

P R E M I E R E I S S U E



VOLUME ONE

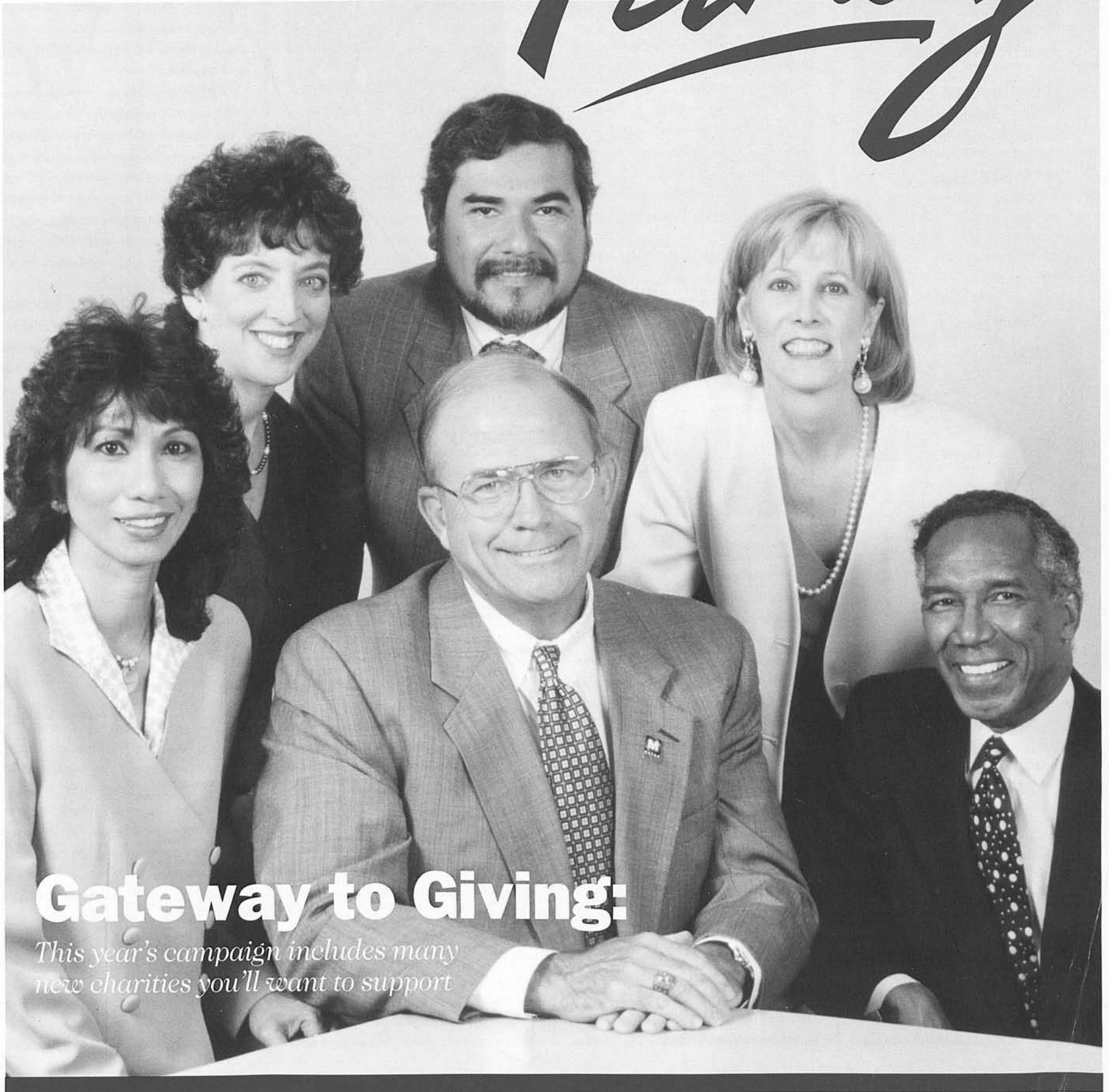
NUMBER ONE

MAY 1996

Metro

EMPLOYEE MAGAZINE OF THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Family



Gateway to Giving:

This year's campaign includes many new charities you'll want to support

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Key players in the Gateway to Giving campaign, shown with CEO Joe Drew are campaign coordinators (L-R) Leila Procopio of Administration, Jody Feerst of Planning and Programming, Emilio Caballero of Operations, Melissa Schiavo of Construction, and Tom Horne of Communications.

Metro Family

A monthly employee publication of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

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Metro Family

CEO Thoughts & Thanks



I hope that, before turning to this column, you thumbed through the pages of this first edition of the new employee magazine, Metro Family.

Even though this is the premier issue, it contains many of the elements that will become standard features over the months to come. These include stories that highlight individual accomplishments, important MTA projects, and a column of employee promotions and other important milestones. This column will be a continuing feature, although from time to time, it may be written by a guest columnist.

We also plan to start a "CEO HotLine" column which will directly address your questions and concerns. The questions for CEO HotLine will come from the memos and e-mail many of you send to me, as well as questions sent to the editor of Metro Family. The answers will be frank and factual and as up-to-date as I can make them, given the timelines of a monthly publication.

Metro Family. It's an appropriate name, I think, for a publication that will be of interest not only to those of us who are employees, but also to the family members who support us in our careers. And, in a broader sense, to the Board members, consultants and others who work closely with us as part of the MTA family.

Metro Family will be published 10 times a year by the Internal Communications department, which also publishes the weekly CEO Report. Both publications are in-house productions, written by the Internal Communications staff, designed by MTA Graphics and printed by our Printing Services Department.

I'm a strong believer in frequently communicating with all the employees. With Metro Family, we now have another excellent communications vehicle to join the CEO Report and the newsletters published by our Planning and Programming, Operations and Construction divisions.

I invite you to send your comments to me or to the Internal Communications staff on any topic you believe should be discussed in these publications. We'll try to address your concerns.

MTA Charity Drive

It's appropriate that the first issue of Metro Family should coincide with the kickoff of the "Gateway to Giving" charity drive. This will be the MTA's first employee charitable campaign since we opened our new headquarters and the name, Gateway, provides great symbolism as we open our hearts to those less fortunate than ourselves.

This year's campaign gives each of us nine outstanding charitable organizations from which to choose in designating where our contributions will go. Among them are the United Way and Combined Health Appeal, who distribute funding to a wide variety of causes and agencies that provide much-needed assistance to many of our neighbors. Their programs cover a range that includes neighborhood health clinics, youth clubs, food banks and learning programs.

Your giving opportunities also include organizations that support members of the

Asian Pacific, African-American and Hispanic communities. These organizations will use your contributions for education programs and scholarships, health, economic, cultural and human services programs. Another charity, the Los Angeles Women's Foundation, provides comfort for abused women and girls, and their families.

Finally, you'll have a chance to use your donation to help the environment. Earth Share of California is a coalition of 87 environmental groups that are working to preserve our planet for future generations. Among their concerns are protecting endangered species, clean water, shrinking farmlands and wildlife preserves, conserving rain forests and guarding against the misuse of pesticides.

Many of you are long-standing contributors to the MTA's annual employee charity drive. For others, this will be your first opportunity to join a proud MTA tradition of giving.

There are so many who need our help, please join me by opening your heart and your pocketbook to the Gateway to Giving campaign. We can all be proud to say: "I gave at the office." ■



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May 15, 1996



Mr. Joseph E. Drew
Chief Executive Officer
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Dear Joe,

Congratulations to you and to all employees of the MTA on the publication of the first issue of your new magazine, "Metro Family."

The members of the Board of Directors and I welcome the start of the new publication as a positive sign that the spirit of teamwork will be invigorated under your leadership.

In order to succeed, every organization needs to develop a culture that promotes mutual understanding and cooperation among employees, as well as a strong customer service ethic. The new "Metro Family" magazine, along with your CEO Reports, promises to be a key asset in your effort to build the MTA team.

Please express to all members of the MTA family my personal gratitude for their dedication to building an efficient mass transportation system and to the service they provide every day to our riders.

Sincerely yours,

Larry Zarian, Chairman

Wilshire corridor opening set for July 13-14; Construction, Operations fine-tuning system

Marketing, Public Affairs plan many events for MTA employees and the public

With less than two months to go, the MTA Construction and Operations divisions are working smoothly together to have the Metro Red Line Wilshire extension ready for the grand opening, July 13 and 14.

MTA Communications is planning a series of events to acquaint MTA employees and the public with the three stations on the new subway line. A number of brochures are in the works and will be distributed to promote ridership.

At this point, virtually all construction is complete, according to John Sohn, Wilshire Corridor construction manager. Contractors are putting the finishing touches inside and at street level at the Wilshire/Vermont and Wilshire/Normandie stations. The Wilshire/Western station was completed months ago.

"I think the public will be very impressed with the three new stations," says Sohn. "The station design and the art work create a friendly atmosphere our riders are sure to appreciate."

Rail Operations began pre-revenue service earlier this month on the 2.1-mile line between MacArthur Park and Western. As of May 19, Operations began running trains through to Western station after disembarking passengers at the Westlake/MacArthur Park station.

One of the purposes of the pre-revenue period, says Rail Operations Start-up Manager Jesse Diaz, is to test and fine-tune the new TRACS control system. TRACS is a sophisticated upgrade of the SCADA system that controls train operations, monitors emergency equipment and activates ventilation systems on the Metro Red and Blue Lines. TRACS will further improve public safety by providing additional information on train movements and control system status.

"We'll also be conducting emergency drills in the new tunnels and stations on a daily basis with the operations staff, and with the police and fire departments,"



Jack McDowell (L) of MTA Construction and Jesse Diaz of MTA Rail Operations are working together to bring the Wilshire Line into service this July. The Wilshire/Vermont station plaza, nearing the end of construction, is shown in the background.

Diaz says. "We'll simulate train fires, earthquakes and other emergencies, but it won't disrupt service on the operational portion of the line."

Meanwhile, Marketing, Public affairs and Metro Art are scheduling a number of community events in the Wilshire District to show the MTA's gratitude for the community's patience with the construction project and to encourage ridership.

Marketing Project Manager Fran Curbello and a multi-department task force are planning two lunchtime concerts in June. The first, set for Friday, June 14, will be for employees of local businesses and weekday shoppers. A concert is scheduled Saturday, June 15, for area residents. The events also

will highlight safety, security, anti-graffiti efforts and the Metro Art program.

Public Affairs and Government Relations are working to identify opportunities in June to acquaint local, state and federal officials with the new Wilshire line. Enrique Valenzuela, Public Affairs representative to the task force, says the MTA also will provide special tours for Wilshire District merchants and members of community organizations.

Metro Art is planning a series of workshops at the Wilshire/Normandie station with artist Frank Romero, a muralist whose work is featured in the station. Romero's mural is based on the Festival of Masks, an annual event on Wilshire Boulevard sponsored by

the Craft and Folk Art Museum.

"In the workshops," says Metro Art Project Manager Alessandra Moctezuma, "amateur artists will create their own masks, which we will display at a local venue during the grand opening."

Metro Art also will commission an artist to create a commemorative poster to celebrate the Wilshire segment's opening.

Sunday, June 30, is a sneak preview day for MTA employees and their families. The 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. event will feature Metro Red Line rides, tours of the new stations and other activities. Operations will provide shuttle bus service from a parking lot at the Regional Rebuild Center near the intersection of Cesar Chavez and Vignes streets. Employees will receive special commemoratives to mark the occasion.

Tuesday, July 2, is Metro Red Line Team Appreciation Day for those assigned specifically to the MOS-2a start-up team, including bus and rail operators and supervisors, Transit Police, facilities employees and the MTA construction group. The event is set for 10 to 11 a.m. at the Wilshire/Western station.

The community celebration for the grand opening will be Saturday, July 13, and Sunday, July 14. The public will be invited for free rides on the entire operating portion of the Metro Red Line. Special events at each of the three new stations will feature tours, live entertainment, ridership information and refreshments. VCR monitors will show an MTA-produced video of the Metro Rail system that emphasizes subway safety and security.

Marketing also is working on a number of informational pieces, including a tunnel trivia brochure, a "fun map" of the entire Metro Red Line alignment, a self-guided museum tour book, a corridor guide pamphlet highlighting places to go and things to do, and an events calendar.

"It's going to be fun, fun, fun," says Curbello. "But, there's a serious purpose behind the celebration. We want people to get to know the system so they'll become regular Metro Red Line riders." ■



Kids pledge help in Zero Tolerance fight; more cleanup work crews will be added

External graffiti disappears as MTA sees 42% increase in bus fleet cleanliness

A group of youngsters from the 28th Street Elementary School and the Benjamin Franklin Library stood all in a row at the MTA's Division 1 last month and took as solemn an oath as kids can take to respect their community and keep the Metro system safe and clean.

The youngsters, participating in an MTA media event, represented children everywhere in Los Angeles who want to stop the spread of graffiti that mars the streets, schools and the MTA buses that provide needed transit service in their communities.

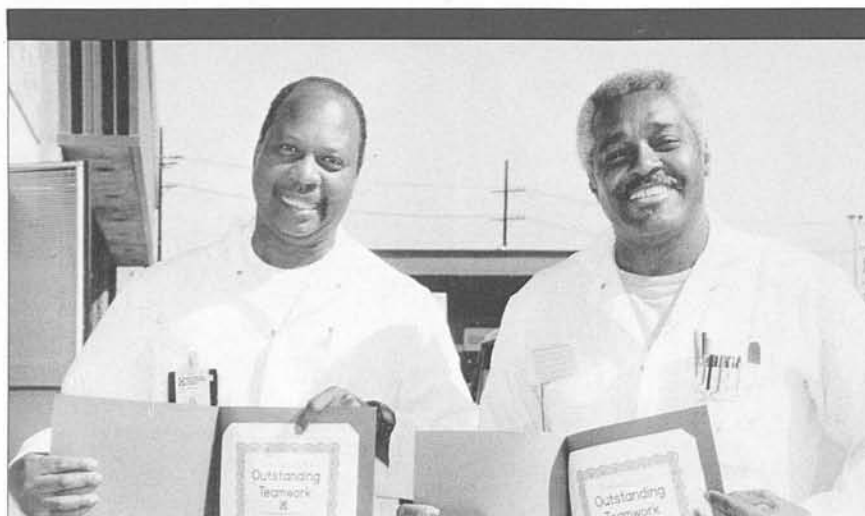
State Assemblyman Antonio Villaraigosa, a former MTA Board member and "father" of the Zero Tolerance anti-graffiti program, administered the oath and presented an Assembly resolution marking the program's success.

Supervisor Mike Antonovich, also a Board member, announced an expansion in the program under which county probationers are assigned to clean graffiti off buses. Additional work crews also will be added from the county's youthful offender probation program and the Juvenile Alternate Work Services (JAWS) program, he said.

The MTA's struggle against rampant graffiti vandalism over the past five years has virtually wiped out external graffiti on MTA buses and has resulted in an overall 42 percent increase in the interior appearance and cleanliness of the 2,050-bus fleet.

By the end of April, over 30 percent of all bus windows were free of etchings, a form of vandalism that is the major remaining graffiti problem. Monthly surveys of fleet appearance by the MTA's Operations Department also have found a 54 percent improvement in the condition of bus seats and a decrease of 30 percent in graffiti on bus interiors.

"MTA buses are visibly cleaner now than they have been at any time since the late 1980s," MTA Chairman Larry Zarian told the event participants. "MTA's clean buses will now attract more riders due to



Louis Johnson (R) and Robert Scott, maintenance assistants at Division 1, received Outstanding Teamwork certificates at the April 4 event for their contributions to the MTA's Zero Tolerance program. Two employees from each division represented the MTA's Zero Tolerance program. Two employees from each division represented the MTA's maintenance assistants, all of whom will receive certificates.

the efforts of hundreds of volunteers and dedicated staff, along with the strong commitment of the Board for the Zero Tolerance program."

The agency's success against graffiti can be attributed to a comprehensive eight-point Zero Tolerance program now in effect at all MTA operating divisions. The program combines intensive efforts to clean and replace vandalized equipment, a high-profile community outreach program, cooperation by law enforcement agencies and the courts, and the assignment of juvenile offenders to graffiti cleanup crews.

"Improving the appearance of the 2,050 buses in the MTA fleet is difficult because of the heavy usage they experience every day," said CEO Joe Drew. "But, the success of the Zero Tolerance program has helped us reduce the costs of our cleanup effort from \$21 million in 1993 to a projected \$16 million this fiscal year."

MTA maintenance crews have installed 573 complete sets of new bus windows since July 1, 1995. An additional 1,200 sets are on order. The sets include "sacrificial" plastic window inserts that protect the glass windows from etching by vandals.

A mid-1995 inspection of the MTA's bus fleet identified 68,000 seats among a total of 144,000 that required cleaning or replacement. By next summer, all 68,000 seats will have been refurbished.

"We also believe that our employee volunteers who educate young people about the harmful effect of graffiti are making a lasting impact on our communities," said Drew. "They have become role models for many of these youngsters."

Some 175 MTA operations personnel have volunteered for 10 Division Advisory Committees (DAC) that concentrate on anti-graffiti work. These men and women average six presentations each week at area schools and are involved in community cleanup events somewhere in Los Angeles almost every weekend.

DAC volunteers work with young members of such organizations as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, church groups and the Brotherhood Crusade, making over a million anti-graffiti contacts a year. The youngsters concentrate on cleaning transportation equipment, bus stops and terminals and surrounding areas.

"Our public transportation system is a reflection of this community," Antonovich said. "We need to work together to stop a few graffiti vandals from defacing property that belongs to all of us." ■



Assemblyman Antonio Villaraigosa administers the Take Pride Pledge to three members of the Take Pride Library Club. Looking on are Board Chairman Larry Zarian and Supervisor Mike Antonovich.

TAKE PRIDE + STOP TAG PLEDGE

I pledge to honor and respect my community by doing my part in keeping our Metro system safe and clean. I promise to be a positive influence to my family and friends and to gain the respect of others by being the finest example for others to Take Pride and Stop Tag.

Senior Executives to play important role in Gateway to Giving charity campaign

They named top people to coordinate drive in each department

The MTA's top brass will be closely involved in this year's "Gateway to Giving" charitable drive, with executive officers serving as campaign co-chairs under the chairmanship of CEO Joe Drew.

"Gateway to Giving is important to our community and it's important to the MTA," says Drew. "I am very pleased that the executive officers not only agreed to support the campaign, but were eager to take leading roles.

"The success of a charity drive begins with leadership at the top," he added. "The \$432,000 we hope to raise will benefit the community, of course, but when employees work together to achieve an important goal, that benefits the MTA."

As a first step toward organizing Gateway to Giving, executive officers met with representatives of the nine Fund Distribution Agencies, such as United Way and the United Latino Fund, that will disburse MTA contributions to individual member charities.

The meeting gave the executives officers an opportunity to determine their role in shaping and managing the campaign. They also realized the importance of appointing employee leaders as campaign coordinators.

"We decided we should demonstrate our commitment to Gateway to Giving by naming some of our best people to be campaign coordinators," says Linda Bohlinger, deputy CEO. "We chose people who would be willing to take on the added responsibility of running the campaign and who understand the good we can do in the community."

The campaign coordinators will run the day-to-day business of the charity drive, including conducting meetings and soliciting contributions, but the executive officers will keep close tabs on activities and will lend support where needed.

Many MTA employees already give back to their communities, supporting such worthy charities as their churches and other



non-profit community organizations.

"Gateway to Giving has been designed to give every employee an opportunity to become involved with a charitable group that meets their particular interest," says Ronny Goldsmith, chief financial officer. She supports payroll deductions as the best way to make a contribution.

"It's much easier to give through payroll deduction than to write out separate checks throughout the year to support your favorite charities," she says.

Anthony Padilla, director of Management Audit Services, believes a combined campaign such as Gateway to Giving, gives employees more choice in making contributions.

"This campaign brings a number of different worthwhile causes to the table, some of which we may not have even

known about or considered previously," he says. "An employee can target a specific charity or can distribute portions of his or her contribution among a number of them."

Pat McLaughlin, Organization Development and Management, was impressed with the way the campaign simplifies giving for those who don't have the time to seek out opportunities for giving to groups that address special needs.

"There are some very impressive organizations in the list of charities we can choose from," she says. "If your interest is education, or the environment, health care or youth programs, you'll find an organization you can feel good about supporting."

"These are rough economic times for everyone," says Rae James, executive officer, Communications, "but, we can

help each other by giving what we can to make life a little better for someone else."

Equal Opportunity Director Gail Charles says teamwork is the key to a successful campaign. "If we work together, I believe we have a good chance not only to make our \$432,000 overall contributions goal, but to exceed it."

As the first charitable campaign to involve all employees since the merger in 1993, General Counsel David Kelsey says, "I expect Gateway to Giving will serve as an excellent example for our charitable campaigns in future years."

"We can do this and do it right," says Stan Phernambucq, executive officer, Construction. "I think we've set realistic goals and picked the right people for the job. We're going to be very pleased with the outcome, I'm sure." ■

MTA launches 1996 'Gateway to Giving'

You can support hundreds of charities through payroll deductions

Important Campaign Dates

- May 20:** Campaign kickoff
- June 21:** Campaign ends
- July 1:** Payroll deductions begin
- July 29:** Department awards ceremony

Gateway to Giving Campaign Coordinators

Thanks to all those listed here for accepting the challenge of Gateway to Giving campaign coordinator.

Administration	Art Crabtree
Cindy Kondo-Lowe	Brenda Davis
Leila Procopio	Ralph de la Cruz
Vera Walsh	Alec DiNuzzo
Communications	Dan Dryden
Herman Hagan	Jack Eich
Carrie Morris	Carolyn Flowers
Construction	Renee Fraxley
Saran Fox	Alice Gates
Melissa Schiavo	Grace Golden
Equal Opportunity	Keith Green
Susan Robles	Arnetta Harris
Executive Offices	Joe Harris
Deborah Craney	Dieter Hemsing
Nellie Gil	Don Howey
Finance	Dan Ibarra
Joya DeFoor	Allen Jacobs
Internal Audit	Ray Kunkle
Armando Loreda	Dale Lanz
Planning and Programming	Jackey Lee
Steve Brye	Curley Little
Jody Feerst	Jim Lukens
Operations	Fred MacReynolds
Elizabeth Arellano	Derek Mahome
Maria Avila	George Matejovski
George Bedard	Rashie McCracken
Maceo Bethel	Dan Miller
Joseph Brown	Ken Miller
Martha Butler	Nita Northington
John Byrd	Don Ott
Emilio Caballero	James Pachan
Nancy Chester	Jim Pilon
Deborah Collins-Lovett	Arlene Pingarron
Dana Coffey	Ron Reedy
Frank Cole	John Rivenes
Dave Collins	Roy Starks
	John Takahashi
	A.J. Taylor
	Robert Torres
	Milo Victoria
	Anita Vigil
	Ralph Wilson

The MTA is kicking off "Gateway to Giving" this month, the first combined charitable campaign in the agency's short history and the first in five years to seek contributions from all employees for a stellar list of worthy causes.

Nine "fund distribution agencies," representing hundreds of individual charities, are seeking contributions from MTA employees during the five-week campaign to underwrite activities ranging from child and family health care to programs for homeless and battered women, from economic and cultural programs to scholarships for minority students and protection for the environment.

"We worked very hard to put together a culturally diverse list of top charities whose activities reach deep into the community," says CEO Joe Drew, Gateway to Giving campaign chairman. "I think these nine agencies will give all employees an excellent opportunity to put their contributions to work for people who need our help."

The goals are ambitious for a first-time campaign, but at the same time, realistic, Drew says. The campaign, which ends June 21, is focused on obtaining pledges and donations totalling \$432,000 from the MTA's 8,400 employees.

"I'd like to see 100 percent participation by all departments and at least 30 percent participation by the employees in each of the departments," he says. "I'm

confident we can increase new payroll deduction signups significantly before the campaign ends."

Drew said the fund distribution agencies were chosen on the basis of their wide range of services to the community. All give at least 80 percent of contributions received to the charities they support. Administration costs of 20 percent or less are considered excellent for such agencies.

Gateway to Giving encourages employees to use payroll deductions as the most efficient method of contributing. Employees can decide what percentage of their contribution will be given to the charities of their choice. The minimum payroll deduction is \$5 per pay period, or \$120 per year. Deductions will begin July 1, 1996. One-time donations by check also will be accepted.

A July 29 awards ceremony will recognize those departments that achieved the highest percentage of employee participation.

Orientation meetings, promotions and other activities are planned during the campaign, all paid for by the charities, although the MTA will provide printing services as an "in-kind" contribution. No portion of MTA employees' contributions will be used for campaign promotion.

Representatives of each of the fund distribution agencies will visit the Gateway Headquarters building and each of the operating divisions throughout the campaign to provide information. ■

Q and A Facts about the Gateway to Giving campaign

- 1. Who do I contact if I need more information about the campaign?**
A. Contact your department's campaign coordinator.
- 2. How much do I have to give?**
A. You can give as much as you like, but the minimum payroll deduction is \$5 per pay period, or \$120 per year.
- 3. Can I divide my gift among several agencies?**
A. Yes. On the payroll deduction form, indicate the total amount of your pledge and then note the amount to be given to each agency.
- 4. When do deductions start?**
A. Deductions start July 1, 1996.
- 5. What if I decide not to contribute now, but decide to do so at a later date?**
A. Contact Payroll for a payroll deduction form whenever you decide to make a contribution, or to make a change in your contribution.



Your choice of

The Gateway for Giving campaign for 1996 gives you nine charities to choose from in designating your contributions. All are non-profit organizations committed to the health and well-being of people and communities within Los Angeles County. In alphabetical order, they are:

Asian Pacific Community Fund of Southern California

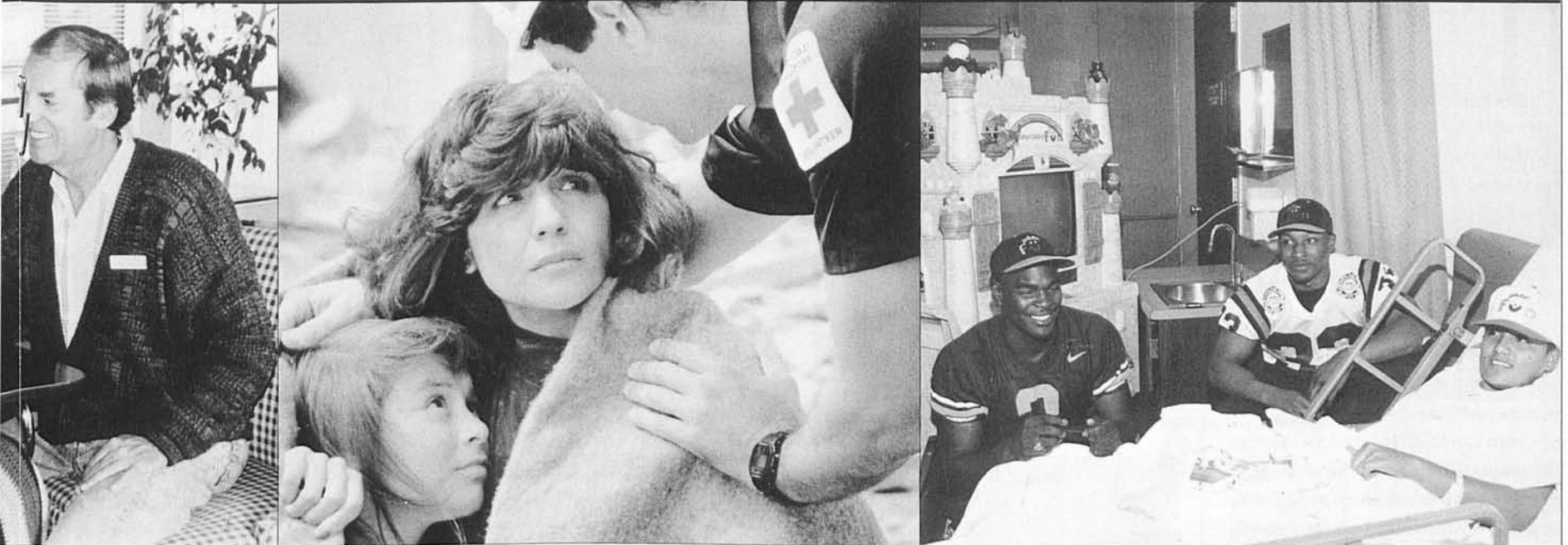
Your gift supports 17 health and social service organizations dedicated to serving the critical needs of Asian and Pacific Islander youth, families, elderly and disabled.

Brotherhood Crusade / Black United Fund, Inc.

An independent organization providing financial and technical support to local agencies serving African-American and minority communities in educational,

Gateway to Giving' campaign

...oll deductions; The campaign goal is set at \$432,000



of charities

economic, cultural, health, welfare and human services programs.

Combined Health Appeal of California

Your gift supports well-known voluntary health agencies. CHA passes on 100% of the collected donor designations to participating member agencies of your choice.

Earth Share of California

A coalition of 87 leading environmental groups committed to safeguarding and improving human health and welfare now and for future generations.

Los Angeles Women's Foundation

The Foundation makes women's needs a priority. Funding supports services for battered women, homeless mothers, abused girls and women seeking to better their lives and the lives of their family members.

National Hispanic Scholarship Fund

The nation's leading Hispanic scholarship organization. It awards more than \$3 million in scholarships annually to Hispanic-American students.

United Latino Fund

A philanthropic organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for Latinos through a concerted effort of voluntary giving.

United Negro College Fund, Inc.

Founded in 1944, the UNCF is a consortium of 41 private, accredited, historically Black colleges and universities supporting more than 54,000 students.

United Way of Greater Los Angeles

United Way supports more than 250 local health and human care agencies. It is focused on resolving the most urgent problems in Los Angeles County. ■

Pictured above(L to R):
Volunteers from California State Hospice Association, funded by Combined Health Appeal, visit shut-ins daily.

A mother and child are
comforted by an American Red Cross Worker. The Red Cross is funded through United Way.

USC wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson (L) and tailback Karim Abdul-Jabbar of UCLA visit the
bedside of a young patient during a Brotherhood Crusade event.

For only \$25...

Twenty-five dollars will hardly pay for a night out for two with burgers and a movie. But, \$25 a month is enough to make a difference in the lives of many through the MTA's Gateway to Giving campaign:

- \$25 a month will provide outpatient services for individuals stricken with AIDS/HIV.
- \$25 a month will provide assistance for training for a displaced worker or job placement for someone entering the work force.
- \$25 a month will help a homeless family get off the streets.

Add a few dollars to your monthly contribution and

- \$28 a month will provide "Fun Therapy" and parties for hospitalized children with life threatening diseases.
 - \$30 a month will provide a young mother with child care while she continues her education or seeks employment.
- Think about what \$25 a month can buy and then think what it could mean to someone waiting for your help. ■

Bus operator goes to the mat for kids

Louie Madrigal says life is like a wrestling match: You gotta give your best

To Louie Madrigal, the sport of wrestling is like life. You can be successful if you work hard and are dedicated to giving the best you've got every time you get in the ring.

That's the philosophy Madrigal practices in his job as a part-time bus operator at Division 9. And it's the attitude he tries to instill in the students he works with in his other occupation as head varsity wrestling coach at Rosemead High School.

It must be working, because Madrigal's wrestlers have attained top placement more than 25 times in Southern California masters tournaments during the 16 years he's been coaching. He's had five masters champions, 12 state placers and two state champions, as well as an ex-student who qualified for the United States Olympic wrestling team.

In addition, his teams won three major tournaments this school year and were champions of the Mission Valley League. The team ranked first in their division eight times and has won two California Interscholastic Federation (southern section) titles.

Madrigal's current star is Hector Torres, a sophomore who recently was named San Gabriel Valley Wrestler of the Year.

It's great coaching the naturals, Madrigal says, "but wrestling is the type of sport anyone can be successful at if you work at it. If you're the kind of person who has a good work ethic, you can win."

The 39-year-old bachelor's own work ethic is a good example to his wrestlers. Up every morning for the rollout, he drives the morning shift and then reports to Rosemead High to assume his responsibilities as head coach. At any one time, 40 to 50 youngsters are lifting weights or practicing holds and falls with their teammates.

Wrestling, with practices and matches, is almost a year-round sport. Madrigal coaches some 20 hours a week and spends another 10 to 15 hours on many weekends

conducting local matches or escorting the team to tournaments. It can be a demanding schedule for both coach and team members.

"I do it for the love of the sport and for the competition," Madrigal says. "I enjoy working with the kids and get great satisfaction helping them accomplish their goals in athletics and in going to college or getting a good job."

A native of Rosemead, Madrigal describes himself as a "OK" wrestler in high school, but he went on to wrestle on the Mount SAC Junior College team until a knee injury ended his wrestling career. "I

was never as good as some of the kids I coach," he says.

Madrigal joined the old SCRDT in 1983, initially working out of Division 2. He now drives Line 260 on weekdays and Line 70 on Sundays out of Division 9. He also boasts of a perfect driving record for the past decade.

A modest man, Madrigal attributes his teams' successes to the kids, not to the coach. He's also appreciative of the support he receives from his division manager, Don Karlson, and his co-workers at Division 9 for showing interest in his first love, the sport of wrestling. ■



Above: Star wrestler Hector Torres works out on the barbells under the watchful eyes of Coach Louie Madrigal. Student J.T. Morales helps steady the bar.



Coach Madrigal demonstrates a single leg hold on wrestler Richard Sy. Wrestler Hector Torres looks on.

Basketball players tested color barrier

MTA's George Parks played in historic 1944 game between blacks and whites

By Bill Heard

At the time, it seemed to the MTA's George Parks that the Sunday afternoon basketball game was just a friendly competition among YMCA buddies. But, in 1944, in North Carolina, an athletic contest between blacks and whites was illegal, dangerous — and history-making.

The game, played between a hot-shot North Carolina College for Negroes team and a group of white basketball players enrolled at nearby Duke University Medical School, was a well-kept secret for 52 years. The precedent-setting event was described last month in a New York Times Magazine story and on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition."

George Parks, now 71 and a member of the MTA's Legal Department, was then a 19-year-old starting guard on the high-scoring North Carolina Eagles team. He and his teammates, under the leadership of Coach John B. McLendon, had made the school a basketball powerhouse in the Southeast.

So, it was frustrating for McLendon, now a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, when wartime travel restrictions denied the team an opportunity for a post-season tournament against other Negro colleges. Whites-only rules also prevented his Eagles from playing in the National Invitational Tournament against NCAA teams.

Parks, meanwhile, was president of the local YMCA chapter and along with other campus leaders had been meeting with white students from Duke in what amounted to a cultural exchange program. About 10 to 15 members of each group would gather on the North Carolina College campus — secretly in racially tense Durham — to discuss racism, campus affairs and the differences between the two schools.

During one of these meetings, according to the Times Magazine story, boasting about the Duke Medical School team resulted in a challenge from the Eagles. Who had the best team, and how would

they prove it? Coach McLendon had the answer: He arranged for a game to be played in the North Carolina College gym with officials and a game clock, but no spectators. After all, such contests were illegal under the state's Jim Crow laws. The police mustn't know.

The idea of playing against a white team wasn't especially intimidating to George Parks. A native of eastern Kentucky, he had grown up in Richmond, a town of about 20,000 in which blacks and whites, although segregated, lived together congenially.

Among the family's friends was Whitney Young, Sr., father of the future civil rights leader and president of Lincoln Institute, a boarding school in Lincoln Ridge, Ken. For his senior year, Parks enrolled in Young's school.

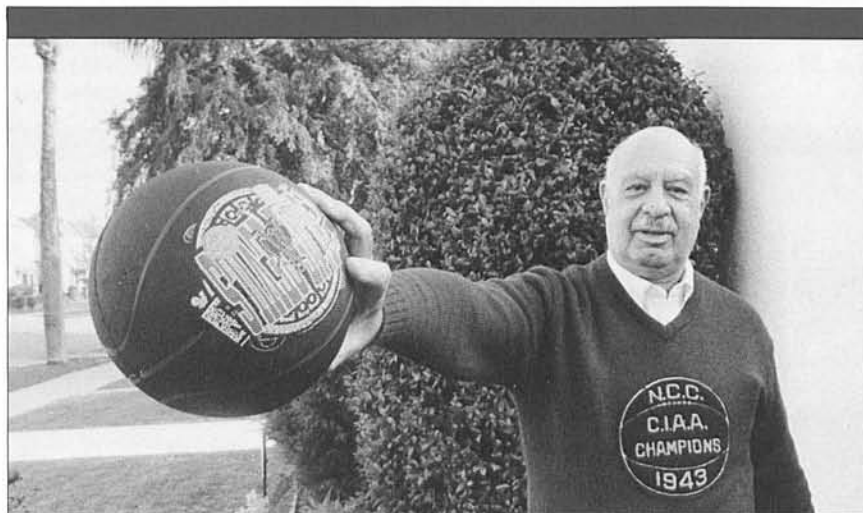
At Lincoln Institute, Parks was active in campus life, participating in choir and the drama club. At 6-foot-one, he also was a standout basketball guard who was named to the 1942 Kentucky state All-Star team.

Parks graduated from Lincoln Institute that spring and was offered a work and athletic scholarship at North Carolina College for Negroes. He stepped off the bus in a strange city and into a different social situation than he had encountered before.

"When I arrived in Durham, I could smell the tobacco and I could sense the racial hostility," Parks recalls. "I hadn't grown up in a community like that and if you weren't accustomed to it, you were horrified."

The black community of Durham was extremely hospitable to the North Carolina College students, but they were careful not to venture out of the community center. Riding city buses, for example, was both demeaning and amusing at times with blacks obliged to sit in the rear while whites occupied front seats.

"My friend, Hank Tompson, and I could never sit together on the bus because he was so light-skinned the bus drivers always made him sit up front," says Parks. "I had to sit in the back."



At age 71, George Parks shows he can perform magic with a basketball.

It was against this background of racial tension and tentative efforts toward cross-cultural friendship that Coach McLendon set up The Game.

Scott Ellsworth, a former Smithsonian Institution historian and author of the New York Times magazine story, notes that jitters affected both teams' play for the first few minutes as players missed shots and threw the ball away.

Ellsworth quotes Aubrey Stanley, one of Parks' teammates, as saying, "I had never played basketball against a white person before...You did not know what might happen if there was a hard foul, or if a fight broke out."

As Ellsworth describes the game, Henry "Big Dog" Thomas was a top scorer, Parks was hot under the boards snagging rebound after rebound. In the second half, the Eagles were scoring consistently to the amazement and consternation of the Duke five. At game's end the score stood at Eagles 88, Duke 44.

But, the fun wasn't over. After a well-earned break, the players divided up among themselves with no regard to color and played a game of shirts and skins. "Just God's children, horsing around with a basketball," Parks is quoted as saying.

The unadvertised game didn't go totally unnoticed that day, however. A number of students had gotten wind that some-

thing was going on in the locked gym and had climbed up to the roof to watch the play through the high windows.

The day ended pleasantly with the Duke team joining the Eagles for a "bull session" in the dorm.

The Eagles-Duke game was an important moment in George Parks' life, but certainly not the only high point. After three years at North Carolina College, he enrolled at Howard University School of Law, graduating in 1948. Entering private practice, his first law partner was Walter Washington, later to become the first black mayor of Washington, D.C.

Parks has had a long and distinguished career in law, education and community service. He has been a law professor; he organized the first Neighborhood Watch Program in Los Angeles; was first African-American president of the Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Board of Regents of California Lutheran College. His resume of accomplishments runs six pages.

Parks' current project is an effort to organize the city's neighborhood associations into one. "Our purpose is to bring residents together, build and beautify neighborhoods and prevent crime," he says. "We want to unite the communities." ■

All In The Family

Every family has moments to celebrate and to remember. On this page, you'll find a monthly listing of MTA promotions, Service Awards and employee retirements. Those who are no longer with us also are remembered In Memoriam.



Random Acts of Kindness Day was a success in the Western Region, April 15, when Regional Director Ellen Levine and her staff handed out scores of "Kindness Kakes" to bus operators at Division 10 and Terminal 6. Robert McLester (L) of Terminal 6 and Alberto Rivadeneyra of Division 10 were among those who received cupcakes decorated with the Metro logo. The event was held to show appreciation to the front-line employees who keep the buses and trains rolling on schedule.

Promotions

Chen, Ming-Shan,
Prgrmer Asst to Prgrmer

Heard, William H.,
Media Rel Rep to Sr Com Off

Horstmanshoff, Ernest C.,
Empl Rel Rep to Sr Ad Anlst

Ikeda, Randal,
Ad Anlst to Sr Ad Anlst

Jensen, James R.,
Equip Engrng Tech to Equip Engrng Supv

Lagrimas, Adelaida J.,
Hum Res Mgr to Asst Dir of Hum Res

Lewis, Ted H.,
Proj Eng to Dir of Engrng

Torne-Hersberg, Maria C.,
Prgrmer Asst to Prgrmer

Vanderpuil, Paul,
Prgrmer Asst to Prgrmer

Wang, Jack Y.,
Sr Engr to Supvng Engr

Retirements

Alegria, Hector, Bus Op
Aug '71 to Mar '96

Alford, Gerald L., Mec A
May '74 to Feb '96

Amador, Victor M., Mec A
Apr '74 to Feb '96

Audelo, Robert A., Bus Op
Mar '73 to Mar '96

Baker, Robert E., Util A Ldr
Sep '73 to Feb '96

Barcus, Juanita J., Stek Clrk
Feb '86 to Feb '96

Beach, James W., Bus Op
Mar '73 to Mar '96

Bishelli, Donald W., Mec A Ldr
Dec '74 to Feb '96

Block, Herbert S., Bus Op
Sep '75 to Mar '96

Burnistine, Joe L., Mec A
Nov '71 to Apr '96

Cardoza, Juan M., Bus Op
May '70 to Feb '96

Centeno, Luis F., Bus Op
Oct '72 to Mar '96

Curtis, Joseph, Bus Op
Nov '83 to Mar '96

Deguzman, Leonardo, S.,
Jan '75 to Feb '96

Dreier, Charles, R., Bus Op
July '72 to Feb '96

Felder, Helen, Util B
Apr '75 to Apr '96

Gutierrez, Domingo, Mec A Ldr
Nov '93 to Feb '96

Hearn, Steve, Mec A Ldr
Sep '53 to Mar '96

Hicks, Bobby, Mail Carrier
Dec '71 to Apr '96

Hill, Thomas P., Bus Op
Apr '73 to Apr '96

Houseton, Frank T., Bus Op
Sep '71 to Apr '96

Johnson, Hiram, Bus Op
Mar '74 to Jan '96

Kordi, Pete, Bus Op
Mar '73 to Feb '96

Lindsay, Marvin E., Bus Op
May '72 to Jan '96

Martinez, Henry P., Mec A
Nov '74 to Feb '96

Miranda, Alfredo, Bus Op
Dec '58 to Mar '96

Mons, Betty D., Wkr. Comp Coord.
Jan '76 to Mar '96

Mora, Armando, Auditor
July '91 to Mar '96

Retamar, Julio E., Bus Op
July '76 to Mar '96

Saavedra, Peter Y., Bus Op
Oct '72 to Feb '96

Salazar, Agustin, Mec A
July '74 to Feb '96

Sanders, Simmie, L., Bus Op
Sep '60 to Mar '96

Scott Herbert L., Bus Op
Mar '73 to Mar '96

Soria, Daniel C., Mec A
Mar '75 to Feb '96

Srinivasan, Vasan R., Dir Rail Oprns
Oct '78 to Apr '96

Starks, Milo, Bus Op
Apr '73 to Apr '96

Takahara, Eldon Y., Util A Ldr
Feb '69 to Feb '96

Tayrien, Diane A., Div Steno
Aug '71 to Feb '96

Todd, Carlos, Bus Op
Jul '72 to Oct '95

Townley, Robert P., Proj Engr
May '90 to Jan '96

Vance, Gary A., Bus Op
Mar '73 to Mar '96

Vasquez, Fortunata T., Admin Aide
Oct '86 to Feb '96

Villalobos, Isabel D., Mec A
Jan '75 to Feb '96

Wilson, Willie, Mec A Ldr
Nov '67 to Feb '96

Yoneyama, Henry H., Mec A
May '76 to Feb '96

In Memoriam

Botello, Ricardo A.,
Bus Op, employed 1/18/87, died 3/15/96.

If we missed your retirement, promotion or Service Award of 20 years or more, please drop a note to the Editor, Metro Family. We'll try to include it in the next issue, space permitting.



Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, western stars of yesteryear, were guests recently at the opening of the "Transit Tots" child care center at the Chatsworth Metrolink station. The \$1.78 million center can serve 90 children. Funded through the MTA, the center was planned by Planning and Programming employees. Operations Facilities Construction Management supervised construction of the 5,500 square foot facility.

Metro Family

MTA Service Awards

30 years, 1966

Williams, James A.	Feb
Deghetto, Michael S.	Mar
Wilson, Emanuel L.	Mar
Walker, Benjamin	Apr
Lloyd, Arthur B.	May

25 Year, 1971

Mc Gowin, Carol	Jan
Jennings, Dexter L.	Jan
Morton, Billy C.	Jan
Scott, Robert L.	Feb
Orange, Herbert D.	Mar
Rodriguez, Arthur L.	Mar
Lee, Robert	Mar
Manning, Melvin R.	Mar
Putt, Joseph G.	Apr
McKemie, John R.	Apr
Blair, Larry W.	Apr
Taylor, Alvin J.	Apr
Sattler, Corval R.	Apr
Sanson, David H.	Apr
McBryan, John E.	May
Stack, Patrick J.	May
Sassano, Alfred	May
Sanders, Frederick	May
Daghian, Leon	May
Salazar, Joseph	May
Sims, Eugene, D.	May
Moore, Sara E.	May

20 Year 1976

Harrell, Alton B.	Jan
Ruttlen, James A.	Jan
McGhee, James A.	Jan
Bonilla, Carlos O.	Jan
Broxen, Robert L.	Jan
Broxen, Louis B.	Jan
Carter, Roderick D.	Jan
Roberts, Landis	Jan
Bradford Don L.	Jan
Watson, Ernestine	Jan
Mons, Betty D.	Jan
Buggs, Rommie	Jan
Broxen, Jules	Jan
Johnson, Ulysses	Jan
Crockett, Cheryl C.	Jan
Lacefield, Vera M.	Jan
Broxen, Arthur L.	Jan
Moody, Mangle	Jan
Cousin, Charles, D.	Feb
Smith, Frankie L.	Feb
Helliswell, Thomas A.	Feb
Soloman, Mary L.	Feb
Robles, Robert C.	Feb
Merritt, Richard A.	Feb
Williams, Deborah K.	Feb
Harris, Barbara A.	Feb
Gwynn, Renee	Feb
Donald, Morris R.	Feb
Henry, Billy C.	Feb
Delagarsa, Ramiro	Feb
Doakes, David L.	Feb
Broxen, Wilson M.	Feb
Luna, Oscar M.	Feb
Dover, John M.	Feb
Moore, Michael J.	Feb
Gholston, Wallace M.	Feb
Willis, Kenneth A.	Feb
Mayo, Jennette E.	Feb
Bledsoe, Charlene	Feb
Woods, Steve C.	Feb
Carter, Douglas R.	Feb
Guevara, Michael	Feb

Lewis, Clyde L.	Feb
Rossiter, Jon T.	Feb
Melton, Timothy	Feb
Grant, John H.	Feb
Kelso, Thomas R.	Feb
Zajdenberg, Luis A.	Feb
Pedrosa, Richard	Feb
McClendon, William	Feb
Aranda, Mike M.	Feb
Carr, Ronald L.	Feb
Garcia, Alberto G.	Feb
Flechas, John J.	Feb
Hobbs, Louis H.	Feb
Grantham, C.	Feb
Lawson, James E.	Feb
Pickens, Willie J.	Feb
Watts, Kaiser L.	Feb
Brett, Jorge A.	Feb
Amey, William	Feb
Walker, Charles, M.	Feb
Angeski, John E.	Feb
Kim, Jin E.	Feb
McLaughlin, D. L.	Feb
Peres, Andre Ruben C.	Mar
Boxeden, Carmel A.	Mar
Urban, Benedict E.	Mar
Broxen, Wanda C.	Mar
Edwards, Ernest R.	Mar
Escobedo, Francisco	Mar
Mangram, Shirley J.	Mar
Davis, Terrell	Mar
Jenkins, Charles L.	Mar
Medina, Juan L.	Mar
Johnson, Willie H.	Mar
McDuffie, James W.	Mar
Garrett, John R.	Mar
Green, Barry L.	Mar
Gonzales, Juanita	Mar
Ferguson, S.E.	Mar
Duluca, Louis G.	Mar
Cabada, Manuel	Mar
Allen, Steve O.	Mar
Doakes, Nathaniel W.	Mar
Hernandez, Manuel	Mar
Patrick, Lafayette	Mar
Thomas, Felix	Mar
Coleman, Joseph E.	Mar
Anderson, Harold V.	Mar
Fairchild, Theodore	Mar
Conde, Marco T.	Mar
Guerrero, Ray	Mar
Guadalupe, Jose A.	Mar
Garrett, Charley	Mar
Donaghe, Jim L.	Mar
Goytia, Ruben V.	Mar
Sloot, John W.	Mar
Strong, Billie R.	Mar
Leswis, Lester S.	Mar
Flores, Mauricio E.	Mar
Pollard, Larry	Mar
Barbara, Kenneth C.	Mar
No, Hyon U	Mar
Coleman, Juanita L.	Mar
Ragan, Patricia A.	Mar
King, Leon H.	Mar
Fluker, Fred A.	Mar
Fleming, Thomas R.	Mar
Harrison, Collis R.	Mar
Mathews, William E.	Mar
Singal, Brenda L.	Mar
Boykin, Melvin	Mar
Allen, John O.	Mar
Fluker, Dorothy A.	Mar
Henderson, Geraldine L.	Mar

Caldwell, Eddie F.	Mar
Yanes, Luis A.	Mar
Dunford, David A.	Mar
Horton, Lawrence D.	Mar
Fischer, John L.	Mar
Vickers, Stella L.	Mar
Dailey, George W.	Mar
Coatsworth, G.A.	Mar
Cartswright, E.T.	Mar
Pitts, Robert J.	Mar
Dawson, William M.	Mar
Robertson, Leon	Mar
Eubanks, Yucle S.	Mar
Harris, George L.	Mar
Thompson, Shirley I.	Mar
Reyes, Ralph	Mar
Marks, William I.	Mar
Cabada, Antonio	Mar
Abbey, Judy M.	Mar
Shields, Donald C.	Mar
Ramires, Mary H.	Mar
Johnson, Elizabeth	Mar
Joseph, Alvin	Mar
Cormack, Jimmie R.	Mar
Ventura, Mario R.	Mar
See, Henry U.	Mar
Robinson, Ronald J.	Mar
Tarango, Miguel	Mar
Boyd, James	Mar
Harris, Ronly C.	Mar
Smith, Reginald C.	Mar
Collins, Robert L.	Mar
Harvey, Susan P.	Mar
Gomez, Gilbert E.	Mar
Berry, Clyde, L.	Mar
Martin, Leon	Mar
Hamm, Alvin Durant	Mar
Williams, Marian E.	Mar
Duffy, Fred E.	Mar
Kirstenpfad, Gunter A.	Mar
Garcia, Julio C.	Mar
Potts, Rodney D.	Mar
Sharp, Theresa B.	Mar
Hooks, Tyrone R.	Mar
Lacey, Johnny T.	Mar
Aldoney, Francisco J.	Mar
McClain, Mark T.	Mar
Villagrana, Patrick H.	Mar
Goens, Patsy L.	Mar
Marlowe, Freddie	Mar
Hardemion, Bernice	Mar
Cayen, Leroy B.	Mar
Davison, Steven R.	Mar
Jasmin, Thomas G.	Mar
Daniels, Richard G.	Mar
Zimmerman, Jesse D.	Mar
Fuentes, Jose	Mar
Hooks, Gregory	Apr
Fisher, Winston A.	Apr
Guyton, Beverly E.	Apr
Kraut, Clefion H.	Apr
Saunders, Leon I.	Apr
Bennett, Robert M.	Apr
Saldana, Andre B.	Apr
Branch, Willie R.	Apr
Tyus, John O.	Apr
Scott, Clovis A.	Apr
Thompson, Paul A.	Apr
Jenkins, Jerry	Apr
Cardone, Arturo	Apr
Felder, John	Apr
Howell, Bridget L.	Apr
Broxen, Alan A.	Apr
Easley, Carl A.	Apr
Moore, Herbert C.	Apr
Smith, Craig S.	Apr

Bryant, Eddie L.	Apr
Green, Rachel E.	Apr
Burke, Charles N.	Apr
Moss, Louis M.	Apr
Miller, Richard S.	Apr
Green, Goltha B.	Apr
Ineguez, Rodolfo L.	Apr
Gomez, Juan E.	Apr
Gonzales, William N.	Apr
Mitchell, Shirley J.	Apr
Wilson, Essie R.	Apr
Harwood, Clifford E.	Apr
Righetti, Maurice G.	Apr
Oblander, Gordon	Apr
Dunn, Merlin	Apr
Eadie, Ronald J.	Apr
De Los Santos, Oscar	Apr
Moreno, Isidoro T.	Apr
Humphrey, Donna R.	Apr
Coffey, Dana M.	Apr
Robinson, William H.	Apr
Mustin, Janice	Apr
Foster, Anna E.	Apr
Samuels, Phillip W.	Apr
Truslow, Theodore N.	Apr
Shelby, Walter	Apr
Smith, Veray A.	Apr
Cordero, Anthony	Apr
Hurston, Donald C.	Apr
Collier, Lamar	Apr
Pratt, Ronald D.	Apr
Jamison, Eldon M.	Apr
Surko, Thomas P.	Apr
Hanger, Edvard A.	Apr
Saafir, Abdul M.	Apr
Myers, Lester K.	Apr

Mc Cormick, Robert C.	Apr
Newman, Clark D.	Apr
Abeyta, Arnold A.	Apr
Bahou, Aurora Z.	Apr
Garcia, Rafael	Apr
Tice, Walter, J.	Apr
Myers, Chester R.	Apr
Ferguson, Billy R.	Apr
Pedregon, Ronald G.	Apr
Williams, Earnest L.	Apr
Santos, James D.	Apr
Montoya, Theodore N.	Apr
Euredjian, Armen A.	Apr
Murphy, Paul V.	Apr
Martinez, Olga E.	Apr
Corona, Aurelio J.	Apr
Sutherland, Dale K.	Apr
Land, Jimmie	Apr
Munoz, Luis A.	Apr
Lawson, Boisey M.	Apr
Du Bose, Etta D.	Apr
Rivera, Lorenzo A.	Apr
Llewellyn, Melvin L.	Apr
Williams, Barbara J.	Apr
Truslow, Emma J.	Apr
Montgomery, Charles K.	Apr
Craddolph, Monte C.	Apr
Ibarra, Bernabe V.	Apr
Wooten, Horace A.	Apr
Hernandez, Juventino E.	Apr
Thomas, Phillip W.	Apr
Simon, Reginald F.	Apr
Harris, William	Apr
Johns, Joseph V.	Apr
Hampton, James A.	Apr
Sherman, James C.	Apr

Polina, Joe	Apr
Foster, Jeffrey L.	Apr
Cook, Gregory N.	Apr
Wielandt, Max	Apr
Arancibia, Margarita	Apr
Velasques, Sergio	Apr
Charles, Carlyn	Apr
Huggins, Nelson F.	Apr
Baxter, Robert L.	Apr
Lapatka, James F.	Apr
Broxen, Michael D.	Apr
Silva, Salvador	Apr
Cannon, Theddes	Apr
Smith, Don E.	Apr
Martin, Duane H.	Apr
Barber, Alvin L.	Apr
Jones, Burnetta U.	Apr
Rojas, Carlos A.	May
Bard, Cecil F.	May
Oxwings, James L.	May
Sweet, John A.	May
Aguilar, Trejo Frank J.	May
Hamilton, R. M.	May
Thomas, Charles O.	May
Soto, George A.	May
Atchison, Sherman J.	May
Yoneyama, Henry H.	May
Caldwell, Cecil E.	May
Cook, Mattie Q.	May
Burns, John R.	May
Ketring, Robert T.	May
Villanueva, Alfonso	May
Rojas, Rodolfo B.	May
Moody, Pricilla D.	May
Sabella Andrea	May
Sharon Antonio	May

Suggestion Box

Here's your opportunity to tell us what you think about the new "Metro Family" and other employee news sources, and to offer suggestions for possible future articles, features and photos. Please answer these important questions:

Yes No

Do you read the CEO Report?
If not, why? _____
Do you have a suggestion about the CEO Report? _____

Do you read a department newsletter?
If not, why? _____
The newsletter you read is: _____

Did other people read your copy of Metro Family?
Who? _____

Do your MTA news sources, including Metro Family, fill your information needs?
If so, how? _____
If not, why? _____
What else would you like? _____

Editor:
I thought the first issue of "Metro Family" was: _____
I especially liked: _____
I did not like: _____
In the next issue, I'd like to see: _____
Here's a suggestion for a story or feature in a future "Metro Family" issue: _____

Thank You for your ideas. Please cut out this section and send it by interoffice mail to Bill Heard, Editor, Metro Family, USG, 25th Floor.

MAY NEWS BRIEFS

Harbor Freeway passenger platform to open in June

The Harbor Freeway passenger platform, now under construction at the Metro Green Line/Harbor Freeway intersection, is scheduled to open in early June.

The facility will provide transit riders a direct connection between the Green Line and a variety of local and express Metro Bus lines operating between the South Bay and downtown Los Angeles. LADOT's Line 448 also will serve the station.

To mark the occasion, the MTA will implement a reduced fare of \$1.85 on express lines 444, 445, 446 and 447 between the Harbor Freeway station and downtown.

Free rides on Metro Red Line for Wilshire Corridor opening

The MTA Board has authorized free fares on the Metro Red Line during the

grand opening weekend of the new Wilshire Corridor, July 13 and 14.

As the newest addition to the Metro Rail system, the line will extend west from Westlake/MacArthur Park a distance of two miles to Wilshire/Western. The corridor includes stations at Vermont and Normandie avenues.

The MTA's regular cash fare of \$1.35 will be extended to the entire Red Line, between Union Station and Wilshire/Western, on Monday, July 15.

Human Resources starts an exit interview program

The Human Resources Department has begun conducting exit interviews of all employees who voluntarily resign or retire from the MTA.

The purpose of the interviews is to ensure that employees leaving the MTA have an opportunity to describe their

experiences at the agency. The program will give the MTA information about employee attrition, quality of supervision, training, compensation and benefits.

The information will be used to improve employee selection, training, terms and conditions of employment and organizational performance.

Transit Police running team places high in desert race

A 20-member Transit Police Department Running Team placed 18th in the grueling Baker to Las Vegas Challenge Cup Relay Race, April 20-21.

Running against 159 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, the Transit Police team covered 120 miles of desert at a fast pace of 16 hours, 22 minutes. This is the sixth year the team has competed in the event.

MTA alternate fuel buses to be used at Olympics

Spectators at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta will have an opportunity to ride on 60 of the MTA's compressed natural gas (CNG) buses. The buses will be part of a 122-bus showcase of alternate fuel vehicles pressed into service for the summer games.

The coaches, decked out in MTA colors and logos, are being sent directly to Atlanta from the Neoplan factory in Colorado. Two MTA staff members will be in Atlanta to oversee maintenance of the buses.

After the Olympics, the buses will be shipped to Los Angeles and placed in service at Divisions 8, 10 and 15. Each will bear a plaque commemorating its service during the Olympics.

CMNS-014 5/96 JS (Rev. 3/5/15 4p)



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