



DIGEST

December 18, 1985

Volume 20 Number 21

Supervisor Edelman Highlights Progress In 1985



Supervisor Edmund D. Edelman

During traditional annual ceremonies, County Supervisor Ed Edelman highlighted accomplishments of the Board of Supervisors during his year as Chairman. Edelman emphasized progress on issues including apprehension of criminals, jail overcrowding, the homeless, AIDS prevention and child abuse.

In 1985, the Board approved implementation of the Cal-ID system in Los Angeles County. This system is a regional tie-in to the state's fingerprint computer, a high-tech tool which will permit law officers to identify, within minutes, criminal suspects from one fingerprint.

Recently, the Board also approved Edelman's motion to establish late afternoon and evening court sessions on an experimental basis. If the pilot program is successful, evening courts may prove to be a cost-effective way to unclog the crowded court calendars that delay swift and sure justice. In addition, with 67 percent of the population in County jails awaiting adjudication, the program may help relieve chronic jail overcrowding.

Progress was made in obtaining cooperation from all elements of the criminal justice system — prosecutors, judges, public defenders, and the Sheriff's Department — to work together on solving the overcrowding of jails. "We have laid groundwork for real progress in the coming year," Edelman said.

Edelman has also advocated more shelter, social services and mental health services for the homeless in the County. He noted that despite a lack of funding, the County has begun several new programs, including the seven-day-a-week Skid Row Mental Health Center.

In December, 1984, after almost two years of work by Edelman, the Children's Services Department began operation. The new department combines critical child-abuse related services that were previously provided by three County departments: Adoptions, Public Social Services, and Probation. Last month, the Board named Robert
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Employees Plan Holiday Projects

During the holidays County offices reflect the bright colors of the holiday season. Candles, wreaths and trees begin appearing everywhere and holiday cheer seems to fill the air. Yet, these holiday symbols pale when compared to the true holiday spirit demonstrated by holiday activities planned by County employees.

This Holiday Digest Issue highlights many projects planned to brighten this season for the needy and extend our goodwill to the community. The following departmental projects represent a number of special efforts planned by County employees:

Public Social Services

- Medi-Cal Long Term Care District employees contribute & distribute food baskets to needy families.
- Lincoln Heights and Belvedere offices assist needy families with food donations and toys.
- Volunteer Services Section assists in the Marine Corps Toys-for-Tots and The Salvation Army "grocery-gift certificate programs.

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DPSS Medi-Cal Long Term Care District employees: (left to right) Rosa Cruz, Frances Talancon, Muoi Lam, Art Garcia, Florence Orand (the project's organizer) Oscar Rivas, Marge Palmer and Danny Johnson.

Edelman

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Chaffee as Director of the new department. Acknowledging that Children's Services "got off to a rocky start," Edelman added that "after a full year of operation, we are now seeing improved results."

Also, at Edelman's urging, the Board approved spending approximately \$600,000 annually for an education/prevention program on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). "More than 1,250 County residents have contracted this fatal disease since 1981," Edelman noted. "With neither a vaccine nor a cure in sight, education is the only way to slow the process of this epidemic. I am hopeful that this program will be based on the best advice of professional public health educators who will design special materials for the high-risk populations, those whose occupations place them in close contact with people, and the general population."

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

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Room 783, Hall of Administration
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Telephone: 974-1784

Employee of the Month

Masakiyo (Mike) Watanabe, the November, 1985, Employee of the Month is a Supervising Survey Mapping Technician in the Office of Assessor. He was presented a scroll of recognition in recent Board room ceremonies by Supervisor Ed Edelman, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

Beginning his career with the County of Los Angeles in 1965 as an Engineering Aid III, Mike has repeatedly received recognition for his outstanding work.



Masakiyo (Mike) Watanabe

Presently assigned to the Ownership, Exemption and Mapping Division, Mike supervises a group that performs specialized office engineering and drafting work which is required to prepare maps of all types and to perform land-survey and boundary analyses. He supervises layouts of mapping projects including subdivisions, plot plans, search maps, condemnation maps, house numbering maps, index maps, special district maps, precinct maps, assessor maps, topographic maps, cadastral maps, County surveyors maps, right of way, and other special purpose maps.

In 1982, Mike received the Ownership, Exemption and Mapping Division's "Outstanding Divisional Employee Award" in recognition of his skills, accuracy and the thoroughness he used in resolving complex mapping services assignments.

Mike was born in Japan and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree there in Aesthetics and Art History. Coming to the United States in 1962, Mike found that the English he had studied since the Seventh Grade was inadequate for advanced study in Art History. Realizing that math, chemistry, and physics principles and symbols are universally similar, Mike entered UCLA in 1962 majoring in engineering.

Mike is heavily involved in the Japanese Community. For the past ten years, he has contributed articles to the California Daily News and a community magazine called "TV Fan". These articles tell about experiences of Japanese immigrants in America between 1900 and the present. Additionally, Mike is a part-time newscaster for Asahi Homecast Broadcasting Company. His work in this area provides local, nationwide and worldwide coverage of news relevant to the Japanese Community.

Mike states that it is his goal to bridge the gap between Japan and the U.S. so that each will better understand the culture of the other.

Colombian Relief Efforts

The County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve a recent motion by Supervisor Mike Antonovich to speed relief to survivors of the Colombian volcanic eruption.

The Antonovich motion calls for repositories to be set up "in each County building where employees can donate food, blankets and clothing."

The Board asked the Chief Administrative Office, in conjunction with the County Counsel and County Facilities Management, Public Works and Health Departments to "determine what role the County can play in dispatching needed additional resources to Colombia" and called on "the citizens of the County to contact appropriate relief agencies such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army to determine what supplies may be needed to aid survivors and help Colombians rebuild their lives."



Sheriff

- **Inmates** at Sybil Brand Institute for Women use materials donated by private parties to make thousands of lovely dolls, then deputies distribute them to the needy in all stations and Belvedere School areas.
- **Cadets** donate money, purchase toys and dolls, then wrap for distribution to terminally ill children at Harbor Hospital. About 20 cadets and 25 sworn personnel participate in a skit the week before Christmas for these same children.
- **Firestone Station** — Deputies receive contributions of funds, food, and merchandise, which are donated to the needy, elderly and indigent in their area.
- **Industry Station** — Toys and food baskets are distributed to 50 needy families served by La Puente Welfare Board, Community and Del Haven Community Centers.
- **Temple and Lakewood Stations** — serves as a drop off point/distribution center for response to radio station KLAC's "Christmas for Children," coordinated through Inland Regional Center West.
- **Carson and Norwalk Stations** — Collects food, toys, and Christmas trees among station personnel, community businesses and supermarkets and distributes food baskets to needy families, and senior citizens.



Deputies look on as Sheriff Block and Santa deliver toys to children in the East Los Angeles area.

A special note of appreciation to all the departmental correspondents who participated in this special issue by submitting departmental articles on holiday activities.

Happy Holidays To All

Christmas Musical Spectacular

Performing arts groups representing churches and community organizations from every Supervisorial District will participate in this year's Twenty-Sixth Annual Christmas Music Program on Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve), in the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center.

Twelve hours in duration (from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.), the Emmy award winning spectacular festival concert is the longest continuous Christmas Program in the world.

Presented by the County Board of Supervisors and The Music and Performing Arts Commission, the program has no admission fee and no ticket is required. Also, during the entire program, all parking at the Music Center is free.

In addition, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., there will be live entertainment in the Music Center Plaza.

The event will be simulcast by KCET/Channel 28, KUSC-FM (91.5) and KCPB-FM (91.1).

Invite your family and friends and enjoy this special holiday performance.



Choral group performing in Music Center Plaza as Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and Parks & Recreation Director Ralph Cryder observe performance.



Department of Health Services

- Holiday decorations, entertainment, visits by Santa Claus and donations of food and gifts are just a few of the activities planned for patients at the County's hospitals, public health centers, comprehensive health centers and rehabilitation centers.

LAC-USC Medical Center

- General Hospital Volunteers coordinate a program where gifts are donated by employees and outside contributors then wrapped and taken to patients in wards early Christmas morning. Then, when children visit their parents (patients), bedside presentations are made by the patients.



Wrapping toys for General Hospital's Holiday Support Program (left to right) Virginia Hernandez, LAC/USC Medical Center Personnel; Pat Hokama, Rehabilitation Medicine; Margie Vazquez, CAO; Delores De La Torre, R.N., Medical Admitting; Christine McGarvin, CAO; Agnes Chaney, General Hospital Administration; and Marty Honigs, Administrative Special Services.

Parks and Recreation

- A first-time holiday extravaganza will be staged by the Florence — Firestone District Office at the Jesse Owens Park. "Christmas in Magicland," the four-hour program will feature magic and puppet shows. Celebrities in song and dance will entertain 500 children who will be bussed to the event from ten parks in the southern area.

Probation

- Instead of exchanging gifts, headquarters' employees will bring food, appropriate clothing, and toys for needy families with children.
- Business Management Staff will contribute food for a holiday basket for a needy family.



Public Administrator-Public Guardian

- Special volunteers will assist employees and members of the Guardian Circle to wrap and distribute gifts which have been purchased with employee and other donations. Over 2,000 gifts, such as personal items and large print periodicals, will be delivered to needy persons under the care of the Public Guardian in board-and-care or nursing homes, convalescent and State hospitals. Ambulatory persons under care will be escorted to community holiday events.

Registrar-Recorder

- Departmental employees have planned a holiday project to provide food for needy families in the community. The food baskets will be provided to these needy families the week of December 16.



Registrar-Recorder: (left to right) Celia Escalante, Patricia Chavez, Jack Lease and Deborah Morrow.





Holiday Projects *(Continued from page 1)*

Assessor

- For the third consecutive Christmas, employees support the Toy Loan Program by donating new and repairable toys. Toy Loan is an outreach program which allows participating children to borrow toys from a Toy Loan Center.
- Clothing, shoes, gift certificates and non-perishable food items are collected from Assessor employees and are distributed to families or senior citizens with special needs.



Office of Assessor (left to right) Betty Josephson, Jack Davis, Assessor Alexander Pope, Marcine Veal, Deborah Lane, Herman Melara, and Edith Ian.

Auditor-Controller (Tax Division)

- Donates and distributes new clothing and toys to Para Los Ninos, a non-profit child care facility and youth center for low-income families in the downtown area.



Auditor-Controller employees (standing left to right) Sandra Curtis, Linda Aquaro, Thelma Crutchfield, and (seated left to right) Kim Simmons and Myrian Rangel.

Chief Administrative Office

- Employees of the Chief Administrative Office contribute toys and food items for distribution to patients of General Hospital and their families. Their efforts are coordinated through the Department's Special Events Committee in conjunction with the Hospital's Volunteer Services staff. The items help to brighten the holidays for those who might otherwise not receive gifts.

Community and Senior Citizens

- The normal distribution of surplus food commodities will be augmented by Christmas baskets made up of food contributed by employees, the Community and Senior Center areas. Music, games, and gift-giving will be major features of holiday programs at the centers.
- Community Services Resource Corporation (non-profit) and station KLOS-FM will air a one-minute appeal to raise public funds for

food for the hungry in Los Angeles County. Each dollar donated will buy \$12.00 worth of food under the corporation's program.

Consumer Affairs

- Conducts an annual holiday food drive. Staff and volunteers contribute money which is used to buy supermarket gift certificates. These are presented on November 25 and December 20, 1985, to organizations that help feed the needy.

County Counsel

- Conducts a holiday "canned food drive" project (November 22 to December 20, 1985). Weekly donations are made to LIFE (Love is Feeding Everyone) — an organization concerned with feeding the needy.



County Counsel De Witt W. Clinton contributing to holiday food drive.

District Attorney

- The District Attorney's Office conducts an office-wide collection of food staples and monetary donations to purchase food for 100 needy crime victims and their families who need help during the holidays.

The project is coordinated by the Bureau of Investigation and by the Victim-Witness Assistance Program.



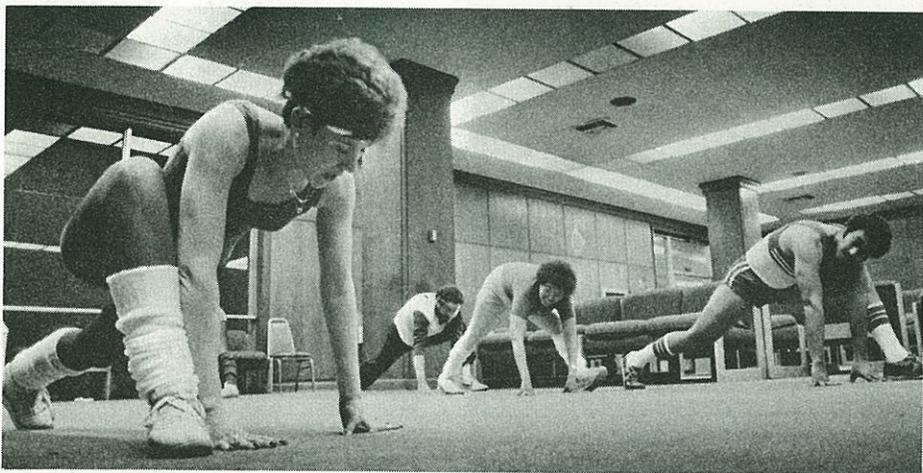
Exercise for the Holidays

With the holidays near, exercise becomes more important than ever. To help you keep off those unwanted pounds and provide that extra energy, Office Aerobics Services continues to offer its aerobic class to County employees and other interested people. The class is given at the County Courthouse at 111 North Hill Street, Jury Assembly Room.

The one-hour class begins at approximately 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, and Thursday evenings and includes a warm-up period, aerobics, calisthenics and a cool-down/stretching period.

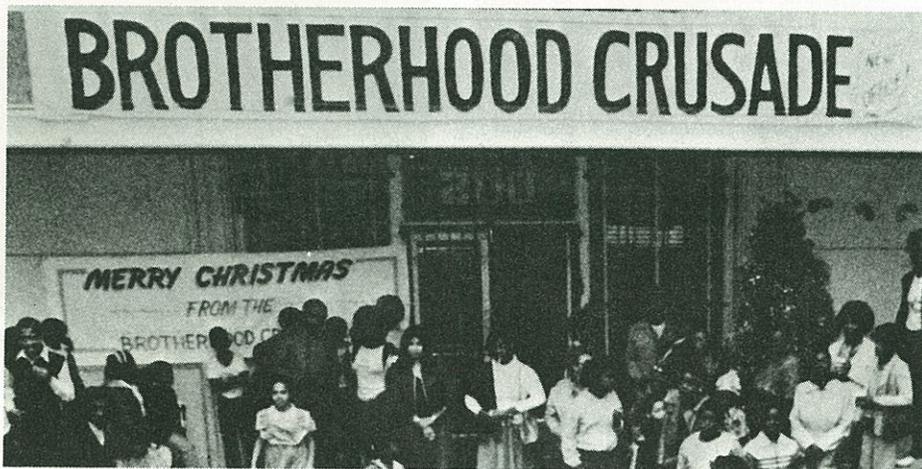
Attendance is on a drop-in basis. Participants should wear comfortable clothing, exercise shoes and bring a towel.

Please contact Anna or Isabel Cervantes at 974-1320 if you are interested or have any questions.



Left to right: Instructor Kristi Bushnell, County employees Rod Freudenberg, Marcia Kearney and Romalis Taylor.

Season's Greetings



While most of the year staff focus on assisting groups and/or organizations, "Holiday Give-Away" programs, with the assistance of funds donated by Los Angeles County employees, provide help and support to the needy on a one-to-one basis.

Brotherhood Crusade staff would like to thank the employees of Los Angeles County for their generous contributions throughout the year. Through this continued support they are able to help people help themselves in their communities.

The Brotherhood Crusade wishes each and every one a safe and wonderful holiday season!



United Way holiday programs help people young and old enjoy this special time of the year.

Holiday Spirit

The United Way Mission — to increase the organized capacity of people to care for one another — is particularly evident during the holiday season.

With the sustaining support of County employees, over 32 agencies whose major purpose is the delivery of emergency relief to the County's homeless and hungry are now members of the United Way Team.

Also realizing the need to fulfill the special holiday wishes of the young and older citizens, United Way has organized a distribution system for thousands of dolls donated for local needy children and has supported Navidad en El Barrio in providing toys for Hispanic children.

Employee contributions to this year's United Way Campaign support over 310 local health and human care agencies which help over 2.5 million needy neighbors.

United Way's objective is to extend the spirit of giving throughout the year, but especially during the holidays, and County employees are thanked for being full partners in this very special effort.

United Way extends holiday cheer and best wishes to all County employees and their loved ones.

Happy Holidays