Number 3

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March 1989

RTD's Master Computer

> LACTC Leaders

> > Day Retires

Top Operators

> Hero Stops Bus





Operator Recognition

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# RTD Ridership, Revenues Higher Than Forecast

RTD is in a highly stable and sound financial condition in mid-year of its fiscal operation, announced General Manager Alan Pegg in mid-Febuary.

This is the result of RTD ridership and passenger revenues having been higher than anticipated during the first half of fiscal year 1989. With these trends continuing through June 30, RTD will finish FY 1989 with a balanced budget, Pegg said.

"System-wide patronage was up almost 12 million riders to 201 million during the first half of FY 1989, compared to a projected 189 million passengers," he said.

As a result, RTD passenger revenues increased \$8.1 million to \$113 million, as compared to the forecast of \$104 million in the same period, he added.

Pegg noted other highlights regarding patronage and revenues since the new fare structure started on July 1, 1988. "While there was a slight decline in overall boarding of 3.9 percent, or 8.2 million passengers, there was at the same time a net increase in passenger revenue of 24.8 percent, or \$22.5 million," he said.

In recent years, the third quarter of the fiscal year has been a period when the RTD faced possible fare increases and service reductions to balance its budget by year end. This year RTD riders can look forward to the same level of service and fares through June 30, Pegg said.

## Marathon Runners Strut Your Stuff

Every year for the last four years that the Los Angeles Marathon has rerouted all our inner-city lines, the District has had a fair number of employees running in the race. Last year we ran the names and times of all those employees who cared to share that information with us. If you ran the 1989 marathon, please call the *Headway* and let us know. We would love to hear from you and brag about you in our next issue. Call 972-7165 to reserve your deserved space in the *Headway*.

# MASTER COMPUTER TO CONTROL METRO RAIL

by Greg Davy, News Bureau Representative

When Metro Rail trains start running in 1993, a real pro will be in the control room. The Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA), the computing software for the subway, is a proven veteran in the transportation business.

The SCADA program is the latest version of a welltested system which is currently running subways in Paris, Caracas, Montreal, and Mexico City. It is being brought to Los Angeles by Sondetag-TAI, a French subsidiary of the international corporation Thomson-CSF through their local subsidiary, AXYAL. This team was put together by Bechtel Civil Inc. of San Francisco, the prime supplier of communications systems for Metro Rail.

The system's "omniscient" brain, consisting of a pair of identical Gould Model 32-67 computers, is one of the major components of a \$35 million communications and central control

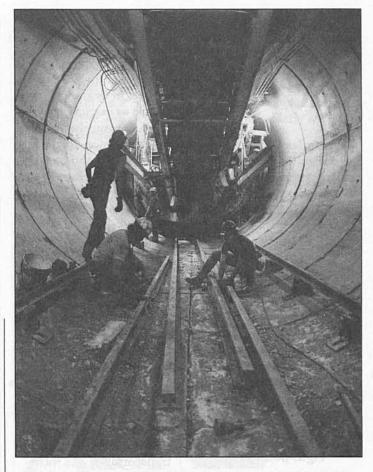
package, which includes all of the software and hardware necessary to monitor and operate the trains and peripheral systems.

SCADA will use thousands of sensors throughout Metro Rail's first 4.4 miles of tunnels and five stations to monitor conditions. It will then display the information for humans to use to make decisions. All components of Metro Rail, from huge ventilation fans and sprinkler systems to the amplifiers in station loudspeakers, will be under its constant scrutiny.

The information gathered from the array of sensors will be displayed on TV screens where operators can make minute-to-minute adjustments in system operations.

As an example, braking and acceleration rates for trains approaching and leaving stations can be reduced during off-peak hours. That saves energy and, therefore, money.

The length of time that



doors are held open at each station can be adjusted to improve efficiency. Train speed and the distance maintained between trains can be altered.

But SCADA will not be the ultimate authority on the trains. A second hardware system, the Automatic Train Control System, will monitor the position and speed of trains at all times. If an operator using SCADA should attempt to make an operating change that is contrary to safety parameters, this automatic system will not allow the change to be made.

SCADA will stay on the job even during emergencies. For example, if there should be systemwide loss of electrical power, the Metro Rail communication system has eight hours of battery backup. The automatic train control system and lighting in stations and tunnels are backed up for two hours, sufficient time to move trains to exits and evacuate.

Because SCADA has been improved during years of operation in other cities, the Los Angeles version of the system will have more comprehensive safety features than any of its predecessors.

When Phase 2 construction begins, the SCADA system will be expanded to cover all 16 passenger stations along 17.3 miles of track.

# Reed Takes Chair of LACTC

Los Angeles County Supervisor Pete Schabarum, outgoing chairman of the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC), passed the gavel January 11 to Santa Monica City Councilwoman Christine Reed.

Supervisor Ed Edelman was elected unanimously as the LACTC vice chairman for 1989. In taking over as chairwoman, Reed pledged

...Reed pledged to

implement the

eight-point plan

worked out between

the LACTC and

the District...

to implement the eight-point plan worked out between the LACTC and the District to streamline county transit services.

She also vowed to
ensure the full implementation of the newly developed
San Gabriel Valley Transit
Zone, which is designed to
take over 19 RTD lines.
Other changes in this year's
LACTC membership include
the addition of Los Angeles
City Councilman Nate
Holden, who will replace
Councilman Mike Woo.

## **LACTC Gets New Head**

Neil Peterson, 44, most recently the interim general manager of the AC Transit District in Oakland, was named as executive director of the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) on January 25.

In announcing the appointment, LACTC Chairperson Christine E. Reed said, "Mr. Peterson brings over 20 years of experience in building and managing organizations, particularly those which are people intensive and service oriented. We have found the right person to lead the Commission in the years ahead."

Peterson ran the Seattle METRO system from 1977 to 1983. METRO is the regional agency responsible for planning and operating transportation and wastewater services in the Seattle area. In 1983, the system was recognized by the American Public Transit Association as the nation's best-managed transit district. Seattle has an extensive bus fleet including the largest fleet of articulated buses in the United States and operates a trolley system which includes monorail and street cars.

In a press conference following his appointment, the new executive director listed various reasons he accepted the multi-year contract with the LACTC. Among those cited were the transportation challenges posed by Los Angeles. Another influence was proposed state legislation

that could merge the LACTC and the RTD. He also commented that he hopes to continue the "deescalation" of the rivalry between the two agencies.

Peterson said he would allocate local tax money to the RTD and several smaller public bus systems in ways to encourage competition within the public sector. He sees this as a means to catalyze the "balkanized" Los Angeles transportation system into better serving the public.

Peterson is a former vice president and member of the Executive Committee of the American Public Transit Association. He is a graduate of Williams College, and holds a masters degree in public and international affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. Peterson has served as city manager for New Brunswick, New Jersey, and a division director for the state of Washington's Department of Social and Health Services. Following his success at Seattle's METRO, Peterson headed his own company, Executemps, which provided interim management services to private companies and government agencies. While the interim manager of the AC Transit District in Oakland, he is credited with improving performance and reversing a projected \$7 million deficit into a surplus. Prior to his tenure, Oakland's poor

performance and financial mismanagement led to a grand jury investigation.

His five-year contract with the LACTC includes a base salary of \$125,000 per year and, among other benefits, a housing allowance to help relocate his family from Seattle to Los Angeles.

## Annual Report Issued for FY 1987-88

The District published in January the annual report covering its operational and financial highlights for fiscal year 1987-88.

The 16-page, two-color booklet reports on key events in the progress of Metro Rail construction and bus operations, plus financial statements and overviews of the past fiscal year.

"This annual report reflects a year of transition at RTD," said General Manager Alan Pegg. "Many positive changes occurred during FY 1988 and this booklet highlights them."

The attractively packaged report was prepared by the Marketing and Communications
Department and distributed to employees, local government and community leaders, public transit agencies, and libraries. If you have not received your copy, contact the Marketing Department at (213) 972-4400.

# **Director Day Retires from RTD Board**

RTD Board Director John F. Day announced that he will retire from his position on the RTD Board by virtue of the fact that he will not seek re-election in April to the Glendale City Council. Mr. Day's seat on the council allowed him to represent the Corridor C subcommittee of the City Selection Committee on the RTD Board.

Mr. Day was first elected to the Board in 1983 representing the District's northern service area which includes the cities of Glendale, Burbank, San Fernando, Hidden Hills, La Canada-Flintridge, Agoura, and Westlake Village.

During his tenure on the Board, Mr. Day has committed much of his time and efforts toward upgrading the District's accessible service. Through his stewardship, accessible transportation has become a priority item among the District's goals and objectives.

When Mr. Day was first elected to the Board, the District was operating accessible buses on 147 routes. Today, the District has well over 1,781 accessible buses. Out of 194 total lines 180 are designated accessible routes.

In April, Mr. Day will have been on the Glendale City Council for 12 years. "I think that's long enough, maybe too long. It will be good to have new blood, new ideas to keep the vitality of the city up," Mr. Day said.

Last year Mr. Day was appointed to the American Public Transit Association's



RTD Director John F. Day retires from service on the Board.

Task Force on Elderly and Disabled Services. The task force assessed the status of the transit industry's service to the elderly and disabled and the systems' compliance with federal regulations.

"I want to continue my interest in the elderly and the disabled from a mobility standpoint," he said, "and in other areas that affect their daily living. I will miss the ability to influence the people in transit as a member of the APTA task force. I have been to Washington, D. C. to develop policy on this. I regret not being able to see this through." Mr. Day is also concerned that the progress made by the elderly and disabled on the Board be continued. "I would like to see the Ad Hoc Committee on Accessible Service be made a permanent committee. It developed out of the realization that we had to do more than we were doing."

In addition to his involvement in local government, Mr. Day is an active member of the Holy Family Catholic Church. In recognition of his services to the church, he was awarded the papal decoration of Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, an ancient order of knighthood dating back to the year 100. He is also an active member of the Sierra Club.

"I want to say that I am not retiring by any means, I'm just changing fields. I want some input in the state park systems and to get involved in other environmental issues. My family

uses state parks a lot; I want to make whatever contribution I can to make them more accessible to the public. We could make our park grounds more accessible to the elderly and disabled."

Mr. Day also admits that by changing fields he hopes he will have more time to play with his family. Two years ago, Mr. Day married Charlene Thee.

"It is with great regret that I have to leave this organization. You have got so many good people here who are not recognized, and should be. My going is bittersweet."



The awards for the Operator Recognition Program for the month of December 1988 were announced in January 1989. The presentations included the Manager's Award given to full-time operators.

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 succeeding in their pursuit

are listed below.

## Manager's Award Recipient

3201 Curtis J. Wyrick Cruz C. Bobadilla 3203

Teddie E. Cheaves 3205

3206 Melvin E. Braxton Reginald V. Foster 3207

3208 Jerrold B. Abramson

3209 Arnold L. Van

Gordon

3210 Don W. Hicks

3212 George W. Dailey

3215 David E. Hemion 3216 Theodore R. Long

3218 Clyde Corbitt

# **Moving the Post Office**

The U.S. Postal Service located on Alameda Street in downtown Los Angeles, otherwise known as Terminal Annex, moved lock, stock, mailboxes, and its 4,500 employees on February 18. But, they couldn't have done without the RTD.

The new facility, known as the General Mail Facility

...they couldn't have done it without the RTD

or GMF, is located at 7001 S. Central Avenue at the corner of Florence Boulevard, formerly occupied by the Goodyear Plant.

Shortly before the big moving day, RTD Board President Gordana Swan-



Lining up for information before their big move, from left to right: (partially seen) James Harris, USPS manager of GMF operations; Walter Turner, GMF Tour-2 Superintendent; RTD President Swanson; Neidra Sanichan, USPS transportation analyst; Ed Langer, and David Wilson. son, and Marketing Representatives David Wilson and Ed Langer set up shop in the lobby of Terminal Annex dispensing bus schedules and giving postal employees information about how they could get there from here, and from their homes to the new GMF. They also consulted with Neidra Sanichan, the Postal Service's transportation requisition analyst, who is coordinating the parking and transportation needs of the postal workers at the new GMF.

While all the major production components of Terminal Annex have been relocated to the GMF, the lobby support area of the old post office remains open for business.

## Vaughn Named Operator of the Month



Operator Thomas Vaughn.

Division 6 Operator Thomas Vaughn was chosen the Operator of the Month for November, 1988.

Vaughn has received the maximum number of merits in his career, and has had only one avoidable accident in the last 10 years. Because of his exemplary record, Vaughn earned the status of line instructor in 1973 and has received numerous letters of commendation.

"Thomas Vaughn is a model employee," said General Manager Alan Pegg. "His outstanding record of service over the years sets a standard of excellence for all our operators to follow."

Vaughn operates Line 414 through Santa Monica and Malibu. He lives with his wife, Lillian Rose, and their four children in Santa Monica. He is a movie trivia buff who spends much of his spare time viewing films as well as traveling.

## **Blood Donor Honor Roll**

The American Red Cross issues this honor roll to thank those donors listed below whose efforts enabled many surgery patients, cancer patients, and traumatic injury victims to recover from life-threatening situations. The next blood drive will be held March 10 at the Headquarters Building. Give the gift of life!

Jeannette Bell Susan M. Carter Nancy E. Chester Peggy Claiborne Darlene D. Daniels

Susan J. DeSantis Hillman Richard B. Dimon Claire Fitzgerald Joseph L. Gay Frank A. Harris Robert T. Ketring Vicki R. Louis Myles Nelligan Cynthia J. Pollan Joann Y. Rico Max Salazar Shaker M. Sawires Nancy L. Spear Joshua C. Torres Laraine C. Webb Joel Woodhull David A. Carroll Liliana Chavez Richard Christie

Sharon L. Cooper Yvon S. Davis Sandra Diggins Ramona C. Escareno Ellen G. Friedman Suzanne B. Gifford Daniel Ibarra Robert Larob Larry W. Morris Maria Palomino Theresa Ramirez Jacquelyn A. Roberts David H. Sanson Bruce E. Shelburne Vasan R. Srinivasan Luanna M. Urie Deborah K. Williams Allen S. Yeh Max Zollman

# Vasquez Chosen Info Operator of the Year



Telephone Information Operator of the Year Alicia Vasquez.

Alicia Vasquez was named the Telephone Information Department's Operator of the Year for 1988. Ms. Vasquez has been with the department for 3 years. In that time she was selected Operator of the Month twice.

Her perfect attendance, numerous commendations, and system expertise, in part, garnered her this honor. Other attributes that her supervisors say contributed include her conscientiousness, politeness, and unflappable attitude when dealing with the crankiest customers. "She's the kind of person you want to talk to when you call up for information," said Supervisor John Cohen. "She's one of the most generous and giving persons in the department. She really cares, she has a beautiful personality," said Supervisor Will Beard.

A native of Juarez, Mexico who was educated in "She's the kind

of person

you want to

talk to when

you call up

for

information..."

El Paso, Texas, Ms. Vasquez is masterfully fluent in English and Spanish and dispenses RTD information in both languages depending on the needs of the customer.

Ms. Vasquez resides in La Puente with her husband and two sons, Emmanuel, 11, and Adrian, 9.

# "Fresh Savings" Kick Off At Glendale Galleria

Entertainment, prizes, and an appearance by Alitzah Weiner of NBC's "My Two Dads" helped officially launch RTD's "Fresh Savings" discount shopping program on January 28 in the Glendale area.

Festivities began in the Center Court of the Glendale Galleria. Miss Weiner, who has a recently released single featuring the songs "Primera Vez" and "La Consentida," and often performs in Spanish, sang and danced for the shoppers. Also dancing and singing hits from the '60s were Elisabeth Howard's Hollywood Hotshots.

Free gifts and door prizes from RTD and cosponsor Santa Cruz Skateboards were available to audience members. A skateboarding video, "Wheels of Fire," was shown along with RTD's "Clean Team," an anti- graffiti music video.

The free

"Fresh Savings"

directory...

lists L.A. County

merchants that

offer discounts as

a bonus

to students

The free "Fresh Savings" directory, now available at participating merchants and aboard RTD buses lists L.A. County merchants that offer discounts as a bonus to students who buy the RTD monthly bus pass.

# Free Discount Coupons to Circus Vargas

RTD bus passengers can save \$2 each on tickets to Circus Vargas. The circus began playing in Los Angeles County on February 10 and will continue through April 23 at numerous locations within Greater Los Angeles.

RTD riders can find discount coupons in takeone brochures on buses and in District customer service centers. The coupons are good for \$2 off each for up to four "front-preferred" tickets.

With one coupon, for example, a family of two adults and two children would pay \$34, a savings of \$8 from the regular price of \$42. Regular adult prices for front-preferred seats are \$12.50 each, for children \$8.50 each. Larger groups can enjoy the discount by presenting more than one coupon.

# OMMENDATIONS



Certificates of Merit were presented to the December 1988
Employees of the Month at the January 26, 1989 Board of
Directors' meeting by RTD Director John F. Day. Those
employees included, front row, the first three from left to
right: Information Operator Raquel Pena, Division 9306
Mechanic A Jose Medrano, Division 12 Operator Jose
Aguirre, and Division 12 Manager Eugene Hamilton. Back
row, from left to right: Director Day, General Manager Alan
Pegg, Division 6 Manager Jim Lukens, and Director of
Customer Relations Robert Williams.



Mechanic A Hector Covarrubias was selected the CMF-Maintenance Employee of the Month for October 1988. Mr. Covarrubias is an excellent mechanic with a high degree of knowledge and skill. He possesses a positive attitude toward his job and supervision, accepts all job assignments cheerfully, and completes them in a timely manner. The quality of his work is excellent. Not afraid to make a decision, Mr. Covarrubias can be counted on for displays of initiative. Mr. Covarrubias is the relief leader for the Running Repair Shop and has been with the District for 9 years.



Property Maintainer A Leader George F. Pelley was named the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for December 1988. Mr. Pelley is especially commended for the excellent manner in which he performs his duties and his willingness to accept additional responsibilities. He manages to keep trouble calls to a minimum by doing additional preventive maintenance checks and follow-ups between scheduled preventive maintenance periods. Mr. Pelley is assigned to El Monte and has been with the District for 4 years.



The RTD Transit Police celebrated as two of their newest members graduated from the rigorous 16-week program at the Rio Hondo Police Academy on January 13, 1989. Transit Police Officers Angel F. Frias and Eduardo Luevano were presented their certificates at a ceremony held at the Rio Hondo campus. Both officers were members of the Academy Class No. 91. All smiles after the graduation were, from left to right: Acting Assistant Police Chief Sharon Papa, Officer Frias, Officer Luevano, and Sgt. Gene McRiley.



Senior Program Control Analyst Donald Wong was selected Program Control's (of Transit Systems Development [Metro Rail]) Employee of the Quarter. Mr. Wong has consistently performed in a superior manner on all his duties. He greets all project personnel with a friendly attitude and is always willing to assist with microcomputer and mainframe computer questions. He has made an outstanding contribution to the Metro Rail Project in the development of simple-touse, powerful, and costeffective microcomputer project management systems.



**Electronic Communications** Technician Leader Alejandro Bigno was chosen the Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month for November 1988. Mr. Bigno is commended for coordinating a very heavy workload in his section and for assisting the junior technicians assigned there. He has been the depot leader for several years and always performs his tasks in a professional manner. He treats others with respect and courtesy and can be depended on to perform well under any circumstances.



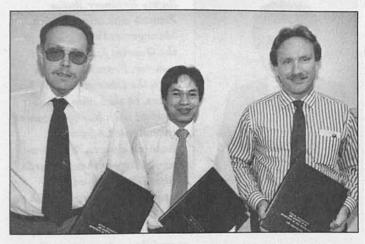
Safety Engineer Rufus Francis was selected Risk Management's Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter. Francis has been with the District for 1-1/2 years. In that time he has worked with bus operators to investigate and assess hazards detected by operators. Many of these hazards have been referred to appropriate agencies such as Caltrans for correction. He has also worked with Stops and Zones to ensure safer placement of bus stops. Francis was presented with a check for \$100 from the Risk Management bonus fund.

## ...Commendations

... continued from page 9



The Department of Risk Management honored other department personnel for helping Risk Management meet their objectives in the last quarter. These employees included Susan Hillman from Personnel for her assistance in controlling workers' compensation claims; Don Patterson from Customer Relations and his detection assistance to the Pl/PD Fraud Unit; Bill Hesser from Payroll for his help in making it look so easy; and Terry Padgitt for coordinating Risk Management's data processing needs with MIS. From left to right: Director of Risk Management Barbara Anderson, Susan Hillman, Don Patterson, Ken Irvin, representing Hesser, and Terry Padgitt.



Risk Management singled three employees out for special recognition of achievement during the quarter. They included, from left to right: Safety Specialist John Vandercook, Security Recorder Dan Hon, and Data Technician Tom Forstreuter.



## Thanks For A Job Well Done!

Division 3201 Jackson, Randolph Perez, Elvira Division 3203 Bunch, James E. La Curan, James R. Division 3205 King, Daniel G. Pierce, Felix Division 3206 Collins, Mary Greider, Laurie L. Division 3207 Feldra, Larry F. Koltes, Irene E. Parker, Christopher Washburn, Dennis Division 3208 Blumberg, Arthur Castrellon, Jose Clancy, F. T. Smythe, William Division 3209 Cushman, William S. Santos, James D. Division 3210 Hubler, Michael Salas, Tony N. Division 3212 Coleman, James A. Division 3215 Hernandez, Ruben Hill, Timothy Niggl, Sharon A. Perez, Rafael Williams, Barbara Williams, Lester E. Division 3216 Pages, Carlos Powell, Thomas Division 3218 Doakes, Nathaniel W. Williams, Effie

Gentlemen:

I got on the bus at Kaiser Hospital in Panorama City and was greeted by a very friendly driver by the name of Rafael Perez.

I was most impressed by his kind and friendly manner to all the passengers. I was sitting at the front of the bus, so I was able to see and hear all the people who were arriving and leaving.

It really made my day, after leaving Kaiser, to see such a kind attitude, and I

It really
made my day...

wanted you to know this.

Then I changed to a No. 420 bus on Burbank Blvd. to my final destination on Corteen and Chandler Blvd. I was only on this bus a very short while but long enough to realize that Steve Kishner also was kind and helpful to me.

Please let these two young men know that it was good to ride on their route.

Wishing you and all your staff a very happy and healthy New Year, with Peace and prosperity for us all.

> Sincerely yours, Mrs. Monty Isaacs

continued on page 11...

# **Employee Rider Brings Bus to a Stop on Freeway**

For Telephone Information Operator Nancy Spear, 44, Christmas Eve day meant, amid the usual hectic holiday activity, getting to work downtown by 2:30 p.m. It was raining the morning of December 24, 1988. Looking out the window, Nancy knew she'd have to

make an earlier start to get to work on time. She had no way of knowing then that by taking that earlier bus her courage and cool head would lead to her commanding that bus in order to avert what could have been a certain freeway disaster.

Nancy takes line 401

... continued from page 10

Dear Mr. Horn:

Last Wednesday December 28 I was waiting for the 220 bus on Pershing and Manchester that arrives at 6:51 a.m. I happened to turn and saw a bus driver (Daniel King) walking toward me. He told me that he had trouble with his bus and had to get another one and had to drive on Manchester instead of Pershing. As he was making the turn on Pershing he saw me waiting at the bus stop. He went out of his way, crossed the street and told me it was too cold to wait for an hour before the 7:50 bus came. I was really surprised and thanked him for his consideration.

I get off at Wilshire and several times the Wilshire bus operator would pass me up because he was late even though his bus was not crowded. I asked the considerate driver for his name but he said forget it so I took his number. He is very clean in appearance. I want to compliment the personnel office in using good judgment in hiring people like him.

> Yours truly, Jean Stark

Gentlemen:

This is to bring to your attention the following facts with regard to Operator James E. Bunch on the evening of November 23, 1988:

- 1. He is courteous and greets all boarding passengers with a pleasing smile.
- 2. He is very considerate, especially to aged passengers and answers their questions in a very polite manner.
- 3. He is cheerful and does not make abrupt stops.
- 4. He became the subject of my conversation with other passengers who got off at the intersection of 1st Street and everyone agreed that the bus driver is well-bred and is worthy of commendation.

I don't know if my copassengers did find time to write to you about Mr. Bunch. I speak for myself and I definitely feel that this is well worth writing about.

Thank you for your kind attention.

> Yours sincerely, Luis De Santos



What does a hero look like?—Nancy Spear at her console in Telephone Information.

everyday, which travels down the Pasadena Freeway, to get to work. That day she boarded bus 4308 being driven by Operator George Perteet. He drove at a reasonable speed for a rainy day, approximately 35 to 40 miles per hour. "There are a number of dangerous curves on the Pasadena Freeway that are made more hazardous when it rains," said Nancy. She was apprehensive, particularly, about the Avenue 64 turn. "We were in the far left lane as we approached it. When it rains there are always accidents in this area. Sure enough, as we got near the Avenue 64 on-ramp and the Santa Fe railroad bridge I saw that a car had spun out in the far right lane."

Operator Perteet had noticed it as well and braked as the traffic slowed. However, this time as he braked, the brakes locked causing the bus to skid. Perteet maneuvered the bus away from traffic toward the left embankment. The

sudden movement caused the bus to rock violently. "I was afraid the bus was going to tip over," Nancy said. As she sat three seats opposite the driver with her back to the window, she noticed that his foot was not being applied to the brake. "I called to him. I asked him if he was ok, but I got no response."

Nancy sprang to action. Running up to the driver's seat she saw that Perteet was unconscious. Apparently when the bus was rocking, Perteet's head had been soundly knocked against the window. When Nancy made the discovery the bus was still moving. She immediately put her foot on the brake. Another passenger took the driver away from the seat. "I think the driver was doing his best before he hit his head," said Nancy.

Nancy picked up the radio phone. She fumbled a moment in frustration

continued on page 12...

# ...Employee Rider ...continued from page 11

because she did not know how to use it, but after a few minutes found the lever you depress to activate it.

"I got the Dispatch
Center and talked with Billy
Morton and Charlie Jenkins. At first they couldn't
understand me, then they
couldn't locate me. But
eventually, they calmed me
down and told me how to
secure the bus." The
dispatchers alerted the
paramedics, highway patrol,
and the transit police.

Fortunately, only one passenger and the driver sustained injuries, the majority of the 25 passengers, although excited by the incident, were in good physical shape.

With the bus secured, Nancy was then able to administer first aid to Operator Perteet. "By then the paramedics, highway patrol, Transit Police, and road supervisors were there. I think the dispatchers were very helpful, I couldn't have done it without their help. They asked me if I would like to start driving," she said with a proud smile. The road supervisors took Operator Perteet to the hospital.

"TOS Georgina Cervantes was great. She drove the bus off the freeway and calmed everyone down. She spoke in English and Spanish. All the passengers were transferred to another bus, and all of this took place within an hour's time," she said. In spite of all the excitement, yes, Nancy made it to work on time.

Afterwards, Nancy admits to feeling unsettled and anxious. "But, I was relieved that nothing worse had happened and that the driver was all right."

Operator Perteet is fine and back to driving; and, so is the bus.

In a special letter of commendation, Nancy was credited with avoiding a far more serious situation by Director of Transportation Leilia Bailey:

"Your actions took a great deal of courage and stamina. The fact that you were able to provide the dispatcher with information regarding the incident helped to ensure a prompt response by the emergency personnel....The quality of our service depends on the work of everyone. Your quick action in averting a major incident demonstrated the finest type of team effort. You are a credit to the District."

When the emergency arose, Nancy said she was aware of a great sense of alarm, "because we thought the bus would tip over from the rocking. But for some reason I was able to call up this calm focus. It didn't seem courageous at the time,...just logical. Something had to be done. I am glad to have responded so quickly." This from a woman who had never driven a bus in her life before that fateful day.

Nancy has worked in the Telephone Information Department for one year and in that time has been selected as an Operator of the Month for September 1988. She says she enjoys talking to people and helping them deal with the fundamental aspects of their lives.

Nervous with all the



Bray, Bobby N., began with the District on July 31, 1964, retired as an Electrician Leader on January 7, 1989.

Dacosta, Philip K., began with the District on January 16, 1975, retired as a Bus Operator on October 20, 1988.

Dailey, James R., began with the District on September 21, 1963, retired as a Bus Operator January 4, 1989.

Diamond, Elizabeth A., began with the District on October 9, 1978, retired as a Bus Operator on December 1, 1988.

Evans, Will R., began with the District on May 18, 1973, retired as a Bus Operator on November 3, 1988.

Hammond, Joe L., began with the District on October 26, 1987, retired as a Bus Operator on December 27, 1988

Hardgrow, John F., began with the District on November 3, 1962, retired as a Bus Operator on January 3, 1989.

Kilgore, William R., began with the District on July 21, 1972, retired as a Bus Operator on January 9, 1989.

Lego, Ted E., began with the District on June 20, 1974, retired as a Bus Operator on September 24, 1988.

Marshall, Robert, began with the District on April 4, 1976, retired as a Bus Operator on August 9, 1988. Mason, Maso, began with the District on December 18, 1965, retired as a Bus Operator on December 19, 1988

Nunez, Aurora L., began with the District on December 18, 1978, retired as a Bus Operator on January 3, 1989.

Patton, James A., began with the District on August 8, 1964, retired as a Bus Operator on January 3, 1989.

Peretz, Joshua, began with the District on May 6, 1961, retired as a Transit Operations Supervisor on January 3, 1989.

Pflughoft, Robert H., began with the District on November 4, 1974, retired as a Transit Operations Supervisor on December 23, 1988.

Ristitch, Raymond, began with the District on November 9, 1978, retired as a Bus Operator on November 16, 1988.

White, James K., began with the District on September 4, 1957, retired as a Transit Operations Supervisor on December 31, 1988.

attention she was getting, Nancy made it clear that the incident was totally unexpected. "I've never done anything like this before." She hopes she doesn't have to again and thinks that mishaps such as this can be prevented if warning signs were placed on the freeway, alerting drivers to slow down when approaching the more precarious curves.

# SCHEDULE CHANGES

Alexander, Vincent, from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

Aparicio, Richard J., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

Ballard, Famale R., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

Banks-Byrd, Elnora D., from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time.

Barberic, Shari V., from Transit Police Investigator to Transit Police Sergeant. Campos, Ernest A., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A. Castellanos, Ralph J., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

Childress, Clorinda, from Typist Clerk to Accounts Payable Clerk.

Chmielewski, Norman, from Storekeeper to Materiels Management Systems Supply Analyst.

Christiansen, Kurt E., from Planning Assistant to Planner.

Cortez, Rodolfo U., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

**Durant, Leslie S.,** from Project Engineer to Systems Engineering Manager.

Eutsey, Ronald D., from Transit Police Sergeant to Transit Police Lieutenant. Garcia, George T., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Part-time.

Gilpin, Jami L., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time. Goms, Dennis W., from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Graves, Patrick V., from Mechanic A to Mechanic A Leader.

Greene, Scott D., from Planning Assistant to Planner.

Guerrero, Antonio, from Mechanic C to Mechanic B. Henderson, Sandra R., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

Hubbell, Cathy R., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

Jones, Linda A., from Bus
Operator Trainee Part-time
to Bus Operator Part-time.
Kindred, Gea R., from Bus
Operator Trainee Part-time
to Bus Operator Part-time.
Medina, Luis M., from Bus
Operator Trainee Part-time
to Bus Operator Part-time
to Bus Operator Part-time.
Mockler, Michael T., from
Systems Electronic Communications Technician to
Electronic Maintenance
Supervisor I.

Mota, Ramiro E., from Bus Operator Trainee Full-time to Bus Operator Full-time. Padilla, Andres J., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Part-

Patron, Gonzalo, from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time. Petersen, Warren G., from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

Pierovich, Blaise, from Bus Operator Trainee Parttime to Bus Operator Parttime.

Pollan, Edward B., from

Supervising Systems
Analysis Engineer to
Systems Engineer &
Analysis Manager.
Rodriguez, Everett J.,
from Transit Police Officer
to Transit Police Investiga-

Reyes, Paz L., from Information Clerk to Accounts Payable Clerk.

Seja, Raymond, from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time. Senteno, Sandra C., from Service Attendant to Service Attendant Leader.

Shannon, Lenard D., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A. Singh, Manjit H., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time. Soto, Bernardo V., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

Stonehouse, James L., from Transit Police Officer Trainee to Transit Police Officer.

Thompson, George W., from Transit Police Officer to Transit Police Investigator.

**Trujillo, John G.**, from Truck Driver/Clerk to Stock Clerk.

Villanueva, Jose G., from Bus Operator Trainee Fulltime to Bus Operator Fulltime.

Watson, Travion M., from Service Attendant to Service Attendant Leader.

Williams, Deborah D., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

Wong, Timothy R., from Mechanic B to Mechanic A. Yepiz, Ubaldo E., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time. Zamorano, Miguel A., from Bus Operator Trainee Part-time to Bus Operator Part-time.

# About the Cover

Those attractive people on the cover are two valued employees from Division 1 who just received their honors from the Operator Recognition Program.

Patricia Guerrero has been driving for two years and was just presented with a Meritorious Operator award. Patricia lives in Rowland Heights. She has five children and says she loves to drive, "honestly."

"Those attractive people
on the cover are two
valued employees...
who just received their
honors from
the operator
recognition program."

Patricia used to run a day care center before she came to the RTD which probably gave her just the perspective she needs when dealing with the public. Eugene H. Williams has been an operator for 29 years and accepted his award for Outstanding Operator. Eugene says he likes people that's why he's been able to drive all these years. "People are a challenge, no two are alike," he said. Eugene is retiring next year and hopes to indulge in his favorite sports which include hunting and fishing. RTD salutes all its Outstanding and Meritorious Operators!

# **Top Operators for 1987/88**

Full-time and part-time operators during the period of July 1, 1987 through June 30, 1988 who qualified were issued awards during Winter 1988 in the categories of Outstanding Operator, Meritorious Operator-Attendance, and Meritorious Operator-Operations.

In order to receive the **Outstanding Operator** award, the most exacting standard, qualifying operators should have had no more than 2 instances of sick, missouts, or unexcused absence totaling 5 days. They must have had no suspensions, no chargeable accidents, no chargeable passenger complaints, no chargeable safety violations, no more than one minor rule violation, and no indefinite leave during this period. Outstanding full-time operators received a cash award of \$150 along with a framed certificate, patches, and a lapel pin. Outstanding part-timers received a \$50 cash award and the same additional awards.

Meritorious Operators-Attendance received recognition by accumulating no more than 2 instances of sick, missouts, or unexcused absence exceeding a combined total of 5 work days. Other criteria included no suspensions or indefinite leave during this period.

Meritorious Operator-Operations awards required that drivers have no chargeable accidents, no chargeable passenger complaints, no indefinite leave during this period, no suspensions, no absences exceeding 30 days, no more than one chargeable safety violation, and no more than two minor rule violations. Full-time operators in this category received a cash award of \$35, a certificate, and a lapel pin. Part-time operators received a \$15 cash award and the same additional awards.

This program has as its purpose to recognize and reward the many bus operators who consistently perform in an outstanding or meritorious manner. The names of those operators who have proved their mettle on and off the road appear in the lists that follow.

Division 3201 **Outstanding Full-time** Lonnie Anders James T. Arend James H. Belt Alvaro T. Bolanos Leroy Carter Benjamin F. Cupid Alberto G. Garcia Peter M. Gerrits Gilbert Gutierrez Manual Guzman Celophus Hicks Lester Lopez Curtis J. Wyrick **Outstanding Part-time** Mac H. Baldridge Abdul K. Khalil Noe Martinez Francisco N. Sandoval Meritorious -Full-time - Operations Robert Arenas Leroy Balag Ralph Barragan Gregory Brown Antonio Cabada Manual Cabada Joe Contreras Richard Cuevas John Dawson John Downes Julio Figueroa Joseph Garcia Robert Gardner George Garrison Carl Gilbert James Graham

John Grant

Steven Haas James Haines Albert Hawthorne Alberto Hinojos Bernabe Ibarra Douglas Jackson Connie Johnson Earnest Kirkwood Elizabeth Lawrence Clara Lear Keith Linton Oscar Luna Gilbert Mascorro William Matthews Henry Mencias Amadeo Montoya Joaquin Navarro Lorena Nunley David Ojeda Antonio Palacios Edward Penalber Alfred Portillo Enrique Quezada Ruben Ramirez John Rodriguez Edwin Romeo Juan Salcido Calvin Sanders David Sanderson Ernest Scott Claudio Solis Oscar Sosa Donald Stevens Brenda Thomas John Thomas Walter Venegas Gilvert Vialpando A. V. Washington Ivan Webb Ralph Willys Samuel Wood Robert Zelden Dee Zeller Donald Davis Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Saturday Aisuan Roger Banks Sylvia Huerta Linda Leal Francis Mauliola Joseph Raya Gerardo Vazques Nicanor Castillo John Celaya Patricia Cordova Patricia Guerrero Vicky Maes Glenn Rougeau Alice Verela Luis Zeledon Meritorious . Full-time - Attendance Juan Arce Victor Arriola

Thomas Bell

Jewell Blake Jorge Brett Robert Duarte William Erickson Wallace Gholston Rafael Gonzalez Gilberto Hernandez Bernabe Ibarra Jesus Jiminez Robert Larob Jacinto Lazo Waldemar Mazzoni Amadeo Montoya Joaquin Navarro Lorena Nunley Guillermo Perez Alfred Portillo **Teddy Sanders** Cesar Taino John Thomas Joe Venegas Walter Venegas Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance A.V. Washington Ivan Webb Eugene Williams Robert Zelden Carlos Banuelos Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Gerardo Vazquez Dalbir Brar Nicanor Castillo Katherine Carlton Vicky Maes Paul Roybal Gary Gentry Dinh Tran Tat Tong Mark Division 3203 Outstanding Full-time Rosie L. Banks Billy R. Bennett Cornelius L. Bradford Larry Busby Thomas J. Byrd Dave J. Capmbell Mario V. Cancio Walter J. Carmier Tom Chung Ramulo Contreras Lila A. Estrada John H. Fangon, Jr. Jorge A. Galvan Richard A. Gomez Frederiak G. Hall Daniel R. Keen Shingya Ma Cesar M. Maruffo Dwight M. Martin Andres Mejia Carlos G. Mendizabal Gabriel J. Merritt Ricardo Perez

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Joseph V. Reichert Armando V. Rivas Miguel A. Rukos Nick Sifuentes Walter R. Skinner Juan Uehara Alberto G. Velasco Joseph R. White Frank R. Zamora Willie R. Randle Johnny Color Jorge H. Nilo Outstanding - Part-time Angelo J. Arnone Jorge E. Baltazar Francisco T. Cardenas Arturo E. Hernandez Delfino Rodriguez Elias D. Soria Eleanor A. Stone Phillip Yu Meritorious -Full-time - Operations

Arthur Alva James Adams Rebecca Alvarez Socorro Alvarez Ruben Arias Richard Arroyo Juan Sugspurger Carlos Beltran Carlos Bonilla Thomas Brown Rene Carrera **Edward Carter** Michael Chavarria Paxton Chew Earl Boccs Rudy Cruz Jesse Curtis Ralph Dawson Robert DeLaFuente Henry Dixon Carlos Domenech Frank Espinosa Charles Essex Gerardo Farias

Sandra Fletcher

Howard Franklin

Robert Galindo

Andrew Garcia

James Gardner

Raul Granados

Jose Guerrero

Robert Gullart

Charles Helton

Jesus Huizar

Moses Jackson

William Jackson

Gabriel Jimenez

Daniel Keosababian

Christopher Klein

Rudolph Lagunas

Tommy Lambert

Jerry Haro

Marcos Gutierrez

Stephanie Houdashelt

Hector Guerrero

Salvador Gonzalez

Debbie Flores

Robert Legier David Luna Roberto Marin Alexander Martinez Ponciano Mava James Mayes David Mayo Lydia Mazariegos Scott Mercer Louis Morales Joshua Nash George Novelo Roberto Olivas Manual Padilla Maria Pena Eliseo Perez Larry Pollard Carolyn Proctor Michael Quesada Rosendo Reyes Gerald Ritter M. Robertson Salvador Rojas Evangelina Rojo Howard Root Guillermo Rosales William Rusnak Jaime Saenz Charles Sailor Philip Salcido Braxton Shankle Cynthia Ransom Kris Sharp Rhodney Shorts Rudolfo Sifuentes Jerome Smith Sabrina Sparks Clyde Spears Bienvenido Suarez Foster Taylor Michael Thomas Moses Tolbert Richard Torres Louis Trammell Jose Ulloa Ruben Villagran Robert Wageman Charles Wilt Robert Young Jose Gutierrez Jess Miyagishima Octavia Shelton Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Albert Moraga Joseph Andes Gloria Areu David Bernal Sharon Best Elmer Briscoe George Brown

Jesse Celaya

John Fletcher

Willie Dee

Alfonson Chaves

Dwayne Flowers

Benjamin Leyva

George Lizaola

Manual Lopez

Ramon Peniche

George Perteet

Manote Kongthong

**Emelina Ramirez** Lucille Rhodes Josephine Robles Benjamin Sao Margaret Siguentes Roberta Wells Cornelius Williams Alexander Dexter Julio Soto-Peres Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance Harold Hopkins Samih Abu-Hajer Alexander Adame William Bethke Peter Bueras Paxton Chew Earl Cobbs Manual Hernandez Joann Johnson James La Curan Rudolph Lagunas James Noss Salvador Rojas Andres Saunders Braxton Shankle William Stelly Roberto Martinez Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Daniel Frias Rogelio Nino Cornelius Williams Alexander Dexter Philip Mercer Eduardo Uvals Division 3205 Outstanding - Full-time Gerald F. Luke Jimmy L. Brown Jesse J. Davis Joe F. Eiland Hansel Flowers Robert L. Foreman Gary E. Gaines Thurmon A. Green Hilton H. Hackley Sterling J. Hampton Doris E. Harris Jerry Jenkins Tommie L. Johnson Robert Perkins Claude L. Pilgrim Charles I. Pope George B. Rucker Kermit Thornton Lovell J. Ventry Cue O. White Carl L. Winston Outstanding - Part-time Kevin T. Devlin Meritorious -Full-time - Operations Charlene Bledsoe William Brinson Teddie Cheaves Lester Ellis John Green Henry Holmes Samnuel Humphery Curtis Johnson Mary Johnson

Dora McAfee Richard Powell Barbara Randolph Elbert Richardson Robert Richardson Earl Roberts Billy Robinson Lewis Robinson Curtis Shelby Phyllis Smith Harry Stanberry Albert Standberry Albert Stanislas Alfred Taylor Odell Walker Theron Watkins Ricky Wedlow Billie Wharry Masco Whitehead Booker Whitlock Huletlishe Wiley Ricardo Miranda Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Manual Gonzalez Warren Lampkin Richard Viramontes Nathan Young Arthur Gallegos John Hale Donald Long Tomy Martin O'Wendell Price Edmond England Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance Rodrigo Blas Charlene Bledsoe Teddie Cheaves Ricahrd Curry Lester Ellis Billy Ferguson William Fitzgerald Emmanual Gladden Louis Hobbs Frank Hollingquest Ricardo Miranda Samuel Humphery Curtis Johnson Joshua Jones Alonzo Kelley Timothy Kornegay Leroy Kyles Ernest Miller John Mitchell Jesse Montgomery Gwendolyn Mullins Elbert Richardson Robert Richardson Earl Rioberts Elmore Tircuit Bruce Williams Elias Goldblatt Wavne Davis Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Manual Gonzalez Richard Viramontes John Hale Donald Long Willie Wright

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Melvin Chaney Gregory Smith Division 3206

Outstanding - Full-time

Reginald D. Ables
John Barberio
Sherman H. Dorsey
Raymond C. Sellers
Daniel Wilson
Oscar Solomon
Mark Coleman

**Outstanding Part-time** 

No Winners Meritorious -

Full-time - Operations

Gabriel Benitez Ira Camp

Ira Camp
Donald Cleveland
Victor Fenty
Hector Gutierrez
Johnny Hardwick
Sandra Harris
Gregory Hughes
Harold Kenneybrew
David Monroe
Ronald Murphy
Philip Powers
Lucious Shepherd

Thomas Vaughn Jackie Davis Antonio Roxas Meritorious -

Part-time - Operations

Alvaro Valencia
Gabriel Benitez
Herbert Block
Willis Caffery
Donald Cleveland
Johnny Hardwick
William Long
Dan Bora
Jackie David
Meritorious

Part-time - Attendance

David Resendez
Charles Epharim
Rudy Krause
Sylvia Lopez
Samson Gessesse
Division 3207
Outstanding Full-time

Outstanding Full-tim
Benorce Blackmon
Charles Bledsoe
Columbus Burnette
David L. Doakes
Harris L. Douglas
Freddie J. Fair
Tyrone Fordham
Reginald B. Foster
Harold L. Hadley

Martin C. Jurado Yandell C. Lister William E. Matthews James W. McDuffie

Carter M. Norwood James R. Phillips

Eddie R. Razo Simmie L. Sanders Michael Q. Qladen

Michael Q. Qladen Nathan Weathersbee Raymond L. Santee Outstanding - Part-time

Nelson Torres Meritorious -

Full-time - Operations

Full-time - Oper Dolores Adams Eugene Adams Steve Aguilar Louis Arthur Pete Avila Charles Bateman Savanah Bowers Steven Bragg

Michael Chapel
Timothy Del Cambre
Patricia Dixon

Francisco Escobedo Yucle Eubanks

Willie Franklin Hardie Gillie Ralph Gilmer

Larry Hale Leo Holland William Hudson

Carlos Iglesias Alfonso Jaramillo Bobby Johnson George Johnson

John Johnson Marving Johnson Otis Johnson

Sidney Johnson Mingo Jones Robert Jones

Dale Kinkade Michael Lespron

Jon Linton Barrion Marsh Richard Martin Matthew Matterer

Matthew Matterer Anthony Melton Gregory Mills

Joe Oliver Arthur Perez Qesley Price

Stephen Rank Johnny Robles John Saunders

Meredith Sidney Johnny Smith Lawrence Smith

Robert Solomon Bobby Taylor Thelma Thierry

Leslie Thompson Lucy Turner Alton Williams

Thomas Williams
Lewis Willis
Phillip Winston

Elmer Witcher James Wright Larry Youn

Nafi Wah-Hab Meritorious -

Part-time - Operations

Walter Brady
Leonard Andico
Jimmy Eiselstein
Orlando Lopez
Rick Morrisey
Albert Navarro

Tony Byone Meritorious-

Full-time- Attendance

Joshua Alvarez Louis Arthur Savanah Bowers Berkeley Burrell

Rick Cadelli Garland Claybourne

Larry Crane John Escher Raymond Hallowell

Rone Hansen Robert Higbee Carlos Iglesias

John Jung Michael Lespron Jon Linton Aubrey McGlory

Orlando Medrano Anthony Melton Ibrahim Mia

Dana Mitchell Carl Motley, Sr.

Juan Pena Wesley Price

Glen Rey Ervin Richardson Harry Simmons

Robert Solomon William Thomas John Villagran

Bernard Warren Handy Weathersbee Alton Williams

Lewis Willis Meritorious -

Full-time - Attendance

Frank Wood
James Wright
George Zamfirescu
Ronald Price
Meritorious

Part-time - Attendance

Bhupinder Brar Jimmy Eiselstein Charles Jackson Walter Morgan Rick Morrisey Division 3208

Outstanding - Full-time

Martin Crespi Jerrold B. Abramson Francisco J. Aldoney Ronald E. Blake Ralph A. Bruno Steven R. Churchill

Cesar S. De Guzman Jose E. Galvan Vester M. Grayson Oscar J. Londono Alan N. Luke Gerald G. Maizland

Isidoro T. Moreno Richard Padilla Charles E. Ravens David I. Singer

John w. Walth James C. Sherman George L. Elks

Terry J. Davis Outstanding Part-time

Carrol Carmichael

Ronald M. Davenport Beverly A. Petty Michael G. Reed Juan D. Rosas Meritorious-

Full-time- Operations Vharles Blattt

Robert Cormack
Efrain Gomez
Mark Holland
Michael Kochanski
Steven Kusher
Travis Robertson
Walter Roby

Paul Schneider Gordon Stevenson

Fred Zwick Ralph Smith Steven Stark

Terrence Strutt Jay Tayrien Albert Thacker

Leslie Vance
James Madden
Robert Powell

Steve Sarak Leonard Schmidt Victor Arancibia

Carl Benyo
David Buell
Lilliam Ford
Benny Fox

Ruth Gaitanis Candelario Gomez

Verne Greenwood Eddie Gustin James Hawkes

W.Y. Kobashigawa Penny Landis

Steven Landis Joseph Levi Meritorious -

Part-time - Operations

Joyce Antill
Robert Bair
Milton Epperson
Berkeley Fielding
Allan Hernandez
Phillip Lockwood
Anthony Marques
Pablo Acosta

Charles Blatt Robert Cormack Efrain Gomez Michael Kochanski Steven Kusher

Paul Schneider Gordon Strassburg Peter Thomsen

Ernesto Trinidad Marshall Long George Melanson

Robert Nidetz
Alfred Sassano
Carl Benyo

Danny Garcia Candalario Gomez

Kenneth King

Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Margaret Favela

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Anthony Marquez Pablo Acosta Charlie Sevilla Division 3209 Outstanding - Full-time William Altemeier John E. Angeski Jose S. Arizmendi Walter R. Bell David Crevantes Wric C. Congiardo Bacilio A. Cortez William S. Cushman Arle E. Davenport Jerry D. Duncan Vernon H. Ebert Joe S. Ellis John J. Flechas Roberto J. Franco Jesus E. Galang Gabriel Garcia James F. Gowins William R. Hines Felipe Huante Loren H. Hubler Paul E. Lajoie Hugo C. Lopez Jaview Lopez Carlton J. Marshall Johnny M. McKinney Deeb Morad Victor O. Ortiz Ignacio M. Remus John E. Stevn Joe V. Swift Roberto Trejo Anrold L. Van Gordon Wordrow Williams Angel Miranda Fausto Gonzalez James J. Lueken, Jr. Outstanding - Part-time Harry C. Oswald Michael C. Palmer Jesus Perez Judge Adams Martin Ahlstron Robert Apodaca Doanld Avila William Amey William Ballard Reymundo Barrasa Andrew Bernstein Ronald Bowen Mildres Bradford Harry Bayless Hector Carbajal Georrgina Cervantes Donald Clark Francisco Cordova Daniel Creal Ralph Cunningham Frank Demascio Charles Dreier Kiumars Elhami Clifford Ellison Frank Flores Kennedy Franklin James Garcia Carlos Garcis

Jesse Garcia Hisaias Gonzales Joseph Griego Ruben Guerra Carlos Gutierrez Robert Hall James Harvey Roy Hawes Robert Hiatt Frederick Hidalgo Wilbur James Larry Jessie William Johnson Clarence Jones Dawud Karriem Newitt Lawson John Legans Sally Lemkuhl Lowell Lewis Jerry McDaniel Warren Mitchell Manual Narvaez Stanley Oawster Ardell Olsen Frederick Owens Richard Patterson Manuel Perez John Poulos Feodie Powers Charles Poke Alfred Ramirez Felipe Ramirez Arturo Rangel Robert Rauchfuss Lorenzo Rivera Louis Rivera Youssef Rizkallah James Roberts Armando Rodriguez Lionel Romero Jonas Rudolph Ralph Ruiz Richard Salcido Laurence Sena Enrique Serrano Jose Serrano Walter Shelby Hillery Sheppard Leoncio Sia Doanld Sinkfield Larry Smith Charles Sugarman Travis Trujillo Dan Urban Hubert Usher Jerald Vallier Gary Vance Benjamin Welch Lenard Wilkes Virgil Wilson Kennthe Wilkerson Marcos Rodriguez Rafael Rojan Alex Hernandez Ernest Pasini Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Carolyn Alsdurf Grace Arevalos Philip Banks Jose Berumen Martha Ceniceros

Harry Fradejas Cathy Hardway John Johnson Alice McDonald Jeffrey Newman Laurence Presser Irene Rodriques O.P. Strilecki Mario Villegas Luis Zamudio Meritorious -Full-time- Attendance Oscar Aguayo H.C. Alvarez Reymundo Barrasa Bennie Bedford Harry Brame Michael Brown Leonardo Camacho Felipe Castillo Francisco Chavez Edmundo Colchado Ralph Cunningham James Dailey Danny Ennis Mike Estrada Carlos Garcis Vincent Garcia Hisaias Gonzales Vicente Gonzalez Robert Gonzalez David Gehring David Hamilton Egils Jagers Larry Jessie Frederico Jiminez William Jonhnson Dawud Karriem Richard Kearney Lowell Lewis Damiam Lopez Fred Martinez Alfred Mendoza Luis Moreno Tomas Ocasio Richard Patterson Joseph Palmisano Ricahrd Perez Felipe Ramirez Philip Ramirez Arturo Rangel Jimmy Rayford Lionel Romero Carlos Sahagun Gonzalo Sanchez James Santos Sam Saunooke Enrique Serrano Jose Serrano Larry Smith Santiago Ulibarri Billie Underhill Hubert Usher Merlin Waring C.L. Wilkerson Larry Williams Richard Bryant Marcos Rodriguez John Poulos Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Leonel Alcazar

Ramonda Bowser Dolores Fernandez Harry Fradejas Alice McDonald Rafael Salas Division 3210 Outstanding - Full-time Mark G. Allman Charles H. Anderson Armando J. Carbajal Luis A. Cardenas David M. Caudillo William E. Durazo Melvin Garrett Jose N. Guzman Donald H. Lee Edward A. Moorefield William Padilla Ernest Paredes Jose R. Perez Narcizo M. Peres Robert J. Pitts Alberto Rivadeneyra Juan M. Rosales William Rowser George Samoylenko Jimmie Shorters Jimmy L. Williams Ellis E. Wilson Jerry L. Woodson Outstanding - Part-time Walter T. Andersen Andrew Barbosa Robert B. Davis Raymond High-Wolf Irene M. Lewton Daniel B. Saldana Rogelio U. Castro Ramon Alvarez Surinder Mohan Toor Ronald J. Figueroa John C. Dwyer Mario A. Chavez James D. Gonzales Scott G. Lee Don W. Hicks Richard Adams Jeffrey Aemmer William Alexander Guillermo Anaya David Aufmuth Donald Autry Michael Avalos Ramon Baluyot James Bass Theartis Blue Robert Biedron Gerald Bingham Beatrice Brooks Encarnacion Cabrera Jesse Carrasco Alberto Casillas Robert Chasco Stephen Cruise Jose Cruz Romel Deloatch Richard De Los Reves Dewitt Duke Gloria Duke Ernest Edwards Vernell Elgin

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S.E. Ferguson Ramon Fernandez Robert Donaldson Guadalupe Fuentes **Emmett Gates** Jeska Gilder Francisco Gomer Gonzalo Gutierrez Odis Hamer Juventino Hernandez Samuel Hill William Jackson Edward Jaramillo Elroy Johnson Anthony Jones Syed Kamal Pete Kordi Hilton Lavalas Maxine Lewis Ernest Martinez Javier Martinez Mary Mathis Thomas Mattocks Semmie McCoy Chalres Miles Gloria Mims Gabriel Munoz Donna Murdock Paul Nelson Herbert Orange William Peterson Thomas Reclusado Aaron Ricahrdson Leroy Robinson Cresencio Rodriguez Lilliam Rodriguez Abdul Saafir Robert Scanu Beauford Scott Paul Scott William Shade Harbaksh Singh Don Smith Jose Solano Nestor Soto Stella Srour Werner Thatje Jacob Tuason Thomas Turner Russell Urmanski Jesse Westhersbee George Wiley Patricia Zasadil Jesse Zimmerman Eugene Keyes Ben Ethridge Meritorious Part-time - Operations Aleiandro Cazarez Daniel Elzev Hau Nguyen Timothy Pledger Guadalupe Vela Kathy Aguilar Bunni Barr Hugo Bonini Ruben Espinoza Pankajkumar Radia John Santiago

Robert Daniel Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance John Alarcon William Alexander Tommy Armstrong Jose Barbosa James Bass Alvin Benard Walter Bueno Jose Camacho Charles Cannon Robert Chasco Rowan Curtis Dewitt Duke Rafael Espinosa Winston Fisher Richard Flores William Freeman Julio Gallo Sheila Grover Gonzalo Gutierrez Odis Hamer L.M. Hamilton Hector Hernandez Juventino Hernandez Samuel Hill Clarence Jack Jin Kim Hilton Lavales Freddie McGee Alfredo Miranda Bruce Montgomery Ralph Patterson Fred Perry Mary Small Salvador Ramirez Andre Reed David Seelig Jose Solano Rodney Tatum Jacob Tuason Margaret Tucker John Urrutia Benjamin Walker Darnell Williams Pauline Bradford Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Gilberto Comacho Mario Garcia Gail Gilmer Hau Nguyen Hugo Bonini Darryl Castile Sergio Chavez Jose Holguin George Lakis Neal Moore Daniel Onopa Tony Salas Alex Gallegos Manual Garcia Tadeo Vasquez Jeffrey Bingley Robert Daniel Joe Gonzalez Division 3212 Outstanding - Full-time Wendell L. Agee Jose A. Aguirre

Jorge A. Barreda George W. Dailey Doanld R. Dube Pate A. Earnest Adam Gandara William A. Gerhold Jesse G. Gomez Robert R. Kennie Leo W. King Patrick J. Monaghan Miguel V. Moran Don W. Osborne E.L. Paternoster Liviu Radu Jimmy G. Rodgers Ramon Rodriguez Eugene Rollins Milo Starts Michael J. Streppone Joseph A. Symons Harold V. Williams Algernon A. Wise Crisanto P. Simbulan Outstanding - Part-time George Damian Joel F. Fradeias Richard R. Martinez Meritorious **Full-time Operations** Eduardo Acuna Robert Baxter Howard Benchley James Broaddus M.S. Campaniello Peter Cardias Jesus Carrasco Luis Centeno Rogelio Chacon Emiliano Chavez Arthur Clary Ricahrd Coleman Carl Corde Kirk Davis John Fernandez Hardy Fondreaux Arthur Fontanez Daniel Gavurnick Richard Gebauer Catarino Gonzalez Harley Haas Arthur Hernandez Seferino Holguin Lee Hutchinson Delores Isom Homer Jenkins Edward Johansson Albert Johnson D. Johnson Michael Jones Matthew Kim Elijah La Cour Lester Lewis Samuel Licon Michael Martinez Major McKay Andre Molette Rafael Murillo Tuan Newton Ruth Paul Richard Pedroza Joseph Poche Antonio Rendon

Elliot Ribeiro Joe Rodriguez Joseph Santoyo Zachary Schuster Albert Scott John Speigel Gary Stone Monte Stratton Meritorious -Full-time - Operations Bobby Tifft Bernardo Torres Raymond Tuggle Oliver Underwood Rodolfo Velasquez Walter Wadlington Gerald White Augustus Williams Willie Williams Jeffrey Wolfson Frank Houseton Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Terri Aitken Earl Chandler Jerome Limmer James McGranor Stephen Puckett Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance Eduardo Acuna Ronald Billinglsley George Borner Rogelio Chacon Emiliano Chavez Penny Clark Julio Fontoura Edward Gomez Catarino Gonzalez Eddie Goss Harley Haas Elton Hoffman Albert Johnson D. Johnson Matthew Kim Elijan La Cour Ca Quan Lam Fred Lawler Hung Xuan Le Ralph Lee Victor Markovich Major McKay Hector Moreno Rafael Murillo Tuan Newton John Panneck Joseph Poche Antonio Rendon John Reynolds Elliot Ribeiro Zachary Schuster Albert Scott John Speigel Gary Stone Bobby Tifft Bernardo Torres Oliver Underwood Walter Wadlington Gerald White Augustus Williams

John Reynolds

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Alex Gallegos

Jack A. Bailey

Willie Williams Gregory Bowman Phung Dinh A. Lam Meritorious-Part-time - Attendance Terri Aitken Joseph Billingsley Robert Dennis Sandra Fitzhugh Ernest Holguin Joseph McDaniels James McGranor Stephen Puckett Eliseo Villanueva Delwin Morris Division 3215 Outstanding - Full-time Alfred M. Alderete Rolando B. Filoteo John S. Baber Parry H. Benjamin Marcial Blanco William a. Chatelain Donald H. Corton Thomas R. Cowan William B. Craig Eunice L. Culbert Roger Desgroseilliers John J. Halyak Andrew Harris William Harris David E. Hemion David S. Iglesias Steven E. Jeffries Donald L. Johnson Ursula M. Johnson Earl M. Jones Jesse L. Kirkland Martin R. Long Nasir D. Mia Gary L. Miller Russell J. Modell William C. Motherspaw Raymundo Najera Francisco J. Perez Eduardo Peza Joel C. Potts Roy Reed Bert J. Tetley Nicholas T. Tummolo Dainton L. Urso Carmine A. Zeccardi Anthony Amatuzzo Outstanding - Part-time Maria H. Antonowicz Roberto Chavez Helen I. Cruz Betty J. Liddell Douglas Y.D. Park Jawahar S. Sira Patricia R. Stewart Victor J. Mironas Jesus J. Serrano Meritorious -Full-time - Operations Dora Alvarez Jerry Babbitt Darryld Baabcock

Rober Bogenberger

Charlid Bolden Ricardo Botello Raul Briones Robert Buchanan Signh Butalia Patrick Byrne Henrietta Caldwell Luis Campos Forest Churchill Alice Colantonio Eric Collins Hilarion Corpus Donald Cullom Odessa Davis Purcell Davis Arturo Delgado Glenn Ford Jeffrey Foster Barry Glendenning Porfirio Gomez Guillermo Gonzalez Jose Guadalupe Gaylord Hamm Paul Harris Patrick Hart Juan Hernandez Robert Holiday Carlos Iglesias Charles Jackson John Kirkham Larry Lewis William Liddell Arthur Lloyd Louis Lucero Chan Maq Cristobal Medina Charles Moore Robert Moore Eddie Nava Emenuella Northington Neil O'Brien Robert Owens Gary Padilla Harvey Parnell Danilo Parra Phillip Patton Rafael Perez Bruce Pohja Joe Polina Tino Rodriguez George Roessner Jon Rossiter Richard Sanchez Jesse Sanders Henry See Glen Steele Alfredo Stephani John Swinford David Swinton Donald Van Dyke Jose Vasquez Francisco Vigil Arthur Wake Solester Watts David Wesson Barbara Williams John Williams Lester Williams Robert Williams Jessie Wilson Barbara Winner

Ronald Woods

Donald Worten Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Lynn Bevill Julie Covarrubias Dennis Duquene Odilia Marich Linda Navarro Merwin Saxe Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance James Anderson Edward Blancarte Miguel Brambila Luis Campos Louis Castellanos Marco Conde Donald Cullom Marvin Deuser Jose Festejo Mauricio Flores Elliott Forrest Walter Fujimori Roger Galland Stephen Glaser Clara Grabowski Rodrigo Guzman Clarence Hagan Elizabeth Harvell Porter Henry John Jackson Luanao James Jorge Jativa Rosset Kogen Edward Lavizzo Arthur Lloyd Claude Lujan Bellenger Morgan John Mova Oscar Najarro Joe Polina Ernest Redmond Percy Rhodes Frank Robinson Luis Rodriguez Errol Rousseve Salvatore Russo Arthur Sheldon Daniel Simon Suresh Singh Susan Tompkins Michael Turner Erik Von Wendlandt Ronald Weckbacher Jessie Wilson Paul Zablocki Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance Ramon Alarcon Alma Albarran Jim Garcia Steven McAdams Jose Prado Mildred Rogers Guillermo Valencia Roy Rembert Theresa Jojola Division 3216 Outstanding - Full-time Donald S. Delay Dale K. Aleshire Richard Z. Alvarado Angel A. Alvarez

Joseph Bailey James I. Beam John H. Boles Todd D. Brule John H. Calwell Luduvico M. Castro Brownlee Cromwell Francis T. Davie Robert A. Descombes Julio E. Diaz Herman W. Douglas Lloyd M. Sharrow Charles J. Warde Thomas A. Weihert Alfonso G. Garcia Allen L. Harders John F. Hardgrow Wilmer E. Johnson Theodore R. Long Thomas E. Loper K.M. Lucas Lionel Manuel Joseph a. McDonald Randall R. Moore James W. Murphy Jimmie L. Prince Milton R. Saa Corval R. Sattler Lester J. Albert Herman Koenekamp Outstanding - Part-time Alex S. Pages Donna M. Quay Eric D. Thomas Meritorious -Full-time - Operations James Davis Lamar Rall Earven Brittenum Paul Brooks Jasper Bullock Sampson Butler Richard Croston Herbert Dickson Morris Donald George Douglas Robert Fisher Raymond Hart Clarence Henderson Larry Jarman Leslie Jones Robert Jones Dexter Kern Harold Litz Annie Livingston John Madril Michael Mathieu Lawrence McCrary Robert McMorris David McReynolds Ogle Menees Billy Morton James Blackston Herman Hall Robert Nordstrom Charles Olivas Carlos Pages Leslie Park Dale Parks Leroy Edwards Edward Sanchez

continued on page 20...

William David Karl DeWaal Tilmon Perry Alexander Pettway R.H. Rand Ronald Reolle Billie Rowe Keith Sands Wallace Slaughter Shirley Thomas William Tillitt Patrick Turner Earl Weingartner Paul White Van Williams Reese Withers Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Debbie Everett Eduardo Moncada Rose Todd Carmen Vagenas Meritorious -Full-time - Attendance James Blackston George Zumkley Nelson Grant John Dinwiddie Meritorious -Part-time - Attendance No Winners Division 3218 Outstanding - Full-time James T. Amos Don L. Bradford Clyde Corbitt John W. Dawson Willie Dixon Sharon a. English Jerrel J. Hunter William D. Jordon Wallace H. Moore Willie C. Norwood Renard M. Perkins Richard D. Randall Michael L. Ransom William D. Reddick Alvin A. Reid Michael L. Reid Michael L. Ross Hun Sang Charles L. Steppes Paul Charles Outstanding - Part-time Bobby L. Staves George W. Geary Thena Thomas Meritorious -Full-time - Operations Nasser Abu-Kalaf Arthur Adams Ignatius Arellano Calvin August Albert Bailey Donald Bowman Walter Bowman Louis Brown JoAnn Bynum

Diane Cole Predester Collier James Craig Brenda David Clara Dunn Billie Green John Guzman Charley Hardy **Hubert Hayes** Toni Hill Cary Hogan Larry Horn Donna Humphrey Marvin Fite Gene Freeman James Gavin Roger Gilds Robert Johnson William Kelso Cornelius Lowery Geraldine Payne Robert Markham Dwight McLaughlin Eddie Mitchell Michael Nimmers John Peterson Rosalie Pulliam Vilma Ramos Carl Rems James Shanklin Anna Simpson James Smith Maurice Smith Printicen Smith Michael Squalls Althonia Stokes Andrew Stubblefield Anita Sykes Jose Velasquez Hillard Vickers Johnnie Wilkerson Bobby Williams Freddie Williams Tamra Williams Steve Woods Prince Williams Willie Williams Larry Water Chanh Tran Phillip Samuels Meritorious -Part-time - Operations Christina Johnson Irma Limon William Walls Rafiga Muhammad David Farrington Meritorious . Full-time - Attendance Nassar Abu-Khalaf Gregory Branch Louis Brown Aaron Cain Juan Cardoza Elliott Chavers James Craig Brenda Davis Houston Gregory Shelton Griffin Alton Harrell **Hubert Hayes** 

## Just the Break He Needed

Two years ago Travion Watson started at the District as a youth worker in the Graffiti Program funded by County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn. The program offered youth in Hahn's Second District employment for a limited period cleaning graffiti off of RTD buses.

Today, Travion, 21, is a Service Attendant Leader out of Division 9318.

Youth Coordinator Elvira Valdez said she spotted Travion's talent early. "He is a very responsible, conscientious young man, a model employee. He is very mature for his age. I wish everyone were like him," she said.

Travion is a graduate of Verbum Dei High School in Los Angeles. Following graduation, he attended ITT Business College. "I took the job at the RTD to pay back my college loans. RTD Planner Michael Brewer told me about the openings," Travion said.

He says it feels good



Service Attendant Leader Travion Watson coming up from the ranks.

having secured his current position, his face lights up with pride. "I help those I supervise to be better workers," he said.

Things are definitely looking up for Travion. He and his mother recently bought a home in Compton. But, despite all the benefits that come from promotions, Travion is also discovering like all others who have gone before him that in the beginning responsibility can be a little overwhelming. "I do get kind of nervous about all the changes, though," said Travion.

Leopoldo Fajardo **Ennis Finley** Marvin Fite Joseph Francis Jesse Gardner Brian Gaw Charleston Grantham Johnny Huntley Dexter Jennings Clence Barry David Lane James Logan Robert Markham Gregory McCoy Felton Moore Thinh Nguyen B.W. Robertson James Shanklin James Smith Althonia Stokes Damascus Strong Hillard Vickers

Johnnie Wilkerson Effie Williams Freddie Williams Lee Gilbert Jesus Macatiang Chanh Tran Meritorious Part-time - Attendance Sherman Anderson Ezequiel Olivo David Imaye Nho Van Le Ronnie Huerta John James Paul Inocencio Joyce McKenzie Wilbert Vander-Ploeg William Walls Rafiqa Muhammad Melvin Taylor

Larry Horn

Donald Cather

Elliott Chavers

## **Art Types His Last Schedule**

Layout Supervisor Art Issoglio said his good-byes after 30 years with the District at the Velvet Turtle restaurant in Chinatown on January 27.

Many of his friends, family, and Print Shop and Schedules staff members were on hand to celebrate the moment.

Acting Assistant General Manager for Operations Art Leahy told the audience that achieving 30 years at the RTD is not an easy task. "Anyone who makes it deserves a lot of credit. I want to thank you, Art," said Leahy. The acting assistant general manager presented Issoglio with a gift certificate to the Touch of Oak furniture store.

Richard Dimon acted as master of ceremonies for the event. Adding personal notes of appreciation and good wishes were Michael Laichareonsup and Dorothy Benninghoven.

Art's son Sparky paid tribute to his father at the ceremony. "My impression of my father has always been one of perseverance and self-sacrifice. I have always thought that each morning when I saw him get up for work and go catch his bus."

Joe Vicente presented Art with his own timetable and his very own bus stop sign 7591. "It took us 30 years to download schedules into Art's varityper machine. I'm just sorry he won't be around to see it." said Vicente.

Print Shop Supervisor Carl McKnight recounted humorous anecdotes



Layout Supervisor Art Issoglio and his wife Lylene at his retirement dinner.

surrounding his worklife with Art, but foremost, he remembered Art's fatherly way with him when he joined the District. "I just want to say 'thanks' Art, that meant a lot to me."

Art's wife Lylene told the audience of mostly RTD employees and retirees what it was like to be married to the RTD. "I have some very good memories. I feel like I know most of you. My memories include scenes like Joe Gay bringing my husband home when we had an emergency with Sparky (who suffered an asthma attack)." Lylene paid tribute to the "other woman" in Art's life, his assistant Jean Williams, and presented her with a gold watch. Art, in a tearful farewell, thanked Jean for the years of assistance and friendship.

In his swan song, Art Issoglio congratulated all his supervisors who gave him pay-for-performance evaluations that were superior or better. "I commend you on your good judgment. To all the rest of you who gave me a 'Meets' or less-go to h-. Gee, that felt real good. I love you all. Good bye, I'm gone."

## Looks Like a Good Investment



General Manager Alan Pegg opens his new share account with the help of Credit Union Manager Chris Cairns and Credit Union Manager Hyla Howard.

General Manager Alan Pegg took a few minutes out of his busy day to join the Transit District Employees Federal Credit Union in February. Mr. Pegg opened a savings account with a \$50 minimum share deposit and a \$5 fee yielding 5 percent interest. His deposit will be automatically deducted from his payroll check and credited to his account.

This is just one of the many services offered by our Credit Union. Making banking as convenient as they can, they offer a bankby-mail service, sponsor

periodic car sales, provide money orders/travelers checks/gift checks, insurance, a bill payer service, checking accounts with no monthly service charges. and QUE-an audio response (24 hours) available for balance inquiries, transferring money from one type of account to another, and other information you may want just by using a touch tone phone and a personal identification number you provide. Open your account today, it looks like a good investment in your future.

Disability Coverage, an important part of a Total Income Protection program from the Mutual of Omaha Companies, is a good way to assure your family long-term financial security.



For information, please call Chuck McCracken at (213) 391-8226



## Replace the Terrible Three: Sugar, Fat, Salt

Good Nutrition Month Remember when you munched on fudgy cookies dunked in whole milk just before your Mom or Dad

tucked you into bed? Or how you celebrated every holiday with chips and dips, homemade candies, pies, and

cakes a la mode?

March is

We all have fond memories of foods shared with family and friends. But what we didn't know then was that many of these treats were loaded with sugar, fat, and salt-and that all three can lead to obesity, health problems, and a quicker end to life.

Few of us are willing to dramatically change our eating habits-it may take a heart attack to scare us into shape. But we can make some gradual and simple changes that will help us feel better, and teach our children the importance of sound nutrition.

1. Cut Back on Fat. Fat is full of calories and usually cholesterol. Not more than one-third of our calories should come from fats. To reduce fat, eat foods raw, steamed, poached, broiled, or baked instead of fried. Find a vegetable-fat margarine that tastes good and use it sparingly instead of butter. Drink skim milk.

Instead of bacon, sausage, ham, hot dogs, hamburgers, or steaks, choose fish and poultry. Eat fresh fruit for dessert rather than pies and other hidden-fat confections.

> 2. Plan Balanced Meals and Snacks.

For every meal, pick foods from each of the four food groups (see box at right) and prepare them without a lot of added fat, sugar, or salt.

3. Shop Wisely. If you don't keep foods from the Terrible Three groups around the house, you and your children can't eat them. Read labels to look for the Terrible Three hidden in so many prepared foods. Most spaghetti sauce is loaded with sugar or corn syrup, for example. Children will select nutritious foodsall too often only if they have nutritious foods to choose from. Save money, too: Fresh foods are generally far less expensive than heavily processed, vitaminenriched, sugar-saturated clumps.

4. Make Your Own. You know what's in your recipes, and it's probably not nearly so much of the Terrible Threes you'll find in prepared meals and snacks. You can even alter your recipes by replacing butter with margarine, eliminating most of or all of the salt, and

reducing the amount of added sugar. By the way, sugar is sugar, whether it's honey, molasses, or the powdery or granulated white stuff.

5. Substitute.

Your taste buds and your digestive system will soon adjust to better choices, and you'll wonder how you ever managed to swallow some of those gooey, greasy, grimy goodies. Low-fat frozen yogurt is a delicious alternative to ice cream. Branch out with breads-choose whole wheat, oatmeal, pumpernickel, corn, pita, or tortillas. Read the cereal box and buy only unsweetened products.

Make just a few of these changes, and you'll find yourself feeling younger, full of energy, and trim and fit. March is your Good Nutrition Month. Make healthy foods a way of life for you and your family.

## **Four Food Groups**

Fruits and vegetables

Choose fresh, crisp items; 100 percent real juices; foods packed in water or their own juices.

Breads and cereals

Look for whole grains

Milk

Select skim milk; low-fat cheese, and yogurt Fish/Poultry/Meat and other Proteins Stick with fish, poultry, and lean cuts;

canned meats packed in water; remove skin; trim fat.

## Low-fat Dessert Strawberry Cream

3/4 cup low-fat cottage cheese

1 cup frozen unsweetened whole strawberries

1 cup vanilla ice milk

1 teaspoon frozen, finely shredded orange peel Assorted fresh fruit (optional)

#### Directions:

·Place cottage cheese in a blender container. Cover and blend till smooth. Add frozen strawberries, ice milk, and orange peel. Cover and blend till smooth. stopping to scrape down sides as necessary.

·Pour strawberry mixture into 4 stemmed glasses and serve at once. Garnish with a small piece of fresh fruit, if desired. Makes 4 servings.

Per serving

Calories	97
Protein	7 g
Carbohydrate	12 g
Fat	2 g
Cholesterol	8 g
Sodium	198 mg
Potassium	163 mg

Total preparation time: 10 minutes

# Marriage Counseling: What Is It? What Good Is It? by Luanna Urie, Wellness Coordinator

Marriage Counselor: "It seems as if everyone has questions about marriage counseling. Some people want to know if everyone shouldn't work their problems out by themselves." My response is as follows: in this day and age we consult experts. Today people consult financial planners, attorneys, gourmet cooks, physician specialists, architects, and so on.

Why do we think we should handle anything as complex as marriage and or family problems without any assistance? Today life is much, much more complex and stressful and contains more problems than it did even twenty-five years ago. There are more strains on a couple and/or family relationship than at any other time in history, yet many people expect that they should instinctively

know how to work it all out without any advice or help from anyone.

Years ago a young married couple could expect to live in a neighborhood where everyone knew everyone else and everyone else's children. There was usually a close affiliation with a church. Other family

> ...in this day and age we consult experts.

members lived near by, including those from an older generation with life experiences, perspective, and wisdom to offer younger couples and families. Many wives and mothers did not have to work. Husbands and fathers did not have to commute. Almost all meals were eaten at home with

everyone present, and many families even shared the noonday meal.

Now life is different. Couples have to face more demands and more responsibilities than ever before. Today, couples have fewer resources and even less time to meet those demands. Many of us, if not most, could use a little help from a third party from time to time.

A marriage counselor can be useful. It is very helpful to have an objective, professionally trained person assist with the interaction between the parties. A trained marriage counselor will help couples and families communicate more clearly. It is easier to talk to a loved person about a serious problem if there is a third party present. The third party or counselor ensures that each side will be fully heard and fully understood. Difficult points will be made clear to each person. Couples will learn to truly listen and understand what the other person is trying so hard to say.

Misunderstandings will be cleared away. Many times a couple will discover a misunderstanding is at the root of their problem. A marriage counselor helps a couple to share their troubles, worries, and pain with one another. Couples learn to hear one another. They learn to trust one another. They learn to listen and understand each other in a new and better way.

The trained, licensed professional marriage counselors available to you through your Employee Assistance Program are experts in helping couples and families with marital and family problems. Take advantage of this service.

Remember from one to three sessions are free and then the service will help you with your benefit plan to make the best use of it to pay for whatever counseling you would like. This service is completely confidential. Just dial (800) 221-0942 and speak with the people at Employee Support Systems Company.

# IN MEMORIAM

Bauer, Anton R., began with the LARY in the 1930s, passed away October 23, 1987. He was an operator and division clerk. Dietrich, Wray, began with the District on March 2, 1964, passed away on December 24, 1988. Jensen, Lars, began with the District on January 22, 1958, passed away Decem-

Pantera, John F., began with the District April 22,

ber 17, 1988.

1941, passed away December 13, 1988.

Pegues, Murray, began with the District on December 18, 1958, passed away November 25, 1988.

Smith, Leo H., began with the District May 29, 1935, passed away December 27, 1988.

Thorne, Edgar D., began with the District on March 13, 1936, passed away November 26, 1988.

DICK GREGORY'S BAHAMIAN DIET & CORRECTION CONNECTION

(Safe and Nutritional) (213) 758-3813

# Self-Help Groups: Grapevines in Action

You've finally admitted to yourself that you don't handle your finances wisely. Or you recognize you're addicted to food. Or your physician tells you that you have high blood pressure. Whatever your problem is, you're not alone.

Every day, thousands of people come together in small groups to help each other deal with difficulties including stress, addictions, health problems, and similar painful realities of life.

You, too, can easily become involved in one of these volunteer grapevine networks. There are more than half a million self-help groups across the country—some tiny gatherings, others part of a nationwide network—but in each one, the emphasis in on sharing.

You've undoubtedly heard of AA, Alcoholics Anonymous, one of the first self-help groups. Many new self-help groups are patterned after AA's successful 12-step recovery program. If you join a self-help group that matches your needs for support in a difficult situation, what can you expect to happen?

At first, you will sense a great comfort just in knowing that others are struggling with similar problems. It's heartening to talk with others who have accepted, compensate for, or overcome their problems. Misery does love company; but wallowing in self-pity is not the goal of these groups.

You'll also discover a

wealth of information. Selfhelp group members are willing to pool their experiences, make honest recommendations, and suggest strategies for action. For example, parents of children with disabilities can find out what to expect as their child grows older or where to go for the best medical help and education. Newsletters, tapes, videos, and brochures are commonly available.

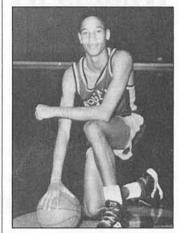
One thing you won't find in a self-help group is criticism or put-downs. People in these gatherings, understand how you feel and what you're going through. They won't blame you for your troubles, or ask

harsh questions, or treat you with a cold shoulder. Self-help groups will do everything they can to make you feel comfortable and welcome.

Confidentiality, respect, and encouragement are the keys. You can proceed at your own pace. Before you know it, you may well find yourself using your newfound strength to offer support to newcomers. That's how good self-help groups evolve and grow.

You are not alone. What ever your struggle, others are facing a similar situation. Locate your grapevine, and find new resources within yourself.

## Son Gets Scholarship



Corey Rogers

The parents of Corey Rogers are proud to announce the 4-year athletic scholarship awarded their son to Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Adrienne Rogers, an Administrative Analyst in the Marketing Department and her husband, Bernard, thank God for Corey's

Corey is a senior at Nogales High School...and will be attending NAU in the fall...

athletic ability and the opportunity of receiving an education at a Division 1 school.

Corey is a senior at Nogales High School in West Covina and will be attending NAU in the fall, majoring in Business Administration.

# Where to find the self-help group for you

National Self-Help Clearinghouse

25 West 43rd St., Room 620, New York, NY 10036. (212) 642-2944, Will refer you to your state clearinghouse if one exists, or check national directories for the name of a group that can respond to your need. Call or send a self- addressed, stamped envelope.

#### New Jersey Self-Help Clearinghouse

St. Clares-Riverside Medical Center, Pocono Rd., Denville, NJ 07834. (201) 625-7101. Publishes the THE SELF-HELP SOURCE BOOK (\$8 third-class, \$9 first-class), a national listing of self-help groups and how to form one yourself. Call or write for information about a self-help group near you.

# Someone's Trash is My Treasure

File this story under the heading—"It Should Have Happened To Me." Security Guard II Al Ratner got off work at his usual time on January 22. On his way home he noticed a woman laying articles and appliances out on her lawn for a garage sale. Intrigued, Ratner stopped to check it out in hopes of finding some bargain.

One of the objects she put on her lawn was an ornately carved ivory vase. Ratner picked it up and asked how much it was. The woman who spoke only Spanish ignored him. Ratner then asked her in Spanish how much the vase cost. She looked at him then at the vase and said \$2. He paid for his vase and took it home.

It wasn't until he got home that he noticed an odd Chinese inscription on the bottom of the vase. "I fully expected it to say made in Taiwan or Hong Kong or something like that. But, no,



A \$2 vase now valued at \$50,000.

this lettering was carved on the base," Ratner said. Curious about the vase's origin and value Ratner showed it to RTD Investment Manager Mel Marquardt. Marquardt told him to go to Butterfield's, an auction house in West Los Angeles. Ratner followed up on the suggestion.

The appraiser at Butterfield's made Ratner an offer of \$50,000 after examining the vase. Not bad for a \$2 investment.



# Mystery Baby Contest

Can you recognize who this RTD staff member is from this baby picture? If you know who it is and you are the first person to call the *Headway* office you will win a complimentary prize courtesy of the Employee Activities Office. Call in your guess at 972-7165.

# **Axel's Green Thumb**

by Axel Heller

#### Fruit Trees & Shade

Early spring is the best time to plant deciduous fruit trees and shade trees. (Deciduous trees are those that lose their leaves seasonally). These trees have the advantage of providing cooling shade in the summer and allow the warming sun rays to pass through during the winter months after their leaves have fallen.

Before purchasing a tree or plant of any kind, consider the final location. Planting a tree near the house may, in the future, damage the drainage pipes, crack the driveway, and uplift the house foundation. Also consider whether the tree requires full sun light or some shade. Lastly, final growth size is very important. The size of the tree or plant in 10-15 years will be quite different from the size that it is today.

If you have limited space, such as a garden, dwarf fruit trees are very desirable. The tree provides some shade in the summer and also produces fruit for the table. The dwarf varieties will grow from 5 to 15 feet high or higher, depending upon the type that is selected. The most common fruit trees that do well in our climate are: plum, apricot, peach, nectarine, orange, and lemon. Apples and pears require a cold spell to bear fruit, but there are some varieties that are sold in this area that will bear fruit with a shorter cold spell.

These trees can be purchased two ways, as "bare-root" or in a container. These types are easy to plant. The bare-root trees are available from January through March, but the containered plants are available all year round at your local nursery or hardware store. Bare-root trees are normally sold with their roots in a plastic wrap that is filled with damp sawdust.

In order to plant a bareroot tree, dig a hole that will allow the roots to be spread out evenly. This hole should be slightly larger than the root area. Loosen up the soil and mix some amendments with the soil and add it back into the hole. The hole should be deep enough to compensate for this "backfilling." Spread the roots out evenly in the hole and make a note of the previous soil level on the stem. You do not want to have the new soil level to be above this mark (there should be a slight discoloration at this point on the stem). Hold the tree firmly and back-fill the hole with a mixture of soil amendments and the soil that was dug out. Tap the soil to pack it and add more soil mixture until the soil is level all around the base. Then build a ring to keep the water from running off. Soak it thoroughly.

In order to plant a tree that is in a container, such as an orange or lemon tree, the procedure is similar to a

continued on page 26...

## ...Green Thumb

... continued from page 25

bare-root tree. Dig the hole deeper using the container as a guide. Water the containered plant very well and then remove the plant. Loosen the root ball a little so that the roots can spread out and to make sure that the plant has not become root-bound (the roots have become so packed together that they could "strangle" the plant in the future).

For the really small garden, several of the different varieties of fruits can be grown in a single tree of the family by "grafting." For example, you can have oranges, lemons and grapefruit all on the same tree. You can also have avocados all year round by having different varieties that fruit at different times of the year. Grafting is done on a "root-stock" that is resistant to diseases and a good fruiting stock. The seedless navel orange, reproduced in this manner was discovered accidentally. **Next Month's Preview** 

When you purchase any type of fertilizer, you will notice that there are three numbers that are listed on the bag or box. These numbers relate to the percentages by weight of the three major nutrients that are required for proper growth. These nutrients are nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. An example would be 10-15-10, the first number gives the percentage by weight of the nitrogen content, 10%; the second is the percentage of the phosphorus content, 15%; and the third is the percentage of the potassium content, 10%. There are

several different combinations, and the choice of fertilizer depends on what is required for plant growth of either a green lawn or fruits and vegetables.

Next month I will discuss these different combinations along with the other nutrients that are required for proper plant growth (there are a total of 16 essential nutrients).

Axel Heller is a digital technician with the Facilities Maintenance Department. He has a bachelor's of science degree in park administration/ornamental horticulture from Cal Poly Pomona.

# Pvt. Crawford Completes Training

Private Tiffany Crawford, the daughter of Division 18 Operator Lois Crawford, visited her mother and her brother, Larry Joshua Crawford for the holidays.

Private Crawford is in the U. S. Army. Private Crawford completed her rigorous training at Fort Dix, New Jersey on November 18, 1989. During the commencement exercise, she was decorated with two medals, one for sharpshooter and the other for hand grenades. On February 10, she left for a tour of duty in Germany where she



Private Tiffany Crawford

will be trained in hospital administration.

Family and friends wish Private Crawford the best of luck in her endeavors and an abundance of love.

# **Old Habits Are Hard To Break**

by Forest N. Churchill, Division 15

After working 37 years for RTD, I find that I have developed certain habits. Here are just some of my acquired idiosyncrasies:

1) Many times I find myself following my old bus routes whenever I'm driving my car around town. If I don't do this, I'll get lost.

2) If I am driving my car in an area where I used to have a bus route a long time ago and have forgotten the streets, I am inclined to get lost.

3) I tend to drive in the far right lane when driving in my car.

4) Because I am in the right lane, I also notice people at the the bus stops.

5) Without thinking, twice I pulled over to a bus stop, put my hand on the passenger handle, and almost picked up passengers in my own car. I also got a lot of weird looks from the people.

6) One time in my car,

"Without thinking,
twice I pulled over
to a bus stop,
put my
hand on the
passenger handle,
and almost picked
up passengers in
my own car."

I even stopped at a railroad crossing before a green light and almost got rear-ended.

7) Sometimes I use my left leg to turn on the right or left signals in my car like you do on a bus.

8) Whenever I am watching television, I always notice RTD buses in the background of some programs.

9) I have become very time conscious over the years. I have 7 clocks in my bedroom, 3 in the bathroom, 5 in the living room, and 2 in the kitchen. They are all synchronized by the phone time. Naturally, I am always on time.

10) Of course, I never cut in front of a bus, even though at times they have cut me off.

# **Tommy the Shoeshine Man**

Across from the District Headquarters Building on Main St. stands a fixture on the landscape that's been there as long as this reporter can recall: a modest shoeshine shelter with four chairs for customers. Coming out of the building everyday, I'd pause for the crossing light and absently gaze at the man's back stooped over as he shined the shoes of his customers.

As soon as I'd crossed the street the image would fade and I'd go about my purpose for the moment.

Recently I'd gotten my shoes repaired at the La Fe Shoe Repair Shop down the street. Walking around in my newly patched-up shoes I noticed how dull they were. I felt kind of guilty because as an ex-Army brat I had been taught to shine my shoes every week. I think since I left home umpteen years ago I've shined my shoes once, maybe twice. Talk about rebellion. Anyway that's when I began to think about the shoeshine stand across the street.

I must admit that in the beginning I was daunted by the thought of it. I had never seen a woman get her shoes shined in public in my whole life. I think I had accepted shoeshine stands as male bastions. But these shoes needed shining and I knew I'd never get around to it. So, across the street I marched. Tentatively, I asked the shoeshine man if he shined ladies' shoes. I know that some of you who know me might find that question a little presumptuous, but I think I was intimidated by the three men already seated in the stand. The shoeshine man, I found out is Elton Thomas. He likes to be called Tommy.

Tommy said yes to me and offered me a seat. I sat next to a plainsclothes policeman. The cop turned to me and said: "I've never seen a woman get her shoes shined before." Thank you Mr. Cop, I surely didn't need to feel anymore conspicuous than I already felt.

Tommy said he had some woman customers, a lot of them were bus drivers. He smiled up at me and said, "Women are a lot better tippers than men." My hero, I thought as I smiled back at the cop.

Tommy, 56, wears a heavy overcoat over his blue smock and a hat during winter to keep the cold away. He has been working on this same corner for the last 18 years. When asked why Main St., Tommy answered, "Somebody's got to work somewhere, not everybody can work in Beverly Hills." He has a license and pays \$300 a month rent to keep the stand open.

Monday through Friday, Tommy is out on the street from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tommy's the unofficial historian of Main St. He's seen just about everything that has passed in his time here. "This neighborhood used to be nice, had a lot of class. Down the block you had Jeffries Banknote, the



Elton "Tommy" Elton gives a shiner to RTD Personnel Analyst Luanna Urie.

bank across the street, the Stock Exchange on Spring St. It got slummy about 13 years ago." But, one thing is for sure, Tommy is never bored, nor can he report any dull moments in his shop.

"It's a live movie out here. When I go home I don't have to turn on the TV. I've seen enough for the day," he said.

But despite the drug addicts, drunks, prostitutes, panhandlers, and assorted crazies that comprise our neighborhood, Tommy reports that he is never bothered by them. "I know how to handle all kinds. I got a line for all of them. The baddest things here are the winos, they just afraid of running out of wine. Crack dealers? Don't bother me, I don't bother them. Sometimes the homeless ask me for money, but they know I don't go for that c-."

Tommy has had somewhat of a peripatetic work career. Originally from the Houston-area of Texas and one of 11 children, Tommy has worked in the

rice fields, supermarkets in Washington, D.C., and done farmwork in California. He learned to shine shoes by watching other people.

By the end of the day his hands are stained by all the colors he has used. "I use a mixture of ajax and lava soap to get the shoe polish off. I really take my time to do it."

The day I got my shoes shined was Inauguration Day-January 20. Naturally, the conversation turned to politics. "What do you think of Bush?" I ask.

"Bush will be ok. It's got to get better. Can't depend on him, though, got to get it done yourself...Republicans or Democrats, who are better for business? I can't hardly tell the difference, to tell you the truth."

He does remember all the commotion the day the First Lady, Barbara Bush, visited the Midnight Mission during the election campaign. Politicians are not strangers to Tommy. He has done the shoes of a few local notables including City Councilman Nate Holden, the Mexican Consul, INS Regional Commissioner Harold Ezell, and secret service agents.

The conversation trails off and Tommy greets folks who pass by on the sidewalk, "How you doing?"

"Hey, que paso?"

As he buffs the leather on my shoes he restores the luster I vaguely remember from the day I bought them. They look nice, presentable. I think my father would be proud. Tommy helps me down. He charges \$2 for shoes and \$2.50 for boots. Of course, I leave him a nice tip. -Mary Reyna

# TRIBUTE TO OUR BUS DRIVERS

—composed by Anita Gabel, a bus rider from Duarte, California. Here's to our Bus Drivers, Far and wide, Who carries their cargo, With the greatest of pride.

Here's to our Bus Drivers,
What a style!!
Steadily adding mile after mile.
Courteous and thoughtful,
All the while,
While giving service,
With a smile.

Always dependable,
And, always, on time,
Putting their very lives
on the line.

Here's to our Bus Drivers, so fine and trim, Fighting a battle, they, too, must win.

Constantly administering, to our needs, By silently contributing, With many good deeds.

Careful and cautious,
Mile after mile,
Thinking of their passengers,
all the while.

Here's to our Bus Drivers,
Great their fight,
Giving Service,
Both Day and Night.
Entrusted with many a life,
Each Day,
Gallantly, and safely,
Go on their way.
Delivering all
For, both work and play.

Medals are earned,
By many a hero,
Let's pin one,
on an un-sung hero!
Why have we waited,
so long to see,
What they have done,
For you and me?

It's time we recognized,

Heroes, as these, Who, daily, contribute, to our ease.

Who constantly give,
Of their souls, and worth,
Making it easier,
For us, on Earth.

Deserving the finest,

That we can give,

Worthy of all,

For which they live.

So, 3 cheers for the Bus Drivers, And medals, galore!! For they have earned plenty, Of them, and, more!

And, when on Earth,
Their task is done,
And they stand before
The Almighty One;
A special place,
There'll be set apart,
For God will take them
To His heart.

They'll be received
With open arms,
And shielded from
All Earthly harm.

They'll hear the words,
"Your task,—Well Done!
A G-R-E-A-T-E-R Medal,
you have won."

"You've done for others,
Everyday!"

No greater honor,
can I say,"
"Enter in, you're home to stay.
Where you'll be happy,
Everyday."

So, Give the Medals,
Far and Near,
While all these Heroes
Yet, can hear
Bouquets and Medals,
Should be given
While the Heroes
are still livin.'

## **Restaurant Review**

by Susan Harvey, Div. 15 Asst. Manager

There are many good Chinese restaurants in the Los Angeles area, some of the best are in Chinatown. We are fortunate that within Los Angeles all the many styles of Chinese cooking are available to us-Cantonese, Mandarin, Szechuan, Hunan, etc.

In Hong Kong dim sum (tea cakes) are world famous. In both Chinatown and Monterey Park you can get some the best dim sum in the world. My favorite restaurant for dim sum is Tai Hong on North Broadway. Tea cakes are filled with a variety of foods such as shrimp, chicken, beef, pork, and an unusual selection of vegetables. They are prepared in different ways: steamed, fried, baked, and barbequed.

What I really enjoy in Chinese food is that it uses seafood in so many different styles of cooking. One restaurant that we enjoy going to is the Regent Seafood Restaurant in Chinatown, right across the street from Phillipe's on North Main Street.

The food at the Regent is excellent and affordable as well. The lunch specials are about half the price of dinner and good quality for the price. The dinners are outstanding. Let us start the meal with soup: we like the Seafood Special Soup or the Winter Melon Soup which should be ordered in advance. The Shredded Chicken Salad is very good and tasty, also, we usually like to have the whole Crab

with Garlic Sauce and the stir-fried whole Shrimp with Spicy Salt. Anytime that you see Kung Pao remember it's spicy, it's made with peanuts and don't eat the chile unless you want to wake up your taste buds! Try the Catfish steamed with garlic sauce. Also, the crispy Fried Chicken is exceptional, the skin is crisp and the chicken is very moist. Try the Minced Squab wrapped in lettuce. Don't forget when ordering Chinese food, always order at least one vegetable dish. Depending on the season Snow Peas with Mushrooms or Broccoli are good.

> "...some of the best are in Chinatown..."

Most of us were raised going to Chinese restaurants where you ordered pre-set dinners, so you made no selections. If you have never tried ordering on your own, ask the waiter for help. If you want to try remember one main dish per person including your vegetable dish and be sure to order rice. Try to get a variety of dishes, one chicken, one seafood, one beef, etc. Also, don't order all spicy or all garlic sauce, try to mix and match. Remember, variety is the spice of life.

> Regent Seafood Restaurant 747 North Main St. Los Angeles, California (213) 680-3333



## **Our Rating System**

\*\*\*\*\* A classic; The Philadelphia Story

Excellent; well worth seeing

Average; s'okay

Fair; decidedly flawed

Poor; don't bother BOMB -Mother Carev's Chickens; the reason Katherine Hepburn knew it was time to leave RKO.

#### Working Girl - \*\*\*\*

One of the biggest losses with the end of the "Golden Age" of Hollywood was the death of the romantic comedy. Back in the 30's and 40's, when the Hayes Code declared even married couples must have separate twin beds, the emphasis was on the chase, not the consummation. Dialogue had to take the place of these slow-motion, artsily lit and filmed love scenes that are currently popular. You know the ones I mean.

Working Girl is a refreshing comedy that hearkens back to those earlier days. The plot is contemporary, yet classic; a secretary, trying to get the big break, goes to her boss with an idea. After due consideration, she's told, "No go, but nice try, kid," only to discover that the boss is promoting the idea as her own. With the boss away, the secretary decides to do her own promotion. Presenting herself as part of her boss' staff (which is technically true), she connects with the man with whom her boss wanted to work, and cuts the deal herself.

You have a good idea how everything is going to turn out when you enter the theater; you know our intrepid heroine will make it and find true love, our hero will learn love is more than closing a deal, and the boss will get her comeuppance. The pleasure is how it's done, what twists and turns they encounter along the way.

Melanie Griffith plays Tess, a girl from workingclass Brooklyn who's gone to night school to get her degree, taking speech lessons to improve her oral presentation, and keeping her eyes and ears open for anything useful. Griffith won a Golden Globe for this role, and I believe she deserves an Oscar nomination. Watching Tess, listening to her, she could easily fit into the offices here without causing any comment; in short, totally believable as a secretary.

I know a number of people who have been Ford Fanatics since Star Wars. Since then, people have come to realize that he is actually a good actor, but his mainstream roles have never capitalized on the comedic talents that are apparent in his roles as Han Solo and Indiana Jones.

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## ... Movies

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Here, he's a former fast-tracker who seems to be suffering from burnout, desperately looking for the deal that will get him back on top. When Tess hooks up with him, he likes her idea, but isn't too sure about her methods, especially when they crash a wedding to meet with someone. It's a fine performance, and will hopefully inspire some people to find more like it for him.

The other member of the triangle is probably also going to be an Oscar contender, although not necessarily for this role. Sigourney Weaver moves from the drama of Gorillas in the Mist to the role of "the boss from Hell." She's charming, smooth, and convinces you that she's your friend even as she stabs you in the back. I've had bosses like this (No, Ed, not right now).

I'm recommending this one highly. It was funny, fast-moving, and entertaining. It's just the type of movie I wish they'd make more often.

# Dangerous Liaisons - \*\*-1/2

I thought for a while before giving this movie that rating. For three quarters of the film, I found it entertaining and witty. Then they mucked it up. Much has been made of Glenn Close's performance here, and with good reason. Although she plays an eighteenth century French marquise, there's no feeling with her that this is a period piece. She has a plum role as a manipulator and schemer, and she does

it wonderfully, while putting the audience firmly in her court. And that is the primary reason to see this film.

Based upon both a stage play and a novel, Dangerous Liaisons is the age-old story of the battle between the sexes, and between virtue and vice. A marquise, seeking revenge upon a former lover who jilted her, asks another former lover to help her by seducing the convent-raised girl the first lover intends to take to wife. Her co-conspirator replies that the idea is too easy, not worthy of his talents, and offers another bargain; he's going to seduce a married woman famed for her virtue. If he does so, and gets proof in writing, the marquise will grant him one night with her. She agrees, and he sets about it, managing to seduce the virgin along the way.

Now, you know with a setup like this, someone is bound to get hurt, but there is a moment when the play shifts from a combination of farce and drama to simple melodrama. Almost everyone dies, with last words that say that this is the punishment for their sins. The marquise is exposed. and becomes a social outcast. Severe depression. I know the filmmakers were trying to say something about life, love, and virtue. but it got lost in the deathbed confessions and exposures. I'd actually recommend you might want to wait for the video to come out on this one; don't pay the money for the theater.

For those of you who've already seen the film, and were disappointed as I by the ending, take heart. Even now, John Milius is finishing his own version of the tale which will hit the theaters later this year. The differences between the two interpretations should be interesting.

Time for Oscar predictions. Once again, this is being written before nominations are even announced, so I'm shooting in the dark. I've had a pretty good track record though, but not that much has struck me this year as true Oscar potential. Here are a few suggestions, though, of who I'd like to see.

Rain Man will probably get the Best Picture nod. It's the type of film the Academy likes, although comedies like Working Girl and Who Framed Roger Rabbit at least deserve a nod. Dustin Hoffman will probably cop his second Oscar for his role as the autistic savant in Rain Man, and with good reason. For Best Actress, Sigourney Weaver and Melanie Griffith may go head to head, as both won Golden Globes, Griffith for comedy, Weaver for Drama. On the other hand, they may cancel each other out. The one I feel most strongly about this year is Best Supporting, for which Martin Landau deserves at least a nomination for his fine work in Tucker. He's a very talented actor who's been severely underrated all these years.

That's it for this month, and for the Oscars. Summer's just around the corner, and it's going to be a big one this year: Star Trek V, Ghostbusters II, Beverly Hills Cop III, Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, and those are just releases from Paramount Studios. Also, Gone With the Wind is fifty

years old this year, and we'll be looking at what many consider the finest example of the Hollywood style.

> Be seeing you — Carolyn Kinkead

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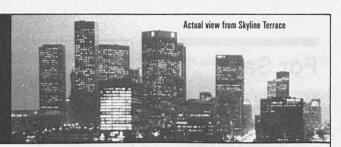
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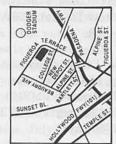
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