

ClubFest 2002 Kicks Off New Era for City Workers



Fantastic turnout at the L.A. Zoo created some challenges – and long lines – but the spirit of togetherness kept the fun flowing.

More than 10,000 City employees and their families turned out at the Los Angeles Zoo Oct. 6 for the first-ever ClubFest, a free, fun-filled family day to mark the official launch of your new City Employees Club.

While the large number of participants created a great boost to the future of the Club, the numbers also created logistical challenges, including long lines for admission, food and activities. Your Club administration already is using your feedback to help design future activities. "We've heard from many of you, and we're listening," said Chris Hills who produced this year's ClubFest. "But we're also glad that so many thousands had a great time, too."

Participants enjoyed not just a free day and free food at the Zoo, but a host of activities to say "welcome to the Club," including rock climbing, a zero gravity spin ride, a "Cash Cube" money grab, games, face painting, removable tattoos, prize raffles and live music. The complimentary lunch selection included burgers, chicken, chips and a variety of water and soft drinks.

The Los Angeles Police Department also contributed by providing families with the opportunity to receive all-important child ID cards.

ClubFest was the first social event for the new City Employees Club of Los Angeles. The former Los Angeles City Employees Association (LACEA), which served you faithfully and well for more than 70 years, adopted a new mission and name in September. It's the same organization – with a new name and a



Just one of many happy families at ClubFest 2002. See inside for tons of awesome pictures

new purpose. You'll still get your refund checks, of course, but now there is so much more to offer. ClubFest highlighted those changes.

Nathan Emanuel, an automotive dispatcher at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, brought his wife, Dixie, their 4-year-old nephew, Shannon, and one of

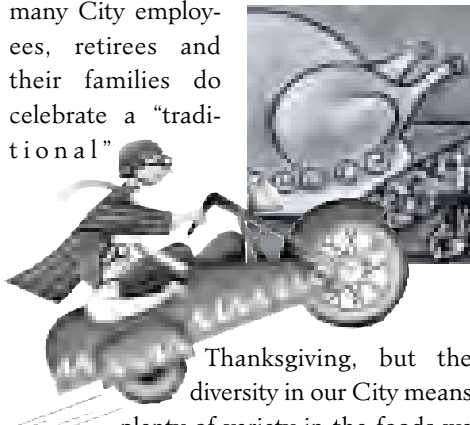
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Turkey, Family and...Motorcycles

At Thanksgiving, every family develops its own traditions-within-traditions. Here are some from the Club family.

Turkey and all the trimmings. Delicious pumpkin pie. Football, family and friends. Certainly many City employees, retirees and their families do celebrate a "traditional"



Thanksgiving, but the diversity in our City means plenty of variety in the foods we eat and the ways we enjoy this special day. With Thanksgiving right around the

See Holiday Traditions, Page 4

November Election: What Issues Are at Stake for City Employees?

Alive! provides an overview of election issues important to you. Remember to vote!

Nov. 5 is almost here – one of the most important election days in city history. Your new City Employees Club hopes this

Voter's Guide will help you prepare for the election and tap into the resources available to assist you in making the best decisions

for you and your family.

Of course, the hottest topics on the ballot are the secession measures for the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood. For each of the so-called "special reorganizations" to detach the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood from the city, a majority of voters in both the city as a whole and in each of these areas must approve the measure for it to pass.

In addition, residents of the San Fernando Valley and Hollywood will have the opportunity to vote for a mayor and/or council members for the proposed new cities.

See Election, Page 5

 <p>City Employees Club of Los Angeles 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700 Los Angeles, CA 90071</p>	<p>CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED</p>
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Letters

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fear, and the GEM won out. I have made zero progress since getting my first license 20 years ago. I call the GEM my training wheels.

Chris and Alicia sent me to Center Chrysler Jeep in Sherman Oaks, and I needed every word of information they gave me, including proof of my membership in the City Employees Club, another unbelievable bargain at a mere \$4 per month. The sales rep incorrectly inferred that LA City Club had the same deal as COSTCO employees receive, but that deal costs more for a 2001 model, with a much shorter warrantee. It did not sound right, so I stuck with what I had heard, and before I returned from my test drive Alicia had faxed the sales manager a copy of our superior deal, and I walked out paying no more than Chris and Alicia had prepared me to.

The simplicity of it delighted me, too. While they ran the credit check, I had time to read the entire owners manual, and write down all of my questions, which they gleefully answered to my full satisfaction. For \$3,700 I drove home in a white 2002 two-seater, with a three-year extended warrantee, mud flaps and scuff guards. GEMS do not offer many extras. I put \$1,000 down and I only have to pay \$100 a month.

Because I did not want to begin my maiden voyage with a left turn onto Van Nuys Boulevard, the sales rep rode around the block with me, and I took Magnolia to Sepulveda. I survived my first left turn and another on to Ventura Boulevard. It took all of my courage to do this, but by the time I passed Havenhurst, I found the journey downright enjoyable.

I already knew I could handle speed in excess of 25 MPH if the vehicle could do it, that my fear had more to do with visibility than speed. I knew the skill and confidence I could build from this experience would generalize to



Roz Brown and her new GEM™ Electric Vehicle

really driving a real car in the very near future. It dawned on me that I have not driven solo in 20 years, and until now I had never enjoyed a single drive. For the first time in my life, I put the pedal to the metal, and drove without posing a danger to myself and others.

The next day I had to gather all of my courage all over again. Maybe I always will, but I did it again. For the first time in her life, I took my daughter for a drive, and we laughed! The GEM has a road or turf setting, so you can take it on the golf course and not tear up the grass. We experimented with this and cruised under the wires in a grassy area near our house. This seemed terribly funny for some reason. She wanted to try it too, and said it was cool. She thinks all of her friends will want one. You sure can't beat the cost of fuel or payments, and I can't put a price on the freedom that awaits me as I drive away from the most debilitating fear I have ever had to overcome.

**Roz Brown
Rec and Parks**

Holiday Traditions

Continued from page 1

corner, your City Employees Club spoke to a number of City employees and asked, "How do you celebrate Thanksgiving?" Here's what they shared.

And however you and your family celebrate Thanksgiving, all of us at your City Employees Club thank you for being a part of our family, and we wish you a joyous Thanksgiving Day and holiday season!

"We Eat Until We're Tired"

**Arceo Ramos, Case Manager,
Personnel Department**

More than 30 people from Ramos' immediate and extended family in Southern California – with the addition this year of Hailey, the infant daughter of Arceo and his wife, Joy – gather on Thanksgiving for not just one, but two meals – both lunch and dinner. The meals feature traditional turkey, stuffing and the like, plus many Filipino dishes including *lumpia* (like a Chinese egg roll), *pancit* (a noodle dish), *lechon* (roasted pig) and more. Everyone brings a dish, and as Ramos said, "We don't eat until we're full, we eat until we're tired."

The day begins with a special prayer remembering family members who have passed away. Before the day finishes, the group creates a lasting memory with a photo – taken by a camera with a timer so no one gets left out.

A Southern Touch

**Terry Rockstad, Branch Office Manager,
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power**

A touch of the South makes Rockstad's Thanksgiving celebration extra special. Using a family recipe, she and her sister, Sharon, get together the day before Thanksgiving to start preparing cornbread dressing, a stuffing made of cornbread, biscuits, turkey broth, vegetables and other ingredients.

On Thanksgiving Day, anywhere from 15 to 35 people gather at Rockstad's sister's house, with everyone bringing food for the potluck meal. The last two years, they've held a fun football quiz, with prizes going to the first person to answer a question correctly. Usually the group gathers again the next day for dinner to enjoy the leftovers.

The Wild West

**Jim Mahan, Warehouse and
Tool Room Worker, LADWP**

Before 2001, Mahan generally celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional meal with family and friends. But last year, he and his sons, Justin, 10, and John, 14, joined another family in an outing to Red Rock Canyon (about 100 miles from Palmdale) for some desert motorcycle riding. Mahan said groups of trailers parked together – "almost like the old days with



covered wagons" – and families joined together to cook and then eat under canopies. Before eating, a prayer was held because, as Mahan said, "After all, it's a day to be thankful for."

Mahan said he might enjoy a desert Thanksgiving again this year, and hopes that his wife, Mary, will join him and their sons.

Fun and Games

**Irene Castillo, Accounting Clerk,
Department of Animal Services**

Castillo always hosts Thanksgiving at her house for some 20 immediate and extended family members, including her husband, Ruben, and their children, Andrew, 10, Oscar, 14, David, 17, and Cassandra, 18. After a dinner featuring turkey (which Castillo fries "just to be different"), homemade stuffing, mashed potatoes and more, not to mention pumpkin pie, the family enjoys a game night playing cards, pool, air hockey and foosball.

Like some other families, Castillo's tries

to make sure it takes a family photo at Thanksgiving. But, she added, "Everybody has to go home early because I have to get up early the next morning and go shopping."

A Family Reunion

**Eva Farlow-Malbrough, Legal Secretary,
City Attorney's Office**

With her son Omar, his wife, Lisa, and their 3-year-old son, Khari, usually visiting from Atlanta, Farlow-Malbrough's family makes its Thanksgiving celebration a reunion of sorts. Other participants include Farlow-Malbrough's husband, Bobby, their daughter, Monique, their son Bobby Jr., their son Gregory, Gregory's wife, Tona, and Gregory and Tona's kids, Willie, 14, Shawndra, 10, and Tiana, 6.

Farlow-Malbrough and her two daughters-in-law cook a variety of dishes, including turkey and ham, and try to make plenty of desserts like potato pie, chocolate cake and banana pudding. After eating, the group of 15 to 20 (which includes extended family) plays board games, cards and dominoes. The adults also pull names to determine whom they will buy gifts for on Christmas, and everyone talks about plans for Christmas and the upcoming year. To commemorate both Thanksgiving Day and Christmas each year, Farlow-Malbrough buys a photo album in which to keep pictures from these special family days. 📷

Wanna be heard?

Every culture celebrates this special time of the year in its own ways. How do you and your family celebrate the holidays? Tell us, and we'll print them in next month's *Alive!* Send them to:
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Elections

Continued from page 1

(The San Fernando Valley proposes to have a mayor and 14 council members, allocated by districts, while Hollywood proposes to have five council members.) And, those in the Valley also will weigh in on their preferred new city name should secession pass. (For the record, the choices are Camelot, Mission Valley, Rancho San Fernando, San Fernando Valley, and Valley City.)

Text about the San Fernando Valley and



Hollywood secession measures is available at www.lalafco.org.

Remember that every vote counts, so make a difference and exercise your right to vote in November! 🗳️

Voting Guide

Other City and County Measures

■ **Measure K:** Los Angeles Unified School District voters also will decide on Measure K, which provides for the issuance of \$3.35 billion in general obligation bonds for specified district improvements. The district indicates that this measure will allow for building new neighborhood schools, repairing aging and deteriorating classrooms, improving early childhood programs, expanding public charter schools, and more.

■ **Measures A & B:** Throughout Los Angeles County, voters will decide on both Measure A – the Earthquake and Fire Safety Bond, and Measure B – the Preservation of Trauma Centers and Emergency Medical Services; Bioterrorism Response. Each measure requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

According to the League of Women Voters of California's "Smart Voter" Website, Measures A and B ask the following questions:

Measure A: "To ensure that the Natural History Museum and other County Museums meet strict earthquake and fire safety standards, generate at least \$250 million in private donations for these facilities, provide 50 percent more free admissions for student groups and children, and assure fire and earthquake-safe science and arts education facilities, shall the County issue up to \$250 million in bonds on the condition that the private donations be received first, with review by an Independent Oversight Committee?"

Measure B: "To avoid the life-threatening shutdown of Los Angeles County's trauma network, maintain and expand the trauma network countywide, ensure more timely response to critical and urgent medical emergencies and respond effectively to biological or chemical terrorism, shall all property owners pay an annual tax of 3 cents per square-foot of improvements (buildings) on developed property?"

State Propositions and Decisions

Of course, this year Californians also will vote for governor, plus a number of other elected offices. Seven statewide propositions also are on the ballot:

- **Proposition 46:** Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2002.
- **Proposition 47:** Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002.
- **Proposition 48:** Court Consolidation. Legislative Constitutional Amendment.
- **Proposition 49:** Before and After School Programs. State Grants. Initiative Statute.
- **Proposition 50:** Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects. Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection. Bonds. Initiative Statute.
- **Proposition 51:** Transportation. Distribution of Existing Motor Vehicle Sales and Use Tax. Initiative Statute.
- **Proposition 52:** Election Day Voter Registration. Voter Fraud Penalties. Initiative Statute.

Your Voting References

To find out more about the election, check out these resources:

- **California Secretary of State:** www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm. (Click on the *Voter Information Guide* icon for details on all of the state propositions.)
- **The League of Women Voters of California's Smart Voter Project:** www.smartvoter.org.
- **The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk:** www.lavote.net. (Click on "November 5th 2002 Election" on the third red bar down for details. This site also includes information on ballot measures for other cities in the greater Los Angeles region.)
- **The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission:** www.lacity.org/eth/. (Look under the "Secession" section for information on candidates and fundraising for the proposed San Fernando Valley and Hollywood cities.)
- **The Los Angeles Unified School District, District B:** www.lausd.k12.ca.us/district_b/resources/.
- **The Office of the Los Angeles City Clerk:** www.lacity.org/clk/election.

Wanna be heard?

Let us know what you think about this article, or about the November elections in general: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Political Forum



Visiting L.A.'s Past, Present, Future

by Mayor James K. Hahn

Thank you, City employees past and present, for your continued commitment to the City of Los Angeles.

Last month, I was pleased to join many of you in ceremonies across the city to commemorate the terrorist attacks of September 11. Your participation in "L.A. Remembers" helped show our nation what a truly world-class city we have. I want to extend a special thanks to the members of the Los Angeles Fire Department who built a special Wall of Remembrance that included poems, photos and well-wishes from hundreds of Angelenos.

I also want to thank those of you who joined me at citywide celebratory events for Latino Heritage Month. It was also great to see many city employees at the 11th Annual Festival of Philippine Art and Culture. One of our greatest strengths is our diversity, and I am proud that our city employees reflect Los

Angeles's diversity.

Finally, I want you to join me in welcoming a person whom I expect to quickly be confirmed by the City Council as our newest general manager – my nominee for the Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, William Bratton. Reducing crime, restoring community policing, improving recruitment, and bringing real reform to LAPD are my top priorities. I know that that William Bratton is the right person for the job. Bill Bratton served as the top cop for the New York Police Department and brings to the LAPD immense experience fighting crime and managing large police organizations. When you see him, please welcome Bill Bratton to the city family. 🗳️

Wanna be heard?

Tell *Alive!* what you think about the mayor's thoughts: alive@cityemployeesclub.com



LA Workforce Can Set Civic Standard

by Wendy Greuel
Councilmember, Second District

Election season is upon us and I want to encourage all City employees to get out and vote this Tuesday, November 5. This is your opportunity to exercise your right to vote and help shape your community on a local, statewide and national level. Many important races and initiatives are on the November ballot – including election of the governor and other statewide offices, propositions, bond measures, congressional races and citywide measures.

Recent elections have sent a clear message that every vote counts. We all remember how the outcome of the 2000 presidential election came down to a few hundred votes in a few local communities. My own City Council race in March was decided by just 212 votes.

Unfortunately, the number of citizens turning out to vote continues to decline. Americans are becoming less engaged and less active with their government. Here in Los Angeles we can buck this unhealthy national trend – not only by turning out to vote – but by participating in our communities.

I encourage those of you who live in the City of Los Angeles to take an active role in your neighborhood. Our growing system of

neighborhood councils provides city employees with additional tools to engage local communities.

During my first six months in office, I have seen first-hand the extraordinary synergy that takes place when neighborhood residents and our City workforce join together to tackle community problems. In July of this year, an army of community volunteers and Bureau of Street Services staff teamed up to identify and repair 747 potholes and other road damage in a single weekend. On a single Saturday in September, Department of Transportation staff worked with neighborhood volunteers to tow, ticket or mark nearly 300 abandoned vehicles blighting the North Hollywood community.

Community-based service delivery is an effective tool to address quality-of-life issues in our neighborhoods. Staff can tap residents' knowledge to focus City efforts while local residents are able to see the high standards and extraordinary dedication of our city workforce in action. With continued emphasis on community participation – in the voting booth and on and off the job – the LA City workforce can set the standard other cities should follow. 🗳️

Each month, Alive! invites political leaders to speak directly to City and DWP employees and retirees. Alive! brings you these views as a public service. The opinions of those on this monthly page are independent of Alive! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

ClubFest

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ClubFest 2002

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Shannon's friends to ClubFest. "Since this is the first ClubFest, I wanted to get in on the ground floor," Emanuel said, attributing the outstanding attendance to the family-oriented nature of the event. "People are looking for something wholesome."

Vinh Nguyen, an LADWP water operator, and his wife, Truc, a senior management analyst at LAPD, enjoyed the day with their children, Vincent, 8, and Tiffany, 2. Vinh noted, "This is a very nice get-together for the family and for the people who work for the City." Finishing lunch as her kids showed off their tattoos, Truc added, "[The City Employees Club] put together a great show. This is great."

The allure of free admission to the Zoo, especially for those with

children, brought many City employees out for the day. "I haven't come to the Zoo in quite a few years," said Aleta James, a city planner in the Planning Department, with her 10-year-old son Tyler and his friend. "It's a chance to enjoy the Zoo and see what this new club is all about."

For April Perez, an LAPD clerk typist, the event "sounded fun for the kids." Taking a break with 1-year-old Haley and 5-year-old Mia, she said, "I thought it was a nice thing for the [City Employees Club] to do for employees and decided to participate to reciprocate."

Even though, according to City Employees Club president and CEO Danna McDonough, the event "went beyond anyone's expectations," she said, in the spirit of the Club, "We'll do an even better job next year!"

Wanna be heard?

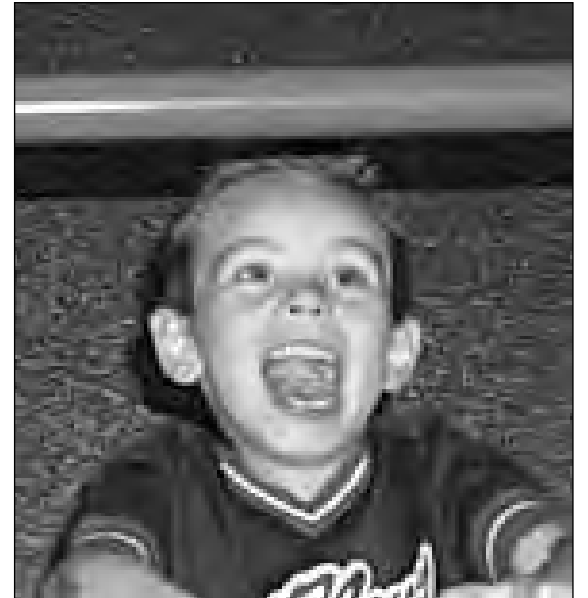
Let us know about the great time you had at ClubFest. Contact us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com





ClubFest

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And the Winner Is... Well, There Are Dozens of Them



■ Congratulations to all the prize winners whose names were pulled near the conclusion of ClubFest 2002. There were more than 100 great prizes.

Following is a listing of the prize, the winner, their department (where appropriate) and photos of them picking up their prize:

GEM vehicle

#1: Ralph Johnson (Airports)

Gateway Computers

#1: Bhavin Patel (ITA)
#2: Gale L. Brown (MIS)



Gale L. Brown (MIS), winner, Gateway Computer

Compaq J1 300 Color Printer

Marguerita Chenier (Animal Regulations)

Four Seasons Hotel

Steven Klubnikia (DOT)

HP Photo Smart printer

Javad B. Keshavarz (DWP)

HP Scanjet

#1: Maria Perez (Housing)



Maria Perez (Housing), winner, HP Scanjet

#2: M. D. Chavez (Harbor)

Halie's Restaurant, Pasadena

#1: Stuart Honda (Airports)
#2: Greg Pomish (GSB)
#3: George Pardo (Street Maintenance)

Home Depot

#1: Thu Van Le
#2: Felix Ceballos (Street Services)
#3: Robert Dang
#4: James Hodges
#5: Charlie Yu (Hyperion)

JVC 20" Television

Sal Mancilla (DWP)



Sal Mancilla (DWP), winner, JVC 20" Television

Nintendo Game Cube

Ngo Thu (Street Services)

Office Depot

#1: Sandra Humphries (Bureau of Engineering)
#2: Danny Sambrano
#3: Mai Yi Ng
#4: Isabella Rodriguez (ITA)
#5: Virginia White, retired
#6: Terra Jones (General Services)
#7: Linda Kubo (DWP)
#8: Emily Lau (Environmental Affairs)
#9: Bien Ogan (DOT)
#10: Ben Attai (Sanitation)
#11: Julio Sevilla
#12: Eva Chan (Street Services)
#13: Albert Moreno (DWP)



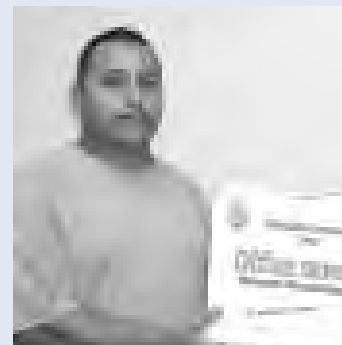
Albert Moreno (DWP), winner, Office Depot

#14: Ramon Puga
#15: Rosa Williams (Personnel)
#16: Greg Anderson (DWP)
#17: George Lim (DWP)
#18: Rachel Martinez (DWP)
#19: Linda Rorex (Personnel)
#20: Robert Rodriguez (Personnel)

#21: Rick Lucian (DWP)

#22: Jose Castillo

#23: Pilar Holguin



Pilar Holguin, winner, Office Depot

#24: Walton Frets (DWP)
#25: Kesavan S. Korand
#26: Olivia Figueroa (Controller)
#27: Matteo Rosales (DWP)
#28: David Gabaldon
#29: Frank Abel (LAPD)
#30: Daisy Cheung (DWP)
#31: Lewis Lozano (DWP)
#32: Eddie Dalcour (DWP)
#33: Tanya Bellard (Street Services)



Linda Rorex, winner, Office Depot

#34: Yi Bing Sun (Engineering)
#35: Philip Davidson (DWP)
#37: Melinda Chou (Personnel)
#38: Van Luu (DWP)
#39: Mary Choto (DWP)
#40: Aleta D. James (Planning)
#41: Jon Lin (Engineering)
#42: Rosie Sandovol (DOT)
#43: Patrick Stevens (ITA)
#44: Cecilia Rivas (General Services)
#45: Jim Iwaki (CDD)
#46 - #50 awarded at ClubFest

Palm i705

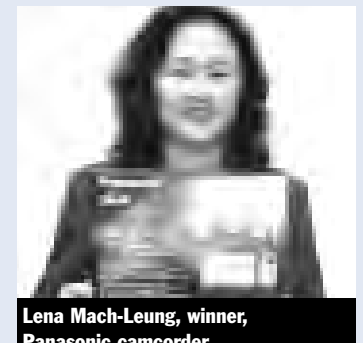
Don Netzel (DWP)

Palm Springs Wyndham Weekend

Ken Murray (BOSS)

Panasonic e-Wear Camcorder

Lena Mach-Leung



Lena Mach-Leung, winner, Panasonic camcorder

Samsung/Sony DVDs

#1: Samsung: Rachael Padilla (DWP)
#2: Sony: Cherry Gardener (Rec and Parks)

San Diego Mission Valley Hilton

Larry Miller (Sanitation)

San Diego Island Palms Weekend

Graciella Ochoa (Building and Safety)



Graciella Ochoa (Building and Safety), winner, San Diego Island Palms weekend.

Sony Cyber Shot digital camera

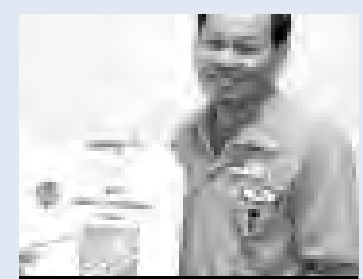
#1: Michael Gray (DWP)
#2: Frank Godarti

Sony Play Station

Kenneth Mak (DWP)
Brenda Mitchell (DWP)

Southwest Airlines Tickets

#1: Deborah Martin (Engineering)
#2: Jewel Nevels (DOT)



Thu Van Le, winner, Home Depot

ClubFest

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ClubFest

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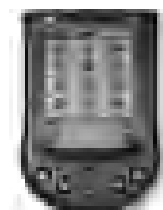


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