

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

People We See

Shelterless in Los Angeles.

No. 79
in a series.



Sponsored by:
Terry Yeager and Associates



Meet Lynell Johnson

AGE: "I'm 69."
BIRTHPLACE: "Marysville, Calif."
MARITAL STATUS:
 "I was married, but my wife passed away. I blame myself for her passing."
FAMILY:
 "I had one brother who passed away. When he was young, my dad took my brother on a trip to Japan. Somewhere along the way, or in Japan, he was bitten by a tsetse fly. He died seven days later. My mom always blamed my dad, which is why they eventually divorced."
EDUCATION:
 "I went to one year of junior college; it was part of the JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act) work project."
MEDICATION:
 "Yes, for Bipolar Disease. In fact, it's the bipolar combined with alcohol that puts me on the streets. Sometimes I think I can get by without my bipolar meds. I think I can 'self-medicate.' But that just means abusing alcohol. You start off feeling better; things seem better. But then you just don't care about anything. You don't care about what you are wearing or your hygiene, and worst of all you don't care where you are living. I've been off and on the streets for 25 years because of this."
MILITARY SERVICE: "No."
RELIGION: "Methodist."
SPORTS: "I like golf."
WHEN MOVED TO L.A.:
 "I moved to East L.A. when I was 10, from Marysville, Calif. Then I moved to South Central where I went to John C. Fremont High School."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
 "Right here on the corner."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:
 "The beach, Santa Monica. I like to just sit there and listen to the waves and look at Catalina."
INTERESTS: Music, golf and horses.
FAVORITE MOVIE: "The Last Goodbye with Faye Dunaway and David Carradine."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "The Fugitive, and I really love Perry Mason."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "Clark Gable."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Steak."
FAVORITE CANDY: "\$100,000 Bar."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "R&B."
LAST BOOK READ: "I read three books a week. I love reading."
LAST JOB:
 "I used to sell classic cars. My favorite was the Rolls-Royce."
LAST THING EATEN: "Chicken."
IF GIVEN \$1 MILLION:
 "Being that I was studying business in college, and I used to own a second-hand store on Main Street, I would put the money into a mental health business. I would want to do something different than what is being done now. Right now it's more of a cookie-cutter approach; I would make it more individualized."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "Hope."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:
 "Stay grounded, and believe in something."

The wife of a Club Member, who wishes to remain anonymous, handmade and then donated about 20 beautiful scarves to Club Angels for 'People We See.' In the photos at left, you can see the scarves on Lynell and another shelterless person.

The Club gave Lynell a Bucket and a Blanket, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.

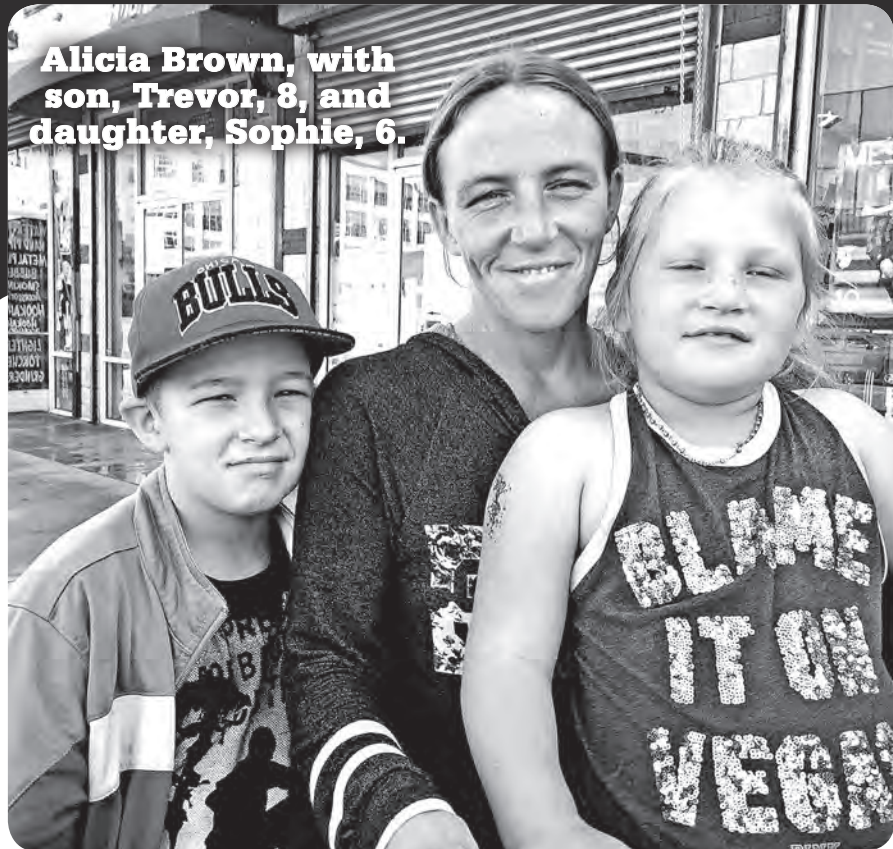
The interview, conducted by John Hawkins, took place Dec. 14 at Third and Los Angeles Streets downtown.

The Generosity of our Members

A shelterless person wears a beautiful scarf handmade by the wife of a Club Member who wishes to remain anonymous.

Lynell Johnson (left) and Club CEO John Hawkins on the streets downtown. Lynell wears a scarf handmade and donated by the wife of a Club Member.

{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, and Director of Sales 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. }



Alicia Brown, with son, Trevor, 8, and daughter, Sophie, 6.

Club Angels



Club Members stepped up to help the Brown family go home.

In November, *Alive!* published a "People We See" column telling the tough details of the shelterless Brown family – James and Alicia Brown, and their children, Trevor, 8, and Sophie, 6 – get back home to Michigan.

At the time, Club Angels – the Club's official charitable outreach – paid for bus tickets for the Brown family to get back home, and requested donations to fill the coffers.

Club Members responded, donating nearly \$1,100 at press time for the cause. That's great; Club Angels thanks all who opened their hearts and participated.

If you're interested in donating, information is below.

As for an update on the Brown family, there's no way to know officially if they made it back to Michigan, except to say that the Club has not seen them on the streets. If anyone has any further information, please drop us a line at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

You Helped the Browns

How to Help

Club Angels accepts checks of any amount. Donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.

Send checks of any amount to:

Club Angels
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Club Angels is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions to Club Angeles are tax-deductible as defined by the U.S. tax code. Consult your tax professional.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach and includes the Buckets and Blankets, the Joannie Mukai Club Scholarship program, and other initiatives.

Please use the form below to send in your check or charge your credit card.

Club Angels: Won't You Help?

Club's charity, Club Angels, continues its campaign to help those around us in need.

During the fall and winter, Club Angels, the Club's charity, helps those around us in need with blankets and buckets of supplies, and other forms of assistance.

Club Members can give to this full-fledged charity.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach. Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. – the Club Angels program – is a Club-derived charity that formalizes the Club's charitable initiatives. Club Angels now includes the charitable outreaches you read about here in *Alive!* – including the Buckets and Blankets program, plus the Joannie Mukai Club Scholarships, the Club

Holiday Toy Drive, and other initiatives – and builds a framework for others to come.

John Hawkins, Club Angels board member, said: "A bucket of personal goods and a blanket during the cold months can make a huge difference to those living on the streets. We all can make a difference."

Helping Those in Need

In 2012, the charity's first year, Club Angels raised more than \$2,100. With that sum, Club Angels bought more than 300 blankets for the residents of the streets of downtown Los Angeles. Club Angels contributed the remainder to the Mukai Scholarships and other City Employees charities.



How to Help

Yes! I want to help those in need. Count me in.



Send this completed form to:
Club Angels
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Enclosed is my check (made out to Club Angels) for \$ _____.

Please bill my credit card in the amount of \$ _____.



Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration - CV# Last 3 digits on back of card

Signature

Please provide the following information so we can send you a receipt:

Name

Home Street Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone

Club Member Number (if you are a member):

Club Angels is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions to Club Angeles are tax-deductible as defined by the U.S. tax code. Consult your tax professional.

Your donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.