



Alive!

PUBLIC WORKS

Their Business Is Picking Up

Just two years old, Sanitation's **Clean Streets Initiative** is making a big difference against the City's abandoned waste.

— SEE PAGE 24



Alive! photo by Summy Lam

From left: Steve Reed, RCTO II, 29 years of City service (standing); Exempt Maintenance Laborers Onei Chaul (1 year), Mark Melgar (3 years) and Seasha Torres (1 year); Russell Zamora, Superintendent II, 28 years; and Jose "Pepe" Garcia, Assistant Manager, 28 years.

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A Message From the CEO

A Pun Tells a Simple Truth

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

The pun came really naturally out of the mouth of **Pepe Garcia**, the Assistant Manager over the Clean Streets Initiative. During this month's *Alive!* interview to talk about this innovative City program to clean our streets, we asked him about the nature of street cleaning – won't people just continue to dump stuff illegally on the street, if we keep cleaning it up?

Pepe's answer got a laugh in the room because it was a pun ... but also because it's the truth: Our business is picking up, he said. And sure enough, it is – that's what Sanitation does, simple as that. The program is growing by leaps and bounds.

It seems to me that this simple act – cleaning our streets in an innovative way – is exactly what a City ought to be doing. Sure there are high-level functions, too, like negotiating for the Olympics, going off on foreign trade missions, cutting ribbons on the shopping mall that the Tom Bradley Terminal has become, and things like that. But the streets need to be cleaned. With some fresh thinking, this roving group is doing just that in a way the City hasn't done before.



Club CEO John Hawkins and Club Counselor Gedina Bergstrom (center) with Jose "Pepe" Garcia (left) and Russell Zamora (right) of the Clean Streets Initiative.

I love how naturally this whole initiative grew from a simple election challenge by Councilman **Gil Cedillo** to focus on parts of the City that are chronically dumped on. Veteran Sanitation hands **Pepe Garcia** and **Russell Zamora**, with plenty of ingenuity and initiative, started this new approach literally with a shovel and a rake and a broom, and got things done. This was such a fresh and simple approach that it grew rapidly, and soon it became a mayoral directive.

It reminds me why I respect the work of Club Members so much – there are tons of great people like Pepe and Russell who work hard to keep our City awesome.

This month's issue has at least a couple of other unusual and amazing stories. Please take a moment to read the heart-breaking stories of the **Brown family** in a special expanded edition of "People We See," and then the story of LAPD Central Area Gang Unit's incredible generosity in making a dying mom's dreams of a *quinceañera* come true for her daughter. It's fantastic what **Sgt. Janet Kim** and her crew did.

Both of these stories remind me that we're entering the time of year that's all about giving thanks for what we have, and reaching out to help others. Please take a moment to consider giving to our Club Angels program. You can make a big difference.

You can also contribute to our Club New Shoe Drive for the Christmas holidays. We're pairing up with the good folks at the LAPD Newton Division. Please be generous!

That also means we're right on schedule for Club Store Manager **Mariana Guevara** and her Club Store crew, who are outdoing themselves again this year with great Christmas specials on Honeybaked Hams, See's Candies, movie ticket gift packs, and so forth. We've got great deals for City Employees on every budget, so make the Club Store part of your Christmas shopping.

(Oh, and before I forget, let me wish a happy retirement to frequent *Alive!* contributor **Rose Serrato**, LAPD Property Division. Rosie has sent us a lot of great "Picture Perfect" and Father's Day entries. Enjoy your retirement, Rose, and keep on sending in your best work!)

But before there's Christmas, there's Thanksgiving. Being happy is often as simple as being grateful. I am thankful for my friends, my family ... and all of you, Club Members.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone.

JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

Club Store
Holiday
Schedule

For great holiday gifts,
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SEE PAGE 20 for Holiday Hours



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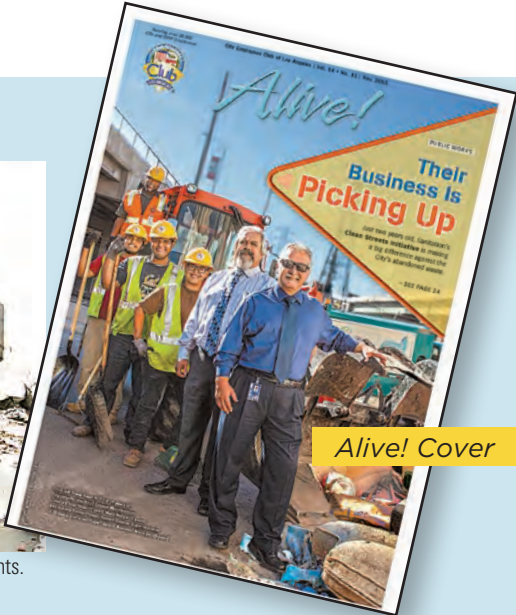
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Grijalva General Contracting
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Rosebud Marketing
United Agencies

Alive! Behind the Scenes



The Club's Summy Lam (right) photographs a Clean Streets crew in Lincoln Heights. (See the crew names on the cover.)



IMPORTANT
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The Club's FAX Number (213) 620-0398

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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
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Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
Retired LA City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
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Whistleblower/ Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
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\$4,449,671

Club Members' Praise

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— **Madora Sanders**

"Many calls were made to the City Employees Club regarding the survivor spouse benefits, including life insurance, and all contact with the City Employees Club was handled professionally and met my needs and expectations. All concerns and action items were addressed and completed by the City Employees Club."
— **John Lee, September 2015**

The Club's claims service "was very greatly appreciated. It was nice being able to get the assistance from a friendly person rather than someone who may sound like they are unhappy with their job."

— **Sara Marie Landerville, September 2015**

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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.

Team Leaders

John Hawkins
President & CEO

Brian Trent
Chief Financial Officer

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

2003 President's Award Recipient
Arlene Herrero
Director of Product Development
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Accounting

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Controller

2011 President's Award Recipient
Carol Lavato
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Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant

Marketing

2005 President's Award Recipient
Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

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2004 President's Award Recipient
Cecilia Talbot
Director of Claims, Member Advocate

2010 President's Award Recipient
Monica Zamudio
Claims Coordinator

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Hava Berman
Project Administrator

Rebecca Platero
Data Processing Coordinator

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2007 President's Award Recipient
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Member Services Coordinator
Ext. 105

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Ext. 110

2008 President's Award Recipient
2013 "Absolutely" Award Recipient
Angel Gomez
Director of Sales
Ext. 104

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Enrollment
Team

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Member Services Counselor

Steven Lambert
Member Services Counselor

Scott Sulak
Member Services Counselor

Charlotte Swanberg
Member Services Counselor

Sheldon Sklar
Member Services Counselor

Club Store

2014 Club Team Excellence Award
Mariana Guevara
Club Store Manager

Megan DeBolt
Club Store Assistant Manager

MaryAnn Urdiales
Customer Service Associate

Guadalupe Lira
Customer Service Associate

2013 "Absolutely" Award Recipient
Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor, In-house
Ext. 202

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DWP Retirement Office
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Letters to the Editor

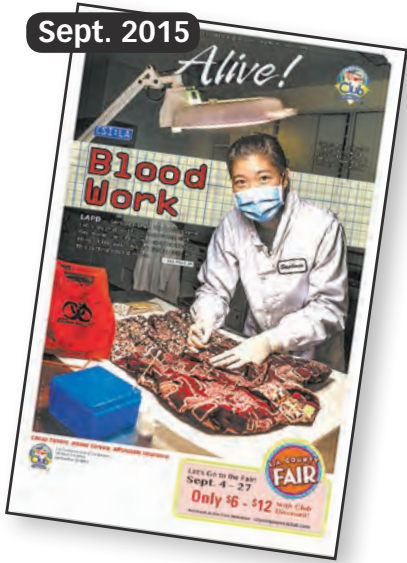
Her Future Could Be Under a Microscope



Gracie Deniz, 9, looking at a bug under a microscope.

I would like to thank you for your interesting article in the September 2015 of *Alive!* "Blood Work". Your timing couldn't have been more perfect, as I have a nine-year-old daughter, Gracie, who recently has expressed interest in a career in forensic science (yes, a nine-year old!). We read the "Blood Work" article together, and she was able to learn about some of the supplies, chemicals and equipment used in forensics. Her favorite part was the "Tour of the Labs" and how you pointed out procedures and techniques for extracting DNA. Also, we enjoyed reading about the many career choices within that field. Now, she wants to visit the Forensic Science Center at CSULA. (I gotta plan that trip!)

Thank you for such an informative article! Whether or not she actually pursues that



career remains to be seen. Like most kids, she might change her mind, but if not, who knows, maybe one day she will be a Criminalist or Laboratory Technician with the City of Los Angeles.

— Maria Deniz, Sr. Clerk/
Typist, Public Works/Contract
Administration

Hi Maria, thanks for writing, and for the great photo! We're delighted that the latest in our long series of stories that focus on the LAPD's crime lab has helped to inspire Gracie. We'll send copies of some of our earlier crime lab stories to you. Good luck! – Ed.

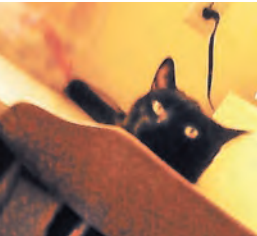
You Run Into the Best People When You Drive for a Living

This is why I love my job: That car with the window down is my mother driving to LAX and going off to Europe to Europe on the 405 freeway at Skirball Drive – right on my early morning Wednesday route. I love you, Mommy! Have a safe flight. My mom, Theresa Metoyer, a Retired Sheriff's Deputy, turned 71 years young.

— Chermaine Fontenette,
Public Works/Sanitation



Theresa Metoyer (left) on her way to Europe (above)



Seeing More of Seemore As He Awaits Breakfast

Here's a picture of my cat, Seemore, waiting for breakfast. Have a blessed day.

— Jim Booth, Retired

Angel's 'Be Alive!' Brings The Beauty of SoCal Home

I always love reading about the travels of Angel Gomez in "Be Alive!" It is a fun read with many informative details and facts about the areas he visits. What is great, too, is that all of these places are local and easy for any one of us to visit. Angel makes Southern California so interesting, and all of us in this household appreciate it. This is one of our favorite columns. Keep up the good work, and don't run out of places to visit!

— Tim Hollins, Rec and Parks

Club Store Customer Service Means Smiles to Mavis

The ladies at the Club Store are always so cheerful and helpful every time I visit. Some of the tickets have a lot of details and can be hard to understand, but staff like Lupe and MaryAnn have been so very patient and knowledgeable. The Club has a rare service and the kind of customer service that is missing in many places. To me the Club is equivalent to smiles. Until my next visit!

— Mavis M., 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 comes to mind when you think about Thanksgiving?"



"Desserts come to mind right away!"

—Alex Rabrenovich, Division Manager, Health Benefits Administration Division, LACERS, 26 years of City service



"To me it spells family!"

— Marilyn Williams, Retired, LAPD/Airports, 15 years of City service



"Thanksgiving puts a smile to my face and turkey in my tummy!"

— Joe Etheridge, Retired Airports, 23 years of City service



"This is the time of the year when family is synonymous with Thanksgiving."

—Ruth Salsman, Retired, Transportation, 14 years of City service



"I think of turkey all day!"

— Cornelius Reffegue, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, 37 years of City service



"Come to my house on this day and all you will see is family."

— Hal Danowitz, Secretary/Treasurer, Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



"I think about how I can get out of eating the white meat."

— Gary Mattingly, Director, Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.



"I am reminded of my first attempt to bring in a full turkey dinner with all the trimmings, only to burn it."

—Mary Beetz, Director, Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)

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Rosa Calderon
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Airports

Story courtesy Airport Police, Photos by CSI Officer Shawn Smith, Airport Police

Welcome, Officer Arellano!

Airport Police graduates new officer.



From left: Airport Police Capt. Gregg Staar, Officer Christopher Arellano, and Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon.



Officer Christopher Arellano takes the oath from Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon.

On Oct. 2, Officer Christopher Arellano was sworn-in after graduating from the LAPD Academy Class 4-15. The graduation ceremony was held at the LAPD Administration Building downtown.

Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon conducted the officer's swearing in. He welcomed Officer Arellano to the Airport Police and thanked

his family for supporting him and ensuring his success.

Chief Gannon then spoke directly to Officer Arellano and said, "Throughout your career you will continue to learn every day and as you do, you will get better and as that happens, organizationally you will make us better."

Class 4-15, with 27 officers, trained for six months. The new Airport Police Officer will now complete a six-month Field Training Program specific to airport law enforcement, under the guidance of a field training officer before being assigned to Patrol Services Section.

Welcome, Officer Arellano!



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Airports

Story and photos courtesy Officer Rob Pedregon, Airport Police

Police Promoted

Airport Police holds ceremony for its nine recently promoted personnel.

On Sept. 29, Airport Police promoted two new Lieutenants and seven new Sergeants during a promotional ceremony held in the Samuel Greenberg Board Room at Los Angeles International Airport.

Lts. Troye Holmes and Dennis Lau; and Sgts. Anan Chiang, Larry Hatfield, Norm Ino, Marcio Matsumoto, Miguel Morante, Rosalia Olguin and Pedro Uesugui took the Oath of Office, conducted by Airport Police Chief and Deputy Executive Director of Homeland Security Patrick Gannon.

Prior to the ceremony's swearing-in, Chief Gannon addressed the executive staff, family, friends and other police personnel and thanked them for "supporting the particular caliber of people who accept the challenge to serve the community and help make us better."

Lt. Holmes, a 26-year veteran of the Airport Police, previously served as a Sgt. II in the Vulnerability and Assessment Unit. She has a Bachelor of science degree in human resources from Cal State Long Beach, and is enrolled at National University in the Master's degree program for public administration.

Lt. Lau is a 13-year veteran with the Airport Police assigned to Patrol Services Section, having previously served with the Dignitary Protection Unit and the Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit. Lt. Lau holds a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Union University and a Master's degree in public administration from CSU Northridge. Lt. Lau is also a commercial multi-engine pilot and aircraft instrument flight instructor.



Chief Gannon swears-in the newest Airport Police Lieutenants and Sergeants.

Sgt. Chiang is a nine-year veteran of the Airport Police and has been assigned as a background investigator in the Professional Standards Section where she contributes to assessments and recommendations of prospective Airport Police candidates. Sgt. Chiang possesses a Bachelor of arts degree in East Asian studies from Bryn Mawr College. Sgt. Chiang is a volunteer search and rescue K9 handler for Los Angeles Search Dogs and CA Rescue Dog Association.

Sgt. Hatfield is a 16-year veteran of the Airport Police. Prior to joining the Airport Police he served in the United States Navy for 11 years and was a civilian employee for the LAPD. His previous assignments include the Emergency Services Unit, Patrol Services Section, a field training and senior lead officer.

Sgt. Ino is a 13-year veteran of Airport Police. He has spent the last nine years in a critical department function, a Field Training Officer in the Patrol Services Section. Sgt. Ino is credited with exposing new officers to real world law enforcement situations and helping them become professional police officers dedicated to the safety and security of the traveling public. Sgt. Ino has completed multiple courses in criminal justice and holds an intermediate post certification.

Sgt. Matsumoto is a nine-year veteran of the Airport Police, serving as a Field Training Officer, then a Police Officer III in the Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Unit. He earned a Master's degree in public administration from Cal State Northridge. He



From left: Asst. Chief Ethel McGuire, Sgt. Miguel Morante, Sgt. Norm Ino, Capt. Greg Staar, Lt. Dennis Lau, Sgt. Larry Hatfield, Lt. Troye Holmes, Sgt. Marcio Matsumoto, Sgt. Anan Chiang, Assistant Chief Brian Walker, Sgt. Rosalia Olguin, Sgt. Pedro Uesugui, Capt. Latasha Wells Amerson, and Chief Patrick Gannon.

is the recipient of Wings of Achievement Award and received the Westchester Elks Lodge Outstanding Service Award and a Certificate of Commendation from the City of Los Angeles.

Sgt. Morante is a 16-year veteran of the Airport Police. He has previously been assigned to the Patrol Services Unit, Ground Transportation Enforcement Unit and the Motor Unit. Sgt. Morante received a department commendation for his role in research and development and the implementation of the Motor Unit. He has contributed to the motorcycle training program for new officers entering the motor unit as well as the policy and mission for the Motor Unit.

Sgt. Olguin has been with the Airport Police for six years, having previously served as a field training officer and with the Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Unit. Sgt. Olguin has a Bachelor's degree in sociology with an emphasis in criminology and criminal justice, and a minor in French, from Cal State Northridge. He has a Master's degree in emergency management from Cal State Long Beach and is ACE certified in airport security through the American Association of Airport Executives.

Sgt. Uesugui is a 12-year veteran of the Airport Police. Before he was promoted to Sergeant, he was previously assigned to the Patrol Services Section, Training and Recruitment Unit and Special Projects Section. He is also the PRND (Preventative Radiological/Nuclear Detection) Coordinator for the Airport Police. For four years, prior to joining the Airport Police, Sgt. Uesugui proudly served his country in the United States Air Force.

The Club congratulates the newly promoted for their hard work and dedication to keeping the City's airports safe.

LA's Bravest

Above and Beyond



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

On Oct. 1, 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 five times in the history of the event. This year, 19 LAPD Officers were honored with the Purple Heart, and 9 with the Medal of Honor. Three officers received both.

The Purple Heart recognizes officers who have sustained grievous physical injury during a tactical situation and posthumously 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 preformed 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.

This year's honorees:

Purple Heart:

- Sgt. Donald Boon
- Sgt. Dennis Diviak
- Officer Leon Maya
- Det. Christopher Chavez
- Officer Allan Krish*
- Officer Cesar Chavez*
- Officer Nicholas Lee (deceased)
- Officer Stephanie Galicia
- Officer Alberto Ortiz*
- Officer Richard Medina
- Officer Roberto Sanchez (deceased)
- Officer Charles Hallenbeck (deceased)
- Sgt. Richard Matthews (retired)
- Lt. Byron Young (retired)
- Officer James Flint (retired)
- Officer Charles Block (retired)
- Sgt. Paul Mattson (retired)
- Det. Perry Moore (retired)
- Officer Christopher Cortijo (deceased)

Medal of Valor:

- Officer Allan Krish*
- Officer Miguel Ruano
- Officer Ericandrew Avendano
- Officer Mario Vega
- Officer Cesar Chavez*
- Officer Francisco Zaragoza
- Officer Jonathan Vander Lee
- Officer Alberto Ortiz*
- Officer April Lockhart

* Honored with both a Purple Heart and a Medal of Valor

Purple Heart Honors

Motorcycle Broadside



Sgt. Dennis Diviak

On the evening of Sept. 11, 1998, Motorcycle Officer Dennis Diviak was assigned to South Area traffic patrol. As Diviak crossed into a center median, his motorcycle was broadsided by a vehicle travelling in excess of 40 miles per hour and being driven by a DUI suspect.

Diviak was ejected from his motorcycle and landed face down on the pavement. He sustained major multiple injuries, including a skull fracture, broken eye orbit, crushed upper sinus cavity, fractured nose, lumbar herniation, fractured left hand and two broken teeth. He spent six days in the hospital and required multiple reconstructive surgeries and eight months of rehabilitation before returning to duty.

Domestic Call



Sgt. Donald Boon

On the morning of Jan. 15, 1998, Foothill Division Officer Donald Boon and his partner responded to a radio call involving a violent male who was possibly armed. The 911 dispatcher explained that the suspect's wife called after her husband threatened to kill her and their son.

Boon and his partner arrived at the location and knocked on the door with no reply. They began speaking with neighbors when the suspect stepped out of the house and began firing at the officers with an assault rifle.

Boon's partner was shot. Fearing the suspect would shoot his partner again, Boon left his position of cover to shield and protect him. As he reached his partner, Boon was shot in the hip, leaving him unable to walk. He managed to return fire, forcing the suspect back into the residence.

Boon and his partner were rescued by other responding officers. Boon's injuries required multiple surgeries, but he returned to full duty after 10 years of rehabilitation.

Truck Collision



Officer Nicholas Lee (deceased)



Officer Stephanie Galicia

On the morning of March 7, 2014, Hollywood Area Officers Nicholas Lee and Stephanie Galicia were responding to an emergency call with their lights flashing and siren blaring. Their route of travel took them briefly into the City of Beverly Hills to gain access to the street that would lead them to their destination in the Hollywood Hills.

While in route, a construction truck, whose brakes had given out, came hurtling down the inclined street and collided into the officers' patrol car. Lee was killed instantly, and Galicia was badly wounded and trapped inside the patrol car.

A massive response of emergency personnel from Los Angeles and Beverly Hills converged on the area. After a desperate attempt to access the passenger compartment, the rescuers were forced to cut the top off of the vehicle to extricate the officers. Galicia was rushed to the hospital in critical condition.

Due to the catastrophic damage to the patrol car, it was several hours before Lee could be removed from the vehicle. Police officers and firefighters stood at attention as his flag-draped body was moved to the coroner's van. The van was then led in a procession that passed the Hollywood Community Police Station, where his LAPD brothers and sisters stood at attention.

Driveway Altercation



Lt. Byron Young (retired)

On the evening of March 4, 1974, Officer Byron Young and his partner were on patrol in the Van Nuys Area when they observed a vehicle speeding and driving recklessly. The officers followed the vehicle to issue a citation when the suspect drove into the driveway of a home.

The driver exited his vehicle and became irate with the officers, as did the other people in the car. The yelling and screaming prompted the occupants of the home to come out and begin shouting and making threats to the officers.

The officers called for backup before attempting to conduct a sobriety test on the driver who refused and started to walk into the home. Young then took the driver by the arm to detain him when the he turned and punched Young in the head.

An altercation ensued with all of the suspects attacking the officers. One of the suspects removed Young's service revolver from its holster. While fighting to retain his revolver, his baton was taken. Knocked to the ground and still holding onto his firearm, Young was beaten, punched and struck with various blunt objects.

Young managed to gain full control of his revolver, got to his feet, and saw that his partner was unconscious by the side of their patrol car. Young reached into the car to make a second "help" request when he was attacked again.

Several minutes later, the group of suspects began to run away when they heard sirens. However, the primary suspect ran out of the house with a large knife and charged at Young's head. Young tried desperately to get a good aim at the suspect, but the blood from his head injuries obstructed his view. Before he could shoot, a young child ran from the house and convinced the suspect to stop. The suspect ran inside and barricaded the door.

Young and his partner were taken to a local hospital where Young was treated for a concussion, broken nose, fractured ribs and several broken teeth.

DUI Direct Impact



Officer Leon Maya



Det. Christopher Chavez

In the early morning hours of April 12, 2003, Wilshire Division Gang Enforcement Detail Officers Christopher Chavez and Leon Maya were involved in a search for a murder suspect. While standing next to their patrol car monitoring their perimeter, a DUI suspect quickly sped toward them and rammed into them, pinning them between the open doors of their patrol car and the suspect's vehicle. The driver backed out and escaped the scene.

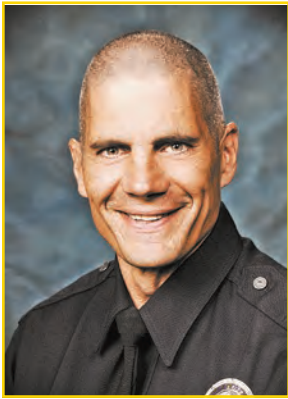
Maya was not as seriously injured as his partner, who was thrown from the impact of the hit and now lay in the middle of the street, unconscious, and bleeding from his head.

Realizing his partner was in danger of being run over by passing vehicles, Maya dragged his partner out of harm's way. After stabilizing and comforting Chavez, Maya called for assistance.

They were rushed to a local hospital where Maya was admitted for contusions to his head and face and a severe broken ankle. He would require five operations over a 10-year period to allow him to walk without assistance.

Chavez was treated for severe blunt force head trauma and bleeding in the brain. He was in a coma for five days. After being hospitalized for two months, Chavez required extensive physical therapy to relearn how to walk, talk and perform everyday functions. Chavez refused medical retirement and returned to duty within seven months.

Knife Attack



Officer Allan Krish
(Purple Heart and Medal of Valor)



Officer Miguel Ruano
(Medal of Valor)

On July 30, 2011, Hollenbeck Division Officers Allan Krish and Miguel Ruano were on routine patrol when they received a radio call for assistance. Paramedics were taking a suspect who jumped out of a moving ambulance, struck his head on the pavement, and was knocked unconscious. As paramedics treated the injured suspect, he regained consciousness, punched a paramedic, and ran toward a nearby church.

Krish and Ruano arrived at the church to apprehend the individual when they observed him trying to hide and saw he

was armed with a bent metal pole. After several unsuccessful attempts to persuade him to surrender, Krish and Ruano called in a K-9 search team to help locate him. With the assistance of a K-9, the suspect was located inside a locked room.

Armed with a beanbag shotgun, Krish positioned himself next to the locked door while Ruano kicked the door open. Once open, the K-9 tried to enter the room but got trapped as the suspect closed the door.

Ruano kicked the door again to free the K-9 when he saw the suspect was armed with a large knife. The suspect raised his arm and lunged at the officers. Krish fired a round as the suspect stabbed him through the left bicep.

In defense of Krish's life, Ruano fired three rounds at the suspect. The suspect pulled the knife out of Krish's arm and charged at Ruano, who fired again, this time fatally striking him. Krish was bleeding profusely and went into shock. Officers at the scene slowed the blood loss until paramedics arrived and rushed Krish to the hospital.

Gunfire in Pursuit



Officer Cesar Chavez
(Purple Heart and Medal of Valor)



Officer Mario Vega
(Medal of Valor)

On the night of Feb. 7, 2013, Newton Division Officers Cesar Chavez and Mario Vega were temporarily reassigned to a special detail to protect LAPD officers who were targets of Christopher Dorner. Three days prior, Dorner had killed the daughter of a retired LAPD Captain and her fiancé and had threatened more killings.

Vega and Chavez were to report to a protected officer's home in the City of Corona. Upon exiting the freeway in Corona, they were approached by a citizen who informed them that a man matching Dorner's description

had just left a nearby gas station. Vega then saw a truck believed to be Dorner's enter the freeway on-ramp. Chavez, who was driving the patrol car, followed the truck and attempted to request a back-up unit. Unfortunately, their radios would not transmit outside of City of Los Angeles limits, and they were unable to contact LAPD's Communications Division.

The officers followed the truck for five miles until it exited the freeway and came to a stop. Swiftly, the suspect got out of his truck and began firing an assault rifle at the officers. The suspect's gunfire shattered the front windshield and blasted the hood of the patrol car disabling it. The persistent gunfire pinned Vega and Chavez inside their vehicle, preventing them from escaping.

In a short interruption of gunfire, Vega exited the vehicle and took a kneeling position behind his passenger door where he returned fire. Chavez, still sitting in the squad car, was wounded and bleeding from his head.

The suspect got back into his vehicle and fled the scene. Vega and his partner were stranded and unable to follow. The officers flagged down multiple motorists who assisted them in calling 911.

Station Shootout



Officer Alberto Ortiz
(Purple Heart and Medal of Valor)



Officer April Lockhart
(Medal of Valor)

On the evening of April 7, 2014, West Traffic Division Officers Alberto Ortiz and April Lockhart were working the front desk. In an adjacent room, 20 community members were holding a meeting.

While Ortiz assisted a citizen with a traffic report, a man entered the station and Lockhart asked if she could help him. The man said he had a complaint and simultaneously produced a semi-automatic handgun. He raised the weapon and immediately began firing at the officers. Both Ortiz and Lockhart shifted their positions to avoid the dead-

ly assault and immediately began to engage with the armed suspect.

Their quick response in returning fire kept the suspect's attention on them, allowing the community members the time they needed to crawl to safety.

Lockhart provided cover fire while Ortiz engaged the suspect in a gunfight within arm's reach of the suspect's weapon. Although badly wounded, Ortiz continued to engage the suspect.

Both officers struck the suspect several times. The suspect was taken into custody and succumbed to his wounds a week later.

Deliberate Obstruction



Officer Richard Medina



Officer Roberto Sanchez
(deceased)

In the early morning hours of May 3, 2014, Officers Roberto Sanchez and Richard Medina were assigned to patrol in the Harbor Area when they responded to a call about a Chevrolet Camaro performing "doughnut" maneuvers.

When Sanchez and Medina arrived, they located the suspect, who saw the officers and fled the scene. Because the Camaro was heading in the opposite direction of the patrol car, Sanchez had to make a U-turn to pursue the suspect. While in the process of making the turn, an SUV suddenly

and purposely rammed into the driver's door where Sanchez was sitting. It hit the patrol car so hard that it crushed the driver's seat and bent the wheel so severely it gouged out a chunk of pavement.

Both officers had to be extricated from their patrol car by fire department personnel. Sanchez was taken to a local hospital unconscious. Tragically, medical personnel were unable to revive him. Medina suffered major injuries to his head and jaw requiring surgery, hospitalization and weeks of rehabilitation.

Subsequent investigation into the incident revealed that the driver of the SUV purposely chased down the officers, crossed over into the opposite lane of travel, and struck the patrol car to obstruct them from apprehending his friend who was driving the Camaro.

Stolen Car Pursuit

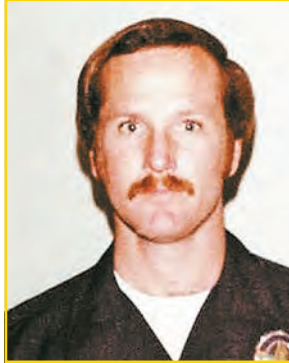


Officer Charles Hallenbeck
(deceased)

On the evening of July 26, 1962, Policeman Charles Hallenbeck and his partner were in a patrol car working a plain-clothes assignment in 77th Street Division.

While patrolling the area, Hallenbeck witnessed an identified stolen vehicle speeding away from a liquor store robbery, broadcast the license plate number over the radio, and began a pursuit. Hallenbeck and his partner pulled up next to the suspects' vehicle as it dangerously flew down City streets when the driver deliberately swerved his vehicle into the patrol car, forcing it off the road and to jump the curb. The patrol car skidded 70 feet before violently colliding with a utility pole and overturning. The suspects fled, and, tragically, Hallenbeck died at the scene from injuries sustained in the crash. After an exhaustive one-month manhunt, six suspects were arrested and booked for the murder of Policeman Hallenbeck.

Domestic Dispute



Officer James Flint
(retired)

On the morning of June 6, 1982, Officer James P. Flint was on patrol in the North Hollywood Area when he responded to a radio call of a domestic dispute.

Upon arriving at the scene, Flint interviewed the people involved. At the completion of his investigation, Flint walked down the apartment building hallway to leave when, without warning, the male suspect exited the apartment armed with a handgun and fired two rounds into Flint's back. Despite his wounds, Flint managed to make his way down the stairs to the first floor and into the apartment manager's office, where he collapsed.



LA's Bravest

— continued

Speeding Shootout



Officer Charles Block
(retired)

On the afternoon of Sept. 23, 1985, Officer Charles Block was patrolling Pacific Division when he received a radio call to conduct a traffic stop on a speeding car in the area. Block located the car, observed four suspects inside, and began pursuit. The pursuit reached speeds of 80 miles per hour, as the suspect dangerously weaved through heavy traffic. The chase ended when the suspect lost control of his car and crashed into a concrete pillar. Block parked his patrol car behind the suspect's vehicle and cautiously approached the disabled car when one of the suspects got out and began shooting at him. He returned fire but was struck in both legs, causing him to fall to the ground. Block continued firing as the suspect ran to escape. Though seriously wounded, he stood up, got to his patrol car, and broadcast an "officer needs help" call with the suspect's description and location to responding officers. The suspect was eventually arrested by officers as he tried to carjack a driver at gunpoint. Block continued to cover the remaining three individuals in the suspect's car until additional officers arrived.

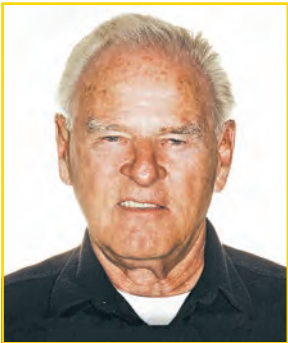
Hit by DUI Suspect



Officer Christopher Cortijo
(deceased)

On April 5, 2014, while en route to help with a DUI arrest, Motor Officer Christopher Cortijo was stopped behind a car at a traffic light. A Chevy Blazer failed to stop for the light, violently colliding into the rear of the Cortijo's motorcycle, crushing and pinning him and his motorcycle between the two vehicles. A Good Samaritan at the scene stopped and used Cortijo's motorcycle radio to broadcast a call for help. Officer Cortijo's fellow officers responded and escorted the ambulance to a local hospital. Unfortunately, Cortijo succumbed to his injuries four days later. The driver who hit Cortijo was arrested for driving under the influence of narcotics and possession of cocaine. Officer Cortijo was a 26-year veteran of the LAPD, during which he arrested more than 3,000 drunk drivers across the San Fernando Valley, preventing an untold number of potential DUI traffic deaths. With nearly 130 commendations for police professionalism, he was twice named LAPD Officer of the Year and was honored by Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) during the course of his career and continues to be honored posthumously.

Task Force



Sgt. Paul Mattson
(retired)

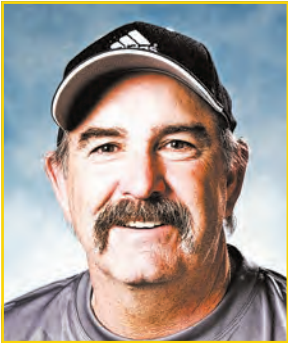
Sgt. Paul Mattson was the lead of a task force assigned to apprehend two suspects responsible for vicious crimes in the North Hollywood area. A week earlier, these suspects kidnapped a couple, took them to a remote area, robbed them and killed them execution style. Due to the heinous nature of the crime, Mattson and his 10 officers developed a plan to capture the murder suspects using Mattson as bait. On the night of Jan. 19, 1983, Mattson sat alone in an unmarked car with task force officers watching nearby. Two suspects approached his door and pointed a gun at him. Mattson immediately drew his weapon and fired twice at the suspects through the car window, striking one of them in the chest. The other suspect returned fire, hitting Mattson in his right hand. The two suspects continued to exchange gunfire with the surrounding officers. One suspect was fatally shot trying to climb a chain link fence and the other was caught while trying to flee in a car. Mattson's right hand was substantially wounded and required two hours of reconstructive surgery. He returned to duty the following month and remained with the Department until his retirement in June 1993.

Porch Shootout



Sgt. Richard Matthews
(retired)

On the night of Feb. 17, 1969, Officer Richard Matthews and his partner were on patrol in 77th Street Division when they received a radio call that a woman was being beaten by a man who was possibly armed with a gun. Upon arriving at the location, the officers heard arguing and a gunshot that seemed to come from a second-story balcony of the apartment complex. When they reached the upstairs unit, Matthews' position was illuminated by a porch light. As he began to unscrew the light bulb, the suspect inside the apartment fired at him, striking him in his left hand and the right side of his hip. Despite being hit, Matthews and his partner returned fire, striking the suspect and ending the crisis. Matthews was taken to a local hospital where he was treated for the gunshot wound to his hand and had a bullet surgically removed from his hip. As soon as he recovered, Matthews returned to work and eventually was promoted to the rank of sergeant. Sgt. Matthews served the LAPD until his retirement in August 1978.



Det. Perry Moore
(retired)

Narcotics Search

On the evening of Feb. 5, 1992, Det. Perry Moore of the West Bureau's Narcotics Unit was assigned to a search warrant team of a location being searched for evidence of narcotics sales with the likelihood that firearms were present. Moore was assigned as the battering ram operator and was positioned at the front door. The team knocked on the door, which resulted in sounds of hurried movement. When the occupants did not comply with orders to open the door, Moore used the battering ram to force entry. Unfortunately, the momentum of the ram pulled Moore into the living room well ahead of his unit. Once in the living room, Moore saw an armed suspect standing in a hallway who fired at him, striking him in the abdomen. Moore yelled to the team that he had been shot. Moore's partner entered and began firing at the suspect, who ran through the hallway to escape. Ultimately, four suspects, including the shooter, were taken into custody. Moore was rushed to a nearby hospital and underwent two surgeries, the second of which occurred months later to remove the bullet.

Medal of Valor Honors

Hostage Rescue



Officer Ericandrew Avendano

On the evening of Dec. 1, 2012, North Hollywood Division Officer Ericandrew Avendano and his partner responded to a radio call of a suspect aimlessly walking down the street holding a large knife to a woman's neck. Upon arriving at the scene, the officers saw the suspect holding the victim hostage in a nearby alley. They stopped their patrol car, and Avendano unholstered his firearm and took cover behind the car's door. He ordered the suspect to drop the knife and raise his hands, but the suspect refused and yelled out that he intended to kill the victim in front of the officers. The suspect, using the hostage as a human shield, placed his head behind her head. The hostage cried hysterically, pleading for the officers to help her. Fearing for the hostage's life and noticing blood streaming down her neck, Avendano raised his firearm and attempted to get a clear shot of the suspect. Realizing the incident was escalating to a critical stage, Avendano took a step to the right, causing the suspect to shift his stance and expose his head from behind the hostage. He then fired one round, striking the suspect in the left eye causing him to release the victim and fall to the ground. Avendano approached and handcuffed the suspect, ending the hostage situation and saving her life.

Shots Fired



Officer Francisco Zaragoza



Officer Jonathan Vander Lee

On March 8, 2013, Southeast Area Officers Francisco Zaragoza and Jonathan Vander Lee responded to a radio call of shots fired. When the officers arrived to the residence, they found a truck crashed into a parked car with its engine running and rear wheels spinning. At this point, other responding officers were surrounding the area. Zaragoza and Vander Lee cautiously approached the truck and found a man sitting in the driver's seat with a gunshot wound to the head. The officers, armed with a rifle, began a search of the area when they heard a woman scream, "He's got a gun. He's going to kill me! I have a baby!" followed by gunshots coming from inside the residence. While approaching the house, Zaragoza saw a suspect point a gun through a window in the direction of the officers. Zaragoza immediately began firing multiple rounds toward the suspect, and both officers moved across the street behind a vehicle for cover. The officers observed a young child exit the residence holding an infant in his arms. Zaragoza yelled to the child to walk across the street toward them for safety. But the child stood still in fear. Officers Zaragoza and Vander Lee could still hear gunshots from inside the residence and knew that time was of the essence. The officers quickly formed a tactical plan to rescue the children from across the street. Both officers left their positions, while Vander Lee picked up the children and Zaragoza provided cover. The children advised the officer that their younger sibling was still inside the house. SWAT officers arrived at the scene and made entry into the residence where they discovered two deceased adults and the younger sibling still alive.



The Smart Move

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

Untreated Injuries Can Cause Long-Term Complications

Doctors report that all too often what would have been a minor injury that has been left untreated has turned into a serious ongoing and sometimes problematic medical issue. The reasons people do not seek medical attention often have to do with busy lifestyles, tough-guy attitudes, not wanting to take time off work, lack of money or lack of insurance coverage. Whatever the case, these untreated injuries can lead to dangerous long-term consequences and complications.



Lack of treatment can lead to:

Arthritis: Chronic inflammation from a traumatic injury can cause arthritis to develop in an injured joint. This can happen whether you receive prompt medical care or not, but it is much more likely to occur if you have not sought treatment. Naturally, the quicker the bones are set and on the road to recovery, the quicker the inflammation dissipates and more chance you have to heal without arthritis.

Impaired Function and Deformity: "Even a small fracture that is left untreated or that doesn't heal properly will create problems for you later," according to experts at St. Anthony's Hospital in Houston. "Your foot function will be impaired, you will develop arthritis and chronic pain, and the bone may collapse." Writing in Fight Times, Dr. Stefan Eriksson says that, "Of all traumatic orthopedic injuries encountered in the emergency department, foot and ankle injuries appear to result in higher functional loss than any other orthopedic injury does." If left untreated, even small stress fractures can progress to displacement with malunion of the bones and a subsequent foot deformity.

Compartment Syndrome: "Compartment syndrome can develop following crush injury or closed fracture," Dr. Michael S. Pinzur MD explains. "Following some critical threshold of bleeding and/or swelling into the fixed space compartments, arterial pulse pressure is insufficient to overcome the osmotic tissue pressure gradient, leading to cell death." Symptoms include pain, numbness, tingling, burning, tightened / bulging muscles and difficulty moving.

Infection, Pressure Ulcers and Gangrene: The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons warns: "In general, the greater the extent of soft tissue damage, the greater the risk for infection. If an infection becomes chronic (osteomyelitis), it may lead to further surgeries and amputation." Even something as small as a blister can cause an infection. But when the bones break internally and are not properly set, the bone marrow is open to whatever microbes enter the body. Pressure ulcers may develop as a result of infection. It may start off looking like peeling skin, a scrape or a shallow crater. Later, it will deepen, change colors, and start to reveal underlying fat, muscle or bone. The further an ulcer progresses, the harder it is to treat. Sometimes amputation is the only recourse to prevent the infection from spreading throughout the body.

Dearborn National Insurance is the Club's partner for three areas – critical illness insurance, retirement income and accident medical expense insurance. Currently the Club offers three Dearborn products – the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan and the Accident Medical Expense Plan. Ask your Club Counselor for details.

You can contact Dearborn National at (888) 443-8829.

Larios in the City

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



Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations,
honors City employees for their achievements.



Well Done, William

The Club's Robert Larios congratulates William Sera for his career at the LAPD. He retired after 28 years of City service. Congratulations, William!

Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving reminds us of the importance of family.

...reminds us of the importance of friends.

...reminds us that working hands have dignity.

...reminds us to be grateful for our blessings.

...reminds us we are all part of the human family.

...reminds us how grateful we are for you.



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LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

Dec. 3: RLACEI holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium, Los Angeles

Dec. 13: LARFPA Christmas party, 11 a.m., Sportsmen's Lodge, Studio City

June 1: general meeting and annual barbecue, Grace E. Simons Lodge

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)



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

Attendance Issues Cause 2016 Meeting Reduction

RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



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

I was very disappointed in the turnout we had at our annual corporation and election meeting Oct. 8 at the Friendship Auditorium. Only 45 people turned out. We had a great lunch prepared; I even told George, owner of Chris & Pitts, to double the meat. The sandwiches had double beef and double turkey. We ordered 100 meals for only 45 to show up? What a waste of food and money.

I want to thank Robert Larios, the Club's Vice President of Operations, for bringing 12 raffle gift certificates of \$25 and \$50.

Robert, Cory and Arlene, investment advisers for Foresters Financial, gave a great presentation on how to prepare and maintain a great retirement. They were also available to answer any concerns and questions our retirees had. I was totally embarrassed that only 45 members attended to receive such informative information that as a rule one pays to get!

Most importantly, members got up-to-date pension informa-

tion from LACERS' Lita Payne, Assistant General Manager and Alex Rabrenovich, Chief Health Benefits Administrator, who personally reassured our members that our pension is secured.

Due to low attendance, we eliminated the April general meeting next year, and I have a feeling we are going to eliminate the October meeting also.

On Dec. 3, we are having our holiday party at noon at the Friendship Auditorium. I hope we have a decent turnout. Be sure to call and make reservations at (800) 678-4145, x701. *Thank you.*

Anthem Health and Vision Update



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

Anthem Blue Cross is our second most popular medical plan and is now our new vision carrier (for members not covered under the Kaiser HMO plan), replacing Vision Service Plan (VSP). There is good news from both the vision and the medical plan to share with you.

Anthem Blue View Vision promised to provide excellent service at competitive prices. To ensure that this promise is kept, the LACERS Benefits Administration Committee directed our health benefits staff to conduct a survey to determine how well the firm is doing to serve our members.

More than 1,000 surveys were distributed and 279 were returned with an overall satisfaction rate of 77 percent of members who

rated Anthem as satisfied or very satisfied. Just more than 100 members provided additional comments on areas which could be improved.

The three areas most often noted for improvement were:

1. **Provider issues** – current provider is not in the network and requests to add Costco
2. **Frames** – requests for a larger selection, and
3. **Costs** – complaints that Anthem is more expensive than VSP.

The committee asked the health benefits staff to monitor to see if Costco could be added to the network in the future. Anthem was contacted for the members with the "out-of-network" complaints and was able to contact the provider and got the provider into the Anthem network in about one-third of the cases.

You are all encouraged to contact LACERS Health Benefits

staff if you need help with the new carrier, or have any suggestions or complaints. They are ready and able to help you at (800) 779-8328.

The other good news was the positive claims experience from the Anthem health plan for 2014. As you know, because health expenses were less than projected for 2013, the coffers of our Premium Stabilization Reserve (a type of "rainy day fund" for when our health expenses spike) were high enough that LACERS provided a one-month "premium deferral" this year.

Payment deferral means that Anthem members who would normally pay out-of-pocket premium costs, did not pay it in May. The LACERS Board has approved another deferral for 2016 showing that when our health costs go down, the good results can be shared with our members! Keep eating the broccoli and keep working out!

Illinois and New Jersey Problems, and Our Own



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

Chicago and the state of Illinois have serious revenue problems. A late September article by *Illinois Policy* reports that Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel is calling for the largest-ever collection of taxes and fees to meet the \$750 million city budget hole.

\$543 million is needed in higher property taxes for city pension contributions over the next four years. Other fees include: a new garbage collection fee of \$62 million, new fees on taxis and Uber and Lyft services, new building fees, and a tax on e-cigarettes. The mayor hopes the State will extend the city's obligation to pay police and fire pensions by 15 years; if this does not materialize, the City will have to find \$500 million to make that payment in 2015 and 2016. The City's schools face a

\$10 billion pension shortfall.

Some of the trouble in Chicago is the exit of its population to the surrounding counties, plus one in Indiana. According to IRS data, 379,000 taxpayers formerly living in Chicago have moved into these other counties from 1992 – 2012, costing Chicago more than \$19 billion in taxable income.

Moving eastward, New Jersey also faces some problems in paying for its public pension debt. That state's pension fund investments showed an annual return of 4.16 percent in 2014-15, ending a healthy double-digit returns over the previous four fiscal years. In the last fiscal year, the Governor (Chris Christie) underfunded the pension system by \$1 billion, presumably because the investment income looked good. For the current fiscal year (2015-16) Christie again underfunded the system, but this time by more than \$1.8 billion. Some criticism was voiced over his alternative investments, which

meant buyouts-venture capital, real estate, and debt-related private equity, all of which have performed well over the last five years, but the fees paid the outside managers were high: \$570 million.

In California, there remain some funding problems, but none are on the scale of the above stories back east. The focus for concern here is the pending initiative by former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed and the former San Diego councilman Carl DeMaio to require any increases in local or state pension systems to be submitted to the voters of the affected jurisdiction. Reed and DeMaio are working on revisions to what they proposed over a month ago due to what they called a prejudiced summary and title by Attorney General Kamala Harris. Once they submit a revised initiative, they will have 180 days to gather about 580,000 signatures before June 30, 2016 to make it on the 2016 ballot in November.

Fire Memorial Service Recalls Those Who Gave Ultimate Sacrifice

LARFPA



I had the pleasure of attending the LAFD Memorial Service Oct. 10 at the Los Angeles Fire Museum and Memorial. This is a time when the Department rings a final ten bells and says a final goodbye to the 114 Firefighters who have passed away during the past year. Almost 200 friends and family paid their last respects at this emotional time from the entrance of the Honor Guard to the sound of the bagpiper playing Amazing Grace to the final taps as the ceremony closes.

There were speeches saying thank-you for the service and dedication from Councilmembers David Ryu and Paul Korez; Former Councilman Tom LaBonge; and Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas, and

several beautiful musical renditions throughout the ceremony preformed by a professional musical group from Pasadena – Louie Bookout, Brianna Bookout and Alex Strahle.

Keynote speaker, Capt. II Cheyenne Caldwell, told the story of his rescue when he was an Apparatus Operator and responded to a greater alarm fire and fell through the roof of a fully involved two story commercial building, landing inside the burning building. He described the thoughts and prayers going through his mind during the very dangerous experience and the ensuing rescue by his Captain and crew.

When the Memorial Service

ceremony was over, everyone was invited to lunch and refreshments and tours of the museum. The Historical Society President Jim Finn and staff did an excellent job putting the program together and cleaning up on the hottest day of the year. Don't forget next year during Fire Prevention week be sure to put the Memorial Ceremony on your calendar. Fire Prevention Week is the week of the Great Chicago Fire (Oct. 8 - 10, 1871).

Hope you have your reservations for the Christmas Party. For more information, call our office at (888) 288-5073.

Open Enrollment Ends November 17, 2015

LACERS



LACERS' UPDATE BY MARY BEETZ

Review LACERS Health Benefits Guide for Retiree Health Plan Changes for 2016

LACERS' Open Enrollment period for 2016 ends November 17, 2015. Unless you have a qualifying event, the next opportunity to make changes to your LACERS health plan will be next year during the Open Enrollment period for 2017. For more information about qualifying events, contact LACERS at (800) 779-8328 or visit www.lacers.org/retired, "Quick Links," to view the 2016 Health Benefits Guide (page 5).

Most of the 2015 benefits and premium subsidies will remain unchanged in the 2016 plan year. However, be sure to check the Health Benefits Guide for any changes that may have impacted your

plan. The key changes are:

- The Anthem Blue Cross HMO will have an overall premium increase of 9.4% and Anthem Blue Cross HMO prescription drug copays will be as follows:
 - \$10 generic/ \$30 brand / \$50 non-formulary – retail (30 day supply)
 - \$20 generic/ \$60 brand / \$100 non-formulary – mail (90 day supply)
 - \$20% coinsurance for specialty drugs, up to \$100; and
- The SCAN Health Plan will no longer be available in Arizona.

Remember: Any health plan changes you make during the Open Enrollment period will become effective January 1, 2016, and your first monthly health plan premium deduction for 2016 will begin with your December 31, 2015 LACERS retirement allowance.



Holiday Events for Retirees: You Are Invited To Rlacei Holiday Party:

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. 3 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 Helplines. 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. on Sunday, Dec. 13, at Sportsmen's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. Contact LARFPA for more information.

RLACEI Annual Holiday Party
Noon, Thursday, Dec. 3
Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles

LARFPA, Retired Fire and Police Christmas Party
11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13
Sportsmen's Lodge
12833 Ventura Blvd.
Studio City



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 Stemnock	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 Stemnock: 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
Michael R. Wilkinson, Legal and Legislative
Tom Stemnock: 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



Jewish and Catholic Catalonia

Hal and Evelyn celebrate 25 years of marriage with a transatlantic cruise. **Part 2**

2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

Evelyn and I went on a cruise adventure in October 2014, celebrating 25 years of marriage. We flew to Barcelona via Paris and spent four nights in Barcelona before boarding the Celebrity ship Equinox for a 14-day reposition-

ing cruise to Fort Lauderdale. We stopped in five ports before a seven-day crossing. We met our friends Max and Linda in Barcelona. They had already been on the ship for 14 days.

After our late-night Barcelona food tour, we got up early (Oct. 25, 2014) for our tour of Girona, a historic town with medieval walls, Roman and Gothic landmarks, and one of the best-preserved Jewish quarters in Europe. Our second stop was Figueres, the city of Dalí, where we visited the Dalí Museum and studio.

We met our tour at the *Placa Catalunya* a short walk from the hotel. We left at 8:30 a.m. for the 90-minute drive to Girona. We had a local guide who walked us around the city for about two hours. The city had worked hard to find and preserve much of the Jewish Quarter; however there wasn't a lot we could see. Most of what they recovered was stored in the archives or the museum. Remember the Jews were banished from Spain in 1492. There are no Jews living in Girona at this time, although they have a Jewish cultural center for research and study. You can also learn Hebrew there.

We then had one-and-a-half hours to have lunch and walk the *Rambla* (I think all Spanish towns have *ramblas*). We had lunch at a sidewalk cafe (they had a bathroom we could use) and then walked around the outdoor market, before getting on the bus for our ride to Figueres.

The Dalí Museum is built around an old theater in the round, which is used as the entrance, and features his 1947 Cadillac, which he turned into a piece of art, as a centerpiece. At one time I owned a Dalí litho, but the first Mrs. Danowitz now has it. I don't think I really appreciated how talented he was. The museum is filled with every media of art he worked with: "normal" paintings – *The Girl in the Window* is wonderful, with fine brush strokes and is very life-like; then there is his abstract art, sculptures, ceramics and wonderful jewelry. He was a genius.

We had about an hour to kill before the two-hour drive back to Barcelona, so we sat in a sidewalk cafe and people-watched while having a drink. The prices here were much less than we found in Paris and Berlin last year.

We got back to the hotel around 7 p.m. and asked the concierge to recommend a restaurant – he sent us to *En Ville*, a short walk from the hotel. The locals don't start dinner until 10 p.m. so we were able to get a table at 8 p.m. without a reservation, although the establishment was by no means empty. Must have been other Americans there ... We had two starters, two entrees, two glasses of wine, bread, water and one dessert, and the check was €52 (the euro at the time was 1 to \$1.26). The food was very good; I had duck *confit*, which was just as good as I had at *Mozza* in L.A., at twice the price. That day was the football (soccer) match between Madrid and Barcelona, which Madrid won, so there were a lot of tables with unhappy fans.

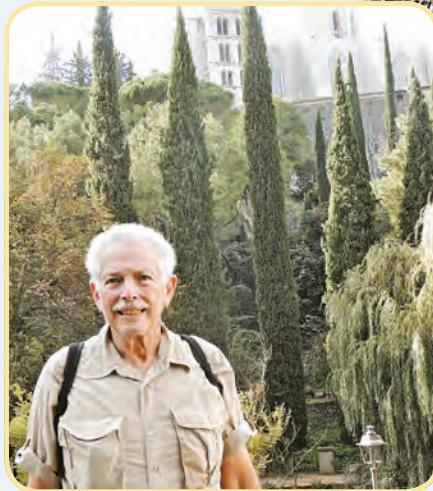
The next day (Oct. 26) we used the Hop-On, Hop-Off (HO-HO) bus to get around the city. We had an 11 a.m. reservation to see the

inside of the *La Sagrada Familia* cathedral, and then we wanted to stop at the Miró Museum. The HO-HO had three routes: red, which covers the Gothic area, and the Olympic stadium and other facilities built for the 1992 Olympics and the Spanish Village built in the early 1900s for the world exposition and the Miró; the green line traveled the Marina and beaches; and the blue line covered *La Sagrada Familia* and other Gaudí buildings, parks and the upscale areas, and a general city tour without the Gothic area (the old town). We used the blue route to get to *La Sagrada Familia*.

We were here in 2009 and did not visit the inside. At the time *La Sagrada Familia* had not yet been consecrated by the Catholic Church, but that changed in 2010 when it was made a basilica by the Pope. We were smart to get tickets



La Sagrada Familia



Hal walks to the top in Girona.



Evelyn kisses the pig in Girona.



Where the Jewish Quarter was in Girona.

in advance; the line was around the block. There was a two-hour wait to enter the church. We got in about 15 minutes early from the stated time of our tickets and decided to purchase the audio guide; this was smart as there is very little information inside the church. They don't even have a guidebook or signage telling you where to start. I asked and found out we were at the back of the church and needed to walk through the church to get to the starting point at the main entrance. *La Sagrada Familia* has been under construction for more than 100 years, and the outside has a number of different styles, all based on the architectural styles used – Gothic, Baroque, Romanesque and others. Each exterior edifice is beyond words, but when you enter the inside it is beyond magnificent; it is hard to describe the beauty of the columns and the stained-glass windows. It has clean lines and everything fits together, which was much different from the exterior. We took about 90 minutes to complete the tour and make our stop at the gift shop. We also visited the museum, which had some of the original designs of Gaudí and his assistants. His workshop was

also there. They had a 3-D printer used to print models of the current work and construction in planning.

I'm not Catholic, but I can generally appreciate the beauty of the churches and cathedrals we have seen around the world. However, *La Sagrada Familia* is beyond beautiful. The interior was warm, inviting, serene and peaceful. Its intent was to induce people to want to pray. It succeeded.

We had to wait about 20 minutes to get the bus, which we took to a point where we could switch to the red route to go to Miró Museum. It was already 2 p.m. so we stopped for a sandwich before boarding the bus. The time to the museum was about 45 minutes, and we found that the museum had just closed. Next time ... We did get a nice tour of Barcelona and did see some areas we hadn't seen before.

We rested up and decided to have dinner at a new restaurant called *Arume*. Evelyn found it on TripAdvisor and it was listed as the number two restaurant in Barcelona. The hotel concierge had never heard of it, but called to try and make us a reservation at

8 p.m. He couldn't get though. Normally the locals eat late so tourists who go to a restaurant before 8:30 p.m. can usually get a table, so we decided to walk to the restaurant and try to get a table. We found it with no trouble; we followed a group of four and a couple into the restaurant. The group of four was turned away, and the couple had a reservation. Evelyn said that the concierge from our hotel had recommended the restaurant and wanted us to report on the food and service. Evelyn knew there was a table for two because the greeter had told the party of four that there was. He told us that they had a cancellation and if we could be out by 9:15 the table was ours. The place did live up to the reviews. We had great dinner and a bottle of wine for €62. The reviews were correct – this was a great restaurant. We were told that they were now number one on TripAdvisor. I guess they don't need our review.

The next day (Oct. 27) we boarded our ship to begin the 14-day cruise to Florida. We decided to have breakfast in the hotel. There was a reason for this; Starwood lets you hold onto points for only 18 months with no activity, so it was worth the €50 breakfast. In fact it was pretty good. Just as we finished, Max and Linda showed up from the ship. We left the hotel around 11:30 a.m. to board the ship, and Max and Linda rode back to the port with us. The taxi fare was €15, including tip.

The Celebrity check-in process was well organized, and we quickly made our way through the process. Evelyn was able to purchase within the cruise terminal four bottles of Spanish wine (two red, two white), which we were allowed to bring onboard. In fact I'm sure I could have gotten liquor on board because I was carrying two bottles of water and they never asked about them (oh, what could have been). After our dinners and the food tour I had an understanding of the pricing of Spanish wines – as low as €3 or €4, into the mid-€20s per bottle. This did not include the reserves. So I knew what I purchased would be at least drinkable.

Because they were continuing passengers, Max and Linda were able to take us into a private dining room for lunch while we waited for our cabin to be ready. We did get into our cabin around 1:30 p.m., and our luggage arrived shortly thereafter. So far the service has been very good. We spent the rest of the afternoon unpacking, except for taking the lifeboat drill. I'll briefly say that our cabin was nice and well appointed, but could use more storage space; I will write more about the ship during the seven-day crossing.

We had the "select dining" option, which meant we could go to the open seating dining room whenever we chose. We tried 6:30 p.m. and had no trouble getting a table for four. The food was very good, as was the service. I hoped this would continue. We booked a number of specialty restaurants for later in the crossing, but so far the food has been good – better than on a Princess cruise.

When we returned to our cabin there was a plate of chocolate-covered strawberries and a very nice cheese platter sent by our travel agent. This was at 9 p.m., and we had just finished dinner. I didn't want them to spoil, so I called Elvis, our cabin steward, to remove them. I'll deal with that tomorrow.

The

Best Years

For Retired Club Members

RETIREES

AROUND THE WORLD



Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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

1

Hawaii

Mo and Leslie Mirseyendi, Retired, DWP, report from Hawaii.

"Aloha from the Big Island of Hawaii. We retired from the DWP on May 1, 2012. Since then, we've purchased a nice beachfront condo in Hilo, Hawaii, where we stay six months of the year, spending our retirement time snorkeling, swimming, site-seeing on the Big Island, and exploring the other nearby islands. — Mahalo."

2

Spain

"I am on a tour of Spain, and behind me is the skyline of the city of Toledo. Toledo's Alkazar castle is on the top of the hill on the right."

— Woody Harano, Retired

3

Peru

John Gale, Retired, Rec and Parks, and his wife, Barbara, just returned from a trip to Peru.

"Hello. Here are a couple of pictures from our recent trip to Peru. The top picture is at Machu Picchu. It is an Incan citadel in the Andes Mountains and stands 7,972 feet in altitude, made using huge blocks without the use of mortar, and built in the 15th century. It is one of the new modern seven wonders of the world.

"The bottom picture is at Lake Titicaca. It is the world's highest navigable body of water, at 12,507 feet in altitude in the Andes Mountains. Each house and structure in Lake Titicaca is actually floating on a bed of reeds, and each one is a small city."

4

Dallas

Here's Donald Norfleet, Retired, Public Works/Street Maintenance, in front of "Big Tex," the official symbol of the Texas State Fair in Dallas. It was taken Oct. 1.

"Wow... how about those Texas-size turkey legs!," Donald reports.

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
Allen, Detrich B.	Assistant Gen. Mgr.	Transportation	32	McTigue, Susan E.	Sr. Manage. Analyst	Airports	33
Baga, Rolando I.	Construction Inspector	Public Works	14	Miller, Deirdre C.	Clerk Typist	Library	25
Baptista, Jack D.	Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	2	Moore, Lester	Truck Operator	Public Works	29
Bustamante, Evangelina	Dept. Chief Account.	Build. & Safety	30	Myles, James C.	Custodian	Airports	27
Constantino, Corazon Cortes	Management Assist.	LAPD	28	Oddone, Edward Joseph	Build. Mechanical Insp.	Build. & Safety	15
Dribin, Terry A.	Sr. Building Inspector	Build. & Safety	26	Perkins, Phyllis Yolanda	Tax Compliance Off.	Finance	33
Faciane, Pamela Denise	Clerk Typist	General Svcs.	28	Perry, Arthur Louis	Traffic Painter Sign Post	Transportation	25
Funada, Cheryl K.	Library Assistant	Library	39	Reed, Carolyn	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	31
Gregory, Lettie F.	Clerk Typist	Build. & Safety	12	Rice, Raymond A.	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	General Svcs.	31
Hawkins-Robinson, Marcia	Animal Keeper	Zoo	11	Scarlett, Grace Vivienne	Systems Aide	City Attorney	31
Hsu, Mei Chen	Librarian	Library	26	Schilt, Alan Richard	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	General Services	28
Huang, Allan E. Lung	Wastewater Treat. Op.	Public Works	29	Serrato, Rose	Sr. Property Officer	LAPD	28
Ito, Russell T.	Sr. Plumbing Inspector	Build. & Safety	34	Tabuena, Isabelita T.	Management Analyst	LAPD	22
Jackson, Carol L.	Custodian	Airports	8	Tavera, Rosemary Rachel	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAFD	22
Johnson, Freteena R.	Clerk Typist	Transportation	12	Thaung, Banya	Welder	General Services	30
Kurz, Beverly Jean	Paralegal	City Attorney	13	Urssery, Frankie	Hearing Officer	City Attorney	35
Lee, Connie	Management Analyst	LAPD	31	Vasquez, Martha C.	Secretary	Airports	18
Mabini, Maria	Payroll Analyst	Controller	29	Wallace, Adela M.	Librarian	Library	7
Mancuso, Robert G.	Civil Eng. Associate	Public Works	28	Weinandt, Robert	Build. Mechanical Insp.	Build. & Safety	10
Marroquin, Maria O.	Custodian	Airports	17	Woodland, Roger P.	Sr. Build. Mechanical Insp.	Build. & Safety	18
McCurthun, Darryl A.	Motor Sweeper Op.	Public Works	27	Zamora, Peter	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	22
McGill, Scott A.	Chief Inspector	Housing	30				

5

Mexico

Here is Pablo Ninofranco Jr., Retired, Harbor, on a trip to Mexico in August.

The Best Years

For Retired Club Members



Tara Miller, MS RD/N
LACERS Well Program Coordinator

Ask the Dietitian



A monthly question-and-answer feature with
Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist Tara Miller,
LACERS Well Program Coordinator

Questions?

Do you have a question for Tara, the
LACERS Registered Dietitian? Write to her:
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Health and Diet Sodas

“Is diet soda bad for you?”

– S. Davis, LACERS Well Member, Compton

I'll admit it. I am a recovering diet soda addict. Not only do I prefer the taste of diet sodas, I appreciate the additional boost of caffeine. I suspected they were too good to be true, but it wasn't until recently that the emerging science nudged me to reconsider my beverage choice.

Here are my top three potentially harmful and surprising effects of diet soda (and the artificial sugars they contain) worth considering.

Taste bud assault.

Artificial sweeteners taste really sweet, and in some cases, more than hundreds to thousands of times sweeter than table sugar. According to Dr. David Ludwig, a professor of pediatrics at Harvard-affiliated Children's Hospital Boston, this overload of sweetness may trigger de-sensitivity of other, naturally sweet food items including fruit and honey, resulting in a less appetizing, duller, sweet sensation by comparison. This means that all things sweet, such as fruit, candy and even chocolate cake, may no longer taste sweet enough to be satisfying. In turn, studies have shown that psychologically, we are prompted to eat more in an effort to satiate our “sweet tooth.”

Weight gain, not weight loss.

Past the taste buds, there may be even more reason for concern. When artificial sweeteners took the market by storm in the early 1980s, they were advertised as a healthy alternative to sugar and a means to lose

weight, especially for those with diabetes. However, according to Dr. Ludwig, artificial sweeteners may actually “cause weight gain by directly stimulating the development of new fat cells.”

Epidemiologists from the School of Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center agree. In their 2011 study, diet soda drinkers had a 70 percent greater increase of waist circumference compared to non-soda drinkers over the course of 10 years. Apparently, simply reducing calories doesn't equate to a drop in weight or belt size, a significant problem for diabetics and non-diabetics alike.

Bad to the bone.

Women over the age of 60 are already at risk for osteoporosis, but according to Tufts University, drinking soda (diet and non-diet) may lower bone density by nearly four percent, compared to non-soda drinkers, which may result in more hip fractures. Additionally, according to the Journal of General Dentistry, habitual diet soda drinkers were found to have the same level of tooth erosion as cocaine and methamphetamine users, because of the citric acid content, which is known to destroy tooth enamel. Therefore, while not solely attributed to the artificial sweetener content, soda beverages were indicated as a poor choice for maintaining strong bones and a beautiful smile.

How much soda or artificial sweeteners are considered safe? Most studies indicate



that an occasional diet or regular soda is fine, leaning towards the common adage of “moderation.” To date, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved six artificial sweeteners, also known as high-intensity sweeteners: saccharin (Sweet 'n Low), aspartame (Equal), acesulfame potassium (Sweet One), sucralose (Splenda), neotame (Newtame) and advantame, which does not yet have a brand name. Plant and fruit-based high intensity sweeteners, such as stevia and monk fruit, have been passively deemed “generally recognized as safe” (GRAS), but the FDA warns that while “these high-intensity sweeteners are considered safe for their intended uses, certain individuals may have a particular sensitivity or adverse reaction to any food substance. Consumers should share with their health care provider any concerns they have about a negative food reaction.”

My vote? Drink water and plenty of it. Mother Nature has rarely steered us wrong.

Hosting Thanksgiving dinner?

■ Make sure the menu includes lower-calorie foods, including fruits, vegetables and lean meats (including turkey).

■ Roasting is a good way to cook your turkey. Avoid frying or adding extra fat (like butter) during cooking.

■ When you're cooking, avoid tasting the dish more than you need to. These calories add up and can affect your blood sugar.

■ Clear the table and put unused food away to help guests avoid snacking.



Healthy Holiday Eating for Diabetics

Although the name implies an expression of gratitude, Thanksgiving is notorious for being more about celebrating delicious food! But if you are one of the 29.1 million Americans with diabetes, you may feel anything but appreciative of the extra steps needed to be mindful of healthy eating this time of year. So to help guide you, whether you have diabetes or not, here are some great tips from the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) to keep your health in check and your holiday worth celebrating.

- Don't skip meals or snacks earlier

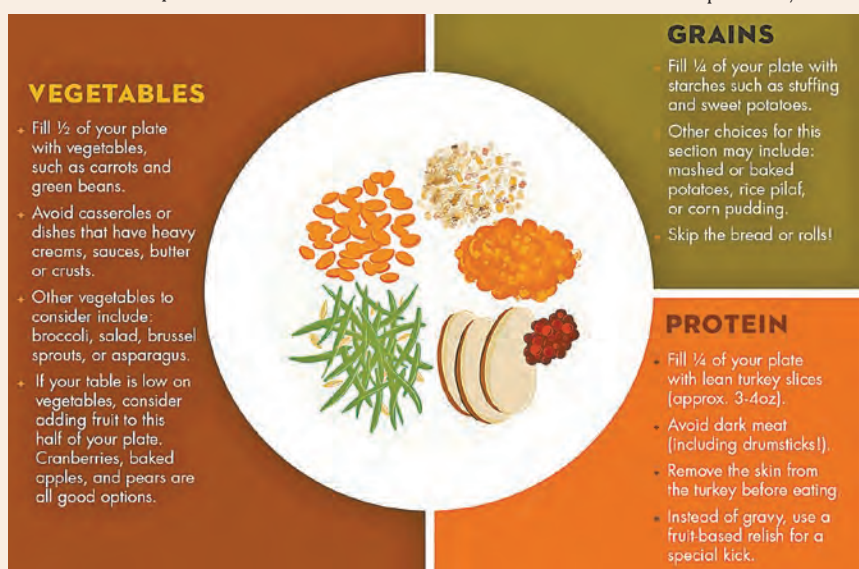
in the day to “save” calories and carbs for the Thanksgiving feast. If you skip meals, it may be harder to manage your blood sugar.

- Be sure to eat breakfast, and if your main meal is later in the day, eat a small snack or meal at midday so that your blood sugar will remain more stable.
- Take a look at the food on the whole table before you take any. Use the Thanksgiving Plate (see illustration) as a guide for choosing the foods you will eat.
- Limit the number of grains (starches) on your plate. It might be tempting to have some mashed potatoes, sweet

potato casserole and stuffing — however, limit them to one-quarter of your plate.

- Choose raw fruits and vegetables. Avoid vegetables in creams, gravies and butter.
- Stick to calorie-free drinks, such as water, tea, seltzer or diet sodas, instead of punch or mixed drinks.
- Have a dessert, but take a small portion, eat slowly, and enjoy the taste.
- To avoid snacking after the meal, try not to hang out near the food. Find a comfortable spot across the room and focus on socializing instead of eating.
- After your meal, take a walk with family and friends. Exercise will get you moving, keep you focused on your goals, and give you a break from being surrounded by food. Exercise is also a great way to lower blood sugar levels.
- If you eat too much on Thanksgiving, don't beat yourself up. Don't think you have failed, just make a plan to get back on track.

• Make a “Healthy Eating Contract” with yourself to set goals for your Thanksgiving meal. Clearly state how you will approach eating during the day, and what you want to accomplish. Be sure to sign and date this contract so that it's official. To receive a copy of a “Healthy Eating Contract”, call or email Tara Miller, RD/N at (213) 978-6843 or lacerswell@LACERS.org



VEGETABLES

- Fill ½ of your plate with vegetables, such as carrots and green beans.
- Avoid casseroles or dishes that have heavy creams, sauces, butter or crusts.
- Other vegetables to consider include: broccoli, salad, brussels sprouts, or asparagus.
- If your table is low on vegetables, consider adding fruit to this half of your plate. Cranberries, baked apples, and pears are all good options.

GRAINS

- Fill ¼ of your plate with starches such as stuffing and sweet potatoes.
- Other choices for this section may include: mashed or baked potatoes, rice pilaf, or corn pudding.
- Skip the bread or rolls!

PROTEIN

- Fill ¼ of your plate with lean turkey slices (approx. 3-4oz).
- Avoid dark meat (including drumsticks!).
- Remove the skin from the turkey before eating.
- Instead of gravy, use a fruit-based relish for a special kick.

Life After Retirement

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
137 Westmont Drive,
Alhambra, CA 91801

or
Email: mbeetz4841@aol.com

Healthy Thanksgiving Plate: This visual guide is based on the Idaho Plate Method. See www.platemethod.com for more information. © 2015. Reproduced with permission of the American Association of Diabetes Educators. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced or distributed without the written approval of AADE.

LACERS *Well*

Tech for Seniors

LACERS *Well* hosts technology seminar.

On Sept. 28, LACERS *Well* hosted a technology event for seniors at the Carson Community Center. The seminar was titled, “Get Connected, Stay Connected: A Techno-Savvy and Safety Event for Seniors.” Sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross, LACERS Members and their guests enjoyed presentations on Healthcare Technology, including a live physician demo on Anthem’s Live Health On-line tele-health service, “ID Theft and Scam Prevention,” “The Toll of Technology” from an ergonomic perspective, and “Technology for Empowered Lives,” which highlighted technology tools and tips for successful and safe day-to-day use.

Local presenters included Molly Davies, MSW and Vice President of WISE and Healthy Aging; Det. Ronnie Walker from the LAPD; David Burden, national public speaker and productivity expert; and Kathy Espinosa, Ergonomics and Safety Specialist, Keenan & Associates (LACERS healthcare broker). Also on hand were SilverSneakers, Anthem Blue View, and LACERS *Well* Champions.

Members were treated to exciting, technology-themed opportunity prizes such as iPads, blue-tooth/cordless earphones, selfie-sticks, FitBits and more.

This was the first technology-focused event provided for the LACERS Members, but Tara Miller, the LACERS *Well* Program Manager, is excited to schedule more. “The Members really loved this event and the experts we brought in,” Tara said. “Technology is so helpful for staying in touch with loved ones and maintaining health, but it can also be intimidating, so I hope to do this again in 2016 to provide more learning opportunities and resources.”

LACERS *Well* is a wellness program administered by LACERS for its retired Members. More information about the program, upcoming events, and Wellness Champions in your area can be found at www.LACERS.org/lacerswell or by calling Tara Miller at (213) 987-6843.

At the LACERS *Well* technology seminar.



Guiding Principles Awards

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor

The Los Angeles City Employees’ Retirement System (LACERS) held its second annual Guiding Principles staff appreciation luncheon July 30 at the Harry Chandler Auditorium. It was a star-studded event that emulated an Oscar-like ceremony. Employees walked down the red carpet, were able to take pictures in front of a Walk of Fame wall with staff names, and enjoyed a catered Mediterranean lunch before the actual ceremony took place. Employees were recognized by their colleagues and received trophies according to their Guiding Principles of character, respect, professionalism, kindness and teamwork. It was a great event celebrating the employees of LACERS.

Special thanks go to Tom Moutes, General Manager, for his assistance.



From left: Kristal Baldwin, Benefits Specialist, 18 years of City service, Club Member; Quyen Luu, Management Analyst II, 9 years; Wai Junt, Benefits Specialist, 9 years; Asya Hickman, Benefits Specialist, 9 years, Club Member; and Heather Ramirez, Management Analyst II, 8 years, Club Member.



Front, from left: Rose Duroy, Accountant, 14 years of City service; Lolette Badar, Accountant II, 1 year; and Andy Chiu, Fiscal System Specialist, 2 years. Back: Ricky Mulawin, Management Assistant, 1 year; and Martha Archila, Accounting Clerk II, 20 years, Club Member.



Front, from left: Edelize Fang, Sr. Management Analyst II, 19 years of City service, Club Member; John Koontz, Sr. Management Analyst I, 20 years; Oneil Madrigal, Administrative Assistant, 7 years, Club Member; and Cali Mori, Clerk Typist, 15 years, Club Member. Back: Jason Kitahara, Management Analyst, 14 years; Rick Silva, Sr. Clerk Typist, 17 years; Dan Goto, Management Analyst, 16 years, Club Member; and Erwin Lee, Accounting Clerk II, 32 years, Club Member.



From left: Tom Moutes, General Manager, 31 years of City service, Club Member; Jaime Lee, Board President, 2 years; Caren Freir, Chief Benefits Analyst, 14 years; and Li His, Assistant General Manager, 27 years.



Recipients of the Teamwork award: Adrienne Hobbs, Asya Hickman, Thomas Ma, Ed Leh, Ruth Perry, Lucy Artinian and Audrey Dymally. Not pictured: Lita Payne and Martin Macias.



Recipients of the Respect award: Tenah Johnson-Taylor, Jason Harris, Jo Ann Peralta, Andrea Galstian, Cesar Ballardo and Fon Leidig.



Jason Harris, Sr. Management Analyst I, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



Recipients of the Character award: Estella Priebe, Bryan Fujita, Mikiyong Jang, Lauren McCall and Monica Smith.



From left: Debbie Neglirino, Systems Analyst II, 26 years, Club Member; Betty Smith, Clerk Typist, 16 years, Club Member; Rahoof Oyewole, Dept. Audit Manager, 11 years; Melani Rejuso, Internal Auditor IV, 15 years; and Rico Raofols, Benefits Specialist, 9 years.



Front, from left: Ursula Ruiz, Benefits Specialist, 13 years of City service, Club Member; Audrey Dymally, Benefits Specialist, 15 years, Club Member; Michelle McGuinness, Benefits Specialist, 19 years, Club Member; and Lucy Artinian, Personnel Analyst, 32 years. Back: Laronda Lamothe, Accounting Clerk II, 9 years, Club Member; Charlena Freeman, Benefits Specialist, 13 years; Ann Seales, Sr. Management Analyst, 21 years, Club Member; and Lauren McCall, Management Analyst, 10 years.



Recipients of the Professionalism award: Kristal Baldwin, Delia Hernandez, Lourdes Quintos, Vincent Tsui and Lin Lin.

LACERS

Holiday Happenings

Holiday Lights, and More

Zoo brings back its popular Holiday Lights for second year, adds 2 VIP experiences, more space.



With the flick of a switch that illuminates a dazzling wonderland, L.A. Zoo Lights returns bigger and better for 2015 beginning Fri., Nov. 27, through Sun., Jan. 3. With awe-inspiring features providing a brand-new spin on holiday lights in Griffith Park, L.A. Zoo Lights sets the Zoo's environment aglow with breathtaking displays, among them thousands of LED lights, flurries of illuminated snowflakes, 3-D animated projections and glittering light tunnels. A menagerie of animal characters include mischievous animated monkeys scampering through the grounds, a glowing 130-foot snake coiled on a roof, a hillside with snowboarding "lizards," 3-D animated elephants wearing colorful holiday sweaters, an origami-type rhino lit from within and so much more. L.A. Zoo Lights will be open every night except Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and Christmas Day (Dec. 25), from 6 to 10 pm Mondays through Thursdays, and 6 to 11 pm Fridays through Sundays and Dec. 21 - 23. Tickets are on sale now.

LA Zoo Lights

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

New for 2015: Bigger and better is promised, plus special VIP events (extra fee)

When: Nightly Nov. 27 - Jan. 3 (daily except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

Time: Mon.-Thurs: 6 to 10 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., also Dec. 21-23: 6 - 11 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 are free.

Tickets Available: Now. Online: LAZoolights.org

Location: LA Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5355 Zoo Dr.

Parking: Free

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

New for 2015

An instant hit when it debuted last year, attracting more than 175,000 people, L.A. Zoo Lights for 2015 is sure to top the "holiday tradition" destination list once more, with a trove of new lights and displays for an even brighter atmosphere of wonder and delight, and unlike anything seen in L.A. before. Captivating guests for an ideal family outing, meet-up with friends or date night, L.A. Zoo Lights' self-guided 60- to 90-minute walking tour through select areas of the Zoo - while L.A. Zoo animal residents are asleep - offers a unique visitor experience that features the only opportunity in Los Angeles to see real reindeer; visits with Santa Claus on select dates; and hot chocolate, churros and other holiday treats and goodies for sale. Last year, the first-ever LA Zoo Lights was established by the private, nonprofit Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) as a festive new tradition.

In addition to more lights, displays, décor, effects and a larger L.A. Zoo Lights area in the Zoo, the event's biggest expansion this year takes place in and around The LAIR (Living Amphibians, Invertebrates, and Reptiles), which boasts a giant 130-foot illuminated snake gazing down from the rooftop, flicking its tongue as guests enter the building. Inside The Lair, guests find themselves bathed in ultraviolet light with glowing webs, orbs, and "insects" of all kinds on the rock walls. In the LAIR courtyard, guests will witness snowboarding iguanas on a sparkly, frosty hillside. At the next stop, guests will encounter a holiday aquatic show boasting lighted fountains and shooting screens of water with majestic projections of fanciful animations set to music. The re-imagined Santa's Village is in an all-new, glittering Alpine setting, the perfect location for magical holiday photos (available for an additional fee).

Also new this year are two "VIP Experiences," including an exclusive holiday happy hour for the 21-and-up crowd, and a family New Year's Eve for all ages. The holiday happy hour on Sat., Dec. 10, features "skip-the-line" express entry to L.A. Zoo Lights with a private lounge from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. boasting hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and hot and cold specialty cocktails. Tickets for the holiday happy hour are \$75 per person. The family New Year's Eve at 6 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 31, provides an opportunity to celebrate the coming of 2016 in style with "skip-the-line" express entry to L.A. Zoo Lights, dinner buffet, soft drinks, complimentary Champagne for adults, sparkling apple cider for kids, dessert, a ride on the Zoo's special conservation carousel, crafts for youngsters, DJ dance party, cash bar and live broadcast of New York's Times Square ball drop at 9 p.m., after which guests are welcome to experience L.A. Zoo Lights until closing. Family New Year's Eve tickets are \$65 for adults and \$40 for children, or \$60 (adults) and \$35 (children) for GLAZA members. Tickets for both "VIP Experiences" have limited availability, so early purchase is strongly suggested.

L.A. Zoo Lights has again been developed in collaboration with art director Gregg Lacy and Bionic League, entertainment-industry partners renowned for remarkable large-scale installations for festivals, stadiums, arenas, clubs, and artists like Daft Punk, Kanye West and many others.

Sponsors of L.A. Zoo Lights are 99 Cent Only Stores, Service Systems Associates, and ScholarShare. Donors include The Georgina Frederick Children's Foundation, Beth and Joshua Friedman, Larry and Sue Ivanjack, Paramount Pictures, Donald and Susan Rice, the Shultz Family and the employees of the Shultz Steel Company and the Simms Family Foundation.



Movie Packs Make Perfect Gifts



FREE Gift Box with Movie Pack Purchase

AMC THEATRES

REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

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

Club Member Exclusive
\$26

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

Great Gift Idea!

Holiday Happenings

Council

Christmas On Parade

City's holiday parade is set for Nov. 29.



Co-hosts Eric Estrada and Laura McKenzie at a previous Hollywood Christmas Parade.

The Hollywood Christmas Parade, sponsored by the City, is scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, in Hollywood.

The parade, an American tradition for 84 years, is held traditionally the Sunday after Thanksgiving and telecast locally and throughout the nation during December. This year's broadcast partners are the CW network and the Hallmark Channel. Check local listings. As last year, the co-hosts are television personalities Laura McKenzie and Erik Estrada, and Dean Cain and Montel



At a previous Hollywood Christmas Parade.

Williams.

This year's grand marshals are magician/comedians Penn and Teller. A special performance is expected to be held at 6 p.m.

The parade had been known by that name for decades. But when it looked likely to die seven years ago, the City – notably then-Councilman Eric Garcetti and then-Councilman, Mr. LA. Tom LaBonge, Club Member – took charge and restored the parade. The name was then changed to Santa's Hollywood Parade. The original name reverted back five years ago.

The year as it did last year, the parade plans to work with the Marine Toys for Tots campaign.

The parade will feature entertainers, celebrities, marching bands, floats, equestrian units, food and some reserved grandstand seats,

which range from \$25 to \$85. General admission is free.

The parade starts on Hollywood Boulevard at Orange Street. The U-shaped route follows east to Vine Street, south to Sunset Boulevard and west back to Orange.

The Hollywood Christmas Parade

When: 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29

Where: Hollywood, starting at Hollywood Boulevard and Orange Street.

Cost: Free; grandstand reserved seating is available ranging from \$25 to \$85.

Parking: Hollywood and Highland Center (fee)

Metro: Red Line station, Hollywood and Highland.

Info: (866) PARADE-1, or www.thehollywoodchristmasparade.com

STUFF THAT STOCKING

With movie tickets from the Club!

– SEE PAGE 45

The Club Store Is Holiday Headquarters!

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 - \$26 for each ticket pack.**

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

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



Start your holidays at the Club Store!

Also at the Club Store for your holiday shopping:

- ❖ **Gift Central:** Buy fantastic Club merchandise that will be great under your tree.
Returning 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!**

Start your holidays at the Club Store!



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



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 33.



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

Free Shipping

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. 14. Don't wait!

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



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

Club Store Hours

The Club Store will be open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with the following exceptions:

- Closed Wednesday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day
- Closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 – 27, for Thanksgiving
- On Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, the Club Store will close at 2 p.m.
- Closed Friday, Dec. 25, for Christmas
- On New Year's Eve, Thursday, Dec. 31, the Club Store will close at 2 p.m.
- Closed Friday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day
- Closed Jan. 4 for annual inventory

Club Webstore

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



Harbor

Christmas by the Sea

Holidays by the Sea

What: Three holiday-themed events
When: Sat., Dec. 5 – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; 6 – 9 p.m.; and 7 – 9 p.m.
Where: LA Waterfront
Cost: Free
Info: www.portofla.org

Port celebrates the season with a trio of events Dec. 5.

On Dec. 5, the Port is hosting two events – Holiday of the Seas and Wilmington Winter Wonderland – and sponsoring a third, the LA Holiday Harbor Afloat Parade.

The Wilmington Winter Wonderland



Wilmington Winter Wonderland

The forecast calls for snow at Wilmington Waterfront Park – 20 tons of it! Bring the kids and teach them how to make a snowman, even if it's warm and sunny outside. A free family event brought to you by the Port of Los Angeles. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Holidays by the Sea.



Holidays by the Sea

This free holiday concert and a visit from Santa at Downtown Harbor features local artists with arts and crafts and an outdoor showing of the 2003 movie, Elf, starring Will Ferrell. 7 – 9 p.m.

A previous Holiday Harbor Afloat Parade.



Los Angeles Holiday Harbor Afloat Parade

Join harbor community members for this free and festive boat parade on the LA Waterfront, sponsored by the Port. Enjoy the sparkling spectacular parade of boats and celebrate the nation's busiest international trade gateway with this year's playful theme of "Santa's Minions." Before the parade, at 4 p.m., viewers are invited to enjoy holiday festivities at Banning's Landing Community Center in Wilmington. 6-9 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.laharborholidayafloat.org/>

Rec and Parks

New Name, Same Fun

Rec and Parks' annual ice skating season in Pershing Square begins Nov. 12.

A cool place for holiday happenings, Holiday Ice Rink Pershing Square kicks off its 18th season for ice-skating under the sun and stars in the heart of downtown Los Angeles Nov. 12. It will be open every day through Jan. 18.

The event formerly was named Downtown on Ice.

Encircled by towering skyscrapers, the stunning pop-up icescape transforms Pershing Square into a winter wonderland with a host of free community and special events, along with a low skate admission price. The yuletide traditions continue with DJ Thursday nights, skating exhibitions, a Single in the City Skate night, a Snoopy on Ice Showcase, the Winter Holiday Festival and the Polar Bear Skate, among others.

The rink is easily accessible by car, bus or Metro (Pershing Square stop) and there is also convenient underground parking. General admission is \$9. Figure skate and hockey skate rental is \$4. Group rates and private party options are available. Skate session admission tickets can be purchased online in advance or at the rink.

Rec and Parks is a sponsor of the event.



Holiday Ice Rink Pershing Square

What: Ice-skating rink in Pershing Square
Where: 532 S. Olive St. downtown
When: Nov. 13 through Jan. 19
Cost: Skate session admission \$9. Figure and hockey skate rental \$4. Purchase tickets at the rink or in advance at: www.holidayicerinkdowntownla.com Group rates, private party and special event pricing available.

Hours:

Nov. 12 – Dec. 17:
Mon. – Thurs., 11:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Friday, 11:30 a.m. – 11 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Dec. 18 – 30

10 a.m. – 11 p.m. daily

Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve):

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Dec. 25 (Christmas)

1 – 9:30 p.m.

Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve)

10 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Jan. 1 (New Year's Day)

10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

Jan. 2 – Jan. 18:

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:

(213) 624.4289

#HolidayIceRinkDTLA

Facebook: HolidayIceRinkDTLA

Twitter: @HolidayRinkDTLA

Instagram: @HolidayIceRinkDTLA

<http://holidayicerinkdowntownla.com>

Holiday Happenings

Zoo

Romp With Rudolph

Zoo brings back annual reindeer fun.



Reindeer in LA for the holidays.

Reindeer Romp

What: Reindeer Romp, Los Angeles Zoo: reindeer, holiday fun, visits from Santa Claus

When: Nov. 27 – Jan. 3 (daily except Christmas Day)

Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: Free (except Santa photos) with paid Zoo admission (\$20 for general admission, 13 to 61; \$17 for seniors 62-plus), and \$15 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, 5355 Zoo Dr.

Parking: Free.

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

In addition to its big holiday lights festival, the Zoo also offers holiday fun with its annual Reindeer Romp, the only opportunity to see real reindeer in Los Angeles from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily from Nov. 27 to Jan. 3 (except Christmas Day). Visitors will 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 \$20 for general admission (ages 13 to 61); \$17 for seniors (ages 62+), and \$15 for children (ages 2 to 12). No ticket is required for children under 2. Zoo admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free.

The landmark Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, drawing 1.6 million visitors each year, is home to a diverse collection of 1,100 animals representing 250 different species, many of which are rare or endangered. Its lush grounds on 113 acres feature a botanical collection comprising more than 800 different plant species with approximately 7,000 individual plants.

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 16th annual "A Civil War Christmas" is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5-6. 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

Dates: Special event: Dec. 5-6
Regular hours:
Tues.-Thurs., and Sat.-Sun.
Closed Christmas Day.

Tickets: Free for special event
(tickets for regular tours:
\$5 suggested donation)

Address: 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 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.

Email the photos to:
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com.
If there are a lot, it's best to send them in on a thumb drive; put 'em up on Dropbox, Box, or some other cloud service; or deliver (or mail) a CD or DVD 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!

Holiday Happenings

Dept

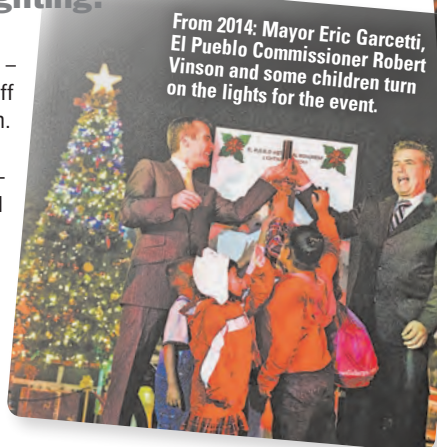
Christmas on Olvera Street

El Pueblo Historical Monument celebrates with Holiday Tree Lighting.

El Pueblo Historical Monument – Olvera Street – plans to kick off its Christmas season from 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 4 with a Holiday Tree Lighting.

The event included food, mariachi music, dancing, costumes and of course officials throwing the switch to illuminate the tree on Los Angeles' historic district.

Special thanks to Chris Espinosa, General Manager, El Pueblo Historical Monument, for the information and photos.



From 2014: Mayor Eric Garcetti, El Pueblo Commissioner Robert Vinson and some children turn on the lights for the event.



Mariachis Divas de Cindy Shea performed at the tree lighting in 2014.

Olvera Street Tree Lighting

When: 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4.

Where: Olvera Street, Downtown

Cost: Free

Including: entertainment for the family, food, costumes, etc.

Info: www.elpueblo.lacity.org

Las Posadas Returns to Olvera St.

Mexican Christmas tradition begins again Dec. 16-24.

Las Posadas, a Mexican tradition that's one of the City's oldest Christmas events, returns to Olvera Street Dec. 16-24. Each night's festivities run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Las Posadas celebration commemorates the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem and their search for shelter in preparation for Jesus' birth.

Las Posadas has been played out in Mexico for centuries. The tradition goes back to 1538, when Jesuit priests came to New Spain to convert the natives to Roman Catholicism. At the time, the natives celebrated a nine-day feast honoring the coming of an Aztec sun god. The missionaries used the nine-day framework and adapted it to Christianity. The tradition has thrived for nearly six centuries in Mexico and throughout Latin American.

On Olvera Street, the event will feature a candlelight procession starting at the historic Avila Adobe at approximately 7 p.m. The leaders of the march, usually children, will be dressed as shepherds, angels, and Mary and Joseph. They will be followed by dozens of other worshipers. The public is invited to join in or merely observe.

The procession will run up and down Olvera Street with the group singing songs in English and Spanish. They will make stops requesting lodging at designated points ("posadas," or stores), but will be denied, usually in song. Eventually they will be admitted. Complimentary champurrado (a Mexican hot beverage) and pan dulce (sweet bread) will be served, and piñatas will burst.

Information: (213) 628-1274.



For your holiday shopping
Whoa!

**FOREVER
FREE
SHIPPING**

The Club's awesome Club benefit –
**Forever Free
Standard Shipping**
– is perfect for the
Christmas holidays!

As you do your holiday shopping, don't forget that the Club's free standard shipping on everything at the Club Store all year long – tickets and merchandise bought from the Club Store or Webstore – is in full effect. Take advantage!

Don't worry about surcharges – there are none for Club merchandise and tickets. You pay just for the price of the item, nothing more.

Put that free standard shipping to work for you, for all your Club holiday shopping needs!



City Employees Club
Cheap Tickets.
Insane Service.
Affordable Insurance.



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

Holiday Happenings



Donate to the New Shoe Drive!

As part of its Club Angels program, the Club is gearing up its annual holiday drive for children.

New for 2015: a holiday new shoe drive! Held in conjunction with the **LAPD Newton Division's Operation Shoes From Santa**, the Club invites all Club Members to drop off a new pair of shoes – please, new shoes only – for underprivileged children at the Club Store before Friday, Dec. 18 – and we'll take it from there! (Or you can bring them to the Newton Area's event – information listed on the poster.)

Please be generous!

Bring your donations to:

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



Los Angeles Police Department
Newton Area's

Operation Shoes from Santa 2015

Friday, December 18th at 5:00pm at Newton Station
3400 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011

*Please Donate a New Pair of Shoes for
Underprivileged School Age Children!*

Drop off shoes in bins @ Newton Area Watch Commanders Office.
Newton Officers and Santa will distribute the shoes to
pre-selected children at Newton Station on Dec. 18th

Real Snow to play in, Hot Cocoa & Christmas Treats, Santa's Workshop,
Santa and his Elves, and Christmas Magic!

An Entirely *Free* Event!
sponsored by



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sergeant Marcela Garcia - Email: 33003@lapd.lacounty.org or Phone: (323) 846-3937
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @newtonlapd

Rec and Parks

Victorian Christmas At Banning

The Banning Museum
to host annual Victorian
Christmas celebration.



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. 5-6 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 Visitor Center will feature a new special exhibit, "88 Years of Cinema: The Banning Museum in Film," highlighting 17 movies filmed at the museum. Back by popular demand, the weekend will also feature a blacksmith and local food and craft vendors. Jolly St. Nick will make a special appearance and pose for photos with the kids.

Also, the annual Victorian Christmas luncheon is scheduled to take place Friday, Dec. 4, in the Banning Museum Stagecoach Barn and feature special live holiday entertainment. Those attending enjoy an elegant plated lunch, a special sneak preview of the Banning Museum decorated for a Victorian Christmas, a tour of the Transportation Exhibition and a special exhibit in our Visitor Center. This event has limited seating and sells out quickly. Reservations are being taken now. Tickets for the special luncheon are \$95 for non-members and \$85 for Friends of Banning Museum Members. Information: (310) 548-2005.

Banning Museum Victorian Christmas

When: Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5-6
Hours: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Where: The Banning Museum,
401 E. "M" St., Wilmington
Cost: Free admission

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

Alive! Feature

Their Business Is

Public Works/Sanitation

Picking Up

Removing 1,000 tons of trash a month and set to grow in crews and resources, the Mayor's Directive 8 – the **Clean Streets Initiative** – is one of the fastest-growing programs in the City.



Sweeping up Daly Street are Exempt Maintenance Laborers (from left) Onei Chaul, Mark Melgar and Seasha Torres.



Working the Kubota skip loader is Steve Reed, RCTO II.

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

The streets of L.A. are starting to look ... and be ... cleaner, thanks to a squad of Sanitation workers and administrators collectively personifying the **Clean Streets Initiative**. Tasked just last April with cleaning up 500 tons of abandoned trash a month, the team has already doubled that and is already picking up 1,000 tons and climbing. They're adding staff, and they're awaiting new headquarters near the Central Sanitation Yard on San Fernando Road, their current, cramped, temporary home.

Managed by Sanitation veterans Jose

"Pepe" Garcia and Russell Zamora, the squad came into being in late 2013 in response to a request by Councilmember Gil Cedillo to clean up sections of his district that were chronically dumped on. That program was solidified in April, when Mayor Eric Garcetti created Directive 8 – the Clean Streets Initiative. The directive deploys an additional 5,000 trashcans on problematic corners, and creates strike teams to target areas where trash and furniture has been dumped illegally.

It's not the job of the unit to legislate or enforce the laws that are already on the books. It's their job to clean up the City, no questions asked, and log and report everything they're doing. That way, they leave the next steps to others.

The Clean Streets Initiative squad also has extensive rules in place about dealing with the belongings of those in shelterless encampments. You can read more on that in this month's *Alive!* interview. ■

Following on these pages is a lot more on the Clean Streets Initiative and the squads whose City business is quite literally picking up.

The *Alive!* Interview

Talking Trash

On Friday, Oct. 9, Club CEO John Hawkins and Club Counselor Gedina Bergstrom interviewed Russell Zamora, Superintendent II, 28 years of City service, and Jose “Pepe” Garcia, Assistant Manager, 28 years, Solid Resources Collection Division, about the Clean Streets Initiative. The interview took place in a conference room in the unit’s temporary headquarters in Sanitation’s North Central Yard.



Near a load of trash on Daly Street are (from left) Russell Zamora, Superintendent II; Jose Garcia, Assistant Manager; and Exempt Maintenance Laborers Onei Chaul, Seasha Torres (kneeling) and Mark Melgar. Standing in back is Steve Reed, RCTO II.

***Alive!*: Let’s start generally – how did the Clean Streets Initiative get started?**

JOSE GARCIA: Sure. My primary job is to oversee the this Clean Streets Initiative. Under the direction of our Managers, Alex Helou and Leo Martinez, Russell and I were given the task of creating a working program. We started from scratch with one truck, one broom and one shovel, and now it’s this whole program.

When was that?

JOSE: Right after the (City) election in 2013.

You saw the need before it became an initiative. Take us through the need that you saw, how you started it as a program and then how it became one of the Mayor’s directives.

RUSSELL ZAMORA: Okay. When Councilman Gilbert Cedillo from Council District One came into office, he started the “Keep It Clean” campaign. It started basically with him sort of pushing toward ... the mayor that we need to do something about getting the City clean. Some of these neighborhoods were just chronic. So we started working the program basically from nothing with a couple of brooms and shovels and rakes and started cleaning up the alleys in Council District One. And from there it just expanded. Other Council offices saw what was going on and wanted to have that in their district, too, because the alleys were becoming very clean. It basically expanded with equipment, with personnel and a little bit of everything. Councilman Cedillo’s “Keep it Clean” campaign was such a success that it was implemented Citywide by Mayor Eric Garcetti through the Clean Streets Initiative.”

JOSE: That was the end of ‘13 and the beginning of ‘14. We were just trying to figure out what we needed. So we went out there and saw we needed a rake. And then we got to another alley and needed a push broom. And then chainsaws ...

RUSSELL: Weed whackers. Hedge trimmers.

JOSE: There’s some stuff out here that’s heavy, so we saw we needed some mechanized equipment. We needed all of this specialty stuff – if we have this we could do this. If we can get this we can do more of this. That’s the evolution of it.

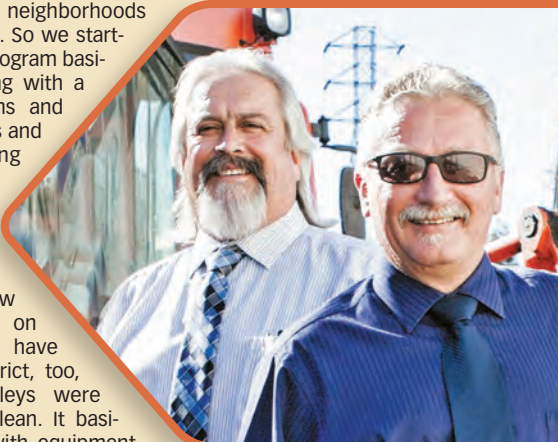
RUSSELL: Councilman Cedillo came out to visit us a couple of times and Pepe and I went and did a presentation to him and showed him the different things that we had done.

How did the early funding happen?

JOSE: It was outside of the scope of what our funding was supporting. So we had to have that support factor, that funding, the ability to hire resources and acquire equipment.

You must have been very successful very quickly to go from rakes to the mayor wanting to make it an official initiative only a little more than a year later.

RUSSELL: There was a lot of good input coming from residents because our crews were constantly getting a lot of praise from them. “Boy, thank you so much for being here,” they would tell us. “This has been like this for a while and it hasn’t been cleaned up. Thank you.” We got a whole lot of that, and a lot of that went back to the Council office and the Mayor’s office. It helped to blossom the whole program.



From left: Russell Zamora, Superintendent II, and Jose Garcia Assistant Manager.

Directive 8

On April 23, Mayor Eric Garcetti signed Directive 8, the **Clean Streets Initiative**, which set goals and provided resources to grow the program that had begun the year before as a trial program between the Bureau of Sanitation and Councilman Gil Cedillo.



Mayor Eric Garcetti (seated) signs Directive 8, the Clean Streets Initiative, April 23 in an alley known for its abandoned trash.

Clean Streets Initiative

Enrique Zaldivar, Director, Bureau of Sanitation, speaks at the inauguration of Directive 8. Surrounding him are (front, from left) Councilman Gilbert Cedillo, Councilman Joe Buscaino and Mayor Eric Garcetti.



Sweeping Overview

Let’s step back for just a second. What is this initiative? It seems pretty simple – your mission is basically to clean the streets by cleaning up dumpsites?

JOSE: Any abandoned waste.

Abandoned waste, so it’s not in a receptacle.

RUSSELL: Right.

A lot of the initiative was getting feet on the ground to clean up the messes. But part of the initiative was getting more trashcans out there, too, right?

– continues page 27



Alive! Feature



Waste, Erased

The Mission:

Clean a street and sidewalk of abandoned waste

The Situation:

Filthy sidewalk

The Location:

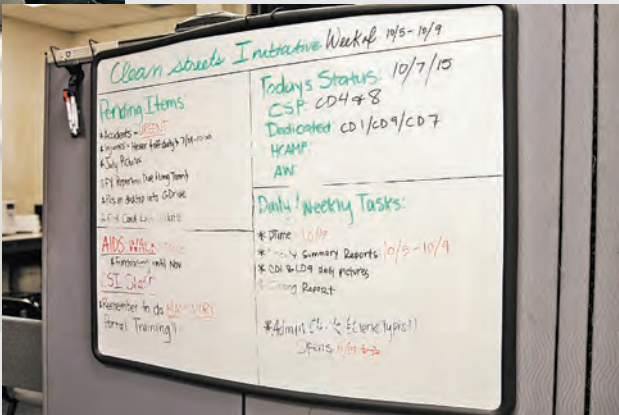
Alhambra Avenue and Daly Street, Lincoln Heights

STEP 1 Coordinate With Council District; Scout; Assign a Crew



The Clean Streets crew coordinates with a Council District staff – each district gets certain days of attention from the crew. And then, one of two Supervisors will scout the location in advance to know what kind of staffing and gear the job will require.

On this day, among other assignments, the crew gets its orders to clean up the intersection of Alhambra Avenue and Daly Street, which suffers from chronic abandoned waste.



Then squad coordinator Richard Santa Maria analyzes the task, sees which crewmembers are on duty, and then assigns them to different parts of the City to take care of the problems. One crew heads to Alhambra and Daly in Lincoln Heights, and *Alive!* follows them.

STEP 2 Arrive

Right: Steve Reed, RCTO II, climbs into the Kubota skip loader. Russell Zamora (top) and Club CEO John Hawkins and Jose Garcia (below) welcome the crew to the dumpsite in Lincoln Heights.

Below: Mark Melgar keeps the trash coming into the rear loader.



STEP 3 Move Trash Onto the Street

The crew uses the Kubota front-loader to move all the trash onto the street from the sidewalk, making it easier to scoop.



Here's a look at the **Clean Streets Initiative** squad in action.

The Crew:

Steve Reed, RCTO II, 29 years of City service; and Exempt Maintenance Laborers Onei Chaul, 1 year; Mark Melgar, 3 years; and Seasha Torres, 1 year.

Council District:

14 (Jose Huizar)

Date:

Friday, Oct. 9

STEP 4 Scoop Away ...

Steve Reed, at the controls of the Kubota, then scoops the collected piles of trash ...



STEP 5 ... and Dump

... and dumps them into the large rear loader.



STEP 6 Tidying Up

After the large portions of the trash have been collected and put into the rear loader, the grounds crews come in and sweep and air-clean the sidewalk and street.



The *Alive!* Interview, – continued from page 25

JOSE: Yes.

RUSSELL: those are the ones that are on the streets on the corners, where the buses come, where there's heavy foot traffic.

How many trashcans were put out for the initiative?

JOSE: The goal for the end of this fiscal year is to put out 1,200 of what we call ALBs – automated litter bins, which are those black mushroom sidewalk receptacles that you see. The initiative calls for a total of 5,000. They will be phased in over time.

RUSSELL: They're automated. Our trucks grab them. They have a gravity lock on the lid – when the bin goes over to dump, the lid opens. When it comes back over, the lid closes again.



An automated litter bin.

The ALBs are just giving people a chance to put it into a bin.

JOSE: Yes.

If there are things that are piling up at the same place all of the time, then maybe it would be better to put a bin there, is that the thinking?

JOSE: Yes. The Council has input on where they would like them. And then we have input as to where we see a lot of loose debris, loose trash. We're making it convenient by putting a can there so people can dispose of the trash correctly.

RUSSELL: Instead of it just getting tossed in the street.

JOSE: Before that there was nothing there so it would end up on the street.

RUSSELL: Right.

How does the Clean Streets Initiative work with the Council districts?

RUSSELL: The way it works is we have a regular calendar each month. Each Council office has their days of service on the calendar. They will prioritize five locations that they want serviced through us. We see the locations that they've given us prior to anything going on, and the two Supervisors who work under me will go and look at the locations. And then they will know exactly what resources are necessary for each location.

My two Supervisors are Bruce Reed and Richard Santa Maria.

Was there ever a program similar to this in the last 30 years or so? Or is this the first of its kind?



From left: Russell Zamora, Superintendent II; Club CEO John Hawkins; Club Counselor Gedina Bergstrom; and Jose Garcia, Assistant Manager.

RUSSELL: Not that I know of. I don't know of any other program that was like this one is.

Sources and Reporting

What are some of the sources of this abandoned trash?

JOSE: Well ...

This stuff doesn't grow on its own, does it?

– continues page 28

Alive! Feature

Getting in Gear

No job is ready to start until the right gear is in place. Here's a look at some of the major pieces that the Clean Streets Initiative crews have at the ready.



Small rear loaders (5)



Dump trucks (4)



Chemical toilets



Street sweepers



Large front loaders (4)



Small skip loaders (4)



Traffic safety cones, signs, etc.

The Alive! Interview – continued from page 27

JOSE: No.

Well, a lot of the commercialized trash comes from contractors probably abandoning their trash or throwing it away without paying. They're not wanting to pay the fees to dispose of it correctly. Some of the stuff that we find in the produce district, for example ... there's produce everywhere.

RUSSELL: It's all produce. Cases and cases of produce.

JOSE: In the garment district, garments everywhere.

In the textile district there's tile and roofing material. Wherever those locations are, what we see is common.

Was there ever a fear that if you aggressively cleaned this stuff up it only encourages people to put more stuff in? Or do you just have to put that out of your mind?

JOSE: We're in the business of picking up.

RUSSELL: We do have to put it out of our mind because it's going to happen. They know we're going to come and clean it, and that's why it gets like that regularly.

JOSE: They are working on an enforcement component based on what we documented as far as repeated locations where we visit. We don't have those authorities right now. We don't have citing powers or any kind of ability to do those kinds of things. What's our catch phrase? How's business? We're always picking up.

But it sounds to me like your business is more than just picking up. There's a reporting component of this initiative, too.

JOSE: Absolutely.

Tell us about that.

RUSSELL: We use smartphones to capture the data. We take before and after pictures. We can also plot the locations on a map on the phone. Wherever our crews make a collection they drop a dot on the map. That information comes in.

We also fill in paperwork during the day. All of that data gets collected and gets put on Google documents – the tonnage, the amount of crews that are there, the amount of time that they were there, basically what they



An app allows the Clean Streets crews to locate dumpsites and record their actions.

picked up, either loose debris or a whole lot of bulk. That's what our office staff does. They collect that from each of the crews when they come in at the end of the day.

It sounds like it's evolving.

JOSE: Yes. Just like anything, it evolves over time. We had to think out of the box and be more innovative when it came to putting the program together and not fall into an old rut as to how we were doing it before. Let's be creative and figure something out that we can do today. Doing it the old way may not apply to the way the trash is being set out and abandoned and the way we need go in there and the number of locations that we need to support.

The app that you're showing us – is that current?

JOSE: No. This app is about two years in the making. ITA is working with us to create this app, and it should be available by the end of November. It will link with the City's 3-1-1 system. It's able to push what requests come in to Russell so we can communicate with the public.

In real time?

JOSE: Near real time.

RUSSELL: We're in the infant stage.

In terms of code enforcement, that's not your job.

JOSE: Not yet.

When it comes to taking the next step, you're giving the data to somebody else to do that.

JOSE: Yes, it will be within the Sanitation family. Once everything is clicking, everything we are requested to accomplish in the field will be captured and communicated through MYLA311, our customer care center."

RUSSELL: : And when it does, the data will be there in MYLA311.

Transient Encampments

Encampments are a source of some of the abandoned waste that you deal with. How do you handle the legal issues of what belongs to them because I know that's been in the news over the last few years. You can't take things that belong to them, so how do you handle that issue?

RUSSELL: There's a process. Sometimes things happen overnight. Somebody could just move into a location that's been given to us previously by the Council office. If we get there in the morning to clean that location and there's a homeless encampment in there, we back out. We don't do anything with it and we report it to our person downtown who gets the ball rolling, gets the process started. Then when all of the authorizations are done, our cleanup must be posted for 72 hours. It gives that person or those people the time to gather up their stuff and take it away. Whatever is left after that, then Watershed [a different unit of Sanitation, more like a Hazmat team] goes in and deems it safe; after all of the sharps, the needles, feces, urine, all of the stuff is taken out of there and everything is sprayed with bleach, then my crews are given the green light to go ahead and go in and make the cleanup. But there is a whole legal process that has to happen. That's why when we go in and there is some type of encampment or somebody living there, we immediately back out. We don't do anything because any of those materials could be there. We just back out.

The Crews

On the street.

The Clean Streets Initiative unit sends personnel all over the City every day on cleanup duty. Crews can be assigned in groups of two all the way up to the entire daily crew, depending on the severity of the job. In addition to the crew you see on these pages, here are the rest:



Clean Streets Initiative crew, from left: Marcelous DeThouars, Ivan Duarte, Santiago Enriquez, Daniel Olmeda, Ralphs Rojas, Gabriel Zaldivar, Doneisha Bell, Brandon Gonzalez, Salomon Galvez, Travis Burkhard, Ryan Rice, Andrew Pereya, Jose Barron, Michael Oradon, Dillon Carlson, Nolan Ceja, Joseph Franklin, Jerramy Duran, Fernando Vasquez, Michael Cobb, Eric Scott, Anthony Walker, Francisco Martin and Richard Santa Maria, Supervisor.



Clean Streets Initiative crew, from left: Jesse Valdez, Salomon Galvez, Marvin Adams, Rogelio Salazar, Ivan Duarte, Cesar Galvez, Richard White, Santiago Enriquez, Robert Garcia, Daniel Olmeda, Eric Alvarado, Christopher Moreno, Joseph Rodriguez, Richard Guzman, Marco Mejia, Darren Downing, Walter Woods, Brandon Gonzalez, Jesus Garcia, Jacob Nademlynski, Samuel Cruz, Edward Scott, Mark Melgar, Edgar Alvarado and Jimmie Gilmer III.

At the office.

The Clean Streets Initiative's office crew is critical to its success. These people log every day's collections, including tonnage, general contents, and specific location. This data is passed along to other personnel in Public Works/Sanitation for analysis and future use.

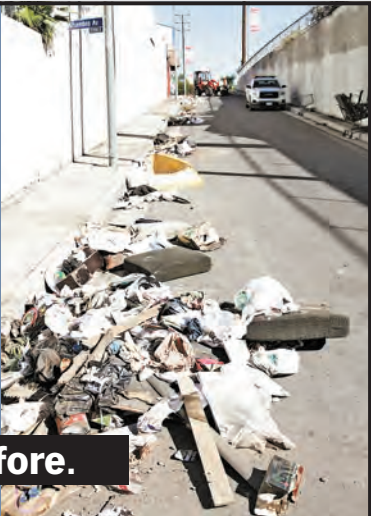


From left: Russell Zamora, Superintendent II, 28 years of City service, Club Member; Jennifer Encinas, Clerk Typist, 2 months; Stephanie Lopez, Clerk Typist; Solomon Galvez, RCTO, 13 years; and Jose "Pepe" Garcia, Assistant Manager, 28 years. Back: Brandon Gonzales, Maintenance Laborer, 3 years; and Armando Bernal, Maintenance Laborer, 1 year.

Before and After

Finally, after a street sweeper comes in and cleans the street (not shown), the job is done! Here's a before and after. Job well done!

Before.



After.



The Goal

For something that started just a few years ago you're growing a lot. What's your goal?

RUSSELL: The goal is to clean the streets and get the City cleaned up. Along with that come other components – you need to educate the residents. They need to know the programs and the services that Sanitation offers to them so they can utilize those instead of just tossing it out to the side. As far as trash that comes from contractors, tire shops and places that just come and dump stuff, that's where the enforcement aspect needs to come in, whether we use cameras or people just calling in and getting phone numbers. But something like that has to happen.

Is there a push from downtown or even from yourselves or from Sanitation that this is a great program, a great initiative that needs to have more resources? Are you looking at more resources?

RUSSELL: Definitely. The City is huge and there's a lot of real positive feedback that has come from the beginning of this program to where it is now. We want to get bigger and do as much as we can out there.

JOSE: But with bigger comes quicker response times. In other words, you won't have a 30-, 40- or 50-day waiting period between locations. Bigger doesn't necessarily mean more bureaucracy for us because we can't put a barricade at the end of the street and come back tomorrow and finish it. The trash has got to be picked up. It's a health and safety issue.

RUSSELL: It's non-deferrable.



From left: Jose Garcia, Assistant Manager; Club CEO John Hawkins; Club Counselor Gedina Bergstrom; and Russell Zamora, Superintendent II.

JOSE: Non-deferrable.

Let's talk about education, then – what advice would you give to L.A. citizens about cleaning up and keeping it clean?

RUSSELL: Utilize our programs. We have programs in Sanitation that will make it so easy for them to pick up the phone and call the toll-free number. You don't have to give us your name. We're not interested in that. Of course, it would be nice to have your name and phone number as part of our records, but we don't necessarily need that. Just let us know you have an old couch and an old refrigerator and you have all of this stuff that you brought out from your backyard. Utilize our services.

Everybody dumps in the alley behind my house.

JOSE: It's because nobody watches.

RUSSELL: Nobody has gotten any license plate numbers. Nobody's done anything. And that's what we encourage.

A Passion for Service

Why do you guys do what you do?

RUSSELL: Twenty-nine years and I don't mind coming in every day. It's something that I just enjoy doing. We're making an impact on the City, and that has a lot to do with it. We're really making an impact and cleaning up a lot out there and it's a good feeling especially when the residents appreciate what we're accomplishing. It's a good feeling to know that we're out there making an impact on the City.

JOSE: I think Russell will agree, in the beginning when we first started, it was the bond we had with the residents. We got to see the kids grow up and they went out there and they loved your truck. We built that sense of community. And fast-forward to today, we're still giving back to the community by trying to make a difference. Every alley we go to, we get people who come out, and they're acknowledging what we do. Personally we take a lot of pride in the fact that we're able to touch somebody else's life in a unique way.

RUSSELL: It's highly appreciated by them. They come out with cold bottled water and they see

the crews out there working hard and they say, "Wow, thank you so much for being here."

JOSE: I think for every trash man it starts with that sense of community because you are in the same area every day, seeing the same people go to work, go to school, jog, walk.

RUSSELL: It's the same kids chasing your truck down the street. That's for real, too. I don't know what it is about those trash trucks but kids just love them.

Talk about your crews. You had some quality crews out there. It's not the easiest job in the world to do what they do, and they're doing a really good job.

RUSSELL: Those crews are just outstanding. I can't say enough about them. They're young. They come together as a team and they're great. They take pride in what they're doing. We have really good employees. We appreciate them and we let them know that regularly.

JOSE: Everything is data driven. But there's a human aspect to what we do. I believe it makes a bigger impact on the numbers that we generate. No two streets, no two cleanups are the same. The accolades we get from the local residents of the areas that we pick up surpass the data. We should also generate the human impact. That needs to be a vital component in moving forward.

That's great. Thank you gentlemen for the tour this morning and for the interview.

RUSSELL: You're welcome.

JOSE: Thank you. ■

CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues
sponsored by the City Employees
Club of Los Angeles • Nov. 2015



From the Commish:

Free Agents Make For a Tight Race To the End

The softball season is coming to a close. As predicted, Game Time, a Club free-agent team, is in a tight race for a spot in the playoffs. Only the top four teams in each division will have the opportunity to compete in the playoffs.

The surprising results of games held Oct. 21 made any playoff predictions obsolete. While Game Time held on to third place for many weeks, they fell to fifth place with a loss to the Enforcers, with a win for the Sluggers against P-Slappers. Even though I warned Sluggers not to hit to the P-Slappers shortstop, Oscar, (the 2014 All-Star MVP), I thoroughly enjoyed recording 6-3s all over the Sluggers side of the scorebooks. However, I'm sure it was Sluggers Delta's consistent triples and home runs each week that catapulted the Sluggers into one of the top spots; and Sluggers' Dr. Monica, with an amazing catch in right field, produced that Slugger energy when I played on their team ("Reminiscing" music playing).

Side note: This league has some of the best pitchers I'd competed against during the many of years I played – Danny (Enforcers), Tommy (DOTgers) and Victor (Guzzlers), to name a few absolute gentlemen. But none compares to the gentle warm spirit and hibernating beast of a pitcher like Jim (Sluggers). Not only does he greet you with a warm welcome and joke around laughing and teasing, he gets on the mound and strikes you out lovingly as well, with a nod and a smile. His invaluable contributions to the Sluggers also add greatly to their chances to make the playoffs.

Do not give up hope! There's still a chance for Game Time to earn that playoff spot but they need your help and encouragement. And wouldn't that be awesome? The illustrious free-agents list has proven that you don't have limitations because you're not on a team. It is very important to be a Club Member because we can always find a team to adopt you – we are all part of the same Club family.

In Division B, the top four teams are so close it's ridiculous. DOTgers and Transformers are tied for first, and Killawatts and Left Turns Only are tied for third. (Second place is reserved for the team no longer in first place.) Even though the other free-agent teams, U Go I Go and Next, are tied for fifth place, they have given the top four teams great challenging games.

The All-Star games are scheduled for Nov. 4 at Yosemite Park. The league MVPs of both divisions are combined by gender to compete against each other. The top teams' male and female pitchers are invited to pitch. If you recall, Marleen (Enforcers) unexpectedly took the mound and won MVP for the 2014 All Stars by pitching an outstanding game.

For this year's All-Star game, we welcome Club Counselor and internationally acclaimed performing artist Gedina Bergstrom to sing the National Anthem.

Mark your calendars for Dec. 9: The Club Softball League championships at Yosemite Park. The National Anthem for the championships will be sung by LAPD Officer Rosalind Curry. Since she was 9, Rosalind has wanted to be a police officer and a singer. As a 21-year veteran of the LAPD who represents LAPD throughout the country by singing at various events, Officer Curry is truly living out her dream. She is an awesome and very kind person.

Batter up!

– Lady Smith, the Commish

Lady Smith, The Commish

Returning for 2015:
The Softball Commish, Lady Smith!
Read Lady's comments each month in *Alive!* during the softball season.



Softball in Full Swing

Club Softball 2015: Mark Your Calendars!

Here are some important dates to remember as the Club Softball League heads toward its fantastic conclusion. Come on out and support your favorite teams and City Employees!

Nov. 4: All-Star Games

Yosemite Park
7:30 p.m. (women)
9 p.m. (men)
The National Anthem sung by Club Counselor Gedina Bergstrom (7:25 p.m.)

Nov. 18: Division B Playoffs

Shatto Park
7:30 p.m., third place vs. second place
9 p.m., fourth place vs. first place

Division A Make-Up Games

The results of these games may be the deciding factor for playoff positions.
Yosemite Park
7:30 p.m., Enforcers vs. Blue Dragons
9 p.m., GameTime vs. P-Slappers
Lincoln Park
7:30 p.m., Sluggers vs. Sewer Rats

Dec. 2: Division A Playoffs

Yosemite Park
7:30 p.m., third place vs. second place
9 p.m., fourth place vs. first place

Dec. 9: Championships!

Yosemite Park
7:30 p.m., Division B
9 p.m., Division A
The National Anthem sung by LAPD Officer Rosalind Curry (7:25 p.m.)

GAME LOCATIONS:

Yosemite Recreation Center
1840 Yosemite Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90041

Shatto Recreation Center
3191 4th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Lincoln Park Recreation Center
3529 N. Mission Road
Los Angeles, CA 90031

The Club's 2015 Softball League is mid-season and gearing up for its exciting conclusion!

For a list of the teams and managers, see the green box below.

Come out and support your team!

Watching a Club Softball League team is fun ... and free! There are cheerleaders, DJs, your workmates in nice uniforms, all free. And you can volunteer, too.

We'll see you there!



2015 Club Softball League Teams

(managers in parentheses)

Blue Dragons (Ben Lozano)
DotTgers (Carlos Rodriguez)
Enforcers (Manny Ortiz)
Game Time (Dominick King)
Guzzlers (Lisa Pallares)
Killawatts (Angel Vidales)
Left Turns Only (Jerry Borunda)
Next (Monte Carter)
Pitch Slappers (Oscar Berumen)
Sewer Rats (Jordan Price/Luis Figueroa)
Sluggers (Alfred Lopez/Delta Rodriguez)
Transformers (Raul Montenegro)
U Go I Go (Mike McComas)

NFL AND USC TICKETS!



The Club Store has gone big-time with football tickets!

The Sports Dude is excited to announce that the Club offers discounted tickets to **USC Trojan** football games, as well as to **Chargers** and **Raiders** games for the current season!

Visit the Club Store in person for specific game information or at the Club Webstore at www.cityemployeesclub.com

Robert Larios, The Sports Dude



Club Sports on the Horizon

The Club Sports Office welcomes all individual players to inquire about the Club's sports leagues. Currently, the Club is coordinating efforts for **basketball, bowling and softball.**

Please contact sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com or call the Club at (800) 464-0452 to be placed as a free agent or for more information.

Images of past sporting events can be found on the Club website at: photos.cityemployeesclub.com/ClubSports

THIS
MONTH
AT THE



Griffith Observatory

Sunset Walk

Nov. 24

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

The Observatory offers a sunset hike led by a Park Ranger and a museum guide. The easy walk starts on the Observatory's West Terrace, proceeds up the Charlie Turner trail to the Berlin Forest on the hill just north of the Observatory, and then returns to the West Terrace. The distance covered is about half a mile over the course of an hour at a very moderate pace with stops along the way to discuss the highlights and history of Griffith Park, and objects visible in the evening sky.

Note: The Charlie Turner trail is a moderately steep earthen trail. The Observatory recommends footwear appropriate for hiking.

FREE!

Information:

[griffithobservatory.org/
programs/programs.
html#walktalk](http://griffithobservatory.org/programs/programs.html#walktalk)

**Support the
Griffith Observatory!**

Consider joining the
Friends of the Observatory (FOTO).
(213) 473-0879

www.friendsoftheobservatory.com

City Owned. City Run. City Proud.

Rec and Parks

A Whale of a Fiesta

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium to host annual event in January.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is scheduled to celebrate the 45th Annual Whale Fiesta from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31 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.

In the past, more than 20 marine life organizations have exhibited and provided 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 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.cabrillomarineaquarium.org

Photos by Gary Florin, Cabrillo Aquarium

January 13, 2016



Rec and Parks

Baja Whale Adventure on Sale

March 5-13, 2016



Club Members are invited to join Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (CMA), March 5 - 13, 2016, for an annual trip that truly is the journey of a lifetime! During this nine-day ocean voyage we spend three exciting days anchored in San Ignacio Lagoon where friendly gray whales and their curious calves swim within arm's length of the skiffs.

The trip also visits Todos Santos Island and land on San Benito, Cedros and San Martin Islands, where travellers will enjoy naturalist-led hikes on these remote, offshore islands that are home to elephant seals, Guadalupe fur seals, a multitude of birds, diverse geological formations and a wide range of native vegetation.

CMA's experienced naturalists, including experts on gray whales and other marine mammals, birds, native island plants, and marine biology, will lead hikes and give shipboard presentations to add to the educational aspect of the trip. Each passenger will receive an illustrated natural history guide containing information about animals sighted and locations visited.

The 113-foot Royal Polaris out of San Diego will provide comfortable accommodations, a roomy galley/lounge and a friendly crew that furnishes hardy, flavorful meals. To reserve your spot today, call Larry Fukuhara at (310) 548-7562 x223.

Fee: \$2,850 includes food and lodging, plus \$150 crew gratuity Interested in more information about the CMA Baja Adventure?

Go to:
<https://sites.google.com/site/cmabajaadventure/>



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

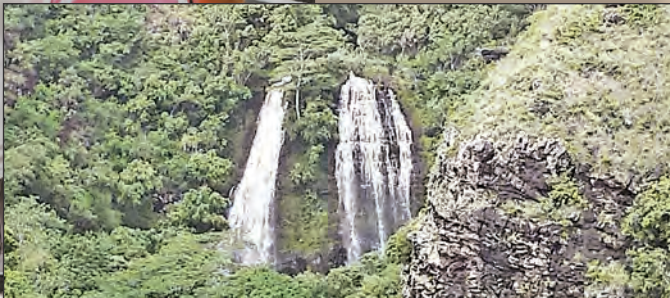


1

Hawaii



Here are Elton "Bo" and Julie Juniel on a two-week vacation in Kauai. Bo works for DWP in the Power section, 30 years of City service.



2

Hong Kong



Here's the Club's Arlene Herrero, Director of Product Development, at Hong Kong Disneyland.

"There are approximately 200 species of trees and 400 shrub species at Hong Kong Disneyland Resort," she reports. "Hong Kong Disneyland Resort employs more than 7,000 full-time and part-time Cast Members – making it one of Hong Kong's largest employers in the entertainment industry."

Take the *Alive!*

with you, wherever you go!

- Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you when you travel.
 - Snap a **high resolution** photo of you **holding *Alive!***,
 - email it to us, and we'll publish it.
- Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



PAYROLL OR PENSION DEDUCTED

Funeral Pre-Planning Service

Pre-funding your funeral is easy to do. You've probably already thought about who should receive cherished possessions and how you want your funeral arranged. With the help of a funeral service professional, putting your final wishes down on paper is as easy as having a conversation with a close friend.

- ✓ Available to Club Members, Spouses, or Domestic Partners.
- ✓ Your coverage is portable. If you leave the City or DWP, you can take your coverage with you.
- ✓ Paid off in 7 years.

Leave your kids the house, the jewelry, the photos
..but not this.



Select From Participating Funeral Homes

Angeleno Mortuary
N. Hollywood, CA

Crawford Mortuary
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Cabot & Sons
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Inglewood Mortuary
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Mc Kenzie Mortuary Services
Long Beach, CA

Riverside-Akes Family Funeral Home
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Ingold Chapel
Fontana, CA

Akes Family Funeral Homes
Corona & Riverside, CA

Getting started is easy. I can help you right away!



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

Library

The Art of Dining

Exhibit examines food culture through menus.

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles is bringing the City's food culture to life with "To Live and Dine in L.A.," which showcases the Library's vast menu collection and celebrates the rich, as-of-yet-untold history of restaurants and food in the City of Angels.

The project includes a major exhibition at the Central Library and the publication of the first book to explore the colorful history of restaurants and menus in Los Angeles, written and edited by USC Annenberg Professor Josh Kun.

"To Live and Dine in L.A." tackles the timely and critically important topic of food justice, showing us how vintage menus can serve as documents that go beyond the table, acting instead as guides to the politics, economics, and sociology of eating. The project is the second in a series of collaborations between the Library Foundation and the Library to explore the Library's extensive collections. The first was 2013's "Songs in the Key of L.A.," which showcased the Library's sheet music collection.

The "To Live and Dine in L.A." book and exhibition, which closes on Nov. 13, features rare first-edition menus from the Library's collection, in addition to menu templates and menu printing materials donated to the Library by the Lord Menu Company, a business that designed, printed and delivered menus daily to landmark Los Angeles restaurants – including Bob's Big Boy, the Brown Derby, and Perino's – for most of the last century.

"To Live and Dine in L.A." asks how we can look at our City and its history through the window of menus. And, being trusted places of information, learning, and inspiration, libraries are just the place for that exploration to happen," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "With this project, we also want people to talk about how historical menus can be a guide for thinking about issues of hunger, food access and food inequality in our community."



Nov. 13, 2015

For more than a year, Kun and a group of his students, working with chef Roy Choi and Librarians from the Central Library, combed the Library's roughly 9,000-piece menu collection, piecing together an unprecedented history of how, where, and what people ate in Los Angeles over the past century.

The book, "To Live and Dine in L.A.: Menus and the Making of the Modern City," published by Angel City Press, details the history of Los Angeles. Author Josh Kun riffs on what the culinary habits of a foodie city say about place and time, before comparing the lives of those who eat big while others go hungry, and the influence of that disparity on the City's history. Kun turns to chefs and cultural observers for their take on the modern: Chef Roy Choi tackles subjects that readers may have never contemplated in his book foreword. Pulitzer Prize-winning critic Jonathan Gold interprets food as theater, while museum curator Staci Steinberger examines the design of classic menus like Lawry's. Restaurateur Bricia Lopez follows a Oaxacan menu into the heart of Koreatown.

Visit fla.org/live-and-dine for more information about the "To Live and Dine in L.A." project. To explore the menu collection and other special collections, visit lapl.org.

Airports

Story and photo courtesy Airports

LAX Jobs Website

Contractors looking for jobs at LAX have a new website:

www.jobsatlax.org



LAX launched a new Jobs@LAX website Oct. 15 to offer job seekers easier access to employment opportunities with companies doing business at the airport. The public can view the Website at www.jobsatlax.org

The new website went live with more than 100 LAX contractors offering more than 150 open positions in diverse fields, including engineering, customer service, aircraft maintenance, retail, and food service.

The new website, provided by the LAX Community Relations First Source Hiring Program (FSHP), is an upgrade to its former applicant tracking system-based website. This next-generation website offers job seekers enhanced features including user-friendly technology, faster registration, enhanced job search, job alert capabilities and real-time posts of new job opportunities. The Jobs@LAX site is able to provide more LAX job opportunities than others because its staff works directly with companies at LAX and can automatically posts their openings.

"This is more than a website redesign," said Airports Executive Director Deborah Flint. "This innovative technology is part of LAWA's broader initiative of continuing to be a leader in job creation for the region. Jobs@LAX is an exciting one-stop source for the most LAX employment opportunities."

Job seekers can view job descriptions and apply online for all positions offered. The website also provides information on employee security badging, employee airport parking, and other employment assistance resources.

For information on FSHP services and upcoming job fairs, follow the LAWA First Source Hiring Program at www.facebook.com/LAWAFirstSourceHiringProgram



At a recent First Source Hiring Program job fair.

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 \$_____.



Name on Card _____

Card Number _____

Expiration _____ CV# _____ Last 3 digits on back of card

Signature _____



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

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 Angels 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.



Aden, Angel Jr. and Kathy begin the Narrows hike

Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Angel's Be Alive!

The Narrows Trail

Zion National Park, Utah



Kathy, Angel Jr. and Aden at the entrance to Zion National Park.

Hello again everybody!

For this month's column, we traveled to the beautiful state of Utah. A few years ago we traveled to Utah and we discovered erosion exposed delicate and colorful pinnacles called hoodos, which are up to 200 feet high. Amazing, right? This month we traveled to Zion National Park in Utah and explored the Narrows. Both of these natural wonders are here in the good old U.S.A. Zion National Park is about a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Las Vegas. I must say this is a must-see location. I am definitely going to visit Zion National Park again and again. There are so many types of hikes from very easy to very difficult, so everyone can have a good time. My family loved all the trails and the small-town feel in the area. The outdoors and having lots of fun is what it's all about.

Let's begin!

History: The Narrows trail was first undertaken by Grove Karl Gilbert in 1872. This contributed to him becoming the most important geologist of the era. He dubbed it "the Narrows" as he descended through the area in the Wheeler Survey of 1872. The Narrows is the most famous hike in Zion National Park and one of the most famous in the world. It was first introduced to a European-American in 1858 when

Mormon pioneer Nephi Johnson was led by a friendly Paiute Indian.

The Trail: We started the hike early in the morning, as that is the best time to go. There are fewer crowds of people in the morning, making it more enjoyable. We rented water shoes, neoprene socks and walking sticks the day before to help with balance in the river. I suggest renting these supplies to stay safe, and they are available just in front of the Zion National Park Entrance. We also took hiking backpacks with plenty of water to stay hydrated.

To get to the Narrows, you must ride a 45-minute tram from the park entrance to the Riverside Walk, and then walk about 1.5 miles to the Temple of Sinawava, where the real water part of the hike begins. It is a very long hike; you can hike for up to 10 miles. (But don't forget, whatever miles you hike up, you have to hike back!) This hike is beautiful and very breathtaking. Most of the Narrows is in the ankle-deep water, but there are deep ends that can go up to your chest. (Most of these are avoidable.)

All and all, this hike is *gorgeous*! Next time you are going to Las Vegas, make the trip to Zion National Park.

For a serious hike like this, make sure you take plenty of supplies – water, sun-screen, snacks, serious water gear and so forth. Be prepared!

If you have any locations you want me to know about and visit, please email me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com.

*As always,
be safe and Be Alive!*

Angel

Aden leads the hike, with Angel Jr. and Kathy in the background.



Aden leads the group – "Are we having fun yet?"



Lunchtime at the Narrows. Life is good!



Aden, Kathy and Angel Jr. find some dry land.



A gorgeous view of erosion along the Narrows.

The Narrows Trail Zion National Park, Utah

Hours: The hike is an all-day experience, and the length of time it takes varies depending on how far down the Narrows you decide to go. Zion National Park is open 24 hours a day every day of the year.

COST: Weekly passes are non-transferable and are valid for seven consecutive days, including the date of purchase. Weekly passes may be upgraded to annual passes within seven days of purchase.

Private vehicle: \$30, valid for seven days. Admits private, non-commercial vehicle (15 passenger capacity or less) and all occupants to Zion National Park, including both the Zion Canyon and Kolob Canyon areas.

Motorcycle: \$25, valid for seven days. Admits one non-commercial motorcycle to Zion National Park, including both the

Zion Canyon and Kolob Canyon areas. **Per person:** \$15, valid for seven days. Admits one individual with no car to Zion National Park, including both the Zion Canyon and Kolob Canyon areas. Typically used for bicyclists, hikers and pedestrians. Youths 15 and under are admitted free.

Safety Warning: The Narrows does experience flash floods that are dangerous. You should not attempt to hike the Narrows if floods are expected. Although signs do warn of floods, they can happen at any time, even when there is a low-flood potential. Be sure to check the flash flood forecast before you hike the Narrows.

Directions: From Los Angeles, take the I-10 east to the I-15 north to Las Vegas, then continue on the I-15 north towards St. George, Utah. Then take the UT-9 east to Springdale, then you will arrive at Zion National Park.

Los Angeles Public Library

Library's TOP 10

Here's what LA was reading, watching and listening to in September.

Lists are courtesy Los Angeles Public Library, Central library downtown and 73 branches combined.

Books loaned:

1. *The Maze Runner*, James Dashner
2. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
3. *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins
4. *Divergent*, Veronica Roth
5. *The Fault in Our Stars*, John Green
6. *If I Stay*, Gayle Forman
7. *The Murderer's Daughter*, Jonathan Kellerman
8. *The Burning Room*, Michael Connelly
9. *The House of Hades*, Rick Riordan
10. *The Blood of Olympus*, Rick Riordan

DVDs loaned

1. *Home*
2. *Interstellar*
3. *Big Hero 6*
4. *Paul Blart, Mall Cop 2*
5. *Focus*
6. *Jupiter Ascending*
7. *Run All Night*
8. *Child 44*
9. *Chappie*
10. *Get Hard*

Books downloaded (e-books)

1. *The Girl on the Train*, Paula Hawkins
2. *All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr
3. *Go Set a Watchman*, Harper Lee
4. *The Goldfinch*, Gillian Flynn
5. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
6. *The Husband's Secret*, Liane Moriarty
7. *The Martian*, Andy Weir
8. *Grey*, E.L. James
9. *Make Me*, Lee Child
10. *Memory Man*, David Baldacci

Download-and-Keep songs*

1. *Locked Away*, R. City featuring Adam Levine
2. *Too Close*, Next
3. *Drunk in Love*, Beyoncé
4. *Stand, You*, Rachel Platten
5. *Drag Me Down*, One Direction
6. *How Deep is Your Love*, Calvin Harris & Disciples
7. *The Theme from The Andy Griffith Show*, Charles Fernandez
8. *The Lady Is a Tramp*, Tony Bennett & Lady Gaga
9. *Smoke Break*, Carrie Underwood
10. *Cheerleader*, OMI

* "Freegal" music via the Library lets users download and keep up to five songs a month – it's seriously free and legal! Check it out at <http://lapl.freegalmusic.com>

LAPD

Photos courtesy Sgt. Janet Kim, LAPD



Beatriz, Jazmine and Luis Delgado.

A Gift of Joy

LAPD Gang Unit officers help a woman in failing health, whose only wish was to give her daughter a beautiful quinceañera.



Luis, Jazmine and Beatriz Delgado with LAPD Officers before the quinceañera.

An outdoor movie night – a monthly activity hosted and paid for personally by the LAPD officers at the William Mead Housing Development, Central Division, to improve relations between the Department and the residents – changed the lives of a mother and her daughter.

At the outdoor movie night, members of the LAPD Central Area Gang Unit, consisting of Sgt. Janet Kim and Officers Steve Rodriguez, Esther Kim, Antonio Gutierrez, Kaylan North, Pedro Alvarez and Mario Ververa, discovered a dream that was about to not come true.

As LAPD Officers do, these seven took it upon themselves to do something about it.

"A resident volunteer pointed them out to me and said that they were going through some tough times," Sgt. Kim told *Alive!* "She said that Jazmine is the only child and has cerebral palsy, and that Beatriz Delgado, her mother, was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. I asked the volunteer to see if my guys and I could bring dinner and meet the family.

"Within a few days, a few of my officers and I took some pizza and had dinner with the family. When we discovered that Jazmine wished for a quinceañera, and that to give her this party was Beatriz's wish, my guys and I started brainstorming ideas of how we could raise money to give Jazmine a party. We planned to have a small gathering at the housing project rec room.

"When the community and the LAPD came together and donated everything for an extravagant ceremony and party held Aug. 22, I was so excited to see it all go off without a hitch."

Local businesses wanted to get involved, so a clothing store provided Jazmine a dress and shoes, a bakery donated a cake, and the whole party was catered at no cost.

Jazmine was picked up in a limo and taken to and from the party with her family, and the Bella Sala Banquet Hall in Los Angeles also gave up a



Members of the Central Area Gang Unit that put together a special quinceañera included Sgt. Janet Kim and Officers Steve Rodriguez, Esther Kim, Antonio Gutierrez, Kaylan North, Pedro Alvarez and Mario Ververa.

room for the night.

Officers attended in uniform and one even serenaded the girl of the hour with mariachi music.

Jazmine saved a special dance for her mom. As they danced, the tears streamed down their faces and their embrace grew stronger and stronger.

"I never expected this to happen," Jazmine told NBC4. "I'm happy to be here having my party, and I invited a lot of friends."

"Watching Jazmine and how happy she is and how energetic and just ecstatic she is about today, that's the reward for all of us," Sgt. Kim told KNBC.

Beatriz has now returned to Mexico to spend her final days with her mother and sibling, whom she had not seen for more than 20 years. Dad Luis Delgado and Jazmine were awaiting a visa to visit Beatriz.

Even though Jazmine's 15th birthday isn't until November, this month, the Officers felt there was no time to wait. Mission accomplished.

"It was extremely heart-warming to see Beatriz so happy on the day of the party," Sgt. Kim continued. "She was beaming with joy and had a huge smile on her face all night."

"It was a very emotional time for me to see a dying mother's wish come true."



Jazmine dances with her mother, Beatriz.



Jazmine Delgado with officers from the Central Area's Gang Unit.

{ *Who are the people you see every day?* }

People We See

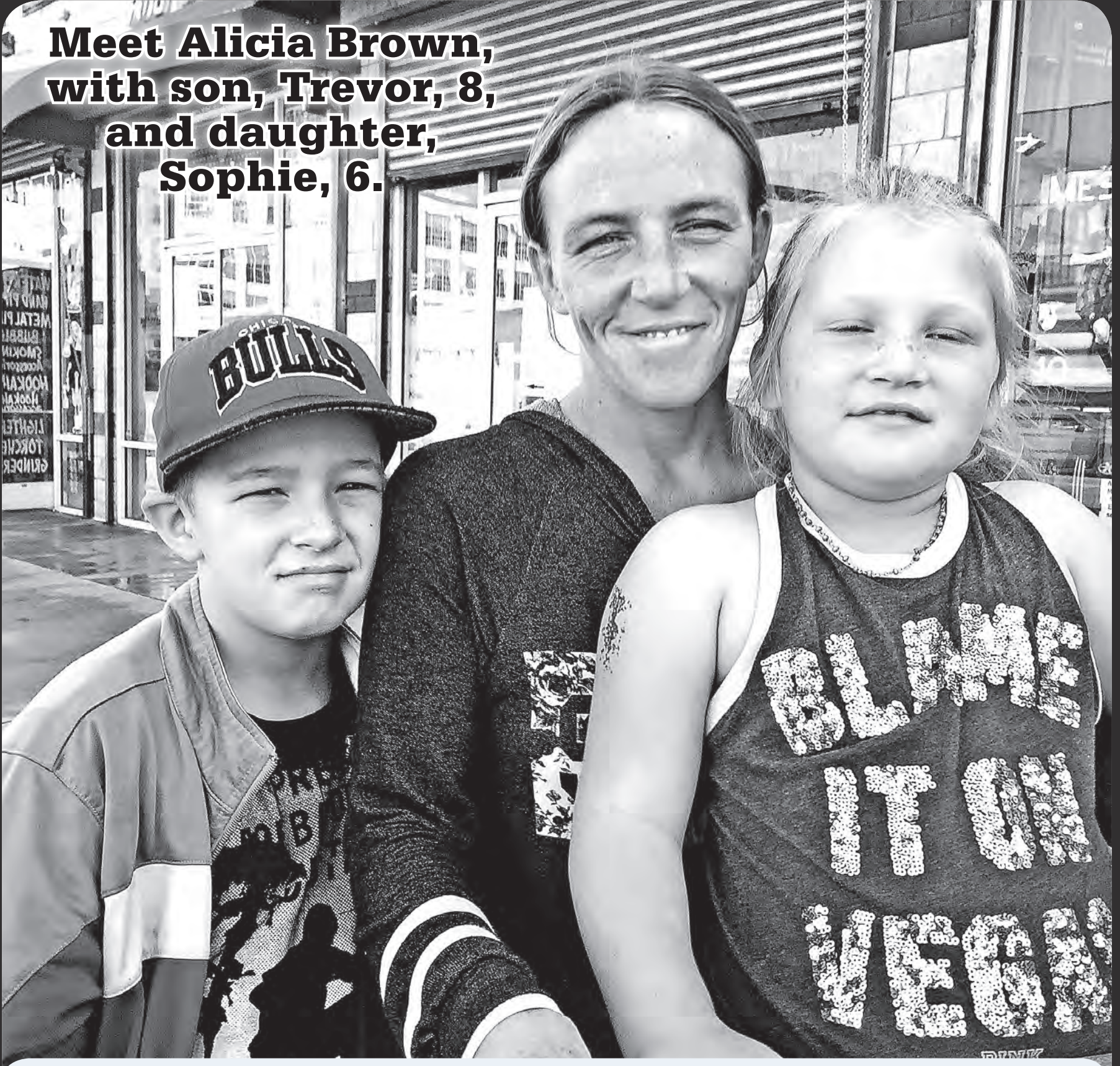
Shelterless in Los Angeles.

Sponsored by:
Terry Yeager and Associates

No. 78
in a series.



**Meet Alicia Brown,
with son, Trevor, 8,
and daughter,
Sophie, 6.**



AGE: "I'm 33."

BIRTHPLACE: "Alma, Mich."

MARITAL STATUS:

"I'm married. My husband, James, just took off on his skateboard to look for cans, to earn some money for food."

FAMILY: "I have two sisters."

EDUCATION: "Up to high school."

MILITARY SERVICE: "No."

RELIGION: "I'm not really religious, but I do believe in God."

SPORTS: "Volleyball. No trophies ... I played sports for fun."

WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "On the street with my kids and husband. We don't go to the mission because of the stories of pedophiles," she says. "We take our chances on the street."

WHEN MOVED TO LA: "About a year ago."

YOUR STORY:

"My husband, James, is the breadwinner of the family. We came out to California because James had an offer to work construction in Santa Clarita. Our car blew a head gasket on the way, stranding us in Las Vegas. Then I got heatstroke

and had to go to the hospital. By the time we finally made it to Santa Clarita, we were five days late, and they had given the job to someone else. Before we knew it we were on the streets, something we never in a million years thought would happen. When we save enough money we will stay in a hotel, but for that we usually need about \$70; that's a lot of money when you are living day to day. We have been trying to save enough money to buy a bus ticket back to Alma. The streets of Los Angeles can be very dangerous and mean; we really need to get out of here."

FAVORITE MOVIE: "Pretty Woman."

FAVORITE TV SHOW:

"Glee." Trevor and Sophie: "SpongeBob."

FAVORITE ACTOR: "Vin Diesel." They all agreed that Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson was their other favorite.

FAVORITE FOOD: "Steak." Trevor and Sophie exclaimed that steak was their favorite, too.

FAVORITE CANDY:

"I don't really eat candy, but Sophie likes Sour Patch candies." Trevor added that he likes Kit Kats, and Sophie added that she likes Hershey chocolate bars.

FAVORITE MUSIC: "Country." Sophie likes country, too.

LAST JOB: "I was a custodian for a spell."

LAST THING EATEN:

"We haven't eaten since last night. We had hot dogs."

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "My kids."

IF GIVEN \$1 MILLION:

"I'd get back to Alma, and I'd buy a house."

MAKE A WISH:

"Go to Japan, buy a mansion, and be a hip-hop dancer" (Trevor). "Be rich, live in Topanga Canyon, and be a singer" (Sophie).

ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:

"Stay positive."

*The Club gave the Browns supplies,
\$40 and bus tickets home to Alma.*

*The interview, conducted by John Hawkins
and Peyton Basenberg, took place Oct. 23
in Little Tokyo.*

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

The Brown Family

First-time ‘People We See’ interviewer Peyton Basenberg tells of his experience in talking with the family he met on the streets of downtown.

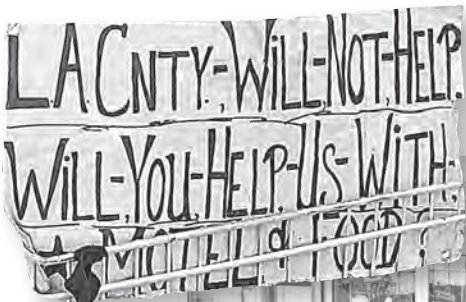
Club Angels



By Peyton Basenberg

For a year now the Brown family has been living on the street, moving around the Los Angeles area, in places such as Hollywood, North Hollywood and just recently downtown. Getting around mostly by walking and occasionally the bus, this young family has made its way around getting money in simple ways, including can collecting. The husband, James Brown, does most of the can collecting, while Alicia, 33, takes care of their daughter, Sophie, 6, and son, Trevor, 8. They are all from Alma, Mich., and James and Alicia have been married for eight years.

They still have a house and lives in Alma to get back to. A year ago, James, Alicia’s husband, had a construction job lined up in Santa Clarita. It was then that the family got into their car and began their journey. As they made their way to Las Vegas, the family’s car’s head gasket blew, putting their trip to a screeching halt. It was hot, very hot. To make things worse, Alicia ended up getting heat stroke and needed immediate medical care. Eventually they made it to Santa Clarita for James’ job, but it was five days too late; the company had given the job to someone else. Since getting to the job used all of the family’s resources, and without a car, the family was stranded. They spent most of their time in Hollywood since it was cleaner and not as bad to live on the street there than it is in downtown LA. When asked if she could wish for anything, she said, “My kids and family are the most important things right now, and I just want to get us all back home to Alma.” The only problem is that for a family of four it would cost \$900 one way using Greyhound. Trying to save that kind of



Peyton Basenberg interviews the Browns in Little Tokyo, Downtown.

money while living on the street is extremely difficult, especially since it is tough just trying to get through a single day. They have a tent and some shelter of their own that they spend the night in to keep them a little safer and out of the elements during the night. Ironically Alicia and James choose to sleep on the streets as opposed to shelters, as they say that they heard that there is a big child safety problem inside of homeless shelters. When they can they stay in a hotel, a seedy one albeit, but only when they can save up enough money – the average one-night stay is around \$70.

We talked to the family and tried to get to know more about them as well. The kids’ favorite food to eat is steak, and, as for her sweet tooth, Sophie likes chocolate bars and Trevor likes Sour Patch Kids and Kit Kat bars. Alicia loves country music, the movie “Pretty Woman” and the TV Show Glee, along with Julia Roberts and Vin Diesel. Trevor and Sophie like SpongeBob and their favorite actor is the “Rock,” Dwayne Johnson.

The Browns are really doing a great job with staying positive and keeping their heads up. Being together as a family and having the hope of getting out of this rut really keeps them going. We asked Alicia what’s her advice for everyday people, and she said, “Just stay positive about everything.”

Club Angels pulled its resources together and bought them all a ticket back to Alma. They were due to head home the day after this interview, Oct. 24. If you would like to help Club Angels cover the cost for this and our monthly homeless donations, please contact us.

Please... Help the Browns Go Home



Club Angels helped the Brown family get off the streets of LA and back home to Michigan. Will you help defray the costs?

On these pages, you’ve seen and read about the Brown family – James, Alicia, Trevor and Sophie. You’ve read about the tough luck they ran into, the health problems they faced, and what it’s like to have no one else to help and be forced to live on the streets.

The Club Angels nonprofit found the Brown family, all four, living in tents on a downtown sidewalk. All that Mom Alicia Brown wanted was to go back home to Michigan, and start their lives again. Due to your past generosity, Club Angels was able to purchase four bus tickets for the family to go home.

Will you help defray the costs with a contribution to Club Angels?

Being at home for Christmas means a great deal to all of us, but to the Browns most of all. Help Club Angels replenish its funds for the next person or family in crisis.

Give to Club Angels today.

Please use the form below to send in your check or charge your credit card.

Club Angels is the Club’s umbrella organization that supports the Club’s charitable outreach and includes the Buckets and Blankets program and other initiatives.



How to Help Yes! I want to help the Browns go home.

☐ Enclosed is my check (made out to Club Angels) for \$ _____. Club Angels accepts checks of any amount.

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

Name on Card

Card Number ---

Expiration - CV# Last 3 digits on back of card

Signature

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.



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

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

Name

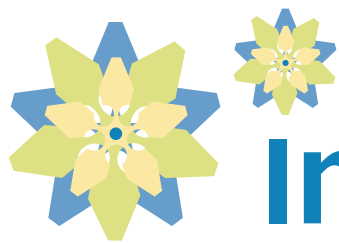
Home Street Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone

Club Member Number (if you are a member):

Your donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.



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

Airports
Traci Atkins
Carlos Banuelos
Mirna Barrios
Richard Beh
Jim Brown
Charlene Carter
Daniel Carter
Jesus Castillo
David Childress
Daniel Craft
Ramon Cruz
Pedro Eleno
Alberto Escalera
Kathleen Flores
Jacqueline Fuentes
Charles Garner
Ernesto Herrera
Diana Ho
Antoinette Hubbs
Dominic Jackson
Tonya Jarvos
Devin Lewis
Larissa Loera
Carmina Martin
Ginger Martinez
Mark Mitchell
Jose Monge
Alberto Murillo
Yuri Nagata
Guy Painter
Sherell Palmer
Ramon Perez
Linda Pilar Cooke
Jose Ponce
Charles Pulford
Tanisha Rivas
Hugo Salvatierra
Gerardo Sanchez
Brandon Seale
Carlomagno Seletaria
Angel Serrano
Albert Shao
Hilda Sierra
Kawanna Taylor
Emmanuel Toledo
Dexter Tolentino
Debra Turner
Luis Urzua
Francelle Vercher
Lester Virgil
Turkan Ymeri

Animal Services

Animal Services
Christina Flores
Robert Goldman
Tiffani Hamilton
Arely Licea
Jacob Miller
Nathea Rankins
Charles Rodriguez
April Rudolph

Building and Safety

Building and Safety
Maria Carrillo
Jason Healey
Brandon Ives
James Jensen
Kanisha Jones
Candice Katrina Jusay
Kylie Landeros
Bilal Moghrabi Marini
Gabriela Perez
Angelica Peterson
Teresa Razo
Cynthia Ryan
Noelani Solomona
MI truong
Arvin Wu

Office of Finance

Office of Finance
Alisa Shamam

LAFD

LAFD
Mark Chavez
Manuel Jimenez
Louis Navarro
Donna Norrington
Thomas Nyberg
Erine Orante
James Porter

General Services

General Services
Antonio Byrd
Ruben Estrada
Cain Flores
Christopher Harvey
Clifford Lin
Cory McGee
Darron Riley
Karen Wong
Carlos Zambrano

Harbor

Harbor
Henry Pena
LTanya Portlock

ITA

ITA
John DeOca
Johnnie Gomez

Library

Library
Vilma Flores
Xochitl Hughes
Pedro Lazaro Claudio
Marco Santana
Coleen Stretten
Ana Zapata

Mayor's Office

Mayor's Office
Sandra Sandoval
Planning
Ann Choi
Linda Lou
Marc Pooler

LAPD

LAPD
Mynor Acevedo
Jose Arriaga
Vonnice Benjamin-Brown
Jose Bermudez
Timothy Bohac
Tyree Brown
Matthew Bryant
Kenneth Collard
Armando Cortez
Jhole De Jesus
Calvin Dehesas
Rogelio Dimaano
Peter Espinoza
Jacqueline Flores
James Gaffney
Thomas Gandara
Anabel Garcia
Juan Garcia
Jeronimo Gil
Michael Grady
Yoli Guzman
Suzanne Hipolito
Kevin Huff
Clifford Humphris
Karen Jackson-Williams
Donald Knecht
Jason Kwock
Theodore Magboo
Oscar Medina
Elvis NTI

Lucas Padilla
Daniel Park
Ramon Ramirez
Pedro Ramirez
Shawniece Robinson
William Rodriguez
Felipe Rodriguez
Michael Schmidt
Erika Sotelo
Michael Stalneckner
Jessie Swartz
Joaquin Trimino
Everardo Trujillo
Jose Valenzuela
John Vasquez
James Zourek
Frank Zuniga

Public Works:
Engineering
Weiwei Breakwell
Nancy Giron

Public Works:
Sanitation
Adrian Alvarez
Derwin Banks
Juanita Bell
Chris Brandes
Jose Chavez
Justin Condon
Jemal Cooper
Steven Delgado
Fernando Diaz
Ivan Durate
William Edwards
Jonathan Elie
David Fees
Gilbert Garcia
Desmond Gardner
Luis Gonzalez
Christopher Guevara
Fernando Guevara Jr.
Anthony Guzman
Elijio Hernandez
Christopher Johnson
Heather Johnson

Jason Kelleher
Chongsup Lee
David Lopez
Marjar Magee Childs
Carlos Ortiz
Saul Porras
Eduardo Sanchez
Brent Schacher
Jesus Serna
Michael Solis

Public Works:
Street Services
Matthew Snyder
Aida Valencia
Vicoria Villa-Agustin

Rec and Parks
Jose Alvarez
Jovani Bruno
Michael Castro
David Castro
William Cerezo
Jhazpher De Leon
Garrett Fitchew
Edgar Fuentes
Erika Gothard
Cesar Lomeli
Arturo Lopez
Dannisha Martin
Sergio Morelos
Kiyuama Morgan
Yolanda Rangel
Victor Segura
Javier Soto
Agusto Tello
Jokabeth Vicente
Fabiola Villasenor

Transportation
Vanessa Carradine
Jose Chavez
John Dievendorf
Rogelio Garcia
Delia Huerta
LaRhonda Jones
Michael Kingsbury

Shawn Person
Lydee Su

LA ZOO

LA ZOO
Lance Bolan
Leigh Ann Fletcher
Brenda Martinez
Cindy Rodarte
Andrew Seja
Byron Wusstig

DWP

DWP
Francisco Castaneda
Mark Garcia
LeQuita Hodge
Carlton McCloud
Jesus Orozco

Other

Other
Roland Anderson
Margo Coffey Bladwin
Samantha Cooley
Eduardo Cuevas
John Estrada
Sanco Grant III
Sean Grepaly
Neil Guglielmo
Delia Hernandez
Jason Hollister
Richard Irving
Ricky Jones
John Kaveh
Edward Kerr
Dorothy Kono
Jose Limon
Carole Lovato
Joe Lozano
Vera Macklin
Alisha Marshall
Rene Monterrosa
Darrell Newsome
Adrian Orduno Perez
Adam Pierson
Jason Powell
Sandra Rubio
Eric Saenz
Harison Sutherland
Leroy Wright



In Memoriam

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

Active

Active
Brown, Quincy Public Works -
Dopler, Dawn LAPD 6
Luna, Silvestre Rec and Parks 9
Rodriguez, Blanca Airports 14
Saidkhanian, Alexander Rec and Parks 4
Stickgold, Judy Cohn Library 17

Retired

Retired
Behary, Alta City Attorney 21
Berru, Gilbert General Svcs. 31
Boardman, Roberta City Council 10
Boyden, Leigh Personnel 12
Cash, Bernard General Svcs. 33
Childress, A.L. Public Works 33
Clark, Clifford Public Works 33
Cuny, Joseph Public Works 26
Davis, Eugene Public Works 25
Dennler, Helen LAFD 22
Dominguez, Jo Ann Personnel 36
Espinoza, Beatrice Aging 17
Franscell, George City Attorney 14
Hersh, Lawrence ITA 16
Gallaher, Catherine Rec and Parks 25
Greenwood, Phyllis Library 4

Grote, John LAPD 31
Hogan, Samuel Public Works 27
Houston, James Public Works 22
Ito, Masaru General Svcs. 35
Jones, Myrtle LAPD 9
King, Phyllis Rec and Parks 40
Krantz, Irving Public Works 35
Larrigan, Thomas Build & Safety 11
Leaf, Daniel Public Works 23
Levings, Chester Public Works 26
Lewis, Phyllis Library 17
Lopez, Jaime Planning 27
Merklin, James Public Works 30
Mitchell, Russell LAFD 31
Mitchell, Wayne Public Works 39
Morales, Rene General Svcs. 25
Smith, Lawrence Rec and Parks 30
Stuart, Fred Build & Safety 38
Takai, Alvin Airports 33
Ward, Joe Public Works 28
Wilson, Barbara Personnel 23
Wilson, James Transportation 30
York, Marguerite Library 5
Young, Robert City Attorney 21

It's Time to

An Alive! feature

Tell Their Story

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@city-employeesclub.com
Subject line: *Tell Their Story*



Peace of Mind

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



Accidental Death, Life Insurance Work Together

A question I hear often is: "Why do I need accidental death and dismemberment if I have life insurance?"



Accidental death and dismemberment insurance (AD&D) pays you or your beneficiaries a set amount of money if your death or dismemberment – a permanently severed limb – is the direct result of an accident. Accidents are unintentional injuries; injuries caused by vehicles, planes, trains, boats, fires, cycling, drowning and slipping and falling are all examples of a payable accident.

The major difference

in life insurance versus accidental death and dismemberment is AD&D will not cover natural causes or medical reasons. AD&D is a great supplement if you have life insurance to help increase your face amount at an affordable cost. In many cases, you can double your indemnity.

In some cases, some individuals are not able to get life insurance. Due to medical underwriting (the review of pre-existing

benefits), not everyone is approved for life insurance. There is no underwriting for AD&D, which makes it a good alternative for death benefits since everyone is approved for coverage.

Club Member Gail Nakatani explains why it's important to have accidental death and dismemberment insurance through the Club: "My retired 90-year-old dad had an accident at home, and

passed away from the incident as a result. Although my dad did not have life insurance with the Club, he was insured with accidental death and dismemberment, and it helped pay the funeral costs. The Club's claims department was very efficient in paying the benefit for my father."

Be protected! Feel free to ask your Club Counselor, or contact me at the Club Store to get the process started.



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



Births



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

Dallas Camden Flowers, born May 26 in Las Vegas to Ryan and Yvette Flowers. Dallas is the grandson of proud grandparents **Roe and William Flowers, Maintenance Supervisor, Airports.**



Graduations

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



Ryan Flowers graduated from Ashford University with a Bachelor of arts degree in human resources management. He is the son of **Roe and William Flowers, Airport Maintenance Supervisor III, Airports.**



JOIN A Toastmasters Group

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



Rest Insured

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

The Dilemma In Renting a Car

One of the most common questions I get asked is: "Should I buy the insurance from the rental car company when I rent a car?"

The Insurance Information Institute agrees that properly insuring a rental car can be confusing, frustrating and downright daunting. Unfortunately, many consumers do not even think about car rental insurance until they get to the counter, which can result in costly mistakes – either wasting money by purchasing unnecessary coverage or having dangerous gaps in coverage.

Before renting a car, they suggest that you make two phone calls – one to your insurance agent or company representative and another to the credit card company you will be using to pay for the rental car.



When calling your insurance agent:

Find out how much coverage you have on your own car. In most cases, whatever coverage and deductibles you have on your own car would apply when you rent a car, providing you are using the car for recreation and not for business.

If you have dropped either comprehensive or collision on your own car as a way to reduce costs, you will not be covered if your rental car is stolen or damaged in an accident.

Check to see whether your insurance company pays for administrative fees, loss of use or towing charges. Some companies may provide an insurance rider to cover some of these costs, which would make it less expensive than purchasing coverage through the rental car company. Keep in mind, however, that in most states, diminished value is not covered by insurers.

When calling your credit card company:

Insurance benefits offered by credit card companies differ by both the company and/or the bank that issues the card, as well as by the level of credit card used. For instance, a platinum card may offer more insurance coverage than a gold card.

Credit cards usually cover only damage to or loss of the rented vehicle, not for other cars, personal belongings or the property of others. There may be no personal liability coverage for bodily injury or death claims. Some credit card companies will provide coverage for towing, but many may not provide for diminished value or administrative fees. Some credit card companies have changed their policies, too, so you may not have as much coverage as you thought.

To know exactly what type of insurance you have, call the toll-free number

on the back of the card you will be using to rent the car. If you are depending on a credit card for insurance protection, ask the credit card company or bank to send you their coverage information in writing. In most cases, credit card benefits are secondary to either your personal insurance protection or the insurance offered by the rental car company.

If you have more than one credit card, consider calling each one to see which offers the best insurance protection.

Other things to consider:

States have minimum age requirements for renting a car, and most major rental car companies refuse to rent a car to someone who is under 21 and in some cases under 25. In addition, some rental car companies now investigate your driving record and/or credit history, so check with the rental car company before picking up the car.

If you are planning to rent a car outside of the United States, contact both your insurance agent and travel agent to find out what you need to do to be properly insured. Those driving a rental car from the United States into Mexico may find it progressively more difficult to rent a car, as U.S. rental car companies are increasingly concerned about the rising crime rates in that country. The minimum required insurance coverage to drive in Mexico is civil liability insurance, which covers you in case you cause injury or damage. Your American liability insurance is not valid in Mexico for bodily injury, though some American insurance policies will cover you for physical damage – check with your agent or insurance company representative. You can also buy Mexican car insurance in several American border towns; there are generally several storefronts selling Mexican car insurance near the border.

About United Agencies

United Agencies is the Club's Partner in helping members with their home and car insurance, and related products. Feel free to call us with any questions about rental cars, auto insurance, or any other topic. We specialize in creating personal relationships with our customers, and serving their needs in a prompt, efficient and friendly manner.

Call our office today at (888) 801-5522.

Check out the City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website: www.ua-insurance.com/city-club

Have a question?

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

Zoo

Story courtesy Zoo
Photo by Tad Motoyama, Zoo

It's a (Tall) Boy!

Zoo welcomes baby giraffe.

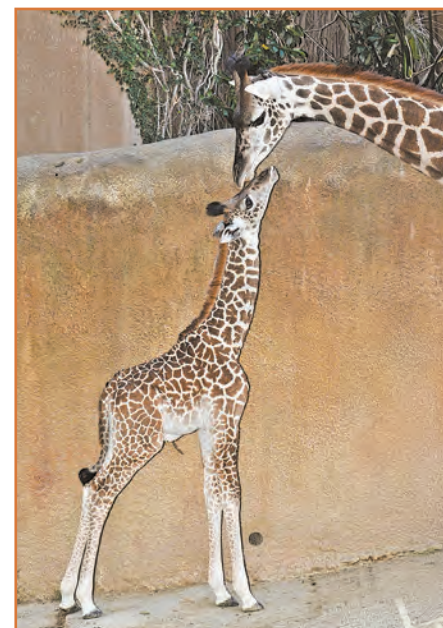
On Oct. 9, the Zoo's animal community soared to new heights with the birth of a male Masai giraffe. The unnamed calf, weighing in at around 130 pounds and standing just less than six feet tall, is the first baby born to four-year-old mother, Zainabu.

"Zainabu is doing a great job as a first time mother," said Mike Bona, Animal Keeper at the Los Angeles Zoo. "The baby was born at night, and Zainabu didn't need any assistance from Animal Care staff. I encourage guests to come out and see the calf while he's still young because they can grow to be nearly 10 feet by their first birthday."

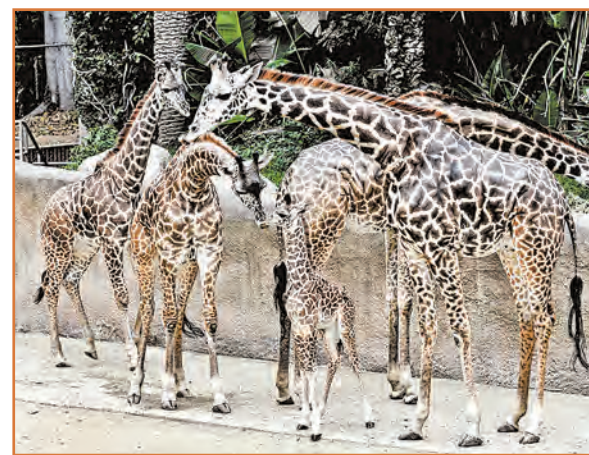
Giraffes are the tallest land mammal, and Masai giraffes can grow up to 17 feet tall and weigh 2,700 pounds. The largest of the nine subspecies of giraffe, Masai giraffes are found in East Africa, namely southern Kenya and northern Tanzania. All giraffe populations throughout Africa are under threat and declining due to habitat loss and fragmentation, illegal hunting, and disease.

The male calf can currently be seen with the rest of the giraffe herd on exhibit daily, weather permitting.

The Los Angeles Zoo is 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. The Zoo remains open to the public with regular Zoo admission available for non-Photo Day participants.



The unnamed calf with his mother, Zainabu.



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**Thousands of
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www.cityemployeesclub.com/paycheckdirect

Powered by **PAYCHECK DIRECT**

*See details on your installment agreement.
LA County, State of California and LAUSD employees are not eligible for the PayCheck Direct program at this time.
PayCheck Direct® is operated by Bluestem Enterprises, Inc.

NOTE: Free shipping does not apply to items purchased through Paycheck Direct.

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

On a Screen Near You

• Movies via DVDs, downloads and streaming

Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt

Netflix only
Adult Comedy

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

When she is rescued from an underground cult, Kimmy Schmidt is determined to live her dream life in New York City and rewrite her story without being a victim in any way. Wide-eyed Ellie Kemper is perfectly



cast as Kimmy, with boundless enthusiasm for her tough new home, and innocence at the modern world; she's clueless as to selfies or how to get ahead. Kimmy, though, is a survivor, and soon she has the ultimate scene-stealing team: a roommate, Titus (Tituss Burgess), kooky landlady Lillian (Carol Kane), and rich, selfish employer Jacqueline (Jane Krakowski). We want Kimmy to succeed, and this entertaining comedy delivers as her optimism floors the doubters around her.

— Dearbhla McNulty, Club wife

At the Movies – In the cinema

The Martian

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Matt Damon plays astronaut Mark Watney, who is left for dead when a manned Mars mission goes awry. Watney is not dead but is alone with few resources for survival. His will to live and to signal his departed crew and NASA for a rescue is exciting and inspiring, in this Ridley Scott-directed sci-fi adventure. Witty and thought provoking, *The Martian* is an edge-of-your-seat thriller with amazing special effects that are at least worth the price of admission. I did not see this film in its 3-D version, but I assure anyone: a big screen is a must.

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

I was very excited to see *The Martian* in theaters. I was a huge fan of the novel of the same name by Andy Weirs and was happy that most of the story from the book remained intact in the film. The biggest thing that thrilled me, a nerd, about the film, as well as it did with the book, was how grounded in realistic science it was and how it presented a real-world solution to the situation that Mark Watney (Matt Damon) finds himself in. That made the film more realistic and cool than the story as a whole.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD



— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Steve Jobs

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

A couple of years ago, there was another film made about the life of Steve Jobs aptly titled *Jobs*, which starred Ashton Kutcher in the titular role that really fell short of expectations. This new film, also aptly titled *Steve Jobs*, stars Michael Fassbender as the technical creative genius and has a lot more heart and life than the previous film and also takes advantage of a wonderfully rounded-out cast that includes Kate Winslet, Seth Rogen and Jeff Daniels. The cast delivers one of the most riveting and intelligent films of the year. One of my “can’t miss” films of the year.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD



Submit a Review!

Alive! publishes entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer on a space-available basis.

- Categories: Movies (in theatres or at home/streaming/DVDs); theatre; books; concerts; videogames.
- Reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!*
- Keep reviews to 100 words or fewer, but 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.
- Tell us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate “thank you” if we publish your review.

Video Games

— Video games via online, rental or purchase

Super Mario Maker

Rated E for Everyone

For Wii U

My Score: 5(out of 5)



Okay, this question is for all my fellow gamers out there: How many of you have ever dreamed of making your own video-game level? More specifically, how many of you ever dreamed of creating your own Mario Bros. level? I know I have, many times. Now, with Super Mario Maker, many other gamers and I get to do just that and actually live out our dreams in doing so. Create your own levels and share them with the online community – this is about as close to becoming a real Nintendo game developer as anyone can get, and it really is as awesome as it sounds.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD



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	Auto Club	\$929
	United Agencies	\$876

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LAABP

Story by Carmen Steward, Fire and Police Pensions
Photos by Hosie L. Thomas Jr., Personnel

Best and Brightest

Black employees association hosts luncheon for scholarship winners, executive recognition.

The Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, Inc. (LAABP) held its annual Scholarship Reception and Executive Recognition on June 18 in the historic Tom Bradley Tower of City Hall.

Ten students received awards for books, tuition and related college costs in the total amount of \$15,000. The students were either children of City employees/LAABP members, or sponsored by such. Most of the students were high school seniors accepted to colleges across the nation, and a few were current university students. The event was co-hosted by DWP African American Association (WPAAA), which also honored ten students with scholarship awards.

An Executive Recognition portion of the program highlighted the career achievements of Marla Bleavins, the first Deputy General Manager, Harbor; Dana Brown, Assistant General Manager, Animal Services; and Keith Session, Director, Water Distribution of the Department of Water and Power. Each of the honorees gave moving acceptance speeches, detailing their career successes and struggles, and provided encouragement and advice to the new college students.

LAABP also recognized City employees who are furthering their education. Member

education reimbursement awards were presented to three co-workers – Andria Williams, Harbor, who earned a Master’s degree in public administration from USC; April Hood, LAPD, a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, Mt. Saint Mary’s University; and Janelva Williams, DWP, a Bachelor of science degree in business management, Pepperdine University. Congratulations to these recipients who were able to advance their education while holding down what one event moderator called City employment, “a pretty good gig!” The well attended annual scholarship event was catered by Harold and Bell’s of Los Angeles.

Incorporated in 1972, the LAABP, which has an 11 member executive board, is a supporter of City employees of African American heritage, and aims to motivate, encourage and educate its members about career progression and life milestones. For a small monthly fee, LAABP membership is available to all City of LA and DWP employees (active or retired), as well as non-City personnel for an annual fee. Information: laabp.org



All recipients of honors; the LAABP and WPAAA scholarship committees; and board members.



From left: Imudiase Aimiwi, WPAAA President; Dana Brown, Keith Session, Marla Bleavins, and Carmen Steward, LAABP First Vice President.



The LAABP scholarship committee and board members.

THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

HOSTED BY
THE LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

LIVE PERFORMANCE BY:
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RAFFLE PRIZES
APPETIZERS



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**THURSDAY
DECEMBER 17TH
2015**

**618 SOUTH SPRING ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90014
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM**

**ENTRY:
\$20 OR UNWRAPPED TOY OF
EQUAL OR GREATER VALUE
FOR SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS
PLEASE CALL (213) 627-8070**



NEWS BRIEF

STUDY SESSIONS HELD FOR EXEC. ASSISTANT JOBS

A FSCME Local 3672 held two study sessions in October that aimed to help City Employees who were interested in promotions to become Executive Administrative Assistants, the right-hand positions to management.

The sessions provided an overview on what to study, best methods of studying, how to interview and the important role writing plays in Executive Administrative Assistant positions.

“The City hiring process has been stagnant for several years, and now that exams are being posted, it’s time for employees to be promoted,” said Diana Williams, an Executive Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Works, and a union representative.

Those interested in further study sessions are invited to write to Williams at Diana.williams@lacity.org, or Angie Roman at Romana@lapd.lacity.org



Ham It Up

this holiday with great Club deals on Honeybaked Hams!

– Go to the Club Webstore for details:
cityemployeesclub.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

For Rent: bedroom, large, fully furnished w/queen bed. North Whittier country club area near 605/60 fwys. Includes utilities; kitchen/laundry use. LAFD Firefighter home. Male/non-smokers only. John, (626) 757-5341; jgonzlez@hotmail.com 11/15

 **For Sale:** RV trailer, 2008 Thor Sonoma, 26 ft. New tires, roof, awning. Honda generator. Exclnt. cond. \$9,500. (562) 773-5408. 11/15

 **For Sale:** Aquarium, "cube" salt water, 38 gallon. Incl. aquarium, stand, extras (no fish). Valued at \$2,000 in equipment, supplies. \$600. John, (626) 757-5341; jgonzlez@hotmail.com 11/15

 **For Sale:** neon sign for game room. New, never used. Valued at \$250. \$175. John, (626) 757-5341; jgonzlez@hotmail.com 11/15

For Sale: Immersion blender, Wolfgang Puck. Black. \$35. (213) 792-3130. 11/15

For Sale: Suze Orman's Protection Portfolio, new w/case. \$85. (213) 792-3130. 11/15

For Sale: Heater, Lasko ceramic tower. 1,500 watts, w/remote. New. \$39. (213) 792-3130. 11/15

For Vacation Rent: Condo, 2 bd./2 bath, beachfront, Puerto Nayarit, Mexico. Private pool on balcony. April 1-8, 2016. \$1,000. Jessie, (323) 893-6570. 11/15

 **For Sale:** DVD/CD player/storage, Sony ES DVP, juke-box style, stores up to 150 disks. Categorize/play on demand. Incl. remote, keyboard for input. Door does not close but can be done manually, or may be repaired. John, (626) 757-5341; jgonzlez@hotmail.com 11/15

For Sale: House, 2 bed/1 bath, remodeled, Bakersfield. Investment property, rented month/month (\$750/month). Large cleared lot, secure. Listed at \$94,000. Sold as-is, seller selects services (title, escrow). tisdaseason2468@outlook.com 11/15

For Sale: Electric toothbrush, Oral-B. Professional Care model 7850 DLX. New. \$35. (213) 792-3130. 11/15

For Sale: 2013 Chevy Cruze LS. 4 door, 41k miles. Silver, black cloth int. Very clean, dealer maintained. Photos at http://tinyurl.com/nzazven \$13,000 OBO. James, (818) 522-2568. 11/15



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

Homes/Rentals/Land

For rent: Duplex, Glassel Park, 2 bd/1 bath, parking for 2 vehicles. \$1,400/month. Alfredo, (323) 240-2772. 10/15

For Sale: Timeshare. Pacific Monarch/Diamond Resorts. One full week, two bedrooms. Don't buy direct. \$2,000/obo. Elizabeth, (909) 772-4087. 9/15

For Sale: Home/studio apts., three sep. units sold as one package. Bakersfield. Front home: 2 bd., needs work (in progress), flippable. 2nd bedroom rentable. 2 studio apts. in back, rentable. \$110,000 total. Sold as-is; seller selects title/escrow co. Email: tisdaseason2468@outlook.com 8/15

For Sale: Townhouse. Las Vegas/Chinatown, near Strip, behind school, near major streets. Has rental tenant. \$85,000, HOA \$100/month. Sold as-is; seller selects title/escrow co. Do not disturb tenant. Email: tisdaseason2468@outlook.com 8/15

For Rent: Apt., 1 bed, 1 bath. Near First/Alvarado. 1 of 3 units. 1 car garage. Near Mid-Wilshire, Koreatown, Good Samaritan Hospital, Staples Center, Echo Park, Silverlake. App. process/credit check req. No pets. 1 yr. lease minimum. \$1250 a month. (323) 919-1163. 8/15

For Sale: Timeshare, Puerto Vallarta 1+1, 1/2, sleeps 4, beachfront Playa del Sol Costa Sur Resort. Asking \$1,800, extended thru 2030. Jennifer, (818) 517-3675. 8/15

For Rent: Lovely apartment in Los Angeles (5-units). 1 bed / 1 bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. Upstairs unit. New paint, carpet, windows and fixtures. Very quiet on Don Tomaso Dr. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868. 8/15

For Sale: Cabin, A frame, San Bernardino mtns., secluded, views. 765 sq. ft.; 1BD/1BA; new cabinets; needs work; 30903 Live Oak Dr., Running Springs. Photos on Realtor.com. \$127,000; Dan Teter: (866) 214-8587. 7/15



For rent: Vacation rental, Big Bear Lake. 3 bd/2 bath house in village. Fully furnished, near the lake. John Long, Call (909) 837-8347. 5/15

For rent: Studio apt. in safe, quiet La Crescenta, Wifi-ready, semi-furnished, double-pane windows, glass-sliding doors opening to vegetable garden, fruit trees, succulents, seating areas, mountain views. Close to Montrose and Trader Joe's, 2 blocks to public transportation. \$1,400 includes utilities. Lita, (818) 795-4074. 4/15

Vacation rental: Condo in beautiful oceanfront resort, Cabo San Lucas. 7-day rental for \$795. 1 bd, 1 bath; completely furnished, full kitchen w/ views of El Arco on Medano Beach. Close to downtown, shopping, restaurants, entertainment. View at clubcascadasdebaja.com. (562) 301-2940. 4/15

For rent: Lovely apartment in Leimert Park (in 4-unit complex). 1 bd/1 bath, kitchen, granite countertops, living rm, dining rm, 1-car garage. New paint, carpet/hardwood and tiled floors, windows and fixtures, Washer/dryer hookup. Close to public transportation. 15 minutes from downtown, USC, beach. (310) 261-2085. 4/15

For Rent: Lovely downstairs apartment, 82nd/Crenshaw, very quiet, close to public transportation. 1BD/1BA w/kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage in Inglewood (4-units). Newly painted, new carpet, fixtures, double glazed windows & new granite kitchen countertop. \$1,200. Info @ (323) 292-9989. 3/15

For Rent: 1BD/1BA apartment in North Inglewood. Mr. Brown @ (323) 296-1547. 3/15



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

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

Household Items



For Sale: Oven, Kenmore 30-in. wall unit, electric, self-clean, white. Brand new in package. 30 inch/wide x 29 inch/high x 24.5 inch deep. \$600. (562) 301-2940. 10/15



For Sale: TV/entertainment center. Phillips Magnavox 60-inch TV, \$200/obo. All maple entertainment center, 3 piece, glass doors, tall sliding compartment doors, \$800/obo. Martha, (213) 367-4094. 9/15

For Sale: Panini maker. Wolfgang Puck brand. Black/chrome, like new. \$40. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Pots/pans. Wolfgang Puck brand. Stainless steel. 13 pieces, like new. \$50. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: VCR, Mitsubishi HS-U520, 4 head Hi-Fi. Remote. Exclnt. cond. \$25. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Printer, color, Lexmark X2470. New in box. \$20. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Exercise machine. Rock 'n' Roll Stepper Body Express by Tony Little Designs. New in box. \$65. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Refrigerator, side/side, 6feettall, white. \$150. Robert, (626) 633-1940. 8/15

For Sale: Lawn mower, 21 inch rotary, good condition. Plus other gardening items. \$58. Don, (818) 780-7788 (leave message). 8/15

For Sale: Lawn mower, 21 inch rotary, good condition. Plus other gardening items. \$58. Don, (818) 780-7788 (leave message). 8/15



For Sale: Motorized wheelchair, Go Chair, exclnt. cond., new battery. \$800/ OBO. Peggy LeGras, (323) 314-9100. 7/15

For Sale: e-printer, HP Photosmart 7520, brand new in box. \$75 or best offer. James A. Goree, (323) 778-6086. 6/15

Updraft Range Hood: Kenmore Elite 42" w/3-setting halogen lighting in white. Sears price: \$379.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$350 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391. 2/15

Double Wall Oven: Kenmore 24" manual clean in white. Sears price: \$1299.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$1,150 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391. 2/15

Built-In Dishwasher: Kenmore 24" Energy- star in white. Sears price: \$279.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$250 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391. 2/15



Drying Center: Like new, white Maytag 2-in-1 Neptune w/lower tumble drum (7 cu. ft. capacity)& hanging/flat laying upper dry cabinet (17.3 cu. ft. capacity). Upper unit refreshes clothing w/o wash or dry & reduce wrinkles. Has a "sensor dry" setting. Best dryer I ever had! 73-3/4h x 32w x 26d. \$320. Phil @ (800) 678-4145, Extension #709. 1/15

Miscellaneous



For Sale: Plumeria trees. White. Scented. From Hawaii. Assorted heights. \$10/foot, potted. Buyer picks up. Michael, (310) 339-7684. 10/15

For Sale: Exercise set. Tony Little Easy Shaper. Exclnt cond. \$40. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Binoculars. Bausch and Lomb. 7x35, 11 degree field. W/case, strap. Exclnt. cond. \$75. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Light meter. Gossen Luna Pro SBC. Manual, new cond. \$65. (213) 792-3130. 9/15

For Sale: Dental appliance, WaterPik, ultra cordless. New in box. \$45. (213) 792-3130. 9/15



For Sale: Kettle corn trailer. 2010, custom, 10-ft. stell welded frame. Fully wrapped, self-contained. Good cond., incl. equip./training. Go to: captainkettletcorn.com/CKC-Trailer.html. (877) 746-8696. 8/15

For Sale: Photo darkroom equipment. Enlargers, timers, printers, isles, trays, some chemicals. Can be sold separately. \$5 to \$150. John, (818) 846-5602, johnshandle@att.net 8/15

For sale: Front/rear auto floor liners, Weather Tech, for 2013 Mini Cooper Countryman. \$100. James, (626) 919-5209. 5/15



RV ONAN Generator: New & sealed from factory & never used, w/all manuals. 4 kw,120 volt, 33.3 amps. \$500. Arnold @ (818) 361-1773. 3/15

Pomegranate Tree: Planted in the ground for 4 years, excellent fruit, \$25. George @ (818) 764-2091. 2/15

Kentucky Beer Recipe: Home-made, makes 15 gallons. Send \$3 cash to: Erzell Murray, P.O. Box 9252, Bakersfield, CA 93389 2/15

Transport

For Sale: 1984 F-150 - w/camper shell and carpet kit. As is. \$1100 OBO. Call 310-764-4478 9/15



For Sale: 1963 Chevy Corvair, convertible. Good cond., runs great. Light green ext./int., white top. \$9,000 OBO. Alex, (323) 691-0872. 8/15



For Sale: Watercraft, his and hers, '93 Bombardie Seadoo, '91 Waverunner w/trailer. Great condition. Jackie, (626) 383-1708. 7/15



For Sale: 2003 Harley "ROAD KING" Davidson (100th anniversary edition)motorcycle, 5087 miles, stage 1 with detachable windshield, passenger back support, hardbags, battery charger, black and chrome, hardly ridden, always garaged, 1 owner only. \$10,000.00 OBO. Please call 818-366-3273 John or text 818-633-4164. 7/15



For Sale: Motorcycle, 2007 Kawasaki, like new/15 hours ridden, runs great, must see. \$3,000. Robert, (661) 964-7837 bet. 2-7 p.m. 7/15



For Sale: RV trailer/toy-hauler, 2006 Forest River Sierra Sport, 29 foot. Very good cond., new tires, new roof, 4,000 onan generator, low hours. \$15,000 OBO. Call/text John Long, (909) 837-8347. 7/15

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



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

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



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

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

Cemetery Plots

4 Cemetery Plots: Cemetery plots, 4, side by side. Rose Hills/Whittier. Value \$18,000, selling \$13,000, nego. Cortez, (323) 382-2405. 2/15

Cemetery Plot: Inglewood Cemetery, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, Sanctuary of Grace, 243 Double Capacity Crypt Tier-3, \$8,000. Dennis @ (661) 433-1912. 1/15

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 at (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

Furniture

For Sale: Crib, cream colored, designer style. Good cond. \$350 OBO. (818) 281-1488. 10/15

For Sale: Bedroom set, 6 piece, cherry wood. Good cond. \$650 OBO. (818) 281-1488. 10/15

For sale: Sofa and chair, great condition, leather/upholstered, "reversible" pillows/cushions. Carved wood, unique design, nail heads. \$600 OBO. Charlene, (661) 916-2970. 5/15



Dining table: w/leaf, 6 chairs, \$300 obo. Jackie, (626) 383-1708. 4/15

Mattress: Beautyrest Black (Alexia) queen size, extra firm, new mattress, \$600 obo. Responsible for own pickup. Dwain, (323)754-8382 or dnrhenry@yahoo.com 4/15

Ping Pong Table: 5 x 9, fold-up & roll-away, \$75. Joe @ (310) 323-4940. 2/15



Baby Crib: Never used, brand new & in great condition. Delta brand, amber model #6925-204, \$130. John @ (562)755-9462. 2/15



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

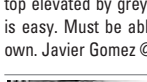


Table Set: With leaf & 4 chairs. \$300 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920. 11/14

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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:

9/15/2015

for publication in the October issue of *Alive!*



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, \$150. 14 preset sounds (piano, organ, etc), 16 preset rhythms (mambo, waltz, etc). Specs online.Frances @ (310) 324-3117. 11/14

Travel/Timeshare

Timeshare: Welks Resort, San Diego, CA. For Sale. \$20K. Chermaine @ (661) 547-6707. 1/15

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

Wanted

Wanted: Roommate. 3 bd./2 bath home. Chatsworth. Quiet neighborhood. Rent includes 2 bd., own bathroom, all utilities plus cable. App. process/credit check. \$1,000/month. (818) 590-4760. 10/15

Wanted: Room wanted in Burbank by caretaker: Experienced caretaker to provide light housekeeping, shopping, driving, companionship to elderly person in exchange for private room. Excellent references. Prefer Burbank area. Karen, (626) 252-1288. 7/15

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



DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS AVAILABLE
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NOVEMBER
MOVIE
RELEASES

- **BROOKLYN:** Opens November 4
- **THE PEANUTS MOVIE (3D):** Opens November 6
- **SPECTRE (IMAX):** Opens November 6
- **TRUMBO:** Opens November 6
- **SPOTLIGHT:** Opens November 6
- **MISS YOU ALREADY:** Opens November 6
- **LOVE THE COOPERS:** Opens November 13
- **BY THE SEA:** Opens November 13
- **THE 33:** Opens November 13
- **MY ALL AMERICAN:** Opens November 13
- **THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 2 (IMAX):** Opens Nov 20
- **THE NIGHT BEFORE:** Opens November 20
- **LEGEND:** Opens November 20
- **CAROL:** Opens November 20
- **THE GOOD DINOSAUR (3D):** Opens November 25
- **VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN:** Opens November 25
- **CREED:** Opens November 25
- **THE DANISH GIRL:** Opens November 27



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GALAXY THEATERS - Good Any Time	\$11.00	\$8.00
HARKINS MOVIE THEATERS		
Restricted	\$10.00	\$6.50
Good Any Time	\$10.00	\$7.50
KRIKORIAN THEATERS - Good Any Time	\$12.00	\$7.50
LAEMMLE THEATERS - Good Any Time	\$11.00	\$6.00
LANDMARK THEATERS	\$13.00	\$8.00
PACIFIC THEATERS - Restricted	\$13.75	\$8.00
<small>* \$2 surcharge for use at Americana in Glendale and at The Grove in L.A. - (Not valid at Archlight Theaters)</small>		
REGAL/ EDWARDS/ UNITED ARTIST		
Restricted	\$14.75	\$7.00
Good Any Time	\$14.75	\$8.50
Movie Pack	\$30.00	\$26.00
<small>- Includes 2 unrestricted ultimate movie tickets and a \$10 concession gift card</small>		
REGENCY THEATERS - Good Any Time	\$11.50	\$7.00
ULTRASTAR THEATERS - Good Any Time	\$11.25	\$6.00

ATTRACTIONS

	RETAIL	CLUB
AQUARIUM OF THE BAY		
SAN FRANCISCO		
Adult	\$19.95	\$15.96
Child (4 - 12)	\$11.95	\$9.56
AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC		
Adult	\$28.95	\$17.95
Child (3 - 11)	\$14.95	\$10.95
BOOMER'S FUN CENTERS		
SELECT CALIFORNIA LOCATIONS	4 Hour Pass	\$19.99
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE		
Adult	\$34.95	\$29.71
Child (4 - 11)	\$24.95	\$21.21
Youth (12-17)/ Student (with ID) / Senior (65+)	\$29.95	\$25.46
CATALINA EXPRESS		
Round Trip Fare		
Adult	\$76.50	\$62.00
Child	\$61.00	\$52.50
DAVEY'S LOCKER		
Whale Watching		
Adult	\$32.00	\$21.00
Child	\$26.00	\$15.75
Sport Fishing - 1/2 Day		
Adult	\$41.50	\$31.50
Child	\$34.00	\$25.21
Sport Fishing - 3/4 Day		
Adult	\$71.00	\$57.75
Child	\$61.00	\$47.25
Sunset / Evening Cruise	Adult	\$12.61
GOLF N' STUFF		
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband - (Norwalk Location)	\$30.00	\$16.25
All Park Pass - (Ventura Location)	\$20.00	\$15.25
GRAMMY MUSEUM		
General Admission	\$12.95	\$12.00
IFLY INDOOR SKYDIVING		
Hollywood - Earn Your Wings Flight Package (Age 3+)	\$59.95	\$39.95
San Francisco - Save 15% Off All Flight Packages NEW	\$59.95	\$50.96

ATTRACTIONS CONT'D

	RETAIL	CLUB
K1 SPEED RACING		
This pass entitles the owner to (1) 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day.	\$25.95	\$15.25
MADAME TUSSAUDS WAX ATTRACTION		
All Access Pass includes Marvel Super Heroes 4D Experience.		
Adult	\$40.00	\$16.00
Child (4 - 12)	\$35.00	\$13.00
MEDIEVAL TIMES		
E-ticket prices will vary depending on date/time selections.		
Adult	\$57.95	\$43.50
Child (0 - 12)	\$35.95	\$31.50
MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM		
Adult	\$39.95	\$34.95
Child (3 - 12)	\$24.95	\$19.95
Senior (65+) Student (13 - 17 or with Student ID)	\$34.95	\$29.95
MULLIGAN'S FAMILY FUN CENTER		
All Day Pass	Adult/Child	\$16.50
<small>- Unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway and the Rock Wall. Valid at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</small>		
PIRATES DINNER ADVENTURE		
Adult	\$56.95	\$36.00
Child (3 - 11)	\$37.95	\$27.50
QUEEN MARY		
Adult	\$24.95	\$20.25
Child (4 - 11)	\$21.95	\$12.25
RACERS EDGE INDOOR KARTING		
Adult: 16-Lap Adult Race	\$23.00	\$18.00
Junior (50" tall): 11-Lap Junior Race	\$20.00	\$15.00
SANTA MONICA PIER & PACIFIC PARK		
Unlimited Ride Wristband	\$25.95	\$13.50
SANTA CRUZ BOARDWALK COMBO PACK		
General Admission	\$43.00	\$32.95
<small>Package Includes All-Day Ride Wristband, 2 Attraction Tickets - Choose from: The Vault Lazer Maze, Mini Golf, Laser Tag, Bowling (w/shoes), Climb n Conquer or Flight Walk, Plus \$3 in Arcade Play (comes w/Rechargeable "My Boardwalk" Card)</small>		
SPEEDZONE		
3 Hour Unlimited Pass on Rides and Mini-Golf	\$49.99	\$25.00
USS IOWA		
SAN PEDRO		
Adult	\$18.00	\$13.50
Child (6 - 11)	\$10.00	\$7.50
Senior (62+) or Military (with ID)	\$15.00	\$10.50
USS MIDWAY		
SAN DIEGO		
Adult	\$20.00	\$14.00
Child (6 - 11)	\$10.00	\$7.00
Senior (62+)	\$17.00	\$11.00

GIFT CERTIFICATES

HONEYBAKED HAM		
\$25 Gift Card	\$25.00	\$22.50
SEE'S CANDIES		
Good for 1lb of chocolate	\$18.50	\$14.25

SPORTING EVENTS

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS	Games available online
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS	Games available online
OAKLAND RAIDERS	Games available online

NOVEMBER 2015

ICON REFERENCE	eTicket you can print on demand 24/7
	eTicket available Mon - Fri 8AM - 4:00PM

THEME PARKS

		RETAIL	CLUB
ADVENTURE CITY 			
	Adult/ Child	\$16.95	\$12.50
DISNEYLAND / CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE 			
1 - Day , 1- Park	Adult	\$99.00	\$95.04
	Child (3-9)	\$93.00	\$89.28
1 - Day Park Hopper	Adult	\$155.00	\$142.60
	Child (3-9)	\$149.00	\$137.08
2 - Day, 1 - Park	Adult	\$185.00	\$168.35
	Child (3-9)	\$172.00	\$156.52
2 - Day Park Hopper	Adult	\$225.00	\$204.75
	Child (3-9)	\$212.00	\$192.92
3 - Day, 4 - Day, 5 - Day: 1 Park	(ADDITIONAL PRICES AND DETAILS ONLINE)		
For Annual Pass Info	Call the Ticket Office at (888) 777-1744		
GILROY GARDENS 			
	General Admission	\$52.00	\$26.00
CASTLE PARK 			
	General Admission (over 36")	\$24.99	\$12.99
KNOTT'S BERRY FARM			
	Adult	\$67.00	\$37.00
	Child (3-11), Senior (62+)	\$37.00	\$30.00
Cheaper for eTickets	Adult	\$67.00	\$34.00
	Child (3-11), Senior (62+)	\$37.00	\$29.00
LOS ANGELES ZOO 			
	Adult	\$20.00	\$17.00
	Child (2-12)	\$15.00	\$14.00
LEGOLAND 			
Includes 2nd Day FREE Expires Dec 31, 2015			
1 - Day , 1- Park	Adult	\$89.00	\$70.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$83.00	\$65.00
Legoland 5 Day Ticket	Adult	\$113.00	\$103.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$107.00	\$97.00
Legoland Resort Hopper	Adult	\$113.00	\$75.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$107.00	\$70.00
MAGIC MOUNTAIN 			
	General Admission	\$76.99	\$44.99
SAN DIEGO ZOO / SAFARI PARK 			
	Adult	\$48.00	\$39.25
	Child (3 - 11)	\$38.00	\$31.25
2 - Visit Pass*	Adult	\$86.00	\$68.75
	Child (3 - 11)	\$66.00	\$52.75
* May be used for 1 visit at each park, or 2 visit to the same park.			
SEAWORLD - SAN DIEGO 			
	Adult	\$89.00	\$63.00
	Child (3 - 9)	\$83.00	\$63.00
Valid until 12/31/16	Fun Card	\$89.00	\$83.00
SIX FLAGS DISCOVERY KINGDOM 			
VALLEJO	General Admission (over 48")	\$65.99	\$38.99
UNIVERSAL STUDIOS 			
	Adult / Child (under 48")	\$95.00	\$84.00

FREE SHIPPING

Club Members get FREE USPS standard shipping on all tickets and merchandise purchased through the Club.

★ MORE DISCOUNTS ONLINE! ★

CLUB DISCOUNT TICKETS ON THIS LIST MAY CHANGE. FOR THE LATEST TICKET PRICES AND AVAILABILITY, GO TO: **CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM**

The Club works hard to provide you the Cheapest Tickets in the State, however the vendors on this list may update their prices from time to time. For the latest prices and ticket availability, please check the Club's website regularly as the prices on this list may change.



GET DISCOUNT TICKETS TO EVERY AVAILABLE GAME PLAYED AT THE STAPLES CENTER THIS SEASON!

- TICKETS ARE LIMITED TO AVAILABILITY -

CityEmployeesClub.com





John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO



Here's "Sea Hawk" by Anonymous.

John's comment: Wow, Anonymous. This is a pretty cool shot; if I had to guess I would say that this was taken on the north shore of Kauai, around Tunnels Beach, maybe? The more I look at it the more it kind of looks like a handsomer version of me! Thanks for sharing ;)



"I took this photo of my husband making a heart at Moonlight Beach in Carlsbad on Memorial Day weekend. We go every year. I have a print off this hanging in our home."

– **Jeannine Bourbon, Animal Services**

John's comment: You just can't top this for the most romantic shot of the year. Tell your husband he's a superstar in my book!



"Here's an Inspector's view on a solar thermal inspection."

– **Laura Biggie, Building and Safety**

John's comment: Laura, what makes this such a cool picture is that you included the solar thermal units – most would have just cropped out them, but you kept them in because they are important to you and your job. Well done!



"Sunrise at Marina Docks."

– **Victor Ladd, LAPD**

John's comment: What strikes me the most about this shot is the way the pier starts as black, then creeps into a heavy depth of field, slowly exposing the rich and well worn wood planks, only to be enriched even more by the striking path of light that hits the water. All this is balanced by the boat, the stacks and the distant palm trees. Well done, Victor!



"Seeing a poster at Oxnard's Harbor Village of the Blue Angels coming to town to perform at Point Mugu Air Show has awakened my desire to capture exciting subjects behind my lens. Sept. 26 was the day I witnessed up close and personal these amazing machines and the extremely disciplined and daring pilots behind the controls who guide these FA18 Hornets in harnessing their power, speed and maneuverability with total precision. The whole show brought up childhood memories back in the Philippines watching documentary movies of the Blue Angels. Back then, they were still flying those battle tested Vietnam

era A4 Skyhawks but nevertheless, it was awesome then and now with the real jets flying on the blue sky above me."

– **Glenn Abellanosa, LAPD**

John's comment: First, it's not easy to take pictures of jets flying in the air; they are moving fast, making it hard to focus and catch at the right moment. Not to mention, if you are using a telephoto or zoom lens it's even harder to accomplish. Even with all the odds, you aced this one – you caught these superheroes at the perfect time and perfectly in focus. Nice work, Glenn!



"I captured a recent tranquil moment along Porto's Douro River in Portugal."

– **Yves Didier, Airport Police**

John's comment: Postcard Perfect, Yves! You captured the rich colors and atmosphere of this Portugal town.

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@cityemployees-club.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.

★ *Free* ★
STANDARD
SHIPPING
on all orders

City Employees Club Store

Your Official City and DWP Merchandise Headquarters



City Employees Club Store
120 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
FREE Validated Parking at Joe's Parking Structure

NOVEMBER Member Specials



\$8 Member \$11 Non-Member

Los Angeles City Retired Caps

Available in 3 colors



\$5 Member \$6.75 Non-Member

City Seal Retractable Badge Holder

Heavy duty retractor

HOT



\$10 Member \$15.00 Non-Member

LAPD Crown Victoria Patrol Cruiser Toy

1/43 Scale (measures about 5" wide)

HOT



\$25 Member \$35.00 Non-Member

LAPD Dodge Charger Toy

Motorized with lights and sound

NEW



\$5 Member \$7.00 Non-Member

City Seal Bistro Mugs

Available in Red, Black, White and Navy



\$7 Member \$12.00 Non-Member

Infuser Water Bottle

Available in multiple colors

NEW



\$15 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

10" Wall Clocks - Chrome

Available with City, County, and State Seal

NEW



\$10 Member \$13.50 Non-Member

10" Wall Clocks - Black

Available with City, County, and State Seal



\$45 Member \$58.50 Non-Member

M-51 Engineers Bag

Available in 4 colors

Club CEO, John Hawkins with the M-51 Engineers Bag in the wild!

More Official City of Los Angeles Bags at the Club Store!





\$15 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

Men's LAFD T-Shirt

Available in blue



\$24.99 Member \$48.10 Non-Member

French Terry Hoody

Available in various colors



\$12 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

City Classic Women's T-Shirt

Available in multiple colors



\$15 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

Women's LAPD T-Shirt

Available in multiple colors



More Product Selections at
CityEmployeesClub.com



CLUB EXCLUSIVE Holiday Special

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 exclusive to Club Members.

Club Member Exclusive
\$13.50



See's CANDIES

Retail Price \$18.50

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.

Club Member Exclusive
\$21.95



THE HONEYBAKED HAM COMPANY

Retail Price \$25.00

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, 2015

Gift certificates and gift cards 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 today before they are sold out!



Available at CityEmployeesClub.com