

TAKE OUR CHILDREN TO WORK DAY

Taking Kids to Work

■ Three departments – DWP, LAFD and Harbor – welcome the next generation to Take Our Children to Work Day.

Stories by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; and Leonor Garcia, DWP, Tanzi Cole, LAFD; Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager; and courtesy DWP and LAFD

On April 26, DWP employees brought their children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces and other guests between the ages of 9 and 15 for them to spend a day and be part of a typical workday. They got to see what the real working world is about. Participating in "Take Our Kids to Work Day" gave them the opportunity to see a real full day of work and the various tasks that need to be completed, including trenching to install conduit, climbing poles to repair an electrical line or simply by being in an office environment where customer calls are taken or paperwork needs to be completed.

This year, 25 children, participated at Central's "Take Your Kids to Work Day" program. Children came in with their parents at the beginning of their work shift, 6:30 a.m. A welcome light breakfast (orange juice, fresh fruit and pastries) was provided, thanks to the donations given by their parents. The Department no longer sponsors or funds this program.

While the children enjoyed their light breakfast, the District Superintendent welcomed them and asked them to introduce themselves, one-by-one, by telling us what type of job their parents do for the Department. Many of the children had an idea of their parents' job duties, but got to learn more when they spent the day with them out in the field observing and helping, when safe and possible. Before they left for their assigned fieldwork, the Superintendent, Jay Puklavetz, talked to the children about the importance of working safe and wearing proper safety equipment while working out in the field. Hard hats, gloves, safety glasses, and vests were loaned to each child to wear while at the job sites. Safety was emphasized, and they were reminded to wear their protective personal equipment just as their parents are required to wear by the Department. Temporary identification badges and a goodie bag with snacks and water were handed to each kid. The DWP's Public Affairs Business Unit provided bookmarks and energy conservation coloring books that were added in the goodie bags.

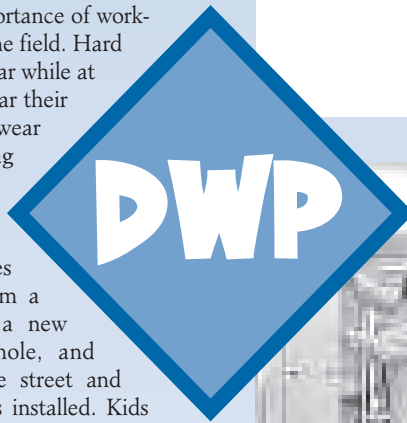
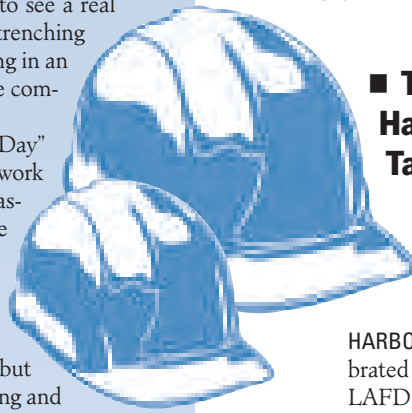
Throughout the day, the children helped their parents with duties including digging out dirt from a hole excavated to install a new power pole, filling the hole, and sweeping and cleaning the street and worksite after the pole was installed. Kids also learned how a crane is operated and how cement and asphalt is prepared and poured.

At the end of the day, Central District had a presentation given to the children by one of the Department's Electric Meter Setters, Regina Cato. The presentation concerned how an electrical meter is wired and set after the lineman completes his or her electrical work. Currently, the Department has only one female Lineperson, Joyce Decho, who works in Owens Valley. Joyce is the only female electric meter setter in the Department. The importance of non-traditional work performed by a woman was emphasized. Joyce talked about the tools needed for her to perform her work and she demonstrated the usage. She showed how to do the wiring process and the actual installation of an electric meter.

Each child was asked at the end of the day what type of work they performed and if they liked it. Individually they had an opportunity to share their day's work and what they liked most about coming to work with their parents. They are looking forward to be back to next year's program.

Employees and children's names that participated in the program:

- Tracy Baron and Ashton, 7
- Darryl Burnett and Darryl Jr., 9, and Darchell, 8
- Miguel Dominguez, with Isaac, 13
- Omar Diaz, with Victoria, 12, and Alexis, 11
- Chris Edgell, with Nathan, 9
- Leonor Garcia, with Moses, 7, and Katelynne, 12
- Jose Gonzalez, with Andrew, 15, and Nicholas, 12
- Mark Hanna, with Mark, 12, and Arielle, 9
- Earl Hough, with Christina, 14
- Eugene Lamoureux, with Gene, 12, and Justin, 9
- Alex Lopez, with Bridget, 13, and Gabriel, 10
- Paul Luna, with Gloriane, 12
- Richard Olguin, with Albert, 13, and Elizabeth, 12
- Sotero Ramos, with Christian, 10, and Adrian, 6
- Jose Torres, with Maria, 15, and Rodrigo, 11



Ashton Baron, son of Tracy Baron, Underground Dist. Construction Mechanic.



Regina Cato, Electric Meter Setter, demonstrating how an electric meter is wired and installed.



From left: Alex Lopez, Electrical Craft Helper; Jose Torres, Electrical Craft Helper, with his daughter, Maria; Michael Tovias, Electrical Craft Helper, with his nephew, Dylan; Chris Edgell, Electric Distribution Mechanic, with his son, Nathan; and Omar Diaz, Electric Distribution Mechanic, with his daughters, Victoria and Alexis.



Elizabeth Olguin, daughter of Richard Olguin, Electric Distribution Mechanic.



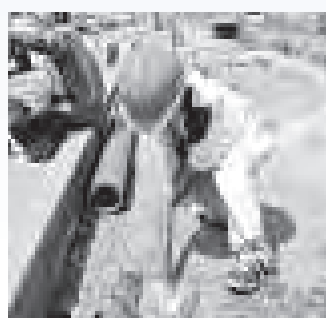
Gloriane Luna, daughter of Paul Luna, Senior Underground Distribution Construction Mechanic.



From left: Mark and Arielle Hanna, son and daughter of Mark Hanna, Electric Distribution Mechanic Supervisor/Foreman; and Katelynne Calderon, niece of Leonor Garcia, Principal Clerk Utility.



From left: Leonor Garcia, Principal Clerk Utility, with her son, Moses; Katelynne Calderon, niece of Leonor Garcia; and Elizabeth Olguin, daughter of Richard Olguin, Electric Distribution Mechanic.



Ashton Baron, son of Tracy Baron, Underground Distribution Construction Mechanic.



Goodie bags were distributed.



TAKE OUR CHILDREN TO WORK DAY

Dozens of children participated in the Harbor's Take Our Children to Work Day. Some of the planned activities included eating breakfast, "Port 101," the introduction of supervisors, departure to worksites, a harbor boat tour, a visit to the Maritime Museum, a demonstration by a bomb-sniffing dog and the distribution of goodie bags. Thanks to Martin Chavez.

Harbor



Off to their worksite.



From left: Diana Henderson, Club Member, with a colleague and her son.



From left: Malik Harbor, Nia Harbor, Mary Frances Sandovault, Lydell Dunlap, Alexis Tondreault and Emelia Santos.



From left: Club Member and Port Employee Adrienne Fedrick with Stewart Ramirez; Steven Funches; Leslie Dunlap; Brian Walker; and Kevin Jennings Jr. (front).



Future Engineers for the Harbor Dept.



Up close with the bulldozer.



Group effort!



Kevin Harbor, Club Member (back) with his children, Nia and Malik Harbor.



Back, from left: Paul Razkalla with Mr. Banks, Club Member. Front: William Russell; Erika Gloster; Erik Gloster; Stephon Banks; and John Gloster.



Thank you for participating and bringing your child to work.



Safety first...vest and hardhats go on before heading out for the day.



A future Harbor Employee.



From left: Anthony Wlanecki, Nikolas Wlanecki, Tamia Tolson and Quentin Ramos-Burke.

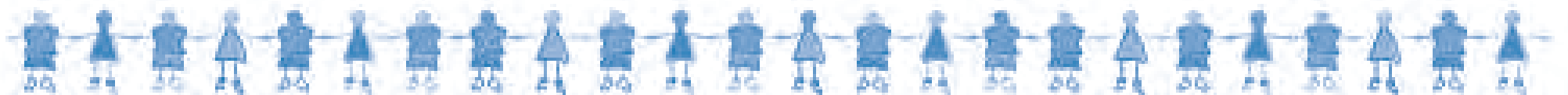


From left: Anthony and Nikolas Wlanecki.



A second attempt at a group effort.

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TAKE OUR CHILDREN TO WORK DAY



Rebeca Moreno, 9, looks down Fire Pole at FS 27.



Lydia Murphey-Chatman, 16.



Above: On the steps of City Hall were, from left (first row only): Inspector Lloyd Fukuda; Deputy John, Council; Nancy Hernandez, Council; Tanzi Cole; and Capt. Fred Fowlks.



Capt. Lawrence Jackson, EMS Training, with his daughters Lindsey, 7, and Ashley, 6.



Abraham Rojas, 9, at Fire Station 27.



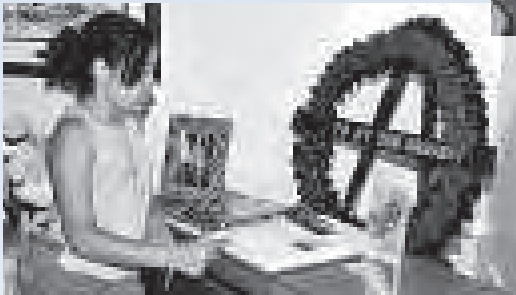
Tiffany Ching, 9, tries on a turnout coat at Fire Station 27.



In front of the Firefighter Museum, from left: Tanzi Cole, Fire Prevention Bureau; Candace Fowlks, 14; Gregory Cole, 12; Lydia Murphey-Chatman, 16; and Capt. Fred Fowlks, Fire Prevention Bureau.



Chief Mario Rueda with daughters, Francesca and Krissy.



Observing the 911 memorial book at the Firefighter Museum was Lizzette Munoz, 12.



Justin, 10, and Bianca Vela, 11.



From left: Lizette Munoz, 12 years, and Celeste Torres, 10 years, snacking in Training Conference Room.



Chief Willcox and sons Roger, 8, and Robert, 12, in City Hall's City Council Meeting.



Inspector John Williams with daughter, Alexandria, 7.



Chief Michael Thomas, Fire Prevention Bureau, with sons Myles, 12, and Mykhail, 7.



Jonathan Benn, 11, in front of an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) rig.



Alexandria Williams, 7, with a firefighter.



Matthew Vela, 10, at Fire Station 27.



Capt. Fred Fowlks, Fire Prevention Bureau, with Gregory Cole, 12.



Renay Moreno, 7, shows off a turnout coat.



Kristen Williams, 16, shows off a turnout coat.



TAKE OUR CHILDREN TO WORK DAY



Children of Fire Personnel in the Fire Commission Room with Fire Chief Douglas L. Barry.

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING!



Chikere McKnight, 8, shows off a turnout coat.



Trying on a turnout coat at Fire Station 27 was Natalie Benn, 10.



Brandon McGill, 11.



Tracye Gardner-Brooks, Personnel Services, with her son, Tre' Brooks, 13.



Savanna Emanuel, 12.



Capt. Antoine McKnight, with his daughter, Ayanna, 11.



Fred Vinson, 12 years old.



Inspector Vince Owens with his daughter, Lauryn Owens, 8.



Capt. Fred Fowlks, Fire Prevention Bureau, with daughter, Candace Fowlks, in the Fire Commission Room.



Phyllis Yoga, Personnel Services, with Aaron Wada.



Inspector Lloyd Fudkuda with daughters, Tiffany Ching, 9, and Kaycee Ching, 12, in the Fire Commission Room.



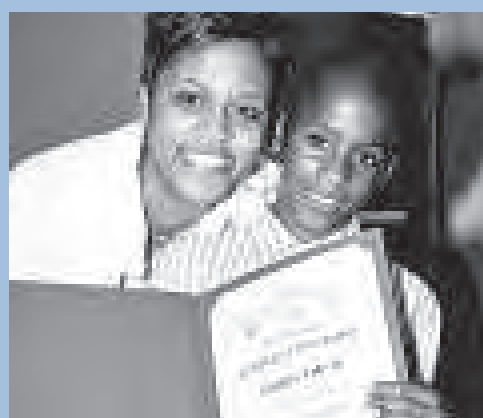
Elizabeth Torres, Fire Personnel, with children Gabriel, 12, and Celeste, 10.



Inspector Todd John Benn with son, Jonathan, and daughter, Natalie.



Redina Puentes, Fire Commission, with her son, Cesar.



Tanzi Cole, Fire Prevention Bureau, with son, Gregory Cole, 12.

