

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.

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

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Newsbrief

DON'T DUMP ON LA:

On Nov. 20, City public officials introduced "Don't Dump on LA," a new prevention campaign targeting South Los Angeles and Wilmington, stressing the City's \$1,000 reward for citizens who report information that leads to the arrest and conviction of illegal dumping violators.

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo joined Councilmembers Janice Hahn (Club Member), Council District 15, and Jan Perry (Club Member), Council District 9, and other public officials to announce the campaign in a news conference at the intersection of Lanzit Avenue and 112th Street, one of the most heavily impacted thoroughfares in South Los Angeles.

"Illegal dumping continues to plague and degrade quality of life in many of our neighborhoods, including South Los Angeles," Delgadillo said. "Together with our Public Works partners, we will continue to target some of the worst areas in our city for illegal dumping and increase awareness of this serious problem so that all of our residents can live in a safe and clean environment."

In addition to Public Works Board members and the Street Services and Sanitation, representatives of the LAPD, EnvironmentLA (the Environmental Affairs Department), and the California Integrated Waste Management Board joined the elected officials at the news conference. The campaign will target severely impacted sections of Council Districts 8, 9, and 15 in South Los Angeles and Wilmington.

"For years, I have worked closely with the community to find ways to keep people from dumping in our neighborhoods. We have installed cameras in alleyways, we have changed the law so that we can impound the cars of people who dump, but the missing piece has been surveillance and enforcement of our laws—which is why the announcement is so welcomed," said Councilwoman Janice Hahn. "With the grant we have received for the 'Don't Dump on LA' campaign, we will soon see increased surveillance and enforcement. We need to make some arrests and set some examples."

EnvironmentLA was awarded a \$500,000 California Integrated Waste Management Board grant on behalf of the City to combat illegal dumping and fund the campaign. Cleanup of chronic, illegal dumping sites; additional surveillance of known illegal dumping problem areas; and community outreach for prevention and proactive approaches are components. It will serve as a pilot for the development of an effective incentive and enforcement strategy citywide.

Radio ads on selected stations, in both English and Spanish, will begin airing as early as late December and early January. Associated Websites and radio talk shows will feature the campaign, as well. In-theater ads on illegal dumping prevention also will start to appear at Magic Johnson Theaters in the Crenshaw district during the same time period.

Illegal dumping cleanup efforts cost the City about \$12 million annually. "By conducting this campaign, we hope to encourage citizens to report illegal dumping when they see it occurring to help keep our City clean and beautiful and we remind them to call the City's non-emergency hotline 3-1-1, to report violators," said Board of Public Works President Cynthia M. Ruiz. "All calls are strictly confidential," she added, "and convicted offenders can receive both misdemeanor and felony sentences."

Citizens also can report illegal dumping online at the following Website:

<http://www.lacity.org/boss/StreetUseInspection/form.htm>

The "Don't Dump on LA" campaign will support efforts of the South Los Angeles Illegal Dumping Prevention Collaborative, which was founded by the City Attorney's Office in 2005 to develop prevention strategies to combat the problem and prioritize impacted locations. Members include the Public Works Bureau of Street Services, the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program, LAPD South Los Angeles Area Senior Lead Officers, the Building and Safety, Transportation, Housing, and the DWP.

Meet Billy Green.



AGE: "55."

BIRTHPLACE: "Louisiana."

MARITAL STATUS:

"Single. I don't think I would survive a marriage."

FAMILY: "I have one brother and five sisters."

RELIGION: "I'm not any particular religion. I believe in the spirit of the Lord, though."

FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:

"Eating ice cream."

MOVED TO THE CITY: "1984."

EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school and then went to junior college."

DO YOU HAVE ANY TROPHIES OR AWARDS? "I have a tech school completion certificate."

MILITARY: "I spent three-and-a-half years in the Air Force. I went to boot camp in San Antonio and then studied to be a radar repairman. I was then stationed in Montana."

IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"That everybody makes it to heaven."

LAST JOB:

"I worked at the mission, in environmental services."

FAVORITE SPORT: "Football."

FAVORITE FOODS:

"Shrimp, fried chicken, teriyaki beef, pork ..."

FAVORITE MOVIE: "*The Terminator* and *Alien*. I like movies with a lot of action. My attention span is a little short, so the more action, the better."

FAVORITE ACTOR: "Tom Cruise."

FAVORITE ACTRESS: "Nicole Kidman."

FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I love *Jeopardy*."

FAVORITE MUSIC:

"I really like heavy metal, especially Metallica."

FAVORITE CANDY: "I like candy with coconut in it, like Mounds."

LAST BOOK READ: "*Lord of the Rings*."

WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "I move around from place to place."

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY?

"I like Pershing Square. There are plenty of people to talk to there."

ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:

"Be happy and don't worry."

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE WAR IN IRAQ? "Saddam Hussein was a horrible man. I think this was God's plan to wake people up."

WHAT IS YOUR SOLUTION TO THE ECONOMIC CRISIS?

"People waste too much money. They're not investing right."

WHO DID YOU VOTE FOR, FOR PRESIDENT?

"I didn't vote this time around."

IF YOU WERE MAYOR, WHAT WOULD YOU DO ABOUT THE HOMELESS SITUATION?

"I would stop lying so much, stop misusing funds and stop politicizing the homeless issue. I would upgrade the facilities. The homeless need to eat better, and be safer. [The mayor needs to be] more humane."

The Club gave Billy a water bottle, three pairs of socks, a \$25 McDonald's gift certificate, \$20 and snacks.

This interview took place Nov. 21 on Second Street between Main and Los Angeles Streets, at the gates of the former St. Vibiana Catholic Church.



Who are the people you see every day?