



DIGEST

Around and About

Leonard Panish, County Registrar-Recorder, has been appointed to the Advisory Panel of the Federal Election Commission's National Clearinghouse on Election Administration. During his term of office from January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1982, he will help advise the commission on the best ways to use its resources to help improve the administration of elections throughout the nation. The 22 members of the FEC Advisory Panel are selected from among local and state election administrators throughout the United States

The Board of Supervisors approved the establishment of a Supervisorial District Boundary Committee to determine whether the present five supervisorial boundary lines have to be altered as a result of the 1980 census. The review is required after each ten-year census report to assure that each district's population is as nearly equal as possible

Getty Oil Company has committed a \$500,000 donation to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Beginning in 1981 and extending through 1986, the firm will present the museum with \$100,000 each year to go toward the museum's capital campaign to expand its facilities, increase its endowment, and raise funds for acquisitions

A rare 470-year-old Leonardo da Vinci manuscript, the only one remaining in private hands was on view through June 7 on the Plaza level of the Ahmanson Gallery of the Museum of Art. The exhibition of the "Codex Hammer," formerly the "Codex Leicester," from the collection of Museum Trustee Dr. Armand Hammer, has been made possible by the Armand Hammer Foundation

BOARD TO CONSIDER PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET

On April 28, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Chief Administrative Officer's 1981-82 proposed budget as a basis for discussion in public hearings scheduled to begin in June. The Board also instructed the CAO to report further on two alternatives. The first, suggested by Supervisor Schabarum, would be a report on cuts necessary should the County lose only \$85.3 million in 1978-79 unsecured taxes as proposed by the Governor. The second, suggested by Supervisor Dana, would be a report on how the County work force might be reduced by 3,300 positions while still maintaining services.

The CAO's proposal consisted of a recommended budget and an alternative budget. The recommended budget is based on formulas established by Proposition 13 (Jarvis), Proposition 4 (Gann), and AB 8, the long-term financing statute for local government developed two years ago by the Legislature. The alternative budget is based on Governor Brown's 1981-82 proposed State budget which may modify existing laws to shift \$197.6 million in local revenues to the State.

The recommended budget, totaling \$4.8 billion and 79,495 positions, provides for maintenance of minimum service levels with reasonable allowances for inflation. Two major exceptions are in the areas of justice and welfare. For justice departments, the recommended budget provides for 606 additional positions, which were added in the current year by the Board to combat adult and juvenile crime and staff additional courts. For welfare, due to anticipated significant caseload increases, 792

additional positions are recommended. Most other departments are recommended at the same level of staffing except for Health Services where 138 positions are recommended for deletion to offset inflation in higher priority programs.

The alternative budget is intended to illustrate the effects of the Governor's State budget proposals on the County. It would require a reduction of 7,982 positions and \$197.6 million from the recommended budget. Due to the potential loss of an additional \$137.8 million in matching Federal and State revenues, the total program reduction would be \$335.4 million below the recommended budget level.

The Governor's proposals provide no direction as to which county programs are to be reduced and make no attempt to modify State mandates. Therefore, absent direction from the State, the alternative budget proposes that services to the general public must take precedent over services to individuals and that State-mandated programs must share in budget reductions if critical local programs, such as law enforcement, are to be maintained at adequate levels.

According to CAO Harry Hufford, the final County budget may fall somewhere between the two extremes, but precisely where will not be known until the Legislature adopts a State budget. Still another unknown is the impact which President Reagan's Federal budget proposals will have on the County. A lot will depend on actions taken by the Governor and the Legislature to either absorb at the State level or pass on to counties the impact of the federal budget cuts.

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COUNTY EXPERIMENTS WITH DAYTIME CUSTODIAL SERVICE

County employees in 12 selected facilities are experiencing something new — daytime custodial services.

As part of the County's energy conservation efforts, the Department of Building Services, in cooperation with the Chief Administrative Office and the Mechanical Department, has initiated a six-month pilot project designed to demonstrate the feasibility and energy conserving possibilities of daytime cleaning.

The 12 buildings selected for the study represent a good crosssection of County activities. Departments participating include County Engineer-Facilities, Health Services, Municipal Courts, Community Development, DPSS, Road and Probation.

The County's experiment was prompted by a preliminary study of other organizations which have converted to daytime cleaning. The study found that the conservation of energy is significant, but that the presence of custodial personnel during daytime operations initially created adjustment problems. However, in all cases, friendly and efficient working relationships were quickly developed.

David Rodgers, Director of Building Services, anticipates that all adjustment problems will be worked out smoothly.

"We are starting our crews one hour earlier than most County employees (7 a.m.) in order to complete those cleaning functions which could be disruptive. Interruptions to an individual's work day will be minimal, and custodial supervisors and managers will be available to resolve whatever logistical problems do arise," he said.

The full cooperation of all County employees affected by this study will help to minimize problems of transition. Should the pilot project's findings be positive, as many County facilities as possible will be converted to daytime cleaning.

Retirement Workshops Offered

If you're thinking about retiring, the County Employees Retirement Association is holding retirement workshops on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month to answer any questions you may have.

The workshops are held from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. in Room B-85 of the Hall of Administration, where staff of the Retirement Benefits Division will discuss various subjects which are of importance to employees who are planning to retire.

In addition, the Social Security Administration and the County Employees Retirement Association are sponsoring a special program to provide information and facilitate the application for Social Security Retirement Benefits.

Representatives from Social Security will be available to answer questions and accept benefit applications on the first Wednesday of each month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in Room B-85 of the Hall of Administration.

Employees may apply for these Social Security benefits if they are within three months of their 62nd birthday and intend to retire, or no later than three months before their 65th birthday if they intend to continue working.

Anyone interested in either or both of these programs should go to Room B-85, Hall of Administration.

COUNTY GIVEN MEDFLY ERADICATION AWARD

The Board of Supervisors is the recipient of a California Department of Food and Agriculture Pest Prevention Award given for the County's Medfly Eradication efforts.

Supervisor's Chairman Ed Edelman accepted the award from State Food and Agriculture Director Richard Rominger for the County's work in the cooperative Federal-State-County eradication of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly from San Fernando Valley.

Rominger presented an additional award to Edelman and the board for the County's cooperation in the successful eradication of Dutch Elm Disease from the City of Beverly Hills.

tion on the days and times shown above.

Employees wanting specific information about their social security benefits at the meeting should call 974-2142 to request a Social Security Retirement Benefits Estimate Form, to be filled out by the employee and mailed to Social Security.

FREE INFO LINE

Confused? Need help? Where do YOU turn in a crisis? The new Info Line, operated by the Information and Referral Foundation of Los Angeles, could have the answers you need.

This new independent, non-profit agency financed by the United Way and created through a joint effort with the Board of Supervisors offers a free, 24-hour, seven-day-a-week telephone service that links county residents with the thousands of private and public human services available.

Referral specialists direct callers to such area programs as emergency health and youth services, mental health, transportation, education, child care, recreation, handicapped, legal services, alcoholism and drug counseling, and more.

Eight calling areas have been established, permitting toll-free calls—with each home area—to the Info Line. Those areas are:

686-0950—Los Angeles.

350-6833 — Alhambra, Arcadia, Covina, El Monte, Montebello, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Whittier and Pasadena.

956-1100—Burbank, La Crescenta, La Canada and Glendale.

501-4447—Agoura, Canoga Park, Reseda, San Fernando, Van Nuys, North Hollywood and Sun Valley.

551-2929 — Culver City, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, West Los Angeles and Mar Vista.

603-8962 — Compton, Downey, Gardena, Long Beach, Norwalk, San Pedro and Torrance.

671-7464—Inglewood, El Segundo, Hawthorne and Redondo Beach.

800-242-4612 — Pomona, Lebec, Lake Hughes, Lancaster, Hi Vista, Palmdale, Sunland-Tujunga, Wrightwood, Lomita and Malibu.