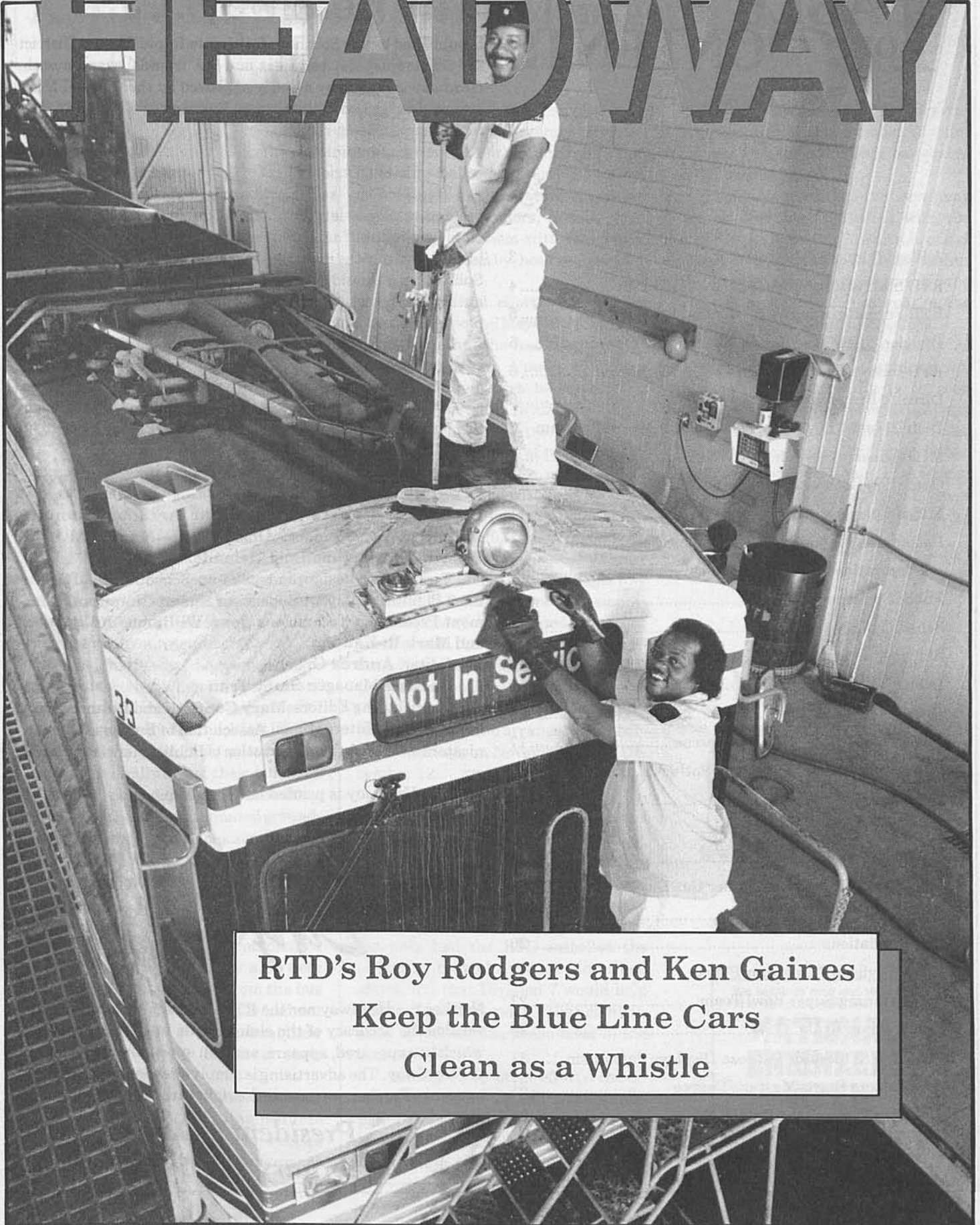


# HEADWAY



**RTD's Roy Rodgers and Ken Gaines  
Keep the Blue Line Cars  
Clean as a Whistle**

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## The Headway . . .

is published by the Southern California Rapid Transit District for the employees, retirees, and its friends every month. *Headway* is guided by a policy approved by the General Manager and published in the Human Resources Policy Manual. A copy is available on request.

Views and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect official District policy.

The *Headway* welcomes contributions from RTD employees and retirees—letters to the editor, story ideas, opinions, employee and staff activities, and other submissions. Deadline is the first day of the month for inclusion in the following month. Submissions should be typed double-space and signed by the author or on disk using the WordPerfect program. Opinion pieces and letters to the editor should not be more than 500 words and should be submitted on disk whenever possible. The editor reserves the right to select, edit, and position all copy.

Stories may be reprinted with acknowledgment of source.

**Editorial Office:** Administration Building, 425 S. Main St., Human Resources Department, Second Floor, (213) 972-7165.

Printing Services Section Staff: Photo Lithographic Operators—**Rob Hartert** and **Ferrol Yeakle**; Pressmen II—**Pat Bates**, **Eliud Castellanos**, **Oscar Arzadon**, **Roberto Arrivillaga**; and Bindery Operators II—**Manny Alvarez**, **Walt Billingsley**, and **Luis Melendez**.

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**Member:** International Association of Business Communicators and California Association of Public Information Officers.

The *Headway* is printed on recycled paper.



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**President's Day**  
**February 17, 1992**

# A Word from the General Manager

## *Division 7 and the Good Neighbor Policy*



All of us at the District put in many hours working to keep our patrons happy. So, it might seem unusual when some employees also spend time trying to help our neighbors.

But, that's what happened beginning last October when the residents of an apartment house bordering the Division 7 property line in West Hollywood noticed strong fuel odors in the garage and hallways of their building. The residents notified local authorities, who found diesel-contaminated groundwater flowing into a drainage sump beneath the garage.

This incident served as the trigger for a list of complaints the residents of Huntley Drive had against the RTD. In addition to fuel odors, they complained about exhaust fumes. They also were upset about noise coming from the bus yard. And, they said the RTD had not been responsive to concerns about their health, their quality of life or their property values.

In this potentially dangerous situation, however, the RTD jumped into action and several departments began coordinating the District's emergency

response. Facilities Engineering immediately tackled the groundwater contamination problem by bringing in pump trucks to clear the building's sump. Community Affairs staff members worked with neighbors, and in some cases, provided them with temporary lodging in a nearby hotel at District expense.

These initial efforts, directed by Chief Engineer Phil Meyers, were aimed at getting rid of the fuel that was collecting in the sump. A pump with filter and skimmer devices to extract the diesel was installed in the apartment building's garage. It pumped out as much as 5,000 gallons of treated water per day. The RTD also equipped the apartment building with vent systems for the sump and for an elevator shaft.

While these efforts were under way, Community Affairs Director Manny Hernandez, Public Affairs Manager Ray Harris and Public Affairs Representative Mark Mayemura were in constant contact with the Huntley Drive neighbors. They answered a barrage of questions about the District's activities, provided liaison between residents and RTD engineers and arranged neighborhood meetings on November 4 and December 12.

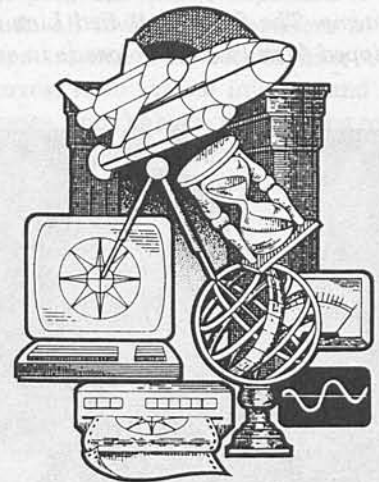
At the December 12 meeting, Director Gordana Swanson introduced AGM Gary Spivack, AGM Art Leahy, AGM John Richeson, Phil Meyers, Division 7 Manager Bill Griffin, Maintenance Manager Emilio Caballero and others. They were able to report that not only had the RTD installed the pollution control systems described above, but that Division 7 would help restore peace and quiet in the neighborhood by cutting the noise level in the bus yard.

Among many other efforts, the division announced an educational campaign to alert operators to the neighbors' complaints. Yard speeds were limited to eight miles per hour, "No Park-

ing" signs were placed along the property line wall and a number of other actions were taken by Division personnel to reduce noise.

The residents of Huntley Drive may not be completely satisfied with the situation at Division 7, which is one of the District's most active divisions. But the immediate concern shown by the RTD is an excellent example of the District's "good neighbor" policy.

This experience reminds us that as employees of a tax-supported agency, we have a responsibility to be good neighbors to those homeowners, apartment dwellers and businesses whose property stands near District facilities. It also proved, once again, that we can pull together and accomplish great things when we are faced with problems of this magnitude.



We salute all men and women in this fine profession everywhere.

**NATIONAL  
ENGINEERS  
WEEK**

February 16-22, 1992

# RTD Staff is Raring to Go on the Red Line

*Two District Task Forces Pave the Way for a Shipshape Start*



Alan Pegg, RTD general manager, hops aboard a Miami rail vehicle, which is very similar to the cars being made for the Red Line. This train, which is one of two leased from Miami, enables staff to conduct the necessary testing of track and power systems. The first "real" Red Line car, manufactured in Italy, is expected to be shipped from Pueblo, Colorado in several weeks.



Alan Pegg checks out the controls of a Miami car.

Primed for RTD's operation of the Red Line next year, Alan Pegg, general manager, Art Leahy, assistant general manager of operations, John Byrd, Division 20 manager, John St. Cyr, Red Line TOS, and Jim Smart, press relations manager, recently made a morning of it on the rails. The team sought refuge from a driving January rain in the Metro Rail tunnel, the first time a couple members of the party had been down under since the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission assumed responsibility for the completion of the project 18 months ago. Riding aboard a 1972 Dodge truck equipped to slide on the tracks, staff traveled the subway from the old Yards and Shops Building (now called Division 20) to the Metro Center Station at the corner of Seventh and Flower streets downtown.

Along the two mile route, workers and their equipment dotted the insides of the tunnel, putting the finishing touches on their transportation extravaganza. (Revenue operation for the Red Line is officially scheduled for June 1993. However, the opening of the line could be moved ahead from one to six months, which means that opening day could come as soon as this December. Whatever the date, workers in the tunnel say they're under an April deadline to complete work on the stations.)

When workers saw the familiar truck, dubbed the "Pink Lady," they waved and cleared the track, looking to see who was aboard. On previous occasions, the people mover has carried senators, congressman and Mayor Bradley, all of whom descend periodically into the tunnel to scope the progress of work.

The truck's inventor, Greg Braley, a former tile superintendent at the Metro Center Station said he built his vehicle "on a lark" to move the tiles in and out of the tunnel. The truck was

*continued on page 15 . . .*

# RTD Formalizes Injury Prevention Program

*Safety Section Authors Comprehensive Program*

**Y**ou are a bus operator who notices a hazard on the road. In the past, when you've observed an unsafe condition, you've undoubtedly gone back to your division and filled out a general miscellaneous report -- one used for all types of incidents. This month, you will be given a special form, one specific to the type of problem you're encountering.

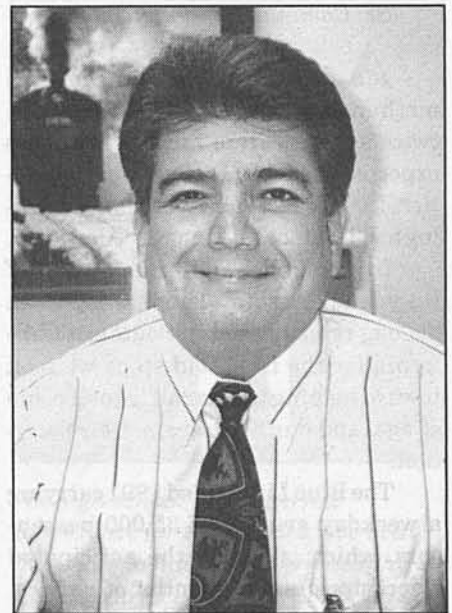
Your form will be tracked and a written response forthcoming, as called for under the District's new comprehensive Injury and Illness Prevention program. Coordinated by Safety Manager Robert Torres and his staff, the program reiterates the District's policy to provide safe, working conditions for all employees and to promote continuing, vital safety awareness at all levels, from top management to the individual worker. Key to the success of the program is the support of General Manager Alan Pegg, who has declared in writing the District's commitment to providing a safe and healthful work place with proper tools and machines to do the job without danger to life or health.

The program, a year in the making, is in compliance with a new California law that became effective last July. The bill, proposed by State Senator Bill Greene and signed by Governor George Deukmejian in 1989, requires that every employer establish, implement, and maintain an effective written injury prevention program and provide specified training of employees in general.

"Before this legislation, the law was very vague and open on how accident prevention should be implemented," said Torres. "The old regulation did not mandate that the program be in writing. Now the specifics are in one binder and an employee and supervisor can use it to better understand accountability."

"It's like wanting to do repairwork," clarifies Torres, but if you don't have the manual, it's a trial and error process."

Torres says his staff will be on the road over the next six months setting up additional training programs for employees. For years, the District has conducted outstanding training programs in several departments, but now



*Robert Torres*

the program will be expanded to include all levels of supervisors in all departments. The bottom line, says Torres, is to reduce injuries and illnesses, and the ever-multiplying costs which are associated with them.

## Division 11 Mourns Passing of Operator, Teacher Oswald



*Headway* is sad to report that Blue Line Operator Harry Oswald, featured in the September, 1991 issue of *Headway*, passed away at his San Gabriel home on January 12.

Oswald, who had a passion for trains and their history, also taught world history at Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra. "Very rarely," said his boss, Division 11 manager Jess Diaz, "do we get to achieve both our loves."

Oswald had just completed his application for rail operations supervisor, and was looking forward to the

selection process, according to Diaz. An 11-year veteran of RTD, Oswald was honored by the District's Board of Directors in July for being named Rail Operator of the Second Quarter of 1991.

The grandfather of seven, said Diaz, "was all jazzed" because high school teachers and administrators had planned a big retirement party in his honor. Last June, he celebrated 30 years of teaching at the school he himself had graduated from years earlier.

Services were held Saturday, January 18 at First United Methodist Church in San Gabriel.

# RTD Innovations Highlight 1991

*Achievements are the Blue Line and Advances in Emissions Control*

by Greg Davy,  
Sr. Communications Rep.

**A**spectacularly successful methanol experiment coupled with twice as much Blue Line ridership as expected made 1991 a year of distinction for District achievement, according to RTD General Manager Alan Pegg.

In recalling the milestone events of the year, Pegg said: "The year 1991 will be long remembered in Southern California for the first bold steps we took toward helping public rail transit come of age, and our fight against air pollution."

The Blue Line ended 1991 carrying a weekday average of 35,000 passengers, which is double the anticipated ridership after 18 months of service. The Blue Line celebrated its first anniversary July 14, 1991.

"Our train operators have compiled an enviable safety record," Pegg said. "Their efforts, along with all the RTD Blue Line personnel who work to keep the trains clean and safe, are the reason so many people are riding and enjoying the smoothness and comfort of the trains."

RTD also completed a two-year test experiment in which 30 buses powered by methanol fuel, a cleaner-burning alternative to diesel, were put through the rigors of everyday service on RTD bus lines.

"I am proud of the District's efforts in demonstrating that methanol is a clean burning fuel of the future, and for opening its state-of-the-art emissions testing facility," Pegg said. "Transit operators around the world now are looking to RTD for guidance as they act to cut their own emissions."

Because of the demonstration's success, RTD has ordered 202 more methanol buses. They are scheduled to go into service in late 1992.

Other highlights of 1991:

■ RTD and Catellus Development Corp. agreed that the San Francisco-

based firm will design a new headquarters building. The building, to be part of a transportation complex known as the Gateway Center, will be erected near Union Station in downtown Los Angeles. It will serve as a hub for commuter rail, subway and buses in the central business district.

■ The District nearly doubled the size of its Transit Police force to 200 officers, who launched foot patrols in the Van Nuys area in the San Fernando Valley and on Broadway in downtown Los Angeles. The beefed-up force al-

lowed Transit Police to place more undercover officers aboard buses and increase its anti-graffiti task force to more effectively combat RTD's \$12 million-a-year graffiti and vandalism problem.

■ RTD gave a green light to a feasibility study for bringing electric trolleybuses back to Los Angeles. RTD's transit systems planners hope that electricity, one of the cleanest fuels in existence, can play a role in RTD's bus fleets of the future.

*continued on page 31 . . .*

## Director Braude is in Driver's Seat

**R**TD Director Evan Braude, saying he finds the background of RTD much more exciting than the Board meetings on Thursday, hopped into the driver's seat of an RTD bus parked at the Central Maintenance Facility on the morning of January 8. With Art Leahy, assistant general manager of operations, at his side, the Long Beach city councilman took the wheel, maneuvering the four ton vehicle around the property.

"You were really good at driving the bus -- you didn't run over anything," kidded Leahy, who has watched several directors in the past nervously engage in a similar exercise.

Smiling, Braude vowed he would continue to visit with RTD employees at their facilities so that he could better shape transportation policy. "Our family has always had an interest in transportation (his father-in-law is Congressman Glenn Anderson, the former head of the powerful House Transportation Committee.) "I worked for Eastern Airlines in college and eventually, as an attorney, for the Secretary of Transportation. Whether it be a surface issue or



an air concern, I've always gotten involved. For all of these reasons, I find RTD interesting, fascinating."

"I used to think RTD was hard and fixed and couldn't make changes. I've found that they are much more flexible than I had believed."

Braude says when he joined the Board last year, there was "a lot of potential for turmoil because of reorganization. I think it's (the turmoil) inevitable."

Even though Braude represents Long Beach, he says his constituents rely, not only on the Blue Line, but on RTD's bus service. "Long Beach Transit doesn't serve the outside area," he says. "People are very concerned they can get to where they want to go."

# District Institutes Perfect Attendance Award Program

*More Than Six Percent of Employees Did Not Miss Work in 1991*

Almost five hundred RTD employees racked up perfect attendance for the last calendar year, according to District attendance records. And, as part of RTD's on-going efforts to encourage good attendance and reduce the District's absenteeism rate, the District has begun a Perfect Attendance Award program, according to Alan Pegg, general manager.

A special plaque, engraved with the name of each recipient, will be awarded to each employee who attains a perfect attendance record for calendar year 1992. To be eligible for the award an employee must be a permanent full-time or part-time employee; be employed the entire year; not miss any scheduled work time except for the following reasons: vacation, holidays, jury duty, military leave, bereavement, and subpoenaed court appearances.

To kick-off the program, those 495 employees who achieved perfect attendance for calendar year 1991 will be awarded engraved plaques and recognized at a ceremony at their work location.

Congratulations to those whose names appear below; they set a perfect attendance record last year!

◆◆ 1100 ◆◆

Pegg, Alan F

◆◆ 1400 ◆◆

Bright, Bernard F  
Ek, John D

◆◆ 1600 ◆◆

Holahan, Michael C

◆◆ 1700 ◆◆

Newjahr, Dennis J  
Schlegel, Larry L

◆◆ 1800 ◆◆

Barr, Larry D  
Calles, Fernando R  
Campbell, Norma V

Cannon, Robert D  
Chaney, Jerry  
Cullen, Mary V  
Flowers, Dennis  
Gordon, Mark D  
Grimes, James A  
Jones, Johnnie  
Jones, Raymond  
Labayna, Edgardo Y  
Lee, Jim  
Mooyman, Peter R  
Putman, Sterling E  
Reitz, Anthony J  
Schott, Joseph J  
Serrano, Jo Ann  
Willis, James T

◆◆ 2200 ◆◆

Sterling, Benjamin J

◆◆ 2300 ◆◆

Abernatha, Sharyn P  
Neeson, Ann M

◆◆ 3099 ◆◆

Mathy, Donald J

◆◆ 3201 ◆◆

Gentry, Gary M  
Glidewell, Roy D  
Turner, Kimberly D

◆◆ 3203 ◆◆

Cote, Alfred J  
Haro, Manny J  
Nguyen, Joseph H  
Paz, Jose D  
Shankle, Braxton C  
Starks, Roy L

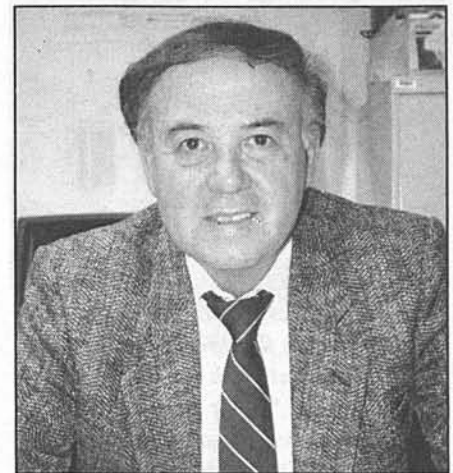
◆◆ 3205 ◆◆

Frazier, Diane A  
Morris, Michael S  
Winston, Patricia

◆◆ 3206 ◆◆

Keck, Patricia M  
Lensch, Martin G  
Merriweather, Welton D

*continued on page 8 . . .*



*"In high school, I had perfect attendance for three years. I've been fortunate to have been very healthy in the 13 years I've worked at the RTD. I've had only five sick days in those years and I've accumulated more than 1400 sick hours." -- Armando Carrillo, electronic maintenance supervisor.*



*"I started out as an operator and they tell you not to have missouts. It's something that has been instilled in you, so I come to work for sympathy when I'm sick because at home my dog, Patricia, doesn't give me any." -- Patsy Goens, assistant division manager, Division 12*

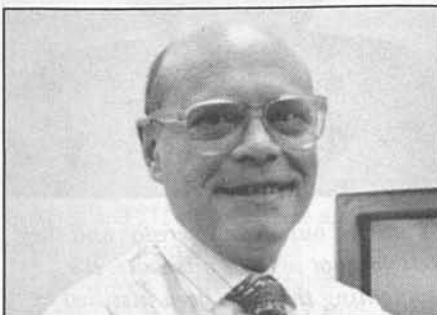
# RTD Salutes Perfect Attendance



*"For me, perfect attendance is whether or not I get the flu. When I was a postal assistant back in 1971, I had a friend tell me, "Don't waste your sick time feeling sick. If you're going to feel terrible, come to work" -- Ed Langer, Corporate Transit Partnership Program.*



*"I enjoy coming to work every day. I've been blessed with somewhat good health to this point." -- Ray Harris, public affairs manager, who's achieved a perfect attendance record since he started with the District in September 1988.*



*"I think my job is fun, and I like my boss (Gary Clark). I think I've said enough to get my raise." -- Bernard "Tad" Bright, secretary in government and press relations.*

## ◆◆ 3207 ◆◆

Alleyne, David  
Burnette, Columbus  
Carrington, Wilma J  
Collins, David  
Crane, Larry J  
Fair, Freddie J  
Fields, Harold  
Mahome, Derick  
Mattocks, Thomas L  
Rey, Glen F  
Vejar, Scott L

## ◆◆ 3208 ◆◆

Carnival, Melvin J  
Dominguez, Albert  
Dominguez, Antenor  
Frawley, Daniel P  
Kelley-Yanuzzi, Lorene  
Maizland, Gerald G  
Sevilla, Charlie  
Singh, Mandeep

## ◆◆ 3209 ◆◆

Frizielle, Evelyn M  
Jefferson, Anthony L  
Palmer, Michael C

## ◆◆ 3210 ◆◆

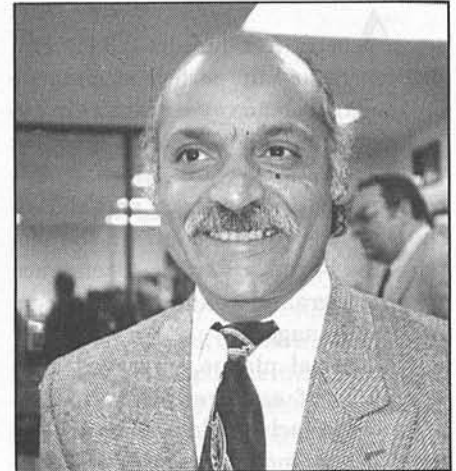
Anderson, Charles H  
Cazarez, Alejandro S  
Foley, Lloyd R  
Higgins, Donna T  
Hill, Eddie W  
Iverson, Benny R  
Kerslake, Condred  
Molano, Jose V  
Neill, Theodore M

## ◆◆ 3212 ◆◆

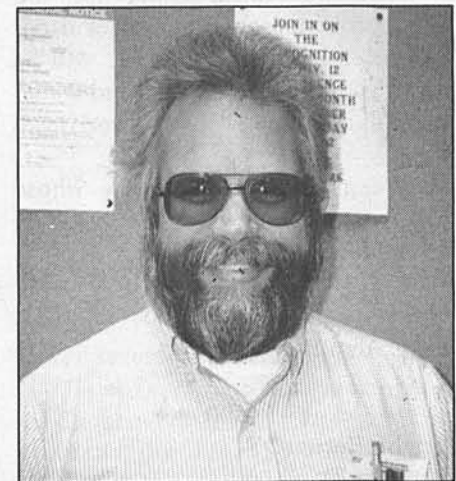
Goens, Patsy L  
Hollis, Harold  
Ragan, Patricia A

## ◆◆ 3215 ◆◆

Blake, Darlene  
Lawson, Frashier L  
Medina, Cristobal A  
Owens, Stanley L



*"I like my job. I like the people I work with. My colleagues are what motivates me to come to work. I don't want to drop the ball on my part, because as part of the team, I want to keep the team going." -- Harold Hollis, transportation manager, Division 12.*



*"I feel that my job is very important. I feel like I have an obligation to the company to do the best that I can." -- Jon Harting, equipment maintenance supervisor at Division 12 (Long Beach), who compiled a perfect attendance record for the three years he worked with RTD as a mechanic.*

*continued on page 24. . .*



# RTD Pioneers New Phone System

*Telephone Voice Puts RTD Miles Ahead in Patron Route Information*

by Anthony Greno  
Press Relations Rep.

It's not exactly Artie Shaw on the jazz clarinet, but the voice on the telephone can be music to the ears of thousands of RTD patrons seeking route and schedule information.

He's ARTI, a synthesized male voice who responds to queries over the RTD's new 1-900 line for telephone information to the public, particularly members of the Corporate Transit Partnership.

ARTI, which stands for RTI, or Regional Transportation Information Network, is the creation of the telephone information section of the Customer Relations Department to answer queries originating from another recent creation, the Transit Code Directory.

The directory, containing 25,000 codes of seven digits each for bus reference points in Los Angeles County, can be used by the general public or by members of the Corporate Transit Partnership to instantly obtain from the RTD an optimal bus trip. Distribution of the directory is scheduled for the first quarter of 1992.

And what is an "optimal trip?" It's the most desirable route using the easiest combination of transit operators to get from Point A to Point B and back for today's bus patron.

The new number for obtaining instant design of bus trips is 1-900-505-1000. A synthesized voice answers, "Hello, I'm ARTI..." and goes into a spiel on how to obtain the information sought.

The caller is instructed to enter information by using a touchtone telephone in a manner similar to bank services that provide information on the most recent checks paid out of checking accounts.

Basically what happens once the seven-digit code for the patron's starting place, destination point, arrival and

starting times are entered is that the synthesized voice of ARTI gives instructions on the bus line to take, a transfer to another line if needed, the arrival time, and the total fare. The same occurs for the return trip of a commuter.

Access is easy for Corporate Transit Partnership members, because each employer site has its own seven digit code. The general public will have access by using the directory to find the right codes for starting place and destination, which commonly are major cross streets. The directory is to be available for \$1 per copy at newsstands and convenience stores, similar to the sale of bus books in other counties.

• • •

ARTI and the Transit Code Directory are spin-offs of RTD's upgraded telephone information system, which keeps advancing like Star Trek movies into new frontiers of the acronym galaxy.

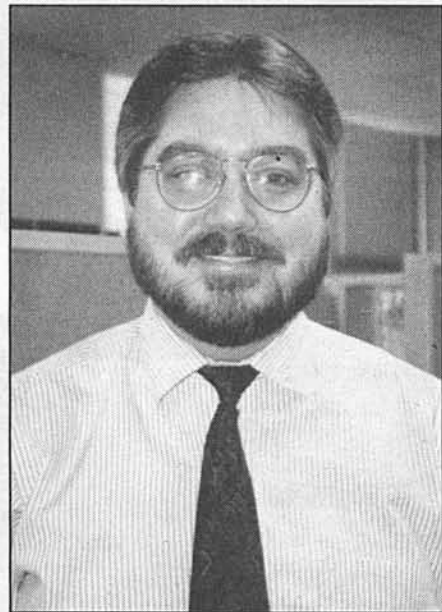
The newest frontier in RTD's automated information trek—started more than a decade ago—is CCIS, the Computerized Customer Information System.

"The CCIS is the newest of its kind in the country," said Doug Anderson, customer information systems coordinator for RTD's Customer Relations Department.

"It allows an operator to keyboard or punch up information for any caller from the five-county service area and then display routing and line options on a computer screen."

The five-county service area is composed of Los Angeles County as the base, surrounded by Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

"RTD pioneered this with a pilot in 1979, and phased it into full scale from 1983 to 1985," Anderson said.



Doug Anderson

"To make up a trip, you almost always need to take two RTD buses. RTD operates on a grid system, and the average trip on our system is four miles," Anderson noted.

"We need to put together the optimal trip," Anderson continued. "So, we added in the other carriers who operate in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. If we can use a combination of other services (of bus transit operators), we'll do it. That helps us compete with our real competitor—the automobile."

Thus the RTD has assembled a computerized telephone information service with universal features for bus patrons from a potential five-county area.

A trip inquiry provided by Translink—the service offered by Corporate Transit Partnership—combined a Foothill Transit bus with an RTD line to transport a passenger in Pomona to Pasadena. The cost to the consumer using ARTI is being kept low. "We plan to charge 35 cents a minute," Anderson said. "Any call can be done in two minutes, or 70 cents. That will still be less than the basic RTD bus fare of \$1.10."

# Operation Control's Stan Bennett Retires



"He's like the boss of the office," says Dan Ibarra, director of transportation. "My employees knew not to make a mess in the stock room. He posted a sign in the room that read, 'Your Mother doesn't work here.' His dry wit and humor make him one of a kind."

## Here's to Stan Bennett —The Great Survivor

Stan was born before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, contact lenses, Xerox, and plastic frisbees. He was around before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and even ball point pens... before panty hose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets... and before man walked on the moon.

... In his time, bunnies were small rabbits, and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer jeans were girls named Jean and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins.

To Stan, time-sharing meant togetherness... not computers or condominiums. A chip was a piece of wood. Hardware meant hardware and software wasn't even a word.

Stan remembers when the term "making out" referred to how he did on his school exams. He hit the scene when there were five and 10 cent stores where he could actually buy things for five and

10 cents. Ice cream parlors sold cones for a nickel or two scoops for a dime. For a nickel he could ride the streetcar, make a phone call, buy a Coke, or enough stamps to mail a letter and two postcards. New Chevys were selling for \$500... but who could afford one? What a shame with gasoline 11 cents a gallon.

Can you imagine not only hanging on for over 65 years, but working for RTD for almost half of his life in a world like this? Stan did and now he's ready to go on to the better things he'll find in retirement, truly, one of the **GREATEST SURVIVORS OF ALL TIMES**. Keep in touch Stan, we love you.

Jeff and Lillian Diehl

*Editor's Note: The above speech was delivered by Bennett's former boss, Jeff Diehl at a retirement party held in Bennett's honor on January 23 in Operations Control and Services.*

He's worked for six different general managers. He's had nine directors of transportation or general superintendents. He's worked under five different operations control supervisors. He's worked in eight or nine different locations - "I can't remember exactly how many." He's seen the conversion of the MTA to the RTD and the conversion of rail to buses and then partially back to rail.

That's more than enough changes for the North Dakota native who has practically run the show in Operations Control and Services for 23 years.

In mid-January, after 32 years with the District, staff assistant Stan Bennett turned in his badge, telling *Headway*, "I've worked to see what the other side of life is like."

At the time of his retirement, Bennett did payroll for a staff of 200 plus, handled office supplies and equipment, and tracked everything from uniform reimbursements to requests for time off.

"I'll miss the people and my schedule," the quiet man who types 105 words a minute says. "I can't say that I've ever gotten out of bed not wanting to come to work."

Bennett originally wanted to work as a certified court reporter when he moved to California, but wound up instead as a stenographer at Division 8. Back then, the facility was located at Sherman Way and Van Nuys Blvd. and Bennett busied himself keeping timecards, and recording PAFs for 80 plus employees.

"I guess I'm one for that kind of work," he says. "I like organization and record-keeping."

Adept at shorthand ("I got one word wrong on a test one time"), he relocated to the transportation and supervisory department which was then at Pico and Sentous near the L.A. Convention Center. He was secretary to Jack Stewart, assistant general superintendent of

## MIS Employees: "We are the World"

Hamid Tahghdiri knew his colleagues in the MIS department comprised many different cultures, but after doing some research, he was astounded to learn they represented 22 different countries.

"We're like a garden," he says, smiling. "We would not be as beautiful a garden with just roses."

The 19-year RTD veteran decided to display a giant map which shows the countries from which MIS Department employees come. Among the native lands represented are Pakistan, Russia, Peru, Iran, Indonesia, South Vietnam, Great Britain, Taiwan, El Salvador, Hong Kong, Canada, The Philippines, Malaysia, China, Mexico, India, Trinidad, Burma, and Cuba.

Is there ever any political bickering between colleagues? "Not really," he says. "People here go after the issues, instead of taking sides. We get to share each others' ideas."

Tahghdiri, who hails from Iran, says he created the map to try to bring about some cultural unity. "Sort of like unity in diversity," he explains.

Then, quietly, he adds, "Only in America."



"We represent how the planet feels about the issues, not how just one region reacts," says MIS' Hamid Tahghdiri, surrounded by his friends and colleagues. From left to right, Gary Harrell, technical support supervision from U.S.; Kitty Kwan, systems project leader from Hong Kong; Vincent Tee, programmer analyst from Malaysia; Agnes Gargiolo, PC support group intern from The Philippines; Fredric Saint Cyr, Sr. programmer analyst from Canada; Jim McElhattan, Sr. project leader from U.S.; Hamid Tahghdiri, Sr. programmer analyst from Iran; Dave Edwards, assistant director of MIS from U.S.

transportation. Impressing the powers that be, he eventually became secretary to General Superintendents George Goehlar and Max Rise.

Early on, Bennett set some time limits for himself and for the company. "I'll give them five years to promote me," he told himself. "If nothing else happens I'll move on."

"Wouldn't you know it, but on the 27th day of the fifth year, I was promoted."

Asked what he remembers most on the job, he flinches as if to recall something best forgotten.

"It happened so fast," he says, calmly. "In the early 80's, on my way to work in the Headquarters Building, I was dragged into the alley on Fourth and Main. I was beaten up and my face was black and blue and green and purple."

He lost two pairs of glasses, had his ribs kicked in, but in his pain somehow managed to punch the guy in the jaw, throwing him down. And it was in that split second, that the man you wouldn't wish this on for the world managed to run for his life.

His boss, Jeff Diehl and assistant, Rocky Stern went looking for the guy, but they never found him.

In Bennett style, he returned to work after being treated in the hospital for his injuries.

"It just made me aware that I was protected by a greater source —God, himself," says the church-going man who volunteers his time with young people at the Central Juvenile Hall. "There's that element out there and you have to deal with it the best you know how."

Eight years later, Bennett still walks outside the building . . . coolly. "I had to make a living," he says. "And my wife doesn't worry about me, she's a level-headed Irish gal," he says affectionately of his partner of 42 years, Lucy.

The two have purchased a retirement home in Simi Valley. Although previous travels have taken them to the Bahamas, Mexico, Canada, and his wife's native Ireland, he hopes to travel to some historical landmarks in the States. And then, of course, there's the three grandchildren, ages 11, nine and four, of whom he's so fond.

"We're going to miss ole Stanley," Dan Ibarra told *Headway*. "We really depended on him."

# RTD's Patsouras Proposes Local Economic Development Corporation to Aid Los Angeles

*Transit Manufacturing Plant Would Give Ailing County Shot in the Arm*



by Greg Davy,  
Sr. Press Relations Rep.

**R**TD Board Member Nick Patsouras January 14 unveiled a proposal to create a local economic development corporation that would build a rail car and bus assembly plant in Los Angeles County.

"Los Angeles needs jobs. This is a way to make sure a large portion of the \$150 billion to be invested in transit here in the next 30 years will go to people who live in this area," Patsouras said.

"The buck comes from here, and it's going to stay here."

Patsouras also pointed out that Southern California is at the forefront of the battle against air pollution, making this area a logical location for state-of-the-art rapid transit vehicles to be built. "No one knows more about clean air technology than our local employees," Patsouras said. "This is the place for this kind of facility."

Patsouras' proposal calls for creation of a special economic development corporation that would be an ad-

junct to the proposed Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (LACMTA).

LACMTA, which Los Angeles County policy makers have asked the state legislature to create this year, would merge the RTD and LACTC into a single agency with three major subagencies responsible for operations, planning and construction of new systems. Patsouras suggested that the state legislature should include language that would create an economic development corporation as well.



"This proposal . . . would certainly be in line with LACTC actions of the past 10 years, and would be the next logical step as the agency's transportation plan grows," said LACTC Chairman Ray Grabinski. "We have long been aware that, while we rebuild a transportation system in the Los Angeles area, we also have the opportunity to stimulate the local economy by providing jobs."

The concept is strongly supported by Congressman Howard Berman (D-San Fernando Valley). Berman is the



author of a recently-enacted bill designed to stimulate private investment, develop new transportation technologies and attract industry to California.

"California can and should become an international leader in the research, design, manufacture, marketing, sales and use of a high-performance, environmentally-safe, advanced transportation system," Berman said.

"If California can lead the nation in adopting newer and cleaner forms of transportation, then why in heaven's name shouldn't we lead the nation in their manufacture?"

Patsouras said his plan does not require any new funding mechanisms, nor new taxes. The new corporation would work with the L.A. County Community Development Commission and other local authorities, as well as the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, to combine existing funds. The funds would be pooled to select a site, and either build or renovate a manufacturing facility earmarked for the building and/or assembly of transit equipment.

*continued on page 31 . .*



# PUBLIC COMMENDATIONS

## Thank You for a Job Well Done!

### Division 3203

Earl Cobbs  
David Fitisemanu  
Ralph Selby

### Division 3205

Theophilus Houston  
Donald Hurston  
China Greenlee

### Division 3206

German Suarez

### Division 3207

Alfreda Lanoix

### Division 3208

Donna Summers  
Nina Austin

### Division 3209

Guadalupe Quiroz

### Division 3210

Jim Shorters  
Andrew Jones

### Division 3215

Arthur Lloyd  
Stanley Owens  
Virginia Ford

Dear RTD:

I wanted to let RTD know what a good job one of your bus drivers is doing. His name is Mr. King. My boys ride on his bus in the mornings, going to Miralste School. They pick it up at Highridge and Ridgegate at 7:20 a.m. Mr. King has managed to come up with

some good ideas to keep the children under control (not an easy task when dealing with junior high "children!") He has fun with them and keeps them in order at the same time. It is not easy to go from a regular bus driver to a school bus driver, overnight, but Mr. King has managed to do it with a smile.

Thank You,  
A Happy Parent  
Elizabeth Elyalde  
Rancho Palos Verdes

Dear RTD:

I am writing this letter because I have had great riding experiences with your bus company, and was especially impressed by one particular bus driver (Stanley Owens) who drives Line 183 eastbound at 7:46 a.m.

For the last three months, I have been taking the same bus to school every morning, Monday through Friday, at the corner of Pacific Ave. and Lexington in Glendale.

Stanley Owens is the most pleasant, courteous, and helpful bus driver I have ever known. His warm, friendly smile tells you that he is happy to see you and that you are welcome to ride the RTD. Everyone who rides the bus feels the same way about him. Everyone missed him when he was away on vacation. Riding with him gives you a sense of security.

I have great respect for people who are doing a good job and take pride in whatever they are doing.

This little note may not be that important to your company, but to a devoted and dedicated individual worker, it may have unusual significance.

Please convey my sincere appreciation to him. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,  
K.C. Kim  
Glendale

Dear RTD:

I have been riding the RTD to and from work in downtown L.A. for over 25 years. During that time, I have had many bus drivers. Some good, some average, and some that it would have

been better for the public if they pursued another line of work.

But, I am writing you this letter about an exceptional man who I believe, is a credit to the RTD as a bus driver. His name is Earl Cobbs. He wears a badge which reads, "Line Instructor #191." He drives bus Line 483, which I ride daily from Fair Oaks and State Street in the city of South Pasadena. He is the epitome of what a perfect bus driver should be. He is always on time. This means a great deal to me as I can depend on him to get me to work on time. He is friendly and courteous, as he is sure to greet me when I board the bus. He announces every stop well enough in advance. He observes the rules of the road, and is courteous to other drivers. He is a humble man who is quiet, but wears a smile on his face.

He is considerate of his riders as he turns the heater on when it is cold outside.

Please see to it that Earl receives the praise and recognition he deserves for a job well done.

If it were in my power, I would like to see more bus drivers like Mr. Cobbs. Here is a man who takes pride in his work.

I hope he is selected as "Operator of the Month" or better yet, "Operator of the Year" —he has earned it.

Sincerely,  
Jim Cudlip  
Pasadena

Dear RTD:

Just a little note to let you know what a truly delightful bus ride I had this morning around 9 a.m. on Line 217 Fairfax bus. Thanks to the lovely lady driver, Alfreda Lanoix.

She is a pure delight! Such a refreshingly cheerful and friendly disposition should not go unnoticed. She deserves to be acknowledged for her warmth, and genuine interest in people —particularly the elderly.

Her tone and manner in greeting me (though I had never rode with her before) seemed to say, "Welcome! Happy to have you aboard!"

*continued on page 38. . .*

**Aguinaldo, Wilson F.**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**But, Cheuk W.**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**Cameron, Kevin M.**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**Di Bugnara, Frank R.**, from Engineer to Senior Engineer.

**Hartung, Daniel E.**, from Maintenance Specialist to Rail Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

**Ibarra, Daniel**, from Operations Control & Services Superintendent to Director of Transportation.

# SCHEDULE CHANGES



**Katzman, Richard A.**, from Senior Associate Counsel to Senior Litigator.

**Lagrimas, Adelaida J.**, from Senior Human Resources Analyst to Employment Manager.

**Laichareonsup, Michael R.**, from Document Production Technician to Schedule Maker I.

**Leon, Clotilde M.**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**Lingenfield, Thomas G.**, from Maintenance Specialist to Rail Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

**Mitchem, Kimberle M.**, from Ticket Clerk to Ticket Officer & Representative Clerk.

**Monge, Eduardo**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**Mumolo, Jeffrey P.**, from Electronic Communications Technician to Electronic Inspector.

**Peterson, Eric R.**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**Restrepo, Fabio H.**, from Mechanic "A" Leader to Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

**Scranton, James E.**, from Mechanic "B" to Mechanic "A".

**Terry, Ira M.**, from Transit Police Officer (Trainee) to Transit Police Officer.

**Zuniga, Samuel R.**, from General Clerk/Marketing to Ticket Clerk.

# SHIFTING GEARS



**Baum, Sally**, began with the District on June 23, 1975 and retired as a Division Stenographer on June 21, 1991.

**Powell, Thomas L.**, began with the District on December 14, 1968 and retired as a Schedule Checker on December 15, 1991.

**Yunis, Mohamed**, began with the District on May 30, 1978 and retired as a Mechanic "A" on March 30, 1991.

## In Memoriam

**Coble, Robert A.**, began with the District on May 20, 1961, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on September 30, 1991.

**Davis, Edgar G.**, began with the District on May 06, 1971, retired as a Air Conditioning Tech Leader and passed away on September 24, 1991.

**Jason, Sandra J.**, began with the District on May 07, 1984, retired as a Service Attendant and passed away on December 02, 1991.

**Paredes, Richard A.**, began with the District on March 25, 1974, retired as a Bus Operator and passed away on September 08, 1991.

## Red Line

... continued from page 4

so popular that he quit the tile business and wound up making a fortune. He charges up to \$220 an hour to move dignitaries, people and equipment, and says he'll end up a millionaire because "construction on Los Angeles subways will go on for 20 years."

After surveying the tunnel, RTD staff gave their project a thumbs up.

Back at the Headquarters building, two special task forces to coordinate the start-up of the Red Line are well underway. The two committees, which consist of representatives from several departments, are the Operations Steering Task Force and the Support Task Force. Operations is respon-

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*"We are the people who know how to plan, schedule, maintain and operate buses and trains."*

---

sible for monitoring the construction status of the Red Line and determining the requirements (manpower, equipment) directly needed to provide both the support to the activation effort, as well as the resources to operate the rail line during revenue service. Leahy chairs this committee and Ed Walsh, director of facilities maintenance, is the vice-chair. Dan Ibarra, director of transportation, Rich Davis, director of the central maintenance facility, Byron Lee, equipment and facilities project manager, and Steve Parry, director of scheduling and operations planning, sit on the committee.

Parry also chairs the Support Task Force, and as such, is charged with identifying and monitoring issues that are important to the success of the Red Line, but are not directly related to the actual provision of revenue service. Such activities include marketing and promotions, budget monitoring, insurance for the Red Line, as well as hiring support for necessary rail positions.

Hiring for the Red Line is under-

way as this issue of *Headway* goes to press. The selection of rail transit operations supervisors (TOS) is just about completed and the 26 who are hired will

## Just in Case



**H**ow to rerail a train if it should come off the tracks . . . that's part of the training program that new rail equipment maintenance specialists are now undergoing. The equipment they use, says Russell Homan, rail technical support supervisor, will lift the front end of a train off the ground and over and then lower it gently back on the track. Our camera caught Mike Morehead, during a training exercise, inserting jack extension pieces to increase the lifting height of the jack. This jack is mounted on a roller carriage that can be pulled sideways by the displacement jack on the aluminum rerailing bridge. Once this equipment arrives on the scene of a derailment, RTD specialists can usually have it back on the rails in less than 30 minutes.

train the two dozen rail operators when they are hired later this spring. TOS's will also guide the development of the Operators Rule Book.

Forty men and women, 30 of them mechanics, are expected to staff Equipment Maintenance by the beginning of February. Leahy says this staff, five of whom are supervisors, are being brought on-board in sufficient time to allow necessary vehicle-related training to be conducted.

Human Resources has conducted an extensive outreach recruitment program for 58 positions in Facilities Maintenance. The RTD is looking to hire outstanding track inspectors, signal inspectors, property maintainers, — those people, says Leahy, who make sure the power system works and the tracks are in good shape. These positions will probably be filled by April.

The status of 71 Transit Police positions is still being negotiated.

"This is a wonderful time to work at the District," said Art Leahy, "with both the great success of the Blue Line and the fact that we're bringing heavy rail to Los Angeles."

"And I'll tell you something else," he says, emphatically, "We are the people who know how to plan, schedule, maintain and operate buses and trains and are the source of expertise in this state. We carry more people than any other transit company by a longshot in this state. We are the experts."

"The folks who are involved in the opening of the Red Line are facing an extremely heavy workload. They're going to succeed. We will be ready, no question about it."

## In The Public Eye

by Sgt. Sheri Barberic

**D**uring the month of November 1991, Transit Police made 436 arrests, including 88 for felony crimes, issued 476 citations, handled 2,193 radio calls and completed 8,784 random bus boardings. These statistics include a record-setting 100 arrests and 86 citations by GHOST members for vandalism and related offenses.

continued on page 16 . . .

## In the Public Eye

... continued from page 15



GHOST<sup>®</sup> concentrated special attention on Lines 204, 40, 105, and 108 in South Central L.A., as well as in the areas of Birmingham High School, Sylmar High School and Walter Reed Junior High in the San Fernando Valley. In addition, GHOST utilized a special surveillance vehicle on the 206 line in the area of Washington High School due to numerous complaints from operators and school officials about vandalism and other misbehavior by students. Several suspects were captured on video tape in the act of applying graffiti, and many juveniles were cited for various offenses including fare evasion and loud, unruly conduct.

GHOST officers continue to work with Senator Diane Watson and Councilwoman Ruth Galanter's offices as well as with various other community groups and concerned RTD operators in a joint effort to combat the recurring problems caused by NBT gang members in and around the Leimert Park area. Many of these juveniles are already on probation and we are enlisting the aid of the County Probation Department in enforcing probation violations by these individuals. The support of our bus operators has been invaluable during these meetings and we thank them

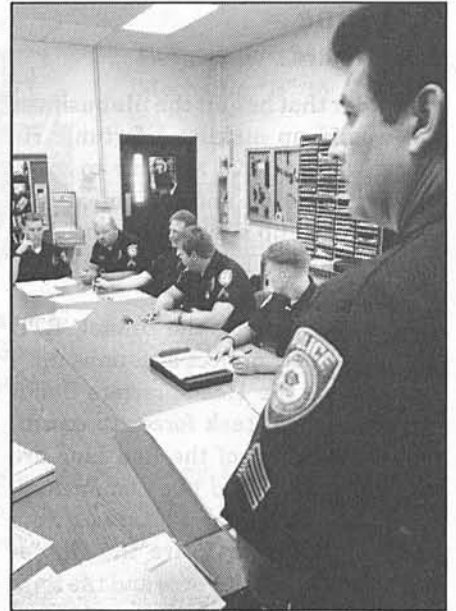
and encourage them to continue their participation.

P.M. Patrol Investigator Scott Pawlicki and Officer James Pochick made several outstanding arrests of NBT gang members during the month of November which deserve special mention. On November 21, the officers were patrolling in the area of Leimert Park when they saw two NBT gang members standing among a crowd of about 40 fellow gang members in Leimert Park. First, one suspect and then the other, pointed what appeared to be 9 mm handguns at the officers, and then fled on foot in different directions as the officers radioed for back-up and dealt with the remaining hostile crowd of gang members. GHOST officers arrived and detained one of the suspects. During an area search, the other suspect was located by Pochick



and Pawlicki and both suspects were arrested. One of the weapons was recovered, and it turned out to be a replica of a 9 mm semi-automatic handgun. NBT gang members often use such replica weapons to intimidate bus passengers and patrons during assaults and robberies.

On November 23, Officer Pochick and Investigator Pawlicki arrested three NBT gang members for strongarm robbery at Vermont and San Marino. The



suspects beat and robbed several bus passengers on a northbound 204 line bus, then boarded a southbound 204 line, where they again began committing robberies. Their crime spree was interrupted when an unidentified male passenger apparently took exception to their blatantly anti-social behavior and pulled a gun on them. At that point, Operator Beverly Stepney flagged down Pawlicki and Pochick, who were patrolling that area because of increased reports of robberies and assaults. The officers quickly apprehended the robbery suspects, but the unknown gunman had fled prior to the officers arrival. Officers praised Stepney for her quick actions in maintaining her composure and following their directions during the incident, a testament to the power of teamwork.

On November 26, Pochick and Pawlicki were again in the right place at the right time. They responded to a radio call of missiles being thrown in the area of Figueroa and 42nd Street. Operator David Jones reported that 10 to 15 male juveniles had just vandalized his bus and thrown chunks of concrete at him. The officers and Jones searched the area for the suspects and Jones spotted six of them exiting a nearby store. The two officers were able

continued on page 17...



# CTP's Rudy Cardenas to the Rescue

Friday, the 13th of December, started off like any other day for Special Assistant Rudy Cardenas assigned to RTD's Corporate Transit Partnership. Doing his part to cleanup the air by ridesharing, he was commuting on RTD's Line 66 into downtown Los Angeles. As the bus arrived at a stop in the downtown area, a young "hood" riding in the back of the bus snatched the

purse of a female passenger and made a fast break to the rear door. Moving at the speed of light, Rudy grabbed the purse's strap and a tug of war started which ended with a broken strap but a retrieved purse. Unfortunately, the assailant got away. We bet he'll think twice about riding an RTD bus when white knights like Rudy Cardenas are on board to protect the people.



Shown here with Rudy (center) as he accepts his certificate of commendation, are Ed Langer and Maureen Micheline from the Corporate Transit Partnership.

## In the Public Eye

... continued from page 16

to apprehend three of the suspects who were arrested on felony charges of assaulting Operator Jones, who remained calm in spite of the circumstances.

With the opening of the new Transit Police substation at 316 W. 3rd Street in downtown Los Angeles, SCATT officers began supplementing the regular foot patrols by M.O.B. officers. The beefed-up presence coincides with the expected holiday season increase of bus patrons drawn to the downtown business district. SCATT Officers Lany Wedemeyer, Richard Mena, Jay Vucinich, and Investigator Frank Frias were assigned to this footbeat, and arrested two juveniles and one adult for robbery. The officers were returning to Transit Police Headquarters when they were flagged down by a witness in the vicinity of the Metro Blue Line station at Washington and San Pedro. The witness pointed out the three suspects, who were running eastbound on Washington from San Pedro. The trio had just robbed an elderly woman of her purse. The officers quickly captured the suspects at 16th and Wall and recovered a ski mask, an eight inch butcher knife, and a replica of a sawed-off shotgun.

In addition to the second annual "Christmas on Broadway" sponsored

by the Transit Police in cooperation with Miracle on Broadway, we played Santa Claus at two other toy give-aways.

State Senator Diane Watson was a guest at the December 21 Christmas celebration for fourteen children ranging in age from nine months to five years at a group home in South Central Los Angeles.

Officer Otis Herrington obliged by being Santa for a day. Officers brought cookies and punch, along with toys paid through donations from individual officers and the Transit Police Officers' Association. Santa arrived in an RTD police car with full lights and siren, delighting children and adults alike. Each child received a photo of his or herself sitting on Santa's lap. Santa later distributed still more toys to children at Manchester and Normandie and Manchester and Broadway, continuing his "Ho! Ho! Ho!" while en route back to the police station to feed his reindeer.

On December 19, Transit Police distributed toys to 300 children in East Los Angeles. Investigator Frank Frias, a veteran "Jolly Old Elf," played Santa Claus, and each child was photographed with Santa. The event was held at the Community Health Foundation and Chief Sharon Papa and Captain Sam Dacus were also present for the festivities.

## Division 8 Hosts International Potluck

by Lorene Yanuzzi



A potluck luncheon with an international flair more than satisfied hungry Division 8 employees last December 27. Mopper-waxer Rose Marie Vasquez and Operator Katherine Cooper organized the luncheon and cooked most of the food. Dishes included Italian pasta, Indian-style chicken, Soul food and Spanish cuisine. Others that cooked and helped out were Operators Vester Grayson, Michael Lee and Monica George-Tucker. Everyone enjoyed it and said the food was delicious. Division 8 is planning to have another one in the near future.

## Dear Chief Papa:

On behalf of the Pacific Southwest District of the Japanese Citizens League, one of eight districts in a national Asian American civil and human rights organization with 113 chapters nationwide, I would like to express our appreciation and thanks to Officer Rodrick Evans for his courage and leadership in the intervention and apprehension of an assailant while off-duty.

On December 4, 1991 at approximately 10:45 a.m., Officer Evans witnessed one of two men beating a woman with a baseball bat at the Wilmington Avenue and El Segundo Boulevard intersection. Officer Evans stopped the assault and gave chase to the assailant with the bat, apprehending him. It was reported to our office by Lt. Joe Flores of the Compton Police Department that without the action of stopping the as-

sault, the woman may have suffered severe injuries and could have been killed.

I request that your department takes the important steps to recognize Officer Rodrick Evans for his sense of duty, courage and leadership in the intervention and apprehension of the assailant.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,  
Jimmy Tokeshi  
Pacific Southwest Regional Director

• • •

Dear Chief Papa:

Officer Roy Romero helped us out a great deal at our recent Expo. It's not easy to be cordial and friendly after long hours and then have to tear down a

display before going home. He was great, a real trooper.

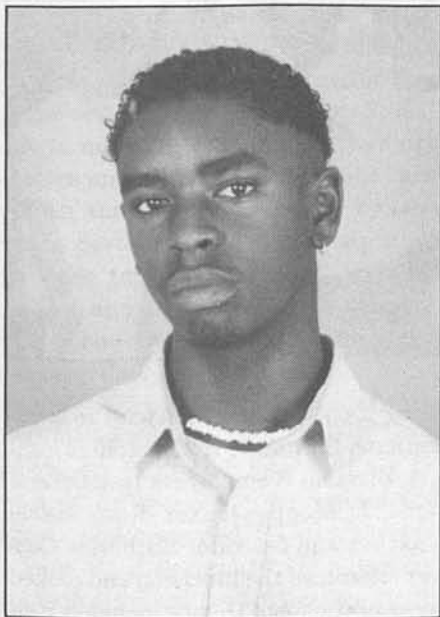
Thanks to him and the rest of your staff who attended, the day was a great success.

J.K. Terrell  
Project Coordinator  
Police Expo and Family Security Show

• • •

From the Highland School Kindergarten News: "Thank you Officers Frias and Warner for coming and talking with Room One. We had so much fun! We also loved all the goodies we were given."

## Brandon Hendrix, Son of Willie, Honored in Washington



Brandon Hendrix

Brandon Hendrix, the son of Division 7 Stockclerk Willie Hendrix and nephew of General Services Supervisor Darryl Calmese, has been selected to attend the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C.

Hendrix is among 350 high school students chosen for the conference, which is sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council.

In the nation's capitol, Brandon will meet with key policymakers, including Congressman Julian Dixon, Senator Alan Cranston, and Senator John Seymour. The highlight of the conference is a session in which scholars assume the roles of United States Representatives by debating, lobbying, and voting on proposed handgun legislation.

Proud uncle Calmese tells *Headway*, "Brandon's selection, in my opinion, is attributed to his love for God, unquestionable respect for his father, Willie, and his mother, Dorothy, and his two sisters, Laquenta and Chaka.

"His unselfish personality and steadfast initiative to be the best he can be is what builds in him the kind of character that allows young men like him to beat the odds."

Founded in 1985, the Council is a non-profit, non-partisan educational

organization committed to recognizing outstanding youth, like Brandon, and providing them with hands-on civic learning experience in Washington. More than 375 congressmen serve on the Council's board of advisors.



# Cold Turkey Winner and Other Gas Day Events

by Luanna Urie,  
Human Resources Analyst



One hundred and sixty people participated in the Great American Smokeout on GAS day, November 21, by not smoking for 24 hours. They signed a pledge not to smoke in return for a chance at a 20 lb. turkey, and the winner was Judge Adams at Division 3209, Evelyn Frizielle's division.

At Division 8, Northeast Valley Health Corporation sponsored a mini-health and smoking cessation fair complete with free popcorn, balloons, con-

tests, and prizes. One hundred and forty employees participated in this program. Ron Reedy, manager of 3208 and John Roberts, manager at 3308, helped make the fair a success. The mini-fair is being followed up with a smoking cessation class at the Division for those interested in quitting cigarettes for life.

Northeast Valley Health Corporation also hosted a mini-fair at Division fifteen. This event was very well attended with around 300 employees participating. Managers Chris Coleman of 3215, and John Adams of 3315 are to be commended for their support, and all the employees who attended are to be commended for their interest in their own health and well-being.

Temple Medical Center gave 88 employees at Division 1 blood pressure and pulse screenings. Some employees had their blood pressure taken before and after smoking a single cigarette to see if and how the smoke affected their cardiovascular system. In some instances, the change was quite significant which showed that one cigarette strongly affected the heart and blood pressure system. In other cases, where

the person was perhaps younger or exercised regularly and was in good physical condition, there was not a significant difference in blood pressure before and after the cigarette. Some people picked up free handouts on smoking cessation strategies, nutrition and the warning signs of a heart attack. Don Karlson's staff was very helpful in promoting and assisting with this event, and Jim Davis, Manager of 3301, encouraged a group of his employees to participate in this event. The EAP had attractive Ms. Kelly Reynolds on hand to answer questions about the Employee Assistance Program.

I thank all of you who took part in these events for your support. When employees come around and ask questions, pick up literature, take some popcorn, participate in a screening (the results of which are ALWAYS confidential, by law, unless the employee WANTS to brag about low blood pressure, for example), it is really encouraging and makes the time and effort all worthwhile. The clinics who send out their busy doctors and staff also very much appreciate employee interest and participation. Thank you again.

## Wedding Bells

Division 3 Stenographer Edith Villanueva and Division 1 Bus Operator Ralph Villegas were married Saturday, November 30, 1991 at Saint Ignatius Catholic Church in Highland Park.

Edith, who has been with the District eight years, says she met her intended last year at the Annual Cypress Park Judo Club Valentine Dance. Edith tells *Headway* that she knew it was love at first sight as soon as they started to talk with each other. The pair (she knew his family but had never before spoken with him) talked and danced well into the night.

Edith selected Division 3 Operator Lisa Montes as her maid of honor. Divi-

sion 1 Operator Michael Benitez was Villegas' best man.

In October, Montes hosted a beautiful shower for the couple at her home. Edith says there were well over 100 guests at the shower, many of whom were from RTD.

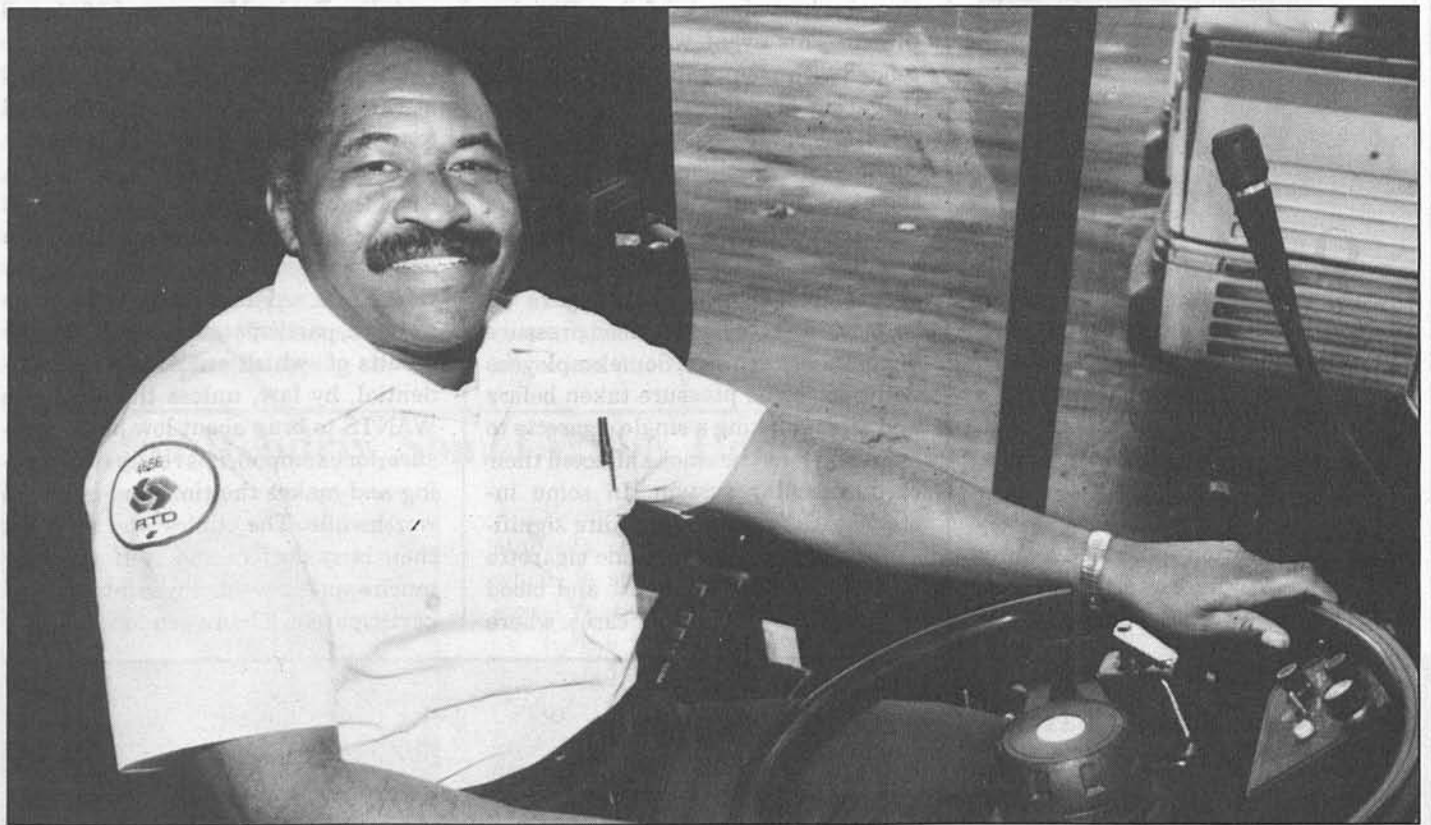
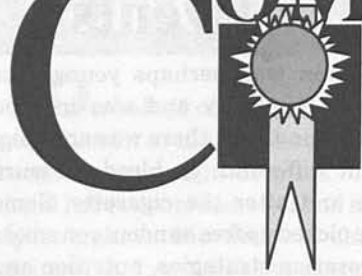
Meanwhile, four hundred saw the two make it official at the VFW Hall in the City of Industry. Edith, who, like her new husband loves to dance, says the reception featured mariachis and a DJ. The invitees also were treated to tunes performed by her father-in-law's band.

After the wedding, the two left for Puerto Rico.

They make their home in West Covina.



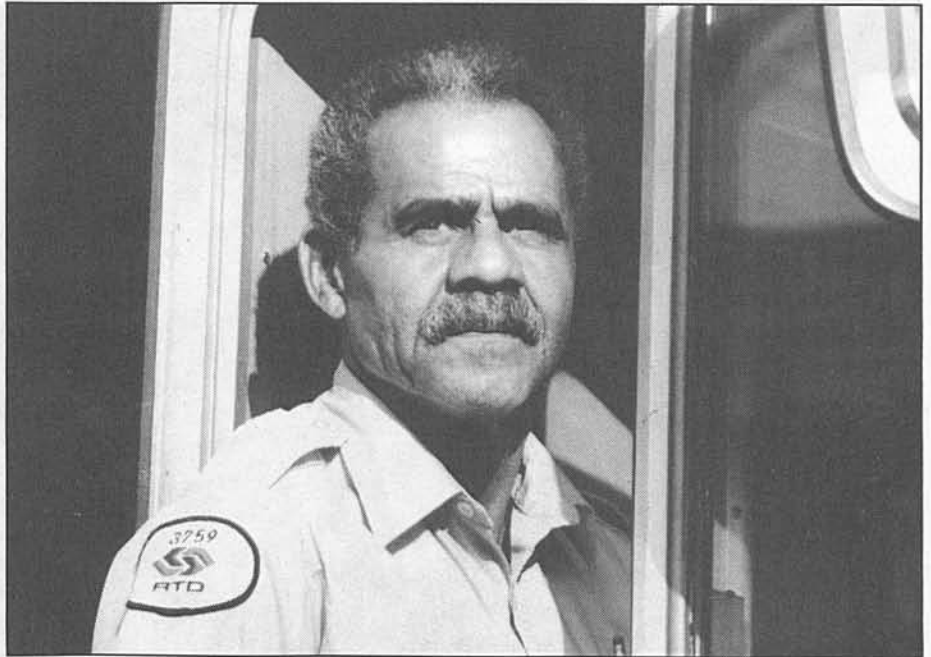
# COMMENDATIONS



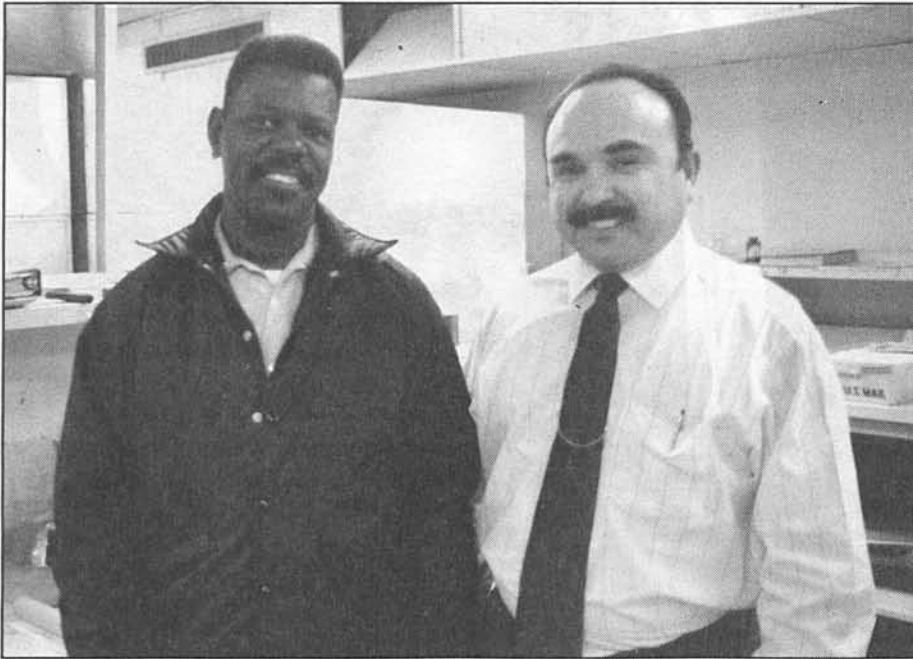
*Kudos to **Samuel Humphery**, Operator of the Month for November 1991. During his 13 years of service, he has maintained excellent attendance and accident records and has not been late for work in over nine years. He has accumulated the maximum number of merits and has received numerous letters of commendation from the public and his managers. He also has been honored with the Manager's Award, the Meritorious Operator's Award, numerous safety awards, and four outstanding operator awards.*

*Humphery, who reports to Division 5, is presently driving Line 111, which travels along Florence Avenue to Los Angeles International Airport. He says that he has worked this line for the past year and has developed a good relationship with most of his passengers. He says they are very friendly and treat him well.*

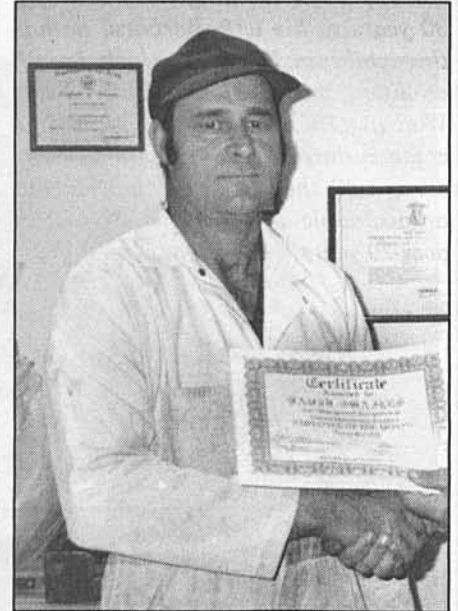
The winner for Train Operator of the Quarter is **Walter Wadlington**, who began his career with the District back in 1959. The Cerritos resident spent 16 years at Division 5 as a bus operator until 1975 when he transferred to Division 12. In February 1990, Wadlington chose to become a part of the Blue Line and was a member of the first train operator training class. Married 30 years to his wife Barbara, he has three children. His hobbies include golf, dominos and cards. Needless to say, Wadlington has received numerous commendations during his 32-year career with the District. He has not had an avoidable accident or a missout in over 10 years.



Meet Maintenance Employee of the Month **Darrell Davis**, who is key to the District's complicated morning roll-out at Division 5. For the past several years, he has been working as a Mechanic A relief leader on the third shift, and in doing such, ensures that all of the buses are out in a timely manner. He has an excellent attendance record and his loyalty and devoted efforts do not go unnoticed by his superiors. He also has excellent rapport with his peers.



**David Swailes**, a mechanic A in the Midlife Section, was named CMF Employee of the Month for November. Hardworking, cooperative and always upbeat, the Glendora resident has shown he's more than capable of working in all sections of the Midlife Program. Presently, he spends his hours working on the front ends of buses. He's been with the District 12 years. He collects a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond as his award.

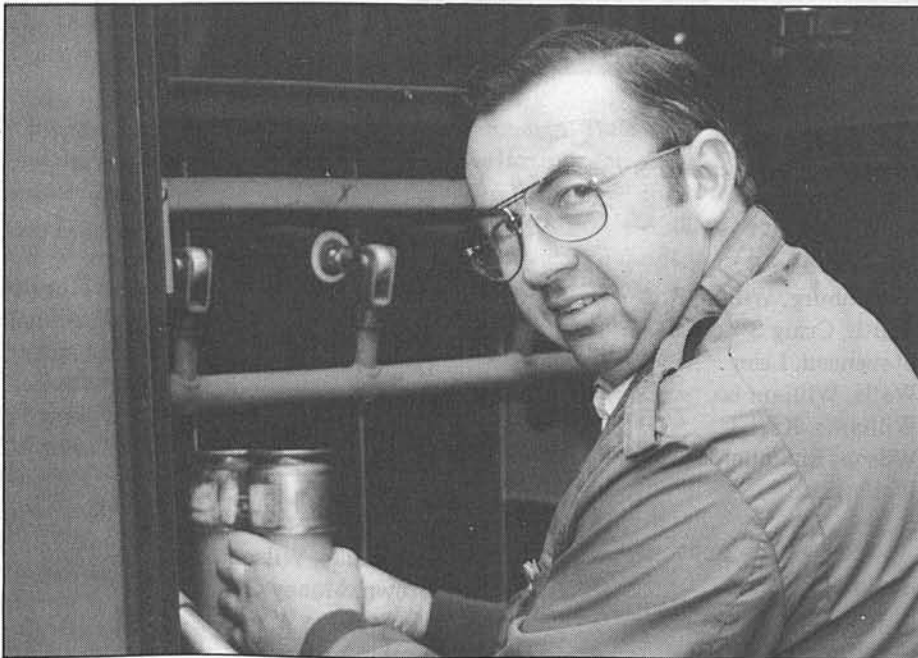


Mail Courier **Bobby Hicks** was named General Services' Employee of the Month for October. For 17 years, Hicks has delivered the mail from the Headquarters building to various divisions, locations and ticket offices. He says that he's lost count of the number of mail services supervisors that he's seen come and go through the years. The 22-year RTD veteran says he really enjoys his job and plans to stick around until they force him to retire! Hicks is joined in the photo by boss Rick Provencio.

**Gloria Ramirez** was chosen CMF Employee of the Month for November 1991. A typist-clerk in the Administration Section, Ramirez was selected for the honor because she willingly performs all tasks assigned to her quickly and with extreme accuracy. Her boss says the quality of her work is excellent and she recently received a letter of commendation recognizing her outstanding work performance. The Los Angeles resident says she enjoys the people with whom she works and the "positive attitude that goes around."

She takes home a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.





Initiative, hard work, and dedication earned **Donald Goodwin** Facilities Maintenance Employee of the Month honors for November.

On November 9, a major fire alarm erupted on 54th Street directly across the street from RTD's Location 14, South Park. The fire destroyed over a quarter of the entire city block, from Avalon to San Pedro streets. For safety reasons and because of the great danger, the 2,400 volt power lines were cut and the emergency generator disabled. The day after the fire, South Park personnel arrived to find themselves mostly in the dark and with no telephones. The electricians, including Leadman Donald Goodwin, went to work quickly putting a small portable generator in service, supplying enough power for the electricians to meet and plan how to cope with the situation. By mid-day, the phones and microwave service were up and running. Next, anything Goodwin could find that could be used to supply power was collected, and routed to where the maximum usage could be obtained. For two weeks, says his boss, Goodwin had not done just a good job, he'd surpassed all expectations. Thanks to his expertise, South Park Shops are operating at nearly 100 percent.

**Jose Ramirez** captured CMF Employee of the Month honors for November 1991. "Pepe," as he is called by his colleagues, says he loves to take a piece of metal and convert it to a special tool for mechanics. He says that the best thing about being a mechanic is creating something from raw materials. His superiors praise his work performance and say he completes his job assignments on time. With the District 11 years, "Pepe" makes his home in Los Angeles.

He was awarded a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.



# Congratulations Perfect Attendees!

... continued from page 8

◆◆ 3216 ◆◆

Myers, Samuel  
Townsend, Edward E

◆◆ 3218 ◆◆

Carruitero, Gino A  
Haynes, Danny C  
Moore, Joe B  
Taylor, Alvin J

◆◆ 3260 ◆◆

Byrd, Johnnie D  
Gasser, Russell W  
Gonzales, Ignacio C

◆◆ 3280 ◆◆

Adams, Renaldo R  
Alejandro, Frank  
Castaneda, Henry  
De Los Santos, Oscar  
Diaz, Jesse J  
Feickert, Paul R  
Flores, Richard E  
Guajardo, Jesus R  
Johnson, Rodney R  
Leone, Linda M  
Little, Donald E  
Sadro, Jim  
Sauls, Henry  
Whitney, Ronald A

◆◆ 3296 ◆◆

Alexander, Robert G  
Alvarez, Armando J  
Angelo, Rene  
Archuletta, Frank J  
Bailey, Jack A  
Bonnell, Helen R  
Brito, Fausto  
Cain, Nathaniel  
Dover, John M  
Dunn, Michael W  
Escher, John E  
Fields, Ethel M  
Galvan, Jorge A  
Goldblatt, Elias  
Hale, John J  
Haynes, Tommy L  
Jackson, John D  
Johnson, Purvis  
Maye, Walter E

McJafee, Dora L  
McReynolds, Frederick S  
Moody, Joe W  
Neal, John W  
Scott, Robert E  
Siedenburg, Willem F  
Smith, Craig S  
Stevenson, Leon  
Walls, William L  
Williams, Karl J  
Wilson, Emanuel L  
Wolfe, Sam

◆◆ 3297 ◆◆

Beals, Michael E  
Fluker, Fred A  
Green, Keith E  
Jackson, Douglas  
McGrath, Kevin C  
Velasco, Hector G  
Woodson, Jerry L

◆◆ 3299 ◆◆

Achramowicz, John M  
Bevon, Leo J  
Craney, Deborah L  
Weger, Joseph S

◆◆ 3301 ◆◆

Browning, Joseph  
Do, Hy Q  
Martinez, Jose P  
Ontiveros, Roxsana  
Ortiz, Leo E  
Pitford, Harry A  
Quintanilla, Antonio D  
Robison, Robert L  
Sanchez, Anselmo  
Williamson, Leon  
Yee, Albert Chee-Chew

◆◆ 3302 ◆◆

Biehn, David A  
Mendoza, Steve L  
Montgomery, Michael J  
Newman, James D

◆◆ 3303 ◆◆

Campos, Ernest A  
Eller, Gary D  
Lechuga-Espinoza, Jose G

Licea, Leopoldo Z  
Navarro, Oscar R  
Nguyen, Van Q  
Salamanca, Jose H

◆◆ 3304 ◆◆

Considine, Robert C  
Deghetto, Michael S  
Garcia, Rafael  
Gardner, John C  
Serrano, Roger

◆◆ 3305 ◆◆

Aguinaldo, Wilson F  
Brown, Money C  
Finney, Joe W  
Grubb, Adam M  
Hardemion, Freddie  
Hittinger, Myron F  
Hodges, Sammy A  
Jackson, Anthony  
Johnson, Darryl  
Manuel, James  
Tapia, Armando  
Travers, Anthony R  
Waters, Ernest  
Watson, Jimmy H  
White, Joseph  
Winston, Arthur

◆◆ 3306 ◆◆

Di Nuzzo, Alessandro L  
Epps, Ronald  
Glass, Roland D  
Owings, James L  
Sedillo, Jennie  
Williams, Joe N

◆◆ 3307 ◆◆

Blatz, Thomas M  
Chang, Chi W  
Choy, Gee K  
Cruz, Paul A  
Du Bose, Etta D  
Gonzalez, Julio R  
Hairston, Bobby  
Hardemion, Gene F  
Houston, Granville B  
Hoyos, Alexander C  
Nguyen, Si T  
Solano, Cesar E



# Kudos to those with Perfect Attendance!

Subillaga, Renato P  
Tadena, Manuel B  
Walter, Thomas C

◆◆ 3308 ◆◆

Alison, Ike A  
Caudill, Robert E  
Duong, Lam V  
Fischer, John L  
Herpers, Henry C  
Mathis, Billy E  
Nonaka, Alvis T  
Potter, Jerry D  
Seehoffer, Carl W  
Wasniewski, Mikolaj B

◆◆ 3309 ◆◆

Ambler, Odelia  
Barrios, Armando  
Chau, To  
Chavez, Manuel S  
Cunanan, Alfredo G  
Diaz, Enrique P  
Easley, Carl A  
Garcia, Teodoro U  
Garrisi, Nga  
Guzman, Francisco  
Jones, Andreas M  
Landrum, Jack L  
Lujano, Hernando F  
Martinez, Rene C  
Melendez, J  
Nix, George N  
Ponce, Teofilo M  
Preciado, Jose L  
Ramirez, Pedro F  
Vu, Bach N

◆◆ 3310 ◆◆

Bermejo, Jose L  
Chan, Philip  
Chan, Victor K  
Giang, Scott  
Jackson, Keith M  
Junyk, Michael J  
Lopez, Carlos A  
Steenbock, Orville  
Villalobos, Isabel D

◆◆ 3312 ◆◆

Bonakdar, Mory

Brewin, Tedd  
Harting, Jon N

◆◆ 3315 ◆◆

Erickson, John R  
Hull, Glen H  
Jennik, James E  
Lyon, Ralph B  
McDaniel, Ellis R  
Menagh, James A  
Montes, Ignacio S  
Quezada, Salvador  
Regis, Donald E  
Restrepo, Fabio H  
Sosa, Ildefonso E  
Valverde, Jesus R

◆◆ 3316 ◆◆

Clenard, Cal R  
Garcia, Tony  
Taylor, Sam B

◆◆ 3318 ◆◆

Anderson, J C  
Cheaves, Darryl C  
Clay, Steve  
Devol, Brenton "A"  
Dotta, Orlando F  
Guzman, Roy G  
Hillard, Robert L  
Kunkle, Raymond L  
Lalla, Richard D  
Loftus, Patricia G  
Luu, Wayne  
Marquez, Juan R  
Martinez, Lisandro  
Perry, Kenneth L  
Prater, Henry C  
Rambo, Napoleon  
Sanathara, Anatry J  
Schiratti, Enrique

◆◆ 3330 ◆◆

Avalos, Manuel  
Banh, Duc D  
Blackburn, George H  
Bosco, Frank M  
Bozyk, Raymond P  
Cho, Steve  
Ferrero, Thomas F  
Garion, Virgilio B

Ige, Takeo  
Jones, William K  
Kirstenpfad, Gunter A  
Lee, Choon N  
Lopez, Gaston F  
Paniagua, Ramon  
Parreco, Robert M  
Ramirez, Gloria R  
Ramos, Manuel V  
Rodriguez, Antonio  
Rodriguez, Manuel S  
Serratos, Jaime  
Sintoplertchaiyakl, Tom  
Takata, Masamitsu  
Wong, Bing D  
Yeh, Quinn  
Young, George N

◆◆ 3360 ◆◆

Samsel, David S

◆◆ 3380 ◆◆

Crocker, William "G"  
Delgadillo, Lupe V  
Goff, Shawn J  
Hartung, Daniel E

◆◆ 3399 ◆◆

Alba, Hortencia  
Albertson, Gary L  
Annan, Kwesi B  
Cabison, Esther G  
Cotroneo, Ronald J  
Eich, Jack J  
Hernandez, Carlos R  
Hustava, Theodore C  
Ikeda, Randal "Y"  
Johnson, Jeffrey R  
Miller, Kenneth E  
Mirabal, John P  
Morton, Richard J  
Mullaly, Steven J  
Olivas, Michael A  
Orr, Harold H  
Skale, Ronald G  
Soto, George A

◆◆ 3900 ◆◆

Arrivillaga, Roberto  
Brewer, Michael A

*continued on page 26 . . .*

# More Perfect Attendance!

... continued from page 25

Brooks, David  
Butler, Martha K  
Callahan, Richard G  
Egardo, Charles L  
Gay, Joseph L  
Gomez, Alberto M  
Henry, Arthur J  
Jackson, Robert L  
McCormick, Terrance  
Melendez, Luis A  
Morris, Lawrence W  
Nguyen, Dan L  
Okun, Gary S  
Ortiz, Michael E  
Page, Richard S  
Payne, Woodrow  
Ramirez, Ricardo G  
Schroder, Frank E  
Senior, Walter C  
Shelburne, Bruce E  
Young, Randolph

◆◆ 4099 ◆◆

Langer, Edward J

◆◆ 4100 ◆◆

Harris, Ray D

◆◆ 4200 ◆◆

Burke, Paul J  
Howey, Donald W  
McCullough, David R  
Taylor, Irving N

◆◆ 4400 ◆◆

Barnes, Michael K

◆◆ 4900 ◆◆

Crofford, Norman T

◆◆ 7099 ◆◆

Rubin, Thomas A

◆◆ 7100 ◆◆

Chow, Alan W  
Chu, Jose  
Dalida, Fe M  
Decena, Renato M  
Hilario, Ricardo G  
Irvin, Kenneth L  
Noval, Tito A

Wakeling, David D  
Washington, Cornell

◆◆ 7200 ◆◆

Calbo, Herbert  
Chen, Edward T  
Conway, Martin C  
Hovell, James A  
Pourmansour, Kambiz  
Torrijos, Teresa Reyes  
Wang, Alfred S  
Woods, Walter

◆◆ 7500 ◆◆

Chokan, Howard A  
Craver, Anna M  
Greene, Andrea E  
Hanna, Andre R  
Juarez, Ruben  
Kaping, Reginnia G  
Keene, Gwendolyn P  
Miller, Forrest A  
Myatt, Edward J  
Paull, Edward G  
Penty, Frank  
Valdez-Broida, Elvira H

◆◆ 7900 ◆◆

Beana, William J  
Kalu, Ugbu  
Vandercook, Jon R  
Welch, Juanita R

◆◆ 9200 ◆◆

Anaya, John C  
Duggirala, Prem C  
Pedroza, Raul M  
Rubisa, Moni M  
Vaughn, Andrianna J

◆◆ 9400 ◆◆

Camagay, Alfredo M  
Coman, Frank R  
Earnst, Morris E  
Holland, Frank R  
Parra, Diana M  
Vasquez, Robert T

◆◆ 9610 ◆◆

Alfaro, Leonardo  
Arteaga, Jose L

Brass, Arthur L  
Chavez, Salvador M  
Coleman, Joseph E  
Figueroa, Martin A  
Garza, Jose G  
Guerrero, Aurelio S  
Hemingway, WE  
Lacey, Chris D  
Landry, Fannie M  
Martinez, Richard  
Provencio, Richard R  
Rispress, Raymond  
Rodriguez, Thomas S  
Willis, Billy E

◆◆ 9620 ◆◆

Anderson, Eric W  
Gomez, Joseph S  
Her, Ferdinand  
Olivera, Marvin M  
Prosol, Mikhail I  
Salazar, Joseph  
Suarez, Manuel T  
Zimmerle, Fred G

◆◆ 9630 ◆◆

Akiike, Norimasa  
Bernardino, Jens B  
Blanaru, Florin A  
Buehner, Kenneth M  
Burns, Richard H  
Campos, Louis R  
Carrillo, Armando A  
Chow, Kent C  
Day, Richard S  
Di Pietra, Joe  
Forbis, Jerry D  
Hoel, Jeffrey A  
Hunt, Richard L  
Johnson, Leon L  
Kim, Pyung C  
Lim, Taiwu  
Lor, Huot S  
McElmon, John L  
Mockler, Michael T  
Morgan, Robert D  
Ochoa, Gil S  
Oropeza Jr, Gasper  
Pappas, Arthur A  
Pelley, George F  
Reyes, Ernie G

Salviejo, Pete  
 Saucedo, Ignacio  
 Schuck, Raymond J  
 Urasaki, Charles M  
 Valenzuela, Rudolpho  
 Vigil, Jose A

◆◆ 9660 ◆◆

Gardner, William A  
 Gutierrez, Ramon S  
 Hernandez, Fred A  
 Johnson, Samuel  
 Moore, Warren J  
 Pinela, Joaquin D  
 Sampson, Russell  
 Walpert, Kenneth D

◆◆ 9670 ◆◆

Kitibutr, Victor

◆◆ 9680 ◆◆

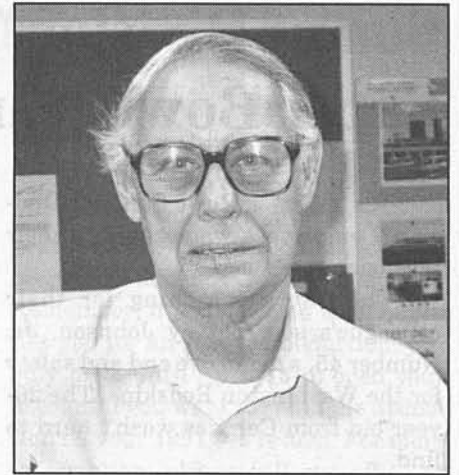
Archibald, Scott P  
 Aveiro, Filipe D  
 Bonifay, Leroy A  
 Collins, Robert S  
 Dunkins, Charles  
 Farley, David A  
 Knapik, Joseph "J"  
 Moore, Walter D  
 Root, Jeffrey M  
 Salazar, Keith P  
 Siemens, Arthur "P"  
 Vo, Khanh Q  
 Wong, Chuan T

◆◆ 9699 ◆◆

Almeida, John M  
 Chavez, Manuel O  
 Duran, Salvador G  
 Fordon, Larry  
 Leahy, Michael O  
 Powers, Mary R  
 Trooge, George D



*"I have perfect attendance because I love my job, and that's the honest truth." -- Diane Frazier, assistant manager, Division 5.*



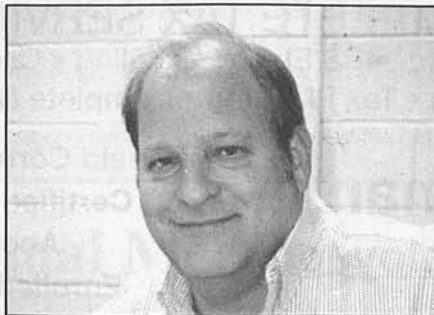
*"I enjoy my work and I can't see any reason not to come to work even if I'm under the weather." -- Dick Burns, system electronic communication technician, who's a robust 72 years old.*



*"Once I changed my eating habits and started taking vitamins, I found that I became sick less often." -- Gwen Keene, office manager, human resources, who has racked up perfect attendance for the last two years.*



*"I like my job -- I believe you call in sick only when you are sick." -- Reginnia Kaping, senior secretary, Human Resources.*



*"I'm a supervisor so I need to set the pace, the example, and show good faith -- that's why I have good attendance." -- Gary Eller, assistant maintenance manager, Division 3 (Cypress Park).*

# Son of Division 7 Operator Plays on Winning Super Bowl Team

On Super Bowl Sunday, Division 7 employees were glued to their television sets.

They were searching for their colleague's son, Sidney Johnson, Jr. Number 45, a defensive end and safety for the Washington Redskins. The 26-year old from Cerritos wasn't hard to find.

"He played the whole Super Bowl," says his proud father, Sidney, a 22-year RTD veteran bus operator. He and his wife had just returned to Los Angeles from Minnesota where the big game was played when *Headway* reached him.

"My phone's been ringing all morning," he continues, excitedly. "I've messages from my Division 7 colleagues who have known my boy since he was a kid."

"I always thought he was a good ballplayer," says Johnson, who never played football himself. "We knew he wanted to play professionally since he was on Pop Warner years ago, but I never anticipated he would go this far."

He was especially thrilled because his son had signed as a free agent four years ago with the Kansas City Chiefs, but was cut from the team after two years. He went to Tampa Bay next, and two years ago, wound up at Washington.

"He loves the organization and they're planning to keep him," says Sidney, Sr., who first saw his son play against San Francisco several years ago. "He makes a decent salary, but he's not one of those million dollar players."

Sidney Sr. says he's grateful to the RTD for allowing him the time off to go to the game. He said that in Minneapolis he met Redskins Coach Joe Gibbs, along with famed players Art Monk and retired Redskin Charlie Taylor. "They were all very professional and very kind," he says. "And I was so overwhelmed and ecstatic that my son was playing in the Super Bowl."

He says his son aspires to a career in computer science when he can no longer play football.

As for proud father, Sidney, Sr., he tells us that he plans on retiring next year to pursue, of all things, a career as a sports agent.

We bet we know who his first client will be.

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## FULLY COMMITTED TO OUR CLIENTS

# Credit Union IRAs: An Investment in Your Future

by Lenor Lustado,  
Credit Union Manager

**F**ewer people in the United States are choosing Individual Retirement Accounts for their investment planning. Due to the Tax Reform Act of 1986, many Americans feel that an IRA may not be their best savings strategy. What they may not realize is that IRAs are still a solid and safe investment.

Something often found confusing by members are eligibility requirements. You may still be eligible for a full or partial IRA deduction, if your joint, adjusted gross income is less than \$50,000, or if you or your spouse are not an active participant in an employer sponsored pension plan. Deductions are permissible under these provisions in the IRA law.

Why open an IRA Account at Transit District E.F.C.U?

You open an IRA Account for the following reasons:

1. No FEE is charged to open, maintain, or close your IRA at your credit union. Most brokerage firms charge \$30 per account to open an IRA account, \$30 annual maintenance fee, and \$50 to close the account. Think how much these charges reduce your actual yield!

2. IRA bookkeeping is simpler with the credit union. Your IRA is tracked on your monthly or quarterly statement along with your savings and other accounts. Most brokerage firms send individual investment tickets which may be hard to find at tax time.

3. Your IRA is flexible at the credit union. You may choose payroll deduction into an IRA sub-share that has no minimum balance nor term.

4. IRAs are safe at your credit union. IRAs are insured up to \$100,000 per depositor.

5. Service to our members is our first priority.

So, if you aren't already putting the tax laws to work for your retirement years, stop by the Credit Union and learn more about the benefits of an IRA. Remember, if your income level qualifies you for an IRA tax deduction, you only have until April 15 to open your account if you want to claim the deduction on your 1991 tax return. For more information, please call our office at (213) 972-6183.

## Tax Reporting: Retain Your Credit Union Statement

**Y**our December quarterly statement reflects transactions for the period October 1 through December 31, 1991. It also contains valuable information for tax reporting, including your 1991 year-to-date dividends on savings and year-to-date interest on loans. Retain this statement as a part of your permanent records.

Don't forget! Start savings today for your tomorrows.

If you're like the rest of us, you probably find it difficult to save for the future. Budgeting is just not something that comes easily to most of us. You know something is coming up, some big

ticket item or, a great away that you have planned, but you still find yourself short of funds when the time comes.

When you save with our Holiday Club Account, you decide how much to put away. We have several plans to choose from, so you can save just what you need. Once a year, in November (or June for the summer vacation club accounts) you receive a check or you can request us to transfer to your savings account for every cent you paid in — PLUS DIVIDENDS earned! No monthly fees are charged on this account; you just earn dividends on shares above the minimum balance.

## Credit Union Annual Meeting

**T**he Board of Directors has scheduled its annual meeting on Saturday, March 21, 1992. All members of Transit District Employees Federal Credit Union are encouraged to attend the annual meeting. The meeting will be held at 10

a.m. at RTD Headquarters, 425 S. Main St., Boardroom, second floor.

The meeting agenda includes distribution of the 1991 annual report as well as reports from the officers of your board of directors.



# District Devising Emergency Preparedness Plan

*Classified as Disaster Service Workers, Employees Will Play Key Role in Helping Community Recover from Disaster*

An earthquake has struck an RTD facility causing a power outage and loss of phone service. Employees are injured, but injuries are not life-threatening. Because of damage to the facility, managers have ordered employees to be evacuated. You are an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. What should you do now?

Scenario, Earthquake Drill, March, 1991

• • •

Last March, some 400 employees participated in a disaster drill that required them to evacuate Divisions 3 and 10 and the Central Maintenance Facility. The drill was conducted successfully after employees received two months of training in earthquake and evacuation procedures, firefighting, hazardous materials handling and other emergency skills.

The drill was the first step in a long process that will result in a District-wide Emergency Response Plan. In the event of a disaster, the RTD's strategy calls for creation of an Emergency Operations Center that would oversee command centers at each division or disaster site. The local command centers would dispatch teams for search and rescue, First Aid, casualty care, dam-

age assessment and other recovery tasks.

"The purpose of the emergency plan is to prepare our employees to survive a disaster and to minimize loss of life and property," says Leo J. Bevon, assistant director of transportation. "The plan ensures that people will be trained to help employees who may be injured."

"The plan also will enable the RTD to meet its obligations to the public to maintain service, provide emergency service, or restore service," he emphasizes. "The RTD will be a very important element in the community's recovery following a disaster."

Eventually, every RTD employee will become involved to some extent in this massive plan by performing as a member of an emergency team, attending training classes or participating in disaster drills. Bevon also notes that RTD employees, who are classified as Disaster Service Workers in an emergency, may be assigned to perform many types of tasks aimed at helping the community recover from a disaster.

"When an emergency occurs," he says, "everyone will have a battle station. People also will be cross-trained so they can step into a job if someone is missing."

When completed sometime late next year, the District's Emergency

Response Plan will include command post locations for each department and will designate teams for each floor of every building. It will provide for equipping and training all members of disaster teams.

The plan calls for designating emergency shelter areas for employees and for obtaining supplies of food, water, blankets, emergency lighting, First Aid and sanitation equipment.

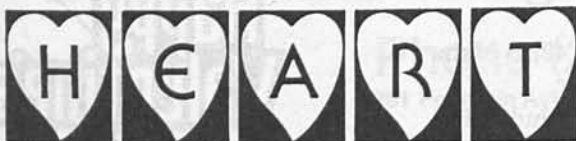
Emergency call-back lists will be developed and those who should automatically report to work without notification during emergency. The District will maintain a data bank of employees with skills that will be useful in an emergency.

The plan will identify the special needs of the disabled and provide special equipment for them.

The District will devise an emergency employee/family communications network. Employees will be trained in emergency procedures for personnel and family safety and survival. Employees also will have an opportunity to purchase emergency supplies for their homes and automobiles.

"We have a moral obligation to our employees to create a safe working environment," says Bevon. "Part of that is to ensure that they can survive a disaster."

FEBRUARY IS



MONTH



## RTD Highlights

... continued from page 6

■ In a continuing effort to make Blue Line trains as safe as possible, RTD installed "cyclops" lights on all 54 trains in the fleet. The extremely bright light, mounted atop the front and rear of each train, can be seen hundreds of feet away in broad daylight or at night. For a nominal \$3 permit fee, RTD also opened the trains to bicyclists.

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### *The District estimated that its buses carried a record 22,700 Rose Bowl and Rose Parade Attendees.*

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■ The District and its three major labor unions reached agreement for new three-year contracts. Despite a 60-day cooling off period imposed by Gov. Pete Wilson during negotiations, it was the third consecutive agreement reached without a work stoppage.

■ RTD created the Corporate Transit Partnership, which kicked off a countywide employer assistance program aimed at helping firms comply with local clean air regulations. Among CTP's innovative services are a computerized transit information phone line called TransLink, transit information days and rideshare fairs, and employee attitude and service surveys.

■ The District estimated that its buses carried a record 22,700 Rose Parade and Rose Bowl game attendees to

and from Pasadena on Jan. 1-2. This represents a 73 percent jump in ridership from the previous year. RTD put extra buses into service when the Pasadena Police Department announced that the usual parking spaces on the Rose Bowl grounds would be unavailable because of wet grounds.

Reorganization of the county's transportation structure and a possible budget shortfall present 1992's biggest challenges. The joint boards of RTD and the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) voted in December to merge into a single agency. Structural details of the new organization have yet to be finalized, and the eventual agreement must be approved by the State Legislature.

District staff also is grappling with a possible \$55 million budget shortfall. General Manager Pegg has suggested numerous cost-cutting efforts to balance the budget. But RTD's Board of Directors voted Jan. 9 to first request assistance from the LACTC, historically one of the District's primary funding sources.

"We've faced major obstacles in the past and conquered them," Pegg said. "We expect to do the same in 1992, without raising fares or making major service adjustments.

"At the same time, we will continue to pool our talents to improve bus and train service in any way we can for the 1.3 million riders who depend on RTD every day."

## RTD at the Music Center



**T**o the lively beat of a mariachi band, the RTD Corporate Transit Partnership participated at a rideshare fair at the Music Center in downtown Los Angeles during one of their Friday outdoor concerts. Shown here providing transit route information to both employees and concert goers are Ed Langer from the Corporate Transit Partnership and Debbie Ulmer from Telephone Information.

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## Patsouras... continued from page 12

"All new rail cars as well as electric trolleybuses, which appear to have a bright future in this area, could be assembled at this plant," Patsouras said. "Some of the components also could be manufactured there."

Ideally, the facility also will be used as a transportation think tank. Transportation experts will gather to consider such topics as intelligent vehicle/highway systems, system-level mobility concepts, passenger safety, energy efficiency, development of robotics and exploration of the dynamic user-vehicle-facility relationship.

Patsouras noted that the establishment of such a facility would mandate that bidders on contracts for transit vehicle components would be required to use the L.A. site and L.A. area residents to build or assemble the equipment.

"There is a lot of flexibility in the way L.A. could use existing federal block-grant funds, as well as local development monies, to launch this program," Patsouras said. "This support can be in the form of outright grants, low-interest loans or deferred loans."

Funding also would come in the form

of direct grants or loans from LACMTA and the community development department within the city where the plan is located. Patsouras says he sees a "joint venture team" arising from the development corporation.

The team would be responsible for obtaining private financing, as well as hiring a skilled workforce to staff the site.

He added that the Private Industry Council, local community colleges, the State Employment Development Department and other agencies also would participate in developing a workforce.

# Division 18 Operator Cardoza Displays Patriotism

*Says He Built a Flag Because People Don't Respect It Anymore.*

*Editor's note: The following story appeared in the Dec. 19, 1991 issue of the Downey Herald American.*

**D**ivision 18 Bus Operator Juan Cardoza Jr. wanted to do something to welcome Terry Anderson and the other U.S. hostages home for their first Christmas since their recent release from captivity in the Middle East.

He was so enthusiastic about it that he spent three weekends doing it.

One three-by-four-foot piece of plywood, 50 lightbulbs and six \$2.99 packages of garland later, Cardoza made his welcome official Friday.

He used these materials to build an American flag on the roof of his house.

Cardoza said he built the flag because people don't respect the American flag anymore.

"I get so upset when I see the flag being burned or worn as a T-shirt," he said.

"Ever since Anderson was released, I've had my regular flag out there. I still have a yellow ribbon on my regular flag. That love for people's country seems like it's gone."

Cardoza said the flag also serves to commemorate the first Christmas after the Persian Gulf War. He was planning to make the words "Welcome Home" with letters made out of coathangers.

But his wife entered their house in a city Christmas light contest so he had to hurry to finish his flag.

"Other houses on this block have nice decorations but my house really stands out," he said.

The decorations include a life-sized Santa Claus and other Christmas lights. But the flag is what attracts attention to the house. Like a real American flag, it has 13 stripes made with the garland and 50 light bulbs for stars to symbolize each U.S. state.

"A busload of people already came by to look at the flag," Cardoza said.

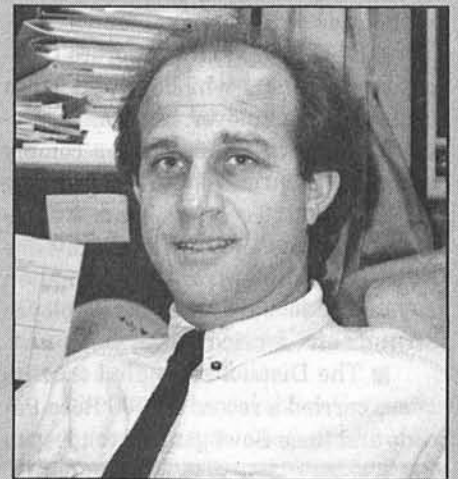
Cardoza, who was born in Mercedes, Texas, learned patriotism early in life when he joined the Army at age 16.

He said he joined because he wanted to fight for the U.S. during the Cuban missile crisis.



## Bruce Moore Earns Master's Degree

**B**ruce Moore, a human resources analyst, has completed his master's degree in public administration at California State University, Northridge. The Sherman Oaks resident who has been working in public administration for the last ten years says the academic study of the field complemented well what he has practiced over the years. He wrote his graduate project about the effects of the compressed work week on organizations and employees, citing, in particular, how the compressed week impacts RTD's Human Resources Department.



## Bicycling Through the Golden Years



**H**eadway recently received an update on retired RTD mechanic Larry Mead from his wife, Ann. The couple lives in Fresno, where they are avid bicyclists. In fact, the two met when they cycled across the United States in 1988. Last year they pedaled more than 5000 miles, visiting Northern California, Glacier Park and the Old Santa Fe Trail. Interestingly, most of their errands are done by bicycle.

This year they aim to cycle from their home in Fresno to San Diego and back.

They also are active in their church. This year they will have the responsibility of being "Shepherds" to about 25 in their congregation.

Mead attends Bible Study Fellowship each Monday evening.

Says Mead of his retirement, "I waited too long!"



# Another Childcare Benefit Available for Employees

by Cheryl Brown,  
Dependent Care Coordinator



Shawn Lowe-Ewing enjoys a moment spent with her infant son, Zack, who attends the CalTot Child Care Center a block from the District's Headquarters building.

Through a unique agreement with the RTD, KinderCare Learning Centers, Inc. is now offering a special 10 percent discount on child care for RTD employees with children!

All you need to show is proof of employment with the District, such as a paycheck stub, to qualify for this special "Kindustry" rate at any of the KinderCare Learning Centers in the area. KinderCare Centers are located in 68 cities throughout Southern California.

KinderCare is one of the nation's leading child-care providers, and accepts children through 12 years of age. There are separate programs for infants, toddlers, two, three, four, and five-year olds and schoolage children.

All KinderCare center directors and teachers receive special training in caring for preschool children. Ms. Jacqui

Murray is the western regional director for the "Kindustry" program. Murray says that all center directors and teachers understand that the benefits of child care can last a lifetime, influencing a child's attitude toward learning as well as life. She says that

her staff also understands the unique problems and situations working parents encounter.

The "Kindustry" program is presented as just one of many child care assistance options available for RTD employees. In addition to the "Kindustry" program, the RTD offers a Childcare Referral Information Bank (CRIB) referral service and quarterly enrollment bulletins regarding child care vacancies within the Alliance of Businesses for Childcare Development (ABCD) network of child care facilities. The RTD has also entered into a formal arrangement with the CalTot Child Care Center, located in downtown Los Angeles, to provide access to child care for employees.

For more information about available programs and services, call RTD's Dependent Care Coordinator: Cheryl Brown at (213) 972-7155.

**Remember:** All dependent care options are presented for informational purposes only. Parents are responsible for making all final selection decisions.

## An Invite to RTD Retirees

by Rita Cole

The Thanksgiving meeting of the Commerce and Inland Valley (Perris) RTD Retirees Club was held in Commerce on November 14, 1991. A great luncheon was prepared and served by the ladies of our clubs. There was turkey, ham, and all of the trimmings. Sixty-four happy people attended.

It was a good day for all, and seeing friends and former co-workers was the best part.

The Christmas meeting was held December 17 at the Inland Valley Club, and once again, all that good food. One hundred retirees, spouses and friends came to this delightful Christmas party. The meeting hall was festively decorated for the occasion. There were also some excellent gifts at both meetings.

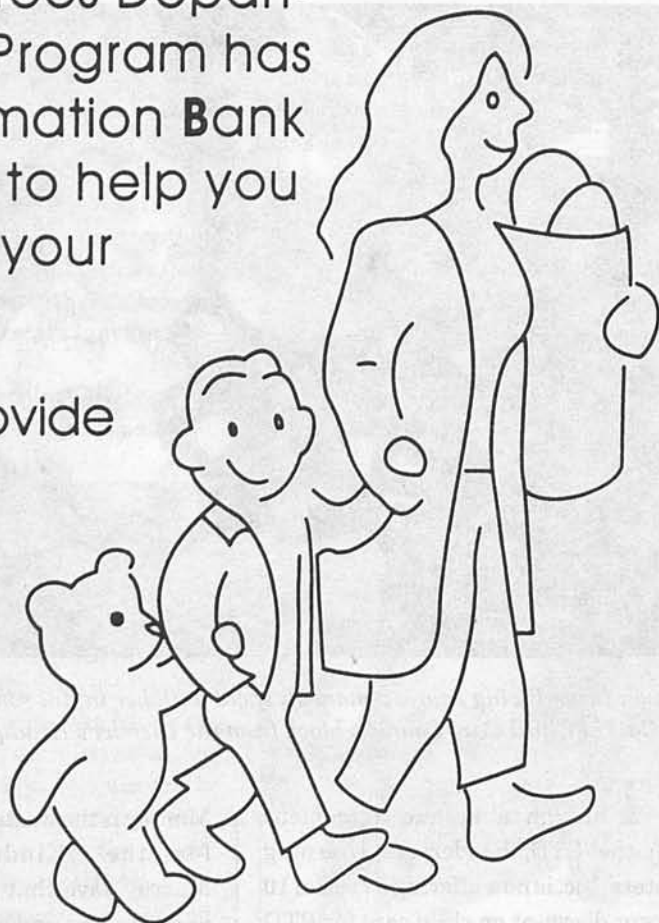
The members would like to extend a welcome to all retirees, to come to one of their meetings. We think you'll love it.

Happy New Years from the RTD Retirees Social Club!

# LOOKING FOR CHILD CARE?

The SCRTD Human Resources Department's Dependent Care Program has a **Childcare Referral Information Bank (CRIB)** program designed to help you find childcare that meets your needs!!

RTD's **CRIB** program can provide you with information about licensed childcare centers, family day care homes, infant care centers, and/or school-age day care centers, within specific zip code areas.



For information about the **CRIB** program as well as other Dependent Care Services and Benefits provided by RTD, call:

Dependent Care Office at (213) 972-7155

PLEASE NOTE: The RTD does not endorse or make recommendations regarding the quality of any child care provider and/or program. Parents are responsible for making all final selection decisions.

# FOR SCRTD EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES

## Classes in Infant - Child - Adult CPR

- Discount Price of \$19 for SCRTD employees and families
- Your child care provider is entitled to the same discount (27% SAVINGS)
- L.A. COUNTY - ORANGE COUNTY - SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

**CALL** COMMUNITY CPR HOTLINE  **NOW**  
**1-800-464-6451**

This opportunity is designed to provide you with the assurance that while you are at work, your child care provider knows what to do in an Emergency!

Coordinated by RTD Human Resources Department and the Community CPR Hotline.

## AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATION

### ELEVEN LOCATIONS — SERVING L.A. AND ORANGE COUNTIES

DO NOT CALL FACILITIES LISTED BELOW

<b>1. LOS ANGELES</b> Los Angeles Doctor's Hosp. 2231 S. Western Avenue Los Angeles, CA	<b>4. VAN NUYS (S.F. Valley)</b> Mid Valley YMCA 6901 Lennox Avenue Van Nuys, CA	<b>7. RESEDA (S.F. Valley)</b> West Valley YMCA 18810 Van Owen Avenue Reseda, CA	<b>10. ORANGE (near CHOC)</b> Property Mgmt. Services 500 S. Main Street North Tower, Suite 101 Orange, CA
<b>2. SOUTH PASADENA</b> S. Pasadena/S. Marino YMCA 1605 Garfield South Pasadena, CA	<b>5. LONG BEACH</b> Woodruff Medical Center 3816 Woodruff Avenue Long Beach, CA	<b>8. BELLFLOWER</b> Bellflower Doctor's Hospital 9542 E. Artesia Blvd. Bellflower, CA	<b>11. IRVINE/NEWPORT BCH.</b> The Principal Financ'l. Grp. 2415 Campus Dr., Suite 101 Irvine, CA
<b>3. TORRANCE</b> Del Amo Hospital 23700 Camino Del Sol Torrance, CA	<b>6. CULVER CITY</b> Mark Dauberman Classroom 6095 Bristol Pkwy. Ste. 100 Culver City, CA	<b>9. SANTA MONICA</b> Berkley East Convales. Hosp. 2021 Arizona Avenue Santa Monica, CA	

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>LOS ANGELES</b> 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.	<b>SOUTH PASADENA</b> 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.  <b>VAN NUYS (S.F. Valley)</b> 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.	<b>TORRANCE</b> 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.  <b>ORANGE</b> 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.	<b>LONG BEACH</b> 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.	<b>CULVER CITY</b> 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon <b>BELLFLOWER</b> <b>SANTA MONICA</b> <b>IRVINE/NEWPORT BCH.</b> <b>ORANGE</b>  10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. <b>RESEDA (S.F. Valley)</b>  1:00 - 5:00 p.m. <b>ORANGE</b>

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATION

4 Hours — \$19.00      8 Hours — \$29.00

\*Holiday Schedules may vary.

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Riverside

Lillian Lee  
Long Beach

Nicole Campos  
Montebello

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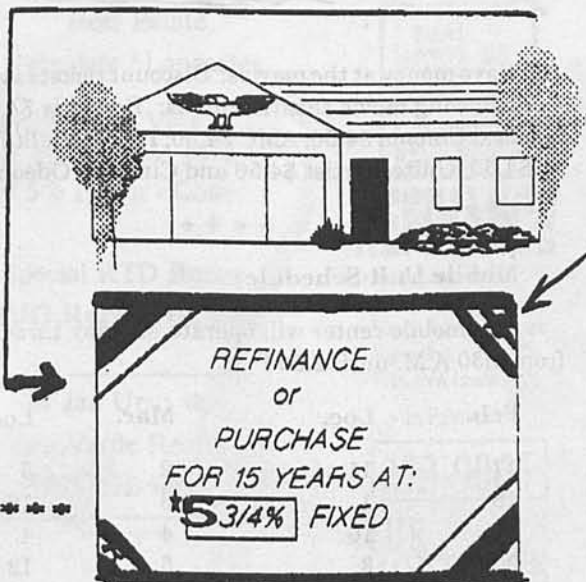
Chris Robertson  
Employee of Month!

\*Rates Subject To Change

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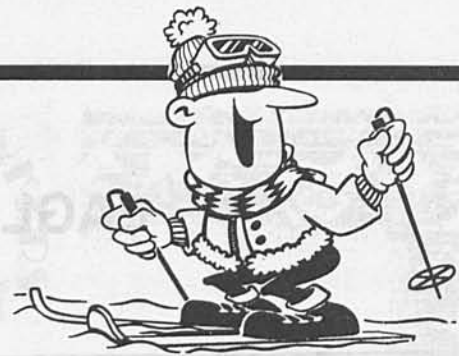


**CALL**

**Bus. 818-914-2796**

\*RATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# RECREATION NEWS



## February

- 21 Clippers vs Portland \$25.50
- 22 Lakers vs Golden State \$13.50
- 23 Phantom of the Opera 3:00 P.M. \$60.50
- 26 Lakers vs New York \$13.50



## March

- 7 Kings vs Pittsburgh \$19.50
- 8 & 15 Two Trains Running James Doolittle Theatre  
2:00 P.M. \$39.00 tickets for \$33.50
- 18 Lakers vs Portland \$13.50
- 22 & 28 Phantom 2:00 P.M. \$60.50

Look for these upcoming events:

- April - Baseball season begins -  
Dodgers opening Day - April 6  
Start Forming your RTD baseball teams - Season will  
start in May.
- May - Sesame Street Live
- June - Playboy Jazz Festival



New RTD and Metro logo merchandise in stock. Tee shirts, sweats, caps, and toys. See items on the Mobile Unit or in Employee Activities.

## Public Commendations

... continued from page 13

At subsequent stops, other passengers were greeted in the same manner—bringing happy smiles on each and every face.

Witnessing this really made my day, and I thought you should know what a jewel you have in your employ.

Number 6994—I applaud you!!

Sincerely,

Olga Carney

West Hollywood

Save money at the movies. Discount tickets available for the following movie theatre chains: Edwards \$4.25; AVCO General Cinema \$4.50; AMC \$4.50; Pacific Walk-In or Drive In \$4.50; United Artist \$4.50 and Cineplex Odeon \$4.75.



## Mobile Unit Schedule

The mobile center will operate Monday through Friday from 9:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Feb.	Loc.	Mar.	Loc.
17	11	2	5
18	1	3	18
19	10	4	4
20	3	5	12
21	CMF	6	11
24	9	9	1
25	16	10	10
26	8	11	3
27	15	12	CMF
28	7	13	9
16	16		
17	8		



The Employee Activities office is open from 10:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Second floor of the Headquarters' building, telephone 972-4740.



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**Hats Off to Perfect Attendees!**



*"I think that staying healthy is my highest priority. You can't buy good health. Physically, I watch what I eat, and mentally, I stay active."*

*—Charlie Urasaki, system electronic communications leadman, who hasn't missed a day on the job in 18 years.*

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