

Inside This Issue...

- APTA Award
- United Way
- Special Assistants
- Garden of Delights
- Powers Retires
- Finding Self-Sufficiency
- China Tour

Felix G. Rubio Named 1986 Operator of the Year

Felix G. Rubio was named the Operator of the Year for 1986 at an awards presentation held May 21 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel.

Rubio, the first Hispanic to receive the award, was presented a special certificate and a check for \$250. On the occasion of being the first Hispanic chosen Operator of the Year, Rubio said receiving any award is an honor. "Since everyone's taken this angle of the first Hispanic I feel like it is a big honor. I'm still getting used to this." All the operators present at the awards luncheon had been selected as an Operator of the Month during 1986. Rubio was Operator of the Month for December. "As I looked around the room and heard these different operators' qualifications, I thought these are some really outstanding records. I'm up against some rough competition."

He has been an operator with the District for 20 years and drives the



Division 1 Operator Felix Rubio was chosen the Operator of the Year for 1986 at an awards presentation on May 21 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel. Rubio is the first Hispanic to receive the award. He was presented a special certificate and a check for \$250. From left to right, General Manager John A. Dyer, Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach, Rubio, and Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey.

66 Line out of Division 1, which travels on West Eighth Street downtown and along Olympic Boulevard to East Los Angeles. "I drive because I like it," said Rubio. "I like the challenges of the job, every day is different. I enjoy the contact with people."

"It's a honor to choose one driver for this honor from among our 5,000 operators," said General Manager John A. Dyer. "Felix has done a truly excellent job. I'm most pleased to provide him tangible appreciation for his exemplary performance. I hope to see the other 11 bus operators back at this ceremony next year." Dyer and Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach made the presentation to Rubio as Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey ended the suspense and announced his name. Assistant General Manager Korach told the operators he was pleased to be in their company. "You are the

Continued on page 3

RTD Pitches In To Help the Homeless in Downtown

In a cooperative effort to help the homeless of downtown Los Angeles, the District temporarily loaned a parcel of land, planned for a major Metro Rail maintenance facility, to the city as a camp for the homeless until actual construction begins on the site August 15.

The lot is located at the junction of Santa Fe Avenue and 4th Street. Until recently it was an open field that was once a railroad yard. The city graded the space to make it habitable for the homeless. Approximately 600 homeless can occupy the 13 acres in the shadow of the 4th Street bridge. The city teaming up with charitable agencies such as the Salvation Army, will supervise the camp; all liability will be sustained by the city. The city is offering the camp as an alternative to the homeless who have been living on Los Angeles city streets and who were threatened with arrest by a recent order going into effect June 5. The order empowered the Los Angeles Police Department to begin a sweep of the downtown streets and arrest those found sleeping, living, and loitering on public property.

General Manager John A. Dyer said the District is pleased to be part of an effort by the city and to be part of deal with the homeless. "For a sixty-day period we are making this urban park available to the city while they [the city] identify additional space for the homeless," said Dyer. "This is an indication of how committed the staff is to dealing with urban community problems above and beyond the issues of transportation. It's part of being interested in larger community problem-solving while still attending to our major responsibility of moving people on buses."

On June 5, RTD Board Vice-Pres-

ident Carmen Estrada and Assistant General Manager for Transit Systems Development Robert J. Murray turned over the parcel to Mayor Tom Bradley for the city's use at a brief ceremony held at the site.



RTD Vice-President Carmen A. Estrada turns over RTD parcel to the city for use as a camp for the homeless.

August Headway First Magapaper

The August issue of the *Headway* will be taking on a whole new look. From the familiar tabloid size, we will be redesigned into an 8 1/2 by 11-size magazine. This change is being implemented as a cost-saving measure. The RTD Printing Department purchased printing presses which will enable them to print the *Headway*. For many years the *Headway* has been printed by an outside printing firm.

Leilia Bailey Appointed RTD Director of Transportation

RTD General Manager John A. Dyer announced the appointment of Leilia Bailey as RTD Director of Transportation effective May 11.

"I know that Bob Korach, AGM of Operations has confidence in my ability to manage. Additionally, there

Continued on page 3



Leilia Bailey is behind the driver's seat as the newly appointed Director of Transportation. Ms. Bailey is the first woman to hold the position at the RTD. Her duties include supervising 5,000 operators and 12 bus divisions.

Ms. Bailey has been acting transportation director since January 15 when the District's Operations section was reorganized.

Bailey's duties include supervising RTD's 5,000 bus operators who are assigned to the District's 12 bus operating divisions, the central radio dispatch center, and the training center.

"This job is a big responsibility, but with the support of my staff and management, I'm up for the challenge," said Ms. Bailey.

Ms. Bailey joined RTD in July 1971 as a bus operator and steadily worked her way up through the ranks while earning a bachelor's degree in business administration at the University of Redlands.

She drove a bus four years and then moved up through the ranks, first as a division dispatcher, assistant division manager, division manager, and transportation superintendent.

Gifford Acts as General Counsel

Suzanne B. Gifford, the assistant general counsel since joining the RTD 15 years ago, was named Acting General Counsel by the District's Board of Directors, effective June 1. She replaces Richard T. Powers, who retired on May 29.

Ms. Gifford will head the legal department and advise staff and Board members on legal issues.

She earned a bachelor of arts degree and a law degree from the University of Michigan. Ms. Gifford has been a member of the California Bar since 1964. Before joining the District in April, 1972, she was a deputy city attorney for the city of Pasadena.

Ms. Gifford was born in Detroit and resides in Pasadena with her husband, Joseph Weiss.

RTD Receives APTA Safety Improvement Award for 1986



RTD was recently presented the American Public Transit Association Improvement Certificate for motor bus safety in 1986. Showing off the certificate of achievement were, from left to right: Assistant General Manager-Management John Richeson, General Manager John A. Dyer, and Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach.

RTD was recently named by the American Public Transit Association (APTA) as a recipient of an Improvement Certificate for motor bus safety during 1986.

The District was presented with a certificate of achievement May 11 in recognition of its safety program at the APTA eastern conference in Ottawa, Canada. The RTD received awards along with four other transit agencies for overall safety gains made in 1986 compared against years 1984 and 1985.

"We were impressed with the RTD's drop in its vehicle collision and passenger accident rate," said Jim Linsalata, APTA research manager. "Also, the RTD's drug testing program and incentive programs for operators received high marks."

RTD's collision rates went from an average of 49.6 collisions per 1 million miles traveled in 1984-85 to 43.7 collisions per 1 million miles traveled in 1986.

The passenger accident rate, which takes into consideration such mishaps as patrons slipping and injuring themselves on the bus, also dropped from an average of 1.57 per 1 million miles traveled during 1984-85 to 1.04 in 1986.

The APTA awards committee is composed of independent safety personnel not affiliated with a transit system or any transit agency. The committee determined the award

winners by reviewing descriptions of their different safety programs and accident statistics entered by the competing agencies. The information took into account the operating environment of each transit agency; which included population density, the number of vehicles in the fleet, and the service area of the system.

The competition was separated into six categories based on population served. RTD participated in the fleet carrier division, consisting of fleets serving an urban population of over 1 million.

The purpose of APTA's Annual Safety Award Competition is to encourage transit systems to improve their safety programs. The competition is open to all fixed route motor bus systems in the United States and Canada. The RTD competed against over 180 systems in this year's competition. Other agencies receiving improvement certificates included British Columbia Transit, Chicago Transit Authority, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, and the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle.

"Finding ways to improve safety is one of our highest priorities," said General Manager John A. Dyer. "It's gratifying to see that our efforts are being recognized. The District will continue to work with APTA in promoting safety and we will continue to push for the safest work environment possible."

Downtown YMCA Has Special Offer

The new Ketchum-Downtown YMCA is offering special memberships to all RTD employees. Conveniently located in the heart of downtown, the new Y is a beautiful, full facility with a variety of programs for men and women.

Facilities include: indoor swimming pool, aerobic programs, volleyball, basketball, free weights, machine exercise equipment, indoor jogging track, and whirlpool, sauna and steam rooms. Locker rooms with towel service, hair dryers, and optional laundry service are also avail-

able with supervised instruction in every area of the facility. The YWCA is open seven days a week, 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday. The facility is located at 401 South Hope Street.

RTD WILL SPONSOR MONTHLY DUES FOR THE FIRST 20 EMPLOYEES.

For more information, please contact the Employee Activities Department, extension 6580.

Employees Presented \$3,000 for Suggestions Made to ESP

Two employees received monetary awards totaling \$3,000 for their cost-saving suggestions at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting.

Two awards were made to Mechanic A Dane Sheldon of South Park by Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford. Sheldon earned his first award of \$1,000 for a set of tools he designed to be used on the front suspension system of the RTS coaches. Use of this tool set will save the District approximately \$35,000 annually by reducing the amount of time required to remove and install the bushings in the spindle support housing as well as the lower control arm on the front suspension systems. Sheldon received his second award of \$1,000 for another set of tools he invented to remove, install, and line-ream the brake cam bushings on the Neoplan coaches. This second set of tools will save the District approxi-

mately \$15,000 a year by reducing the number of cam bushings damaged as a result of improper fittings.

Mechanic A Leader Carlos Fernandez of South Park was awarded \$1,000. Fernandez designed a battery jumper cart which turns the current to the jumper cables on and off with one switch in addition to changing the voltage from 12 to 24 volts with a second switch. By using this cart the District will save approximately \$100,000 annually by enabling one mechanic to transport a battery in narrow areas to jump-start buses instead of requiring two mechanics to use a forklift.

Mechanic A Rafael Larrea of South Park was to have received an award for a suggestion he submitted, but recuperation from a recent surgery prevented him from attending the presentation ceremony. He will receive his award at a future Board Meeting.



Mechanic A Dane Sheldon (center left with certificate) and Mechanic A Leader Carlos Fernandez (center right with certificate) were recognized for their cost-effective suggestions and were awarded with \$1,000 for each of their suggestions submitted to the Employee Suggestion Program. The men received their awards from Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting. From left to right, front row: Director of Personnel Gayel A. Pitchford, Director of Equipment Maintenance Rich Davis, Sheldon, Fernandez, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Julius Rakisits, and Equipment Maintenance Supervisor John McBryan. Back row, from left to right: RTD Board President Jan Hall, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor Abe Barron, and General Manager John A. Dyer.

Share Drafts Available at Credit Union

Share drafts are similar to checks, so you can pay bills, transfer funds from savings, obtain cash and handle other transactions from your Credit Union account. And all the while you're earning dividends—just like in your savings account! There's no monthly service charge. No "per check" fees. And no minimum balance. Here are some other advantages:

EASY ACCEPTANCE

Your Credit Union is member-owned and respected in the community. This is one reason why local merchants willingly accept your share drafts.

LOW RISK

Your share drafts are more secure than cash—they're personalized and require your signature and identification. And they're printed on tamper-proof safety paper, for maximum protection. If you ever need to stop payment on a draft, just stop by your Credit Union to complete and sign a stop payment order. If your supply of drafts is lost or stolen, contact your Credit Union at once. They'll issue

stop payment orders on the missing drafts and order you a new supply.

SIMPLE RECORDKEEPING

Share drafts put an end to the problem of storing and maintaining cancelled checks. Each draft has a carbonless copy beneath it—so you have an exact duplicate of each draft you write. To prove payment, just show the copy and your statement. Photocopies of your drafts are available through your Credit Union.

DETAILED STATEMENT

Periodic statements list each draft you've written. You'll always know which drafts have cleared, your share draft account balance and your account's dividend earnings.

So remember, share drafts look and work like checks. But they offer even more advantages. Advantages like:

- Easy Acceptance
- Low Risk
- No Cancelled Checks
- Convenient Statements

Open your convenient and economical share draft account today!

Have a Happy 4th!



1986 Operator of the Year Salute

Continued from page 1

backbone of this business. The bus goes nowhere without the operators. Thank you for the wonderful job you've done."

UTU Vice-General Chairman John Cockburn greeted the operators at the luncheon along with UTU Local Chairman Sam Harper and Vice-Local Chairman Charlie Square.

The judging criteria used among the 12 operators included driver performance, patron comments, attendance, and adherence to rules. The selection committee was comprised of Employee Activities Coordinator Diane Talton, Transit Operations Supervisor Kevin McGrath, and Operations Administrative Analyst Barbara Olson. Each of the candidates received two tickets to a special attraction, such as a Dodgers or Angels game, Disneyland or Knott's Berry Farm.

Director of Transportation Bailey, who drove a bus for four years early in her career at the RTD, said: "If you had to choose the toughest, most demanding job, driving a bus in L.A. would be near to top of the list. That makes Felix Rubio's record—which includes never having a missout in his 20 years with us—all the more impressive. His performance and dedication are outstanding."

Rubio's attendance record is exceptional. He has received the maximum number of merits awarded to an operator with an outstanding performance record.

Rubio, a quiet man, seemed not



Surrounding the Operator of the Year Felix Rubio are the Operators of the Month for 1986, the group from which the selection is made for Operator of the Year. These operators include, from left to right: Division 5 Operator Teddie E. Cheaves, Division 7 Operator Simmie L. Sanders, Division 9 Operator Frank El Fattal, Division 9 Operator Condred Kerslake, Division 5 Operator Hilton H. Hackley, Felix Rubio, Division 8 Operator Fred M. Strom, Division 18 Operator Hubert W. Hayes, Division 1 Operator Joe G. Benard, and Division 10 David M. Caudillo.

to allow his face to betray what he felt inside. He responded to all the media attention with a stoicism that suggested an understanding of the temporal quality of public praise. Only rarely and for brief instances did he allow himself to openly show his pride. To him, his exemplary performance is just doing his job. It is that simple. "Customer complaints, . . . they could be cut down if operators did what they were supposed to do like calling out the street names," he said. Rubio is a line instructor and he says he always tells his students, "Do the

best you can. It's a lot of responsibility to take a busload of people down the street. Leave your personal problems at home and by the same token leave your job problems at work."

Rubio, 43, was born in East Los Angeles. He lives in Whittier and shares his interests in music, baseball, and football with his wife Maria.

The Operator of the Year luncheon was planned and arranged by Transportation Department employees who included: Transportation Superintendent Wes McCarns, Rebecca Smith, and Myrine White.

Bailey Takes Directorship

Continued from page 1

is a great support system offered by many other department heads. Day to day I depend heavily upon the expertise and dedication of the other top positions within Transportation General, and the hard work of the staff," said Ms. Bailey.

As part of a reorganization plan, Bailey was named assistant director of transportation in December 1986. She also served on RTD's bargaining team during the 1982 and 1985 contract negotiations with the United Transportation Union, which represents RTD's bus operators.

"We have set high goals for the department along with meeting the goals of the Performance Action Plan. We are communicating with all Transportation Department employees but have targeted operators—their needs, problems, and image as the Number 1 priority. Attendance, safety, training, recognition, and respect will be emphasized. The Joint Labor/Management committees are a start in the right direction."

"I have concluded that the job of being director of transportation is a tremendous responsibility, but I don't have to do it alone. I believe in myself and all of the capable people who provide their support and dedication," she concluded.

Ms. Bailey is the mother of four adult children and has five grandchildren. She lives in Pasadena.

Metro Rail Progress Gauged in Brochure

A 16-page, tabloid-size brochure charting the progress of RTD's Metro Rail project was included in the May 18 issue of the *Downtown News*.

The black-and-white publication will be updated periodically to keep the public abreast of the progress of construction and any traffic flow changes resulting from it.

In addition to a general project progress report, the brochure contains detailed information on each of the five stations to be built. Also included are numerous maps and drawings showing cutaway views of how underground construction will occur.

"We know the public is curious about how a subway system is built, so we've prepared this brochure as a public service to keep everyone informed about how Metro Rail is going," said RTD General Manager John A. Dyer. "After reading it, when people pass by a construction site, they will better understand what is taking place beneath them and how their future transit system will work."

TOS Pippen Appointed to National Office

TOS-Communications Emmitt L. Pippen, at a recent national conference of the Supreme Council, the Order of the Knights of Pythagoras in Jackson, Mississippi, was appointed chairman of public relations and editor of the National Knights of Pythagoras Clarion magazine. He continues to serve as Western Regional Director along with his duties as the California-Hawaii State Director. The Knights of Pythagoras is a Masonic Lodge.

Thanks for a Job Well Done!

Employees Who Have Received Commendations from the Public

Division 1

Perez, Frank
Scott, Larry L.
Venegas, Joe

Division 3

Flores, Debbie A.
Valdes, Ronald W.

Division 5

Pruitt, George F.
White, Theotis

Division 6

Atkins, Marsha A.
Jackson, Roger C.
Sidney, Meredith C.

Division 7

Coleman, John H.
Feldra, Larry F.
Newman, Jeffrey O.
Winston, Phillip S.

Division 8

Philcox, Nigel S.
Piche, Richard M.

Division 10

Ronge, Daniel H.
Shorters, Jimmie

Division 12

Pea, Thomas E.
Scott, Susan D.

Division 15

Cleaves, Albert T.

Division 15 (cont.)

Miller, Robert E.
Parnell, Harvey D.
Sheldon, Arthur A.

Division 18

Lane, Robert L.
Peterson, John A.

Editor's Note: Every month my office is deluged with letters of commendation from the riding public. In the past we have only published the names of those operators commended as there wasn't the space to print the letters, which is unfortunate for the operators and all our other readers. But, this month we decided to make the space for some selected letters. Some of you may be muttering under your breath, "Well, it's about time!" We agree. All of us lead busy lives. And, understanding that, those among us who do take the time to write a letter to commend an operator have something important to say about some pretty special people.

Customer Relations RTD

As a passenger I've had my share of complaints in the past, but today I'm writing to commend a driver [Phillip S. Winston] for extraordinary professionalism in the face of an unpleasant situation.

Tuesday night on the #14 line an apparent drunk missed his stop and started berating the driver with loud insults and vulgar name-calling that lasted for blocks and blocks. At first the driver tried to help the drunk by answering his questions as to where

his stop was and where we were now, but the drunk just kept up his barrage of insults. I was afraid a fight might break out, but the driver maintained an extraordinary self-control, did not respond in kind to the drunk's hostility, just let the drunk have his say till he finally gave up and left the bus.

Personally, it left my blood boiling to hear such unwarranted verbal abuse. I think it's the kind of thing that only contributes to a driver's ulcers and goes unrecognized by anyone but him and his passengers, so I wanted someone else to know how well he handled this situation.

Virginia Iorio
Los Angeles

Dear Sirs:

A few days ago, I lost my bus pass holder, with a lot of very important IDs, on the #210 bus at Melrose and Vine. I thought I'd never see them again. But the next night, I got a call from one of your very nice drivers. He said he had found it and saw my address in it. He said he would be in Hollywood today, and he would give it to me, or the security guard. I wasn't there to thank this fine man. You hear so many bad things about your drivers, and then you find out you also have some swell people too. So, thanks to Mr. Theotis White, badge # 8087. Thanks a million.

Yours truly,
Paul Mallow
Hollywood

ASPA Bestows Affirmative Action Award on RTD Top Operators Recognized for the Month of April

RTD received the Tom Bradley Affirmative Action Award in recognition of its innovation and achievements in the areas of equal opportunity employment and contracting with minority- and women-owned businesses (DBE/WBE).

The Los Angeles Metropolitan Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) presented the award May 28 at the Friars Club in Beverly Hills.

The award is given annually to a person or institution who has made significant contributions in the area of affirmative action.

"We have an aggressive program to ensure that all our employees and prospective employees get a fair shake and receive the full opportunities they're entitled to," said General Manager John A. Dyer. "We're proud to do our part for the advancement of equal opportunity."

The candidates for the award are nominated annually by the Los Angeles ASPA membership, consisting of more than 600 members. The candidates are reviewed by the ASPA awards committee.

"We looked at the policies that are in effect to promote equality in the workplace," said ASPA committee member Susan Sherman. "To sum it up, we were impressed with the RTD's ongoing outreach programs and workshops to recruit disadvantaged and women-owned businesses, as well as the District's policy of monitoring, promoting, and striving to

achieve equal employment goals."

The Personnel Department's intensive recruitment efforts have enabled the RTD to reach equal employment targets. The District's management staff now is comprised of 39 percent minorities and 27 percent females. Also, traditionally male occupations, such as bus operators, mechanics, and transit police officers, are now employing females.

In fiscal year 1986, RTD allocated 21 percent of its contracts to DBE/WBE businesses. The federal government's threshold goal for such allocations is 10 percent.

The first award was given in 1978, and named in honor of its first recipient, Mayor Tom Bradley. Since then, recipients have included the Southern California Gas Company, Metro Goldwyn Mayer/United Artists, and Goodwill Industries.

"People are the vital element that make our team work," said Dyer. "We will continue to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to the recruitment, training, and promotion of minorities and women."

Assistant General Manager for Equal Opportunity, Walter Norwood, accepted the award on behalf of the District. "We are pleased to have been awarded this honor for our efforts toward ensuring DBE/WBE participation in all the contracts we let. We believe we've made a positive contribution to the community, but are committed to do even more in the future," said Norwood.

The awards for the Operator Recognition Program for the month of April were announced in the latter part of May. The presentations include the Manager's Award which is accompanied by a \$35 check and the Sweepstakes Award which offers a windfall of \$100. The program has as its purpose to recognize and reward the many bus operators who consistently perform in an outstanding manner.

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

MANAGER'S AWARD		
Division	Recipient	Winner
3201	Adele Craig	Paul Zablocki
3203	JoAnn Johnson	Joanna Tucker
3205	Wilmer T. Shumake	Darnell Oliver
3206	Richard C. Thompson	Billy R. Ferguson
3207	Jon L. Linton	Eddie Lee Bryant
3208	Jesus B. Saldana	Edison S. Stanford
3209	Norman Bassham	Leelen Porter
3210	Ralph Patterson	Rick Cadelli
3212	Albert Johnson	Elmer D. Witcher
3215	Donald Van Dyke	Timothy Del Cambre
3216	George P. Zumkley	Carl Motley
3218	Effie Williams	Lucy Turner
SWEEPSTAKES AWARD		
Division	Winner	Winner
3201	Gilberto Hernandez	Demetrio Reyes
	Jim Mix	William Perry
	Eugene H. Williams	Rolando Filoteo
	Apolinar Pimentel	Angel Miranda
3203	Bobby E. Butler	Frank Diaz
	Cynthia A. Ransom	Armando Medina
	Dwight M. Martin	Frank E. Tibbo
		Jacob Tuason
		Elroy Johnson
		Paul Algarin
		Gilbert Parrish
		Curtis Jones
		Reyes Veloz
		Lee V. Hunter
		Chan Maq
		Kenneth McKeen
		Miguel Brambila
		Lothan Raphael
		Julio E. Diaz
		Robert D. Blake
		John W. Kemp
		George Jefferson
		Michael Nimmers
		Richard Greenhill
		Aundre Caldwell

United Way Coordinators Thanked for Their Efforts

General Manager John A. Dyer and United Way Campaign Chairman David Dominguez presented 40 certificates of merit to United Way coordinators participating in the 1987 campaign at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting.

This year marks the tenth campaign supported by RTD employees. The effort began May 14 with a coordinators' kick-off meeting held at Orthopaedic Hospital in downtown Los Angeles. The campaign officially began May 20 and continued through June 5.

Those employees receiving cer-

tificates included Lyle Fulks, Adolfo Soto, Carl Fleming, Gino Sernano, Donald Shield, Alma Lucious, Blanche Christian, Sandra Square, Tom Lujan, April Morrisette, Yandell Lister, George Craver, Jan Pecherski, Robert Pacheco, Javier Enriquez, Bruce Crum, Gordon Oblander, Dwight Forell, Leslie Vance, Dorrae Adams, Juanita Orr, Mario Ramos, Ruby Johnson, Veena Seth, Karen Budds, Stephen Crawford, Dwight Benavidez, Kim Turner, Esther Pippins, Eddie Reece, Burnetta Jones, Doris Glover, Elnora Byrd, Marie Gleason, Albert Judson, Denise

Smith, Jacquelyn Miranda, Lynn Montano, Joanne Fitzhugh, Eugenia Grace, Delois Miles, Philip Powers, Michele Taylor, Chauncey Carter, Leslie Wilson, Art Monarez, Frances Alavian, Rosa Lee, Greg Davy, Ambrosia Holmes, Susan Carter, Ann Craver, Donna Thompson, Minardo Tigbayan, John Magallanes, Roberto Presler, Tom Curtis, David Banks, Benjamin Breckenridge, Enrique Ortega, Gregory Reed, Carrie Bradford, Janis Whirlidge, and Roosevelt Benjamin.

Last year RTD employees pledged \$395,000 to United Way. This

year, the campaign coordinators chose a goal of a 30 percent increase over last year's contributions. Employees were asked to contribute an hour's pay each month through the payroll deduction plan. The final results of contributions were not available at press time but will be reported in the August issue.

General Manager Dyer expressed his appreciation for the labors of the entirely volunteer staff of RTD campaign coordinators as did John Moawad, corporate campaign chairman, United Way who was also in attendance at the Board Meeting.



Receiving Certificates of Merit for their service to the 1987 United Way Campaign at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting were, from left to right: Art Monarez, Curtis Williams, Dwight Benavidez, Gordon Oblander, and Larry Thompson. Second row, from left to right: Lynn Montano, Chauncey Carter, Joanne Fitzhugh, Leslie Wilson, Adolfo Soto, Michele Taylor, John Magallanes, and John Moawad, representative from the United Way. Third row, from left to right: John A. Dyer, Marie Gleason, Sandra Square, Burnetta Jones, Esther Pippins, April Morrisette, Edward Reece, and Tom Curtis.



Receiving Certificates of Merit for the efforts with the 1987 United Way Campaign at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting were, first row, from left to right: Jose Cartin, Tony Pingarron, Donald Shield, Lyle Fulks, and Albert Judson. Second row, from left to right: Roosevelt Benjamin, Carrie Bradford, Janis Whirlidge, Blanche Christian, Kim Turner, Bruce Crum, and Elnora Byrd. Third row, from left to right: Jan Pecherski, John A. Dyer, Carl Fleming, Enrique Ortega, Yandell Lister, Ted Juarez, Dwight Forell, Michael Williams, and Ben Breckenridge.

COMMENDATIONS



Certificates of Merit were presented to the April Employees of the Month at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting by RTD Director Gordana Swanson. Those employees included, front row, from left to right: Maintenance Employee of the Month for March Charles Urasaki, Division 8 Mechanic B Lam V. Duong, Division 5 Operator Doris Harris, and Information Operator Guillermo V. Goytia. Back row, from left to right: General Manager John A. Dyer, Director Swanson, Division 8 Maintenance Manager Tedd Brewin, Facilities Maintenance Superintendent Richard Hunt, Division 5 Manager A.J. Taylor, and Director of Customer Relations Robert Williams.



RTD Retirees were recognized at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting and were presented plaques by RTD Director Gordana Swanson. Front row, from left to right: General Counsel Richard T. Powers, Schedule Planner Salvatore C. Calorino, Transit Operations Supervisor Charles A. Hunter, Division 9 Operator Julian M. Johannes, and Division 7 Operator Shirley A. McMahon. Back row, from left to right: Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach, Director Swanson, and General Manager John A. Dyer.



Robert Ketring, a mopper/waxer/relief-messenger clerk, was selected as the General Services Section Employee of the Quarter for the winter quarter. Bob's supervisors say that he is one employee who stands head and shoulders above the rest. He maintains a good attendance record, is conscientious about his work, and is courteous to his fellow workers and supervisors. He has a natural leadership ability which he displays often. Bob has been with the District since 1976 and over the years has received many commendations from members of the Board of Directors, department heads, department managers, supervisors, and his own peers. When Bob was presented with his plaque and a U.S. Savings Bond in a special ceremony on May 19, he said: "I want to thank everyone. It's an honor." Bob was presented with his plaque by General Services Manager Anita Allen (left) and General Services Supervisor Harold Kelley (right).



RTD Retirees were recognized at the May 28 Board of Directors' Meeting and were presented with plaques by RTD Director Gordana Swanson. Front row, from left to right: Traffic Loader/Extra Schedule Checker James W. Weaver, Schedule Supervisor Glenn H. Nieman, Division 9 Operator James W. Morris, and Senior Secretary Florine E. Porter. Back row, from left to right: Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach, Director Swanson, and General Manager John A. Dyer.

First Woman Named Operator of the Month

Doris Harris of Los Angeles has been named RTD Operator of the Month for April. She is the first woman to receive this honor. She received a certificate of merit from the RTD Board of Directors on May 28.

Harris has been an operator with the District for almost seven years. Her attendance record is exceptional and she has received the maximum number of merits awarded to an operator with an outstanding performance record.

Her knowledge of regulations and professional operating ability have earned her recognition as a Meritorious Operator and a Manager's Award recipient. She also has received numerous letters of commendation from passengers and her division manager.

"Doris Harris is a model

employee," said Assistant General Manager for Operations Robert Korach. "She sets a standard of excellence for all our operators to follow."

Harris drives a bus on Line 210 which travels between Hollywood and the South Bay Shopping Center in Redondo Beach via Vine Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.

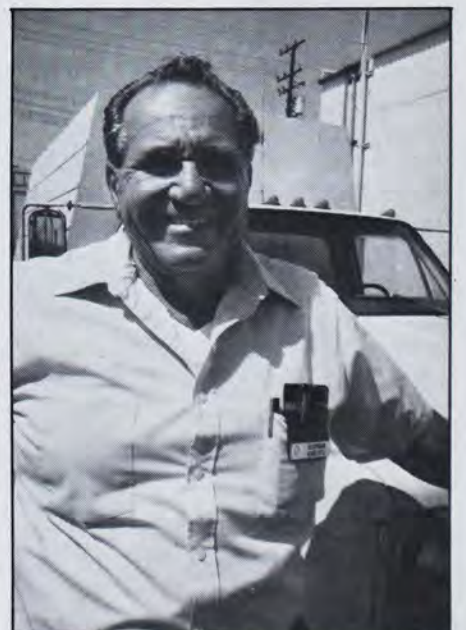
Harris enjoys sewing, going to church, caring for her pets and keeping up with the busy schedules of her son and daughter.

The Operator of the Month Award is presented by RTD to a driver in recognition of outstanding courtesy displayed towards the public, excellence in operating record, and in appreciation of the good will such courtesy and thoughtful service create for the District.

April's Top Operator



Division 5 Operator Doris Harris, named RTD Operator of the Month for April, became the first female operator to be chosen for the honor. Accompanied by her Division Manager A.J. Taylor she received a commendation from the Board of Directors on May 28.



Electrician Leader Guido Dito of Vernon Yard was selected the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for April. He was awarded for his exceptional work record. His supervisors are particularly impressed with Guido's leadership ability and the high productivity achieved by his unit. Recently, he employed his excellent technical abilities to improve District facilities and received \$1,000 from the Employee Suggestion Award Program. Systems Electronic Communication Technician Rick Clifford won the sweepstakes award. Clifford received a cash prize of \$25.

Their Special Assistance Is Helping Other's Workloads

The Special Assistant Program got a lot of attention recently when they began monitoring the Headquarters hallways and asking employees for passes. This task was just one of the many valuable services this program offers employees and supervisors.

We thought it was time to officially introduce the program and tell you of the benefits to the District. We have had a Special Assistant Program or modified duty program for six years. However, recently the number of positions has increased from 12 to 50. With that many special assistants in the Headquarters Building and in the operating divisions, news travels fast to both temporarily injured workers and departments that need additional help. The program was designed to bring the temporarily (and temporary is the key word) injured worker back into the workforce and hopefully back into their permanent position as soon as the employee's health will allow. Although the program is not designed to rehabilitate injured workers, it does teach employees (who are mostly bus operators) new valuable, usable skills.



Special Assistant Charla Davis.

The surprising element in the process is how much the special assistants enjoy their new assignments. I spoke with several special assistants to find what each one thought of the Special Assistant Program. Michael Marigny, bus operator, was excited about getting back to his regular job but said: "The Special Assistant Program gave me a good opportunity to learn computer skills. And, I also worked on rollouts at Division 12 and all the Operators there were pleasant to work with." Victor Castro, bus operator, thought being a special assistant was "much better than being home." He continued, "I have learned a great deal about how the District operates and I feel I am working on some worthwhile projects."

It appears that placing employees in a new work environment, even for a short period of time has a positive impact on their lives. Charla Davis, bus operator, reports she feels "vital, needed, and worthwhile," participating in the Special Assistant Program. "It's so multi-dimensional, I never get bored. And you meet such great people on the job." Charla originally was assigned to the Marketing Department but we discovered she was a librarian before she became a bus operator, so we put her to work in our District library. Kate DeGood, our

resident Librarian is thrilled with Charla's performance on the job and said: "Charla has been a great help in the Information Center/Library. Her library background is especially beneficial to us because of her previous experience and has helped tremendously with our backlog."



Special Assistant Leticia Coria with Print Scheduler Hector Amaya.

I spoke to JoAnn Fitzhugh and Curtis Williams simultaneously (both bus operators) and they thought the program was "positive and meaningful." They particularly liked the fact that District personnel are given the opportunity to see how capable bus operators and other union personnel are in another capacity.

Most special assistants are productive workers and departments are finding that they can't go on without them. Michelle Caldwell, administrative services officer in Metro Rail, has had three special assistants assigned to her at special times and been pleased with the work performance of all three. "It's the things that you can't plan for that make the special assistants so valuable. We've been especially happy with their willingness and the efforts they make to do a good job."

Many special assistants have recently been assigned to the Divisions to help with the early morning pull-outs. Some of them prefer to work in familiar surroundings and although they are not allowed to work in their home division, the division atmosphere seems most comfortable. Chris Coleman, division manager is extremely happy with Juanita Orr, the special assistant assigned to Division

1. He states that she is "diligently involved in learning the job."

Now that you know a little more about special assistants, you might want to know either how to get into the program or how you can be assigned a special assistant to help with your workload. First, employees



Special Assistant Sam Totts.

The Special Assistant Program has some limitations; however, with good communication we have been able to resolve most problems in the past and hopefully this trend will continue. I think if you give it a try, you will benefit from the experience.

—Hope Powell

Your Vacation Check List

Before you turn the key in the lock and head off for a relaxing vacation, make sure your home is safe without you. Your safety check now could help ensure that you don't face trouble at the other end of the road.

Unplug all unnecessary appliances, including the television. Turn off the air conditioner.

Check for fire hazards, including frayed wires, open gas containers, oily rags, things that could spontaneously ignite in the summer heat.

Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your house. Tell them about any visitors you might be expecting, and ask them to call the police if they see any strange activity.

Pay a neighborhood teenager to mow your lawn.

Also, hire a responsible teen to pick up your mail EVERY day, or call your post office to stop delivery until you return.

Stop delivery of newspapers.

Put away lawn furniture, bikes, and toys that might tempt a thief.

Leave your curtains and shades in their usual position. If you normally keep them open, then don't shut them while you're gone—it will give a thief who has cased the neighborhood a clue that you're gone.

Park your car in the garage, if you have one, or park it at a friend's house. A car that sits unmoved for several weeks is a big tipoff to thieves.

Check all doors and windows—make sure they're locked. Don't leave a key hidden outside the house.

Install timer switches to turn lights on and off at specified times.

And just before you walk out the door, give your house one final sweep—make sure that the stove and iron are off; that all faucets are shut tight.

Now you're set for a carefree, safe, and fun trip!



Special Assistant Janet Yost with Administrative Services Officer Michelle Caldwell.

To Your Health

With Your Head in the Air, Your Feet on the Ground, Walk!

Walking is Wonderful.

- It's good for your heart.
- It's good for your complexion.
- It's good aerobic exercise.

Walking briskly and when performed non-stop will condition the heart and lungs. Walking for exercise increases the efficiency of the body and enables your heart to use oxygen more efficiently while reducing the number of times per minute the heart pumps.

Lack of exercise, while in itself not the biggest villain of health, when combined with being overweight, overeating, and smoking, can cause all sorts of problems—among them, heart attack.

Before starting any form of vigorous exercise or change of lifestyle, check with your physician to see if you are able to exercise at a vigorous rate.

Remember:

If you decide to exercise vigorously, you need to see your doctor if:

- (1) you have not exercised for a long time and you are over 40;
- (2) you have had heart trouble;
- (3) you have high blood pressure;
- (4) you have chest pain;
- (5) you faint or have dizzy spells;
- (6) you have any medical condition that required a doctor's care or



by Elia Hager
Visiting Nurse

hospitalization within the last year.

When you have been given the green light for vigorous exercise, you need to plan your exercise plan.

- (1) Warm up properly.
- (2) Use the proper clothing.
- (3) Use good shoes.
- (4) Measure your exercise path—

know how long it takes to cover the path.

- (5) Know your target heart rate zone.

Your target heart rate depends on your maximum heart rate (subtract your age from 220) and your target rate. Then calculate 60-75 percent of the maximum heart rate and this gives you your target heart rate.

I have a nice booklet from the American Heart Association that explains the Target Heart Rate Zone and all those things you've always wanted to know about walking. Write to me and I'll send one to you.

Booklets now available to you for the asking:

1. *Walking for a Healthy Heart*—American Heart Association.
2. *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*—U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
3. *Physical Fitness and Your Heart*—Channing L. Bete Co., Inc.
4. *After a Heart Attack*—American Heart Association.

If you want any of these booklets, write to the Personnel Department, Attention: Elia Hager. Enclose your name and your mailing address.

"Fun in the Sun" Means Protection

In spite of the wealth of information available in recent years about the dangers of excessive sun exposure, "fun in the sun" is often so enticing that people forget to take simple precautions to protect their skin.

To serve as a reminder, the Cancer Information Service of California is offering a free packet of information on tanning safely and other skin-protective measures that can be obtained by calling 1-800-4-CANCER (800-422-6237).

The following guidelines are excerpted from the packet. People who never tan or always burn then tan slightly and anyone who has had skin cancer are particularly advised to take note.

1. Avoid outdoor activities between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. during the summer months. Play golf, tennis, swim, etc. in the early morning or late afternoon.
2. If you are even slightly sunburned by midday, beware of further exposure. The burn may be worsened by further exposure to ultra-violet light late in the afternoon.
3. Sand, snow, and concrete can reflect significant amounts of ultra-violet light onto the skin, so protect yourself. Individuals who are at high risk for skin cancer and degenerative skin changes (i.e., outdoor workers and persons who have already had skin cancer) should apply sunscreens daily.
4. Some drugs and cosmetics may increase susceptibility to sunburn.
5. Wear a hat and long sleeves whenever possible in the summer.
6. Use a sunscreen on your face at all times during the summer, even if you wear a hat. It will protect you from scattered ultra-violet light that is reflected onto your face.
7. Increased ultra-violet exposure can occur during high altitude activities such as mountain climbing or snow skiing. Use a sunscreen.
8. Use a sunscreen with a skin protective factor (SPF) recommended for your skin type. For maximum effectiveness apply at least one hour before exposure.
9. Always reapply sunscreen after swimming or perspiring.
10. Men should apply sunscreens to the tops of their ears.

An Exercise To Create a Garden of Delights



Gardening is a wonderful outdoor exercise for me and beginning this month and occasionally hereafter, I'll be exercising on paper with you. I wish to acknowledge the *Sunset Western Garden Book* as my garden "bible." I will be quoting from this book more than occasionally and I recommend its purchase for all who wish to have a beautiful garden.

Perhaps the three most important aspects of gardening are where you live, your garden's sun exposure and what kind of soil your garden has.

The area known as the county of Los Angeles is divided into three zones by the *Sunset Western Garden Book* (California is divided into a total of thirteen zones). Each zone has its temperature variations throughout the year as well as through the day, winter cold vs. summer temperatures, etc. Take the fuchsia—it grows wonderfully in full to filtered sun on the coast, but in Pasadena or Pomona, you grow fuchsia (carefully) in full shade with lots of water, and a misty environment created by sprinklers—preferably on an automatic system.

The following list are the zones as used by *Sunset Western Garden Book* and I will refer to:

Zone 11: Riverside, San Bernardino, Redlands, Pomona, N.E. parts of the San Fernando Valley.

Zone 12: Santa Ana, Pasadena, Sierra

Madre, N.W. part and the eastern foothills of the San Fernando Valley.

Zone 13: All coastal areas directly influenced by the ocean and the off-shore breezes.

Knowing your zone you will find when you can plant (and what you shouldn't), how often you plant, and what to plant for a successful garden. You need to know how much sun your garden gets and when the sun hits the different parts of the garden and at what intensity. Then what kind of soil, sandy loam and medium loam are the best; but in Los Angeles clay or adobe soils are most common and need the most work and amendments before a

garden can be successfully planted. The most common materials used to break up heavy soils are called organic fertilizers: manure, compost, leaf mold, sawdust/ground bark, and peat moss. These can be used together and dug into your soil to a depth of at least 9-12 inches according to the product directions for use. I add bone/blood meal and activated sludge (like Nitrohumus) to the combination of manure, redwood composite, and peat moss.

More next time. Send your suggestions or questions to me, in care of the Personnel Department.

—Elia Hager
Earth Mother

GARDENING CHORES FOR JULY

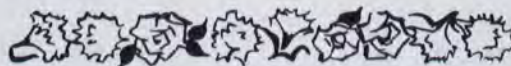
Zone 11

- Plant: heat tolerant plants, now seeds: perennials for next winter and spring — flowering annuals
- Spray: for red spiders, thrips, etc.
- Feed: rapid growing annuals often and heavy slow growers need only a light feeding
- Prepare: sweet pea trench for next month planting (see *Sunset Western Garden Book* for instructions) or any other garden book.



Zone 12

- Plant: early tomatoes, trees or shrubs if carefully watered seeds: winter and spring flowering annuals; heat-tolerant annuals in open ground.
- Spray: red spiders, aphids, grasshoppers, etc.
- Feed: lawns, rapid growers, heavy feedings; slower growers and containers, light.
- Prepare: sweet pea trench (as above); fill in bare/weak spots in lawns.



Zone 13

- Plant: early hot weather vegetable crops; early tomatoes, etc. and as in Zone 12.
- Spray: for chewing insects and as in Zone 12.
- Feed: As in Zone 11 and Zone 12.
- Prepare: Sweet pea trench.

Discounts to RTD Employees at YMCA

The Weingart Family YMCA, one of the few dynamic family fitness and character development centers in South Los Angeles, is extending a special membership rate to all RTD employees, announced Fuller Glover, a member of the YMCA's Board of Managers. He and Jim Bernard have worked diligently providing in excess of 20 years of their time to help youth, families, and seniors experience quality programs at the Weingart YMCA.

For further information please contact Joyce Slusher at (213) 754-3191, or Jim Bernard and Fuller Glover at Division 5.

General Counsel Retires

Powers Off to War of Roses Scene

Richard T. Powers, the venerable RTD general counsel of 16 years, retired on May 29 with, at his own wish, little fanfare from a staff that has great respect as well as affection for him.

In addition to his legal career at the District, Powers served a year's term as the general manager in 1980 until the position was filled in 1981 by John A. Dyer. "That was a very interesting experience for me," Powers said. "You begin to realize the responsibilities of that job. I had no knowledge of all the pressures involved. I was fortunate to have an outstanding staff." During the past several years, Powers had served as general manager pro tem whenever the general manager was away.

As general counsel, Powers directed the legal department and advised District staff and members of the RTD Board on legal issues relating to their policy-making role. "I got around the [Headquarters] building a lot. I made my own deliveries and got the chance to see people at all levels. In the 40 years that I've been working, I've never known a more hard-working, dedicated group. RTD people are really interested in their work. The [media] criticism notwithstanding, most are proud to work here," he said.



Sympathetic to the concerns reemployees have about the pending reorganization of the RTD, Powers said: "I think our employees will all be a necessary part of any new agency. I think a lot of the people in our departments are indispensable to the operations of a transportation system."

The position of general counsel is one of five positions appointed directly by the Board of Directors. Of his relationship with the Board, Powers said: "They have always asked me the most penetrating questions. Considering they are, for all intents and purposes, volunteers, most board members become intensely involved in the District's business. They do their homework. They put a lot of time into it."

At a farewell party held at the Headquarters Building in his honor on May 29, Powers was saluted by RTD retirees and employees including former Assistant General Manager for Operations Sam Black, James Jackson, Allen Styffe, District Secretary Helen Bolen, Equipment Maintenance Superintendent Michael Leahy, Schedules Director Art Leahy, and Assistant General Manager for Planning and Communications Albert Perdon. Acting Director of Federal and State Liaison Janis Whirlledge read a



Powers is wished a fond farewell by his staff members Olivia Ford and Gwen Keene at a reception held for him in the Headquarters Building cafeteria on May 29.

letter to Powers from Governor George Deukmejian.

In her introductions, Acting General Counsel Suzanne Gifford asked the audience that filled the cafeteria "if any among you have any objection to Richard Powers retiring speak now or forever hold your peace." All in attendance objected. Ms. Gifford characterized her boss as a man with "a quality that will never be duplicated—he makes it all look easy."

In his own assessment of his tenure, Powers (who is most always reluctant to speak about himself, and his interview with the *Headway* was no exception) said he found his work at the District to be the most outstanding and rewarding he has ever done. "I enjoyed all the work, but that's mostly been due to the people. When times were tough, it was made bearable by the people like John Dyer, Suzanne, and our Board. But when I look back on it I just remember the good things."

Before joining the District as general counsel, Powers was employed in a similar capacity with Western Airlines, Inc. He was once an airplane mechanic, a fighter pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps, counsel for legal aspects of aerospace management at the University of Southern California. He received his law degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and also attended St. Bonaventure College. He is a member of the California and New York bar associations.

Powers, 63, has eight grown children and two grandchildren. He resides in La Mirada.

Powers said he had been planning to retire in 1987 and the month of May was the most convenient for him. "It's going to feel weird after forty years of getting up every morning to go to work to know you aren't going to be getting up to go to work anymore. It seems like such a short time ago when we were all sitting on the law school steps wondering where we would end up. And, now it's all over," he mused.

Powers' plans for retirement include traveling and taking it easy. "I'm a big goof-off, so I'm going to do what comes natural, which is to do nothing." Following a trip to the east coast to visit his son, Powers plans a

trip abroad to England and Germany with his daughter. "I'm a big War of the Roses buff. I want to visit some of the battlefields and walk them."

He will devote his time to volunteer work with the homeless, disadvantaged businesses, and the elderly.

Employee's Daughter Wins Scholarship in Essay Contest

The 17-year-old daughter of Division 5 Service Attendant Marie Barnum, Tonya Dewalt, was the first-place winner in the 15th Annual Black Business Association of Los Angeles' "Salute to Youth" Essay Contest.

Tonya, a senior at Crenshaw High School, won a scholarship totaling \$1,800 for her essay entitled "Black Americans: Planning for the Challenge of the 21st Century." She competed against students from 21 other high schools in the area. She was awarded her scholarship at a special luncheon on May 13. "I did not even expect to place; it was a real surprise to me," said Tonya.

The master of ceremonies for the luncheon was KCBS-Channel 2 sports anchorman Jim Hill. Over 44 business companies support the annual event. Tonya's sponsors were the Adolph Coors Company and Pacific Telesis. RTD employees who contributed to the salute included General Manager John A. Dyer who served on the luncheon committee and Local Government and Community Affairs Representative Wanda Flagg who was listed as one of the program's supporters.

Tonya is a member of her school's Speech and Debating Team, the Journalism Club, Future Businessperson's of America, and plays the clarinet in the Crenshaw High School band. She is presently running for prom queen and was recently selected as an "Academic All-American." In her spare time Tonya sings with the Life Choir, a religious singing group, and is an aide to senior citizens.

A B-average student, Tonya plans to attend Cal State Long Beach this summer, majoring in business administration. She would like to go into real estate "to see what it's like to be a salesperson" then eventually enter the field of finance.



Division 5 Service Attendant Marie Barnum (right) proudly looks at her daughter, Tonya Dewalt, this year's first place winner of the Black Business Association of Los Angeles' "Salute to Youth" Essay Contest.

Passenger Aids Driver with Ailing Rider

Division 3 Operator Richard Lugo got a much-needed helping hand from one of his passengers on the morning of May 4 when driving Line 180 through Hollywood on La Brea Avenue.

A woman in her early twenties collapsed near the back of the bus. Lugo promptly stopped the bus and walked to the back of the bus to investigate. At that moment Lily Saenz, 22, a medical assistant at the Arroyo Vista Family Health Center who happened to be riding the bus that day because her car was in the shop, was summoned by surrounding passengers. They saw she was wearing white and assumed she was a nurse. It was the first time Lily had ever used the RTD.

Lily took the young woman's pulse but could not feel it. She then administered CPR while Lugo called the paramedics. Lily managed to revive the woman and began orienting her by asking questions. Other passengers fanned the woman to increase the circulation of air on the bus. After approximately 15 minutes the paramedics arrived and took over where Lily left off. The passenger was taken off the bus to the nearest hospital.

Lily said the whole incident was over in about 45 minutes. She knew she was going to be late for work so Lugo stopped to allow her to call her clinic. "I didn't feel nervous when it was happening," said Lily. "I hope that young woman is ok. I do feel proud because I took care of a passenger on the bus. Even the operator patted me on the shoulder and thanked me," she said.



Health worker Lily Saenz assisted Division 3 Operator Richard Lugo with a passenger in distress until the paramedics arrived. Here Lily checks the respiration of one of her patients, two-year-old Eileen Avila, at the Arroyo Vista Family Health Center in Highland Park.

Some Thoughts on Reorganization

"We trained hard—but it seems that every time we were beginning to form up into teams, we would be reorganized. I was to learn later in life we tend to meet any new situation by reorganizing, and a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralization."

—Petronius Arbiter—66 A.D.

"Someone has suggested that America's greatest gifts to civilization are three: cornflakes, Kleenex, and credit."

Service Attendant Finds the Means to Self-Sufficiency

Division 9 Service Attendant Deborah Campos, 25, is out to prove herself. She's worked hard to get where she is, and she recently debuted in a documentary film attesting to that fact. But, she's not ready to rest yet. There are goals yet to meet, and many dreams to fulfill.

Debbie, as she prefers to be called, grew up comfortably in the suburb of Alhambra far and safe from the social upheaval of the tumultuous sixties. She was the only girl in a family of four children; doted on and protected by her brothers and parents. But, something happened to Debbie when she was a sophomore in high school and the bright promise of an American middle-class life seemed dashed. At age 15 she fell in love and then became pregnant. This series of events changed the course of her life, forever.

"Both my parents were very upset with me when they found out I was pregnant," Debbie recalls. She keenly felt their loss of faith in her. "That just made me determined to graduate from high school." She did and handed her diploma over to her mother following graduation. "I went from a high school student to a mother and a student overnight—a whole lot of responsibility was thrown at me at once," she said.

As an unwed mother she qualified for the federal relief program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). She would remain on the welfare rolls for the next 10 years.

While she was completing high school, she lived with her parents. Eventually, she moved in with her boyfriend. It didn't work out and she became pregnant again. She moved back home with her children to occupy the small house behind her mother's. She had a few jobs that paid her minimum wage. "There is no way to get ahead when you are on welfare, no way to get a foothold. Everything you make has to be reported and it is deducted from your check and your food stamps."

As the sole support for her two children, Debbie realized in order to get ahead she would have to get more education. She took advantage of the welfare programs which enabled her to enroll in East Los Angeles College (ELAC).

During her second year at ELAC she noticed a poster publicizing a program known as Project Self-Sufficiency, sponsored in her area by the Chicana Service Action Center (CSAC). The project offered low-income single parents access to such services as job training, education, child care, and transportation that if used, could assist in breaking the cycle of poverty in which so many welfare mothers feel trapped.

Debbie applied and went through the intensive screening required. According to Linda Samels, director of CSAC's Project Self-Sufficiency, Debbie passed all the initial criteria with flying colors. "She demonstrated a lot of initiative and always followed through with the program requirements. You really have to be motivated to make the program work for you. That was the most difficult factor we had to assess," she said. Samels said a problem endemic to most welfare recipients of long duration is the erosion of self-esteem and self-confidence that occurs.

Debbie admitted that the program was rigorous. "Once I was accepted it was mandatory that we attend a lot of self-improvement meetings. The subjects included goal-setting, personal grooming, and child-parent issues. What always impressed me was that the program coordinators made sure you had a ride to and from the meeting," said Debbie.

Project Self-Sufficiency is a demonstration project initiated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban



Division 9 Service Attendant Debbie Campos with her 5-year-old son D.J., show off their new truck. For Debbie, working at the RTD has added to her self-respect and helped her break out of the poverty cycle.

Development (HUD) to help motivated low-income single parents improve their economic situation through employment. It was implemented May 1985 in Los Angeles County and was sponsored by the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission. The commission subcontracted to three local agencies to administer the program at the grassroots level. The Chicana Service Action Center was one of those contracting agencies in Debbie's area. In addition to helping low-income single parents get off the welfare rolls, the program also had as its purpose to create a partnership between the public and private sectors. The project was able to offer a comprehensive package of services to those who qualified. These services included transportation, child care, housing subsidies, monthly counseling meetings, post-secondary education, job training, job placement, and access to mentors in the community. In order to accomplish this, HUD released 200 low-income housing subsidy grants to be disbursed, block grant funds were issued by the County Community Development Commission, Proposition A funds were awarded to subsidize bus passes, the United Way paid for child care service, and scholarships were made available through the private sector. Subsidized bus passes were made available to the participants through the RTD Pre-Paid Sales Unit.

The project was so successful, said Belkys Garriga, Project Self-Sufficiency Development Specialist, that it received the United Nations' International Year of the Homeless Award. "Over 180 projects throughout the United States were nominated and only 17 were recognized. Of those 17, four were featured in a documentary

film prepared by HUD and shown in Nairobi, Kenya at the UN International Conference in March. Debbie, one of our star participants, was included in the film," said Garriga proudly.

The HUD film crew followed Debbie as she made her rounds in the Division 9 yard fueling the buses and driving them through the wash station. "The filmers wanted to show women in non-traditional roles that's why I was chosen," said Debbie.

Debbie has been in the self-suffi-

ciency program for two years. The program helped Debbie secure her position at the District. She still attends meetings and makes her appointments with the Project Self-Sufficiency staff. "They don't let you go just because you get a job," said Debbie. She will be linked up with a mentor in the community to help begin a support network for her as she progresses in her career.

With the District for nine months, she started at an hourly rate of \$10.20, now she's making \$11.27.

Debbie praises Project Self-Sufficiency, saying it has done much for so many women. A quiet, modest woman, she minimizes her own role in resurrecting her life. When probed a bit more she does admit to wanting improvement. "You have to want to improve yourself. I think that the people who stay on welfare think that's all they are capable of. But, along with your own attitude you also need incentives. Transportation and child care are so important to a low-income single mother; without these it is difficult to make it."

Today, Debbie feels good about herself and happy for her children, now ages 10 and 5 years. She doesn't have to wait for her welfare check to arrive in the mail. She takes pride in her self-determination and her ability to be self-supporting by her own contribution. She recently bid for mechanic's training but was turned down for seniority reasons. She plans to continue bidding until she gets in a class. She may continue a family tradition: her grandfather, Tony Campos, was a mechanic with the District for 35 years and her brother, Ernie, is a mechanic at Division 3. She will also return to school to complete her A.A. degree and "slowly but surely" get her B.A. degree.

"There were times when I felt

sorry for myself and thought life was very hard. But, at the same time I realized life was what I made of it." When she looks back on all she has accomplished, Debbie feels her efforts are best capsuled in an essay she wrote when she was in college. "The assignment was to fill the blanks of this essay that began 'I was...' and continued on with the phrase 'I am...' I completed it with 'I was once doubted, now I am looked up to.'"

Film Revival Showcased in Movie Palaces on Broadway

The Los Angeles Conservancy revives the golden age of movies in a film series showcased in the historic movie palaces of Broadway in downtown Los Angeles. Rarely shown vintage films will be featured in selected picture palaces on four consecutive Wednesday evenings, July 15 through August 5.

The series will be launched on July 15 at the Orpheum Theater, at 842 S. Broadway, a lavishly decorated theater built in 1926 by a prominent theater designer, and containing the last remaining Wurlitzer organ in theatrical use in Los Angeles. Eminent organist Gaylord B. Carter, whose career dates back to the silent film era, will accompany "Steamboat Bill, Jr.," a Buster Keaton classic, plus a Harold Lloyd short entitled "Billy Blazes, Esq." The program also includes vintage newsreels, a cartoon, and an introduction by a film historian.

Subsequent programs include:

—July 22: A night of vaudeville at the Palace Theater, 630 S. Broadway, hosted by Milt Larson of the Magic Castle and Variety Arts Center;

—July 29: Founder's Night at the United Artists, 933 S. Broadway—Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks in "The Taming of the Shrew" (1929), the only film this famous couple made together (amidst a highly publicized, off-camera feud). This film premiered at this theater in 1929. The theater was built by UA stars Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, and Charlie Chaplin, whose faces appear in murals in the lavishly ornamental interior.

—August 5 at the Los Angeles Theater, 615 S. Broadway. Modeled after the Palace of Versailles, glittering with crystal, gilt, and mirrors, this theater premiered Chaplin's "City Lights" in 1931 and was the last great movie palace built on Broadway. The feature film is "Dames" (1934), the musical with Ruby Keeler and Dick Powell. The film is followed by "Houselights Gala," a reception honoring theater architect S. Charles Lee in the theater ballroom, for an additional \$10.

Advance tickets for the film program are available from the Los Angeles Conservancy at \$10 each or \$35 for the series. Write to the Conservancy at 849 S. Broadway and include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Tickets added at the door are \$12. All programs start at 8 p.m.; doors open at 7:15. For more information on the film series or the architectural tours, call 623-CITY.

Outreach Campaign Brings the Latest to Public on Metro Rail



Businessman David Proctor, left, inspects a scale model of a Metro Rail train, as attorney David Johnson gets an update about construction underway in downtown Los Angeles from RTD's Local Government and Community Affairs Representative Lupe Valdez during a recent Metro Rail exhibit at ARCO Plaza. As Metro Rail construction gets underway downtown, the District has embarked on a new outreach campaign to inform the public about the coming transit sys-

tem. Metro Rail's first phase will run from Union Station to MacArthur Park at Wilshire and Alvarado. When the entire 18- to 20-mile Metro Rail system is completed to the San Fernando Valley, it will serve as the backbone of a 150-mile regional rail rapid transit system. The next Metro Rail exhibit is scheduled this entire month of July at Seventh Market Place, CitiCorp Center, Seventh and Figueroa in downtown Los Angeles.

Do You Know This Operator?



This is a photograph that I took of one of your drivers in approximately 1973-74. (I was a photography student at one of the Long Beach city colleges). This man was kind enough to pose for me—I got an A for the picture. It occurred to me that he would like to have this picture. I do not know his name.

Maybe your dispatcher or one of your personnel people would recognize him—he may even be retired by now (of course, he is now about 14 years older). It is a very good picture, if I do say so myself. He was a driver of

long standing with the RTD, I believe. At that time, he went in and out of Long Beach from LA, but may have been on other runs also subsequent to that.

At any rate, I do *not* want the picture back. Circulate it around, and see if you can find him—give him the picture. If you cannot find him, post it where he or someone might recognize him—it seems a good tribute to your transportation system—see how neat, pleasant, and courteous he is!

René M. O'Brien

Simulated Disaster Exercise Assisted by RTD Staff and Buses

by Herb Cranton

A mock disaster exercise was held in Pico Rivera on May 21, at 8:30 a.m. involving one Neoplan and two RTS II buses.

The program involved a bus and a flat-bed tractor trailer, loaded with simulated, toxic waste in several 50-gallon drums.

The tractor hit the rear of the bus, jack-knifed and dumped the drums in the street, causing a spill of toxic liquid, simulated by water. Passengers on the bus acted as casualties as a result of the impact of the truck colliding with the bus.

Several sheriff's vehicles, County Fire Department engines, ambulances, paramedics, and city officials responded to the scene to

assist in the rescue of the bus passengers.

The casualties were evacuated and taken to the Whittier Presbyterian Hospital, Whittier Community Hospital, and the Pico Rivera Hospital for treatment. The Rio Vista School was evacuated and students taken to the Smith Park Center where the Red Cross and disaster volunteers attended the children.

TOS Al Boctor and Operator Don De Lay from Division 9, Le Roy Smith, Division 10, and Willie Johnson, Division 3, provided excellent assistance in the exercise.

Photographer George Snow provided many still photographs to the *Headway* and the staff.



Paramedics rescue volunteers acting as bus riders in the simulated toxic waste spill.

Take the Worry Out of Summer, Work Out Plans with Kids

Have your children really out-grown the need for full-time supervision at home during the summer? And yet you find yourself worrying while you are at work? You and your children can work out agreements to give you some peace of mind, and them some playful times, this summer.

First, remind your children of all your home rules, so they can make good decisions about safety.

Discuss safe routes for them to follow when walking to the neighborhood pool, friends' homes, or the park. Do not allow short cuts. Remind them to obey signals and crosswalks.

Never allow children to swim alone.

Bicyclists should have helmets and reflective gear. Review all rules of the road.

Children who will travel to activities should have an alternative method of transportation if they miss their bus or car pool. Insist they buckle their safety belts in friends' cars.

Show children first-aid techniques.

Without scaring children, teach them ways to handle overtures from strangers on the phone, at the door, or in other places. The basic rule: never accept rides, food, or other gifts from strangers. Explain the procedure you will use if you are unable to pick them

up as scheduled.

Arrange for a buddy to accompany your children whenever possible. Know your children's playmates and their families. Keep a list of phone numbers. Ask them to notify you before leaving the house.

Let your children know they have a right to say "NO!" to any request or touching that doesn't feel right to them.

Provide an ample number of interesting activities so children will not be tempted to violate your rules in search of a way to break the boredom. And make sure you or someone you trust is always accessible by phone.

Let's Have a Barbecue!

The active lifestyle of the 80s makes cookouts popular today. All it takes is a grill, some charcoal, and any and all varieties of foods, and you've got the makings for a simple family or party cookout meal any day of the year. For an extensive number of cooking tips and recipe ideas guaranteed to transform even the novice barbecuer into a master chef, we recommend: "Hot Tips for Charcoal Barbecuing." It is presented free of charge by The Barbecue Industry Association, 7610 East Ogden Avenue, Naperville, Illinois 60540.

Sumagaysay Takes Top Spot in First OCS Chess Tournament



Electrician's Helper Primo Sumagaysay was the first place winner in the First RTD Chess Championship sponsored by the Operations Control Services Gators. A lot of excitement was generated by the sessions held to determine the winners. Primo received a check for \$65 and a trophy. Equipment Inventory Specialist/Messenger Clerk Michael Ortiz won a trophy and a beautiful chess clock donated by the Employee Activities Department. Second-place winner Michael Ortiz wanted to congratulate all the chess players who participated and thank all the sponsors for the nice prizes they donated. "I would like to invite all the chess players throughout the District to join us in next year's tournament. It's great fun!" said Ortiz. Appearing with Primo (center) are Gator Coordinator John Dover (left) and Gator Coordinator Don C. Lautenbach (right).

The First OCS-Gators RTD Chess Championship was won by Electrician's Helper Primo Sumagaysay from Vernon Yard. Sumagaysay, formerly of the Philippines, was an understudy of Grandmaster Eugene Torres.

In the tournament, Sumagaysay lost only one game out of 12. The first place prize was a trophy donated by Empire International Investments, Inc., and a check for \$65, comprising the total of the entry fees.

Second place was won by Equipment Inventory Specialist Michael Ortiz who works in the Headquarters Building. He was the only person to defeat Sumagaysay. The second place prize consisted of a trophy and a chess

clock provided by the Employee Activities Department.

TOS Mike Ball won third place. His prize was a chess book donated by Tournament Director Don C. Lautenbach of the Radio Dispatch Center.

Special thanks go to organizer Emmitt Phippen for helping to make the tournament a success along with the help of his fellow Gator coordinators John Dover and Mike Turk. The Gators plan to make the Chess Tournament an annual event. Chess players interested in a fast-play, one-day tournament at the Transportation Department's Annual Picnic, please contact Don C. Lautenbach at extension 6111.

Division 1 Holds Pool Contest, Adolph Saenz Wins First Place



Division 1 held its own pool tournament beginning in May putting all comers through a double elimination process. The top players played an average of five to six games. Operator Adolph Saenz (left) won the first place title. Adolph has been with the District for 18 years and last year won the division title in the Rodeo. He is a veteran pool player of 35 years who thinks he is an average player, but he adds, "It feels great to be Number 1." Operator Rudy Cardenas (right) won second place. He has been a pool player for 16 years. Always the good sport, Rudy said: "I could not have lost to a better man." Operator Juan Arce won third place honors. Juan was unable to make the picture-taking ceremony on June 5 because his run was waiting. Congratulations to the Division 1 Pool Champs! Coordinators for the tournament were Sam Woods and Adolph Saenz.

RTD Rider Finds Bus Trips Are Material for Her Stories

Editor's Note: Sylvia Goldman is a daily RTD bus rider who uses lines 220 and 27 to get to her part-time secretarial job. She says she sees "such wonderful little stories on the bus, even love stories. I'd miss it all if I had to drive a car. The bus is a wonderful experience." A devotee of Dixieland jazz, Sylvia says one can get to a lot of different places on the bus to hear it. She has made notes of her adventures on the RTD bus and has agreed to share them with us over the next several months. Her second story appears below.

My many trips on the Los Angeles RTD bus system present wonderfully colored vignettes, kaleidoscopic patterns—some of beauty, some evoking humor, some compelling sadness, and others—sympathetic tenderness.

Today I took the 220 on Robertson to the airport, not exactly to the airport, but to the vicinity of the Marriott Hotel on Century Boulevard, where the 3rd Annual Classic Jazz Festival of Los Angeles was taking place. I enjoyed the festival and had a lot of fun there hearing some national and international bands perform in their individualistic styles—but the highlight of the day was the bus trip.

I am a 'senior citizen'—past 70, and what impressed me, boarding the bus at 11:05 a.m. (or close to it), and the friendly, courteous reaction of this particular bus driver, whose name turned out to be Emmanuel Gladden, — to my endless questions about where I should get off, for the destination I had was the Marriott Hotel. Mr. Gladden was patient and exhibited a caring manner for the several older passengers who came on and got off the bus at various points along the way.

There were six women, some facing me, one next to me at the front near the bus driver.

At one point the lady in a bright pink-and-yellow flowered pant suit, leaned towards the kelly green-slacked, plump and white-haired

lady, and in a raised voice said, "Hello, hello—I said hello to you three times." The green-slacked lady raised her chin in slight indignation and retorted—"I said, hello—you don't hear me—maybe you need a hearing aid!" At which point the pink-and-yellow lady transferred her attention to the blue-and-white lady next to her. "Reboynishelaylom!—you ken't tuk to her."

A winsome-faced, faux-blond lady in a blue and green kept looking at me. I asked her where she found the lovely blue and green earrings, very attractive, that she was wearing. "Oh, I think they're older than I am!" she exclaimed, quite pleased that she was noticed. My professed admiration for her earrings, quite noticeably 'made her day,' and heightened her self-esteem, as she affably thanked me.

I was pleasantly surprised to note that this bus drove by the Marina and Fisherman's Village, as all these ladies left the bus there, each one, on alighting the bus, thanked the bus driver and told him to 'have a good day!' They were obviously regulars on this trip, and had a special friendly relationship with the bus driver who seemed pleased—and not impatient with their 'old-lady,' slow, cumbersome walk and very careful movements in stepping down from the bus.

The bus driver sympathized with me when I professed indignation about the so-called 'Schedules' of certain numbered bus lines. He did convey to me that there are sometimes situations beyond the bus driver's control, but also, that the people who have to do the scheduling—really need to work out some lasting solutions.

'HATS OFF TO EMMANUEL GLADDEN'—an unusual example of an RTD employee who promotes positive images for Los Angeles and the RTD transportation system.

—Sylvia Goldman

Star Crazy



HARRISON GOES HOLLYWOOD — Talking with a star is not unlikely near RTD Headquarters. Cynthia Harrison, senior secretary to the assistant general manager for operations, shows us. Richard Pryor, currently filming his latest movie "Moving" on Spring Street is seen with Cynthia between scene takes.

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Remembered Impressions from Three Weeks in China

by Roger Slagle

The Peoples' Republic of China contains more than one billion citizens — one out of every four persons on the face of the earth is Chinese. Obviously a three-week trip did not make this writer an expert on all aspects of Chinese art, architecture, and customs. This article merely highlights one visitor's most remembered impressions.

Many tourists enter China after a visit to Hong Kong, so the first major city they visit is Guangzhou (formerly Canton). Usually groups take the short train ride from Hong Kong and clear Chinese customs at Guangzhou station.

GUANGZHOU

The Chinese consider Guangzhou a culinary center. The vegetables are greener and the meats fresher than in the rest of the country and, most importantly, tastier. Although many chefs believe that Chinese cuisine incorporates the best cooking techniques, the lack of fresh vegetables and meat throughout much of China limits what even the greatest chef can create. So, if you like Chinese food, stuff yourself in Guangzhou.

In the spring and fall of each year, Guangzhou hosts business representatives from around the world in the exhibition halls of the Canton Trade Fair. The Chinese display their entire range of products — from cooking utensils to books, from railroad engines to cloisonne. The trade fair proved a good introduction to the diversity of Chinese life and industry.

XIAN

Near Xian lies an important archaeological site which contains hundreds of lifesize, individually featured terra-cotta warriors. The first emperor Qin Shi Huang Di, unified China, and later built this army to guard his tomb. The Chinese constructed a giant museum surrounding the figures to protect them as excavation continues. Considered one of the greatest archaeological discoveries in the world, the Xian figures help scientists understand the progress of civilization through history.

Ban Po Village lies nearby. This neolithic, new Stone Age, village contains well-preserved structures and skeletal remains of humans who lived 7,500 years ago.



Skeletal remains, approximately 7,500 years old, at Ban Po Village.

BEIJING

The Chinese government regards this city as a model for the successful development of other cities in

China. The main streets are wide, clean, well-paved, and filled with bicycles. At the center of the city lies Tian An Men Square, occupying more than 100 acres. The Forbidden City, the Mao Tse Tung mausoleum, and the Great Hall of the People all face the square, which has the granite obelisk at its center. On this "Monument to the Peoples Heroes," Chairman Mao's calligraphy proclaims, "The Peoples' Heroes are Immortal."

The Forbidden City, so named because citizens other than those invited by the Emperor were forbidden to enter its gates, merits an entire day of exploring. A masterpiece of classical Chinese architecture, this palace contains hundreds of rooms containing carved furniture, wall hangings and rare porcelain. Many of the rooms on the east side of the palace serve as museum galleries displaying jewelry, bronze figures and paintings.

The Mao mausoleum faces the Forbidden City across Tian An Men. The Chinese limit visiting hours in order to reduce the amount of heat and light contacting Mao's body, some say because of inexpert embalming.

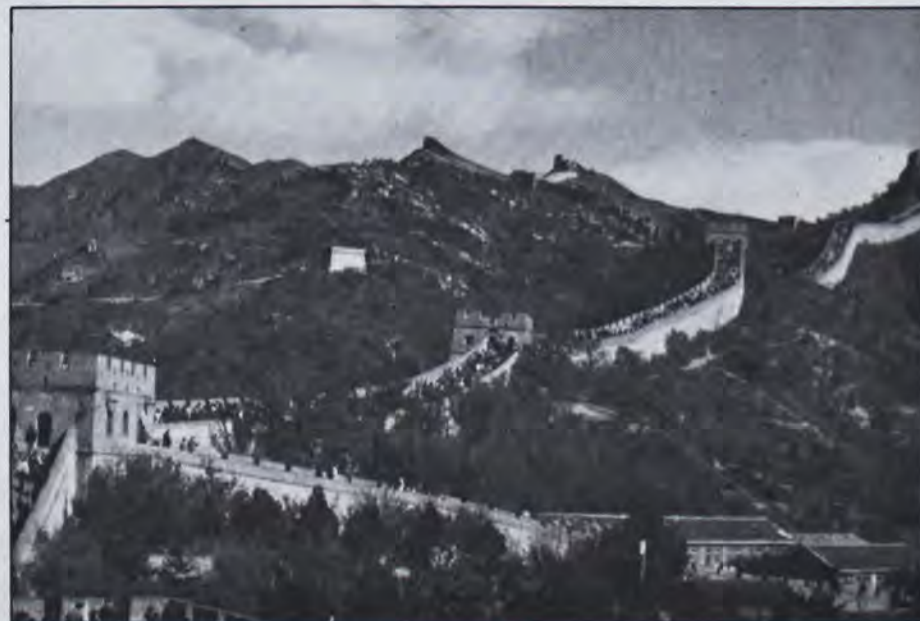
SUMMER PALACE

The Summer Palace is actually a huge complex of houses and temples hugging the shore of an artificially enlarged lake outside of Beijing. The first palace built on this site in the 12th century grew to its present size in the 18th century. One covered walkway, more than a hundred yards long, contains painted pictures of other scenic highlights in China along its entire length.

A solid marble boat built by the dowager Empress Ci Xi stands at the shore of the lake. Legend holds that the construction of this completely useless Victorian folly consumed a portion of the funds intended to maintain China's navy, contributing to the country's domination by foreign invaders.

THE GREAT WALL

The Great Wall lies northwest of Beijing, and, although most of the wall lies in ruins, three sections have been restored. Ba Da Ling is the restored section most often visited and photographed. Visitors almost always appreciate the tremendous feat achieved by Qin Shi Huang Di when he united the Chinese empire in 221 B.C. and completed the wall. Very picturesquely following the contours of the steep hills in this area, the wall then disappears into the horizon.



The majestic Great Wall stretching to the horizon.

GUILIN

The highlight of a trip to Guilin is a cruise down the Li River among towering, grass-covered pillars of limestone. These pillars, more than 100 feet tall, have been the subject of countless poems and paintings through the centuries. Often, a transparent mist drifts lazily among the pillars creating a romantic, other-worldly atmosphere.



Local villagers traveling to market on the Li River.

In Guilin, one can also see the Ludi, or Reed Flute, Cave. Similar to Carlsbad Caverns, the cave contains many brightly lit stalactites and stalagmites of dramatically unusual shapes.

SHANGHAI

As China's largest city, Shanghai bustles with commerce; almost half of all Chinese exports leave the country through this port city. Large, western-style buildings face the water-front, along an esplanade known as the "Bund." These buildings housed the embassies, businesses, and banks operated by westerners before the Communists came to power. After the Chinese Revolution in 1949, most of these buildings became government offices.

The Yu Yuan Gardens, built in the late 1500's, beautifully capture the feeling of Ming Dynasty landscape art and architecture. More than 30 pavilions stand among the trees and carefully groomed shrubs in a remarkably small, yet perceptually expansive setting.

HANGZHOU

Hangzhou surrounds a very beautiful lake known as Xi Hu, West Lake, which contains three islands

connected by graceful arched bridges. Many parks, temples, and pagodas lie within a few miles of the lake, making Hangzhou a popular spot for Chinese vacations and honeymoons.

WHEN TO GO TO CHINA

Because of China's size, no season provides ideal weather conditions in all parts of such a large country simultaneously. Nonetheless, many visitors believe September, October,



The author, Roger Slagle, at the Canton Trade Fair.

and November offer the best balance of regional climates. At whatever time one goes, he or she will experience a country filled with natural beauty, masterful architecture, and friendly people.

Roger Slagle is the federal legislative analyst in the Department of Government Affairs. He visited China in 1986.

Harvey Reappointed to Transit Board

Last year Assistant Division Manager Susan Harvey was appointed to the Transportation Commission for the City of West Hollywood. She was reappointed this January to a four-year term. On June 3, she was elected vice-chair of the Commission. This is a one-year term.

She has been with the District since March 1976 when she started as an operator. Currently she is assistant division manager at Division 7. She and her husband (who also works for the RTD) have lived in West Hollywood since 1980.



RTD Goes to the Summer Movies

Our Rating System

- *****—A classic: *The Day The Earth Stood Still*
- **** —Excellent; worth paying full price for
- *** —Average; basically does what it sets out to do
- ** —Fair; Decidedly flawed, but some good bits
- * —A waste of time
- BOMB**—*Cleopatra* with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton

Beverly Hills Cop II—**¹/₂

I'm going to make a lot of Eddie Murphy fans very angry with me, but this is just not a good movie. *Beverly Hills Cop* was surprisingly good, drawing much of its humor from the fish-out-of-water situation Detroit-based cop Axel Foley found himself in a while tracking a killer in Beverly Hills. There, his wits were what kept him on top of things, combined with a fair amount of blind luck. In the sequel, Axel returns to Beverly Hills, once again tracking a killer. This time, though, he's too much in command of the situation. This does not seem to be the same guy who bluffed his way into a suite at the Beverly Hills Hotel, or got himself thrown through a plate glass window at Gucci's. Where the humor once came from the situation itself, now the situation is a set-up for Murphy's jokes.

Eddie Murphy fans are probably pleased to have him back as Axel Foley, and the film is designed to showcase him. Unfortunately, moving the film in this direction has had an adverse effect on the supporting cast around him. Taggart and Rosewood, Axel's reluctant friends, have become caricatures. Rosewood is a complete flake, and Taggart's only concerned about his pension, even though a good friend of his has been shot by the villains. Judge Rheinhold and John Ashton are wasted in these roles, instead of contributing to the overall effort. As far as the villains, they seem a clone of the last film, with Juergen Prochnow as the evil mastermind, a little too serious for such a silly piece, and Brigitte Nielsen as his right hand. Nielsen has more screen time than Prochnow, but does little with it. The woman cannot act. She simply stands there and looks like a mannequin with her fancy clothes and expensive haircut.

Actually, Nielsen seems to be the entire film personified: mannequins who only move when it will show off Eddie Murphy, never generating any real suspense. At the end, when the final showdown comes, things turn serious, and fall flat. Nothing has prepared us for this. *Beverly Hills Cop II* is generating big dollars at the box office, but my advice is to rent the original at the video store again instead of wasting your money on an inferior sequel.

Ishtar—**BOMB**

Remember the Crosby-Hope *Road* pictures? They were silly pieces of fluff, trading on the two personalities, Crosby always getting Dorothy

Lamour, and the fact that you knew nothing terrible actually happened to them ("We have no worries, we have no fears," they sang in *Road to Morocco*. "Our contract's good for seven years."). That carefree feeling of two truly awful songwriters caught up in a situation beyond them was obviously what Warren Beatty and Dustin Hoffman had in mind when they made *Ishtar*. Unfortunately, where *Beverly Hills Cop II* was too silly, *Ishtar* is too serious in many places.

Beatty and Hoffman play, respectively, Rodgers and Clark, a pair of songwriters who get a gig at the Chez Casablanca in Marakesh. On the way there, they become embroiled in a CIA plot to catch a group of terrorists who want to overthrow the Emir of Ishtar. Accidentally, of course. From there, the plot gets sillier as Rodgers and Clark are tossed back and forth between opposing forces.

Now, this part isn't bad. In fact, once they hit Ishtar, the pace picks up considerably, and things actually work (well, most of the time). However, you should be aware that the film opens in New York, and it's a twenty-minute sequence that could have easily been cut as it's a deadly bore. The other problem is the CIA. They're cast as the villains in the piece, and while they should be taken somewhat seriously as a set up for one of the best jokes in the film, it's a bit heavy-handed at times.

As Rodgers and Clark, Beatty and Hoffman are truly silly. For one thing, they can't sing. The numbers they do are so excruciatingly bad that it's hysterical. What's more, it's obvious no one has ever told them that they stink. As a twist on regular casting, Warren Beatty is the one who can't get anywhere with girls, while Dustin Hoffman has no problem (the sequence where he meets Isabelle Adjani is the first big laugh in the picture). As Shirrah, the girl the CIA is hunting, Adjani is capable, but no great shakes. She's supposed to look nice, which is what Dorothy Lamour did in the *Road* pictures, so things haven't really changed. This is a movie that needs that patina of a few years on it for the audience who like bad movies to really appreciate it, and it will undoubtedly fare better on TV (the film is just long enough that it has to have about 20 minutes cut in order to fit a 2-hour time slot on TV. With any luck, they'll cut the New York sequence).

Star Tours—****

This isn't really a movie, but it's definitely movie related. *Star Tours* is the latest attraction at Disneyland, and it's well worth waiting in line for. From the minds of Industrial Light and Magic comes a ride that is like nothing you have ever been on before. Based on the *Star Wars* trilogy, it puts you aboard a "star-speeder" that's bound for Endor. To create the ride, ILM has used the same techniques used in training pilots in flight simulators, but made the experience uniquely their own. For the first time, we get the idea of what it would be like to be in one of those incredible dogfights that are sprinkled through the *Star Wars* films as you swoop across the surface of the Death Star and into the trench, hard on the tail of an x-wing making a bombing run. It's a very bumpy ride,

reminiscent of a roller-coaster, but far more powerful. ILM has done their usual excellent job with not only the special effects the ride requires, but also with the "advertisements" that are running in the waiting area (Lowest rates to Endor. Some restrictions may apply. See your travel agent for details). Us slightly older kids might remember the Monsanto "Mighty Microscope," which has gone to make way for this. The Mighty Microscope still lives, though, for there's a quick shot of it at one point in the ride, over to the right, complete with the little cars moving through it. That's what I mean when I speak of attention to detail. This is definitely the "E" ticket at the park this summer, and, if you're going, make an effort to take it at least once. The best time seems to be

toward the afternoon, because everyone seems to head for it as soon as they arrive, so the line peters out somewhat later in the day. Also, the best place to sit is in the back, as there you get the full effect of the ups and downs.

Ten years ago, a small film called *Star Wars* opened, taking the country by storm. Over Memorial Day Weekend, on the 10th anniversary of the film's release, George Lucas, at a science fiction convention in Anaheim, announced that he will be making the next *Star Wars* trilogy. We have no definite date or titles, but these are supposed to deal with the time before *Star Wars*, and how Annakin Skywalker became Darth Vader. Watch this space for further details. Be seeing you.

—Carolyn Kinkead

Sic Transit. . . by Carl Motley

Editor's Note: This month the *Headway* introduces a new cartoonist to our readers. He is Carl Motley, an operator from Division 10. Carl has been drawing most of his life and has developed his own distinctive

style. He plans to produce a cartoon strip entitled "Free Running Times" for this paper in the near future. Carl has been with the *District* for eight years.



Word Search

CATS

WORD LIST

- | | |
|------------|---------|
| ABYSSINIAN | KORAT |
| ANGORA | MANX |
| BIRMAN | PERSIAN |
| BURMESE | REX |
| HIMALAYAN | SIAMESE |

N N F J J Z H C B F K T A G Z G Q H W E
 A Q L U M S Q E R W K B E N W E Q T X I
 F U S J M A S G J R Y A Q L A F F B B N
 M V H F E E P S J S A X N A M I I K M Q
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 K O R A T W E H P I A S F C G N F N J I
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Time to Celebrate the Constitution

Have a Safe Fourth of July

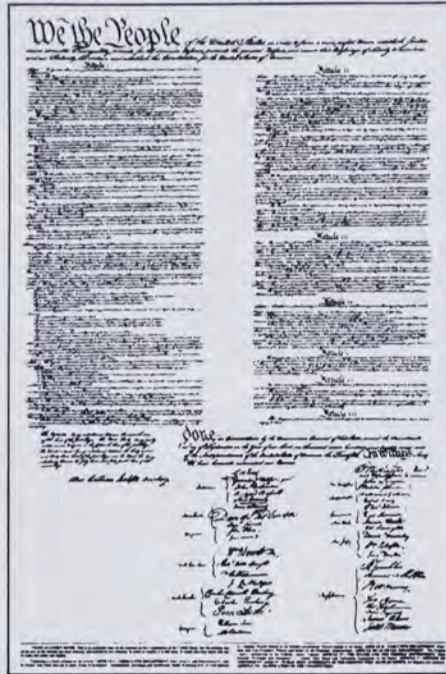
1987 is the year for Americans to begin celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the U.S. Constitution.

Why celebrate a faded piece of parchment you've probably given little thought since high school history class? Because America can't afford to relegate its Constitution to the history books. Around the world, oppressed people look to it as a blueprint of government that represents freedom and opportunity for individual achievement. Many have died—and continue to die—struggling for the freedom it protects.

The Constitution, the oldest written instrument of government in the United States, has triumphed over good times and bad. It survived the growing pains of our fledgling nation, the erosion of our nation's foundations during the Civil War, and our evolution into greatness. But most importantly, the Constitution has survived repeated challenges by those who questioned the principle of government of the people, by the people, for the people.

Two hundred years after its creation, it still stands as a bastion of freedom—freedom for which our forefathers sacrificed dearly.

Edmund Burke, the 18th century British statesman, counseled, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do



nothing." Burke's message holds no less wisdom today.

Historians say it is not war or dissension or enemies of the United States that pose the greatest threat to America's constitutional freedom; it is

the indifference of millions of people who take for granted what has come to them too easily to be fully appreciated. They warn that unless Americans develop an understanding of how the Constitution has shaped their lives, they risk losing the commitment necessary to protect its freedoms. This commitment is what ensures that the Constitution will remain strong for future generations, just as it was when presented to each generation for the past 200 years.

The celebration of the Constitution's 200th Anniversary is an appropriate time to rekindle the spirit of America's Founding Fathers. Their spirit, their vision of freedoms that have eluded mankind for most of recorded history, are what the American people can't afford to forget.

As eloquently expressed by Mark Cannon, an assistant to former Chief Justice Warren Burger, Chairman of the Constitutional Bicentennial Celebration, "We should celebrate the Constitution not only for its role in American history, but for its significance to modern government, its pivotal place in the American psyche, and its role in the continuation of our personal freedom."

For most Americans the Fourth of July holiday runs second only to Christmas in their memories of past celebrations and traditions.

It's only fitting. Not only is it the most patriotic event of the year, it's also the grandest celebration of summer. Picnics, parades, holiday trips, and the ultimate delight—fireworks—are all part of it.

Something to keep in mind over the Fourth is the need to take care of yourself. Because the good summer weather offers so many opportunities to do such a variety of things, there are many more chances to get sick or hurt right along with your holiday recreation.

Maintaining a nutritious eating pattern is important, but not all that easy in the summer. Warm weather can dull an appetite, so make the smaller amount you eat nutritious, strength-giving food. Add plenty of rest, especially if you're cramming a long drive into your three-day weekend. Watch out for the other guy, too. Summer holidays bring out more drivers, more swimmers, more boaters, more people doing more of everything.

The most typical danger to think about on this holiday relates to fireworks. Many of us no longer feel the need to light fireworks personally in order to enjoy this celebration. In Los Angeles County, it's downright illegal for John Q. Public to set match to wick. Still, it's useful to review some of the things we should and shouldn't do with fireworks.

- See to it that fireworks are stored in a safe, dry place and avoid rough handling that might damage fuses.
- If fireworks are on a stand, be sure the stand and wick are both secure before lighting.
- Make sure they are lit on pavement, away from houses, dry brush, or anything else that might ignite, and keep water on hand.
- Deposit the remains of fireworks and sparklers into a can after use.
- Have adults supervise the use of fireworks, as well as the ordering and assembling of "make-your-own" kits.
- Allow only one device to be lit at a time and, above all else, use common sense always.

Make it a safe and happy Fourth of July!

BIRTHS



Born to South Park Word Processor Anita Cooper and Mechanic B Benjamin Cooper; a daughter, their second child, Charnita, February 25, 1987 at Queen of Angels Hospital in Los Angeles. Charnita weighed 6 lbs., 5 oz., and was 19 inches long at birth. The Coopers have a 6-year-old son named Camron. At three months, Charnita came with her mother to South Park to get her picture taken. "I am crazy about her, I always wanted a daughter," said Anita. "She's my running buddy. She rides with me every morning from Lancaster."



Born to Division 18 Operator Roger Gilds and his wife Leslie; a son, David Joseph, September 25, 1986 in Harbor City. David weighed 7 lbs., 15 oz., and was 20 inches long at birth. David is the couples' first child. "He's a great kid," said Roger Gilds. "Everyone at Division 18 loves him. He's the center of attention." Leslie Gilds said David is a good baby. "He already has six teeth and is trying to walk."



Born to Typist-Clerk Annette Goodlett and Rickey Williams; a son, Donelle, October 24, 1986 at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles. Donelle weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., and was 21 inches at birth. Of her son, Annette said: "He's a joy, he makes my day!" Annette works in the administrative offices at South Park.

Born to News Bureau Secretary Adrienne Rogers and her husband Bernard; a daughter, Ashley Bernai, May 18, 1987, in West Covina. Ashley weighed 8 lbs., 13 oz. at birth.

Safety Facts . . . Believe It, or Else!

(Little-known family safety facts that you can use to amaze your friends...and perhaps to protect their lives!)

- If you're outdoors during an electrical storm, one of the safest places to be is in a car. It's even safer than your house!
- The second leading cause of

home fires is electrical extension cords. The first is misuse of smoking materials and matches.

- The number one cause of boating accidents is alcohol. The same with auto fatalities.
- Mascara is one of the best cosmetics to promote growth of danger-

ous skin bacteria. It should be discarded after three months.

- Half of all people who drown never intended to be in the water; approximately half of all drowning victims are alone; seventeen percent of all drowning victims (that's one in six) drown at home.

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Fleet Coordinator

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The Classifieds

Classified ads sent by non-employees are accepted at a cost of \$3.75 per line per month. Display ads are \$20 per inch per month. Please send payment with your camera-ready ad and make checks payable to the RTD. Send ads the first week of the month for printing in the following month's issue to Headway, RTD, 425 S. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90013. RTD employees' and retirees' ads will continue to run free.

SCHEDULE CHANGES & SHIFTING GEARS

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Acosta, Norma, from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Adelman, Anne L., from Planner to Senior Planner.

Aguilar, Benjamin, from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Ahumada, Luz M., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Amoroso, Tony, from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Barbosa, Andrew, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Blas, Evelyn, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Boeche, Marjorie E., from Ticket Office and Reports Clerk to Service Director.

Bridges, Charles J., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Calderon, Jamie J., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Camacho, Gilberto R., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Campbell, Carolyn M., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Champ, William A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Chandler, Earl B., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Chhor, Chheng T., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Condes, Hector, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Creel, Margret Y., from Service Director to Supervising Service Director.

Do, Hy Q., from Service Attendant to Mechanic C.

Douglas, Calvin L., from Operator Part-time to Operator.

Dragulin, Constantin, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Ehrich, Michael E., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Elderkin, Linda R., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Elzey, Daniel D., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Felder, Robert L., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Fitzhugh, Sandra A., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Foster, Reginald V., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Fradejas, Harry F., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Gagliardi, Rafael, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Garcia, Jose L., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Gianuzzi, Louis A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Gonzales, James D., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Gonzalez, Fernando V., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Harrison, Timmie, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

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

Jacob, Trevor H., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

James, Margaret M., from Word Processor Operator I to Materials Management Systems Support Analyst.

Jaramillo, Edward J., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Jativa, Jorge A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Jeffries, Steven E., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Lawton, Calvin R., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Le, Cuong D., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Leal, Linda, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Lee, Tat Y., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Lindsey, Cleo, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Lussier, Connie D., from Operator/Extra Transit Operations Supervisor to Transit Operations Supervisor.

Lyle, Jon D., from Stock Clerk to Storekeeper.

Macias, Henry N., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Martinez, Manuel P., from Utility A to Utility A Leader.

McKay, Gardner G., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Mena-Munoz, Marcos, from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Merriweather, Mattie, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Miranda, Daniel P., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Monreal, Yvonne, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Moore, Troy S., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Morin, Jerald R., from Transit Police Officer Trainee to Transit Police Officer.

Neri, Jose A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Padilla, Arnold S., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

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

Pehrsson, John L., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Perez, Francisco J., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Pham, Tien V., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Pingarron, Tony M., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A.

Plasencia, Estelle D., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Pohlman, John F., from Mechanic C to Mechanic B.

Puckett, Stephen R., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

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

Roberts, Roquesa D., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Runyan, Shawn J., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Sanchez, Marco A., from Property Maintainer B to Property Maintainer A.

Sanchez, Rodolfo G., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Santos, Virgil M., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Sao, Wallon, from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Simpson, Maurice, from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Soto, Susan M., from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Stange, Michael L., from Senior Equipment Maintenance Supervisor to Acting Equipment Maintenance Manager.

Tran, Tony, from Operator Part-time to Operator Trainee.

Trevino, Alfonso D., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Urban, Benedict E., from Supervising Planner to Acting Planning Manager.

Vela, Lupe Y., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Vigil, Francisco M., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Vindiola, Jesse R., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Walker, Lance A., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

Welch, Hossie, from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Whirledge, Janis E., from Legislative Analyst to Acting Director of Federal and State Liaison.

Williams, Dwayne R., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Williamson, Carl S., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Wright, Ida M., from Operator Trainee Part-time to Operator Part-time.

Yamamoto, John T., from Lead Data Processor Operator to Computer Operations Analyst.

Zamfirescu, George P., from Operator Trainee to Operator.

SHIFTING GEARS

Barclay, Betty L., began with the District on April 2, 1975, retired as a Senior Secretary on April 30, 1987.

Hironka, Hiromu, began with the District on March 16, 1957, retired as a Mechanic A Leader on April 6, 1987.

Hunter, Charles A., began with the District on September 11, 1971, retired as a Transit Operations Supervisor on April 30, 1987.

Ledesma, Esteban, began with the District on March 25, 1976, retired as a Mechanic A on April 30, 1987.

Long, John William, began with the District on March 25, 1976, retired as a Mechanic A on April 30, 1987.

Medlock, Mary L., began with the District on June 23, 1975, retired as an Operator on April 20, 1987.

Owens, George C., began with the District on July 29, 1974, retired as an Operator on April 30, 1987.

Scott, Mark J., began with the District on April 28, 1962, retired as an Operator on April 30, 1987.

Stephenson, James A., began with the District on May 23, 1974, retired as an Operator on March 10, 1987.

Weidner, Charles, began with the District on December 19, 1974, retired as an Operator on April 1, 1987.

Zeranko, George A., began with the District on April 28, 1962, retired as an Operator on May 2, 1987.

IN MEMORIAM

Banks, Paul R., began with the District on December 30, 1942, passed away on April 21, 1987.

Creer, Richard A., began with the District on February 1, 1960, passed away on April 13, 1987.

DuPaix, Elsie G., began with the District on August 6, 1951, passed away on April 11, 1987.

Kidwell, Robert A., began with the District on September 11, 1971, passed away April 12, 1987.

Lewis, Nathaniel T., began with the District on July 2, 1947, passed away on April 28, 1987.

Olsen, Roy R., began with the District on November 9, 1951, passed away on April 11, 1987.

Petersen, Russel, began with the District on November 22, 1946, passed away on May 10, 1987.

Schulz, Ann G., began with the District on May 31, 1944, passed away on March 28, 1987.

Soberg, Harry J., began with the District on December 1, 1934, passed away on April 3, 1987.

Velzy, Louis N., began with the District on September 25, 1943, passed away on March 8, 1987.

Whisner, Henry, began with the District on June 24, 1927, passed away on November 28, 1984.

Wilson, James F., began with the District on April 11, 1972, passed away on March 16, 1987.

Winer, Raymond, began with the District on June 28, 1938, passed away on May 6, 1987.

BIRTH



Born to Senior Planner Terry Moren and her husband Matthew; their first child, a daughter, Amy Marie, February 8, 1987, in Woodland Hills. Amy Marie weighed 8 lbs., 2 ozs., and was 21½ inches long at birth. Terry said she and her husband couldn't be happier with Amy who will be five months old this month. "We had some complications before her birth. She's a miracle baby, a real lucky baby, and very precious to us," said the proud mama.



Felix Rubio —
Operator of
the Year



RTD HEADWAY



RECREATION NEWS

AUGUST

- 9 Dodgers vs. Atlanta \$6.00 reserved for \$5.00
- 9 Phyllis Hyman, Stanley Clark, Ramsey Lewis - Universal Amphitheatre \$17.50 tickets for \$14.00
- 11 Dodgers vs. Cincinnati - Autographed Ball Night \$5.00
- 12 David Sanborn - Greek Theatre \$19.50
- 16 Santana - Universal \$20.00
- 21 Frank Sinatra & Sammy Davis Jr. - Greek \$40.00
- 27 Barbara Mandrell - Greek \$21.00
- 29 Dodgers vs. Montreal - Hollywood Stars Night

31 Dodgers vs. Phillies - Back-Pack Night
SEPTEMBER

- 4 & 6 Anita Baker - Greek \$26.00
- 5 Temptations & O'Jays - Universal \$20.00 for \$16.50
- 6 Dodgers vs. New York
- 12 Dionne Warwick & Burt Bacharach - Greek \$22.50
- 13 Donna Summer - Universal \$20.00

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RTD HEADWAY

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