

# Retirements

*A heartfelt thank you to these City employees for their years of service.*

HARBOR

## Goodbye, Margaret



Margaret Hernandez, Director of Small Business Enterprises, Harbor, Club Member.



The lighthouse awarded for Margaret's 28 years of service.



From left: Ricardo Hong, Harbor Area Director, Mayor's Office; Joeann Valle, Executive Director, Harbor City Harbor Gateway Chamber; and Rochelle Gonzalez, guest.



Petty Santos, MA II, Club Member, with her husband, Joaquin.



From left: Guests Seth Chavez, Priscilla Guadamuz and Diane Sallee.



Standing: Julie Wichmann-Huerta, Commission Admin. Officer, Club Member. Seated, from left: Marisela Caraballo, Legislative Rep; and Cecilia Moreno, Community Affairs Advocate, Club Member.

### Margaret Hernandez retires from the Port after 28 years of City service.

*Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Product Manager*

A celebration was held March 4 to honor the retirement of Margaret Hernandez, Director of Small Business Enterprises, and Club Member.

The party was held at the San Pedro Fish Market.

Here's a resolution presented to Margaret at the party:

"Whereas Margaret I. Hernandez is retiring after 28 years of dedicated service to the City of Los Angeles; and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez earned her Bachelor's degree in anthropology from Stanford University, attended the School of Law at Santa Clara University, is a graduate of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) and CORO Leadership Programs and completed the Port of Los Angeles Management Academy; and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez began her City career as a Clerk Typist in the Controller's Office in 1982; was promoted to the Harbor Department in 1983 before being promoted again to the Police Department in 1984; she returned to the Harbor Department in 1985, working her way up to the Director of Contracts and Purchasing in 2003, before becoming the Director of Small Business Enterprises in 2009; and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez received special recognition in 1992 for singlehandedly translating the Main Channel community newsletter in a timely manner; and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez received a Resolution from the Los Angeles Harbor Improvement Corporation in 1985 for her exceptional work as Administrative Assistant to the Chief Financial Office and the Assistant Treasurer; and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez has a long history of being an excellent party planner, evidenced by a Commendation received in 1985 for 'serving as the chief catalyst for an unprecedented, successful Christmas celebration of the division;' and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez, throughout her career, consistently received glowing reviews from her supervisors, which acknowledged her strong administrative and leadership skills, her ability to work under a heavy workload and her initiative to go above and beyond; and

"Whereas Ms. Hernandez demonstrated her dedication to community engagement by serving on the Boards of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the South Bay, Fiesta Corazon del Puerto Organizing Committee, Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce, Port of Los Angeles High School, South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce and Wilmington YMCA; and

"Whereas, from 2004 through 2006, Ms. Hernandez served as the Honorary Mayor of Wilmington; in 2004 was honored by being named Board Member of the Year of the South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce; and in 1997 was recognized by the Wilmington YMCA as the Board Member of the Year: Now therefore be it

"Resolved, that the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners extends its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Margaret I. Hernandez for her outstanding service to the City and Port of Los Angeles, and extends to her and her family its best wishes for health and happiness in the years to come."

*The Club congratulates Margaret on a great career, and wishes her well in the future. And the Club thanks Julie Wichmann-Huerta, Club Member, for her assistance.*



Back: Terrence Payne, guest. Seated, from left: Guests Diane Jackson, Teresa Walleette and Paulette Williams.



From left: Dorothy Randle, Business Development Manager, Mayor's Office; and Linda Smith, Executive Director LA MBOC.



From left: Port Police Chief Ronald Boyd, Club Member; Bruce Seaton, Retired, Interim General Manager; and Sgt. Ken Huerta, Club Member.



Standing, from left: Guests Steve Faichney and Yolanda De La Torre. Seated: Daisy Ybarra, guest; Maria Ybarra, guest; and Bill Orton with State Sen. Rodarick Wright.



Margaret Hernandez, Retiree, Club Member (third from left), with (from left) her husband, Leo Padilla; her daughter, Jacqueline; and her son, Gilbert.



From left: Margaret Hernandez, Retiree, Club Member; and Julie Wichmann-Huerta, Commission Admin. Officer, Club Member.



Back: John Holland, guest. Seated, from left: Guests Lupe Massey and Juanita Narango.



From left: Deidre Reyes, Sr. Admin Analyst, CAO; Ken Melendez, guest; Leticia Melendez, guest; and Irene Mendoza, Retired, Council District 15.



Andrew Benson, Harbor Special Events Coordinator, Club Member; and Amy Arnold, Data Management Analyst, Club Member.



From left: Sergio Rosales, MC Helper, Club Member; Rica Viola, Property Manager, Club Member; and Dennis Ogren, Retired Sr. MA II.



From left: Debra Grant, Retired Sr. MA II, Airports/LAX; and Susie Lamber, guest.

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Margaret Hernandez, Retiree, Club Member; with James Acevedo, former Board Commissioner.



From left: Margaret Hernandez, Retiree, Club Member; and Tish Lorenzana, Director of HR, Club Member.



From left: Margaret Hernandez, Retiree, Club Member; Rica Viola, Property Manager, Club Member.



Margaret Hernandez, Retiree, Club Member; and Ricardo Hong, Mayor's Office.



From left: Yolanda Brown, EAA, Club Member; Faye Jones, Sr. PA 1, Club Member; and Dora McClendon, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.



Standing, from left: Eileen Gray, Sr. Systems Analyst; Denise Galaz, Secretary, Club Member; and Donni Gray, MA II, Club Member. Seated: Beatriz Ramirez, Clerk Typist; Ana Peredia, Principal Clerk; and Phyllis Ninofranco, Clerk Typist, Club Member.



From left: John Ek, guest; Bruce Seaton, Retired, Interim General Manager; and James Acevedo, former Board Commissioner.



From left: Susan Prichard, guest; and Olivia Fernandez, Port Advisory Committee.



From left: Jacqueline, daughter of Margaret Hernandez; Neatriz Herrera, guest (center), with Retiree Margaret Hernandez's children: Jacqueline (left) and Gilbert.



From left: Rudy Meza, Port Police Officer, Club Member; Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member, and his daughter, Kristine; and Ted Fernandez, MA II, Club Member.



Back: Susan Schaefer, Retired Sr. MA, Club Member. Seated, from left: Mary Solis, guest; and Linda Vigil, Systems Chief Wharfinger, Club Member.



Julie Wichmann-Huerta, Commission Admin. Officer, Club Member; and Bob Henry, Commission Executive Officer, Club Member.



Luis and Abbe Rosas, guests.



Standing, from left: Lt. Dan Aleman, Retired, Club Member, with his wife, Wanda. Seated: Stacey Xenios, Admin. Assistant, Port Police; Pete Xenios, LAFD Engineer; and Sally Higman, guest.



From left: Daniel Villaneda, TCO2, Finance; Amira, daughter; Daniel Aguilera, guest; and Nilza Serrano, guest.



From left: Gilbert Gallahar, guest; Michael Manio, guest; and Cecelia Railey, Purchasing, Harbor.



Maria Garcia, Labor Custodian, Club Member, and her husband, Fred.



From left: Veronica Soto, guest; Michael Bejarano, guest; and Rose Cote, Business Outreach Coordinator, Airports/LAX.



From left: Gil Flores, Retired, Landscape Architect; Mimi Gutierrez, Civil Engineering Associate II, Club Member; and Daryl Pan, Student Worker.



From left: Richard Lorenzana, Wharfinger; Tish Lorenzana, Director of HR, Club Member; and Bruce Seaton, Retired, Interim General Manager.



From left: Carol Wianeki, Property Manager II; Dave Chrisman, Carpenter Supervisor, Club Member; and Stella Catanzarite, Harbor, Deputy CDD.

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## PUBLIC WORKS

### So Long, Abe

**Nasir 'Abe' Rasheed retires from Public Works/Accounting after 38 years of City service.**

*Story and photos courtesy Public Works*

A party was held March 9 for Nasir "Abe" Rasheed, who retired from Public Works/Accounting after 38 years of City service. The party was held at Golden Coast Buffet in Alhambra.

Abe Rasheed retired as a Principal Accountant II/Division Manager of the General Accounting Division in the Board of Public Works, Office of Accounting.

He began his City career in 1972 when he joined the Department of Traffic, now Transportation, as an accountant.

In 1974, he was promoted to Administrative Assistant with the LAFD and, in 1977, he was promoted to Senior Accountant II with Rec and

Parks. While there, he was a member of its Affirmative Action Advisory Committee and its "E" Team.

In 1989, he was promoted to Public Works/Accounting, now the Office of Accounting, where he works today as a Principal Accountant II, serving as the General Accounting Division Manager.

In 1997, he was the recipient of a Productivity Award as a member of a team from Accounting, Sanitation, General Services and the Controller's Office, which implemented improved procedures for faster procurement and expedited payments to vendors at Hyperion.

During his service in the Bureau of Accounting, Abe served on the Affirmative Action Advisory Committee and various strategic planning committees, both at the department and bureau level.

He received a certificate for membership in the Department's 800 Club, signifying the accu-

mulation of at least 800 hours of unused sick time.

Frequently, Abe has volunteered to serve on interview panels for both Personnel and other governmental agencies.

Abe has also participated in ongoing professional development and received a certificate from the UCLA Leadership for the 21st Century program.

He is affiliated with a number of professional and employee organizations: A Past President of LAMAAA, the Los Angeles Municipal Accountants and Auditors Association, a professional association of City Accountants and Auditors; and a member of the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers, the Institute of Internal Auditors and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

He has also been actively involved with the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union for the last 18 years. Currently, Abe is Secretary of the Credit Union's Supervisory Committee.



Abe holds a teaching credential for the Board of Public Works Executive Officer James Gibson presents Abe with his City Service Award certificate.

California Community colleges.

In his spare time, Abe enjoys photography. He is married and has two children and two grandchildren.

*The Club congratulates Abe on his distinguished career. Special thanks go to Tommy Siu for his assistance in producing this article.*



Abe with his wife and some of his staff. From left: Samitha Wijayarathne; Violeta Tan; Abe; Billie Domingo; Abe's wife, Suraiya; and Vince Diego.



Coworkers congratulate Abe on his retirement.



Abe is presented with his City Service Award. From left: Board of Public Works Commissioner Andrea Alarcon; Board of Public Works President Cynthia Ruiz; Abe and his wife, Suraiya; Board of Public Works Executive Officer James Gibson; and Board of Public Works Commissioner Paula Daniels.

## PLANNING

### Myra Moves On



From left: Myra Vines, Retiree, Club Member, with Tyna Hall, event organizer.

**Myra Vines retires from Planning after 33 years of City service.**

*Story and photos by Eboné Moses, Club Counselor*

A luncheon event was held to honor Myra Vines upon her retirement. The party was held March 11 at the Hop Li Seafood Restaurant downtown.

She retired as a Sr. Clerk Typist, Planning. Myra Vines' retirement was an extra-special event filled not only with co-workers, friends and family, but also with history. I learned that she played an instrumental role in the movement to reach fair pay and benefits for City Clerks in the 1970s.

Here's a resolution produced for her by her local union:

"Whereas, Myra Vines has served the union [ACEA Local 3090 AFSCME] as a steward, bargaining team member, vice president and chair of the Council 36 Women's Committee;

"Whereas, Myra Vines has worked in LACERS, the City Attorney's Office, and the Planning Department;

"Whereas, Myra Vines has served the union and the City with distinction from March 8, 1977 until March 11, 2010;

"Now, therefore be it resolved that, ACEA Local 3090 AFSCME wishes to congratulate Myra Vines for her years of service to the Union.

"Be it finally resolved that ACEA Local 3090 AFSCME, friends and family will come together to celebrate 33 years of dedicated service."

*Congratulations on your retirement, Myra! And thanks to Tyna Hall for providing assistance in the production of this article.*



Belinda Hill, Club Member; Alice Drisdell, Club Member; Etta Bonner, Club Member; and Olga Hudson.



From left: Gwen Cosby; Kevin Golden, Club Member; and Anita Bizzell, Club Member.



From left: Gloria Unterburger with Myra Vines, Retiree.



From left: Edna Tinsley, Club Member; Cherry Yap; and Carmencia Ty.



From left: Shielah Hurrell, Carmen H. Walker, Myra Vines and Kathy Peters.



Myra Vines, Retiree, Club Member, with Herman Van Buren, Club Member and the master of ceremonies for the event.



Cheryl Parisi, Executive Director, Council 36, AFSCME.



Alice Goff, President, Local 3090, Clerical and Support Services, AFSCME.



From left: Joey Vasquez; Andy Montealegre; Lateef Sholebo, Club Member; Janice Johnson, Club Member; Ron Mabey; Kevin Jones, Club Member; Carl Morgan, Club Member; and Charlie Rausch.



Neda and Sterling Barnes.



From left: Maxine Hall, Club Member; Ronnie Hinds; and Mewland Watanabe, Club Member.



From left: Kevin and Keith Vines, sons and Ernest and Myra Vines; Ondria Leary, sister-in-law; Katrina Green and Thea Hall, granddaughters; and Carl Hill, family friend.

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## LAPD

### Judy Takes Her Last Call



From left: Jennifer Cooke, Judy Ruiz, Jon Ruiz and Jessica Ruiz.



From left: Michelle Willis, PSR III, Club Member; Judy Ruiz, retiree; and Megan Peer, PSR III, Club Member.



Judy Ruiz says her good-byes to friends and family.



Judy Ruiz and Stan Ludwick.

**Judy Ruiz retires from 911 Operators/LAPD after 35 years of City service.**

Story and photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager

After 35 years of City service, Judy Ruiz, PRS AIII, has retired. A reception was held March 30 in her honor at Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills.

She began her career as an RTO in June 1974, and was promoted to PRS III in July 2002. She is a big fan of the Dodgers, and scrap-booking is one of her hobbies.

Judy, the Club thanks you for all your years of City service and wish you well in the future. You will be missed.

And thanks to Jean Sarfaty for assisting us with this article.



From left: Judy Ruiz and Capt. Regina Scott.



From left: Jean Sarfaty and Judy Ruiz.



From left: Charlene Johnson, PSR III, Club Member; Nalisia Bradford, PSR III, Club Member; Judy Ruiz, retiree; Beth Hicks, Senior PSR II; and Cheryl K. Fair, PSR III.



Judy Ruiz and Lt. Mike Yang.



From left: Sgt. Mark Chong; Judy Ruiz, retiree; Capt. Regina Scott; and Lt. Mike Yang.



Judy Ruiz and Tony, the event host.



From left: Judy Ruiz and Cathy Bushey, Club Member.



Judy Ruiz and Ted Steiner.



From left: Nicole Carr, PSR II, Club Member, with her husband, Randy; Judy Ruiz, retiree; and Pam Liske, PSR II.

## BUILDING AND SAFETY

### Ruby Retires



Ruby's family.



From left: Cora Soriano, host, with Ruby de Vera and Bernardo Bernardo, entertainer.



Ruby de Vera and her husband, Andy.

**Ruby de Vera retires from Building and Safety after 14 years of City service.**

Story by Cora Soriano, CDD

Friends, family and co-workers gathered April 9 to celebrate the retirement of Ruby de Vera, who retired from Building and Safety after 14 years of City service.

The dinner/dance, hosted by Cora Aragon Soriano, CDD and President, Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE), was held at the Sheraton downtown.

State Senator Carol Liu and Councilmembers Jose Huizar and Tom LaBonge presented Ruby with resolutions and certificates. Henry Tongson, Building and Safety, and Cora Aragon Soriano from LAFACE, presented Ruby with Certificates of Appreciation.

Ruby's family; friends from LAFACE, Kiwanis, Manila High School, FABAG, Filipino American Community of Eagle Rock, FilAm Democrats Caucus, City employees, and St. Dominic Church; and June Lagmay, City Clerk's Office, attended the event.

Entertainer Bernardo Bernardo, a former schoolmate of Ruby from Manila High School, entertained the guests with a variety of Filipino and English songs.

Ruby started her career in the City Feb. 12, 1996, when she was appointed as Field Deputy for the 14th District by Councilmember Richard Alatorre. She covered the area of Eagle Rock and, in a span of three and a half years, accomplished the restoration of the old Eagle Rock Library into the Eagle Rock Community Center;



Cora Soriano, LAFACE President, with Board Members' Certificate and gift presentation.



The presentation of a certificate from Building and Safety.

organized the Concerts in the Park and the Farmers Market; and produced other accomplishments that improved the community.

In 1999, Ruby joined the staff of Council District 13 as Community Advocate under Councilmember Jackie Goldberg and covered the areas of Glassell Park, Mt. Washington, Atwater Village and Elysian Valley. She helped create two monument signs with the help of the Chamber of Commerce. A sidewalk near the Mt. Washington School was made possible by Ruby's efforts for the safety of the students who walk to and from school.

She also organized the senior lunch program at Chevy Chase Recreation Center.

In 2001, Ruby worked as Office Manager for District 1 under Councilmember Ed Reyes and was placed in charge of the office administration. She later moved to the Demand Audit Section of the Controller's Office, and for the past two and a half years, she worked at Building & Safety.

Ruby's civic involvement includes:

- President of the Glassell Park Improvement Association
- President of the Northeast Democratic Club
- President of the Filipino American Business Association of Glendale
- President of the Pilipino American Community of Eagle Rock

- President of the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees, and
- Founding President of the Filipino American Kiwanis Club of Glendale.

Ruby has also served on the following boards:

- Finance Council of the Archdiocese of LA
- The Glendale Adventist Medical Center
- The Right to Life League of Southern California, and
- The Pilipino American Los Angeles Democrats.

Ruby has received many awards, including:

- Woman of the Year of the 55th Assembly District
- Democrat of the Year of the 45th Assembly District, and
- Woman Making a Difference in the City of Los Angeles, Citizen of the Year of the Corregidor Lions Club, and Businesswoman of the Year for the tri-cities of Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena.

In addition, she has been recognized by the federal, state and local governments for her outstanding community service.

On retirement, Ruby plans to concentrate more time doing her community service.

*Congratulations to Ruby from the Club!*



Mr. L.A. Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Club Member, congratulates Ruby de Vera and presents her with his famous gift, a loaf of bread.



Ruby with Manila High School classmates.



LAFACE members with Building and Safety/Controller's staff.



Councilmember Jose Huizar and Ruby's Kiwanis and Democrat friends.