



# Alive!

## PUBLIC WORKS

# Climate Relief, for All

Chief Heat Officer  
Marta Segura,  
4 years of City  
service, Club  
Member, in  
South LA.



New Climate Emergency Office (CEMO) mobilizes City resources to combat growing crisis, and works to ensure they're applied equitably to underserved communities.

— SEE PAGE 10

CEMO works to alleviate the effects of heat in all areas of Los Angeles, including ...

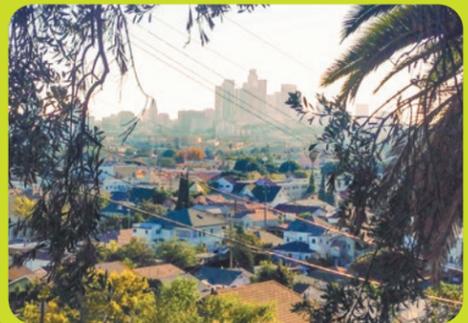
### South LA



### Boyle Heights



### Lincoln Heights



Alive! photo

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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# The Heat Is On, for Equity

In measuring progress, experience becomes our best teacher.

As the *Alive!* team stood on a West Florence Avenue sidewalk photographing LA's Chief Heat Officer, **Marta Segura**, for this issue, the point became difficult to ignore: We began in the cool of the morning. And then, minute by minute, the cool evaporated and the heat grew dominant. The only shade to be found was thanks to small but very appreciated trees planted recently to avert the climate crisis, one leaf at a time. In time

they will grow to provide more shade. That reflects the City's journey, too.

Los Angeles created the new Climate Emergency Mobility Office to manage that process, to mobilize and coordinate all that the City offers to avert the ravages of climate change. As we demonstrate in this month's feature, Marta is the perfect person to lead that effort.

The CEMO office works to alleviate more than just the heat, however. It also studies where those effects are most felt. Meaning, they most affect traditionally underserved areas. That is a major focus of the Climate Emergency Office. It, and the City, believe that lifting each other up is the right thing to do. We all rise together, and the Club concurs.

*Alive!* is honored to document this turning point and tell the story that has history written in its tree trunks. We thank **Marta, Rebekah Guerra** and **Heather Johnson** of the Board of Public Works, the Climate Commission and all the partners for their critical efforts.

**Savers Guide:**

The Club is delighted to present a major update of our Savers Guide, the mobile app that brings value to you. Our dedicated **marketing and tech teams** have stuffed even more discounts and value into the new update! See

**ROBERT'S BLOG**  
by Robert Larios, CEO, The Club



the details on page 4 for more information on how to take advantage. We work relentlessly to create more value for you, our Club Members.



**SEE PAGE 4**  
**MYCLUB DEALS**  
by **entertainment**

**Sports:**

Be on the lookout, too, for news about our very popular Club Sports leagues very soon.

**Retirement:**

The Club wishes **Peter Persic**, Development and Marketing Director of the LA Public Library, a rewarding retirement. Peter, who retired in April with 31 years of City service, assisted *Alive!* numerous times, especially in its early days. We thank him again now and wish him a retirement of contentment and fulfillment.

Finally, all of us at the Club wish you and your families a meaningful Fourth of July. Please fill the long summer days that follow with relaxation and purpose.

*¡Gracias por leer!*




Club CEO Robert Larios with (from left) Chief Heat Officer Marta Segura and Climate Emergency Mobility Office Management Assistant Rebekah Guerra.

**CLUB MOBILE TEAM**

# Site Visits Are Back!

**Club Mobile Team is ready to visit City worksites safely with gear, tickets, insurance, more. Say hi to the Club ... in person again!**

The Club never stopped working for its Members during the pandemic. But now that the coast is clearing, so to speak, it's time to revisit our Members and Members-to-Be at sites and yards.

The Mobile Team is ready to visit your worksite Tuesdays through Thursdays. We can't wait to see everybody again!

**For your continued safety:**

- The Mobile Team brings and wears safety gear.
- The Mobile Team is accepting only outdoor set-ups for now.

**See you soon!**



At a recent Mobile Team site visit.

**Mobile Team Schedule**

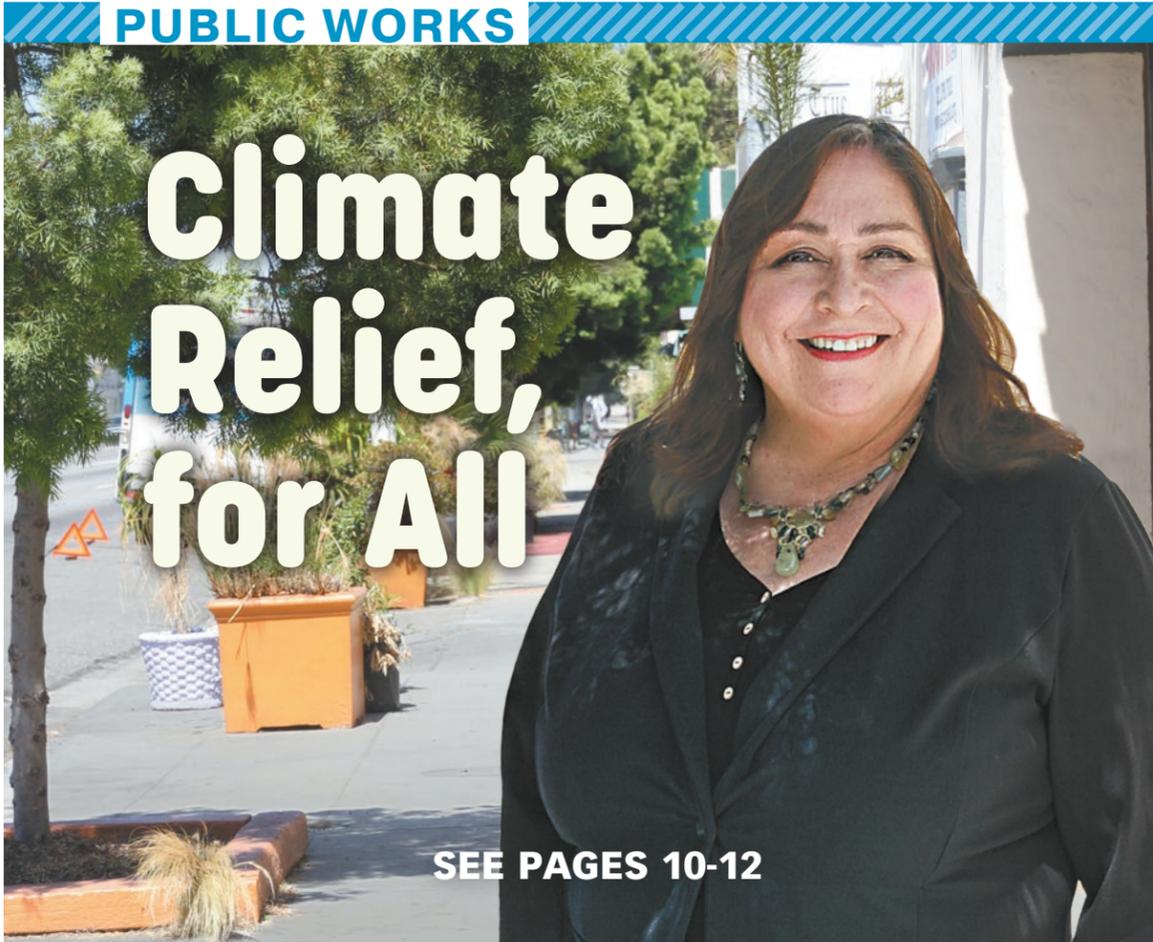
The Mobile Team sets up in the Harbor area the first Wednesday of every month:

**Harbor Boys and Girls Club**  
100 W. Fifth St., San Pedro  
July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7 • 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Follow Club social media for Mobile Team site visit dates as they are scheduled.

**Schedule A Mobile Team Site Visit**

To schedule a site visit, contact **Lupe Lira, Club Store Manager:**  
(213) 819-0350, or [mobile@employeesclub.com](mailto:mobile@employeesclub.com)



COVER STORY:

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Public Works' Climate Emergency Mobilization Office works to pull together City resources to battle the climate emergency, for all of Los Angeles

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**Get more *Alive!* content at [alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)**

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## NEW THIS MONTH **ONLINE!**

[alive.employeesclub.com](http://alive.employeesclub.com)

### Cooking with the Club

**From our vault:** Chef Larios prepares super-delicious Instapot Buffalo chicken wings.



### Library Top 10

See what your fellow Angelenos are reading, watching and grooving to.



### John's Picture Perfect

John's Picture Perfect – all the winners from this month's contest on the theme "flags."



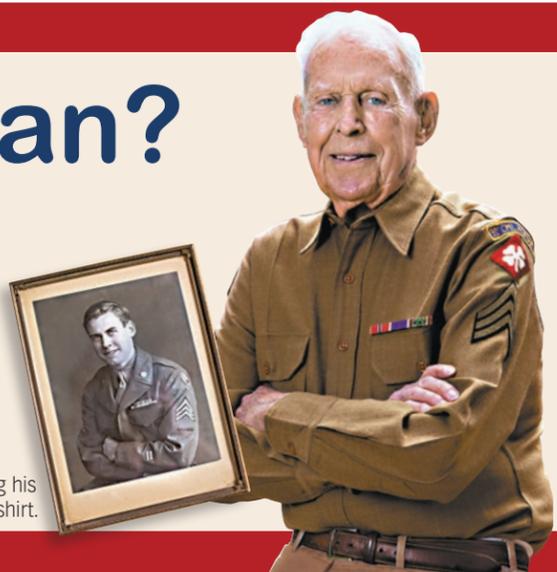
# Are You a Veteran?

The last few years, *Alive!* has been telling the stories of American veterans as part of our Fourth of July issue. We know many of you are veterans. For now, we're looking to interview veterans of World War II or Korea who also were City employees. We might not be able to interview you all right away, but we'll do our best.

Contact us at: [talkback@employeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@employeesclub.com)

**THANK YOU!**

Art Spaulding, 12 years of City service, wearing his original World War II Army uniform shirt.





## The Club Is Here to Help

Club 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.

### Contact the Club

if you have an event you want covered in *Alive!* or if you have questions about insurance.

[help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com)  
(800) 464-0452

### Physical Club Store Hours:

**Monday – Friday**  
**9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

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In addition, the Club strives to publish only those elements that are produced by the Club itself, are in the public domain, or whose rights have been negotiated.

Club Members who have questions on these points may write to: [alive@employeesclub.com](mailto:alive@employeesclub.com)

*Alive!* does not accept advertising from persons or organizations believed to be unreliable or financially irresponsible. *Alive!* is not responsible, however, for the performance of advertisers, the delivery or quality of their merchandise or services, or the legality of any particular program. Before making any purchasing decision, we recommend you consult additional sources as needed. Please contact the Club if you have any bad experiences with an advertiser. LACEA management reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to refuse any advertisement.

# MY CLUB DEALS

by entertainment

## CLUB MEMBER SAVINGS

Access everyday savings wherever you go with coupons you can use on your phone or print directly at home. Enjoy a huge selection of discounts on dining, shopping, services, and travel across the United States and Canada 24/7.

**NEW UPDATE COMING AFTER JULY 31, 2022**

## WE'RE REPLACING THE SAVERS GUIDE MOBILE APP

We are replacing the Savers Guide Mobile App with the new and improved *My Club Deals* Mobile App to provide you with a better user experience and greater accessibility to everyday discounts and savings in your area. Effective August 1, 2022, all members who currently use the Savers Guide app will need to download the *My Club Deals* app and login with your Club Member username and password. The Savers Guide app will no longer be active after July 31, 2022.



### DOWNLOAD THE NEW MOBILE APP

SEARCH FOR *MY CLUB DEALS*



- 1** Before Using Your *My Club Deals* Mobile App  
New users will first need to create a Club Member online **User Account** at [employeesclub.com/register](https://employeesclub.com/register).
- 2** Once you've registered your Member online User Account, go to <https://employeesclub.com/entertainment>
- 3** Enter your **Zip Code** or **City** to find the nearest discounts in your area or the area you're planning to visit.
- 4** Finally, log into your *My Club Deals* App on your mobile device and start exploring savings in your area.

**FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT**  
[help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com)



**Employees Club of California**  
311 S. Spring St., STE 1300  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
**Ticket Services:** 888.777.1744  
**Insurance Services:** 800.464.0452

## CORRECTION



In our gallery of photos from the recent Baker to Vegas long-distance relay foot race, we misidentified the same person in two different photos. We reprint the photos below with the corrected photo captions, and we apologize to Jason.

– Ed.



Team 178 LADOT runner Jason DeLeo as he checks in with his follow vehicle.



Team 178 runner Jason DeLeo flashed a big smile as he spotted the Club camera on the racecourse.



# WATER PARKS

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**PUBLIC WORKS**

# Over the Bridge to Clean Water

ENGINEER JULIE ALLEN PROMOTED TO SANITATION ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.



Julie Allen, who led the effort to design and build the biggest bridge/viaduct project in City history, was promoted in April to Assistant Director of Clean Water at Public Works' Sanitation and Environment bureau.

The Sixth Street Viaduct Project, a massive effort to replace the iconic aging infrastructure across the LA River from the Arts District to Boyle Heights, is set to open this month.

She received her Civil Engineering degree from UCLA in 1992 and began her City career at the LADWP in the Environmental and Government Affairs section. Her initial roles were in the areas of water quality and regulatory compliance, later expanding to water system planning and design and construction of water system infrastructure.

In 2001, Julie was promoted to a Civil Engineer position in Public Works/Engineering, first in the Central District Office then later as the Council/Board Liaison. In 2003, she was promoted to a Project Manager 1 position in the Fire Facilities Bond Program, leading the design and construction of four new fire stations. In 2006, Julie was promoted to Sr. Construction Engineer in the Construction Management Division to oversee the construction of public buildings, park improvements, and transportation projects.

In 2012, she became the Assistant Division Manager of the Proposition O Program, supervising staff in the delivery of facilities that collect and treat stormwater. In 2015, Julie was promoted to a Principal Civil Engineer position to lead the \$588 million Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project.

In addition to her work assignments, Julie has volunteered her time and expertise to her local community as a Planning Commissioner and chairperson of a school bond construction oversight committee. She has also earned a certification as a Sr. Certified Professional from the Society for Human Resource Management.

Congratulations on your promotion, Julie! ●



Julie Allen

**LAPD**

# Goodbye to a Hero

OFFICER RUDY LIMAS, A 2013 MEDAL OF VALOR AND PURPLE HEART AWARDEE, PASSES AWAY.



Rudolph "Rudy" Limas passed away March 20. He was a Retired LAPD Officer and was awarded 2013 Medal of Valor and Purple Heart honors for an incident of bravery that took place in 1968. He was 79.

His death in Elgin, Tex., was reported to *Alive!* by Joyce Campa, his niece. Victor Campa, his nephew, is a Signal System Supervisor, LADOT.

Officer Limas' brother, Ray Limas, is a Retired LAPD Officer.

On Aug. 5, 1968, Officers Rudy Limas and Norman Roberge were on routine patrol in the West Adams area when they saw a black 1955 Ford with four men in it start up a private driveway, stop suddenly, then back down the driveway.

Finding the movements suspicious, the Officers followed the Ford. Limas called in the plates to see if the vehicle had been reported stolen. Before a reply could be received, the Ford stopped at a gas pump and Roberge asked the driver for his license.

The driver informed the Officer that he did not have a license. Roberge ordered all four suspects to exit the vehicle and place their hands on top of the patrol car. Suddenly, one of the suspects pointed a gun at Limas and shot him in the abdomen and the thigh, with a bullet lodging in his hip. Meanwhile, Roberge was walking toward the police car when he was shot in both legs.

In the gun battle that followed, Limas fatally shot two suspects and Roberge emptied his gun at a third suspect. The fourth suspect fled on foot. (All four suspects were later identified as members of the Black Panther Party.)

Both officers recovered from their injuries.

The Limas-Roberge shooting is exemplified in one of the most enduring training films the Department produced involving police involved shootings. The film epitomizes the will-to-survive message and is presented to almost every basic police academy class for recruits throughout California.

The Club sends its condolences to the Limas and Campa families. ●

*Rudy lived a fruitful life. From humble beginnings, he proudly served in the US Navy and later as an LA Police Officer.*

**PUBLIC WORKS**

# Lisa Honored as She Leaves

LISA MOWERY, SANITATION CFO, RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS OF CITY SERVICE.



Lisa B. Mowery



Lisa B. Mowery, CFO, Public Works/Sanitation and Environment, was named one of the "Women Engineers You Should Know" by the Magazine of the Society of Women Engineers.

The title came after the magazine polled its readers, focusing on women engineers who may not be household names yet are influencing their disciplines, workplaces and beyond. "These women are multidimensional; they are engineers as well as daughters, sisters, friends and, in many cases, wives and mothers."

Lisa was one of 15 named.

Just after that, on April 23, Lisa retired from the City with 30 years of service.

Civil Engineer Lisa B. Mowery, PE., was Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for Public Works/Sanitation and Environment, which provides solid resources, storm water and wastewater services to more than four million people. In this role, she managed LASAN's financial programs that total more than \$1.1 billion in annual revenues.

Mowery has been involved in issuing more than \$4 billion in bonds for the City's wastewater program. She specialized in rate setting and led an effort that resulted in the adoption of sustainable wastewater fees for a 10-year period to support the City's wastewater system. The system comprises four water reclamation plants; 6,700 miles of sewers; and 44 pumping stations.

She also oversaw LASAN's administration programs and all human resources services covering 3,500-plus employees.

Prior to becoming CFO, Mowery served as a project manager and environmental compliance specialist. She managed several public works infrastructure projects and devised solutions for complex environmental challenges.

Mowery holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Purdue University in Indiana. Known as an inspiring mentor and speaker, Mowery created a professional and social networking group for women engineers and public servants called the Public Employees Registered Female Engineer Conversation and Tea Society, or "PERFECTS." The group encourages and espouses the achievements of women in engineering professions.

Congratulations, Lisa, and enjoy your retirement! ●

## 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 are related



**To send a digital photo and your message, go to:**  
[alive.employeesclub.com/graduations](http://alive.employeesclub.com/graduations)



# READY FOR RETIREMENT



Resources for Club Retirees or Those About to Retire



## STAY CONNECTED FOR YOUR BEST RETIREMENT

### ARE YOU RETIRED OR PLANNING TO RETIRE SOON?

Let's keep in touch! It is important that the Club has your personal email address and phone numbers so that you do not miss out on important information regarding your Membership and insurances.

Email [info@employeesclub.com](mailto:info@employeesclub.com) or call (800) 464-0452 to speak with a Customer Service Representative to update your current contact information.

The Employees Club of California can assist you in making the retirement process seamless.

**If you have insurance benefits with the Club, or are a Club member only, it is important that you speak with a Club Retiree Counselor right away.**

The great news is that Club Membership for Retirees can be conveniently deducted from your pension. As a Retiree, you are entitled to group-rated insurance benefits such as life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, pre-funeral planning, long-term care, and our popular legal plan by MetLife. Enjoy the most of your new beginning by allowing the Club to guide you through the retirement process.

Make an appointment with our Retirement Specialists today! Do not wait! As you age, your health changes and can affect your eligibility for the plan. Lock in your rate today!

This month, we are highlighting the importance of having **long-term care insurance**. Read below on why it makes so much sense.



Noelle Kauffman  
Director of Sales  
CA LICENSE NO: 0H45598

*Congratulations on your Retirement and be well!*

## LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE, AND WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE IT

### WHAT IS LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) INSURANCE?

Long-term care insurance is designed to pay benefits for some of the expenses you may incur if you need supervision or assistance with basic activities of daily living (ADLs), including bathing, eating, continence, dressing, toileting, ambulating and transferring.

You may need this kind of help following an accident or illness such as a stroke – because of older age and frailty, or because you need supervision due to a cognitive disorder like Alzheimer's disease.

### WHY YOU NEED LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE FROM THE CLUB:

- Your premiums are conveniently deducted through your pension
- Affordable Club Member-only group rates
- Group rates are locked in at the age you apply
- Coverage is available to you, your spouse/domestic partner, parents and grandparents
- Available payout benefits range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per month
- Your plan pays a monthly benefit directly to you, as opposed to most other programs that pay out on a reimbursement schedule
- Choose from four plans: 1) long-term care facility; 2) professional home care; 3) total home care, and 4) simple inflation protection.
- Available terms: four-year nursing facility/eight years in home. Also available: 10 year nursing facility/20 year in home\* (Home care benefit pays out at 50 percent)

Schedule an appointment today with a Club Retirement Counselor, and be ready for your best retirement.

LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. (Employees Club of California) is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. is #0B98000.

## Retired or retiring Soon?

Call for a **FREE** insurance benefits consultation with a Member Services Counselor:



**Cheryl Martin**  
(800) 464 -0452,  
EXT. 136  
Work cell: (213) 819-0794  
23 years of insurance experience  
CA LICENSE NO: 0C12823



**Tiffany Sy**  
(800) 464-0452,  
EXT. 202  
Work cell: (213) 440-8270  
20 years of insurance experience  
CA LICENSE NO: 0D75348

## 2022 Events

- Oct. 1 **Annual Fall Meeting**  
(LADWP Association)  
*Canceled/pandemic*
- Dec. 17 **Annual Holiday Celebration**  
(LARFPA)  
Sheraton Universal Hotel  
333 Universal Hollywood Dr.  
Universal City

## Contact Information

**Employees Club of California**  
Club contact:  
[help@employeesclub.com](mailto:help@employeesclub.com)

**LA City Employees Retirement System** (LACERS) (City Dept.)  
(800) 779-8328  
[lacers.services@lacers.org](mailto:lacers.services@lacers.org)

**LADWP Retirees Association**  
Dolores Foley, *President*  
(949) 388-1206  
[vincedolores@gmail.com](mailto:vincedolores@gmail.com)

**Fire and Police Pensions** (City Dept.)  
(844) 885-2377  
[pensions@lafpp.com](mailto:pensions@lafpp.com)

**LA Retired Fire and Police Association** (LARFPA)  
(888) 288-5073  
[membership@lafpa.org](mailto:membership@lafpa.org)

**Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.** (RLACEI)  
See page 16



LOS ANGELES CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS:

## ARE YOU READY FOR RETIREMENT?

### WEBINARS

Learn about your retirement options and benefits at an upcoming Planning for Retirement webinar, hosted by the LACERS Member Engagement team. Register via your MyLACERS account. Upcoming dates include:

- |                        |                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Wed., July 13</b>   | <b>Thurs., Aug. 11</b>          |
| <b>Thurs., July 21</b> | <b>Thurs., Aug. 18</b>          |
| <b>Sat., July 30</b>   | <b>Thurs., Aug. 25 (Tier 3)</b> |

All webinars begin at 9 a.m.

### APPLICATION PORTAL DEMONSTRATION

Take time to learn about LACERS' exciting new Retirement Application Portal (RAP). Visit [lacers.org/applying-retirement](https://lacers.org/applying-retirement) for more details and sign up for an upcoming RAP Demonstration webinar at 11 a.m. Tues., Aug. 2 via your MyLACERS account at <https://mylacers.lacers.org>.

HERE ARE SOME CURRENT PROGRAMS TO HELP WITH YOUR PLANNING:

Don't have time to attend the webinar? Check out a recorded version on the LACERS YouTube channel:  
[youtube.com/lacersyoutube](https://youtube.com/lacersyoutube)

### APPLYING FOR RETIREMENT ONLINE

Members are encouraged to submit their retirement application 60 days before their retirement date when using LACERS' new Retirement Application Portal (RAP). The RAP is a great asset to LACERS Members that helps to streamline the retirement process. While the filing period is within 30 to 60 days of your retirement date, starting your application early and submitting it on the first day you can at the 60-day-prior mark, will allow for a couple of benefits. These include having ample time to discover any complications and address them without having to move your retirement date, as well as ensuring LACERS staff has time to meet your retirement date request.

For example, if your desired retirement date is Oct. 22, 2022, you would aim to submit your retirement application in the portal on Aug. 23, 2022. For more information, please visit [lacers.org/applying-retirement](https://lacers.org/applying-retirement).



CLUB ANGELS CORNER

# Help Others In 2022

You can help your fellow Club Members through Club-related charity.



Cynthia Billingslea, LADWP (right) and her cousin, Antonice Collins.



## UPDATE: Battling Rare Illness

Last month we told you about Antonice Collins, cousin to Cynthia Billingslea, LADWP, Club Member. Antonice, a high school senior, became partially paralyzed in less than an hour from an unexpected autoimmune disease. She had been in the hospital since late March and missed her high school prom. Update: Antonice has returned home to recuperate and has graduated high school. She hopes to attend college in the fall and still needs financial support.

Cynthia has set up a GoFundMe page for Antonice to help with day-to-day expenses, medical care and college expenses.

*Club Angels is providing Antonice with funding.*

### How you can help:

Donate directly to Antonice's GoFundMe account – go to [gofundme.com](https://www.gofundme.com) (search for Antonice Collins) or photoscan the QR code.



Donate to Club Angels to give to a variety of Club-related causes behind the scenes. Mail your check, made payable to Club Angels, to:



**Club Angels**  
311 South Spring Street, Suite 1300  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

*Donations to Club Angels go to City Employees in need; Club Angels and the Employees Club earn nothing from the transaction. Donations to Club Angels might be tax deductible; consult your tax professional. Club Angels is a separate charity begun by Club staff.*

*Thank you for your generosity.*

For more about Club Angels, go to [clubangels.org](https://clubangels.org)

Club Angels Charity is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization filed under Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. TIN: 45-4735809.

## PUBLIC WORKS



Blanca Calderon

# Blanca Rises

BLANCA CALDERON NAMED TO HISPANIC ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION.

*Photo by Jose Lozano, Public Works/Sanitation*



In May, Blanca Calderon, Civil Engineering Associate II, Public Works/Sanitation and Environment, was elected to a leadership position – secretary – of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers' LA chapter

Congratulations, Blanca! ●

## LIBRARY



Peter Persic (center) with his staff at his retirement luncheon, from left: Susan Lendroth, Margaret Trtryan, Justin Pearson, Romondo Locke, Brenda Breaux, Lauren Skinner, David Gregory, Keith Kesler, Mario Navarrete, Jimmy Tokeshi and Monica Valencia.

*Image courtesy Peter Persic/Library*

# Peter Checks Out

LONGTIME PR HEAD PETER PERSIC RETIRES AFTER 31 YEARS OF CITY SERVICE.



Peter Persic, former Director of Public Relations and Marketing, retired in March after 31 years of City service. He worked for the Library for 28 of those years.

A retirement luncheon was held in his honor.

Under his watch, the department underwent its most significant period of expansion, innovation and transformation in its 150-year history, according to a Council resolution.

He began working for the Library in 1991 and was promoted to the public relations director at Animal Services in 1995, and then back to the Library in 1998. He built a multi-skilled staff to communicate the Library's mission in the new millennium.

Peter and his PR team won several prestigious awards for the Library, including the 2015 National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for highlighting innovative library programs for veterans, immigrants and families; the 2017 California

Library Association Excellence Award for creating the library's amnesty campaign that led to the return of nearly 65,000 overdue or lost library items and added nearly 21,000 new or unblocked library cardholders; and the 2019 American Library Association's John Cotton Dana Library PR Award for the New Americans Initiative that offers free immigrant integration assistance and citizenship services.

Through decades of recessions, expansions, innovations in technology and the passage of Measure L, the landmark legislation that restored the Library budget and permanently stabilized its funding.

On top of all that, he also helped *Alive!* tell many great stories of Library employees at their best.

The Club congratulates Peter on his retirement and wishes him a future of many more great stories. ●

**PART 28**

# Scenes From a Pandemic

*Alive!* continues its documentation of City employees as they take a multitude of measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Here are entries from the Club and the City Twitter feeds about City Employees and Club Members at work during this trying time.

**LA Civil Rights**



"We're launching a podcast! Forward Together, narrated by @lisaling, explores the legacy of the '92 LA Civil Unrest with artists, activists, faith leaders and more. Produced by @lacivilrights, @LACityHRC & @USCAnnenberg. First episode airs on 4/29!"

April 14

**Library/Street Team**



"Today we join @YMICALA for Healthy Kids Day - A Day of Play for LA. Come enjoy a variety of activities and resources to help kids and teens stay healthy and resilient. Hoy celebramos el Día de los niños saludables - un día de juego en LA. Te esperamos en el Coliseo 10a-1p"

May 1

**Public Works/StreetsLA**



"Thank you @LACityDWP President Aura Garcia helping us plant trees today on 20th St. in #cd9 & also celebrating National Public Works Week. Our crew planted 21 trees on this Cool Streets Neighborhood project (note the coating was previously applied) #NPNW"

May 19

**LAFD**



From left: Frank Borden and Tom LaBonge. Photo courtesy the LaBonge family

## Remembering Frank and Tom

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMORIALIZES FRANK BORDEN, TOM LABONGE.



On June 11, the LAFD Historical Society Museum and Memorial in Hollywood installed two plaques remembering two giants who helped build and enhance the museum.

Tom LaBonge, Former City Councilman and City employee; and Frank W. Borden, Retired Assistant Chief, international emergency innovator and former Director of Operations of the museum and historical society, were honored with plaques remembering their major contributions.

The ceremony was attended by nearly 100, including the friends and family of Tom and Frank.

Tom LaBonge was on the museum's Board of Directors until he became a Councilman, and assisted in the building of the museum's Fallen Firefighter Memorial statue at the museum.

Both Tom and Frank died last year. Tom was 67; Frank was 82.

Host for the ceremony was Capt. Jim Finn, Retired, LAFD and current President of the Historical Society. Presenting the plaque in honor of Tom LaBonge was friend of the museum Gary Goltz; presenting the plaque in honor of Frank Borden was current LAFD Dep. Chief Armando Hogan. Also speaking was Retired Chief Bill Bamattre, whose wife, Elizabeth, was the inspiration behind the building of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial.

Tom and Frank were both passionate Club Members. *Alive!* honored them in print and on the Web after their deaths last years.

Special thanks to Jim Finn for his assistance in producing this story. ●



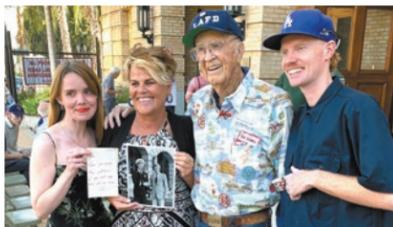
Tom LaBonge's family gathered at the plaque in his honor, from left: Gary Goltz, Charles LaBonge, Brigid LaBonge, Mary-Cate LaBonge, and Capt. Jim Finn, Retired, LAFD.



Gary Goltz presented the plaque in honor of Tom LaBonge.



Frank Borden's family gathered at the plaque in his honor, from left: Capt. Jim Finn, Retired, LAFD, and President of the LAFD Historical Society; Raquel (Frank Borden's widow) and their son, Frankie; Michael Borden, another son of the late Frank Borden; and Dep. Chief Armando Hogan, LAFD.



Battalion Chief Joe Weber (third from left) worked at Fire Station 27 (now home to the Historical Society and Museum) and became friends with Tom LaBonge as he was starting out in City government and represented Hollywood; the photo and note held here are from that era with Weber and LaBonge. Pictured with Joe Weber is Tom's family, from left: Mary-Cate, Brigid and Charles LaBonge.



The Fallen Firefighter Memorial, which Frank Borden and Tom LaBonge helped to raise funds to construct.



Retired Chief Bill Bamattre spoke. At right is current Historical Society President, Capt. Jim Finn, Retired.



In honor of Thomas J. LaBonge.



Frank Borden's family gathered at the plaque in his honor of Frank W. Borden.



The Club's online photo contest, organized by Association CEO, John Hawkins

## John's Picture Perfect Contest

This month's contest theme: **Vacation**



The Club's online photo contest, organized by Association CEO John Hawkins, has a monthly theme. For July, we're looking for images of vacations. Send us something awesome!

Submit your best photos, and be in the running for a prize.

**DEADLINE: July 13**

Submit your photos online here:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect](http://alive.employeesclub.com/pictureperfect)

Club Members only. Good luck!

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**CITYWIDE**



On June 6, Mayor Eric Garcetti designated Juneteenth as an official holiday in the City of LA.

# Juneteenth in LA



On June 19, the City celebrated its first official Juneteenth holiday. (The holiday was observed on Monday, June 20, this year.) Juneteenth as an official holiday in LA was signed into law by Mayor Eric Garcetti June 6. (It was designated an official federal holiday last year.)

Juneteenth honors the day in 1865 when then-enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Tex. were emancipated. Subtitled Freedom Day, the holiday symbolizes freedom from enslavement and the end of being less than full citizens.

The Club joined the City to commemorate this important holiday and closed its headquarters and Club Store on the observed day, Monday, June 20. The Club expects to honor this holiday in upcoming years.

May freedom ring for all! ●



**PUBLIC WORKS**

# 3 Are Best Under 40

THREE SANITATION EMPLOYEES NAMED BEST YOUNGER THAN 40.



Three Public Works/Sanitation and Environment staff members were named part of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists' "40 Under 40" awardees.

The AAEE's "40 Under 40" program recognizes talented individuals who have, either personally or as part of a team, been responsible for helping to advance the fields of environmental science or environmental engineering in a demonstrable way within the last 12 months. Winners were chosen by a panel of past recipients who weigh equally business successes and civic and philanthropic activities.

Congratulations go to Jesus Rocha, Jeremy Nguyen and Michelle Barton.



Michelle Barton

**ABOUT THE AWARDEES:**

**Michelle Barton**

As an Environmental Supervisor, Michelle leads the City's Biodiversity Program. Michelle's expertise also helped launch the City's Healthy Soils Program in 2020. She developed both programs in a very short amount of time to be global examples of how large cities can be leaders and take action to address the dual crises of biodiversity loss and climate change. Michelle earned her bachelor's degree in biology from UCLA and her master's degree in biology from Cal State Long Beach.



Jeremy Nguyen

**Jeremy Nguyen**

Jeremy first entered the field of environmental sciences as a laboratory technician at a private contract lab in November 2011. There he met incredible analysts and project managers who fostered his experience and passion for the environmental sciences. In 2014 he was hired by the City as a laboratory technician, and in 2015 he was promoted to his current role as a chemist for the Environmental Monitoring Division (EMD).

**Jesus Rocha**

As a Sr. Chemist in the Environmental Monitoring Division, Jesus has led the laboratory in completing scientific analyses that are critical to ensuring the City meets its obligation in guaranteeing public safety for its constituents. Within the last year, he has sought ways to better help meet these objectives by exploring and implementing emerging technologies that both improve data quality and reduce harmful chemical usage. Throughout his career, Jesus has strived to accomplish two things: exercise his scientific knowledge to promote science in an environmentally conscious way, and to give back to the community that helped inspire him. ●



Jesus Rocha

**MOBILE TEAM**



Club Counselor Dalila Vielma (left) and Customer Rep DeAngelo Thompson (back) answer questions, prepare gear and apparel, and make great new friends as the Mobile Team visited the Caltrans Everton Yard in Riverside.

# The Club Visits Caltrans Everton Yard in Riverside



Check this out: The Club's Mobile Team had a great time in May visiting the Caltrans Everton Yard in Riverside! The Club team made new friends, said hello to longtime Members and offered the same great gear, discounts and insurance as we offer to our City Members.

As we grow, that's good news to all our City Members – *increased buying power* for all our ticket deals and insurance products. The better we do, the better value we return to all our Members in lower prices and expanded discounts that benefit everyone.

Do you have friends or family members who work for other municipalities or the State of California? Let them know that the Club is the best municipal employee association, and invite them to join! ●

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ALIVE! FEATURE

PUBLIC WORKS

Photos by Alive!, Metro, CyclAvia, LADOT, Wikipedia and CEMO



# Climate Relief, for All

**New Climate Emergency Office mobilizes City resources to combat the growing crisis, equitably.**

The City’s response to the growing climate crisis – and the way the crisis unfairly affects underserved areas – is heating up, so to speak. LA’s new Climate Emergency Mobility Office (CEMO) is on its feet and hard at work addressing these growing needs. *Alive!* first reported on the CEMO office in May 2021 after its creation in January that year.

Marta Segura, longtime environmental justice advocate and nonprofit adviser, leads the division, and a guidance commission has been formed. Marta has also been named the City’s Chief Heat Officer.

Los Angeles’ first-ever Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO) inside Public Works is responsible for coordinating the actions of the Mayor’s Office, City Council and community leaders to meet the commitments of L.A.’s Green New Deal. “The climate crisis isn’t a distant question, but an everyday reality for families, households, businesses, workers and frontline communities across Los Angeles — and our Climate Emergency Mobilization Office will be a source of solutions for this generational challenge,” Mayor Garcetti said. “With a proven leader like Marta taking

the reins, our City will stay focused on the core promises of our vision: greater equity, lower emissions, a thriving economy, and a zero-carbon, green-energy future.”

Championed by Councilmember Paul Koretz and the Leap LA coalition, CEMO will work hand-in-hand with the Climate Emergency Commission, a group consisting of representatives from frontline communities and various climate, labor, and business leaders. Marta Segura oversees the functions and policy recommendations of the office by working with community groups on behalf of the Mayor’s Office and City Council; prioritizing environmental justice and input from those most impacted by the climate emergency in policy and program implementation; building community and civic engagement to increase input from disadvantaged neighborhoods; and collaborating with advocates and local leaders on a strategic plan to mobilize city actions on climate and air quality, among other



CEMO works with Public Works/StreetsLA’s Cool Neighborhoods LA project, which installs heat-absorbing pavement and plants climate-resistant trees in neighborhoods throughout LA, including these in Chatsworth, Reseda and Pacoima.

responsibilities as the office continues to expand.

The department is organized into four work areas – policy development, CEM Commission, the heat working group, and education and engagement. The Climate Commission’s first meeting is set for this month, July 19. “Our goal is to support and mobilize Angelenos to shape equitable climate policy and create a more comprehensive and effective response to climate emergencies in LA in collaboration with various departments and bureaus.” Marta says. Read our interview with her in this section. ●

## About Marta Segura

CEMO Executive Director and LA Chief Heat Officer Marta Segura has spent decades designing programs and social change campaigns for underserved L.A. communities, with her powerful combination of environmental advocacy and passion for social justice. She founded the organization Segura Strategies 4 Good to focus her work on closing the social and health gaps in Los Angeles. She previously served as a member of the LA City Planning Commission and as District Director for then-City Council President Eric Garcetti. Over the course of her career, Marta has served as a Program Officer at the California Endowment and as Associate Director of Communities for a Better Environment, one of California’s original statewide environmental justice organizations. She also holds a master’s degree in public health from UCLA. ●

Marta Segura (center holding poster) was named the City’s Chief Heat Officer at an event June 3 in City Hall.





Planting a new tree in South LA.



CEMO works with Public Works/Sanitation and Environment to help mitigate the effects of climate change in LA. (From left: Carlos Aldapa Torres and Johnathon Truong, monitoring the water at the Wilmington Drain.)



Crews apply the cool pavement.

# Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO) in the Community

As part of its regular services, LA's Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO) interacts with a number of City departments and bureaus, including in underserved areas, to bring climate relief equitably. On these pages are some of those interactions.



CEMO will focus attention on underserved areas including Lincoln Heights.



Boyle Heights is a traditionally underserved area for climate sensitivity. CEMO works with City Planning on many underserved areas.



South LA is a traditionally underserved area for climate sensitivity. CEMO works with City Planning on many underserved areas.



CEMO aims to bring heat-reducing programs to the Leimert Park area.

## 'A Turning Point'

### ALIVE! INTERVIEW

On June 9, Club CEO Robert Larios and *Alive!* Editor John Burnes interviewed Marta Segura, Director of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office and recently designated Chief Heat Officer for the City of LA. She has more than four years of City service, but has over 30 as an Environmental Health advocate and Social Impact Strategist, in the Nonprofit and Philanthropic sector and an MPH from UCLA's School of Public Health. The interview took place via Zoom.

**Q:** Thanks for joining us today, Marta. And before we get too far, congratulations on your new designation – Chief Heat Officer. That happened just last week.

**Marta Segura:** That's right that is very recent, but I am honored to take on that role. It's good to talk to you too.

**Q:** Things are really evolving with the City's response to climate emergencies.

**Marta:** This is a turning point for the City of LA with regards to how we address climate risks like extreme heat with equity as a through line.

**Q:** Right. First, I know you've been around the City for many years. Tell us, how long have you worked for the City?

**Marta:** I've worked mostly in the nonprofit and academic sectors. In 2009 I was hired as a District Director for the Council President, Eric Garcetti. I was there from 2009 to the end of 2012. In 2013 I was appointed as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Los Angeles. I've been the Director of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office for 1.5 years now, and three years as District Director, that's over four years. But I have been in this line of work for over 30 years of my adult life.

**Q:** Talk about your career for a second. What career path led you to where you are today?

**Marta:** What led me to focus on environmental health and justice stems from when I was a senior in high school, our community was being sprayed by the pesticide malathion. Neighborhoods were sprayed with pesticides in Los Angeles and in different parts of California because the state wanted to eradicate the Mediterranean fruit fly, and the California agriculture was even more important then, than it is today. They didn't know the health impacts of the pesticide; as a senior in

high school I talked to toxicologists, doctors and people at my school. They all told me the same thing, that the health impacts of malathion were unknown. It wasn't until maybe 10 years ago that they actually completed extensive studies, and now they know that it's a neurological toxin and can cause cancer and all sorts of other horrible things. That incident angered me and got me curious about how decisions are made and how and when the public is engaged, particularly about environmental health impacts.

My first major was environmental studies at UC Santa Barbara, where I think I was the first Latina in that major, and then that led me to a master's degree in environmental health sciences at UCLA's School of Public Health. I realized I didn't really want to work in a corporate setting, even though I worked for Hughes Environmental Systems for a year after graduate school. I went back to academia and the nonprofit sector determined to have a bigger societal impact. I originally focused on building safe, healthy thriving communities, and connecting that with the environmental science and the public health perspective.

Then, I worked for the California Endowment, I really became interested in which communities and organizations receive grants from the philanthropic sector, and why they receive the money. It was very clear to me that communities in historically disinvested areas and mostly small nonprofit organizations weren't receiving funding. Being a part of the nonprofit sector,



Top: Chief Heat Officer Marta Segura via Zoom. Bottom: Club CEO Robert Larios.



A strong partner for CEMO's drive for equity is SCOPE (Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education) in South LA. Chief Heat Officer Marta Segura talks about climate equity with Club CEO Robert Larios.

# 'A Turning Point' — continued from page 11

the business sector and the government sector at certain points, gave me the inside and the outside view of how policy was made. I worked for Communities for a Better Environment where I really found my niche working for environmental justice. I also worked for the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust when it first started, which brought a new model for building parks and open space for low income areas to L.A. County and the City of Los Angeles, and it really increased the number of open spaces like no other effort before. The common thread for all of my career is engaging the communities to build healthier and thriving neighborhoods and people.

## Equitable Climate Policy

**Q: Can you describe for us what the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office is all about, and its elements?**

**Marta:** Yes. The Climate Emergency Mobilization Office was spearheaded by Councilmember Paul Koretz within the LA City Council, and also by a coalition of organizations outside of the City, the LEAP LA Coalition. These organizations built a coalition to request that the City create an innovative governance model, or decision-making model, where communities were more involved in shaping equitable climate policy to address the City's climate emergencies. This was about five years ago, but these organizations had been asking government to create something like this for decades. Councilmember Koretz had the courage to listen, and had the courage to implement what the community was asking for. It took him, I think, three

years to get the votes to formalize the legislation that created this Office. It came into fruition in February 2021 and that's when I was hired.

The main goal is to influence how the City shapes equitable climate policy through an innovative community mobilizing and stakeholder engagement process to address our climate emergencies. The Climate Emergency Mobilization (CEM) Commission has members from the most vulnerable communities of Los Angeles; labor and tribal organizations; as well as climate experts and youths. The community is really reflected in the CEM Commission so that we can get their input. The CEM commission hears their recommendations and then conveys that to the Council and the Mayor so that they can shape this more equitable climate policy. That's the role of our CEM Commission.

The Office collaborates internally with other departments and bureaus to mitigate climate hazards and bring about climate policy that serves all of Los Angeles. We had a Climate Equity LA series with nine virtual sessions where we brought some phenomenal both experts and community speakers, and we received input from the community through surveys, focus groups and small group breakout sessions. We're collecting that data now, and we're shaping it into a report that will go to the CEM Commission and the Council.

I've already been working collaboratively with other departments like Emergency Management, City Planning and the Board of Public Works to create a climate adaptation plan based on our forthcoming City's climate vulnerability assessment, which we will be starting this year. This Chief Heat Officer role will require not just a heat action plan, but an awareness building campaign to reduce the hospitalizations and deaths created by extreme heat in Los Angeles, mostly in the most vulnerable neighborhoods of LA. Heat is going to become a more prevalent issue for Los Angeles and California because now we have five times the number of heat waves we once did, and they last from July through November." We even have heatwaves in the middle of Winter now. We need a comprehensive and collaborative approach in the City of L.A. to make address the systems, services, infrastructure and educational campaigns we need to mitigate the heat and the urban heat islands, caused by excessive pavement, and the lack of vegetation and tree canopy. We are working closely with our Bureaus that plant trees to ensure we are planting trees that provide shade and can be maintained by the City of LA. Trees will cool our city and make us more resilient. I want to point out that thanks to the Vision of Mayor Garcetti and Councilmember Krekorian, we are now addressing extreme heat with the focus it deserves.

**Q: It sounds like there is an awful lot to do as your department gets on its feet. What's first?**

**Marta:** I look at it from a public health lens, and then an equity lens. Heat is the primary climate hazard for the City of Los Angeles; heat is one of the primary areas of focus because it disproportionately affects the frontline communities that are already pollution burdened. More than 50 percent of L.A. is those vulnerable communities. That's a priority for our office to ensure that when infrastructure dollars come in, that they're equitably distributed. It's a really integrated approach, and we are doing multiple things all at once with different bureaus and departments. Obviously I can't do this on my own. I don't want that to be the perception. I think the beauty of this role is that it lifts the issue, and it focuses all of the bureaus and departments on that issue in a way that also engages community and shapes policy. The real power of this office is in the engagement of the community and collaboration



**'It's very rewarding to see change happening before our eyes and to see people responding to your vision.'**

— Marta Segura, Chief Heat Officer

with those bureaus and departments and working together to shift the paradigm and focus on investing in the areas that have been most neglected. And we don't do this out of charity or even because they are being most harmed, we are focusing on these communities and investing here because otherwise we will never solve the climate crisis puzzle. It's the only way.

**Q: What is your staffing so far?**

**Marta:** The Climate Emergency Mobilization Office this year hired three staff. It's going to be doubling in this next fiscal year to eight. Some of us will be working specifically on the heat action working group, and others will be working on the Climate Emergency Mobilization Commission and still others on the community assemblies and Climate Equity LA Series. All of us will work to reduce climate emergencies. I'll oversee all of that; I hope to have a Deputy Director to take on more of the operational day-to-day tasks so I can work on the programmatic goals of the Office.

**Q: How do you work with other departments? Do you have official oversight, or is it more of a collaboration?**

**Marta:** The report that I mentioned, that we will present to the CEM Commission, will give us some guidance and help each of us shape our overarching goals. We collaborate based on the larger strategic plans and directives that we will present to the Council, and then Council will present back to all of us.

I also find a lot of pride in having good relationships with these leaders from these bureaus and working directly with them on day-to-day issues. We will implement the plan together, and we have a good working relationship; we're proactively creating and improving programs together. I don't have oversight over them; that's not how I see it. These departments have amazing leaders of their own. How can I build a bridge to support their work further and faster? So far everybody has been super welcoming of that support and that collaboration.

**Q: That's not only within Public Works but others, too.**

**Marta:** Yes, like Planning and Emergency Management. I also want to work with the Department on Disability because they are some of the most vulnerable communities out there. Also, the Deputy Mayor of Homelessness and I had a conversation last week about how we can address inclement weather for the homeless to save lives. We also want to work on saving lives of the homeless while we're developing this strategy together.

The LA Civil and Human Rights and Equity Dept. is a partner. They show us how the climate emergency is also a civil rights issue, not just infrastructure or policy issue. The historical cycle of disinvestment in these communities made them more vulnerable because now they don't have sufficient tree canopy, or open space, they don't have the same rate of doctors per capital that others do. It's not just a public health perspective, but a social equity perspective. I think Mayor Garcetti and our City leaders have been leading on that to ensure we get these investments.

It really is all hands on deck.

## Turning Point

**Q: How important is this to the mayor and to the City of LA?**

**Marta:** It's incredibly important to our mayor because he's been one of the most advanced leaders as a mayor for the City



Marta Segura (lower right) took part in a Zoom May 12, which was one in a series of discussions on Climate Equity LA. This workshop, dealing with investing in communities by using climate equity metrics, also featured Capri Maddox, Executive Director, LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity; State Assembly Member Isaac G. Bryan; LA Board of Public Works President Pro Tempore Dr. Mike Davis, Policy Director for Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE) Agustin Cabrera, and Campaign Director for the RePower LA Coalition Estuardo Mazariegos.



CEMO and the Emergency Management Dept. are partners in working to reduce the effects of climate change area-wide. (Pictured: An earlier emergency simulation exercise at the EMD.)



CEMO works directly with another new department, LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity for a more equitable distribution of City programs and allocations. (From left: Manjusha Kulkarni of A3PCON and Stop AAPI Hate; Capri Maddox, General Manager, LA Civil Rights; and Traci J. Minamide, COO of Public Works/Sanitation and Environment.)

**Alive! Interview**  
— continues page 21

# Larios In the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Executive Officer



## Congratulations!

Robert Larios, Club President and CEO, honors Club Members with the coveted Club Retirement Plaque.



**Capt. Danny Domingo,**  
Harbor, Retired after  
34 years of City service.



**Joan Chastang-Outlaw,**  
LADWP, Retired after  
41 years of City service.



Mayor Eric Garcetti helps carry a wreath to the LADWP's fallen employee memorial.

# For the Fallen

LADWP HOSTS ANNUAL EVENT TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO DIED ON DUTY.



On June 2, the LADWP held its annual memorial service to pay tribute to those in the department who died in the line of duty.

The ceremony, held at the John Ferraro headquarters downtown, included a presentation for Club Member Michael Lemestre, Cable Splicer, 16 years of City service, who died last year. Michael's was the last name added to the list of more than 220 names read aloud by several employees, including General Manager and Chief Engineer Martin Adams.

Also in attendance were Mayor Eric Garcetti and Cynthia McClain-Hill, Board of Water and Power Commissioners.

The names of those who died in the line of duty reach back some 114 years. Twenty-four of the deaths occurred during the St. Francis Dam collapse in 1928. Most of the deaths took place in the first 30 years of the department's history.

Michael Lemestre, Cable Splicer, Club Member, 16 years of City service, died of injuries sustained during an incident while at work Nov. 4, the LADWP announced. The incident occurred in Wilmington. His widow, Michelle, was in attendance at the event June 2 and read a poem which ended, "Wrap me in your wings so there will be no loss to bear."

The event also included music by the LADWP Choraliers and the placing of wreaths on the memorial at the headquarters building. ●



Michael Lemestre and his wife, Michelle, pictured at ClubFest in 2006. Michael was remembered at the LADWP memorial event June 2 in honor of those who died in the line of duty.



Mayor Eric Garcetti spoke at the memorial event.



Cynthia McClain-Hill, Board of Water and Power Commissioners.



The family of the late Michael Lemestre attended the event.

# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

## Napa Valley



Velina and Antonio Espinosa recently traveled to Napa Valley's wine country. She works for the Santa Ana School District, 38 years of service, and he's Retired from the Santa Ana School District, 43 years.

## Letter From Barbados, Pt. 2

Capt. Michael Barnes, Retired, Harbor, reports from the Caribbean.

### Letter from the Garrison

If your Caribbean cruise docks in Bridgetown, I would suggest you catch a cab and visit Saint Ann's Garrison, also known as the Barbados Garrison.

This large historical area is about two miles south of Heroes Square in Bridgetown. The Garrison is home to the Barbados Museum, Guardhouse and Clock Tower, Bush Hill House (also known as the George Washington House), the Garrison Savannah horse race track and a collection of other military buildings.



18th Century cannon at the Garrison

build more permanent buildings, which is why visitors see all these red brick buildings today.

The Garrison's Barbados Historical Society Museum, located in the old 19th century military prison, is a good place to begin your outing. Established in 1933, it has an excellent display of colonial times under British rule with more than 500,000 artifacts. It is a rather old-fashioned museum, but worth a visit. There is an ample parking lot for visitors who are driving. Walking from the museum to the racetrack, you will pass the Royal York Rangers Memorial (37th Regiment of Foot). Constructed of coral stone and freshly white-washed, it stands in the center of a small traffic island.

British officers stationed in Barbados have used a former parade ground to racehorses since 1845 – wealthy merchants... and planters used to wager on the offi-



Old British Navy Anchor at the Garrison Museum

The original buildings were wooden, built in 1705 to accommodate British officers and soldiers, but because of hurricanes were built and rebuilt many times, until the development of the sugar industry changed that. Sailing ships carrying their heavy cargos of sugar to Britain needed ballast for their return journey. The British military needed bricks to

The adventures of Michael Barnes continue on *Web Alive!*



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[alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments](http://alive.employeesclub.com/lifemoments)



## Retirements

View retirements online at: [alive.employeesclub.com/retirements-202207](http://alive.employeesclub.com/retirements-202207)

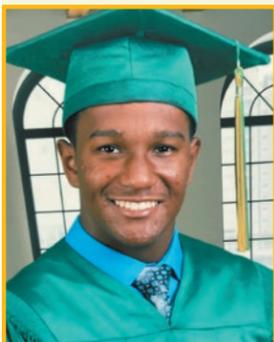
Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City in May 2022. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Arebalo, Richard P.	Env. Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D	Hormozi, Farshad J.	Power Reg.	LADWP	N/D	Sanchez, Nick A.	Criminalist	LAPD	30
Ausherman, Daniel M.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Hsu, Molly L.	Power Ext. Energy	LADWP	N/D	Schahmoradi, Mariam J.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D
Barney, Daniel A.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Hung, Tat Shun	Special Prog. Assistant	Rec & Parks	6	Sells, Chrystal L.	Metering Services	LADWP	N/D
Baltazar, Lois A.	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	32	Hunter, Sydne L.	Mgmt. Analyst	Public Works	20	Sewell, Timothy E.	Supply Chain	LADWP	N/D
Bishop, Francis J.	Background Investigator	Personnel	14	Hurd, Paulette E.	Administrative Clerk	Rec & Parks	6	Shott, Michael S.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Bohorquez, Paul A.	Security Services	LADWP	N/D	Kapoh, Susan Obeso	Municipal Police Sgt.	LAPD	31	Shutty, Robert L.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Bracewell, Eddie F.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Kharaghani, Shahram	Pr. Environmental Eng.	Public Works	35	Sidley, Janna Beth	Sr. Assist. City Attorney	LADWP	26
Brann, Brian E.	Power Transmission	LADWP	N/D	Khoo, Sheila S.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Simmons, Gary O.	Env. Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D
Caballero, Sabas	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	19	Kiaman, George	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D	Soderstrom, Charles E.	Water Engineering	LADWP	N/D
Caradine, Mark Daniel	Delivery Driver	Public Works	31	Kimura, Kyle M.	Env. Chem Lab	LADWP	N/D	Solomon, Lisa M.	Security Services	LADWP	N/D
Castillo, Guadalupe	Crossing Guard	Transportation	4	Kubo, Linda M.	Power Reg.	LADWP	N/D	Soto, Daniel	Refuse Coll. Truck Op.	Public Works	15
Cheng, Shao Gang	Sr. Librarian	Library	18	Lawrence, Debbie	Sr. City Planner	Planning	15	Stanberry, Theresa T.	Mgmt. Assistant	CAO	1
Cheung, Ruby M.	Retirement Plan Office	LADWP	N/D	Lee, Chiungshi	Chemist	Public Works	31	Strauch, Eric	Construction Inspector	Airports	20
Clark, Mark A.	Equipment Super.	LAFD	27	Martinez, Alex A.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Tam, Shiu Mo	Security Officer	LAPD	11
De Guzman, Esperanza M.	Administrative Clerk	Library	21	McFarland, Grace	Administrative Clerk	Housing	20	Theisen, Christopher A.	Energy Support Services	LADWP	N/D
De La Campa, Angel C.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	McNeely, Paul Kevin	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Controller's Off.	30	Torres, Melanie Alabastro	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	33
Deges, Brenda E.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	McReynolds, Brent E.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Troutman Jr., Lawrence A.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D
Diaz, Elizabeth A.	Customer Service	LADWP	N/D	Mojica, Laura C.	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Public Works	32	Varas, Lourdes	Police Service Rep	LAPD	32
Dunlap, Carla A.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	22	Mowery, Lisa	CFO, Sanitation	Public Works	30	Walker, Racheal Lenore	Sr. Personnel Analyst	Airports	30
Espinosa, Clarence R.	Mgmt. Analyst/HR	Airports/LADWP 3	N/D	Nauta, Lisa M.	Sr. Gardener	Rec & Parks	10	White, Carl Wendell	Animal Care Tech	Animal Ser.	11
Estrada, William D.	Curator	El Pueblo	10	Nelson, Stephen R.	Historic Site Curator	Rec & Parks	24	Whiting, Karen L.	Security Officer	Airports	11
Ewell, Gary Wayne	Building Inspector	Bldg. & Safety	5	Nelson, Steven L.	Security Officer	Airports	3	Wiggins, David H.	GM's Office	LADWP	N/D
Farraj, Sager I.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Okada, Kelley N.	Accounting Clerk	Airports	32	Williams, James Joseph	Background Investigator	Personnel	20
Fetalco, Romulo	Housing Inspector	Housing	15	Pelaez, Venus M.	Secretary	LAPD	27	Wong, Marcus M.	Power Supply	LADWP	N/D
Forgette, Geoffrey	Sr. Construction Inspect.	Public Works	20	Perkins, Basil Joseph	Animal Control Officer	Animal Ser.	21	Yeung, Oscar L.	Power C&M	LADWP	N/D
Fredgren, Trang Nguyen	Sr. Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	32	Perria, Steven A.	Water Distribution	LADWP	N/D	Young, Brian A.	Special Investigator	Controller	21
Gonzalez, Lorraine Lisa	Maintenance Laborer	LADOT	21	Price, Jordan	Instrument Tech	Public Works	24	Zillotto, Stephanie L.	ITS	LADWP	N/D
Harrahill, Donald Joseph	Sr. Personnel Analyst	Personnel	33	Renzetti, Valentina Inga	Animal Keeper	Zoo	30				
Hathaway, Craig A.	Municipal Police Officer	Airports	6	Rico, James J.	Metering Services	LADWP	N/D				
Hoang, Kelvin A.	Water Operations	LADWP	N/D	Robinson, Marcelle	Sr. Admin. Clerk	Harbor	12				
Honles, Guillermo A.	Power Planning	LADWP	N/D	Rodriguez, Raul	Fleet Services	LADWP	N/D				

N/D = not disclosed

## Class of 2022

### Graduations

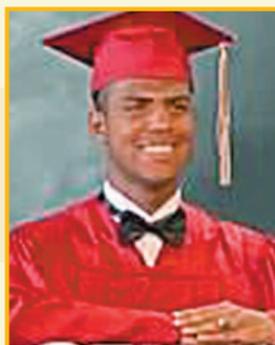


**Malik Brown** graduated from Long Beach Polytechnic High School and plans to attend Southwestern Oklahoma State University, where he plans to play football and major in computer engineering. Malik is the **son of Kristal Welch, Airports, and Lisa Jordan.**

**Christopher Solis** graduated from Canyon High School in Santa Clarita and his headed to boot camp with the US Navy to become a Navy pilot. **Christopher is the son of Lisa Solis, LADWP.**



**Cameron Spencer** graduated from St. Pius X—St. Matthias Academy in Downey and plans to attend Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash., majoring in film, broadcast and integrated media. He hopes to produce his own films one day. Cameron is the **son of Karrie and Nataka Spencer, LADWP.**



**Alyssa Estrada** graduated from Granada Hills Charter School and plans to earn her license in cosmetology. She's the **daughter of Jorge Estrada, LADWP.**



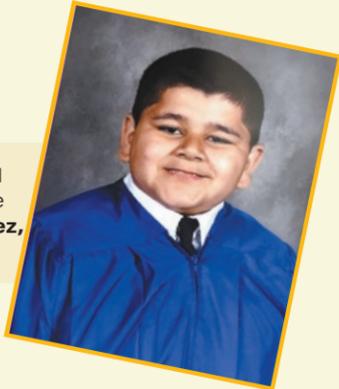
**Deric Alexander Neal** graduated from Huntington Park High School and plans a career in the culinary or veterinarian fields. He's the **grandson of Gayle Neal, Retired, Fire and Police Pensions.**

**Aliah Estrada** graduated from UC Irvine and plans to attend Cal State Northridge to pursue a master's degree while working at Pierce College. She's the **daughter of Jorge Estrada, LADWP.**

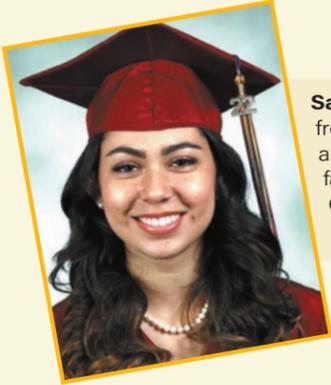


# Class of 2022 Graduations

**Xavier Hernandez** graduated from Lomita STEAM Magnet School and plans to attend Dodson Middle School in the fall. He's the son of **Oscar Hernandez, General Services.**



**Samantha Elena Alvarado** graduated with honors from Cantwell Sacred Heart of Mary High School with a 4.57 GPA. She plans to attend UC San Diego in the fall. Samantha is the daughter of **Lupe Alvarado, LA County Fire, and Jesus Alvarado, Harbor Dept./Carpentry.**



**Elizabeth Moore** graduated from Emory University School of Law in Atlanta and plans to work as a public defense attorney in San Antonio, Tex. She's the granddaughter of Herbert Moore, Retired, Controller's Office.



**Antonice Collins** graduated from TEACH Tech Charter High School in South LA and plans to enroll in one of a number of colleges in which she has been accepted, studying medicine. Antonice was stricken with a life-threatening autoimmune disease but is now recuperating at home. For more information, see the Club Angels feature on page 7 and consider donating.



## In Memoriam

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

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
<b>ACTIVE</b>			
Austin, Todd A.	LAPD 22	Graham, Herman	N/D N/D
Bailey, Robert	Harbor 11	Harris, David	LADWP 16
Earl, Valerie J.	LAPD 33	Harrison, Edward H.	LADWP 30
Hernandez, Juan Jose F.	Rec and Parks 6	Havard, Billy R.	LADWP 25
McAuliffe, Daniel E.	Bldg. & Safety 15	Hukoveh, Edward	ITA 16
Perez, Regina V.	LADWP 25	Kamigaki, Albert H.	LADWP 27
Ramirez, Jorge	LADWP 21	Koenig, Marcus L.	LADWP 30
Willis, Kimberly R.	City Attorney 23	Kyrda, James	Public Works 33
<b>RETIRED</b>			
Aguilar, Peter M.	Transportation 40	Lanier, Linda S.	Personnel 38
Algorri, Domingo	LADWP 43	Lembke, Charles R.	LADWP 32
Baneer, Sharon A.	LADWP 44	Link, Yvonne K.	N/D N/D
Bennett, Carolyn J.	LADWP 31	Lorenzo, Jose C.	Public Works 21
Black, Ronald J.	N/D N/D	Loud Jr., Oscar Z.	LADWP 16
Branche, Barbara J.	N/D N/D	Miller, Joyce J.	Personnel 20
Byous, Simon P.	N/D N/D	Morse, Kent S.	LADWP 34
Carpenter, Lloyd	N/D N/D	Nanne, Taoufik	ITA 22
Diaz, Jeannette A.	LAPD 26	Noland, Geoffrey W.	N/D N/D
Dickinson, Charles	Rec and Parks 16	Nollan, James P.	City Attorney 40
Disko, Ellen L.	Public Works 6	Okamura, William K.	N/D N/D
Ericson, Anna P.	N/D N/D	Ortega, Adolfo P.	LADWP 34
Feulner, Steven P.	LADWP 35	Riley-Oliver, Beatrice E.	N/D N/D
Fractious, John H.	N/D N/D	Song, Paul P.	LADWP 22
Franklin, Jimmy	N/D N/D	Stotland, Julian	Public Works 31
Fuentes, Beatrice	Bldg. & Safety 24	Strucker, Shirley A.	N/D N/D
Garcia, Albert L.	LADWP 35	Switzer, David G.	LADWP 17
		Takafuji, Carol K.	N/D N/D
		Woerz, Edward C.	Public Works 33
		Wellington, Dennis A.	LADWP 16
		Yanes, Pedro A.	LADWP 17

N/D = not disclosed

## LAFD, LAPD



Some of the shavees on stage.

# St. Baldrick's Returns

ST. BALDRICK'S FUNDRAISER IS BACK IN PERSON AFTER A PANDEMIC HIATUS.

Story by Arlene Herrera, Club VP of Business Development; Photos by Summy Lam, Club VP of Marketing

The St. Baldrick's head-shave event – a fundraiser managed locally by members of the LAPD and LAFD – returned to live and in person this year. The annual fundraiser was held virtually last year due to the pandemic.

The event was held May 21 at the Vineyards at Porter Ranch.

St. Baldrick's invites to people to have their heads shaved and to raise sponsors for their endeavor. The event raises funds nationally to fight childhood cancers.

The event included a free breakfast, face-painting and rides for the family, live music, and more.

Councilmember John Lee and the Council District 12 office sponsored the event. This is the 20th annual local event; original Co-Organizers were Retired LAFD Capt. Waldie Brangham and Retired LAPD Lt. Greg Doyle. The 2022 event co-organizers were LAFD Capt. Danny Wu, Club Board Member, who took over in 2007, and LAPD Det. Nick Sinclair, who took over in 2015.

As of June 17, more than \$36,000 has been raised for the 2022 event.

The Club has been an official sponsor annually.

Congratulations to all for another successful St. Baldrick's event!

Special thanks go to LAFD Capt. Danny Wu and LAPD Det. Nick Sinclair for their assistance. ●



From left: LAFD Capt. Keenan Porche, Building Admin., 36 years of City service; Firefighter Harrison Van Gilder, 3 months; and Cameron Sentence, Apparatus Operator, 6 years.



From left: Reserve Officers Gary Krystof, 39 years of City service and David Bush, 28 years, with their Supervisor Sgt. Joseph McDowell, 19 years, Club Member.

### NOTABLE NUMBERS

More than **\$1.3 million** has been raised locally to fight childhood cancers, according to organizers; more than 20,000 donations have been made; more than 3,000 heads have been shaved. Due to COVID, the last two years were held virtually but still raised approximately \$70,000.

As of June 17, more than **\$36,000** has been raised for the 2022 event.

## REC AND PARKS

Photos by JuanCarlos Chan, Rec and Parks

# Lotus Festival Blooms Again

POPULAR SUMMER FESTIVAL RETURNS IN PERSON FOR 41ST YEAR.

The Lotus Festival returns after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, and will honor and showcase the people and culture of India. The 41st Lotus Festival is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, July 9-10 at Echo Park Lake.

The annual festival coincides with the traditional blooming of the lotus flower, which symbolizes rebirth. This year the festival will honor and celebrate India's 75th year of independence. A variety of entertainment, Asian food and drinks, booths, artwork, handmade crafts, an eco-friendly area, a children's courtyard, and other activities. The event will also bring back the widely popular Dragon Boat Races with teams of people paddling across Echo Park Lake.

Admission to the festival is free, but there are fees for food, craft items, clothing and other merchandise. The opening ceremony commences at noon July 9 and will feature entertainment, including performers complete with their vibrant colors, beauty, and pageantry. Limited shuttle services and sign language interpreters are also provided at no charge.

Normally the festival attracts an estimated 100,000 people.

Echo Park Lake is located along Glendale Blvd., south of Sunset Blvd.



The 2022 Lotus Festival features the culture of India.

For more information, follow @LotusFestivalLA on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. ●

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.



# RLACEI

For Retired Club Members

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)**



Ruth B. Perry

Ruth B. Perry, President  
Terminal Annex  
P.O. Box 86264  
Los Angeles, CA 90086  
PHONE: (800) 678-4145, ext. 717  
EMAIL: Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org  
ON THE WEB: www.RLACEI.org

**2022 Executive Board of Directors**

- Ruth B. Perry, *President*
- Beverly J. Clark, *First Vice President*
- Mark Blunk, *Second Vice President*
- Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, *Treasurer*
- Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, *Secretary*

**RLACEI DIRECTORS**

Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension

Beverly Anderson, Director	Ext. 702
Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, Treasurer	Ext. 718
Mark Blunk, Audit Chair	Ext. 704
Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director	Ext. 716
Dennis Harding, Entertainment Director	Ext. 706
Nancy Hammoudian, RLACEI Director	Ext. 705
Verkin (Vicki) Keoseian, Secretary	Ext. 719
Tom Moutes, RLACEI Director	Ext. 710
Ruth B. Perry, Membership Director	Ext. 717
Elizabeth Torres, Director	Ext. 703

**RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE:  
(800) 678-4145, Ext. 0**

For retirement assistance, call the Retiree Hotline and leave a message. A Director of RLACEI will return your call and assist you with your concerns.

**RLACEI WEBSITE**

Visit the RLACEI website [www.RLACEI.org](http://www.RLACEI.org) to find the latest retirement news. Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.  
EMAIL: [Contact@RLACEI.org](mailto:Contact@RLACEI.org)

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.  
Terminal Annex  
P.O. Box 86264  
Los Angeles, CA 90086

**Change of Address?**

Please notify Ruth B. Perry, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 ext. 717 or [Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org](mailto:Ruth.Perry@RLACEI.org) for a change of address or to add or change your email address. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, LAPCU, and LAFUCU as applicable.



Beverly J. Clark

Send in your  
Interesting  
News  
Contributions!

Contact: **Beverly J. Clark**, Publicity Director  
Email: [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org)  
Phone: (800) 678-4145 ext 716

**RETIREE EVENTS**

- Aug. 11, 2022 Annual Picnic**  
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Grace E. Simons Lodge*  
*1025 Elysian Park Dr.*  
*Location Subject to Change*
- Dec. 15, 2022 Annual Holiday Party**  
11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Friendship Auditorium*  
*3201 Riverside Dr.*

**Reservation Line:**  
RLACEI events (800) 678-4145, ext. 701

**CARRIE'S CORNER**

**Wisdom from RLACEI's 100-year-old member.**

By Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director, Email: [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org)



Beverly J. Clark

*Carrie A. Gabriel began working for the City in 1946 and retired in 1978. She was featured in Alive! earlier this year when she celebrated her 100th birthday Jan. 28. With all the wisdom, experiences and changes she has seen throughout the 20th and now 21st centuries, we thought it would be interesting to get her perspective on various topics of the day. If any reader is interested in her opinion or viewpoint on a certain topic, please contact Beverly Clark at [Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org](mailto:Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org).*

**What advice do you have for seniors to maintain a good, positive outlook and to preserve their mental health and acuity as they get older?**

It is very important to watch your diet, exercise and keep moving. I have a stationary bike that I use to stay moving. I don't use it as often as I used to because of a health issue that limits my use. However, whenever I can move, I do.

Last week I took the DASH bus to the bank. I walked to the bus



Carrie A. Gabriel

stop and then walked from my drop-off point to the bank. I had to stop and rest in intervals – after all, I am 100 – but I made it back to catch the bus. From the bank, I walked back to catch the bus and went to have some pictures made at a camera shop. Then from there I took the bus back home. I don't move as fast as I used to, but I keep moving.

I take Access, a public transportation service for people who have disabilities and are unable to use regular public bus and train services, to my various appointments. I also use Uber, especially for returns home.

Also, it is important to have friends to talk with even if you don't see them often. I love to talk. Since the pandemic, I don't see many friends as often, and social activities have been severely limited. However, I do keep in touch by calling friends and family, and they call me as

well. I have friends who call from out of state to check on me, and I check on them.

I use my computer. I read and keep up with current events, which also helps me to stay mentally alert.

Remember to keep moving! ■

Refer a Friend,  
Get a \$25 Target  
Gift Card

Let your fellow City Retiree friends know about the great benefits of being an RLACEI member. Encourage them to call (800) 678-4145, ext. 717, or visit the Website at [RLACEI.org](http://RLACEI.org), to join today! 100 gift cards are available to be won. Once they join RLACEI and mention you, the gift card is yours!

What are you waiting for? Refer a friend today!



## RLACEI 2022 Summer Picnic

Open to all Retired Los Angeles  
City Employees, Inc. members only!

Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Grace E. Simons Lodge  
1025 Elysian Park Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Location may be subject to change.



RSVP to (800) 678-4145 EXT. 701

RSVP no later than July 27, 2022.

RLACEI member plus one (1) guest at no cost.

No additional guests allowed at this time due to attendance limitations and social distancing requirements

We look forward to seeing you!

RLACEI Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees \_\_\_\_\_

Email to [Contact@RLACEI.org](mailto:Contact@RLACEI.org) or mail to RLACEI, P.O. Box 86264, Los Angeles, CA 90086

\*\*Limited to first 100 RSVPs—Free Mask to those in attendance—Only RLACEI members will be eligible to win prizes.\*\*

— RLACEI CONTINUES PAGE 18



Beverly J. Clark

# Tee Time!

By Beverly J. Clark, Publicity Director

## First Tom Stemmok Memorial Golf Tournament took place in Alhambra.



It was an absolutely gorgeous day in Alhambra June 2 to join friends and family in a round of golf at the first Tom Stemmok Memorial Golf Tournament. The tournament was held at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, followed by a delicious lunch served at the Alhambra Court restaurant.

Fifty-seven golfers teed off and enjoyed the camaraderie with fellow golfers. In honor of Tom Stemmok's long-time commitment to the RLACEI Board and to his hard work and diligence each year in making the golf tournament a success, plaques were presented to special guests Christine Stemmok, Tom's widow, and Andy Martinez, Tom's nephew and golf flyer designer. Christine thanked the Board for re-naming the tournament in honor of Tom and keeping his memory alive.

The RLACEI sponsored event was supported and attended by the Club's CEO Robert Larios, Vice President of Marketing Summy Lam, Retail Store Manager Lupe Lira and Customer Service Representative Marcus Martin. The Club provided each participant a Retired Employees Club cap and gift card prizes for the raffle. Thanks to the Club for covering the event with pictures!

Also in attendance: Ellen Daigle, President and Founder of Ellen's Silkscreen, a longtime supporter of the golf tournament, RLACEI and the City of Los Angeles. Each

year, Ellen's company donates a portion of the cost of the golf polo shirts that are provided to each player; the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union and Sr. Business Development and Social Media Coordinator Robert Aguirre for donating gift cards for the raffle; and Keenan & Associates, for its financial support.

RLACEI President Ruth Perry welcomed those in attendance, congratulated the players and acknowledged guests. LACERS Commissioner Michael Wilkinson provided an update on the latest actions of the LACERS Board; and Stephanie Smith, LACERS Wellness Program Manager, encouraged members to stay involved and get involved with the programs that LACERS provides at no charge to its members through the LACERS Well program.

Prizes were raffled with some being lucky enough to receive more than one prize. Contributors to the many prizes awarded were RLACEI, the Club, Los Angeles Federal Credit Union and former Board Member Michael Perez.

There was a smaller turnout than in previous years as everyone is slowly venturing out to socialize and recreate. However, all who were in attendance enjoyed the outing and the opportunity to get out and enjoy a friendly game. ■

Photos by Summy Lam, Club VP of Marketing



Retirees, from left: Douglas Bohlmann, Public Works, 30 years of City service; Jordan Siplon, Public Works, 31 years; Steve Fann, Public Works, 30 years; and Joe Mundine, Public Works, 30 years.



Retirees, from left: Charlie Rausch, City Planning, 45 years of City service; Bob Bunes, City Planning; Bob Rogers, City Planning; and Greg Jackson, City Council, 12 years.



Retirees, from left: David Galvez, LADWP, and Jose Aguayo, Airports/Van Nuys, 27 years of City service.



From left: Frank Allen, Retiree, Public Works, 32 years of City service, and guests Paul Andrews, Stephen Flenoy and Luke Bregre.



From left: Beverly Clark, RLACEI First Vice President; Christine Stemmok; and Ruth Perry, RLACEI President.



Retirees, from left: Cathy Bushey, LAPD, 30 years of City service; Hank Murakami, LAFD, 33 years; Robert Hill, guest; and Steven Hill, Public Works/Sanitation.



Walter Smith, Retired, LADWP, 21 years of City service.



Retirees, from left: Tom Dunham, Street Services, 32 years of City service; Jim Windsor, Street Services, 23 years; John Sapone, Street Services, 36 years; and Ron Combs, Street Services, 35 years.



Retirees, from left: Anthony Garcia, Public Works, 33 years of City service; Lupe Durazo, Personnel, 22 years; with guests Tony Pelaez and Victor Lomeli.



RLACEI Board of Directors, from left: Nancy Hammoudian, Beverly Anderson, Beverly Clark, Ruth Perry and her niece Anna, Mark Blunk, Lucy Artinian and Vicki Keoseian.



Retirees, from left: Richard Lopez, Public Works, 37 years of City service; Steve Perez, Public Works, 36 years; Randy Hee, Transportation, 35 years; and Al Armiju, Public Works, 26 years.



Retirees, from left: Ralph Esparza, Housing, 30 years of City service; Maria Ramos, guest; Mila Meyerson, guest; and "Doc" Phil Meyerson, Housing, 25 years.



Retirees, from left: Carlos Herrera, Airports/Van Nuys; Jose Aguayo, Airports/Van Nuys, 27 years of City service; David Galvez, LADWP; and Chris Gomez, Airports.



Retirees, from left: John Sapone, Public Works/Street Services, 36 years of City service, and Ron Combs, Public Works/Street Services, 35 years.



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.  
**RLACEI**

— CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

IN MEMORIAM

**Linda Lanier**



**I**t is with heartfelt sympathy that we announce the passing of Linda Lanier, Retired, Sr. Management Analyst, on April 15. Linda retired in 2010 after 38 years of City service.

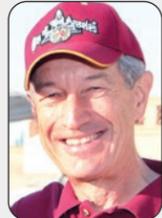
She began her City career with the Model Cities Program. From there she worked in the City Demonstration Agency, the Commission on the Status of Women, Community Development and the LAPD before retiring from Personnel.

Linda was very active as a City employee, serving more than 12 years on the Executive Board of the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel, and she continued to keep even busier as a Retiree. In retirement she took up watercolor painting briefly; volunteered as an instructor in a healthy eating and exercise program for elementary students; attended three line dancing classes and three Silver and Fit classes weekly; enjoyed walking in the park with friends and going to the movies; enjoyed luncheons and dinners with friends; reading; taking swimming lessons; and was a member of three senior clubs and the Celebrate Life Cancer Ministry.

The Board sends its condolences to Linda's family and friends.

**LACERS BOARD UPDATE**

**LACERS Well Has A Program for You**



Michael R. Wilkinson

by Michael R. Wilkinson, LACERS Commissioner  
 Email: MikeWilkinson4LACERS@gmail.com

Now is a good time to look at the programs that LACERS Well offers to help each of us stay physically active and mentally engaged. This program offers activities both virtually as webinars as well as in person.

Log on to mylacers.org to get the latest information on LACERS Well events.

Here are just a few of the benefits and activities available from either your health benefits or LACERS Well:

- Free gym memberships. Anthem, SCAN and United Healthcare members receive Silver Sneakers, while Kaiser members receive the Silver and Fit program. Kaiser members receive the Silver and Fit program.
- Guidance on healthy eating.
- LACERS Well Champion-led events. Wellness volunteers lead a wide variety of interesting programs. A random sample of these activities includes hula dancing lessons, mall walks, walks in various parks and virtual book club meetings.

LACERS Well has its own Passport to Health loyalty program that rewards participants who log their activities with cool prizes that have included iPads, gift cards and fun swag. Members sign up online and become eligible for regular drawings to be awarded the prizes.

In addition to fitness and social activities, LACERS Well has encouraged members to get health checkups and has focused these activities on health conditions that affect many retired members. By concentrating on the conditions that affect the most members, LACERS Well seeks to help members live longer, more enjoyable lives while reducing health costs at the same time. This permits the plan to offer improved benefits and lower out-of-pocket costs.

Also, in addition to the live LACERS Well activities, many are available on the LACERS YouTube channel that can be replayed anytime.

**Looking for a Board Member With Computer Skills**

**Computer savvy RLACEI Board Director needed!**

Experience and skills in Webpage maintenance, Facebook management and extensive Microsoft Office proficiency particularly wanted. Other computer skills greatly appreciated.

If you enjoy working with and assisting City retirees, join us.

**For more information on this position contact:**

Dennis Harding at: Tel: (800) 678-4145, ext. 706  
 Email: Dennis.Harding@RLACEI.org or

Beverly Clark at Email: Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org

**Follow RLACEI on Facebook**



**YOU COULD WIN!**

Connect to RLACEI on Facebook, and you'll be eligible to win a \$5 gift card for Starbucks or See's candies.

The gift card prize will go to the first 150 to like the RLACEI Facebook page.

**How to enter:**

**CURRENT RLACEI MEMBERS:**

- Follow us on Facebook

**OTHER CITY RETIREES:**

- Join RLACEI and like us on Facebook

**INSURANCE FROM THE CLUB**



**Life Insurance**

**If anyone relies on your income, you need Life Insurance.**

**Get it today. Here's why:**

- Think about your mortgage, children's tuition, funeral expenses and serious unforeseen expenses
- You should be covered for at least four to five times your salary
- Life insurance pays in addition to your City benefits and any individual life insurance policy you have in force.

To learn more about your insurance options, schedule a visit with the Club's insurance experts:



**Tiffany Sy**  
 Member Services Counselor  
 (at the Club Store)  
 tsy@employeesclub.com  
 Ext. 202



**Cheryl Martin**  
 Member Services Counselor  
 cmartin@employeesclub.com  
 Ext. 136



Phone and virtual meeting appointments available.

**Email: help@employeesclub.com**  
**Or call: (800) 464-0452**

LACEA Insurance Services, Inc. ('Employees Club of California') is a licensed insurance agency offering insurance benefits to qualified Club members. The Club's CA DOI Lic. No. is 0B98000.

# The Alive! Kids' Coloring Contest

# Coloring with The Club

Deadline for submission:

**Aug. 10, 2022**

Compiled by:



Guadalupe Lira,  
Club Store Manager



DeAngelo Thompson,  
Customer Service Associate

**Mail completed coloring art to:**  
Club Coloring Contest  
Employees Club of California  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Club will do everything it can to gather all the submissions, but it cannot be responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

**Print and Online Schedule**

*Alive!* has moved half of its children's coloring contests online.

**In the printed *Alive!*:**

January (winners published in March)  
July (winners published in September)

**In the online edition of *Alive!*:**

April (winners posted in June)  
October (winners posted in December)



SCAN TO  
DOWNLOAD ART



**Download Coloring Art From the Web**

You can also download and print art from *Web Alive!*:  
[alive.employeesclub.com/kidscoloringcontest](http://alive.employeesclub.com/kidscoloringcontest)

**We want to know about you!** Tell us a little about yourself:

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

When is your birthday? \_\_\_\_\_ What is the first name of your best friend? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite snack? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite television show? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to go to this amusement park? \_\_\_\_\_

For parents/guardian to complete:

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Job title and department with the City: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's address/city/zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Membership number: \_\_\_\_\_



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**ALIVE! INTERVIEW****'A Turning Point'** — continued from page 12

of Los Angeles on environment and climate. He came out with the Green New Deal and with the City's first Chief Sustainability Office. Many changes have occurred under this mayor that will help operationalize and institutionalize these changes in the future, no matter what mayor comes aboard. He has led in not only creating this Office and the general plan amendments and the sustainability plan, et cetera, but he has been a leader globally. All politics is local, but all change is local too, and when you create change from the bottom up, from the cities up to the national level, it has much more of an impact. That's one of his legacies.

**Q: Was there a turning point for Councilmember Koretz that really galvanized the City Council to create the Climate Emergency Mobilization Commission and then the Office?**

**Marta:** I think the turning point was when we realized that the climate crisis was going to get exponentially worse, and LA in particular was vulnerable to extreme heat and flooding and we needed all hands on deck. If LA didn't choose to be a leader, then the whole world and the nation wouldn't follow or adopt models that could turn this climate crisis around with Equity as a focal point. I think the turning point was about five years ago when Councilmember Koretz listened to the coalitions in support of this effort, those who were calling for the City to address the Climate Emergency, he never turned back until he passed the legislation.

**Q: For nonscientists, how bad is the climate change?**

**Marta:** We have multiple climate dangers now. We have five times the extreme heat and an ongoing and severe drought in California. We also have wild fires in many parts of California. We have rising sea levels, and in addition to that we have these regional fires that exacerbate the dangers of extreme heat which stagnates the air pollution. We're dealing with multiple climate hazards in Los Angeles now; working on mitigating any one of them is a challenge, but mitigating all of them is going to require even more coordination among agencies and departments in the region and the State. We are trying to get FEMA to recognize extreme heat incidents as disasters for example. Especially when you're talking about folks with disabilities, the aged, those with health morbidities, those living among excessive pollution near refineries and other pollution generators, and the communities that disproportionately suffer from those deaths and hospitalizations. It's one of the most serious issues we have — not just for public health but for national security. If we continue to have these wildfires combined with extreme heat year to year, season to season, we're not going to have the ability to combat it. We want to get ahead of it.

**Q: What challenges do you face now?**

**Marta:** We face the challenge of a lack of funding. Even though we are anticipating more federal dollars and state dollars to come to the City of Los Angeles, it can't come fast enough. We need to start piloting programs that will reduce our heat, and then to expand it to all of the City. EV charging stations will help the climate, but if we don't have enough of them placed in low income areas, that's going to create more economic disparities instead of fewer. Making housing electrification retrofits affordable so that everyone can thrive and move forward is critical. Adapting to Climate change is a humanitarian issue and there is now way around it.

**Q: What will success look like?**

**Marta:** Success will look like all of our bureaus and departments working together in synchrony to achieve these climate goals established both in LA's Green New Deal, and in our future heat action plan and our future climate adaption plan ... and then being able to draw down some of the dollars from the state and the federal government to implement and operationalize those plans collaboratively with the community. I think the community would also say that they want to make sure that there are more jobs created for all Angelenos, especially for those who have been most affected by

the economic downturn during the pandemic. It also means more Tree Canopy and open space in all communities. We're counting on this Green Economy to have a revitalize the city with the jobs that all of these retrofits, infrastructure and health and safety monitoring will create. We also will see the elimination of oil drilling in Los Angeles; we want to make sure the abandoned wells don't contaminate our groundwater, our soil or our air. We need to work on all fronts to realize the benefits of this transformation.

I want to ask people to watch out for our "#HeatRelief4LA" campaign. We're going to be working synergistically with the Emergency Management Department, the LAFD and so many others to make sure that people are aware of how to protect themselves against the heat storms that are coming in July and August. Please watch out for that information. Sign up for Notify LA alerts as well so that people can be notified proactively when these heat storms are coming and what to do.

It's going to be fascinating to watch this office grow and develop, but I think it's going to be even more fascinating to see what the next mayor does, to see their commitment to these initiatives and this office. I look forward to working with whoever that next mayor is.

**Q: Is it good to be leading a small, nimble Office while working with bigger departments?**

**Marta:** I think being a smaller, nimble office is a benefit. I have direct communication with the Council, the Mayor's Office and with the Board of Public Works. Huge departments don't always have that same flexibility or direct communication. It's a really interesting position I find myself in, being an advocate for bigger departments and their work, while leading a smaller office.

**Q: Working in a place like the City of L.A. must be a good place to affect change. You can literally affect it from the very top all the way down to the street level.**

**Marta:** It is. It's a turning point. We seem to be in alignment — the community wants this change, the Council wants this change, and the Mayor wants this change. I have found a lot of synergy amongst those bodies, and it makes it a lot easier for me, even though my job is still super challenging.

**A Passion**

**Q: What do you love about what you do?**

**Marta:** I was born for this work. I really love this work because it's so focused on community engagement, building healthy, thriving communities while making and operationalizing policy, and working with phenomenal City leaders who also see this as an opportune time for that change. I'm a people person with a science background who wants to see policy change in environmental health and justice, and I was made for this job. I really enjoy it.

It's very rewarding to see change happening before our eyes and to see people responding to your vision and this blueprint of engaging community members in the decision-making process. I've been working on this for 30 years both as an advocate and in academia, and this is really the first time when I see all of these different elements coming together so synergistically. It brings it full circle for me because, like I said, as a senior in high school I felt disempowered not knowing why they were spraying malathion and why they were hurting my community. Now as a City leader I actually have some influence to ensure that we're not creating false solutions or unintended consequences. I'm really thinking about the solutions that we propose from a multifaceted perspective to protect our public, our planet and our climate.

**Q: Marta, thank you very much for your time and speaking to Club Members.**

**Marta:** Thank you both. I really appreciate talking to you and look forward to continuing to work with you both. ■