time we will try some archery. It's free to sign up; you just need to visit the park Website.

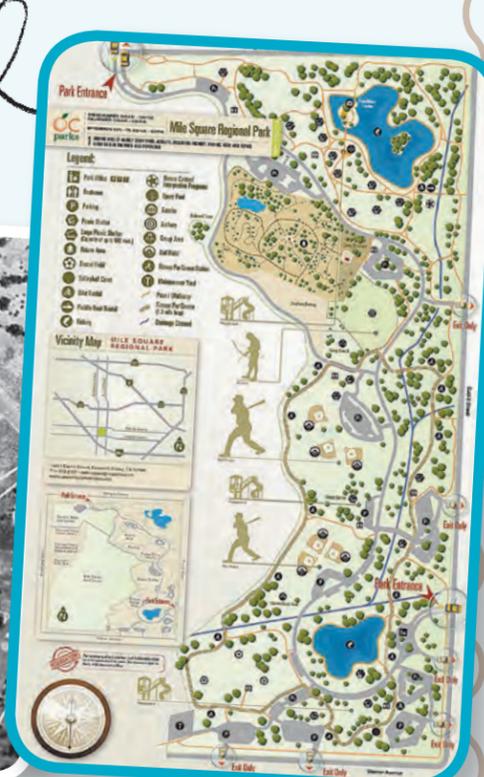
Take lots of photos, and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring plenty of water snacks and maybe spend a little time just walking and enjoying the scenery.

As always, be safe and Be Alive!

Angel



An aerial view of the Landing Square.



Mile Square Regional Park.

Mile Square Regional Park

16801 Euclid St. • Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Highlights: Fishing, baseball, softball, soccer, archery, golf, nature center and picnicking
Distance: About four miles walking the outside perimeter
Approximate Time: Two hours, depending on your pace
Difficulty: Casual walk
Hours: Fall/Winter: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Spring/Summer: 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Parking: Free

Directions from Downtown: Take the 5 Freeway south, then take the 605 south, then take the 405 south to the Warner Avenue east exit. Continue on Warner Avenue, turn left on Euclid Street, then left at Camelia Avenue/Mt. Whitney Street. Keep right; your destination will be on the right.

City Clerk

Story by Sandra Mendoza and Sara Gonzalez, City Clerk; Photos courtesy City Clerk

Time Short To Apply To Be a City Poll Worker

City Clerk needs City employees to staff the polls for next year's municipal elections. Applications due Dec. 5.

There are many challenges facing election officials across the country, including low voter turnout and aging voting equipment. But among the most challenging is finding the thousands of qualified Election Day poll workers needed to properly staff the polls.

For the City of Los Angeles, the third largest voting jurisdiction in the country, adequately staffing its approximately 1,600 polling places is a huge undertaking. To help offset the challenge of finding qualified poll workers, the City implements the City Employee Poll Worker (CEP) Program for the municipal elections that take place every two years. In its sixth cycle, the CEP Program aims to help fill this gap by partnering with City departments to hire 600 City employees throughout the City to work on municipal election days, March 3 and May 19, 2015.

A CEP is a City employee who serves as a poll worker at their assigned polling place on Election Day. CEPs provide a valuable service to the community by ensuring that polls open on time and that Election Day is a positive experience for everyone. The CEP program is a chance for employees to break away from their normal routine and it provides a rare opportunity to be a part of the electoral process. CEPs assist the City's voters and uphold the integrity of the City's election by following the policies and procedures that are in place.

CEPs are paid for working at the polls on Election Day (approximately 14.5 hours) and may earn up to 1.5 times their hourly rate, if applicable. This opportunity provides City employees a chance to earn extra money by working extra hours while serving their community. Previous experience is not necessary. CEPs are trained by the Election Division prior to Election Day, where they learn how to set up and break down a polling place, how to address Election Day concerns, and, most importantly, how to address the needs of the voters. They support the community, meet new people, and earn extra money!

In addition to English, the City also provides voter resources and language assistance in 11 federal and City mandated languages. To meet the needs of the ever-growing diversity of the voters of Los Angeles, the City is also seeking poll workers who are bilingual in English and one of the following languages: Armenian, Chinese, Farsi, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese. Bilingual City employees are encouraged to apply!

Apply today!

The application deadline is Dec. 5.

For information and to obtain an application, call the Office of the Clerk/Election Division, CEP Hotline at (213) 978-0001.



Rec and Parks

Story by Larry Fukuhara, Cabrillo Aquarium; Photos by Gary Florin, Cabrillo Aquarium



At the 2013 Whale Fiesta.

Whale Fiesta Approaching

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium to host annual event in January.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is scheduled to celebrate the 44th anniversary of the annual Whale Fiesta from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25 at the Aquarium.

This fun-filled family event, co-sponsored by Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Cetacean Society, celebrates marine mammals, and the beginning of the migration of the Pacific gray

whales along Southern California.

More than 20 marine life organizations will exhibit and provide information about their efforts to bring awareness and protection to these animals. Throughout the day, expert Cabrillo whale-watch naturalists will give talks on various marine mammals.

At the event each year, a life-sized whale is built out of sand. Grab your shovels and come

lend a hand! The highlight of the day is the "Great Duct Tape Whale Contest", where model whales are created by all ages. Other special activities throughout the day will include face painting, music, marine mammal-related arts and crafts projects for all ages, a puppet show,

a life-sized walk-through whale and a passport contest for fabulous prizes.

The celebration's grand finale will be "Whale Dynamics," where participants will be transformed into a single "living whale."

The Aquarium's Exploration Center, Aquatic Nursery and the Marine Library will be open to visitors from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Spend the whole day enjoying the many activities; there is no admission charge.

The Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro, and is a Rec and Parks facility with support from Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. For more information or to receive a calendar of events call (310) 548-7562 or visit our Website at www.cabrillo-marineaquarium.org



At the 2009 Whale Fiesta.



At the 2012 Whale Fiesta.

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— HOSTED BY —

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12.04.14

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RAFFLE PRIZES

APPETIZERS

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From ABC7 & Southern California Firefighters

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From left: Luis Mijangos, LA School Police, 1 year of District service; Mauricio, a student; Esteban Hernandez, LA School Police, 1 year; Lenny, a student; Juan, a student; and Jose Castaneda, LAPD, 10 years of City service.



Stephanie, a student, with Ismael Chaparro, LAPD, 8 years of City service.

LAPD

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor



Dealing With Autism

LAPD, Sheriff, LA School Police learn techniques to deal with the condition.

The LAPD, along with the Autism Society of Los Angeles, held "Mission Possible" on Oct. 9. It was a mixed agency event with officers from the LAPD, Sheriff's Dept., and the LA School Police Dept. LAPD Chief of Police, Charlie Beck showed support by attending the event and offering an encouraging speech to participants.

Students with autism and related disorders were paired with Police Officers and allowed to take part in four interactive workstations that

promoted safety skills. Students were able to get into a police car and ambulance, fingerprinted, and given the option to take a photo with their partner as well.

The purpose of the event was to spread awareness. It allowed Officers to understand the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders. In return, students were given the opportunity to build relationships with the officers while simultaneously learning about safety skills.



Brandon Greiner, LAPD, 1 year of City service, with Jordie, a student.



Heidi Stoecklein, LAPD, 12 years of City service, Club Member, with Collin, a student.



From left: Sheila Booker, volunteer; Lt. Natalie Gipson, LAPD, 27 years of City service; Officer Kim Gipson, LAPD, 7 years; and Tino Tuiaosopo, Club Member.



Alejandro, a student, with Heriberto Crisantos, LAPD, 6 years of City service.



Jose Cabrera, LAPD, 8 months of City service, with Josue, a student.



Eliza, a student, with Scott Rafferty, Sheriff's Dept., 13 years of County service.



Libier Valencio, LA School Police, 9 years of District service, with Ryan, a student.



From left: Robert Calzadillas, LAPD, 25 years of City service; James Ferrell, LAPD, 17 years, Club Member; Frank Dominguez, LAPD, 19 years, with students.



The fingerprinting station.



Jason Janata, LAPD, 8 years of City service, Club Member, with Michael, a student.



Participants learn at a safety station.



LAPD Dr. Luann Pannell.



LAPD Chief Charlie Beck.



LA School Police Chief Steven Zipperman.



A student with Officers.



From left: Adam, a student; Ismael Peinado, LAPD; Sam, a student; Daniel Sanchez, LAPD; and a colleague.

Club Members and City Employees SAVE!

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Keep your money. We insist.

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General Services

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Vice President, Operations



Thanks, Managers!

General Services says thanks to managers, assistants.



From left: Assistant General Manager Deborah Ramos honored Executive Administrative Assistant II Biniko Hawkins, 25 years of City service; Director of Supply Services Melissa Yusilon 10 years; (General Manager Tony Royster); Director, Supplier and Customer Relations John Trevogda 22 years; Director of Publishing Services Gerald St. Onge, 19 years; Director of Standards Ray Solomon, 28 years; and Director of Management Information Systems Michael Sakamoto, 26 years.

On Sept. 24, General Services held a thank-you reception for the department's managers and assistants. The event was held in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

General Manager Tony Royster, Club Member, recognized the leadership and their assistants for the job they do. "Congratulations to all our Division Heads and Assistants" was the message.

Special thanks go to Eric Robles and Richard Wuerth for their assistance.



Emergency Manager Richard Wuerth, 26 years of City service, kicked things off.



From left: Parking Services Manager Ben Setiarto, 18 years of City service; and Mail Services Manager Aram Salmasi 18 years, were honored by Assistant General Manager Val Melloff, who also honored Director of Facilities and Real Estate Services Melody McCormick, 29 years; Executive Administrative Assistant Biniko Hawkins, 25 years; General Manager Tony Royster; Director of Custodial Services Loretta Quenon, 20 years; Manager of Special Services, Special Events, Filming, Emergency Planning Eric Robles, 15 years; Director of Finance Services Victor Yee, 27 years; and Director of Personnel Services Dan Yoshimura, 29 years.



From left: Assistant General Manager Angela Sherick-Bright honored Director of Fleet Services Richard Coulson, 27 years of City service; Sr. Clerk Typist Lydia Marquez, 18 years; and Director of Fuel Services and Environmental Compliance Rene Villa-Agustin, 24 years (with General Manager Tony Royster).



General Manager Tony Royster, Club Member, honored his Executive Administrative Assistant III Tina Fermin, 25 years of City service.



From left: Assistant General Manager David Paschal honored Director of Building Maintenance Kelly Cooper, 15 years of City service; Executive Administrative Assistant II Sonya Flint, 30 years; and Director of Construction Forces Nick Pendorf, 29 years (with General Manager Tony Roster).

Ham It Up For Christmas!

Honeybaked Hams at great Club discounts!

— SEE BACK PAGE

Council

Story and photos courtesy Councilman Mike Bonin's office

Zaki Says Yes!

Club Member Zaki Mustafa wins Councilman's first 'Yes' award.

On Nov. 4, Zaki Mustafa, Transportation, Club Member, was awarded the first "Yes" award from Councilman Mike Bonin. The event took place in Council chambers.

The "Yes" honor was awarded to someone "in City government who will roll up their sleeves and cut red tape to make neighborhoods in Los Angeles better places to live," according to the certificate. "This certificate is presented to Zaki Mustafa in thanks for your hard work and refusal to take 'no' for an answer."



From left: Zaki Mustafa, Transportation, Club Member is honored with the first "Yes" award by Councilman Mike Bonin.

"I created the 'Yes' awards to recognize dedicated City employees who refuse to take no for an answer and always work to a yes to help me respond to constituent's ideas and concerns," Mike Bonin said. "I cannot think of a better example of the kind of employee this award was created to honor than Transportation's Zaki Mustafa. Zaki is creative, thoughtful and dedicated. He is insightful and passionately engaged in making life better for people who live in, work and visit Los Angeles. He is helping me put neighborhoods first in Los Angeles, and for that, I am very proud to present Zaki the first ever 'Yes' award."

Congratulations, Zaki!

The Club



Here are Angel Jr. and Aden, sons of the Club's Angel Gomez, Director of Member Services, having a blast at Speedzone.

BELOW: Here's Ken Kochakji, Retired, Transportation, using his Club discount to have fun at Universal Studios.

Share Your Fun!

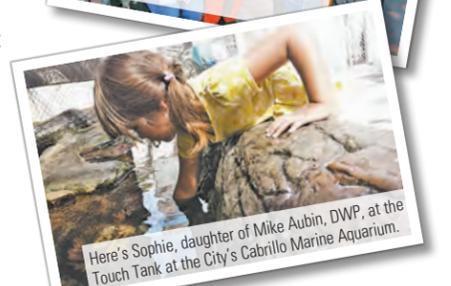
Take a photo or video when you use your Club tickets, and send it in!

Next time you use your Club benefit – for movie tickets, amusement park tickets, Office Depot, or any others – take a photo or video, and send it in! Let everyone see how great Club discounts are!

Your photos or videos might be shared in *Alive!* or in social media.



Here's Leticia Yapana, Retired, DWP, and her family using their Club discount at Disneyland.



Here's Sophie, daughter of Mike Aubin, DWP, at the Touch Tank at the City's Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

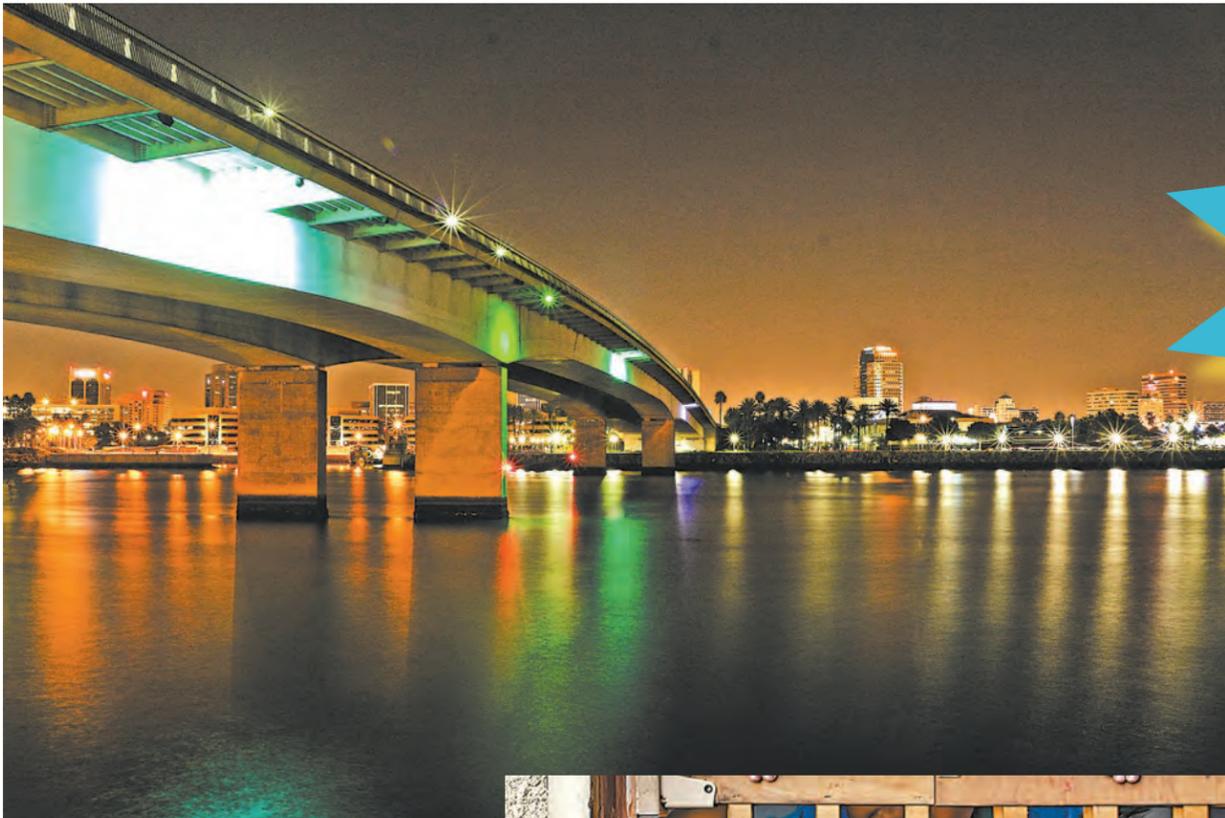
Send your pictures and video to:
info@cityemployeesclub.com
 Include your name and description of the event



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN A
\$25 TARGET
GIFT CARD



"The Queensway Bridge, Long Beach."

– **Victor Ladd, Retired**

John's comment: What a beautiful picture, Victor; night shots are not easy, but this came out magnificently!

"This shot was taken in the small town of Areopoli, in the Greek Mani region. It's generally barren lands; however, pair the simplicity of this long-abandoned property with the magnificent light during the evening's 'golden hour,' and you end up with true beauty."

– **Yves Didier, Airport Police**

John's comment: Good eye Yves; the lighting, angle and elevation are fantastic – and the green shutters juxtaposed with the green cactus ties it all up. Good work again!



Coming in January,
a special feature:
**Ten years of
"John's Picture
Perfect!"**
Don't miss it!

"'Buncha amins! A role-reversal while stuck in a toddler room."

– **Dominique Daito, LAPD**

John's comment: Dominique, you have a knack for catching photos at just the right moment. Perfect timing!

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.



The Smart Move

BY PATRICK MILLER, Dearborn Insurance, The Club's Insurance Partner

Ins and Outs of Fixed Annuities

As you near retirement age, you may hear more about fixed annuities. What are they? Here's some basic information.

What is a Fixed Annuity?

Fixed annuities are essentially CD-like investments issued by insurance companies. Like CDs, they pay guaranteed rates of interest, in many cases higher than bank CDs. Fixed annuities can be deferred or immediate. The deferred variety accumulates regular rates of interest, and the immediate kind makes fixed payments – determined by your age and size of your annuity – during retirement. The convenience and predictability of a set payout makes a fixed annuity a popular option for retirees who want a known income stream to supplement their other retirement income.

Advantages

Fixed annuities pay guaranteed rates of interest, which makes them appealing to investors wary of the stock market's ups and downs. What also makes them appealing are their low investment minimums and the fact that the interest they pay escapes taxation until you pull it out.

Disadvantages

Their rates can also be fixed for a limited period, and then drop say, after the first year. If you don't like the new rates and want to withdraw your money early, heavy surrender charges could kick in and cut into your returns.

Are They Right for You?

If you're worried about coming up short, a fixed annuity can help you sleep at night. Because of their stability, fixed annuities might be well suited to those who want to make sure their money will be enough to carry them through retirement, and at least cover the bare minimum of fixed expenses.

Tax Advantages

When you add the benefits of qualifying an annuity as a traditional or Roth IRA, they gain even more appeal. Take additional tax deductions if you qualify your annuity as a traditional IRA or take the advantage of tax-free growth if you qualify your annuity as a Roth IRA.

The Club's insurance partner, Dearborn National, offers a unique product called Security Builder, which includes a small life and disability policy with a fixed annuity to provide a self-completing addition for retirement with the safety and guarantee of the fixed annuity.

Patrick Miller represents **Dearborn Insurance**, the Club's new partner for two areas— critical illness insurance and retirement income. Currently, the Club offers three Dearborn Products: The Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan and Paycheck Protection Plus.

Ask your Club Counselor for details. Contact Dearborn National at (888) 443-8829.

Airports

Story and courtesy Airport Police; Photo by Officer Darrius Lewis, Airport Police

Congrats From City Hall

Airport Officers honored by Councilman Mike Bonin.

On Oct. 17, Councilmember Mike Bonin honored six Airport Police Officers for their heroic actions during the Nov. 1, 2013 shooting in Terminal 3 at LAX. The Airport Police Officers being recognized were: Sgt. Steve Zouzounis, Officer Raymond Woods, Officer Daniel Yu, Officer David Lalicker, Officer Robert Pedregon, and Officer Brian Lopez (not present).

Councilmen Mike Bonin and Mitchell Englander proudly presented the City of Los Angeles Certificate of Recognition at the beginning of the City Council Meeting at Los Angeles City Hall. During the presentation, Councilman

Bonin said, "They are not your typical everyday heroes, they are superheroes."

Airport Police Chief Patrick M. Gannon was present and received the Certificate of Recognition on behalf of Officer Brian Lopez. Sgt. Steve Zouzounis gave a heartfelt "thank you" on behalf of Los Angeles Airport Police honorees.

Also in attendance were Airport Police Asst. Chief Ethel McGuire, Lt. Vern Williams, Crime Scene Investigator Officer Darrius Lewis and Bertha Melgar, Office of the Chief of Airport Police.



Airport Police Officers (from left) David Lalicker and Robert Pedregon, Councilman Mitchell Englander, Officer Raymond Woods, Sgt. Steve Zouzounis, Councilman Mike Bonin, Officer Daniel Yu and Chief of Los Angeles Airport Police Patrick M. Gannon.

PayCheck Direct

We Have a Winner!



Club Member Janet Torres-Medina wins PayCheck Direct raffle.

Janet Torres-Medina, DWP, and her granddaughter, Emily, stop by the Club Store to pick up Janet's prize, an HP Tablet.

Janet Torres-Medina, DWP, stopped by the Club Store Nov. 12 to claim her giveaway prize – a cool new HP tablet. Well done, Janet!

The giveaway was produced by Club benefit partner PayCheck Direct, which allows Club Members to purchase quality items through payroll deduction.

Janet entered the raffle at the Club Store in the weeks prior to the raffle. No purchase was necessary.

Congratulations, Janet! Enjoy your new tablet.

SPARK OF LOVE

From ABC7 & Southern California Firefighters

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From left: Mel Cabral, Programmer Analyst, 7 years of City service; Remy Aquino, Information System Manager, 29 years; Ken Phan, Management Analyst II, 11 years, Club Member; Chau Nguyen, Personnel Analyst, 5 years; and Kevin Young, Personnel Analyst, 4 years.



From left: Bianca Juarez, Custodian, 11 years of City service; Juan Lopez, Custodian, 9 years, Club Member; Maria Calderon, Custodian, 9 years; Mirna Garcia, Custodian, 14 years, Club Member; and Ortega Rodriguez, Custodian, 9 years.



From left: Melanie Roberts, Accounting Clerk II, 7 years of City service, Club Member; and Monique Whitmore, Sr. Accountant, 24 years, Club Member.



Employees enjoy the chocolate fountain.



From left: Officer II Jacquelyn Zambrano, 4 years of City service; Officer Ericka Holliday, 8 years, Club Member; Officer John Youngblood, 15 years, Club Member; and Roger Cuevas, Security Officer, 12 years, Club Member.



Greg Reza, Heavy Equipment Operator, 25 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: William Caycedo, Motor Officer, 13 years of City service; and Jimmy Montano, PO III Motor Officer, 11 years.



From left: Greg Seal, Window Cleaner, 16 years of City service, Club Member; Earnest Richardson, Mechanical Helper, 16 years, Club Member; and Andre Thomas, Mechanical Helper, 6 years.



From left: Paula Miura, Management Analyst, 22 years of City service, Club Member; and Anita Cormier, Management Analyst, 30 years.



From left: Dino Catuogno, Construction Inspector, 3 years of City service; and Eveni Pulu, Construction Inspector, 3 years.



The Mechanical Repair Team.



From left: Danita Phillips, Management Analyst, 35 years of City service; Lucinda Rezendes, Sr. Management Analyst, 24 years; Danielle Jennings, Personnel Analyst, 10 years, Club Member; Janice Austin, Management Analyst, 27 years, Club Member; Glendra Perkins, Sr. Clerk Typist, 27 years, Club Member; and Jacque Blackwell, Sr. Systems Analyst, 25 years.



From left: Donato Campos, Maintenance, 15 years of City service, Club Member; Cecena Refugio, Custodian, 12 years; Maria Abdellah, Custodian, 12 years, Club Member; and Renberto Palomeque, Custodian, 9 years.



From left: Dorsey Martin, Clerk Typist, 24 years of City service, Club Member; and Susie Gutierrez, Sr. Clerk Typist, 10 years.



From left: Efen Beguico, Gardener, 10 years of City service, Club Member; Juan Torres, Plumber, 13 years; and Enrique Validia, Mechanical Helper, 5 years.



From left: Tad Bezabeh, Engineer, 20 years of City service; Chuck Kwan, Engineer, 14 years; and Chun Pang, Engineer, 9 years.



Officer Aaron Duboise, 12 years of City service, Club Member.



Maintenance Dept. staff.

Airports

Story and photos by
Jeanette Gadut,
Club Counselor



Thanks For the Hard Work!

Airports hosts annual employee appreciation day.

Airports held its annual employee appreciation Sept. 10. It was a fun-filled event that allowed employees from all departments to take a break from their day's work and enjoy the festivities. Live music filled the air, dance instructors took over the stage, and delicious food was given to employees. Smiles were seen everywhere and laughter could be heard amidst the hundreds of attendees.

It was a great day for all!

Thanks to Airports for inviting the Club to attend.



From left: Minerva Gutierrez, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 26 years of City service; Brenda Crawford, Accounting Clerk, 14 years, Club Member; and Linda Brown, Acting Personnel Record Supervisor, 25 years, Club Member.



From left: Kyle Payne, Construction Inspector, 9 years of City service, Club Member; Sepou Ohanian, Construction Inspector, 10 years, Club Member; and Iman Saberi, ADG Engineer, 8 years.



From left: Kristina Jenkins, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, 7 years of City service; Jose Lopez, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, 8 years, Club Member; and Alberto Davalos, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, Club Member.



From left: Preston Shaw, Mechanical Helper, 15 years of City service, Club Member; and George Pierce III, Maintenance Laborer, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Thomas Hicks, APD, 9 years of City service, Club Member; and Darryl Robinson, APD Traffic Patrol, 13 years, Club Member.



From left: Fernando Alvarado, Electrical Craft Helper, Club Member; and Matthew Thierry, Electrical Craft Helper.

Airports

Information and photos courtesy Jenelle Hamilton, Airports

Wrestling, With Success

Airport Maintenance employee is part of the U.S. National Women's sumo team.

Airports employees never fail to amaze. There always seems to be something or someone to celebrate at LA airports, with the way Airports employees have volunteered to help their communities, succeeded in personal hobbies, or achieved academic successes and career advancements. One such employee who has been breaking barriers is Van Nuys Airport's own Jenelle Hamilton. Hamilton, a Sr. Clerk Typist at the Maintenance Services Division, has been making the sport of sumo a personal hobby for the past five years.

"A past co-worker/friend of mine in the LAPD used to sumo wrestle," Jenelle explains. "He knew of my Muay Thai kickboxing days and was looking to bring more females into sumo. He asked me to give it a try. My first go of it was at Muscle Beach in Venice. I have been hooked ever since.

"I like sumo because the sport, unlike boxing, is usually very fast and over within seconds. It takes all of your strength, coordination and skill to out-master and win an opponent without any real time to think. This makes you rely solely on your training and affords you little, if any, opportunity for mistake or recovery. The people within the sport are all very

supportive, and it's a very close-knit family, both nationally and internationally."

Over the last several years, Hamilton has participated national and international competitions as a lightweight contender (143 pounds or fewer) in amateur sumo wrestling. In addition to national events, Hamilton has represented the United States in both SportAccord Combat Games, once in Beijing, China (2010) and in St. Petersburg, Russia (2013). This year alone she participated in the United States Sumo National Championships in Jackson, Wyo., taking gold in the lightweight and open weight categories. The open weight allows any participant of any weight to be paired against each other and fight through brackets to determine the best overall contender of the event.

In addition to this year's US Nationals, Hamilton has participated in various other competitions this year. She was the USA lightweight representative in the Aug. 10 Annual World Sumo Women's Championships in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. She also participated in the 2014 US Sumo Open, which commenced in Long Beach in September and is recurrently airing on NBC Universal Sports Network. The event brought contenders from all over the

world. The women's competition was mainly United States contenders, with the exception of a middleweight (144-176 pounds) from New Zealand. Hamilton went home undefeated in the lightweight category and took the bronze in open weight, losing only to the New Zealander, from that event.

Sumo, a sport that is more than 1,500 years old, originated in Japan. Japan is the only country where professional sumo can be found. However, amateur sumo wrestling is beginning to take ground in countries all over the world. Athletes wearing a simple loincloth called a mawashi come together in a ring with a diameter of approximately 15 feet. They begin with a ritual before charging at each other, similar to football, and fight with all of their strength, energy and technique to take their opponent to the ground or out of the ring. The rules are relatively simple, with more than 80 recognized winning techniques that are at the athlete's disposal during the typically seconds-long bout.

Throughout the years Hamilton has been featured in articles by the Los Angeles Daily News, OC Register and the New York Times, including a New York Times documentary video available online at <http://youtube/0eIJ4V35KAW>. The biggest obstacle for sumo athletes in the United States is funding their travels to competition, both nationally and abroad. As international sumo friend of Jenelle's once said, "It's a very expensive hobby."

It's the elusiveness of the sport that overrides the cost for Hamilton. Jenelle Hamilton amuses in the sport where female participation is low but growing and credits the sumo



Jenelle Hamilton, Airports, center, with fellow teammates of the 2014 US National Women's Team.

community for keeping her love of the sport alive. From the moment athletes approach the ring to the last bow of respect, sumo demands good sportsmanship, humility and respect from its athletes and sports authorities. Hamilton hopes to help broaden the United States perspective of the sport and entice more athletes to transition to the sport, especially females, as the sumo world begins its quest to broaden worldwide interest and support for the sport.

"Knowing you trained well and gave everything you had in the ring is its own reward," Jenelle says. "But that's not to say that placing and receiving a medal isn't great, too. The highest compliment you can give your opponent is to offer them your best and strongest fight.

"One must have physical strength, stamina, balance and technique to win in sumo. Being merely physically strong will not cause you to win. But none of those talents is as important as being mentally prepared and headstrong as you face your opponent. If you have fear, no strength in any of those physical factors will matter. Once you bow and enter the ring, you have given your opponent the blessing to break you, to damage you, and vice versa. If you have fear, you have already lost."

Alive! thanks Ralph Morones, Airports, Club Member, for contributing this story.



Jenelle Hamilton, Airports, is in the first row center/fifth from left at the 2014 US Sumo Open.



PAYROLL OR PENSION DEDUCTED

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Angeleno Mortuary <i>N. Hollywood, CA</i>	Crawford Mortuary <i>Northridge, CA</i>		Ingold Chapel <i>Fontana, CA</i>	Hawthorne Mortuary <i>Hawthorne, CA</i>

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Tiffany Sy
Club Member Services Counselor
(800) 464-0452
tsy@cityemployeesclub.com

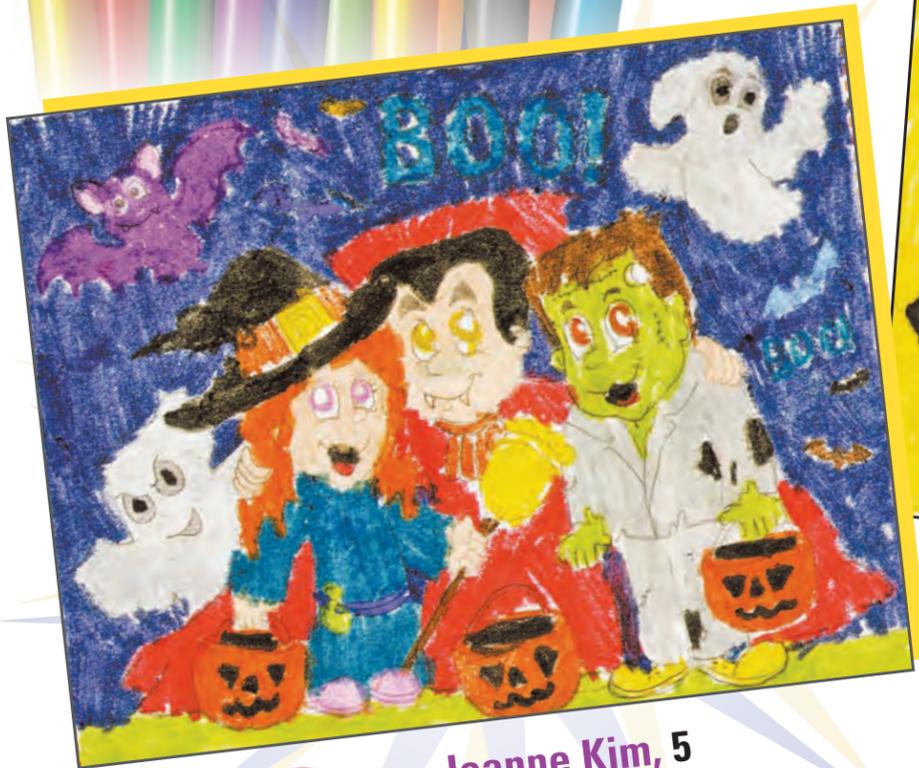


Coloring with Mariana!



Compiled by Mariana Guevara, Club Store Manager

The *Alive!* Children's Coloring Contest



Joanne Kim, 5

- BIRTHDAY: March 26
- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Bubble Guppies"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Cookies
- BEST FRIEND: Zia
- WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC: I can see many jellyfishes. I love them. I love to dance like them.
- PARENT: Yang Kim, DWP



Blake Watrin, 6

- BIRTHDAY: October 24
- FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Disney Channel"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Chips
- BEST FRIEND: JJ
- WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC: I've never been to Aquarium of the Pacific.
- PARENT: Michael Watrin, Public Works

Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT	CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Rebecca Grimm	2	Emma Grimm	Building & Safety	Omar Reza	6	Guillermo Reza	Airports
Keilli Schreiner	2	Laura Cervantes	Public Works	Jewel Gogreve	6	Linda de la Peña	Library
Naomi Barragan	3	Sergio Barragan	DWP	Gianna Rivera	6	Irene Di Giorgio	LAPD
Milo Parish	3	Edwin Wold	DWP	Hailyn Topete	6	Paul Steve Alvarado	Public Works
Lily Cruz	3	Mavdoqueo Cruz	Public Works	Jade Glenchur	6	Mark Glenchur	LAFD
Aaron Grimm	4	Emma Grimm	Building & Safety	Emily Simmons	6	Douglas Donovan	Rec & Parks
Sophia Ramirez	4	Georgina Tamayo	Housing	Megan Schwedler	6	James Schwedler	LAPD
Edgar Reza	4	Guillermo Reza	Airports	Belle Hernandez	6	Mark Hernandez	DWP
Sophia Aubin	4	Michael Aubin	DWP	Kaylin Rose Ganier	6	Kim Ganier	LAPD
Emma Christopher	4	Jim Christopher	DWP	Jasmine Morales	6	Cynthia Morales	LAPD
Natalie Hernandez	5	Marco Hernandez	Transportation	Rebecca Wamsley	6	Steve Wamsley	Rec & Parks
Joanne Kim	5	Yang Kim	DWP	Leah Grimm	6	Emma Grimm	Building & Safety
Emerson Parish	5	Ed Wold	DWP	Brooklyn Iasparro	6	Dominick Iasparro	LAPD
Jessie Tovar	5	Katherine Tovar	Rec & Parks	Leah Grimm	6	Emma Grimm	Building & Safety, Ret.
Samantha Smith	5	Derek Smith	LAPD	Olivia Parish	7	Edwin Wold	DWP
Ella Villegas	5	Carlos Villegas	DWP	Mia Villegas	7	Carlos Villegas	DWP
Joanne Kim	5	Yang Kim	DWP	Luke Shannon	7	Laura Cervantes	Public Works
Jackson Cadby	6	Edwin Wold	DWP	Ernie Vigil	7	Ernest Vigil	DWP
Robert Ruiz	6	Roberto Ruiz	DWP	Jackson Rigney	7	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Ethan Alvarado	6	Carlos Alvarado Chavez	DWP	Lily Rigney	7	Patrick Rigney	Public Works
Alvin Casas	6	Teresa Casas	LAPD	Talvla Aquino	7	Molly Prager	Retired
Blake Watrin	6	Michael Watrin	Public Works	Madison Kuzichev	7	Alfred Kuzichev	LAPD

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

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 Aquarium of the Pacific!



Winner
8 to 10 YEARS OLD

Akash Moreno, 8

- BIRTHDAY: May 4 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "TMNT" • FAVORITE SNACK: Cheese sandwiches and fries • BEST FRIEND: Abe
- WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC: So I can see big fat fish.
- PARENT: Abel Moreno, Airports

Winner
11 to 13 YEARS OLD

Alyssa Garcia, 12

- BIRTHDAY: December 2 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Zoey 101" • FAVORITE SNACK: Pandas • BEST FRIEND: Mia
- WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC: I want to go to Aquarium of the Pacific because I love animals!
- PARENT: Maria Gaspar, LAPD, Retired

Honorable Mention - continued

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT	CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Rossalyn Glenchur	7 1/2	Mark Glenchur	LAFD	Luci Ganier	9	Kim Ganier	LAPD
Akash Moreno	8	Abel Moreno	Airports	Brillana Muñoz	9	Martha Castañeda	LAPD
Maria Alvarado	8	Joel Alvarado	Rec & Parks	D. Hobson	9	Joanne Hobson	Animal Services
Jenna Valencia	8	Hugo R. Valencia	Airports	Elsa Ruiz	10	Roberto Ruiz	DWP
Angel Reza	8	Guillermo A. Reza	Airports	Tyler Sousa	10	John Sousa	Airports
Calli Inman	8	Renee Ramirez	LAFD	Alyssa Caton	10	Thomas Caton	DWP
Kaitlin De La Cruz	8	Lupe De La Cruz	LAPD	Kyle Kadomatsu	10	Kelly Kadomatsu	LAPD
Raymond Trinh	8	Thai Viet Trinh	Public Works	Mia Briseño	10	Nicole Briseño	DWP
Cheyenne Tovar	8	Katherine Tovar	Rec & Parks	Serena Campa	10	Rachel Campa	Personnel
Joel Duarte	8	Mario Duarte	General Services	Cheyenne Garcia	10	Gilbert Garcia	DWP
Arnold Portillo	8	Salvador Henriquez	Transportation	Jocelyn Salamanca	11	Emilio Salamanca	Finance
Natalie Cole	8	Barbara Cole	Retired	Kristie Chavez	11	Emilio Salamanca	Finance
Giovanna Pemble	8	Gail Staugaard	LAPD	Jose Diaz	11	Jose Diaz	Transportation
Kyleigh Moreno	8	Bob Landon	DWP	Michelle Lynn Perkins	11	Evelyn Fitzpatrick	LAFD
Jaelyn Grace Parish	9	Edwin Wold	DWP	Marissa Andrade	11	Richard Andrade	Airports
Isabel Galoostian	9	Raymond Galoostian	Airports	Kaylee Gabon	11	Audie Gabon	DWP
Uriah Vigil	9	Ernie Vigil	DWP	Alyssa Garcia	12	Maria Gaspar	LAPD, Retired
Arianna Roberts	9	Kendall Roberts	Retired	Brandon Roberts	12	Kendall Roberts	Retired
Jeannine Rodriguez	9	Jose Rodriguez	Public Works	Shawn Jackson	12 1/2	Phyllis Massey	Retired
Victor Tario	9	Jenipher Quintanilla	Airports	Bobie Garcia	13	Robert Contreras	Rec & Parks
Cameron Mullin	9	John McTigue	Rec & Parks, Ret.	Tatiana Coleman	13	Barbara Cole	City, Retired
Isabel Jimenez	9	George Jimenez	DWP				

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies

• In the cinema

The Judge

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Robert Downey Jr. plays an attorney who returns to his hometown for the funeral of his mother. He reunites with his estranged father, played by Robert Duvall, and becomes involved when his father, the town's judge, is accused of murder.

The love-hate relationship between father and son is never short of intense. The interaction with his siblings and others he left behind switches between regret and knowing he made the right decision. He struggles with going back to his life or staying to support his family.

The drama is never ending and will keep your attention throughout the entire movie. It reminds me of another favorite movie of mine, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

This is a movie not to be missed!

– Jean Sarfaty, LAPD

The Judge

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

With a solid cast that includes Robert Downey Jr., Robert Duvall and Billy Bob Thornton, *The Judge* should have been a solid hit, and as it is, it is a beautifully filmed movie. It is just too bad that the film is so clichéd and run of the mill that it almost seems destined to fall into obscurity after its initial theatrical run. Fans of the actors and the legal drama genre will keep this film alive on home media, but for the rest of the movie-going public, this film is okay enough to watch, just not that memorable.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Interstellar

Rated R

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

Earth is dying, and a team of space explorers travel through a wormhole trying to find a planet that will sustain life. *Interstellar* stars Matthew McConaughey and several other very

competent actors, with competent special effects, in a valiant effort to make a sci-fi film filled with clichés, enjoyable. The weakest part of the film is its guffaw-filled plot with holes bigger than any wormhole ever conceived. At nearly three hours in length, *Interstellar* drags its way through with very annoying mock-space-odyssey music that can try anyone's patience. Spend your valuable film time elsewhere.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

The Imitation Game

Rated PG-13

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

This biopic on the life of Alan Turing, genius British Bletchley Park codebreaker who arguably had as much to do with the Allied victory in World War II as anyone, is all about secrets – German secrets, British secrets and then Turing's own, as he was homosexual. His top-secret achievements were not generally known until maybe the 1970s or later, but his personal treatment in British society after the war was shameful indeed.

If you want to know more about how Turing and his team broke Germany's infamous Enigma code machine, this isn't the movie, as technically it's murky. And its personal side, illuminating his heartbreaking journey, is also soft. The whole thing needed more sharpness, more bite. But see it for the strong performances all around (including Benedict Cumberbatch and Keira Knightley) and to learn about a true hero who few have ever heard of. The real-life story is worthy indeed; the movie is good, but not quite so.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

The Equalizer

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

I would say that Antoine Fuqua's *The Equalizer* has a lot more style than substance, but that would take away from an amazing performance by Denzel Washington. It is not Washington's best role, but it is one of his most compelling. Likewise for Fuqua, this is my favorite film of his behind his African war film *Tears of the Sun*. The duo, which first paired for *Training Day*, once again brings out the best of each other, and I could definitely see myself going back to see this one once again in theaters.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD



100 Words or Fewer

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

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.

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: please 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).**
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployees-club.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

Video Gaming

• Video games via online, rental or purchase

Disney Infinity: Marvel Super Heroes 2.0 Edition

Rated E10+ for Everyone 10+

For iOS, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita, Wii U, Windows, Xbox 360, Xbox One

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

The second installment of the *Disney Infinity* franchise, *Disney Infinity: Marvel Super Heroes 2.0 Edition* is fun for all members of the family, and all ages (despite what the rating says). This game has you taking control of the superheroes from the Marvel Universe, which Disney acquired a few years ago. You set off on sandbox adventures that you can complete at your leisure, or you can build your own worlds to explore. Best of all, all the figures and playsets from the previous game are compatible with this one, so you already have an extensive

game set from the get-go.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Valiant Hearts: The Great War

Rated T for Teen

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

I am a huge fan of first-person shooters, especially those in the war genre, but typically there is no consequence felt by the player of those games because of the level of action involved in place of sentiment and story. *Valiant Hearts: The Great War* changes that by presenting the player with a game full of action but also filled with genuine emotion as the game is actually inspired by real-life handwritten letters from the battlefield. Gripping, captivating and emotional, this game will deliver on the action while pulling at your heartstrings all at the same time.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Book Reviews

Unbroken

Laura Hillenbrand

Historical nonfiction, 405 pages

Random House

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This is the true story of local Torrance High, USC track star and World War II hero Louis Zamperini. From his early days as a trouble-making youth to his record-breaking achievements as a distance runner, Zamperini seemed

destined to achieve greatness in the sport and even qualified for the 1936 Olympics! Then World War II broke out and everything changed for Louis.

You will relive his struggles and close calls with death at the height of the war and in particular with the Japanese empire (no spoilers!). Laura Hillenbrand really captures the essence of this American hero in a soon-to-be-released motion picture.

– Jorge H. Enciso, Finance

The Club wishes you...

Family to love you
Friends to lift you
Challenges to inspire you
The stars and heavens
to amaze you
And a big smile knowing
That life is pretty darn good.

This holiday season, may you be given
All that you wish for
Except one thing to grow on.

Merry Christmas
Happy Hanukkah

From the Club
Celebrating the City family for 86 years

What are some great books, events and sounds to enjoy to get into the holiday spirit? *Alive!* asked our reviewers – City Employees or retirees who send in their entertainment reviews most every month – for their recommendations.

Here are some suggestions.
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all, and to all a good night!

Alive! Reviewers Get in the Spirit

Movies

Annie

When I think of the holidays, the movie *Annie* came to my mind. But the version I like best was actually the 1982 movie with Carol Burnett as Miss Hannigan; this version ended on the July Fourth holiday (the Broadway musical and the 1999 TV movie end at Christmas). So really I recommend you to see both movie versions for the holidays. It's a very uplifting story, just perfect for this time of the year.

And then I saw the poster for a new *Annie* movie coming out in December. So even though I have not seen it, I am betting it will be just as good as the other two versions, and I really look forward to seeing it. The live production is also coming back next year, and I will definitely be going to see that, too. Happy Holidays!

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

Music

The Carpenters: Christmas Portrait/ An Old-Fashioned Christmas

As the years go by, this two-CD collection (originally vinyl) from the 1970s grows ever better. Back when artists tried to reach as broad an audience as possible, rather than micro-targeting, the Carpenters released these two pop albums (the second after Karen had died, using unreleased tracks from the first album) with lush orchestrations and background choral voices, and they're as rich, warm and accessible as a holiday fire. Richard has said that Christmas music was Karen's favorite to sing, and it shows. This is true holiday music for all.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Books

A Christmas to Remember

Jenny Hale
Romance fiction, 316 pages
Bookouture

Carrie Blake is a nanny who spends time with other people's families and is missing out on spending time with the family she hopes to have one day. Carrie cares for David and

Olivia, the children of Adam Fletcher, a handsome and successful businessman who has no time for his family. Carrie falls in love with Adam and hopes this could be the Christmas miracle she was dreaming of all her life.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel

Mr. Miracle: A Christmas Novel

Debbie Macomber
Romance fiction, 274 pages
Ballantine

Harry Mills is an angel sent to help Addie Folsom for a second chance at hope and love. He poses as Addie's college professor while Addie tries to rebuild her life. Harry assists in Addie's relationship with neighbor Erich Simmons to find true love. I recommend this uplifting love story sure to warm your heart.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel

Events

Naples Christmas Lights Walk

Long Beach
During December

Here's a fun festive event I was just discussing with my wife. It's the Long Beach Naples Christmas Lights Walk. You walk along the "Naples Island" streets and enjoy the brightly colored lighted homes and boats along the Naples canals! Best of all ... it's free!

– Jorge H. Enciso, Finance

Christmas Boat Parade

Marina del Rey
Dec. 13

Why persist with fake snow for Christmas when we can all partake in some authentic Southern California rituals like the boat parades that take place all along the coast: Marina del Rey, Long Beach, Newport Beach. Last year's Marina del Rey boat parade was a blast, with vessels ranging from significant yachts to dinghies decorated with lights and sound systems to entertain the crowds gathered along the bike path and bay area. It's a family night out, kicked off with fireworks, with wrapped up kids, flashlights, glow sticks and snacks for approximately an hour and a half of parading/gliding boats. Watch out for Santa, the Coast Guard and some fun cultural mash-ups along the way. If you're in the neighborhood, this is a distinctive and fun evening.

– Dearbhla McNulty, Club wife

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	Allstate	\$1,310
	State Farm	\$1,246
	21st Century	\$1,113
	United Agencies	\$964

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and Apartment Buildings.**

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

Tickets Make Great Stocking Stuffers!

Club movie tickets are the perfect stocking stuffers!

They're affordable (*the cheapest in the state!*)...
easy to get... and everybody loves 'em!

(What's even better? Club Ticket Bundles!
Even better stocking stuffers!)

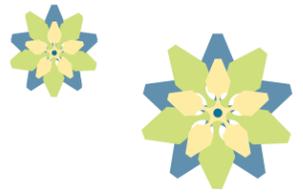
Buy yours today!



Use the Club Webstore (www.cityemployeesclub.com) or call the Club Ticket Hotline: (888) 777-1744;
fax (213) 620-0398. Or pick 'em up at the Club Store, 120 W. 2nd St. downtown



Life's Important Moments



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

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

New Members

Airports

Monique Atkinson
Chad Border
Najula Harris
Carlos Hernandez
Jacquelyn Horton
Sergio Ibarra
Troy Laster
Sofia Menchaca
Joseph Mosley Jr.
Sylvia Perry
Luis Silva
Wesley Thomas

Animal Services

Perla Hernandez

Building and Safety

Michael Jorgenson

City Attorney

Belkys Ervin
Teresa Lothyan

City Clerk

Portia Pio De Roda

Finance

Yvette Harrison

LAFD

Miguel Martinez
Luis Montenegro

General Services

Lizette Amador
Judith Carrillo
Jaxi Close

Harbor

Elizabeth Adamik
Christopher Augustus
Raymond Escobar
Jeffrey Lindley
Stacey Perez
Denis Sanchez

Gabriel Venegas

Housing

Monique McGriff

ITA

Carlos Cornejo

Library

Rachel Kitzmann
Ana Medina

Personnel

Taji Norman
Robin Washington

LAPD

Salvador Apolonio
Manuel Armijo
Rigo Bonilla
April Carter
Louis Casado
Arnold Castellanos
Eduardo Ceberio
Spencer Chow
Thomasin Clack
Cheryl Clark
Daniel Cota
LaSalle Culepepper
Martha Diaz
Lyndon Enrile
Victor Escobedo
Michelle Fernandez
Tony Fitzsimmons
Jose Flores
Beverly Flynn
Wendy Fuller-Bryson
Richard Gabaldon
Larry Guillen
Gustavo Gutierrez
Deborah Hernandez
Kelli Holmes
Beatrice Howard
Nhut Huynh

Rex Ingram

Ashley Jimenez
Astrid Johnson
Michael Jones
Marisela Leon
Salvador Lizarraga
Rafael Lopez
Danielle Lopez
Miguel Maria
Reynaldo Masangkay
John McKnight
Ana Melara
Monica Mora
Kentau Moses
Buck Mossie
Patricia Paterno
Paula Pelaez
Jose Reynoso
Christina Salas
Nehanda Sankofa-ra
Francisco Sarabia
Chiwanda Scott
Lev Shaibi
Maria Soto
Tasha Tennell
Corey Tomlinson
Eleitino Tuiasosopo
Gilardo Vizcarra
Sheila Woods
Arturo Yanez
Chong Yi
Stephen Yurochko
Jorge Zambrano

PUBLIC WORKS

PW-Contract Administration

Robert Mines

PW-Engineering

Karan Patel

PW-Sanitation

Richard Arellano

Christopher Duvall
Abram Flores
Barbara Kauppi
Salvador Luna
Brian Macklin
Eric Negrete
Joseph Rodriguez
Jose Valdez
Oscar Zaldivar

PW-Street Lighting

Lyman Doster

PW-Street Services

Nicolas Barragan
James Brosius
Cameron Buffington
Cesar Godoy
Tony Motta
David Ronge
Randall Scott

Rec and Parks

Ernesto Arellano
Anthony Hernandez
Bernice Clarke
Brian Flores
Chang Kim
Christian Oliva
Cuong Chau
Damon Hooks
David Valastro
Elijah Haggerty
Eneida Molina
Francisca Castillo
Jacqueline Lopez
Jacqueline Martinez
Jazmonai Haynes
Laura Gomez
Luis Gomez
Lynette Smith
Marci Berumen
Noel Watson III

Santiago Cuevas
Teresita Oliva
Zelalem Limenih

Status of Women

Julie Heifetz

Transportation

Ines Gutierrez
Anthony Ingram
Denis Raxtun
James Smith, Jr.
Normalinda Lara
Ronald Tribble III

ZOO

Carlos Arreola

DWP

Fernando Alvarado
Maria Ayala
Leslie Bryant
Andrew Castro
Tori Chen
Miguel Delgadillo
Yanina Diaz
Terri Faniel-Stafford
Cirilo Galvan Jr.
Tomy Giang
Michael Holloway
Andre Hughes
Phillip Jean
Alejandro Macias
Dorinda Mununura
Suresh Patel
Ulises Ruiz
Richard Sifuentes
Justin Takizawa
Rolando Villa

Other

Jesus Arellano
Marcella Barrett
Jimmie Bonner

Jason Brannon
Francisco Carrera
Victor Coria
Joseph Covington II
Dana Cummings
Mazie Dixon
Jesse Flores
Norma Gonzalez
Mario Gonzalez
David Gonzalez-Izquierdo
Wendy Griffin
Jocelyn Howell
Michael Kim
Victor Larios
Sharon Lee
Edneisha Lee
Guadalupe Lira
Lois Lockard
Alfredo Lopez
Luis Lopez
Cristina Lopez
Menise Lyons
Richard Mattox
Jason Miller
Hector Munoz
Victor Muraoka
Monique Perez
Cassie-Ann Rego
Alexander Saenz
Emmanuel Sangalang
Simone Smith
Christopher Spear
Scott Sulak
Michael Tanaka
Willette Taylor
MaryAnn Urdiales
Niko Vega
Zachary Williams

Peace of Mind

BY TIFFANY SY,
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert
tsy@cityemployeesclub.com



Protect Your Social Media Identity

InfoArmor launches new Club benefit: Social Media Reputation Monitoring.

President Woodrow Wilson signed the Federal Trade Commission Act into law on Sept. 16, 1914. The FTC's mission is to protect consumers, including but not limited to identity. You can take it a step further and shield yourself with InfoArmor, a respectable company with a long-standing history of proving that they are proficient in identity protection. InfoArmor has been built upon a technological network of worldwide monitoring databases and highly skilled staff members trained to identify theft and restore a victim's identity. InfoArmor is like hiring your own private security to monitor and protect you and your family in the event you fall prey to

identity schemes.

When you enroll in coverage with InfoArmor, benefits include protection for your spouse and children. InfoArmor will actively monitor your identity and provide updates to confirm your identity is secure. InfoArmor's world class customer care will also show you how you can become more aware of protecting your identity with valuable tools and resources. If you have already been a victim of identity theft, InfoArmor will begin working on your behalf immediately to restore your identity and clean up past issues up to three years prior of the coverage period of the policy.

This month, InfoArmor launches a ben-

efit enhancement: Social Media Reputation Monitoring. Your online reputation can impact employment opportunities, college admissions, relationships, and more. Research shows that social media users are twice as likely to become victims of identity theft as non-users due to the ease of access thieves have to personal information.

Social media reputation monitoring will monitor you and your family members' Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn profiles to alert you of damaging reputational or inappropriate comments, including but not limited to racist, violent, derogatory or vulgar comments. If you are already an existing plan holder of InfoArmor, you may

login at www.myportal.infoarmor.com in January to activate this free benefit.

They can steal your holiday cash, reputation and time, but not your holiday spirit. This season and any season, you can protect yourself and your family with InfoArmor's monitoring systems and prevention of identity theft. Equip your family with the fight against identity theft and enroll today.



Births



Korban Walls, born Oct. 16. Korban's grandfather is Kirkland Walls, DWP. "Welcome, Korban!"

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

Alive! in the Military Births Graduations Special Achievements Weddings

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

In Memoriam

It's Time to Tell Their Story *An Alive! feature*

Every month, *Alive!* publishes the names of those current or retired City Employees who have died. But who were they? Did you know them? If you worked with any of these people, knew a story or two about them or were related to them, consider writing to *Alive!* and letting us know. *Tell their story!*

- Write a few sentences or paragraphs
- Send in a photo, if you have one
- Let us know your name and connection to the deceased
- Send your memories to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
Subject line: *Tell Their Story*



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

- Active**
- Cabrera, Adaljiza, Rec and Parks, 12
 - Cancino, Joel, DWP, 25
 - Carter, Wendfield, DWP, 21
 - Franzen, Bruce, LAPD, 16
 - Garcia, Xavier, Airports, 5
 - Lipari, Carmen, Rec and Parks, 26
 - Pharr, Jesse, Airports, 48
 - Webster, Patricia, General Services, 31
- Retired**
- Arzuman, Robert, Public Works, 20
 - Barlow, James, DWP, 26
 - Behziz-Teherani, Shirin, DWP, 25
 - Bejarano, Anthony, Airports, 21
 - Beldner, Rudyard, DWP, 40
 - Birket, Adam, DWP, 30
 - Botero, Gloria, LAPD, 22
 - Burge, Thomas, DWP, 30
 - Corral, Ray, General Services, 20
 - Chun, Jason, DWP, 27
 - Couture, Beatrice, DWP, 20
 - Curry, Walter, Public Works, 38
 - Davis, Ayano, Planning, 43
 - Dean, Alvano, ITA, 18
 - Dixon, Leroy, General Services, 29
 - Dolmatz, Marilyn, Library, 22
 - Doyle, William, Rec and Parks, 32
 - Epperson, Franklin, DWP, 37
 - Ficarrotta, Donald, General Services, 10
 - Foster, Frank, Public Works, 42
 - Garcés, Vincent, DWP, 15
 - George, Toshinko, Rec and Parks, 11
 - Gibford, Arthur, Transportation, 37
 - Guerrero, Daniel, DWP, 19
 - Harris, Emmitt, DWP, 27
 - Haru, Sumi, Cultural Affairs, 13
 - Hopson, Curtis, Public Works, 36
 - Jordan, Lillian, Airports, 25
 - King, Thomas, Harbor, 39
 - Knight, Sylvia, DWP, 18
 - Lewis, Lorna, Library, 6
 - Loen, Harold, DWP, 23
 - Luden, John, DWP, 36
 - Menashe, David, DWP, 11
 - Mixon, Alton, DWP, 38
 - Nadalsky, William, General Services, 26
 - Patino, Albert, Transportation, 32
 - Pugh, Rosemary, DWP, 41
 - Ragas, Wallace, DWP, 28
 - Roberts, Bruce, Rec and Parks, 31
 - Rogers, Marjorie, Public Works, 27
 - Ruiz, Louis, DWP, 21
 - Ryan, Nancy, CAO, 19
 - Saenz, Salvador, DWP, 40
 - Smith, Casandria, Convention Center, 14
 - Stevenson, Peggy, Council, 10
 - Stuart, Doris, City Clerk, 24
 - Sumoba, Ricardo, Transportation, 10
 - Swan, Charles, Public Works, 35
 - Talbert, George, DWP, 30
 - Urquidi, David, DWP, 34
 - Uyeda, Sherry, Planning, 22
 - Valdivia, Mary, DWP, 22
 - Vinkemulder, Burke, Rec and Parks, 26
 - Wenzinger, Joseph, DWP, 23
 - Wood, Sam, Harbor, 25
 - Wormer, Mark, Public Works, 8
 - Zhuo, Yijia, Public Works, 10
 - Zinger, Sherman, Harbor, 37



Brooke Powers
~ 1981 - 2014 ~

Remembering Brooke Powers Wilson
Rec and Parks

by Jasmine Dowlatshahi, *Rec and Parks*

Recreation and Parks has shaped my life, both professionally and personally, since the summer of 1989 when I started working as a Camp Counselor. That year, at the Winnetka Rec Center, I met a vibrant and very loving nine-year-old girl named Brooke Powers. It was fate that she was assigned to my summer camp group that year. We became fast friends and sisters that neither of us had. From the start, we shared

a strong physical resemblance, and people naturally assumed we were sisters. When summer came to an end, Brooke's mother, Barbara, asked if I would continue helping her out after school, and that's how our friendship began.

Merely a teenager myself, I was amazed by Brooke's maturity, sense of humor energy and selflessness for such a little girl her age. Summer after summer I worked at the park, all the while "babysitting" Brooke until she eventually grew into a teenager herself. She attended college and eventually became a CIT, then Counselor at Winnetka Park herself.



Brooke Powers

Brooke worked part-time for many years at several centers all around the Los Angeles area, including Studio City, Shadow Ranch and Woodland Hills. She always left a special mark in all the programs she was involved in and poured her heart into every project. After completing her Bachelor's degree in communications from Cal State Northridge, she



Best friends (from left) Jasmine Dowlatshahi and Brooke Powers, in undated photos.

proudly became a full-time Coordinator at North Hollywood, then Balboa, and later earned the title of Facility Director at Robertson Rec Center.

She was a very direct, confident, intelligent and articulate young woman who was never afraid to speak her mind. Brooke gave her heart and soul to all of the parks and communities she served because she truly believed in working hard, playing hard and leading by example.

When Brooke committed to something, it was forever, like her lifelong devotion to the Girl Scouts of America and her love of cheerleading. She had an unparalleled passion for worthy causes and contributed her own blood, sweat and tears to several nonprofit organizations like Cheer L.A. and Pedal the Cause, to name a few. She was a firm believer and advocate in equality for all. She had uncompromising integrity, which made her an unstoppable force to be reckoned with.

In 2010 she married the love of her life, John Wilson. She relocated to San Diego and in no time at all began to work as a cheerleading coach for a local private school. She also maintained her commitment to Cheer LA (a nonprofit group that raises money for AIDS research) and would make the drive to L.A. once a week to attend cheer practice with her beloved Zuma Dog.



Author Jasmine Dowlatshahi (left) on the wedding day of Brooke Powers, 2010.

In early 2013, Brooke was diagnosed with stage two melanoma cancer. She was brave throughout her 20-month battle against this disease, and taught all of her family and friends to be just as strong as she was. On Sunday, Oct. 19, surrounded by love, she passed away too soon at the age of 33. I feel so blessed to have shared a friendship with her for 24 of her 33 years. Now she can watch over her godson, Justin, and me.



Brooke Powers

Our lifelong friendship is just one example of why parks are important and serve such an essential purpose. Our recreation centers bring people together. Whether it's just for one day, one summer or one season, our facilities hold the possibility of changing the course of one's life. People often ask me what it is we do at the park. My answer is: We change lives. We mold amazing kids into amazing people. We cultivate heroes.

Rest in peace, Brooke.



Bob Schoonover, President, SEIU Local 721.

General Services

Story and photos by Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor



Honoring the Custodians

General Services says thanks to custodians in annual luncheon.



From left: Sylvia Valladares, Custodian, 7 years of City service; Susie Marroquin, Custodian, 11 years, Club Member; and Angela Miguel Flores, Custodian, 8 months.



Tony Royster, General Manager, General Services, Club Member.



Mayor Eric Garcetti.



Loretta Quenon, Chief Management Analyst and host for the event.



Valerie Melloff, Asst. General Manager.



Mike Feuer, City Attorney.



Stephen Switzer, Business Manager, LIUNA Local 777.



Mr. LA, Councilman Tom LaBonge, Club Member.



Councilman Mitch O'Farrell.

On Nov. 6, hundreds of custodians gathered at the PAB Auditorium to be recognized and celebrated for all their hard work. The ceremony was attended by local leaders including Mayor Eric Garcetti, and Mr. LA, Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Club Member.

After a short presentation everyone gathered in the park across the street for lunch and raffle fun.

Custodians of the Year:

- LAPD District: Maria Salazar;
- Civic Center District: Ceola Beard;
- Outlying Area Districts: Salvador Talavera.

Sr. Custodians of the Year:

- LAPD District: Jerome McCants;
- Civic Center District: Sandra Hawkins;
- Outlying Area Districts: Jorge Sansur.

Custodian Supervisors of the Year:

- LAPD District: Glenn Penny;
- Civic Center District: Mark Davis;
- Outlying Areas: Ron Hardie.

Congratulations, Custodians! Thanks for all your hard work at keeping the City neat and tidy. *Special thanks to Loretta Quenon, Chief Management Analyst over the Custodians, for her assistance.*



From left: David Aldes, Custodian, 7 years of City service; Renee Anderson, Union Representative, SEIU Local 721; and Grenada Canada, Custodian, 7 years, Club Member.



Custodians of the Year



Sr. Custodians of the Year



Custodian Supervisors of the Year



From left: Salvador Talvera, Custodian, 15 years of City service, Club Member; Larry Blackman, Custodian, 9 years, Club Member; Deanna Nichols, Custodian, 18 years, Club Member; Jerome McCants, Sr. Custodian, 14 years, Club Member; and Larry Maldonado, Custodian, 27 years, Club Member.



From left: Arturo Campa, Custodian, 10 years of City service, Club Member; James Martinez, Sr. Custodian, 14 years, Club Member; Timmy Davis, Custodian, 13 years, Club Member; Hector Galdimaz, Custodian, 14 years; and Danny Mosqueda, Custodian, 25 years.



From left: Eddie Cromwell, Civic, Acting Chief Custodian Supervisor; Angelo Howard, LAPD, Chief Custodian Supervisor II; David Lincoln, Central, Chief Custodian Supervisor II; and Jerrilyn Mitchell, Central Library, Chief Custodian Supervisor II.



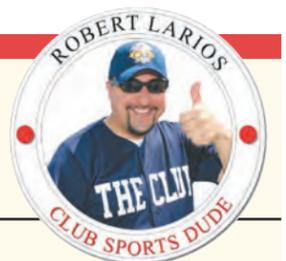
Renee Anderson, Union Representative.



From left: Elizabeth Thatcher, Supervisor, 16 years of City service, Club Member; Yvette Loyd, Sr. Custodian, 14 years; Glenn Pinney, Supervisor, 14 years; Parretta Siders, Custodian, 8 years; and LaSann Gilyard, Sr. Custodian, 14 years, Club Member.

CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • Dec. 2014

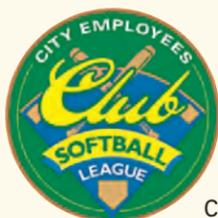


Basketball Signups Open

Registration is now open for the 2015 Winter/Spring Club Basketball season. Games will be played Thursday nights at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. at the Expo Center.



For more information, contact the Sports Dude at (800) 464-0452 x 134, or via email sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com



All-Star Game Fun!

Here are a few photos from the recent Club Softball All-Star Games. More photos are on the Club Website.

Check back next month for details of the Club Softball Championship Games! Congratulations to the Guzzlers for winning Division A, and the Blue Dragons for winning Division B.

Thanks to The Commish, Lady Smith; volunteers; team managers; players; and the supporters for making this a wonderful season!



Go to the Club Website for the Club Softball League schedule and team standings!

www.cityemployeesclub.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!



For Rent: Newly remodeled 2BD/1BA, LA/Baldwin Hills area. Carpet & hardwood floors, laundry on-site, quiet neighborhood, non-smoking unit, 1-car garage. Paid utilities: water & gardener. No pets. \$1,600mo + \$1,600 deposit. Info @ (310) 365-1868 or frierson2001@yahoo.com 12/14



Cocktail/Coffee Table: New, modern glass-top. \$300 (El Segundo). Espresso colored base w/large glass top elevated by grey posts. 43"x 43". Breakdown is easy. Must be able to lift & transport on your own. Javier Gomez @ (310) 529-0543. 12/14

Transport

2005 Honda Civic Si: Hatchback, manual, 2-door, sun roof, power windows, security system, XLNT running condition, tan color, 68K miles. \$10,500 OBO. Info @ (310) 642-0522. 10/14

1993 Infinity Q: Automatic, 4-door, power windows, XLNT running condition, green color, 125K miles. \$3,000 OBO. Info @ (310) 642-0522. 10/14

1973 AMC Hornet: 2-door sedan, automatic, 258-6cylinder w/2bbl carb. Power steering, power brakes. Runs, needs some work, \$700 OBO, sold as is. J.R. Wright @ (562) 926-5450. 10/14

1959 Buick Invicta: Fully restored, 4 door asking \$25,000. Located in Tehachapi. For more pictures & info: drewlu24@aol.com 9/14

Pop-Up Trailer Tent: 2005 Rockwood Freedom, in good condition, very clean interior. Everything works well & ready for camping. Sleeps 6-8. 1 propane tank, stove, sink, spare tire, stabilizer jacks, water heater, awning & refrigerator. \$4,200. Yervand @ (818) 355-7704. 8/14

1967 Caprice Classic: Runs great! Has a rebuilt motor & transmission, new tires, power brakes, new shocks, new brakes, hubcaps & a 327 motor. Air conditioning unit is valued \$1,000. Registered & tags are up to date. It's a running project. Asking \$5,000, must sell. Info @ (310) 753-9522. 8/14

1939 Buick 90 L Model Classic Car: 8 passenger limo. Buick only built 543 of this model. Needs to be completely restored, straight 8 cylinder engine. \$6,800 OBO. Located in Tehachapi. For more pictures, email: drewlu24@aol.com. 8/14

5th Wheel Trailer: 2010 Cougar High Country, excellent condition. Sleeps 4. Slide outs, awnings & full bath. All accessories & new 5th wheel hitch can be towed by 1/2 ton truck, it's ready to go. \$32,000 or TOP. Ken Hawkes @ (310) 505-5733. 8/14

2013 Dodge Challenger: Like new, fully loaded, excellent condition, very low mileage asking \$30K OBO. "PATY" @ (626) 242-4365. 8/14

1993 Chevy Corvette: \$11,000. Great condition inside & out, excellent running condition, 74K miles. Automatic 40th yr anniversary model, maroon color. Sylvester (310) 748-2953 or Tanya (310) 713-0244. 7/14

Factory Mag Rims: (4) 2006 F150 w/near new Cooper/Hercules P265/165/17 tires. \$500 firm. Vinyl rear seat sold separately. \$400. Scott @ (562) 427-6700. 8/14

2005 Southwind RV: 32ft. Like new w/ 2 slide outs, 2 panasonic tvs, 2 cds, full surround sound system, dvd, satellite, cable, new tires, only 15,000 miles. \$49,000. Rosemary Finch @ (951) 218-4414. 8/14

Moped: 150cc engine, 3 wheel, runs on 92 unleaded gas, practically new, Blue color. \$1,600. Frank @ (323) 240-3595. 5/14

1976 Datsun 280Z: Runs good. Needs TLC. \$2,000. Pics available. William @ (626) 607-7989. 3/14

2005 Pace Carrier Trailer: Good for hauling, camping gear, motor-cycles, furniture. 5 ft. wide x 8 ft. long. \$1,600. Alex Serna @ (818) 235-6566. 3/14

1967 Ford Mustang: Coupe, project car, needs restoration, 289 V8 engine, auto trans, runs good, 2 brl dual exhaust, \$6,700 OBO. John @ (310) 977-4642 or e-mail: mybuddaes@aol.com 2/14

1998 Yamaha XL760 Waverunner: \$2,500. Excellent condition. Must see! Summer will soon be here, don't miss out on this great deal! Jackie @ (626) 383-1708. 2/14

1967 Chevy Nova: 327 Cu in, Muncie 4-speed, Holley 650 carb, newer interior, carpets, stereo w/mp3, 2-tone paint. Red/silver + much more. \$21,000 OBO. Mike Lee @ (714) 390-6889. 2/14

Harley Davidson '07 Road King: Approx 39k miles, services up to date. Reduced price! \$11,900. Sapphire blue, locking cases, detachable windshield, studded black leather seat. Clean title, no drops/no TC's, excellent condition, 1 owner, always garaged. Sandra @ (323) 422-6019. 1/14

2004 Chevy Dually Crewcab: Diesel, 95,000 mi. \$16,000. Dirk Clark @ (818) 326-1076. 1/14

Cemetery Plots

Cemetery Plot: Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA 90601, in Carnation Lawn, grave #2, lot 2709. \$2,500 OBO + transfer fee. Rosie P. @ (323) 578-9236 after 4pm. 11/14

2 Cemetery Plots: Side-by-side, Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA 90601, in Garden of Affection; graves 1-2, Lot 4063; sale price \$4,900 OBO + transfer fees for both. Rosie P. @ (323) 578-9236 after 4pm. 11/14

Cemetery Plot: Live Oak Cemetery, Monrovia. Lot 5670, space A2, Garden of Victory, \$2,000. Frank @ (323) 240-3595. 11/14

Cemetery Plot: Contentment Hillside section of Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills, 1 plot, \$3,250. Maria @ (310) 518-2996. 11/14

2 Cemetery Plots: Eternal Valley Newhall, Premium Garden of Peace. Currently plots here start at \$6,900 each. Sell both \$7,500 total. Jim @ (661) 713-6353. 11/14

Cemetery Plot: 1 plot for 2 people. Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora, CA, \$3,000. Jose or Juanita Rojas @ (818) 799-3516 or (818) 799-0569. 11/14

Cemetery Plot: 1 plot for 2 people. At Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora, CA. \$3,000. Jose or Juanita Rojas @ (818) 799-3516 or (818) 799-0569. 10/14

2 Cemetery Plots: Rose Hills, Whittier. Located in cherry blossom lawn, \$4,850 each + transfer fees. Area is on flat ground & near the lake. Charles @ (310) 386-5041. 9/14

2 Cemetery Plots: Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, Churchyard. Lot 4149, graves 1 & 2, prime location. \$6,700 each. Carolyn @ (805) 461-1282 or noslozin@charter.net 8/14

Companion Lawn Crypt w/Vault: Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills (Court of Remembrance, 1731 A+B) 14K OBO. Christine @ (805) 304-8509 or Dcbbnahaku@aol.com. 8/14

Furniture

Mattress: Beauty Rest Black (Alexia) queen size, extra firm, new. \$1,000 OBO. Info @ (323) 754-8382, dnrhenry@yahoo.com 11/14

Table Set: With leaf & 4 chairs. \$300 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920. 11/14

Hutch & Cabinet: Touch light, matching set \$500 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920. 11/14

Dinette Set: 9 piece, dark brown oakwood w/ matching leather chairs & leaf for extension. \$2,500. Parker @ (562) 612-6567. 8/14

Solid wood large dining table: \$300. Ben @ (213) 484-2682. 3/14

Headboard: Leather King size, diamond pattern, excellent condition. \$150. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Antique Armoire: Good condition, great craftsmanship. Dark wood finish. Measures approximately 78" H x 46" W x 26" deep. \$400. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Homes/Rentals/Land

For Rent: 3BD/1BA House + patio, near Western & Imperial, LA. Big back yard, 2-car garage. Has stove, refrigerator, microwave, hardwood floors, washers, dryers & outlets. Info @ (310) 534-3028. 11/14

For Rent: 2BD/1BA, den, office, kitchen w/ stove & refrigerator, large laundry room, w/ washer & dryer, C/A heat, patio. \$1,700/mo. + security \$2,000. Greg @ (626) 330-7588. 11/14

For Sale: Condo 1BD/1BA. All new paint, carpets, dishwasher, etc. Boulder City, NV. Info @ (702) 293-9554. 11/14

For Rent: Home in west Lancaster, 3BR/2BA. \$1,500/mo. Cathedral ceiling, 1844 sq/ft. Wheelchair accessibility. Gardner included. Info @ (661) 945-6571. 10/14

For Rent: Lower 2BD/2BA, 4-unit building. X-lg living & dining room w/new marble & ceramic floors in kitchen, bathrooms, laundry room & 2nd bedroom. Hardwood floors master bedroom, built-in stove, DW, new ceiling fans & walk-in closets. Laundry room WD hookup. 2 enclosed patios w/ lights & outlets. Main hallway w/new laminate floors. \$1,875. Gail Brown @ (323) 313-3231. 9/14

For Sale: 3BD/2BA, upgraded 2001 sq. ft. house in age-restricted Rancho Resort in Sahuarita, Arizona, which is 17 miles s/o Tucson. \$175,000. Larry @ (818) 883-5870. 8/14

For Rent: Condo in Lancaster, 2BD/2BA, living rm, kitchen, 2 balconies, appliances included, stack washer/dryer, fridge, gas stove & dishwasher. Water included, no pets. \$1,000/ mo + security. Maria @ (661) 236-8534 or martnz57365@yahoo.com 8/14

For Rent: Great 3BD/2BA house in north San Bernardino! Near CSUSB. Newly remodeled w/ huge yard. W/D hook-ups in garage. \$1,515/mo. Ask about available discounts. Marjorie @ (424) 302-7655. 8/14

For Rent: Great 3BD/1BA house in quaint town of Redlands. Completely remodeled w/ huge yard, newly re-seeded. \$1,399/mo. Ask about available discounts. Marjorie @ (424) 302-7655. 8/14

For Sale: "Fly-fish in your own backyard." 200' of river-front property in Clark Fork, Idaho. 3BD/3BA, 3,316 sq ft, built in 1990, 1.34 acres. (1 hour N. of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) MLS#20131371: Clark Fork. \$499,900. Margie Stevens @ (208) 290-5666. 8/14

For Rent: Home in Ontario 3BD/2BA. Family room, water & gardener included in price. \$1,795/mo. Info @ (714) 840-1390, email: rogquin@aol.com 7/14

For Rent: 2BD/1BA, no pets, \$1,700/mo + sec. dep. \$1,000. Leimert Park: 4257 Garthwaite Blvd, 90008. Renovated, hardwood floors, quiet neighborhood, washer & dryer hookups. Info @ (310) 365-1868. 7/14

Household Items

Washer/Dryer: Maytag, electric, 6 yrs old, very good cond. \$200. Responsible for own pick-up. Della @ (323) 202-3302, msmokamix6233@yahoo.com 11/14

TV: Hitachi 57", good condition, furniture piece. \$300 OBO. Kevin @ (626) 786-3078. 11/14

Washer & Dryer: Whirlpool, electric, less than 8 months old, like new, includes manual & instructions. \$800. Responsible for own pick up. Email: lilpebbly14@gmail.com 7/14

AbDuctor: Rarely used, \$100. Tanya @ (310) 713-0244, located in Corona, CA. 4/14

Weight Bench System: Classic Universal, 10 apparatuses in 1 system. Includes separate adjustable sit-up bench, good condition. \$350. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Flat Screen LED TV: New Sharp Aquos Quattron 52" LED TV. \$1,200 at Best Buy, sacrifice for \$600. Hurry, won't last long at this price! Clarence Young @ (213) 725-3647. 1/14

Miscellaneous

Wedding Dress: Kenneth Winston 1530, size 14. Dress was a hit at my wedding, simply beautiful. \$850 (retail \$1,500) & will throw in mantilla veil & tiara. Dry cleaned & looks like new. Mirna @ (213) 248-6878, call or text. 11/14

Musical Items: Casiotone 401 keyboard, foot pedal, instruction manual, \$200. 14 preset sounds (piano, organ, etc), 16 preset rhythms (mambo, waltz, etc). Specs online. Frances @ (310) 324-3117. 11/14

Beauty Products: ELEMIS SpaHome, two 3.4oz body oil & 5 boxes 10.6oz cellulox herbal bath synergy body performance. All for \$900 cash. Retail over \$1,500. Lourdes @ (661) 251-0871. 10/14

Campers Wanted: Looking for fellow active & retired city employees that like to go on mini, 3-day weekend camping trips. Email Susan: wom-batty56@gmail.com 8/14

Chargers vs Raiders Tailgate Party: Come join us on our annual trip to San Diego to see the Raiders take on the Chargers. Joe @ (909) 519-8683 or raiderjo@roadrunner.com. 8/14

Beer Steins: From 1978-2002, \$25 each. Info @ (805) 227-2866. 7/14

Motorcycle Touring Jacket: Men's, Reima Cycloak, Kevlar & Goretex materials, removable liner, barely used, looks new. Paid \$400, sell \$225. Curtis Shapiro @ (310) 508-6465. 8/14

Wine Glasses: Lead crystal, wine goblet style. Large \$15; small \$10. Have 4-large & 4-small. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 8/14

Wine Glasses: 10-large crystal, \$5 each. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 8/14

Noritaki China Set: Etienne pattern, 45 pieces. \$500 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 8/14

Sargo China Set: Chrisma pattern, 4 place settings + side pieces. 45 pieces. \$250 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 8/14

Sewing Machine: Antique Kenmore in cabinet, needs refurbishing. \$75 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 8/14

Shannon Crystal: Godinger, large cut glass punch bowl, matching 8 cups & silver ladel. \$35 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 8/14

Books: "Dream Killers" by Julian Stine. Horror/Erotica themed fiction. \$20 each book. Contact jstine90503@gmail.com or (310) 409-5653. 8/14

Monopoly Game: Franklin Mint Collector's Edition! Maplewood display table; gold plated hotels; silver plated houses; specially printed monopoly money. Great gift idea. \$175. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Travel/Timeshare

Timeshare: For sale or rent. 1BD, Palm Springs, CA, deeded float week anytime during the year, can be exchanged for another resort worldwide. Info @ (310) 329-0682 or e-mail: time31011@yahoo.com 7/14

Vacation Rental: Palace Resorts All Inclusive: Cancun, Riviera Maya, Isla Mujeres, Cozumel—exclusive member service & treatment. VisitPalaceResorts.com to view various resorts/amenities. Price is for 1 week, 2 persons, any day travel & includes airport transpo, massages & 2 tours. Price varies by season. John @ (626) 757-5341 or jgonzalez@hotmail.com 3/14

Timeshare: Orlando, FL: Marriott Lakeshore Reserve. 1BD/1BA villa, sleeps 4. Spa/golf privileges at JW Marriott & Ritz Carlton. June 28 - July 5, 2014. \$1,600. Jessalyn Pinder @ (323) 893-6570. 12/13

Palm Springs Condo: In beautiful Palm Springs Villas II, gated community, 7 swimming pools, tennis court, shuffle board; near shopping, restaurants & Casino Spa Resort. Weekly & weekend rentals, \$140 per night. Info @ (562) 301-2940. 5/13

CLASSIFIED ADS

\$50
per month

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Email your ad (and picture) to **classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com** or you can fax your ad to (213) 620-0598

We'll run your ad in the next available issue on a space available basis. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

Classified Submission Deadline:

12/15/2014
for publication in the January issue of *Alive!*

Vacation Rental: Boulder City, located btwn Las Vegas & Lake Mead Recreation area. Cottage in Historic district: Sleeps 6, 1/BD & queen sofa bed in lving rm + 2 built-in bunk beds. Walking distance to restaurants, antique shops, etc. Built in 1942, previously owned by DWP. \$500/week or \$100/day. Norma @ (323) 333-2238 or e-mail: Norma2go2@gmail.com 4/13

Timeshare: Cancun Sunset Club, 1 week, studio sleeps 4, resort on the beach, \$700/week. Serious renters will receive all-inclusive meals. Not available New Years, July 4th, Thanksgiving or Christmas. Gina @ (818) 395-3552. 4/13

Timeshare For Sale: Ventura, CA. Ocean view. Deeded float week. Sleeps 4. Many amenities, incl elevator. 60 miles north of L.A. Elderly owner must sell. \$1,800. Leave message @ (503) 722-9881. 3/13

Vacation rental in Big Bear Lake: 3BD/2BA house located in the village of Big Bear Lake, CA, near the lake. Fully furnished. Contact John Long @ (909) 837-8347. 3/13

Timeshare: Kona Hawaiian Village, Big Island. 2BD/1 week anytime during the year, resort on the beach. Serious buyers. Info @ (310) 415-7388. 2/13

Wanted

Lease Wanted: 3+BD/1.5+BA house or apartment within 4 miles of DTLA for year lease beginning mid-August through mid-September. Professional couple. \$1,800 - \$2,400. Stephen @ (323) 449-5356. 7/14

Exchange Wanted: Will care for an elderly person in exchange for private room! Experienced assistant will help elderly person by providing light housekeeping, shopping, driving & companionship. Excellent references, prefers Pasadena area. Karen Hysell @ (626) 252-1288. 6/14

Wanted: I buy all kinds of collectibles: crystal, Disney, fishing gear, military items, musical instruments, pocketknives, gold & silver, Radko, WDCC. Michael @ (626) 592-2929. 11/12



discount tickets available at LA City Employees Club

december movie releases

- THE PYRAMID - 12/5
- WILD - 12/5
- INHERENT VICE - 12/9
- EXODUS: GODS AND KINGS (3D) - 12/12
- DEMONIC - 12/12
- THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF FIVE ARMIES (3D/IMAX) - 12/17
- ANNIE - 12/19
- NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: SECRET OF THE TOMB - 12/19
- INTO THE WOODS - 12/25
- HOT TUB TIME MACHINE 2 - 12/25
- THE INTERVIEW - 12/25
- UNBROKEN - 12/25
- PADDINGTON - 12/25



HOLIDAY SNOW DAYS + WINTER NIGHTS

November 22nd - January 4th

Discounted Tickets + 2nd Day FREE

Holiday Snow Days are back at LEGOLAND® California Resort! Build a snowman with LEGO® accessories. Ride snow tubes down a hill. New for Winter 2014, Ice Skating!* And the spirit continues with Winter Nights featuring shows, music and even a holiday food truck!

Discount tickets can be purchased at SheriffsRelief.org.

Our Gift to You!***

Redeem any paid admission ticket at the Our Gift to You Guest Service Kiosk between November 1 - January 4 and receive a FREE ticket to return to LEGOLAND California and SEA LIFE® Aquarium between January 5 - March 1, 2015.

**You must request your free return ticket on the day of your first visit. Return ticket valid only January 5 - March 1, 2015. The Park is closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays during select seasons. Visit LEGOLAND.com for days and hours of operation. Other restrictions may apply.

Get 3 Visits for the Price of 1***

***With your discounted ticket, you already get a Second Day Free. Visit LEGOLAND November 1st - January 4th, take advantage of the special Our Gift to You offer and receive an additional FREE ticket to come back January 5th - March 1st!



LEGOLAND.com

Located in Carlsbad, 30 minutes north of San Diego and one hour south of Anaheim.
Visit LEGOLAND.com for Resort information.

*Ice Skating is a separate fee. Visit LEGOLAND.com for hours.

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**Club Store
Holiday
Schedule**

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**SEE PAGE 9 for
Holiday Hours**

Theatre Tickets

	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
AMC				
Good Any Time: Available 24/7!	\$14.00	\$8.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Restricted Tickets	\$13.75	\$6.50		
Small Popcorn	\$5.50	\$3.00		
Small Drink	\$4.50	\$3.00		
Movie Bundle	\$42.00	\$25.00		
<small>Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drink concessions and 1 small popcorn concession.</small>				
California Science Center IMAX				
Adult	\$ 8.25	\$5.75		
Child	\$ 5.00	\$4.25		
Cinemark Theatres – Good Any Time Available 24/7!				
<small>Cinemark tickets are good at Century Theaters.</small>	\$11.75	\$7.50		Available as E-Tickets!
Galaxy Theatres – Good Any Time				
	\$11.00	\$8.00		
Harkins Movie Theatres				
Restricted	\$10.00	\$6.50		
Good Any Time	\$10.00	\$7.50		
Krikorian Theatres – Good Any Time				
	\$12.00	\$7.50		
Laemmle Theatres – Good Any Time				
	\$11.00	\$6.00		
Landmark Theaters – Good Any Time				
<small>\$1.50 surcharge for use at West LA; \$2.50 for 3-D.</small>	\$13.00	\$8.00		
Pacific Theatres				
Restricted: \$2 surcharge for use at Grove, not valid at Arclight	\$13.75	\$6.00		
Gift Book: <small>discontinued by Pacific</small>				
Regal/Edwards Cinema/United Artists				
<small>These Regal/Edwards/United Artists cinemas will add a surcharge at the location for all shows: Edwards Canyon Country: \$1 Edwards Valencia Stadium 10: \$1 Island Stadium 7 (Newport Beach): \$6 *Surcharges are determined by Edwards and are subject to change. The City Employees Club has no control over these surcharges.</small>				
Restricted	\$14.75	\$7.00		
Good Any Time: <small>Available as an E-ticket through our website.</small> Available 24/7!	\$14.75	\$8.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Movie Pack: <small>Includes 2 unrestricted ultimate movie tickets and a \$10 concessions gift card.</small>	\$30.00	\$25.00		
Regency Theatres – Good Any Time				
	\$11.50	\$7.00		
UltraStar Cinemas – Good Any Time				
<small>Tickets can be upgraded for 3-D, IMAX, or ETX.</small>	\$11.25	\$6.00		

Attraction Tickets

Adventure City				
Adult/Child	\$16.95	\$12.50		
Aquarium of the Bay – San Francisco Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$19.95	\$15.96		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (4-12)	\$11.95	\$9.56		
Aquarium of the Pacific				
Adult	\$28.95	\$17.95		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (3-11)	\$14.95	\$10.95		
Boomer's Family Fun Centers – California Available 24/7!				
All Day Pass (CA locations only)	\$30.99	\$17.00		Available as E-Tickets!
CA Science Center: Pompeii Exhibit <small>Expires 12/28/2014</small>				
Adult	\$26.00	\$15.00		
Child (4-12)	\$16.25	\$12.75		
Catalina <small>Expires 12/31/2015: not valid 5/23-25, 7/3-5, 9/5-7</small>				
Island Express – Round Trip	Adult \$76.50	Adult \$62.00		
	Child \$61.00	Child \$52.50		
Davey's Locker				
Whale Watching Buy 1 Get 1 FREE	Adult \$32.00	Adult \$21.00		
	Child \$26.00	Child \$17.00		
Sportfishing – 1/2 Day	Adult \$46.50	Adult \$30.25		
	Child \$39.00	Child \$25.75		
Sportfishing – 3/4 Day	Adult \$71.00	Adult \$56.25		
	Child \$61.00	Child \$47.75		
Discovery Science Center Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$15.95	\$12.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (3-11)	\$12.95	\$10.00		
Disneyland/California Adventure <small>Expires 12/31/2014</small>				
1-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$96.00	Adult \$92.16		
	Child (3-9) \$90.00	Child \$86.40		
1-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$150.00	Adult \$138.00		
	Child (3-9) \$144.00	Child \$132.48		
2-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$178.00	Adult \$161.98		
	Child (3-9) \$165.00	Child \$150.15		Available as E-Tickets!
2-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$217.00	Adult \$197.47		
	Child (3-9) \$204.00	Child \$185.64		
<small>3-Day, 4-Day and 5-Day: 1-Park and Park Hoppers Go to cityemployeesclub.com for details and prices.</small>				
SoCal Select Annual Passport	\$289.00	\$274.55		
<small>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. Valid 170 days.</small>				
SoCal Annual Passport Discontinued by Disney				
<small>*** Discounted Annual Passports must be activated before December 31, 2014. ***</small>				
Deluxe Annual Passport	\$519.00	\$493.05		
<small>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. Valid 315 days.</small>				
Premium Annual Passport w/Parking	\$699.00	\$664.05		
<small>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. No blackout dates.</small>				
Golf N' Stuff				
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband: Norwalk location	\$30.00	\$16.25		
All Park Pass: Ventura location	\$20.00	\$15.25		
K1 Speed Racing				
Admit one, minimum height requirement 4'10"	\$25.95	\$15.25		
<small>This pass entitles the owner to one 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day.</small>				
Knott's Berry Farm <small>Expires 12/31/2015</small>				
Adult	\$65.00	\$37.00		
Child (3-11); Senior (62+)	\$35.00	\$30.00		

Attraction Tickets, continued

	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	
LA Zoo				
Adult	\$19.00	\$16.00		
Child (2-12)	\$14.00	\$13.00		
Legoland <small>Expires 12/31/2014</small>				
1-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$83.00	Adult \$67.00		
<small>Get 2nd day free, to be used within 90 days of 1st visit.</small>	Child (3-11) \$73.00	Child \$62.00		
Legoland Resort Hopper	Adult \$107.00	Adult \$72.00		Available as E-Tickets!
	Child (3-11) \$97.00	Child \$67.00		
<small>Includes admission to Legoland, Sea Life Aquarium and waterpark. Get 2nd day free, to be used before 12/31/2014.</small>				
Legoland – Florida Available 24/7!				
Madame Tussauds Wax Attraction <small>Expires 1/31/2016</small>				
<small>All Access Pass includes Marvel Super Heroes 4D Experience.</small>				
Adult	\$40.00	\$14.00		
Child (4-12)	\$35.00	\$11.00		
Magic Mountain				
General Admission	\$69.99	\$41.99		
Medieval Times <small>Not valid 12/31/2014</small> Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$57.95	\$43.50		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (0-12)	\$35.95	\$31.50		
Mulligan's Family Fun Center				
All Day Pass	Adult/Child \$23.99	\$16.00		
<small>Restrictions: Pass gives 1 Adult or Child unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway & the Rock Wall. This ticket is valid Friday, Saturday & Sunday, major holidays & everyday during the summer. Attractions vary per location. Certain height, weight, restrictions apply. This ticket is accepted at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</small>				
Gift Certificate	\$15.00	\$10.25		
Pirates Dinner Adventure <small>Expires 11/30/2015</small>				
Adult	\$56.95	\$36.00		
Child	\$37.95	\$27.50		
Queen Mary Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$24.95	\$20.25		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (4-11)	\$21.95	\$12.25		
Queen Mary Chill: 11/21 – 1/11/15 <small>Closed 12/1 and 12/8</small> Available 24/7!				
Adult/Child	\$34.99 – \$42.99	\$27.99 – \$34.39		Available as E-Tickets!
Racers Edge Indoor Karting				
Adult: 16-Lap Adult Race New	\$23.00	\$18.00		
Junior (50" tall): 11-Lap Junior Race	\$20.00	\$15.00		
San Diego Zoo & San Diego Safari Park				
Adult	\$48.00	\$39.25		
Child (3-11)	\$38.00	\$31.25		Available as E-Tickets!
2-Visit Pass	Adult \$86.00	Adult \$68.75		
	Child (3-11) \$66.00	Child \$52.75		
<small>May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</small>				
Santa Monica Pier & Pacific Park <small>Expires 1/5/2015</small>				
Unlimited Wristband	\$25.95	\$13.50		
Sea World – San Diego <small>Expires 12/13/2015</small>				
Adult	\$84.00	\$60.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (3-9)	\$78.00	\$60.00		
Fun Card <small>Limited Stock available in Store only for \$66.</small>	\$84.00	\$74.00		
Six Flags Discovery Kingdom – Vallejo Available 24/7!				
General Admission (over 48")	\$62.99	\$29.99		Available as E-Tickets!
Speedzone Available 24/7!				
3 Hour Unlimited Pass <small>Unlimited use of rides and Mini-golf.</small>	\$49.99	\$25.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Universal Studios <small>Expires 1/31/2015</small> Available 24/7!				
Buy 1-Day: Get 2-Days Free! <small>Adult/Child (under 48")</small>	\$92.00	\$79.00		Available as E-Tickets!

Gift Certificates

Honeybaked Ham		
\$25 Gift Card	\$25.00	\$22.50
See's Candies		
Gift Certificate (1 lb.)	\$17.50	\$13.95

Shipping & Handling

<small>Tax (only applicable to all merchandise, not on tickets)</small>			
Tickets: First Class Mail	\$2.75	x 1	= \$2.75
Tickets: Certified Mail	\$1.50	x 1	= \$1.50
Tickets: Priority Mail	\$7.00	x 1	= \$7.00
Hats, Watches, Clothing, etc. (all merchandise)	\$7.50	(any quantity)	= \$

FREE

No charge for standard shipping of merchandise and tickets.

To order discount tickets,
visit us at
www.cityemployeesclub.com

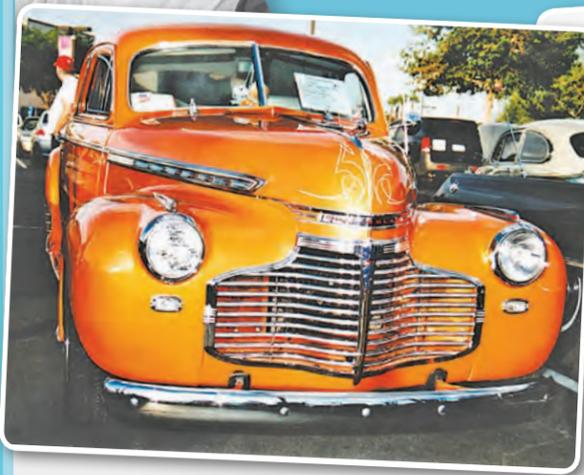
To order by Phone: Call (888) 777-1744

- Please be aware that black-out dates and restrictions may apply to the use of discounted tickets.
- ALL TICKETS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES MAY CHANGE.
 - DO NOT SEND CASH – ALL SALES ARE FINAL – NO REFUNDS.
 - When visiting Club offices, only the first 15-minutes of parking will be validated.
 - Tickets must be mailed to your home address.
 - All checks and credit cards have to be issued by the member. Third party checks and credit cards will not be accepted.
 - City Employees Club of Los Angeles cannot be held responsible for money or tickets lost in the mail.
 - For your convenience, the Club accepts VISA or MasterCard.
 - **Maximum 12 tickets per event/theatre/attraction per order.**
 - Allow 3 to 7 days for delivery.



The Car Club

By EVERETT BENNETT, Assistant Inspector, Public Works/Contract Administration



'Sh-Boom, Sh-Boom'

Let's take a nostalgic trip down Whittier Boulevard. It's the mecca of cars cruising around showing off gleaming paint jobs under the moonlight, and neon signs that line the street, all the while driving low and slow. Guys and girls looking to stuff themselves on milkshakes, burgers and fries is the agenda for the evening. It's the late 1950s in the heart of Southern California and the Crew Cuts version of the the Chords song "Sh Boom" is playing out of speakers. Perhaps we may see a crowd around Duane Steck's '54 Chevy "Moonglow" or even Ron Aguirre's Corvette "X-Sonic" equipped with hydraulics – the first car known to do so. The Valley kids have Van Nuys Boulevard, but Whittier Boulevard is where it's at here. This is where all the action is and perhaps we can catch young Von Dutch and have him pinstripe the hood of our car. Be careful though, the cops are out looking to ticket you for being too low. Let's go!

Nick Buckroff was one of those teenagers who spent his youth on Whittier Boulevard hanging out with friends and his car club, the Czars. His ritual was frequenting the A&W Drive-In, Stan's Drive-In on Whittier and Atlantic, and cruising all the way to Downey to Harvey's Broiler. Though he cruised less and less after he graduated from Garfield High School and while attending Cal State LA, the love of that time never left his memory. After college, he was hired by Rec and Parks as a Facility Director. After 34 years, he retired and now calls the Antelope Valley his home. His heart though still sits at one of those drive-ins munching on a burger and being surrounded by cars.

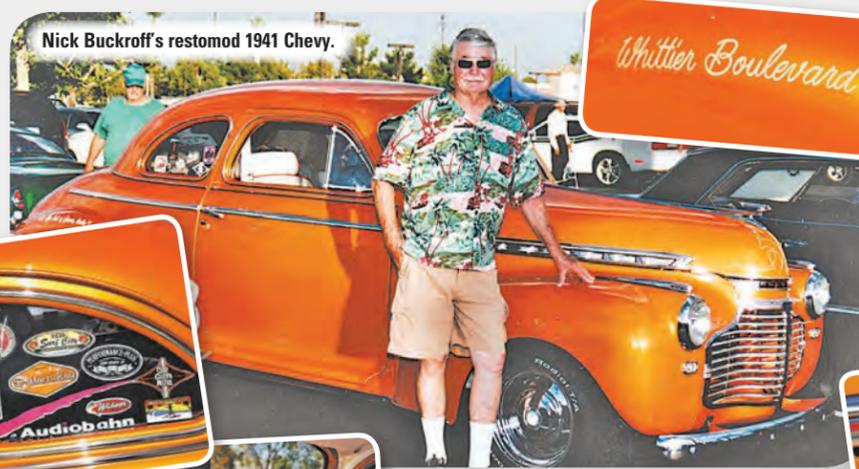
Two years into retirement, Nick got a lead on a car that was for sale near his home. He found the 1941 Chevy Special Deluxe Coupe on a Pearblossom property covered with tarps and lots of desert dust. Nick could see through the dust that this was the car that he wanted to relive his youth with. After a handshake, the car was towed home and plans were made what to do with his new anchor in the driveway. His brother-in-law is an auto body specialist in Ensenada, so

a phone call was placed to make sure that his brother-in-law was up for the challenge. The '41 Chevy was now going on a trip south of the border. While surviving on Mexican cuisine, the project received a 1977 Monte Carlo front clip equipped with disc brakes and a 327 small block Chevy motor and turbo 350 transmission from the same donated car. A 1978 Camaro

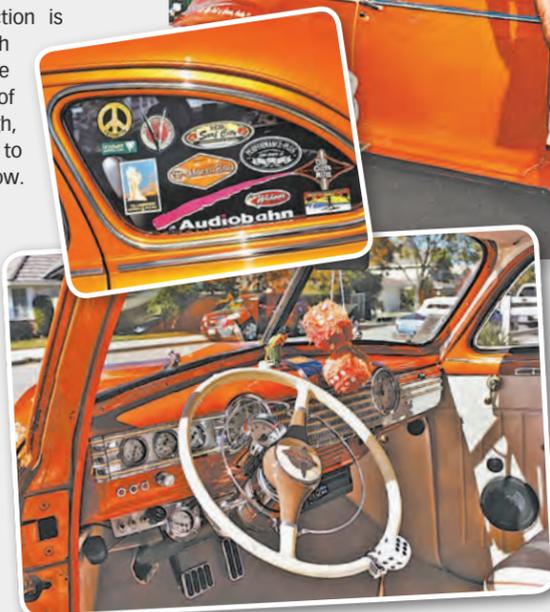
make some changes. The car was repainted due to some areas not matching quite right; a late model Buick power seat was installed in front; and a four-link coil-over rear suspension was installed and ensured Nick would not feel every bump in the road. The light brown and beige interior saw the end of its life and was replaced with white vinyl, orange piping and orange carpet. An Alpine stereo keeps the doo-wop tunes playing for Nick and his

passengers. Patriot ceramic-coated headers and a Magnaflo exhaust were installed to help the car breathe correctly. After all was said and done, there was only one thing missing: pinstripping. Numerous parts of the car received the Von Dutch-inspired art form, especially a beautiful piece on the hood. Nick decided also to have some sayings done on the rear fenders – a throwback to his Whittier Boulevard days. "Whittier Blvd. Cruiser" and "Is life but a dream, babe?" capture this project in the perfect light.

Nick's beauty is reminiscent of simpler times, times that I never get tired of hearing about from anyone who lived through them. I believe the music of those eras tells it best, and for Nick that holds very true. He made CDs with his favorite songs to cruise to while taking him back to that special time and place, back to Whittier Boulevard.



Nick Buckroff's restomod 1941 Chevy.



rear end was chosen for the rear set-up.

Now that the car was able to move under its own power, bodywork began. Nick wanted something that would pop and ensure no one missed him. He went with a House of Color Tangerine Pearl. Once the paint was dry, the new light brown and beige interior was thrown in the car and sent back home.

After driving what he had waited a few years to enjoy, Nick decided it was time to



JOIN A Toastmasters Group



TOASTMASTERS

Club Members: Gain confidence in your public speaking and leadership skills; three City Toastmasters groups invite you to join!

Joining the Toastmasters is inexpensive, educational and fun. Toastmasters International is a nonprofit, worldwide organization that helps its members develop their public speaking and leadership skills.

FIRE AND POLICE PENSIONS:
The City of Angels
Toastmasters Club 251
Tuesdays
11:30 a.m. to
12:30 p.m.
City Hall South Room 103
111 E First St. downtown
Guests welcome!
QUESTIONS:
Barbara Nobregas
(213) 928-9771 or
(213) 847-4707

PUBLIC WORKS:
The Public Works Pioneers
Toastmasters Club
Wednesdays
12:05 p.m.
1149 S. Broadway
6th Floor Conference,
Room 6004
Guests welcome!
QUESTIONS:
Ivan Gerson
(213) 485-1169
or
Dominic Buenaventura
(213) 847-0593

DWP:
The Water and Power
Toastmasters Club
Wednesdays
noon to 1 p.m.
111 N. Hope St.,
Room 1171
(last Wednesdays
in room 1471)
Guests welcome!
QUESTIONS:
Eric Yoshida
(213) 367-3962



PROUD OF YOUR WHEELS?
SEND IN A PHOTO!

Send in a photo of you and your car, and we might publish it!

Send us your information too – name, title and City department, a phone number (we won't print it) and a paragraph about why you love your car, what kind of car and year it is and some fun details of how you got it, how you restored it, etc. Send it all to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

City Employees Club Store

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DECEMBER Member Specials



\$6.50 Member \$8.60 Non-Member
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Available in Blue only



\$5 Member \$6.75 Non-Member
City Seal Retractable Badge Holder
Heavy duty retractor

New Product



Los Angeles City Cadet Caps
Available in 3 colors

\$8 Member \$11 Non-Member



\$37 Member \$49v Non-Member
Large Vintage Backpacks
Available in 4 colors



\$32 Member \$42 Non-Member
Classic Messenger Bags
Available in multiple colors

NEW



\$10 Member \$14 Non-Member
Men's City Classic T-Shirt
Available in various colors

NEW



\$15.00 Member \$19.50 Non-Member
Men's Long Sleeve Shirts
Available in various colors



\$11 Member \$16 Non-Member
Stainless Steel Water Bottle
Light weight and sturdy



\$7.00 Member \$12.00 Non-Member
Infuser Water Bottle
Available in multiple colors

NEW



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City Classic Women's T-Shirt
Available in various colors



\$25.99 Member \$34.99 Non-Member
City Seal Women's Polo
Available in various colors



\$32.99 Member \$62.50 Non-Member
L.A. City Stadium Chairs
Available in various colors



\$5 Member \$11 Non-Member
City Seal Cap with Script
Available in various colors



**More Product Selections at
CityEmployeesClub.com**



CLUB SPECIAL

Holiday Exclusive

Good Deals Don't Last Very Long!

You worked hard all year long and now it's time for you to relax! Enjoy your holidays with friends and family this year with the following spectacular deals made exclusively for Club Members.



See's Candy

Gift Certificate for 1lb of Chocolate

Club members can enjoy a sweet treat at a sweet price! Enjoy a pound of See's candy all by yourself or give it away as gifts during the holidays.

Limit to 10 gift certificates per member.



Honey Baked Ham

\$25 Gift Card

Celebrate the holidays with a spiral baked ham or any gourmet products at any of the Honey Baked Ham locations. Your discounted gift card can be used at any Honey Baked Ham stores all year long!

Limit to 4 gift cards per member.

Club Deal Expires December 24th, 2014

Gift certificates are sold on a first come first served basis and are limited to availability. This is a very popular Club Special during the holiday season so order your tickets today before they are sold out!



Available at CityEmployeesClub.com