

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 91
in a series.



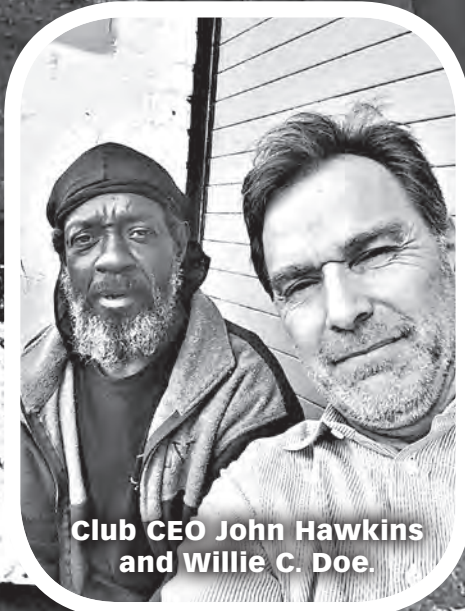
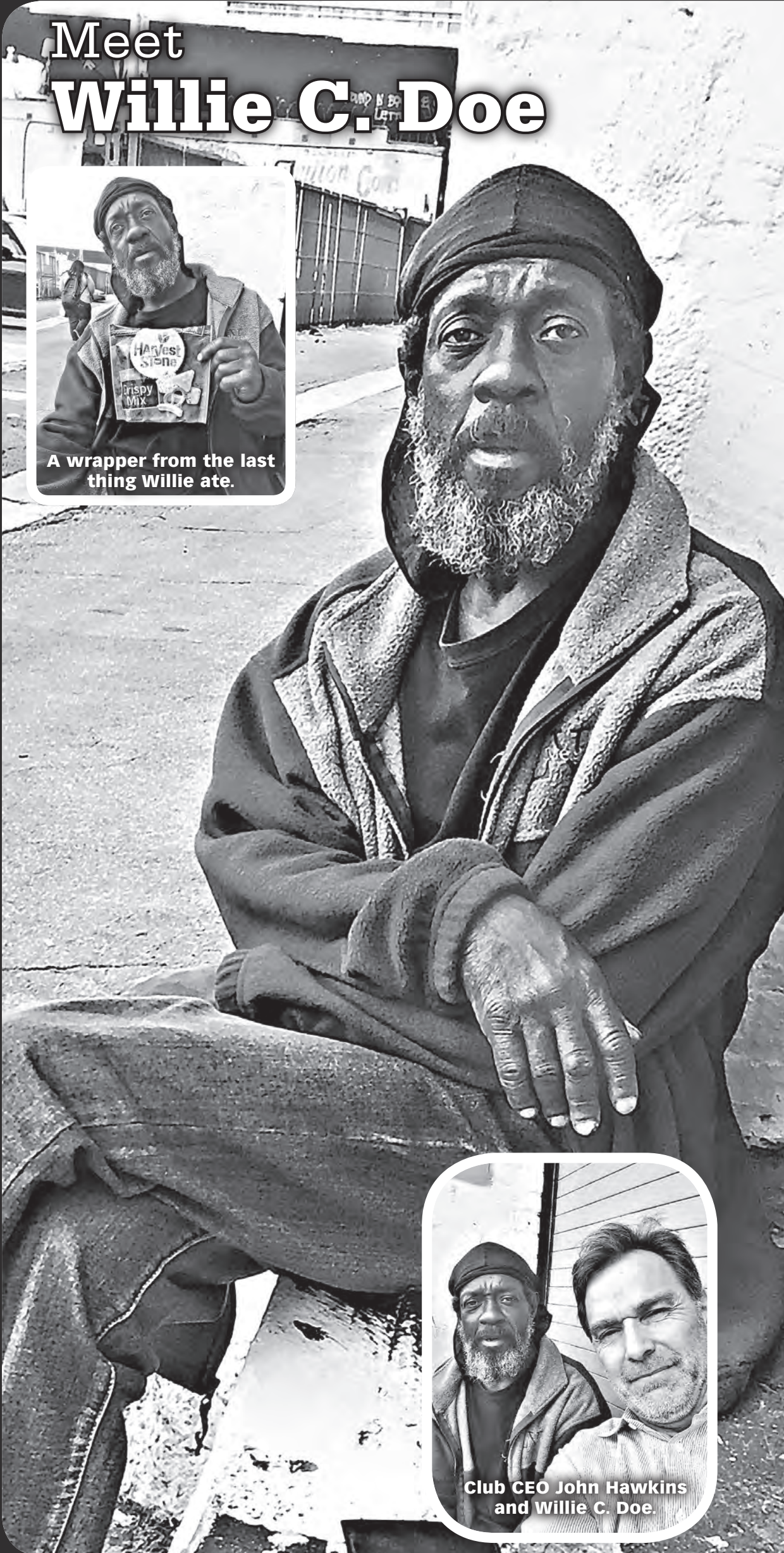
People We See

Shelterless in Los Angeles.

Meet Willie C. Doe



A wrapper from the last thing Willie ate.



Club CEO John Hawkins and Willie C. Doe.

AGE: 61.

BIRTHPLACE: "Ft. Lauderdale, Fla."

WHERE DO YOU LIVE:

"Here, on the street. I may spend the night in this alley right here. I try to stay away from skid row. I bought some bad crack there, and since then I stay away."

REAL NAME?

"Yes, that's my real name. I have 20 aliases. Everyone believes them, but no one believes me when I give them my real name."

FAMILY:

"I have four siblings. I was the second oldest."

EDUCATION: "I didn't finish sixth grade."

MILITARY: "No."

MEDICATIONS: "None."

SPORTS: "No, there was no money in it."

WHEN MOVED TO L.A.: "Back in 1975."

HIS STORY:

"I was a troublesome kid. I loved money and stole it every chance I could get. Even from my mom. I remember when I was seven years old my mom left a purse on her dresser. When she wasn't looking I opened it up and took money from it."

"Growing up I hung around other troubled kids. We were poor; my dad was a gambler. He used to gamble all our money away, which was one of the reasons we were so poor. They used to fight all the time, constantly yelling. There was no love whatsoever growing up. No hugs, no love."

"I hated being poor; I wanted money. At 17 I left home and went to Georgia. Soon after arriving I tried to rob a hotel, an armed robbery. I got caught and was sentenced to two- to four years at Reidsville State Prison in Georgia, the same place where they filmed *The Longest Yard*. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was there, too, for a short period of time. Reidsville is where I got my education ... and it's actually where I learned to read."

"I have been homeless since I was 19; basically since I got out of prison, which is odd because I left home with the intention of getting out of the poor lifestyle. Ten years later I was in prison again, for armed robbery. This time I was in Milwaukee trying to hold up a jewelry store and got busted. But those are the only two times I got caught."

"I like to buy things and then sell them, it's how I make my money. I like guns and weapons. I am an angry person, and I have no problem hurting people, whether you did me wrong or not. I wish I had a gun."

RELIGION: "No. I believe that this is it."

FAVORITE MOVIE:

"I like movies with robberies, and movies about making lots of money."

FAVORITE ACTOR: "Bogart."

FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I don't watch TV."

FAVORITE MUSIC:

"Soul – Aretha, Pendergrass, Michael Bolton."

FAVORITE CANDY: "Snickers."

LAST FOOD EATEN: "A bag of chips."

FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:

"I remember I was almost given to another family, and I was actually looking forward to it. But at the last minute, it didn't happen ... I also remember getting a bicycle my mom and dad bought me."

BEST FRIENDS: "None. I keep people the hell away from me."

MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "Money."

WITH \$1 MILLION:

"I would get a place where there were no gangs and no flunkies."

ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:

"Love your kids; I was never loved. And be careful who you trust."

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

The interview, conducted by John Hawkins, took place March 17 in Harlem Alley off Second Street, one block from LAPD headquarters.

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