



DIGEST

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U.S. Treasurer Applauds County Coordinators



The Honorable Katherine Davalos Ortega, United States Treasurer, attended the Fourth Annual U.S. Savings Bonds Awards Ceremony to personally present Award of Patriotism plaques to the honored departments and their coordinators: (L. to R.) Norm Haller, Auditor-Controller; Supervisor Peter F. Schabarum; U.S. Treasurer Ortega; Richard B. Dixon, County Treasurer-Tax Collector; Erlinda Esparza, Data Processing; Edna Johnson, Farm Advisor. Back Row: (L. to R.) Ellen Lange-Adams, Public Administrator-Public Guardian; Elaine Osborne, Downey Municipal Court; Don Heuman, County Clerk/Superior Court; Dan Habel, DPSS; Virginia Estrada, East Los Angeles Municipal Court; John Manning, Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.

As a result of their enthusiasm and patriotism, Los Angeles County is ranked the **number one County** in U.S. Savings Bonds sales throughout the country for the fourth consecutive year!

Public Works Journey-Women

The Department of Public Works is succeeding in recruiting and providing promotional opportunities for women who are now moving up the ranks in a wide range of areas. These areas include engineering, accounting, general business administration, and public administration. Two notable journey-women, Ann Carpenter and Margo McCraven, work for Public Works in the areas of highway engineering and building inspection, respectively.

Ann Carpenter, Public Works July Employee of the Month, is a Highway Technician assigned to the Road Maintenance Division's Baldwin Park office. Margo McCraven is a Senior Building Engineering Inspector assigned to
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Project 2000: Los Angeles Municipal Court

The Los Angeles Municipal Court is the first governmental agency in California to participate in Project 2000, a nationwide program funded by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to find non-sheltered employment for adults who are developmentally disabled.

The Exceptional Children's Foundation (ECF), who administers the program in Los Angeles, is one of eight agencies receiving the SSA grant. According to ECF Project 2000 Director Mark Pfeffer, their long-range goal is to place 2000 trainees in non-sheltered work sites by the year 2000.

Since August, Los Angeles Municipal Court's Personnel Technician Koke Resler has worked with two divisions to
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Michael Smith (L.) duplicates thousands of forms weekly for Sr. Administrative Assistant Carla Good.

Proposition 61

The Board of Supervisors recently voted to oppose Proposition 61.

This article identifies some areas which would impact County employees immediately and in future years:

- If approved by the electorate, Proposition 61 would become effective November 5, 1986.
- Every County employee would be prohibited from carrying over vacation and sick leave from one calendar year to the next.
- A compensation limit would be established that could not be increased except by a majority vote of the people.
- If the term "compensation" as used in the proposition includes the value of employee benefits, the salary limit, including overtime pay, could be approximately \$49,000 per year for most employees and \$45,000 for safety employees.
- As a result of the salary compression caused by this limit, chances for salary increases for many employees could be limited. Employees currently above the limit will suffer a salary reduction.

**YOU'RE NEEDED
FOR A GROUP
DECISION**

Early Start On Holidays Project

A relocation of the entire department shortly after November 15, prompts the Public Administrator-Public Guardian's director of volunteers to issue an early call for volunteers to help prepare their annual gift giving program for the holidays. The wrapping and distribution of holiday gifts by volunteers for over 2,000 wards of the Public Guardian must be completed before the move.

You can help wrap or take gifts to someone who is aged, ailing, or lonely and make someone happy.

PLEASE CALL NOW: (213) 974-0543 or 974-0400.

Proposition J: Justice, Juveniles and Jails

Overcrowded County jails and detention facilities could lead to early release of some offenders if additional space is not made available soon!

With no other County funds available to pay for these needed facilities, Proposition J, representing Justice, Juveniles and Jails, is a last resort.

Known as the County Jail Bond Measure, Proposition J would authorize the Board of Supervisors to issue up to \$96 million in general obligation bonds to expand jail and juvenile detention facilities.

Money raised from these bonds would provide the 25% in local matching funds required to receive money from state bonds previously approved by state voters to pay for jail facilities in California counties.

Plans are to increase inmate capacity by 4,644 beds by adding 2,844 beds at Pitchess Honor Ranch, 752 beds at Mira Loma female honor ranch, and 700 beds at juvenile facilities. Also included is \$1 million to refurbish juvenile halls.

The bond proceeds will only be spent to increase the capacity of existing facilities and does not propose any facilities at **new** locations.

The auditor estimates a minimal impact on the average taxpayer (e.g. \$7.52 the first year for the owner of a \$125,000 home with annually diminishing amounts thereafter.)

Project 2000: Los Angeles

(Continued from page 1)



Delores Vivanco, (L.) Small Claims Court deputy clerk works closely with Regina Bell.



Eric Newsome (seated) concentrates on assignment in the Civil Division as job trainer, Lisa Shavers, looks on.

Public Safety Patches On Display



Coroner's Investigator Michael Shepherd with part of the growing patch collection in walled display frames.

place four Project 2000 participants in entry level, high turnover clerical positions. Regina Bell, Eric Newsome and Theresa Alexander work in the Civil Division as file clerks, while Michael Smith is a duplicating services operator for the Facilities and Office Services Division.

A job trainer from the Exceptional Children's Foundation learned each designated job, trained the participants and is remaining with them until each one masters the job and feels comfortable.

Job Trainer Lisa Shavers says, "The Los Angeles Municipal Court is the best clerical program we have. Everyone has been open and our clients feel that they belong."

Court Administrator Edward M. Kritzman believes the cooperative effort between the Court and ECF is a win-win situation. "Project 2000 provides enthusiastic, dependable people while we provide the training necessary to do a good job in a real-world setting."

The program is also cost-effective. Participants, who are paid at a prorated prevailing wage, do a variety of repetitive tasks, freeing other Court employees to perform other assignments.

County departments who wish to participate in Project 2000 can contact Kim Swanson at the Exceptional Children's Foundation, (213) 290-2000.

About three years ago, the Investigation Division of the Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner's Department started a patch-insignia collection representing the other departments and agencies with whom they worked.

The collection provides jurisdiction training for the Department's new investigators, and for various police and paramedic tour groups. It also provides a colorful break, in otherwise sterile surroundings, for those who have occasion to be in the building. The collection has grown with donations from outside agencies and from Coroner staff with previous, different service, to over 250 different patches. The collection has now become the sole known collection of specifically



Ann Carpenter, DPW Highway Technician measuring width & length of street in preparation for slurry sealing.



Margo McCraven, DPW Senior Building Engineering Inspector inspecting residential plumbing fittings.

insignia.

The department is now requesting donations of patches from departments which no longer have a uniformed function and from Departments which have changed their insignia, like the old L.A. County Fire Department camp crews, and departments which are not generally known to have a uniform insignia.

Investigator Michael Shepherd is coordinating the collection effort. Anyone interested should write him at 1104 North Mission Road, Los Angeles 90033.

Building and Safety Division's San Dimas office and to the City of Azusa, a contract city for building inspection.

Ann does design, testing, substructure mapping, and other work related to highway engineering and is responsible for the annual resurfacing, sealing, and concrete improvement programs for the unincorporated areas and contract cities of the East San Gabriel Valley, which includes the preparation of estimates, work orders, and contract plans for these projects. She coordinates Federal-aid storm damage projects and often represents the Department during Federal and State disaster inspections.

Ann entered the County work force in 1965 as a Typist Clerk, took evening courses in engineering, and in 1967 changed her employment status to become a Junior Engineering Aid and progressed in the series.

Margo McCraven is responsible for inspecting a full range of building construction projects to insure compliance with the Building Codes, the County's Uniform Building Laws and zoning ordinances. She reviews plans for building construction, plumbing, electrical and mechanical details prior to making inspection and approves any changes that have to be made.

Starting with the County in 1969 as a Typist Clerk, Margo, in 1974, transferred to Building and Safety Division's East Los Angeles office as a Senior Typist Clerk. There, she received encouragement from staff to attend school in order to qualify for the Building Inspector examination. She then enrolled in the Construction Inspection Technology Program at Pasadena City College. After transferring to the San Dimas Regional Office, she was chosen by the Department to be the first person to take part in a Career Development Program designed to train a Building and Safety Senior Clerk for the inspection series. She was promoted to Building Engineering Inspector Aid in 1976, a Building Engineering Inspector in 1978, and a Senior Building Engineering Inspector in 1983.

Public Works is proud of these coming-up-through-the-ranks success stories and intends to continue to encourage high achievers!

Artistic Gardening On Display

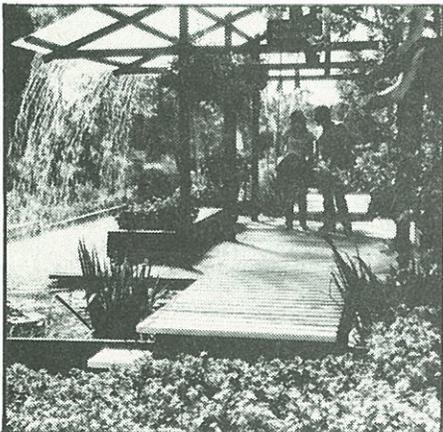
A massive display of chrysanthemums celebrating the "Fall Fantasies" theme of the LOS ANGELES GARDEN SHOW will cover one area at the County Arboretum from October 17-26.

Fantasy gardens created by 65 competitive landscape artists will cover many areas, as will the fine examples of miniature bonsai trees displayed in an oriental garden setting throughout the 10-day show.

Bonsai masters will give demonstrations and changing displays of fresh cut flowers arranged in the ikebana style will be created by students in flower arranging classes at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. Container plants of all sizes will also provide ideas for balcony and patio gardeners.

These are only a few samples of the garden vignettes that will pique your imagination at this sixth annual garden extravaganza.

The admission fee is \$4. For more information, call (213) 681-8411.



A sculpture garden draws a couple's attention at the Arboretum's garden exhibit.

Absent Voter Ballots Available

If you will be unable to vote at your neighborhood polling place, you may request an absentee ballot in person or by mail which must be received no later than October 28. A convenient absent voter-request form is sent to each voter as part of the sample ballot package.

Mailed requests should be sent to the Registrar-Recorder's office, P.O. Box 30450, Los Angeles, CA 90030.

Scholarships Awarded



(L. to R.) Andrew Lee of La Verne; Susan Shelton of Downey; Michael Leadon of South Central Los Angeles; George Tice, FMD Director; Mrs. W.D. Prater; Tracy Grayson of Carson; Tanya Ushiro of Monterey Park; and Lara Parrell of Burbank.

Scholarships were awarded to six dependents of employees of the County Facilities Management Department (FMD) in recent Hall of Administration ceremonies. The \$500 awards from W.D. Prater FMD Scholarship Fund assist recipients in their first year of study at accredited colleges or universities.

The scholarship fund is named for

William D. Prater, who retired in 1975 as Director of the former Department of Building Services after a 40-year career of service which he began as a custodian.

Mr. Prater believed in helping deserving persons advance their education and in keeping with this, initiated the concept of this scholarship fund.

Premium Increases For Health and Dental Insurance

Revisions in Kaiser and Maxicare health plan premiums and increases in maximum County contributions are being reflected on October 15, 1986 paychecks.

Increases for Blue Cross PPO and APO dental plan premiums and maximum County contributions will be shown on the November 14, 1986 paychecks.

Premium amounts may exceed County contribution amounts according to the number of dependents enrolled in each plan.

If you have any questions, please contact your departmental personnel office.

Thanks To Valena

Many thanks to Valena Broussard Dismukes and the County Human Relations Commission for the photojournal exhibit "L.A. The Ethnic Place" on display in the Hall of Administration. During Cultural Diversity Week the exhibit was visited by many County visitors and employees.

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

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