



# DIGEST

## Around and About

THE BOARD of Supervisors has awarded a \$7.1 million contract to build the Southeast Comprehensive Health Center at Slauson avenue and Main street, Los Angeles. The big center will give mostly outpatient care, referring special-care cases to King hospital. The new center is expected to open its doors in late 1976.

FINAL PLANS are being prepared for a \$3 million, three-story addition to the Museum of Natural History in Exposition park. Private donors will pay for half the construction cost.

THE LAST holdout among the 51 units of County employees—a unit of 107 pharmacists—has reached agreement with County management on its 1973-74 salaries. The signed memorandum of understanding, approved by the Board of Supervisors last Tuesday (Jan. 29), includes a 3.2 percent salary increase for the year.

THE FIRM of Hewitt Associates has begun a two-month survey among 1,000 County middle management executives to learn their "needs, desires, and problems." The

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## ENERGY CUTS? YES. LAYOFFS? NO

No COUNTY employee has lost his job because of the energy crisis, and there is no prospect that anyone will, CAO Arthur Will declared this week.

"We are being forced to cut our use of electricity by 20 percent under the new Los Angeles City ordinance," Will said, "and that is causing some changes in our life style. But these changes do not include layoffs, and as the situation now looks, there will be no energy-caused layoffs in the future."

Most visible among life-style changes so far have been:

— Periodic shutdowns of escalators and some elevators

— Reduced lighting inside and outside County buildings

— Thermostats set at 68 instead of the former 73 degrees

— Use of shuttle buses, instead of cars, to carry County employees between Civic Center and County facilities on the east side (see schedule, page 3)

### Where the Power Goes

Mechanical director Robert Sudduth said lighting accounts for about 25 percent of the County's electric consumption. Big users among the remaining 75 percent are the elevators, escalators, and fans and compressors for the heating and air conditioning systems.

Sudduth said the County is moving to comply with the federal energy office's recently issued standards of 50 foot-candles of illumination at work stations and 15 foot-candles in corridors. Most buildings now are lighted at 70 to 90 foot-

candles, and some new buildings at more than 200 foot-candles.

"This over-lighting is largely the result of standards set years ago by manufacturers of lighting equipment," Sudduth said. "Later inde-

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## 4 Heads Named

NEW DIRECTORS are at the helm, or soon will be, in four major County departments—the result of recent Board of Supervisors appointments.

Both Edwin Messinger, new director of communications, and Stephen Koonce, director of facilities, will move into their positions Feb. 11.

Previously, Robert Lunche took over as air pollution control officer (Jan. 8), a post he had held on an acting basis since the retirement last April of Robert Chass. Lunche, 50, resides with his wife and three sons in Hacienda Heights.

Bruce Altman, 35, former city manager of Simi Valley, took the oath as public administrator Jan. 14. The department had been temporarily headed by Board executive officer James Mize since the dismissal of Baldo Kristovich in September 1971. Altman, a 1961 Arizona State graduate, is married and has two sons.

Koonce, for the first few weeks, will find himself a director without a department. Only last Tuesday (Jan. 29) the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that will create Koonce's new department of

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## Around and About

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Board of Supervisors hired the outside firm to assure objective results. The middle managers' answers to some 60 questions will be analyzed as the first step in an executive development plan to create a reserve of qualified managers ready to step into upper-level jobs.

A FIVE-year program to simplify the jury selection machinery in Los Angeles county will make its biggest step forward today (Feb. 1) when the Los Angeles municipal court jury system, along with those of Compton and Malibu, is consolidated with the superior court system. Some 20 other municipal courts already have merged their jury selection with the superior court. Only four relatively small municipal court districts still select their own juries—in Newhall, Antelope valley, East Los Angeles, and Santa Anita.

CAO ARTHUR Will has appointed (Jan. 24) Harry Hufford as his No. 2 man. Hufford, a veteran of 20 years in the chief administrative office, had been acting assistant CAO since Ted Durkee resigned the post last Oct. 1 to become CAO of Santa Cruz County.

AFTER 15 years on the Board of Supervisors, Ernest Debs has announced that he will retire when his current term ends next December. Debs, who gave health problems as his principal reason, began his public life as a Democratic state assemblyman in 1942, went to the Los Angeles city council in 1947, and to the Board of Supervisors in 1958. Announced candidates thus far for his Third District seat include three L. A. councilmen—John Ferraro, Ernani Bernardi, and Edmund Edelman. They will compete in the June 4 primary.

## HAHN SWITCHES CHAIRMANSHIPS

MAKING WHAT he called "sweeping changes" in Board of Supervisors committee assignments, newly elected Board chairman Kenneth Hahn has switched nearly one-fourth of the County departments from the chairmanship of one Supervisor to another, and has assigned to individual Supervisors six major departments formerly overseen by the Board committee of the whole.

Assignments include:

Supervisors Pete Schabarum—DPSS, probation, flood control, arboreta, marshal, public defender, library, registrar-recorder, treasurer-tax collector, business license commission, watershed commission, and Rancho Los Amigos hospital.

Supervisor Ernest Debs—personnel, D-A, adoptions, art museum, data processing, community services, grand jury, music and per-

### W-2s Distributed

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER Mark Bloodgood said distribution of W-2 earning statements for 1973 were scheduled to be completed to all County employees by yesterday (Jan. 31).

Bloodgood said any employee who questions the accuracy of his W-2 statement and requests an audit should accompany his request with a full set of his paycheck stubs for 1973.

"Our experience has been that an audit shows the W-2 form was correct in 99 percent of the cases," Bloodgood said. "We found that most employees who requested audits had failed to consider overtime, bonuses, callback, hazard, night differential, bilingual bonus, or time certificates issued when they transferred or terminated."

### Pachtman, Jones Win

HEAD DEPUTY D-A Richard Pachtman handily won reelection to his twin positions on the retirement board and the board of investments in the recent Countywide mail balloting. Mildred Wright Jones edged out Sam Matzkin, 7,776 votes to 6,535, for the seat on the suggestion award board.

forming arts, Otis art institute, senior citizens affairs, urban affairs, and County-USC Medical Center.

Supervisor James Hayes—courts, sheriff, fire, APCD, assessor, beaches, purchasing, real estate, weights and measures, sanitation districts, and El Cerrito and Long Beach General hospitals.

Supervisor Baxter Ward—health services (aside from hospitals geographically assigned to individual Supervisors in their districts), County engineer, regional planning, public administrator, coroner, County counsel, communications, agricultural commissioner, animal control, farm advisor, Mira Loma and Olive View hospitals, and the Acton, Warm Springs, and Mira Loma rehabilitation centers.

Supervisor Hahn—mechanical, parks, road, auditor-controller, building services, County clerk, human relations, Museum of Natural History, schools, military and veterans affairs, and John Wesley, Harbor General, and King hospitals.

Hahn left under the committee of the whole only the CAO and the Board executive office.

### Retirements:

THE BOARD of retirement has announced the departure of 25 employees with longtime service. They are:

More than 35 years service—James Bandy of the road department, and Lee Solomon of the County clerk's office.

More than 30 years service—William Bonnar, Archie Bullis, and William Gussman, fire department; R. W. Brown, Charles Cunningham, Russell Webb, and Doyle Whipple, Sr., sheriff; Everett Bellwood and Ludwick Cooper, probation; Alfred Berman, Earline Hudson, and Lucy Bobadilla, DPSS; Evalyn Beuer, purchasing; Joseph Brown, engineer; Norman Cook, mechanical; Ruth Doherty, Rosie Hernandez, Marion Mayne, Benward Lee, and Sabra Battersbee, health services; Daniel Gallagher, flood control; Mark Gelbard, road; and Viola Cohen, adoptions.

# ENERGY

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pendent studies have shown that 50 foot-candles is quite adequate for the typical worker."

(A foot-candle equals the light cast on a surface by a candle one foot away.)

The federal energy office lighting standards, now advisory, are expected to become mandatory under legislation pending in Congress.

Director of personnel Gordon Nesvig said his department's occupational health service reports no evidence of increased on-the-job accidents since the mechanical department began reducing lighting in County buildings.

## Daytime Cleaning Experiment

Building services director William Prater said his department is experimenting with daylight, instead of night, cleanup work in 83 of the County's 250 facilities.

Custodians are working from 5 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or from 2 to 10:30 p.m. at the Music Center, Patriotic Hall, the mechanical and communications Eastern Avenue complexes, and outlying offices of the sheriff, community services, health services, probation, assessor, and beaches departments.

Prater said the day shifts are used only where departments agree they will not interfere with regular operations. About 350 of the 1,700 custodians are involved. Prater said custodians who have found the day shifts interfere with taking daytime classes or otherwise create a hardship have been allowed to trade shifts with night workers.

## Car Pools and Buses

The CAO said 1,800 employees who have indicated they want to join Civic Center car pools are receiving monthly computerized lists of possible car-mates in their home and work areas.

The County and state also have invited the Rapid Transit District, seven municipal bus lines, and 27 private carriers to submit proposals by next Thursday (Feb. 7) for providing subscription bus service to employees.

# Shuttle Bus Schedule

To REDUCE the use of County pool cars and permittees' automobiles, the mechanical department is operating three shuttle buses between the Civic Center; Central Jail; County-USC Medical Center; the road, flood control, and purchasing departments; and the Eastern Avenue complex. Buses run at 30-minute intervals throughout the day from the ten boarding points listed below. Riders must carry identifications as County employees when boarding a bus.

## DEPARTURE TIMES, Civic Center to Eastern Avenue complex:

Hall of Administration (Temple street)—8:30 a.m., 9, 9:30, 10, etc. Last bus at 4:30 p.m.

Hall of Records (Temple street)—8:32 a.m., 9:02, 9:32, 10:02, etc. Last bus, 4:32 p.m.

Central Jail (main entrance)—8:40 a.m., 9:10, 9:40, 10:10, etc. Last bus, 4:40 p.m.

County-USC Medical Center (Mission and Zonal)—8:47 a.m., 9:17, 9:47, 10:17, etc. Last bus, 4:17 p.m.

Road Department (1540 Alcazar street)—8:50 a.m., 9:20, 9:50, 10:20, etc. Last bus, 4:20 p.m.

Flood Control (2250 Alcazar street)—8:52 a.m., 9:22, 9:52, 10:22, etc. Last bus, 4:22 p.m.

Purchasing and Stores (front entrance)—8:56 a.m., 9:26, 9:56, 10:26, etc. Last bus, 4:26 p.m.

Eastern Avenue Complex (1100 North Eastern avenue)—9:12 a.m., 9:42, 10:12, 10:42, etc. Last bus, 4:42 p.m.

Biscailuz Center and Communications Shop (1060 North Eastern avenue, parking lot)—9:15 a.m., 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, etc. Last bus, 4:45 p.m.

## DEPARTURE TIMES, Eastern Avenue Complex to Civic Center:

Biscailuz Center and Communications Shop—8:15 a.m., 8:45, 9:15, 9:45, etc. Last bus, 4:15 p.m.

Forester and Fire Warden (1320 North Eastern Avenue, front entrance)—8:18 a.m., 8:48, 9:18, 9:48, etc. Last bus, 4:18 p.m.

Purchasing and Stores—8:28 a.m., 8:58, 9:28, etc. Last bus, 4:28 p.m.

Flood Control—8:31 a.m., 9:01, 9:31, 10:01, etc. Last bus, 4:01 p.m.

Road department—8:33 a.m., 9:03, 9:33, 10:03, etc. Last bus, 4:03 p.m.

County-USC Medical Center—8:36 a.m., 9:06, 9:36, 10:06, etc. Last bus, 4:06 p.m.

Central Jail—8:43 a.m., 9:13, 9:43, 10:13, etc. Last bus, 4:13 p.m.

County Courthouse (First street entrance)—8:53 a.m., 9:23, 9:53, 10:23, etc. Last bus, 4:23 p.m.

Buses continue from Courthouse to Hall of Administration to begin eastern leg.

## C-NOTE CLUB

*Introducing County employees whose better-work suggestions have won them \$100 or more, and membership in the Century Note club.*

DESIGNING A better backboard for carrying victims of crashes and other accidents has enriched County fireman Larry Miller by \$295. The suggestion award board voted him that amount after fire department tests showed Miller's model was smaller, safer, and more efficient than the oldstyle backboard.

Made of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch plywood, the Miller board fits inside the Stokes litters used by fire rescue squads. Because it contains no metal, the one-piece board permits X-rays for possible spinal injuries without moving the victim from the board. It costs about one-fifth as much to make as the old hinged board.

Fire department paramedic squads, ladder trucks, and helicopters have been equipped with 40 of the new boards.

## FICA Rises Again

THE NEW social security act recently signed by President Nixon means a higher social security tax in 1974 for approximately 25,000 County employees.

The act, which also provides higher social security benefits, raises the tax from 5.85 percent of the first \$10,800 earned to the same rate on the first \$13,200. Thus, the maximum tax rate will rise from \$631.80 in 1973 to \$772.20 this year.

Of the nearly 50,000 County employees included in the social security system, about half earn more than \$10,800 a year and so will be affected by the higher ceiling.

THE BOARD of Supervisors is scheduled to hear arguments, pro and con, next Tuesday (Feb. 5) on whether the County should withdraw from the social security system.

Representatives of nine employee organizations expressed mixed feelings toward the proposal at a meeting (Jan. 16) with staff of CAO Arthur Will.

Will informed the Board of Supervisors that before the County

## Merger Proposed of CSC, ERCOM

THE BOARD of Supervisors will hold a public hearing Feb. 28 on a proposal to merge the civil service and employee relations commissions into a single five-member "labor relations commission."

The proposal, recommended to the Board by the County citizens economy and efficiency commission, would place two County charter amendments on the ballot.

One amendment would combine the commissions—and also would give the Board of Supervisors, instead of the civil service commission, authority to appoint the director of personnel.

The second amendment would delete from the Charter section 47 which requires that County salaries be at least equal to the pay for similar jobs in private industry "in case such prevailing salary or wage can be ascertained."

The E and E commission also urged the Board to set up a separate compensation plan for County managers, and to recognize workloads and major changes in job classifications as appropriate subjects for negotiations between County management and employee organizations.

may withdraw from the social security system, the state legislature must repeal or amend the 1963 law that placed L. A. County within the system. After that, the federal government must approve the withdrawal, and, if it does, the withdrawal goes into effect two years later.

Will said that federal law does not permit an optional system—that either all County employees must withdraw from social security, or none may.

In 1964, 36,000 permanent County employees, excluding peace officers and firemen, had the option of joining the social security system; 9,000 chose to do so. They have been joined, mandatorially, by all non-police, non-fire employees hired since April 30, 1964, bringing the present total in the integrated retirement-social security system close to 50,000.

## 4 HEADS

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facilities by merging the department of real estate management, the CAO's project management division, the County engineer's architectural division, and about half the engineer's construction division. (Small Craft Harbors, now a part of real estate management, will survive as a separate department.)

When the new ordinance goes into effect in mid-March, it will establish a facilities department, with more than 400 employees, to handle all planning, building, buying, selling, and leasing of County structures and real estate.

Koonce, 47, was the youngest commander in the U. S. Naval Corps of Engineers in 1964 when he resigned to become chief of engineering and construction at the University of California, San Diego, the job he is leaving. He holds a master's degree in civil engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic institute, (Troy, N.Y.), is married and the father of four children.

Communications director Messinger, 49, also has four children and a B. S. from Cornell university. A management consultant with Stanford Research institute in Menlo Park, he previously did communications engineering in Kansas, Seattle, Portland, and Los Angeles. He replaces Maurice Kennedy, who recently retired.

County of Los Angeles

## DIGEST

### EDITORIAL BOARD

ARTHUR G. WILL, Chief Administrative Officer  
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LORIN PETERSON, Editor  
Editorial Office: Room 526 Hall of Administration, 222 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012  
Telephone 974-2490