

THIS MONTH AT THE Dispatcher Minor Honored Airport Police Dispatcher Denise Minor, Club Member, is recognized by Westchester Elks for her service.

Story courtesy Sgt. Karla I. Ortiz, Airport Police: Photo courtesy Airport Police Officer Lacy Justice

Airport Police Communications Information Representative (CIR) Denise Minor, 4 years of City service, was recognized March 5 at Westchester Elks Lodge Law Enforcement Night.

Over the past four years, Denise has become known as a dispatcher with a great attitude, and someone who is always happy. Her supervisor, Maria I. Peraza said, "Denise has volunteered several times to cover shifts

at the last minute, making it easier for supervisors to cover the shifts, and easier for co-workers since they don't have to be forced to stay."

The job of a dispatcher can be very stressful; dispatchers in the Airports Dept. are required to monitor approximately four different frequencies including Airport Police Officers, Los Angeles Airport Traffic and Security, Van Nuys Airport and the LAPD. Approximately 100 officers on any given day are continuously monitored by the Communications Unit, including

those at Van Nuys Airport, LAX Patrol, Traffic and Security, Motor Unit, K-9 Unit, Emergency Response Unit, Operation Safe Entry and several other specialized units. Despite this stressful environment, Denise continues to maintain a professional and a positive attitude. She also surprises co-workers with baked goods without expecting anything in return.

Denise also takes a personal interest when helping passengers calling for help, often using her own resources to ensure that property gets back to its rightful owner. One particular instance involved a distraught husband looking for his elderly wife who suffered from dementia and who had been missing for several hours. Denise stayed on the phone with the husband and gathered all the necessary information to help Airport Police Officers locate his wife. Once Airport Police Officers found the woman, Denise asked officers to bring her to Communications Unit, where Denise made sure she had something to eat and drink. With the approval of the husband, Denise then made arrangements to book the couple a hotel room for the night, and made sure they got there safely.

Minor not only performs her job with dedication, generosity, concern for the well-being of others, passion and joy, but she exemplifies the Airport Police mission and values to treat all people with respect and dignity, and to put service before self.



From left: Airport Police Chief Patrick Gannon, Communications Information Representative III Denise Minor, Club Member; Chief Communications Operator Dawn Smith, Club Member; Communications Supervisor Maria Peraza, Club Member; and Assistant Chief Brian Walker, Club Member.

PLAY BALL!

Dodgers, Angels Tickets: Select Games.

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REC AND PARKS

Cabrillo Gala Set for May

Aquarium to present its annual Grunion Gala fundraiser.

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (FCMA) plans to host the annual Grand

Carl and Marge Lundgren –
Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller Grunion Gala Saturday, May 4, at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro. More than 400 guests including business and community leaders, elected officials, scientists, educators and supporters of the Aquarium are expected to attend the black-tie optional affair. The nonprofit's largest fundraiser benefits the aquarium's educational programs, exhibits and displays, and raises more than \$200,000 annually. This year's gala will feature live and silent auctions offering opportunities for great getaways, entertainment, dining, unique adventures, fine art, and

Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller **Education Award**

Through their generous research endowment to the aquarium and their annual sponsorship of the Young Scientists Symposium, the Lundgrens have generously supported ocean science education.

Individual tickets are \$225 per person (\$200 per person if received by April 5). For more information, call (310) 548-7593 or email gala@cmaqua.org.

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose

mission is to provide support and resources to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a Rec and Parks facility. The aquarium serves more than 300,000 visitors each year, of which 150,000 are schoolchildren on free fieldtrips. The aquarium's staff of scientists, educators, support professionals and volunteers work to increase public awareness, education and concern for the marine environment. Recognized as one of the best teaching aquariums in the world, CMA has a more than 75-year record of innovation and excellence as an important educational resource for the residents and visitors of Los Angeles.

Honorees include: ■ County Supervisor Don Knabe -John M. Olguin Marine Environment

Supervisor Knabe will be recognized for his demonstrated significant contributions to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, education, youths and environment.

■ Yvonne Bogdanovich -Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Leadership **Award**

As a longtime aquarium champion and community philanthropist, Yvonne has demonstrated exceptional leadership and notable contributions to the enhancement of the Cabrillo community.



Mike Schaadt, Director of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and Club Member, welcomes you to the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.



Fishing

With Larry

Saturday, Apr. 13 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Join CMA's Programs Director Larry Fukuhara

for a morning of fishing on Cabrillo Pier. Meet at the Aquarium at 9 a.m. for registration, then it's

over to the nearby pier. Larry will assist in rigging tackle, fishing techniques,

etiquette and fish identification. Bring your fishing

gear! If you don't have any, hand lines will be provided.

Children 12 and under

an adult.

must be accompanied by

• Reservations required:

Larry Fukuhara at

(310) 548-7562, ext. 223.

• Free, open to all.

• Parking: \$2

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (310) 548-7410

www.cabrill marine a quarium.org/support.asp



www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org

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