



# DIGEST



## Keep the Torch Lit!

For millions fleeing hunger, turmoil and oppression, the Statue of Liberty was their first glimpse of a new world that promised freedom, hope and opportunity. Built from private donations of the French and American people, the Statue has become a symbol of freedom. As she approaches her 100th anniversary in 1986, the statue is now in need of a tremendous amount of restoration work. For this reason, the American people have been called upon to help raise money to restore her and nearby Ellis Island, the first immigration station.

The Board of Supervisors have asked all County employees to join their fellow Americans in this important effort by

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## Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Provides Two-Pronged Inspections

Did you know — that plant nurseries are inspected to ensure compliance with regulations relating to pest control? That you, farm workers and agricultural crops are protected from the harmful effects of pesticides by the enforcement of regulations in pesticide usage? That gasoline station pumps and grocery store scales are inspected for accuracy?

If you know these facts, but do not know who guarantees these forms of public and consumer protection, the answer is: The County Department of The Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.

On May 20, 1984, the Department of Weights and Measures was merged with the County Agricultural Commissioner Department. The move was part of an overall effort of the Board of Supervisors to streamline and consolidate County functions. This amalgamation brought together two countywide agencies that perform many inspections and enforcement of state and local laws relating to consumer and environmental protection. Every County resident is impacted by this combined department's activities.

A very general explanation is that the department's services provide assurance that the produce or ornamental plants you buy are free of pests or dangerous chemicals; that you are getting an accurate measure on prepackaged items that are weighed or counted including food items, and at gasoline pumps.

More specifically, the Agricultural Commissioner function of the new department is responsible for environmental and consumer protection. Some examples of services offered are: maintenance of produce and egg quality standards; abatement of hazardous weeds and rubbish from vacant lots;



*Agricultural Commissioner Paul Engler*

regulation of pesticide use; prevention of the establishment of pest infestations harmful to food crop and ornamental plantings; and eradication and control of noxious weeds and other pests detrimental to the farmers, homeowners, and environment of the county and state.

Los Angeles County is the site of the largest wholesale produce distribution center in the nation. The County also leads the nation in the production of ornamental nursery stock and horticultural specialty crops. As the largest import/export distribution terminal on the west coast and a major tourist debarkation and transfer point, Los Angeles is unfortunately also a very likely point of new pest introductions. Constant vigilance must be maintained to assure that the quality of life enjoyed by residents is not disrupted by the incursion of unwanted and harmful pests. The services offered in this area

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## Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Provides Two-Pronged inspections

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touch and benefit each citizen and contribute substantially to the quality of the environment in the County.

All residents receive better value for their food dollar because of the department's produce and egg quality inspection program. Their health and welfare is also protected through weed hazard abatement, rodent control, and pesticide use regulation. Their food supply and environment are preserved intact because pest infestation is prevented or controlled. (The latter is made evident by the mere mention of recent programs: Oriental fruit fly, Mediterranean fruit fly, Melon fly, Mexican fruit fly and Japanese beetle.) The department also receives valuable volunteer assistance in several of its programs including the annual litter pick-up program — the San Gabriel Canyon Super Sweep



*Inspector Vickie Diton, County Department of the Agricultural Commission/Weights and Measures, tests accuracy of one of 38,000 gasoline pumps in Los Angeles County.*

— an award winning activity of the countywide volunteer program.

The Weights and Measures function in the consolidated department has inspection and enforcement jurisdiction over everything sold by weight, volume and count. Since 1915, the weights and measures program has been monitoring equity in all commercial transactions involving merchandise sold by weight, measure or count. Everything from a quart of milk to the number of strands of tinsel in an advertised Christmas decoration package comes under the purview of this program. The primary responsibility is to assure that full weight and measure is delivered and that fraud and misrepresentation is eliminated.

The weights and measures program is a County function that saves taxpayers money. It is estimated that corrective action taken by department inspectors results in annual savings to County residents in excess of \$6 million with an additional deterrent value many times that.

## Keep the Torch Lit!

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participating in a special campaign over the next several weeks. The Board designated August 26 through September 27 as the period for the campaign, appointed Supervisor Kenneth Hahn as Campaign Chairman and approved a fund raising goal of \$350,000.

The County's campaign is part of a national effort led by Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee A. Iacocca who was named by President Reagan to head this fund-raising project. The national goal is to raise some \$230 million from private sources for restoration and continuing preservation of these two historic national symbols. If these objectives are met, no future fund-raising effort will ever be required.

The highlight of the Los Angeles County campaign will be a midday rally on Wednesday, September 11 in the mall between the Hall of Administration and the County Courthouse. This event will feature Supervisor Hahn and will include festival booths providing a vast array of Statue of Liberty commemorative items (pins, mugs, glassware, T-shirts, etc.), Olympic pins, and food. There will also be entertainment to make it a particularly festive occasion. The booth will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on both September 11 and 12.

Each County employee is encouraged to make a personal contribution to the campaign. In return the name of each contributor will become part of a listing displayed permanently on Liberty Island in New York Harbor. Providing this contribution in someone else's name — particularly that of a child — would be a particularly thoughtful gift.

With your support the County of Los Angeles will set a standard and movement towards civic pride that will sweep the Nation.

Reach out and join the millions of supporters needed to "KEEP THE TORCH LIT."

County of Los Angeles

### DIGEST

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## Second Clothing Drive for Homeless Set

For the second consecutive year, a Clothing Drive to aid the homeless has been approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Clothing Drive is scheduled to begin September 9 and conclude on September 20. Once again, the Drive will be sponsored by the Civic Center Prayer Group — a non-profit, non-denominational organization comprised mainly of County employees working in the Civic Center area. The 1984 Clothing Drive was a huge success, resulting in over 14,000 lbs. of donated clothes that were distributed to over 1,500 needy people through the Union Rescue Mission.

The Prayer Group will place boxes donated by Acorn Paper Products Inc. in the following locations in the Civic Center Area:

- **Hall of Records**  
320 W. Temple Street — Basement and first floor.
- **Hall of Administration**  
500 W. Temple Street — Basement garage employee entrance, second floor mall entrance and third floor entrance across from snack bar.
- **County Courthouse**  
111 N. Hill Street — Basement employee entrance, first floor, east end and west end, and fourth floor Grand Avenue entrance.
- **Health Administration**  
313 No. Figueroa Street Lobby.
- **Health Clinic**  
241 No. Figueroa Street — Rear entrance on first floor.
- **Criminal Courts**  
210 W. Temple Street — First floor.
- **Hall of Justice**  
211 W. Temple Street — Broadway entrance.

Signs will be placed in each of the designated building to direct persons to the Clothing Drive collection boxes. The types of articles preferred include large and small size garments, under-

## Applause! Applause!

The County's Employee of the Month for August, 1985 is Joe B. Day, Captain, County Fire Department. Several of his outstanding achievements were cited by Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Edmund D. Edelman when a scroll was presented in recent Boardroom ceremonies.

Captain Day began his career with the County Fire Department in 1957 and is presently assigned to the Education Unit of the Prevention and Conservation Bureau. In this capacity, he supervises six inspectors; is responsible for fire safety education programs for 400 elementary schools, 100 hospitals, industrial organizations, service clubs, colleges and homeowners' groups; and assists the Community Relations Officer on all major incidents. His unit presents approximately 2,000 programs a year. Day, himself, has given 5,000 fire safety lectures during his career.

While Day has a long history as an outstanding employee who performs at a high level of productivity, he has also developed special programs that are known nationwide and used as a model by many departments. In the late 1970's, with federal grant funds, he developed a manual and video tape program dealing with juvenile firesetters. Interviewing and counseling techniques were provided to assist professionals in distinguishing between youngsters who are merely curious about fire and those who have serious psychological problems.

In 1980 a cooperative agreement was made between the County of Los Angeles and the United States Fire Administration to provide assistance to communities nationally in implementing juvenile firesetter programs from May 1980 to August 1981. Seventy-seven (77) workshops were conducted in 30

wear, white cotton socks, ties in style, reading glasses, shoes, short and long coats, sweaters and jackets. All donations will again be distributed through the Union Rescue Mission.



Joe B. Day,  
August Employee of the Month

states to provide interested fire and burn prevention personnel with information on initiating firesetter counseling programs. For this involvement, Captain Day received the Director's Award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Other special projects to which Captain Day has contributed include the California State Fire Marshal's Steering Committee in developing a resource catalog for public education curriculum for the California State Fire Academy, and developing two media presentations — "Hot Liquid Burns" and "Know The Exits" — which were produced by Film Communicators.

Through his leadership, hard work, participation and public relations abilities, both the public and private sector have benefited by being provided a high level of awareness of fire prevention programs. For these dedicated services, Day has received numerous letters commending him for his outstanding accomplishments.

Captain Day most certainly deserves not only our applause but a standing ovation.

Anyone desiring more information about the Clothing Drive can contact Dr. Richard Rioux, Spokesman for the Civic Center Prayer Group, at (213) 974-7824.

## September Blood Drives Scheduled

In a continuing effort, County departments have scheduled numerous blood drives in September. If your work location is in the vicinity of any of the bloodmobiles listed below, you can participate by contacting the work location closest to you. Your blood donation can save between four to six lives. Why not join in this worthwhile effort? The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in the following locations in September:

- September 12 — Facilities Management and Public Works Departments  
550 South Vermont — Room 208  
Los Angeles . . . . 9:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- September 18 — Civic Center Multi-Department Drive  
Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple St. — Rms. B85G & H  
Los Angeles . . . . 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Sheriff's Department  
Hall of Justice  
306 No. Broadway — Rm. 454  
Los Angeles . . . . 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.
- September 19 — Civic Center Drive continues  
Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple St. — Rms. B85G & H  
Los Angeles . . . . 8:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
- September 20 — D.P.S.S. (Metro North District)  
2910 Beverly Blvd.  
Los Angeles . . . . 9:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
- September 24 — D.P.S.S. (South Central District)  
10728 So. Central Avenue  
Los Angeles . . . . 9:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

## Retirement Association Elections to be Held

Elections to fill the offices of the Third Members of both the Board of Investments and the Board of Retirement will be held Tuesday, December 10, 1985. The Third Members on both boards represent the General Membership of the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association.

Petitions for candidacy will be available beginning Monday, September 16 at the Registrar-Recorder's office located at 5557 Ferguson Drive, Los Angeles. Fifty signatures of Active General Members who are members of the Retirement Association as of August 30, 1985 are required to qualify a candidate in either election. Petitions must be filed with the Registrar-Recorder no

later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 7, 1985.

Ballots will be distributed to employees no later than Friday, November 15, 1985. Eligible employees who do not receive a ballot by that date should request a duplicate ballot from their departmental election coordinator by Monday, December 2, 1985.

For further information, copies of the election procedures for both elections may be obtained from your personnel office; from the Registrar-Recorder located at 5557 Ferguson Drive, Los Angeles, 90022; or from the Executive Office, Board of Supervisors, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, 90012.

## Asian/Pacific Employees to be Saluted

The Council for Recognition of Los Angeles County Asian/Pacific Employees is hosting a celebration dinner on Saturday, October 5, 1985 at the Carson Community Center, 801 East Carson Street, City of Carson.

The Council is composed of the Los Angeles County Asian/American Employees Association, Los Angeles County Filipino-American Employees Association, and the Asian/American Association of Facilities Management Department.

Featured speakers include Federal Judge Robert Takasugi, City Councilman Michael Woo and Actor Dr. Haing Ngor. Entertainment will be provided by James Kasahara and The Okalani's Polynesian Dance Review Group. Lily Chen will be Mistress of Ceremonies.

For further information/reservations please call Ed Lee (213) 974-7566.

**We  
need  
your  
type.**

**Donate  
Blood.**



**American  
Red Cross**