

**Club
Deals!**

**Exclusive
Club Event!**
MAGIC MOUNTAIN
May 3 – \$23.99!
SEE BACK PAGE

New:
LEGOLAND
Hotel Deals!
See Club Website!

**The Cheapest
Movie Tickets
In the City!**

Alive!



The Electronics Unit in the Faraday cage, clockwise from top:
Jim Hoerricks, Police Surveillance Specialist; Det. III Keith Aulick, Officer in Charge; Tony Rodriguez, Police Surveillance Specialist; Alex Supall, Police Surveillance Specialist; Kim Chan, Sr. Clerk Typist; Vivian Levario, Clerk Typist; Shawn Khacherian, Police Surveillance Specialist; Eric Wahlberg, Police Surveillance Specialist; and Chuck Siegler, Sr. Management Analyst. The specially built Faraday cage is used for cell phone forensics.



AT 1:50

The Gadget Squad

In the Faraday Cage

LAPD Scientific Investigation Division's Electronics Unit investigates crimes by using audio, video, cell phone, photography, undercover disguises, surveillance techniques and other technologies.

- SEE PAGE 6

Alive! photo by Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer



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

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**Honoring
the Best of
the City!**

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Club Member Benefits

Club Insurance

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

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

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The Club Offers the Cheapest Tickets in the City



Don't be fooled by others! The Club is the ONLY association in Los Angeles to offer the cheapest tickets in the City. The Club is constantly in search of new savings to benefit it's 20,500+ club members every day.

"Club Discount King"
Robert Larios



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www.CityEmployeesClub.com

POWERHouse Home Loans

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The power of a POWERHouse Seven home loan is a low 2.500% / 2.668% APR* fixed for seven years.

Amortized for 30 years, 3% cap over the life of the loan.

It's the little things that make a difference. Lower monthly payments can allow you to pay for sports uniforms, music lessons or a home improvement. Compare the monthly payment on our new POWERHouse Seven home loan, with its fixed interest rate for seven years, to that of a 30-year fixed mortgage. Add in the waived points and \$750 loan funding fee and you're saving even more.™ The POWERHouse Seven interest rate is the same for jumbo and conforming loan amounts.

Sunset Branch
at Beaudry and Sunset
1053 West Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2134
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sun Valley Branch
Canyon Plaza Shopping Center
8413 Laurel Canyon Blvd.
Sun Valley, CA 91352-3817
Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Westchester Branch
8800 S. Sepulveda Blvd.
Westchester, CA 90045-4851
Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

JFB/ Hope Street Branch
(DWP access only)
111 North Hope St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2607
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Northridge/Granada Hills Branch
North Hills Plaza Shopping Center
at Devonshire and Balboa
16840 Devonshire St.
Granada Hills, CA 91344-7404
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

* APR = annual percentage rate. **Savings example: Purchase or refinance your home for \$200,000 at 3.844% APR (rate for a 30-year fixed loan as of 2/19/2013) with payment of \$826 per month. With the POWERHouse Seven years fixed for seven loan at 2.568% APR, your payment drops to \$796, a savings of \$36 per month, \$1,632 per year, or \$17,424 after seven years. Projected payments are for example only, are not inclusive of all fees and costs, do not include taxes and insurance, and are based on interest rates as of 11/26/2012. The POWERHouse Seven loan has a fixed rate for seven years and is adjustable for the remaining term of the loan (amortized for 30 years), with a 3% rate increase cap over the life of the loan. After the initial fixed rate period, your interest rate may change annually and any change will impact your monthly payment. Maximum LTV is 80%. Our "no points, no funding fee" offer is for new applications only and not valid for refinancing existing WPCU loans. All loans are subject to approval based on qualified credit and ability to pay. Rates may change at any time. Please see a WPCU home loan specialist for more information and current rates.
Mention promo code PNM Federally insured by NCUA

A Message From the CEO

Cool Cages and Grateful Angels

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

It all started with the Faraday cage. After I learned about the Faraday cage when *Alive!* visited the "Gadget Squad" at Piper Tech, I started talking to my brother and sister about it, and they were as fascinated by this investigative tool as I was. (It's there on our cover; if you want to know what it is, check out the cover story starting on page 6.)

I couldn't help but think how lucky I am to get to visit and learn about such cool stuff.

We have put the title "The Gadget Squad" on these remarkable professionals because it sounds catchier, which is always good in print. But in truth it's the Electronics Unit of the LAPD's Scientific Investigative Division, and we had an awesome time visiting them. This month's issue features the latest in our ongoing series behind the scenes of this hard-working division, showing you how the LAPD investigates crimes and uses science to determine the facts of the case. These are the real-life *CSI* people, and they continue to amaze me. I'm glad they're on the job, keeping us safe. And maybe in a month or two I'll stop my obsession with the cage. (Thanks to **Chuck Siegler** and **Keith Aulick** for welcoming us into the cage!)

Speaking of quality, I'm proud to once again bring you a story of the winners of the Quality and Productivity Awards. Issued by the CAO office and the Quality and Productivity Commission, the awards honor the very best in City ingenuity and thrift. It's not easy to put this major event together; we're grateful for the help of **Ron Galperin**, Commission Chair, and **Paul Gomez** of Public Works for their assistance in covering it.

And now for some updates on the Club: Normally I use this space to focus on you, City Employees. But there are a few Club-related topics I want to touch upon, too.

First is our new Club Angels charity program. Last month, we introduced you to our new Club-derived charity umbrella, which we're calling Club Angels. It encompasses and formalizes much of the charitable work we want to do, and are already doing. We mentioned that we want to double our donations this year, and we want to buy more blankets for our Buckets and Blankets program.



Club CEO John Hawkins administers the Buckets and Blankets program on the streets downtown.

And sure enough, the February *Alive!* had hardly hit the streets before checks started arriving. I knew we could count on you, and there you were. We will take good care of your generosity, and put it to very good use. On behalf of people in our neighborhood who are in need, thank you. And keep it coming! (Kudos to **Brian Trent**, **Arlene Herrero** and **Angel Gomez** for organizing Club Angels.)

And in other Club news, please welcome a new Club insurance partner, Dearborn Insurance. Dearborn offers awesome insurance products that make sense for our Club Members, and we feel confident about offering them to you. **Patrick Williams**, who represents Dearborn, is starting a new column in *Alive!* this month. Also, take a look at the Dearborn reps on page 4. They're good people with your best interests at heart. Say hello!

Seeing the joy on the face of **Theresa Torres** when she won our online Valentine promotion (an amazing diamond pendant courtesy Club partner Corporate Jewelers; see page 11) reminds me to encourage everyone to sign up for our Club e-newsletter. It contains promotions, hot ticket deals, and so much more! Go to the Club's Website and sign up!

And finally, after seeing your incredible response for last month's Valentine section, and then seeing the flood of responses to this month's children's coloring contest (more than 150 for new Club staffer **Mariana Guevara!**), don't forget that Mother's and Father's Days are coming up. Keep the submissions coming.

Thank you for letting me share a little about Club Angels and a few other things. The days are growing longer, the temperatures are rising... let's welcome spring!

JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

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FUN-LOVING CLUB MEMBERS
Are going to Magic Mountain May 3!
- SEE BACK PAGE

IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers

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



Cecilia Talbot,
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio,
Claims Assistant

Service from the heart... when you need it most.

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

Club Members' Praise

The Club's claims service was "excellent, and I really appreciate all your effort. You were always very courteous, prompt and very caring. The book *[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf]* was very timely and soothing, and I will read it again and again. Thank you so much."

— **Jessie Honore, February 2012**

The Club's claims service was "excellent! You could not have been anymore helpful. Monica Zamudio was very caring and helpful in a very difficult time. I appreciate her walking me through the steps of things that needed to be done at this time. I enjoyed reading the book and will share it with my grandchildren. Thank you!"

— **Margaret Johnson, January 2012**

The Club's claims service was "excellent and very professional. The book was cute and comforting."

— **Mitzi Crenshaw, January 2012**

"The claims service was very good. Everything got taken care of in good time. I was able to put this part of the paperwork and insurance stuff I had to do away or to the side and not worry about it because Monica Z. set me at ease by calling and letting me know what was going on all the way through the process."

— **William Brady, December 2011**

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work:

Claims Paid

Previous 12 Months

Life Insurance	\$2,729,788
Long-Term Disability	\$1,495,394
Long-Term Care	\$384,545
Cancer Insurance	\$205,000

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months: \$4,814,728



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees

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

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

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

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Alive!

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Meet the Club Team

Questions? We're here to help. **(800) 464-0452**

Call between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent
Chief Financial Officer



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

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Club Store



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Megan Debolt
Club Store Services Coordinator



Megan Evanich
Customer Service Associate

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Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant

Member Services



2003 President's Award Recipient

Arlene Herrero
Club Products Manager

Accounting, Bureau of
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the
City Administrative Officer
Community Redevelopment Agc
Contract Administration, Bureau of
Controller, Office of the
Disability, Department on
El Pueblo De Los Angeles
Emergency Preparedness
Harbor
Los Angeles World Airport
Police (LAPD)



Gedina Bergstrom
Club Member Services Counselor

Animal Services
Building & Safety
City Attorney
DWP
Finance
Fire
Housing Department
Information Technology Agency
Library
Recreation & Parks
Street Lighting, Bureau of
Street Services, Bureau of



Noelle Kauffman
Club Member Services Counselor

General Services
Sanitation, Bureau of
Transportation



2008 President's Award Recipient

Angel Gomez
Club Director of Sales

Administration
Aging
City Clerk
City Council
City Employees Retirement System
Community Development Dept
Convention Center
Cultural Affairs
Employee Relations Board
Engineering, Bureau of
Environmental Affairs
Fire & Police Pensions
Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
Mayor
Neighborhood Empowerment
Personnel
Planning
Status of Women
Zoo



Jackie Causillas
Club Member Services Counselor

General Services
Sanitation, Bureau of
Transportation



Tiffany Sy
Member Services Counselor, In-house

General Services
Sanitation, Bureau of
Transportation

Dearborn Insurance Team



Lucas R. Everett
Member Services Counselor



Steven G. Lambert
Member Services Counselor



Cody W. Miller
Member Services Counselor



Sheldon A. Sklar
Member Services Counselor



Charlotte A. Swanberg
Member Services Counselor



Donald E. Wells
Member Services Counselor

Letters to the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTERS OF THE MONTH

Love Was in the Club Air Last Month With Valentines



I am so impressed with the amount of Valentine wishes you were able to publish [February issue]. I really like your newspaper; it is so much better than any other City newspaper I have seen. It looks like you have a lot of fun while at the same time helping us City Employees out. Many thanks to the Club. Peace be with you.

– **Marco Solomon, Club Member for 6 years**

This year's Club Valentine's section was the biggest one I have seen yet. It is great to see so many happy and loving couples in the City and DWP. A happy life usually means a happy employee while at work. My congratulations to them all!

– **Rhonda Kowling, Retired**

I want to thank Chef Larios for helping me out of a jam for Valentine's Day. I didn't know what to make for my wife, and she said I couldn't make spaghetti; I was planning on using the [spaghetti] recipe Chef Larios published in the newspaper. I was in a bind. I emailed Chef Larios for help. He was kind enough to give me a lasagna recipe that was easy to make but looked professionally made. My wife loved it, and all is well with my relationship. Thank you Chef!

– **Lucas Thorne, General Services**

Around the World Feature Proves That Fun Continues in Retirement

Thank you so much for publishing your special feature, "Retirees Around the World." It's very encouraging to see other retirees getting out and about in the world, staying active and being alive (pun intended!). In fact it got my husband to finally eject himself from the La-Z-Boy and agree to take a trip to Solvang. And yes, we'll be packing the *Alive!* newspaper. Thanks again and I look forward to the next *Alive!*

– **Joan Smithers, retired City Employee**

Grown-Up Coloring Contest: Why Let Kids Have All the Fun?

A Coloring Contest for adults? Really? I

love it! In fact, I was so surprised to see it in the current issue of *Alive!* I had to call all my City Employee friends and tell them about it. What a neat idea. I plan on having a "coloring party," where the girls and I can spend some quality time competing for the \$50 Target card. You guys at the Club are great – thanks for the opportunity!

– **Margaretha Ivers, Rec and Parks**

Hi Margaretha, thanks for reminding us: To all Club Members, there's still time to participate in our annual Grown-Up Coloring Contest. See your February issue for the artwork to color, and for instructions. – Ed.

Club Store Clearance Keeps Gene in a Decent Wardrobe

This is my favorite time of the year at the Club because this is the time for the clearance sale! There is always something that catches my eye or I need replacing, especially after my long hiking trips. I have the ability to damage my shirts just about every time. I am stocking up with Club Store supplies. Hey! There is an idea! How about the Club Store offering Club survival gear?

– **Gene Leonard, LAFD**

Glad to hear it, Gene. But to all our Club Members, the Club Store clearance sale was good through February, but should be over by the time you read this. Check your Club email just in case. – Ed.

FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS ANSWER THE Question OF THE MONTH

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

What would you do with a pot of gold?



"Help out the less fortunate and then travel!"
– Ernesto Ibarra, DWP, 23 years of City service, Club Member



"I would distribute it amongst my family."
– Rudolfo Ramirez, Public Works/North Central Sanitation Yard, 23 years of City service



"I would give the pot of gold to my son."
– Pete Vega, Public Works/North Central Sanitation Yard, 12 years of City service



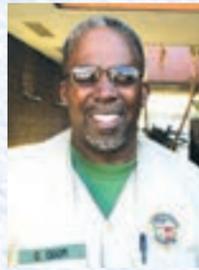
"Retire in Hawaii."
– Tommy Sanchez, General Services



"Buy an apartment."
– Eddie Rodriguez, Public Works/Sanitation



"Spend it all."
– Pat Adams, DWP, 6 years of City service, Club Member



"Relocate to the Bay Area."
– Dwight Odom, Public Works/Sanitation



"Retire."
– Gil Reyes, DWP, 22 years of City service, Club Member



"Feed every homeless person."
– Robert Valles, DWP, 25 years of City service, Club Member



"Buy a house!"
– Paul Harley, Public Works/Sanitation



"Give the gold away to the men and women in the 'People We See' article in *Alive!*"
– Pablo Diaz, DWP, 14 years of City service, Club Member

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



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

Contact Your United Agencies Reps (888) 801-5522

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

Mar. 7
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

Mar. 21
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Patty Pulido



Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon
Personal Insurance Agent



Xavier Rodriguez
Personal Insurance Agent

LAPD
The

Gadget Squad

The Gadget Squad:

The Electronics Unit in the Faraday cage, clockwise from top: Jim Hoerricks, Police Surveillance Specialist; Det. III Keith Aulick, Officer in Charge; Tony Rodriguez, Police Surveillance Specialist; Alex Supall, Police Surveillance Specialist; Kim Chan, Sr. Clerk Typist; Vivian Levario, Clerk Typist; Shawn Khacherian, Police Surveillance Specialist; Eric Wahlberg, Police Surveillance Specialist; and Chuck Siegler, Sr. Management Analyst.



■ **LAPD Scientific Investigation Division's Electronics Unit is serious about using technology – audio, video, photography, cell phones and surveillance – to investigate crimes.**

Photos by Tom Hawkins, Alive! photographer

An important part of the LAPD's investigative team is the Electronics Section, which just recently moved from Parker Center (the last LAPD unit to leave the former police headquarters) and into custom space in Piper Tech downtown.

The Electronics Unit both analyzes electronic evidence involved in crime scenes – cell phones, video surveillance cameras, voice messages, GPS coordinates, and so forth – and prepares its own gadgets for police actions, including stings, stakeouts and other incidents.

The unit is headed by Chuck Siegler, Sr. Management Analyst, 12 years of service with the City, and Keith Aulick, Detective III and Officer in Charge, with 19 years as an LAPD sworn police officer.

The Electronics Unit provides electronic support services for the Department, such as technical investigative support utilizing electronic surveillance devices. The Unit is comprised of eight Police Surveillance Specialists and three clerical personnel. Electronics Unit personnel design, construct, and modify electronic equipment to match the nature of the investigations they support. This unit also provides services such as reproducing audio and video evidence for court, repairing and maintaining recording equipment, audio and video enhancement and analysis, and cell phone analysis. The Electronics Unit also conducts technical security countermeasure sweeps (debugging) for Department entities and City officials.

On the following pages are descriptions of the various functions of the unit.

Inside the Electronics Unit

Here's a look inside the LAPD Scientific Investigative Division's Electronics Unit. Care has been taken to not show any current casework or identifying details.



Basic Video Forensics

Video obtained in crime investigations is analyzed. The video can be captured from security systems, onboard cameras, from cell phones or other cameras, etc. The video can be enhanced or cleaned up, depending on the needs, to identify possible suspects.



Here, Shawn Khacherian, Police Surveillance Specialist, 12 years of City service, examines video captured on a mass transit vehicle.



Various pieces of equipment used in the Video Forensics lab.



Technology Toward the Truth

THE *ALIVE!*
INTERVIEW

■ On Jan. 24, *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed Chuck Siegler, Sr. Management Analyst, 12 years of service with the City, and Keith Aulick, Detective III and Officer in Charge, with 19 years as an LAPD sworn police officer. The interview took place in the Electronics Section's new headquarters in Parker Center. – Ed.



From left: Chuck Siegler and Keith Aulick.

***Alive!*: Thanks for that tour. It was very impressive. Keith, you are on loan to the Electronics Unit?**

KEITH AULICK: Yes I am. For about a year and a half now.

And your function here on loan is... ?

KEITH: I'm the Officer in Charge of the unit. I handle all the daily administrative work that needs to be done – your typical day-to-day supervisory work.

Is it required to have a sworn officer with this section? Or just beneficial?

KEITH: It's not required. The supervisor of the unit is a civilian position. It's a Police Surveillance Specialist II. With the hiring freeze, they are unable to hire someone for that position, so they brought me over on loan.

There are some benefits to being a sworn member here because I've been in the field, I've worked the streets, I've started all the way down from a Police Officer all the way up to Detective III. And I've worked investigations, where a lot of these guys [in this section] work with other detectives from Robbery Homicide division and all those other specialized divisions – they are an investigative tool for the detectives out there.

CHUCK SIEGLER: Keith brings a unique understanding of the investigative side. A lot of our tenured employees in the Electronics Unit also have it from supporting that operation, but Keith knows from the sworn side exactly what he needs for court. He is the one who has built a number of cases, so he knows the type of support that the officers need in the field.

Keith isn't a typical loan, either. Generally in the City when an employee is loaned somewhere, they leave their unit behind and take over in the unit that they are loaned to. Keith is actually pulling double duty at this

time and is still running the unit he's on loan from, Gangs and Narcotics.

KEITH: I am the Officer in Charge of two units right now, yes.

Main Functions

Can you give me a quick description of what the unit does? Let's start with building and implementing surveillance devices. We were in that room a second ago.

KEITH: Yes, each Police Surveillance Specialist builds specialized equipment. An officer will say, "We rented this hotel room." The Police Service Specialist might have one day to go out to that hotel, look at it, figure it out, and actually have everything built within that day for surveillance in that hotel room, i.e. cameras and listening devices, ensuring that that is all functional and operating so that when the detectives come in, they have working sound and video and audio equipment in that room. They can overhear and watch from another room or a van outside.

And you process audio/video evidence.

KEITH: A lot of times our Specialists will get something on videotape of a crime that has occurred. Our Police Surveillance Specialist will go out there, retrieve that video, bring it back, and they will work on enhancing it if it needs to be enhanced or actually process it into a working copy that can be viewed by the District Attorney's office, the defense representatives and others. Also a lot of times detectives will bring in tapes or CDs that they already have from the field and will ask to have that duplicated and stored. We have a storage room where we store all of our tapes and audiovisual product that has been booked into evidence.

– continued page 8

LAPD

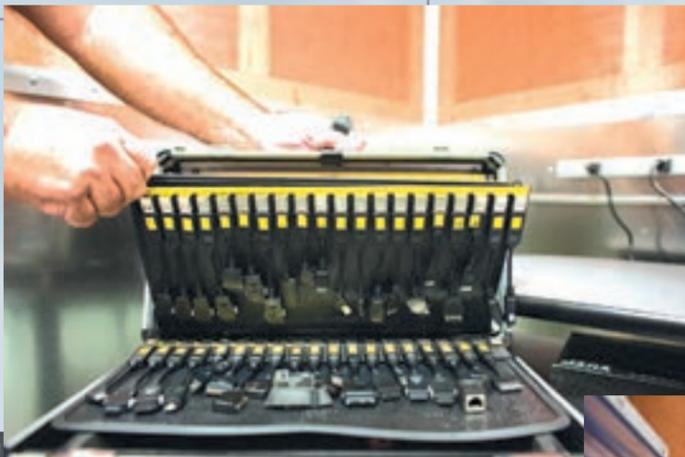


Cell Phone Forensics/ The Faraday cage

Cell phone reception inside this copper-lined cage is impossible. This makes it possible for LAPD technicians to turn on a cell phone so data can be extracted from it, without worrying that someone at a remote location will order the phone to be locked or destroy its onboard data. Inside the Faraday cage, cell phones can be investigated without fear of being wiped during the process.



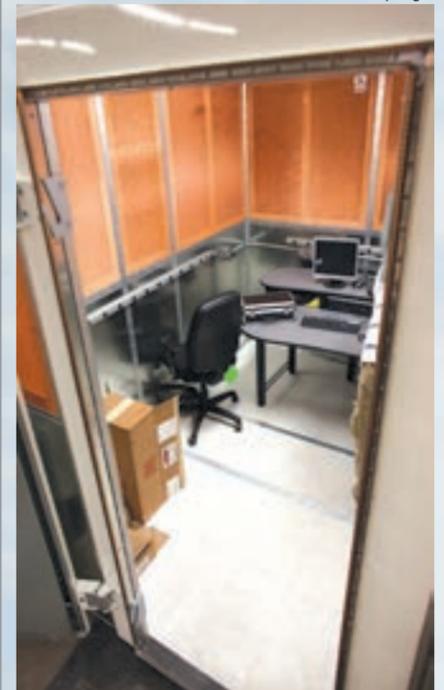
Eric Wahlberg, Police Surveillance Specialist, 22 years of City service, explains how the Faraday cage works.



Below and Right: Some of the dozens of power and data adaptors available to Eric Wahlberg for his cell phone forensics investigations.



The outside of the Faraday cage.



The inside of the Faraday cage.



Det. III Keith Aulick, Officer in Charge, 19 years as an LAPD sworn police officer, inside the Faraday cage.



THE *ALIVE!* INTERVIEW – continued from page 7

That brings up a very good question: How do you maintain the control of the evidence? When it's a gun or a coat or shoes or something that's a physical thing, you know who has it, and there's a chain of custody.

KEITH: We maintain only audio and visual in our evidence. It is done through a chain of custody where it's highly documented who has handled it, who has checked it out, and who is in control of it at that time so that we never lose that chain of custody. There's no doubt when we go to a court of law that we can look at the record.

Det. III Keith Aulick, Officer in Charge.



Is the chain of custody more challenging for digital media?

KEITH: A lot of times they'll extract it if it's on a hard drive, put it on a DVD or a CD file, and that's where we'll store it if we have to. Then we'll book the hard drive. The hard drive will be booked at our regular property division.

And then there's the audio/video analysis.

KEITH: That's where they will get a video or a still photo of a license plate, let's say. The license plate is too blurry to read, but Jim [Hoericks] was able to take that license plate and convert it or do enhancements on it that actually brought out the letters that became a readable copy and was able to find out who that car belonged to.

CHUCK: Jim has a number of different software programs where his steps are traceable and reproducible and follow a very scientific process.

The March of Technology

And then there's the Faraday cage. The cell phone room.

KEITH: It's for cell phone forensics. We have devices made specifically for extracting data from cell phones. We not only do that but Eric [Wahlberg] will take a phone that's been broken, submerged in water, and be able to take that phone apart, take out the chip, put it in a new case and actually get that back working again and able to extract the data from it. Even if photos have been erased, text messages have

been erased, emails have been erased, a lot of that stuff is still on the phones, and with the equipment that we have, we're able to retrieve it from the phones.

You have to be relentless to do the cell phone job. It's changing all the time. There's always new equipment. You have to really be on the hunt to be able to get that evidence off a phone when they don't want you to do that.

KEITH: Every time there's a new phone, there's new software, and that software has to be defeated. Apple doesn't give us the access into it or even tell us how to get into it. Scientific discovery is how we discover how to get into it. We do all that legally through a search warrant when we pull that data off.

So the manufacturer, be it Samsung or Motorola or Apple, they don't really help you.

KEITH: Not in the sense of breaking into their phones. And I think they do that more for a PR reason because if people knew that they helped out the police, it might be bad for business.

Are cell phones the fastest growing part of what you do here?

KEITH: Yes, cell phones. From flip phones a couple of years ago all the way to smartphones now, where pretty much everything is on one phone. You have a camera, a video camera, text messaging, emails... There isn't anything that can't be done almost with a smartphone.

CHUCK: One of the other areas that has really exploded within the electronics unit is digital

evidence retrieval, which is really demanding a lot of our time. It used to be just a matter of an officer pulling a tape out of a VCR at the scene of a crime. But now it actually takes a technician to go out and extract video either from a computer or a DVR or a different system. With the number of cameras out there, it takes the investigating officer to evaluate if it's a working system, and if it has captured anything of value. To actually extract that video, the technician responding from the electronics unit must go out and retrieve that video.

KEITH: It takes technicians like our Police Surveillance Specialists to be able to adapt. They might go out to the scene and see a DVR or an NVR, a digital video recorder or network video recorder, that they've never seen before and have to find the software using the Internet to be able to extract that data, the digital video from that recorder. The evolution of cameras is just like cell phones. It's incredible how they're changing.

CHUCK: Our Specialists have to be able to work with each and every type of system and figure out how to [retrieve] those files. A lot of times the Specialist has to come back, research the proprietary codec [a software code that allows the video to be viewed - Ed.], and add it to the files so that when the officer out at Topanga or the Harbor gets the DVD they're able to view the video on their system.

Are security sweeps a portion of what you do? Maybe there's some big meeting and you have to come in and check and make sure that things are debugged?

KEITH: That happens every once in a while.



The Workshop

In the workshop, LAPD technicians build audio and video surveillance devices. The devices, which can be hidden in a number of places including shirts, buttons, purses, power strips and clock radios, send a signal to an LAPD receiver, which can be set up nearby, for example in the next room or the LAPD's surveillance truck.

Alex Supall displays an audio transmitter that can be attached via Velcro inside a shirt.



A tiny video camera.



Alex Supall, Police Surveillance Specialist, displays a video transmitter outside the Unit's workshop.



Video cameras can be hidden inside shirt buttons.



Walkie-talkies maintain communication in the field.



Alex shows where a video camera can be hidden inside a clock radio.



An audio mike has been installed in this power strip.



Advanced Video and Audio Forensics

It isn't very often that we'll get called to check a location to ensure that there are no listening devices in it. We have specialized equipment that we can sweep with to see if there are any signals being sent out of that. But that's a very small portion of what we do. Since I've been here I think we've done it twice.

Is your business growing?

KEITH: Oh definitely. It's incredible. I have one guy on call throughout the week, and he could be called out every night to retrieve data from crimes.

What's the biggest challenge to the Electronics section?

KEITH: The evolution of electronics. Just less than 10 years ago our computer hard drives contained one gigabyte. Now you are going to the terabytes, and computers do amazing things. You can run your entire house now at home and computers are so inexpensive. Our smartphones have more data on them than computers did ten years ago, and more memory. The evolution of cell phones is incredible, and it's going to keep being our challenge.

And then again the evolution of the DVRs and the NVRs that are out there for the camera systems [means] my guys have to be able to go out there and figure out how to retrieve that data. It's going to get even more challenging as it goes on.

CHUCK: Occasionally a business would have a surveillance system in place. Now they all do. Neighborhoods have cameras in place. Over in Central Division they've got a number of cameras up throughout the community that are run I think through the local business associations.

- continued page 10

Equipment in the Advanced Video and Audio Forensics Room.



A second room is set up for more theoretical or difficult technical challenges. Still or motion video, and audio evidence can be investigated here. "We get into the physics of things here, to be able to determine whether or not it's real, or just [visual or audio] noise," says Jim Hoerricks, Police Surveillance Specialist, 12 years of City service, Club Member.

Advanced stillframe software including PhotoShop and other more advanced programs allow for scientific and repeatable forensics. Still images can be compensated for angles, distances and other dimensions to bring those images into sharper focus. It's important that every mathematical move can be repeated, so that the evidence is rock solid in court.



Jim Hoerricks, Police Surveillance Specialist, 12 years of City service, in the Advanced Video and Audio Forensics room.



Kim Chan, Sr. Clerk Typist, 6 years of City service.



Jim Hoerricks points out a case where he was able to take a blurry vidcap of a license plate and mathematically refocus it to make it more legible. This was part of a case sent to the Electronics Unit from Italy.

Alive! Feature



Inside one of the LAPD's surveillance trucks.

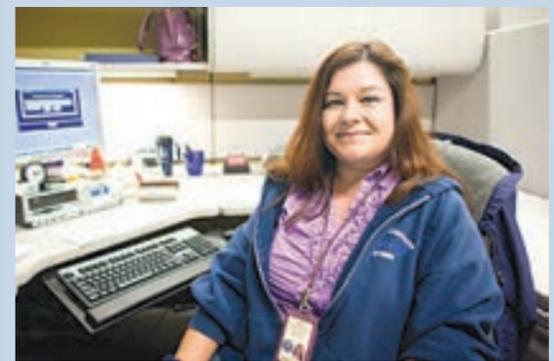


The Surveillance Truck

Signals transmitted from LAPD surveillance equipment must be received somewhere close by. The LAPD uses a truck for many surveillance operations.



Alex Supall, Police Surveillance Specialist, demonstrates the receiving equipment, including a remote-controlled camera, inside one of the LAPD's surveillance trucks.



Vivian Levario, Club Member, Clerk Typist, 14 years of City service.

THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW – continued from page 8

It's a matter of sending somebody out to each of those sites where the cameras have been identified to retrieve the video. The demand is growing, and the complexity of the systems is growing. Keeping up with the training is an ongoing thing for anybody in this profession.

What percentage of what you do requires a warrant?

KEITH: Pretty much most of the video that we get is given freely. I've seen only a couple of instances where we've needed a search warrant to retrieve the video. I would say less than five percent. Because most of the time it's the victim [giving the video], not a suspect.

Now for our cell phone forensics, we have a policy that we want a search warrant every time, even though there have been Supreme Court rulings saying that we do not need search warrants for incidents or arrests. It's better to have it so when we go to court it can never be fought. The judge has already said, "You have enough evidence to search that phone."

The CSI Effect

There are a lot of crime shows on TV that show completely distorted video that suddenly becomes crystal clear. What are the similarities and what are the differences between what you do and what people see on television?

KEITH: You look at *CSI* and they can solve a crime in about one day and...

CHUCK: I think it's 45 minutes, once you take the commercials out.

KEITH: It is. It doesn't happen that way. There's a lot of work that has to be done. They can't just hit the button and zoom in; it just pops up and the person looks perfectly clear and there's your suspect. There's a lot of work behind it. We have to take lot of notes to address every step we've done because it's going to be challenged in court.

Does it make you laugh? Does it make you aggravated that so few people know how your job is really done?

KEITH: It does because you hear people every once in awhile say, "Oh, I see on *CSI* what you guys can do." No, we don't. We can't do exactly what's done on *CSI*. It takes a little more time. [He laughs.]

CHUCK: I do get a lot of the questions from my family and how this works and what that is.

The profession itself fascinates me. The capabilities of the technicians are incredible. I don't know that the shows are that far-fetched. You see the same muddled picture at the beginning and this great picture at the end and that's what [our] guys are doing. It's the process itself that maybe isn't quite as sexy as the TV show makes it seem or as simple.

KEITH: Exactly.

CHUCK: Like Keith referred to, the documentation of every step is so that the process is repeatable. We are authenticating video. We are doing everything that we need to do to document and support the process. It's much more tedious than is perceived by the public.

Careers Saved

Tell me the well-known story about the video and the lawsuits against the two Officers where they pulled over a suspect because there was no license plate, but then a plate was added on later allegedly in a defense video. It's a great story about what you do.

KEITH: There was a traffic stop where two Officers pulled over a vehicle with no license plate. When they pulled over the vehicle, the vehicle was being driven by a parolee. During a search of that vehicle they found cocaine and other narcotics in the vehicle. When it went to court, a video came out by the defense saying that that's not true, that there was a license plate on the car. They brought up the video. Jim [Hoericks] was able to take that video and retrace the steps, how it was manipulated [to add a license plate where there was none] and actually saved the officer's careers from that defense team's charge that they had falsified a police report.

That's a serious charge.

KEITH: Yes.

This unit got at the truth. You're scientists in a way. Your job is to seek the truth wherever it may lead.

KEITH: That is accurate. We work with the Internal Affairs, too. Justice is blind and we don't take sides. We have to do our job and that's what we do.

But in this incident you saved the careers of two fine officers.

KEITH: Yes.

CHUCK: One of the very interesting things about the Electronics Unit and throughout the Tech Lab in general is that we try to separate ourselves from Investigating Officers. There are times where we're out supporting their different operations in the field, but for the most part, we don't want to know what end result the Officer wants to see. We're taking the information that they provide to us and provide a response whether the video is authentic or not, whether it's been manipulated or not. We're not looking for a particular end result. We are looking to indicate what is there and what's not there.

Great People, Great Mission

Talk about the dedication and the calm relentlessness with which your staff goes about finding out the truth.

KEITH: They're all very much dedicated, from our Clerk Typists all the way up to all of our Police Surveillance Specialists. They constantly have to research and update themselves to what's going on. They are all incredible technicians. They really make the LAPD shine in what they do, and they've worked on some really highlighted cases.

Alex [Supall], for instance, retrieved all the video from the mansion where Michael Jackson died. It had cameras, and Alex testified in court during the trial against Michael Jackson's doctor.

I didn't realize that.

KEITH: There were cameras that gave a timeline of when the phone calls were made and when ambulance personnel showed up on the scene and stuff like that. It became a very important part of the case, and through the due diligence [of the Specialists] and hard work and what they do, he was able to get up on the stand and give an incredible testimony.

CHUCK: We have a unit that like so many other units within the City is running at a very high vacancy rate. The Electronics Unit vacancy rate is somewhere between 35 and 40 percent. The one supervisory position assigned to the unit is vacant. You have an increasing workload and demand and a group that is striving to keep up with it and doing their absolute best. In addition to the vacancy rate, we used to have a fairly significant cash overtime allocation specifically for Electronics to keep up with the workload. You had employees that were working 16-hour days to come in and work



Chuck Siegler.

their regular shift and then stay late into the night or early into the next morning to support a field operation that evening. It's really an amazing group that has really kept up. They have really done an amazing job to support the department's function both from an investigative standpoint and from an officer safety standpoint in supporting field operations. Their dedication is amazing.

What do you like about working here?

CHUCK: For me as an administrator it's being put in a position to support field operations investigations. The City is an amazingly diverse place where you can do so many different things. I've been a project manager for construction projects, but being here and supporting field operations, having an impact on resolving cases, gives me a lot of meaning. There are a number of reports that can be done anywhere. To be able to move this group that has been promised for 20 years they were going to be relocated out of Parker Center, literally 20 years, to actually have that come to fruition to me is an accomplishment. My biggest function is to help enable these guys to do their job.

KEITH: You've heard of what they can do. If it wasn't for them there are a lot of crimes that would not be solved, and I'm talking about big crimes. They do amazing work. They are constantly updating themselves. It's been a great pleasure to work here. It was an honor to be asked to help run the unit while they have the vacancy.

CHUCK: We keep calling it an honor as they put more and more work on us.

KEITH: Yes. [He laughs.]

Gentlemen, thank you very much for the tour and for the words. It was a pleasure to come in and see the amazing work that you do.

CHUCK: Thank you.

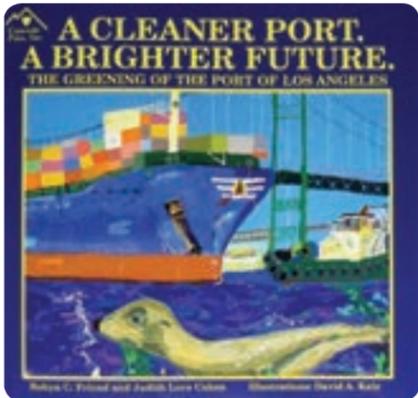
KEITH: Thank you very much.

NEWS BRIEFS

THE PORT, IN PRINT

The Port's environmental programs and innovative green technologies are the focus of a new children's book, *A Cleaner Port. A Brighter Future. The Greening of the Port of Los Angeles* (Cascade Pass). Written by Robyn C. Friend and Judith Love Cohen, the book is the sixth in a series of environmental books for children dedicated to teaching youths about the importance of environmental conservation and preservation.

"It's never too early to start educating children about the importance of preserving the environment," said Port Executive Director Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D., Club Member. "Our story is an example of how industrial operations can transform in the modern era, and we are thrilled that the Port can serve as an example of 21st century environmental practices and programs."



A Cleaner Port. A Brighter Future. The Greening of the Port of Los Angeles informs children about the Harbor's green efforts.

For elementary school-aged readers, the book provides an easy-to-follow story about ports and their purposes. The authors explain how the Harbor is using cleaner, greener ways to move cargo. Readers learn about the Port's environmental efforts – from cleaner trucks, to dockside Alternative Maritime Power

(AMP) for idling ships, to trash skimmer boats – and how these efforts help reduce air and water pollution. The book features colorful, original illustrations that help bring concepts to life. Lesson plans, fun facts, and a full glossary of environmental and port terms are also included.

The authors and illustrator David Katz were on hand Feb. 7 for a book signing in San Pedro.

A Cleaner Port. A Brighter Future. The Greening of the Port of Los Angeles is available for purchase online. The Port is also donating copies of the book locally to schools and libraries. Information on the other books in the Cascade Pass educational series can be found at www.cascadepass.com.

FIRST URBAN LIBRARY RESIDENCY PROGRAM:

The Los Angeles Public Library and the Library Foundation of Los Angeles have launched the Innovation Leadership Program (ILP), the first residency program in a large urban public library system.

ILP takes a new approach to cultivating the next generation of library leaders by teaming "residents," who are recent library school graduates, with "fellows," who are mid-career librarians. The program provides them with resources to develop new library programs and the opportunity to gain the skills necessary to lead the Los Angeles Public Library into the 21st century.

"This is an exciting, new way for the Los Angeles Public Library to invest in innovative library leaders and services for the future," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "The ILP program encourages the residents and fellows to imagine services that could define the library of the future, and gives them the resources and freedom they need to create these services. In the process, fellows and residents will gain the unique experience and perspective necessary to become creative and effective library leaders."

THE CLUB

A Gem of a Prize

Theresa Torres, Airports, wins Club's online jewelry giveaway – a diamond pendant. Wow!



Theresa Torres, Airports, presents the diamond pendant she won in an online Club promotion. The pendant was given away in tandem with Corporate Jewelers, a Club partner.

Theresa by Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor, at Theresa's workplace. Theresa was chosen by random selection of those who had entered the promotion.

Corporate Jewelers is a wholesaler, manufacturer and importer of diamonds and jewelry. Corporate Jewelers and The Club Discount King join forces to provide Club members up to 66 percent off on diamond rings, diamond earrings, weddings sets, lady's and men's rings, diamond studs, pendants and more.



Congratulations to Theresa Torres, Airports, who won a fantastic diamond pendant Feb. 11 as part of a Club promotion for Valentine's Day.

In tandem with **Corporate Jewelers**, a Club partner, Theresa received a 14-karat white gold and diamond pendant appraised at \$1,050. The pendant was hand delivered to

For more information on purchasing jewelry through **Corporate Jewelers**, visit the Club's dedicated page:

www.cityemployeesclub.com/ProductInfo/CCD-CORPORTEJEWELERS.aspx

(Members only; must be logged in.)

Sign Up for Online Club News

The Valentine's Day Diamond Pendant Giveaway was promoted through the Club's e-newsletter. Club Members who want to receive exclusive Club news, promos and hot ticket deals can sign up to receive the email service. Go to www.cityemployeesclub.com and sign up. A valid email address is required.



Club Featured Businesses

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

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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

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

Retiree Upcoming Events

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

- March 6:** LARFPA general meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge
- April 11:** RLACEI general meeting, Friendship Auditorium
- TBD:** RLACEI golf tournament, date to be determined
- Aug. 8:** RLACEI picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge
- Sept. 19:** RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, Friendship Auditorium
- Dec. 5:** RLACEI holiday party, Friendship Auditorium

RLACEI Website

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

Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM-5PM. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans. www.lacers.org

DWP Retirees Association



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

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



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

New Healthcare Law Is Focus of April 11 Meeting

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

Our newest RLACEI Director, Phil Orland, has been busy. He arranged a subcommittee meeting for Feb. 6 to find out how the new health care law would affect our retired Members and City retirees in general. Attending the meeting was Phil, three of our Directors, and Kaiser Administrator James Larrataeta-Moylan, Kaiser Executive Account Manager Ken Reiff, LACERS Chief Health Administrator Alex Rabrenovich and his assistant, Juan Garcia. What we learned

was very informative.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) covers two categories of retirees: Retirees 65 and older on Medicare, and Retirees under 65 years old. Because LACERS' administers retiree-only medical plans, LACERS is exempt from many of the provisions of the ACA.

Retirees 65 and older on Medicare who are on LACERS' medical plan will have little or no change to their ACA. Also, Senior Advantage programs will continue to be available in 2014.

Retirees under 65 who are not enrolled in LACERS' plan will have greater plan options through a health care exchange.

One provision that may impact the LACERS medical plan premiums is the excise tax on "Cadillac" plans. However, this provision does not take effect until 2018.

These are only a few items that we discussed. However, LACERS and RLACEI have teamed up to have a full presentation at our general meeting April 11 at the Friendship Auditorium to answer any questions of your health coverage and concerns as they pertain to you and your family. Please mark this date on your calendar for this very informative meeting. See you there.

LACERS' Is First in Retiree Health Funding



Michael R. Wilkinson

RLACEI Legal and Policy Issues
 by Michael R. Wilkinson

We should all be proud that LACERS was just ranked first among large U.S. cities in retiree healthcare funding. While well-run pension plans have been properly funding their pension obligations for years, most cities and states have just been paying for retiree healthcare costs as it came up on a "pay-as-you-go" basis.

The latter process puts off the true costs and can lead to financial crises many years later since money was not put aside and invested at the time leaving the pension plan financially strapped

when the workers retire and need to use the health benefits.

Only in very recent years have a substantial number of pension plans adopted the proper actuarial funding (sometimes call prefunding) of retiree healthcare costs.

The Pew Center on the States issued a study that ranked 61 cities, each of them either with more than 500,000 population or the largest in a state, and found that the total shortfall (unfunded liability) for their retiree healthcare obligations was \$118 billion, far outstripping the funding deficit for pensions of \$99 billion.

By contrast to most of its peers, LACERS was a pioneer and has been putting away money for retiree healthcare for decades and boasted a 55 percent funding

level when reviewed by the study (based on the 2009 data, the most recent available at the time of the study). Now the actuarial funding level is 71.6 percent. "Far earlier than most, Los Angeles began setting aside money for retiree health insurance in 1987, and the city has been praised by the bond-rating agencies for this practice," according to the study.

By comparison, the level at three other large California was dismal: San Jose, nine percent; San Diego, three percent; and San Francisco, one percent. It is worth noting that each of those cities (except San Francisco) is dropping traditional pensions in favor of 401(k)-style retirement accounts for at least some of their new hires.

2013 Looks Daunting for Public Finances



Michael Karsch

RLACEI Pension Law and Policy - Legislative Report
 by Michael Karsch

In a January look at the City of Los Angeles' solid waste revenue bonds by the Fitch Ratings agency, several observations were made about the City that go beyond just the rating of those bonds (the outlook was "stable"). Fitch says the City still has an ongoing structural imbalance, despite cost control measures that have reduced the budget deficit gap. In addition, the pension reform already enacted by the City will help, but there is need for more pension and benefit reform to achieve out-

year budget balancing. The City's credit profile looks promising to Fitch due to the City's size and diversity. The City's revenue and property base growth is positive and should continue into fiscal 2014. Sales tax has increased nine percent year over year, and should grow another four percent in fiscal 2014. The property tax picture is improving, too. Taxable assessed valuation increased 1.3 percent in fiscal 2012, and 2.5 percent in 2013.

The unemployment rate remained at 11.4 percent in October, better than the peak of 14.7 percent in July 2010. Fitch notes that the decrease in unemployment was due to labor force declines and not employment gains. The City projects annual

budget deficits ranging between \$216 million to \$327 million for fiscal years 2014 - 2017. Addressing these continuing budget deficits will grow more difficult for the City, according to the Fitch analysis. The sales tax increase proposed for the March ballot would be a plus if passed by the voters, but Fitch speculates that there would be "considerable pressure" to use some of that increased revenue for service cut restoration and deferred infrastructure needs, instead of focusing on the reversal of the structural budget imbalance. On the pension plans, Fitch notes that LACERS and the FPPP were

- continues, next page

RLACEI Pension Law and Policy – Legislative Report
by Michael Karsch

funded at 72.4 percent and 86.3 percent respectively, the latter being very good, and the former good. If the pension funds used what Fitch believes is a better discount rate of 7 percent, instead of their use of 7.5 percent, the funds' levels would drop to 70.1 percent for LACERS

and 82.5 percent for the FPPP. Regarding the Governor's State of the State address, *Sacramento Bee* columnist Dan Walters warns that the pension crisis seems to be played down by Gov. Jerry Brown. Walters sees the voter-approved state tax increases not being

devoted to the pension debts. *Los Angeles Times* columnist George Skelton similarly criticized the governor for ignoring the "enormous public pension liability... cost[ing] roughly \$500 billion more over the next 16 years than the retirement system has lined up..."

– continued

LACERS Update



Mary Beetz

By Mary Beetz,
RLACEI Publicity Chair

**Moved?
Changed
Your Contact
Information?
Let LACERS
Know**

LACERS wants to make sure our Retired Membership database is up-to-date. If you've recently changed home or mobile phone numbers, added a new phone number, added or changed an email address, or simply moved, please let us know. If we need to send you essential LACERS information, we would like to have every possible means of contacting you. To update your contact information, please call LACERS at (800) 779-8328 or (888) 349-3996 (TDD).

**My LACERS
– View Your
Retirement
Account
Information
Securely**

MyLACERS is a service that allows you to securely view your account information online at

www.LACERS.org. As a Retired Member, you can view your 1099R information, current payment statements, designated beneficiaries, current deductions, and health deduction information. It's easy, fast, and informative. Just click on MyLACERS from the LACERS homepage and follow the directions to register for a MyLACERS Account. Once an ID and password are created, you can log-on to the secure website as often as you like. For more information or assistance with setting up a MyLACERS account, contact LACERS at lacers.services@lacity.org, or (800) 779-8328, or (888) 349-3996 (TDD).

**Rewards Program
Ends, but Thrive
Across America
Continues Until
September**

As part of the rewards program, the first 1,000 retirees who registered for *Thrive Across America* and completed the virtual route in December received a \$50 Visa reward card. Thirty-four percent of the retirees who registered for the program went on to complete the virtual route by the deadline and received a reward card.

Although the rewards program has ended, retirees can still use the

program to log their activity until September 30, 2013 and take advantage of the many features available to them on the *Thrive Across America* website. Visit LACERSWell at www.LACERS.org/lacerswell to register online.

**Article III
Officers and
Directors**

Section 2

The election of directors shall take place at the Annual General Membership meeting in ~~October~~ September with their installation at the Director meeting. The elected directors shall assume their offices on January 1.

Section 3

Six (6) Directors shall be elected at the ~~October~~ September Annual General Membership meeting each odd year. Seven (7) Directors shall be elected at the ~~October~~ September Annual General Membership meeting each even year. Directors shall be elected to serve two years or until their successors are elected.

**New AB 340 Pension Law
Doesn't Affect Fire, Police**



Lee Kebler

By Lee Kebler,
LARFPA Director

Recently, our retirees received their annual *Pension Perspective* from the Fire and Police Pension System. It is a really great issue full of information, and I recommend that you keep it for future reference. First, it introduces our electronically enlightened members to have their personal pension and benefit payments information available on the Internet 24/7. For those of us who are electronically challenged, there is a toll-free phone number to call for help. When you call, you get a very pleasant live person to help you with your problem. You don't get that voice prompt on what language do you speak – Esperanto, Pig Latin or English – and a dozen other questions. What a great phone system.

Other subjects cover our health subsidy, Medicare premium reimbursement, taxes and retired member death and survivor benefits. One of the most interesting articles is a 20-year history of the pension fund's

funding and the contribution rate for the City. Did you know that our pension fund was more than 100 percent funded for six years (1999 to 2004)? The communications section of the Pension Dept. did an excellent job on this issue.

At a recent meeting of the Fire and Police Pension System, the Benefits Committee approved the recommendation of the staff to establish "the annual maximum increase in the retired sworn non-Medicare health subsidy; the Board shall authorize the increase at the lesser of seven percent or the Board-approved Medical Trend Rate, as provided by the City Administrative Code." This is great news; these retirees have been losing more than two percent a year on their health subsidy until they became eligible for Medicare. This should get approval of the Board when it consideration.

Do you remember Gov. Jerry Brown's 12-point pension reform act? Well, it was modified by the State Legislature and signed into

law by the governor last September. This new law, AB 340, became effective Jan. 1 and affects most public employee pension systems, except those for charter cities and counties. The one provision that the legislature removed from Brown's recommendations was the defined contribution (DC) pensions for members of AB 340. This could be good news, because the reformers won't be threatening us with that type of pension in the future. New AB 340 members have to pay half of the annual pension contribution costs. Current members will have their contribution costs increased over a period of several years. I hope none of our politicians will want to consider this option. Our employees are already among those paying the highest pension contributions in the state. The good news is, AB 340 doesn't affect us, but we have to be aware of the trickle-down affect.

I'm looking forward to seeing more of you at our March 6 meeting at Grace E. Simons Lodge.

**For Retired
Club Members**

The
**Best
Years**

**RETIREMENT
HELPLINE**

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

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

- Mary Beetz Ext. 711
- Cliff Cannon Ext. 715
- Hal Danowitz Ext. 707
- Americo Garza Ext. 710
- Edward Harding Ext. 703
- Michael Karsch Ext. 704
- Gary Mattingly Ext. 702
- Phillip Orland Ext. 709
- Neil Ricci Ext. 714
- Helen Salgado (membership) Ext. 713
- Ken Spiker Ext. 705
- Tom Sternock Ext. 708
- Michael Wilkinson Ext. 712

Questions: Ext. 0

RSVP: Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

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

Committee Chairpersons

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

Directors

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



THE CHEAPEST
Movie tickets in the City are at the Club!
– SEE BACK PAGE

The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Crossing the Equator

After a safari, Hal and Co. cruise from Cape Town to England.

PART FIVE



Evelyn and I took a 38-day trip, which included four days at the Bottlierskop Safari Resort near George, South Africa; a 28-day cruise on the *Ocean Princess* from Cape Town, South Africa, to London; and four days in London at the end. Don and Myrna, our cousins, took the cruise with us.

The itinerary was as follows: Cape Town; Lüderitz and Walvis Bay, Namibia; Cotonou, Benin; Lome, Togo; Dakar, Senegal; Mindelo, Cape Verde Islands; Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; Casablanca, Morocco; Cadiz, Spain; Lisbon, Portugal; Le Havre, France; and Dover, England.

As we continue the story, we were in the middle of the cruise, spending four days at open sea heading north. That day included our tour of the ship's bridge, or control deck. It is always a great privilege to be invited to the bridge, because after 9/11 security became a major issue and all regular bridge tours were discontinued. Evelyn and I had done the tour before on the *Golden Princess*, but it was the first time for Don and Myrna. We were met and escorted to the bridge where the junior officer of the watch, Sebastiano, was our tour guide. He spent about 25 minutes explaining the various pieces of equipment used to navigate and maintain the safety of the ship. He was very young and very Italian, and to Evelyn and Myrna, he seemed quite "available." Capt. Carlo Servillo came in; we chatted with him for about 15 minutes and then took pictures. I think two of the primary duties of the captain are public relations and the ability to speak easily. He made us feel welcome, and we all enjoyed the conversation. Later on when we met him again at the Captain's welcome-a-board party, he remembered us.

We went to Friday night services. The service is always conducted by a passenger, although the ship provided the wine, printed Sabbath prayers (donated by a passenger on a previous cruise) and very good challah bread. The service was conducted by a doctor from Brentwood, who we met on the last cruise six months ago.

It was formal night aboard the ship, so we all dressed up, Don and I in tuxes and the ladies in dresses.

After dinner, we attended the Captain's welcome-a-board party and then stayed on for the show, a variety show by the cruise entertainment cast singing and dancing to songs of the '50s and '60s.

The sea days run as a routine: breakfast, bridge lesson, trivia, lunch, play bridge, dinner, show and to bed, with an adult beverage or two. The only change seemed to be where to eat: buffet, dining room or Bistro.

The weather continued to be great – warm, but not hot or humid. We were getting close to the equator, and you would think it should start getting warmer and more humid and possibly rainy.

Soon we were to cross the equator and



Hal and Evelyn with Capt. Servillo on the bridge.

there would be a ceremony for those they called pollywogs, someone, including us, who had not crossed the equator by ship.

We had a good run at bridge and when we returned to the cabin there was a note that the purser's office would like to see us. I was sure it has to do with the previous flood in our cabin. They offered to give us a credit on our bill and I accepted their apologies for the problems. We were inconvenienced for one night and the ship made everything right,



Don and Myrna, and Hal and Evelyn surround their bridge guide, Sebastiano.



Evelyn with the Mother's Day cake.

so I felt they did the right thing.

We had dinner in the Bistro, but I wasn't impressed. I had a steak, which was cooked right but didn't have much taste. We had noticed that they didn't season the dishes very much. It was only one meal, though.

The second night's entertainment was Brandi Chapman, a vocalist from the United States who we really enjoyed. She mentioned that she had worked with Roy Clark in Branson, Mo., and opened for many of the acts there.

We received a notice about the high crime areas in our next four African ports (Benin, Togo, Ghana, and Senegal). We also heard that there is pirate activity along the coast in this area, something new to worry about.

The next day was Mother's Day, and the ship had a special brunch, "Dolce Vita, in the dining room.

Both Evelyn and I walked the track that morning; I walked a mile and Evelyn walked

two. We had coffee in the buffet before the bridge lecture. Evelyn always gets a coffee card, which allowed her to get designer coffees at the coffee bar; I just like mine hot and strong.

After the lecture, we all had the brunch. It was the best food presentation I had seen on either this cruise or the last one. We sat at a table for eight with two other couples and had an enjoyable experience. My guess was that the majority of the passengers were

Our lesson started at 9:30 a.m., and the drill was set for 10 a.m.; playing bridge started at 2:30 p.m., and the equator ceremony was set for 2 p.m. We learned to be flexible.

After lunch we waited until 1:30 p.m. and then went to the pool area to watch the "Crossing" ceremony. It was interesting, with King Neptune renewing his vows with his wife "Double DD." Double DD was a crewmember wearing very large balloons (literally) in a wedding dress and wig. Then the pollywogs were covered with slime – whipped cream, pasta, chocolate syrup, eggs and anything else that was handy. There were seven volunteers who made the transition from pollywogs to shellbacks for all of us pollywogs. The Staff Captain and Cruise Director both ended up in the pool. The ceremony was really fun to watch; I didn't want to participate. We heard from other passengers that on other cruises random passengers along with crew and staff were thrown in the pool.

After the ceremony, Evelyn took a little nap and I laid out by the pool. The pool contained salt water, and the temperature of the air and water was the same, about 88 degrees. There were some broken clouds, and the seas were really flat.

We ate in the dining room and it was Italian night. I was trying to cut back because I think I gained a few pounds. Normally I would say that the salt air shrank my clothes, but we have been on too many cruises to believe that tale.

That was our last day at open sea; the next day we were to dock in Cotonou, Benin. The day after that took us to Lome, Togo, and then Tema, Ghana.

older than 60, and it was interesting how we had so much collective knowledge that we could solve most of the world's problems. We missed trivia and heard later in the day that because of us not being there, the remainder of our team lost.

After the brunch, Evelyn and I sat on our balcony and read until it was time for bridge. The weather continued to be great, with calm seas, low humidity with a temperature in the low 80s.

At bridge we again felt that we played well, but didn't have the results to show for it.

We ate in the dining room that night. We had early seating, but the service was quick and we could still be out before 8 p.m., which gave the staff time to set up for the late seating.

The next day we were to cross the equator. We were no longer to be pollywogs but become shellbacks.

After dinner, we decided to see the show, and Mr. Hilton was much funnier than his first show, so I'm glad we went. After the show, we listened to Sammy Goldstein, a piano entertainer, in the casino lounge. He tried to remember your name by association. I was "Hal the Computer" from the movie *2001*, and Evelyn was "Evelyn Keys" the movie star. Sammy was entertaining. We stopped by the "'50s and '60s Sock Hop Party" for a few minutes.

We did much better in bridge, coming in the middle of eight teams.

The next morning we crossed the equator, and in the afternoon there was going to be a "Crossing the Equator" ceremony. The crew asked for volunteers for the ceremony and, having been in the Army, I knew never to volunteer. Supposedly King Neptune and his bride would be there for the ceremony.

In the morning we had a piracy drill. There had been pirate activity in the Bight (Bay) of Benin in the Gulf of Guinea. We did this on the last cruise on the east side of Africa. When they announced "Tango PaPa," we knew that was the call sign for the drill.

These activities interfered with bridge.



Pollywogs cross the equator.



"King Neptune" and his "bride."

RETIREES:

For Retired Club Members

Enjoy These Great Member Benefits

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



City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees

Full Club Membership

Through May 2013, full Club Membership*, including:

- **The cheapest tickets in the City—UP TO 70% OFF**
- Great Club apparel and gifts
- Group-rated insurance products for purchase
- Club-exclusive events
- E-mail notices about upcoming events and promotions
- Access to Club Website
- And much more!

* After May 2013, members must join the Club and pay the regular (reduced) rate for City Retirees to retain Club benefits.

The *Alive!* Newspaper

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

For more information, contact the Club:

- talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- www.cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452

Retirements

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

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Apodaca, Sandy	—	DWP	—	Howard, Mark	—	DWP	—	Plummer, Len	—	DWP	—
Arman, Danny	—	DWP	—	Jenkins, Patricia	Clerk Typist	LAPD	30	Pino, Donald	Build. Mech. Ins.	Building & Safety	7
Bankhead, Shirley	Clerk Typist	Transportation	33	Jordan, Novella	Clerk Typist	Personnel	32	Rhodes, Percy	—	DWP	—
Barroso, Eden	—	DWP	—	Klascious, Laura	Sr. Clerk Typist	Building & Safety	11	Rice, Albert	Librarian III	Library	15
Bazzaz, Jafar	—	DWP	—	Klyng, Robert	—	DWP	—	Riddle, Robert	—	DWP	—
Bedford, Marcus	—	DWP	—	Knight, Sabrina	—	DWP	—	Rodin, Jeri	Rec. Fac. Direc.	Rec and Parks	34
Benson, Rose	Security Officer	Airports	27	Kurowski, Daniel	—	DWP	—	Sandoval, Phillip	Cons. Inspector	Public Works	34
Bersales, Genoveva	—	DWP	—	Lavin, Glen	Sr. Property Officer	LAPD	32	Santa Cruz, Cheryl	Sr. Clerk Typist	Transportation	34
Bond, Gloria	—	DWP	—	Lee, Tony	Mech. Engr. As. IV	Public Works	25	Shimamoto, Karen	—	DWP	—
Cetina, Fausto	—	DWP	—	Lemieux, Alfred	—	DWP	—	Singley, Glenn	—	DWP	—
Damron, Susan	—	DWP	—	Lewis, Demitris	—	DWP	—	Sisson, Karen	City Adm. Officer	CAO	17
De Graffenreid, Gary	—	DWP	—	Litvinoff, Stephen	—	DWP	—	Sobalvarro, Vilma	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	26
Edwards, Sylvester	Child Care Assoc. II	Rec and Parks	10	Loaiza, Joe	Cement Fin. Supv.	General Services	12	Sperrico, Vincent	—	DWP	—
Elling, Virginia	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst II	LAPD	28	Lozano, Paul	Crossing Guard	Transportation	12	Smith, Patrick	Build. Mech. Ins.	Building & Safety	25
Espindola, Rene	Veterinary Tech	Animal Services	11	Lujan, Roy	Asst. St. Lig. Elect.	Public Works	9	Sumlin, Wilfred	—	DWP	—
Finley, Debra	—	DWP	—	Mack III, Augustus	—	DWP	—	Sutherland, Carol	Wrk. Cmp. Cl. Asst.	Personnel	30
Fritch, Heather	—	DWP	—	Mackowski, Mark	—	DWP	—	Tanaka, Sandra	—	DWP	—
Fuentes, Silvester	—	DWP	—	Maher-McGuirk, I.	—	DWP	—	Trejo, Jesus	—	DWP	—
Gary, Vera	—	DWP	—	May, Neal	Bck. Investigator	Personnel	9	Tumaliuan, Hermilina	—	DWP	—
Gebott, Minerva	Clerk Typist	Transportation	24	May, Steven	—	DWP	—	Vance, Darvell	Refuse Col. Supv.	Public Works	25
Gentry, John	—	DWP	—	Morgan, Glenn	Hvy Dty Equip. Mch.	Harbor	18	Vasquez, Virginia	Delivery Driver II	Rec and Parks	4
Giddens, Steve	Hvy Dty Equip. Mch.	LAFD	22	Nair, Devika	—	DWP	—	Walker, Gwendolyn	—	DWP	—
Godfrey, Stephanie	Custodian	Building & Safety	15	Newquist, Gary	Police Psych. II	LAPD	15	Wheatley, Gregory	Custodian	General Services	26
Greenough, Paul	—	DWP	—	Nuckols, Claude	Build. Mech. Ins.	Building & Safety	12	White, Susan	Cust. Service Spec.	Finance	31
Guerrero, Daniel	—	DWP	—	Oberfoell, Helmut	—	DWP	—	Wickham, Kathleen	Clerk Typist	Rec and Parks	1
Hatchett, Helen	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	28	O'Brien, Francine	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	13	Williams, Conney	—	DWP	—
Heath, Renee	—	DWP	—	Odencrantz, Susan	Librarian III	Library	16	Wright, Robbie	—	DWP	—
Hernandez, Juan	Equipment Mech.	General Services	25	Owens, Willie	Sr. Dete. Officer	LAPD	21	Wu, Chuck-Yan	—	DWP	—
Hinton, Albert	Building Inspector	Building & Safety	31	Padilla, Diane	—	DWP	—				
Howard, Amy	Mayoral Aide VI	Mayor's Office	8	Patterson, Deborah	Police Service Rep	LAPD	32				

FORGET THE LINES!
 CLUB-EXCLUSIVE PARTY
 At Magic Mountain May 3!

— SEE BACK PAGE

The Best Years

RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



1 Hawaii



Here's a photo of **Phil Reed, Retired**, after he finished the Maui Oceanfront Marathon Jan. 20.

2 Mexico

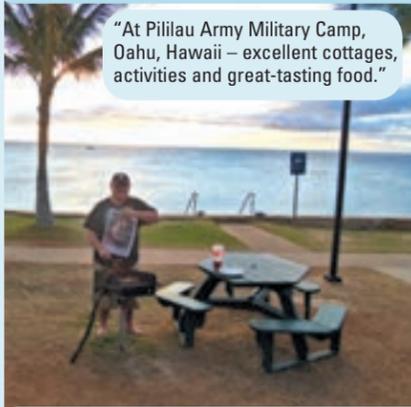


Here are **Judy Ramirez (left) and Olivia Alvarado-Ford, Retired**, whale watching at Los Arcos in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, during their Princess Cruise.

Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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

3 Hawaii



"At Pihlail Army Military Camp, Oahu, Hawaii – excellent cottages, activities and great-tasting food."



"At Kilauea State Park, Hilo, Hawaii at the steam vents, an area of an active lava cauldron and lava tubes."



"At Hilo, Hawaii, on a black-sand beach. Large sea turtles come ashore to rest."

John Gale, Retired, Rec and Parks, recently took a trip to Hawaii.



DISCOVERY SCIENCE CENTER



New Club Discount Tickets Just Added!



Explore



Play



Learn

Club Members can now explore more than 100 interactive exhibits in themed areas at the Discovery Science Center in Orange County for just a fraction of the retail price ticket.

Now Available

TICKET HOTLINE (888) 777-1744
WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM



City Employees Club Los Angeles
Serving City Employees Since 1928

Your best source for the Cheapest Tickets in the City!

eTickets are available through Club's website, and hard tickets are available through the Club Store.



Coloring with Mariana!



The *Alive!* Children's Coloring Contest

Compiled by Mariana Guevara, Customer Service Associate

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

Congratulations to the WINNERS! of our Club Coloring Contest!

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



Winner
6 to 7 YEARS OLD

Cameron Mullin, 7

- BIRTHDAY: January 5th • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Scooby-Doo"
- FAVORITE SNACK: Nutella on bread • BEST FRIEND: Tim and Jim
- WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Legoland, never been there. • PARENT: John McTigue, Rec and Parks - Retired



Winner
5 & under YEARS OLD

Joshua Estrada, 4

- BIRTHDAY: July 23 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "WildKrats" • FAVORITE SNACK: Grapes • BEST FRIEND: Gloria • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Disneyland. I have never been there.
- PARENT: Ramon P. Estrada, Harbor

Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT	CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT
Sean Benwikere	2	Verneiza Benwikere	Airports	Allison Kim	8	Yang W. Kim	DWP
Aiden Bracamontes	2	Diego Bracamontes	LAPD	Jamie Lopez	8	Ozzie Lopez	CDD
Saylor Rowley	2	Jaren Rowley	DWP	Donavan McGraw	8	Elizabeth Simmons	Airports
Deja Carr	3	Sheila Johnson	DWP - Ret	Jaysan Mosley	8	Benjamin Davis	Public Works
Sacred Carrasquillo	3	Charlotte Carrasquillo	General Services	Tiaara Patterson	8	Christiann Adkins	LAPD
Kian Dormani	3	Farhad Dormani	DWP	Fabiola Reza	8	Juan J. Reza Jr.	DWP
Matthew Lansang	3	Leann Lansang	LAPD	Jeanine Rodriguez	8	Jose Rodriguez	Public Works
Isabella Rios	3	Jessica Rios	Transportation	Kennedy Rowley	8	Jaren Rowley	DWP
Cole Thome	3	Christine Thome	Harbor	Lyna Rose Vasquez	8	Edward Medina	DWP
Pearl Valadez	3	Jesus Valadez	DWP	Uriah Vigil	8	Ernie Vigil	DWP
Melissa Barragan	4	Sergio Barragan	DWP	Marissa Andrade	9	Richard C. Andrade	Airports
Kayla Castillo	4	Alejandro Castillo	Harbor	Manuel J. Arujo	9	Virginia Arujo	LAPD
Camila Doublesin	4	Daniel Doublesin	Public Works	Alexa Bennet	9	Tina Bennet	LAPD
Joshua Estrada	4	Ramon P. Estrada	Harbor	Angel Cooper	9	Aracely Galicia	Transportation
Kaylin Ganier	4	Kim Ganier	LAPD	Claudia De Loera	9	Jorge De Loera	Rec & Parks
Brooklyn Iasparro	4	Dominick Iasparro	LAPD	Aleena de los Rios	9	Ruben de los Rios	DWP
Matthew Jimenez	4	George Jimenez	DWP	Lisset Duarte	9	Mario Duarte	General Services
Nicholas Jimenez	4	George Jimenez	DWP	Arosha Echols	9	Charles Echols	DWP - Ret.
Samantha Nunez	4	Rene Nunez	Rec & Parks	Kobbi J. Frey	9	Tawana M. White	Housing
Robert Ruiz Jr.	4	Robert Ruiz	DWP	Kaylee Gabon	9	Jose Gabon	DWP
Emily Simmons	4	Elizabeth Simmons	Airports	Mia Hernandez	9	Luis Hernandez	DWP
Hailyn Topete	4	Elisa Alvarado	Public Works	Kristin Kohles	9	Christopher Kohles	DWP
Leyla Yoshida	4	Eric Yoshida	DWP	Rita Kremasky	9	Ingrid Kremasky	Harbor
Adalia Aferwerki	5	Robel Aferwerki	Harbor	Dessery Manzo	9	Maria E. Salazar	General Services
Jack Christopher	5	James Christopher	DWP	Marina Mendo	9	Alfredo Mendo	DWP
Ollie Clark Jr.	5	April Clark	Airports	Nathaniel Newman Jr.	9	Nathaniel Newman	Animal Services
Nolan Davis	5	LaShonda Brewere	Rec & Parks	Calli Price	9	Chris Price	Transportation
Vivianna Diaz	5	Alicia Diaz	LAPD	Aiyana Ramirez	9	Frank Gamboa	Public Works
Riley Edemann	5	Craig Edemann	Rec & Parks	Jasmine Rodriguez	9	Jose Rodriguez	DWP
Samantha Edemann	5	Craig Edemann	Rec & Parks	Elsa Ruiz	9	Robert Ruiz	DWP
Jennifer Fellows	5	Pearlie W. Mathoney	DWP	Emily Tzoc	9	Miguel Tzoc	Zoo
Jonathan Goodman	5	John E. Goodman	LAPD	Michael Abraham	10	Mary Thomas	Public Works
Madison Kuzichev	5	Alfred Kuzichev	LAPD	Yohan Aferwerki	10	Robel Aferwerki	Harbor
Amy Lindsey	5	Brian Lindsey	Public Works	Megan CdeBaca	10	Craig CdeBaca	Airports
Alejandro Lopez	5	Elizabeth Lopez	Personnel	Russell Chen	10	James Hsu	General Services
Aiden Lujan	5	Maria Lujan	LAPD	Daisy Garcia	10	Fernando Garcia	Housing
Mark Ricks	5	Elva Bufford	Airports - Ret.	Dominick Iasparro Jr.	10	Dominick Iasparro	LAPD
Logan Swearingen	5	Jessica Swearingen	Zoo	Jackie Ibarra	10	Elvia Ibarra	LAPD
Jessica Vega	5	Glenn Vega	Public Works	Mia Lindlahr	10	Karen Rohaly	Library
Ernie Vigil Jr.	5	Ernie Vigil	DWP	Jazmin Lopez	10	Ricardo Lopez	Transportation
Kiara Yoshida	5	Eric Yoshida	DWP	Giselle Alexis Madrid	10	Frank Madrid	Airports
Mark Young	5	(Maria) B. Young	Airports	Samantha Melendez	10	Daniel Melendez	Harbor
Maria Alvarado	6	Joel O. Alvarado	Rec & Parks	Zachary Oghigian	10	George Oghigian	General Services
Aniah Bradley	6	Betty Smith	LACERS	Aliyah Oseguera	10	Saul Folomino	DWP
Josefina Chavez	6	Irma Gonzalez	Personnel	Hailey Ramos	10	Arceo Ramos	DWP
Anthony Choi	6	John Choi	LAPD	Daniel Rios Jr.	10	Jessica Rios	Transportation
Kiara-Tatsu Hackett	6	Robin O. Dell	Airports - Ret.	Brandon Roberts	10	Saturo Tanaka	LAPD - Ret.
Luis Hernandez	6	Luis Hernandez	DWP	Megan Soto	10	David Soto	DWP
Audrey Lau	6	Shirley Lau	Public Works	Katelin Wirt	10	Patricia Saucier	DWP - Ret.
Avery McGraw	6	Elizabeth Simmons	Airports	Julissa Agustin	11	Norris Eaton	Public Works
Izuel Medina	6	Frank Gamboa	Public Works	Makenna Batchelder	11	Tim Batchelder	DWP
Adeyemi Obilana	6	Robert Obilana	Airports	Lilac Cobos	11	Raul Cobos	Public Works
Lily Pagnella	6	Rodney Dishman	Retired	Vian De La Torre	11	Anthony De La Torre	Airports
Madeline Reyna	6	Victoria Ramirez	Library	Nick Fischer	11	Russ Fischer	DWP
Lily Rigney	6	Patrick Rigney	Public Works	Kate Gabon	11	Jose Gabon	DWP
Joaquin Rios	6	Jessica Rios	Transportation	Abbey Gallegos	11	Leonard Gallegos	Harbor
Shane Rowley	6	Jaren Rowley	DWP	Bianka Gonzalez	11	Minerva Gutierrez	Airports
Alana Ruiz	6	Philip Ruiz	LAPD	Ilena Gutierrez	11	Raul Gutierrez	Transpo. - Ret.
Madison Smith	6	Joseph Smith	LAPD	Maya Horvath	11	Robert Horvath	Public Works
Landon Theurer	6	Stacy Rafter	LAPD	Mariah Johnson	11	Tishandra Merriweather	Public Works
Dylan Thome	6	Christine Thome	Harbor	Ivy G. Maldonado	11	Gabriel Maldonado	DWP
Adrian Torres	6	Sara Vega	Housing	Meghan McCarthy	11	William McCarthy	DWP
Samantha Velasquez	6	Robert F. Contreras	Rec & Parks	Celine Millanponce	11	Manny L. Hernandez	Housing
Nina Curry	7	Roz Curry	LAPD	Cori Ocampo	11	Ronald Goodman	Public Works
Kaitlin De La Cruz	7	Lupe De La Cruz	LAPD	Kelsy Palacios	11	Edwin Palacios	Airports
Macey Edemann	7	Craig Edemann	Rec & Parks	Katerina Plascencia	11	Gus Plascencia	City Attorney
Isabella Galoostian	7	Raymond Galoostian	Airports	Destiny Prieto	11	Bonifacio Prieto	Animal Services
Laci Ganier	7	Kim Ganier	LAPD	Manuel Vasquez	11	Edward Medina	DWP
Victoria Guevara	7	Hugo Guevara	Public Works	Viviana Arredondo	12	Jaime Arredondo	Airports
Alucard Hackett	7	Robin O. Dell	Airports - Ret.	Kathleen Carlos	12	Renee Ramirez	LAFD
Summer Hays	7	Esther Cole	Transportation	Tatiana Cole	12	Odell J. Cole	County
Sydney I. Hernandez	7	Eduardo Hernandez	Rec & Parks	Alexandra Farias	12	Arturo Farias	Public Works
Nashyra Hollier	7	Phyllis Hollier	DWP	Kendal J. Frey	12	Tawana M. White	Housing
Isabella Jimenez	7	George Jimenez	DWP	Alyssa Gomez	12	Francisco Gomez	Rec & Parks
Olivia S. Jurado	7	Iseia Jurado	Personnel	Natalia Hernandez	12	Luis Hernandez	DWP
Jamali Kyle Kravitz	7	Kathy Kravitz	LAPD	Vanessa Lucero	12	Christopher Lucero	DWP
Cameron Mullin	7	John McTigue	Rec & Parks - Ret.	Sofia Salcedo	12	Rafael Salcedo	DWP
Brillana Munoz	7	Martha Castaneda	LAPD	Natori Thompson	12	Porreta Siders	General Services
Candace Obles	7	Nellie Deom	May. Office - Ret.	Shyarre Wright	12	Simboa Wright	Public Works
Alexys Ortiz-Luis	7	Alexander Ortiz-Luis	Animal Services	Cameron Chen	13	James Hsu	General Services
Mia Ponce	7	Caesar Ponce	Transportation	Araly Cruz	13	Mardoqueo Cruz	Public Works
Anya Ramos	7	Linda Brown	Airports	Emily Gallegos	13	Leonard Gallegos	Harbor
Arianna Roberts	7	Saturo Tanaka	LAPD - Ret.	Nicholas Joun	13	Jocelino Joun	Public Works
Jessica Rodriguez	7	Jose J. Rodriguez	DWP	Marlene Macias	13	Mario Macias Jr.	Public Works
Ava Sanchez	7	William Charles	DWP - Ret.	Kenny Racs	13	Paul Racs	Public Works
Mia Tomilin	7	David Tomilin	LAPD	Laura Jessica Reyes	13	Alfredo Reyes	Public Works
Raymond Trinh	7	Thai V. Trinh	Public Works				
Michelle Truong	7	Nee Truong	ITA				
Leilani Willard	7	Amy Willard	DWP				
Marissa Zaragoza	7	Francisco Zaragoza	LAPD				
Eriella Aferwerki	8	Robel Aferwerki	Harbor				
Mia Briseno	8	Nicole Briseno	DWP				
Emma Casillas	8	Ana Casillas	DWP				
Audrey CdeBaca	8	Craig CdeBaca	Airports				
Samantha Chavez	8	Ernesto Chavez	Public Works				
Nadia Gallarzo	8	Georgina Tamayo	Housing				
Cheyenne Garcia	8	Gilbert Garcia	DWP				



Winner
8 to 10 YEARS OLD

Mia Lindlahr, 10

- BIRTHDAY: April 1st • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Lab Rats" • FAVORITE SNACK: Smoothies • BEST FRIEND: Patrick • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Legoland because my best friend and I love legos. • PARENT: Karen Rohaly, Library



Winner
11 to 13 YEARS OLD

Kenny Racs, 13

- BIRTHDAY: November 7th • FAVORITE TV SHOW: Sports shows
- FAVORITE SNACK: Hot Cheetos • BEST FRIEND: Kevin • WHAT AMUSEMENT PARK DO YOU WANT TO GO TO AND WHY: Disneyland, so I can take my family. • PARENT: Paul Racs, Public Works

**SEE
YOU
AT
MAGIC
MOUNTAIN**

May 3!

– SEE
BACK
PAGE



Club Angels Takes Off



THE CLUB

35 blankets donated since Jan. 1st!

Club Members respond to new Club Angels charity, helping those around us in need.

Club Angels is well on its way, thanks to generous Club Members!

Last month, *Alive!* introduced readers to Club Angels, the Club's new umbrella organization to support the Club's charitable outreach. Club Angels wants to double its donations in 2013, and Club Members have responded!

Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. – the Club Angels program, is a Club-derived charity that formalizes the Club's charitable outreach. Club Angels now includes the charitable outreaches you read about here in *Alive!* and builds a framework for others to come.

Checks from generous Club Members are coming in. And just since Jan. 1, thanks to Member donations, the Club has purchased and distributed 35 blankets as part of the Blanket the City outreach to those living downtown.

"We've always known that Club Members are great people," said John Hawkins, Club Angels board member. "We knew they would help us help those in need, and Club Members are coming through. Let's keep the momentum going!"

Double the Sum

"Our goal is to double the amount we raised last year," Arlene says. "With the help of Club Members, we can get it done, and help even more people. I encourage everyone to get involved."

Helping Those in Need

"We were doing a lot of charity through the Club, and we wanted to pull it all together and create an organization that can be really effective," said Arlene Herrero, the President of the Club Angels Board of Directors. "There are people in need, and their needs continue to grow. Club Angels is here to make our part of the world more caring."

Club Angels coordinates the popular Blanket the City and Joannie Mukai Scholarship programs, which you read about in *Alive!* Other programs are being developed.

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

How to Help

Club Angels accepts checks of any amount. Online giving is being developed. Donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.

Send checks of any amount to:
Club Angels
311 S. Spring St.,
Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA
90013

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



Ten Years of Close Shaves

LAFD, LAPD

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

BEFORE



On Sat., March 16, LAFD and LAPD personnel, and other City Employees, too, will participate in their 10th annual combined St. Baldrick's fundraising event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, collect pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

cians, balloon artists, face painters, and local radio stations. And fire and police apparatus are expected to be present for children to explore and for photo opportunities.

Participants and helpers are needed to staff this event. If you are able to help, please contact Lt. Greg Doyle at (818) 634-6127; or Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240. If you would like to be a "shavee" or you are interested in pledging, you can sign up at www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/1756/2013

BEFORE



From left: Organizers Firefighter Danny Wu, LAFD, 12 years and Lt. Greg Doyle, LAPD, Club Member, 22 years.

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

The event features a silent auction, a raffle, a free IHOP pancake breakfast and Starbucks coffee, and food trucks at lunch time (for a fee). Entertainment will be provided by magi-



- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Personnel (all are welcome, though)
- What:** Fundraiser for childhood cancer research
- When:** Sat., March 16, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Where:** LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood
- Why:** To raise money to fight childhood cancer
- How:** Sign up or donate at: www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/1756/2013/
- Info:** Contact Lt. Greg Doyle, at (818) 634-6127; or LAFD Firefighter Danny Wu at (626) 590-6240.



AFTER

Shawnie Livera, PSR III, LAPD, Club Member, 18 years of City service.

From last year, Firefighter Rich Diede, LAFD, 12 years of City service.

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

No. 56 in a series.



People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



Meet Donald Mancil

AGE: "I'm 50."
BIRTHPLACE: Chicago.
MARITAL STATUS: "I'm engaged."
FAMILY: "I have three sisters and one brother."
PARENTS MARRIED OR DIVORCED? "They have passed away."
EDUCATION: "I went to Calumet [Illinois] High School."
MILITARY SERVICE: "No."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "Right here, in downtown LA."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "One year ago."
WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "I was living in San Diego working construction until there was just no more work. I tried to stretch my money but eventually I ran out and just couldn't make it. So, I got on a Greyhound [bus] and headed to Los Angeles. When I got here I was totally broke – you combine that with an alcohol problem and very quickly I ended up sleeping and living on the streets."
PLAYED SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL? "Yes, football."
RELIGION: "Nope."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "Denzel."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "*Transformers*, or anything with Will Smith."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Man, I haven't watched in so long I don't even know what's on."
FAVORITE CANDY: "Now and Later."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Jumbo Jack."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "Stevie Wonder, James Brown."
LAST JOB: "Construction helper in San Diego."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "I loved being on my own, and I remember working on my own, shoveling snow for money. It was great."
LAST THING EATEN: "A bag of chips."
WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS? "Not too many."
MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION: "Midnight Mission and Volunteers of America."
MAKE A WISH: "To get my own place, a roof over my head."
WHAT HE WOULD DO WITH \$1 MILLION: "Invest it in a restaurant."
ITEM ALWAYS WITH YOU: "My backpack, which has my hygiene stuff in it."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "My soap, shampoo and other things that I need to keep clean."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Stay in school. If I could do it again I would stay away from alcohol and would have continued with school. It just doesn't cut it having only a high school diploma."

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

The interview took place Feb. 20 at Spring Street across from City Hall.

Photos by Angel Gomez and John Hawkins.

Buckets and Blankets!

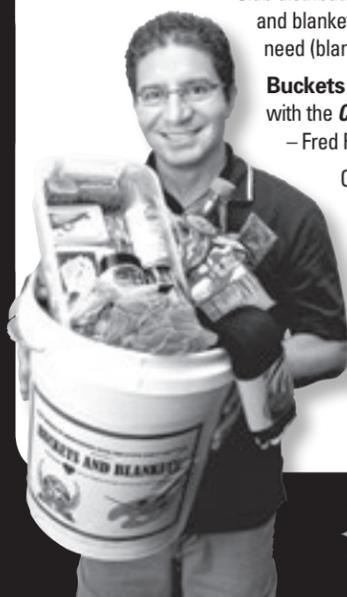
Join us as we help those who live on the streets with Buckets and Blankets. Donate to the cause as the Club distributes food, toiletries and blankets to those in need (blankets cost \$7 each).



Buckets and Blankets is produced in cooperation with the **Club Angels** program and **Creative Solutions** – Fred Fowlks and Sue Manzo, LAFD.

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

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com or agomez@cityemployeesclub.com



CREATIVE
FORCE
SOLUTIONS



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

THIS
MONTH
AT THE



Griffith Observatory

Mar. 16:

Public Star Party

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

Lines for each telescope and all viewing must be completed by 9:45 p.m.

**2 PM – 9:45 PM
FREE!**

Information:
www.griffithobservatory.org/pstarparties.html

**Support the
Griffith Observatory!**

Consider joining the Friends of the Observatory (FOTO)

(213) 473-0879

www.friendsoftheobservatory.com

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LAABP Officers and honorees, from left: Terrence Montgomery, Shelia Brooks-LeFridge, David Jackson, Mignon Washington, Carmen Steward, Brenda Anderson, Councilwoman Jan Perry, Bob Blake, Sharon Loudd, Janeshia Robinson and Henry Chisom.

LAABP

Happy Birthday, LAABP!

Black employees association celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Story by Cora Jackson-Fossett, LAABP Past President, Public Works, Club Member; Photos by Haywood Galbreath

The Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP), Inc., observed its 40th anniversary during a gala celebration Dec. 12 in City Hall.

The organization honored Councilwoman Jan Perry, Club Member, the mayor's South L.A. Director Brenda Anderson, and Bob Blake, owner of Bob Blake and Associates. All three were saluted for their long-standing contributions to the LAABP.

In addition, the LAABP past presidents were saluted. The honorees were Donald Conkrite, Mary Fletcher, Cora Jackson-Fossett, newly elected Assemblyman Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Steven King, and Jeffery Whitmore. Also, Myran Cotton and Samuel Allen were recognized as distinguished members. Entertainment Executive Darice Rollins served as host.

"This occasion also doubled as a fundraiser for the LAABP Scholarship Fund," said LAABP President Terrence Montgomery. "Over the past years, we have been fortunate to distribute more than \$100,000 in awards to assist college-bound students."

"We're pleased that the donations we received will allow us to increase the number of students receiving scholarships in 2013."

In addition to Montgomery, LAABP officers are DeMarlo Sims, First Vice President; Dewanna Sharp, Second Vice President; David Jackson, Third Vice President; Amber Johnson, Recording Secretary; Mignon Washington, Corresponding Secretary; and Sharon Loudd, Treasurer. The Directors –at-Large are Henry Chisom, Shelia Brooks-LeFridge, Janeshia Robinson and Carmen Steward.

Many City executives attended the celebration, including Deputy Mayor Larry Frank, Deputy Mayor Monique Earl, Public Works Commissioners Valerie Lynne Shaw and Capri Maddox, retired Community Development Dept. (CDD) General Manager Richard Benbow, Interim CDD GM Greg Irish, Inspector of Public Works John Reamer, and Fire Chief Brian Cummings.

Fellow City association officers also participated, including James Edwards of the Oscar

Joel Bryant Foundation, Marilyn Washington of the Water and Power African American Employees Association, Carmen Hawkins of the L.A. Black City Attorneys Association, and Commander Armando Hogan of the Stentorians Fire Fighters Association.

The beverage and buffet bar was catered by W.P. Miller, and entertainment provided by Mark Allen Felton and Friends.

Incorporated in 1972 and approved by the City Council as the official representative of people of color who are City employees, LAABP remains at the forefront of the battle for equal employment within the City's work force.

"This Association will continue to move forward and work diligently to bring about greater opportunities for 'people of color' to enhance their careers and to pursue progressive achievement in City service through examination preparation and advances in technology and to increase the number of positions with ultimate responsibility at the management level," President Montgomery said.

"Our mission is to motivate, encourage and educate individuals, to realize their dreams and move forward in their career within City government. We join the many employee organizations as we face the challenges of today and tomorrow. We continue our efforts to ensure fairness and equal opportunity. Together we can accomplish what none of us can do alone."

Special thanks to Richard E. Lee, who contributed to this article.



From left: LAABP members Lance Bailey, Susan Huntley, Suzette Robottom and guest.



From left: LAABP members Mike Fong, Tammie Murray and Brenda Threatt, all members of the Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's staff.



From left: Retired CDD General Manager Richard Benbow and Interim CDD GM Greg Irish.



Myran Cotton, Club Member, (second from left) accepts cheer from her mother and friends for receiving the LAABP Distinguished Member Award.



LAABP member Rio Broussard-Williams (second from right) of Public Works/Accounting, Club Member; Dolores Lovric of Public Works/Accounting; Ching Ilagan of Public Works/Accounting; and Angela Collins of Public Works/Street Lighting, Club Member.



Deputy Mayor Larry Frank.



From left: Public Works Commissioner Valerie L. Shaw, Inspector of Public Works, Club Member; John Reamer, honoree Brenda Anderson, Commissioner Capri Maddox, and LAABP President Terrence Montgomery, Club Member.



LAABP Past Presidents, from left: Assemblyman Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Steven King, Mary Fletcher, Club Member, Cora Jackson-Fossett, Club Member, Jeffery Whitmore, Club Member; Donald Conkrite and LAABP President Terrence Montgomery, Club Member.



From left: Distinguished Member honoree Samuel Allen, Club Member, and LAABP Director David Jackson, Club Member.

FUN- LOVING CLUB MEMBERS

Are
going to
Magic
Mountain
May 3!

– SEE
BACK
PAGE



From left: Louis Clark, Lot Cleaning Supervisor; Juan Moreno Truck Operator; and Sam Kekina, Equipment Operator.

Story courtesy Street Services

Two Street Services crews were rewarded Feb. 5 with breakfast for their hard work and diligence to excellence.

As part of the Bureau's Employee Recognition Program, Nazario Saucedo, Director, Street Services, and Joe Cruz, Ron Olive and Abe Navarro, Assistant Directors,

personally delivered breakfast to crews 4 and 65 at the North Hollywood Yard.

Crew 4 members, including Frank Schoenwald, Albert Moreno, and Tom Eng, were honored for their diligence in decreasing the number of service requests and complaints generated in their maintenance area.

Crew 65 members, including Meliton Diego, Martin Garcia and Sam Kekina were rec-

ognized for their rapid and efficient response time to requests related to weed abatement and lot cleaning.

The crewmembers were thanked by the Executive Team for the crews' commitment to delivering quality street services in a timely and efficient manner. Congratulations to the crews, and well done!

PUBLIC WORKS

Breakfast, and a Pat on the Back

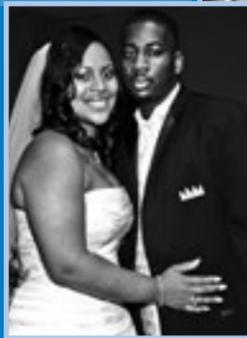
Street Services brings breakfast to the field to recognize two crews for their top-notch customer service.



Back, from left: Ron Olive, Assistant Director, Club Member; Joseph Cruz, Assistant Director; Abraham Navarro, Assistant Director, Club Member; Sam Kekina, Equipment Operator; Juan Moreno, Truck Operator; and Martin Garcia, Heavy Duty Truck Operator, Club Member. Front: Nazario Saucedo, Director, Bureau of Street Services, Club Member; Jeff Costa, Division Manager, Lot Cleaning; Diego Meliton, Maintenance Laborer; Tom Eng, Maintenance Laborer; Louis Clark, Lot Cleaning Supervisor; and Roberto Gallina, Lot Cleaning Supervisor.

Life's Important Moments

Share Your Good News!



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

We're looking for:

- Weddings
- Babies
- Graduations
- Special Achievements
- *Alive!* in the Military

Send digital photos (as high a resolution as you can send) to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
OR send paper photos (please don't send the only one you have!) to:
Life's Moments – *Alive!*
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012





THE SMART MOVE

BY PATRICK MILLER
Dearborn Insurance
 The Club's Insurance Partner

Critical Illness Protection

Critical illness insurance is becoming a necessity rather than an option.

Advances in medical technology, drugs and treatment have extended our lifespan, but they have not made us immune from heart attacks, strokes or cancer. Although the above diagnosis is no longer a death sentence, they carry an unbelievable cost financially.

While the rich medical plans we have today cover most of the medical costs, most plans don't cover all of the costs related to treatment and recovery, and they cover none of the costs of nonmedical expenses. Your health insurance won't cover mortgage payments if you are out of work, or transportation to a treatment center or to see an out-of-network doctor.

A MetLife Financial Impact of a Critical Illness study found that the average financial cost associated with a critical illness is \$35,500. Most of the cost is linked to lost wages, the survey

had health insurance. "If you have a critical illness, chances are you're going to survive, but your finances are going to be significantly impacted," Slome said.

Critical illness insurance is a supplemental insurance, which can cost as little as \$20 a month, and covers the expenses associated with cancer, heart attack, stroke and organ transplants. The chance of getting diagnosed with cancer or having a heart attack is heightened for people over age 40. In fact, according to the American Cancer Society, one in two men and one in three women develop cancer in their lifetime.

Although there is no guarantee you will suffer from any of these illnesses, Slome says critical illness insurance can offer peace of mind. According to experts, someone with a family history of any of these types of diseases or who can afford to pay the monthly premium



found. MetLife found that households spend nearly \$5,000 on out-of-pocket medical expenses that insurance won't cover, and about \$1,500 on nonmedical expenses. With critical illness insurance, policyholders receive a lump sum, whether it's \$20,000, \$30,000 or \$50,000 that can be used however users see fit.

According to Jesse Slome, executive director of the American Association for Critical Illness Insurance, improvements in medical treatments means most people will survive very serious illnesses, but a Harvard Medical Study done before the recession found that the vast majority of bankruptcies in the United States were related directly to medical conditions. More surprising, 78 percent of the people who were forced to file for bankruptcy

should consider this form of insurance. Because it pays a lump sum, the insured doesn't have to worry about submitting receipts or getting reimbursed for their expenses. "At the end of the day, the money gives peace of mind, it gives you options," Slome says. "That's what money does."

"A lot of young people in particular are insuring against the wrong risk: insuring against dying," Slome continues. "Your risk of dying is greatly reduced before the age of 65."

Considering the statistical chance of being diagnosed with one of the conditions covered by this type of policy, this may be the smartest insurance dollar you will ever spend.

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

Healing Children
 Bienvenidos is a compassionate community of care dedicated to healing children and their families.

Strengthening Families
 Our vision is of a society in which every family can provide a loving, healthy and secure home where children can grow and thrive.

Transforming Communities
 By empowering those we serve to lift themselves up and change their lives, Bienvenidos is helping build healthier families, brighter futures and more vibrant communities.



This ad is possible thanks to the generosity of Terrance Yeager

SEEN Around Town



By Jennifer Shackelford
 Club Application Coordinator

Something to See

Sometimes, while we are racing around the city going to and from our jobs, we forget to stop and take the time to appreciate some of the unique buildings and artwork that grace our city. Take, for example, the Binoculars Building. Its weird to just be driving along and to see a set of binoculars big enough to drive a car under. But its there, big as life in Venice. Built between 1985 - 1991 for the advertising agency Chiat/Day, the building was designed by architect Frank Gehry. It was his last project in LA before he began on the Walt Disney Concert Hall. It has three different facades which make it very

unusual but its the giant binoculars that really catch the eye. They were designed by Claes Oldenburg and his wife, Coosje van Bruggen. Oldenburg is very well known for his artwork which makes oversized replicas of everyday objects. The binoculars are very well suited to this building which has recently become the home of Google. It is really quite wonderful that this artwork is out on display for all of us to enjoy. Especially if we just take the time to stop and look around.

The Binoculars Building is located just south of Rose Avenue on Main Street in Venice.



GENERAL SERVICES

Mail Appreciation Day

General Services hosts annual party to say thanks to the City's mail handlers.

Story by Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor; Photos by Noelle Kauffman, Club Counselor

On Jan. 31, General Services/Mail Division and AFSCME held the 11th annual employee appreciation day at City Hall.

Here are some statistics of the Mail Services Division:

- The department handled 14 million pieces of mail last year.
- Mail Services delivers to 51 City departments.
- Nine drivers serve more than 500 mail stops and drive more than 600 miles each workday.
- Extensive use of barcode automation has saved the City more than \$2 million, according to the division.

At the luncheon, yummy steak and chicken burritos were served for lunch along with rice, beans, chips, guacamole, and sour cream. There was a raffle for numerous door prizes, and at the end, not one employee went home empty handed. The event was a success!

Great job, Mail Services! Keep up the good work.

Special thanks go to Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Division Manager, Club Member, for assisting us.



From left: Napoleon Fuller III, Delivery Driver, 10 years of City service, Club Member; Regino Sarabia, Delivery Driver, 10 years; and Rashad Westbrooks, Delivery Driver, 4 years, Club Member.



From left: Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Division Manager, Club Member; Margaret-Anne Moore, Messenger Clerk, 21 years, Club Member; Alice Goff, President of Local 3090; and Melody McCormick, Director of Facilities Services Division, 27 years, Club Member.



Tony Royster, General Manager, Club Member, expresses his gratitude and appreciation to the employees of the Mail Services Division.



Cindy Serrano, Delivery Driver, 7 years of City service, Club Member.



Jeannette Arnold, Chief Clerk, 33 years of City service, Club Member.



Randy Gordon, Clerk, 24 years of City service, Club Member.



Sonissa Norman, Messenger Clerk, 5 years of City service, Club Member.



Jacobi Patterson, Delivery Driver, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



Maria Cibrario, Clerk, 8 years of City service.



From left: Angelia Stovall, Principal Clerk, 18 years of City service; Jeannette Arnold, Chief Clerk, 33 years; and Terra Jones, Senior Clerk Typist, 12 years, Club Member.



Carmen Hayes, Vice President of Local 3090, helps out with the raffle.



The Club's Jackie Causillas, Member Services Counselor, with Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Division Manager, Club Member.



Napoleon Fuller III, Delivery Driver, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



Jack Callies, Perfect Attendance award recipient.



Jacobi Patterson, 10 years Service Pin recipient.



Margaret-Anne Moore, 20 years Service Pin recipient and winner of the People's Choice Award.



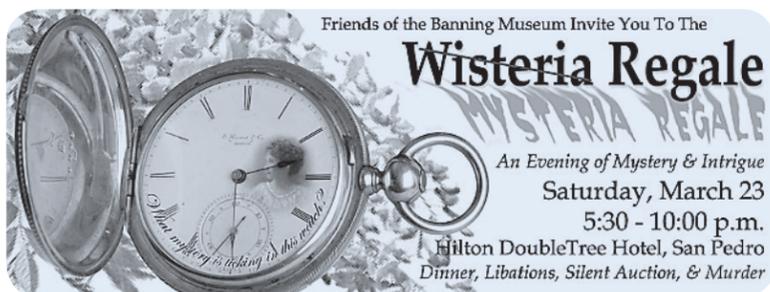
Kevin Ward, winner of the Best Customer Service Award for the second consecutive year.



Ying Ken Mak, winner of the Most Exemplary Employee Award.

Banning Hosts Whodunit Fundraiser

Banning Museum's annual gala set for March 23.



Friends of Banning Museum has scheduled its annual fundraising event, the Wisteria Regale, for Sat., March 23, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Hilton Doubletree Hotel, 2800 Via Cabrillo Marina, San Pedro.

The theme of this festive evening is a murder mystery dinner, "Wisteria Regale – The Last Gala" set in the 1920s. The murder mystery involves the Banning Family and the mysterious set of numbers on the face of Phineas Banning's gold pocket watch given to him in 1867 by his employees. The event includes a silent auction, dinner, hosted bar, music, and murder mystery. 1920s themed attire is admired but not required.

Another highlight of the evening will be the crowning of the Wisteria King and

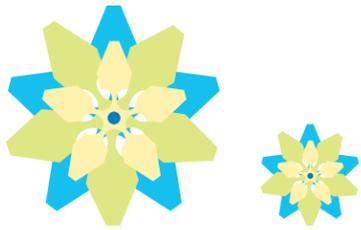
Queen: two Banning High School students who presented the winning entries in an essay contest held by Friends of Banning Museum. Each winner will also receive a scholarship for their achievement.

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

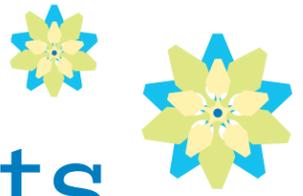
Proceeds from the Wisteria Regale will assist Friends of Banning Museum, a nonprofit corporation, in its mission to "Preserve History, Promote Education, and Inspire Entrepreneurial Spirit."

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

REC AND PARKS



Life's Important Moments



Share your moments!

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

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

New Members

Airports	Michael Masterman	Library	Cheryl Nickell	PW-Street Lighting	Aarona Hawes	Alfred Castillo
David Holcomb	Suzanne Vasquez	Frank Gladney	Veronica Padilla	Mark Burton	Christine Mata	Jarvis Corley
Thomas Simien		Cheryl McCall	Lori Pumphrey	Sergio Toral	Lakeetha Mosley	Clint Floyd
John Ward	Harbor	Nelson Torres-Gil	Jeffery Thompson		Tina Ramsey	Tony Lee
	Michael Cham		Brad Wise	PW-Street Services	Kurtis Sanders	Shaun McIlheron
LAFD	John Palucci	Personnel		Rec and Parks	Keishana Whitt	Thomas Mears
Regina Ivery	Charles Williams	Caridad Avila	PUBLIC WORKS	Jovan Herron		Michael Miyake
Elizabeth Torres		Tanisha Elias	PW-Engineering	Ernal Mercado	DWP	Donald Parungao
D. Wallace	LACERS	LAPD	Emelyne Carreon	Katrina Rennells	Carl Trice	Cheryl Santa Cruz
General Services	Patricia Aguirre-Moreno	Luis Barrera	Maridith Estiandan	John Rocha	Alphonso Word	Donna Summers
Carnell Baker	Maria Biboso	Ossiola Cantrell	PW-Sanitation	Transportation	OTHER	Frank Therrien
Terra Jones	Linda Huynh	Lloyd Johnson	Laura Estrada	Eric Goss	Erik Casey	Raul Villanueva
Fernando Mancilla	Ursula Ruiz					

Births Military Weddings

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

In Memoriam

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

Active	Cross, Allie, DWP, 8	Jennings, Thadius, General Services, 17	Richardson, Charles, DWP, 27
Bosstick, James, DWP, 23	Czar, Michael, DWP, 22	Jonas, Dorothy, DWP, 38	Rising, Gerald, Convention Center, 27
Cheuvront, Randy, DWP, 26	Dziedziak, Francis, DWP, 10	Kennedy, JW, Personnel, 24	Roberts, Charles, DWP, 37
Figueroa, Louis, Rec and Parks, 20	Emery, Sylvia, Library, 33	Kistler, Herbert, Rec and Parks, 21	Robbins, Robert, DWP, 30
Martinez, Joseph, DWP, 29	Esterbrooks, Robert, Public Works, 10	Kreiner, David, DWP, 31	Rudzinski, Richard, Building & Safety, 16
Roberts, Craig, LAPD, 22	Feinblatt, Albert, DWP, 37	Malig, Amado, Transportation, 16	Soderstrom, Alfred, DWP, 37
Williams, Alvinicia, Public Works, 13	Finch, Leonard, Public Works, 31	McKee, Charles, CDD, 21	Stengel, Robert, LAPD, 24
Retired	Fonseca, William, El Pueblo Hist. Mon., 14	McLaughlin, Robert, Public Works, 36	Sutter, James, Airports, 30
Alarcon, Mary, LAPD, 25	Funk, George, DWP, 21	McPhail, James, DWP, 31	Thorsell, Clifford, DWP, 27
Amezquita, Joe, LAPD, 10	Gentile, Armando, Harbor, 18	McWilliams, Harold, DWP, 34	Tracy, Theresa, Public Works, 34
Anderson, Ralph, Rec and Parks, 14	Hansen, Logan, DWP, 26	Melles, Lee, Airports, 26	Urrutia, Frank, General Services, 30
Austin, Peter, Public Works, 25	Henson, Robert, DWP, 41	Mercado, Luis, Airports, 18	Uruburu, Raymond, DWP, 33
Benjamin, Donald, DWP, 31	Hietala, Barbara, LAPD, 6	Miyauchi, Hisashi, LAPD, 10	Weyand, Charles, Public Works, 29
Benshoof, Lavern, DWP, -, DWP, -	Hoffman, Stanley, Airports, 36	Morrill, Robert, DWP, 26	Willis, Eldridge, Public Works, 35
Bright, Thomas, Rec and Parks, 28	Huckman, Howard, LAPD, 21	Murashige, Roger, Public Works, 43	Woods, Charles, Public Works, 31
Brown, Edgar, Convention Center, 10	Hunt, Sean, Public Works, 25	Persi, Paul, DWP, 14	Zakkak, Doris, Transportation, 22,
	Jeans, Lowell, Public Works, 37	Place, George, Public Works, 12	

Peace of Mind

by Tiffany Sy
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



Are You Prepared for Costs of an Accident?

Who's not impervious to accidents? We're all susceptible.

"The total cost of unintentional injuries in 2008 amounted to \$701.9 billion – the equivalent of about \$2,300 per person. The 2009 death rate was up about one percent from the 2008 [rate]."

– National Safety Council, Injury Facts 2011 edition

The City Employees Club knows that the cost of accidents is immense. When you seek medical treatment, most health insurance companies do not cover emergency and medical office co-pays, transportation and lodging needs, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment co-insurance and your loss of income from taking time off work to get treated. Our Group Accident plan was designed to cover such out-of-pocket expenses so that your main focus can be getting back to good health.

If you have an unintentional injury, whether on or off the job, our accident plan pays cash benefits directly to the insured. You get to decide the best way to spend your check.

Accident insurance is great if you work with your hands,

have kids who play sports, enjoy an active lifestyle, use a can opener, can walk and talk, or anyone who is susceptible to an accidental injury, which is all of us.

All of our Club members are eligible to apply for the accident plan. Your family (spouse and dependents) is also eligible to apply.

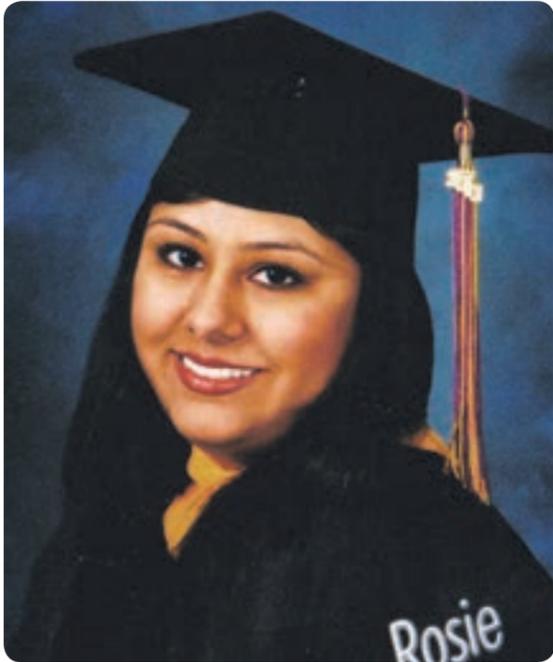
Premiums are affordable, and we offer the convenience of payroll deduction. When you experience an accidental injury, your focus should be on getting better. Let us help you handle the added expenses. Call your Club Counselor today for more information.

Contact me at info@cityemployeesclub.com



Graduations

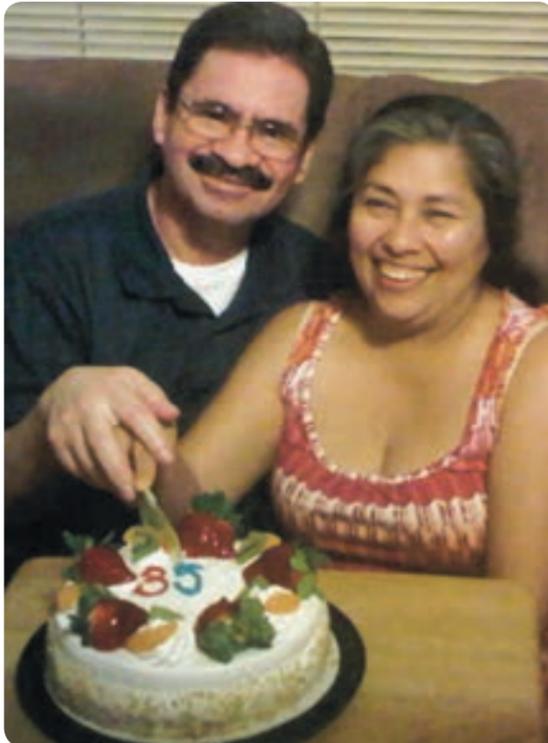
Alive! is delighted to publish graduation photos of Club members and their children. Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



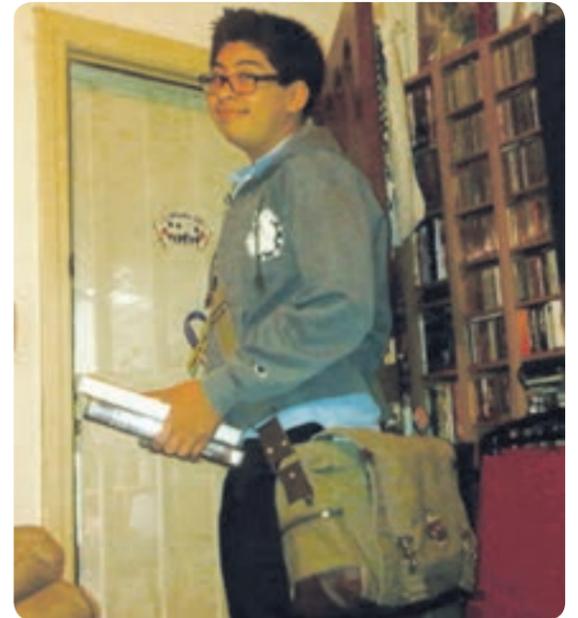
Rosa Marie Beltran plans to graduate from Mount St. Mary's College this spring with a Bachelor of Science degree in film and social justice. She is the daughter of Donald and Roberta Kosharek. Donald works for the DWP, and Roberta works for the LA County Sheriff's Dept.

Special Achievements

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? Send to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Principal Detention Officer Roberto Soriano, LAPD, celebrated his 35th dating anniversary with his high school sweetheart, Isis M Soriano, Jan 9. They have five children and have been happily married for 34 years.



Antonio Soriano, 10th grader and straight-A student, received an "Outstanding" award from his school last year for the ninth grade, which is given to only one ninth-grader each year. He's the son of Principal Detention Officer Roberto Soriano and Isis Soriano.

Congratulations, Antonio – and to the proud parents, Roberto and Isis, too! And by the way, we knew immediately how smart Antonio is – he's carrying a Club city gear messenger bag. They make for a handsome pair, if we do say so! Thanks for wearing – and for sharing. – Ed.

SAY GOODBYE TO LINES
At Magic Mountain!
Club-Exclusive Party May 3.
 – SEE BACK PAGE

Congratulations,
GRADUATES

**Let the Club family celebrate with you...
 by putting your photo in *Alive!***

Club members: Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school... high school... or college this summer? Send us a photo, and we'll publish it in *Alive!*

Make sure you tell us:

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

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

If you have a paper print, send a duplicate (we prefer you not send the original) to: **Grad Photos**
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

It's All About Quality

Quality, Productivity Commission honors teams for innovation, cost savings.



Story and photos courtesy Quality and Productivity Commission

City quality and smarts came through loud and clear in an annual awards ceremony.

The City's Quality and Productivity Commission held its annual recognition ceremony Dec. 13 to honor selected City Departments and workers that have demonstrated superior quality, productivity and efficiency in their operations and programs. The focus was on projects that addressed quality of life issues and improved customer service initiatives, as well as those that saved money and demonstrated how to do more with less.

The event and reception honoring took place in the Chandler Auditorium in the Los Angeles Times Building.

Commission President Ron Galperin, along with fellow Commissioners, presented certificates of recognition to 2012's most notable and award-winning projects – and to their employee team members. Some 26 projects involving 20 City Departments, Bureaus and Divisions were highlighted by the Commission for collectively resulting in millions of dollars in savings.

To reward and encourage innovation and efficiency, the Commission hosts its annual awards ceremony recognizing and honoring employee teams whose outstanding projects and innovations improve the productivity and efficiency of the City. Many of these projects are self-initiated by front-line employees who sometimes spend years developing an idea into reality. Projects this year include utility and maintenance-saving initiatives, con-

solidations, administrative cost-cutting measures, and waste-to-energy pilots.

The selection process consisted of the Commission's review of nearly six dozen applications from departments Citywide, said Awards Committee Chairman and Commission Vice President Ed Young. The Commissioners then conducted site visits of the semi-finalists, followed by the final selection of the projects that saved the City money, leveraged existing resources and/or enhanced customer service.

The Quality and Productivity Commission is a 15-member volunteer commission dedicated to improving the responsiveness, efficiency, and quality of services delivered by the City to the public. For more information visit: www.quality.lacity.org.

Congratulations to the winners!

Award-Winning Departments:

Animal Services	Public Works/Sanitation	Recreation and Parks
Building and Safety	Public Works/Environmental Monitoring Division	DWP
Planning	Public Works/Wastewater Engineering Services	Harbor
General Services	Division	ITA
Public Works	Public Works/Street Services	LAFD
Public Works/Contract Administration	Public Works/Urban Forestry	Airports
Public Works/Engineering		Mayor's Office

The Heart of Our City

*Animal Services
City Administrative Officer*

To respond to an era of more limited financial resources, Animal Services has sought new ways to adapt.

Public/Private Partnership: In one initiative, a public/public partnership was formed to overcome the lack of budget for staffing a new shelter in the North East Valley. Animal Services, the Office of the City Administrator and non-profit Best Friends Animal Society came together to further the imperative for L.A. to be a "no-kill" City. In the first half of 2012, thousands of animals were taken in, saved, adopted, spayed and neutered – with many more to come.

Specialized Teams: In a second initiative, Animal Services consolidated specialized teams – including the Wildlife Program, Permits Division and Animal Rescue into an operations unit trained to do it all, improving efficiency and self-sufficiency in saving animals in an emergency.

Inventory and Purchasing Control: In a third initiative, the Department sought to centralize and improve control of purchasing, inventory and delivery. \$500,000 a year in savings will mean saved jobs and saved lives.

Building a Better LA, Better

*Building and Safety
Planning
Public Works*

Development in Los Angeles has been time consuming, expensive and frustrating – both to developers and communities seeking to protect the quality and unique characteristics of their neighborhoods. Central to the initiatives to reform the process is Building and Safety.

Case Management: In the first of several changes, the Department now has a Development Services Case Management Office (DSCMO), where it works with Planning, Zoning, Engineering, Public Works and others are working to provide project applicants with one office and one case manager for applicants to navigate through the approval process. This new office, along with a new Economic Development Information and Tracking System, is beginning to cut bureaucracy – and costs for the City and for its customers.

Parallel Design Planning Process: Building and Safety has also undertaken a Parallel Design Planning Process, where a plan-check engineer is assigned at the initial design phase of a development. The process identifies potential problems issues early, saving up to nine months of plan check time. More than 40 percent of recently proposed major projects got permits in record time, helping to create jobs, strengthen our economy, improve quality of life and build a better L.A.

Putting It in Reverse

General Services

General Services/Supply Services is charged with procuring \$500 million in goods and service contracts for the City annually. In 2011, General Services began implementing a Web-based reverse auction for certain contracts to save money.

In a reverse auction, pre-qualified bidders bid against each other in a real-time auction. But, instead of bidding higher like in a typical auction, they bid in reverse. This results in more competitive pricing that drives City costs back, while driving savings forward.

In this productive race to the bottom, the City saves time – and possibly millions of dollars in procurement costs annually.



Well Oiled

General Services

Who would have thought that revising the schedule for vehicle oil changes could save so much money?

Looking for ways to economize, General Services contacted Toyota and Honda to see if required vehicle maintenance could be extended without voiding vehicle warranties. Oil changes were extended from once every six months/4,000 miles to once every 10 months/5,000 miles for Toyota hybrids, and once every 10 months/8,000 miles for Honda Civic hybrids.

General Services projects that this minor yet significant change will result in a \$3.27 million savings over the 10-year life expectancy of 11,000 hybrids in the City's fleet. Aside from the significant cost savings, the City has also reduced the volume of used oil that must be recycled.

One-Stop Shopping

*Information Technology Agency
Mayor's Office*

Over time, each department had developed its own way of managing and letting contractors know of opportunities to do business with the City, mostly using paper. This resulted in a cumbersome and byzantine system. Requiring City departments, commissions and boards to use a retooled Business Assistance Virtual Network (BAVN) has been a step in improving City procurement.

BAVN now provides all City Departments, Boards, and Commissions who administer construction, commodity, and professional service contracts an online platform to advertise, and respond to the City's Requests for Proposals (RFP), Requests for Qualifications (RFQ). Businesses browse and/or subscribe and be notified by e-mail of new and various business opportunities. Contractors can also see listings of more than 20,000 subcontractors, extending outreach and opportunity to small businesses. Documents can also be uploaded, downloaded and shared between departments.

With improvements to BAVN, competition, outreach and transparency are improving, too.



Here Comes the Sun

DWP

Using Federal stimulus money available for "shovel-ready" projects, the DWP undertook design and installation of the Adelanto Solar Power Project, the largest-ever municipally owned and operated solar power system.

With a more than 11 megawatt generating capacity, the Adelanto project is nearly 30 times larger than the previously largest 400kW solar power system installed by DWP at the Convention Center – and is the first utility-scale ground mounted system for the DWP. This project was also opportunity to partner with the providers in private industry, to leverage the experience of DWP personnel, to gain new knowledge and to put into useful service about 42 acres of surplus land.

Most of the project's \$50.6 million cost was financed with \$48 million in tax-deferred interest funds available through the federal government. The project also came in on budget and on schedule – and is serving as a template for future projects.



Thinking Inside the Box

DWP

Producing solar or other renewable energy is a challenge – and so too is delivering it. Realizing this, DWP engineers created a "Substation-in-a-Box." This much-smaller, much-cheaper, much-safer, kit-like alternative to a more traditional power substation can be customized to fit customer needs, both current and future.

Controllable remotely, these substations save customers money and save DWP up to nine months in design, installation and labor time.

Adopting the DWP's lead, community colleges and other utilities are getting on board with Substation-in-a-Box.

One If by Land, Two If by Sea

Harbor

Communication is critical in any crisis. The Port of L.A. is a 7,500-acre facility containing 20 percent of the nation's trade and providing three million jobs nationwide. Two recent Harbor projects are now in place to help prevent security problems – and to better respond when they may arise.

PortWatch: The Harbor Department Information Technologists and the Port Police formed a partnership with a software company to create a smartphone app called PortWatch – dubbed a "See Something, Say Something" project – so people can report or video suspicious security events as well as receive security notifications.

A New Generation of Security Systems: The Port Police and Information Technology Divisions of the Harbor Department partnered to implement four critical technology projects in the last year to improve interagency coordination and communications, domain awareness, emergency response, incident management, and field operations. These include radio systems, computer-aided dispatch and information management. Approximately \$8.6 million (88 percent of the \$9.8 million total) was reimbursed from federal and state grants. The Harbor will also be seeking grant funds to reimburse the ongoing costs.

To the Rescue

LAFD

A four-alarm call came for the Fire Department to move from a paper based Emergency Medical Service (EMS) reporting system to handhelds and Electronic Patient Care records (ePCRs) for patients served by LAFD paramedics and firefighters.

The project included development of new Department policies, training courses for approximately 2,400 personnel, collaboration with 59 hospital stakeholders, distribution and programming of computers and much more. The result is better data, better patient care, lives saved, less paperwork and millions of dollars in savings.



On Cloud 9

Library

Providing word processing using software installed on its 2,100 public computers in 73 locations was costly in staff time, technical problems, and licensing. Faced with a potential \$100,000 upgrade fee and continued maintenance costs, the Library decided to try something new by moving to the Cloud – and to free technology – using Google Docs and Microsoft SkyDrive.

Now, the Library system delivers to patrons improved word processing that provides greater choice and flexibility. It has saved the cost of the annual licensing and has reduced costly maintenance, releasing staff to assist patrons instead of servicing computers.

Historic Preservation

Planning

The Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) program has been key to saving, preserving and enhancing L.A.'s architectural history, and protecting some of L.A.'s most beautiful historic neighborhoods.

With significant budget and staff cuts, the Department created 16 Preservation Plans that follow the same design guideline template but allow for customization, including input from the City's 29 local all-volunteer HPOZ boards. The Preservation Plans have defined guidelines and procedures that allow decisions to be made more quickly. Planning streamlined the time it takes for an application and sought to improve the application process itself. As a result, Planning was able to submit 16 HPOZ applications at one time for City Council approval. Planning HPOZ staff cost savings amount to \$350,000 annually because of the new forms and staff changes.

Hitting the Green

Rec and Parks

On July 1, 2010, Rec and Parks/Golf Division ceased receiving any City funding support and began operating as a self-sustaining division. The Golf Division became responsible for all costs, including indirect costs, related to the operations and maintenance of the City's 14 golf facilities.

The cost of employees and their benefits is covered by the revenues produced by the facilities. The Golf Division now receives no subsidies from the City – and instead is contributing to a Golf Capital Improvements Account, along with \$1 million annually to other recreational activities.

The City's greens are looking and operating better, and producing yet another form of green for the City.



– continued on page 28



Quality and Productivity Awards – continued from page 27

A Better Track

*City Administrative Officer
Harbor*

For decades, the City has used a myriad of custom forms to be submitted in duplicate with original signatures for contractors to prove insurance and get paid. Contractors and others submit more than 10,000 forms per year. The forms were not industry standard and weren't always accepted. Their processing took many steps that could last from a week to even a year. And the forms did not verify – but merely attested that the insurance agents and brokers, the insurance companies, and the insurance itself were true and accurate.

The CAO's Risk Management Division developed Track4LA, an online system for submitting and approving insurance and bond compliance with a change in City rules that now allows for e-submission. Track4LA is now used by the City's other departments and registers the brokers and verifies their license status with the State.

With Harbor using Track4LA, approval of insurance is now instantaneous, with increased security – and cost savings to the City of \$262,000 per year.

Trash to Treasure

*Public Works/Sanitation
Airports
DWP*

Sanitation Contracts: The DWP and Airports were looking to improve their refuse collection – and to reduce their costs. They turned to the Bureau of Sanitation.

Central Los Angeles Recycling and Transfer Station: This new facility provides the City with excess waste and recycling capacity that it can sell to commercial waste haulers. Sanitation has increased efficiency without adding staff, and is generating savings and revenues in excess of \$1 million a year.



Every Drop Counts

*Public Works/Bureaus of:
Sanitation, Environmental Monitoring, Wastewater Engineering
Services, Engineering, Contract Administration
Rec and Parks
DWP*

Water is becoming an increasingly more precious resource than even oil or gold – and every drop counts. Public Works and its Bureau of Sanitation are recognized for partnering with the Engineering and Contract Administration to help save millions of dollars – and even more gallons of water – annually, thanks to innovative and thoughtful water management. Rec and Parks and DWP have also been partners in helping Public Works put best practices to work. Among the noteworthy projects:

Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectroscopy for analysis of selenium and arsenic in wastewater: By replacing older methods for detecting these hazardous materials, the quality of our water is being increased – while costs are being decreased.

Stabilizing Recycled Water uses CaCl₂ and NaOH at the Advanced Water Treatment Facility at the Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant in San Pedro. This facility was built to produce a maximum of five million gallons of recycled water per day for non-drinking purposes. The result is more, cleaner and better recycled water.

Los Angeles Wastewater Information Network System: The new system is designed to monitor and control tens of thousands of assets in the City's wastewater treatment and collection systems. The project also addresses a new control room at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant, which will help integrate and manage operations and reduce costs.

Wet Weather Modeling: New sophisticated computer modeling is being used to predict the effects of rain on the wastewater collection system, to reduce runoff and its negative impacts on our environment.

Garvanza Park Best Management Practices Project: This project was constructed to reduce pollutant loading into Arroyo Seco and Los Angeles River by diverting stormwater and urban runoff from an 85-acre drainage area into an underground treatment system. The project's treatment of dry-weather and wet-weather runoff is expected to reduce annual pollutant loads by 85 percent and provide storage for approximately one million gallons for use at the park for irrigation purposes.



The Wet Weather Modeling Team from Public Works/Sanitation.



The Garvanza Park Project team from Public Works/Sanitation.

Responding to a Severe City Wind Storm

Public Works/Urban Forestry Division and Street Services

Near-hurricane winds ravaged the northeast section of the City in November 2011. More than 500 whole trees were downed and another 2,000 trees lost limbs – downing power lines, blocking streets and severely damaging homes and vehicles. Within two hours, the Public Works/Street Services Operations Center was activated. By coordinating responses with the Urban Forestry Division and with the City's Emergency Operations Center, infrastructure failures were evaluated and prioritized so that response teams could be quickly deployed.

The Bureau handled more than 700 damage sites, with some 450 City staffers working around the clock. An estimated 3,700 tons of debris was also processed at the City's state of the art recycling centers. The response tested the emergency operations the City had put in place. The event was nearly unprecedented, and so was the dedicated response, with cleanup in record time.



Waste Not, Want Not

*Public Works/Sanitation
and Watershed*

Zero Trash Discharge: Keeping trash out of the LA River and Ballona Creek is not only a good thing to do, but the City faces steep fines otherwise. Structural measures like putting special gratings over storm drains and other things like education, grate cleaning, and enforcement have made a drastic improvement. The Bureau commissioned a scientific study that showed how to reach the 95 to 100 percent reduction that will avoid approximately \$12 million in fines over the next 15-20 years.



THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Weekend Tidepool Walk

Saturday, Mar. 9
12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

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

(310) 548-7562

Parking: \$2

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

(310) 548-7410

www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
LOS ANGELES

www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org

City Owned. City Run. City Proud.

REC AND PARKS

Cabrillo Gala Set for May



Mike Schaadt, Director of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and Club Member, welcomes you to the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Aquarium to present its annual Grunion Gala fundraiser.

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (FCMA) plans to host the annual Grand Grunion Gala Saturday, May 4, at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro. More than 400 guests including business and community leaders, elected officials, scientists, educators and supporters of the Aquarium are expected to attend the black-tie optional affair. The nonprofit's largest fundraiser benefits the aquarium's educational programs, exhibits and displays, and raises more than \$200,000 annually. This year's gala will feature live and silent auctions offering opportunities for great getaways, entertainment, dining, unique adventures, fine art, and more.

Honorees include:

■ **County Supervisor Don Knabe – John M. Olguin Marine Environment Award**

Supervisor Knabe will be recognized for his demonstrated significant contributions to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, education, youths and environment.

■ **Yvonne Bogdanovich – Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Leadership Award**

As a longtime aquarium champion and community philanthropist, Yvonne has demonstrated exceptional leadership and notable contributions to the enhancement of the Cabrillo community.

■ **Carl and Marge Lundgren – Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller Education Award**

Through their generous research endowment to the aquarium and their annual sponsorship of the Young Scientists Symposium, the Lundgrens have generously supported ocean science education.

Individual tickets are \$225 per person (\$200 per person if received by April 5). For more information, call (310) 548-7593 or email gala@cmaqua.org.

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide support and resources to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a Rec and Parks facility. The aquarium serves more than 300,000 visitors each year, of which 150,000 are schoolchildren on free fieldtrips. The aquarium's staff of scientists, educators, support professionals and volunteers work to increase public awareness, education and concern for the marine environment. Recognized as one of the best teaching aquariums in the world, CMA has a more than 75-year record of innovation and excellence as an important educational resource for the residents and visitors of Los Angeles.

REC AND PARKS

Earth Day On the Coast

Cabrillo Aquarium hosts annual Earth Day Fair.



Club Members are invited to join the 43rd Annual Earth Day Celebration of our Ocean Planet at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, Sat., April 20, with a day of free programs including a beach cleanup, demonstrations, information and activities. Participation options include joining the beach cleanup, grunion egg hatching, guided walks to the salt marsh and more.

Participants can help be a part of the solution by joining in a beach cleanup from 8 to 10 a.m., with supplies and refreshments provided. There will be exhibitor booths and presentations throughout the day and see what people are doing to help care for the earth. Musicians will share about the ocean through songs. Participants can learn about the coastal environment and take part in salt marsh open house, habitat walks, coastal bird walks and bird lectures from experts in the field.

Throughout the day the Aquarium will be open with opportunities to examine Southern California marine life, visit the touch tank, search the Virginia Reid Moore Marine Research Library for more information about local sea life, observe the newest arrivals in the Aquatic Nursery and investigate the interactive Exploration Center.

The Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro and is a Rec and Parks facility with support from Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Limited car parking at Cabrillo Beach is \$1 per hour. Information: (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org



REC AND PARKS

A Whale of an Opportunity

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium seeks volunteers for its whale-watching program.

The Cabrillo Whalewatch program is looking for enthusiastic volunteers college-aged or older to act as naturalists on whale-watching trips and provide whale lectures at schools.

Whalewatch training classes will be given in the John M. Olguin Auditorium at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Classes will be held every Tuesday from 7 - 9 p.m. through the end of March. Upon successful completion of training, volunteers will be officially certified whale watchers to share information about gray whales and other marine life.

The volunteer naturalists will sign up for a schedule of whale-watching boats departing from local landings in Redondo Beach, Long Beach and San Pedro, as well as on-site visits to school classrooms.

The Cabrillo Whalewatch program is co-sponsored by the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and the American Cetacean Society/Los Angeles Chapter. The Cabrillo Whalewatch volunteer training classes are free. The only requirements for volunteers are an interest in the ocean and whales, the desire to learn, and the ability to share their knowledge with others.

The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro and is a Rec and Parks facility, with support from FRIENDS of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Information: Larry Fukuhara, Program Director, at (310) 548-7562 x223.



Seeing whales up close is a strong feature of the Baja whale-watching trip.



Cabrillo's Larry Fukuhara on a whale-watching adventure.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (center), with guests.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, at the door.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (center), with guests.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (second from left), with guests.



From left: Anna Russo, Christina Muñoz, and Ernestine Howard.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with his volunteers Jessie Uyemura and Pamela Curry.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (center), with guests.



Guests.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Monette Carranceja.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Merle Greene.



"Food4Thot" performs his prose.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, receives his portrait.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Jennifer Henderson.



Singer Nailah Porter.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Christina Muñoz, Club Member.



Poet Peter J. Harris.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, (second from right), with guests.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with AnaMaria Mahan.



From Left: Evan Georgoulis, guest and Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, left, with LaVonne Patrick.



From left: Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Norma Gonzalez and Pamela Sanchez.



From left: Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Natividad Baca.



Guests.

DWP

So Long, Conney

Conney Williams retires from the DWP after more than 30 years of City service.

Story and photos courtesy DWP

Conney D. Williams, Management Analyst, celebrated his retirement from the DWP with family and friends at the Proud Bird restaurant in Westchester on Jan. 26, after more than 30 years of service. During his career, Conney worked at the Library, Public Works, the LAFD, and the Water and Power Employees' Retirement Plan.

"Food4Thot" and "Socks" hosted Conney's luncheon. Safa Kaddis prayed over the tasty lunch being served and the afternoon events. Three performers dedicated their work to Conney. Peter J. Harris wrote and read a poem. Singer Nailah Porter performed her rendition of the song "Feeling Good." Host Food4Thot read his prose. Photographers Alexander Lee and Kendrick Mah snapped away at all the memorable moments, and TC Richard and crew videographed the event. DJ Gary soothed the audience with music and then got them dancing.

Anecdotes about Conney were shared by his friends and co-workers. Jennifer Henderson presented Conney with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Mayor's Office for Conney's more than 30 years of service. Monette Carranceja presented Conney with a resolution from the Water & Power Employees'

Retirement Plan Board of Administrators, noting his years of service in the retirement plan office. Christina Muñoz presented Conney with his 30-year pin (two diamonds) and a certificate of appreciation and recognition from the DWP Board of Commissioners and the General Manager. Merle Greene presented Conney with the Water and Power's Employees' Association plaque acknowledging his Feb. 1 retirement. Lilly Calvache and Shawn McCloud from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 18, acknowledged his work as the trainer for all the retirement classes and his work on the Joint Labor Management Committee.

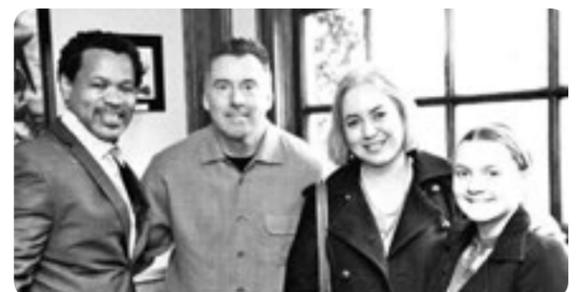
Conney presented his prose to those gathered. He shared his tears of joy with his 140 guests, ending the formal part of the luncheon. The dancing began afterward.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with fellow retiree Christina Santos.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Jennifer Henderson.



From left: Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Robert Bayliff of the Water and Power Community Credit Union and family.



From left: Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Lemuel Thomas.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Ida Torres, Club Member and Christina Santos.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with Anna Russo.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with photographer Kendrick Mah.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with Lilly Calvache, Club Member and Shawn McCloud.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (center), with guests.

A Retirement Wish
 Conney, from your friends in the Retirement Office, we will miss your laugh, your high-pitched voice when you tried to lie to us, your forehead wrinkles when you were trying to control your voice, and when you picked on Miu. May you have a long, happy, healthy, and wealthy retirement.
 - From 'Becca, Jessie, Marie, Miu, Nestor, and IDA



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (left), with 'Becca Calderon and Keith Saddler.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with Charles Bibbs.



With guests.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with Henry Victor of Deferred Compensation and Gloria Dabbs-Mann.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with guest.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with Nestor Ramos.



From left: Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree, with actress Niecy Nash and guest.



Conney Williams, Management Analyst, Retiree (right), with guests.

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	Auto Club	\$929
	United Agencies	\$876

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Retiree Jeannette Barry's "City family," friends and family wish her all the best in retirement.



Jeannette Barry, Retiree, with Cuong Nguyen, Club Member, Systems Programmer II/ITA.



City Employee - Richard Wuerth, Club Member, Emergency Management Coordinator/General Services, performed two songs for Jeannette Barry, Retiree.



Darryl Sharp, CHE Security, and Jeannette Barry, Retiree.



Event host City Atty Investigator II Robert Arevalo.



Legal Assistant Sara Rivadeneyra-Angulo and Investigator II Robert Arevalo, 32 years of City Service (both standing).



Event speakers Sara Rivadeneyra-Angulo, Club Member, Legal Assistant, and Richard Wright, Investigator II.



Jeannette Barry, Retiree, receives an award from her colleagues and friends from the City Attorney's Office and the LAPD in recognition of her 36 years of service to the City of L.A.



Event speaker Robert Ursery, Legal Assistant, friend and comedian!



Jonathan Luu, Systems Programmer II/ITA, with Jeannette Barry, Retiree.



Back: Pastor Jerry Jimenez, Retired Investigator II. Front, from left: Adrienne Hatrick, Retired Hearing Officer; LAPD Det. R.J. Waddy, Retired and City Attorney Hearing Officer; and Jose Colón, Building Mechanics Inspector/Building & Safety, 24 years of City service.



Jeannette Barry, Retiree, was touched by the kind words expressed to her at her retirement celebration.

Jeannette Investigates Retirement

CITY ATTORNEY

Jeannette Barry, Investigator III, retires from the City Attorney's Office after 36 years of City service.

Story by Paz Colón, City Attorney's Office; Photos by Cuong Nguyen, ITA

Friends, family and coworkers held a retirement celebration for Jeannette M. Barry, who retired as an Investigator III in the City Attorney's Office. She had worked for the City for more than 36 years.

The party was held Jan. 24 at Tamayo Restaurant and Art Gallery in East L.A. More than 80 people attended.

Prior to her retirement, Jeannette worked in the Civil Liability Division/Claims Unit for more than 17 years as the Support Staff Supervisor.

Jeannette M. Barry began her career with the City in 1976 with Airports. She worked at LAX from 1976 to 1982. In 1982, she transferred to the City Attorney's Office, where she was a Legal Assistant in the Criminal Division/Arraignment Court. She then was promoted to a Witness Service Coordinator and worked extensively with LAPD, assisting victims and witnesses. In 1989 Jeannette was promoted to Investigator II in the Collections Division, and in 1995 she once again was promoted to Investigator III in the Civil Liability Division/Claims Unit, where she became the Support Staff Supervisor. Jeannette remained the anchor and leader of the Claims Unit until her retirement Jan. 11.

At the retirement party, there was a beautiful buffet luncheon, music, a performance by City Employee Richard Wuerth, and a slide show presentation. City Attorney Carmen "Nuch" Trutanich presented Jeannette with a Certificate of Appreciation as well as his personal City pin, which he removed from his lapel.

Hosting the event was Robert Arevalo, Investigator II, 32 years of City service. Jeannette's party was planned by City Attorney employees Legal Assistant, Paz Colón, Legal Assistant, 22 years, and Robert Arevalo. In attendance were members of Jeannette's family, including her daughter, April Barry; son, Frederick Barry; sisters, Lynette Dunbar and Lee Nelson; brother, Jesse "Cholly" Graffell; and nieces, Brandi and Brittany Nelson.

Jeannette's positive and cheerful disposition will be missed by those who had the privilege of working with her. Her dedication to her work, her colleagues and the City is immeasurable, and so her colleagues take this time to say, "Thank you, and you will be dearly missed!" Best wishes in your well deserved retirement!



Handing out custom programs were (from left) Estela Valenzuela, Legal Clerk, 6 years of City service, and Sara Rivadeneyra-Angulo, Legal Assistant, 5 years.



From left: Investigator III Robert Arevalo; LAPD Det. Yvette Bass; Retiree Jeannette Barry; and LAPD Det. Jorge Ramos.



Gary Schram, Chief Administrative Assistant (left) and Carmen "Nuch" Trutanich, City Attorney, present Jeannette Barry, Retiree, with her Certificate of Appreciation from the City Attorney's Office.



Guests (from left) Joseph Lin, ITA; Erica Liu, ITA; and Ellaina Smith, Investigator, Finance.



Friends and family (back, from left): Frederick Barry, Richard Wuerth, Diane Fisher, Sara Rivadeneyra-Angulo, Jesse "Cholly" Graffell, Christy Ammons, Robert Arevalo, and Miriam Arevalo. Middle: Brandi Nelson, Brittany Nelson, Lee Nelson, Cheryl Doorbar, April Barry, Det. Yvette Bass, Det. Jorge Ramos, Norma McKee, and Jose Colón. Front: Angela-Andrea "Angie" Colón, Jeannette Barry, Paz Colón and Lynette Dunbar.



City Attorney Carmen "Nuch" Trutanich with retiree, Jeannette M. Barry, City Attorney.



At the guest check-in at Tamayo Restaurant and Art Gallery, from left: City Attorney Librarian Deborah Farkas; Deputy City Attorney Teresa Lujan; LAPD Det. DeRonn Scott; Maureen Gilmartin-Baker, Retired, City Attorney's Office; and Cheryl Doorbar.



Jeannette Barry, Retiree, receives the City Attorney's personal city pin. What an honor!



From left: Robert Arevalo, Jeannette Barry, Cuong Nguyen and Paz Colón.



LAPD Det. Yvette Bass spoke at the event.



Check-in assistants (from left) Miriam Arevalo and Angie Colón.



Jeannette Barry, Retiree, is surrounded by her family and closest friends at her retirement celebration.

House Fire In Northridge

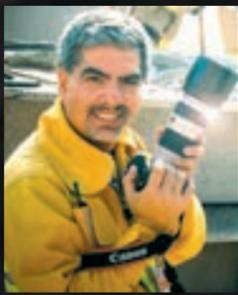
Photos by Juan Guerra

An attic fire in a Victorian-style house in Northridge Jan. 27 required 46 LAFD firefighters and 35 minutes to extinguish.

The fire in the 9400 block of Claire Avenue was reported just before 7 p.m., according to the LAFD. The house was reported as a two-story wood frame home.

There were no reported injuries.

Everyday
Heroes
in Action



**Juan Guerra,
Photographer**

Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Angel's
Be Alive!



BOLSA CHICA WETLANDS



A view from the bridge.

Hello everyone!

This month we visit Huntington Beach and the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. The reserve is designated by the California Department of Fish and Game to protect a coastal wetland, with its threatened and endangered species. The Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve boundaries are Warner Avenue to the north, Seapoint Avenue to the south, Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) to the west, and residential development to the east.

Let's begin!

The history of Bolsa Chica is a long and varied one. The earliest peoples were the native Indians of California. Archaeologists have found cog stones that date back 8,000 years and are the only surviving relic of the Indian lifestyle. The exact purpose of the stones is unknown, but speculation has centered on religious or astronomical use. Cog stones can be seen at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana.

Once Spain colonized California, Spanish officials created vast land grants called ranchos. One such grant, Rancho Los Nietos, was given to Manuel Nieto. After Nieto died, the grant was partitioned in 1834 into five Mexican ranchos, including Rancho Las Bolsas. Rancho La Bolsa Chica was separated from Rancho Las Bolsas in 1841. The grant was later owned by Abel Stearns.

In July 1920, the Standard Oil Company began oil extraction in and around the Bolsa Wetlands.

In the 1940s, the U.S. military constructed two bunkers at Bolsa Chica to defend the coastline. Gun turrets were also mounted on the mesa, but were fired only for testing purposes. The larger of the two bunkers was demolished in 1995. The



Aden and Kathy look at displays.

smaller support bunker still exists but is closed off from public access. All that is left of the turrets is their circular frame.

In the 1960s, most of Bolsa Chica was acquired by a housing developer, and in response, fans created the Amigos de Bolsa Chica (Friends of Bolsa Chica), to save and preserve more of the wetlands. The Amigos was founded in 1976, and the 20-year battle to save the wetlands began.

The Bolsa Chica Wetlands area is an amazing adventure if you want to take a simple walk, explore plant life or animal life, or just want to get outside. I liked the all the information and exhibits in the Interpretive Center. There is much diversity describing the center – there is information on life in the water, life in the air, and of course wildlife on the ground all around us.

Try your best to get outside and explore. This place is right by the beach and takes only about an hour to walk through. And also guess what – is it totally free! Bring your family, bring your friends and enjoy all the beauty of the wetlands. This is a place you can come back to week after week or month after month and see something new each time. I really recommend this place for everyone in your family.

Don't forget to bring your camera and take lots of photos and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring water, snacks and maybe some sunscreen.

**As always, Be Alive!,
Angel**



This sign describes birds typically flying in the area.



Aden and I in front of the Bolsa Chica Wetlands Interpretive Center.



Our new feathered friend.

Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve

3842 Warner Ave.
Huntington Beach, CA 92649
(714) 846-1114

Area: More than 300 acres

Difficulty Rating: Easy walking, 1.5-mile trail

Features: Wildlife, bird watching, animal and plant life education

Restrictions: No dogs, bicycles or horses

Admission: Free

Parking: Free

Directions: From the north, exit San Diego Freeway (405) at Seal Beach Boulevard and travel west toward the beach. Take a left on Pacific Coast Highway and drive south past Warner Avenue intersection. Turn left at the next stoplight into the reserve. From the south, take the San Diego Freeway (405), exit Golden West Street. Drive west to Pacific Coast Highway and turn right where Golden West ends. Drive two stoplights and turn right into the parking lot of the reserve at the second light (past Seapoint).

Hours: Open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Interpretive Center: The Center offers live animal exhibits, aquaria, maps and information about Bolsa Chica and education programs on wetland science. It is the starting point for the Mesa Trail, which leads to the overlook and rest stop at Mesa Point. The south lot is the starting point for the 1.5-mile (2.4 km) Loop Trail, which crosses a wooden bridge, passes two overlooks, and returns to the parking lot via a sand-dune trail paralleling PCH.

Tours: Free public tours are offered each month by three organizations at Bolsa Chica:

- First Saturday at 9 a.m., offered by the Amigos de Bolsa Chica from the south parking lot
- Second Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon, offered by the Bolsa Chica Conservancy from the north lot.
- Third Sunday at 10 a.m., conducted by the Bolsa Chica Land Trust.



The wetlands up close.



Lots of people walk and jog, too.



Angel Jr. and Aden at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve.



Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



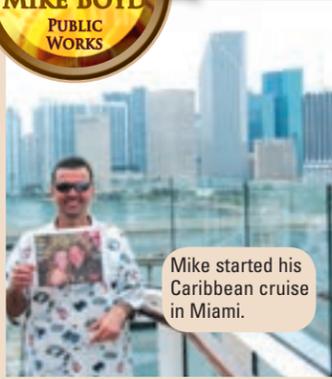
1



The Caribbean



"Our ship for the week."



Mike started his Caribbean cruise in Miami.



El Morro fort in San Juan, Puerto Rico.



Ziplining at Loterie Tree Farms in St. Martin.



Docking in St. Kitts.

Mike Boyd, Public Works/West Valley Sanitation, recently took a Caribbean cruise.

2

The Caribbean



"I had a great time in the Cayman Islands, and I had my *Alive!* with me."

- William Flowers, Airports

3

Mexico



Here are **Judy Ramirez (left)** and **Olivia Alvarado-Ford, Retired**, whale watching at Los Arcos in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, during their Princess cruise.

4

England



Here's *Alive!* editor **John Burnes** at Strawberry Fields along the "Beatles Trail" in Liverpool, England. John Lennon grew up just behind this tract, which at the time contained a Salvation Army orphanage. It is said some of his happiest memories were playing with the children in this facility.

5

France



Hannah Hawkins at the Millau Bridge overlook, Millau, France. After looking at it from afar, Hannah and her family drove across the bridge, the world's tallest! Hannah is the daughter of **Club CEO John Hawkins** and his wife, Kelley.

6

Mexico



Here's **David Feiler, Building and Safety**, cruising in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

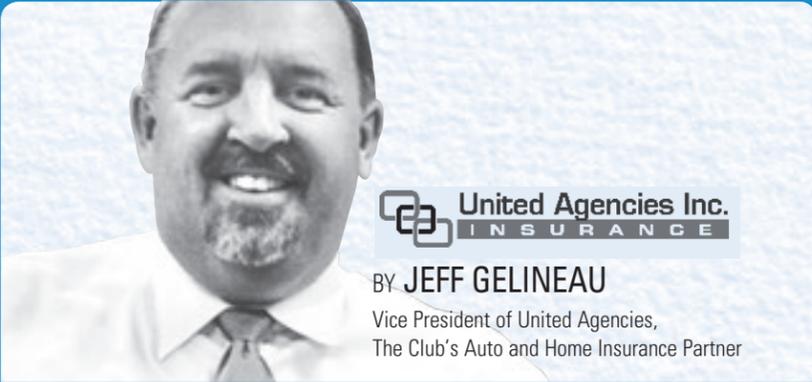
Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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



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

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INSURANCE

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

Extended Replacement Cost Coverage

You can tell you are getting old when you begin the majority of your sentences with, "It used to be that..." My birthday is this month, so I guess I'm feeling old to begin this column like that.

It used to be that a homeowners policy had a limit of coverage for your home... say, \$200,000. If there were a fire that totaled the home, then you would get a check for \$200,000.

Then insurance companies started to realize that the cost to rebuild a home fluctuates depending on the economy and the price of materials. It might cost only \$195,000 to rebuild that home this year, but next year it might cost \$215,000. So, instead of having an upset customer who is uncovered for \$15,000, they started adding extended replacement cost coverage (ERC) to homeowners policies. For no additional charge, the insurance company would "extend" your coverage to 110 percent of its value, so if you bought \$200,000 of insurance, you would be covered up to \$220,000.

The companies started competing with each other, and the ERC grew to 125 percent, and 150 percent, and even 200 percent. Anything that can be done, can be overdone!

Eventually, insurance companies started to issue policies with *guaranteed replacement cost coverage*, which would insure that your house was rebuilt regardless of the policy limits. With coverage like this available, people started taking advantage of the insurance companies. Instead of insuring the home for \$300,000, people would insure it for \$90,000 because the replacement cost

was "guaranteed." The house might cost \$350,000 to rebuild, but the customer only had to pay for \$90,000 of insurance.

After the Oakland Hills Fire in 1991, several lawsuits arose over this practice. Customers felt cheated because they were promised "guaranteed replacement cost," and insurance companies felt cheated because they didn't collect sufficient premium for the risk.

Because of the Oakland Hills Fire, we now have clear laws that state that the insurance company has to notify you in writing what kind of coverage your policy has, and what the extended replacement cost percentage is.

One insurance company in California still writes guaranteed replacement cost, but the majority doesn't. Most all companies have extended replacement cost coverage, and the industry average is 150 percent. Beware, because some companies offer only 125 percent. On the other hand, some better companies still offer 200 percent!

As part of the agreement to receive extended replacement cost coverage, you have to insure your home for the value that the insurance company proposes, and you have to agree to increase it each year for inflation.

Remember that even if you have an extended replacement cost policy, the insurance company will not pay for you to build a better house than the one that was damaged.

Even though an extended replacement cost policy may be a bit more expensive, it offers the best financial protection against disasters for your home.

Be safe and have fun!

About United Agencies

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

Check out our City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website at www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub. This website lists the upcoming

visits we'll be making to City Department meetings where you can ask us any question in person, and get an instant quote!

Have a question?

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

MAGIC MOUNTAIN

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— SEE BACK PAGE



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PUBLIC WORKS

JOIN THE Pioneer Toastmasters



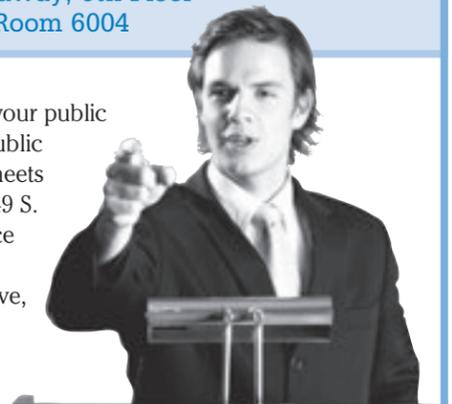
The Public Works
Pioneers Toastmasters Club

Wednesdays
12:05 p.m.

1149 S. Broadway, 6th Floor
Conference Room 6004

CLUB MEMBERS: Gain confidence in your public speaking and leadership skills. The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club meets each Wednesday at 12:05 p.m. at 1149 S. Broadway in the sixth floor conference room 6004. Guests are welcome. Joining the Toastmasters is inexpensive, educational and fun. If you have any questions concerning Toastmasters, contact Ivan Gerson at (213) 485-1169 or Dominic Buenaventura at (213) 847-0593.

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit, worldwide organization that helps its members develop their public speaking and leadership skills. The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club belongs to Area 43 of Division D in the Downtown Los Angeles area.



TOASTMASTERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Ivan Gerson: (213) 485-1169
Dominic Buenaventura: (213) 847-0593

CITY EMPLOYEES AT WORK



As spotted by Noelle Kauffman, Club Counselor:
Hard at work is **Anthony Watson**, Truck Operator, Public Works/West Valley Sanitation Yard, 24 years of City service, Club Member.

Do you have a photo of City Employees on the job?
Send it in and we might print it! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



From left: Daughters Jessica Dunn and Jenifer Ford; Capt. Ralph Tracy; Arley Tracy, father; Dennis North, stepfather; Denise North, mother; Tina Preece, aunt; and Doug Preece, uncle.



From left: Ted Hunt, LAPD, Retired 32 years of City service; George Cummings, Director, Port Police, 9 years; Julie Huerta, Club Member; Sgt. Ken Huerta, Club Member, Port Police, 32 years; Brian and Greg Zielinski; and Debbie Tracy, wife.



Capt. Ralph Tracy, Retired, Club Member, and his daughter, Jenifer (Tracy) Ford.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Retired, Club Member, and Chief Noel Cunningham, Retired.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Retired, Club Member, and Capt. Mike Godward, Retired.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and Officer Nathaniel Blair, Club Member.



From left: Lt. Kevin McCloskey, Club Member; Capt. Ralph Tracy, Retired, Club Member; and Lt. Ken Hawkes, Club Member.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and John Holmes, Director, Club Member.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and George Cummings, Director.



From left: Port Police Chief Ronald Boyd, Club Member; Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member; and Capt. Tracy's father, Arley Tracy.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and Lt. Rosa Reynoso, Club Member.



Capt. Mike Graychik, 26 years, Port Police, 24 years of City service; Lt. Rosa Reynoso, Club Member; Kathleen Shannon, Clerk Typist; and Officer Luis Bautista, Club Member, 5 years.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and Capt. Leon Nixon, Club Member.

HARBOR Goodbye, Capt. Tracy

Port Police Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, retires after nearly 30 years of City service.



Story by Kathleen Shannon; Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Director

A retirement party was held Jan. 25 for Capt. Ralph Tracy of the Port Police and Club Member. The party was held at Maggie's Pub.

Capt. Tracy began his City career in 1983 with the Housing Authority Police. In 1985, he transferred to the Port Police, where he stayed until 1995, when for two years he worked as a Deputy City Prosecuting Attorney. He returned to the Port Police in 1997, where he stayed until his retirement. He became captain in 2002.

Congratulations from the Club on your retirement, Capt. Tracy! All the best.



Capt. Ralph Tracy, Retired, Club Member.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and Capt. Mike Graychik.



From left: Asst. Chief Mike Hillman, Retired, LAPD, 42 years of City service; Corina Lee, LAPD 20 years; Paul Webber, LAPD, 29 years; Capt. Leon Nixon, Club Member, Port Police, 25 years; and Lt. Kevin McCloskey, Club Member, Port Police, 12 years.



From left: Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, Retired, Port Police; Officer Nathaniel Blair, Club Member, LAPPA President; Porfirio Blas, Club Member, Retired; Officer Rudy Meza; Sgt. Dan Cobos, Club Member, Port Police, 11 years of City service; Lt. Mike Capadanno, Club Member, Port Police, 16 years; and Officer Brandon Smith, Club Member, 11 years.



From left: Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree, and Sgt. Ken Huerta, Club Member.



From left: Mike Stone; Capt. Ralph Tracy, Club Member, Retiree; and Muna Busailah.

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Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

Book Reviews

Live Wire

Harlan Coben
Thriller mystery, 448 pages
Penguin

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Myron Bolitar, former sports agent/private eye, helps his client, pregnant tennis star Suzze Tervantino, locate her famous rock star husband, Lex Ryder, who's missing after a posting on Facebook concerning the paternity of their unborn child. Myron also deals with family issues of his dying father and finds the wife of his estranged brother while trying to locate Lex.

This suspense thriller takes a painful look at the struggles of a family with surprising twists and turns that the reader is sure to enjoy.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel

Taken

Robert Crais
Thriller mystery, 432 pages
Penguin

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Nita, Krista Morales' mom, hires detectives Elvis Cole and Joe Pike to locate Krista and her boyfriend, Jack Berman, after they witness a human trafficker unloading a cargo of illegal aliens in the desert. Pike and Cole discover the human trafficking ring has ties to the Double Dragon Korean gang and to Ghazi al-Diri, a Syrian mastermind, when Cole is kidnapped. Pike hires his friend, mercenary Jon Stone, to help locate Cole, Krista, Jack and the other illegals.

This fast-paced novel was one I couldn't put down until I finished it.

– Linda Rorex, Personnel

The Perfect Marriage

Kimberla Rawson Roby
Fiction, 174 pages
Grand Central

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Derrek and Denise aren't drug addicts. All their symbols of success point to a very

different lifestyle – six-figure incomes, luxury cars, a dream home, the perfect daughter and influential connections. Derrek's parents and brother are hooked on street drugs, but he and Denise are above such a common type of use. And addiction isn't hereditary, right? They say they can quit anytime, but they regularly dip into pots of money they said they'd never use. And their daughter, McKenzie, is watching. She reveals what she knows and asks them to stop. They promise to, but don't. So McKenzie makes a bold and drastic move to get their attention, and the whole house of cards they've been carefully balancing comes tumbling down. It's a short, fast but entertaining read.

– Carmen Y. Steward, Fire and Police Pensions

The Twelve Tribes of Hattie

Ayana Mathis
Fiction, 243 pages
Knopf (Oprah's book selection)

Rating: 4 (out of 5)

Hattie birthed 12 children. The first two, twin boy and girl, changed her in a drastic way, and the other 10 children paid a dear price. Hattie suffers through one calamity after another, and her story is often told in flashback from her young and grown children's points of view. Her loveless marriage endures the harsh racial and winter climates of Philadelphia circa 1925, and they each find comfort wherever they can. While some things are better in the North than the South, Hattie fiercely protects her family from injustices they didn't even know they were facing. As the children grow up, go away, come back, or look back, glimpses of Hattie's complicated psyche soften the reader toward the woman who just wants to do right by her family.

– Carmen Y. Steward, Fire and Police Pensions

At the Movies

• In the cinema

Zero Dark Thirty

Rated R
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

If for no other reason, you have to watch *Zero Dark Thirty* for the amazingly powerful performance by Jessica Chastain. She is such a force in the movie that she completely steals every scene she is in. Her captivating portrayal of CIA Agent Maya is absolutely stunning and will leave you enchanted at her performance. The story of the film is also rather superb, but this film is best when Chastain is on screen. I have rarely seen a film where one member of the cast completely took over the film and it was much better for it.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Les Misérables

Rated PG-13
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Crime and punishment, love and redemption: *Les Misérables* is fearless in tackling life's

big themes through song. With musical actor Hugh Jackman as Valjean, we are in safe hands on a journey across the generations and the barricades of revolutionary France. His adversary, Russell Crowe as Javert, is always at hand with Crowe bringing real humanity to his villainous role. Anne Hathaway's Fantine is stunning, while a riotous rendition of "Master of the House" brings some laughs. All the vocals were sung live instead of being lip-synched, which adds plenty of emotion. While *Les Misérables* is not without flaws, it is a hugely successful adaptation.

– Dearbhla McNulty, Club wife

Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters

Rated R
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters looks absolutely ridiculous when you watch the trailers but also looks really fun. The trailers for the movie don't lie; the story is a bit out there and

Video Gaming

• Videogames online, rental or purchase

Ni no Kuni: Wrath of the White Witch

Rated E 10 +
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

There is something simplistically beautiful and amazing in the latest Japanese RPG to hit American shores – *Ni no Kuni: Wrath of the White Witch*. With designs for the game produced by acclaimed animation studio Ghibli, the game is a marvel to behold and watch. And gameplay for *No no Kuni* is just as wonderful. Complicated but intuitive controls make playing the game accessible to all skill level RPG players and feel as natural as any other game out there. I cannot emphasize enough that this is a fun game for gamers of all ages and worth the price of purchase.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Corpse Party: Book of Shadows

Rated M for Mature
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Made for a very (and I do mean very) niche audience, *Corpse Party: Book of Shadows* is a horror visual novel available on the PlayStation Network for the PSP and PS Vita. While the game offers limited replay value, for \$20 you get this amazing horrific and gory horror story that is meant for mature gamers. I can't recommend this game for anyone under 15, or for the faint of heart, but if you can stomach a horror story involving high school teenagers, you might want to give this game a try. Just be warned: Patience is heavily required!

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Megan Recommends

Theatre recommended by Megan Evanich,
Customer Service Associate at the Club Store



Little House on the Prairie-oke!

Musical
Cavern Club Theater,
Silver Lake
Weekends in April

For those who enjoyed *Are You There, God, It's Me, Karen Carpenter*, I bring you another mash-up by writer/director Dane Whitlock – *Little House on the Prairie-oke!* This new show combines the NBC family drama from the TV series *Little House* on the Prairie from the 1970s and '80s with old and new karaoke standards. Songs include "Sweet Caroline," "Teenage Dream," "Call Me Maybe" and the karaoke favorite, "Hit Me With Your Best Shot." There is even a solo of "Through the Eyes of Love" sung



by *Little House's* blind sister, Mary. This will be a hilarious romp through a much-beloved story with some fun song and dance moments.

The cast includes a lot of returners from *Karen Carpenter*. Drew Droege will return again playing Mom. Also coming back are Amy Procacci, Libby Baker, Jennifer Blake and Matthew Hermann. There will also be some new faces! *Little House* will be at Casita de Campo, running weekends only in April.

The Casita is an excellent home for the show, so you can grab dinner and then head to the basement for the show. Drinks from the bar are allowed and encouraged. And they make an excellent margarita!

For ticket info, visit CavernClubTheater.com

farfetched even for me. But damn it if I didn't leave the theater entertained after watching it. This movie isn't going to win any awards, and I bet when I read the reviews for it the critics will pan it. But for what I expected to see in it I was rather surprised and enthused and wouldn't mind seeing it again.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Mama

Rated PG-13
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

I am a huge fan of director Guillermo del Toro and his style of moviemaking. But *Mama* is only produced by del Toro. Still, it seems like director Andres Muschietti took notes on what works in del Toro films and incorporated them beautifully into this haunting and entertaining horror flick. It is not as scary as *Sinister* or *Insidious* but it is a thrill ride in that you will laugh, cry and be frightened at various points in the film. Also, having Jessica Chastain as

one of the principal actresses in the movie really helped it out a lot.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Movie 43

Rated R
My Score: 2 (out of 5)

I was expecting so much more from *Movie 43*. After all the hype and talk about the all-star ensemble cast in this comedy film, I really thought that something a bit more special would be presented. But out of the 12 individual and independent segments the films shows audiences, I can only remember really laughing maybe a handful of times. The movie tries to be funny at every turn but often falls short of delivering genuine laughs and sometimes devolves into silly ramblings and sight gags that barely are better than a nervous stand-up comedian's earliest routines. Pitiful.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Your Reviews!

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

100 Words or Fewer

■ For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.

■ All reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!* (not offered to another outlet). Violations could end your ability to be published in *Alive!*

■ Have fun!

■ Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.

■ Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.

■ Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.

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

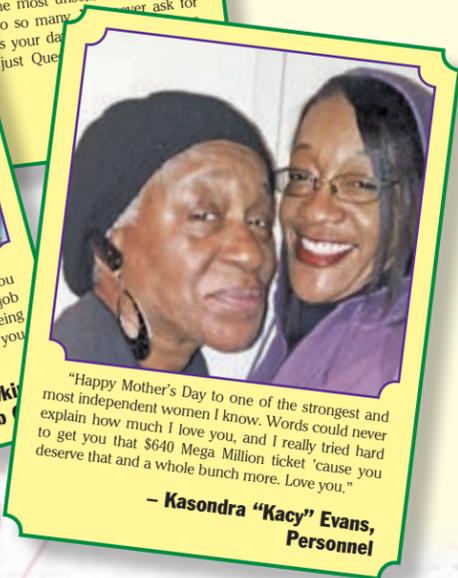
■ Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).

■ Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

■ *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.



Pay Tribute to Your Mom!



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

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

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

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

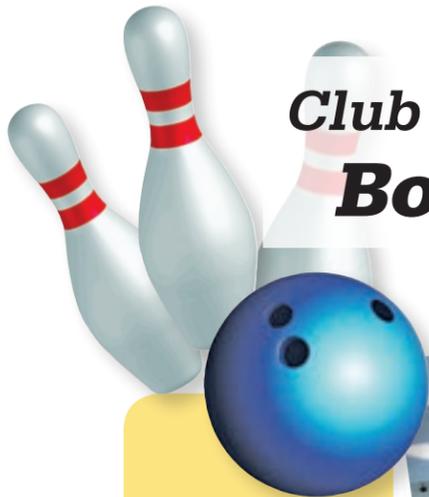
CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues sponsored by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles • Mar. 2013



Club Sports Dude Says:

Bowling Is Right Down Your Alley!



**Join
a Club
Bowling
League
Today!**



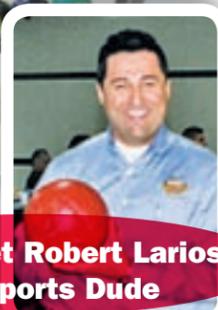
The Club's Sports Dude is rounding up all those dedicated Club bowlers out there. Join a Club bowling league. There's little time to spare!

Contact the Sports Dude at (800) 464-0452, or sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com

Sign Up Mondays!

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

- Club Soccer League
- Club Basketball League
- Club Softball League
- Running Club



Come meet Robert Larios, The Sports Dude



The Sports Dude is also on Facebook by searching him with the words Club Sports Dude - Robert Larios.

Visit the Club Website for all sports scores, updates, and photos: www.cityemployeesclub.com

Send Us Your Recipes!

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

Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



IRISH POTATO AND LEEK SOUP

The Irish have mastered the idea of combining potatoes and leeks to make a soup. And if you add butter, bacon, and heavy cream, what could taste better? It is sheer genius!

There are several possible variations by adding onions, thyme, bacon or other kinds of potatoes. So I say, it is really up to you how you want your soup to taste, and discovering what you will taste best to you will take a few tries in the kitchen.

Here's a tasty and simple version to get you started. If you use bacon, make sure it is crispy, and feel free to use the bacon fat rendered in the soup as well to add flavor.

I have a version of the Dublin Coddle – a traditional Dublin winter stew available, too. If you want it, please email me and I will send it to you: rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Irish Potato and Leek Soup

Serves 2

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 leek
- 3 Gold Yukon potatoes or any other good boiling potato
- Sea salt and pepper, to taste
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon julienned chives
- 2 cups chicken stock or vegetable stock
- 2 tablespoons flour as a thickening agent
- Unsalted butter

Cooking TIDBIT You can use cornstarch as well than flour as a thickening agent.

[A Cook's Dictionary]



Leek:

Native to the Mediterranean countries, the leek has been prized by gourmets for thousands of years. Avoid any with withered or yellow-spotted leaves. The smaller the leek, the more tender it will be. Refrigerate leeks in a plastic bag up to five days. Slit the leeks from top to bottom and wash thoroughly to remove all the dirt trapped between the leaf layers. Leeks can be cooked whole as a vegetable or chopped and used in salads, soups and a multitude of other dishes.

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

Food Fact

The first fish and chips dish was served in Dublin in the 1880s by Italian immigrants, and even today Italians continue to operate many of the city's "chip shops."

DIRECTIONS:



1 In a large pot, add chicken stock to fill to the halfway point. Raise stove to high heat to begin boiling. Cube the potatoes and add them as well as salt and pepper. Let potatoes cook until fork-tender. Turn off heat.



2 In a sauce pan, on medium heat, place a tablespoon of butter. Let the butter melt, and add the diced leek with more (a sprinkle) sea salt and pepper. Let cook until leeks are brown, and add two tablespoons of flour. Stir. Turn off heat



3 Add the heavy cream, stir and then add to the large pot with potatoes. Stir and add more salt and pepper if desired.



4 Serve and enjoy!



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins,
Club CEO



“A View to a Kill’ was taken with my Canon from atop Sugar Loaf Mountain overlooking Rio de Janeiro. In the background is the view of *Christ the Redeemer* on top of the Corcovado Mountain. This unbelievable view was taken during our after-Christmas 2012 trip to Brazil.”



– **Joe Apohen, Public Works/Contract Administration**

John's comment: Joe, what a perfect juxtaposition of the helicopter and the city – and the colors are dripping with richness. Thank you!



“The picture was taken from my sun-deck. It’s the west end of Catalina Island with a storm coming down the channel. I titled it *In Back of Every Storm Is a Beautiful Sunset*.”

– **John Nance, Retired, DWP**

John's comment: I’m always a sucker for sunsets, and this is no exception. I like that thin band of sunset running into the mountain. Awesome shot, John!

“Taken in Carmel, Calif.”

– **Firefighter John Hicks, LAFD**

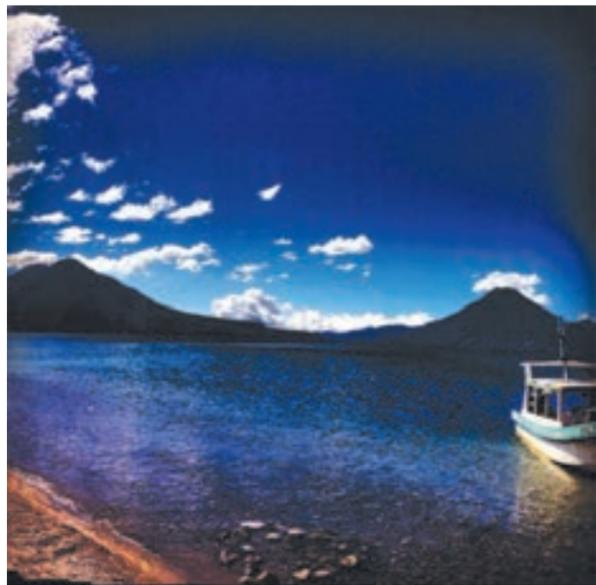
John's comment: John, this is a very dreamy photo showing the inevitable haze yet beautifully carved landscape of our coast. Great shot!



“This photo was taken in April in the Alabama Hills outside Lone Pine [Calif.]. In the background is Mt. Whitney. The road in the foreground is the road that Humphrey Bogart died on in *High Sierra* with Ida Lupino.”

– **Tom Meyer, Retired, Cultural Affairs**

John's comment: Tom, thank you for submitting this wonderful shot of a California treasure. The contrasting rocks against the road-work perfectly with the background and messy sky. Good eye, Tom!



“This picture was taken during a recent family vacation to Guatemala. We visited the beautiful town of Panajachel, where this lake, Lago de Atitlan, is. Many people visit this lake to enjoy the views and to take boat rides to neighboring towns across the lake. This is our view right before entering our boat.”

– **Guillermo Navas, Rec and Parks**

John's comment: The contrasting blues of the sky and the water are

simply beautiful... what a soothing picture. Thanks, Guillermo!



“A proud moment for Jonah at Lake Casitas! He caught it on his own. The look on his face shows how excited he was!”

– **Cheryl Garcia, LAPD**

John's comment: A proud moment indeed! I remember my first catch, a red snapper off Catalina, but there was no camera to catch it. Jonah will cherish this picture forever! Nice work, Cheryl!

“A double-crested cormorant. I photographed these two characters at Lake Balboa just after the rain passed through.”

– **Ken Kochakji, Retired, Transportation**

John's comment: Ken, it's perfectly framed and full of personality! You always capture perfect moments. Thank you, Ken!



RULES:

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

4 Cemetery Plots: Side by side, Westminster Memorial Park, Garden of Devotion. \$3000 ea; \$5500 for 2; \$10,000 for 4, + transfer fee. Allene @ (310) 376-2006. 3/13

Household Items: (All OBO) China Cabinet w/matching table & chairs \$300; BD Dresser w/mirror \$150; Stand-up lamp \$25; Sofa & chair \$125. Steve/Linda @ (818) 506-4024. 3/13

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

Tires & Wheels: 4 original 2011 Toyota Tundra wheels w/Michelin P255/70R18 tires. Used only 5,000 miles. \$350 OBO. Ernie @ (310) 908-0433. 3/13



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

Transport



Black 1996 Impala SS: W/grey leather interior, 5.7 liter LT1 V8 engine w/Sequential fuel injection, w/elect. controlled 4L60-E, 4-speed auto trans. Suspension is police package w/quick-ratio power steering. P255/50ZR-17 tires new & speed rated, along w/lightweight 17" x 8.5" 5-spoke cast alloy wheels. Only used Sundays last several years. New carpet just purchased & ready to be installed & new decals for rear quarter panels. Asking price \$12,000. Info: kaufmankdk@gmail.com 2/13

2006 Volvo: Flint gray, V50 SW. Sports package, fair cond & 138K highway miles. Valued btw \$6500-\$8800. Price negotiable. Denise @ (323) 697-8299. 2/13



1992 Mercury Grand Marqui LS: Good condition, low miles. "As Is". \$2,993. Alvin Williams @ (310) 764-4478. 2/13



Harley: Factory paint job; USB power commander & drag tuner; Freedom 2 into 1 exhaust; CNC ported heads w/forged pistons & adjustable push rods; S & S gear driven cams 258; 42mm injectors; green LED lights; 6 speed trans; chrome; progressive 440 shocks. All work done @ Harley dealership w/printouts. Many performance upgrades, 4,000 miles on engine build. Last dyno at 125hp 135ftq. 26,000 miles. \$16,500. Richard @ (805) 208-4406. 2/13

2008 Providence 40X Diesel RV: 360HP Cummings 8.3 L, 5-speed Allison transmission. 35,000 miles w/3 slide outs, 5-TVs, many upgrades. Reduced price \$130K. Mike White @ (661) 904-2234. 2/13



2005 BMW R1200GS Motorcycle: Gently used, mileage is 23,666 miles. Has GPS w/full option. \$11,000 OBO. Selling because I never have time to ride it, my loss is your gain. Info @ (213) 718-2373. 1/13



Kendon dual motorcycle Trailer: Purchased 2006. Fold/standup type. Stored inside. Storage box, LED lights & moving dolly. \$2,000. Don @ (213)434-0214, days. 12/12

2007 Harley-Davidson: Screamin Eagle (cvo) motorcycle, 750 miles. Showroom perfect. Some custom mods. 35k new. Sell for 30k. Don @ (213) 434-0214, days. 12/12

Bass Fishing Boat: Goldstream 18', 1973 has bait tank, 6 seats, trailer w/2 extra spare tires. Reduced price \$3,500. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12



Bayliner Boat: 24', 1999 cabin cruiser, loaded. Kitchen, dining, 2BD/1BA. Reduced price \$27,000. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12



2007 Harley-Davidson: Screamin Eagle (cvo) motorcycle, 750 miles. Showroom perfect. Some custom mods. 35k new. Sell for 30k. Don @ (213) 434-0214, days. 12/12

2005 Harley Davidson: Custom wheels, lots of chrome, air ride system. \$16K OBO. Info @ (213) 842-2648. 6/12

2007 1300 V-Star Touring Edition Motorcycle: 48k FWY miles, runs perfect! Black & Chrome, new tires, cover included, gets 45 mpg. \$5,500 OBO. Bill @ (661) 400-9893. 3/12

2008 Harley-Davidson: Screamin Eagle (cvo) motorcycle, 750 miles. Showroom perfect. Some custom mods. 35k new. Sell for 30k. Don @ (213) 434-0214, days. 12/12



1959 Dodge Truck: Restored 1/2 ton Dodge Step-side Pickup Truck. Oak bed. \$18,000. Jim @ (818) 825-0091. 9/12

Wheels: 22" Makavelli 3 piece rims w/tires. \$1500, very good condition. Info @ (310)628-3477. 8/12



Coachmen RV 2005: Purchased in 06 in excellent condition. 27 ft. Sleeps 8-10. 2 pop-outs, AC, 2 awnings, full bath w/extra outdoor shower. Asking \$18,000. Fernando Torres @ (562)900-9229, email: D7thson@yahoo.com 8/12

2004 Harley Davidson: X L 1 2 0 0 R Sportster w/screaming eagle kit, under 3500 miles. \$5,000. Jerry Napier @ (310) 392-2841 or jerry.napier@me.com 8/12



Campagnolo Chorus 9 Speed Group Bike Parts: Classic Italian style, 1996 Campy Chorus Road Group. Includes brakes, cranks, bottom bracket, chainrings & ergo shifters. \$500. Contact michelle.mowery@lacity.org 6/12

Vintage Schwinn Unicycle: Classic 1960's, in good condition. \$75. Contact michelle.mowery@lacity.org 6/12



Tires: Original 2011 Chevy Camaro LT Stock Tires/Alloy Rims, BF Goodrich Radial T/A P245/55 R18. Used only 900 miles. \$700 cash/OBO. Troy @ (213) 216-3765. 6/12

2005 Harley Davidson: Custom wheels, lots of chrome, air ride system. \$16K OBO. Info @ (213) 842-2648. 6/12



2007 1300 V-Star Touring Edition Motorcycle: 48k FWY miles, runs perfect! Black & Chrome, new tires, cover included, gets 45 mpg. \$5,500 OBO. Bill @ (661) 400-9893. 3/12

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2005 Harley Davidson: Custom wheels, lots of chrome, air ride system. \$16K OBO. Info @ (213) 842-2648. 6/12

Cemetery Plots

2 Cemetery Plots: Garden of Benevolence @ Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA. 1 for \$2500 & both for \$4800. Peggy @ (951)486-3767. 11/13

2 Cemetery Plots: Valhalla Cemetery in North Hollywood, Lot 19 & 20, Section 470, Block H. \$7,000 for both. Thomas @ (602) 770-9389. 11/12

2 Cemetery Plots: Garden of Benevolence @ Rose Hills Memorial Park-Whittier, CA. 1 for \$2,500 - both for \$4,800. Peggy @ (951) 486-3767. 11/12

4 Cemetery Plots: For sale by owner. Adjacent. Panoramic views in Hillside Section of Forest Lawn Hollywood Cemetery. 1- Plot: \$3,500. 4-Plots: \$12,800. Jason @ (949) 466-8542. 10/12

4 Cemetery Plots: Burial plots (1-4 side by side) at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Covina, CA. In Cherished Memory Section 1617 (near the road). \$3,300 each OBO. Betty @ (626) 286-8649. 8/12

Cemetery Plot: Inglewood Cemetery, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, Sanctuary of Grace, 243 double capacity crypt Tier-3, \$10,000 OBO. Dennis @ (661) 433-1912. 6/12

Furniture

Pedal Fire Truck: Collectible kids org. Real light & bell, rear wooden working ladder & rudder wheels, never used original condition. Replica would be \$400. My price is \$325. Info @ (805) 477-2866. 2/13

Trundle Bed: White metal frame w/floral knobs, w/2 sets of sheets, 1 new in package, + 1 comforter & 3 pillow shams, both mattresses are upgraded. \$425. Info @ (805) 477-2866. 2/13

Roll top desk: Oak, w/chair, space saver has 4 drawers in front & 3 on back left side, all porcelain knobs. \$300. Info @ (805) 477-2866. 2/13

Roll top desk: Oak, w/chair & 7 drawers. 2 large filing drawers & inside top has 4 small w/locking cabinet & cubby holes. Interior under cabinet lights. \$450. Info @ (805) 477-2866. 2/13

Custom Made Sofa: 7 feet, queen mattress, excellent condition, \$375 OBO. Nicole @ (310) 308-1523 or (323) 766-1876. 1/13



Country Style Round Table: (48" diameter x 29" H) w/ 4 chairs "As Is". Good condition & durable. \$135 OBO. Great table & chairs for the holidays! Info @ (310) 833-6801. 12/12



Desk: Mahogany wood, cute, 4 drawers on each side, case slot top, + small drawers inside when lid opens. Reduced price \$250. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12



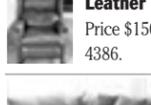
Dresser w/ mirror & 1 night stand. Brand new still in the box, only wanted bed assembly. Email for more pictures. Purchased entire bedroom set for \$1500. Asking \$400 for these 3 items. John @ (626) 757-5341 or jgonzlez@hotmail.com 8/12



Leather recliner, Thomasville. Price \$150 OBO. Rob @ (626) 827-4386. 7/12



Sofa: Corner Group w/ Ottoman Price: \$450 OBO. Like new, 3 years old, Microfiber. Comes w/ pillows & ottoman. Rob @ (626) 827-4386. 5/12



Vintage 1950's Bamboo Furniture: 5-piece retro-deco set. Perfect for Tiki Room, Man Cave or Palm Springs home. Slip covered w/50's type Hawaiian fabric. Awesome condition, no tears/fading. Sacrifice at \$1,800 must downsize. More pictures available upon request. Nels @ (818) 781-1747. 5/12



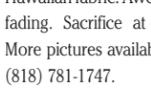
White Fox Fur Stole & Hat: Excellent condition, \$600 OBO. Nicole @ (310) 308-1523 or (323) 766-1876. 1/13



Black Mink Coat: Full length, excellent condition, \$1200 OBO. Size M/L. Nicole @ (310) 308-1523 or (323) 766-1876. 1/13



Airless Paint Sprayer: 2750 piston pump, 25' hose, metal spray gun, simplified set-up & clean-up, 2 gal. capacity, only \$75. Rosemary @ (951)218-4414. 11/12



Snap-on Tool Box: Classic 78, great condition, pinstripe on side of box. 51" Wide x 21" Deep x 44" High. \$2,200 OBO. Ben @ (818)497-3394. 9/12

Homes/Rentals/Land



Room for Rent: Private room & BA & own entrance. Sunny w/French doors looks at pool & garden. Includes kitchen use/laundry/pool/wireless DSL/basic utilities. Extras available: storage/jacuzzi/cable TV. Need happy/reliable/clean/friendly roommate. Great house, quiet neighborhood. Close to shopping/train station/bus stop/CSUN. Must like dogs & 1 kid, \$650 mo. + deposit required. Jeana @ (818) 378-7822. 2/13



Room for Rent: Fontana/Rancho Cucamonga border near 15 fwy & Victoria Gardens. \$550 mo. w/utilities/washer/dryer, carpet, private hallway bathroom. Non-smoker share w/ female. Pool & exercise room on premise. Email Sonia for info: easterwaters@aol.com 2/13

Duplex for Rent: 1BD/1BA, kitchen & living room. Near Vernon & Main Street area. Nice neighbors, non smokers & taking only Section 8 tenants. Jimmy @ (323)737-4879 or (323)231-9433. 11/12

For Rent: Studio unit, newly remodeled. Bamboo kitchen cabinets, granite counters, hardwood laminate flooring, no pets, near South Pasadena. \$600/mo. 1-year lease, application process. Info @ (323)919-1163. 11/12

House for Rent: 2BD in North Long Beach, dining room w/laundry hook ups. Large living room + yard & garage. Nice area. \$1500/mo. Lorraine @ (562)537-5972. 10/12

Room for Rent: North Whittier area, next to 605/60 fwy, in CA Country Club residence, up-scale neighborhood. Xtra lg furnished BD w/Queen bed, lots closet space. Share house w/Firefighter dad & 19yr college son. Male w/o additional live-in obligations. Share BA, utilities included & laundry use. \$600 per mo. John @ (626)757-5341 or jgonzlez@hotmail.com 9/12

Household Items

First Edition Book: *Gone with the Wind*, hard cover book, written in 1936. Good condition. Asking \$1000 OBO. Lauretta Hall @ (323)751-3203. 12/12



Cuckoo Clock: Beautiful & musical 26", 8-day, hunter style, carved wood. Reduced price \$850. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12



TV: 50 inch lg plasma tv, needs a circuit board. Reduced price \$195. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 11/12

Refrigerator: L.G. 26.5 cu.ft capacity side by side, ice & water dispensing; system-LED lighting & digital temp. Controls, like new, great bay, only \$500. Rosemary @ (951)218-4414. 11/12

Miscellaneous

Ovation Acoustic/Electric Guitar: Looks great w/no "bumps or bruises". Includes case, shoulder strap, digital clip-on tuner, picks & beginners book w/CD. Fresh "Elixer" Teflon strings installed, sounds great, very bright acoustic sound but electric pickup system needs to be fixed. \$200 OBO. Michael @ (818) 720-5198. 2/13

Examiner Newspaper: Last 1 ever printed \$500 OBO. Lauretta @ (323) 751-3203. 2/13

Monopoly Board Game: Disney edition, Disneyland purchase, unused, in original package. \$25. Info @ (805) 477-2866. 2/13

Fiberglass Step Ladders: 6ft & 4ft. Make offer. Info @ (818) 764-2091. 2/13

Jig Saw: Ryobi Orbital w/laser, used 2 days. Make offer. Info @ (818) 764-2091. 2/13

Puppies: 2 months old (2 males & 1 female) \$150 each. Info @ (323) 804-1021 or (323) 804-1015. 1/13

White Fox Fur Stole & Hat: Excellent condition, \$600 OBO. Nicole @ (310) 308-1523 or (323) 766-1876. 1/13

Black Mink Coat: Full length, excellent condition, \$1200 OBO. Size M/L. Nicole @ (310) 308-1523 or (323) 766-1876. 1/13

Airless Paint Sprayer: 2750 piston pump, 25' hose, metal spray gun, simplified set-up & clean-up, 2 gal. capacity, only \$75. Rosemary @ (951)218-4414. 11/12

Snap-on Tool Box: Classic 78, great condition, pinstripe on side of box. 51" Wide x 21" Deep x 44" High. \$2,200 OBO. Ben @ (818)497-3394. 9/12

Many Items: Lexmark X2470 Color Printer \$90, Gossen Luna Pro SBC Light Meter \$100, Kodak Brownie 8 Projector \$25, Radio Shack Computer Chess Game \$25, Kato Unitrack HO Track Set w/Powerpack \$40, Polaroid Model 95 Camera \$25, Pontiac Rally Wheel Inserts (Red PMD) \$60. Info @ (213) 792-3130. 8/12

Air Compressor: Twin pack 5 gal 3HP115 volts, Craftsman brad nailer, air drive, new, used in my home 2 days, make offer. George @ (818) 764-2091. 8/12



Boxing Gloves: Plus head gear, like new. Size LG/XLG, \$85. Info @ (818) 825 - 1264. 7/12

Classified Submission Deadline:

3/13/2013

for publication in the April issue of *Alive!*

CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE

CLUB MEMBERS: to place your free classified ad

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

You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com

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

Travel / Timeshare

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

Timeshare: Monterey Bay, Northern CA, for only \$900! From 9/16 - 9/23/13, 8 days/7 nites. 2BD + murphy bd in LR. Max occupancy 6. Full Kitchen: refrigerator, sink, range, dishwasher & clothes W&D. Book by 3/15/2013 & receive \$100 discount. Terry @ (818) 769-3382 & pls lv msg. 2/13

Vacation Rental: Nuevo Vallarta/Grand Luxxe. Golf, 2 units, 3K sq ft, each unit sleeps 4. Rent 1 or both units: May 20-27, 2013. \$1.2k or \$1.4k/unit; \$2.5k both units. Info @ (626)278-2886. 1/13

Timeshare: Mayan Sea Gardens/Acapulco 2 units, 1BD, full kit & lvng rm, each sleeps 4 privately. Sep 28-Oct 5 or Oct 5-12, 2012. Rent 1 unit or both, 1 wk or both. 7 nights - \$600/per unit, \$1000/both. Info @ (972) 291-2871. 8/12



Vacation Rental: Lake Tahoe Cabin in beautiful forest setting. 4BD/3 BA, large deck, BBQ, satellite TV. Close to beach, bike path, stables, boat launch, hiking, casinos. Jess @ (626) 797-5992. 3/12

Timeshare: Cancun Mexico. Fiesta Americana, 2BD, silver package. Earns 3500 pts annually. Feet from the sand, 5 minutes walk to town. Serious buyers info @ (562) 447-3189. 11/12

Wanted

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

Wanted: Looking for a 2BD+, w/d hookup preferred, garage in San Pedro or within 5 miles. Maximum Rent \$1100. Contact: a.townsend78@gmail.com 9/12

Wanted: Do you have a Desert Tortoise looking for a new "approved" home? Marcell Baines @ (310) 323-5313. 7/12

LEGOLAND Water Park
SEA LIFE Aquarium
LEGOLAND Hotel

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on a LEGOLAND® Resort Hopper Ticket, valid for admission to LEGOLAND, SEA LIFE® Aquarium and LEGOLAND Water Park and get a 2nd day FREE to all three.

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discount tickets available at LA City Employees Club

march
movie
releases

STOKER – 3/1

21 AND OVER – 3/1

JACK THE GIANT SLAYER – 3/1

THE LAST EXORCISM PART II – 3/1

DEAD MAN DOWN – 3/8

OZ: THE GREAT AND POWERFUL – 3/8

THE CALL – 3/15

REINCARNATED – 3/15

THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE – 3/15

ADMISSION – 3/22

THE CROODS – 3/22

OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN – 3/22

THE HOST – 3/29

GI JOE: RETALIATION – 3/29

TYLER PERRY'S TEMPTATION – 3/29

THE Club Store

Prices effective 1/1/2013 through 1/31/2013.

To place an order visit us at:
WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM

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	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL	
Theatre Tickets					
AMC					
Restricted Tickets	\$13.50	\$6.00	X	=\$	
Good Any Time	\$13.50	\$7.50	X	=\$	
Small Popcorn	\$5.50	\$3.00	X	=\$	
Small Drink	\$4.50	\$3.00	X	=\$	
Movie Pack	\$35.00	\$24.00	X	=\$	
<i>Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drink concession and 1 small popcorn concession.</i>					
California Science Center IMAX					
Adult	\$ 8.25	\$5.75	X	=\$	
Child (4-12)	\$5.00	\$4.25	X	=\$	
Cinemark Theatres					
Good Any Time	\$10.75	\$7.75	X	=\$	
Galaxy Theatres – Good Any Time					
	\$11.00	\$7.50	X	=\$	
Harkins Movie Theatres					
Restricted	\$10.00	\$6.00	X	=\$	
Good Any Time	\$10.00	\$7.50	X	=\$	
Krikorian Theatres – Good Any Time					
	\$11.00	\$7.50	X	=\$	
Laemmle Theatres – Good Any Time					
	\$11.00	\$6.00	X	=\$	
Landmark Theaters					
Good Any Time <i>\$1.50 surcharge for use at West LA; \$2.50 for 3-D.</i>	\$12.50	\$8.00	X	=\$	
Pacific Theatres					
Restricted <i>\$2 surcharge for use at Grove, not valid at Arlight</i>	\$12.50	\$6.25	X	=\$	
Gift Book <i>2 unrestricted admissions, 2 medium drinks, 1 medium popcorn.</i>	\$40.00	\$32.50	X	=\$	
Rave Motion Pictures "Rave 18"					
Good Any Time	\$14.00	\$7.50	X	=\$	
Regal/Edwards Cinema/United Artists					
Restricted	\$12.50	\$6.50	X	=\$	
Good Any Time	\$12.50	\$7.50	X	=\$	
Regency Theatres – Good Any Time					
	\$11.50	\$7.00	X	=\$	
UltraStar Cinemas					
Good Any Time <i>Tickets can be upgraded for 3-D, IMAX, or ETX.</i>	\$10.00	\$6.00	X	=\$	
Attraction Tickets					
Adventure City					
Adult/Child	\$14.95	\$10.50	X	=\$	
Aquarium of the Pacific Expires 6/30/2013.					
Adult	\$24.95	\$16.95	X	=\$	
Child (3-11)	\$12.95	\$9.95	X	=\$	
Big Bear/Snow Summit Good for 2012/2013 Season. New					
Adult	\$59.00	\$42.00	X	=\$	
Young Adult (13-21)	\$49.00	\$34.00	X	=\$	
Child (7-12)	\$25.00	\$19.00	X	=\$	
<i>* Some restrictions apply, ages 6 and under free.</i>					
Boomer's Family Fun Centers					
All Day Pass	\$24.99	\$16.25	X	=\$	
Catalina Expires 12/31/2013. Not valid 5/25-27, 7/4-7, 8/31-9/2.					
Island Express – Round Trip	Adult \$72.50	\$60.50	X	=\$	
	Child \$57.00	\$51.00	X	=\$	
Davey's Locker					
Whale Watching	Adult \$30.00	\$21.00	X	=\$	
	Child \$25.00	\$17.00	X	=\$	
Sportfishing – 1/2 Day	Adult \$40.00	\$30.25	X	=\$	
	Child \$29.00	\$25.75	X	=\$	
Sportfishing – Full Day	Adult \$69.00	\$56.25	X	=\$	
	Child \$55.00	\$47.75	X	=\$	
Discovery Science Center Expires 11/29/2013. New					
Adult	\$14.95	\$12.00	X	=\$	
Child (3-11)	\$12.95	\$10.00	X	=\$	
Disneyland/California Adventure Expires 12/31/2013.					
1-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$87.00	\$83.52	X	=\$	
	Child (3-9) \$81.00	\$77.76	X	=\$	
1-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$125.00	\$114.38	X	=\$	
	Child (3-9) \$119.00	\$108.89	X	=\$	
2-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$170.00	\$158.10	X	=\$	
	Child (3-9) \$158.00	\$146.94	X	=\$	
2-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$200.00	\$180.00	X	=\$	
	Child (3-9) \$188.00	\$169.20	X	=\$	
SoCal Select Annual Passport	\$269.00	\$255.55	X	=\$	
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. Valid 170 days.</i>					
SoCal Annual Passport	\$329.00	\$312.55	X	=\$	
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. Valid 215 days.</i>					
Deluxe Annual Passport	\$469.00	\$445.55	X	=\$	
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. Valid 315 days.</i>					
Premium Annual Passport w/Parking	\$649.00	\$616.55	X	=\$	
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2013. No blackout dates.</i>					
Golf N' Stuff					
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband: Norwalk location	\$30.00	\$16.00	X	=\$	
All Park Pass: Ventura location	\$20.00	\$15.00	X	=\$	
K1 Speed Racing					
Admit one <i>Minimum height requirement 4'10". This pass entitles the owner to one 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day.</i>	\$25.95	\$15.25	X	=\$	
Knott's Berry Farm Expires 12/31/2013.					
1-Day	Adult \$57.99	\$33.00	X	=\$	
	Child (3-11); Senior (62+)	\$28.99	\$24.00	X	=\$
LA Zoo					
Adult	\$16.00	\$13.00	X	=\$	
Child (2-12)	\$11.00	\$8.25	X	=\$	
Legoland Expires 11/21/2013.					
Adult	\$75.00	\$58.00	X	=\$	
Child (3-11)	\$65.00	\$58.00	X	=\$	
<i>Comes with 2nd day free to use within 90 days of 1st use.</i>					
Sea Life Resort Hopper	Adult \$95.00	\$67.00	X	=\$	
	Child (3-11)	\$85.00	\$67.00	X	=\$
<i>Pass includes admission to Legoland, Sea Life Aquarium and the new waterpark. Ticket comes with a second day free to all 3 attractions.</i>					
Madame Tussauds Wax Attraction Expires 12/31/2013.					
Adult	\$25.00	\$13.00	X	=\$	
Child (4-12)	\$18.00	\$10.00	X	=\$	
Magic Mountain Exclusive Private Party May 3rd 6pm-12am					
General Admission	\$64.99	\$23.99	X	=\$	
With Buffet <i>Prices good from 3/1-31 only Price goes up 4/1</i>	\$79.99	\$36.99	X	=\$	
Magic Mountain Expires 9/30/2013.					
General Admission (3 and up)	\$64.99	\$34.99	X	=\$	
Medieval Times Expires 12/31/2013. Not valid 12/31/2013.					
Adult	\$57.95	\$43.50	X	=\$	
Child (0-12)	\$35.95	\$31.50	X	=\$	

Only available online through our website as E-tickets

Attraction Tickets, continued

	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL	
Mulligan's Family Fun Center					
All Day Pass	Adult/Child \$23.99	\$16.00	X	=\$	
<i>Restrictions: Pass gives 1 Adult or Child unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway and the Rock Wall. This ticket is valid Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, major holidays and everyday during the summer. Attractions vary per location. Certain height, weight, restrictions may apply. This ticket is accepted at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</i>					
Gift Certificate	\$15.00	\$10.00	X	=\$	
Pirates Dinner Adventure Expires 11/30/2013.					
Adult	\$56.95	\$36.00	X	=\$	
Child	\$37.95	\$27.50	X	=\$	
Queen Mary					
Adult	\$24.95	\$18.00	X	=\$	
Child (4-11)	\$21.95	\$12.00	X	=\$	
San Diego Safari Park					
Adult	\$44.00	\$35.75	X	=\$	
Child (3-11)	\$34.00	\$27.75	X	=\$	
2-Visit Pass	Adult \$79.00	\$63.25	X	=\$	
	Child (3-11) \$61.00	\$48.75	X	=\$	
<i>May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</i>					
San Diego Zoo					
Adult	\$44.00	\$35.75	X	=\$	
Child (3-11)	\$34.00	\$27.75	X	=\$	
2-Visit Pass	Adult \$79.00	\$63.25	X	=\$	
	Child (3-11) \$61.00	\$48.75	X	=\$	
<i>May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</i>					
Santa Monica Pier/Pacific Park Expires 1/6/2014.					
Unlimited Wristband	\$18.95	\$12.75	X	=\$	
Sea World San Diego					
1-Day	Adult \$78.00	\$58.00	X	=\$	
	Child (3-9) \$65.00	\$58.00	X	=\$	
FunCard <i>Good through 2013.</i>	Adult \$78.00	\$65.00	X	=\$	
<i>E-ticket only, call Club Store to order.</i>	Child (3-9) New \$70.00	\$65.00	X	=\$	
Snow Valley Good for 2012/2013 Season, no blackout.					
Adult	\$69.00	\$35.00	X	=\$	
Young Adult (13-19)	\$59.00	\$25.00	X	=\$	
Child (7-12) <i>*Ages 6 and under free.</i>	\$30.00	\$10.00	X	=\$	
Midweek Adult/Young Adult	\$57.00	\$19.00	X	=\$	
Speedzone Expires 1/25/2013.					
3 Hour Unlimited Pass <i>Unlimited use of rides and Mini-golf.</i>	\$49.99	\$25.00	X	=\$	
Universal Studios Expires 1/31/2014.					
Buy 1-Day; get 2-Days free!	Adult/Child (under 48")	\$77.00	\$69.00	X	=\$

Gift Certificates

See's Candies				
Gift Certificate (1 lb.)	\$16.90	\$12.90	X	=\$

New!

E-tickets Available

for Monterey Bay Aquarium & Discovery Science Center

Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com and click on **Club Discounts**

Shipping & Handling

Tax <i>(only applicable to all merchandise, not on tickets)</i>		X	8.75%	= \$
Tickets: First Class Mail w/ Delivery Confirmation	\$2.99	x	1	= \$
Tickets: Certified Mail (requires a Signature upon Delivery)	\$4.99	x	1	= \$
Tickets: Priority Mail (2-3 Days)	\$7.00	x	1	= \$
Hats, Watches, Clothing, etc. (all merchandise)	\$7.50	(any quantity)		= \$

SUBTOTAL \$

Merchandise	SIZE	COLOR	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
ITEM:	= \$				
ITEM:	= \$				
ITEM:	= \$				

TOTAL (please include shipping) \$

***Please be aware that black-out dates and restrictions may apply to the use of discounted tickets.*

To order by Credit Card visit us at
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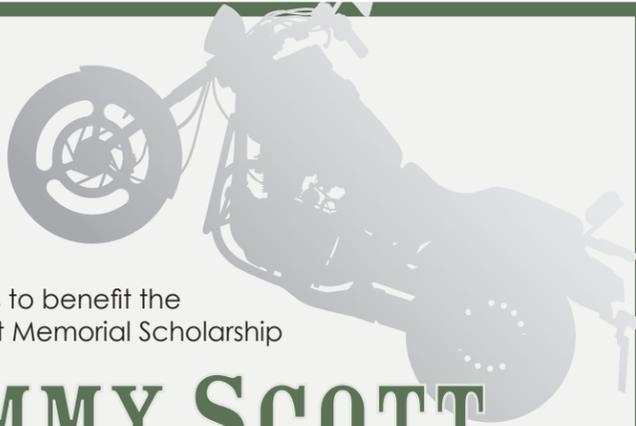
To order by Mail:
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120 West 2nd Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Check or Money Order (please paper clip to order form)
Make checks payable to City Employees Club of Los Angeles*

Member Information

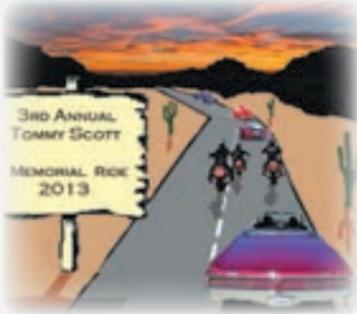
Member's name		
Home Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Home Phone		Work Phone
Club Member Number		

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



All proceeds to benefit the Tommy Scott Memorial Scholarship

TOMMY SCOTT MEMORIAL RIDE



**Saturday,
April 27, 2013
8:30 a.m.**

Start: 6320 W. 96th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(departing no later than 9:30 a.m.)

First stop: 6300 Forest Lawn Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90068

End: Coral Beach Restaurant
29350 Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90265

No motorcycle? No problem... join us in your car.
For information contact: japaricio@laapoa.com

NEWS BRIEF

RESEARCH CENTER AT PORT?

The Los Angeles Harbor Commission has certified the final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed redevelopment of City Dock No. 1 and approved the framework for bringing a world-class marine research center to the LA Waterfront at the Port of Los Angeles.

The action sets the stage for creation of a state-of-the-art waterfront research institute, where leading scientists, researchers and entrepreneurs can collaborate on solutions to today's marine, environmental and maritime industry challenges.

"This is an important step toward realizing the vision of a cutting-edge academic research facility that will be at the forefront of marine-oriented research and development," said Port Executive Director Geraldine Knatz, Ph. D., Club Member. "City Dock No. 1 has the potential to advance our interaction with the ocean ecosystem and help the Port, stakeholders and City of Los Angeles meet the next generation of environmental challenges and research opportunities."

The project calls for a 28-acre campus on the Port's oldest municipal pier to serve as a center for ocean-related research, education, business development and green technology. The anchor tenant would be the Southern California Marine Institute (SCMI) – a consortium of Occidental College, the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, the UCLA Department of Atmospheric and Ocean Sciences, the Ocean Studies Institute representing eight California State University campuses, and affiliated marine research and conservation organizations. SCMI currently occupies a much smaller site at Berth 260 on Terminal Island.

Development and identification of outside

funding for the project is the next step. Last May, the Los Angeles Harbor Commission adopted a resolution supporting the development of an independent California Nonprofit Corporation, with the capabilities to implement the proposed research center in collaboration with potential project users and tenants, in order to enter into a lease with the Port to develop, operate and maintain the facility.

The first phase, estimated at \$63 million, calls for converting the warehouse at Berth 57 into a cutting-edge educational and research facility, where SCMI would relocate. Additional elements include a public interpretive center, auditorium and lecture hall at Berth 56.

The second phase, estimated at \$353 million, calls for renovating Berths 58-60 into additional space for marine research and a marine science business park/incubator to promote marine-based green technology and marine-

related businesses. Additional elements include redevelopment of Berths 70-71 to create a local base for state and federal agencies; and a large natural seawater wave tank for scientific and commercial research.

The project would breathe new life into a historic section of

the Port, bringing more knowledge-based job opportunities to the area. Once operational, the center would be a major economic engine, generating hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars in annual wages and taxes.

The Port began exploring the idea of a marine research center in 2007 when it received a \$50,000 matching grant from the Annenberg Foundation. The initial study, undertaken with SCMI, prompted the Port to include the concept in its San Pedro Waterfront Plan adopted in 2009.

"This is a transformational project that would further diversify the Port job base and bring new opportunities to our harbor communities," Knatz said.



An architect's rendering of the proposed marine research center in San Pedro.

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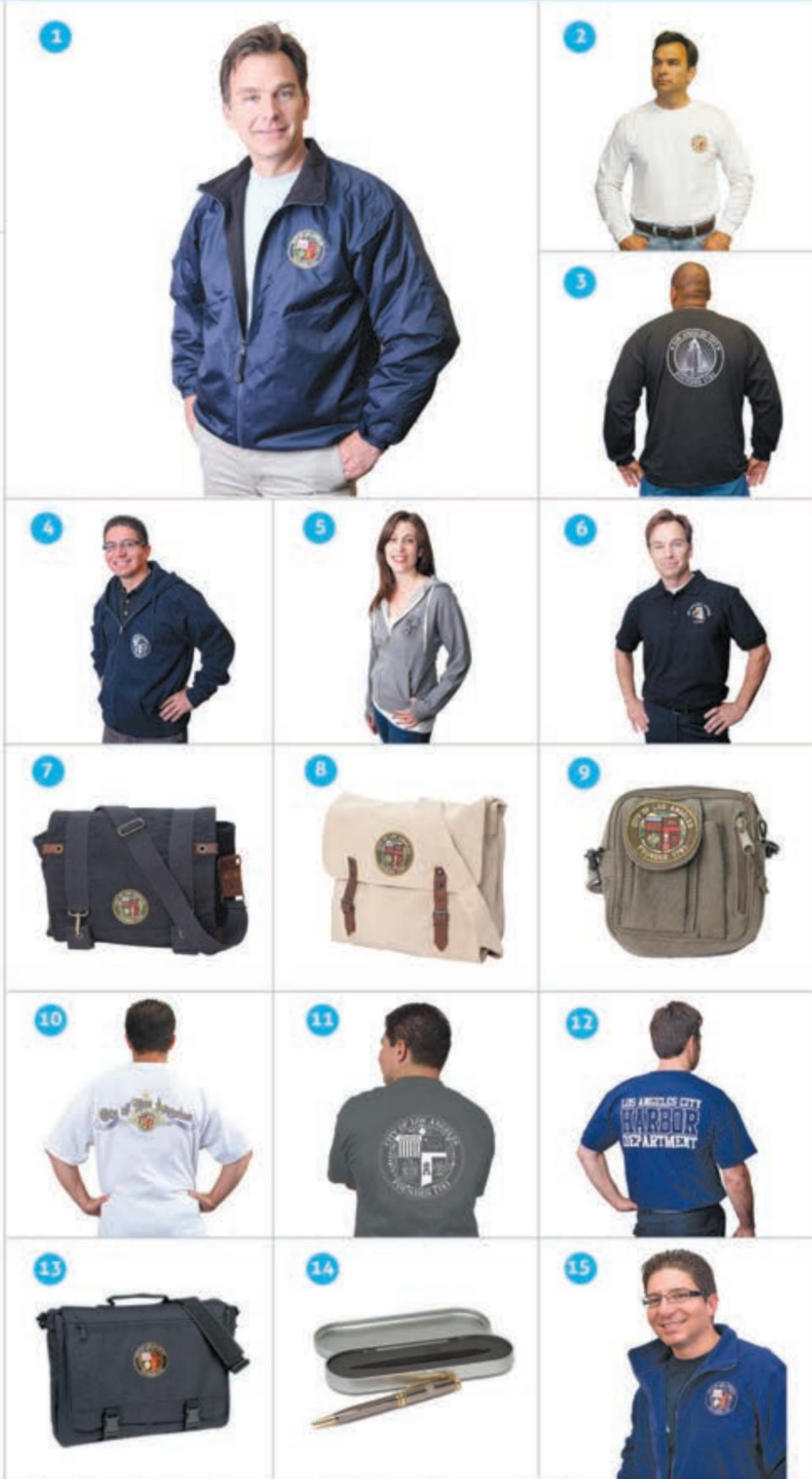
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