

# HEADWAY



**Crescencio Rodriguez—  
Rodeo Champ**

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## Court Rules in Favor of Foothill Transit

A Los Angeles Superior Court judge upheld the right of Foothill Transit to operate, despite arguments made by the United Transportation (UTU) and Amalgamated Transit Unions (ATU), in a decision handed down July 18.

The unions had succeeded in getting a temporary injunction against Foothill last June from Judge Eli Chernow. But this time Judge Chernow ruled for the continued operation of Foothill Transit, including its plans to take over 14 of the District's 54 lines in the San Gabriel Valley area by the middle of next year. Foothill Transit is an attempt at privatizing bus service and offering such service to the 20 cities involved in a city-county partnership.

The UTU attorneys argued that Foothill Transit threatened union jobs at the RTD and was an illegal privatized competitor. ATU contended that Foothill was an attempt to bust the unions. Judge Chernow ruled that Foothill was legally created and that the potential harm to the area's bus riders if Foothill were not allowed to operate outweighed the possible adverse impact on RTD employees. Since December, Foothill had contracted with Embree Bus Lines to operate Line 495 (Diamond Bar) and Line 498 (Eastland).

Foothill added six local lines (178, 185, 187, 274, 276, and 280) in the mid-valley during August and September, bringing to eight the number of routes taken over from the District. In mid-summer, Foothill was negotiating with Cincinnati-based ATE Inc. to operate the lines. In late January, Foothill intends to take over two additional express lines from the Pomona Valley to Los Angeles, having recently ordered 60 new buses. The San Gabriel Valley transit agency plans to acquire more RTD lines in that region over time.

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# Federal Government Now Requires Random Drug Testing of Transit Employees

Way ahead of the pack, the District has had a Drug and Alcohol Policy, along with drug testing procedures in place since 1985. By 1988 Congress, in reaction to catastrophic transportation accidents nationwide, passed legislation requiring the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue regulations for drug testing programs. These regulations impact not only the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), but also the Federal Railway Administration, the Federal Aviation Administration, and other DOT agencies. Noteworthy among these regulations is the requirement for random drug testing.

When news arrived that Congress wanted random testing for all transit employees, RTD official's response was that the District already had an effective program in place. But, the District depends on federal subsidies (\$350 million for 1990) to balance its budget, and getting these subsidies hinges on RTD's compliance with federal regulations.

The new federal guidelines require drug testing employees in five contexts: prior to employment, for reasonable cause, after accidents, after a leave of absence, and at random. The District presently conducts drug and alcohol tests in the first four

situations. Even without random testing, in the four years since this testing program has been in effect, the portion of employees testing positive for drugs or alcohol has dropped, from an initial high of 20.5% of those tested, down to an average of 2.5%.

Many transit properties, including SCRTD, had reservations about the proposed guidelines. The government's position on random testing is that the public has an overriding interest in assuring that transit personnel perform their duties both safely and drug free.

In addressing Fourth Amendment concerns about unreasonable search and seizure, the DOT asserts that persons who work in closely regulated industries consent to such restrictions being placed on them. UMTA sources noted that the need in the transit industry to ensure public safety, clearly outweighs the privacy interest of individual employees.

RTD management has reviewed the existing drug and alcohol program and is preparing to implement random testing. Most aspects of the existing policy will not be changed. Employees can expect to receive written copies of the new program this fall. Information sessions and supervisor training classes will be scheduled for November.

**It is not the District's intention to catch anyone unaware as these changes are implemented. That is why employees are strongly encouraged to seek assistance early, before any problems surface at work. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**

**is available to all employees to assist with any and all personal problems. It is a part of the benefit plan for employees and their families. All self-referrals are completely confidential, by law. For information on the EAP, call (800) 221-0942 or (714) 978-7915.**

## Electronic Farebox Installation Completed

The District has completed installation of 2,387 electronic fareboxes, manufactured by Cubic Western Data of San Diego, that accept dollar bills, tickets, and coins, and feature a digital display of the exact fare deposited.

### *Reliability has improved*

General Manager Alan Pegg reported that the reliability of the fareboxes has significantly improved since requesting Cubic to improve the design of the boxes. Installation on buses began in November of 1988, but was halted in February when some of the boxes failed to perform reliably.

During the first few weeks of service, some fares went uncollected when some boxes failed to accept dollar

bills. The District is analyzing the revenue loss, expected to be minimal.

As a result, modifications were made to the fareboxes, which were under warranty as part of the \$12.1 million contract. Installation work began again on May 24.

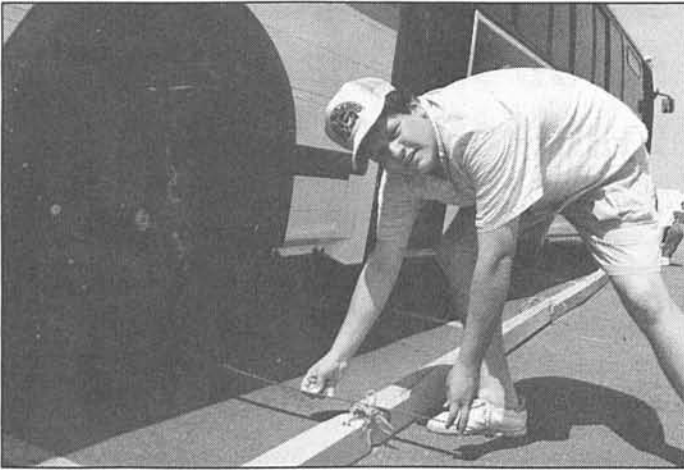
The digital display tells operators exactly how much has been deposited, which helps them collect the proper fares. This feature, coupled with a more sophisticated security system that guards against possible pilferage, is expected to save the District millions of dollars in lost revenue over the long run.

There are 63 remaining uninstalled fareboxes that will be placed in stock as spare inventory. More than \$11.4 million has been paid to Cubic, and a contract balance of \$620,000 is pending.



Families watch, waiting for their favorite to make it through the Rodeo course.

# RODRIGUEZ WINS 14TH ANNUAL ROADEO



Volunteer Judge Chris Luna measures the distance at the passenger stop test.



Judge Jerry Surfus checks the driver's reverse-in turn.

Division 10 Operator Crescencio Rodriguez won the RTD 14th Annual Bus Rodeo on July 15 with a final score of 609 after 12 years of trying his skill on the bus obstacle course set out at the Santa Anita Racetrack.

Rodriguez has been with the RTD for 21 years. After being declared the winner, the shocked Rodriguez said he felt kind of emotional but the impact of it all as Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey read his name had not set in yet.

"I want to thank God, he helped me, and everyone else," said Rodriguez. "I think I did better this year because I was myself, more relaxed, very calm. If you just put your mind to it, you'll do it."

He hired on originally as a mechanic, but he knew he really wanted to drive a bus. "I still enjoy my work. This is a good job here."

As the grand prize rodeo winner, Rodriguez takes \$1,000 and an all-expenses paid trip to compete at the International

Bus Rodeo in Atlanta on September 28.

"I just had the feeling I was going to win this time," said Rodriguez. "I've tried this for so long." Rodriguez was given a hero's welcome by the many members of his family who were present for the announcement a little after 12 noon on that Saturday. Rodriguez has been married for 36 years to his wife Julia, and together they have 6 children: Diana, 35; Delia, 34; Crescencio, Jr. 33; Ana, 30; Isabel, 27; and Robert, 21. Mother and father of the clan still reside in Huntington Park.

Rodriguez' daughter Ana Lebrija is a VMS Clerk at the CMF. Brimming with pride over her father she said: "He's always been my idol."

Robert Jackson placed second at 596. This is the second consecutive year he has taken the number two spot and won \$750. John Downes came in third place with a score of 583, winning \$500. Downes has won the competition three times. Joe

*continued on page 5...*



*Judge Danny Ibarra keeps an eagle eye on the turn of these wheels.*



*Judges Paul O'Brien and Natalie Hernandez compare scores at their test site: braking distance at top speed.*



*Alan Pegg and his wife, Elizabeth, left, and their son Christopher, join Leilia Bailey and her granddaughter, Leishawn Bailey at the Rodeo.*



*Anita Allen and Karen Budds tally up the final scores back at the Rodeo base camp (the back of the bus).*



*Far left, Andy Soto and Diane Frazier hold the audience captive with a drawing for prizes. Here, Lee Hunter, Jr. lucks out by winning a Billow.*

*Left, Alice Varela in her first attempt at the finals.*

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Finally, the moment we were all waiting for arrived, and a surprised Crescencio Rodriguez takes first place!



Rodeo Coordinator Vicki Varga breathes a sigh of relief as the operators applaud her splendid efforts in producing the 14th Annual Rodeo.

...continued from page 5

Swift, winner in 1987, took fourth place with a score of 580 and won \$250.

"Once again, a number of RTD's finest gave it their all and performed with impeccable skill," said Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey. "The typical car driver can't possibly imagine how difficult it is to negotiate turns and obstacles in the competition."

Participants in the Rodeo were judged by RTD, DMV, and law enforcement officials as they maneuvered their buses through 11 simulated road problems in seven minutes or less. The thirty-two operators demonstrated their driving skills on a grueling obstacle course designed to test their driving ability, judgment, and knowledge of safety regulations.

To qualify for the Rodeo, an operator must measure up to rigid standards that take into account his or her past driving record and personal appearance. In addition to successfully completing a written safety test, the operator—for a period of one year prior to the competition—must have worked full time as an operator for the District, must have no chargeable accidents, must have had no more than three unavoidable accidents, must have had no more than three missouts, and must have had no suspensions.

The actual competition includes a pre-trip bus inspection, a personal appearance rating, and 11 simulated road problems designed to test a driver's

ability in negotiating left and right turns, reversing-in turns, passenger stops, reaction time, and judgment.

During the driving test, a judge or two rides with each operator, scoring for smoothness of operation and safety habits.

For the first time since the Rodeo has been held at the District, a woman, Alice Varela, 25, qualified for the finals. Ms. Varela placed 26th among the 32 finalists with a respectable score of 484.

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*"The typical  
car driver can't possibly  
imagine how  
difficult it is..."*

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"I wanted to do this because of the challenge. There never has been a women to make the finals. I tried in 1988, this is my second time competing in the Rodeo," said Ms. Varela. She is a full-time operator out of Division 1, who gets off her relief run at 1 a.m. only to go home and take up another full-time job of single mother to her two young sons, Joey, 9, and Anthony, 3 in Arcadia.

"All this is very exciting for me. I hope there'll be more women out there next year. I am surprised there aren't more now since it is the fourteenth annual. I will

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encourage a lot more women. Leilia Bailey was so happy for me, very proud, which made me feel good."

The following Saturday, July 22, the finalists were honored with an awards banquet held at the Disneyland Hotel. "Each year we put on this event and act like it is a big deal," said Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey. "We do that because it is a big deal in the Transportation Department. Congratulations Crescencio, this is his twelfth year in the Roadeo. Now that's persistence and it finally paid off."

General Manager Alan Pegg said to the banquet attendees: "These are the

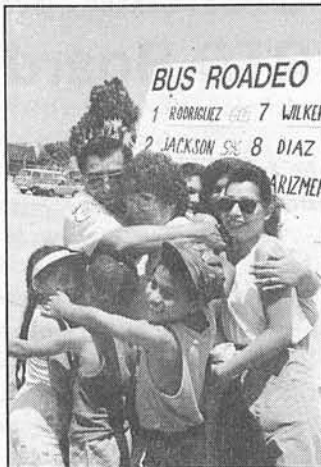
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***A woman qualified for the finals.***

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people who make the RTD what it is. I am proud to be associated with these people. If we can continue to give the kind of service I saw at the finals, RTD will be the best transit agency in this country."

Following the opening remarks by Roadeo Coordinator Vicki Varga, the participants and runners-up were given special-made plaques. Risk Management Director Barbara Anderson presented the safety inspection award to Division 1's Jose Serrano. Ms. Bailey brought the evening to a close and remarked: "While we have the best operators here in this room, we have many good ones out on the street."



"Daddy, we are so proud of you!"



Leilia Bailey and Alan Pegg join the top three contestants, from left to right: John Downes, Robert Jackson, and Crescencio Rodriguez.

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Before saying good-bye to this year's Roadeo, the contestants posed for one last photo.

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*Roadeo Champ Crescencio Rodriguez and his wife Julia joined Division 16 Manager Evelyn Frizelle at the Banquet.*



*Division 1 Operator Jose Serrano was presented with the Bus Safety Inspection award by Risk Management Director Barbara Anderson.*



*How sweet is the sound of success says Crescencio Rodriguez as he shows his winner's trophy to an audience giving him a standing ovation.*



*Teiche and Margaret Namatame and Nola and Russ Wilson enjoy themselves at the Roadeo Banquet.*

## Glendale Mayor Joins RTD Board of Directors

*by Andrea Greene, News Bureau Representative*

Jerold Milner, the new mayor of Glendale, has been appointed to the 11-member RTD Board of Directors by the City Selection Committee Corridor C. Milner replaces John Day, also a Glendale City Councilman, whose term expired in April.

At the RTD, Milner serves as chairman of the



*The newest RTD board director, Jerold Milner.*

*At the RTD,*

*Milner serves as*

*chairman of the*

*Ad Hoc Committee*

*on Accessible*

*Transportation.*

Ad Hoc Committee on Accessible Transportation. He also is a member of the Planning, Marketing and Customer Information, and Equipment and Operations Committees.

Milner has served on the Glendale City Council for six years. He was Glendale's mayor once before, in 1985-1986. He also was chairman of the Glendale Redevelopment Agency in 1984-1985 and served on both the Public

Service Commission and Civil Service Commission.

In 1981, he was honored by the Glendale Chamber of Commerce as "Man of the Year."

Milner recently retired as a manager with Pacific Bell. He was employed by the telephone company for 33 years. He presently sits on the Board of Directors of One Central Bank and has sat on the he Board of Trustees of both the Glendale Adventist Medical Center and Glendale Community Hospital.

As a 26-year resident of Glendale, Milner belongs to the Glendale Kiwanis Club, the Glendale Symphony Association, and the Glendale Community Foundation.

The Boulder, Colorado native earned his B.S. degree in electrical engineering and business finance from the University of Colorado in 1953.



# Arthur Leahy Appointed AGM-Operations

Arthur T. Leahy, 40, employed in an acting capacity for the last year, was appointed the Assistant General Manager-Operations on June 25.

The new assistant general manager has been with the District for 18 years. He started as an operator, driving for three years out of Divisions 3 and 10. It is probably not surprising that Leahy would have made his career in transportation considering his father was an instructor at Divisions 3, 5, and 8, and his mother drove L.A. Railway streetcars during World War II. Leahy's brother, Michael, is also employed at the RTD as the Assistant Director of Equipment Maintenance.

In his position, Leahy oversees the Transportation Department, the Scheduling and Operations Planning Department, Rail Activation, and Operations General, supervising well over 5,000 employees. "It is an awesome responsibility," said Leahy. "We are the ones responsible for achieving RTD's service delivery goals—we are the business end of the RTD."

Paramount among his goals are managing the best transit operation in North America and making the RTD a rewarding place to work for all employees. "I don't think these goals are mutually exclusive. I want to make transit a good buy in Los Angeles by offering good, reliable, and courteous service, achieving a successful rail start, and by

effectively coordinating the bus and rail service."

By listening to the feelings and suggestions of the employees, those folks most knowledgeable about what's occurring out on the streets, Leahy believes the RTD can move that much closer to its goal of good service. "The RTD is a good place to work. The most important person to this company is the customer; the second most important person is the employee. By considering the employees we can give them a sense of ownership in the company."

He is quick to add that work at the RTD is never going to be easy, it will always offer a difficult challenge. But, at the same time it should be rewarding to the employee. "We place high demands on an employee's performance. We get paid well, and when we go home at the end of the day we know we earned our pay and made our contribution to the growth and vitality of this city."

By offering the employees a greater stake in the operation, Leahy feels that they in turn will convey a positive message to patrons. "Each employee needs that passenger to come back the next day every bit as much as the private business person needs his or her customers for his or her business. By caring about our employees they care about our riders. They'll be more likely to do a good job and help us improve the quality of our service."

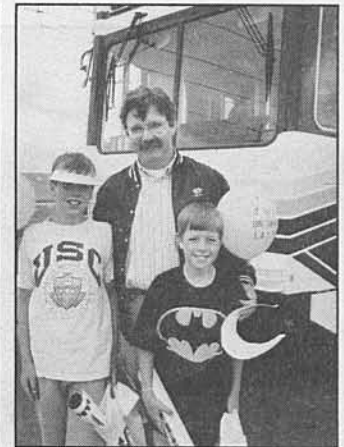
In order to create the

quality transit service he envisions, Leahy says he needs the Transportation, Scheduling and Operations Planning, Equipment Maintenance, Facilities Maintenance, Transit Police, and other departments to work in a coordinated fashion. "There are a lot of complex problems that require resolution. Our environment is so complex and ever-changing. For instance, our funding fluctuates from year to year so that we are required to make service changes. Staying in step with the latest change is a real challenge."

As an agency still recovering from the harsh criticism dished out by the media, community, and the politicians, Leahy thinks the RTD may need a few more years to turn around public perception. "We have shown great improvement in the past year: complaints are down, ridership is up, and operator performance has improved. It will take resolving the graffiti problem, showing a continuing improvement in operator performance, service reliability, improved schedules, and for each employee to consider the passenger."

"I'd like to see employees go out there and do something good for a passenger each day. We are here to supply them with the service they need."

During his 18 years with the RTD, Leahy has had the opportunity to work in the District's Marketing,



*Arthur Leahy with his sons Arthur and Tim in front of the first light rail car.*

Community Relations, Equipment Maintenance, Grants, Transportation, and Scheduling and Operations Planning departments. He feels that this experience is a real asset in getting things done at the District.

A native Angeleno, Leahy graduated from Franklin High School in Highland Park. He attended East Los Angeles College, received his bachelor's in political science from Cal State-Los Angeles, a certificate in Transportation Management from UCLA, and a master's in public administration from USC.

He resides in Glendale and has two sons, Arthur, 11, and Tim, 9. Arthur plans to be a SWAT team member for a local police force, and Tim hopes to play centerfield for the Chicago White Sox.

# CMF Completes 100th RTS Midlife

by John McBryan, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor



*The 100th midlife bus struts her stuff for all of Los Angeles to see. The newly reworked bus also includes the new paint scheme which is produced more efficiently and cost-effectively.*

The Central Maintenance Facility (CMF) met its goal and has produced 100 RTS midlife buses for fiscal year 1989.

The bus pictured on this page, No. 8707, is the 100th bus.

The RTS midlified bus is a 1981 GMC Model T80-204 bus that has gone through an extensive rework program to guarantee that the bus will last through its 12-year life cycle.

Some of the repairs

completed on the buses include: complete front and rear suspension rebuild, fuel tank cleaned and replaced, new or reconditioned side body windows, interior recondition including the driver's compartment, new air tanks, and the air system reworked. Modification updates involved reinforcing the driver's compartment panel, and relocating emergency brake switches, oil level indicators, rear exit door

inspection panel, and rear engine latches.

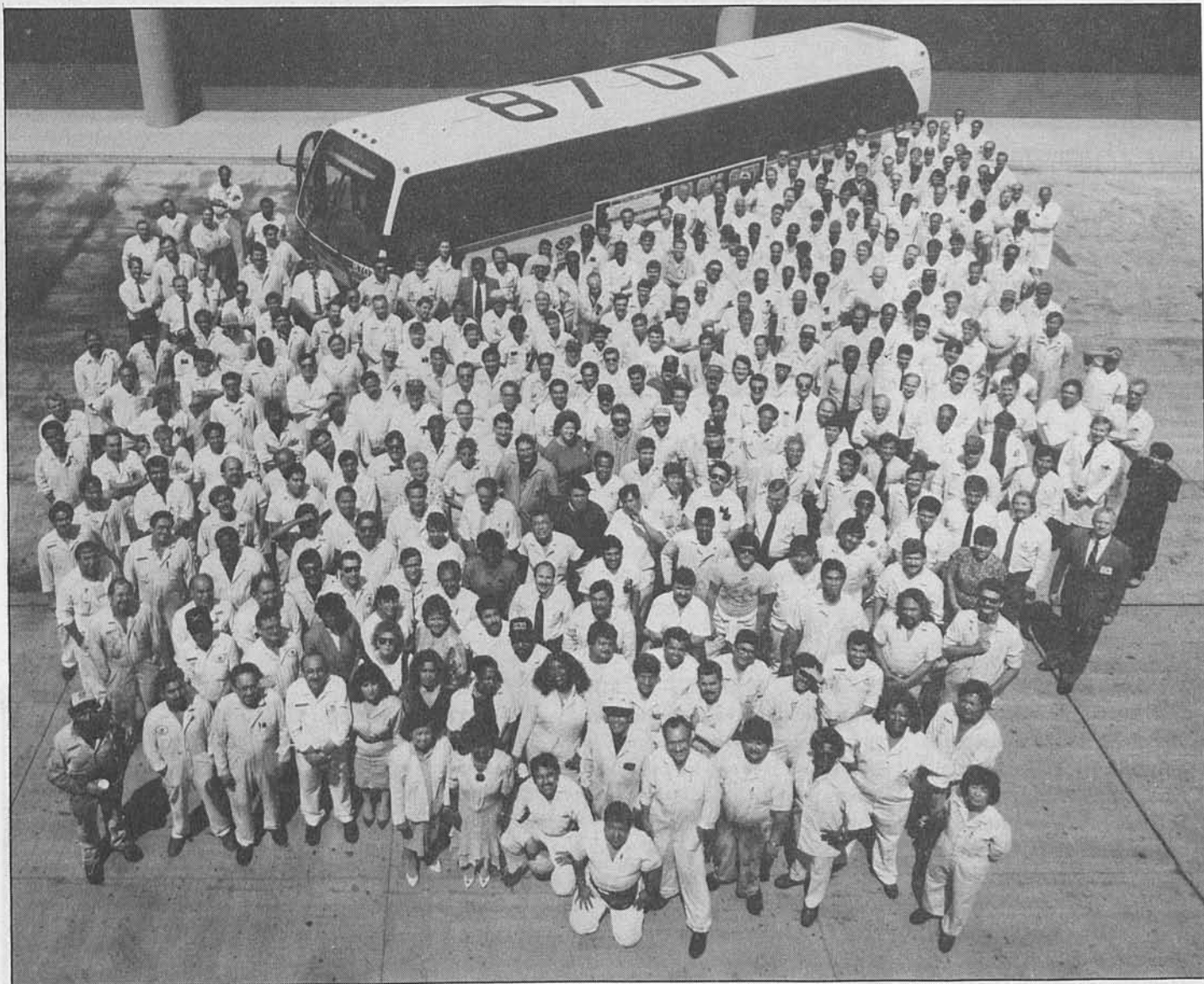
Although not part of the Midlife Program, some buses required new paint and new engines. This work is also done at CMF by the people you see pictured on the opposite page.

Pictured here are personnel from CMF Maintenance, OCPM, Support Staff, Facilities Maintenance, and the Mechanical Instruction Departments.

These are the people who make it happen at the CMF. Without the dedication and perseverance of these people working together, we could not have accomplished the tasks at hand. No one department can stand alone—TEAM-WORK!

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# ...And the People at the CMF Who Made It All Happen...



## DOE SECRETARY WATKINS VISITS THE CMF



*Energy Secretary Adm. James Watkins, left, is asked by RTD Board Director Jan Hall and General Manager Alan Pegg to check out the emissions of the RTD bus to the left of them.*

U.S. Secretary of Energy James D. Watkins visited July 17 with RTD officials, Air Quality Management District personnel, and others from the California Energy Commission at the CMF.

Watkins was briefed by Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis and Vince Pellegrin on the use of alternative fuels employed by District buses. The District has 30 methanol-using buses in service, many of which are undergoing emissions tests, while the rest are deployed on city streets. The District's two-year methanol program is

supported by a \$1.8 million grant from the Department of Energy. It is the largest program of its kind in the world to determine the fuel's effectiveness.

The District also is building a \$2.3 million emission testing facility to check pollution levels of District buses. Watkins called the clean fuels program of the RTD an aggressive one which will point the way for the future.

"The lessons learned here in Los Angeles, with all the difficulties in air quality, are very important to the rest of the nation," said Watkins.

Watkins administered the "handkerchief test" to the methanol bus idling outside of CMF Maintenance General. Pleased, he noted that the white handkerchief was clean after holding it to the exhaust pipe of the running bus. Soon after the test, the Secretary was invited to drive the methanol bus around the CMF grounds.

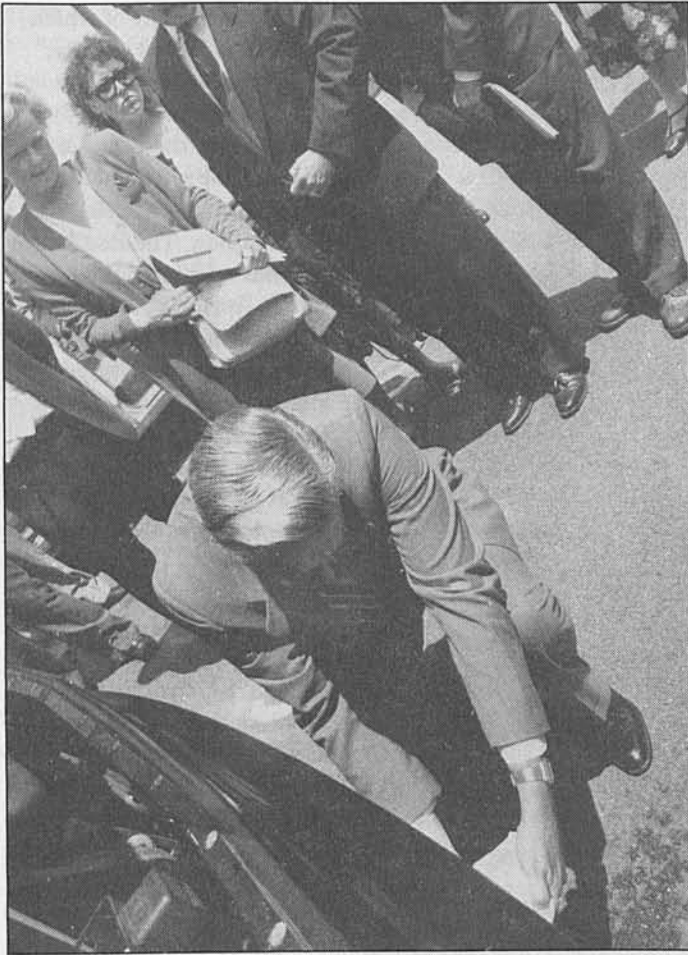
After over an hour's visit at the CMF, Watkins, his wife, Sheila, and the rest of the entourage left to attend the annual meeting of the Western Governors' Association in Long Beach.

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*Secretary Watkins warily eyes the bus's tailpipe with handkerchief in hand.*

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*By George! declares Secretary Watkins, the handkerchief is clean, he tells California Energy Commission Chairman Chuck Imbrecht and General Manager Alan Pegg.*

*Covering the tailpipe with the handkerchief, Secretary Watkins counts off the seconds of emissions blowing through.*



*Secretary Watkins meets the press while RTD Board Director Jan Hall, California Energy Commission Chairman Chuck Imbrecht, General Manager Alan Pegg, and City Councilman Nate Holden look on.*

An outside engineering firm hired by the District to reassess the estimated final cost of Phase 1 of the Metro Red Line subway project has estimated the project could exceed the original \$1.25 billion earlier estimated by between 5 to 8 percent.

High-Point Schaer, an Irvine-based engineering firm, also reported the District has handled its contingency fund "conservatively." The final figure could range between \$64 to \$102 million over the original budget.

"This review noted several factors that could change the final cost," said Board President Gordana Swanson. "For example, there are several unawarded contracts and we still have not calculated the value of unresolved contract claims."

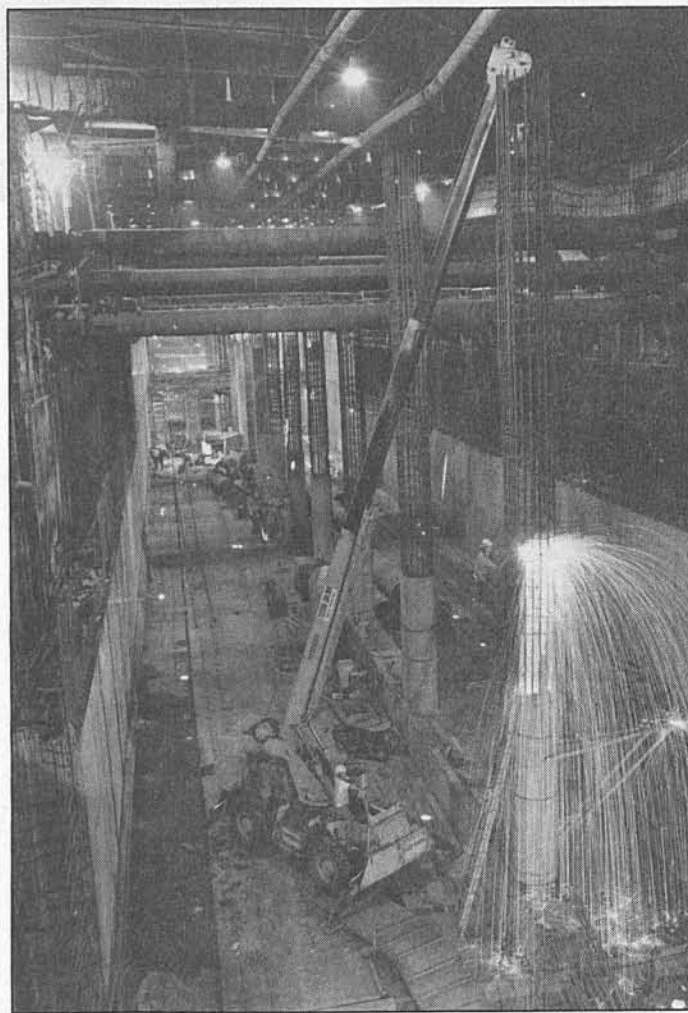
She said RTD will be able to better assess claim values after independent counsel concludes its evaluation into the real costs RTD can expect from the outstanding claims.

In May, General Manager Alan Pegg announced that the delays coupled with other unfavorable cost trends required a thorough re-examination of the project's overall budget. "Since becoming general manager in February of 1988, I have closely watched the financial situation of the Metro Red Line Project," Pegg said. "I believe these outside reviews will help us arrive at an updated, realistic final project estimate, now that we've had three years of construction experience."

Pegg said staff has completed its own internal

## Metro Red Line Costs Predicted To Rise By 8 Percent

by Greg Davy, News Bureau Representative



*Construction of the Civic Center Station continues beneath the street surface.*

review and estimates the final project costs at about \$104 million over the original cost estimate. RTD's construction management firm, a joint venture of Ralph M. Parsons Co., Dillingham Construction Co.

and Deleuw, Cather & Co. (PDCD), also has conducted a cost review and concluded that costs could be \$80 million more than originally projected.

"Staff has and is continuing to develop a

number of cost reduction procedures, many of which will be instituted shortly," Pegg said.

The original cost estimate for the first 4.4 miles of subway beneath downtown Los Angeles was \$1.25 billion. The Red Line's original opening date was set for April, 1992. A series of occurrences beyond RTD's control forced a delay of nine months to January, 1993. On April 13, 1989, staff reported to the RTD Board of Directors another 8-month schedule extension at a cost of \$24 million.

As of June 30, 1989, 36 of 63 available contracts had been awarded at a total value of \$476 million. Additional costs anticipated as a result of the most recent schedule adjustment, plus other negative trends, have significantly reduced the project's available contingency.

Seven Phase 1 contracts have been completed, four of which involved the clearing of land for construction. Two were for various utility work and one was the completion of the Maintenance of Way building.

Of the nearly nine total miles of twin tunnels to be dug for Phase 1, more than 60 percent has been completed. More than 80,000 cubic yards of concrete have been poured at the five Metro Red Line station sites, and excavation is nearly complete at three of them.

There are 503 pending contract claims and 241 pending contract changes. There also have been 597 executed change orders for a

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combined estimated value of \$73 million as of July 20, 1989.

Other Phase 1 construction milestones for 1989 include:

- Four more tunnel excavations to be completed.
- Four station excavations to be completed.
- First delivery of "contact" rail, or the "third" rail that

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*RTD has handled its*

*contingency fund*

*"conservatively,"*

*with the final figure*

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*the original budget.*

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provides electric current to subway cars, is expected.

• Manufacturing to begin of rail cars and fare collection equipment.

• Contracts for Stage II work (tiling, artwork, station esthetics, and final touches) at two more stations to be awarded.

Work on finalizing environmental studies for Phase 2 of the Metro Red Line has been completed, and a funding contract with the federal government is anticipated by mid-year. A benefit assessment task force will recommend assessment district boundaries on Phase 2 of the project to the Board of Directors later this year.

## Two Departments Merge to Form Public Affairs

The Local Government and Community Affairs Department and the Government Affairs Department merged in May 1989 to form the Government and Public Affairs Department.

The newly created department will be directed by Rebecca Barrantes, formerly director of the Government Affairs Department. "The merger was completed to increase the coordination of and activities of both previous departments," said Ms. Barrantes. Both departments were performing similar functions—trying to build support for the RTD among city, county, state, and federal agencies.

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*"It was best that we all come together because we are so inextricably linked."*

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"There are numerous programmatic activities we are all involved in such as the Vandalism Abatement Program, the Metro Blue Line Public Affairs campaign, and Metro Red Line activities. It was best that we all come together because we are so inextricably linked," she said.

With the merger has come title changes, Community Relations Representatives are now referred to as Public Affairs Representatives. The Public Affairs representatives will, for

example, help at the local level to gather support in opposition to SB 1—the merger proposal for the RTD that is now alive in the California Senate—to get the combined effect, Ms. Barrantes commented. Manny Hernandez has been appointed the Public Affairs Manager.

"We are concentrating efforts on the Blue Line. What happens with the operation of the Blue Line will impact all of us at the RTD." Within the next four months construction on Phase 2 of the Metro Red Line is expected to start. At that time the department will shift focus to the residents and businesses in the Hollywood area. They will use their experience gathered in downtown Phase 1 in this second phase."

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*Community Relations Representatives are now referred to as Public Affairs Representatives.*

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"The combined forces should help us carry out our tasks more successfully by resolving problems out in the communities. At the same time we are broadening opportunities for all staff members. It is a good marriage," said Ms. Barrantes. The new department is now comprised of 23 staff members.

## RTD Welcomes Service Dogs Helping Riders



*RTD Project Manager for Accessible Services Teresa Moren along with James Maaske and his dog "Billie" show the latest District car cards on service dogs.*

Not all service dogs aboard RTD buses belong to visually impaired patrons. The RTD wants the public to be aware that these special dogs aid some patrons whose disabilities are not visible.

One such individual is James Maaske from West Los Angeles who has epilepsy. "Billie," his golden retriever, protects Maaske from others interfering when he has a seizure.

The District recently printed car cards which stress that some dogs are indeed more than best friends. Patrons with a signal or service dog may obtain special ID cards from the District to clearly identify them and facilitate

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# September is Cholesterol Month

## Coming to the RTD— Cholesterol and Blood Pressure Screening

To celebrate cholesterol month, Kaiser Permanente is coming to the 425 North Main Administration Building to hold a cholesterol and blood pressure screening for employees at this location. This screening will be free of charge and will take place on Monday, September 25, 1989 and Monday, October 2, 1989. A nutritionist will be scheduled to speak on diet and cholesterol before the screening dates. Please watch for flyers and posters announcing this event and phone in your reservations. Other reservations will be taken for a later date. This program is completely confidential. No results will be released to the District or to anyone else except the individual volunteering for the screenings.

## Blood Pressure Screening to Continue at Divisions with Cholesterol Screening Added

The American Heart Association has received additional funding to continue the two-year blood pressure project that has taken place at certain of the District's Divisions. This year the blood pressure screenings will be conducted along with cholesterol screenings. Employees participating in this voluntary, free program will have the opportunity to learn about cholesterol and its effects and ways to reduce cholesterol in their bodies. The program is confidential.

This means no results will be released to anyone except the individual volunteering for the screenings.

## Mammogram Screening Coming to the Administration Building in September

Mammogram screenings for female employees and spouses of male employees will take place at the Administration Building Tuesday and Wednesday, September 19-20, 1989. There will be an educational program presented by medical personnel through the auspices of the Ameri-

---

*A nutritionist  
will be scheduled  
to speak on diet  
and cholesterol...*

---

can Cancer Society at noon in the Board Room both days. The screenings will take place in the Board Conference Room located at the front of the Board Room. All employees at the Administration Building will receive flyers giving instructions for making appointments. Watch for the flyers and posters publicizing this event. The cost to non-contract employees or their spouses will be \$50.00 per mammogram. The results of the screenings will be forwarded to the individual's physician. Otherwise, all results are confidential. T.C.U. employees are to

watch for announcements of screening in their Union Newsletter. Arrangements are being made for screenings for them through their union.

---

*Mammogram  
screening for  
female employees  
scheduled.*

---

## Blood Drive Scheduled for Administration Building September 19, 1989

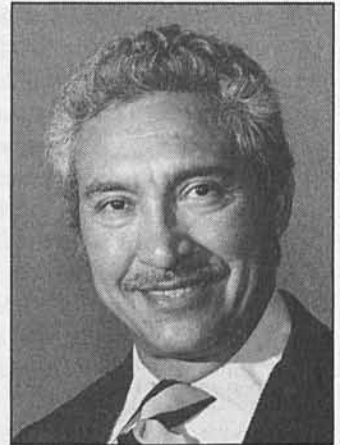
The next blood drive for the American Red Cross will take place on Friday, September 29, 1989 in the Employee Development second floor training room and the Personnel Department Employment section. Everyone in the District should take pride in the excellent participation of District employees. Please watch for posters and flyers announcing this event.

---

## ...Service Dogs

...continued from page 15  
their boarding of buses. Disabled and visually or hearing impaired persons are entitled to ride public transit with specially trained dogs as provided in the California Civil and Penal Codes. Anyone denying them access to public transit is subject to a \$250 fine and other civil liabilities.

# Caudillo Named Operator of the Month



Operator of the Month David Caudillo.

Division 10 Operator David Caudillo, whose supervisor credits him with preventing senseless acts of vandalism on District buses, has been named Operator of the Month for June, 1989.

---

*...never missed  
work...during his  
entire 15 years of  
service.*

---

Caudillo had never missed a day of work or had a missout during his entire 15 years of service. Additionally, he had maintained the maximum accumulation of merits for many years and has not had a chargeable accident since 1983.

"David Caudillo sets the standard for bus operators," said General Manager Alan Pegg. "He makes his  
*continued on page 17...*



# Transportation Managers Complete Rigorous Management Program

Nine participating District Transportation managers completed the Transportation Management Certificate II Program and were graduated on August 2 in a ceremony held in the Board Room.

Out of a beginning class of 35 employees only 9 successfully underwent the rigors of the 3-year-long program and graduated. The graduates are: Senior Relief TOS Alfred F. Boctor, Division 5 Assistant Manager Daniel B. Dryden, Division 15 Assistant Manager Susan Harvey, Acting Superintendent of OCS Daniel Ibarra, Jr., Division 3 Assistant Manager Chuck Lerud, Division 3 Assistant Manager Jack L. Owens, Division 7 Assistant Manager Joe Putt, Division 3 Manager Roy L. Starks, and Division 18 Assistant Manager Maurits G. Van Der Geugten.

The program was jointly sponsored by the Employee Development



Recent graduates of the Transportation Management Certificate II Program were front row, from left to right: Maurits G. Van Der Geugten, Alfred F. Boctor, Board President Gordana Swanson, Daniel Ibarra, Jr., Susan Harvey, and Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey. Back row, from left to right: Jack L. Owens, Daniel B. Dryden, General Manager Alan Pegg, Joe Putt, and Charles Lerud.

Department, the Transportation Department, and Cal State University, Long Beach's Graduate Center for Public Policy and Administration. All courses were taught by Cal State University, Long Beach (CSULB) instructors at Division 10. The students enrolled in the

Certificate II Program had to have completed the Certificate I Program in order to participate.

Courses covered such diverse subjects as Transit Operations, Transit Issues, Management Development, Employee Relations, Advanced Management, Community Relations, Speech, Office Management, and Project Control.

Employee Development Training Coordinator Regina Sells reports that all the participants put in valiant efforts to complete the program. "All the students attended class at night after completing a full day's work at their divisions. The night classes were held for up to four hours in the evening. And, as intense as the program was, these employees were

so motivated that all managed to complete the program with a B average or better. Alfred Boctor completed the program with a 4.0 grade point average."

At the graduation ceremony, each graduate was given his or her certificate of completion by CSULB Project Director Peter Shaw and Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey.

## Child Care Referrals

Do you know you can call your Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to request help in finding an appropriate child care center or home to care for your child or children? Simply dial (800) 221-0942 and speak to the counselor employed by Employee Support Systems of Orange, California. The counselor will talk with you and listen to your own individual needs for child care. The counselor will then give you two or three referrals located near your home or workplace. If for any reason these referrals do not work for you, then call the EAP Counselor again and ask for further assistance. Our EAP program attempts to provide assistance for all of our employees and their families, for any problem that arises in their daily lives. All of the counselors working for this program are licensed by the state of California. Remember, if you need some assistance with almost any type of personal problem, call EAP.

## ...Operator

...continued from page 16

passengers feel comfortable, and gets them to their destinations on time. He is truly deserving of Operator of the Month recognition."

Caudillo says he is able to prevent many potential troublemakers from mischief by being friendly with them and communicating the seriousness of their intentions. He has even

talked vandals out of spraying graffiti on District buses. Currently, he drives the Line 254 in Huntington Park, a hot spot for graffiti and vandalism.

He and his wife are the parents of three children. An avid handyman, he spends much of his spare time making repairs at his home in Bell.

# COMMENDATIONS



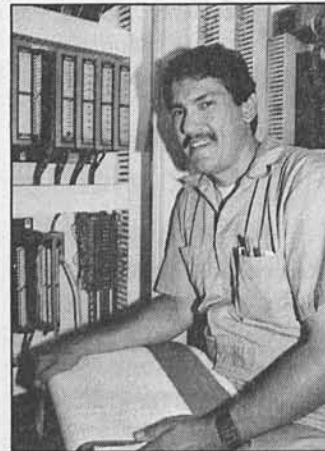
*RTD Retirees were recognized at the July 13 Board of Directors' Meeting and were presented with plaques by RTD Board Director Jerald Milner. Front row, from left to right: Supervising Service Director Margaret Y. Creel, Division 5 Operator Sisto Mingarelli, and Division 5 Operator Deneice F. Gregory. Back row, from left to right: Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey, General Manager Alan Pegg, and Director Milner.*



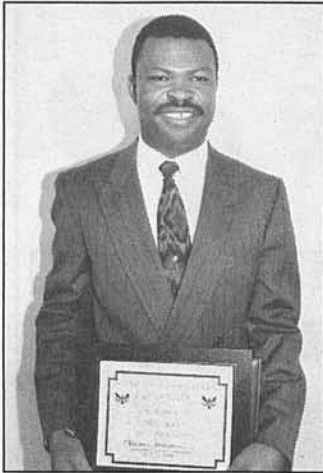
*George Snow was honored by the RTD Board of Directors at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 6. Snow has worked as a professional photographer for the RTD's Marketing, Personnel, Metro Rail, and Local Government and Community Affairs Departments since 1970. During those years, he put in many hours working nights and weekends. Snow has been a photographer since 1944 when he had his first photo published by the Los Angeles Examiner. The photo was of a murder victim. He worked for the Herald-Examiner for 18 years. In addition, he was the contract photographer to the Los Angeles Dodgers. The District is very grateful for his many years of support and wish him a happy retirement.*



*Division 15 Electronic Communications Technician Diane Acuna was selected the Facilities Maintenance and Operations Department Employee of the Month for May. In the two years Ms. Acuna has been with the District, she has demonstrated great technical competence. She has a positive attitude toward her job and is eager to broaden her knowledge of the electronic field.*



*CMF Electrician Jose Garcia was chosen the Facilities Maintenance Department's Employee of the Month for June. Garcia is known at the CMF for being one of the department's most versatile and productive members. His dedication to the job, the quality and quantity of his work, his performance, and enthusiasm, all made Garcia the optimum choice for this award. His attendance is excellent. To enhance his ability and keep up with modern technology, Garcia attends Los Angeles Trade Tech.*



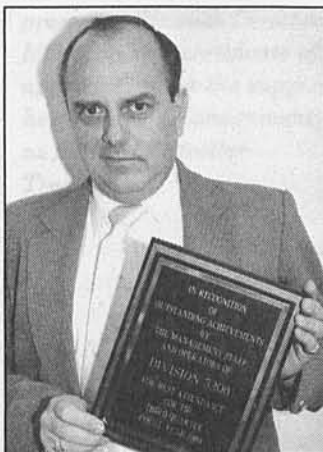
*Risk Management's Industrial Hygienist Ugbu Kalu was selected for the department's quarterly Special Recognition Award. Kalu has been very successful in developing and imparting Methanol Training programs for the Service Attendants and Mechanics at the Divisions. He also has been very efficient in field testing of airborne contamination of asbestos and lead in the headquarters building and other worksites. Some of his other effective programs include the Hearing Conservation Program, and the Comprehensive Hazardous Materials Communication Program.*



*Award-winning Transit Police Officers were presented to the RTD Board of Directors on July 13. The officers were acknowledged for their performance and accomplishments at the 1989 California Police Olympics held in Oxnard. Front row, from left to right: Officer Johnnie Jones, 1st Place-Gold Medal -Bodybuilding, Class: Mens' 5'8" to 5'10" (35 years and older); Sergeant Shari Barberic, 3rd Place-Bronze Medal-Team Pistol, Class: Master Skill Level; Officer Cynthia Sambolich, 4th Place-Bronze Medal-Women's 3-on-3 Basketball, Open Class (21-29 years); Officer Wayne Shetler, 1st Place-Gold Medal-Arm Wrestling, Class: Mens' Masters, under 200 lbs, (40-49 years); and Investigator Everett Rodriguez, 1st Place-Gold Medal-Powerlifting, Class: Mens' Masters, 148 lbs. and under, (40-49 years). Back row, from left to right: General Manager Alan Pegg; RTD Board Director Marvin Holen; Officer William Thomson, 3rd Place-Bronze Medal-Pistol Team, Class: Master Skill Level, and 3rd Place-Bronze Medal-Arm Wrestling, Class: Mens' Seniors, over 200 lbs. (30-39 years); Investigator George Thompson, 4th Place-Bronze Medal-Decathlon, Class: Mens' Masters, (40-49 years); and Acting Asst. Transit Police Chief Sharon Papa.*



*Division 5 Assistant Transportation Manager Dan Dryden accepted an award recognizing Division 5 Operators and the management staff for the best attendance record in fiscal year 1989 at the July 19 Division Managers' Meeting.*



*Division 8 Transportation Manager Bill Griffin accepted the best attendance award on behalf of the operators and management staff of the division for the third quarter of fiscal year 1989 at the July 19 Division Managers' Meeting.*



*Division 6 Joint Maintenance/Transportation Manager Mike Lensch received the outstanding achievement award for attendance during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 1989 at the July 19 Division Managers' Meeting.*

*continued on page 20...*

# COMMENDATIONS

...continued from page 19



Certificates of Merit were presented to the June Employees of the Month at the July 27 Board of Directors' Meeting by RTD Director Joseph Dunning. Those employees included: Division 15 Mechanic A Hak K. Lee, Telephone Information Operator Betty Velazquez, and Division 10 Operator David Caudillo, and Telephone Information Manager Elfriede Becker. Back row, from left to right: General Manager Alan Pegg, Division 10 Transportation Manager John Adams, Division 15 Equipment Maintenance Supervisor J. C. Gonzalez, and Director Dunning.



The Risk Management Department recently recognized Staff Aide Jose Molano for a job well done during his tenure in that department. Jose recently resigned his position in Risk Management to accept a position as a Human Resources Assistant with the Personnel Department.



Public Liability/Property Damage Specialist Nita Welch was named the Outstanding Employee of the Quarter in the Risk Management Department for the quarter ending June 30, 1989. She joined the District in 1987 in the PL/PD Claims Unit. Nita was previously employed by Russo & Co. as a litigation specialist where she handled District claims files. She brings many years of liability claims handling to the District. She is also an avid Dodger fan.



Acting Senior Human Resources Analyst Leila Procopio was selected the Personnel Department's Employee of the Quarter for the spring quarter of 1989. While Leila has only been with the Personnel Department a little over a year, she has managed to perform in an outstanding manner no matter what function she serves. Prior to supervising the Special Projects Section, Leila handled the unemployment desk with much grace under pressure. Having passed the fire test, she was appointed acting senior analyst and quickly learned the vastly diverse functions of special projects which includes the Headway, the Employee Suggestion Program, the Special Assistant Program, the Medical Desk, Audiometric Project, the Indefinite Leave Desk, and more. No small task. Leila has more than ably served over the past six months and richly deserves the recognition because she earned it says her supervisor.



*The Occupational Health and Safety Section of the Risk Management Department was recognized as the Outstanding Section for the fourth quarter of 1989 by Director of Risk Management Barbara Anderson. The section was instrumental in developing Rail Activation Orientation manuals and videotaping the orientation program for future Blue Line rail employees. The outstanding section from left to right: Denis Shoemaker, Ugbu Kalu, Jon Vandercook, Robert Torres, Lydia Torres, and Rufus Francis.*



*Director of Risk Management Barbara Anderson presented Finance Director Mike Butler a certificate of appreciation for the support he gave Risk Management as Acting Controller-Treasurer.*

# SHIFTING GEARS



**Colchado, Edmundo M.**, began with the District on January 15, 1966, retired as a Bus Operator on July 15, 1989.

**Endicott, James D.**, began with the District on February 17, 1989, retired as an Equipment Maintenance Supervisor on July 7, 1989.

**Enriquez, Miguel M.**, began with the District on April 15, 1976, retired as a Mechanic A on June 17, 1989.

**Fleischman, Phillip**, began with the District on March 4, 1974, retired as a

Mechanic A on June 30, 1989.

**Kinermom, Prewitt**, began with the District on June 8, 1984, retired as a Mechanic A Leader on June 30, 1989.

**May, Harry C.**, began with the District on May 11, 1966, retired as a Mechanic A on June 21, 1989.

**McMorris, Robert L.**, began with the District on June 18, 1966, retired as a Bus Operator on June 30, 1989.

**McNeil, Patrick M.**, began with the District on December 29, 1972, retired as a Bus Operator on July 1, 1989.

**Mingarelli, Sisto**, began with the District on April 5, 1976, retired as a Bus Operator on July 6, 1989.

**Rankin, Arthur**, began with the District on June 28, 1965, retired as a Mechanic A Leader on June 30, 1989.

**Saunders, John D.**, began with the District on April 5, 1976, retired as a Bus Operator on June 30, 1989.

**Sears, Samuel L.**, began with the District on May 7, 1976, retired as a Mechanic A on June 15, 1989.

**Villanueva, Manuel**, began with the District on September 15, 1975, retired as a Utility A on June 30, 1989.

**Zukle, Christopher**, began with the District on December 14, 1962, retired as an Equipment Records Specialist on July 1, 1989.



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# SCHEDULE CHANGES



**Alvarez, Ruben D.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Anderson, Robert B.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Ara, Diego J.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Arguelles, Heriberto A.**, from Utility A to Utility A Leader.

**Austin, Elizabeth**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Badget, Adell De Carlos**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Bauer, Joseph A.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Beatty, Bronwyn M.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Bentley, Lee K.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Berger, Suzanne B.**, from Material Expediter to Buyer Assistant.

**Bouffard, Linda J.**, from Administrative Analyst to Equipment Maintenance Labor Supervisor.

**Brizuela, Miguel A.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Brown, Shantelle S.**, from Security Guard II to Transit

Police Officer Trainee.

**Bryant, Patricia V.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Campbell, Terry D.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Candler, Lisa S.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Canel, Luis F.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Castro, Salvador N.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Chavez, Manuel F.**, from Truck Driver/Clerk to Stock Clerk.

**Coman, Dorinel**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Cons, Oswald M.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Cranton, Herbert W.**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Daniels, Jermani Catrice**, from Student Intern Assistant to Service Attendant.

**De La O, Antonio**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Dhaliwal, Mohinder P.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Doucette, Darren J.**, from

Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

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

**Dytuco, Ronaldo R.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Early, Charles W.**, from Ticket/Information Clerk to Information Clerk.

**Ellis, Gloria A.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

**Evans, Albert**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Figueroa, Jamie**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Frawley, Thomas E.**, from Senior Rail Systems Engineer to Supervising Rail Systems Engineer.

**Gonzalez, Albert**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Grijalva, Enrique A.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Grimes, Charlette**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Hale, Angela D.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Haro, Maria E.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Harris, Derwin**, from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

**Harris, Ray D.**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Hendricks, Ottis L.**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Hernandez, Carlos R.**, from Equipment Maintenance

Supervisor to Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

**Hernandez, Edmund**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Hernandez, Ruben J.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Ibarra, Lupe**, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

**Jackson, Robert L.**, from Statistical Analyst to Senior Statistical Analyst.

**Jimenez, Lorenzo**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Jolly, Joseph J.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Jordan, Mamie E.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Kalsi, Avinash S.**, from Data Processing Operator II to Lead Data Processing Operator.

**Kang, Jaspal S.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Keith, Sheila A.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

**Keith, Stanley**, from Security Guard II to Transit Police Officer Trainee.

**Kirsch, Linda L.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Komora, Rinda L.**, from Ticket Clerk to Ticket Office & Reports Clerk.

**Lane, Pamela M.**, from Vault Truck Driver to Transit Police Officer Trainee.

**Leahy, Arthur T.**, from Director of Schedule & Operations Planning to

*continued on page 23...*

## ...Schedule Changes

...continued from page 22

Assistant General Manager - Operations.

**Lebrija, Ana M.**, from Typist Clerk to Clerk.

**Lovasco, Thomas R.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Mack, Shirley M.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Magno, Loreta G.**, from Staff Aide to Staff Assistant.

**Marroquin, Aldo A.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

**Martinez, Matthew J.**, from Truck Driver/Clerk to Stock Clerk.

**Mask, William R.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**McGlothorn, Jerri A.**, from Material Expediter to Buyer Assistant.

**Mendoza, Fidel T.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Meza, Albert**, from Information Clerk to Ticket/Information Clerk.

**Mancera, Raymond**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Milesel, Guadalupe**

**Susana**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Monterrojas, Jorge**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Mooney, Robert B.**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Munoz, Oscar J.**, from Stock Clerk to Service Attendant.

**Navarrete, Hernan Jose**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Nguyen, Luu Phone**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time

**Nuila, Gladis E.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Orduna, Israel**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Oriseh, Dorhanna**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Orr, Cathy Ann**, from Staff Assistant to Fleet Coordinator.

**Parker, Victoria E.**, from Typist Clerk to Secretary.

**Passaretti, Joseph G.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Pepperman, Richard B.**, from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

**Ramirez, Alfredo C.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Ramirez, Francisco J.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Regaldo, Rudy R.**, from Materiel Expediter to Buyer Assistant.

**Retana, James R.**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Roa, Ruben D.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Robbins, Daniel W.**, from Security Guard II to Transit Police Officer Trainee.

**Rodriguez, Daniel**

**Navarro**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Rodriguez, Javier G.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Rodriguez, Pedro G.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Rodriguez, Robert**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Salcedo, Miguel P.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Santellanes, Jorge R.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Schwartz, Judith L.**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Shahin, Elias H.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Solis, John V.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Soto, Nell Garcia**, from Community Relations Representative to Public Affairs Representative.

**Stafford, George C.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Stevenson, Merduice A.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Suarez, Ricardo A.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Tarango, Arturo**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Tertechny, Andrew**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Thomas, Shirley Y.**, from Ticket Clerk to Ticket Office & Reports Clerk.

**Vasquez, Carlos E.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

**Vigil, Jose A.**, from Electronic Communications Technician to Systems Electronic Communications Technician.

**Villalobos, Barbara C.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Vu, Dung N.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Ward, Carolyn J.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Washington, Arnell H.**, from Security Guard II to Transit Police Officer Trainee.

**Wheaton, Suprena D.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Williams Opal L.**, from Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Trainee Full-time.

**Wright, Raymond E.**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

**Young, Derrell**, from Mopper Waxer to Messenger Clerk.

**Zamora, Rigoberto**, from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

# C PUBLIC COMMENDATIONS

## Thanks for a Job Well Done!

### Division 3201

Cupid, Benjamin F.  
Durant, Gerald B.  
Lazo, Jacinto G.  
Schlumpf, R. W.

### Division 3203

LeBlanc, Mary  
Miles, DeLois  
Turner, Aubrey T.

### Division 3205

Foreman, Robert L.  
Reid, Suzette V.  
Smith, Virgie M.  
Thomas, Dan  
Van Horn, Timothy D.

### Division 3206

Rodriguez, Robert

### Division 3207

Evans, Albert  
Jackson, Douglas

### Division 3208

Uribe, Norma J.

### Division 3209

Flechas, John J.

Miller, Herbert H.

### Division 3210

Cardenas, Reynaldo  
Hawkins, Nancy J.  
Hawkins, Rhonda J.  
Moreno, Magdalena  
Williams, Jimmy L.

### Division 3212

Bravo, William C.  
Gibson, Darrell  
Scott, Albert E.  
Spivey, Jeff

### Division 3215

Johnson, Ursula M.  
La Barba, Teresa M.  
Martinez, Jan E.  
Penn, Clayton O.

Sweeney, David J.

### Division 3216

Withers, Reese

### Division 3218

Lambert, Frank H.  
Muhammad, Rafiq M.  
Plascencia, Guillermo  
Peace, Harold F.

Dear RTD:

This letter is regarding Mr. Harold Peace. This young man is a very courteous, effective, efficient, and responsible driver. I can always depend on him getting me to my destination on time and safely. It would be such a pleasure riding the bus if more drivers were like Mr. Peace.

I drove my car to the Federal Building in downtown Los Angeles for 14 years because in my past experiences with RTD the drivers never showed much concern about their passengers or about getting them anywhere on time. This is not the case with Mr. Peace. I can speak for myself, as well as other RTD passengers I have spoken with, in saying that we can always depend on Mr. Peace's pleasant attitude to get our day off to a good start.

Thank you Rapid Transit District for hiring a driver like Mr. Peace. Largely due to his fine efforts I will continue to be a proud passenger of the Rapid Transit District.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Patton

Dear RTD:

I want to praise the efforts and outstanding character of Frank Lambert, one of your drivers. On June 29, I caught the 439 bus from Fox Hills Mall to downtown Los Angeles. On the freeway, the bus overheated and broke down. Frank, the driver of the bus, pulled the bus off the freeway onto a city street and politely told all the passengers that another bus would pick us up.

Realizing that it could take nearly an hour for a replacement bus to arrive and that many of us passengers needed to make meetings promptly, he made the extra effort to flag down a RTD bus that was not in service. With permission from his supervisor who had arrived by that time, Frank took me and the other passengers in the new bus and I got to work only slightly late. I commend his regard for the passengers' needs and his willingness to make an extra effort for us. It makes me happy to know that people like Frank are driving RTD buses.

I think Frank's Driver Number is 2335, but I am not certain. I hope that you will forward a copy of this letter to Frank so that he will know his exceptional work is appreciated.

Sincerely,  
John W. Cavers

Dear RTD:

On June 20, I left my wallet on the bumper of my car, at the Eastland Shopping Mall, and proceeded to enter the 10 Freeway. Your driver, Reese Withers, saw the wallet on my bumper, while sitting at a stop light, and tried to get my attention. When he finally did, we were at the stop light at the base of the freeway on-ramp. When he told me that I dropped my wallet, I immediately took off for the next exit, so I could look for my wallet, not realizing that he had picked it up for me.

I was sick over the thought of losing these items. About 10:00 a.m., my husband received a call from your office in Pomona to tell him that Mr. Withers had

*continued on page 25...*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Cowen, Aaron**, began with the District on April 9, 1926 as an Operator, passed away on June 17, 1989.

**Webster, Kenneth W.**, began with the District in 1943. He passed away June 21, 1989 in Mesa, Arizona. He was with the District and its predecessors for 33 years and was Superinten-

dent of Schedules when he retired in April 1979. He is survived by his spouse Maggie, sons Kurt and Keith, and daughter Karen.

**Winstead, Richard R.**, began with the District on February 2, 1973 as a Transit Operation Supervisor passed away on May 29, 1989.



...continued from page 24  
picked up my wallet/  
checkbook and had turned it  
in. I drove to your office that  
evening and retrieved my  
items from Mr. Cobb.

Everything was there.

I am so thankful Mr.  
Withers picked up my  
wallet—I had been praying  
that someone honest would  
find it. His actions have  
shown me that there are  
still honest people in the  
world. I have already told  
several people about this  
and I know that the integ-  
rity of your employee, is in  
many ways, a reflection of  
your Company's Code of  
Ethics.

Thank you for having  
him on your staff.

Sincerely,  
Jeannette Duvall-Ward

---

*The integrity of  
your employees is a  
reflection of your  
Company's  
Code of Ethics.*

---

Dear RTD:

I just want to let you  
know that I am a visitor and  
had to go see Farmers  
Market, but the reason for  
this letter is to tell you that  
I think that your bus driver,  
Albert Evans, showed not  
only me but everyone that  
boarded bus 217, what a  
wonderful driver he is. He  
was the most courteous of  
drivers that I have had the  
pleasure of riding with. I  
come from Far Rockaway,  
Queens, New York, and  
travel the buses daily. I see  
the difference in my bus  
travels. I had to let you  
know.

Yours truly,  
Mrs. Kitty Rosenstein

## TOS Wins Golden Poet Award

Senior TOS-Communica-  
tions Glenn T. Wynn  
recently won the Golden  
Poet Award for 1989 in  
recognition of a poem he  
wrote entitled, *If You Were*,  
which he entered in the  
Free Poetry Contest,  
sponsored by the World of  
Poetry Publishing Company.

This is the highest  
honor World of Poetry, a  
publishing company based  
in Sacramento, California,  
bestows on a poet. World of  
Poetry publishes anthologies  
and books of poetry. Each  
year they sponsor a number  
of poetry contests. Subscrib-  
ers to their contests number  
over 1 million and this year  
they choose 2,000 winners.

Wynn has been writing  
poetry since age 15, about  
24 years now. He writes all  
kinds of poems, including  
love poems which is the  
subject of his award-  
winning poem. His poem  
will be out this month in a  
publication entitled *Great  
Poems of the Western World*.

"I was surprised when I  
found out I won this  
contest," said Wynn. "This  
was the first contest I've  
ever entered. I still feel shy  
and modest about all of this  
even though it is going to be  
in the *Headway*."

Wynn admits the  
recognition has increased  
his confidence in his work  
and inspired him to write  
more. "There are a lot of  
talented people in this world  
who don't know how  
talented they are until they  
extend themselves and put  
themselves to the test, like I  
did. If it hadn't been for my

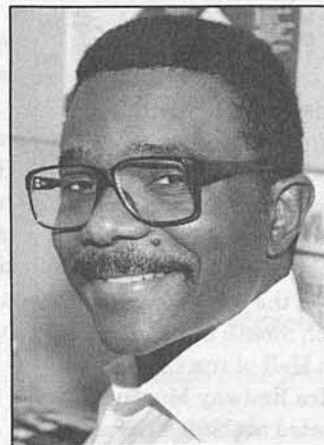
good friend Florence  
Williams encouraging me, I  
would not have entered the  
contest."

The newly acclaimed  
poet has been with the  
District for 17 years and  
resides in Los Angeles. His  
award-winning poem  
appears below.

Wynn was presented  
his award at a ceremony  
held in the Washington  
Hilton in Washington, D.C.  
on September 2, during the  
organization's Fifth Annual  
World of Poetry Convention.

The ceremony was  
videotaped live for television  
by World Television Produc-  
tions.

Appearing at the  
convention were several  
celebrity poets, including



TOS Glenn Wynn wins  
poetry contest.

Helen Hayes, Tony Randall,  
Willard Scott, and Bob  
Hope.

### *IF YOU WERE*

*If you were the clouds in the sky  
And the rain were your tears  
We would have no deserts dry  
Moved away would be my fears.*

*If you were the moon  
All great lovers would never die  
They'd revel in your melodic tune  
In contented love their hearts would cry*

*If you were water we'd need no other drink  
Living for that refreshing taste  
Where no longer boats can sink  
And nothing in life can go to waste*

*I may never share your love  
Should I ever this shall forever  
Be your worth my dove  
All being a spirit nothing can sever*

—Glenn T. Wynn

## Invitation to Retirees

Dear Fellow Retirees:

This is a cordial invitation inviting you and your spouse to come and enjoy a pleasant reunion with some of your fellow RTD retirees. Monthly social meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at noon in the Town Hall of the Orange Empire Railway Museum. It is located at 2201 A Street in the city of Perris.

Our club is named the Inland Valley Retirees Club. Its purpose is to provide a relaxed and comfortable environment for RTD retirees to meet and social-

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*Monthly social*

*meetings are held*

*on the fourth*

*Tuesday of*

*each month.*

---

ize. The meetings commence with a potluck lunch. Each couple is asked to bring enough hot food or dessert to feed themselves and one additional person (Reason: sometimes we have visitors). Coffee and cups are provided by the club. We are expected to bring our own utensils and plates, knives, forks, spoons, etc. Kitchen facilities are available enabling us to heat or reheat hot dishes. After lunch, there is a discussion

of old, new, or current business.

One dollar per person is collected at the entrance. Half of the proceeds are returned to some lucky members by means of a ticket raffle, the other half is used for club expenses. After lunch, the "Hat" is passed

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*Retirees meet  
and socialize*

---

around and anyone who wishes can make a donation. If a new member joins our club there is a **One Time Only** initiation fee of six dollars per person.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our socials in the near future. There is never any pressure urging you to join the club. Come and visit and decide for yourself. If you would like to come early, the hall is always open by 10:30 a.m. Directions are provided below, and if you have any questions you can reach me at (714) 929-3598.

Sincerely,  
Bill McGee  
Club President

*Directions to the Museum:* From north or south on SR 215 via west on 4th Street (Hwy 74) to left on A Street to left. Mapes Road (the first street south of the Museum parking lot) and left along a private road to the Town Hall.

## RTD Nurse Not Checking Any More Pulses



*Elia Hager shows her granddaughter Anaïs the presents she received at her farewell party.*

Elia Hager, R.N., visiting nurse at the RTD for the last 10 years decided to take her last set of vital signs and called it quits on July 14, her own Bastille Day celebration, with friends and co-workers at a party held at Chinatown's Velvet Turtle restaurant.

Over 75 friends, family members, employees, and union officials came to bid Elia a fond farewell as she goes into semi-retirement. In her tenure within the District's Personnel Department, Elia handled the Indefinite Leave desk, the annual blood drive, the Special Assistant Program, and various other special projects. In her farewell speech she spoke about the best of times and the worst of times in her career, a fitting metaphor for Bastille Day.

She assisted many employees in their personal health programs as the

columnist of the *Headway's* "To Your Health" section. She also would take your blood pressure or temperature if you were feeling poorly. Many headquarters employees found Elia a patient listener and good friend over the years. She will be missed. Have a good retirement Elia.

---

*Many found*

*Elia a*

*patient listener and*

*good friend over*

*the years.*

---

The party also served as a farewell party for Human Resources Analyst Stephanie Keyes who has left the District to become Assistant Director of Personnel for the Cal State University, San Bernardino system.

# Gauthier Retires After 43 Years with RTD



Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey hands Jules Gauthier his own bus stop sign as his wife Margaret and his mother-in-law Bertha Bush look on.

Division 4 Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Jules Gauthier, 65, packed up his tools and went home after 43 years in the transportation industry in Los Angeles on July 28.

Gauthier began his career in transit in 1946 accepting a job as a Utility with the Los Angeles Transit Lines. Just a year earlier Gauthier had mustered out of the Army where he had distinguished himself in World War II while serving in North Africa, Italy, France, and Germany.

The base fare was 10 cents back then and Gauthier started out at 95 cents an hour with a 6 cents differential. Within a couple of years he was promoted to mechanic, a position he sought since his boyhood days in his native LeBeau, Louisiana.

He was honored by friends, family, and co-

workers at the Quiet Cannon Restaurant in Montebello on July 28. He was accompanied by his wife, Margaret, and son Kenneth, 26, and daughter, Carla, 17. His youngest son Mark, 22, is on active duty with the U.S. Navy in Singapore.

Gauthier said he was amazed at all the well-wishers who showed up. Many included relatives, friends, and transplants from Louisiana as was apparent when DJ Jesse Castorena played Zydeco music from the bayou country. Their immediate recognition of the home country music was followed by genuine appreciation of it.

Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Mike DeGhetto served as master of ceremonies for the evening. DeGhetto introduced the various departmental presenters who

included Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey bringing Gauthier his own bus stop sign; retired Superintendent Sam Singer reprising his role as the old-style farebox lamp presenter; an apron and chef's cap from his "other women:" Mary Helen Ramirez, Phyllis King, Lupe Gomez, and Olivia Lopez, as well as a rubber chicken from Sylvia Garcia; Telecommunications Superintendent Richard Hunt gave him a specially crafted Facilities Maintenance lamp; and Division 4 Manager Pat Orr presented him with a proclamation from Mayor Tom Bradley.

Assistant Director of Equipment Maintenance Michael Leahy had the pleasure of directing Gauthier to a huge, wrapped box at one end of the room. When opened, Gauthier discovered his own air compressor purchased by

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*"I enjoyed working with everyone, every bit of it."*

---

his friends at the District.

Having the last word of the evening, Gauthier recalled his career at the District. Most recently as the Equipment Maintenance Supervisor at Division 4, he supervised mechanics at that division as well as personnel at South Park, Division 9, the Headquarters Building, and at the CMF. He was responsible for all non-revenue vehicles at those locations. "As a

supervisor 20 years ago we were supposed to be out in the shops, back then we didn't have as much paperwork as we have now. Even so, I still tried to do that up till my last day of work," said Gauthier.

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*When Gauthier started in transportation the main mode was rail.*

*"I guess the biggest change over all these years is we are going right back to where we started."*

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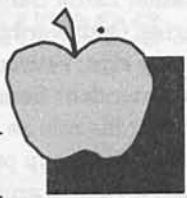
When Gauthier started in transportation the main mode was rail. "Now we are going back to it. I guess the biggest change over all these years is we are going right back to where we started."

Gauthier declared that the RTD was a good place to work. It made him happy for 43 years. "I enjoyed working with everyone, every bit of it. I'm probably one of the oldest left that I started out with. I will miss my friends, but I will be back to see them."

Gauthier and his wife of 28 years, Margaret, have a 3-day cruise to Mexico planned as well as other trips within the United States and Canada.

As a retiree, Gauthier says he will fill his time with woodworking hobbies and chores around the house, "And, I probably will do some mechanics just to keep from getting bored."

# TO YOUR HEALTH



## Asthma

by Paul Lonquich

It is currently believed that Asthma affects more than 10 million Americans and is one of the leading causes of school and work absences. Over one billion dollars is spent each year on health care for asthma. While its exact cure remains a mystery and no cure exists, many excellent treatment options are available to control and reverse this chronic obstruction of the airways.

### Just what is asthma?

Asthma is a respiratory condition characterized by episodes of airflow obstruction in the bronchial tubes. Symptoms caused by this obstruction include coughing, chest tightness, wheezing and shortness of breath. Although problems are often separated by symptom-free periods, asthma is a chronic illness.

Asthma tends to occur within families, however this connection seems to play a less clear role in adult-onset asthma. People of any age may suffer from asthma, but more than half the cases are found in children between the ages of 2 and 17. In young children, boys are nearly twice as likely to develop asthma as girls, but this sex difference tends to disappear in older

age groups.

### What causes an asthma attack?

A wide variety of "triggers" may initiate an episode of asthma. The most common triggers are allergens, aspirin, irritants, food additives and preservatives, viral respiratory infections and physical exertion.

Allergens are substances to which susceptible individuals may become allergic. They are a major source of problems in children and adults. Common allergens include plant pollen (tree, grass and weed), animal dander, house dust mites, molds and certain foods. When an allergic individual comes in contact with one of these allergens, a complicated series of events causes the body to release certain chemicals. These chemicals then trigger asthma.

Aspirin and aspirin-containing products can trigger asthma attacks in sensitive individuals. The exact cause of the reaction is unclear, but it does not appear to be an allergic reaction. Ten to twenty percent of asthmatics experience a significant decrease in their lung function after taking

aspirin.

Cold air, smoke, industrial chemicals, perfume, paint and gasoline fumes are all examples of irritants that can provoke asthma. These irritants probably trigger asthma by stimulating irritant receptors in the respiratory tract. These receptors, in turn, cause the muscles surrounding the airway to constrict resulting in an asthma attack.

Although food additives can trigger asthma this is rare. The most common trigger is sulfites, which are used to preserve certain foods and medications. Viral respiratory infections are the leading cause of acute asthma attacks.

Asthma is not a psychological disorder, but emotions can worsen asthma. Panic can prevent an asthmatic from relaxing and following instructions properly, both of which are essential during an attack. Also, doctors have found that strong emotions can cause an asthmatic's bronchial tubes to constrict, which may provoke or worsen an attack. Asthma can cause emotional strain. Depression often sets in when asthmatics cannot participate in normal activities.

### Just what happens during an asthma attack?

An asthmatic's breathing tubes are "twitchy." That is, an asthmatic's bronchial tubes narrow in response to certain triggers. Because individuals without asthma do not react to these stimuli, an asthmatic's bronchi are described as hyperactive. During an attack, muscles surrounding the bronchial tubes contract,

narrowing the air passages. Inflammation also occurs along the lining of the airways which produces swelling and further reduction of airway size. In addition, mucus glands along the inside of the air passages produce excess mucus which accumulates in the already narrowed air passages. The end result is that breathing, especially exhaling, becomes extremely difficult. Air becomes trapped behind the narrowed bronchial passages and there is a decrease in the oxygen available to the body.

### How long does an asthma attack last?

The answer to this question varies according to the severity of the attack. Mild episodes may only last a few hours. Severe episodes, however, may go on for days or even weeks. Mild attacks can resolve spontaneously or may require medication. More severe attacks can also be treated with medications but may require hospitalization.

What should be done during an attack? Always, follow the instructions of your physician/allergist. In general, it is important to stay calm and take your prescribed medications. Bronchodilators are the most commonly prescribed drugs to treat asthma. They relax the muscles surrounding the airways, resulting in dilation of the bronchial tubes. Bronchodilators may be inhaled, taken orally, or injected.

Though it has long been treatable, a cure for asthma remains elusive. Preventive treatment, however, may minimize the difficulty an

*continued on page 29...*

...continued from page 28  
individual experiences with asthma. Prevention is always the best form of treatment. It is important for an asthmatic to learn what conditions prompt an attack and avoid them whenever possible. When avoidance is impossible, preventive treatment is desirable. Various forms of preventive therapy are available. Medications may be started prior to exercise or exposure to environments that predictably produce an attack.

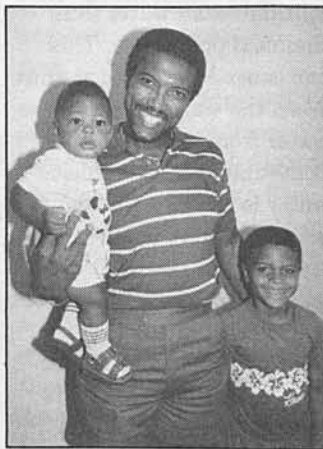
If the asthma attacks are frequent or unpredictable, your physician may advise you to take medications on a routine basis. Drugs used for this purpose include long-acting theophyllines, inhaled or oral beta agonists, cromolyn and inhaled or oral steroids. For allergic asthmatics, immunotherapy (allergy shots) may offer relief from allergens that cannot be avoided. Immunotherapy increases a patient's tolerance to the allergens that prompt asthma symptoms.

Although no cure exists for asthma, excellent treatment is available. We learn more about asthma every year and newer, more effective and safer drugs are always being developed. As a result, most asthmatics live normal, productive lives.

*Paul Lonquich has been working the medical desk in the Personnel Department since February 1989. He graduated from Ross University School of Medicine and will be contributing articles for future issues.*

# BIRTHS

Born to Division 12 Operators Lee and Phyllis Hunter, a son, Joshua, on January 26, 1989 in Los Angeles. Joshua weighed in at 7 lbs, 6 oz. and was 20-1/2 inches long. Lee and his son, Lee, Jr. brought Joshua to the Headway office for a photo. Said the proud papa: "We are blessed to have him. I know my wife is in love with him. Maybe one day he'll run this company." Big brother Lee said: "He's real, real cute, the cutest in town." The family makes their home in Lynwood.



## Restaurant Review

by Susan Harvey, Div. 15 Asst. Manager

### A Taste of Old Heidelberg

When we dine out, we enjoy trying new restaurants. We like trying foods from around the world. There is one restaurant that we have dined at for about 20 years and we keep bringing friends there to try the food. The restaurant is called "The Old Heidelberg" on Oxnard at Woodman in Van Nuys.

The food is German, most of it is country style. All the meals are complete from appetizer to dessert. They used to bring a large platter of appetizers to your table, now they bring plates with red cabbage, sauerkraut, pate, three-bean salad and much more, and they will bring more of

anything you like. This is followed by a big tureen of homemade soup.

Our favorite is the goulash soup, but all the soups are good. A loaf of fresh-baked egg bread is served with the soup and then salad is served. We always pass on the salads. There are various specials besides the regular dishes. We like the combination plate with sauerbraten and smoked pork loin served with hot red cabbage, dumpling, spatzle (egg noodles), and mashed potatoes.

The roast duckling is crisp, the way it should be and served with vegetables, mashed potatoes, and

## 3rd Annual RTD Chess Tournament Update

After nine rounds, the Third Annual Chess Tournament has produced little or no challenge to reigning chess champion Primo Sumagaysay who leads the tournament with seven-and-one-half games. Jorge Nilo, Division 3 operator has won four-and-one-half games. Dave Farrington, Division 18 operator, and Antonio Sanchez, Division 8 operator, have won four games  
*continued on page 30...*

applesauce. They have a large variety of wursts, such as bratwurst, knockwurst, etc. They have a combination plate of sausages served with sauerkraut and dumplings. They have Hassenpfeffer (rabbit) and veal prepared in several styles.

Naturally the only drink to go with food this good is beer. They have a large selection of domestic and imported beer. Our favorite is Berliner Wiese. This is a special beer made to be poured over raspberry syrup. It doesn't sound like it, but it is great!

If you still have room, there are still the homemade desserts. Try the Black Forest cake or the apple strudel. The prices are reasonable and I promise you won't be hungry after. *The Old Heidelberg 13726 Oxnard Blvd., Van Nuys 818/997-9396*

# Axel's Green Thumb

## Southern California's Most Important Import

Water is Southern California's most important import. Approximately 70% of the earth is covered by water, but only 1% of this water is usable for drinking or irrigation purposes. This month I will discuss the state's various sources of water.

We have 3 major sources of imported water — the California Water Project that transfers water down the California Aqueduct from the Sacramento Delta to Southern California; Colorado River water that is pumped through the Colorado River Aqueduct and Pipeline from Lake Havasu just above Parker Dam; and the Los Angeles Aqueduct which transfers water from the Owens River in Inyo County, built and owned by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP). A fourth source of water is local ground water.

We have an organization that controls most of the imported water, called the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), whose chief job is to bring the water here and resell it. The MWD is controlled by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) because government money was used to develop these sources of water, and the MWD was given a monopoly over control of the water.

The one source of water that is local is called ground water. Several communities have an abundance of ground water and have relied on this source for many years. Recently,

several wells have been discovered to contain contaminated water from chemical pollutants. This has caused the cities to shut down the well and purchase water from the MWD. Sometimes this purchased water is mixed with the polluted water to lower the levels of the chemical to a "safely acceptable" level that has been standardized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Soil is actually a very excellent filter for most organic compounds. Dissolved chemicals are a different matter and will travel downward with the water into the water table. Whenever "contaminated" soil is discovered, it has to be cleaned up immediately. We recently had contaminated soil at Division 9 when the parking structure was being built, causing a delay of one year and cost overruns. This cleanup was necessary due to the fact that the chemicals might somehow get into the ground water.

We hear a lot about the concern of the snow pack in the Sierras. The higher the snow level, the longer the melt off will be, which fills the local reservoirs. Recently, I traveled into the Sierras and I passed by Shaver Lake, one such reservoir. The lake level was low and after comparing my photographs from last year, I found that the lake level was even lower. Another example, Tioga Pass, (Highway 120), the route to Yosemite from Lee Vining,

which Caltrans tries to open by Memorial Day weekend or soon thereafter; the road normally has approximately 10 to 15 feet of snow pack alongside the road as it is being cleared. This year I traveled along the road a week before Memorial day and there was very little snow on the ground. Skiers can normally ski Mammoth Mountain till the end of July, but not this year.

Southern California is actually a "desert," with a hot, dry climate, and an average rainfall of about 10 inches a year. As with any desert, add water and it will blossom and become tolerable to live in. With an ever increasing population, there will be an increase in water demand. In the near future, we will be "losing" an increasing amount of Colorado River water to Arizona because of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on water rights, thereby allowing Arizona to develop their "urban areas." For the City of Los Angeles, a decrease in the Owens River water is possible because of lawsuits by the people of Inyo County and environ-

mental groups.

Our "drought" has not really affected us here as much as the people in Northern California, except that it causes resentment as water flows to us through the aqueduct. We don't have an active and enforced water conservation program and as they see it, most of the water goes down the drain.

Currently, we have a sufficient "quantity" of water, but with the advent of an ever increasing population and a decrease of the water supply in the future, there should more emphasis on "quality" of the water.

Next month I will discuss various methods available to conserve water in our landscaping by choosing the proper plants and different ways to water them.

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*Axel Heller is a Digital Technician with the Facilities Maintenance Department and has a Bachelor's Degree in Park Administration / Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly, Pomona.*

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## ...Chess

...continued from page 29  
each. Tat Ye Lee, Division 3 operator, and Ben Leyva, Division 10 operator have won three games each. Karl Hermann, Division 12 operator has won two games. Norm Goldstein, Division 7 operator has won one-and-one-half games. Daniel Keosababian, Division 3 operator, and Marcial Nieto, Division 8 operator have won one game each.

Out hats are off to all these chess participants who have made the supreme sacrifice to make this tournament a mild success. We are aware of many chess players throughout the District who wish that they had signed up this tournament. The winners will be published in the October *Headway*.

# RTD MOVIES GOES TO THE MOVIES

I know that I've gotten on this particular soap box before, but I think that it's time to do it again. Please, when you go to the movies, remember that this is not your living room. Other people are there, having paid an outrageous price for admission and slightly petrified popcorn, and they would like to listen to the movie, not your running commentary. I, for one, do not want to hear about your love life while I am trying to follow the plot of a film. Yes, you. You know who you are.

Onward and upward. I am single, with no children. When I decide to go to the movies or rent a film, I don't have to worry about whether or not it's suitable for anyone but myself. I do, however, have a young nephew, about seven, and I've found myself drawn into conversation with my mother and sister about whether a film is suitable for Thomas, or not. Of course, Thomas has his own ideas on how suitable films are. Upon seeing the PG-13 rating for *No Holds Barred*, the Hulk Hogan wrestling film (which you will not see reviewed here), he assured my mother that she shouldn't worry about it, that if there was bad language, he just wouldn't repeat it.

There aren't many family films out there this summer. *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids* is alright, primarily for the *Roger Rabbit* cartoon

tacked on, and Disney is re-releasing *Peter Pan*. If you or your children haven't seen that one, go; it is a wonderful film. Unfortunately, for families with small children, that's about all. So, I've put together a short list of films which are available on video that are suitable for all age groups.

Heading the list are, of course, the Disney classics. *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, *Lady and the Tramp*, *Pinocchio*, all are now available for home viewing. What makes these fun are that they are entertaining for adults as well as children. There are also several collections of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck cartoons. Some of these you may want to consider buying, as it seems the children love to watch their favorites again and again.

*Labyrinth*, a fantasy/musical starring David Bowie is another good selection, especially if you have little girls. There are so many movies out there about boys growing up, but very few for girls. While there are flaws, the film is an enchanting piece that is graced with the magic of Jim Henson's Muppets. This doesn't mean that I recommend all Muppet videos without hesitation. There is a *Fozzie Bear* interactive video which encourages your child to sing along that is dreadful and I would urge you to avoid at all costs.

*Shelley Duval's*

*Fairytale Theatre* is another delightful series that will entertain both you and the children. These are witty versions of classic stories that don't insult the intelligence of their audience, which seems to be the problem with many children's films.

Originally broadcast as part of PBS's *Wonderworks*, *Anne of Green Gables* is an excellent series and a fine way introduce your child to a classic series of books. The film is two tapes long, and will provide a full evening's entertainment. I believe that the sequel, *Anne of Avonleigh*, is also due for release.

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**Many children's films  
insult your  
intelligence.**

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If you don't have a VCR, there is still hope. PBS is a wonderful source of entertainment and education, and I don't just mean *Sesame Street* and *Mister Roger's Neighborhood*. If your child has mastered basic numbers, introduce him to *Square One*, which deals with logic and figuring. This show has a wonderful parody of *Dragnet* called "Mathnet." Each five-minute spot builds upon the previous one from Monday to Friday, teaching the rudiments of setting up and solving problems. These are written with tongue planted firmly in cheek, and you may find yourself addicted, too.

*Wonderworks* airs on the weekends (unfortunately, at various times—check *TV Guide*) and adapts

children's classics for television. These are high-quality, well-written programs, which might help interest children in reading the originals. Another program which emphasizes reading is *Reading Rainbow*, hosted by LeVar Burton. Each episode, they chose a book, then build the show around the theme. Various episodes have dealt with parades, lighthouses, Japanese culture, behind-the-scenes in television, making pizza, and all have been of superior quality. Also, at the end of each program, several children recommend books they have read and why they like them.

Of course, my favorite childhood classic is *The Wizard of Oz*, which is fifty years old this year. When I was young, the annual showing on television was a family event which we always made popcorn for, then all gathered around the television. That's what this is all about, spending time with your children and sharing some of the wonder with them. It makes good memories.

*Be seeing you —  
Carolyn Kinkead*

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## On the Market

**Mobile home** in La Habra for sale at \$20,000 or best offer. 2 bedrooms, one bath, 30 feet long and 20 feet wide. Phone Carol Gray at (503) 239-6428.

**For rent:** 3 bedroom, 1 bath home close to Division 7 and Division 5. \$425 a month. Call (213) 937-8484.

# RECREATION NEWS



## September

- 14 through October 1 - L.A. County Fair (see article)
- 15 Dodgers vs. Atlanta
- 16 USC vs. Utah State - Poster Day \$10.00
- 16 Temptations & O'Jays - Greek \$22.50
- 17 Dodgers vs. Atlanta
- 21 Air Supply - Greek \$21.00
- 23 Tom Jones - Greek \$21.00
- 23 Dodgers vs. San Diego
- 23 UCLA vs. Michigan \$12.00
- 23 USC vs. Ohio State - Trading Card Day \$15.00
- 24 Dodgers vs. San Diego
- 27 Dodgers vs. San Francisco
- 27 Don Henley - Universal \$24.00
- 29 The Judds - Greek \$23.50
- 30 UCLA vs. California \$10.00
- 30 Jose Jose - Greek \$23.50

## October

- 6 KRTH Legends - Greek \$22.50
- 7 USC vs. Washington - Mini Football Day \$10.00
- 7 UCLA vs. Arizona State \$10.00
- 27 Ice Capades - Benefit Night \$12.00 tickets for \$5.50
- 28 USC vs. Stanford - Homecoming \$10.00
- 28 UCLA vs. Washington \$10.00

### Mobile Center Schedule

9 - 12:30 p.m. at the following locations:

September	Location
11	Division 3
12	9
13	16
14	15
18	8
19	7
20	6
21	5
25	18
26	4
27	12
28	2



### Mobile Center, continued

October	Locations
2	1
3	10
4	CMF
5	3
9	9
10	16
11	15
12	8
13	7



### New Logo Items:

Character Bus T-Shirts, Children and Adult sizes \$5.50 to \$7.50

Character Bus Pocket FM radios - Great for outdoor personal entertainment! \$13.00.

Also available Bulova and Seiko Railroad Approved watches for men and ladies. 40% savings of the suggested retail price.

Come out and see the closing games for the RTD Softball League. Games are played on Sundays at Gunn County Park, 10130 South Gunn Ave., Whittier. Support your favorite team.

Sun	10:00 AM	Blazers vs. Tigers
Sep. 10	11:45 AM	Blue Jays vs. Sharks
	1:30 PM	The Braves vs. Admirals
	3:15 PM	The Outlaws vs. Gators

Sun	10:00 AM	The Outlaws vs. Blazers
Sep. 17	11:45 AM	Admirals vs. Sharks
	1:30 PM	Blue Jays vs. Gators
	3:15 PM	The Braves vs. Tigers

Sun	10:00 AM	The Braves vs. The Outlaws
Sep. 24	11:45 AM	Gators vs. Sharks
	1:30 PM	Admirals vs. Tigers
	3:15 PM	Blue Jays vs. Blazers

Sunday, October 1, PLAYOFFS begin.

For more information on these and other recreational activities, please call 972-4740. Office is open for selling 10-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.



## County Fair Tickets on Sale

Employee Activities is now offering discount tickets to employees and their families for the 1989 Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona, September 14 through October 1.

Tickets may be purchased from the Employee Store or mobile center during operating hours.

General admission to the Fair for adults is \$5—a savings of \$2 from the regular \$7 main gate price.

In addition, tickets for children ages 6 to 12 have been discounted from \$4.50 to \$3. Kids 5 and younger

are admitted free.

Fair carnival tickets have also been marked down and may be purchased for the lowest price anywhere.

The Fair opens at 10 a.m. Monday through Friday and at 9 a.m. on weekends. Closing time is 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights.

The Fair is located two blocks north of the San Bernardino Freeway (10) in Pomona and is accessible from Ganesha, White, or Garey Avenue.



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## Rubes® By Leigh Rubin



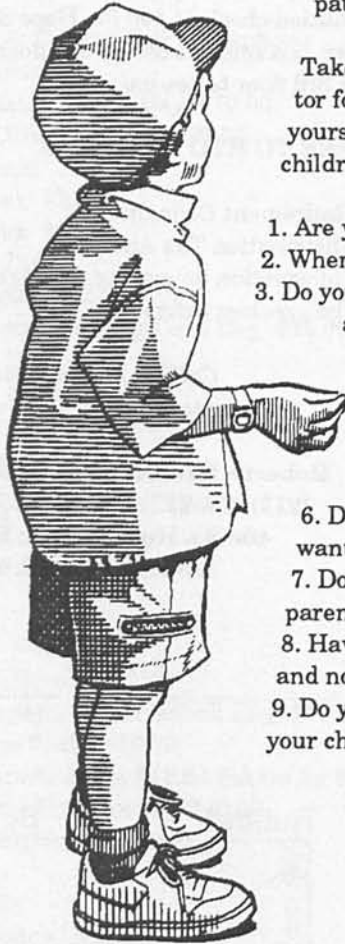
"... And in conclusion, gentlemen, if we are to survive these uncertain financial times, the safest investment we can make is in ourselves!"

# PARENTS

## *Are You Too Harsh?*

Are you or your children at risk of possibly abusive behavior patterns?

Take this quiz designed by James B. Lynch, state program coordinator for Maryland Action to Prevent Child Abuse, Inc. See how to score yourself below. Then check out the advice if you think you and your children may be at risk.



1. Are you a troubled or nervous parent who has no place to get help?
2. When you are ready to blow up, is it your children who bear the brunt?
3. Do you feel confused, guilty, or frightened about your parental behavior and feelings?
  4. Do you believe that you were treated indifferently or cruelly as a child, and that now you're acting in the same way?
  5. Is your relationship with your children consistently tense?
6. Do you often have trouble getting your children to do what you want?
7. Do you often feel like you're all alone and that you're the only parent on earth who is having so much trouble with your kids?
8. Have you often said to yourself: "I've tried everything with this kid and nothing seems to work?"
9. Do you often feel frustrated and overwhelmed in trying to deal with your children?
  10. Do you often feel "stressed out" or "burned out" as a parent?
    11. Do you find yourself resorting to hitting your children because you don't know what else to do?
    12. Do you find yourself yelling at your kids often?
  13. Are financial problems adding greatly to your anxiety as a parent?

**Scoring:** Give yourself one point for each "yes" answer, then rate your score.

- 1-3 You are aware of parenting problems, but seem to be handling them fairly well.  
4-6 This is a good time to re-evaluate your parenting practices. You may want to talk them over with a counselor.  
7-10 You are in danger of using abusive patterns with your children. Get help!  
11-13 Your behavior patterns may already have affected your child either physically or emotionally. Get help!

**Advice:** The more yes answers you have, the more you are at risk of resorting to behavior that may be abusive. If you had several "yes" answers on this quiz, you may want to seek help from a professional counselor. Call the Employee Assistance Program, the EAP, for free counseling.

This Program Is Completely Confidential  
It Is Administered by EMPLOYEE SUPPORT SYSTEMS COMPANY Orange, California

**DIAL 1-800-221-0942**

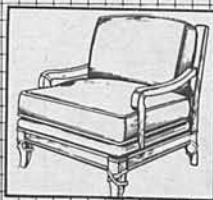
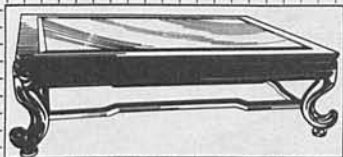
# GRAND OPENING!

## FMSA Furniture Showroom Celebrates New Sleep Health Center.

### BONUS DISCOUNT TO RTD EMPLOYEES

**5% MEMBERSHIP CARD**

Your free 5% Bonus Discount card is waiting for you at FMSA. Bring this ad with you and we will issue you your card. This card can be used on all furniture and mattress items.  
(Special sale items, carpeting, draperies and appliances are excluded)



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#### Department Stores—Eat Your Hearts Out!

The same brand names, quality, style, fashion and service available at finer department stores. But you'll pay up to 30% below their everyday and sale prices. Why? Because we pay extremely low rent, have two generations of family ownership working here and employ only a handful of skilled furniture experts. Bottom line: our overhead is a fraction of other stores.

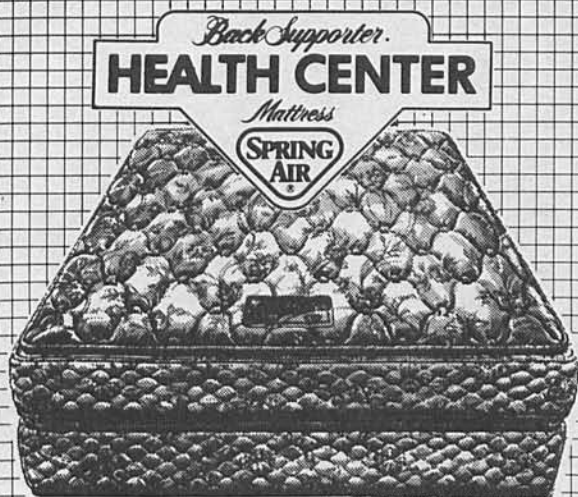
#### Lowest Prices—Guaranteed

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# Yee-Haw...the Bus Maintenance Rodeo is Coming!

The Equipment Maintenance Department will hold their first inter-divisional maintenance rodeo competition at Division 2 on September 30 at 8 a.m.

The event will be an all-day affair and is opened to the public, so bring your family and friends to enjoy a day of fun and excitement watching your favorite team or contestant compete. Cash awards of \$1000 for 1st Place, \$750 for 2nd Place, and \$500 for 3rd Place will be awarded to each member of the top three teams. Moreover, personalized wall plaques and an opportunity (first-place team) to compete in the national rodeo in Dallas, Texas October 14 through 16, 1989 will be awarded.

The rodeo is designed to be a competitive activity that will challenge mechanical abilities and driving skills of maintenance personnel. Their ability to accurately diagnose various mechanical defects in a predetermined amount of time and skillfully operate a coach through an obstacle course will challenge our finest employees.

The rodeo will include the following competitive categories:

● **Power Train Defect** Two team members are required to identify various mechanical defects, for cumulative points, within a specific amount of time.

● **Vehicle Inspection** Two team members inspect a coach for operational readiness and record all related abnormalities within a specific amount of time.

● **Driving Obstacle Course** One team member operates a coach through an obstacle course designed with diminishing clearness, serpentine winds, sharp turns, and back-up situations. The operator is rated on safety habits and is timed through the obstacle.

For additional information do not hesitate to contact your manager, senior supervisor, or shop steward. If they cannot satisfy your question or concern, call Michael Stange on extension 2-5893.

## HEADWAY

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

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