



# DIGEST

## *Around and About*

THE BOARD of Supervisors, readying itself for possible financial belt-tightening, has scheduled a public hearing next Feb. 16 on what health services might be curtailed. The state Beilenson Act requires the hearing before the County may cut any health program in effect on Jan 1, 1975. The Board, however, voted (Oct. 19) to subject *all* health service programs to scrutiny at the Feb. 16 hearing.

IN ANOTHER economy effort, the Board is contemplating possible reductions in retirement benefits for employees hired in the future (not present staffers). At Board order, CAO/Personnel Director Harry Hufford is conferring with County union leaders on the proposals. Hufford is scheduled to report results of the meetings to the Supervisors on Nov. 30.

THE PERSONNEL department has issued a 20-page booklet "Employing the Handicapped" designed to help both the handicapped County employee and his supervisors. Copies may be requisitioned through County purchasing and stores department (use stock item number 8321242, form number 76 H456).

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## COUNTY SWITCHES TO UNITED WAY

THE COUNTY'S 21-year affiliation with AID-United Givers will end Jan. 1. After that, County employees who want to contribute to charity via payroll deductions will do so through the United Way.

The present payroll deductions, through which 34,000 employees are donating nearly \$1.6 million a year to AID, will be cancelled Dec. 31. (Voluntary contributions since the AID affiliation began in 1955

have totaled \$18.1 million.)

United Way is organizing a 20-member planning committee of County managers and labor representatives to lay out a solicitation campaign among County employees. Workers will be asked to sign new authorization cards, if they wish, to permit payroll deductions for United Way.

The Board of Supervisors (Oct. 12) voted to make the switch from AID to United Way. Last spring, the two organizations terminated an agreement under which AID had given some funds to United Way and Red Cross. The termination followed years of dispute over the amounts to be received by United Way and Red Cross. Following the rupture, many major business firms withdrew from AID and joined United Way. The switchovers included all major public utilities and many large department stores.

United Way, composed of citizen volunteers, raises money for 250 local health and social service agencies in Los Angeles County and for 12 Red Cross chapters.

## Disclosure Codes

EACH COUNTY department faces a Dec. 1 deadline for filing with the Board of Supervisors a "disclosure code" including the names of all employees who hold decision-making positions where a financial conflict of interest is possible. Designated employees will file economic statements during January.

The codes and disclosure statements are required under the state political reform act of 1974.

## Enrollment Opens for Deferred Pay

ANY PERMANENT, fulltime employee who wishes to join the County's deferred compensation plan for 1977 has until Dec. 29 to file the required forms.

Under the plan, which began this year, an employee may have 5 to 20 percent of his salary (he chooses the percentage) impounded in a "tax shelter" reserve. When he leaves County service, he may begin withdrawing the deferred compensation and any interest it may have earned. As it is withdrawn, the money becomes taxable.

The approximately 1,000 employees already enrolled in the plan have until Dec. 29 to alter the percentage of their compensation being deferred. The deadline for withdrawing from the plan for 1977 was Nov. 1.

Forms and information are available at each department's personnel office or from the deferred compensation representative in the County treasurer's office, room 440, Hall of Administration, telephone 974-2082.

## Mayor Plan Loses

LOS ANGELES county voters turned thumbs down (Nov. 2) on five ballot propositions involving County government and approved a County housing authority measure for low-rent housing.

Defeated measures included five charter amendments — Proposition A to create a County mayor (the "no" vote was 57 percent), Proposition B to enlarge the Board of Supervisors to nine members ("no" vote of 65 percent), Proposition D to remove employee travel reimbursement from the charter and make it subject to Board ordinance ("no" vote of 58 percent), and Proposition F to permit creation of Canyon County ("no" vote 68 percent).

Proposition C authorizing \$40 million in bonds for a cancer research hospital received a 56.5 percent "yes" vote but lacked the required two-thirds majority for passage.

Proposition E, which passed with a 60 percent "yes" vote, will permit the County housing authority to develop 10,000 units of low-rent housing for senior citizens in unincorporated areas. Funds will come from federal and state sources.

## Volunteers Sought

THE CONSUMER affairs department has asked County employees to pass the word that it can use volunteers to answer phones and handle consumer complaints, to do shopping surveys and otherwise help out. For details call Julie Frese at 974-1452 or 974-9762.

## Talk Fast--Phone Calls Now Timed

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR Ed Messinger appealed to County employees this week to keep local telephone calls "short and sweet" following a new charging system begun by Pacific Telephone company with approval of the state public utilities commission.

Until October, conversations on local calls—those within area code 213 for which employees dial "9" for an outside line—could continue without time limit. Now on such calls the company assesses an extra

## Prayer Breakfast

SUPERIOR COURT's annual Thanksgiving prayer breakfast will be held 6:30 to 7:50 a.m. Wednesday (Nov. 24) with KFWB newsman Brian Bastian as principal speaker.

The event in the Courthouse ninth floor cafeteria is open to all County employees. Tickets at \$2 each may be ordered by telephoning 974-6101 or 974-5411.

## 2 Hats for Koonce

FACILITIES DIRECTOR Stephen Koonce now is wearing an additional hat as acting County engineer. The Board of Supervisors (Oct. 19) appointed him to the dual role for a one-year period, giving him authority to combine and transfer functions within the two departments, but not to completely merge them.

In other personnel matters, the Board

—Appointed assistant chief deputy treasurer-tax collector Willis Sherrill to be first director of the new department of collections

—Appointed Wesley Mossberg, a 24-year veteran of the department, as director of weights and measures

—Named Michael Ishikawa, Jr., 32, as the County's first affirmative action compliance officer; he previously was with the U.S. civil rights commission office in Los Angeles and the OEO regional office in Seattle.

Judge William Hogoboom will become superior court presiding judge Jan. 1. And municipal court judges have elected judge Irwin Nebron to succeed Joseph Grillo as their presiding judge Jan. 1.

## Retirees Named

THE BOARD of retirement has announced the departure of the following longtime employees:

With 40 years County service—Ira Willis, road.

With 35 to 40 years service—Isabel Hess, sheriff; Tave Krohn and Helen Sanders, health services; Sidney Lipshin and Arthur La Sance, road; Mackie Martin, museum of history; Charles Walgenbach, County clerk; Samuel Karnes, community development; Virginia Grace, DPSS; Harry Simons, superior court; Isador Shapiro, collections.

With 30 to 35 years service:

SHERIFF—Richard Moherman, Arthur Hicks, James Kuehner, Robert Trask, Elizabeth Russell, Lewis Goodman, Calton Kleeman, James Wattenbarger, Reginald Threadgill.

HEALTH SERVICES — August Amarillas, William Chappelow, Thomas Cornelius, Henrietta Cross, Minnie Allen, Albert Fleming, Julia James, Eugene Cuny, Neal Hamel, Ina Knight, Charles Royer, George Lockley, Joe Minor, Freddie Williams.

ROAD—Mike Bebaeff, Harold Baerresen, Martin B. Martin.

ENGINEER — Thomas Dolan, Jr., Raymond Buell, Sidney Mouton, Dorothy Neresian.

PARKS — Herbert Hutchinson, Arthur Kaufman, Lee Beatty, Hubert Duke, Robert Haller.

PROBATION — Relonial Morris, Marie Ovieda, Kenyon Crawford, Paul Schrogin.

DPSS—David Myers, Josephine Corona, Morris Silverman.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS—Milliard Johnson, marshal; Rue Anne Alexander, data processing; Leslie Cox and Arthur Watts, fire; Everette Crider, flood control; Virginia Hollywood and Raymond Brandt, superior court; Douglas Kinney and William Wieland, municipal court; Paul Matthies, beaches; Rosa Chavez, County clerk; Joe Clark and Abbron Pickard, building services; John Bartholomew and Edwin McNeal, mechanical; George Spencer, treasurer; Alvin Whitlow, Board of Supervisors; William Preston, Jr., animal control; Irene Kalish, registrar-recorder; Marian Lucero, schools; Robin Schroeder, facilities.

County of Los Angeles

## DIGEST

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message unit, costing 5 cents, for every additional five minutes (or fraction thereof) the conversation continues. Thus, a call running 15 to 20 minutes will cost the County 20 cents.

Messinger estimated the new charges will cost the County \$800,000 in the coming year. "Or," he added, "it could cost an extra million dollars unless employees cut down sharply on the frequency and length of local calls."