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Bailey Named to List of U.S. Top 100 Women



Transportation Superintendent Leilia Bailey curtsies after being presented with a bouquet of roses at a party celebrating her selection as one of the top 100 Black Business and Professional Women in the United States. Labor Relations Manager Roger Kundert toasts her in the background.

Transportation Superintendent-Labor Relations Leilia Bailey was elected as one of America's top 100 Black Business and Professional Women by the editorial board of *Dollars & Sense* magazine. The magazine, based in Chicago and distributed nationally, will profile Ms. Bailey in their special June/July issue.

In a recent interview, Leilia expressed her excitement on having been selected. "I'm very honored and elated over being chosen. When you consider this took in all of America, you are talking about some stiff competition. I didn't think my chances were that good," she said.

Those who consider Leilia's professional advancement at the RTD nothing short of meteoric, and there are many, would have disagreed with

her own assessment of her chances. Those observers remember Leilia Bailey as a single mother of four who in 1971 started with the RTD as a bus operator. The year before, Leilia had arrived in Los Angeles from her native New Orleans where she owned and operated a daycare center for infants. In California she thought she wanted to continue her career in early childhood education. Driving a bus was a means to make the capital she needed to start her own daycare business.

But once she examined the RTD organizational structure she discovered the wealth of opportunity available, the District seemed the most promising option. For her the deciding factor was the tuition reimbursement program. She enrolled at

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New Bus Service Policy Guarantees Minimum Levels

The RTD Board of Directors, on April 10, approved a new, comprehensive set of service policies that guarantee minimum bus service levels throughout the District's 2,280 square-mile service area.

The new policies guarantee a minimum service level to areas of the District based on population density. The more people that live in an area, the higher the minimum service level. The vast majority of the system will continue to operate above the minimum levels because the demand for service in these areas is high. The new policies guarantee that at least 90 percent of the present bus service levels be maintained, although some lines may be rerouted and some service removed.

Other key aspects of the program call for the maintenance of the District's regional bus lines and provides that weekend service be given priority attention over night and holiday service. Some weekend service and local circulation routes may be reduced, however, the District would work with the affected municipalities and the private sector in an effort to maximize maintenance of service for the transit dependent.

This new set of comprehensive policies guarantees that a regional system will remain in place and that as many patrons as possible will receive services should the District be forced to make extensive service cuts.

The District formulated the policies because of new Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) regulations and because the RTD may lose its federal operating assistance. The District currently obtains \$48 million in such assistance and President Reagan's budget calls for elimination of all operating assistance to every transit operator in the nation, includ-

ing the RTD.

The District already has seen its federal assistance slashed \$17 million since 1981, despite dramatic increases in ridership and demand for services.

The RTD already laid plans to trim service as a result of anticipated federal cuts of up to \$12 million next fiscal year. Some of these changes will go into place June 29, with additional service cuts anticipated in the fall and winter.

The plan ensures an orderly process in providing that officials from every city in the region and the private sector be involved in the planning process before final service changes are submitted to the RTD Board. The plan also stresses regional lines over local circulation routes and mandates that substantial weekend service levels be maintained should cuts be forced.

The plan was formulated following a number of meetings with elected officials and transportation staffs from the majority of the 84 cities in the District's service area.

These policies were submitted for review to these officials, as well as representatives of the private sector, before the Board finalized their plans. Input from the private and public sectors shape the plan which stresses maintenance of a regional system over frequency of bus service.

General Manager John A. Dyer noted that the RTD Board could opt to implement the entire plan if the District loses its entire federal operating subsidy, or a portion of it should subsidy levels be reduced proportionally. The Board also could opt to both implement the plan or a portion of it and raise fares, although no fare increases are planned for the coming year.

Division 3308 Takes No. One Spot In Equipment Maintenance Recognition Competition



Division 3308 Manager Emilio Caballero accepts the Division of the Quarter trophy from Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis on behalf of his employees.

The light gleamed off the new trophy held aloft by Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis. "You are Number 1," he said to the first-shift maintenance employees at Division 8 gathered for the Equipment Maintenance Recognition Program awards ceremony held May 1. Division 8 was chosen Division of the Quarter for Winter 1986. "What a team effort. This is what happens when everyone pulls together," remarked Davis as he presented the floating trophy and a permanent plaque to Division 8 Manager Emilio Caballero.

According to Maintenance Superintendent Jack Eich, making the final selection was an ordeal. "The competition was stiff. I came out and checked your equipment and you didn't even know it," Eich told employees.

The program committee members, Maintenance Superintendents Sam Singer and Jack Eich, Supervisor

Michael Bottone, Staff Assistants Anne Aguerrebere and Annadean Arroyo, Equipment Specialist Harold Peterson, and Personnel Analyst Kathi Harper evaluated the performance of each division and each employee qualifying for the competition.

The criteria used to judge each operating division consists of absenteeism improvement, miles between road calls, repeat road calls, cleanliness of coaches and work locations, safety, late pull outs, cancellations, wheelchair lifts, and VMS log on/off.

Division 8 demonstrated the greatest overall improvement rating, thus was chosen the Division of the Quarter.

Monetary awards going to Division 8 included \$250 for Division Manager Emilio Caballero, \$150 to Supervisor II John Fisher, \$100 to Supervisor I Joe Arana, \$100 to Sec-

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Division 9 Operator Chosen Mother of the Year

Division 9 Operator Aurora L. Nunez, 53, was selected "Mother of the Year" in the *Headway*-sponsored competition. The contest encouraged all RTD youngsters to write a brief description of their mothers, telling the *Headway* how terrific they are. Of the descriptions received, Aurora's daughter Leticia Colchado's was selected as the best nomination and for that, her mom received a check for \$100 from the *Headway* and a \$25 gift certificate from the Employee Activities Department.

Aurora, a mother of six and grandmother of eight, was surprised and excited on receiving the honor. "I didn't know that Leticia had sent in the letter. I thought it was a very nice letter, though," she said.

Aurora has driven for the District seven-and-a-half years. "I love it. I like being out there with the people. Incidentally, the father of all my six children drives for RTD. Also, my daughter Griselda is a cash-counting clerk for the District and her husband, Chris Rodriguez, is a driver out of Division 10," she said. Her eldest son is a West Point graduate who will receive his Masters degree in Engineering this month.

Leticia, a sophomore at San Gabriel Mission High School, is planning now to attend the University of California at Santa Barbara. Her goal is to become a lawyer. "That's why I'm still working," said Aurora. "I want to give her the best education. She's very intelligent, gets good grades. I'll put her through college," she says with determination.

As a mother and a grandmother, Aurora has tried to instill proper values in her children. "I have felt that was my purpose; to show them how to live properly, teach them to believe in God."



Division 9 Operator Aurora L. Nunez, a mother of 6, was chosen Mother of the Year in the *Headway*-sponsored competition. She is presented with a check for \$100 by Transportation Superintendent Ralph Wilson (far right), and a \$25 gift certificate to the Employee Activities Department by the Personnel Department's Visiting Nurse Elia Hager (far left). With Aurora is her daughter Leticia who nominated her mother for the honor.

A sense of family is most important to Aurora. "We are a close family and even though most of my children are married, I still help them with decision-making. I always try to be a mother and a friend to my kids."

What she wants for her children is that they all should have a good life. "I want them not to suffer. I do what I can to make their lives more pleasant."

Aurora, sitting next to Leticia, reaches over to smooth her daughter's hair. Leticia smiles. This reporter asks if she thinks she's spoiled. "Yes, I'm spoiled," Leticia says as she cracks up into laughter. "Definitely, she's spoiled," said Aurora. "She gets everything."

Leticia looks at her mom and says to this reporter, "I'd do anything

for her. I try my best for her."

The nomination Leticia wrote for the *Headway* follows below.

My nomination for mother of the year goes to my mother Aurora L. Nunez, a bus operator from Division 9. My mother deserves this award because of all her very many special qualities. For example, she is the type of person who would give anything and everything for her children. She is also very supportive and encouraging in decisions I may have to make and helps me to learn from my mistakes. Although there are times when my mother may punish me, I realize she does it for my own good, and often my punishment hurts her more than it hurts me. Being the last of six children, I am very grateful to my mother for being there with me through all our ups and downs and for being someone I consider not only a special mom, but also an endearing friend.

Leticia Colchado

Top Operators for March

The awards for the Operator Recognition Program for the month of March were announced in the latter part of April. The presentations include the Sweepstakes Award and the Manager's Award. The program has as its purpose to recognize and reward the many bus operators who consistently perform in an outstanding manner.

The theme of the program is "In Pursuit of Excellence." Those operators excelling in their pursuit are listed below:

MANAGER'S AWARD

Division	Recipient
3201	Andrew O. Bernstein
3203	Virgil H. Wilson
3205	Charles I. Pope
3206	Oscar Solomon
3207	Thomas Harper, Jr.
3208	Sarah M. Vaillancourt
3209	Ladell Welch
3210	William Rowser
3212	William G. Williams, Jr.
3215	Stephen W. Glaser
3216	William E. Harris
3218	Augustine Vigil

SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

Division	Winners
3201	Jorge A. Brent Henry H. Bassett Douglas Jackson
3203	Dennis D. Copeland Larry Busby Stephen M. Leming
3205	Teddie E. Cheaves Andrew W. Craig Lee J. Montgomery
3206	Sherman H. Dorsey III Melvin E. Braxton
3207	Louis E. Rivera Charles L. Hall David Ross
3208	Morris Levinson Martin Crespi
3209	William S. Cushman Roy S. Nakatani Daniel P. Creal
3210	Jose L. Hita Steven E. Page
3212	Anita D. Hunter John M. Panneck
3215	Patricia A. Lowe Richard D. Everett James V. Martinez
3216	Lamar Ball C.B. Williams
3218	Ernest Holland Mario R. Ventura Henry Santifer

Personnel Department's Top Employee



Nina Capoccia was named the Personnel Department's Employee of the Quarter for Winter 1986. She has been with the District 12 years.

RTD Makes Safety Walk of Fame

The District was honored by the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council for its outstanding safe performance record in 1985 at the Council's Annual Safety Awards Dinner held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on April 28.

The RTD, along with other standouts in the field of safety in the Business and Industrial, and Fleet divisions, were feted in the International Ballroom by special guest comedian Norman Crosby with musical entertainment provided by the Limelites. The master of ceremonies for the evening was KNX Announcer Bill Keene along with KNX Traffic Reporter Donna Dower.

Each year the Safety Council holds its "Academy Awards for Safety" to recognize the lifesaving contributions of corporations and agencies made during the previous year.

During 1985, the District achieved first-, second-, and third-place rankings in various categories. The specific divisions and departments accepting awards in the **Fleet Awards** category for over 50,000 miles of operation per month included: 1st Place - Division 3209, 2nd Place - Division



RTD wins acclaim at the Safety Council's "Academy Awards for Safety" dinner held April 28 at the Beverly Hilton. Front row, from left to right: South Park's Acting Superintendent of Maintenance Larry Lenihan, Division 15 Transportation Manager Ron Reedy, Division 8 Transportation Manager Audrey Ortiz, Safety Director Joe Reyes, and Director of Risk Management Barbara Akk. Back row, left to right: Safety Analyst Frank Larson, unidentified operator, Transportation Superintendent Wes McCarns, Division 16 Manager Marcus Johnson, Division 9 Manager James Cenderelli, Division 12 Manager J.J. McCullough, Director of Transportation Ed Nash, Division 18 Transportation Manager John Adams.

3215, and 3rd Place - Division 3212.

For under 500,000 miles of operation per month: 1st Place - Division 3216 and Division 3218.

Those receiving awards in the **Business and Industrial** category for

300 or more employees included: 1st Place - Division 3314, 2nd Place - Division 3208, and 3rd Place - Division 3215. For departments with 100 to 299 employees, the Transit Police took 3rd Place honors.

Bailey: One of America's Top 100

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California State University, Dominguez Hills and eventually received her degree in business administration.

In the meantime, Leilia began her climb up the RTD ladder. In 1976 she became a division dispatcher. Two years later at Division 5 she was promoted to assistant manager. By 1980 she had become the division manager of old Division 8 in Van Nuys, a post which she held for 16 months before accepting the position of Transportation Superintendent in 1981.

Looking back over the last 15 years, Leilia isn't as dazzled by her progress as others seem to be. Indeed, she looks perplexed, as if wanting to ask someone what all the fuss is about.

"I'm not so sure about describing it as a 'meteoric rise.' I suppose you could say it is true for public transportation. This field is so very staid, traditionally male. It is only in the last few years that women have made inroads."

She may admit quietly that she's achieved much, but she feels it is all a part of her ability to handle a great deal of responsibility. "I'm a hard worker, I'm intense about my work. It's like nothing else exists until I get it resolved." But that doesn't mean her job is her world nor does she believe in long hours. "I believe in eight intense hours, if it goes beyond that we are in crisis time. If it is a crisis, I'll stay until

midnight if I have to, but I've never made a habit of it to show that I'm a hard worker." She believes a hard, dedicated worker can get it done in eight hours.

As the Transportation Superintendent charged with resolving labor disputes, Leilia maintains an excitement and zest for her duties. "I have a strong sense of fair play and everyday I deal with people, usually operators, who often feel that justice has been done once they are given a chance to be heard. This keeps me excited about my work."

She feels staying in touch with the operators has been the key to her success. She firmly believes in person-to-person contact. "I often hear from operators that managers seem to be very aloof. I am not because I care. I'll ask an operator how his wife is doing or about the children. Take away the titles and we are just people. I'm the same person now as Superintendent as I was as Lei Bailey the bus operator."

Along with cultivating the camaraderie, Leilia discovered the downside of success — dealing with opposition — and learned how to transform such situations into opportunities. "Now here's something that can either make or break you. I chose to win over my opponents by being right, or through the art of compromise." By "being right" Leilia means knowing your job, doing your homework, having the facts available and the ability to present them. "With this kind of track record even people who

dislike you learn to respect you because they know that you know what you're talking about."

It is that earned respect that Leilia says is most important to her. While she may meet with opposition from time to time, on the whole she feels she has been valued as an employee. "I don't know if you could ask for more than to be compensated and recognized for the work you do. My knowledge and opinions are respected here and that means a lot to me. It's an accomplishment."

Because of her, Leilia feels other women will be encouraged to take a chance. "Women will look at me and say if she can do it, there's hope. There are opportunities here."

In addition to serving as a role model for women, Leilia is also generous in offering support and advice to the women who will follow her. "I think a woman, or anybody for that matter, in order to succeed needs a good measure of self-esteem and self-confidence along with the necessary preparation." She suggests that women unlearn any sense they may have of "their place." "I won't live by that judgment nor am I bound by any tradition or custom. My place is everywhere. This world is for human beings; you are not restricted by gender. If you think something is do-able then do it. I do if I think it is within my realm of possibilities."

Clearly, Leilia has followed her own advice closely. The *Headway* congratulates her on her much deserved honor.

Redondo Beach Honors Learman For Leadership

RTD Community Relations Representative Sandra Learman was presented on April 15 with a resolution from the mayor and City Council of Redondo Beach for her community service.

Sandra has worked for the RTD for the last five years in the Community Relations Department. In that time she has been responsible for the South Bay and West Los Angeles area.

The City of Redondo Beach recognized Sandra for having consistently provided them with up-to-date information on all RTD service changes and modifications, promoting cooperation among the South Bay cities, and her "exemplary, enthusiastic, and energetic, leadership."



Community Relations Representative Sandra Learman with a resolution presented to her by the Redondo Beach City Council.

Singer Hits the District's Big 4-0

On June 6 Superintendent of Maintenance Sam J. Singer, Jr., celebrated 40 years of service to the District.

Sam, who just turned 61, remembers joining the old Los Angeles Transit Lines as a young man of 21. "World War II was over, and there just weren't many opportunities around. My father was a streetcar conductor then with Los Angeles Railway and he suggested I apply for a job with them," Sam said. Sam had served in the South Pacific with the Navy on the U.S.S. Tennessee during the war.

The late Sam J. Singer, Sr., began with the Los Angeles Railway in 1922. He was a streetcar conductor and a trainman before becoming a bus operator. After 43 years of service, he retired from old Division 3. It is easy to see where Sam learned the value of dedication to a job.

Sam hired on in 1946 as a Mechanic C at the South Park Shops and rose through the ranks steadily to become a Maintenance Superintendent overseeing 6 of the 12 operating maintenance divisions. "I've seen a lot of changes since then. I think they are all for the better. Back then I started with streetcars then switched to coaches. I hope I'm still here to see rail make a comeback," he said.

Sam recalled that when he started there wasn't much concern about the mechanic furthering his education. "Today, the District offers all sorts of training and incentive programs enabling them to advance in

their careers. I think that's very inspiring for young people in the workforce now," he said.

Sam credits diverse job opportunities as the reason for keeping his interest high over the last four dec-



Sam Singer, Maintenance Superintendent.

ades. "I started at South Park and then went to the other divisions to pursue entirely different jobs. It was a matter of not having to do the same thing day after day." But, he added, any success he has attained he shares with his wife Gloria. "Without my wife I wouldn't have been able to get this far. She listened to my problems when I didn't have anyone to tell. She has always been a great help to me."

The family's affair with the RTD continues as Sam's son, Mike, appears to be following closely in his father's footsteps. Mike, 33, started with the RTD in 1978 as a Mechanic B at South Park Shops. Mike has since been promoted up the ranks to Senior Equipment Supervisor. Ever the proud father, Sam said, "Mike's one of the better supervisors we have. He is a very conscientious worker."

Sam does some quick mental arithmetic and said, "If you would add all three Singers' service time, it would amount to 94 years. I'm sure we'll make our 100th year." Presumably, there will be more Singer years if you consider the talk that Mike's son Mark, the fourth generation Singer, may be looking to make the RTD his career as well.

In his characteristic soft-spoken, modest way, Sam admits he is one of the fortunate few — he is a content man. "I've been lucky to have the job I have with all its opportunities. It's been satisfying with all its challenges. Maintenance is like that. I look forward now to Metro Rail and seeing through the completion of the new Central Maintenance Facility."

On any plans for retirement, Sam was quick to add that there won't be any in the near future.

Within the last six months, Sandra has worked closely with the South Bay cities in City Selection Committee Corridor B to develop alternatives to the ever-dwindling subsidies for public transit. "Watching that whole dynamic work among the cities involved in the planning was very exciting for me. I was impressed with Gordana Swanson's (1986 RTD Board Vice-President) direction in the planning, her ability to trim the system in the wake of shrinking subsidies," said Sandra.

Sandra seemed both surprised and pleased to receive the honor. "I didn't think I'd be emotional, but I was touched to be recognized by this city. Community Relations Representatives try to take the RTD's message to the community and bring the city's concerns back to the RTD. We are supposed to facilitate this exchange of information. It isn't always easy," she said. "But, Redondo Beach always seems to spearhead transit innovations. They are supportive of the RTD and Metro Rail. I've always worked well with them."

Sandra has two sons, Lee, 26, and Richard, 24, of whom she is very proud. Her eldest, Lee, is a medical student at Harvard University, and her youngest, Richard is a candidate for an MBA.

Sandra will now service the San Fernando Valley and coordinate the Division 6 selection site process.

1986 Bus Rodeo Finals
Saturday, June 21
8 a.m. — 12 noon

Equipment Maintenance Incentive Program: Division

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ond Shift Supervisor I Ed Flynn, and \$100 to Relief Supervisor I Garland Davis.

In addition, division employees participated in a raffle offering prizes of weekend trips, sports events, and dinners for two. Mechanic A James Galle won the weekend for two valued at \$300. Mechanics A Gene Trombley and Art Morell each won tickets to a concert, show, or sporting event of their choice valued at \$80. Mechanic A Leader Carl Seehoffer and Service Attendant Chester Clerk won \$50 dinners at Reuben's restaurant. Mechanics A Cataldo Prizzi and Richard Harris won \$25 dinners at El Torito restaurant. Mechanic A Abdul Chawdhry, Service Attendant Leader Helen Hernandez, and Mechanic A Leader Albert Van Gundy won \$25 dinners at Charley Brown's restaurant

To qualify for the raffle, an employee must have perfect attendance (no absences or tardies), no chargeable occupational injuries, no chargeable vehicular accidents, and no disciplinary action recorded in his or her personnel file.

Following the drawing, employees of the winning division were presented with the Division-of-the-Quarter pins and special commemorative coffee mugs. The mugs were immediately put to use as an accompaniment to the cake served at the ceremony.



Division 8 — They are Number 1!



Maintenance Staff Assistant Annadean Arroyo passes out the coveted coffee mugs to Division 8 employees.



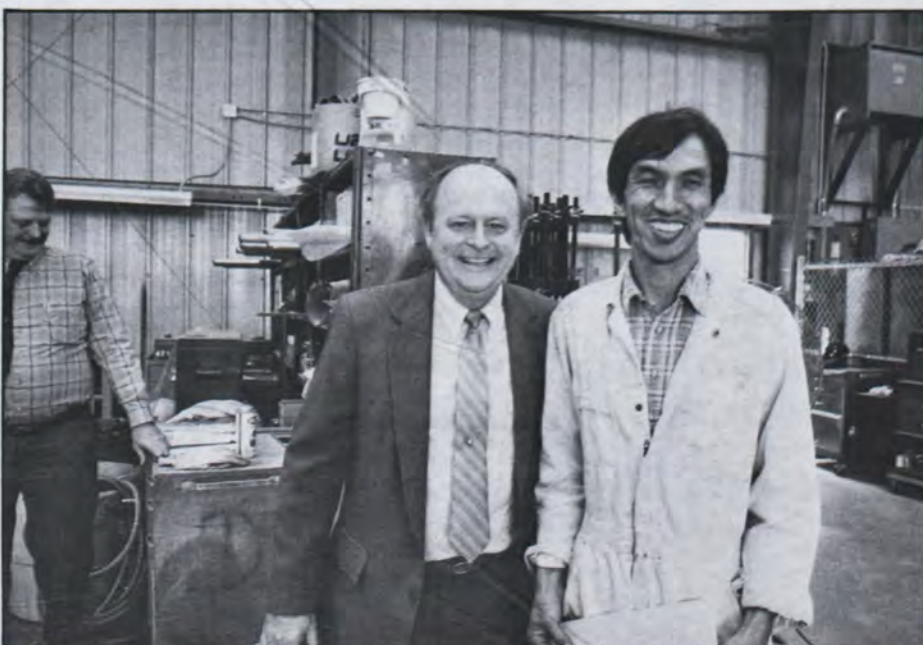
Umm Umm Good! Says Personnel Analyst Kathi Harper just before she cuts into Division 3308's cake.



South Park Supervisor II Ted Desy has all his people behind him and it paid off when the Body Shop took the Shop-of-the Quarter honors.



Division 8 Mechanic Tex Childers with his "Mr. Goodwrench" coffee mug and cake.



Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis presents Mechanic B Duc Dan Banh with a raffle prize of event tickets valued at \$80.

South Park Shops competed internally among its four different shops for recognition in the incentive program. The Body Shop took the Shop-of-the-Quarter title. Supervisor II Ted Desy accepted the plaque on behalf of the Body Shop employees. Ted received an award of \$150 and Supervisors I John McBryan, Rudy Melendez, Lee Cayen, and George Asato each received \$100.

Of those employees eligible for the drawing, Mechanic B Mark Hamasaki won the weekend trip for two. Mechanics B Julio Molina and Duc Dan Banh each won tickets valued at \$80. Mechanic A Neal Vredevelt and Mechanic A Doug Campbell each won \$50 dinners at Reuben's. Mechanics A Michael Williams, Frank Estrada, and Mechanic A Leader John Kielb each won \$25 dinners at Charley Brown's. Mechanic A Daniel Ramirez and Mechanic B Robert Cosby each won \$25 dinners at El Torito.

Maintenance General, Division 4 in Downey, and the Equipment Engineering Department competed against component sections within each of their respective departments. Chosen Division 4's Employee of the Quarter, Mechanic A Octaaf Blaauw

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Mechanic A Peter Welthy shows off South Park's cake, a part of the package the Body Shop won in the incentive program competition.



Maintenance Staff Assistant Anne Aguerbere helps feed the multitudes from the South Park Body Shop, the winners of the Shop-of-the Quarter Award.

8 Takes First Place

received \$150 and a plaque. The Maintenance General Employee of the Quarter is VMS Instructor Carlos Hernandez. From Equipment Engineering, NDI Technician Harold Orr was chosen Employee of the Quarter. Both Harold and Carlos received an award of \$150 and a plaque. In the drawing held, Manuel Gonzales and Harold Orr each won dinners valued at \$25.

Division 4 hosted a barbeque which doubled as the Equipment Maintenance Recognition Program Awards Ceremony. The committee that planned and served up the scrumptious fare included: Utility B Harriett Porter, Utility A Sylvia Garcia, Electronic Maintenance Supervisor II Jules Gauthier, Mechanic A Ron Smith, and Clerk Mary Martinez.



Division 4 Mechanic A Octaaf Blaauw receives his award from Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis for Employee of the Quarter.




VSM Instructor Carlos Hernandez was named Maintenance General's Employee of the Quarter. Here he receives a check from Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis.



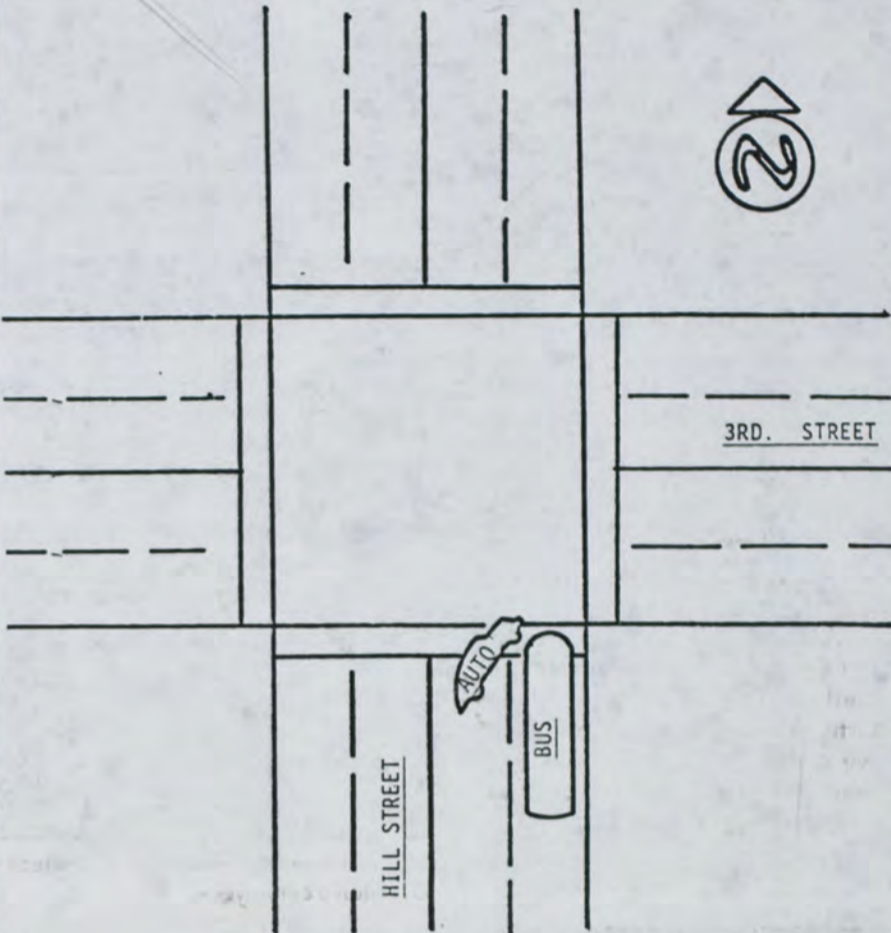
NDI Technician Harold Orr took Employee of the Quarter honors for the Equipment Engineering Department.

**Are you a June graduate?
tell the *Headway* so that we
may congratulate you in the July issue.**



You Be the Judge

OPERATOR'S STATEMENT:
I had 25 passengers on my bus and had just picked up 3 more passengers at the nearside stop, one of the passengers was carrying two shopping bags. As I started to move, an automobile made a right turn in front of the bus, causing me to make a sudden stop in order to prevent a collision. In doing so, the passenger with the 2 shopping bags fell in the aisle.



ANSWER:
As there were empty seats on the bus, the operator should not have moved the bus until the passenger was seated, realizing that if he had made a sudden stop, the passenger might not be able to retain his balance and could fall. For this reason, even though the automobile was in violation of the Motor Vehicle Code for making an illegal turn in front of the bus, the accident was judged preventable.

Main St. Service Center Reopens



David Villa (left) by being the 25th customer at the grand re-opening of the Customer Service Center on Main Street held March 25 received a complimentary gift certificate for El Pollo Loco restaurants from Marketing Representative Scott Smith.

RTD's Headquarters Customer Service Center and Reduced Fare Office celebrated its reopening on March 25 after being closed for remodeling since January 13.

To promote the occasion, the RTD Marketing Department sponsored a variety of activities commemorating the new look of 419 S. Main St. Complimentary door prizes provided by El Pollo Loco restaurants were given to every 25th customer entering the center. Historical transit litho-

graphs were given to the first 200 patrons and complimentary refreshments were provided from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Glenda McDermott, president of William F. Shafer Construction Corporation, was the project manager responsible for the restoration and remodeling, not only of the Headquarters Customer Center, but also that of the Hollywood Ticket Office completed last year.

COMMENDATIONS



March Employees of the Month were presented with certificates by RTD Director Marvin L. Holen at the April 24 Board Meeting. Front row, from left to right: Division 9 Mechanic A Charles McCartney, Division 10 Mechanic A Jerry Nakauchi, Division 7 Operator Simmie Sanders, and Telephone Information Operator Sue Wilber. Back row, from left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer, Division 9 Maintenance Manager Ken Miller, Division 10 Maintenance Manager Milo Victoria, Director Holen, Division 7 Transportation Manager Roy Starks, and Acting Assistant General Manager for Equal Opportunity Robert Williams.



Retirees were recognized and presented with plaques by RTD Director Jan Hall at the April 10 Board Meeting. Front row from left to right: Mopper/Waxer John W. Fouts, Road Janitor Harvey R. Collins, Assistant Vehicle Operations Manager William V. Lorusso, and Traffic Loader Donald Womble. Back row, from left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer, Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach, Director Hall, Operator Joseph W. May, and General Services Supervisor Harold Kelley.



The Printing Department's Secretary Elizabeth Pound became the first recipient of her department's Quarterly Employee Recognition Program Award. She was presented her plaque by Printing Department Manager Al Moore.

On April 11, Elizabeth Pound, the Printing Department's secretary, became her department's first recipient of the Employee of the Quarter Award.

The selection criteria is based on good attendance, quality and quantity of work, and whether an employee has completed a project considered "outstanding" or "special."

Elizabeth has been with the District for one year. Her supervisors see

her as one of their department's greatest assets. Since assuming her position, Elizabeth has superbly coordinated and managed all aspects of her job including payroll and personnel duties. Her innovative ideas and creativity have added much to the department's operation and morale.

Elizabeth received a plaque, a \$50 Savings Bond, and the honor of having her nameplate placed first on the department's perpetual plaque.



Electronic Communication Technician Merle Summers was selected the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for March. Merle works at the Division 9 Radio Shop. She is considered an exceptional employee by her supervisors. Her willingness to accept any assignment and her positive attitude are a model for all employees. Merle has been with the District since 1982. The sweepstakes winner for March was Property Maintainer Epifanio Ramirez from Vernon Yard. Epifanio received tickets to a Dodger game.



Mechanic A Leadman Arthur Garcia was chosen the Maintenance Employee of the Month for May by South Park Shops. His supervisors consider him a great asset. He is a cooperative, concerned employee with an excellent attitude. He is involved and consistently tries to improve the quality and productivity of his shop. He has been with the District for 26 years.



Senior Schedule Maker Glenn Nieman was chosen Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 1986 by the Scheduling Department. He is presented the trophy by Scheduling Director Art Leahy.

Schedule Maker Glenn Nieman was the first person chosen Employee of the Quarter through the Scheduling Department's newly initiated Employee of the Quarter program. Glenn was chosen for the first quarter of 1986.

The purpose of the program is to acknowledge and thank employees whose work reflects extraordinary quality, quantity, initiative, resourcefulness, and the achievement of excellence.

Glenn was chosen because he consistently does an outstanding job and is always willing to help his fellow employees in his department. His support and assistance have earned him the department nickname of "Coach."

His supervisors' confidence in him led to his recent appointment as Acting Senior Schedule Maker for Scheduling Group Number 1. Glenn has been with the District for 32 years. His performance was rewarded with a trophy and a check for \$100.



At the April 10 Board Meeting Alfred R. Villalobos, Chairman of the Mexican and American Foundation, Inc., was introduced to the RTD Board by Director Carmen Estrada. The foundation, a multi-ethnic, non-profit organization based in San Diego, was started 15 years ago to enhance relations between Hispanics and other ethnic groups. The organization sponsors student internships, and works to improve business relations with its "Hands Across the Border" program. Mr. Villalobos praised the District's record and reputation regarding its Disadvantaged/Women-owned Business Enterprise program. He told the Board they have done much to increase opportunities for minorities and women in Southern California. From left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer, Director Estrada, and Alfred R. Villalobos.

To Your Health

Relax and Exercise Sanely

Unless you're a closet tri-athlete or marathoner, the newest research indicates that if you exercise for general fitness and want to shed some body fat, modest forms of exercise 3 to 4 times a week for 20 to 30 minutes is all you need.

Running and jogging are losing much appeal for general fitness because people are too out of shape to benefit from such jarring/jolting forms of exercise. Walking and swimming have moved into the category of the ideal exercises for almost everyone. Both walking and swimming spare the impact that running has on your knees and spine.

Walking is a form of exercise available to all. The busy supervisor can blend walking within a busy day by parking his/her car longer distances from a specific destination. Instead of eating a hearty noon meal the executive can walk briskly for 20-40 minutes and then eat a high-roughage, low-salt, low-oil, low-calorie meal (salad and fresh fruit). For those with a limited meal-time walking briskly to and from work and walking up and down stairs instead of using the elevator can be useful in becoming fit. Taking a bus whose bus stop is 8-10 blocks from home or work and walking briskly to your destination is an excellent way of exercising. Walking your dog is also a good excuse to exercise. Walking briskly for at least 20 minutes without stopping and



by Elia Hager
Visiting Nurse

keeping your heart rate to a good cardiovascular rate is your aim.

Swimming requires that you exercise in a "lying" down position while the water cushions the gravitational pull other exercises exert on the body. This factor is important when the person has become unfit due to broken bones or other structural defects. Swimming is ideal for those whose enemy is gravity. All exercises can be done in the water and the swimmer can use a buoyancy vest to "run in place" or do aerobics in the water.

Remember to always monitor your heart rate when you exercise. An easy way to calculate a good exercise rate is to subtract your age from 220

and exercise so your heart never exceeds the sum you calculated and does not fall below that number until you start your cool-down routine at the end of your exercising.

To avoid harm to your heart, it is important to monitor your heart rate during exercise. When you're out of shape your heart rate will be higher sooner with exertion until you become physically fit. As you do become fit, your heart rate will slow down and you will be required to exercise somewhat longer and more often to raise your heart rate to a good cardiovascular exercise rate (220 beats minus your age).

Other modifications in exercise can be made if you wish to continue running as a form of exercise. Shorter distances are recommended. Running from 20 to 30 minutes four times a week with a maximum of 15 miles is now understood to be enough for reaching good physical fitness. Exercises such as biking, aerobic dancing/exercises, basketball, racquetball, and jumping rope are all undergoing the same modifications to protect the body. That is, to spare the wear and tear of jolting and jarring starts and stops, the smoother, easier, low-impact exercises are being recommended.

Invest in a pair of good walking shoes, be sure you know how to take your pulse and start walking — don't stroll! Walk!

District Prepares Paratransit Guide

As a public service RTD has published a 146-page directory outlining paratransit services for elderly and disabled citizens residing in Los Angeles County.

The first edition of the RTD Paratransit Directory, scheduled to be updated annually, includes information on more than 280 paratransit organizations offering various forms of transportation.

These operators include bus, van, and dial-a-ride services and in some cases are not limited to elderly and disabled persons, but also offer special youth services.

Also there is a list of municipal bus operators including RTD which presently provides accessible service on 167 bus lines with nearly 1700 wheelchair equipped buses.

"For the first time, Los Angeles County residents will have a complete paratransit directory at their fingertips to solve their transportation worries," said RTD Board Director John Day.

The RTD directory categorizes paratransit agencies by city or community and includes the name of the organization, location, phone number, type of service provided, eligibility requirements, hours of operation, areas served and fees for service.

RTD's Paratransit Directory is available at all RTD Customer Centers and also will be given to more than 1,000 community service organizations throughout Los Angeles County for distribution.

Division 15 Holds District's Best Safety Record



Maintenance Division 15 Safety Award Winners — Front row, from left to right: Safety Director Joe Reyes, Director of Risk Management Barbara Akk, Clyde G. Willoughby, Thomas Durkee, James Badgett, Robert Pacheco, and Fakhar Arain. Back row, from left to right: Transportation Superintendent Ralph Wilson, Jerome Whitelock, Director of Transportation Ed Nash, Maintenance Manager David Burns, and Safety Analyst Frank Larson.

Division 3215 boasts a safety performance record that surpasses the District's safety objectives. "At 3.4 accidents per 100,000 miles of operation, you deserve a round of applause," said Director of Transportation Ed Nash at the Safety Day Luncheon held April 9. The District objective is 4.5 per 100,000. For its lost time occupational accident rate, Division 3215 clocked in at 6.7 accidents per 100,000 hours of exposure, below the District objective. "For that you get another round of applause, and my

sincerest appreciation for a job well done," said Nash.

Safety Director Joe Reyes said Division 15 has been a high scorer in traffic safety performance for the last three years.

A total of 21 operators received certificates honoring a range of 2 to 21 years without a preventable accident. Forest N. Churchill was honored for 21 years of safe performance. Frank M. Perez, 19 years; Curtis Davis, Jr., 17 years; Peter F. Korling, 12 years; Jerome J. Paciolla and Andrew L.



Division 15 Operators Cited at Safety Luncheon — Front row, from left to right: Division Manager Ron Reedy, Operators Anthony Amatuzzo, John F. Veinot, Forest N. Churchill, Eric C. Collins, Director of Risk Management Barbara Akk, and Safety Director Joe Reyes. Back row, left to right: Singh S. Butalia, Clayton Penn, Director of Transportation Ed Nash, Edward M. Rause, and Safety Analyst Frank Larson.

Reeder, 11 years; Albert D. Alves, Jr., 9 years; John G. Jimenez and Donald E. Van Dyke, 8 years; Anthony Amatuzzo, Singh S. Butalia, Barry L. Glendenning, and Tony D. Pruitt, 7 years; George G. Nelson, 6 years; Eric C. Collins, Paul G. Contreras, Clayton O. Penn, and John F. Veinot, 5 years; John D. Carlton, 4 years; Hilarion D. Corpus, 3 years; and Edward M. Rause, 2 years.

Maintenance Division 15 had 10 safe performance award recipients.

They included; Mechanic A Leader William Holland for 24 years, Mechanic A Jerome Whitelock for 23 years, Mechanic A Leader Clyde Willoughby for 17 years, Utility A Thomas Durkee for 11 years, Mechanic A James Badgett for 10 years, Mechanic A Fakhar Arain for 8 years, Mechanic A Robert Pacheco for 7 years, Utility A Leader Sarbdyal S. Hundal for 6 years, Service Attendant Raymond E. Wilson for 4 years, and Mechanic B John H. Arthur for 2 years.

1985-86 RTD United Way Campaign

The RTD United Way Campaign coordinators kicked up their heels in celebration April 11 for having completed their most successful operation since their partnership with United Way began nine years ago. More than 100 coordinators and their spouses or guests paid tribute to one another at a dinner-dance held at Luminarias Restaurant in Monterey Park.

The campaign netted \$400,000 for United Way, which constitutes more than a 50 percent increase from last year's contributions. The previous year's activity at the District resulted in donations totaling \$318,213, a 48.7% increase over the 1984 campaign. The dinner-dance, beginning at 6 p.m., opened with a welcome by RTD Campaign Chairman David D. Dominguez, Assistant to the General Manager. Dominguez introduced special guests who included ATU President Jerry Long, United Way Volunteer Chairperson Aurora Carreon-Grabski representing Division "G," United Way Regional Vice-President Bill Branch, and Los Angeles Raiders Community Relations Director Gil Hernandez. General Manager John A. Dyer and his wife, Beth, greeted each of the coordinators at their tables. In an address to the group, Dyer said this year's performance has been the most singular success since he has been general manager. "I don't think we could have done better. This represents the hard work of all you coordinators, David Dominguez and Richard Dimon, and

the overwhelming support from the unions. I'm especially proud of all the union members. I know we will have great difficulty in improving on this next year," he said.

ATU President Jerry Long



General Manager John A. Dyer receives the top citation from United Way 1986 Chairperson Aurora Carreon-Grabski on behalf of the District's 50 percent-plus increase over last year's donations.

returned Dyer's compliment, replying, "Without John Dyer we would not have had the 50 percent increase. And, of course, we will do better next year."

Campaign Chairman David Dominguez expressed his appreciation of the coordinators' efforts.

"Obviously, I'm very pleased with the results. This outcome is based on the hard work of all the coordinators and the caring attitude of the employees."

Coordinators received individual achievement awards based on the percentage increase their efforts yielded. Those coordinators receiving the gold award for increases of 60 percent or greater included: Division 7 Operators Yandell Lister and Kenneth Farris, Division 9 Operators Aminah Lewis and James Santos, Division 1 Mechanic Javier Enriquez, Division 4 Mechanic A Fred Vincelet, Division 7 Mechanic Lyle Fulks, Division 9 Mechanic Jesus Molina, Division 12 Mechanic Gordon Oblander, Division 16 Mechanic Don Shields, Secretary Mary Ellen Miranda, Senior Staff Assistant Vicki Varga, Advertising Manager Connie Ward, Management Intern Monica Delgadillo, Equal Opportunity Manager Ruben Gonzalez, Typist Clerk Frank Camacho, Office Supervisor Nina Capoccia, Secretary Elizabeth Pound, Secretary Olivia Jimenez-Acuna, Transit Police Investigator Sue Bailey, Accounts Payable Clerk Robert Billings, and General Services Leadman Bob Ketring.



Operator Ernest Hernandez was awarded a special certificate of merit by Aurora Carreon-Grabski, Division "G" Chairwoman for the 1985-86 United Way Campaign for his pledge of \$100 per pay period.

Administrative Services Officer Richard B. Dimon presented the special recognition trophies and certificates. Division 15 was the leading transportation division, winning first place honors with an 83.9 percent increase over last year's contributions. Division 12 took first place as the leading maintenance division with a 164.3 percent increase from the previous year. The Second Floor of the Headquarters Building was unrivaled with a 95 percent increase in donations. The leading departments with the most contributions were the District Secretary's Office, in the under-80 employees category, with an unsurpassed 267.73 percent increase from last year. For the departments with over 80 employees there was a tie between the Accounting Department and the General Services Department whose contributions amounted to a 62 percent increase.

For increases of 45 to 60 percent, coordinators received the silver award. This group was comprised of Division 1 Operators Thomas Bell and Virginia Adams, Division 5 Operators Beverly Stepney and Casbie Jackson, Division 10 Operators Aussie Orange

Continued on page 9

Golf Club in Full Swing



The Transit Golf Club elects new officers. From left to right: Vice-President Duane Johnson, President Jim Falcon, and Treasurer Robert Shay.

All golfers, low and high handicaps, novice or experienced, here is a club for you. The Transit Golf Club has a new look in leadership as well as in format. As of April 30, present members voted in officers to strengthen and build a cohesive club. The final ballot showed Jim Falcon as president, Duane Johnson as vice-president, and Bob Shay as treasurer.

Together, they plan 1) to reorganize the club by playing courses in every geographical area possible; 2) to join Southern California Public Links Golf Association (for handicaps - only \$8.00); 3) to offer more awards, prizes, and gifts, and, finally; 4) to build up the treasury to provide a year-end "no cost" tournament and awards banquet.

The first tournament sponsored by the newly elected officers will be held at the Alhambra City Golf Course on June 14 with a starting time of 10:00 a.m. The fee is only \$20.00 which includes green fees, awards (trophies, gift certificates, balls, etc.), and a courtesy cart driven by two beautiful young ladies passing out "FREE" beer and soft drinks.

So, let's all sign up and start the summer off with lots of birdies and pars. For information about this tournament and future ones, contact any of the officers. Jim Falcon extension 6520, Duane Johnson extension 3442, and Bob Shay extension 6266.

Stay tuned for more news next month. — Jim Falcon



Come on Down!
See the Finals at the Santa Anita Race Track
Saturday, June 21
Fun - Food - Fantastic

Declared Decade's Most Successful

and Robert Pitts, Division 15 Operators Jan Pecherski and Jesse Alvarez, Division 16 Operators George Crover and Jay Sanders, Division 18 Operators Bobby J. Malbrough and Kenneth M. Williams, Division 6 Mechanic Adolfo Soto, South Park Mechanic Reid Parker, Division 15 Mechanic Freeman Crutchfield, Division 18 Mechanic Carl Fleming, Community Relations Representative Herb Cranton, Management Intern Tommye Williams, Personnel Analyst Hope Powell, OMB Secretary Lori Magno, Senior Labor Analyst Ralph Carapia, Telecommunications Technicians Gary Miller, Robert Presler, and Angel Bruno, and Telephone Information Operator Marie Tervalon.

For a 30 to 45 percent increase over the previous year coordinators received the bronze citation. These recipients included Division 3 Operators Kris Sharp and Janice Mustin, Division 8 Operators Leonard Levy and Emanuella Northington-Banks, Division 3 Mechanic David Chamness, Senior Staff Assistant Pat Coble, and Engineer Salvador Duran.

Those coordinators accruing up to a 30 percent increase in contributions were given the red achievement award. These employees included: Division 6 Operators Dan Wilson and Mary Collins, Division 12 Operators Josephine Petry and Alma Lucious, Division 5 Mechanic Juanita Hicks, Division 8 Mechanic Stephen Baker, Division 10 Utility A Alzie Hicks, Assistant to the General Manager David Dominguez, Secretary Cynthia Valdez, Administrative Analyst Ray Turpin, Secretary Frances Alavian, Director of Equipment Engineering Frank Kirshner, Staff Assistant Ambrosia Holmes, Director of Government Affairs Barry Engelberg, Safety Analyst Frank Larson, Special Events Dispatcher Joe Uresti, Administrative Services Officer Richard Dimon, Typist Clerk LaVerne Williams, Office Supervisor Karen Imhof, and Buyer John Bihl.

In the Sweepstakes race, designed to recognize the division with the best overall achievement, Division 9 with an increase of 82 percent was the leader. Coordinators with the highest increase yields over last year received two tickets to San Francisco on Pacific Southwest Airlines.

Those coordinators on their way to the city on the bay include Division 12 Mechanic A Gordon Oblander, Division 15 Operators Jan Pecherski, Jesse Alvarez, and Maria Cuellar; and at the Headquarters Building, Bob Ketring, Robert Billingsley and Mary Ellen Miranda.

And, finally, recognized by the United Way for an energetic and highly successful campaign, the RTD Campaign Steering Committee received commendations. The Steering committee included Campaign Chairman David Dominguez, Management Intern Terry Solis, Division 10 Operator Sam Harper, Mechanic A Mike Bujosa, Transit Police Investigator Sue Bailey, Safety Analyst Frank Larson, Administrative Services Officer Richard Dimon, Assistant Payroll Manager Tom Wynn, Payroll Manager Howard Crawford, Office Supervisor Nina Capoccia, Secretary Liz Silva, Advertising Manager Connie Ward,



Division 15 was the winning division on donations — left to right: Ron Reedy, Jan Pecherski, Maria Cuellar, Jesse Alvarez, Marcus Johnson and Sam Harper.



Division/Department Coordinators succeeding in raising \$1,000+ included, front row, kneeling, left to right: Sam Harper, Jim Santos, and Jesus Molina. Second row, left to right: Robert Pitts, Aussie Orange, Gordon Oblander, Connie Ward, Louella Houston, Ken Farris, Maria Cuellar, and Ron Reedy. Back row, left to right: Casbie Jackson, Yandell Lister, Jay Sanders, Marcus Johnson, Jesse Alvarez, and Jan Pecherski.



United Way Coordinators receiving the Gold Award included, first row left to right: Javier Enriquez, Ken Farris, Liz Silva, Mary Ellen Miranda, Gordon Oblander, Sue Bailey, Bob Ketring, Connie Ward, and Jesus Molina. Second row, left to right: Howard Crawford, Tom Wynn, Yandell Lister, Lyle Fulks, Louella Houston, Jim Santos, and Frank Larson.



The 1986 RTD United Way Steering Committee that made it all possible — Front row, from left to right: Terry Solis, Sue Bailey, Liz Silva, Bob Ketring, Mike Bujosa, David Dominguez. Back row, left to right: Tom Wynn, Howard Crawford, Frank Larson, Dick Dimon, and Sam Harper. Not shown are Nina Capoccia, Connie Ward, and Dan Bent.



A special certificate of merit was presented by Aurora Carreon-Grabski, Division "G" Chairwoman for the 1985-86 United Way Campaign to John Jimenez for pledging \$50 per pay period.

General Services Leadman Bob Ketring, and United Way Representative Dan Bent.

At the conclusion of the awards ceremony, the lights were lowered, the mood shifted, and the coordinators enjoyed the hip sounds of the Caliente band.

Save the Lady Campaign To Begin

Those wonderful people who brought you the District's most successful United Way campaign in a decade are back with the Statue of Liberty Restoration Project. "The original committee that steered the 1986 United Way Campaign has been designated by the general manager as an ongoing charitable-giving planning committee to be responsible for all campaigns," said Assistant to the General Manager David Dominguez.

The Statue of Liberty has long been a symbol of independence and strength for most Americans. For the immigrants passing through New York Harbor it symbolized hope, freedom, and opportunity.

Now nearing her 100th birthday, Liberty, poised on her lofty pedestal has experienced the ravages of time and the elements. Her gigantic iron framework is severely corroded and structural problems require extensive renovation.

The Statue of Liberty Restoration Project will begin its publicity kickoff at the District May 28. Officially, the campaign will commence at the RTD on June 2 concluding June 14. All donations made by employees are forwarded to the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. "Each contributor will receive a certificate. This certificate entitles the bearer to have his or her name or anyone they designate placed in the official log open to the public at Liberty Island," said Dominguez.

"This is a one-time-only campaign," said Dominguez. "All contributions can be made through payroll deduction." The Centennial Commission will unveil the statue on July 4, but corporate campaigns across the nation will be ongoing through the end of the year.

The RTD Statue of Liberty Restoration Project will be conducted in the same manner as the United Way campaign.

Public Library Fire Diverts RTD Service



The fire that raged out of control for hours at the Los Angeles Central Public Library on April 29 not only caused millions of dollars damage but also disrupted RTD downtown bus service beginning at 11 a.m. on April 29 until 3:30 p.m. on April 30. Fifth Street, Sixth Street, Flower



Street, Grand Avenue, and a portion of Wilshire Boulevard were shut down. Lines 16, 18, 48, 53, 81, 96, 456, 460, 462, 470, 480, and 487 were rerouted due to the blaze. Ten of the lines continued on the diversion route until the afternoon of April 30.



Transit Operations Supervisor Warren Scoggins at 5th and Broadway Streets diverts the driver on one of the 12 lines that had to be rerouted because of the Public Library fire on April 29.

Division 12's Senior Driver Joe May Retires After 40 Years

Joseph W. May, Division 12's seniority operator retired April 30. He was hired in April of 1946 as a trainman. He has worked at Divisions 1, 4, 5, 7, 18, and since 1977, at Division 12.

Joe never had a chargeable accident. He was named Operator of the month in November of 1979. Joe

attained 90 merits and did not have a miss-out since October of 1963. Joe and wife Mary are looking forward to doing some traveling especially to Oregon to visit their son.

Division 12 will miss Joe. They held a farewell luncheon for Joe and his wife.



Retiring Operator Joseph May from Division 12 shows his well-wishers what he'll be up to after his final good-byes.

Puente Becomes Known as Fourth Street Hero

"When I saw two hoodlums making a dash for me, I knew that I was going to be a victim of a street violence. I started to scream. I thought that would be my best protection, but I was wrong. I provoked the assailants into different intentions."

Those are the recollections of 79-year-old Armando Seledon, a would-be victim. Thanks to the forceful action of District Security Guard Anastacio Puente, Seledon went unharmed. "I saw two men grabbing him and checking his pockets. I ran over and yelled for them to stop. They were going to hurt him," said Anastacio.

Anastacio, a former Deputy Sheriff with the City of Los Angeles, has been with the District for 10 years. For the mild-mannered guard, intervening on behalf of District employees and passer-by citizens is a task with which he responds readily. "I've fought off drunks, nothing spectacular, usually minor shouting matches. It's an every day occurrence." On two separate occasions, Anastacio assisted in apprehending a .45-calibre gun from suspects who were involved in a robbery and a shooting. "I've never had to use my gun. I've taken it out, but never fired. I would not hesitate to use it, if necessary. My life is more important than the suspect."

Anastacio says that he enjoys the public relations aspect of his job. Peri-



Security Guard II Anastacio Puente helps a passer-by.

odically he receives calls from employees seeking translation assistance in communicating with Hispanic customers. When asked about the most challenging aspect of his duties, Anastacio, without hesitation, replied — the unruly and obnoxious. "Some people are obnoxious when you're trying to direct them to the ticket office. You must be firm and courteous. They are paying our wages by riding our buses," says Anastacio.

Division 3 Hosts All-Night Cinco de Mayo Celebration



The Division 3 Cinco de Mayo Committee, front row, from the left: Earl Cobbs, Lila Estrada, Lindley Ramirez, Nellie Bernal, Margie Sifuentes, Julie Covarrubias, Miguel Covarrubias, and Mario Covarrubias. Back row, from the left: A.J. Taylor, Raul Alvarez, and Miguel Brambila.

Division 3 celebrated Cinco de Mayo (the date marking the victory of Mexican insurgents over the invading French colonialists in the city of Puebla). The train room was given a Mexican makeover with banners and pinatas. Operators were offered a traditional Mexican breakfast of chorizo con huevos (sausages with eggs), coffee, tortillas, pan dulce (sweet bread), and orange juice. The untiring Cinco de Mayo committee started cooking at 2 a.m. and did not close the kitchen until 11:30. The hearty breakfast sold for \$3. The committee, chaired by Lila Estrada, also included the hard-working Earl Cobbs, A.J. Taylor, Lindley Ramirez, Raul Alvarez, Nellie Bernal, Margie Sifuentes, Miguel Brambila, Julie Covarrubias, Rick Ortega, Nellie Maynes, and Joe White.

"This committee put forth lots of effort for this Cinco de Mayo," said Division 3203 Manager A.J. Taylor.

"The operators sure seemed to show their appreciation by enjoying the meal. I think these events do improve morale and it even brought out operators from other divisions," he said.

Spokesperson for the committee, Operator Miguel Brambila, agreed with Taylor. "This kind of celebration makes everybody feel at home. In a sense, this is our second home because we spend so much time here. Because of A.J. Taylor's support we were able to bring this off. It's great! Things like this make operators want to come to work," said Miguel.

In addition to the satisfying breakfast, the committee hosted a raffle with the top prize of a stereo won by Raul Alvarez. The 10 pinatas decorating the train room were raffled off to Salvador Gaytan, Tim Valdez, David Bautista, Virgil Wilson, Joe Wise, Ponciano Maya, James Mayes, Willie Mann, M. Warden, and Joe White.

Neusom Awards Reception Brings Out the City's Finest

The inside of the Emerald Bay Room of the Bonaventure Hotel on Saturday, April 26, was dressed up with bouquets of colorful balloons and the creative artwork designed by the junior and senior high school students there to participate in the Fifth Annual Awards Reception honoring Operation Teamwork Poster and Essay Contest winners and recipients of the Third Annual Thomas G. Neusom Memorial Awards.

Community Relations Representative Rissa Bernstein, coordinator of the event, welcomed all the attendees to the awards luncheon, introduced the guests at the head table, and provided a preview to the afternoon's proceedings. The Operation Teamwork Poster and Essay Contest is sponsored by the RTD Operation Teamwork program. The program was started in 1981 as a measure to combat crime and vandalism by pooling the resources within the community in an effort to improve public safety on RTD buses. Each year the District sponsors a countywide poster and essay contest to encourage students to express their ideas on crime prevention in their neighborhoods, their schools, and on buses. This year, the students' entries addressed the theme "Teamwork in Motion," examining the responsibility of all segments of the community to work as a team to improve public transportation.

The Thomas G. Neusom Memorial Awards are means by which the RTD has recognized the outstanding contribution by the youth of the community toward a better society. Those people chosen have distinguished themselves in areas of criminal justice administration, community service, and student leadership. The award is given in the memory of Thomas G. Neusom, the late President of the RTD Board of Directors who initiated programs that instill social responsibility in young people.



Councilman Howard Finn addresses students and guests at the Fifth Annual Awards Reception honoring Operation Teamwork Poster and Essay Contest winners and recipients of the Third Annual Thomas G. Neusom Memorial Awards. On the right, Operation Teamwork Coordinator Rissa Bernstein.

RTD Board Director Marvin L. Holen introduced the keynote speaker, Los Angeles City Councilman Howard Finn. The councilman praised the students for their efforts in preserving and protecting the transit system. He also invited the students to accept the tougher challenges fac-

ing transportation. "We've got a bus system that is underfunded and overloaded along with mass transit plans that seem exceedingly tenuous," Finn said. "We need to focus once again on the essential reasons for providing public transportation. At this point we've got too many people and too few ways of moving them. This will have harsh impacts on our lifestyle." Finn said the only way to preserve the kind of lifestyle Southern Californians have come to enjoy is through planning and community team efforts much like Operation Teamwork.

Director of Community Relations Lou Collier presented the awards overview and reintroduced RTD Board Director Holen who presented the Thomas G. Neusom Memorial Awards to Angel Cruz for Youth Leadership, Opal Winstead for Community Service, and to Margaret Carey and William Wimbley for Criminal Justice Administration.

RTD Transit Police Chief James Burgess awarded the Poster and Essay Contest winners with their certificates and plaques. He commented on the talent and imagination of the young people. "This display is so very inspiring. As you know, there is nothing more disheartening than the attempts to vandalize a system."

The list of winners includes (poster contest): First Place — Wing Chan from Berendo Junior High School, and Silvia Macias from University High School; Second Place — Rosarina Lee from Nightingale Junior High School and Hugo Henriquez of Belmont High School; Third Place — Lien Ai Diep from Berendo Junior High School and Armand Williams of Crenshaw High School. Those Honorable Mentions included: Richard Dancel, Albert Ehrlich, Henry Fong, Gamaliel Guterrez, Francisco Javier, and Kenneth Lee.

In the Essay contest the winners included: First Place — Virginia Bautista from Grandview Junior High School and Deanna Draper from Morningside High School. Deanna, who could not attend the ceremony, asked her sister JoLai to read her essay. JoLai reminded her audience on finishing her sister's essay that her brother, William Draper, Jr., had won the contest in 1984. Second Place — Claudine Joan Flores from Berendo Junior High School and Dionne Smith



Esther Neill received an honorable mention for her essay entry in the Operation Teamwork contest. Esther is the daughter of Division 15 Operator Ronald Neill.



Wing Chan's award-winning poster.

from Morningside High School. Third Place — Jose Barocio from Berendo Junior High School and Linda Harris from Morningside High School. Honorable Mentions in the Essay category included Julie Anderson, Richette Bell, Gina Bradshaw, Victor Chavarria, Thanh Duong, Paolo Galupo, Kimberly Hansen, Elizarain Hom, Phyllis Isaac, Gina Leemhuis, Kelley Manning, Jacqueline Trang Nguyen, Ron Shastay, Donna Sliger, Kendra Wiley, and Esther Neill. Esther is the

daughter of Division 15 Operator Ronald Neill.

In addition to the noteworthy students, other distinguished guests included Redondo Beach City Councilman Archie Snow, NAACP Vice President of the Youth and College Division Precious Lee, Lee Jackson of the Westminster Neighborhood Association, Congressional Aide (to Hon. Mervyn Dymally) Lonnie Snyder, and RTD Vice-President Gordana Swanson and RTD Director Nate Holden.



Operation Teamwork Poster and Essay Contest and Thomas G. Neusom Memorial Award Winners — Front row, kneeling, from left to right: Wing Chan, first place poster contest; Hugo Henriquez, second place poster contest; Trang Duong, honorable mention essay contest; Angel Cruz, Neusom Award for Youth Leadership; and Henry Fong, honorable mention poster contest. Second row, left to right: Silvia Macias, first place poster contest; Opal Winstead, Neusom Award for Community Service, Jo Lai Draper for poster Deanna, first place essay contest; Virginia Bautista, first place contest; Gina Leemhuis, honorable mention essay contest; Julie Anderson, honorable mention essay contest; Kimberly Hansen, honorable mention essay contest; Gina Bradshaw, honorable mention essay contest; Margaret Casey and William Wimbley, Neusom Award Winners for Criminal Justice Administration. Third row, from left to right: RTD Vice-President Gordana Swanson; Los Angeles City Councilman Howard Finn; Director of Community Relations Lou Collier; RTD Director Nate Holden; unidentified honorable mention essay contest winner; Richette Bill, honorable mention essay contest; RTD Director Marvin Holen; and Paolo Galupo, honorable mention essay contest.

"Ride On" Published by RTD

RTD now publishes a semiannual newspaper entitled "Ride On," which consists of articles written by members of the District's Transit Transportation Advisory Conference (STAC).

STAC is composed of students from eight high schools throughout Los Angeles County who meet with RTD Community Relations Representatives to discuss and share information about the District and public transportation in general.

"Since students make up a large percentage of our daily riders, we felt

it was important to publish this newspaper in an effort to inform them of services, programs, and issues relative to our large student constituency," said General Manager, John A. Dyer.

The first issue of "Ride On," published in March 1986, was distributed to more than 20,000 students at various high schools throughout the county.

Participating STAC high schools include: Belmont, Crenshaw, Downtown Business Magnet, Ganesha, North Hollywood, Hollywood, University, and Huntington Park.

Father's Day Special

Operator's Son Carves Out His Career on the Ice

Leslie Robinson describes his father, Arthur, who retired as an Operator from Division 7 in 1978, as his staunchest supporter.

"My dad gave my brother and me absolute freedom to become what we wanted to become. Some kids are forced to be someone they are not," said Leslie. It was this gift of independence and encouragement that helped Leslie to become a professional ice skater working with some of the world's best-known ice production companies such as *Holiday on Ice*, *Hollywood on Ice*, and the *Ice Follies* in 18 different countries and in well-known night clubs.

When the Robinson family moved from Chicago in 1956, Arthur joined the old Los Angeles Transit Lines. Within the next six years, Leslie would see the former Olympic figure skating champion Carol Heiss in a movie entitled *Snow White and the Three Stooges*. That movie changed his life. "It was then I realized I wanted to be a professional figure skater," said Leslie.

At the age of 12, Leslie began skating in Los Angeles rinks up to 6 hours a day, 6 days a week. "I went to school only half a day. I guess you could say school was my hobby, while skating was my thing." He graduated

from Hollywood Professional High School.

Leslie began formal competition at age 17 with an eye on the 1972 Winter Olympics. He won a regional, the Southwest Pacific Intermediate Men's Championship in 1967. Unfortunately, his family didn't have the money necessary for Olympic training. Undaunted by the missed opportunity, Leslie decided it was time to turn professional.



Ice Skater Leslie Robinson on his way to a six-month tour in England.

He became the first black male skater to perform with the *Ice Follies* in 1969. "For me it was like a dream come true. I loved the theater atmosphere," said Leslie. He made his debut at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas as a featured soloist in productions entitled "Shaft," "African Suite," and "Cleopatra Jones."

Leslie went on to perform as the star of the show with the *Holiday on Ice* Company in such productions as "Velvet Rock," an original ballet written for him with a musical score by Stevie Wonder and "24 Hours in the Life of a Man," a 22-minute dramatic ballet. He toured with the company throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada, Europe, South America, Israel, culminating with a special nine-week engagement in the Soviet Union.

In a few weeks, Leslie will leave

for England on a six-month tour with the *Hot Ice* company, perhaps, followed by a tour to Japan.

Looking over his career, Leslie admits it's been incredible. He is grateful to his father and to his coach Mable Fairbanks who is recognized as the first black skating star. "She was my coach, my friend, and my adopted mother. It wasn't easy for me, but Mabel and my father were there for me."

Leslie remembers being told in the lean years that there was no future for black skaters. "My message is to go after what you want, but be aware of the dream-snatchers. They are just reflections of your own doubts. Do you know that today's U.S. World Skating Champion is a black woman named Debbie Thomas?"

Shay Takes Toastmasters Trophies



RTD Toastmasters President Jeannette Bell admires the trophies of the District's Regional award-winning orator Robert Shay.

Hello from RTD Toastmasters Club 1063. Just a note to tell you what's happening with our club.

Robert (Bob) Shay, who works in the Schedules Department, is a member of Toastmasters. Bob participated in the International Speech Contest for District 52 at the Division as well as the Area level and took second place both times. Congratulations Bob!!

For those unfamiliar with Toastmasters, RTD Toastmasters Club 1063 offers its members opportunities to develop and improve their leadership, speaking, and communication skills, as well as their self-confidence, within a non-threatening environment. This

is accomplished through the use of advanced speech preparation, as well as extemporaneous speaking sessions. In addition, members are also encouraged to participate in various parliamentary procedures of the club to help further develop their communication and leadership skills. Membership in Toastmasters is open to all interested RTD employees.

Should you desire to know more about Toastmasters, we meet every other Wednesday from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the Headquarters Building. Come out and visit with us. Or, if you have questions, please contact Jeannette Bell, President, at 237-2098.

Division 16 Cited for Safety



Division 16 Safety Day Award Winners — Front row, left to right: Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis, Operators Charles L. Wilkerson, John W. Kemp, Joe D. Hurley, and Edwin W. Normandy. Back row, left to right: Safety Analyst Frank Larson, Division 16 Transportation Manager Marcus Johnson, Director of Transportation Ed Nash, LAPD Representative Dennis Rosenberg, Transportation Superintendent Ralph Wilson, and Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach.

"I'd like to recognize your superb technical competence, Division 16 operators," said Director of Transportation Ed Nash at the Division's Safety Luncheon held April 30.

The Pomona Division's safety performance is far below the District objective of 4.5 accidents per 100,000 miles of operation. In fact, Division 16 comes in leading with the lowest in the whole system with 2.8 accidents per 100,000 miles.

Lost time due to occupational accidents is equally low. The Transportation has suffered only 3.2 accidents per 100,000 hours of exposure, well below the District objective of 7.0 per 100,000 hours. The Maintenance division's record on accidents matches Transportation for the third quarter.

Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis told the operators, "I believe you deserve the best mechanics possible. We're committed

to making things go. It's a real joy to see this safety record."

Following the brief comments to the operators, Mr. Nash presented safety awards to the following 15 operators: James L. Duke, and Willie C. Harrell for 20 years; John F. Hardgrow, 19 years; Nathaniel Anderson and Benjamin L. Williams for 16 years; James I. Beam and Joe D. Hurley for 14 years; John W. Kemp, Theodore R. Long, Jr., Randall R. Moore, and Samuel A. McReynolds for 13 years; Charles L. Wilkerson, 11 years; Edwin W. Normandy and Myrah D. Slusher for 8 years; and Paul M. Johnson for 6 years.

The Maintenance award-winning safe performers included: Equipment Maintenance Supervisor II Jack F. Atkins for 6 years, Service Attendant Ruben Cordova for 4 years, and Mechanic A Damon D. Cannon for 3 years.

Survey Respondents Reap Reward

In February, attendance surveys were mailed to the homes of all Non-Contract, Teamsters, and TPOA employees to survey what would motivate them to improve their attendance. After completion, the surveys were forwarded directly to Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, where they were tabulated.

As an incentive to complete the forms, the consulting firm that designed the survey, MacDorman and Associates, Inc., offered ten awards of \$50 each to lucky employees whose badge numbers were chosen in a drawing following the tabulation of the surveys. To be eligible for the drawing, employees had to complete the entire questionnaire and return it to Virginia Tech no later than February 28.

The ten winners receiving the \$50 Attendance Survey cash awards were J.L. Deem, Harold Hollis, Martin

G. Lensch, Richard S. Harris, Kit L. Armstrong, Charlie M. Hinton, John M. Dover, Mary E. Reyna, Brenda M. Walker, and Chauncey M. Carter.

—For Sale—

Brand new Kenmore heavy duty large capacity electric dryer - original \$349.00 Will sell for \$249.00.

- Levelor Mini Blinds:
3 - 5' wide x 34" high - \$25.00 each - light peach color
1 - 6' wide x 34" high - \$30.00 - light grey
1 - 2' wide x 60" high - \$15.00 - peach color

Kenmore sewing machine - \$70
Sony Color TV, 19" screen - \$120
3-speed Bike - \$60
Adult-size swing set - \$30.00
Many odds and ends/technical and non-technical books.
Call Jack x6009 or 714-777-0279.

This Motorman's Son Has Senior Seat on RTD Board

It was as a college student in Washington D.C. during Franklin D. Roosevelt's first term as president that Board Director Jay B. Price discovered the excitement and "got a liking" for politics. Very heady stuff for a boy just out of high school.

"It was the end of the Great Depression and the era of the New Deal. I was excited watching this new political structure bring the country out of the depression. I decided that one day I would go into public service and when I did it was at the local level," said Director Price.

Jay B. Price is a Bell City Councilman having just been re-elected on April 8 for his eighth, four-year term. He is also the senior member of the RTD Board of Directors having been the Southeast Corridor A representative since 1971. The corridor is comprised of 25 cities which run from Vernon to Whittier to Long Beach.



At 71 years of age, Price says he is at times asked if he is ready to consider retirement from public service. "My standard answer is that I'd rather burn out than rust out. I'd rather be busy," he said.

But then Price has been able to maintain a passion for public service. It is that interest that impelled a young man to travel cross-country on a Greyhound bus to learn the essentials of the foreign service at George Washington University. "In those days that was the equivalent of going from here to the moon. Normally you didn't travel that far just to go to college," he said. Price, born into the family of a Los Angeles Railway System motorman in 1915, graduated from high school in Pomona in 1933. He worked his way through college as a clerk with the New Deal's Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

On leaving George Washington University, he accepted a job with the U.S. Treasury Department that brought him back to the West Coast. He was stationed for a year in San Francisco then relocated to Los Angeles where he was assigned to the Internal Revenue Service. With the IRS, he served as an Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Officer for 37 years before retiring in 1977. During World War II, Price was a medical officer with the U.S. Maritime Service and was posted in the South Pacific war zone.

In 1958, Director Price entered local politics making a bid for a city council seat in Bell. "I took a two-month vacation leave and as an unknown I walked the streets and rang every doorbell in town. On election night they knew who I was."

Price was the guiding force on the city council to have it adopt the more efficient city administrator form of government from the council commissioner style. Through the annexation of unincorporated land surrounding Bell, Price succeeded, within his tenure, to double the size of the city which increased development thus leading to a broader tax base.

Price contends that as a native of Los Angeles, the son of a motorman, and as a rider of the old Red Car system, there was no option open to him except to sustain a consistent interest in and attraction to mass transportation.

"I felt the loss of the old Red Car system, of which there were 1,200 miles covering Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties, was indeed a loss from which these counties would never recover. Losing the Red Cars was inevitable,

but losing the right-of-ways was a crime against the counties. Those right-of-ways can never be duplicated again. The cost would be insurmountable."

Mr. Price sees Metro Rail as the modest beginning of a system that may someday replace the old Red Car system. But, having been a rapid transit patron in the 1930's the irony as the mass transit pendulum swings back to rail does not escape him.

"Our modest 18 miles of Metro Rail downtown, the hub of our first 150 miles, is a far cry from 1,200 miles of track. But you've got to start somewhere. In the future, past my time, we will have a system that I knew as a boy in 1933. That is, rapid transit that was fast and efficient, safe, and inexpensive. I'm sure it's going to be a lot more comfortable than the Red Cars and a lot less noisy."

He sees as his most significant accomplishment as a board member his continuing fight for mass transit. This includes implementing the District mandate as a regional carrier. "The RTD is the only answer for a county of our size. You cannot fractionate this thing down. In 1971, we had a ridiculous system, many local bus companies and at least 35 fare zones. It was very inefficient."

He doesn't see privatization as any threat to the District's prominence as a regional carrier, "as long as it doesn't try to preempt regional lines. By state law we are the regional provider. I don't think privatization should encroach on our responsibility as the regional carrier but they can assist us in our role."

Concurrent with his service on the RTD Board, Mr. Price has served as president, vice-president, and secretary of the Southeast Mosquito Abatement District. He has been a director of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District 1 and 2, and has served as a chairman of the joint Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. He has been a member of the Advisory Council to the Los Angeles County Library System, Western Region. Clearly, Mr. Price's sense of social responsibility that was finely tuned by the social reform of the Roosevelt Administration has not diminished with the passage of time.

He describes himself as a conservative, a traditionalist with a strong religious belief. "I was blessed with two very fine parents who instilled me with solid values." He is a member of the First Christian Church of Bell, where he has served as Treasurer and is serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

He resides in Bell with his wife, Gertrude, of 45 years with whom he raised three children. He describes himself as a "family man." Indeed it was his family that introduced him to and encouraged his dedicated interest in genealogy. At age 18 he was able to record the oral histories from three of his surviving grandparents. "That pushed the frontier back for me about 150 years and I embarked on what you could call my hobby." Now, after 30 years of research, Mr. Price is nearing completion on a 500-page book that traces his family origins back to the year 1012, that is the period earlier than the Battle of Hastings and two centuries before the signing of the Magna Carta.

"My family came to America in 1634 and, literally, crossed the nation as pioneers." His research has sent

him "hunting through cemeteries, courthouses, and archives" in Richmond, Virginia; Annapolis, Maryland; and Raleigh, North Carolina. "I've been tramping all over America to complete this book. The main thing is to know where to go. When you know that you'll be surprised to discover what you'll find." The complete edition should be available next spring.



As the interview begins to wind down, Mr. Price folds his hands in his lap. He appears very tidy and orderly with the, now, distinctive trademark of a natty bowtie, the only flourish in his, otherwise, conservative outfit. He answers this reporter's questions in a precise, clipped manner of speech, recalling large amounts of information which he presents in chronological fashion. As he finishes answering the last question, his face takes on a look that indicates 'I've told you everything I know.' With that, neat-as-a-pin, the interview is at an end.

Double Deckers' Service Pending System Check

The District's double-deck buses have been removed temporarily from service, pending inspection of their electrical systems, it was announced March 3.

The District took the action as a result of a fire February 27 at an RTD storage yard in Pomona that investigators suspect may have been caused by faulty wiring on a parked double-decker. The fire destroyed two double-deck buses and damaged two others that were among a fleet of 22 RTD double-deck coaches.

One standard-size bus also was destroyed in the fire and three others damaged. Investigators credited District employees at the yard with saving other vehicles by quickly moving them away from the fire area. No one was injured.

"We're temporarily sidelining the double-deckers as a precautionary measure until we can conduct a thorough inspection of the wiring on each of these coaches," explained General Manager John A. Dyer.

"Double-deck buses have a unique electrical system. We are par-

ticularly interested in examining the wiring between the engine compartment in the rear of the coach and junction box in front that powers all of the vehicle's electrical functions," Dyer said.

It is not known how long it will take to conduct the electrical inspections. In the meantime, the double-deckers were replaced with standard-size buses, so there would be no service interruption.

Double-deckers were deployed on Lines 495 and 498, providing weekday commuter service from the San Gabriel valley to the downtown Civic Center.

Each double-decker seats 82 passengers, nearly twice the seated capacity of a standard-size bus. The double-deckers were manufactured by Neoplan in West Germany. RTD took delivery of two double-deck buses in 1974 and 20 more in 1981. Due to their 14-foot height, which makes it difficult to maneuver on tree-lined city streets, they were found best suited for commuter express service on the El Monte Busway.

RTD Picks and Pans the Movies

Our Rating Scale

***** — A once-in-a-lifetime movie, *Citizen Kane*, etc.

**** — Terrific; worth paying full price for.

*** — Average; does what it sets out to do, but nothing more.

** — Okay; con someone else into paying for you.

* — We warned you.

BOMB — "I'm really gonna miss her, a tomato ate my sister."

This month, I'm going to start something different. In addition to reviewing new films that are currently playing around town, occasionally I will throw in a picture that is making the rounds of the revival houses. These theatres feature a double bill that changes every other day, mixing recent films with old classics or the off-beat and avant-garde. The theatres themselves, such as the Rialto in Pasadena, the Nuart in Santa Monica, and the Vista in Hollywood, are usually older, which means a larger screen and more comfortable seats than are found in the modern six-plexes. Schedules cover approximately three months worth of films, and are available by calling the theatre, though some book and record stores have them, usually by the door. Cost of admission covers both films, so you're getting a bargain. If you're looking for something different from the average fare, check these out.



Sanjuro — ***-1/2

How many times have we seen a western where someone (usually the newspaper editor) is desperately trying to uncover deep-rooted corruption, but gets nowhere until he receives the help of a stranger who rides into town? *Sanjuro* takes the same situation, and handles it in a way that is uniquely Japanese.

Toshiro Mifune plays Sanjuro, a rough-talking, hard-drinking, unshaven samurai (a real Clint Eastwood type) who grumpily babysits nine painfully sincere young samurai who are intent on uncovering clan corruption. The problem is, they keep getting into trouble, and Sanjuro has to keep getting them out. Tatsuya Nakadai is the villains' underling, who actually has more smarts than the villains. This combination gives us some exciting sword fights and wonderful comedy as Director Akira Kurosawa subtly twists the conventions of samurai films to expose the humor. *Sanjuro* is almost a parody of the genre as we see the nine young men fight for truth, justice, and the samurai way, and Sanjuro becomes more and more frustrated with them. If you're a western fan and have never seen a samurai film, you're in for a treat. They are the Japanese version of the western, and our filmmakers have borrowed liberally from them. (*The Magnificent Seven* was stolen lock, stock, and final shoot-out from *The Seven Samurai*.) One of Kurosawa's funniest films, it is a popular fixture on revival house schedules, and is well worth looking for.

Legend — *-1/2

"Giant trees unfolding mind me/Of legends, tales, and ages past./Will they ever share the answer/Of legends, tales, and times gone by?" Not if Ridley Scott has his way. A mish-mash of Victorian Romanticism, *Legend* is the story of innocence corrupted, the fall from grace, and how true love can triumph over all. It's also a waste of time.

The young lovers, Jack and Lily, begin their fall from grace when Lily touches one of the sacred unicorns, thus allowing the minions of the Lord of Darkness to steal the precious horn. The quest (every legend has to have a quest — see Galahad and the Sangreal) is to free the other unicorn and recapture the horn. Lily has also been captured, and Jack seeks to free her with the help of an elf, a fairy, and two dwarves. What follows after is pretty much standard and pretty boring. Tom Cruise and Mia Sara, who play Jack and Lily, have all the appeal of wet dishrags, thus providing a major handicap. As Darkness, Tim Curry provides most of the film's entertainment and power, giving a hard edge to the fluff we're being fed. It is he who points out the message of the film, and of all the legends of mankind: There is no light without dark, no good without evil. We exist side by side, and do our best to keep the dark at bay, but we will never, can never, defeat it, for in that balance lies the order of the universe.

Originally scheduled for release last summer, Universal had the film recut for time and pacing. Even so, the film drags badly, though the visuals will delight the children. There is something there, beneath the surface of the glimmering light show Scott weaves, but we never catch more than just a glimpse, never really discover the legend.

Water — ***

"Satire," George Kaufman once said, "is what closes Saturday night." It is a transient thing, relying on topical references and parody for its humor. If it doesn't hit at just the right moment, the point falls flat.

Water managed to satire it just right. It's an engaging satire of big business and the media, and how problems can get blown out of proportion by outside interference. Carracas is a stereotypical tropical paradise, a last remnant of the once-proud British Empire, poor but happy, and not really concerned with what's happening in the outside world. Everything is fine until a Texas oil company, drilling under the cover of filming a "Gee, isn't our company terrific" commercial, strikes. . . . water. Ah, but not just any water. This water rivals Perrier for taste, and the Americans are quick to see the marketing value. Suddenly, this piece of rock which no one wanted is the center of international controversy.

The flaws in the film are obvious, with large, gaping holes in the plot, but, somehow, that really doesn't matter. It's all very easy going, and eager to please, preferring to slip its jabs in between the laughs. Michael Caine heads the cast as the governor, with a standout performance by Billy Connolly, one of the island's rebels (there are two), who has vowed not to speak, only to sing, until his home is free. He comes com-

plete with beret, camouflage fatigues, and camouflage electric guitar. Worth going to see, if only for the Concert for Carracas.

Gung Ho — **

There's an interesting situation with this film. Even before the film had been released, a deal had been signed with CBS to turn it into a series for the fall season. So, what you see on the big screen is going to be similar to something you'll see on the little screen later this year.

Sigh. It's going to be a bleak fall. It's hard to believe that the same man (Ron Howard) who did *Cocoon* did *Gung Ho*. The possibilities are there, but it just falls short of its mark. The story's taken from today's headlines: the Japanese take over an auto factory that had shut down, bringing jobs and Japanese ways to blue-collar America. At first, the townspeople are thrilled and excited about the Japanese invasion, rolling out the red carpet. All too quickly, though, they become disenchanted with the new philosophy that the management is trying to introduce, and refuse to cooperate. While both sides are at fault, the Americans do it with a good deal less grace, hurling all sorts of racial slurs. In fact, the

middle of the film is decidedly ugly in tone, as well as uncomfortable. It is not until things gear up for the climax that we actually see that the characters involved have any redeeming personalities.

Michael Keaton portrays his character well, and the changes we see in him are logical, but a bit drawn out. George Wendt, on the other hand, is decidedly unattractive throughout the film, and there is no clear-cut reason for him to suddenly decide to throw his lot in with the Japanese at the end. The best moments come from the Japanese as they try to adjust to American ways and work ideals. What isn't made clear is that there is a completely different philosophy behind business in Japan, ideas adopted from the feudal days of Shoguns and samurais, and it is from this that the conflict stems.

While the film has its moments, it has its flaws, which outweigh the humor. Television being what it is, the *Gung Ho* we see on the small screen will most likely be the middle portion of the film, where the Japanese and Americans do nothing but yell at one another.

Maybe I'll see what's at the video store instead. — Carolyn Kinkead

Sic Transit. . .

by Alex Page's



Filipino Group To Go Hawaiian

On July 19, 1986, the RTD FILIPINO EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION will hold its Third Annual Dinner-Dance at the Los Angeles Hyatt Regency East Ballroom. The celebration will be highlighted with a Hawaiian motif: costumes, dances, and special Hawaiian/Polynesian food. Also, one of the RTD's board directors will be invited as the keynote speaker.

In addition to the above festivities, the following are slated for the year 1986:

May 19 — First Issue of the Association's "Newsletter" — Carmelita Romero — Acting Editor-in-Chief, Ernie Navarro, Jr. — News Editor, and Willie Atienza — Managing Editor.

May 31 — Fund Raising Campaign for Scholarship Program/Project — Elen Andrian, Lita Reyes, Aida Lagrimas, Clem Bellaflor, and Rene Decena — Chairpersons.

June 9 — Induction of Officers, SCRTD Filipino Gun Club — Rippy Santos — Chairperson.

June 14-15 — Philippine Independence Day Celebration at MacArthur Park, Los Angeles — Ray Guerrero, Sonny Cabrales, Jr., Sollie Arriola, Jose Sunga, and Edwin Normandy — Chairpersons.

August 23 — Annual Summer Picnic with Mini Olympics for Children, Santa Fe Dam — Joe Vicente, Primo Sumagaysay, Jon Sotero, Lori Magno, and Elen Andrian — Chairpersons.

December 13 — Annual Award of the Most Outstanding RTD Filipino Employee of the Year at the Los Angeles Westin Bonaventure Hotel — Archie Balolong, Rey Reyes, Lilia Bayacal, Lulu Asuncion, and Romy Reyes — Chairpersons.

For additional information and/or tickets for any of the above events, please contact Emilio Estepa at extension 3587 or 463-5209, Carmelita Romero extension 6625, or Elen Andrian extension 2152.

SCHEDULE CHANGES & SHIFTING GEARS

COMMENDATIONS

Division 1

Andrews, Derald L.

Division 3

Franklin, Earl
McCruy, Erwin J.

Division 5

Foreman, Robert L.
Moore, Joe B.

Division 6

Cleveland, Donald R.
White, Mary E.

Division 7

Brown, Willie G.
Pereia, Miriam L.

Division 8

Mullins, Roger L.

Division 9

Senteno, Edward C.

Division 10

Brame, Harry W.
Covington, Floyd C.
Kaiser, Alphonso N.
Sullivan, Percy

Division 12

Gibson, Darrell

Division 15

Curtis, George M.
Lavizzo, Edward J.
Perez, Rafael

Division 18

Brown, Barry W.
Jackson, Guy

Department 4800

Tate, Kevin

SHIFTING GEARS

Cade, James, began with the District August 9, 1959, retired as a Utility A March 31, 1986.

Collins, Harvey, began with the District March 13, 1956, retired as a Road Janitor on March 14, 1986.

Cray, Donald, an Operator since June 20, 1970, retired January 28, 1986.

Davis, Howard, an Operator since April 22, 1961, retired April 29, 1986.

Foots, John, began with the District April 7, 1972, retired as a Mopper/Waxer May 1, 1986.

Garnett, James, an Operator since September 3, 1952, retired February 28, 1986.

Hall, James, an Operator since July 25, 1970, retired April 4, 1986.

Harrison, Melvin, an Operator since August 26, 1966, retired January 20, 1986.

Lawrence, Richard, an Operator since March 15, 1976, retired March 16, 1986.

Moss, Lawrence, an Operator since October 14, 1961, retired April 24, 1986.

Soberanis, Julio, began with the District June 12, 1974, retired as a Mechanic A April 1, 1986.

Womble, Donald, began with the District March 16, 1939, retired as a Traffic Loader/Extra Schedule Checker March 17, 1986.

Yoshitomi, Kazue, began with the District October 1, 1971, retired as a Senior Staff Assistant April 29, 1986.

Arnold, Lloyd E., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Bawa, Daljit S., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Blakely, Edwin L., from Operator to Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor-Communications

Bennett, Michael G., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Burney, Iargene G., from Service Attendant to Service Attendant Leader.

Burns, John R., from Mechanic A to Electronic Communications Technician.

Castorena, Jesse H., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Collins, Willie G., from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Cowley, George E., from Building and Grounds Maintenance Supervisor II to Acting Building and Grounds Maintenance Superintendent.

Cosner, Laurence G., from Transit Operations Supervisor to Acting Senior Transit Operations Supervisor.

Croxen, Gregory G., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Drake, Rosetta B. from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Daniels, Herbert S., from Operator to Traffic Loader/Extra Schedule Checker.

Duran, Eulojia L., from Typist Clerk to General Clerk II.

Ebli, Frank J., from General Clerk Purchasing to Insurance Clerk Personnel.

Findlay, James R., from Acting Equipment Maintenance Manager to Equipment Maintenance Manager.

Flock, Linda, from Ticket and Reports Clerk to Service Director.

Fox, Karen F., from Acting Junior Systems Programmer to Junior Systems Programmer.

Garlick, Arthur R., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Gomez, Raymond F., from Stock Clerk to Truck Driver Clerk.

Hamasaki, Mark Y., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Heiller, William T., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Hemsing, Dieter K., from Equipment Maintenance Supervisor to Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Hernandez, Socorro C., from General Clerk Marketing to Cash Clerk.

Hess, Sammy J., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Hoel, Lanny E., from Property Maintainer A to Property Maintainer A Leader.

Howison, Maria E., from Typist Clerk to General Clerk.

Johnson, Renita R., from Secretary to Senior Secretary.

Johnson, Ronald D., from Real Estate Specialist to Acting Acquisition and Relocation Manager.

Judson, Charles P., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Lee, Sut-Fu, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Lewis, Hebert L., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Loredo, Jose G., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Mendez, Alex, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Menjivar, Oscar Z., from Operator to Acting Operator/Transit Operations Supervisor-Communications.

Miranda, Mario G., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Montoya, Jaime, from Acting Data Base Analyst to Data Base Analyst.

Nieman, Glenn H., from Schedule Maker II to Acting Senior Schedule Maker.

Parreco, Robert M., from Equipment Maintenance Supervisor to Acting Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Phillips, Michael P., from Utility A to Stock Clerk.

Ramos, Ernest E., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Reedy, Ronald A., from Assistant Division Transportation Manager to Acting Division Transportation Manager.

Reeves, Loren A., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Richard, Diane S., from Secretary to Acting Personnel Assistant.

Rufus, Nita V., from Service Attendant to Roving Janitor.

Sauvageau, Denis P., from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Simpson, William G., from Equipment Maintenance Supervisor to Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Singleton, Joseph R., from Transit Operations Supervisor to Acting Assistant Superintendent of Instruction.

Solomon, Mark A., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Acting Transit Operations Supervisor-Communications.

Soto, Andre, from Transit Operations Supervisor to Acting Superintendent of Instruction.

Urquidi, Daniel, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Walker, Cedric J., from Stock Clerk to Truck Driver Clerk.

Warth, J.D., from Acting Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor to Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Yunis, Mohamed, from Mechanic B to Field Equipment Technician.

BIRTHS

Assistant Architect Dennis Mori was given a baby shower by the Metro Rail Transit Facilities staff on April 28. Dennis and his wife, Sally, expected their first child, Lauren, to arrive April 29. Lauren did arrive on April 30 weighing in at 6 lbs., 14 oz. and 19 inches long. Dennis said he had no pre-labor jitters as of April 28. "I'm from a large family and I've got a lot of nieces and nephews, so this doesn't make me too nervous. Also, my wife and I are taking Lamaze classes and I'm her coach."

The shower was planned and coordinated by Wadree Daniels and Marinda O'Neal. On behalf of his child-yet-to-arrive, Dennis thanked the staff for their gifts of sleepers, receiving blankets, and other baby necessities. Following the gift-giving, Dennis cut the cake and served it to his fellow staff members.



New dad Dennis rakes in a haul of baby stuff at shower for new daughter Lauren.

TRIPPERS

Division 3 Operator Steven Morales, with the District for 8 years, has also been a runner for the last 8 years. "It's how I find my tranquility," Steven said. "When you drive a bus and deal with the public you have to take the time for yourself to mellow out. That is why I run," he said.

Steve participated in Los Angeles' first marathon held March 9. He finished the 26.2 miles, 382 yards in 4 hours flat. The *Headway* salutes Steven and all other RTD marathon runners.

IN MEMORIAM

Sympathy is expressed to the families and friends of employees or retirees who passed away.

Davies, John, began with the District September 25, 1978, as an Operator, passed away March 31, 1986.

SUMMER

Employee Activities

- JUNE**
- 12 Chick Corea Elektric Band — Universal \$17.50
 - 14-15 Playboy Jazz Festival — Hollywood Bowl \$22.50
 - 15 Angels vs Kansas City — \$4.00
 - 20-21 Koal Jazz Festival San Diego Stadium \$17.50
 - 22 Dodgers vs San Diego \$4.00
 - 23 Dodgers vs Atlanta \$4.00 — Visor Night
 - 28 Angels vs Cleveland \$4.00
 - 28 Johnny Mathis/Dionne Warwick — Greek Theatre \$25.00
 - 29 Billy Crystal — Universal Amphitheatre \$18.50
- JULY**
- 4 Dodgers vs Pirates \$4.00 — Fireworks Night
 - 7 Dodgers vs Chicago \$4.00 — T-Shirt Night
 - 19 Angels vs Toronto \$4.00

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Editorial input and suggestions welcome. Deadline for receipt of editorial copy is the 5th of each month. Send black-and-white photographs only, please. Requests for photographic coverage of District events must be preceded by 72 hours notice.

Mailing address Headway, 2nd Floor, 425 South Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

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Woman of the Year