

# LETTERS

## To the Editor

### Enterprise Car Rental Deal Paid For Club Membership

I used my Club discount with Enterprise Rent-a-Car and was very, very pleased. We received a substantial discount and received excellent customer service and a very nice car. (We got a better rate than even with Auto Club.) I saved my Club membership fees with this one transaction! Thanks for negotiating this wonderful discount for our members with Enterprise.

And, let me tell you, the savings were very substantial, between \$80 and \$100 and – get this – because we returned the car with quite a bit of gas left, they gave us credit for a half tank! That is something that they didn't even have to do. That was \$18 right there! So thank the person at the Club who made a deal for our organization with Enterprise.

Now I have to try the other places & see what kind of break they give me!

-- Arlette Menard, Club Member

### City Seal Shirts Look Good, Delivered Fast After Order

Hey, I just bought four of your new City seal shirts online. I can't believe how fast you guys processed the order. They were at my house in about a day and a half after I clicked the "purchase" button on your Website. And by the way, they look awesome! Much better than the ones you find on the street.

-- Michael Griffin, LAPD

### Note of Thanks to *Alive!* Staff For Highlighting Good Work

Just wanted to drop you a note to say thank you, *Alive!* staff, for putting so much time and effort into highlighting all the things City employees are doing. Keep up the good work.

-- Rebecca Thompson, Club Member since 1985

### She Lost Her Taste for Juice After Viewing Dirty Awning

The other day I was really thirsty, so I thought I would get something healthy to drink. Robek's Juice came to mind, so I went downstairs to the City Hall Mall. I was just about to walk in when I glanced up at the awning. I was horrified. It was covered in bird droppings (go see for yourself, but eat first!) It made me so grossed out that I turned around and went back to my office. Someone should really let them know that this is unacceptable; personally I won't go back until they clean the awning off. Hey, I'm a City employee, I expect better.

-- Samantha

## Corrections

In the LAPD promotions story in the April 2006 issue of *Alive!*, we should have included Demetrius Matthews in the promotions. He was promoted to Sr. Clerk Typist with the LAPD and attended the LAPD promotions ceremony. Congratulations, Demetrius, and we apologize for the exclusion. — Ed.

### Mary Rose Reports on State Of City Streets, and Her Roses

Hi there, cuties. Hope you don't mind, but I just wanted to throw in my two cents on the whole "Mayor of LA taking over the LAUSD" issue. Don't you reckon he ought to get a few streets re-paved first? I tell you, I was down in LA last weekend for a bridge tournament and because of the streets being in such terrible condition it looked like I entered a third-world country. Now I can see why everyone's buying those dagnam SUVs or whatever they call them. Seriously though, I brought my girlfriends with me, and I was somewhat embarrassed about the situation; a great city like LA should be better taken care of. Oh well, guess you can't fight City Hall.

Now, on a more enchanting note, I just planted a new rose in my rose garden, it's called the "Lady Elsie May," and it's simply magnificent! Toodloo for now.

-- Mary Rose Wilkens, Retired City Employee and Proud Club Member

### *Alive!* Cover Turned Architect City Employee Into a Celebrity

Hello Club: I was walking through the new City building down there on Broadway (near the Convention Center) and stopped at the Club table that one of your staff persons had. And as I picked up a copy of *Alive!*, I happened to be standing next to Mahmood Karimzadeh, the principal architect on the cover of the May issue! That was funny but really cool. He seemed to be a nice guy. He seems to be a celebrity now that he ended up on the cover of *Alive!*

Good stuff.

-- Harold Jones, LAPD

### Heart Disease Chart Helps Him Eat Healthy, Be Fit, Stay *Alive!*

Hello. I was reading your chart in the last issue of *Alive!* about Claims Paid, and I noticed something really horrifying. Most of the people died of some kind of heart failure. The American Heart Association must be right when they say that the number-one killer of Americans is heart disease. It looks like City employees are examples of such a calamity. It is news like this that makes me appreciate all the exercise and good eating habits I have taken up since I was in my 20s. Twenty years later, I am in great shape, but it has always been so hard to stay the course. Once in a while, you have to indulge in cheeseburgers and fries, but all in moderation. That is my two cents to anyone who will listen and want to live a little longer.

-- Tim Louis, Transportation

### City Hall at Sea? Linda Needs Either Validation or Vacation

I work in City Hall, and some of my colleagues and I have experienced something that my supervisors have dismissed as jokes and of poor taste, but I tell you the truth! I typically work late during Tuesdays and Thursdays. Every Tuesday night about 9:50 p.m., I walk through the rotunda on the third floor. Every time I do, there's a faded but noticeable smell of seaweed, sea salt and seashells – the smells of an ocean beach. Knowing that I have to be at least 10 miles from the ocean shoreline, this seems too incredible and I thought I needed to get more sleep.

But what's even crazier is that when I walk near or over the Spanish sailboat centered in the rotunda chamber, I can feel a breeze and I can hear seagulls with the faint sounds of a foghorn. I know what you're thinking, that I need to see someone at EAP or a psychiatrist, but I'm not alone. Several of my colleagues have gone through the same thing. Has anyone else experienced this?

-- Belinda

### WRITE TO US TODAY!

Send your letters by email to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or conventionally:

The Club  
World Trade Center  
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Los Angeles, CA 90071

## QUESTION

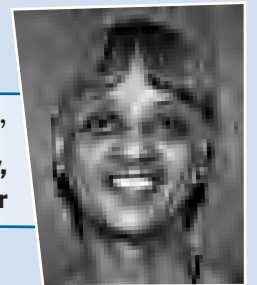
## of the Month

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members. While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

### "What was your first summer job?"



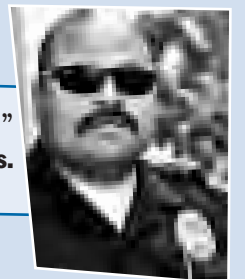
"A musician at a funeral home."  
-- William Charles, City Attorney, Club Member.



"I worked Data Entry at CAN Insurance."  
-- Eva Farlow-Malbrough, City Attorney, Club Representative and Club Member



"Painting houses in Orange County for the Youth Program."  
-- Fernando Diaz.



"A bar-back at Myron's Ballroom."  
-- Jerry Garcia, General Services.



"I was a counselor in training at the LA Zoo."  
-- Roxana Villa, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.



"Cook County [Illinois] Forest Reserve as a Tractor Driver (I was 16)."  
-- Bob Gallagher, Geotech Engineer, PW Engineering.



"Collecting apples in Switzerland."  
-- Safa Kaddis, Project Manager, Public Works Bureau of Engineering.



"I was a janitor for an Elementary School during a Youth Summer Program."  
-- Francisco Encinas, Security Officer, DWP.