



From left: Greig Smith, Councilmember, 12th District; Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; Fire Captain from Fire Station 83; Jack Weiss, Councilmember 5th District; and Fire Chief Bill Bammatre.

Fire Station 83 Opens



■ Fire Department opens much-needed Valley facility.

Story and photos by Beverly Haro, Club Counselor

FIRE DEPT. — The new Fire Station 83 in Encino is open for business, after a ribbon-cutting ceremony Feb. 26.

The new station is at 4960 Balboa Blvd. Groundbreaking for new Fire Station 83 took place April 26, 2004.

It replaced old Fire Station 83, whose increasingly troublesome electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems could no longer support a modern, diverse and efficient workforce, and furthermore, the overcrowded and antiquated facility did not allow the flexibility and safety necessary to promptly serve the community.

Many of Old Fire Station 83's neighbors were known to look on in amazement as the staff at the single-bay Fire Station would scramble around the clock to move one or more vehicles when an emergency response would call for only the Engine Company or the Ambulance, merely to see the process repeated again and again as the crews returned to quarters and were dispatched to subsequent emergencies.

Because the property beneath Old Fire Station 83 was too small to support a new or revamped Fire Station, Proposition F of November 2000 has provided the community with a new 15,250 square-foot Fire Station on a one-acre lot at 4960 Balboa Boulevard — almost across the street from the Old Station.

Built to exacting safety, seismic and efficiency standards at a combined cost of less than \$7 million, the new station houses a four-person Paramedic-Assessment Engine Company, a two-person Paramedic Rescue Ambulance and an Emergency Medical Services Battalion Captain.

The new energy efficient six-bay facility features an important "drive through" feature that prevents the need to block traffic on Balboa Boulevard when rehousing large fire apparatus.

The new station will also serve as a home base for cross-staffed specialty vehicles and support units, including an Emergency Lighting Unit for use at major emergencies and disasters, a full-sized four-wheel drive Brush Patrol for preventing and assisting with emergencies in the adjacent Santa Monica Mountains, as well as a nimble Off-Road Micro Utility Vehicle for handling medical emergencies and patient transport at large public events, such as the festivals held year-round at nearby Lake Balboa and the Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area.

The Club thanks LAFD Information Officer Brian Humphrey for additional information.



The New Fire Station 83.



Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer.



From left: Local resident Angela Murillo with Firefighter/Paramedic Brooks (FS 83), 14 years, C shift.



Firefighter/Paramedic Villa with his family.



From left: Asst. Chief Curtis James; Batt. Chief Butler; and Capt. Carlos Calvillo.



From left: Firefighter Reyes; Engineer Como; a neighbor; and Deputy Chief Rheda.

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(213) 367-1405, or
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Airport Police Fundraiser

Eleven Los Angeles Airport Police officers will ride 305 miles in the 2006 Police Unity Tour (PUT) to support all law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty last year.

The four-day bike tour will begin May 9, leaving from Florham, N.J. to Washington, D.C.

The Airport Police has scheduled a barbecue lunch Wed., March 15, at 6320 West 96th St. to raise funds for the bike riders' tour registration fees and accommodations.

The barbecue will feature raffle prizes, including a 42-inch plasma television, a DVD home theater system, Southwest Airlines round-trip tickets, Trader Joe's gift baskets, memberships to Costco and the Auto Club, and many other prizes.

Raffle tickets for \$5 are available by calling Airport Police Officers:
Shawna Smith at (310) 678-3571
Mike Dear at (323) 309-6994
Belinda Nettles at (310) 646-5260.

For more information, go to www.policeunitytour.com

Retirement Party

LAFD Capt. II Pete Pflieger, FS 2 C
April 26, 2006

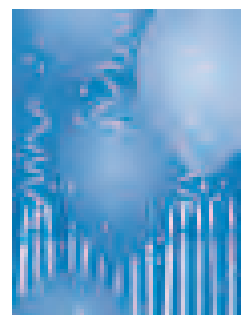
Taix Restaurant, 1911 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles

6 p.m. social, 7 p.m. dinner

\$45, includes tax, tip and gift

Choice of New York steak or salmon filet

Contact FS 2, (213) 485-6202



Congratulations

Congratulations to Andrenique Wilson, who won first place in the First Luther Church of Carson's Heritage Essay Contest. The theme was, "How Rosa Parks Inspired Me in My Life and Community."

Andrenique is the daughter of Club Member Andrea Wilson, Public Works.

Andrenique, 14, attends Curtiss Middle School in Carson. For taking the top prize, she won a \$100 saving bond. Mom Andrea is very proud of her daughter and "hopes she will continue with her success."

Good going, Andrenique!



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