

* A Message From the CEO *

For June: City Heroes in Action

by **John Hawkins**
President and CEO, The Club

The first order of business this month is to give a round of applause to the hundreds of brave City Employees who first contained and then put out last month's savage and violent fire in Griffith Park. LAFD, Rec and Parks, General Services, Animal Services, LAPD, Transportation and the DWP, to name a few, all pulled together to do what your City does best: taking care of business, professionally and efficiently. The entire world was watching this fire; not a single home was lost, nor were there any significant injuries. It was a testament to superb training and preparation for disasters such as this by our City Employees.



To help you gain perspective on how big and dangerous this fire was, John Burnes (our very talented editor) and I scoured the City for pictures taken by City Employees. We then interviewed Chief Park Ranger Albert Torres and one of his Rangers, who were both there on the front lines during the fire ... and who will remain there for the years it will take for the park to recuperate. Read all about it and see the amazing photos on page 33.

Also in this issue, we have two great stories on how creativity, perseverance and ingenuity mix together to obtain efficient, renewable energy. The first story is about the Bureau of Sanitation's T.I.R.E. project, which takes biosolids (yes, biosolids; it's exactly what you think it is) and pumps them deep into the ground to eventually create methane for energy production. It's fascinating. The world is watching this one, and your fellow City Employees are making it happen.

The second story on renewable energy is about one of your fellow retirees, Ivan Forbes. He and his family have turned their home into the most amazing example of energy independence and efficiency. We have an exclusive interview for you as well as pictures and diagrams to see what he did.

We also have the winners of Dennis Zine's annual "Z" Awards for Excellence; Arlene Herrero and Angel Gomez's exclusive coverage of the Baker to Vegas Race, with the results and lots of pictures; a fascinating story by Hynda Rudd in *History Comes Alive*; coloring contest winners; and so much more.

So, once again, sit back and enjoy the best of what the City has to offer: stories and photos of its employees and retirees in action.

Have an awesome June!

JOHN

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Features

Alive! June 2007
The newspaper of the
City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Cover Story:

33 Fire in the Forest

Here are great pictures and accounts of fellow City employees who were there during the recent Griffith Park fire.



Page 33

8 Award for Librarian

City Librarian Fontayne Holmes wins prestigious national award.

14 Baker to Vegas Results

The results are in for the recent Baker to Vegas Challenge Relay Cup, and the three teams sponsored by the Club did just fine, thank you.

24 Transit Corridor Opens

The renovated Griffith Observatory opens its Gottlieb Transit Corridor feature.

25 Home Sweet Solar Home

Retiree Ivan Forbes has built a truly energy-efficient home.



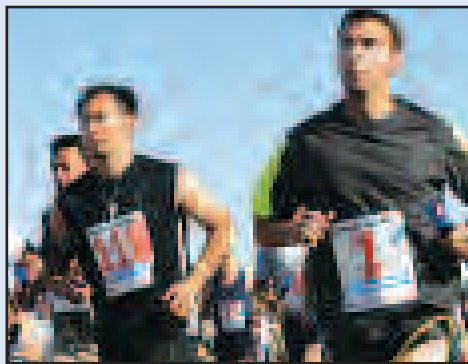
Page 25

46 Clean Energy From Waste

Sanitation breaks ground on the first project of its kind in the country, to turn biosolids into clean energy.

51 Palmdale Service

Scheduled, commercial air service is set to return to LA Palmdale Airport.



Page 14

58 The Z Awards

Councilman Dennis Zine hands out his annual awards for excellence in civil service.

Other City Department Coverage:

Airports

- Airport Police Graduate from TSA Program . . 6
- LA/Ontario Airport Donates Computers . . . 32
- LA/Ontario Airport Hosts Employee Appr. Day44

City

- Take Our Children to Work Day 20

Club

- Scholarship Deadline Approaches 6
- Club Enjoys Night at Dodger Stadium 7
- ClubFest 2007 Date Set: Oct 7, 2007 9
- Father's Day Tributes 13

DWP

- Lineman's Rodeo 57

Fire

- LAFD Open House 29

Public Works

- Two Win Toastmasters Trophies 9
- Contract Admin. Hosts Annual Picnic. 43

Rec & Parks

- Banning Residence Museum Hosts Exhibit. . 12
- Lots Festival Turns 30. 42

Sections & Columns

Adventures With Hal	54-55
Alive! Around the World	61
Be Alive!	10-11
Best Years	53
CEO Column	3
Classifieds	67
Club Store	70-71
Club Team and Counselors	4
Coloring Contest Winners	62
Cooking With the Club	68
Fire Marshal Hill	42
History Comes Alive!	30-31
Letters	5
Life's Important Moments	64-65
Movie, DVD Reviews	66
Picture Perfect Contest	45
Question of the Month	5
Rest Insured	57
Ticket and Gift Order Form	69
Tuned In	50
Word on the Street	4

Advertiser's Index

Brinks Home Security	24	LAPD Recruitment	60
Central City Boosters	7	Rosebud Marketing Group	66
Disneyland	63	SVG Inspection	9
EarnVacations.com	66	United Agencies	60
Global Ring Unlimited	8	Universal Studios	63
Haven House	32	Verizon	44
LA Federal Credit Union	32	Water and Power Community Credit Union	2

