

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

No. 21 in a series.



Meet Robert Torres.

AGE: "I'm 60."
BIRTHPLACE: "Council Bluffs, Iowa."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "1977."
MARITAL STATUS: "Single."
FAMILY: "I have six brothers and six sisters."
RELIGION: "Catholic."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "Being at home with my family."
MILITARY: "I was in the Marine Corps."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "Right here at Main and Third."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school in Council Bluffs."
WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "I worked with a private investigator back in Iowa."
IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE? "To go home to Iowa."
WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF FIVE YEARS FROM NOW? "Home in Iowa."
FAVORITE SPORTS: "Football."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Spanish food."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "I love James Bond movies and Westerns like *High Noon*."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "I like 'em all."
FAVORITE ACTRESS: "I like 'em all, too."
WHAT'S THE LAST BOOK YOU READ? "It was a spy book, a paperback."
FAVORITE TV SHOWS: "*Mannix* and *Cannon*."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "Rock 'n' roll, jazz, big band ... I love big band."
FAVORITE CANDY: "Snickers."
LAST THING HE HAD TO EAT: "I had some burritos last night."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "Right here."
DO YOU BELIEVE IN ALIEN LIFE FORMS? "Yes."
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE IRAQ WAR? "I'm sorry it's going on."
IF YOU WERE THE MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES, WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO HELP THE HOMELESS? "Build more missions."
WHAT ORGANIZATION HAS HELPED YOU THE MOST? "Union Rescue Mission."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Sleep and eat. Be healthy."
IF YOU HAD A MILLION DOLLARS, WHAT WOULD YOU DO? "I'd buy a motorcycle."

The Club gave Robert a McDonald's gift certificate, some cash, snacks, and a Club tote bag.

This interview took place in Aug. 17 at Main and Third Streets, downtown.

Newsbriefs

CHIVAS SOCCER CAMPS:

Chivas USA resumes its 2009 "Chivas at the Park" youth soccer clinics into October, with two dates. The program is a partnership between the professional soccer organization and Rec and Parks, and the clinics are held at Department facilities.

Three 90-minute sessions will be conducted each day by Chivas USA coaches, with up to 200 kids ages 5-15 per session. The clinics will also include information about nutrition and wellness for participants and their families, and promote development of children through education and involvement in productive and rewarding activities.

The remaining 2009 "Chivas at the Park" clinic schedule is:

- Oct. 3: Boyle Heights Sports Center, 933 Mott St., Los Angeles, 90023, (323) 264-5136; and
- Oct. 10, Whittsett Fields Park, 12240 Archwood St., N. Hollywood, 91605, (818) 765-5885



Activities will begin at 9 a.m. each day and go until 2 p.m. (clinic times are 9 and 10:45 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.). Participants will also receive a soccer ball or T-shirt, vouchers for two free tickets to see Chivas play at the Home Depot Center (with discounts for family members), and a certificate of completion. In all, 15 clinics will be held in 2009.

Pre-registration for clinics is preferred and available at www.chivasatthepark.com. The cost is \$5 per child per session; scholarships can be given on an as-needed basis, but no one will be turned away unless a session is full, and kids can go to as many as they like.

MAR VISTA FALL FESTIVAL:

Mar Vista Recreation Center, a Rec and Parks facility at 11430 Woodbine Ave. on the Westside, will hold its 2009 Community Fall Festival on Sat., Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Mar Vista Goes Green" is a free event presented by Rec and Parks, the Mar Vista Park Advisory Board, and the Mar Vista Community Council. The goal is to increase awareness of and participation in protecting the environment – and have some fun.

Entertainment will include performances by the Stilt Circus troupe, the Red Ribbons square dance group, the Summer of Love show featuring live music from the 1960s and '70s and band members sporting styles from the era, and more.

For children there will be a morning puppet show by Kiddle Karoo and her Kooky Krew, promoting environmental awareness. The rest of the day will have a Kidz Go Green Zone with nine inflatable slides, bouncers, arts and crafts led by and using recycled materials provided by the Rediscover Center, face painting, games, and a petting zoo.

Students from area preschools through middle schools will be able to display their work at a youth art show. In addition, professional artists will present their own accomplished works, and an artisan marketplace will give festival-goers a chance to purchase arts and crafts.

Organizations with demonstrations and exhibits will include Heal the Bay, Ballona Institute, Surfrider Foundation, Buy Green, EcoPlum, L.A. Rainwater Harvesting Program, The Garden Nerd, Certified Wellness, and Reptile and Amphibian Rescue Network. There will also be information on recycling, composting, water conservation, and drought-tolerant landscapes.

Attendees who want to reduce their carbon footprint by riding a bicycle to the event will receive free valet service from Bikerowave, which will also provide information on how to keep bikes in good condition, and perform minor repairs at no charge.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase. For more information about the Mar Vista Community Fall Festival, call (310) 398-5982.



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins and Director of Member Services Angel Gomez introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell. }