



Alive!

LAPD/Police Depts.

The Pipes Are Calling

The all-volunteer Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band is marching to a bigger future of fun and service.

-SEE PAGE 24



Alive! photo by Tom Hawkins.

Members of the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums band include: Back row, standing: Sgt. Mick Rose, LAPD; Drum Sgt. Charlie Ezelle; Cindy and Sgt. Mike Apodaca, Retired LAPD Reserve Officer; and Sgt. Terry McCarthy, Retired, Los Alamitos PD. Front row, kneeling: Chrysi Orcholski and Pipe Major Det. Supervisor Scott Walton, LAPD.

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A Message From the CEO

Strike Up The Band

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

We have a piano at my house. I like tinkering on it, but more than that, I like the idea that homes should be creative places. So I was really looking forward to hanging with the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums band in early February, in producing this month's cover story to coincide with St. Patrick's Day. (Big thanks to **Officer Cliff Armas**, LAPD, for setting us up.)

I'd seen and heard the band many times before, mostly in City parades that either still exist or that have regrettably bitten the dust. (We've covered them in *Alive!*) I always stopped what I was doing and listened to the piping as the band marched past, and I was glad that City employees and Retirees were making it happen.

So in early February, when the *Alive!* editorial team visited the band to learn all about them, the first thing I noticed when they started rehearsing outside was ... whoa, are those pipes loud! But then I thought, how awesome that they are loud ... and proud!

There's a lot more to it than you might think. **Sgt. II Michael Apodaca**, Retired, LAPD, the band's president; and **Det. Supervisor Scott Walton**, LAPD, 28 years of City service, the band's co-founder; explained how the band worked, how it used to be for pay only, and how the challenge is keeping it going, much less building up the numbers to better compete in national competitions.



Lyle Lewinson (left) teaches Club CEO John Hawkins a few drummer's tricks.

What I like even more than their creativity is their volunteerism and service -- they don't charge for their appearances (donations are accepted). The band, after all, is a police band, although not all members are officers, and it supports police activities whenever it can. Families of fallen officers can hardly afford to pay bagpipers, but the LA Emerald Society band will never refuse a request because of that. They will do everything they can to be there. In fact, during our several visits with the band, we could never get a group shot of all of the players together because someone was away playing at a police funeral. (And they had just returned from Utah after playing a police funeral there). Most of those substantial costs come out of their own pocket. They make music because they love it, but there's so much more to this band than a hobby. At the end of the day, their time and money is all about proud and committed service to the police. I think that's awesome.

The LA Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band can use your help. First, they need more players. You don't have to know how to play (they'll teach you), you just have to support the cause. Or you can donate (it's a 501(c)3 nonprofit). See the story for more ideas. Next time I see the band marching down the street and I applaud the music, I'm going to save some applause for their service, too. Thanks, ladies and gentlemen of the band, for what you do.

Speaking of creativity, don't forget to submit your entries for our annual grown-up coloring contest! We here at *Alive!* love the amazing entries our Club Members send in every year. Did you know that adult coloring is all the rage now? Well, it is; but remember that we were doing it a decade ago. So grab last month's issue for the entry form, and have fun. (The entry deadline is March 15.)

Let me send a quick thank-you to **Antoinette Christovale**, who recently retired from Finance; she was the Director. Antoinette worked with us on a number of Finance stories through the years, including the annual Finance Outstanding Service Awards honor event that we cover every fall. Congratulations on your career, Antoinette, and have a great retirement. It's nearly spring, and the weather is already warm. Get outside and enjoy all the family time you can.

See you next month!

JOHN

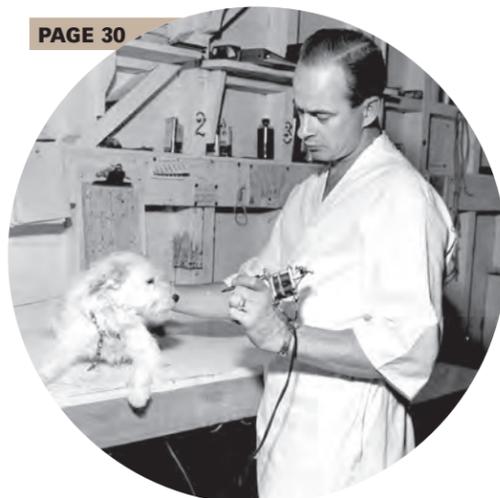


jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

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Behind the Scenes



Here's Tom Hawkins (left) photographing the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band at the ScotsFest at the Queen Mary Feb. 13.



Alive! Feature

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DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1692
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LA Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
LA Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
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Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
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— Sara Marie Landerville, September 2015

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— John Lee, September 2015

"Thank you, City Employees Club, for all your help. You were all friendly and respectful."

— ET, 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.

Member Experience Team



Gedina Bergstrom
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 107



Dalila Vielma
Member Services Counselor
Ext. 137



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Controller



Carole Lovato
Assistant Controller



Trinh Pham
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Marketing & Advertising



Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

2005 President's Award Recipient

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Cecilia Talbot
Director of Claims, Member Advocate



Monica Zamudio
Claims Coordinator

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2010 President's Award Recipient

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Project Administrator



Citlali G. Bon
Data Entry Coordinator



Rebecca Platero
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Michael Anderson
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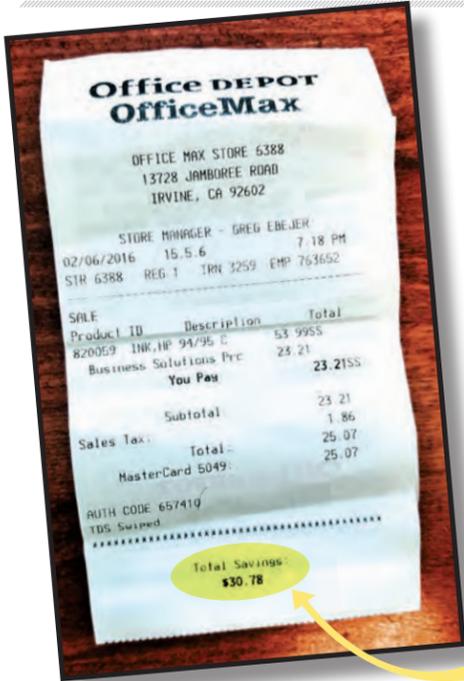
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Senior Software Engineer

2014 President's Award Recipient

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Letters to the Editor



The Tale of the Tape: Club Deal Saves Money

I didn't believe it until I went to Office Depot for my first purchase after I linked my credit card with the Club. I saved \$30.78 on my ink cartridge purchase – less than half price! Here's a picture of my receipt to prove it! I just wanted to thank you all at the Club for making this program available to us. I am going to Office Depot more often. I sure hope every Club Member is taking advantage of this because the savings are amazing.

– Morgan Gibson, DWP

Those Who Defend Our Nation Are Always Important to the Club



Hi there, I have never written in to *Alive!* before but I thought this time I should. I just wanted to say Semper Parati to Tonja Bellard's son, Pvt. 1st Class Jeremy Bellard. I saw his picture as one of the winners in the Picture Perfect contest – I felt a rush of pride as I saw him standing there so majestically on that mountaintop. And thank you to the *Alive!* staff for being bold and publishing pictures of those tasked with defending our country.

– Thomas Stempfire, former Marine, Public Works/Sanitation

Retirees Can Choose to Receive *Alive!* Digitally

I just found out that as an RLACEI Member I can opt for the electronic *Alive!* – what a great way to save some trees and save space in my mailbox! For those of you who don't know how to make that happen, it's super easy. Just send an email to retiree@ralacei.com and say you want to "opt for the electronic *Alive!*" Voila! It's that easy. Well that's it for me, stay sane my fellow retirees.

– Mary Rose Wilkens, Retired, Library

Nancy's Snap Judgment in Favor of Awesome 'Picture Perfect' Entries

Those pictures in the "Picture Perfect" pages of the newspaper are incredible. They look very professional and seem to all tell a

story. It takes a certain skill to produce these images as they are in the moment of time they took them. I especially liked the one from Debora Fore, with the monk at the Melk Abbey. Simple, yet elegant. We are looking forward to seeing more in 2016.

– Nancy Jacobson, General Services

Feature Shows the Work of Building Great Map Collection

I very much enjoyed reading the feature story on the maps at the Library. Glen Creason is doing terrific work over there. It is wonderful to see that someone is dedicated to the preservation of them. I had no idea how painstaking it can be to collect and find these important documents. How great it is that the City's Library Dept. holds one of the nation's largest map collections. In our own backyard, no less!

– Terry Jennings, General Services

Robert's Question of the Month

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com



Fellow Club members answer the Question of the Month

"How much has luck, skill or anything else played in your career?"



"Got an hour to spare? I have a lot to say!"

–DJ Sempelz, Line Maintenance Assistant, DWP, 32 years of City service



"Half luck and half skill."

–Raoul McMillan, Warehouse Worker, DWP, 35 years of City service



"Both luck and skill!"

– Carlos Peralta, Storekeeper, DWP, 19 years of City service



"It was all about good fortune and great timing!"

–Rick Lovano, Electrical Mechanic Supervisor, DWP, 23 years of City service



"70 percent skill and 30 percent luck!"

–Gene Garland, Electrical Mechanic Supervisor, DWP, 28 years of City service



"Where my skills have left me, luck appeared in my career."

–Mike Navarro



"Direction and inspiration from the people around me have been key for me."

– Barbara Johnson, Sr. Clerk Typist, DWP, 18 years of City service



"Anyone who tells you that it isn't luck and skill has had a short career. Skill is very important, but timing plays a huge part in career success."

–Ronald Cage, Storekeeper DWP, 30 years of City service



"Very little luck, very little skill, but mostly blessings and strong work ethic."

–Roland Hunter, Retiree, DWP, 36 years of City service

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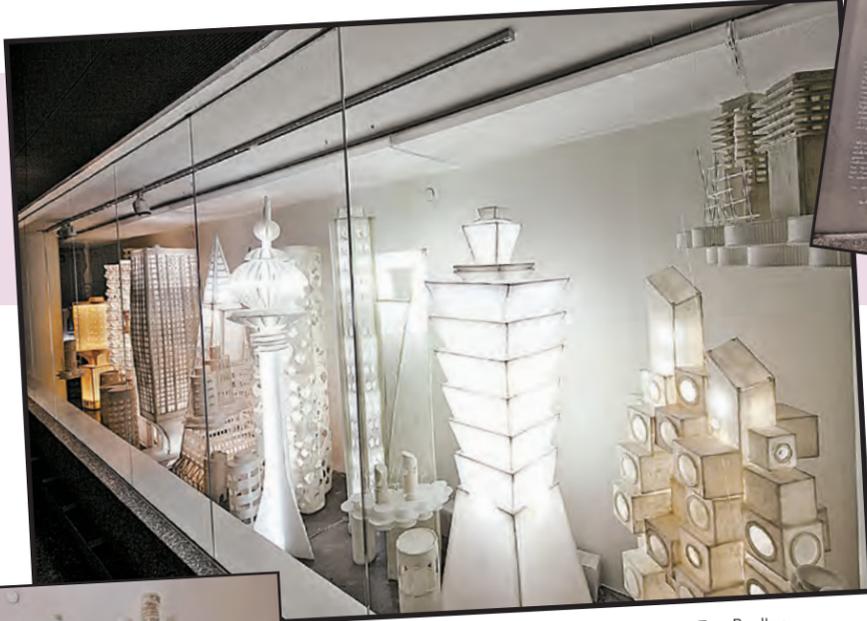
Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent

March 10:
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

March 31:
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Airports/Cultural Affairs

Story and photos courtesy Airports



Art at LAX

New art exhibit explores a mythic city at Tom Bradley Intl. Terminal.

Airports, in partnership with Cultural Affairs, announces a new art installation by Los Angeles artist Deborah Aschheim in the new Tom Bradley International Terminal at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) that focuses on how memory and place are experienced during travel.

Aschheim's site-specific installation titled Camelot contains large-scale, glowing white sculptures inspired by personal memory, architecture, and the constantly changing nature of cities. Featuring a mash-up of urban architecture from around the world, Aschheim created a "dreamscape" of intentionally modified, out-of-scale, hybridized, torn-down, or never-built buildings that give form to the imagined mental state of a disoriented international traveler. The artwork attempts to respond to the state of mind of passengers who are arriving after a long flight, possibly processing the sensations of multiple cities visited. The traveler is in a kind of limbo, a state of mind that the artist considers dreamlike and poetic. The installation is on view in the Customs Hallway, Arrivals Level for ticketed passengers through May 2016.

Camelot references how people remember or misremember places and buildings. Groupings of translucent white architectural structures lit with white LEDs form a luminous landscape to resonate with travelers' memories of different international cities. Material similar to what an architect may use to create a model of a building are used, in this instance, Coroplast corrugated plastic, but instead of creating a slick, perfect model, she prefers that her buildings have a handmade quality, thereby connecting with her memory of the building versus creating a perfect carbon copy of the building. To further lend a dreamlike quality to the sculptures, she coats them with Golden Open Acrylic (Matte) Medium, a liquid material that gives them a ghostly finish, and illuminates them from within using varying shades of white LED light. The resulting sculptures appear mysterious and hazy, a visual representation of a liminal space, bridging the actual world and a mythical universe. As Aschheim states, "The world we see is a personal experience. This installation offers a visual metaphor for how we record, process, retrieve, and share memories and experiences that exist inside our minds."

Deborah Aschheim's Camelot, now installed at LAX's Tom Bradley International Terminal.



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- SEE PAGE 45



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Zoo

Photo by Jamie Pham, Zoo



A Month For Mother Earth

Zoo extends Earth Day event to focus on endangered species.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is scheduled to present "Wild for the Planet" every Saturday and Sunday over five weekends, from Earth Day weekend April 23 through Endangered Species Day, May 22, spotlighting the Zoo's conservation efforts

A chimp and baby will be part of the month-long celebration of Earth Day and Endangered Species Day at the L.A. Zoo.

and what people can do to protect and preserve Planet Earth. Events for families and youngsters take place at the Zoo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, April 23 - 24; Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1; Saturday and Sunday, May 7 - 8; and Saturday and Sunday, May 14 - 15. All activities 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 age two. Admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free.

The Zoo has achieved renown as an international leader in the preservation of endangered species and a conservation center for the care and study of wildlife.

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. Information: (323) 644-6001, or

MOVIE MADNESS
 Club adds deals at four more cinema chains!
 - SEE PAGE 45

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 †See details on your installment agreement.
 The PayCheck Direct program is currently available only to active and retired Los Angeles City and DWP employees at this time.
 PayCheck Direct™ is operated by Bluestem Enterprises, Inc.

63216

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

Happy Mother's Day

From the Club!

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

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

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

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Activ. Fee: \$36/line. Credit approval req. Referral Offer: Offer ends 3/31/16. Excludes CL. \$50 Prepaid card per new line up to \$500/year max. Requires 1 new line activation on qualifying plans with device purchase via Sprint Easy Pay, Leasing or iPhone for Life. Existing and new accounts must register at sprint.com/referral within 30 days of new account activation. Existing and new accounts must be in good standing at time of fulfillment. Add a line not eligible. Referrer accounts must have been active for at least 48 hours prior to a referral new line activation. Offer excludes referrals made between Sprint entities or providers associated with Sprint (i.e., Virgin Mobile USA, Boost Mobile, Common Cents Mobile and Assurance). Allow 10 wks for delivery. May not be combinable with other offers. **American Express® Reward Card:** Terms and conditions apply to Reward Cards. See Cardholder Agreement or visit <http://www.americanexpress.com/sprint> for details. Subject to applicable law, a \$3.00 monthly service fee applies beginning in the seventh month after card issuance. Card is issued by American Express Prepaid Card Management Corporation. American Express is not the sponsor of this promotion. **SDP Discount:** Avail. for eligible company employees, org. members or agency employees (ongoing verification). Discount subject to change according to the company's, org.'s or agency's agreement with Sprint and is avail. upon request for select monthly data svc charges. Discount only applies to data svc for Sprint Family Share Pack and Unlimited, My Way plans. Not avail. with no credit check offers or Mobile Hotspot add-on. **Other Terms:** Offers and coverage not available everywhere or for all devices/networks. Restrictions apply. See store or sprint.com for details. ©2016 Sprint. All rights reserved. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint. Other marks are the property of their respective owners. N155143

Rec and Parks



So Long, Louis

Louis Suarez retires after 34 years of City service.

Friends and coworkers held a retirement party Jan. 22 for Louis Suarez, Head Carpenter, who retired from Rec and Parks after 34 years of City service.

The retirement party was held at the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center.

Fans of the iconic bridge in Echo Park have Louis and his crew to thank for the bridge's restoration. *Alive!* in 2010 chronicled the

restoration of the bridge; it's just one of Louis' legacies to the City.

At the retirement event, Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios presented a plaque of congratulations to Louis from the Club.

Congratulations, Louis, on your great career, and enjoy your retirement.



Lydia and Louis Suarez, Retiree.



From left: Dwayne Palacio, Building Repairer, Rec and Parks, 21 years of City service; Omar Vargas, Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 10 years; Sergio Lemus, Painter, Rec and Parks, 27 years; and Robert Franklin, Sr. Painter, Rec and Parks, 30 years.



From left: Kathy Peters, Administrative Clerk, Rec and Parks, 25 years of City service; Louis Suarez; Gilda Everett, Retired; and Louisa Tobar, Administrative Clerk, Rec and Parks, 10 years.



From left: Jim Sipotz, Sr. Painter, Rec and Parks, 15 years of City service; Ron Smith, Painter, Rec and Parks, 9 years; Melvin Thomas, Painter, Rec and Parks, 29 years; and Joseph Jacobs, Painter, Rec and Parks, 7 years.



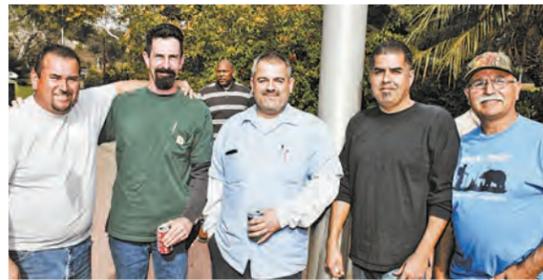
From left: Randy Lowry, Construction and Maintenance Supervisor, Rec and Parks, 26 years of City service, and Louis Suarez.



Rita Suarez, daughter, and Louis Suarez, Retiree.



From left: Terry Osier, Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 33 years; Steve Martin, Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 5 years; Bryce Barnes, Sr. Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 16 years; and Emilio DeLuna, Carpenter Supervisor, Rec and Parks, 15 years.



From left: Cesar Fashen, Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 1 year of City service; Steve Wamsley, Electrician, Rec and Parks, 10 years; Louis Campos, Mechanic, Rec and Parks, 7 years; Julio Lopez, Gardner Caretaker, Rec and Parks, 10 years; and Bernie Contreras, Equipment Mechanic, Rec and Parks, 21 years.



From left: Terry Drake, Concrete Finisher, Rec and Parks, 24 years of City service; and Guillermo Mendez, Carpenter, Rec and Parks, 5 years.

Let the Club family celebrate with you...

Put your graduation photo in *Alive!*

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

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

Digital photos are preferred. Send them to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

If you have a paper print, send a duplicate (we prefer you not send the original) to:

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

Print photos will be returned within two months after publication if you request it, and if you write your name and address on the back.



Congratulations,
GRADUATES





Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Angel's Be Alive!

Big Bear Snow Play

Big Bear Lake, Calif.



Angel Jr. and Aden: "Let the fun begin!"



Angel Jr. and Aden point to the prices.



Aden and Angel Jr. give three thumbs up!



Aden is having fun.



We just paid for and received our tickets. Let the fun begin!



Angel Jr., and Aden love snow tubing.

Hello, everyone!

For this month's installment, we traveled up to a place called Big Bear Snow Play, an area for snow tubing. Yes, this is one of those places where you go up a small hill and slide down on an inner tube. We usually stop and visit this place every time we're in Big Bear. The snow on the hill is both natural and man-made, which means that even on a warm day you can take a short ride to Big Bear and enjoy the snow.

It's only about two hours from downtown L.A. If you're an early bird and get up early, you could drive up, slide a few times and be back home all in one day. We left Saturday morning around 9 a.m. and we were there by 11:30 a.m.

Let's begin!

Snow Tubing: Once you arrive, the first thing to do is purchase the all-day pass (around \$30). After an attendant attaches the all-day sticker, you can go in and find an inner tube. Good news: You'll be happy to know you won't have to climb up the hill each time. Snow Play provides an escalator on each side of the hill. When you get to the top of the hill, get in line for one of lanes. (Once the person before you is completely off the lane, then it's your turn).

You can go down the hill in groups or by yourself; both ways are fun. Your all-day pass provides you unlimited amounts of slides. If you just want to relax there are benches outside and tables inside a small lounge area. There is a small snack area inside where you can buy food.

Important Note: Be careful when sliding down the hill to make sure no one is below. We witnessed a few crashes.

Snow activities are fun, exciting, and a great way to spend your day.

Club Members: Please visit the Club's Website www.cityemployeesclub.com and go to Seasonal/Special Events or Ski Resorts on the Webpage. The City Employees Club offers snow-lift tickets to the following locations: Big Bear Mountain, Mountain High, Snow Valley, Lake Tahoe and Mammoth Mountain.

Be sure to hurry and purchase your tickets today because there are only a few weeks of winter left to enjoy. I would recommend everyone take the short drive up to Big Bear and enjoy snow tubing – you don't have to be an expert skier to enjoy the snow, and it's all for only \$30 per person for the entire day. Excellent!

As always, be safe and Be Alive!

Angel

Big Bear Snow Play

42825 Big Bear Blvd.
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
(909)-585-0075

Hours: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Cost: \$30 per person for unlimited rides, including inner tubes
Directions: There are actually two ways to get there:
1) Highway 38 through Redlands
2) Highway 18 through Lucerne Valley



Kathy, Angel Jr. and Aden.

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1 San Juan Capistrano



Here's **Robert Larios, the Club's Chief Operating Officer**, at Mission San Juan Capistrano.

"I am at the base of the original ruins of Mission San Juan Capistrano in South Orange County. It's also nicknamed 'the Jewel of the Missions.' The statue above me is of St. Junipero Serra, who founded many of the Missions in California and was recently canonized by Pope Francis."

Take *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



THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Weekend Tidepool Walk

SAT., MARCH 19
1 – 2:30 P.M.

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

Open to all ages.

Free!
(310) 548-7562
Parking: \$1/hour

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

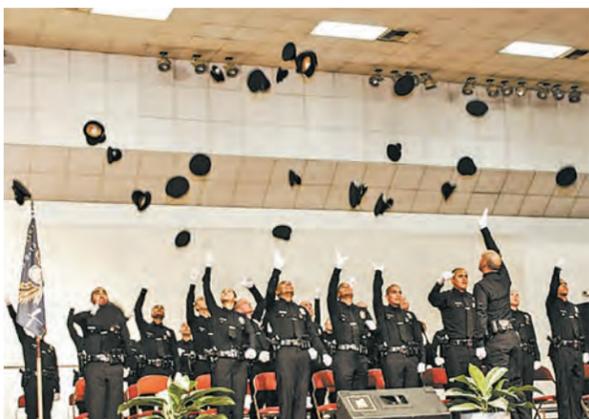
Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
(310) 548-7410
www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp



www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org
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Airports

Photos by Officer Darius Lewis, Airport Police



Celebrating a tradition after the final dismissal of Class 9-15.



From left: Airport Police Assistant Chief David Maggard, Chief of Police Patrick Gannon, Officers Jesus Castillo and Sylvia Arriola, and Capt. Greg Staar.

2 New Officers

Airport Police graduates new Officers.

On Feb. 19, two new officers joined the ranks of Airport Police. Recruit Officer and Squad Leader Jesus Castillo and Recruit Officer Sylvia Arriola were sworn in after graduating from Los Angeles Police Academy Class 9-15. Officer Castillo was recognized with the Human Relations Award during the graduation ceremony, held at the Crenshaw Christian Center in the City of Los Angeles.

Before swearing in the new officers, Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon told his new officers and

their families, "It is a tremendous responsibility to keep our airports safe and secure. It is our mission and that is what you will be expected to do."

Class 9-15 with 28 officers trained for six months. The new Airport Police officers 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.

Congratulations to Officers Castillo and Arriola!



From left: Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon swears in Officers Jesus Castillo and Sylvia Arriola.



Congratulations



For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ed Harding, RLACEI President
www.rlacei.com
Contact him: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 703
E-mail: edwardjharding@rlacei.com

Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Cliff Cannon, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145, x725, or cell: (310) 218-6646. Or write to Cliff: 1942 Radlett Ave., Carson, CA 90746.

Have News About Yourself?

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

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

Reservation Lines:

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

DWP events: (626) 445-7376 (Dolores Foley)

LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

April 14: RLACEI general meeting, Friendship Auditorium

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

June 2: RLACEI annual golf tournament, Alhambra Golf Course

Aug. 11: RLACEI annual corporation meeting and picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge

Sept. 7: LARFPA general meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge

Dec. 1: RLACEI Christmas party, Friendship Auditorium

RLACEI Website

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

Contact 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

RLACEI

Snow or Otherwise, Meetings Keep Rolling

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



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

Last month I spent a week at my home in Nevada. I have never seen so much snow and felt the very cold weather in my life. Due to the snow and the Highway Patrol, I missed the February business meeting.

I wish to thank Tom

Stemnock, Second Vice President, and Hal Danowitz, Secretary, for filling in for me and keeping me apprised.

Mike Wilkinson, LACERS Commissioner, reported that the Los Angeles, Riverside and Orange County Survey set the cost of living adjustment (COLA) at .09 percent. It was approved by LACERS Commission Board Feb. 9.

As I mentioned in my last article of a change in our lunch menu – we found a new vendor. I think you will like the menu. I know I do.

Our April 14 general meeting will be catered by our new vendor, Industry Events. If you like the lunch, we will have them cater our picnic. Comments are appreciated. Thank you.

See you April 14.

Why Do We Need to Watch Drug Costs?



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

When we think of drug companies, it is easy to see them through the Congressional testimony of Martin Shkreli, a company president who smirked during questioning, mocked the Representatives as "imbeciles" in social media after refusing to testify, and invoked the Fifth Amendment against self-incrimination. It is certainly unfair to lump all of the drug makers in with a CEO who had no problem boosting the costs of a drug for AIDS patients by 5,000 percent without any good reason.

If other drug cost increases

are as shockingly high as this, plans such as LACERS must do everything they can to keep costs in line for all our members.

LACERS and its health benefits staff is working closely with our health consultant, Keenan and Associates, to be able to provide the best medication coverage for reasonable prices, so that we can provide this benefit at the lowest out-of-pocket cost to our members.

Some of the recommendations being considered were covered in an excellent recent article in *Benefits* magazine, published by the International Foundation of Employee Benefits Plans.

The article made several recommendations to control drug costs. Just a few examples are:

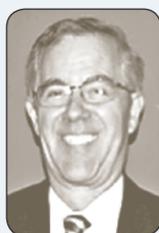
- Limit the use of combo drugs when a drug company has taken two drugs that are sold separately at a much lower price and combined them in one pill at a much higher price.

- Make sure that the plan is not paying the more expensive cost of a patented drug after the patent expires and lower cost generic versions are available.

- Ban the use of prescriptions for a drug that is now available over the counter in a non-prescription form at a lower price.

There are several other ideas that are being reviewed. We will continue fight to get the best drug coverage for our members.

Backers of Pension Reform Pull Measure From Ballot



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

Most readers should have read or heard in January that the backers of the pension reform initiative requiring voter approval of each city, county and state pension plan, plus increases, has been withdrawn for 2016, when they had planned on putting their initiative on the November general election ballot. This is the initiative by former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed and former San Diego City Councilman Carl DeMaio. The initiative would have applied to any new hire government employee after 2019. The backers held off going forward because, according to a newspaper interview, they want-

ed to see how the U.S. Supreme Court would rule on mandatory union fees (the case involved the California Teachers' Association). Since labor unions are the major financial support of opponents to the initiative, if the Supreme Court rules against the use of their fees for political actions, a major blow would beset the unions and an opposition war chest would be less strong to thwart the initiative supporters.

At press time: The death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia might affect the outcome of the pending case of union fees. – Ed.

An op-ed in the *Los Angeles Times* Jan. 28 by Ed Ring focuses on the underfunding of CalPERS (to which the City of LA does not belong). CalPERS' financial statements released in December for the fiscal year ending June 30,

2015 showed the pension system was funded at 77 percent and that their actuaries plan on earning 7.5 percent annual return on investments, but had only achieved 2.4 percent. Ed Ring attributes the problems facing CalPERS to over-optimistic stock purchases and inadequate contributions. He also blames two state laws: the passage of Prop. 21 in 1984, allowing CalPERS fund managers to move many investments from safe and predictable bonds to volatile stocks and hedge funds; and to the passage by the Legislature of SB 400 in 1999, which increased pension payouts by 50 percent for California Highway Patrol employees, quickly encouraging all other state agencies and local governments to do the same. Today the State pays in about \$3 for every \$1 in employee contributions.

COLA Inches Up For July 1, 2016

LARFPA



Lee Kebler

One of the most asked questions our Directors and office receives every year at this time is, "What is our COLA?" Many times when the person is told what the COLA (cost of living adjustment) is, and the COLA is low, they want to know if we can change the source of the COLA from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to a different organization. Most large organizations have actuaries who index the inflationary trends in our country, but they are tailored to that company. They do not provide the coverage that the Bureau of Labor Statistics covers for about 90 percent of our population. There are 87 areas in the United States, and our area is composed of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

Our COLA is based on the consumer price index (CPI) from the Bureau of Labor Statistics on the last

day of February and becomes effective July 1 of that year for the Los Angeles-Orange-Riverside County area. We always wait anxiously for that information. We have been using the bureau's index since 1967, when the City first authorized a cost of living adjustment for our retirees.

The CPI is based on services and goods that people buy for day-to-day living. These items are food, shelter, clothing, fuel, transportation, medical services, drugs and entertainment. The bureau collects and publishes this information for two groups: One, all urban consumers, which covers general population; and two, urban wage earners and clerical workers, which covers about 28 percent of the population. To compile this information, bureau employees gather information on approximately 80,000 items from almost anything a consumer uses or buys, including taxes on the

items or services. In addition to the wage earners and clerical workers, the CPI includes groups like professional, management, technical, unemployed, retired workers and others. They have been providing this information since their inception in 1884.

I noticed the COLA for the non-uniformed retirees of the City was two percent at the end of Dec. 31. This means that they will receive that increase on their pension checks July 1. That sure beats the one-tenth of one percent that we received last year. Let's hope this increase in the COLA continues and we get some help on our continued loss of buying power.

John Adams once said, "In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm and two or more is a congress."

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

Cost of Living Adjustment for 2016

LACERS



Mary Beetz

LACERS' UPDATE BY MARY BEETZ

By May of each year, the LACERS Board is required to determine the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Los Angeles area in order to provide a Cost of Living Adjustment

(COLA) to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. Just how much of a COLA a Retired Member will receive depends on their retirement date and how much is "banked" from previous years.

For 2016, the CPI increase for the Los Angeles area is 0.9%. The

Board of Administration adopted the cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for eligible retired Members and beneficiaries effective July 1, 2016 at their February 9, 2016 meeting. This COLA will be included in your July 2016 check or direct deposit.

LACERS Well Champions

On Tuesday, January 12, LACERS Well Champions enjoyed one of the many benefits of being a LACERS Member and a Californian - an evening Harbor cruise combined with networking, training, and a motivational presentation from Sean Foy on "What's Your Why; the Power of Purpose."

51 Champions and their guests were treated to a beautiful sunset from San Pedro to Long Beach on the L.A. Waterfront Cruises' Harbor King.

If you want to learn more about becoming a LACERS Well Champion, contact Tara Miller, Wellness Program Manager at lacerswell@LACERS.org or (213) 798-6843.



At the recent LACERS Well Champions event.



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

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

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 LAFUCU. 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 (membership) 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
- 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
Cliff Cannon: Membership
Hal Danowitz: Finance
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
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



The Heat and Beauty of Southeast Asia

Hal and Co. head to Southeast Asia for a 21-day land tour. **Part 1**

In April and May 2015, Hal and Evelyn took a land tour of Southeast Asia, starting in Bangkok and including Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia and Taiwan. In each place they hired a private car and guide, except for Taiwan.

2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

Leaving Los Angeles on Friday, April 17, 2015, we crossed the International Date Line and missed April 18 altogether. Our flight on Philippine Airlines departed LAX on time and arrived in Manila, where we changed planes for Bangkok, on time. We flew business class, which is their first class. Our seats were able to lie flat and were comfortable. The cabin crew was good, and they served dinner and breakfast. It was a 14-hour flight to Manila. We both slept about five hours. We arrived in Manila at 3:30 a.m. Because we were in transit, we did not go through immigration; we were walked through the security process and were taken to the lounge for our five-hour layover. At that hour the airport was quiet but not entirely deserted. We were scheduled to arrive in Bangkok around noon. Thailand is 14 hours ahead of LA.

We arrived April 19 in Bangkok on time, and after going through immigration and getting our bags we discovered that no one was there to pick us up. The Thailand Travel Association desk helped us get in touch with our inbound travel agency. They had no record, so they said. The gentleman told us to take a taxi to the hotel. By the time we got there he had made a reservation for our rooms and said the tour guide would call me with info on tour the next day. We stayed at the Royal Orchid Sheraton. We had a great room overlooking the river. Our guide for our tour the next day called, and we made plans to meet in the lobby at 8:30 a.m.

Evelyn and I decided to take a walk to help fight the jet lag. The weather was hot and very humid, at least 90 degrees. My shirt was soaking wet. Most of the stores were closed, but as we got closer to the high-speed rail station there were lots of food stalls, and we found a Starbucks. Evelyn got a Bangkok mug. It was next door to a Mickey Dee's, but we haven't seen many other American franchisees yet. The River City mall is next to the hotel in the other direction. We remembered being there in 2006 and decided to go there for dinner.

We found a Thai restaurant overlooking the river. We were the only people in the place. I asked the waiter if that day was a holiday, and he said it was "super Sunday" (the Sunday before a Monday holiday) and that was why most of the shops were closed. We had three dishes, the deep-fried grouper being the best. It was too much food for just the two of us. The bill was 1700 baht, around \$53, including beer and service.

I was learning to use the Thai greeting – hands together like praying and a bow of the head. The culture was not much on shaking hands.

We slept pretty well the night before, so we seemed to be get back on a regular sleep schedule. The next day, April 20, we took our tour of Bangkok. We had done it before, but this was the jumping off point for the rest of our travels.

We had breakfast in the hotel. It was a large buffet with Asian, American and European foods. I was looking forward to the next day's buffet.

Bangkok is the capital of the Kingdom of Thailand. Thailand has about 62 million people; 95 percent are Buddhist. The government is a democratic constitutional monarchy. Thailand is in Southeast Asia, equidistant between India and China. It is about the size of France.

Our guide was waiting for us at 8:30 a.m., and we drove to the Grand Palace for a two hour walking tour. We had visited here on our last trip, but we saw much more this time. We saw, among other things, the Emerald Buddha, the City's most important Buddha, located in the "Wat" (religious complex) within the Grand Palace



Evelyn on the shuttle boat to the new night market in Bangkok – check out the sign in the lower right.

grounds. The buildings that make up the Grand Palace and the grounds defied description – beyond beautiful.

It was very warm and humid. There were a lot of tourists, but our guide – his name was Lo – said that this was the off-season. I took my new (thanks to Michelle) Klean Kanteen and I had it filled with water and ice in the hotel. It was a lifesaver. We also bought water along the way; you must stay hydrated. As a reminder, no matter where you are, always check that the seal on the bottle is unbroken. After the tour we drove around the city and got back to our hotel at noon.

We decided to lie out by the pool and go to the new night market that evening. The heat made it very difficult to want to be outside. The pool overlooked the river. We had a light lunch and shared a Philly cheesesteak and beer. We layed out until 4 p.m. I still felt a little lightheaded and I drank some water with an electrolyte tablet that Evelyn brought from home. You lose a lot of minerals when you sweat in this heat. You can also drink Gatorade, but who wants all that sugar?

The new night market is called Asiatique and is in a complex of old warehouses on the river. The Sheraton had a river shuttle that went to the Asiatique dock, which is also by the high-speed rail station stop by the river, so we could catch the Asiatique shuttle either way. The whole trip took about 30 minutes, and the best part was that it was free. We had dinner in Fire and Food, a more Western restaurant; we decided no Thai food tonight. After dinner we walked the stalls and Evelyn bought two pairs of Thai pants for \$10. Inside the shopping area it was very warm, but outside it was quite pleasant. After a couple of hours, we caught the river shuttle back to the hotel. On the Sheraton boat they provided cold towels and water. The old night market, which is still in business, is more crowded and raunchy with lots of sex shops, and therefore less suitable for kids. Our hotel, like most of the better tourist hotels, was on the Chao Phray River. Most of the better hotels had shuttle boats for guests.



A wonderful temple in Luang Prabang, Laos.



The Grand Palace in Bangkok, Thailand.

which meant getting up at 5 a.m.

We were up at 5 a.m. and had breakfast by 6 a.m. Our guide met us in the lobby just before 7 a.m., and we drove 45 minutes to the airport. He stayed with through check-in and left when we reached security. He was an excellent guide, and I tipped him well. The Bangkok Airport is massive; it feels like you are walking forever. We cleared everything and were at the gate at 8:30 a.m., an hour before our flight boarded. We could have used the airline lounge, but it didn't seem worth the walk to another concourse. Evelyn browsed the shops and duty free but didn't fall in love with anything.

I received an email apology from the tour company and said we would have a fruit basket in our next hotel.

We flew Bangkok Airlines. The plane was an ATR 72, a high-wing turboprop. The plane was less than a third full and we landed in Luang Prabang on schedule at noon. We already had our visas and cleared immigration quickly, got our bags and met our guide Wat. The drive to our hotel took about 15 minutes. The check-in process was very formal – a cold towel and a glass of fruit juice. We sat the whole time, and they brought documents to us. The last item was a friendship bracelet, which kept on until it rots off – it was made of colored string, so we figured it shouldn't take too long. (Turns out I was wrong about that – after a year, it was still hanging on.) The room is of a very colonial style and was well appointed. We were given a real key (no key card). We were scheduled to start our first tour at 2 p.m. While it was warm here it didn't feel oppressive. Rain was possible the next day. The city had a population of only 65,000 people, and the main street ran out in front

of our hotel, the Maison Souvannaphoum. I didn't try to pronounce the second word. After Bangkok we were back to the hinterlands, and it felt good.

Our first stop that afternoon was the National Museum, the former royal residence. It has been preserved as it was when the royal family last lived there. The royal family was deposed when Laos become the democratic republic in 1975. We also got to see the real emerald Buddha, which was on display for an upcoming holiday. There seemed to be copies of Buddhas that were called representations

and were sometimes used when the famous one was placed elsewhere.

After visiting the museum, we took a walking tour of some of the city's historic temples and pagodas. We spent most of our time at Wat Xieng Thong, the best of all the monasteries and temples in the city. Luang Prabang dates back to 1513 and in 1995 was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Luang Prabang was the original capital of Laos until it was moved to Vientiane, which was one reason this area had so much historical value.

That night we walked to the night market, about 10 minutes from the hotel. For the night market, the main street was blocked for a least a quarter of a mile. The market was open each night from 6 to 10 p.m. It offered all kinds of handicrafts, cloths and general tourist stuff. I wanted to eat before shopping. Evelyn said she saw a restaurant while we were with the guide today. We walked all the way to where we were in the afternoon and couldn't find it, because she saw it from the car and we didn't drive in this area. I was not happy, but we walked back toward the start of the night market and sort of picked the first place we saw that looked like it was safe to eat in. We had two main dishes – sticky rice and two large Laos beers for the grand total of \$17. Things were really inexpensive here. After dinner Evelyn bought a few things and even with bargaining we overpaid because it was so cheap. We used dollars, and the rate of exchange is 8,000 kip to \$1. You could retire here and live like a king, although I hope not ending like the last king of Laos.

Next month we start with a ride on the Mekong River and then travel to Siem Reap, Cambodia. ■



Tara Miller, MS RD/N
LACERS Well Program Coordinator



Questions?

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

Champions Kickoff Helps To Make Resolutions Stick

On Jan. 22, LACERS Well Members gathered at the Griffith Park Ranger Visitor Center Auditorium to participate in the 2016 Wellness Kickoff. A resounding 61 retired Members and guests enjoyed our presentation on “Making Your New Year’s Resolutions Stick” followed by a three-mile hike led by Commissioner Cynthia Ruiz. This was one of our best turnouts for a fitness-related event, and I think that was, in no small way, attributable to what many of us feel at the beginning of a new year: that we can somehow *do better* and *be better*, resolving that if we try really hard, we can make a positive change. But can we?

History of Resolutions

We are not the first, or likely the last, civilization to make promises that are *nearly impossible* to keep. The ancient Babylonians were the earliest on record to make New Year’s resolutions, although at that time, their new year began in March. Vows to repay debt and generally engage in good conduct were made to the gods and if achieved, the gods would provide a favorable growing season. It wasn’t until Julius Caesar tinkered with the Roman calendar that January became the month of the New Year, but the vows of good-deedery still flowed like the Nile. January is named after Janus, the Romans’ two-faced god; the Romans believed that Janus simultaneously glanced back over the past year while looking optimistically towards the next, so they offered their vows and sacrifices in hopes of earning the deity’s favor.

Considering the antiquity of the New Year’s resolution, one would think that we would, by now, be better at making them, but the statistics say otherwise:

- Nearly 50 percent of Americans set a New Year’s resolution this year; one out of three people set resolutions that didn’t last 31 days;
- Two out of three people set fitness goals as part of their resolution; of those, 73 percent gave up before meeting their goal;
- Nearly 40 percent forgot about their resolutions by March, and 92 percent

of those who made a resolution will fail by the end of the year *(National statistics courtesy of Sean Foy, Fitness Expert and author of Walking 4 Wellness, WELCOA)*

So if you, like the ancient Babylonian, the early Roman, and the more modern American, made a resolution in January only to find that you have forgotten or ditched it by March, here are some likely reasons why resolutions often fail:

Because you think you should.

If the impetus to lose weight, be healthier or make more money is a direct result of an external influence, from, for example, a loved one or at the gentle (or perhaps not-so-gentle) prodding of a peer, the likelihood of success is minimal at best. Although as children, we do what we “should” to avoid unpleasant consequences, as adults, the rules change. Now armed with sophisticated deductive reasoning and a knack for plausible deniability, the adult brain concludes that more often than not, the consequences probably aren’t that bad— like skipping the gym and being met at the door by a disapproving partner. Uncomfortable perhaps, but rarely fatal.

There is a lack of commitment or motivation.

Similar to above, if the motivation to make a behavior change is lacking, the likelihood of making the change, let alone sustaining it, are even smaller. Although often attributed to a lack of willpower, studies show that a shortage of motivation is more commonly a result of an aptitude for failure, or simply put, a failure to believe in oneself. This means that unless we truly believe we are capable of making the change, we will not succeed, regardless of how seemingly simple the change may be. Self-confidence, in this case, is directly proportional to success.

Unrealistic expectations.

Unless you have a cohort of managers, assistants and handlers like Beyoncé to guide you unwavering to the goal’s fin-



ish line (in her case, a reported 20-pound weight loss in two weeks for her role in *Dreamgirls*), chances are your expectations may be set too high to be realistic. For some, the amount of work needed to accomplish the goal may be grossly underestimated, including how many hours/weeks it will take to learn a new skill or how many calories must be reduced daily for weight loss to occur. Ultimately, these miscalculations lead to mounting frustration: a motivation-killer for the best of us.

We don’t appreciate the now.

What if we could all be happier, in *this* moment, despite wanting to lose weight, have a larger home, or find the perfect job? The problem with goals may be that, while exciting and an important component of self-growth, they fail to examine the value of what currently is, emphasizing only on what *could* be. If a goal is accomplished, a new goal is quickly enlisted to take its place, leaving little opportunity to celebrate the space *between* the work and the goal posts. Or, in other words, leaving little time to enjoy the journey.

To find out how the LACERS Well program can help you stay on the path to good health, call or email Tara Miller, RD at lacerswell@LACERS.org or call (213) 978-6843. ■



At the kickoff event to the LACERS Well Champions year.



Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Allison, Gregory Randall	Executive Officer	City Clerk	31	Hernandez, Maria Jesus	Crossing Guard	Transportation	4	Perez, Luis R.	Parking Attendant	General Svcs.	24
Blount, Matthew	Security Officer	Airports	7	Jaramillo, Julie Diane	Management Analyst	LAPD	27	Ramirez, Paulo	Warehouse Worker	General Svcs.	16
Boulin, Homer L.	Light Equip. Operator	Public Works	20	Johnson, Tina Renee	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Airports	35	Rangel, Laura Hernandez	Sr. Manage. Analyst	LAPD	34
Burrough, Delorse J.	Clerk Typist	LAPD	34	Joe, John Chi Djoen	Civil Engineer	Rec and Parks	28	Rauth, Joanna Louise	Sr. Admin. Clerk	LAPD	26
Campbell, Molly C.	Finance Specialist	Airports	27	Kaplan, Joan Carol	Landscape Archt. Assoc.	Public Works	10	Render, Robin Renee	Traffic Officer	Transportation	25
Castro, Violeta B.	Legal Clerk	City Attorney	15	Kawabata, Yoshihiro	Airport Guide	Airports	7	Sanders, Archie	Tree Surgeon Super.	Public Works	19
Causey, Liss Yvonne M.	Rec Facility Director	Rec and Parks	32	Lapuz, Vern G.	Tax Compliance Off.	Finance	30	Sandiford, Robert E.	Sr. Systems Analyst	CAO	33
Christovale, Antoinette D.	Director of Finance	Finance	20	Landeros, Javier	Sr. Build. Mech. Insp.	Build. & Safety	27	Saunderson, Michael E.	Signal Syst. Electr.	Transportation	11
Cordova, James L.	Warehouse Worker	General Svcs.	31	Laughlin, Daniel Patrick	Sr. Project Assistant	Econ./Wrkf. Dev.	14	Schafer, William R.	Boat Captain	Public Works	30
Dang, Tinh T.	Security Officer	Airports	13	Lee, David Young	Management Analyst	LAPD	30	Smith, Lydell	Refuse Coll. Supv.	Public Works	34
Deguchi, Ricky A.	Chief Internal Auditor	Controller's Off.	11	Lee, Miu Tim	Sr. Manage. Analyst	LAPD	30	Smith, Titus Ray	Port Police Lieutenant	Harbor	30
Drischler, Thomas M.	Taxicab Administrator	Transportation	20	Lippert, Carol A.	Admin. Clerk	LAFD	35	Soltanzadeh, Boris	Field Engr. Aide	Public Works	25
Dunham, Thomas M.	Street Services Supv.	Public Works	31	Mendoza, Guadalupe M.	Secretary	Public Works	36	Stam, Charles	Comm. Electrician	Rec and Parks	31
Garcia, Daniel A.	Geographic Info. Spec.	Planning	29	Mofidi, Faegheh F.	Sr. Librarian	Library	20	Stewart, Robert P.	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	General Svcs.	19
Gipson, Arthur R.	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	26	Monfette, Greg	Street Tree Super.	Public Works	30	Suarez, Louis A.	Carpenter	Rec and Parks	34
Gonzalez, Sandra P.	Exec. Admin. Assist.	LAFD	35	Montelongo, Rosa Haydee	Parking Attendant	General Svcs.	23	Tesso, Myrta Nobregas	Gardener Caretaker	Airports	24
Greene, Walter W.	Administrative Clerk	Transportation	20	Olivas, Gloria	Legal Clerk	City Attorney	20	Torres, Carlos M.	Accounting Clerk	Build. & Safety	33
Harris, Diane E.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	35	Pais, Ellen R.	Deputy City Attorney	City Attorney	14	Truong, Felicia Umali	Accounting Clerk	Public Works	31
Hartvigsen, Thomas A.	Wastewater Treat. Mech.	Public Works	30	Patel, Pravin Rambhai	Laboratory Tech	Public Works	12				
Hector, Robert A.	Street Services Super.	Public Works	31	Perez, Jose I.	Special Program Asst.	Rec and Parks	7				



Show Us Your Grandkids!

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

1. **Make sure to have the permission from their parents.** If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better, but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them – their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.
5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: talkback@cityemployees-club.com

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

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

38th Annual Retirees Invitational Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 2, 2016



The 39th Annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees Invitational Golf Tournament will be held on **Thursday, June 2, 2016** at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course with a "Shotgun Start" at 7:30 a.m. The course is located at 630 South Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801. Check in is at 7:00 a.m. **SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!**

- The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$67.00 for R.L.A.C.E.I. & City Club members. All others is \$77.00 includes green fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Alhambra Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$25.00.
- Those interested in participating must complete the reservation form and mail it with your check made payable to: **"R.L.A.C.E.I."** by **May 20th** and sent to Tom Stemnock, Chairman, 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604. For any questions call Chairman Tom Stemnock at (818) 487-6789.

2016 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Amount Included \$ _____ \$67 for R.L.A.C.E.I. and City Club Members (\$77 for all others)

Luncheon Only: \$25

Make checks payable to R.L.A.C.E.I. NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!

FOURSOME

	Member R.L.A.C.E.I.	Member City Club	Guest
(check all that apply)			
Name			
1. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Reservation deadline: Monday, May 20th. Mail completed reservation form and check to:
Tom Stemnock, Chairman
 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604 • (818) 487-6789

Rec and Parks

April 2, 2016



City employees at last year's Wisteria fundraiser, seated, from left: guest, Carolyn James and Louise Maes. Standing: Sophia Pina-Cortez, Rose Watson; and guest.

Banning Goes Hollywood

Banning Museum's annual gala set for April 2.

Friends of Banning Museum has scheduled its annual fundraising event, the Wisteria Regale, for Sat., April 2, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Hilton Doubletree Hotel in San Pedro.

This year's event plans to focus on Hollywood's Golden Age. Guests will enjoy a silent auction, elegant sit-down dinner, hosted bar, live entertainment provided by the Fabulous Esquires Big Band, dancing and special entertainment, and the Wisteria Scholarship presentation. Guests are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Hollywood star or in formal attire. This year the event will be held in the Madeo Grand Ballroom at the Hilton Doubletree Hotel on the water in San Pedro.

Proceeds from the Wisteria Regale will assist Friends of Banning Museum, a nonprofit corporation, in its mission to "Preserve History, Promote Education, and Inspire Entrepreneurial Spirit."

The Banning Museum is a Rec and Parks facility and is operated in cooperation with the Friends of Banning Museum.

The cost of the event is \$150 per person. Reservations are required. Please call Friends of Banning Museum at (310) 548-2005 for further information or to make a reservation.

General Services

Story and photo courtesy Karl Guder, General Services

Goodbye, James

James Cordova retires after 31 years of City service.

James Cordova, Warehouse Worker, 31 years of City service, retired in mid-January. A taco luncheon was held in the central warehouse in his honor.

Congratulations, James on your career, and enjoy your retirement!

James Cordova, Retiree (right) with Karl Guder, Stores Supervisor, General Services, Club Member.



From left: James Cordova, Retiree, with J.R. Mora, Principal Storekeeper, James' direct supervisor.

At the retirement part for James Cordova."



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
Northridge, CA

Angeleno Mortuary
Van Nuys, CA

Woods-Valentine Mortuary
Pasadena, CA

Cabot & Sons
Pasadena, CA

Inglewood Mortuary
Inglewood, CA

Mc Kenzie Mortuary Services
Long Beach, CA

Riverside-Akes Family Funeral Home
Riverside, CA

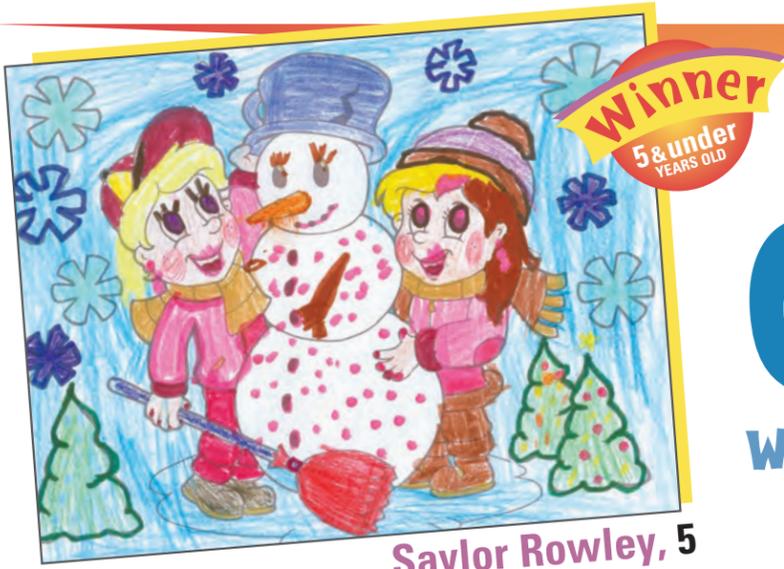
Ingold Chapel
Fontana, CA

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



Saylor Rowley, 5

BIRTHDAY: July 7 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Strawberry Shortcake"
 FAVORITE SNACK: Cheese Crackers • BEST FRIEND: Morgan
 WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC?
 Because I have a pet fish and I really love Fish! • PARENT: Jaren Rowley,
 Journeyman Lineman DWP



Leila Estrada, 7

BIRTHDAY: December 9 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "K.C. Undercover"
 FAVORITE SNACK: Oranges • BEST FRIEND: Celeste
 • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC?
 Because I have never been there before and I want to see all the fishes.
 • PARENT: Jorge Estrada, Electric Station Operator, DWP.



Isabella Jimenez, 10

BIRTHDAY: July 28 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Girl Meets World" FAVORITE
 SNACK: Nilla Wafers with Strawberry Yogurt • BEST FRIEND: Diamond
 WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC? • I would
 really like to go to the Aquarium of the Pacific because I love marine animals
 and my favorite animal is a penguin and I would really like to see one in person!
 PARENT: Phyllis Hollier, CSR/ DWP



Jonathan Sandoval, 12

• BIRTHDAY: July 17 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Steven Universe"
 • FAVORITE SNACK: I'm not very sure, sorry • BEST FRIEND: Nathan
 • WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC?
 Well I have curiosity and I never been there once in my life
 • PARENT: Noe Sandoval, Electrical Tester DWP

Coloring with Mariana!



Compiled by Mariana Guevara, Club Store Manager

The Alive! Children's Coloring Contest

Congratulations to the WINNERS!
 of our Club Coloring Contest!

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

Everyone who turned in a design is a winner in our opinion! But our top four participants win 4 Free Tickets to The Aquarium of the Pacific!

Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT.
Ken Oghigian	3	George Oghigian	General Services
Morgan Rowley	3	Jaren Rowley	DWP
Tryce Yoshida	4	Eric Yoshida	DWP
Abigail Cadby	5	Ed Wold	DWP
Emma Christopher	5	James Christopher	DWP
Sophia Gonzalez	5	Frank Gonzalez	Retiree
Abigail Kuzichev	5	Alfred Kuzichev	LAFD
Brooke Negrete	5	George Negrete	DWP
Milo Parish	5	Ed Wold	DWP
Noah Rosas	5	Jose Rosas	DWP
Anthony Garcia	6	Anthony Garcia	Public Works
Bruce Kwan	6	Shirly Ly	Library
Yarezi Luis	6	Jorge Luis	Airports
Luci Pemble	6	Gail Staugaard	Retiree
Isabelle Alejandre	7	Luis Alejandre	Airports
Jackson Cadby	7	Ed Wold	DWP
Kaylin Ganier	7	Kimberly Ganier	LAPD
Khyam Gibson	7	LaShanda Thompson	General Services
Jewel Gogrove	7	Linda de la Pena	Library
Kryseyd Herrera	7	Maria Valles	DWP
Emerson Parish	7	Ed Wold	DWP
Kelsey Remolino	7	Kyle Remolino	LAPD
Rebecca Wamsley	7	Steve Wamsley	Rec and Parks
Leyla Yoshida	7	Eric Yoshida	DWP
Talula Aguino	8	Molly Pragner	Retiree
Aaliah Flores	8	Jose Flores	General Services
Sierra Hernandez	8	Manuel Hernandez	Building and Safety
Ximena Ibarra	8	Sergio Ibarra	Airports
Madison Kuzichev	8	Alfred Kuzichev	LAFD
Olivia Parish	8	Ed Wold	DWP
Kimberly Rincon	8	Jose Rincon	Rec and Parks
Alaya Washington	8	Kenyetta Loyd	Transportation
Kiara Yoshida	8	Eric Yoshida	DWP
Joel Duarte	9	Mario Duarte	General Services
Jenna Moutes	9	Thomas Moutes	LACERS
Giovanna Pemble	9	Gail Staugaard	Retiree
Adwyn Pilapil	9	Rhys Pilapil	DWP
Christopher Bowers	10	Terree Bowers	City Attorney
Sydney Hernandez	10	Edward Hernandez	Rec and Parks
Jaelyn Parish	10	Ed Wold	DWP
Mia Ponce	10	Cesar Ponce	Transportation
Arianna Roberts	10	Saturo Tanaka	Retiree
Victor Tario	10	Jenipher Quintanilla	Airports
Raymond Trinh	10	Thai Viet Trinh	Public Works
Taniya Bolden	11	Julia Crowder	Rec and Parks
Nadia Gallarzo	11	Georgina Tamayo	Housing
Cheyenne Garcia	11	Gilbert Garcia	DWP
Reyna Johnson	12	Rhonda Baychue	LAPD
Nichelle Perkins	12	Evelyn Fitzpatrick	Retiree
Francesca Espinoza	13	George Espinoza	Public Works
Shawn Jackson	13	Phyllis Massey	Retiree
Brandon Roberts	13	Saturo Tanaka	Retiree

DWP

Photos courtesy Larry Patrich

Larry's Career, Remembered

Larry Patrich retires from the DWP after 45 years of City service.



Larry and his wife, Dori, the day he filed for retirement.

Although Larry Patrich, long a DWP presence in the Owens Valley, retired a few years ago, his memories are still vivid. Here's a recap and photos of his City career, which lasted more than 45 years. He retired in 2013.

December 1969: Larry starts working for the City right out of high school as a Garage Attendant at City Hall garage, washing cars and filling them with gas when they were returned.

1970: He transfers to Hyperion Treatment Plant, still as a garage attendant but changing oil on vehicles and tire repair. Back then the City still had the beaches so he was able to spend time on the beach servicing the Lifeguard trucks and equipment.

1971: He enters the Army at Ft. Ord, went to Germany as a Mechanic and an Atomic Demolition Specialist, and comes home in 1973.

He returns to City Hall as the Garage Attendant before becoming a Mechanic Apprentice for Transportation, working on everything from autos to dump trucks. He graduated his apprenticeship in 1978.

1978: He transfers to Rec and Parks as a Mechanical Repairer, working on small equipment and later on servicing the City's many swimming pools.

1984: He becomes a Mechanical Repair Supervisor and supervises the swimming pool crews making repairs and improvement, he also has a crew working in the L.A. Zoo doing repairs and a crew running the Crystal Springs Water Dept. in Griffith Park that supplied all the water to the park as well as the Zoo, the Greek Theater and the Observatory. After awhile he becomes totally in charge of the Griffith Park water system; his crew worked hard to make repairs to an ailing water system. Finally after a few years the DWP takes over the water system and is now owned by them and serves the best water to the patrons of the park anywhere.

2002: He is promoted and becomes a Water Works Mechanic for the DWP working on the new Owens Lake Dust Mitigation Project; at the time there were only five employees there.

2006: He is promoted again to Labor Supervisor still on Owens Lake, supervising the Water Works Crew and labor forces working on Owens Lake. By now there were new buildings being built and 20 employees.

2010: He is promoted to Construction and Maintenance Supervisor of crews on Owens Lake.

2013: Larry retires after 45 years of service to the people of Los Angeles. "What most people don't know is that when I went to Owens Lake in 2002, I left my beautiful wife, Dori, at home with my three young children, Jeremy, Sarah and Markota," Larry remembers. "I came home only on weekends and holidays, but I promised it would only be for a year, no more than that. As it turned out it was closer to 11 years.

"My kids are grown and I am still married to my wife. I have been staying home most of the time, but occasionally with my wife's blessing I travel back to Owens Valley to visit all my friends there."

Congratulations on your long and distinguished career, Larry!



Here's Larry Patrich and the administration team in the DWP's Owens Valley Dust Mitigation office from Alive! in October 2009, standing from left: Neale Gordon, Construction and Maintenance Supervisor, 29 years of City service; David Neal, Operations Manager; Ray Ramirez, Environmental Specialist, 2 years; Nancy Fullingham, Senior Clerk Typist, 27 years; Kook Dean, Mechanical Engineering Associate, 30 years; David Orasa, Materials Testing Technician, 5 years; Larry Patrich, Labor Supervisor, 40 years; and Erica Blyther, Environmental Supervisor, 11 years. Kneeling: Keith Leon, Environmental Specialist, 7 months; and Michael Lee, Electrical Engineering Associate, 25 years.



The Griffith Park crew, from left: Larry Patrich, Frank Gaffney, Raul Chavez, Bob Karr, Juan Paez and Ed Pusich.



Larry in a Hazmat suit.



Larry Patrich and the late TV host Huell Hauser on Owens Lake.



Three of Larry's crew in Owens Lake, from left: Norm, Dave, Jerry and Larry.



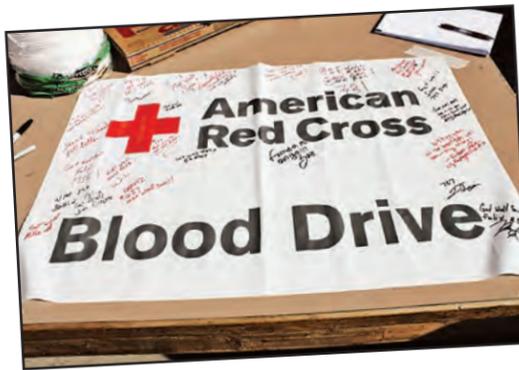
The party after Larry's retirement event, having pizza in Lone Pine, from left: Mrs. Crapson, Jennifer Wong, and Ray Ramirez and his wife. Right side: Jason Crapson, Sergio Valez and Robert Strube.



Also at the party after Larry's retirement party, from left: Glenn Eader, Malissa Cappello and Joe Cappello.

Public Works

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer



For Felix

Sanitation's West Valley Yard holds blood drive for coworker recovering from cancer.

Sanitation's West Valley Yard held a blood drive in support of coworker Felix Alonso, who is recovering from leukemia.

The blood drive took place Dec. 3.

Felix has worked as a West Valley RCTO since 1989. Last December, he was diagnosed with stage four leukemia and began chemotherapy right away. After nearly six weeks of treatment he has come out of his medically induced coma and is breathing on his own and is alert. He still has a long road to recovery, but so far it appears he's heading in the right direction!

Felix is married with two daughters and a good family! They have stood strong by Felix as well as all of his friends and City employees, especially his West Valley family throughout this ordeal and will continue to stand by their brother! That's why this blood drive event is taking place – to aid him in his recovery. All the sanitation districts have participated by having mobile drives at their districts.

Special thanks go to Bryant Sibert for helping the Club produce this article.



Felix Sanchez, Supervisor, Public Works/Sanitation, 25 years of service, had his blood drawn.



From left: Armando Perez, Refuse Collection Supervisor, Public Works/Sanitation, 23 years of City service; and David Carlson, Refuse Collection Supervisor, Public Works/Sanitation, 26 years.



Rick Fisher, Refuse Truck Operator (RCTO), Public Works/Sanitation, 28 years of City service.



Jim Gillette, RCTO, Public Works/Sanitation, 29 years of City service.



At the blood drive.



From left: Mike Herrera, Refuse Truck Operator (RCTO), Public Works/Sanitation, 27 years of City service; Alex Moreno, RCTO, Public Works/Sanitation, 9 years; Rafael Saz, RCTO, Public Works/Sanitation, 5 years; Jesse Chavez, RCTO, Public Works/Sanitation, 5 years; and Juan Gomez, RCTO, Public Works/Sanitation, 25 years.

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John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO



"I just took this image in Guatemala. I captured this endearing moment during a religious village celebration that obviously had some very intrigued young observers."

– Yves Didier, Airports

John's comment: A-w-e-s-o-m-e! I love this photo, Yves. It could easily be in an issue of *National Geographic*. Well done!



"Reflection of City Hall."

– Tom Moutes, LACERS

John's comment: Brilliant photo, Tom – it's a mix of reality and fabrication, all rolled into a tapestry of architectural greatness!



"I always think it's cool to see different things like a Ferris wheel on Broadway and Fifth Street. Also, check out one of the riders."

– Karen Kishita, Public Works

John's comment: L.O.L.! It wasn't until I looked closer at the rider when I busted out laughing. Love it, Karen!

"This was an old abandoned oil-burning boiler control panel at Harbor Generating Station. It made and controlled steam, which went to a stream-driven generator. The morning light was perfect, and you can almost feel the dust on it. This was replaced with a more efficient natural gas-burning turbine."

– John Nance, Retired, DWP

John's comment: Not only did I feel the dust but I could smell it! Nice work on capturing this old control panel. It's a nice touch turning it into black and white.



RULES:

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

Rec and Parks



Earth Day for the Birds

Story and photos courtesy Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Cabrillo Aquarium hosts annual Earth Day Fair with focus on saving local birds.

City Employees are invited to join the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Sat., April 16 for an Earth Day celebration, The Earth Day and Coastal Bird Fest celebrates nature and local wildlife with a beach cleanup, educational demonstrations, music, arts and crafts, and activities for children of all ages.

Participants can help be a part of the solution by joining in a beach cleanup from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., with supplies and refreshments provided.

Beginning at 10 a.m., guests can enjoy the Earth Day and Coastal Bird festivities at the Aquarium, which will offer earth-friendly sustainability workshops, local musicians, fun arts and crafts, local experts giving bird talks and leading bird walks in the nearby Coastal Park; and dozens of exhibitors demonstrating how to care for the earth and protect the planet.

During the spring, more than 100 species of birds can be found around the Cabrillo Beach Coastal Park, including shorebirds, sparrows, raptors and more. Migrating birds utilize the

wide variety of habitats in the Coastal Park for feeding and resting during their long journeys. The Earth Day and Coastal Bird Fest will celebrate the resident and visiting birds of this area, and their role in the environment.

The Earth Day and Coastal Bird Fest ends at 3 p.m., while the Aquarium is open until 5 p.m. Throughout the day, the Aquarium provides opportunities to examine Southern California marine life, visit the touch tank, search the Virginia Reid Moore Research Library for more information about local sea life and coastal birds, observe the newest arrivals in the Aquatic Nursery and let curiosity be the guide in the interactive Exploration Center.

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. Limited car parking at Cabrillo Beach is \$1 per hour.

Information: (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org

At a previous Cabrillo Earth Day.



DWP

Hunter Hangs It Up

Roland Hunter retires from the DWP after 36 years of City service.



From left: Roland Hunter, Retiree, and Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios.

A retirement party was held Jan. 29 for Roland Hunter, Line Maintenance Assistant, who left after 36 successful years of City employment.

The party was held at the Hoover Street DWP Yard (Street Light Maintenance).

Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios attended to present the coveted Club plaque of congratulations.

Special thanks to Club Representative Barbara Johnson, Sr. Clerk Typist, for making sure *Alive!* staff attended the event.



From left: DJ Sempelz, Line Maintenance Assistant, DWP, with Roland Hunter, Retiree.

From left: Ronald Cage, Storekeeper, DWP, with Roland Hunter, Retiree.

Roland and Loretta Hunter with their son.



Line Maintenance Assistants (from left) Phil Scheutz, Mike Navarro and Matt Scheutz.



From left: Kirkland Walls, Electrical Craft Helper, DWP, with Roland Hunter, Retiree.



Matt Scheutz, Street Light Maintenance (at the podium) and retiree Roland Hunter.



Roland Hunter, Line Maintenance Assistant, Street Light Maintenance, DWP, Retiree.



Roy Pyros Superintendent, Street Light Maintenance, at the podium.



Barbara Johnson, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Rep, and Roland Hunter, Retiree.



Donate to Club Angels

As Featured in the People We See Column

Club Angels, along with your charitable contributions will help make a tremendous difference in the lives of the shelterless in Los Angeles.



Meet Errol Hill

AGE: "I'll be 68 on May 25"
 BIRTHPLACE: "I was born in beautiful Redondo Beach, not far from here."
 MARRIED STATUS: "Single."
 FATHER: "I have three sisters."
 EDUCATION: "I went to Mission High School in Redondo Beach, class of 1962."
 MILITARY SERVICE: "Yes, I was drafted into the Army. I did a range course in the States. I did not do any combat."

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THE CHEAPEST

Movie tickets in the state
are at the Club!

- SEE PAGE 45

THIS MONTH AT THE



Griffith Observatory

Sunset Walk

March 22

6:55 – 7:55 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.

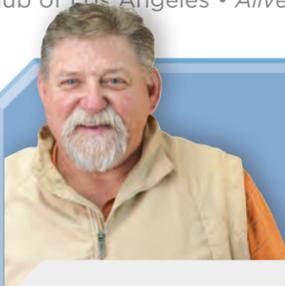
FREE!

Information:
griffithobservatory.org/programs/programs.html#walktalk

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 (213) 473-0879
www.friendsoftheobservatory.com

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The Smart Move

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

The Influence of Stress

Stress is one of the greatest influences in our lives. It can come from a myriad of places (school, work, home, friends, etc.) and has an impact on our daily lives and longterm health. Today, I want to discuss stress as it relates to finances.

When it comes to finances and money, there are plenty of things people stress about:

- Can I pay my bills this month?
- Am I saving too little?
- Am I saving too much?
- What is the stock market doing? Is it going too high and is it going to crash?
- Will I have enough money in retirement?
- Budgets are scary! Making one and sticking to it makes me anxious.

A 2014 study by Financial Finesse found that those individuals with the highest reported levels of financial stress were women under the age of 30 who had minor children and earned under \$60,000 annually, with 58 percent reporting high or overwhelming financial stress.

To help manage financial stress, we have come up with a few tips and tricks:

Use a secure budgeting and personal finance software: As we said before, budgets are scary! They make you face how much you are really spending and where you are spending it. Budgeting and personal finance software (many can be found online) help you to track your spending by accessing your bank, loan and credit card accounts and categorizing what you spent each month. If you aren't comfortable using one of these services, there are spreadsheet templates online that you can use to help organize your own budget.

Plan in advance: Planning in advance can apply to many things. Mainly, we are discussing planning for a goal and planning for the unexpected. Want to go on vacation in a few months? It is probably in your best interest to start saving ahead for the trip rather than charging your card to the limits.

In terms of planning for the unexpected, life is a spectacular journey, and no one truly knows what could happen. Recently, I encountered someone who had all of their tires slashed by local hoodlums and did not have the money to pay to have them

replaced. If an emergency fund had been prudently prepared, they would have been able to purchase new tires.

Live within your means: Not everyone can drive a Maserati, live in a million-dollar mansion or take annual vacations overseas. Keeping up with the Joneses doesn't mean you'll be as happy as they are, and who says they're happy anyway? Stretching yourself too thin can bring stress with it that could quash any joy that your expensive toys or home brought with them in the first place.

Take advantage of products available through payroll deduction: Most employers, particularly public employers make a menu of voluntary insurance and saving products available through payroll deduction. There are many affordable voluntary insurance products that can give you a safety net against unforeseen medical expenses. Payroll deduction takes the bite out of having to write a check each month. Payroll deducted benefits give you the opportunity to pay yourself first. Pay yourself before you get a chance to spend it.

CBLife is The Club's new partner for four areas – life insurance, critical illness insurance, retirement income and accident medical expense insurance. Currently the Club offers three CBLife products: the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan, and Accident Medical Expense Plan.

Ask your Club Counselor for details, or call (888) 443-8829.

LACECA

Story courtesy LACECA

Train for Promotions

Latino Employees Association to hold training day for career advancement.



The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association plans to host a day of training to help employees prepare for promotional tests and regulations.

The day of training is planned for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 9 in the Police Commission Board Room, 100 W. First St., room 134, downtown. Cost is \$1 for LACECA members, \$10 for nonmembers.

The day is planned to help employees prepare for promotions, making the most of the exam bulletin, understanding civil service rule 4.2, filing online applications, interviewing techniques, and more. Seating is limited.

Career Training Day
April 9, 2016
8 am – 1 pm
Downtown

To register or for more information, go to:
laceca.org

MOVIE MADNESS

Club adds deals at four more cinema chains!

- SEE PAGE 45

Finance

Photos by Wendy Edison, Finance

Goodbye, Janice



Janice Jones retires from Finance after 27 years of City service.

Coworkers, friends and family held a retirement party Jan. 30 for Janice Jones, Principal Clerk, Finance, who retired after 27 years of City service.

The event was held at Proud Bird in Westchester.

Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios presented Janice with a plaque of congratulations from the Club.

Special thanks go to Wendy Edison, Fiscal Operations Division, Finance, for providing the photos and welcoming *Alive!* to the party.



Family members of Janice Jones, from left: Verleta Williams, niece; Willie Wallace Jr., cousin; Byron Williams, nephew; Blake Williams, nephew; Monica Williams, wife of Byron Williams; Barbara Williams, niece; Braylon Williams, nephew; Cristi Williams; Brandon Williams, nephew; and Bruce Williams, nephew.



From left: Courtney Kenard, Property Manager, Finance, 20 years of City service; Wendy Edison, Fiscal Operations Division, Finance, 19 years; and Stephanie Young, Management Analyst II, Finance, 25 years.



From left: Martin Lantion, Tax Compliance Officer III, Finance, 17 years of City service; Michael Poon, Tax Compliance Officer III, Finance, 14 years; and Monica Gallegos, Tax Compliance Officer II, Finance, 15 years.



Janice's nieces, from left: Tanya Cole and Ramona Braswell.

At the Retirement Party



From left: Joy Ventura, ex-coworker, Retired, Transportation, 32 years of City service; Nancy Wagstaff, Sr. Clerk Typist, Transportation, 30 years; Wesley Reed, nephew; Mary Reed, Janice's sister, Accountant Clerk, Retired; Nina Wheeler, niece; and Janice Jones, Retiree.



Share Your Good News!

Life's Important Moments

Everyone reads Life's Most Important Moments in *Alive!* Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

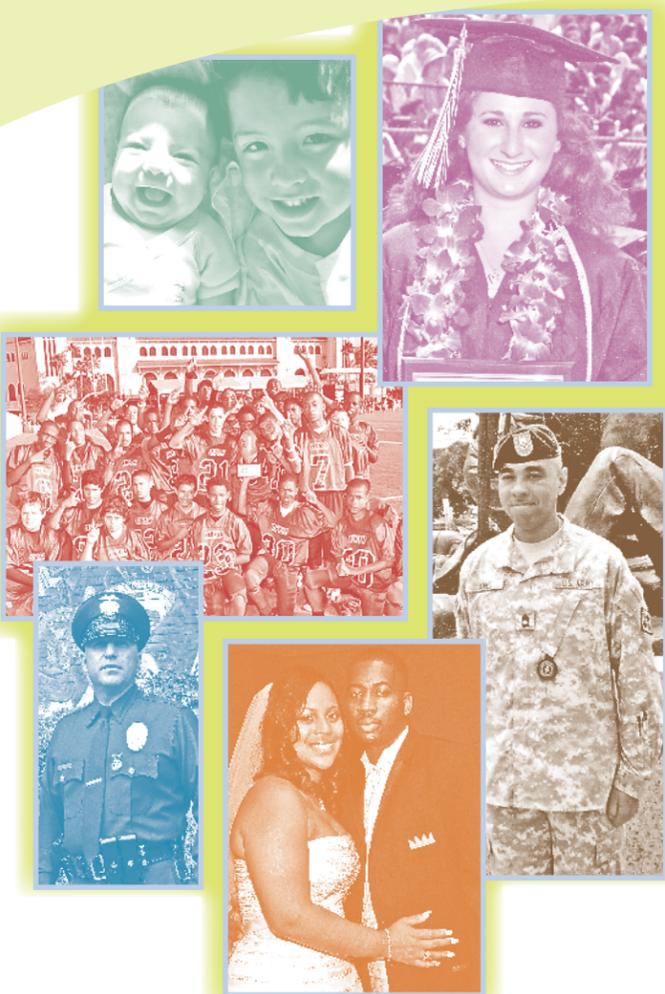
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Send digital photos (as high a resolution as you can send) to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

OR send paper photos (please don't send the only one you have!) to:

Life's Moments - *Alive!*
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



LAPD/Police Depts.

The Pipes Are

The all-volunteer Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band is marching to a bigger future of fun and service.



March means the month of Celtic parades. And with that, *Alive!* brings you the story and faces behind the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums band – an Irish pipe band that represents the grand tradition of police bands. The all-volunteer band, which rose from the ashes of previous LA Police bands to start anew 20 years ago, is growing, and its presence is felt not only locally, but nationally, too.

The band has a lot of LAPD members and continues its relationship with the department. But it's independently managed and funded, and

its musicians hail from several police and safety departments in Southern California. Membership is open to everyone.

The LAPES Pipes and Drums band is an independent Emerald Society chapter and a member of the National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies. It's the only Police Emerald Society Pipe Band on the west coast of the United States. The band formed as part of the larger LA Police Emerald Society social group, but is now independent of that group.

The band consists of members who are active, former or retired law enforcement officers from law enforcement agencies throughout Southern California. Individuals with no prior law enforcement background are also a vital part of the band;



Get Involved!

Here are some ways you can support the all-volunteer Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band.

Join the Band

The Pipes and Drums band is open to anyone with prior experience – or otherwise – as long as you support its mission of supporting law enforcement. They'll teach you how to play the bagpipe or drum. Rehearsals are Saturday mornings.

Contact the band's president, Sgt. II Michael Apodaca, Retired, LAPD: Ify1a36@yahoo.com, or visit the band's Website: lapespipesanddrums.org

Donate

The Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums is a tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Any contributions are deductible under Section 170 of the code; but always consult your tax adviser.

Visit the band's Website: lapespipesanddrums.org

Party!

The band's chief annual fundraiser is the Cigars Under the Stars event, to be held this year in late November. It's a formal event, with cigar and whiskey tastings, an auction with some items signed by celebrity friends of the band, an elegant meal, and so forth. This event usually sells out, and has been expanded to accommodate the demand.

See the Website's events page for ongoing information: lapespipesanddrums.org/events/

Follow

The best way to stay on top of the band's activities and appearances is by following them on Facebook. Here's the link:

www.facebook.com/LAPESIPipesDrums/

Alive! Feature

Photos by Tom Hawkins; Dearbhla McNulty; John Hawkins, Club CEO; and courtesy LAPES band

Calling

the only condition is that they have a sincere desire to support the law enforcement community. The band is a non-profit organization and all band members volunteer their time. The band does not accept any payment for its services. However, it accepts donations. These donations are used solely for the operational costs for the band.

The band respectfully plays at services, memorials and tributes for police officers, firefighters and military personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice. It supports law enforcement personnel, firefighters and the military by playing at any event that will serve the respective

agency or organization. Prior events at which it has played include dedications to new facilities, retirements, banquets, picnics, graduation ceremonies, valor award ceremonies, welcome home celebrations for military personnel, and funerals for retired or former law enforcement, firefighters, or military. It also supports and serves the community by playing at fairs, parades, school events, and Highland Games.

**Information and schedules:
lapespipesanddrums.org**

Continue reading for the story of how the band came together, what it means to serve the law enforcement world, and how you can join the fun and/or donate to the cause. ■

The Emerald Society Pipes and Drum Band in action at the ScotsFest at the Queen Mary. The Drum Major at front right was provided by the festival and not an official part of the band.



The *Alive!* Interview

CARRYING the TRADITION



On Jan. 30, Club CEO John Hawkins and *Alive!* editor John Burnes visited an Emerald Society Pipes and Drums band practice and interviewed Sgt. II Michael Apodaca, Retired, LAPD, 42 years of City service (above left), and the band's president; and Det. Supervisor Scott Walton, LAPD, 28 years of City service, and the band's co-founder. Both Michael and Scott also play in the band. The interview took place at the LAPD Central Area, where the band rehearses.

Thanks for inviting us today. Let's start with a very broad question – can you give us a history of the Pipes and Drums Band, and especially as it relates to the Emerald Society.

Scott Walton: Okay. It really starts back with an LAPD Officer named Ian Campbell in 1963, when he was killed.

That's the famous "Onion Fields" case.

Scott: That's correct. Ian Campbell was a bagpiper. He won the Southern California Highland Games awards when they were held in Santa Monica in the late '50s. He then went to the Korean War, and he played bagpipes in the Marine Corps while he was assigned to the Korean War. Then he came on LAPD, and he was assigned to Hollywood Division. He played his bagpipes in the basement at the old Hollywood Division. When he was killed in the "Onion Field" case that Joseph Wambaugh wrote the book about, that was the first LAPD funeral that had bagpipes. That was to honor him. So that's how LAPD got bagpipes.



Above and Above left: The late LAPD Officer Ian Campbell.

to the Emerald Society and join up." My mother's maiden name is McDonald, so I associate myself to be Irish, not Scottish. In the Scottish band I was playing in at the time, I always felt like kind of a square peg. I went to the Emerald Society and I met Det. Steve Kirby. We were upset that the LAPD Pipe Band charged money to play for cop funerals. They charged the family of the deceased. The band charged money for whatever they did, because they were all professionals. They were used to being paid. But they weren't cops. None of them were. So Steve and I talked about this and said, "We need to make a band of cops that will do this stuff just out of respect for the family. We don't want them to pay." So right around 1993 or 1994, we slowly got it together. The band started out around 1994 with four of us. There were two pipers, a bass drum and a snare. We were part of the Emerald Society, the Irish social organization for the department: the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society.

We played at events for them and we did parades with their banner and what-not, and it was going very well. The band grew a little bit at a time, and then it got to where we were getting requests to perform all over the place, and we were acting way outside of the scope of what we were doing with the Emerald Society itself.

More and more folks joined, and then we started getting donations. We never charge, but we would get donations for things. We were starting to get into some arguments with the Emerald Society over that. We got to the point that we thought, "Before this really turns ugly, we would be better off splitting apart." Our missions were differing so much. We wanted to become a 501(c)3 organization so people could get tax deductions for their donations. The society wasn't interested in that. So we realized, "Okay. We need to break off, form our own chapter." And that's what we did. We coexist as two separate chapters of Emerald Societies within the Los Angeles area. And we're friendly.

Michael Apodaca: Many of us are still members of them, so it's not like we're not friends. We have a different purpose. They're a social club of police officers of Irish descent. We specialize in traditional Irish music, so we'll play tunes that most

—continues page 26



Sgt. II Michael Apodaca, Retired (right) and Det. Supervisor Scott Walton (second from left) are interviewed by *Alive!* editor John Burnes (left) and Club CEO John Hawkins.

The *Alive!* Interview –continued from page 26

bagpipe bands don't know and don't play. We're an Irish band. We're a connection between the police officers and the people that we serve. We want to show people that we're not just going out and arresting people and taking names. Through our music, we can bridge a gap that hasn't been bridged in the community. That's why you'll see us play a lot of events that you wouldn't see a bagpipe band at. We'll do community parades where people normally wouldn't see a bagpipe. That's why we have so much support from the department – we show a side of police officers that people don't see.

I should also mention that we're the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums. Not Los Angeles Police Department.

Right.

Michael: We have a Los Alamitos guy. We have a guy from the L.A. County Sheriff's Dept. We used to have a DEA guy. We had a TSA person. We had a San Jose officer, who still plays, though he's retired. The LAPD is our anchor. We do most of our events through them.

The 9/11 Connection

Michael, how did you get to be part of this?

Michael: Well, first, my mother's Irish. Her maiden name is McPike.

Anyway, because of the position I had in the department helping our police officers and their families when someone was seriously injured or killed, about 10 others and I were lucky enough to be selected to go back to New York after 9/11. I went to New York about four days after 9/11 and was working with the police officers and



LAPD Det. Supervisor Scott Walton (center) talks about the band with Alive! editor John Burnes (left) and Club CEO John Hawkins.



LAPD Sgt. II Michael Apodaca, Retired (right), makes a point to Club CEO John Hawkins.

fire fighters at Ground Zero. And really we were there as peer support. We spent a couple weeks there and it was, phew, totally overwhelming. We went back about three months later, but this time we started attending funerals. There would be 150 pipers at every one of these funerals, and they were doing three funerals a day. And I talked to this piper, and you should've seen him. At the end of another long day he had his pipes down; he had his head down. So I asked him, "How many funerals have you done?" He looked like a wet rag. And he looked at me and he just says, "I have no idea." So then I asked him about playing the bagpipes, because I always loved the bagpipes, and my mother loves the bagpipes. And he says, "Give me an hour a day and you could be a piper." Well, he was wrong. It takes more than an hour a day.

But you didn't play before then at all.

Michael: No. I'd never touched a musical instrument in my life.

Wow.

Michael: Steve Kirby, who Scott mentioned earlier, had been telling me for years, "Hey, when are you going to play the pipes?" And I'd always told him, "One day. One day." And I came back from New York, and I called Kirby up.

This is the day.

Michael: I said, "Today's the day." So I showed up and started taking lessons with Scott. And my wife, Cindy, she's a nurse. She had never played the pipes either or anything like that. She said, "I think I could do that, too." We both learned together. And here we are, what, 13 years later, and I still take lessons every week.

Irish vs. Scottish

A lot of people might not know the difference between the Scottish traditions and the Irish traditions. You play Highland bagpipes, which are Scottish. Your clothing is sort of a blend of Scottish and Irish. You play Scottish and Irish music. It's very unusual. Do you try to be inclusive of everything?

Michael: Well, our kilt is called All Ireland Green. Instead of a traditional kilt, which would be a family name or region in Scotland, ours is like a national Irish tartan. So for anyone of Irish decent, it's acceptable. We have people who are not Irish. We have three Hispanics in our group. We have some Scots – you know, we let them in. That's kind of an inside joke. We play all the Scottish tunes because we have to. But we play a lot of tunes that the Scottish bands just don't play. And then we play American sets and a military set that are normally not played on the bagpipes. Our mission is for police, fire and military. We do a lot of events like that.

This year you're playing the St. Patrick's Day parade in Redondo Beach. You used to play at LA's St. Patrick's Day Parade, when we still had one.

Scott: I like to call our band Celtic – there's a lot of crossover. We play Irish music, but there's no denying we play on the Highlands Scottish bagpipe.

The Celtic community in L.A. is very small. Trying to get the support for a parade is not easy. We were fortunate that we had a Fire Capt. Richard Andrade. The same held true with the demise of the LAPD Pipe Band. They had support from upper-level chiefs and fundraising. When those chiefs went away and they didn't have new people come in, they lost their support and the band lost its funding and ultimately withered away. And we were there luckily to fill the gap with the Emerald Society Pipe Band. The same thing happened with the City's St. Patrick's Day Parade. When Captain Andrade retired, no one was there to pick up the baton, and that parade withered on the vine. Former Councilman Tom LaBonge did his best to try to get that parade restarted by doing the Pershing Square St. Paddy's Day ceremony. We try to support that. But the band can't make the parade happen. So we do our best to support any Celtic event that we can in the City. Maybe someone will come along someday and pick it up and get it going again.

Out of Pocket

Right. What's your relationship with the LAPD?

Michael: Well, early on it was pretty hard to get support. But now they love us. We do a lot of retirements and promotions, and of course all the memorials. But again, Scott is a detective, and if someone wants him to play for, say, a memorial service at Huntington Beach P.D. – I'm just using it as example – he has to be away from work. We always have to fight that. Last year we played 164 events, I think; the year before, 196 events.

For a volunteer band. Wow. That's amazing.

Michael: It costs our players a lot of money, especially the ones that are civilian employees. The City doesn't pay for us to travel. We have to raise that money, and we get a lot of support from the Police Protective League and the Police Memorial Foundation. And then there are a lot of people who want to give us money to help us. We just went to Salt Lake, and we got support from the airlines and our hotel. I don't even want to tell you what it costs to go to D.C. Cindy and I would go, and it was a \$4,000 trip for us. We're blessed to be able to do it, but some of our players are not, and that's a lot of money. And that's just one event. When we go to the Scottish Games, they don't pay for our parking. That sounds kind of chintzy on our part, but it's \$15 a car.

For two days.

Michael: Two days times 16 people. It all adds up.

Alive! Feature

Rehearsal



Piper Chrisy Orcholski warms up before outside rehearsal.



This bagpipe gig bag carries patches from previous National Police Week competitions, held in Washington, D.C., each May.

The band rehearses in the conference room inside the LAPD Central Area Station. For inside rehearsals, the band uses chanters and practice drums.



The band rehearses in the conference room inside the LAPD Central Area Station.



The band practices at the LAPD Central Area parking lot.

On Parade

ScotsFest

The band sets up this tent at approximately six to eight major appearances each year.



Pipers Chrisy Orchulski and Sgt. II Michael Apodaca, Retired, the band's president, get ready to go at the ScotsFest at the Queen Mary.



Above: The band warms up at the ScotsFest, held at the Queen Mary in Long Beach.



Right: The band marches at the ScotsFest at the Queen Mary.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The band was an important part of the St. Patrick's Day parade downtown, which no longer exists. This shows the band at the parade in 2008.



Rose Bowl Parade

The band in the 2012 Rose Parade.



Hollywood Christmas Parade

The band in the City-sponsored 2013 Hollywood Christmas parade.



Alive! Feature

Band Members



Det. Mark Espinosa, LAPD, bass drum.



Cindy Apodaca, bagpipe.



Bill Partridge, drum.



Charlie Ezell, drum sergeant.



Officer III Cliff Armas, LAPD, bagpipe.



Mike Jett, drum coach.



Capt. Ron Cody, Hermosa Beach F.D., drum.



A new member of the band.



Club CEO John Hawkins (right) is regaled by band stories from Lyle Lewinson, drum.

The *Alive!* Interview –continued from page 26

Calling All Pipers

Are you at the right amount of people or do you see it expanding?

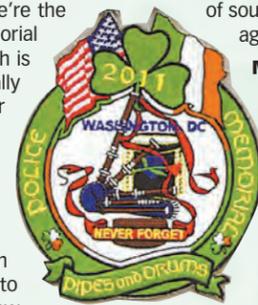
Scott: No, no. We're growing. There is no magic number.

We're really the only police bagpipe, Irish police bagpipe band, Emerald Society, west of the Mississippi. We really have a niche out here. When we go to D.C. next year, we're going to be the host band. In D.C., there will be bands from New York and Chicago and Boston and Cleveland and Detroit, all these huge bands that are legacy bands that have been going for decades. They'll be saying, "Oh, look at the Emerald Society from L.A. They're so cute."

"I just want to hug them."

Scott: Right. We might have 15 players. They might have 100 or so. So we want to grow. When we go back next year, we're the lead band for the Police Memorial Week in Washington, D.C., which is a huge deal. You have to be really good musically to get that. For us to be the host band is a huge compliment to us. That's why I just started a new piper class. We've got about 15 new piping students right now.

We're recruiting. If people in other City departments want to be in the pipe band, let us know. My dream is to have a big band like New York or Detroit. Will that happen? Probably not in my lifetime, but we're going to try to get the thing going.



Service, Honor, Relief

Why does this band exist?

Michael: Our real purpose is to honor the police officers, firefighters and military and then secondly, bridge a gap between the community and the police. The LAPD spends a lot of money and resources for interaction with the community in a positive way. We're quite honestly all positive. I don't care who you are. You're going to be struck by the bagpipes. You may not like 'em but you're going to be struck by 'em.

We can bring interaction to the department and a positive light to all of law enforcement. That's probably one of the things that we're most proud of, and that's why we get so much support from so many different angels. We just had our bass drum stolen; it was in the news. The news story had more than 12,000 hits on that link. So there's a lot of interest in us.

Has it been returned?

Michael: No.

Scott: The band can't exist without the players, without the people from within the department or from within the community who want to play. Being a police officer is a very stressful job. When you play music, it takes your total concentration. You can't think about anything else. When you're doing music, when you're standing up there playing the bagpipe or the drum and trying to be a team with everyone else, that takes all of your mental ability. It gives your mind a vacation from all of your problems. I've had so many people come to practice and say, "Scott, when I walk out of here, I feel like a huge weight has been lifted off of me." That's another reason the band exists.

Hearing History

When bagpipes are played, people stop what they're doing. They stop talking. It's like a mystical sound. It's really amazing.

Scott: Yes. We get called to do a lot of banquets and conventions, retirements, whatever it is. It's hard to get everybody's attention at those

events. I say, "Hey, just let us fire up a tune." I can't tell you how many times we've shut the crowd down so someone can start their convention or their banquet.

I love it. There's a long tradition of bagpipes in the military. This isn't a military band, but in a way you're continuing that tradition.

Scott: Of course, that's right. There's a documentary called *The Ladies From Hell* about the history of the bagpipe, especially in the military. When you play the bagpipe you really feel like you're connected with history. From a musical point of view, the bagpipe hasn't evolved. The old scale that the musicians used to play, back in the Renaissance period and before, is the scale we still use. A lot of modern things that have been done to instruments have not been done to the bagpipe. The bagpipe is kind of like a historical artifact. You're hearing the same kind of sound that people heard 700 or 800 years ago. It's exactly the same.

Michael: It's so awesome to be able to carry that tradition. Then there's another connection to history – going back to Ian Campbell is pretty rewarding. We can get emotional when we play at these funerals, because we may know the guy who just died, or his or her family. It can be tough.

You go to a funeral and you think you can keep it together, and then you hear music and you can't.

Michael: I don't care how many funerals you've done, and we've all done hundreds of them. There's always something that chokes you up. Then you just go like, "God, I hope I don't get choked up while I'm playing." And then you do.

I don't know if the bagpipes are the coolest instrument in the world. Does anyone ever bring that up to you?

Scott: Yes, there is a stigma that goes with it. My musician friends, they tease me. You have to have a thick skin. Of course, if you're a cop, you already do. You just have to take it in stride, if you really love doing it.

Michael: We have a great deal of pride in the band and we tough it out. It's really an honor to be playing in this band. It's something special.

Michael and Scott, thank you for your time.

Michael: Thank you.

Scott: Thank you guys. ■

This previous iteration of the LA Police Band consisted of professional musicians.



The band with actor Sylvester Stallone at the swearing-in of then-LAPD Chief Bill Bratton, 2007.



The band in 2000 included Scott Walton, Bill Bowen, Jim McMahon, Malcolm McNab, Bill Robertson and Steve and Judy Kirby.

CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • March 2016



Hoops, Bowling, Softball: 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 and for more information.

JOIN A SPORT:



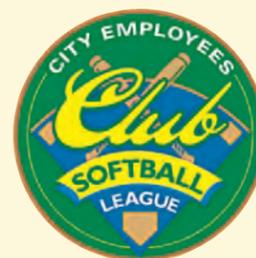
Basketball

The 2016 Club basketball season is scheduled to begin this fall with registration open now – there are four teams formed and ready to play (eight are needed to get the season started).



Bowling

The season for bowling can begin at any time when there is enough player interest and participation.



Softball

The 2016 Club softball season will begin in July with registration open in April.

Who can join?

All players **must be Club Members** and agree to all regular Club membership rules and regulations. Players who are not Club Members must join and become members and must be City, State or County employees. Club Membership fees are \$2.25 per pay period for City and DWP employees, and \$2.50 per month for retired City employees. Exceptions to eligibility requirements are offered for relatives of Club Members over 18 years of age.

Images of past sporting events can be found on the Club Website at <http://photos.cityemployeesclub.com/ClubSports>



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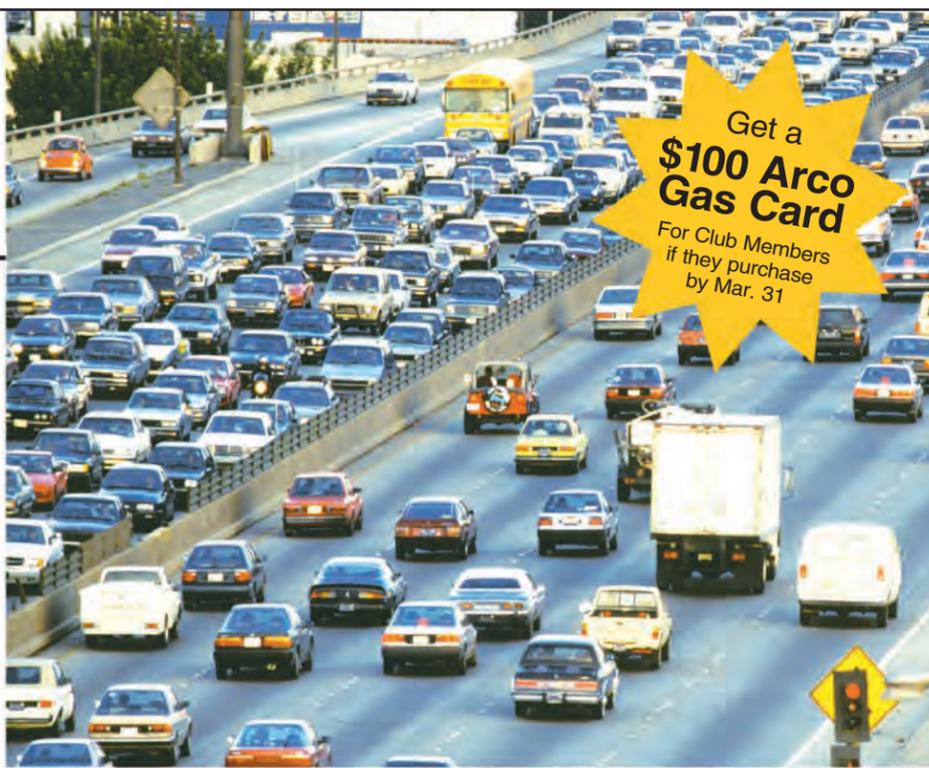
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When it comes to their auto Insurance, United Agencies has been serving hundreds of Club Members for years. We provide a high level of personal service, with some of the lowest rates in California. Come experience the difference in service you get when you say, "I'm with the Club!"

Take a look at how **United Agencies** stacks up against the competition!

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	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	United Agencies	\$876

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History Comes *Alive!*



Some *History Comes Alive!* columns can be heard on 89.3-KPCC's Off-Ramp, online at www.kpcc.org/offramp/

~ Tales From the City Archives ~



by Steven Feldman, DVM
Veterinarian III, Animal Services

Photos courtesy the Animal Services archive collection and the City of Los Angeles Archives

153 Years of Animal Care

The story of our Dept. of Animal Services goes back to the Civil War era of 1863 when the population of the City was increasing rapidly. The need arose for the mayor to appoint a Pound Keeper and create a public pound. Since the drinking water of Los Angeles was drawn from the L.A. River, laws were enacted to restrict livestock from the river proximity.

The Public Pound Keeper in 1871 was required to provide and maintain a corral for impounded animals at his own expense. The City Marshal and his deputies delivered the stray animals to the Pound Keeper, who charged boarding fees if the livestock were reclaimed by the owner. After six days, the unclaimed animal (only livestock were specified) was advertised and could be sold.

The first one-year dog licenses were sold by the City Marshal in 1872, \$1.50 for males and \$3 for females. Also in that year hack drivers (horse buggy drivers) had to buy annual licenses and were fined \$5 to \$25 for an unhitched horse.

From 1907 to 1909 the Humane Animal League had a contract with the City and had a 1.5-acre lot and "pound" near Santa Fe and Ninth Streets. They boasted a great increase in licenses, and inspectors went door to door collecting the \$2 license fee.

The first Humane Animal Commission was established in 1909 and marked the beginning of the Department by utilizing a Humane Animal Inspector and a staff of nine Deputies and a Clerk. This action was necessary due to the horrible pound conditions and thousands of sick and mangy dogs running the streets. Fights with the "dogcatchers" who used their nets to catch the strays were commonplace. House-to-house collection of dog license fees brought in much revenue to the City, and more than 4,000 of the 5,000 dogs collected were destroyed. However, this drastic action diminished further euthanasia greatly and the number of licensed dogs increased.

Finally, in 1925, the Dept. of Humane Treatment of Animals was formed with five Commissioners, a General Manager, a Secretary and 20 Inspectors. In 1929 the department got a new name – the Humane Department. The Ann Street Shelter, just East of Chinatown by Spring Street, was built in 1928 and was the state-of-the-art animal shelter in its time. Ann Street cost \$60,000 to build and boasted a tiled bath for dogs and cats and an airy stable. The City actually owned this facility, unlike all the previous rented "pounds." The early shelters were on Porter Street, 46th and Alameda, Blake Avenue, and in Harbor City. Ann Street served the public outstandingly for 60 years until it was finally replaced by the North Central Care and Control Center on Lacy Street in 1988!

At the tail end of the Great Depression, two additional shelters were opened. The first Valley Shelter on Oxnard Street in Van Nuys opened in 1936. It had acreage to house large animals but was under scrutiny for overcrowded dog cages. In 1941 the West Los Angeles Shelter on Granville Avenue — the second City-owned shelter — opened, but was demolished in 1950 to make room for the combustible garbage incineration facility that the City established in its place.

Rabies was prominent in epidemic proportions throughout California in the 1930s. In 1931, \$5,885 was appropriated to the Humane Dept. to round up stray dogs. Then in 1937-38, sadly, thousands of stray dogs were euthanized to control rabies. During the first six months of 1937, 363 rabid animals had bitten 318 persons in Los Angeles. Eight Inspectors, two Kennelmen and three trucks were added to handle the situation, and the Dept. then had a total of 56 on staff. By 1940 only 38 cases of rabies were found in Los Angeles. However, in 1948 there was a report of five rabid dogs in a three-month period in the Reseda-Van Nuys area.

Starting in 1948, permits were issued to commercial and some private establishments to ensure that animals were being maintained and exhibited in a humane manner. L.A. was a vanguard in the nation by developing the permit system.

To curb the overpopulation of dogs, spayed dog licenses were sold beginning in 1940. The City Council enacted a leash law for dogs in 1944, a triumph over the failed attempt to pass that law 18 years prior.

In 1947 the name of the department changed from the Humane Dept. to Animal Regulation so as not to confuse the municipal agency with the many private humane organizations in existence.



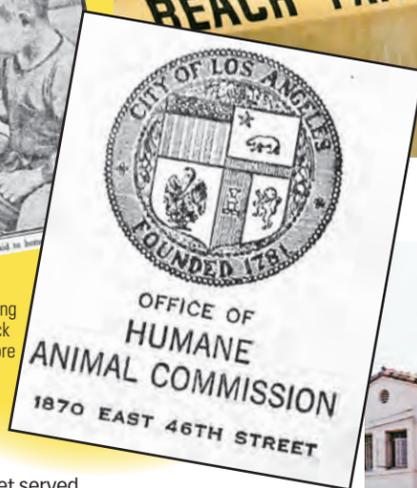
The 1936 Humane Dept. staff.



Animal Regulation patrolled beaches during the 1970s for injured wildlife rescue and leash law violations.



Circa 1921: "Los Angeles kiddies giving aid to homeless sick dog." This was before Google could be consulted.



In South L.A., the SPCA facility at 3612th Eleventh Ave. was acquired by the City in 1949 and became the Southwest Branch

Animal Shelter. The Valley Shelter in North Hollywood on Sherman Way was opened in 1950 and replaced the Oxnard Street Valley Shelter. The second San Pedro Harbor Shelter, City owned, was completed in 1951 and replaced the older rented structure in Harbor City.

A policy was approved in 1950 by a vote of the general City population to allow unclaimed animals to be released to medical research laboratories. The court dismissed an injunction the next year that tried to block the move. The citizens of Los Angeles rescinded this policy later in 1981.

In 1954 there were 137 people working for the Dept., and finally a full-time veterinarian was hired. The City required all dogs to be vaccinated for rabies in 1956, and by 1958 the state law requiring rabies vaccinations was enacted. Licensing and rabies vaccinations went hand-in-hand to protect the dogs and also the citizens from this deadly virus.

The new Missouri Avenue West Los Angeles shelter costing \$170,000 opened in 1960 and filled the ten-year void of coverage for the beaches and the Westside. Then in 1961 the animal collection vehicles were repainted from gray to yellow to make them more visible.

The second Valley shelter, the West Valley Shelter, was opened in Chatsworth in 1970 and cost \$600,000. It was the first shelter to have a pasture for horses and would be totally



The Eleventh Avenue Shelter (Southwest Branch) during the 1950s. It was formerly an S.P.C.A. facility but was purchased by the City in 1949.

DWP

Goodbye, Greg

Greg Todd retires from the DWP after 26 years of City service.

A retirement party was held Jan. 26 for Greg Todd, Electrical Mechanic Supervisor, who retired from the DWP after 26 years of City service.

The party was held in building three at the DWP Main Street Yard, 1630 N. Main St.

Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios attended the retirement party to honor Greg with a coveted Club retirement plaque of congratulations.

Special thanks go to Christine Todd for her assistance in producing this article.



From left: Greg Todd, Retiree, with Club Chief Operating Officer Robert Larios.



Gary Hays, Electrical Service Manager.



Robert Gonzalez, Assistant Director.



Tuan ("TV") Lee.



George Nino, Power Engineering Manager.



Matt Woodson, Electrical Service Manager.



William (Billy) Deweber, ESM Superintendent.



From left: William James II, Electrical Construction Mechanic, 25 years of City service; and Larry Cronk, Retired, 11 years.



From left: Rick Lovano, Electrical Mechanic Supervisor, DWP, 23 years of City service; and Gene Garland, Electrical Mechanical Supervisor, DWP, 28 years.



From left: Raoul McMillanm Warehouse Worker, DWP, 35 years of service; and Carlos Peralta, Storekeeper, DWP, 19 years.



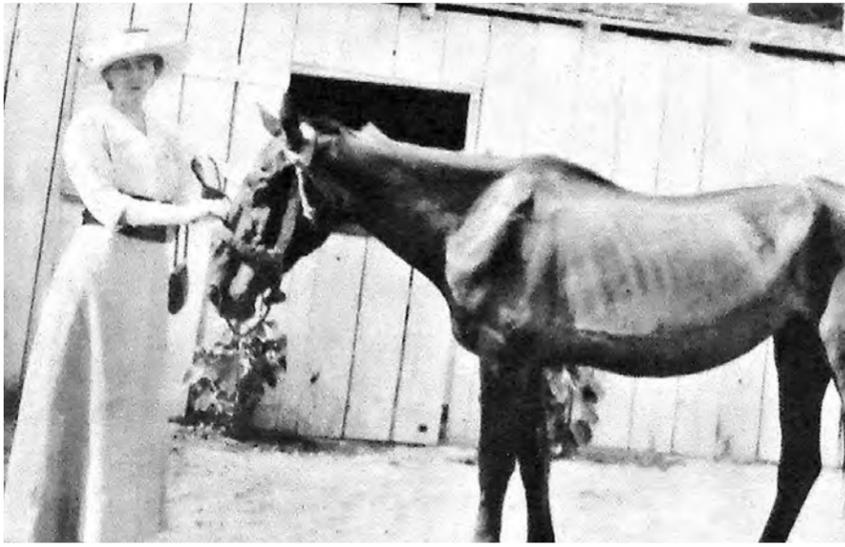
Phil Leitner, Sr. Electrical Mechanic Supervisor.



From left: Patrick Burgess, Electrical Mechanic, DWP, 47 years of City service; and Ron Covey, Sr. Electrical Mechanic, 14 years.



Back, from left: Sherwin Chan, Electrical Engineering Associate, DWP, 8 years of City service; Sirac Haile, Electrical Engineering Associate, DWP, 2 years; Francisco Fernandez, Engineer, DWP, 28 years; Daniel Novoa, Electrical Associate III, DWP, 6 years; and Louie Partida, Drafting Technician, DWP, 35 years. Front: Greg Todd, Retiree.



1915: An emaciated horse that was seized by the Humane Animal Commission.



An officer with old-style truck in the 1950s.

air-conditioned, kennels and offices alike. Shortly after its opening, the West Valley Shelter survived a horrific valley earthquake and was able to participate in emergency operations.

Los Angeles boasted the formation of City-run spay and neuter clinics at the Ann Street shelter in 1971 and the Valley Shelter and South LA spay-neuter clinics opened in 1973. 1975 brought new procedures to help abate neighborhood barking dog nuisance problems.

Beginning in 1971, the annual St. Francis of Assisi Award was designated to a meritorious champion of animal humane work who was recognized by the mayor in a ceremony at City Hall. In 1972 two Animal Control Officers were assigned to providing humane education to LAUSD elementary school students.

Ann Street, South Central, Harbor and East Valley shelters were in dire need of replacement, and the West LA Shelter needed an addition, but a \$10.3 million bond issue measure unfortunately failed to get ballot approval in 1973. It would be 30-plus years before those new shelters would get funded.

The Animal Airlift program in 1976 allowed 961 wild animals to be relocated from the City to the Angeles National Forest. By the end of the 1970s the veterinary staff in the City shelters were vaccinating dogs and cats for the common contagious diseases and were using pentobarbital euthanasia in place of the Euthanair decompression chamber. The Harbor Shelter and South LA shelters were updated with new veterinary hospital units. The Animal Control Officers used to carry handcuffs in case a citizen became unruly, but that practice became prohibited in 1979.

In 1988 the North Central Shelter on Lacy Street in Lincoln Heights was completed, and Ann Street was finally shuttered. The spacious new building had a large animal barn, a spay-neuter clinic and a large multipurpose training room.

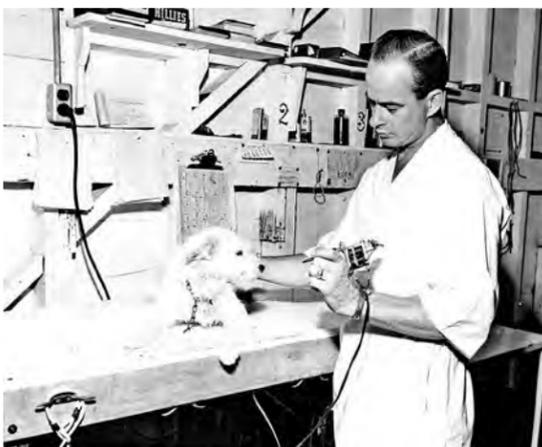
Some of the first legislation in the nation to deal with dangerous dog and barking dog problems was implemented in the department, also in 1988.

The 1990s and early 21st century brought many changes to Animal Services. Radical animal activists would wreak havoc on the department and called for the City to achieve a "no kill" policy; a succession of short-lived General Managers would be appointed. There was a trial policy in 1991, soon discontinued, that mandated that pit bulls could not be adopted and had to be euthanized.

The Hayden Bill of 1999 was a state bill initiated by critics of the tumultuous conditions in the aging Los Angeles shelters. The law increased the number of days an animal must be held and mandated a holding period for relinquished and community (feral) cats. Veterinary treatment was required for all pets. The challenge to hold more animals for longer periods was met by the department in with the passage of the \$154 million Prop. F Bond in 2000.

In 2006 the North Central shelter would get many new outside runs and a behavioral wing, and the West Valley Shelter would undergo a radical expansion. Beginning in 2007, impressive new shelters would replace the 50-plus-year-old East Valley, Harbor and West Los Angeles structures. The Northeast Shelter would be completed, but the recession prevented its opening. The overcrowded South Los Angeles main shelter and the Annex would move to Chesterfield Square in 2012.

By 2016, Animal Services staff would expand to 312 full-time and 29 part-time workers. The department that had its beginnings more than 150 years ago has become one of the most excellent municipal animal regulatory agencies in the world. ■



In 1952, the Identacode tattooing procedure preceded present-day microchip identification of dogs.

GOING TO THE SHOW
Is even easier as Club adds four cinema chains to its great deals!

- SEE PAGE 45

The City Parties!

Part 3

Here in March, Alive! concludes its coverage of the City Social Season 2015, with stories and photos from Club staff ... and sent in by you, too.

Enjoy the memories!

LACECA

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) held its 44th annual toy drive and holiday reception Dec. 3 at Tamayo's Restaurant. The restaurant was festively decorated upon arrival. Members and their guests donated toys for the Lincoln Park Recreation – LA Kids Program. Merrymakers were able to partake in entertainment provided by a DJ, an Elvis impersonator and a photo booth while also enjoying a buffet meal and VIP speaker Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo. It was a jovial event for everyone.



From left: Katherine Valenzuela; Julie Walters, DWP MA, 2 years of City service; Mimi Walker, UES DWP, 27 years, Club Member; and Jorge Guedea, DWP Sr. Comm. Field Serv. Rep., 30 years.



From left: Martha Manriquez, Retired, DWP, 26 years of City service; Patricia Stanard, DWP, 17 years; Soledad Figueroa, DWP, 26 years of City service; and guests.



Fernie "Elvis" Ramirez, City Graphic Designer II, 27 years of City service.



From left: Angie Roman, Exec. Admin. Asst., LAPD, 40 years of City service, Club Member; Jackie Zurate, President; Gloria Ortiz, First Vice President, DWP, 26 years; Diana Castro, DWP Sr. Clerk Typist, 27 years, Club Member; and guests Arthur and Sam.



From left: Rosie Ocana, Ret. Mayor's Office, 10 years of City service; and Edna Meraz, Ret. Housing Dept. and Mayor's Office, 37 years, Club Member.



From left: Clemente Arrizon, Rec and Parks, 21 years of City service; and David Gopar, Rec. Asst., 1 year.



From left: Eleanor; Patrick Sanchez, Welder, 15 years of City service



Photo booth fun.



From left: Rebecca Camacho and Lupe Durazo, Second VP, 15 years of City service.



From left: Raul Lemus, Chief Analyst, 27 years of City service; Jimmy, guest; Maribel Gomez PA, 14 years, Club Member; and Jackie Zurate and her son Kenny, GSD, 6 months of City service.



Adam Perez, Fire and Police Pensions, 1 month of City service; and Stella Sias, DWP, 28 years, and her guest.



The LACECA Board.



Holiday committee and board.

Claudia Farfan, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 20 years of City service, Club Member; and Matias Farfan, Asst. Chief Legislation Analyst, 17 years, Club Member.

LAPD

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor

LAPD Records/ Identification

The LAPD's Records and Identification Division holiday party took place Dec. 4 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Torrance. It was a festive celebration and beautifully decorated, capturing the spirit of the holiday season. Employees and their guests dressed up for the evening and had the opportunity to take a professional photo as a way to remember the night. Revelers were able to partake in a delicious buffet meal and raffled gifts ranging from cash and gift cards to appliances and electronics. It was a jolly time for all participants.



From left: Veronica Kenney, SCT, 16 years of City service; Alma Becerra, SCT, 27 years; Leo Samaniego, Acting Sr. MA, 27 years, Club Member; Lourdes Popper, SCT, 12 years, Club Member; and Anthony Popper, Principal Sr. Keeper, 27 years.



From left: Chris Moore, Graphic Op., 25 years of City service, Club Member; and Norma Graziano, Sr. Clerk Typist, 15 years, Club Member.



Alicia and Manuel Rodarte, Sr. MA, 15 years of City service.



Back, from left: Pamela Turnipseed, FIE, 30 years of City service, Club Member; Adriane Ables, Sr. MA II, 28 years, Club Member; and Debra Avery, Chief Clerk Police, 33 years, Club Member. Front: Aarin Ables and Iesha Robinson, Clerk Typist, 6 years, Club Member.



Lilia Delgadillo Act. Clerk, 18 years of City service, Club Member, and daughters Joanne and Jennifer.



Emilia Santana-Mendez, SCT, 27 years of City service, Club Member; Emerald Caudillo; and Carmen Quintanar, SCT, 16 years, Club Member.



From left: Saul Aviles, Ch. Clerk Police, 25 years of City service, Club Member, and guest Jose.



Terry Carter, Police Administrator and Club Rep, 25 years of City service, Club Member, with family Carlee, Michael, and Jimmy.



From left: Mary Ramirez, SCT, 16 years of City service, Club Member; and Robert and Rosemary Murillo, Ret. LAPD, 32 years.



The raffle winner.



From left: Debora Fore, Retired, LAPD, Club Member; and Adriane Ables, Sr. MA II, 28 years, Club Member, with attendee.



Andrew Allen, Airport Police, 28 years of City service, and family.



Diann Brown, Sr. Clerk Typist, 32 years of City service, and her sisters.



Errol R. Lawson, Sr. MA II, 21 years of City service, Club Member.

Alicia Pinedo, Principal Clerk Police II, 25 years of City service, Club Member, and Saul Corpeno, Sr. Clerk Typist, 15 years, Club Member.



From left: Tami Sotomayor, SCT, 11 years of City service, Club Member; Xochitl Ortiz-Garcia, SCT, 9 years, Club Member; Veronica Kenney, SCT, 16 years; Carmela Benavidez, Principal Clerk Police, 15 years, Club Member; and Rhoda Stagger, SCT, 40 years, Club Member.

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



CLASSIC
FROM APRIL 2013

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

Meet Gregory Tyrone Wright



- AGE:** "I'm 57."
- BIRTHPLACE:** Mather Air Force Base, Sacramento.
- MARITAL STATUS:** "I'm married."
- FAMILY:** "I have two brothers and two sisters."
- PARENTS MARRIED OR DIVORCED?** "Divorced."
- EDUCATION:** "I graduated from John F. Kennedy High School."
- MILITARY SERVICE:** "I was in the Air Force for 35 years."
- WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** "Down near the Coliseum; 87th Street; and various shelters and hotels."
- FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:** "Downtown."
- WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "I moved down here from Sacramento about two weeks ago."
- WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES?** "I have family in the area."
- PLAYED SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL?** "Yes, I was a defensive halfback."
- RELIGION:** "Baptist... but many religions are connected."
- FAVORITE ACTOR:** "Sidney Poitier."
- FAVORITE MOVIE:** "*Let's Do It Again*, from the 1970s."
- FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "*The Jeffersons*."
- FAVORITE CANDY:** "I looove candy with coconut in it."
- FAVORITE FOOD:** "Steaks."
- FAVORITE MUSIC:** "Rhythm and blues."
- LAST BOOK READ:** "A weekly magazine."
- LAST JOB:** "I was a short-order cook and a janitor."
- FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:** "Rodeos and bullfighting."
- LAST THING EATEN:** "A banana."
- MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION:** "The Salvation Army."
- IF YOU WERE MAYOR, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR SOLUTION?** "I'd talk to people about schools and jobs. I'd construct things."
- MAKE A WISH:** "Peace around the world."
- WHAT HE WOULD DO WITH \$1 MILLION:** "Put it in a bank."
- WHERE WILL YOU BE IN FIVE YEARS?** "Here in Los Angeles, just like I am now, I hope."
- ITEM ALWAYS WITH YOU:** "My money!"
- MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:** "My money!"
- ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:** "Keep the peace, and keep smiling."

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

The interview took place March 18, 2013 at Fourth and Main Streets downtown.

Photos by Angel Gomez and John Hawkins.

Buckets and Blankets!

Join us as we help those who live on the streets with Buckets and Blankets. Donate to the cause as the Club distributes food, toiletries and blankets to those in need (blankets cost \$7 each).



Buckets and Blankets is produced in cooperation with the **Club Angels** program and **CRE 8 TIVE SOLUTIONS** – Fred Fowlks and Sue Manzo, LAFD.

Contact John Hawkins or Angel Gomez, and we'll take it from there:

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com or agomez@cityemployeesclub.com



CRE 8 TIVE
FORCE
SOLUTIONS

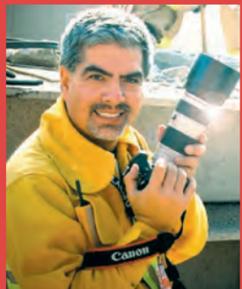


{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, and Director of Member Services Angel Gomez, introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }

Everyday
Heroes
in Action



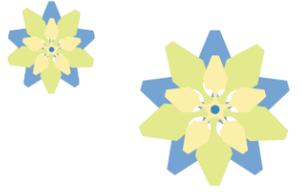
PACOIMA — Batt. Chief Dean Zipperman, Fire Station 10, helped battle a major fire that tore through a three-story condominium complex in Pacoima Dec. 6, 2014. At least four people were injured, according to LAFD spokesman Cody Weireter. Firefighters put out the blaze in 43 minutes. The cause of the fire was said to be under investigation.



Juan Guerra,
Photographer



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



New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

Airports

Mark Askey
Richard Atkinson
Yolanda Coomer
Arielle Flores
Ernesto Garcia
Marchelle Hayes
Claire Heria
Imran Khan
Steven Shack
Bridgette Smith
Arthur Taylor

Ty Gray
Gustavo Grendain
Wajin Habbal
Daniel Janeck
Steve Martinez
Estevan Mayorga
Christopher Midgette
Adan Moreno
Rudy Romero
David Woods

Jose Gonzalez
Joseph Gonzalez
Adam Graley
Jorge Gutierrez
Martha Guzman
Diane Harris
Brandea Hill
Elizabeth Holguin
Alvin Lee
James Lopez
Tomas Melendez
Tamara Momayez
Joseph Myers
Arnold Nerio
Joel Perez
Leslie Salinas
Juan Silva
Franco Torrez
Jeffery Von Lutzow

Dwayne Graham
Daniel Hernandez
Kathrine Konstantindis
Micaela Leyva
Mira Martin
Caudrey Moss
Darrell Newsome
Johanna Orozco
Raymond Padilla Jr.
David Potik
Randi Townsend
Zachery Trosien
Kimberly Young

Rec and Parks
Daisy Banos
Francisco Cerritos
Jonathan Diaz
Albert Hernandez
Don Johnson
Nick Nelson
Moises Ojeda
Tiffany Origel
Jose Rivera
Gabriela Wence
Anthony Zamora

Rony Pineda
Joshua Roberson
Victor Warren
Marilyn Washington
Gene Williams

Building and Safety

Angel Rodriguez
John Utreras

LACERS

Carmelita Payne

Mayor's Office

Gabriela Jasso
Mathew Peterson

LAFD

Scott Quinlan
Michael Roberts
Annamarie Sanchez

LAPD

Anthony Ariaz
Jessica Bondurant
Jose Camacho
Jose Campos
Travonne Dixon
Jesse Espinoza
Brent Evans
Austin Fernald Jr.
Jackie Fort
Eduardo Garcia

PUBLIC WORKS:

Sanitation
Sonia Bustos
Maxine Coakley
Mark Gauthier

Transportation

Latonya Allen
Rita Aparicio
Stephanie Barrientos
Oscar Contreras
Pamela Green
James Ingram JR.
Victor Marquez-Cardiel
Jesus Perez

DWP

Isaac Gonzalez
Ruben Orellana
Lydia Rodarte

Other

Christopher Bouse
Ronald Cortez
Silvia Denis
Ida Dyer
Joseph Le
Reynaldo Lopez
Christoffer Mendez
Dylan Noel
Marisela Reyes
Robert Schultz
Huang C. Joanna Silva
David Vierra



Births

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



Camila Berumen, born Dec. 15 to Lulu Avalos and Oscar Berumen, LAPD.



Samantha Rose Ramos, born Sept. 2 to Marina Castaneda, Public Works/Sanitation, and Jose Ramos, General Services. Samantha joins brothers Jacob, Joseph and Jason.

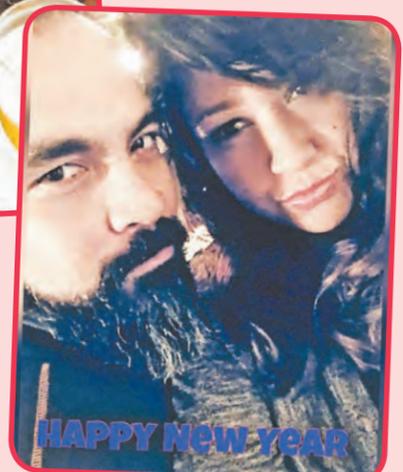
Club Valentines

Correction

In last month's Club Valentines feature, we printed only one of Alex Juarez's two photos. Here, we publish them both. —Ed.



"Happy Valentine's Day, my love."
— Alex Juarez, Harbor, for Rosie Bustillos



"Will you be mine?"
— Alex Juarez, Harbor

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Peace of Mind

CLASSIC
FROM Mar. 2014

by **Tiffany Sy**
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



Get the Law on Your Side

Contact me at
info@cityemployeesclub.com

Have you ever faced a challenging legal issue on your own? Needed legal advice concerning marriage, divorce, child custody, or Power of Attorney? Has a merchant dishonored an agreement? Do you need to update your will or trust? If you have experienced any of these situations, then you know how expensive it can be to hire a lawyer. Due to these events, many people have turned to more affordable legal plans. Even if you haven't had to deal with a traumatic or expensive legal problem in the past, there are many reasons why you would get this type of plan to protect you and your family.

The Club's Family Legal Access plan will let you call about anything you want regarding legal assistance. They will link you with an attorney specializing in the type of law you need. Family Legal Access program offers you and your family value, convenience and peace of mind by giving you access to licensed attorneys for a wide variety of legal services. It's like having your own attorney on retainer. Payments are made conveniently through payroll deductions. Coverage is extended to your spouse, children up to age 23 living in your residence, and parents, whether they live with you or not.

Included Free Legal Benefits:

- Unlimited number of initial 30-minute consultations by phone or in person.
- Simple Will or Living Will prepared for eligible family members, one per plan year.
- Document review for many types of legal documents.
- Dispute resolution to attempt to resolve legal disputes, such as a simple contractor dispute.
- Guaranteed Reduced Rates – Members receive a 25 percent discount on Plan Attorney's hourly rates when legal representation is needed.

- Small Claims Court Preparation – Consultation at no additional cost by phone with attorney to help "coach" members on small claims lawsuits.

Legal matters can be stressful and expensive. The Club's Family Legal Access Plans is there to help every step of the way with affordable legal support. Contact your Club Counselor to enroll and preserve your peace of mind.



Share Your Life's Moments

Everyone reads Life's Most Important Moments in *Alive!* Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

Send digital photos to:
(as high a resolution as you can send)
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

OR send paper photos to:
Life's Moments – *Alive!*
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Please don't send the only one you have!



Births • Graduations • Special Achievements • Weddings • Alive! in the Military

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					
Brumfield, Clarence	General Services	27	Large, Robert Sr.	General Services	35
Garcia, Francisco David	Rec and Parks	7	Lasanen, Roger	Harbor	18
Gonzalez, Jess	City Attorney	21	Latimer, John	Transportation	36
Martinez, Socrates	Rec and Parks	10	Lewis, John Carl	General Services	21
Young, Leroy	Public Works	18	Lockett, Calvin	Rec and Parks	30
			Martinez, Richard	Rec and Parks	35
			McComb, Darrell	City Clerk	26
			Miller, Edward	Controller	26
			Moreno, Louie	General Services	27
Retired			Niebuhr, Roy	Airports	21
Anderson, James	Transportation	23	Overton, Carol	LAPD	22
Baker, Allan	Public Works	29	Raines, Bette	Personnel	43
Brown, Robert	Public Works	21	Reaben, Eugene	Rec and Parks	31
Carrisoza, Charles	Public Works	30	Rogers, Birdie	Public Works	25
Clovis, George	Airports	26	Scott, Billie	LAPD	21
Corbin, Brenda	General Services	35	Sivertsen, Robert	Public Works	25
De Leon, Aner Regala	General Services	13	Smith, A.G.	Public Works	10
Dodds, Charles	Public Works	13	Solte, Estanislao	Rec and Parks	18
Donaldson, Mollie	Transportation	13	Sparkes, Gordon	Public Works	33
Ellis, George	Transportation	31	Stanton, John	Public Works	24
Fujita, Robert	Rec and Parks	14	Strode, Dewitt	Building & Safety	30
Good, Willie	Transportation	26	Thompson, Mellie	Airports	5
Gorick, Milan	Public Works	15	Viado, Federico	Public Works	29
Harris, James	General Services	32	Villescas, Joe	Harbor	23
Herrera, Ramiro	Convention Center	13	Vonslomski, Joseph	Animal Services	35
Heyser, Alfonso	General Services	11	Walker, Fred	Public Works	37
Higgins, David	Harbor	24	Ward, Paul	Airports	35
Hodge, Forrest	Public Works	36	Welch, Kenneth	Airports	33
James, Richard	LAPD	7	Winston, Ella Louise	Transportation	11
Isomoto, Tadao	Public Works	38			
Keeler, Bob	General Services	21			
Kerr, Colin	Rec and Parks	15			

It's Time to

Tell Their Story

An Alive! feature

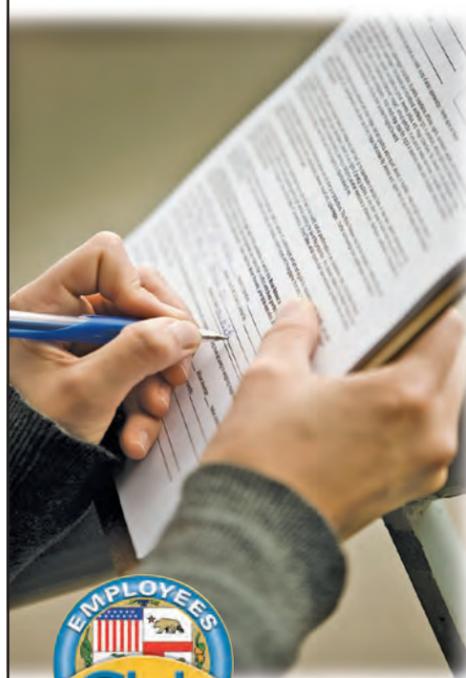
Every month, *Alive!* publishes the names of those current or retired City Employees who have died. But who were they? Did you know them? If you worked with any of these people, knew a story or two about them or were related to them, consider writing to *Alive!* and letting us know. *Tell their story!*

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



CLUB MEMBER SERVICE **FREE**

Free Notary Service



When you need a notary service, there's never any charge. It's just one of the great services to Club Members.

Free notary service available during normal business hours at the:

**Club Store and Service Center
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles 90012
TEL: (888) 777-1744.**

Appointments are highly recommended; availability to walk-ins is limited.



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Cheap Tickets. Insane Service. Affordable Insurance

City Attorney/ABCA

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor



Honoring Black Attorneys

City Attorney's Office, Association of Black Attorneys hold celebration luncheon.

City Attorney Mike Feuer and the Association of Black City Attorneys (ABCA) held their Black History Month celebration luncheon in City Hall's Tom Bradley Room Feb. 11. The luncheon took place on a beautiful Thursday, recognizing the achievements of past and present employees within the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. It was an eventful day honoring those who serve the City.

New Officers of the ABCA were installed at the luncheon. The Club congratulates Eva Farlow Malbrough, Club Rep, for being honored.



Eva Farlow-Malbrough, Assistant Supervisor, 29 years of City service, Club Member and Club Rep, was honored as Civil Division Support Staff of the Year.



Carmen D. Hawkins, President, ABCA, Deputy City Attorney, 27 years of City service, Club Member.



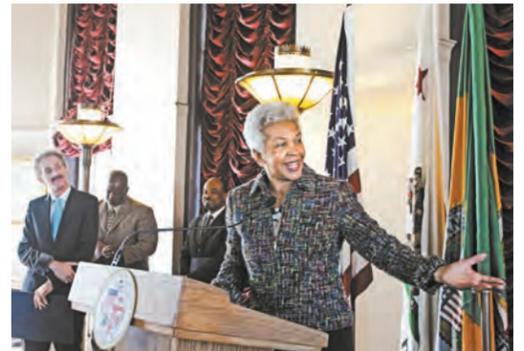
Monique Earl, Chief Deputy, Controller Interim, 10 years of City service, with Ron Galperin, City Controller.



Presentation of the 2016 Black Heritage Stamp: Richard Allen.



Vivian Lackey, Support Staff Supervisor, 28 years of City service, Club Member, was honored as Criminal Division Support Staff of the Year.



Gwendolyn Ryder-Poindexter, Former Assistant City Attorney, was honored as Outstanding Attorney Alumna of the Year.



Installation of new officers.



Carl Douglas, guest speaker.



Co-presenter of 2016 Honorees, Jolaine Harkless.



Tay Popoola, Deputy City Attorney, was honored as Attorney of the Year.



Nichole Kelso, Airports Deputy City Attorney, 11 years of City service.



Co-presenter Annie Battle-Bolden.



The Honorable Patti Jo McKay, Appellate Division of the Los Angeles Superior Court, was honored as Outstanding Judicial Alumna.

**ON A SCREEN
NEAR YOU**

Club adds deals at four more cinema chains!

- SEE PAGE 45

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies

— In the cinema

The Revenant

Rated R

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Leonardo DiCaprio is a scout for fur trappers in the 1820s American frontier. His group is attacked by American Indians; his son is killed; and he is mauled by a bear and left for dead. *The Revenant* is a grueling story of survival and revenge and not recommended for the queasy or sensitive. But all others will no doubt enjoy the grit and struggle, and especially the acting of Tom Hardy, the best movie bad guy I've seen in a long time. Director Alejandro Iñárritu has made a brilliant film, with cinematography that is picture perfect.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Hail, Caesar!

Rated PG-13

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Hail, Caesar! follows Eddie Mannix (Josh Brolin), head of studio production, as he attends to the daily problems at the fictional Capitol Pictures. The kidnapping of leading man Baird Whitlock (George Clooney) is only one of many challenges that particular day.

For the viewer it's an enjoyable look back into an imaginary studio, with plenty of today's star power on display: Scarlett Johansson as an aqua-movie star, Channing Tatum as a Gene-Kelly-type of song and dance man, Tilda Swinton as identical twin newspaper gossip columnists, Ralph Fiennes as an exacting director and Frances McDormand cutting it up in the editing suite. However, the kidnapping story doesn't quite mesh all the vignettes together to any great satisfaction.

— Dearbhla McNulty, Club wife

The Hateful Eight

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

I will state here and now that the writing and story for Quentin Tarantino's *The Hateful Eight* are his best ever. The overall film still isn't as good as *Pulp Fiction* or even *Django Unchained* – in fact some may even be dismayed by how much more emphasis was put on story and dialog than on action in the film – but this is the maturation of Tarantino as writer and filmmaker. Solid performances by Samuel L. Jackson and Jennifer Jason Leigh contribute to the overall enjoyment of the film, but the story and writing are the best features here.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Anomalisa

Rated R

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

Don't believe the commercials, the film festival laurel branches or the critical raves about the triumph of the human spirit, or something – this stop-motion animation of a mid-life man's extramarital one-night stand is pointless. And worse, it's deathly slow. (Slow does not always mean profound!)

I've appreciated writer/co-director Charlie Kaufman's previous mind-benders (*Adaptation*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) and the way he explores insular men seeking reprieve from loneliness, but there's little release here, and not a lot of joy beyond a funny opening joke. Mousy Lisa (voiced by Jennifer Jason Leigh) blooms from the attention she gets from a dreary traveling motivational speaker (voiced by David Thewlis), only to have no problem when, after their tryst, he dismisses her; it's an unconvincing easy out for him, and for Kaufman. The facemasks the puppets wear seem a bit haunting, so there's that. And one bit of cleverness, too – all the characters, including the women, are voiced by men, until Lisa (Leigh) comes onto the scene. It's a nice touch, but one of the only few.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Book Reviews

Glory Days

Max Lucado

Religious nonfiction, 262 pages

Thomas Nelson Publishing

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This inspirational novel of the plight of searching for the Promised Land gives the reader the strength to follow God's plan and put mistakes behind them and move forward to The Glory Days that are ahead.

There are stories from the Old Testament with devotionals and a study guide that inspire the reader on how to overcome everyday problems by trusting in God.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

Star Wars: Battlefront Twilight Company

Alexander Freed

Science fiction, 406 pages

Random House

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This companion novel inspired by the videogame *Star Wars: Battlefront* tells the story of soldiers from the 61st Mobile Infantry known as Twilight Company battle Stormtroopers in the ultimate galactic war between good and evil. When it looks like the Twilight Company is about to lose the battle, an ally helps the Rebel Alliance fight the battle against the Empire.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

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

Dengeki Bunko: Fighting Climax

Rated T for Teen

For PlayStation 3, PlayStation Vita

My Score: 4 (out of 5)



I am a huge fan of ASCII Media Works' *Dengeki Bunko* imprint of books and manga. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the imprint, the company teamed with game designers Ecole Software and French Bread and publisher Sega to create the fighting game *Dengeki Bunko: Fighting Climax* – a fighting game that features some of the more popular characters in the *Dengeki Bunko* line as the main combatants. Slick and simplified controls makes this game easy to get into, though I imagine the more hardcore fighting game fans out there might take issue with how easy it is to breeze through the game.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Zoo

Photos by Jamie Pham, Zoo

Hello, Hippos!

Zoo introduces Hippo Encounter, a new area where guests can get up close to the big animals.

What's it like to be up close to a hippo? Have you ever wondered how their skin feels? Or what they eat for lunch? Why they spend so much time in the water? How fast they run? Are they endangered? Guests can find out at the Zoo's new Hippo Encounter, a hands-on opportunity every weekend and holiday at noon at the L.A. Zoo and Botanical Gardens.

Small groups of up to 15 people, including children ages four and up accompanied by an adult, can go behind the scenes for approximately 20 minutes to stand very close to the Zoo's near-legendary, 15-month old baby, Rosie, and her mom, Mara, while learning all about them. L.A. Zoo keepers introduce guests to both hippos, the third-largest land mammal, and share specifics about their daily routines, care, training and lives. Participants watch up close as staff feeds lunch to the hippos, followed by a chance to reach out and feel their cool, smooth skin, then concluding with a photo op. Due to the great popularity of this unique experience, purchase of Hippo Encounter tickets (\$15 per person in addition to regular Zoo admission) is suggested in advance via the L.A. Zoo's Website.

Admission to the Los Angeles Zoo 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. Admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free. Hippo Encounter tickets are \$15 per person in addition to regular Zoo admission and available to adults and children ages four and up accompanied by an adult. Tickets for the Hippo Encounter are available online at <http://www.lazoo.org/visit/showsandactivities/> and in person at admissions ticket windows; Greater Los Angeles Zoo members may purchase tickets at admissions window 11.

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. Information: (323) 644-6001, or lazoo.org.



Guests enjoy getting up close to hippos at new Zoo feature.

MORE CLUB MOVIE DEALS

Cinépolis, Brenden, Reading, Metropolitan chains added!

- SEE PAGE 45

Zoo

Story courtesy Zoo
Photos by Tad Motoyama and Jamie Pham, Zoo

The Year of These Monkeys



L.A. Zoo Francois' Langur Family

Zoo celebrated Lunar New Year with focus on monkey species.

The Los Angeles Zoo celebrated the Lunar New Year Feb. 8 by inviting guests to visit its diverse collection of monkey species from around the world. Guests viewed the curious, innovative and mischievous animals that make up one of the 12 animal species that appear in the Chinese Zodiac.

Perhaps the most heartwarming and inspiring group of monkeys that reside at the L.A. Zoo is a newly blended Francois' langur family, which came together after a long journey to reunite an infant monkey named Tao with his troop after a dramatic birth. Deemed a "miracle baby" by his animal keepers, the slender monkey with orange and black fur, a long tail, and striking eyes was born last Aug. 15 but tragically lost his mother during childbirth.

Animal Keeper Stephanie Zielinski found the newborn Francois' langur in the troop's holding area the morning after his evening birth. Seeing that his mother had passed away and he was in need of immediate care, she quickly placed an emergency call to the Zoo's veterinary team and began warming the baby. Animal care and veterinarian staff needed to stabilize the baby and make some very important decisions regarding his future within the troop with his mother being gone.

The thriving baby spent a month in the Zoo's nursery until he was strong enough to begin the lengthy process of rejoining the troop. "The goal is always to get primate infants back to their mothers as soon as possible," Zielinski said. "Ultimately this allows for a much greater chance at a successful integration and life back into the troop. The major challenge here is that we lost Tao's mother, so we had to see if the other female would take Tao on as her own."

Animal care staff was confident that resident female Mei-Chi would endear to baby Tao as she is gentle in nature and has been a mother to two infants before coming to live at the L.A. Zoo in 2009. Staff fed Tao his bottles while simultaneously getting the rest of the troop used to Tao's presence in the near vicinity. After this process yielded encouraging results, animal care staff began allowing protected contact with Mei-Chi, encouraging her to touch and groom Tao for brief amounts of time. But, as Francois' langur infants often nurse from their mothers for close to a year and Mei-Chi would have no milk to nurse, it was vital for animal care staff to teach Mei-Chi how to bring Tao up to the fence so that animal care staff could feed Tao his bottles throughout the day. Both Mei-Chi and Tao progressed quickly in learning the new process, and at two months old Tao was given full contact with Mei-Chi behind the scenes.



L.A. Zoo Francois' Langur Tao and Mei-Chi.

"It was clear at this point Tao was pulling away from our care giving and was ready to be with new mother Mei-Chi full time," Zielinski said. "It has been beautiful to watch their bond grow strong and very real. This has been one of the biggest challenges of my 21-year career as an animal keeper here at the Los Angeles Zoo, and it's so gratifying to see this unique situation turning out exactly as we hoped it would for this miracle baby and his surrogate mother."

To add to the already delicate process, another female named Vicki Vale arrived from the Memphis Zoo last November 2015 and was introduced to Tao as well. It is common for this species of primate to share the care of raising



L.A. Zoo Francois' Langur Tao.

infants, and Vicki Vale naturally began passing Tao back and forth with surrogate mother Mei-Chi and participated in a cooperative strategy for raising Tao. The final step was introducing the father Francois' langur, Paak, back into the group. He had been kept in a separate but adjacent space from the others so the female's bonds could deepen with Tao while still allowing him to observe the group. Paak took to infant Tao nicely, and the group became a blended family, coming together after a delicate five month introduction process due in part to the hard work of the dedicated animal care staff.

Francois' langurs are a slender black monkey with long tails that can be found in the wild in southern China and northeastern Vietnam. They split their time between the trees and the ground while eating a diet consisting primarily of shoots, fruits, flowers, and bark. Francois' langurs are currently listed as endangered on the International Union of Conservation of Nature Red List due to deforestation and being hunted for use in traditional Asian medicines on the black market.

Guests can now view infant Tao, Mei-Chi, Vicki Vale, and Paak in their habitat next to Tiger Plaza daily, weather permitting.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$15 for children ages 2 to 12. The Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the L.A. Zoo Website at lazoo.org.



L.A. Zoo Francois' Langur Bottle Feeding.



Rest Insured

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

Do You Need Gap Insurance?

We get this question frequently. If you are getting a new car, or recently did, you may want to read about this important coverage.

Though it may sound trivial, gap insurance is a must for people who lease their cars. And if you made a small down payment when buying a car, a gap policy can be lifesaver as well. But first, let's look at why it exists.

As the name implies, gap insurance covers what traditional auto insurance doesn't. In other words, it closes the gap between what your insurance company pays if your car is stolen or totaled and what you owe the finance company.

Let's take a test case: Say you bought your car two months ago for \$25,000. You begin making payments at about \$500 a month based on a six percent interest rate. Then, disaster strikes: A tree falls on your car and flattens it.

You call the insurance company and it looks into its crystal ball and decides at the time of the accident your car was worth only \$20,000. The car may be only a couple of months old, but it has already lost 20 percent of its value. Unfortunately, the finance company still wants the full amount you owe them. With interest, tax and license fees, they figure that to be \$27,000.

Yikes! There's a gap of \$7,000 between the \$20,000 that the insurance company is willing to pay you and the \$27,000 the finance company is demanding. Most folks are going to be eating Spam dinners for the next two years, but if you have gap insurance you can safely order steak.

Apply the same scenario to someone who bought their car. If they left the dealer lot without putting several thousand dollars down, they likely owe more than the insurance company will pay if the vehicle gets totaled or stolen in the first few years. Once again, gap coverage can save the day.

And that's why gap insurance is a must for many drivers. In fact, gap insurance is usually mandated by lease contracts or included within them. If a gap policy is required but not included in your contract, you should shop around for this coverage (insurance companies sell it). If gap coverage is included in the lease, check to see how much is offered and how much you're going to be paying for it. (In some cases, lease contracts may include what is known as a gap waiver, which protects you from gap charges in the event that the leased vehicle is declared a total loss — eliminating the need for a gap policy.)

Is gap insurance necessary for people who finance their cars? Well, it depends on your coverage. If your regular insurance policy is written to pay off the fully financed amount, then you don't need gap insurance.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when buying gap insurance:

- Although most people purchase it when a lease is initiated, some insurance companies will sell you a gap policy anytime during the lease term.
- You must be in compliance with all terms of the lease.
- Your gap insurance policy may not be honored if you don't have collision and comprehensive insurance coverage. Further, lease contracts generally require that you carry collision and comprehensive at all times.
- If your car is totaled or stolen, carefully follow all requirements made by your insurance company. For example, some companies require you to continue making loan payments on your totaled car until the money from the gap insurance is paid out.

So when initiating a car loan or lease, always remember to ask your insurance agent about gap insurance. If you have an accident, you'll be glad you planned ahead.

About United Agencies

United Agencies is the Club's Partner is 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.



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Cooking with the Club

by Chef Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

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

Tastes of Ireland



DIRECTIONS:

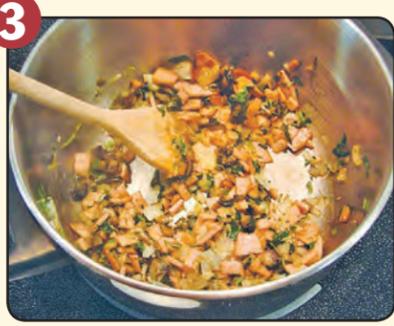
Irish Stuffed Mushrooms



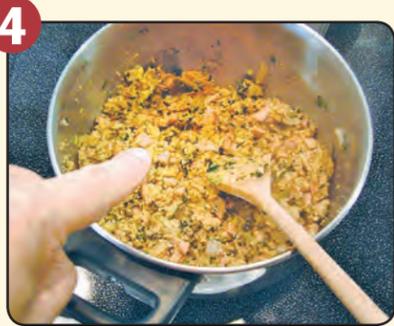
Have your ingredients ready for dicing.



Remove the stems of each mushroom and dice them with the onion, parsley, Canadian bacon and minced garlic.



Add olive oil in a large pot on medium heat. Place Canadian bacon, garlic, onion, parsley, thyme, salt and pepper and cook until the Canadian bacon is sautéed thoroughly.



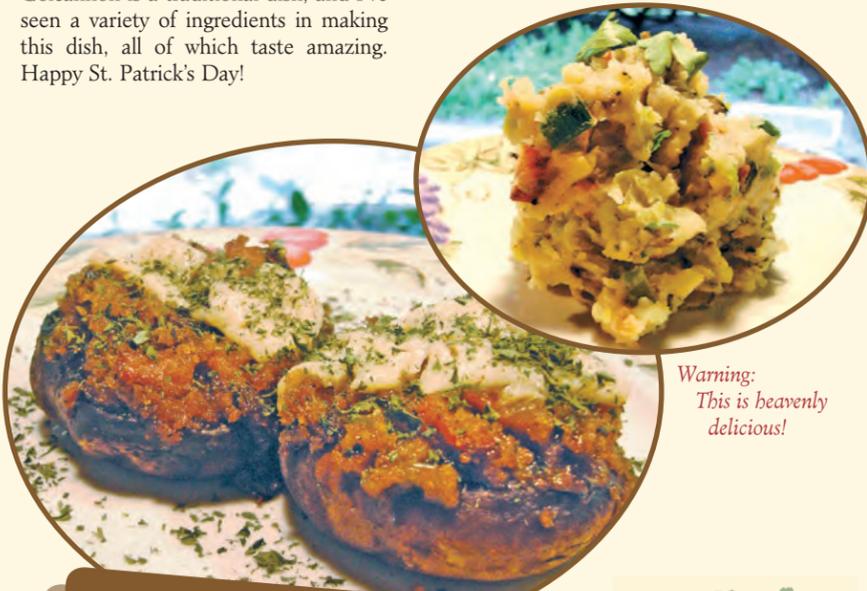
Add bread crumbs and water. Mix.



Place stuffing mixture on top of each mushroom. Add a slice of Dubliner cheese. Place stuffed mushrooms in the oven for 30 minutes at 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

St. Patrick's Day is around the corner, and aside from green beverages and the great St. Patrick's Day Parade we all know and love here in Downtown Los Angeles, I decided to share two Irish dishes, Irish Stuffed Mushrooms and Colcannon.

The ingredients used are not quite what the great people of Ireland might use, but it's pretty close in texture and flavor. For example, ham and bacon are more traditional ingredients than the Canadian bacon I used, and the Irish would use butter instead of olive oil. Colcannon is a traditional dish, and I've seen a variety of ingredients in making this dish, all of which taste amazing. Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Warning:
This is heavenly delicious!

Irish Stuffed Mushrooms³

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 medium-sized Portabella mushrooms
- 1 yellow or white onion
- 1 bunch parsley
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme
- 1/2 cup diced Canadian bacon (or ham)
- 2 cloves garlic
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 6 slices Irish Dubliner cheese (you may substitute a cheese of your choice)



Colcannon

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 whole cabbage, shredded
- 6 medium-sized russet or Yukon potatoes
- 2 scallions, diced
- 2 leeks, diced
- Milk, 1/2 to 1 cup
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup bacon, diced
- 1/2 cup Canadian bacon or ham, diced
- Salt and pepper to taste



[A Cook's Dictionary]

Colcannon:

A delicious Irish peasant dish of milk and butter-moistened mashed potatoes, mixed with finely chopped onions and cabbage.

– From the *The New Food Lover's Companion*, Sharon Tyler Herbst, 1995, Barron's Educational Series.



DIRECTIONS:

Colcannon



Have your potatoes, scallions, cabbage, leeks and Canadian bacon ready. Place all potatoes in a large pot and fill with water. Cover with lid and let cook until tender on medium heat.



Place shredded cabbage in a large pot with water and let cook until tender.



Use a fork to poke a potato to see how soft it is. If there's no resistance, it's done, and strain water from pot. Use fork to mash potatoes. Add the milk and butter here.



Sauté the Canadian bacon (or ham) and regular bacon until golden brown; add scallions, leeks, salt and pepper. Cook through. Then add those mixed ingredients and the cabbage (strained) to the mashed potatoes.

Larios in the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com



Robert Larios, Chief Operating Officer, honors City employees for their achievements.

Greg Todd

Robert Larios congratulates Greg Todd for his career at the DWP. Greg retired after 26 years of City service. Congratulations, Greg!



Roland Hunter

Robert Larios congratulates Roland Hunter for his career at the DWP. He retired after 36 years of City service. Congratulations, Roland!



MOVIE MADNESS

Club adds deals at four more cinema chains!

- SEE PAGE 45

LACERS

Story courtesy LACERS



Know Your Tier

For current City employees: New ordinance creates new tier, amends earlier tier for retirement benefits.

The City Council has given initial approval to an ordinance that will create a new tier (Tier 3) of retirement benefits for Active LACERS Members hired on or after Feb. 21, 2016. The ordinance will transfer Tier 2 members (persons hired on or after July 1, 2013) into Tier 1.

Here's how it works:

Active Member Benefits: Retirement Formulas

Tier 1

Retirement allowance may not exceed 100 percent of final compensation.

Normal Retirement:

- 2.16 percent times 12-month final average compensation times years of service credit

Early Retirement:

- 2.16 percent times 12-month final average compensation times years of service credit times early retirement adjustment factor

Tier 3

Retirement allowance may not exceed 80 percent of final compensation.

Normal Retirement:

- Age 60 or older and 10 years of service (5 years must be continuous service): 1.5 percent times 36-month final average compensation times years of service credit
- Age 60 or older and 30 years of service (5 years must be continuous service): 2 percent times 36-month final average compensation times years of service credit

Enhanced Retirement:

- Age 63 and 10 years of service (5 years must be continuous service): 2 percent times 36-month final average compensation times years of service credit
- Age 63 and 30 years of service (5 years must be continuous service): 2.1 percent times 36-month final average compensation times years of service credit

Early Retirement:

- Any age prior to age 60 and 30 years of service (5 years must be continuous service): 2 percent times 36-month final average compensation times years of service credit times early retirement adjustment factor*

* If the Member is age 55 or older at the date of retirement, his/her allowance shall not be subject to reduction on account of age. If the Member is younger than age 55 at the date of retirement, a reduction factor shall be applied under LAAC Sec. 4.1080.7(c).

To learn more about your benefits as a Tier 1 or Tier 3 LACERS Member, visit www.LACERS.org

JOIN A Toastmasters Group



Club Members: Gain confidence in your public speaking and leadership skills; two 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.

TOASTMASTERS

DWP:
The Water and Power Toastmasters Club
Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m.
111 N. Hope St., Room 1171
(last Wednesdays in room 1471)

QUESTIONS:
Eric Yoshida (213) 367-3962

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

QUESTIONS:
Barbara Nobregas (213) 928-9771
or (213) 847-4707

Guests welcome!

PUBLIC WORKS:
The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club
Wednesdays, 12:05 p.m.
1149 S. Broadway
6th Floor Conference, Room 6004

QUESTIONS:
Ivan Gerson (213) 485-1169 or
Dominic Buenaventura (213) 847-0593

LAPD:
The LAPD Code One Toastmasters Club
Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
LAPD Communications Building
100 N. Los Angeles St.,
third floor media room

QUESTIONS:
(818) 389-0803

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

For Rent: Studio apt. 1052 W 54th St., 90037. Utilities paid. Deposit req. \$750/month. (323) 915-9300. 3/16



For Sale: 1980 Cadillac, red, white int., immaculate.

New tires, gas tank, fuel pump, stored since 2010. 91,400 miles. \$9,495. (805) 649-1940. 3/16

For Sale: RV trailer. 2003 Wanderer, fifth wheel, model 367TB. Onan generator, 12-ft. garage, power hitch, fuel station. AM/FM CD stereo, super slide. \$10,000 OBO. Mike, (661) 557-0975, maddad111@yahoo.com 3/16

For Sale: Furniture. Oak. King size bedroom suite; china cabinet; dining room table, six chairs; more. \$2,000 OBO. Vic, newtvic@gmail.com 3/16

For Sale: Light meter. Gossen Luna Pro SBC. New condition. Manual. \$50. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

For Sale: Kitchenware. V-Slicer Pro Mandoline by Swissmar/Borner. New. \$25. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

For Sale: Motorcycle, 2005 Suzuki Hayabusa GXR 1300, 6,643 miles. Never been dropped. Serious cash offers only. \$8,500 OBO. kfrink05@hotmail.com 3/16

For Sale: Cemetery plots. Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills. Valued at \$13,000. Asking \$10,000 OBO. Robert, (626) 899-2174. 3/16

For Sale: Model railroad track. Kato Unitrack oval set, Atlas power pack, HO scale. \$70. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

For Sale: Exercise device. Easy Shaper by Tony Little. Exclnt. cond. \$15. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

For Sale: Board games. Trivial Pursuit. Master Game Genius Edition and Silver Screen Edition. \$15. (213) 792-3130. 3/16

For Sale: Turtles, fresh water, 3, 10 yrs old, w/large aquarium. \$100 OBO. George, (818) 308-7644 or george.pardo@lacity.org 3/16



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



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

Homes/Rentals/Land

For lease: House, 2 bd./2 bath, near 101/110/2/5 fws. Near Gold Line, downtown, Sunset Blvd., Silver Lake, Chinatown, Dodger Stadium, Echo Park, Elysian Park, Pasadena, Burbank, LAPD Academy, Hotchkiss LAFD Training Center. Downtown views. 1 parking space. 1 yr. lease min. No pets. Application process. Doc./credit check req. \$1,500 month, \$1,500 security dep. (323) 919-1163. 2/16

For Sale: Retirement home, Mexico, Mo.; 3 bed/1 bath, 1 car garage, 1,400 sq. ft. \$59,500. (573) 687-3339. 2/16

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 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: 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 9/15

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 9/15

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. 9/15

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. 9/15

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. 9/15

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

Household Items

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



For Sale: DVD/CD player/storage, Sony ES DVP, jukebox style, stores up to 150 disks. Categorize/play on demand. 11/15

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

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



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: Lawn mower, 21 inch rotary, good condition. Plus other gardening items. \$58. Don, (818) 780-7788 (leave message). 9/15



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

Miscellaneous

For Sale: Genie 3/4 hp chain drive garage door opener-\$30.00 Write to: ajoyrpal@juno.com 1/16

For Sale: 2-way radios. Motorola Talkabout T7400. AA or NiMH batteries. Long-range transmissions, weather channels. Ideal for camping/boating safety. And fun! \$55. Mike, (562) 596-1346 12/15

For Sale: Suze Orman's Protection Portfolio, new w/case. \$85. (213) 792-3130. 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: 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: 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: captaintkettlecorn.com/CKC-Trailer.html. (877) 746-8696. 9/15

Transport

For Sale: Travel trailer, 2009. 29 ft. New sofa sleeper, reclining chairs. Extended dining table, kitchen counter, much more. \$22,000. Dave, (623) 826-5505. 2/16



For Sale: Cadillac Brougham, 1989. Leather interior. Very good shape. 77,000 miles. \$4,000 OBO. (626) 797-8328. 12/15

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. 12/15



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: 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. 9/15



For Sale: Watercraft, his and hers, '93 Bombardier 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. 9/14

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. 9/14

2013 Dodge Challenger: Like new, fully loaded, excellent condition, very low mileage asking \$30K OBO. "PATY" @ (626) 242-4365. 9/14



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

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

For Sale: Burial plots, 4 (spaces 1, 2, 3, 4), Forest Lawn Cemetery, Cypress. Lot 1187, Constant Love section. \$4,100 each OBO. Michelle, (310) 648-5506. 2/16

4 Cemetery Plots: Cemetery plots, 4, side by side on the hill at Greenwood Gardens, Rose Hills/Whittier. Approx. value \$18,000, selling \$12,000, OBO. 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: Bedroom set, 5 piece, cherry wood. Good cond. \$650 OBO. (818) 281-1488. 10/15

For Sale: Crib, cream colored, designer style. Good cond. \$350 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. Dwin, (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

CLASSIFIED ADS

\$50
per month

FREE
for Club Members!

To place your classified ad send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

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

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

Classified Submission Deadline:

3/18/16

for publication in the April issue of *Alive!*

For Sale: Photo darkroom equipment. Enlargers, timers, printers, isles, trays, some chemicals. Can be sold separately. \$5 to \$150. John, (81

LACAAEA

Hello, County Asian Employees!



From left: Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development; John Chiang, California State Treasurer; and Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor.

Club representatives attend Asian American Employees Association meeting.

The Club's Director of Product Development Arlene Herrero and Club Counselor Jeanette Gadut attended the 2016 Los Angeles County Asian American Employees Association Meet and Greet Jan. 28 at Empress Harbor Restaurant in Monterey Park.

More than 300 L.A. County employees and their guest attended to meet the following department heads:

- Sheriff Jim McDonnell, L.A. County Sheriff's Dept., Club Member
- Jeffrey Prang, L.A. County Office of the Assessor
- Joseph Kelly, L.A. County Treasurer and Tax Collector
- Mary C. Wickham, L.A. County Counsel



Sheriff Jim McDonnell completes his Club application.



From left: Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development; Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Club Member; and Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor.

The keynote speaker was John Chiang, CA State Treasurer. The meet and greet was hosted by Mike Gin.

Sheriff McDonnell, Club Member, stopped by the Club table to rejoin the Club family and become a Club Member. California State Treasurer John Chiang also stopped by to say hello.

Special thanks go to LACAAEA President Jackie Guevarra for the invitation along with Tevy Sithan and Karen Tu.



**DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS
AVAILABLE AT THE
CITY EMPLOYEES CLUB**

MARCH MOVIE RELEASES

- ZOOTOPIA (IMAX/3D): Opens March 4
- WHISKY TANGO FOXTROT: Opens March 4
- KNIGHT OF CUPS: Opens March 4
- LONDON HAS FALLEN: Opens March 4
- DESIERTO: Opens March 4
- THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR: Opens March 11
- THE PERFECT MATCH: Opens March 11
- 10 CLOVERFIELD LANE: Opens March 11
- THE BROTHER GRIMSBY: Opens March 11
- EYE IN THE SKY: Opens March 11
- THE YOUNG MESSIAH: Opens March 11
- HELLO, MY NAME IS DORIS: Opens March 11
- THE DIVERGENT SERIES: ALLEGIANT: Opens March 18
- THE LITTLE PRINCE: Opens March 18
- MIRACLES FROM HEAVEN: Opens March 18
- MIDNIGHT SPECIAL : Opens March 18
- THE BRONZE: Opens March 18
- MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING 2: Opens March 25
- BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE: Opens March 25
- I SAW THE LIGHT: Opens March 25



SAVE UP TO \$35 + 2ND DAY FREE



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MAY 2016

Get big savings on a Resort Hopper Ticket, valid for admission to LEGOLAND® California, LEGOLAND Water Park and SEA LIFE® Aquarium, plus a 2nd Day FREE to all 3!

Discount tickets can be purchased at LA City Employees Club or by calling (888) 777-1744.



LEGOLAND.com



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CHEAPEST TICKETS IN THE STATE UP TO 60% OFF
CHEAP TICKETS - INSANE SERVICE - AFFORDABLE INSURANCE

MARCH 2016

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

MOVIE THEATERS

	RETAIL	CLUB
AMC THEATERS		
Gold Tickets - Good Any Time	\$14.00	\$9.00
Green Tickets - Exclude Disney Productions	\$14.00	\$8.50
Small Popcorn	\$5.50	\$3.00
Small Drink	\$4.50	\$3.00
Movie Bundle - Includes 2 Gold movie tickets, 2 small drinks, 1 small popcorn	\$44.00	\$27.00
BRENDEN THEATRES		
	\$11.25	\$8.00
CINEMARK THEATERS		
	\$11.75	\$8.00
CINÉPOLIS THEATERS		
Traditional Theaters	\$12.00	\$7.50
Luxury Theaters	\$22.00	\$17.00
GALAXY THEATERS - Good Any Time		
	\$11.00	\$8.00
HARKINS MOVIE THEATERS		
Restricted	\$10.00	\$6.50
Good Any Time	\$10.00	\$7.50
Small Popcorn	\$5.25	\$4.25
Small Drink	\$4.50	\$3.50
KRIKORIAN THEATERS - Good Any Time		
	\$12.00	\$7.50
LAEMMLE THEATERS - Good Any Time		
	\$11.00	\$6.00
LANDMARK THEATERS		
	\$13.00	\$8.00
METROPOLITAN THEATERS		
Unrestricted Tickets	\$13.00	\$8.00
Restricted Tickets	\$10.50	\$6.75
PACIFIC THEATERS - Restricted		
* \$2 surcharge for use at Americana in Glendale and at The Grove in L.A. - (Not valid at Archlight Theaters)	\$13.75	\$8.00
READING CINEMAS - Restricted		
	\$12.50	\$7.50
REGAL/ EDWARDS/ UNITED ARTIST		
Good Any Time	\$14.75	\$8.50
Movie Pack	\$30.00	\$26.00
- Includes 2 Good Any Time movie tickets and a \$10 concession gift card		
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

GIFT CERTIFICATES

	RETAIL	CLUB
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 DODGERS	Games available online
ANGELS OF ANAHEIM	Games available online
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS	Games available online
SAN DIEGO PADRES	Games available online
LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS	Games available online
OAKLAND RAIDERS	Games available online
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS	Games available online
USC TROJANS	Games available online
LOS ANGELES KINGS	Games available online

ATTRACTIONS CONT'D

	RETAIL	CLUB
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 \$25.00	\$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	\$59.95	\$50.96
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.		
Hollywood	Adult \$40.00	\$16.00
	Child (4 - 12) \$35.00	\$13.00
Las Vegas (eTickets Only)	Adult \$29.95	\$12.50
MEDIAEVAL 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 \$33.99	\$16.50
- Unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway and the Rock Wall. Valid at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.		
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
SPEEDZONE		
3 Hour Unlimited Pass on Rides and Mini-Golf	\$49.99	\$28.00
TEATRO MARTINI		
Buena Park, California	\$75.75	\$42.00
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

ATTRACTIONS CONT'D

	RETAIL	CLUB
USS MIDWAY		
SAN DIEGO	Adult \$20.00	\$14.00
	Child (6 - 11) \$10.00	\$7.00
	Senior (62+) \$17.00	\$11.00

THEME PARKS

	RETAIL	CLUB
ADVENTURE CITY		
Adult/ Child	\$17.95	\$13.50
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)	

SOCAL RESIDENT DEAL			
2 - Day, 1 - Park	All Guest Ages 3+	\$149.00	\$138.57
2 - Day Park Hopper	All Guest Ages 3+	\$189.00	\$175.77
3 - Day, 1 - Park	All Guest Ages 3+	\$179.00	\$166.47
3 - Day Park Hopper	All Guest Ages 3+	\$219.00	\$203.67

CASTLE PARK			
General Admission (over 36")		\$24.99	\$12.99

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM			
	Adult	\$72.00	\$39.00
	Child (3-11), Senior (62+)	\$42.00	\$34.00
Cheaper for eTickets	Adult	\$72.00	\$35.00
	Child (3-11), Senior (62+)	\$42.00	\$32.00

LOS ANGELES ZOO			
	Adult	\$20.00	\$16.00
	Child (2-12)	\$15.00	\$12.00

LEGOLAND			
Includes 2nd Day FREE			
1 - Day , 1 - Park	Adult	\$93.00	\$74.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$87.00	\$68.00
Legoland Resort Hopper	Adult	\$117.00	\$82.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$111.00	\$76.00

MAGIC MOUNTAIN			
General Admission		\$76.99	\$44.99

SAN DIEGO ZOO / SAFARI PARK			
	Adult	\$50.00	\$41.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$40.00	\$33.00
2 - Visit Pass*	Adult	\$90.00	\$72.00
	Child (3 - 11)	\$70.00	\$56.00
* May be used for 1 visit at each park, or 2 visit to the same park.			

SEAWORLD - SAN DIEGO			
	Adult	\$89.00	\$60.00
	Child (3 - 9)	\$83.00	\$60.00
Valid until 12/31/16			
	Fun Card	\$89.00	\$80.50

SIX FLAGS DISCOVERY KINGDOM			
VALLEJO	General Admission (over 48")	\$65.99	\$38.99

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS			
	Adult / Child (under 48")	\$95.00	\$84.00

SKI RESORTS

	RETAIL	CLUB
BIG BEAR MOUNTAIN RESORTS		
Bear Mountain & Snow Summit		
Regular Lift Tickets	Adult \$79.00	\$60.00
	Young Adult \$68.00	\$52.00
	Child \$35.00	\$27.00
	Senior \$68.00	\$52.00
Off Peak Lift Tickets	Adult \$69.00	\$44.00
	Young Adult \$57.00	\$36.00
	Child \$35.00	\$22.00
	Senior \$57.00	\$36.00
LAKE TAHOE RESORTS		
Heavenly / Northstar	Adult \$130.00	\$106.75
	Teen (13-18) \$98.00	\$92.00
	Child (5-12) \$75.00	\$62.00
Kirkwood	Adult \$100.00	\$77.00
	Teen (13-18) \$80.00	\$67.00
	Child (5-12) \$65.00	\$55.00
MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN SKI AREA		
Resort Lift Tickets	2 Day \$275.00	\$153.00
	3 of 4 Day \$366.00	\$203.00
	4 of 5 Day \$469.00	\$269.00

SKI RESORTS CONT'D

	RETAIL	CLUB
MOUNTAIN HIGH		
8-Hour Lift Ticket	\$275.00	\$153.00
SNOW VALLEY RESORT		
Regular Lift Tickets	Adult \$69.00	\$44.00
	Young Adult \$59.00	\$33.00
	Child \$30.00	\$18.00
	Midweek \$59.00	\$27.00

SEASONAL DISCOUNTS

MORE DISCOUNTS ONLINE!

PLEASE CHECK WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM
FOR THE LATEST DISCOUNT TICKETS & EVENTS.

Los Angeles Public Library

Library's TOP 10

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

Lists are courtesy Los Angeles Public Library, Central library downtown and 72 branches combined.

Books loaned:

1. *Make Me: A Jack Reacher Novel*, Lee Child
2. *The Promise: An Elvis Cole and Joe Pike*, Robert Crais
3. *The Crossing*, Michael Connelly
4. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
5. *X*, Sue Grafton
6. *Modern Romance*, Asiz Ansari
7. *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*, Rick Riordan
8. *The Maze Runner*, James Dashner
9. *Career of Evil*, Robert Galbraith
10. *Tricky Twenty-Two: A Stephanie Plum Novel*, Janet Evanovich

DVDs loaned

1. *Jurassic World*
2. *Furious 7*
3. *Marvel's The Avengers: Age of Ultron*
4. *Inside Out*
5. *Mission Impossible, Rogue Nation*
6. *Mad Max: Fury Road*
7. *Trainwreck*
8. *Fantastic Four*
9. *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.*
10. *Southpaw*

Books downloaded

(e-books)

1. *The Girl on the Train*, Paula Hawkins
2. *The Martian*, Andy Weir
3. *Fates and Furies*, Lauren Groff
4. *The Crossing*, Michael Connelly
5. *Tricky Twenty-Two*, Janet Evanovich
6. *Rogue Lawyer*, John Grisham
7. *All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr
8. *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
9. *The Promise*, Robert Crais
10. *The Nightingale*, Kristin Hannah

Download-and-Keep songs*

1. "Lazarus," David Bowie
2. "Blackstar," David Bowie
3. "'Tis Pity She Was a Whore," David Bowie
4. "Girl Loves Me," David Bowie
5. "Sue (Or in a Season of Crime)," David Bowie
6. "Dollar Days," David Bowie
7. "When We Were Young," Adele
8. "Hello," Adele
9. "All I Ask," Adele
10. "Million Years Ago," Adele

* "Freemusic" 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.freemusic.com>

LAFD, LAPD

Life Shavers

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



March 12, 2016

On Sat., March 12, LAFD and LAPD personnel, and other City Employees, too, will participate in their 13th annual combined St. Baldrick's fundraising event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

This year's location is again Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd. in North Hollywood. The event is set to begin at 7:30 a.m. and runs to 2 p.m.

The event features a silent auction, a raffle, a free Pancake Factory breakfast, blood

and marrow drives, face painters, balloon artists, free kids' toys and entertainment, and more. And fire and police apparatus are expected to be present for children to explore and for photo opportunities.

Participants and helpers are needed to staff this event. If you are able to help, please contact Lt. Greg Doyle at (818) 634-6127; or Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240. If you would like to be a "shavee" or you are interested in pledging, you can sign up at <http://www.stbaldricks.org/events/LAFDLAPD>



Who: LAPD and LAFD Personnel (all are welcome, though)

What: Fundraiser for childhood cancer research

When: Sat., March 12, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood

Why: To raise money to fight childhood cancer

How: Sign up or donate at: www.stbaldricks.org/events/LAFDLAPD

Info: Contact Lt. Greg Doyle, (818) 634-6127 or LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu, (626) 590-6240

LAPD Business Law Enforcement Northeast Division

8TH ANNUAL

Charity Golf Tournament

Proceeds from this year's tournament will benefit Youth Programs and Northeast Boxing Programs. BLEND also provides support for a variety of needs at the Northeast Area Community Police Station.

Friday, April 29, 2016

Pacific Palms Resort*
One Industry Hills Parkway
Industry, CA 91744
(626) 810-4455

*IKE Course - NGCOA 2010 National Golf Course of the Year



For information, contact:

Sgt. Ruben Arellano
32338@lapd.lacity.org
(323) 561-3218

Ofcr. Jonathan Roman
37309 @lapd.lacity.org
dannyroman@aol.com

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:

Gold \$1,600
Tee Sign, Plaque, and Foursome

Silver \$1,000
Tee Sign, Plaque

Bronze \$500
Two tickets to Dinner

Prizes:

1st Prize	Hole-In-One
2nd Prize	Longest Drive
3rd Prize	Closest to the Pin!

Schedule:

8:30 am	Check-In / Registration
9:15 am	Putting Contest
10:30 am	Shotgun Start
4:00 pm	Dinner / Raffle

Cost per Player: \$150.00

Cost includes green and cart fee, one bucket of driving range balls, locker room access, personalized bag tag, bag drop service, dinner, goodie bag, free refreshments on course.

Make your tax deductible check payable to:

BLEND (Business & Residents for Law Enforcement Northeast Division)
P.O. Box 41063 • Los Angeles, CA 90041

BLEND is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit Corp. #23-7228758

Please include the names for your foursome:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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NEW



\$8 - 10 Member \$14.00 Non-Member

California Beanies
Lightweight and available in various colors

NEW



\$25.95 Member \$50.00 Non-Member

Women's French Terry Hoodie
Available in Multiple Colors



\$5.00 Member \$6.75 Non-Member

Retractable Badge Holder
Heavy Duty and Retractable

Free
STANDARD
SHIPPING
on all orders



\$45.00 Member \$69.95 Non-Member

L.A. City Fleece Jacket
Lightweight and available in various colors



\$15.00 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

L.A. Fire Dept T-Shirt
Available in Navy

NEW



\$4.95 Member \$8.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Seal Key Chain
Shatter-proof and lightweight 1.75"



\$24.99 Member \$48.10 Non-Member

L.A. City French Hoodie
Soft and stylish. Available in various colors

NEW



\$20.00 Member \$45.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Canvas Tote
Sturdy Tote with Key Chain Clip



\$8.00 Member \$10.64 Non-Member

Belgian Beer Glass
13 oz glass with Silver L.A. City Seal



\$5.00 Member \$7.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Bistro Mugs
Available in Red, Black, White, and Navy



\$7.00 Member \$12.00 Non-Member

Infuser Water Bottle
Infusers are available in various colors

BPA FREE

Member Discount



Classic Vintage Style Bags
Various colors and style to choose from



\$8.00 Member \$11.00 Non-Member

L.A. City Script Hat
Available in various colors



\$15.00 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

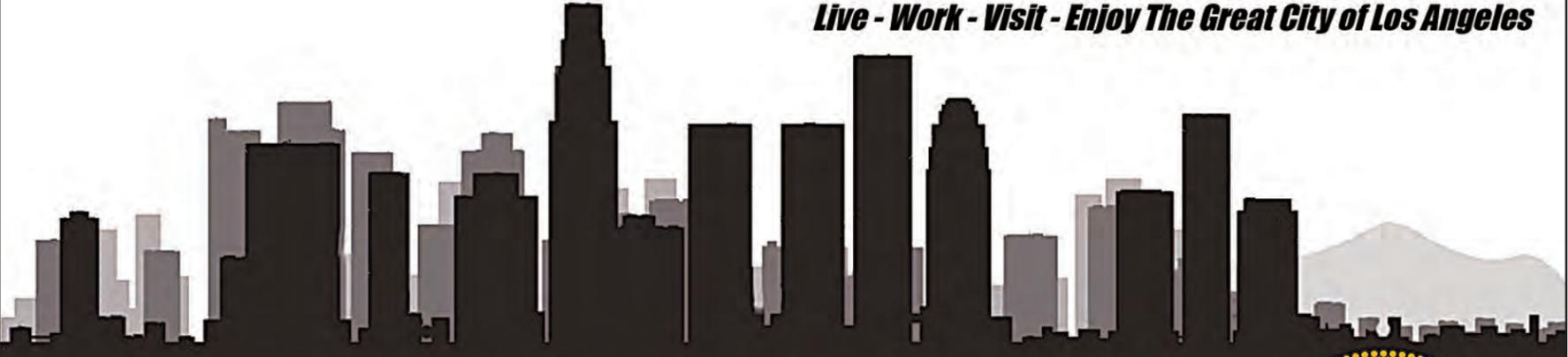
10" L.A. City Clock
Also available in black trim (\$10 Members)



\$25.00 Member \$35.00 Non-Member

LAPD Dodge Charger Toy
Motorized toy car with lights and sound

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