



DIGEST

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Volume 21

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LACSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



(L. to R.) Debi Holmes, Board Member; Nancy Harris, Secretary; Terri Allen, Vice President; Ilene Graff, Keynote Speaker; Jeanie Johnson, Treasurer; Linda Sirk, President; Donna Beddow and Mary Lou Bangar, Board Members.

Secretary of the Year



Secretary of the Year, Jane Sawai, and Chief Richard Foreman, Sheriff's Dept.

Jane Sawai of the Sheriff's Department has been named Secretary of the Year by the Los Angeles County Secretarial Council, reported LACSC President Linda Sirk.

The second annual award was presented to Miss Sawai by last year's

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Productivity Managers Saluted

Chief Administrative Officer, James C. Hankla, the featured speaker at the Productivity Managers Network meeting of May 7, 1986, complimented all Productivity Managers for their contributions to making Los Angeles County more productive.

Mr. Hankla reminded his audience that today "government and nonprofit organizations, like our counterparts in the private sector, are under increasing pressure to achieve performance in a cost-effective manner." He recognized the Productivity Managers Network as instrumental in our productivity efforts. The Network is specifically designed to share information and new technologies vital to productivity efforts.

A recurring theme throughout Mr. Hankla's speech was that "we cannot afford to continue to do business as usual. We need to be more innovative."

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A Focus on Community Services

The County Department of Community and Senior Citizens Services (DCSCS), formed in September 1984, is responsible for administering Federal, State, and local grants which fund human service programs throughout the County. The department operates direct service programs through 14 service centers and administers other programs through over 350 contracts with cities, schools, private agencies, and businesses. Directed by Robert G. Medina, DCSCS staff must bring to bear a wide variety of skills and experience ranging from planning, analysis, technical writing, and grant administration to social work, community organization, street gang work, and job counselling.

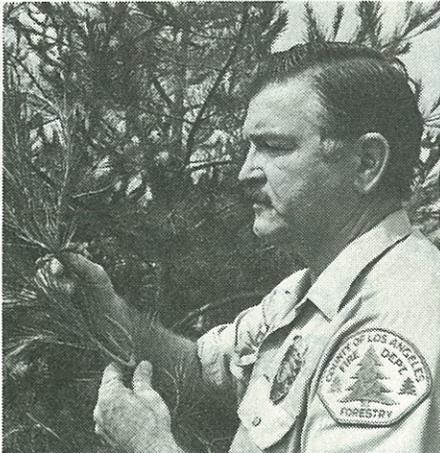


Joann Townsend, right, Assistant Director, Willowbrook Senior Center with Louella Kirkwood, Senior Center Mother, at the Sixth Anniversary Celebration of the Center.

A major DCSCS service is employment, training, and job placement for low-income adults and refugees. Under the Federal Jobs Program, unemployed adults receive skill training, education and job placement. Ten thousand

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Fire, Flood, and Mud



Deputy Forester Clyde Sims inspecting pine tree in Baldwin Hills.

Managing Los Angeles County's 4,000 square miles of urban forests requires a diverse management team. The County Forester, John W. Englund (also the Los Angeles County Fire Chief) has a delicate ecologic balance to maintain in dealing with the "fire, flood, and mud cycle" inherent to Southern California. Chief Englund heads a 2,500 person department whose main goal is protecting lives and property while improving the quality of life for the citizens of Los Angeles County. His Forestry Division has 18 professional foresters under the direction of Head Deputy Forester Robert E. Johnson and is responsible for the stewardship of the County's urban forest. Numerous programs are utilized to get the job done. These programs include:

1. Improvement of the vegetative cover in watershed areas through the planting of trees for aesthetics and recreation;
2. Operation of department forestry conservation centers;
3. Growing and distributing of forest tree seedlings to the public;
4. Emergency revegetation for erosion control following watershed fires by seeding ryegrass where necessary;
5. Research for the improvement and protection of the watershed. Oak tree regeneration, fuelwood studies, low fuel and low water requirement plantings;

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Productivity Managers

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In conjunction, such key Countywide programs as Program Budgeting, Cost Accounting, and the Countywide Timekeeping and Personnel/Payroll Systems, were discussed. Each program is viewed as an essential tool that will better allow managers to track and measure the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. In addition, the proposed performance-based pay for managers will provide incentives to encourage managers to set and achieve goals.

Institutionalized efforts to improve productivity include the Productivity Investment Fund, Employee Suggestion Award Program, Master Agreements for as-needed technical services, such as work measurement and systems studies, and the Productivity Managers Network (PMN).

Mr. Hankla congratulated the PMN for becoming a self-governing organization and pledged his continued support to the organization and Chairman Ben Carlsen, Health Services.

Jane Sawai . . .

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recipient, LaVoyce V. Payne, at LACSC's Boss-Secretary Luncheon, held at the elegant Sheraton Grande Hotel with ABC-TV stars Ilene Graff and Alan Thicke as featured speakers.

"I wish everybody could be recognized equally," said Miss Sawai, who was visibly moved by the honor. "To be singled out by my peers as Secretary of the Year is the highlight of my career."

Jane Sawai has been an active LACSC member for the past ten years, during which time she has participated on numerous Council committees, served on the 1984-85 Board of Directors, and was elected 1985 Treasurer.

She began her career with Los Angeles County as an Intermediate Stenographer with the Sheriff's Department in 1964 and is currently Management Secretary V to Richard L. Foreman, Chief of the Administrative Division. Previous to her County service she was secretary to a Member of Congress in her home state of Hawaii and graduated from a business college, the College of Commerce, as a legal secretary.

Community Services

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school age youth secure summer employment through this department. Refugee/entrants from all Indochinese countries, Afghanistan, Soviet/Eastern Europe, and Cuba/Haiti are helped by employment program services. The DCSCS 1983-85 Federal Jobs Program received almost \$2 million in bonus awards from the State, based on program performance and quality.



Director, Robert Medina

DCSCS is the Community Action Agency for the County and administers the Federal Community Services Block Grant program. Services for poverty level adults and families include: legal, medical, counselling, homemaker, adult day care, and shelter for the homeless.

As the County Area Agency on Aging, DCSCS coordinates, plans and develops programs for older persons. Programs operated include extensive nutrition programs, home delivered meals, transportation, health services, recreation, case counselling, and information and referral.

Delinquency Prevention Services are funded through the Countywide Justice Subvention Program. DCSCS contracts with community based organizations for drug and alcohol abuse projects, school delinquency prevention programs, crisis intervention services, and specialized advocacy programs.

The Department's Domestic Violence Program offers food, shelter, clothing, and counselling in 17 shelters to victims of domestic violence. Legal assistance and medical referrals are also available at these shelters located throughout the County.

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Abilities Expo '86



(Left to Right) Cynthia Picanzo, Arthritis Unit Secretary; Jeffrey Cressey, Patient Coordinator, Spinal Cord Injury Project; Melvin J. Fleming, DHS Deputy Director Hospitals; and Jean Johnson, Administrative Secretary.

Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center recently participated in the Abilities Expo '86 held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. This annual event is a trade show geared strictly to the disabled consumer and the physically limited senior.

This event brings together persons with disabilities and the professionals who work with them. Together, they can explore technical engineering, employment, and rehabilitation issues as well as other areas of concern.

Although Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center enjoys a worldwide reputation as an outstanding rehabilitation facility with an innovative interdisciplinary approach to patient care, this Expo provided an opportunity for Rancho to network its services, further enhance its image, and see what other providers are offering to the disabled.

This year, Rancho's Building Crafts Department staff members Jerry Horn, Bill Colucci, Marvin Two Two, John Walker, and Mark Roger designed and constructed a "state-of-the-art" exhibit which allowed visitors, via computer, to obtain information on the many specialized services offered at Rancho. In addition, the "instant" computer printout included referral procedures, important telephone numbers, and the names of people to contact for more information regarding specific pro-

grams.

Rancho's spirit and enthusiasm shined throughout the exhibit as dedicated employees from various areas volunteered their time to staff the Expo exhibit. Medical Documentation, Building Crafts and Transportation were responsible for arranging and setting up the display.

The following week, Rancho participated in the Cerritos Health Fair at Los Cerritos Mall and was awarded first prize for "best exhibit." Armando Lopez, Jr., Executive Director of Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center, commended those employees who participated in and were responsible for this outstanding achievement!

New Civic Center Toastmasters Club

Food for thought - that's a big part of lunch every Wednesday for the 21 charter members of the new Superior Court Toastmaster Club #6179-52.

Attracted by improved leadership and communication skills made possible through participation in one of the 5,000 Toastmaster Clubs throughout the world, the new group meets at 12 to 1 p.m., every Wednesday, in Room 514, fifth floor, County Courthouse 111 North Hill St. All employees are welcome.

Tidemanson Hits Top Ten

Tom Tidemanson, Director of Public Works, has been selected as one of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year in the United States for 1986. The American Public Works Association (APWA) sponsors this award to honor outstanding members of the public works profession and to encourage excellence and dedication in public service.

Mr. Tidemanson was honored by the Southern California Chapter of APWA and others at a ceremony held May 22, 1986 at the Diamond Bar Country Club and was also presented with a commendation from the Board of Supervisors on May 27, 1986.



Tom Tidemanson, Director of Public Works is congratulated by Board of Supervisor's Chairman, Peter F. Schabarum.

Mr. Tidemanson was lauded for his accomplishments in consolidating the Road Department, the Flood Control District, and the County Engineer into the Department of Public Works as of January 1, 1985. Consolidation activities under his direction are currently one year ahead of schedule on a three-year timetable established by the Board of Supervisors. Other noteworthy accomplishments for which he was commended included the establishment of a Land Development Processing Center, the establishment of a City Services Section centralizing the Department's coordination with the cities, and the formation of the first of several road construction benefit districts planned for the Santa Clarita Valley to build road and bridge improvements.

County Savings Bonds Campaign



Countywide Campaign Coordinator, Richard Dixon, Treasurer-Tax Collector, (standing), opens Campaign Orientation Meeting. (Seated, left to right) Evelyn Gutierrez, CAO; Judie Lecesne, County Program Coordinator; Lloyd Brock, Deputy Director, Treasury Department; Departmental Coordinators Dick Gitlin, Beaches and Harbors; Jason Williams, Facilities Management; Lorraine Morris, Community and Senior Citizens Services; Don Heuman, County Clerk-Superior Court.

The June-July campaign highlights the financial benefits of buying Savings Bonds: a guaranteed minimum interest rate of 7½% when held a minimum of five years, no state or local taxes due on the accrued interest, and deferred federal taxations until the bonds are redeemed.

Millions of Americans have financed college educations, purchased homes, weathered financial emergencies, and guaranteed secure retirements with the help of Savings Bonds. Buying Savings Bonds through the payroll savings plan is a simple, painless way to invest in your future. It can make a lot of sense to "Take Stock in America."

Community Services

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A new and very successful program is the Countywide Child Passenger Safety Seat Program. Funded by the State Department of Transportation, DCSCS staff provides passenger safety training to community groups and makes child car seats available to low-income families.

The department also provides direct services to thousands of clients of 11 community centers and 3 senior centers. The centers' services, enhanced by a volunteer team, include providing meals, counselling, recreational programs and transportation service for low-income persons and seniors. The DCSCS surplus food program operates from the service centers and distributes over 12 million pounds of food annually.

In a time of shrinking resources, DCSCS bolsters funding through the efforts of a non-profit corporation — Community Services Resources Corporation.

Director Robert C. Medina believes that "despite recent Federal cutbacks and GRAMM-RUDMAN, strong support continues for the many community services offered by the Department of Community and Senior Citizens Services."

Fire, Flood and Mud

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- Aid and advice to the public on insect, disease, and soil erosion problems;
- Preparation and direction of conservation education programs in schools and at Forestry Division Units;
- Coordination with other agencies interested in the improvement and protection of watershed areas;
- Preparation and review of environmental impact reports;
- Conducting and administering portions of the County's oak tree ordinance;
- Providing homeowners with advice to reduce the threat to their property from wildfire and subsequent erosion;
- Monitoring vegetation fuel moisture for fire safety; and,
- Developing and monitoring the reduction of hazardous vegetation through prescribed burning.

The Forestry Division has recently revised a useful self-help guide book entitled, **Homeowner's Guide to Fire and Watershed Safety at the Chaparral/Urban Interface**. This publication is designed to help property owners in brushland areas protect their property from the potential damage of wildfires.

The Forestry Division makes every effort to disseminate the urban forestry message. Foresters realize that the protection and enhancement of our natural resources requires an enlightened citizenry. For further information regarding these programs or the booklet, please call the Forestry Division office, (213) 267-2481.

— DIGEST NEWS —

At a recent employee communications workshop conducted by the CAO, all departmental Digest correspondents were encouraged to submit articles of interest to editorial Office.

If you have an article of interest contact your departmental Digest correspondent.

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

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